Within Reach



February/March 2013



The swans have `enjoyed' mixed weather



The actual moment of planting of the sweet chestnut









Fair Green on New Year's Day

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REACH
Rainbow Crafts Circle



First Tuesday of the month
5th February 2013
5th March 2013

1.30pm to 3pm

The craft meetings will not be held in Reach Village Centre, they will be in someone's house

Contact Pam King for details
01638 742924

Free tea, coffee and chat about embroidery/knitting. Learn to knit or embroider and bring your knitting, sewing or other crafts to work on and show to the group.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST 2013
A village event to celebrate the birth of the royal baby

From the Editor



Obviously Pet's Corner did not excite you quite as much as it excited me but we do have a few entries. Moving on I'm pleased to introduce two new contributors: Danuta Gibson with Tales from the Garden and Anita Folkes with Memories. If you would like to contribute to the magazine – regularly or as a one off – please just let me know.

Anita Folkes remembers the village shop and recalls Mr and Mrs Peacock and David Parr coincidently also mentions Mr Peacock in his article which is quite spooky.

Once again Reach has been full of activity with lots of photos of people dog walking (do dogs want to go out when it's snowing?); the football match on New Year's Day; and the planting of the avenue of limes. Rita Dunnett has recipes for three delicious seasonal soups for when you get back indoors.

Juliet Vickery encourages us to keep active with tips on how to achieve our New Year's resolutions. We thank Charles Moseley for his travel article and Joss Goodchild for her evocative account of fen life. I especially like the 19th century painting of sedge cutting at Wicken Fen. Robert Tucker is a guest contributor to Suzie's Kids Page which is great but I'm afraid Ross Clark is talking a load of old rubbish. Actually I shouldn't diss Ross as he has recently achieved a remarkable triumph in Camden. We've included some photos from the Carol Evening and thank Hilary Fielding and Grahame Radford, in particular, for organising this event.

We have an article from Burwell Print which now prints the magazine for us. This charity, like Snakehall Farm, gives workplace experience to adults with learning disabilities, so do support both local charities if you can.

In this issue we celebrate the planting of the Community Orchard and thank everyone on the committee for this fine achievement, particularly David Thomas. The thought and care which preceded the planting day and the planting day itself, ensures that we will have a facility which will provide great pleasure in the future.

Read this magazine carefully and discover who has a birthday in February.

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

Front Cover: Alice Trump at the planting of the community orchard. **Photo:** Hugh de Lacy

Cover Photos: Hugh de Lacy, Claire Halpin-McDonald and Alison Lewis

Souvenir Pullout Photos: Hugh de Lacy, Claire Halpin-McDonald and David Parr

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 covering the months of Feb/Mar, Apr/May, June/July, Aug/Sept Oct/Nov and Dec/Jan.

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 March 2013. This magazine is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

Editorial Team

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Cookery	Rita Dunnett
Cricket	Ross Clark
Days Gone By	David Parr
Fen Chitchat	Lesley Boyle
Kids' Page	Susie Tucker
Little Windmills	Susan Bluck
Memories	Anita Folkes
Parish Council	David Parr
Plants	Janet Hall
Snakehall Farm	Maz Baker
Sport	Juliet Vickery
Swaffham Prior School	Hannah Curtis
Tales from the Garden	Danuta Gibson
Wicken Fen	Howard Cooper
Wildlife	Joss Goodchild Alison Lewis

Ross Clark Creates Sensation in Camden

Ross Clark has come a long way since his early theatrical days as an actor in Cambridge University's comedy group, 'Footlights.' Back then, the cry, "Be funnier," could be heard from the unsympathetic student audience.



Despite having a lot on his plate (as a cricket captain, village councillor and prominent journalist), Ross has risen like a flare, in the chaos of no-man's land, to light up his theatrical career by writing a stunning musical premiered in Camden's Etcetera Theatre in November.

Shot at Dawn is a musical drama set in the Great War. When Georgina Briggs sets out to find the truth of how her rebellious 16 year old brother Harry was killed in the trenches, no-one in her Suffolk village wants to help. The more she delves the more she uncovers about a complex three-way relationship between herself, Harry and their employer, Adam Davey, who has just inherited his uncle's estate at the age of 19.

Ross makes expert use of dramatic irony and other theatrical instruments that make it look as if he has been script writing for years. The small venue added a real sense of intimacy between the actors and the audience. For a relatively low budget musical with a small cast, the production of *Shot at Dawn* created an emotional theatrical energy well beyond the level one might expect.

The songs woven neatly into script only added to the incredible aforementioned energy. As an audience member, one would not believe that Ross, prior to writing the script, had absolutely no musical experience whatsoever. However, before he got down to script writing, he reportedly taught himself how to write music and then, as he told me "Simply wrote down ideas that I have had in my head for years." Well, it appears that the ideas locked away in Ross' subconscious should have been released long ago – songs such as 'I see Harry' visibly moved the Camden audiences. The intricate rhyme and half rhyme schemes that, at times, were a prominent feature in Ross's lyrics, demonstrated the Times journalist's confident mastership of the English language. At the same time, the contrasts in mood created in the melodies, aptly reflected contrasting moods held by post war society and contemporary society towards 'Cowards.'

While it doesn't drastically challenge our perception of the Great War and issues surrounding it, *Shot at Dawn* remains a unique production because of its size, tone (there are few musicals with such extended tragedy) and remarkable ability to provoke emotion from every single member of the audience.

Sam Bradpiece



Romania

Romania does not figure much on most people's radar. Those who are over about 30 perhaps remember the events surrounding the fall of Ceausescu. The very elderly or historically - and gossip-minded might remember the amatory antics of Queen Marie. Enescu's music and perhaps bits of Kodaly or Bartok the musical will recall and those of dubious tastes will of course think of Vlad the Impaler *aka* Dracula. A few may have had package holidays on the Black Sea coast - where the hotels fronting the beach could be anywhere. Except in the Carpathians the scenery is not spectacular. Mostly it is a wide, level plain formed over millennia by the Danube. If farmed properly it could feed Europe.

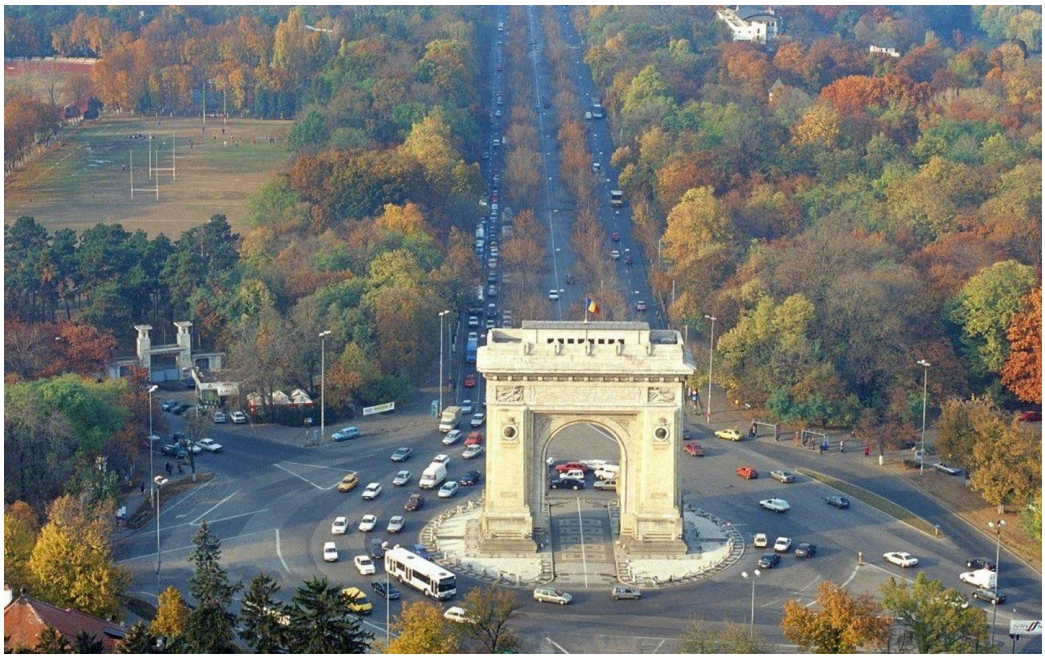
Recently work has taken me there, to Bucharest, almost every year. Jenny came once and was so horrified by the traffic, the noise and the pollution that she refused ever to go again. Her reluctance was understandable. Her first impressions of Bucharest had not been good: immigration that took hours, with every passport read from cover to cover by unsmiling functionaries whose history must have been with Ceausescu's Securidade. I think they put the rest of them - those not inspecting passports - in the middle of five lane intersections on the great boulevards as traffic policemen to contradict the traffic lights. Predictably, chaos: and the traffic was indeed quite dreadful. It took the best part of an hour to move a mile. The city stank. What made it worse was that we could see what a beautiful city it had been before the War. The French had had a lot to do with its elegant style, with the Art Nouveau of some of the ironwork and laid out the new capital on a scale to which Paris could only aspire. Tree-lined boulevards radiate from monuments - even an Arc de Triumphe.

Fine parks and lakes punctuate the buildings but that traffic and then you see the dreadful concrete flats shoved crudely into the elegance by the communists. Now many of them bear prominent red circles that warn people that to buy one of them is very much at their own risk, for the building is so poor and the concrete so rotten that in the next earthquake, already overdue, they will collapse as the tremors turn the alluvial soil into a fluidised bed. But you also see the garish way the new capitalism covers Corinthian pillars and graceful cornices with five-metre high adverts for deodorant and by the river, you see the awful Ozymandias of the Palace Ceausescu the shoemaker's son built for himself and his fiend-like queen: ten storeys up - and ten down to the bomb shelter. It is so big they had to weave the carpets inside. An avenue of blank-faced flats for the *nomenklatura* stands respectfully at a distance.

Albert Speer, father of Totalitarian Classicism, be proud of how your style has spread across the lands of tyranny! A balcony half way up the palace's facade must have made the Comrade, when he stood there, look ridiculous: like Pope's Timon, 'a puny insect, shivering at a breeze'. But irony is not a dictator's or an ideologue's long suit and laughter is dangerous.



Palace Ceausescu



The 'Arcul de Triumf'

It had been, indeed, a dangerous time. People disappeared, often. My academic colleagues Mickey and Cesar told me of the morning when they woke up to hear, a street away, the bulldozers moving in, with no warning, to demolish the good middle class housing over nearly 200 acres to make space for that monstrous Folly. That is why there are so many stray dogs: for those displaced had nowhere to take their beloved pets and just had to turn them loose and they have bred. Mihaela and Cesar told me of having to queue for two hours to get two aspirin for their sick child – at a time when the Leader was plastering the columns of his palace with gold. They told me of the systematic destruction of the middle class by the communists, the confiscation of land, the inefficiency of the collective farms. It is all true. As we drove once to Constanta, across that plain that is so fertile that it could feed half Europe, every 10 miles there was a derelict collective farm. Ceausescu and his gang had wrecked the economy and sold every jot and title of the produce to the West to get foreign exchange to line their own pockets. His people were hungry and blithely told by his docile media that 'research had shown' that people who were slightly hungry worked better and so they ought to get up from a table still wanting more. And now the land was hardly farmed. But here and there, a bright little house sat among a few well tended fields and a little horse pulled a cart with dung to the ploughland. These were some of the lucky ones who somehow had managed to buy back the land that had been theirs – perhaps since Michael the Brave. But no middle class, no entrepreneurial class; and the field is open for the international capital, the multinationals and the Mafia. Indeed: we ate this last time at a restaurant called Chez Marie: very good indeed and very reasonably priced. But Mihaela told us that on Saturdays you did not go there: it was the Mafiosi place which is why the food was good - and cheap...



Chez Marie

No, first impressions had not been good: overwhelming sadness at human greed and folly. But I have come with time to like this town, to like its faded grandeur, the washing hung from sumptuous window mouldings, the vitality and courtesy of its folk, even the cars (old Renault 12s, here called Dacia) parked forever in cobbled back streets with green mould on their flat tyres and a small plant growing in the corner of the windscreen. I like its intellectual vigour and thrust - nothing run-down there! The life of the mind is something that really matters and is given a respect it has possibly never had in England. The little parks can be lovely. Cismigiu Park on the Boulevard Regina Elizaveta goes back to Turkish times. I first saw it in warm May; the lakes dotted with rowing boats, children playing in sand pits, black-clothed old women in white headscarves watching them. At one point there is an artificial grotto built into the side of the hill, where lovers moon, but with none of the embarrassing public intimacy that seems the norm in selfish England.



Cismigiu Park

Elegant women strolled beneath the pollarded plane trees, past the busts of Romania's greatest and best here immortalised in bronze. Men played chess on stone tables with inlaid squares. It is tidy, beautifully kept, unlittered, no rowdiness. And now, in autumn when the nymphs have departed and the trees' tent is broken, the lake is drained, and men prepare it for skating in the hard frost that will surely come. Soft-eyed dogs - Bucharest like all Romania is full of abandoned dogs - make nests in the drifts of fallen leaves against the cold. A crow (of sorts) shuffles its feathers above where the card players sat a month before. I hope they leave the drifts of leaves for the dogs. Crows can take care of themselves.

This last conference was preceded by the conferring of honorary degrees in the University. Formally attired, we processed to our places to *Gaudeamus Igitur*, which, no longer *iuvenis*, I feel somehow inappropriate. (But it is nice to be included in the first person plural.) The new Doctors made graceful speeches; we processed out to Brahms, and were given little glasses of sweet pseudo-champagne. Then to the old University Library building, facing what had been the Royal Palace, where our sessions were to be. Good mannered classical porticos lined the square that had seen the moment when the Dictator on his other, Party HQ, balcony first realised the game was up, that his people were not cheering but jeering. The Library building, which borrows a dome from the Pantheon, its decor from Versailles and its portico from the Invalides suddenly became the last redoubt of the losers and the tanks shelled it until they were no more. So, much is restored: beautifully, elegantly. We were fed royally in its foyer and made to think hard in its Aula Magna.



University Library Building

As I stood, about to speak, on the platform, I thought, as one does, 'How did I get here? This is a long way from Beach Road County Primary School... help!' But the moment, like the lecture, passed. At the end of the long day, we all went off for one of those dinners that Eastern Europe does well and takes seriously. So they should. Wine flowed, whisky (for the brave) followed. The air was blessedly cool as we all walked back to the Hotel Moxa, talking of everything and nothing. As we passed by the Library I noticed that the building that had been left in ruins behind it now had a glass and steel addition and had been seriously tidied up. That had been the torture HQ of the Securidade and the plan had been to leave its gutless facade and eyeless windows as a memorial to those who had suffered. But real estate is expensive stuff and it now houses an American management consultancy company.

At the end of a previous academic visit to Bucharest Mihaela and Cesar and Radu and Adina took me to a restaurant hidden among the smart Second Empire-style buildings in the city's heart. It was early summer. We passed through a narrow passage and out into a big open courtyard. The swift-filled sky was framed by cliffs of elaborate stonework. A cartwheel leaned against a stone wall. There was a stable with straw and a manger full of hay. Ducks swam on a little pond and in a tank, trout out-stared those who stared at them, mouthing silently, and perhaps rudely. Hens scuttered around in the straw. There was beer, lots of it and country food - vegetables, the little tasty sausages called *mititei,* chunky bread. Oh, it was fake: 'old Romania', as it probably never was. But it was good fake and got better as the beer did its benign work. It grew dark, the stars came out and oil lanterns were lit.



On a little stage, a country band struck up, full of those swooning Gypsy glissandos and accelerandos and rebatos that Enescu's *Romanian Rhapsody* so happily exploits for people in good clothes in halls miles away from any mucky farmyard or village. A few men and girls in national costume began dancing the old dances and - was she primed or not? - one of the 'Gypsy' girls came over and drew me into the circle. The step was like a Strathspey, and despite the awkwardness of English reserve I managed the set. As I thanked her for the invitation, this simple country girl, who was most skilfully made up, turned away to find another to embarrass into the dance. And at the table, more beer waited and Cesar said, 'You can tell Jenny you spent the night dancing with the Gypsies'. Actually they probably were moonlighting students.

It was a good evening. It had started with a wander past some of the older buildings, past the Bierhalle which could have been bodily picked up and transported, furnishings, *wurst* and all, from Nuremberg or Munich, past a little 17th century church, to the oldest church in Bucharest: Greek Orthodox. We pushed open the door and - almost an epiphany – the sonorities of Vespers turned the world inside out. People stood around, in various attitudes, moved forward to kiss the ikonostasis and the chanting went on. As, indeed, somewhere it has done every night, to this pattern and melody for over a thousand years. Then someone opened the heavy door and for a moment Byzantium was drowned in the roar of cars accelerating away from traffic lights. And in a few hours more I was airborne, back to the present from the dream of lost pasts that may never have been; and from the actuality of a past that is continuous to, operative in, the present. But that was a good end. And as the plane finally lifted off to the northwest we saw the Carpathians, in their new snow, thrusting through the cloud.

And so I have been back and will go again, I think. But the skies are cloudy: the economy is weak and it shows; the President is in deadlock with his Senate; and this time I saw street demonstrations that could have turned ugly (but did not). The police watched, quietly. An opinion poll last month showed that 60% of the people - most of them not even born in 1989! – thought things had been better under the communists. If only they knew about the hunger, the murder camps, the ingenious and effective torture… The march of Folly goes to a good tune and many like to keep in step with it.

Dr Charles Moseley

Burwell and Reach Car Scheme

If you are unable to use conventional transport the scheme can help you arrange a journey from Burwell or Reach. Supported by Cambridgeshire County Council

The type of journeys you can make:
Doctors, Dentist, Chiropodist, Opticians, village shopping or visits to relatives/friends at home or in hospital.

Transport **cannot be provided** for hospital **Out Patient** appointments

Contact Hours: 8.30am – 5.00pm Monday – Friday. Please give at least **48 hours notice** for transport request.

01638 742543 answer phone.

You will be contacted after you have left your request for a journey.

The VILLAGE CENTRE 100 CLUB for 2013 begins in March

Please re-new your membership or now is a good time to join to help raise money to run the Village Centre

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.

100 CLUB WINNERS

November: £20
December: £50
Both to be drawn in February

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

Bottisham Village College - Adult and Community Learning

Banish those Winter blues and learn something new this Spring! We have the following courses starting after half term (from 18 February):

Authentic Indian Cookery Made Easy
IT Skills for Today's Office
Counselling – Introduction (Level 2)
Felt Making
History of Art: The Artists
Life Drawing (daytime)
Quilting and Stitching (daytime)
Research your Family History
Sugarcraft

Saturday Workshops - 9 March 2013
Why not spend the day learning something new? Choose from:

Dressmaking
Fabulous Felt Making
Photoshop
Quilting for Easter
Upholstery and Chair Caning
Woodturning

Saturday 16 March
Email and Internet Made Easy
(you may be eligible for a FREE place on this course – please enquire)

For full details visit our website: www.bottishamvc.org/commed or contact the Community Office on 01223 811372
Email: commed@bottishamvc.org.
Twitter: https://twitter.com/CommunityEdBott
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bottisham-Village-College-Adult-and-Community-Learning/360377503982558

Carols



Eliza Clark has spotted the typo in the programme



Imogen Trump (foreground) with sister, Alice



Alice Trump under pressure during the quiz



Theo and Ross Clark with Helen, Harry and Andrew Towers



Rita Dunnett, Sue Clifton, Penny Lang (texting?!), Ron Greenhill with John and Jenny Reed

Carols



Hilary Fielding and the three kings David Parr, Grahame Radford and Ross Clark



Ron and Susan Dunnett



Grahame Radford leading the quiz



Burwell Print - In the Very Heart of the Community

Nestled in the centre of Burwell is a small charity making a huge difference to the lives of adults with learning disabilities – as well as serving the community.

Burwell Print was set-up as a Social Training Enterprise in 1988 to give workplace experience in a practical situation to adults with a range of learning disabilities, known as 'Printers' within the charity. Each day the 'Printers' travel from as far away as Littleport, Sawston and Cambridge where supported workplace training in a printing organisation is given to 27 adults each week.



`Printer' Lucy using the booklet-maker to complete *Within Reach*

The 'Printers' have a job description and are trained to use and develop specific work skills in tasks such as: customer service, through working in reception and answering the phone; using a wide-range of machines as well as group tasks – like mailings – in the Print Room. Throughout the working day each Printer's work training, skills development and machine use is recorded in order to track his or her progress (and each year certificates of achievements are awarded to the Printers at an Open Day to which customers and guests are invited).

As well as in-house training for the 'Printers', Burwell Print also encourages supported and time-limited work swaps for people with learning disabilities across the network of local Social Training Enterprises. Last year five Printers from Burwell Print spent the day at Snakehall Farm in Reach (another Social Training Enterprise) learning new skills. So whilst Burwell 'Printer' Lucy was driving a tractor at Snakehall, some of the 'swappers' were at Burwell Print learning how to operate the many and varied printing machines.

Some even had the opportunity of printing themselves mugs and canvas bags – just two of the very many services on offer.

Services supporting the charity

Whilst first and foremost Burwell Print operates to support and train adults with learning disabilities, that can only be achieved through the support of the 'enterprise' part of the charity which generates income through its print-related services. The scope and range of services available for customers – whether an individual, small business of national company – may surprise you!

Whether it's booklets and brochures or magazines and mugs you need, these and many, many more items can be printed by Burwell Print (and did you know that this very copy of *Within Reach* was printed there too?). But that's not all. As well as a full graphic design service, you can also get your photos printed (from a USB, disk, camera, etc) and not forgetting the full passport photo service available too.



In reception James one of the `Printers' takes a call with support worker `Mel' on hand

And as Burwell Print has been able to add such a wide and varied range of products and services over the years, it gives the 'Printers' new opportunities for training and adding to their skills.

This year will see the charity celebrating its 25th Anniversary. Over the coming months Burwell Print plan to hold a number of events to celebrate and highlight the essential work being done by this local charity. A charity that has been supported strongly by very many local people, businesses and organisations that have acknowledged the essential work being done by Burwell Print. If you'd like to find out more about Burwell Print, its work and its services, then contact our Manager, Sue Anderson (01638 613102) or take a look at our website: www.burwellprint.co.uk .



Stephen, one of the `Printers', is tasked with creasing and folding a leaflet

But if you'd like to come and see for yourself, then you can find us at The Causeway in Burwell, in the centre of the village next to the Village College. In fact, in the very heart of the community.

Mary Hammond
Burwell Print
Chair of Trustees





Ten years ago in The Causeway
Tina's shop was born
With wool and crafts and cleaning
And mending clothes that were torn.

Now we come to celebrate
This milestone in our lives
We still provide these services
We even sharpen knives.

To join the party we invited
A chimpanzee or two
But there's not enough for them to eat
We can't help, can YOU?

Step inside and see what's needed
A banana, cake or sarnie
We don't think this minor problem
Will defeat the knitter's army.

It will be our pleasure
If the chimps don't eat it all
To auction them and their food
For Parkinson's in the Fall.

Tina's
1, North Street, Burwell,
Cambs. CB25 0BA
Tel: 01638 742785

Dave and Tina would like people to knit food and donate it to the window and then it will be sold/auctioned for charity (Parkinson's).

BODY CONTROL PILATES
ALL LEVELS

MONDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS
7 – 8PM

LODE BAPTIST CHAPEL, LODE

Julia Hamblin
07932 008364

A couple of us go from Reach so you could car share if you want. Julia is brilliant!

Memories: The Village Shop



Long before I came to Reach my husband Ray remembers the village shop being run by Mr and Mrs Spencer. In those days I suppose it was like a small supermarket selling all kinds of groceries and anything else you would need. Hanging from the ceiling would be anything from working boots, wellies, buckets etc. You name it – it was there!

And if it wasn't and you needed anything Mr Spencer, who went to Cambridge in his pony and trap weekly to replenish his stocks, would get what you wanted at the same time. Sugar was weighed out of a large sack into twisted paper and bags and sweets lined the shelves in their large jars - tempting you to buy some.

In the mid 1940's Mr and Mrs Spencer sold the shop to a Mr and Mrs Toby Sargeant who came from Swaffham Prior with their son and daughter. Whether Mr Sargeant had the post office put in the shop or whether it was already there I'm not too sure. Very few people had a telephone in their homes at the time and any urgent messages came through to the post office and Mr or Mrs Sargeant would deliver them.



In 1971, once again the shop changed hands and a Mr and Mrs Ken Peacock took over, now having goods delivered on a weekly basis and going to the cash and carry. Ken and Norma became popular figures in Reach. People would pop in for a chat even if they didn't need to buy anything. Ken would laugh and say is this a shop or a social gathering place? We got to know most newcomers to the village as they inquired who came when and what. Lanes the local baker delivered fresh bread to the shop daily. After sometime I was asked if I would like to help out part time and I loved meeting everybody.

Every Friday afternoon Mr Reuben Badcock used to push his bike (as a walking aid) up to the shop to get his pension and bits and pieces.

He would sit on the post office chair for probably 1½ hours. This was the only time he really had anyone to talk to. We knew all the local farmhands who used to come through the village and I would give them a wave from the shop window. Poor old Rueben would say 'what would Ray say if he saw you do that Anita' and I would reply 'he would wonder what was wrong with me if I didn't wave'.

People on boats used to come up the lode and get some groceries. One day four people came in and we remarked later how nice they were, not long afterwards we saw one of them in the newspaper and we had actually served the Cambridge rapist.

Thursdays were taken up getting our weekly orders up for Norma or Ken to deliver to Burwell, Swaffham Prior and Reach.

Sadly on New Years day 1981 Ken passed away and Norma found it too much to run the shop on her own even with my help. So she had to sell up that summer and sadly the shop went downhill from then. We haven't had a shop in the village since 1989-90 as new people couldn't pick up the trade again. But the shop was the focal point in the village for many years.

Anita Folkes

Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

Forthcoming Events:

Tuesday 29 January 2013
Ken Payne from Waltham Cross Camera Club will be giving a Photoshop Demonstration with practical tips and techniques on Photoshop software. For those who are new to Photoshop this may be an interesting evening to attend the club - see below.

Tuesday 19 February 2013
'An Evening with Alan and Annie' - Ann and Alan Millward from Midland Counties Photographic Federation show how two photographers can live together and create completely different print images - sponsored by Fotospeed.

Tuesday 26 February 2013
'A Passion for Nature' - Ann Miles MPAGB from the Cambridge Camera Club, will be giving a print presentation of her images.

New members are always welcome as a guest at any meeting, paying a fee of £2, refunded on joining the club. The annual fees: Adult membership £30, Joint membership £50, Student £15. There is a weekly fee of 50p which includes refreshments. Alternatively further details can be obtained by contacting the Secretary, Daphne Hanson. Telephone: 01638 741106 or email: hanson943@btinternet.com.

Visit www.bottburpc.org for our Members gallery, further details of the club and our 2012/2013 programme.

Barry Coles
Publicity Officer

Ross's Reflections



Is there a more miserable icon of modern life than the wheelie bin? The ubiquitous tubs of moulded plastic can only have been put on Earth for one reason: to make skips look graceful. They speak of a Britain of roundabouts, multiplexes and concrete bollards: an utterly miserable part of our urban landscape.

But they seem to have their supporters, too: East Cambridgeshire District Council claims to have polled 247 residents, 53 per cent of whom say they would like wheelie bins and 33 per cent would not. That is one of the reasons why Reach, so far one of the few bastions in Britain to have resisted the wheelie bin, will fall sometime over the next couple of years. East Cambs has just won a £4.9 million grant from central government to replace our current waste and recycling system with a dual wheelie bin system.

There are some advantages. It will give me more leisure time – cutting down the hour or so it takes to break down our household rubbish to conform to the incredibly fussy diktats of the current recycling collection. Does anyone else bother with sorting out white envelopes from brown envelopes or am I just a sad pedant who isn't quite brave enough to stick his fingers up at the sadists who came up with the system? The new collections will operate with just two streams of recyclables: paper, cardboard, plastic in one bin and garden waste and kitchen waste in the other; with the remaining no-recyclable stuff collected in black sacks as now. It will also mean that for the first time tetra-pak containers will be collected.

But there is a very big worry: that our pavements will become cluttered with wheelie bins just like in the many streets of terraced houses in Cambridge where wheelie bins were introduced without any thought to the fact that they would have to stay on the streets seven days a week. East Cambs has assured us that wheelie bins will not be issued to houses where they are impractical. We will hold them to their word.

In the meantime some fun wheelie bin facts:

The wheelie bin was invented by George Dempster of Knoxville Tennessee in 1937. His bins were galvanised steel rather than plastic, but the patent included the defining characteristic of a wheelie bin: it had wheels and could be hoisted up and emptied into a Dempster Dumpmaster Truck.

The modern design was perfected in Germany in the 1970s. When introduced in Britain in the mid 1980s wheelie bins led to an immediate increase of 50 per cent in waste collected in some suburban areas – the blame being put upon people dumping garden waste in wheelie bins rather than putting it on the compost heap as before. Now, however, councils want us to increase the amount of garden waste we put in wheelie bins as it is an easy way for them to increase the percentage of waste recycled as so avoid fines.

Conceptual artists in Melbourne and Berlin have both created 'Binhenges' formed by circles of wheelie bins – so don't bother ringing the Tate.

In 2007 Emma Bakewell of Peterborough City Council spotted one of the council's wheelie bins while on holiday in Bulgaria. It was suspected to be the result of a student prank – until two years later sniffer dogs in Calais found one Afghan and nine Eritrean refugees hidden in wheelie bins aboard a Bulgarian-registered lorry bound for Britain.

Ross Clark
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rossjclark@aol.com



New Year's Day Football Match - Ross we missed you!





Joe Acklam (left) v Ben Knight



Gwilym (centre) makes a break



Tim Davies (left) played a good game



Tim Davies (right) under pressure



Action!

New Year's Day Football Match – Ross we've forgotten about last year!



Gwilym Davies (left) v Ben Knight



Dan Knight (left) v Tony Fordham



Archie Fordham coming up fast through the middle



Archie Fordham v the Knight Brothers



Is this in the rule book?



Bryan Pearson: A formidable goalie!



Looks like another goal for Joe Acklam

Life from the Fen



Our diverse village is home to a population of both fen 'natives' and 'newcomers'.

Those raised in the fens know and understand their history but others may be unaware of how resourceful people have been in the past when making a living from this landscape.

For hundreds of years the fens were a unique area of Great Britain, especially in terms of its people and their way of life, with certain elements remaining unchanged until the 19th century. Families continued to thrive off their fen into the 1920's but following the second world war close-knit communities dispersed and their cottages of fen materials were largely demolished.

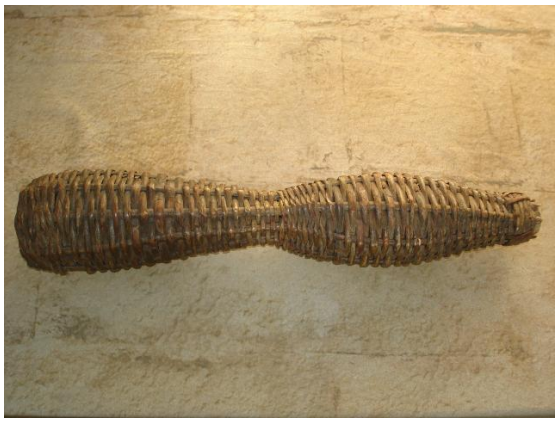
Traditional fenman were resilient and lived a simple existence from their immediate environment. Water was accessible from rivers and lodes which were also trade routes for transporting outgoing fen goods - sedge from the summer harvest, turf, bricks, tiles etc. and incoming goods, i.e. iron and timber. Local livelihoods were enhanced by access to wider markets with produce.

Fen boats were built with flat bottoms and shallow drafts. They were stacked high with goods and tied together in gangs pulled by haling donkeys or ponies. Donkeys were favoured for their steady natures, cheap maintenance and small hoof prints which limited wear and tear on riverbanks.

Birds, ducks and geese were trapped and shot. Driving duck, widgeon and teal into nets during the moulting period, when they could not fly, became common practice to fulfil the demand for food and feathers. Mammals were caught and ferrets used for rabbiting, both to supply food and keep river and sea banks clear of holes, thereby helping to avoid the disastrous affects of floods. Fruit was grown and prunings collected for firewood.

Fishing provided essential protein-high food. Eeling, practised in the fens for over 1,000 years, was important both as a rich source of nutrition and as a trading commodity. The stone used to build the Abbey of Ely was bought from the Abbey at Peterborough and paid for in sticks of eels. Eels could be kept alive in tanks for many months without losing condition, unlike most freshwater fish. Since the Iron Age precious salt was available from coastal fens for curing.

Before nets, eels were caught with willow traps (hives and grigs) and spears, glaives and stangs. These were made by fenmen to their own design or the local blacksmith, often from hardened carriage springs. The bab was another effective catching method - the line on a willow rod was attached to a cluster of worms tied to a small bunch of worsted and lowered to the bottom of the river. The bait was taken by eels which would not release their hold when lifted out of the water. In the 19th century the fyke net was introduced from Holland. The fen eel catcher had a rather secretive life and worked mostly at night, he lived by tides, not time and phases of the moon.



A willow eel trap or grig (also the name for a small eel) the shape ensures eels swim in but not out

Further self provision included growing vegetables, keeping a backyard pig and poultry for meat and eggs. Poppies grown in the garden provided opium to relieve fen ague.



Sedge Cutting Wicken Fen. Robert Walker Macbeth. 1878. Royal Academy

Peat dug from the fen was vital for trade, building and fuel. Once dried, the well-rotted turves smouldered to give off a prolonged heat, sedge was used for firelighters and bog oak burnt. Cow dung could be converted into fuel by forming the wet matter into turves and drying them in the sun. The processed dung possessed a repugnant smell whereas turf, which contained herbs, yielded a not unpleasant aroma.

Osiers, sedge and willow grew abundantly. The fens and flood washes were full of crack willow, when pollarded these provided the material for eel hives, baskets, skeps and sheep hurdles. Osiers were also common and, when coppiced, provided withies for baskets, fish traps and furniture.

Indigenous fen people farmed common land until their rights were eroded in the 15th century when the fens were first drained and marsh reclaimed from the sea. Fen workers also laboured on farms for additional revenue, cleaning mangolds for stock, cutting flowers for trade, assisting with the wheat, bean, potato and celery harvests. Farming held villages together; fenland farms were small and generally owned by large estates but farmed by tenants. Growing mustard, buckwheat, oats and fodder crops such as ryegrass, clover and sangfoine diminished after the 1930's. The mid-morning break, for which employers docked wages, is still known by the fenland term 'docky'.

The fen dwellings of labouring classes in the 17th and 18th century were traditionally built on wooden piles driven into the peat or on mattresses of compressed reeds and osiers. Generally a single room with loft space above, accessed by ladder, to sleeping areas and storage. Cottages were built of the local materials ready to hand i.e. peat: sundried, shaped into bricks, covered with lime render and used for walls and insulation. Wood: plentiful, willow liggers fixed sedge thatch to the roof ridge. Gault clay: fired and made into floor bricks, tiles and mortars. Reed and sedge: used as filler for walls and thatching.

Cooking took place on open hearths and ranges. Fireplaces were the main source of heat and the centre of family life. Cupboards either side held goods that needed to stay dry i.e. salt and linen. Fen women brought peat in for baking bread, a block was placed in the simple bread oven until it glowed red-hot, it was then broken and scattered before loaves were pushed in for 20 minutes. Chimney stacks provided warmth for all rooms, low ceilings helped heat retention and a fire burned all year round. Floors were often raised above flood water level.



Fen life wasn't all hard work, when waters on the washes froze day and night, black ice formed as clear as glass. There was skating by moonlight. Skates were known as fen runners or pattens, local runners (beech wood) had a screw in the heel for attaching the skate to an everyday work boot and prongs in the front to steady the skate. Speed skating competitions were popular with prizes on offer, it was also a means of transport in bad weather.

Donkey 'derbies' were held when the donkeys that hauled small carts, towed barges and turf boats proliferated fen villages. Children's games included races on stilts and upturned tins held by strings, spinning tops, marbles, balls, hopscotch, skipping.

As can be seen, Fenmen worked effectively with the land that surrounded them. They coped with hardship, floods and dramatic weather fronts but found it hard to accept man's interference with nature. Echoing, perhaps for many, the concerns of today.

Joss Goodchild

Family History Saturdays

Cambridgeshire County Council



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6 the Cloisters, Ely, CB7 4ZH
0345 045 5225

alison.england@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cost is £25 per person (lunch not included)

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Avenue of Limes

It was towards the end of 2011 that villager Nick Acklam came up with the idea to plant an avenue of 60 limes on the Swaffham Road to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee – and also to provide a green link between the village and the Prospects Trust at Snakehall Farm.

The proposal was put to the Parish Council in November 2011 and they agreed to it – which was a vital ingredient to the project because they also agreed to look after the trees in perpetuity.

Checks were made and approval given by Anglian Water, BT and Cambridgeshire County Council Highways Department.

Nick was Project Leader for the venture and he chose the lime Tilia Cordata Greenspire which is a lovely, symmetrical tree. Now the challenge was to get funding for the venture.

The Big Tree Plant was very happy to support the project as well as provide partial funding for the Community Orchard.

Nick then looked at a number of suppliers for the trees before deciding upon Farm Forestry who are based in Bishop's Castle, Shropshire www.farmforestry.co.uk. We dealt with Francis Plowden who was excellent – and when the trees arrived they were excellent too.

Grateful thanks go to Snakehall Farm who took delivery of the trees and peripheral products and stored them for us until needed on planting day which was set for 21st December 2012 – we were determined to plant within the Jubilee year. It was a spooky start – very misty.





The augur was a Godsend – the 60 holes were dug with ease



Sean Manchett - on the job . . . .

Below is the initial team with Sean Manchett, John Reed, Nick Acklam, Andrew Trump and Rebecca Fordham (plus me behind the camera) - here you see the first tree in place. Thanks also go to Jo and Dylan Riches who came along to help (but didn't manage to get into any of the pictures).



Below is the last of the trees we planted. We started at 9.00am and it was now 3.30pm (Sean took the picture).



The Snakehall Farm people were keen to do some planting so 5 trees were left for them to plant on the Monday. Michael Speed and Mark Fretwell completed the planting - overseen by Cara Massarano.





The whole thing looks lovely and villagers have commented as much. It takes vision to see these things and grateful thanks go to Nick Acklam for his initial suggestion and for seeing the project through – and to our supplier Farm Forestry, those who helped out on the day and our friends at Snakehall Farm.

David Parr
davidmparr@btinternet.com or 744081

CROSSWORD WINNER

Congratulations go to Susan Bluck of Burwell Road on winning Crossword No. 16.
A £5 book token has been sent to her.

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD No. 16

ACROSS: 1. ORGAN. 6. HIM. 9. MAT. 12. SHONE. 13. ATA. 14. ADO. 15. COUNTERED. 17. LET. 18. ADD 19. LAMEST. 21. REASSESS. 24. CEDE. 27. PICS. 28. YESES. 29. TYRANT. 32. HONEST. 33. SEERS. 34. SARI. 35. PTAS. 36. TELECAST. 40. LETHAL. 42. WAR. 43. FBI. 45. HOMEPLATE. 48. DOS. 49. USA. 50. EERIE. 51. RAT. 52. DEN. 53. TEENS.

DOWN: 1. OSCAR. 2. RHODE. 3. GOUDA. 4. ANN. 5. NET. 6. HARASS. 7. ITEMS. 8. MADE. 9. MALTESE. 10. ADE. 11. TOT. 16. ELECT. 28. YORE. 29. TST. 30. YET. 31. REALIST. 32. HALLE. 34. SEAMAN. 36. THOSE. 37. AWARE. 38. SATIN. 39. TREES. 41. THUD. 43. FDR. 44. BOA. 46. PET. 47. LEE.

Bus Safety

As you may have seen within the Parish Council Minutes, over recent times villagers have expressed concerns regarding the speed with which some buses enter and leave Reach.



In response to this, a letter was written to Stagecoach expressing these concerns. The response received was acceptable to the Parish Council, with sensible actions being taken by Stagecoach.

One comment made by them was *"if at any time a resident reports a similar incident then please would they be kind enough to obtain sufficient information such as date, time, location and direction of travel (outbound - towards Newmarket or inbound - towards Cambridge). This information will assist me in locating the driver concerned so that the necessary steps can be followed in line with internal procedures".*

This message comes from Tracey Holgate who is Head of Customer Services at Stagecoach in Cambridge. Her contact details are as follows:

100 Cowley Road Cambridge CB4 0DN
Tel: 01223 433264
Email: tracey.holgate@stagecoachbus.com

The Parish Council would also ask that if you do have cause to complain to Stagecoach, that you send copies of any correspondence to the Clerk so that the Parish Council can monitor the situation.

Amenity Fund

The Amenity Fund has £1,621.05 available.

If you feel you have a worthwhile project that could be funded – please get in touch with Chairman Ross Clark on 01638 743725 or rossjclark@aol.com.

To learn more about the fund please visit the village website at www.reach-village.co.uk/amenity_fund.html.

Latest News from the 24Acres: Our Own Orchard



On 12th January over 50 people from the village braved the mud and morning chill and turned out to help plant our very own Community Orchard. It was an amazing turnout that involved all ages helping with this landmark occasion – many thanks to everyone who turned up. From hole-diggers to stake-bashers, fire-tenders to tea-makers, netting-cutters to tree planters, it was an amazing team effort. As Andrew Trump put it 'seeing the village at work I now know how the Pyramids were built'!

The photos tell their own story, so I won't try to describe the day. Together we planted 154 trees of 67 varieties of apple, pear, plum and cherry, over half of them traditional to the East of England. We've also got some quince, medlar, mulberry, fig and walnut in the mix.

The planting plan may have seemed pretty random, but there was some sense to it. Many orchard trees are self-sterile, or only partially self-fertile and such cases are likely to produce a better crop if there is another apple tree close by flowering at the same time. So we have placed the earlier flowering (and fruiting) varieties at the southern end and there should be a wave of flowering moving through the orchard as the season progresses.

We've also put some of the larger trees (cherries, walnuts) on the eastern boundary, so that when mature they don't cast too much shade over other trees.

We've had an amazing response to our request for people to 'adopt' individual trees. At the time of writing, 97 trees have been adopted. The generosity of those who have contributed will cover the orchard's management costs in the early years, before it becomes productive and will help pay for ongoing development and events. But mostly we hope that all those who have adopted trees will stay involved in managing and benefiting from this new resource in our community. If you want to find 'your' tree a full list of all those that have been adopted is available on the village website, together with a planting plan at:

www.reach-village.co.uk/community_orchard.html



Kate Day and son Hugh in the foreground

PLEASE HELP THE PRINT CENTRE to raise funds from the Cambridge Building Society Cash for the Community Project. Tokens are in the Cambridge Evening News from Monday 4th February so please collect them and follow their instructions.
All money raised from this fund will help us to make this year, **OUR 25th YEAR**, a year to remember with various community events.
Thanks ever so much - from Sue on behalf of everybody at Burwell Print.

The first green leaves should start appearing in the next 2 or 3 months but it may then be 2-3 years before many of the trees start to produce their first fruit. Being a traditional orchard, most of the trees are growing on semi-vigorous root stock, which means that they will grow to be larger than many of the trees you would buy in a typical garden centre, which are on dwarf root stocks. It also means that it takes a little longer for them to start fruiting, so we will have to be patient!



David Thomas supervised by Juliet Vickery

Meanwhile there is still work to be done. We'd like to encourage a wildflower meadow under the trees. This will be difficult as many wild flowers don't like soils which have previously been cultivated and fertilised, but clovers and ox-eye daisies should survive. We'll also be buying some benches and picnic tables so that people can come and sit and enjoy this open space. We'll be installing some interpretation boards with information on traditional orchards and the 'heritage' varieties being grown, together with a map so that visitors can track down different varieties (and find out what they are eating!). And of course the orchard will need to be managed – if this first two years are very dry the trees will all need watering (20 litres per tree per week is what is recommended) and the grass/meadow will need cutting once or twice a year. In the autumn we plan to hold a training course on pruning, run by experts from the East of England Apple and Orchards Project (EEAOP) which provided most of the traditional Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk varieties we're growing. And we'll aim to initiate our own 'Apple Day' at around the same time, to celebrate our orchard fruits. Please let us know if you have other ideas of how we can make best use of the orchard in years to come.

Hopefully we have created a legacy that will survive for many years to be enjoyed by future generations. One of the oldest and best known apple trees in the UK is that which stands in the grounds of the 17th century Woolsthorpe Manor, near Grantham in Lincolnshire. Newton is said to have been sitting beneath the branches of this tree in 1665 when 'the notion of gravitation came to mind'. The tree – now some 400 years old – is of the rare Flower of Kent variety (commonly known as Isaac Newton's Apple Tree – we've planted two trees of the same variety in our orchard) and described in nursery catalogues as "*a large culinary apple, flushed and heavily ribbed. White, soft flesh, tinged green. Cooks to a sweet puree*". In 2010, a piece of the original tree was taken onboard a space shuttle to experience zero gravity, as part of the Royal Society's 350th anniversary celebrations.

I wonder how long our orchard will last – and what revelations it might inspire among future village residents and visitors?

To find out more about the project you can download the Working Document from the Reach Village web site: www.reach-village.co.uk/24Acres_Project.html.

David Thomas

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STOP PRESS!

Shortly after planting I discovered a (dead) vole next to one of our newly planted trees. Unfortunately field voles are known to be a problem affecting young orchards, gnawing the bark as well as the roots, potentially ring-barking and so killing the trees. They tend to inhabit long grass and there is a possibility that they are coming out of the ditch to feed - especially likely in the cold, snowy weather we are having.



Jo and Paul Redfarn

So, a week after they were planted the trees in the first two rows were fitted with spiral tree guards to try to deter hungry voles. Ideally the guards should be buried for a couple of inches but the ground was too hard for that. I was assisted in this chilly task by Jo and Paul Redfarn and 'Goose' (Glenn Goosen - who was accompanied by a reluctant Buffy.



Tales from a Reach Garden



One can be forgiven for thinking that there isn't much to do in the garden at this time of year. Often the weather is *very* uninviting: if it's too wet it's not a good idea to traipse across the lawn because of soil compaction (even if you can do so without slipping).

When it's too cold you can't dig into the soil with anything less than a pickaxe; too foggy and you can barely see your gloved fingers in front of your face let alone the shrub that needs trimming; and then there's snow….. There is always work to do in the garden of course, especially a garden the size of ours. Throughout the year our garden provides us with vegetables from the veggie patch; fruit from trees, bushes and vines; eggs from our chickens which roam around the apple trees, scrumping the windfalls; lovely flowers to admire in beds and tubs; vistas across the fens to gaze at while drinking a much welcomed cup of tea (the reward for a couple of busy hours in the garden).



Winter is the time of year when Richard and I plan what vegetables we will grow later in the year while perusing the various seed catalogues for new ideas. We prune our apple and pear trees in January/February, mostly removing damaged twigs and branches and thinning out branches to prevent overcrowding. We also have a couple of plum trees but these are pruned in summer because pruning them now risks encouraging a serious fungal infection known as silver leaf. We prune our currant bushes and cut down the canes of our autumn raspberries at this time of year. Our veggie patch is still productive, even in winter – there are carrots, parsnips, leeks, cabbages, broccoli and spinach to harvest when needed. There are also garlic and shallots growing for digging up in summer.



This year we have the "added bonus" of having to plant a hedge and some shrubs at the front of the garden bordering the road.

Trees in this part of the garden had been dying over several years even before we moved here in 2007. They were mostly the remains of a leylandii hedge but also included a couple of ash trees and field maples and the inevitable elder bush. Last year's wet summer was the last straw for some of these trees. Two fell over in strong winds (I moved the chicken coop out of the way in the nick of time), and another was pushed over easily. The autumnal crop of honey fungus growing at the base of these trees, revealed why. Honey fungus is a serious disease of susceptible woody plants, feeding off them, spreading from tree to tree via rhizomorphs which infiltrate the roots, slowly killing them. If you lift the bark at the base of the trunk of an affected tree you can see the white mycelium of the fungus. In the wild all fungi are part of nature's cycle for redistributing nutrients and help to provide food and shelter for any wildlife which loves a bit of dead wood.



Armillaria mellea. The dreaded honey fungus (photo: RSPB website)

However in a garden full of susceptible trees (such as apples!) which are unaffected by the fungus so far (fingers crossed), and where the worst affected trees are beside a road - there is nothing to do other than uproot the affected trees and burn them.

So now we have to decide what to plant in their place. As there is still the risk of infection via the odd rhizomorph lurking in the soil, it will have to be something resistant to honey fungus, such as yew, blackthorn, buckthorn, hornbeam or box, but reasonably quick growing. Hmmmm, decisions, decisions…

Danuta Gibson

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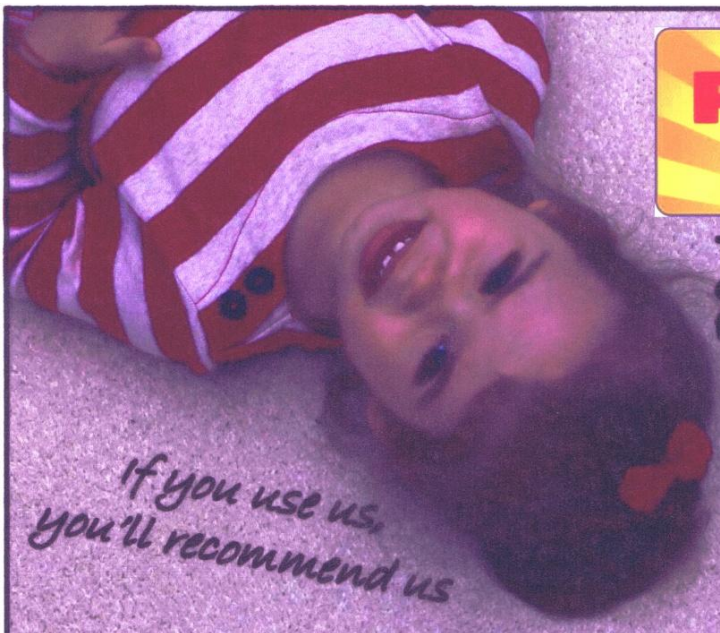

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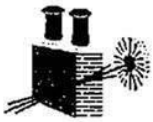

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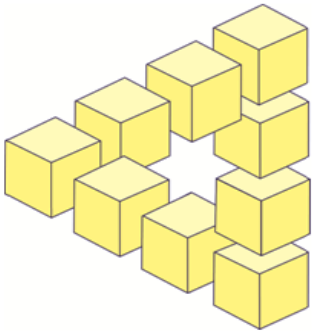

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Glorious and graphic, the trees nevertheless at first glance seem static and dormant but a closer inspection of the branch tips hint at the life about to burst out – indeed once leaves have been shed in autumn and in the absence of flowers, tree shape, branch tip buds and bark patterns are key identification tools.

The enormous treacle-covered, sticky buds of horse chestnuts are already swelling – if in doubt, look further down the branches to find large shield-shaped scars created when last year's leaf stalks dropped. They are sometimes thought of as horseshoe shaped and there are even seven 'nails' clearly visible indicating where the vascular bundles that transport food and water around the tree were severed during autumn leaf fall.

The smooth grey trunks of common beeches and the domed shape are usually enough for identifying the tree in winter, but if in doubt the slender whippy twigs now end in clusters of shiny coppery brown slender, pointed leaf buds, looking rather like chrysalises and with a clear criss-crossing pattern. Even tighter clusters of pinkish buds now adorn the tips of most cherry trees, like little rosettes and on most species the twigs have a distinctively wrinkled surface.

Ash trees are very different, with the buds in dark charcoal grey, held close in to the branch tip and shaped like tiny hooves. Perhaps most uplifting at this time of year are the rainbow shades from crimson to bright yellow of the whippy new growth on limes and willows, the buds of the lime sometimes described as 'like a boxing glove with one small red bud scale and one large red bud scale' and fringed with fine hairs.

An added bonus of bare branches is being able to see the great industry invested by the birds and squirrels in making their nests and drays, their shapes and textures almost as varied as the host trees themselves, so do get out and test your knowledge of the winter treescape.

The Cambridge Botanic Garden is open 10am – 4pm in January and 10am-5pm through February and March. Admission is £4.50, Gift aid admission £4.95 or join the Friends, get free admission & help the Garden grow! For news and events, detailed information about the Garden or to discover this week's Plant Picks from the Head of Horticulture, please visit www.botanic.cam.ac.uk.

OUR ADVERTISERS

As you may well be aware, Within Reach is totally self-funding with revenues coming from our advertisers. We now have 57 of them and this covers 36 categories – so if there is some need that you have please check out our advertisers first.

This year we have an extra 7 advertisers and they are:

- **Burwell Petsitters**
- **Deer View Guest House**
- **Kevin Wells & Son Window Cleaners**
- **Lease Our Cars**
- **MC Cars Taxi and Courier Services**
- **NCS Chimney Sweep**
- **Ovenpad Cleaning Services**

So please check out their adverts and get in touch if you have a need for the goods and services that they offer.

CRICKET

As we await the ground to dry out so that we can plant up our new cricket pitch Reach Cricket Club is turning its attention to next season. If there are any more lapsed cricketers in the village, or anyone who has never played before in their life but would like a go we would love to hear from you.

We play about ten friendly fixtures a year plus a suicidal appearance in the National Village Cup. If you are interested in playing please contact Ross Clark on 01638 743725 or rossjclark@aol.com

What's "Growing On" at Snakehall Farm?

MAKING 2013 OUR LUCKY YEAR

For the superstitious amongst us, 2013 may herald fears of the unknown but at Snakehall Farm we have all agreed to make it our very LUCKY year. We want to consolidate our core service, continue to grow the most edible organics and offer a supportive work place for adults with learning difficulties, disabilities and those with varying health needs. We have some plans afoot, particularly focused on our 25th Year – 2014 where we will be attempting to fundraise £25,000 for our 25th Birthday. We are looking for sponsored opportunities – marathons, swimathons, bungee jumps, sky dives, Olympic efforts – we are also looking for local supporters to pledge for the Prospects in our 25th year. If you are a dare devil, a real sport, or have a hidden talent that we can turn into gold, we would love to hear from you, give Maz a call on 01638 741551 or email maz@theprospectstrust.org.uk. Become one of the 25 heroes in our 25th year!

We aim to support 15 Co-workers per day at Snakehall Farm, including work experience in the wider community via our Garden Maintenance Team and we still have a few placement opportunities for new Co-workers. We will continue to market these placements through our regular contacts but if you know of a potential Co-worker then make contact. We have an easy to read pack of vital information and can offer a Co-worker led tour around the farm during working hours. We always advocate our gates are open and in 2013, they will be open wide and welcoming. Mark, our on-site farmer, is keen to do more bespoke tours for the wider community too. Last year we welcomed WI groups, school groups and of course the very delightful Little Windmills Pre-school. If you are a member of a local group, society or committee looking for an interesting way to spend a twilight spring or summer evening then give us a call to find out more.

CARPARKS, SIGNAGE AND SHOPPING

If you venture onto the farm you maybe surprised to see new fences, new signs and more pathways. At the end of last year we had a fabulous offer of manpower from Manit Contractors (www.manitcontractors.co.uk). They provided labour, plant equipment and materials to establish a new staff car parking area, they dug out the path foundations to make our site more accessible and our Co-workers have been very busy since filling in the new pathways. We cannot express our gratitude enough to this very altruistic commercial supporter.

As a visitor or customer to the farm you will now find some dedicated car parking spaces just for you! If you come to the farm after our site closure, the shop will remain open as normal but you won't be able to drive right through the farm. We hope the new system is clear to all, welcoming to our customers and provides a safe working environment for all at Snakehall Farm.

EVEN MORE SEASONAL STOCK IN THE SHOP

We have made a tentative and hopefully progressive step forward with our organic produce on offer this winter. We have a very longstanding and amiable relationship with the Cambridge Organic Food Company or COFCO for short. They have been one of our regular wholesale customers for years and in 2012, along with their vegetable box customers, they became a Polytunnel Partner, helping us repair, re-skin and rejuvenate our cropping tunnels. This winter we have supplemented our seasonal stock grown on the farm with some staples from COFCO. Still 100% organic and still from within a very local footfall, the COFCO produce in the shop is clearly labelled and we do hope this gives our farm shop customers a little more variety over the winter period. Of course you can still remain true to the Trust and only opt for our grown on site range. Either way it is for you to decide - we always aim to offer as much choice as we can.

Wishing you all a very LUCKY 2013 and looking forward to seeing you in the shop soon.

From all the Co-workers, Staff and Volunteers at The Prospects Trust (oh and Tilly the Tractor too).

And please visit our webpage on Local Giving at: http://localgiving.com/charity/prospectstrustatsnakehallfarm

Marianne (Maz) Baker

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

Sweet Chestnut on the Green

The planting took place in pouring rain on the morning of Saturday 22nd December 2012. The new tree, which is a Sweet Chestnut Castanea Sativa, was purchased from Barchams and is a beautiful, fast growing, large tree which is particularly attractive in early summer when laden with its male and female catkins. It will also supply its fruit - hence the song "chestnuts roasting on an open fire". Later on this year a noticeboard will be put in place describing the trees and stating why and when they were planted.

Grateful thanks go to John Reed who did the vast majority of the planting, using his digger - and who went and got the tree from Barchams, saving us the delivery fee. Thanks also go to this magazine which purchased the tree for the village and will pay for the noticeboard in due course.



Above you see David Thomas, Chairman of the Parish Council, Claire Halpin-McDonald, Editor of Within Reach and John Reed. Behind the camera is David Parr.

News from Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey



It was a disappointing end to the year, as thieves broke into the Tractor Shed and stole our two Kubota All Terrain vehicles. This will seriously impact our conservation work around the fen until insurance claims are settled and replacement vehicles sourced.

For the first time in living memory we've had to close part of the reserve - primarily the Nature Trail around Sedge Fen. Sections of the trail are flooded or churned-up such that serious long term ecological damage could be caused if we do not take precautions to protect the soil. If you're planning to head up to Wicken for a walk I would definitely recommend wellies as sections of the Adventurer's Trail are also very muddy.



We've become aware in recent weeks of a growing number of motorbike scramble riders illegally using the Lodes Way cycleway across Burwell Fen – ultimately this will damage the surface of the cycleway and could also present a danger to walkers, cyclists and equestrian users. We are liaising with the local Police Community Support Officers to address the problem.

If after planting the Community Orchard you've got the planting bug, you can always join Community Ranger, Lois Baker and Vision Ranger, John Hughes, for a spot of tree planting on the White Fen Community Woodland on Saturday 10th February, 10am – 2pm. Please call Lois on 01353 720274 if you fancy pitching in - and don't forget the wellies! You can always keep up-to-date with our Community Work by reading Lois' blog at wickencommunityranger.blogspot.co.uk

We will shortly be recruiting for three fixed term Ranger positions at Wicken – a Seasonal Ranger, Grazing Assistant and a General Reserve Ranger. Details of the vacancies will shortly be advertised on the NT Jobs website www.nationaltrustjobs.org.uk.

Mucky Pups, the regular craft and adventure activities for pre-schoolers continues to grow from strength to strength. To cope with demand we've added an extra session each month. **Feathery February** is being held on February 6th and 7th, whilst the theme for March is **Signs of Spring** on the 6th and 7th.

Each session runs from 10.15-11.45am and costs £3.95. Spaces can be reserved by calling the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274. Looking slightly further ahead to the half-term holiday there's **Wild Art** on Wednesday 13th February from 10.30-12:30pm or 2 – 4pm (£4.75) and an **Introduction to Geocaching** on Thursday 14th (free).

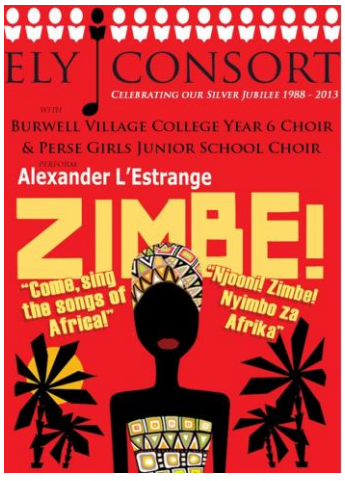


Anglesey Abbey's **Snowdrop Festival** (21st January – 24th February) is now in full swing – the relatively mild winter has meant that many varieties were showing early but the recent cold snap could extend the season into March. The Garden team will be running their popular Snowdrop Tours during the Festival at 14:00 on weekdays. Tours are limited to 30 spaces half of which can be pre-booked by calling the Visitor Centre on 01223 810086, with the remaining spaces available on a first come first served basis on the day.

Howard Cooper
Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey

VERY SMALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
24ACRES
SUNDAY 21ST APRIL FROM 11AM

Details from Claire Halpin
01638 743330
claire.halpin@ascontracts.co.uk





Meeting David Blocksage

Q What is your full name? Blocksage is unusual what's its derivation?



My full name is David Stephen Blocksage. Blocksage originates from New Zealand via Ireland. It's a rare name and there are no other Blocksages in Cambridgeshire. Nationally Emma Blocksage is a glamour model and Andrew Blocksage is a professional football agent.

Q Where were you born and brought up? What schools did you go to and what can you remember of them?

I was born in Tripoli, North Africa, just after Gaddafi took power and raised there until I was eight years old. I came to Reach in the summer of 1975. My mother was British and my father was from New Zealand so I have dual nationality. My talkative side comes from my mother. I found England not as friendly in the first year or so and I missed my school friends. I went to Swaffham Prior primary school and still remember the primitive boys' loos. My initials are still carved on the tree to the side of the school. From Swaffham I went to Bottisham College the same as my children do today.

Q What do you like about Reach?

Reach gets into the blood. I even know where I want to be buried; I've picked the spot in the cemetery. Reach is distanced from the real world; it has its own micro climate. You can readily access London, Milton Keynes and Norwich but once you drive over the bridge you are back into a different world. I remember as kids we would play chase with as many as 25 – 30 kids aged 10 – 15 years split into two teams. With my friends I would go on long walks to Soham and Ely until 6pm at night. We enjoyed fishing matches; I once got so excited I fell off my chair and fell into the lode.

Q What's your career history?

When I was at school I was told I would never work in computers and I thought `are you saying I shouldn't take up the two job offers I have?' I was a computer programmer for five years. I was approached to join Life Science Sales and was there for two years. I went on to sell biotech products. Thereafter I went on to sell tax free cars and did this for three years. I sold to Americans and sold cars worldwide. I worked for Cecil and Lartar in Bury St Edmunds for 12 years and was the General Manager for three sites. I set up Within Reach Cars in 2006 to source and find cars for people. I also sell extended warranties and insurances and am now working also for a finance company. I source cars all over the country and have lots of garage and company contacts from Brighton, to Bournemouth to Cumbria. I source anything from Audis, BMWs and Mercedes to family cars.



The Blocksages: Daniel, Debbie, Felicity and David

Q Where did you meet Debbie and where were you married?

I met Debbie in the village pub. On Mondays I used to play backgammon with Craig Dunnett and I noticed a blonde behind the bar most Mondays. I plucked up courage to ask her out; our first date was in the pub and Debbie had scampi and chips. Debbie is from Soham and that's where we were married.



David and Debbie

***Q Are you a slave to your two children, Daniel and Felicity? You seem to constantly be doing things* for them. Do your children get their athleticism from you?**

I'm a slave, a taxi service. I like to give the children the opportunities I did not have. I'm not especially fit. It all started when I bought a basketball hoop and the seller threw in a bike. Daniel joined a cycle club and I said if he could come within the first ten riders I would buy him a proper bike. Eventually he succeeded.

I always put others first and I don't have a lot of my own time. For the children Mondays is running, Tuesdays and Wednesdays swimming, Thursdays turbo training, Fridays no commitments, Saturdays competitions and Sundays swimming.

Q Where do you like to holiday?

I like being in Reach chilling out. That said this year we plan to go to Mexico and also Lapland. We've been to Snowdonia and the Cairngorms. We once parked at Aviemore about six miles from the summit and then cycled on the footpaths. It took two hours to travel upwards and 30 minutes to cycle down. We went to France, again cycling on mountainous routes.

Q Favourite book?

I get engrossed in books. I like the millennium series. The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo. And I like PJ Tracy crime books.

Q Favourite music?

Loads. Karen Carpenter, Barbara Streisand, Oscar Peterson, rag time jazz and 80s music (music you can hear and understand).

Q Favourite film?

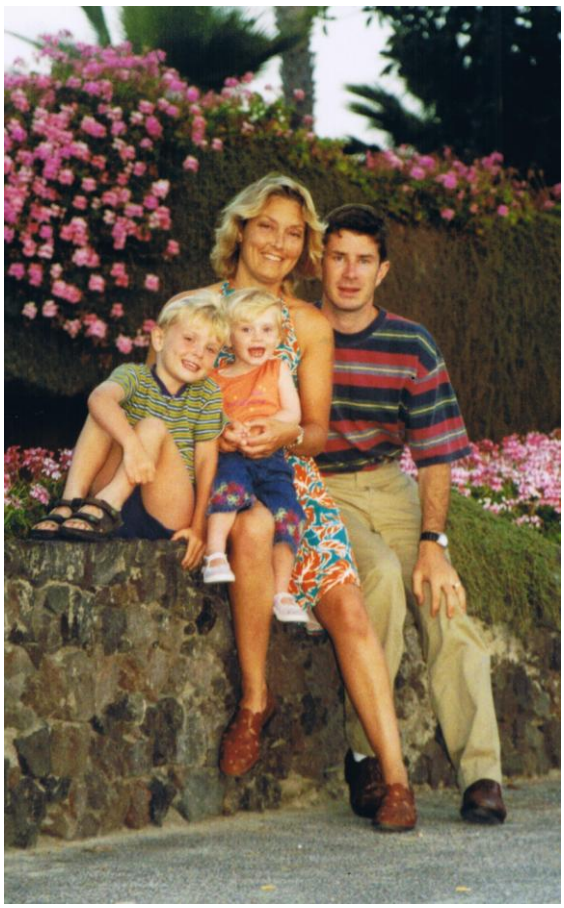
I get too emotionally attached. I get upset at the start of Titanic and feel for the lady. I like 7lbs with Will Smith. He is dying and donates his organs to seven people. I like Sigourney Weaver and Gorillas in the Mist.

Q Can you cook?

If I need to but I don't. I sit on the sidelines and give advice. We eat good balanced meals in this household.

Q Are you handy around the house?

Here Debbie steps into the frame: He has a list of things to do and he will work through the list. He's good at plumbing and electricity. David resumes: When we were first married we had a house in Mildenhall and I did it up and I've also completed a lot of work on this house.



The family on holiday in Teneriffe

Q What is your philosophy on life?

Treat others as you wish to be treated. Be open and honest.

Claire Halpin-McDonald

Days Gone By



Kenny Rogers with “Coward of the County” dominated the charts in February 1980 only to be overtaken by The Jam with “Going Underground” at the end of March.

The Jam launched the career of Paul Weller, who went on to form The Style Council and later had a successful solo career.

In Zimbabwe Nationalist leader Robert Mugabe won a sweeping election victory to become Zimbabwe's first black prime minister. His radical African National Union (Patriotic Front) party or Zanu (PF) won 57 of the 80 black seats being contested in the country's first election since the end of white minority rule.



In March 2002 Mugabe was elected for a controversial fifth term as president amid much speculation about ballot-rigging. As his political fortunes have declined he has resurrected land redistribution as an issue and many white farmers have been forced - often violently - to leave the land they had farmed for generations.

His biggest problem now is to revive an economy with inflation running at 120%, hundreds of thousands dependent on food aid and millions out of work.

In the North Sea 123 oil rig workers were killed after a North Sea accommodation platform collapsed during gales. A massive wave hit one of the legs of the platform, causing it to break and send the 208 people on board into the sea at around 18.30 GMT.

Some were able to make it to the lifeboats before the platform fully capsized while others were thrown into the sea as the rig began to tilt.



In 1988, 167 oil workers were confirmed dead after a series of explosions on the oil rig Piper Alpha.

In Reach, villagers were coming to terms with the death, at the age of 58, of Kenneth Peacock who, with wife Norma, ran the Post Office Stores. Jenny Johnson wrote a moving piece in Out of Reach saying “Many times I have gone to the shop feeling lonely and in need of a friendly chat and come out lighter of step as the result of Mr Peacock’s gentle, flattering teasing or a lively discussion over how we would put the world to rights. He cared for and considered everyone”.



Kenneth and Norma in the Post Office Stores

The magazine in 1980 was struggling to survive but various fundraising activities plus support from the Parish Council, when needed, kept it going. The accounts show that their total production costs were less than £10 per issue – compared to our £320 per issue today.

Finally – a couple of topical inputs from **Dan Mules**:

“I was in a Tesco café ordering my food and the waitress asked if I wanted anything on my burger. So I had a fiver each way”.

“I then went to read the nutritional label on Tesco’s burgers. It turns out they’re fairly low in fat but surprisingly high in Shergar”.

David Parr
744081
davidmparr@btinternet.com

Swaffham Prior Primary School

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Christmas now seems a long time ago although it was in fact only three weeks ago and already we are in a brand new year! We had a lovely December in school and celebrated with Decoration Day, performances of 'The Gigantic Star' by Mercury and Mars Classes and a Christmas celebration in St Mary's led by our new vicar Rev Sue, amongst others! FoSPS also held their annual Christmas Fair which raised about £500 and was enjoyed by all.



Elizabeth Parr with Mum Helen

Neptune Class and Mars Class had a visit from Richard, a story teller. He came to follow up a previous session of storytelling which had led to story writing based on 'Hidden Gold' in Neptune Class. The children participated in the story telling and shared the stories that they had written with Richard.

Term has begun again and the learning journey is continuing on. In Neptune and Saturn classes they are thinking about, 'Tell me how. Tell me why'. An alien has made contact and is curious to find out about life on Earth. The children are thinking about information that they can send which will answer the alien's questions, of which it has many! They are starting with information about how we work and are exploring aspects of the human body.



Evie Mitchell with dad, Andy

In Mars and Mercury Classes the children are exploring 'Fantasy'. Last week, mysterious footprints appeared outside the classrooms and the children were asked to think about who made them. Was it a dinosaur or a unicorn? Could it be a friendly monster? The latest discovery has been some shiny, silver scales…..Hmmm, maybe a dragon??? We are hoping that Mercury and Mars Classes can find out and let us know!

There are some busy times ahead!

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



Winter in Reach – courtesy of Alison Short

Little Windmills Pre-school

Last term saw a flurry of activity in the build-up to Christmas. Firstly the children had a great time erecting and decorating our tree. We made Christingles, pomanders using oranges and cloves, snow shakers, Christmas wreaths and a candle decoration for the Christmas table to name but a few!

The Rev. Eleanor Williams told us the Christmas story at Church followed by our annual visit from Father Christmas who distributed gifts to the children.

This term we will be focusing on the weather and Noah's Ark as well as celebrating Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day.

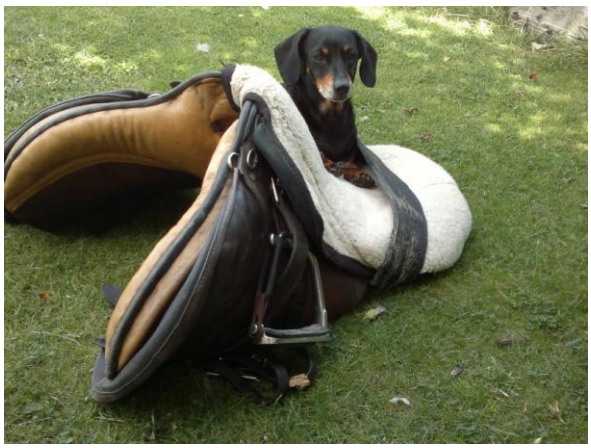
On January 29th from 11am we are inviting parents and carers of our current children to 'come and play'. However anyone who is curious about the work that we do or knows a child that may be interested in coming to join us at Little Windmills is very welcome.

If anyone is having a sort out of toys and is looking for a good home for them we would be happy to oblige. We are particularly in need of some new toddler bikes suitable for 2-4 year olds.

Don't forget you can look at our website for more information www.littlewindmills.co.uk or ring 07803 671200 during session times for more details and to check availability.

Susan and the Little Windmills Team

Pets Corner



Ghillie Goodchild on Thistle's saddle



Harry Clifton braves the snow



Teddi Whizz Halpin-McDonald



Scoop Halpin-McDonald loves her dad and once caught a mole

KIDS PAGE!!



In this issue, we have a guest contribution from

Anagrams!

Nomsnnaw = _____

Nsoblamwl = _____

Cei = _____

Wson = _____

Clod = _____

For the answers see Page 32

Sorry, there's snow jokes!

How does a Snowman get to work?
By icicle!

What do snowmen eat for lunch?
Icebergers!

What's an ig?
An eskimo's home without a loo!

Where does a snowman keep his money?
In a snow bank.

JOBS ON THE FARM IN FEBURARY AND MARCH

By Robert Tucker

Ditching: every year or two years, farmers need to clear the ditches out.

Hedging: farmers only do their hedge in the winter when the birds are not nesting.

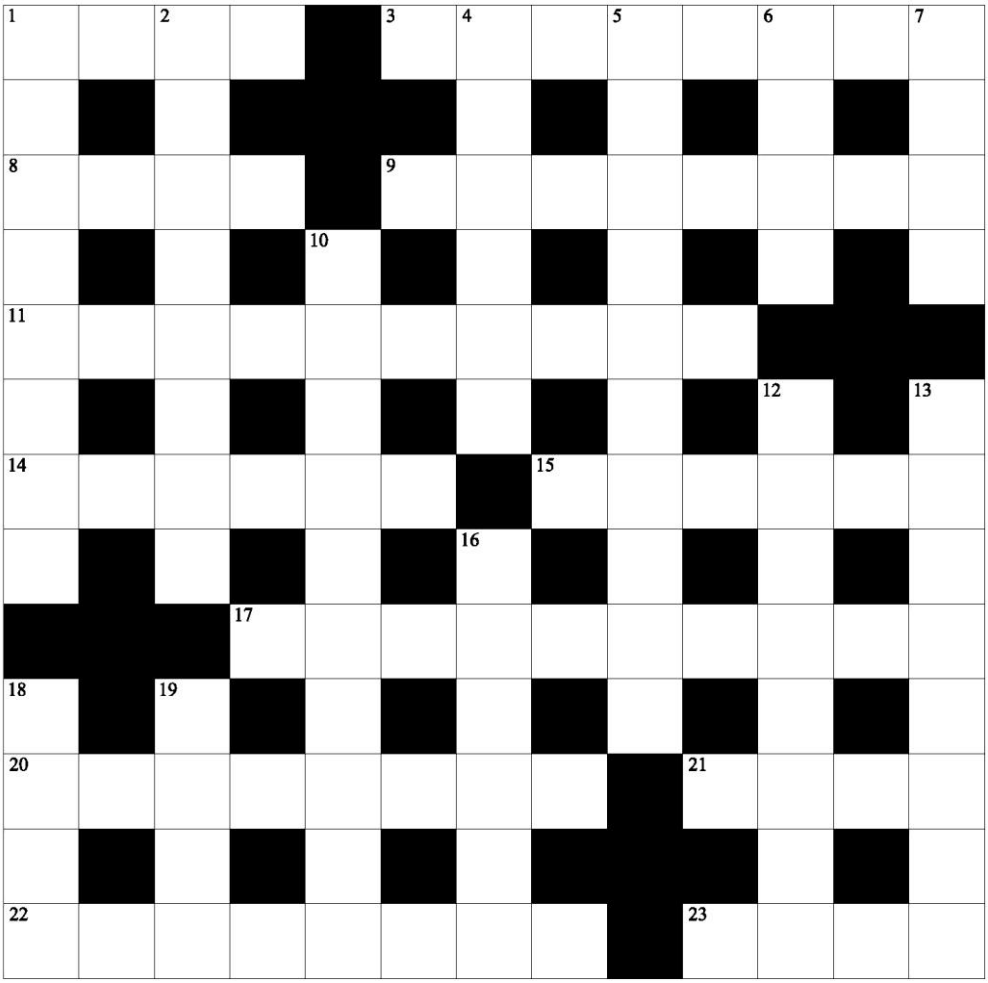
Fences: every year farmers need to check their fences. They do it in winter when the cows are not in the fields.

WINTER FARM WORD SEARCH

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

Winter
Tractor
Boots
Plough
Barbed
wire
Grit
Ditching
Barn
Hedging
Wind
Fences

Crossword No. 17



ACROSS

1 Polish (4)
3 Obstinate (8)
8 Tightly drawn (4)
9 Extras (8)
11 Philanthropic (10)
14 Elbows out (6)
15 Plan of action (6)
17 Ostentatious (10)
20 Tirade (8)
21 Invoice (4)
22 Nomad (8)
23 Greek cheese (4)

DOWN

1 Breach of trust (8)
2 Water feature (8)
4 Platitude, trite statement (6)
5 Type of terrier (10)
6 Roman poet (4)
7 Bouquet (4)
10 Disturbed state (10)
12 Incursive (8)
13 Spanish shawl (8)
16 Resistant, unaffected (6)
18 Masticate (4)
19 Smile (4)

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

Please send your entry by Friday 8th March 2013 to:

CROSSWORD.
North View House,
16 Chapel Lane, Reach
CB25 OJJ
giving your Name, Address and Telephone Number

The answers to Susie's anagrams are: snowman, snowball, ice, snow and cold.

Rita's Recipes

Cheesy Soups to keep you warm this winter



Onion Soup

2lb onions	1oz butter
2tbsp olive oil	1tbsp plain flour
4 pints veg stock	¼ pint red wine
Salt and pepper	4oz Gruyere cheese
1 clove of garlic	16 slices French bread

Peel and thinly slice the onions, melt the butter with the oil in a large pan and stir in the onions. Cook gently over a low heat stirring frequently for about 30 minutes until they are soft and lightly coloured. Sprinkle over the flour and cook gently for 1 minute. Add the stock and wine. Bring to the boil, season with salt and pepper. Reduce the heat and simmer for 25/30 minutes.
Toast the bread until golden. Peel the garlic cut in half and rub the cut side over the surface of the toast. Grate the cheese.
When the soup is cooked, pour into individual ovenproof dishes. Place two slices of toast in each bowl and sprinkle with the grated cheese. Place under the grill until the cheese melts.

Note: *Cooking the onions over a gentle heat will allow the onions to brown slowly as the natural sugars begin to caramelise and the flavour to develop.*

Roasted Parsnip and Parmesan Soup (Serves 6)

1lb parsnips, cut into lengths	4tbsp double cream
2tblsp olive oil	½oz butter
1 medium onion, finely chopped	1tbsp plain flour
2¼ pints chicken stock	salt and pepper
2oz grated Parmesan cheese	



Pre heat oven to 200°C. Simmer the parsnips in plenty of water for 3 minutes. Drain well and toss in half the Parmesan cheese. Put the olive oil in a roasting tin and heat in the oven for 3-4 minutes. Arrange the parsnips in the roasting tin add the butter and bake for 45 minutes basting frequently. Drain the excess oil into a large saucepan and cook the onion gently until soft, without colouring. Stir in the flour and cook for 1 minute. Add the sock, stirring constantly and bring to the boil. Add the parsnips. Simmer covered for 10 minutes.
Puree the soup with the remaining Parmesan cheese. Return the soup to the pan and stir in the cream, taste, add more seasoning if required and reheat. Serve with freshly ground black pepper and crusty bread.

Cheese and Bacon Soup

½oz butter	1 large onion	1½lbs potatoes (peeled and chopped)	1 garlic clove (crushed)
1½ pints vegetable stock		6 rashers of bacon (diced)	4oz cheddar cheese (grated)
2 fluid oz single cream		salt and pepper	chives (chopped)

Melt the butter and cook the onion gently until soft, without colouring. Add the garlic, potato and vegetable stock. Bring to the boil and simmer for about 20 minutes until the vegetables are tender. Meanwhile, fry the bacon until crispy. Puree the soup and return to the pan. Add the cheddar cheese and cream and reheat gently. Stir in the bacon reserving a little for the garnish. Add salt and pepper to taste. Serve sprinkled with a little bacon and chopped chives and bread rolls.

In case you had not guessed – *I like cheese!* ***Enjoy Rita***

Sports News

The 2012 Legacy…….?



Holidays are about good times with loved ones, good food, good drink and good parties then starting on 1st January there will be a new you – right?! Millions of people make a New Year's resolution to get fit. Apparently about a third of New Year's resolvers make weight loss their primary goal and about 15% aim to begin an exercise programme.

As we say goodbye to a year when many of us were inspired by Team GB at the Olympics and Paralympics I bet even more of us will make this sort of resolution for 2013.

It is perhaps slightly ironic that, as an exercise junkie, I am writing about taking more exercise ... my problem (so I am told) is knowing when to stop. I have, however, made a few New Year resolutions related to my training – particularly to invest more time in warming up and stretching – both a sure sign of getting a bit creaky!
Exercise does not have to be an all-consuming and excruciating endeavor - though it is true that to improve fitness you need to be just outside your comfort zone. But why is it so hard to start a fitness routine? In many cases, it takes only a couple of days, or weeks for New Year fitness resolutions to fall by the wayside. Many 'experts' suggest this is because the resolutions were too challenging and perhaps unrealistic. For example if you wish to complete your first ironman race or ultra marathon but currently work 80 hours per week, have three young children and spend a lot of time travelling then you probably either need to change your job or find another goal.

Although I am obsessed with exercise, I still need to find ways to make sure I don't wimp out of harder training sessions. Early morning swim sessions for example – I often don't feel like setting my alarm to crawl out of bed in the cold and dark and plough up and down a pool. I know if don't decide to do it the night before, sort out kit bags, work bags and food it won't happen – leaving it to 'see how I feel in the morning' means a missed session. I also find it hard to get out and exercise once I get home from a full day at work. If get into the warmth of home and sit down with a cup of tea.... I am done for. I always try to train before I get home... sometimes staying a bit late at work if it's an organised club session. I don't think these sort of 'tricks' are very different at whatever level you plan to take exercise. So, a few things that have and continue to help me…

Start slowly – I always take October off training and it's a struggle to get back to the routine so I try to 'ease back into it' – shorter, less frequent sessions. If you start a new routine from scratch a recommended 'plan' is to exercise for 30 minutes 2 - 3 days per week, and gradually increase throughout the year. Set goals for weeks and months.

Make it fun – I love running and cycling but am much less keen on swimming especially as it involves horribly early starts and no fresh air. I always swim with others at organised club sessions. Not only are these better training (I swim further, have fellow swimmers to push me and the session is more structured) they are a LOT more fun. The same is true of long, cold and wet winter rides for which I also seek company. Challenging yourself physically is so much easier with someone else going through it with you! Plus there is huge enjoyment in that post exercise high when you can share the satisfaction of your achievement.

Treat yourself - for reaching each goal or staying on track for a certain amount of time. Pro athletes take regular fitness tests out of the race season – often with a hugely complex array of measurements. For most of us it is enough to know we can either go further faster or longer. If you take up cycling, walking or running, time yourself over a simple route say every month. See if you can get further in a fixed time or complete the route more quickly. The positive feedback of your body 'working better' and the heart, lungs and muscles finding exercise easier is great and simply knowing. Often 'nailing a session' is reward enough for me but it's also a great excuse for a self-awarded 'gold star' of 'guilt free' chocolate



So if you have resolved to do a but more physical exercise in 2013 why not share?

Now moving to someone who is full of youthful enthusiasm for her chosen sport, gymnastics and who certainly doesn't sound as if she needs any 'bribery or tricks' to cartwheel or forward roll! In the last edition I interviewed the Knight brothers (Daniel and Ben) – now it's their younger sister Emilia's turn to talk about her love of sport. I started by asking when and how she got hooked

"I started gymnastics in September 2011 at Newmarket gymnastics club. I was watching gymnastics on TV one day and thought this looked fun and really wanted to have a go. The little gymnasts were amazing! I liked the backward walkovers and they looked so brilliant at what they did. Because I watched the Olympics I got to know some of the amazing gymnasts but my favourite two are Beth Tweddle and Gabrielle Douglas who I like the most". She says her best apparatus are probably bars (like Tweddle) and floor, "I find the hardest thing to do at the moment is a cartwheel on the beam!!" (No small task as we are talking about cart wheeling on a piece of 'leather' clad wood of just 10cm width raised about 4ft off the ground).

"I also like the floor", she continues "because you can test out some things you just did not realise you could actually do - it's an amazing feeling when it actually works!" in fact, she adds, "I have no dislikes at all in gymnastics really". Emilia shows the same dedication to her sport as her brothers, practicing every week at the club and on a mat at home where she does lots of "forward rolls, cartwheels and handstands and some dance moves that we do in groups at the club". She has performed in several gymnastics shows with the club in front of "all the parents!".



Emilia Knight

When I asked what her goals were for this year she replied "I am hoping to move to a Cambridge club soon where I will learn more difficult things like backward and forward walkovers and I hope I will become good enough to enter competitions - fingers crossed hey!" I asked if having two 'sport-mad' brothers had encouraged her to be sporty too? "Only a little bit!!! but at my school there are lots of sporty girls who I get inspired by" … Remember folks the first Olympic gold medals won by Team GB on Day Five were won by Girls (when Heather Stanning and Helen Glover won the coxless pairs). To headlines of 'Here Come The Girls! and 'Girl Power' - not that I am biased!

More medals for Reach residents

Springhall Farm is proving a bed of national talent – must be something in the air or the water in the 'western outposts' of Reach! The Robinson clan secured some fabulous results in the British water ski-ing championships at the end of last year. Harvey Robinson won the Men's Formula One category making him 2012 British Champion. His younger sister Georgina (age 17) finished 3rd in the Ladies Formula Two (with her father James at the helm of the scarily powerful boats they use) and Jack Lynch, also a part of the Robinson clan, came 3rd in the Men's Formula Two – a pretty amazing haul.

Next door neighbour, Ben Snaith, just gets faster and faster. He is now AA South of England Under 20 Indoor Champion for the 200m. He won the race in a time of 21.71 seconds (slower than his outdoor time because of the bends!) - breaking his own PB (personal best) and setting a new South of England indoor record in the process! His younger sister Maisey (age 11) won her age group (school year 7) in the district cross country championships. She now goes on to represent Cambridge in the county schools cross country next weekend (26th). If she crosses the line in the top eight she will go onto national schools championships – we wish her lots of luck!

Juliet Vickery juliet.vickery@yahoo.co.uk

Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Michael Aves	Vice-Chairman	742800
Ross Clark	Councillor	743725
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	742943
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	741853
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	742405
David Thomas	Chairman	742676
Diana Ward	Councillor	744210

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.

Our New Councillor



My husband, two children and I moved to Reach in 2003 having been attracted by the attractive surroundings and easy access to walking and the countryside as well as the friendly village which had just bought its pub! I am interested in environmental matters and currently run an ecological consultancy which provides advice to industry, agriculture and statutory agencies including the Environment Agency and internal drainage boards. In my spare time I am a keen gardener, enjoy walking, bird watching and music.

I am delighted to have been co-opted onto the Parish Council and look forward to contributing to maintaining Reach as a place for people of all ages to live and work.

Diana Ward

Harvey

Waterskiing | Burwell star shines to take major British championship



TITLE WINNER: Harvey Robinson, centre, with the British F1 Waterskiing Championship, flanked by his sister Georgina Robinson and step-brother Jack Lynch

Picture Mark Westley

TOP SPOT FOR ROBINSON

BY GRAHAM CLARK
graham.clark@newmarketjournal.co.uk
@GrahamClarkNJ

Making waves on the world stage is now the top priority for Harvey Robinson after winning this year's F1 British Waterskiing Championship.

Just weeks after securing the F1 title, the ambitious 24 year old from Burwell now has plans to try and make it into the Great Britain team to compete at next September's World Waterskiing Championships in Tenerife.

"With this title win behind me, my big aim now is to get selected as one of the three from the F1 class for the World Championships," said Robinson.

"I did participate at F1 level during the 2009 World Championships in Belgium as entries were low. But at that time I was competing in the F2 class and I only finished 10th."

In order for the Hunstanton Ski Club member to catch the eyes of Great Britain selectors, he will have to be sitting in a top three position after the opening three rounds of next year's F1 British Waterskiing series.

"I feel pretty confident that I can be in a top three position by the time the decision is made," said Robinson.

"It is not all just about the skier though, but the ability of the boat and the team.

"We have just got make sure we are consistent with our results. It would be no good winning two races and not finishing the third as that could prove costly."

Although Robinson, who can reach speeds of up to 90mph when in action on the water, has outlined his plans for 2013, the Cambridgeshire waterski star still feels his achievements this year have not quite hit home.

"It is a pretty good feeling knowing you are champion, but it has definitely not sunk in yet," said Robinson.

With the series requiring each competitor to submit their best five results, Robinson has proven to be a model of consistency with his selected results comprising of two race wins and three second places.

"Twelve months ago I ended up finishing second in the series after the boat I was behind broke down in the last race.

"Having gone so close last year, I always believed that with my boat being more reliable that I could go one better."

Although not quite tasting the same level of success as Robinson, both his sister Georgina, in the British Women's Championship and step-brother Jack Lynch, in F2 class, have fared well on the water with the pair each finishing third overall in their respective series.

Extract from Newmarket Journal
Thursday 29th November 2012

REACH
PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on: Wednesday 2nd January 2013

Attendance

Michael Aves	Vice Chairman	Not Present
Ross Clark	Councillor	Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
David Thomas	Chairman	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 Meeting

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

4 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

There was no activity during the previous month.

4 (2) County Councillor's Report

The new street lights in Burwell continue to cause complaints, albeit fewer than previously. A paper was intended to go to Cabinet in December to bring more flexibility to the Contract. To enable more work to be done on the fine details this paper was put back to the January meeting, when, hopefully, the outstanding issues can finally be resolved.

Business planning and budget discussions for 2013/14 have been the focus for a number of meetings in December. With our final settlement from Government not received until late on 20th December we are still going through the figures to enable us to fine-tune plans and set a balanced budget.

Cabinet and Full Council both met in December - papers included a member-led review into road safety, proposals for an application to central Government for a "City Deal" for Cambridge and consideration of a number of traffic improvements in Cambridge and surrounding areas to be funded from Section 106 contributions.

At Full Council 3 motions were tabled for debate. The first related to the recent Ofsted inspection for safeguarding children. I tabled an amendment to the motion, which received unanimous cross-party support. The other 2 related to climate change and calls for the Council to pay the national living wage. Both of these were defeated. UKIP also raised a question about policy for fostering children based on political persuasion, which we were happy to say is not a factor in Cambridgeshire.

4 (3) District Councillor's Report

Incidences of fly-tipping and unauthorised traveller encampments decreased in 2012.

In future the Small Grants monies for villages will be funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) rather than S106. The availability for small villages will remain the same.

4 (4) Financial Report

The Parish Council is in a financially stable situation and expects to provide a substantial surplus over the course of the financial year. **The Clerk** mentioned that there appeared to be no final decision on what the Precept for Reach would be, based on recent central government changes. **The Clerk** will forward the relevant email to the Parish Council.

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

There was no activity to report.

4 (8) Rights of Way Report

The Clerk confirmed that letters to landowners who had been delinquent in cutting their hedges had been sent. There was only one response, from a landowner denying responsibility for the hedge cutting. The Rights of Way Officer confirmed that none of the paths had been cleared, as the Parish Council had requested. The Parish Council agreed that they had done all that they could and that the matter should be escalated, by **the Clerk**, to the relevant person at the County Council.

4 (9) Speedwatch

There was no activity during the previous month – it is expected that there will be activity during the current month.

There was some discussion regarding potential fixed traffic calming measures on the Swaffham Road and **the Clerk** will seek advice from Highways on this possible opportunity.

4 (10) Village Centre Report

There was nothing to report.

4 (11) 24Acres Committee Report

The cricket pitch and orchard are now fully funded and it is planned to plant the orchard trees on January 12th 2013. A funding application for the Woodland had been sent to the Forestry Commission who had raised some potential archaeological issues. A meeting took place to discuss what was needed to be done, the conclusion being that an archaeological dig should take place, one day in April, supervised by Claire Halpin-McDonald. It is planned to involve villagers in this and it is expected that the 2,900 woodland trees will be planted towards the end of 2013.

5. Avenue of Limes Status

The trees were planted on the 22nd December 2012. However, an issue has arisen regarding the close proximity of the Scheduled Monument, on the left hand side of the Swaffham Road as you leave Reach, just before the railway bridge. A meeting will take place between **the Clerk** and English Heritage with Claire Halpin-McDonald also in attendance. Contingency plans will be put in place should any of the trees need to be re-sited.

6. Bus Speeds on the Burwell Road

There had been a number of incidents reported to the Parish Council regarding buses entering and leaving the village at excessive speed. The Clerk wrote to the bus company expressing the Parish Council's concerns and received a comforting reply. **The Clerk** was asked to thank Stagecoach for their response but also to state that the village will continue to monitor the speed of buses through the village.

7. Casual Vacancy Co-Option

The process to replace ex-Councillor Brearley had reached the stage where the District Council has given approval for the Parish Council to co-opt a suitable candidate. The vacancy was advertised and three candidates came forward. They are Karen Carpenter, Hannah Perrett and Diana Ward. **The Clerk** was asked to set up meetings shortly so the candidates and the Parish Council can meet, prior to a decision being made. It is expected that a new councillor will be in place in time for the February meeting.

8. Garden Waste Disposal Issue

There had been an instance of garden waste being dumped outside a villager's residence. The Clerk had written to the villager concerned and received a reply. This was reviewed and it was finally decided that **the Clerk** would write again to the villager saying that the Parish Council felt that the garden waste should be removed.

9. Waste Collection Potential Changes

District Councillor Alderson had previously reported that ECDC had won its £5M bid from central government to fund a new recycling service. The aim is to allow residents to recycle more of their waste and the project will begin either late 2013 or early 2014. The current brown sack and black box collection system will be replaced with (1) a new wheeled bin recycling collection, including paper, glass, metal cans, plastics, cartons and cardboard and (2) a new wheeled bin for organics to include food and garden waste. The wheeled bins will be collected fortnightly. The weekly black sack waste collections will be retained. As part of the implementation there will be a survey of all households to identify properties which will not be suitable for the new service – these homes will retain the current system.

There was a meeting on Thursday 13th December in Swaffham Prior which District Councillor Alderson attended.

10. Planning Applications

There were none.

11. Information Items

It was agreed that the two current mowing contractors would be asked to continue with their duties during the year ending March 2014. **The Clerk** will prepare the necessary contracts and make contact with the Woodland Trust to confirm that they wish to have the Parish Council again take responsibility for the mowing of Reach Wood meadow.

The Clerk was asked to speak to a new family in the village, expressing the Parish Council's concerns regarding the dangers of parking on the road and asking them to park on their driveway, as the previous house owners had.

There was some discussion regarding groundworks being carried out on a villager's land. **The Clerk** was asked to visit the landowner and express the Parish Council's concerns that possibly the right permission procedures had not been followed.

12. Payments

National Trust	24Acres Field Lease	£10.00
David Thomas	Orchard Expenses	£139.63
David Parr	Clerk's Pay Oct-Dec 2012	£589.00
David Parr	Various Expenses	£322.02
Nick Acklam	Avenue of Limes Expenses	£39.83

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 6th February 2013 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).

Clubs Contact Information

	Club	Contact name	Telephone/email/web
	Band (Wicken Coronation)	Robert Peacock	01353 723804
	Bell Ringing (Hand-bell ringing Swaffham Prior)	Sharyn Robinson	01638 745247
	Brownies (Burwell)	Heather Dean	01638 615521
	Carpet Bowls (Swaffham Prior)	David Folkes	01638 745551
	Cubs (Swaffham Prior)	Tim Doe	01638 74551
	Gardeners (Village, Swaffham Prior)	Margaret Joyce	01638 744390
	Mothers Union (Burwell)	Susan Baker	01638 741791
	Photographic Club (Bottisham and Burwell)	Daphne Hanson	01638 741106 hanson943@btinternet.com
	Pony Club (Soham and District)	Tina Hall	01638 720989
	Scouts (Swaffham Prior)	Tim Doe	01638 743656
	Sports Centre (Burwell)		01638 742125
	Swimming (Newmarket Swimming Club)	Hazel Sampher	01638 730348
	Tennis (Reach)	Philip Lewis	01638 742115
	WI (Burwell)	Jenny	01638 741205
	Youth Club (Swaffham Prior)	Alan Badcock	01638 742228

Letter from the Vicarage: Getting Messy!



You may have spotted notices and signs for Messy Church, and wondered what it was all about. Messy Church is a church exploring the Bible through: creativity (including a range of craft activities), celebration, eating together, all in an all-age context.

We began a Messy Church in Burwell in January 2011 and it has been great to see a growing number of families coming along each last Sunday of every month. Everyone is welcome to join us for this very special fun time. The next dates are Sunday 24th February 4 – 6pm and then Good Friday 10.30am – 12.30pm, both in the Guildhall, near St Mary's.

I've been wondering for a while about starting something similar in Reach, perhaps once a term. The original Messy Church in Portsmouth happens on a Thursday after school and another one in Liverpool meets on Saturday afternoons, so it would be good to find a time that suits Reach. One possibility might be after the regular CentrePeace at Reach, or linked to one of the church festivals, e.g. Mothering Sunday or Easter. Email or phone me if you would be interested in coming along, or helping to start something and hopefully we can get started soon.

Looking ahead to the lead up to Easter, we have services to mark this very special time in the church's year.

Mothering Sunday March 10th at 10am	All Age Service at St Mary's
Palm Sunday March 24th at 8am and 10am	Communion services at St Mary's
Monday 25th – Wednesday 27th March 7pm each day	Short Reflective Service at CentrePeace, Burwell
Maundy Thursday 28th March at 7.30pm	Communion Service remembering the Last Supper at St Mary's
Good Friday 29th March at10.30am – 12.30pm	Messy Church in Guildhall with special guest Bishop Stephen
Good Friday 29th March at 2pm	At the Foot of the Cross Meditation at Reach
Easter Sunday 31st March at 8am at Reach and 10am at St Mary's	Communion Services

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

CentrePeace at Reach



It seems amazing that CentrePeace @ Reach has now been going for nearly three years! On the second Wednesday of every month we set out books and Traidcraft goods in the church, put the kettle on and see what cake Pam has baked for us this month!

And before too long there are people browsing the books or sitting drinking tea and catching up with their friends. We've got a faithful core of visitors who come every time and to whom we are very grateful and also many more people who come occasionally. In the summer we also see visitors to the village and if it's fine, we can even sit outside.

We'll be there again this year and would love to see you. Also if you have any suggestions for how we can improve what we do, or if you'd like to help set up or clear away, then please let us know.

Our next dates are:

February 13th and March 13th

We hope to see you there!



Church Services at Burwell and Reach

	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach
February 2013		
Sunday 3rd February Presentation in the Temple	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service with Baptisms	
Wednesday 6th	9.00am Prayer Meeting at Burwell 10.00am Holy Communion at Burwell 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Thursday 7th	10.00am 'Little Bears'	
Sunday 10th February Sunday before Lent	9.30am Pathfinders 10.00am Junior Church 10.00am Parish Communion (Traditional)	8.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday @ 7 Informal Service
Wednesday 13th Ash Wednesday	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion with Ashing 7.00pm Holy Communion with Ashing	2.00 – 4.00pm CentrePeace
Sunday 17th February 1st Sunday of Lent	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Pathfinders 10.00am Junior Church 10.00am Parish Communion (Contemporary)	
Wednesday 20th	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Sunday 24th February 2nd Sunday of Lent	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Pathfinders 10.00am Junior Church 10.00am Parish Communion (Traditional) 4.00pm Messy Church	
Wednesday 27th	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion	
March 2013		
Sunday 3rd March 3rd Sunday of Lent	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service	
Wednesday 6th	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Thursday 7th	10.00am 'Little Bears'	
Sunday 10th March 4th Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday	9.30am Pathfinders 10.00am Junior Church 10.00am All Age Service	8.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday @ 7 Informal Service
Wednesday 13th	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion	2.00 – 4.00pm CentrePeace
Sunday 17th March 5th Sunday of Lent	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Pathfinders 10.00am Junior Church 10.00am Parish Communion (contemporary)	
Wednesday 20th	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.03am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Pathfinders 10.00am Junior Church 10.00am Parish Communion (traditional)	
Monday 25th – Tuesday 26th	7.00pm Compline at CentrePeace	
Wednesday 27th	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Compline at CentrePeace	
Thursday 28th Maundy Thursday	7.30pm Holy Communion	
Friday 29th Good Friday	10.30am Messy Church	2.00pm Good Friday Meditation
Sunday 31st March Easter Day	6.00am Easter Sunrise service on Castle Mound 10.00am Parish Communion	8.00am 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

February 2013	Event	Location	Time
Tues 5	Reach Rainbow Crafts Circle	Call Pam King on 742924	1.30pm - 3pm
Wed 6	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Fri 8	Caroline Furlong. Ely Art Society Talk	Ely Methodist Church, Chapel St., Ely CB6 1AD	7.30pm
Sat 9	Workshops	Bottisham Village College	See Page 7
Sat 9	16th century wall paintings (BBC Uncovering the Nation's Art)	Oliver Cromwell House, St Mary's Street, Ely	3pm
Sat 9	Author: William Dalrymple	St Peters Church, Ely CB7 4AH	7pm for 7.30pm
Sat 9	Neil Innes. Another Chance to Get It Right	The Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely	7.30pm
Mon 11	Reading Group	Topping Bookshop, Ely CB7 4LJ	7.30 - 8.30pm
Wed 13	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Thurs 14	Recycling Day		
Fri 15	Jenny Éclair: Eclairious	The Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely	7.30pm
Sat 16	Workshops	Bottisham Village College	See Page 7
Sun 17	16th century wall paintings (BBC Uncovering the Nation's Art)	Oliver Cromwell House, St Mary's Street, Ely	3pm
Tues 19	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.15pm to 12.50pm
Tues 19	Talk Village Gardeners	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8pm
Wed 20	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	8.00pm
Fri 22	Clothing Exchange	Guildhall, nr St Mary's Church, Burwell	7.30pm - 10pm
Sat 23	Claire's Birthday – 21 again	Dyke's End	8 'til late
Thurs 28	Recycling Day		
March 2013			
Tues 5	Reach Rainbow Crafts Circle	Call Pam King on 742924	1.30pm - 3pm
Tues 5	Author: Elly Griffiths	St Peters Church, Ely CB7 4AH	7pm for 7.30pm
Wed 6	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Sat 9	Ely Consort	St Mary's, Burwell	7pm
Mon 11	Reading Group	Topping Bookshop, Ely CB7 4LJ	7.30 - 8.30pm
Wed 13	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Thurs 14	Recycling Day		
Sat 16	Next Steps in Family History. Day School	Ely Library, 6 The Cloisters, Ely	10am - 3.30pm
Tues 19	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tues 19	Talk: Village Gardeners	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8.00pm
Wed 20	Author: Deborah Cohen	Topping Bookshop, Ely CB7 4LJ	7pm for 7.30pm
Wed 20	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	8.00pm
Wed 20	Springfield Outlet and Festival Gardens (ticket £14)	Burwell Museum Coach Trip	Ring Barbara on 741581
Thurs 28	Recycling Day		

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

The **Mobile Library** will now visit Reach (Fair Green Bus Shelter) on the third Tuesday of the month only

CentrePeace visits Reach the second Wednesday of the month

Events with **Authors and Reading Group** are organised by Topping bookshop, Ely. 01353 645005 or www.toppingbooks.co.uk

Burwell Museum website is www.burwellmuseum.org.uk **Tel:** 01638 605544

Contact Information

Parish Council			
	Vice Chairman	Michael Aves	742800
	Councillor	Ross Clark	743725
	Councillor	Rita Dunnett	742943
	Councillor	Hilary Fielding	741853
	Councillor	Joyce Harrison	742405
	Chairman	David Thomas	742676
	Councillor	Diana Ward	744210
	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	Claire Halpin-McDonald	743330
	Committee Member	John Holmwood	742969
	Committee Member	Andrew Towers	742484
Burwell and Reach Car Scheme			01638 742543
Church			
	Vicar	Eleanor Williams	741262
	Reader in Training	Frances Leadon	741770
	Priest in Retirement	Reverend David King	742924
	Parochial Church Council Member	Pam King	742924
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Simon Rogers	741205
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Stephen Walton	744214
Emergencies			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency)		999
	Police (Non-emergency)		101
	Water (Anglian Water)		08457 145145
Doctors, Burwell			
	Appointments and Emergencies		741234
	Community Nurses		742382
	Doctors	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	



I'm the king of the castle!



Making a Christmas wish



Hector Keutgen adds the finishing touches



Helen Oliver assists Lily Steed and Jodie Halpin-McDonald



Glenn Newman (centre) and his band



More members of Glenn Newman's band



Sean Mayes and Hilary Fielding



Maisey Snaith and Sarah Bluck







Katie Cameron



The Steeds and Campbell



Toni Dennis with her great dane



Martin and Joss Goodchild



John Reed (left) and Bob Proctor



Kathryn Cane



Juliet Vickery and David Thomas



Nick Acklam



Alice, Andrew, Imogen and Jo Trump



Sarah Mollart and Marcus Waithe

Community Orchard Planting 2013





Pam King, Debbie Lingley and David Thomas



David Thomas and Graham Lingley





Kate Day, Jamie Shackleton, Ben Shackleton, Gareth Davies and Lesley Boyle



Dafila Scott and Tim Clutton-Brock



Jo and Paul Redfarn



Julie Boreham (left)



Richard Gibson



Lois Baker (National Trust)



Charlotte and Jon Cane



A job well done!



Helen Oliver and Lesley Boyle



Lily Steed



Yvonne and Derek Coombes





Danuta Gibson



Ross Clark



Andrew and Harry Oliver-Towers