Within Reach



December 2014/January 2015



The City of Cambridge Brass Band were superb!





Big thanks go to Else and Bill



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CURRY NIGHT

Saturday
31st January 2015

at the Village Centre

Check the village website for further details

From the Editor



What a delight it is to have our very own Christmas tree on the green! The opening event was wonderful and everyone appreciated the look of the tree, which will be lit each night throughout December and early January.

Thanks go to the many people who contributed and to Else Pieter and Bill Estall who switched the lights on (with a little bit of help from Liv Mules!).

Huge thanks go to Roger and Julie Aspin who are freely providing the power for the lights.

Lots of others deserve a mention; George Gibson who dug the hole for the metalwork and provided mince pies, Sean Manchett who did much of the manual work and donated the metalwork. Dan Mules (the Active Group) contributed to the manual work but maybe most importantly provided, at the last minute, the necessary risk assessment paperwork.

[Sub Ed: And huge respect goes to Claire who despite a nasty accident on the day of the event got back from A&E in time to brew the mulled wine – 20 litres you lot drank!]

We all know Juliet Vickery don't we: from the newspaper cuttings about her sporty achievements; her column in the magazine; her energy-packed themed Sports Days and very pleasant Harvest Suppers. Well in this issue she is interviewed and we learn a whole lot more. We also have an interview with Eleanor Williams and again it's fascinating to know more about a person who is so familiar.

What's a bletted medlar and what would you do with it? Danuta Gibson has the answers including a quote from Shakespeare and a recipe for medlar jelly. Catherine Gibson is our new foodie expect – yes Catherine that's you – and we enjoy her first recipe.

Joss Goodchild alerted us to the starling murmuration near Tubney Fen and we've been amazed. Gareth Davies describes more sightings and includes a particularly good photo of a Little Egret. More contributions please Gareth.

Ross is retiring from his Reflections column though he will continue to write occasionally for the magazine. We thank him for his range of articles from wheelie bins to the shrinkage of the peat. Here he muses on trees.

10 out of 10 to Hannah Curtis for her description of the School's activities and accompanying photos. Congratulations to the school on the securing of a substantial grant for a project titled, `The Great War Through Our Windows'. Well done.

Read this magazine carefully and think about what contribution/s you can make next year.

Thank you to all our contributors. Happy Christmas and best wishes for a prosperous New Year.

Claire Halpin-McDonald

Editorial Team

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 January 2015. This magazine is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

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Sport	Juliet Vickery
Swaffham Prior School	Hannah Curtis
Tales from the Garden	Danuta Gibson
Wicken Fen	Howard Cooper
Wildlife	Joss Goodchild Alison Lewis



Interview with our Vicar Eleanor Williams



Where are you from and tell me a bit about your family?
I was brought up in a village, Kidlington in Oxfordshire until I was nine, when we moved to Weston-Super-Mare, where for a time my parents ran a hotel. I have two older brothers & a younger sister. Both my grandfathers were miners in the South Wales valleys and both died prematurely from injuries and lung diseases related to mining. My father did not go down the mines. Instead he worked as a baker and chef, and later taught catering in a technical college. He died three years ago, but my mother is still alive & lives in Clevedon.

Where did you go to school?
From age nine I was at school in Weston Super-Mare and then went on to school in Clevedon for my secondary education. From there I went on to study medicine at the Welsh National School of Medicine, in Cardiff. As a medical student I went on a two-month elective to Zaire (now The Democratic Republic of Congo). Working in a remote hospital there was a remarkable formative experience. When I qualified I then went on to train as a GP and worked as a GP in Cambridge for 21 years.

Where did you meet your husband?
I met Roger on a trip to Ethiopia in 1988. The trip was organised by a Christian group, for the purposes of giving young people experience of working in a developing country. We married in 1990, and I moved to Cambridge because my husband's work was there. Like me, he later made a career change, and is now a full-time vicar in Cambridge.

So tell me about your career as a GP
I worked part-time as a GP in Arbury when our two sons were growing up. Tom is 19 now and has just started studying economics in Birmingham. Jack, who is 17, is in the Upper Sixth at Hills Road Sixth Form College.

When or how did religion come to figure in your life?
From quite early on, although my parents were not church goers when I was young. I went to a children's church club to me, and I made a commitment to become a Christian.

I'm wondering why you did not follow earlier then, what seemed to be a strong calling to go into the ministry?
The church I was in as teenager was very conservative & the opportunities for women were limited. I went on to do medicine, which enabled me to express some aspects of my calling/my faith. However, it became more and more important for me to express my calling in a fuller way .When the children got older, I started studying for ordained ministry, beginning in 2004, on a part-time basis, whilst continuing my job as a part-time GP. I was ordained in 2007 and started my curacy in Milton. I moved here in April 2011 when I finally stopped working as a GP.

So how are you finding it being a full –time vicar here?
It's varied, interesting and challenging. I love being part of a village community. It's easier to get to know people and I try to engage with people in ways that are accessible – my dogs, Boomer and Echo, are great at helping me meet new people and their dogs! It's important to me not to come across as "overly-churchy". I'm a reasonably "normal" person, I think (though my children might disagree!). Also, I have had a wide experience of life - having been a GP in Arbury for twenty-one years. People sometimes seek me out when life events occur, such as a birth or death, and the bigger questions about life come up. We run groups where people can explore these questions further, often in a neutral space, rather than in the church building.

So what would a typical day for you be?
I walk the dogs first thing, and when I'm out I open the church in Burwell. Then I have Morning Prayer in St Mary's at 9am, sometimes alone, sometimes with other people, and once a week in Reach at 8.15am. We have a morning communion service on Wednesdays, and then I spend time visiting people at home who are unwell or housebound. Sometimes the visits are to a bereaved family to help plan the funeral service. I quite often go to Burwell Village College either to hold assemblies or attend meetings, as I'm one of the governors there. I also go to Swaffham Prior school.

There is also the administrative side, looking after two church buildings, and planning and preparing services, and for meetings of our Parochial Church Council. We have a group of fantastic volunteers who support the church in its work. New volunteers always welcome though!

Do you get time off?
On Tuesdays both my husband and I have a day off and get to spend time together.

Also we make sure we get away on holiday. We love France and have been driving there for holidays for many years now. We love the food, the wine, and the wide open spaces.

What are your hobbies?
There's all the dog-walking for starters. I'm a first-time gardener, since coming to Burwell. The vicarage has a lovely garden and I'm growing vegetables – successfully so far! It's a great way to wind down and relax. I play guitar, and enjoy singing – I'm in the Burwell Community Choir, and enjoy art and crafts, though it's not always to find time.

How would you sum up your attitude to life?
I've always been a hard worker, passionate and committed about what I do & wanting to do it well. My life has been shaped by having experienced the grace and love of Christ, and it's a great privilege to be able to give myself full time to sharing that with others.

Marie Bambrick

Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

The club is now in its 41st year and continues to attract new members who are always welcome.

During October 2014 several members of the club attended a photography competition at Bishop's Stortford organized by the ICON group. Six clubs from the Eastern Region were invited to take part - Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club, Cambridge Camera Club, Chelmsford Camera Club, ICON, Upminster Camera Club and Ware & District Photographic Society. Each club submitted eight prints which were judged by Paul Radden LRPS DPAGB AFIAP of Harlow Photographic Society. Paul is also the Judges Officer for the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies (EAF). The competition was won by Ware & District, second, Bottisham & Burwell, with Chelmsford in third place. Only one mark separated the first two places.



Coming down

This was the last event organised by ICON which was formed in 1997 from members in a club who had issues regarding the introduction of digital cameras! They decided to form a separate group for about five years to see how the new cameras would perform. Now 17 years later and all much older the group has decided to disband. The President of the EAF Bob Norris EFIAP APAGB stated that they will be greatly missed by the photographic community in the Eastern Region as their work was always of a consistently good quality.

In the coming weeks we have the following events taking place:

Tuesday 2 December

'The Art in Photography' A Workshop with audience participation led by Adrian Stone, of Peterborough.
The year ends on **Tuesday 9 December** 2014, with a 'Quiz Night' led the Chairman Gerry Metcalfe.

Tuesday 6 January 2015
'PAGB Inter-Federation Print Exhibition Portfolio' Recorded DVD of prints exhibited throughout the United Kingdom in 2014 from the 15 Federations.

Tuesday 27 January 2014
'Jpeg-vs-Raw'. Ian Wilson ARPS of Cambridge CC delves into the pros and cons of capturing images in both genres.

In the following weeks there will be a varied programme of events that may, if wished, be attended by guests. Further details are available on our website see below.
Guests are welcome to attend any meeting at our venue, Lode Chapel CB25 9EW on Tuesday's from 7:30 pm to 9:30pm. Fee: £3.00, including refreshments, refunded on joining.

Annual subscriptions: Adult: £40.00, Joint Membership: £67.00, Student: £21.00. Refreshments 50p. New members joining now will receive a pro rata rate.
Lastly we would ask guests attending the club not to **double park** in the vicinity of Lode Chapel, as there is local concern regarding access for emergency vehicles.

For further details contact:
Mrs Daphne Hanson DPAGB APAGB
01638 741106
www.bottburpc.org

Barry Coles
Publicity Officer

J's Hairdressers



Julie: I didn't know I wanted to be a hairdresser. My Mum found me my first job and I worked in a salon in Newmarket, in what used to be Ashfords. The salon was run by a London-based company and was full of trendy people. As well as being a salon, it had a beauty parlour with sun beds and a coffee shop.

I love my job, I like making people look good and feel better. I never wake up not wanting to go to work. I get a lot of job satisfaction. It's an amazing job and I'm still enthusiastic about it. My favourite bit is when I achieve a really good haircut. I get thank you letters and lots of nice emails.

I've never had any disasters but I've had to put a few right.

Some people will bring in photos of haircuts especially on their phones. One lady took a photo of someone on the bus and brought it in. A photo can be helpful. The cut may or may not be possible, it depends on the hair. We do our best to give people what they want.



Styles pass in and out of fashion, and everything comes round again. Vintage hair styles are coming back. I just hope that perms don't return. YouTube is excellent for inspiration.

Men are definitely style conscious and are even more fussy than women. Their cuts take longer. More precision is required and that takes time.

We will be extremely busy from now until Christmas, across New Year, and into next year. We now have people waiting on a cancellation list. Loads of people from Reach have their hair done at J's.

All three of us (Julie, Sandra and James) have known each other for years. Sandra: Julie introduced me to hair dressing. I was a beautian and moved across to hair dressing at the age of 35, after my girls had grown up. Training to be a hairdresser took three years and it's now one year. It's about being confident with hair.

Some people tip some people don't. We get lovely presents at Christmas and even on Birthdays. We're always open to new clients and welcome back former clients. Sandra is also a racoon hair extension specialist; one of the few in this area. We feel very lucky to have such a lovely clientele and hope they all continue to come and see us.

Thank you from J's

Days Gone By



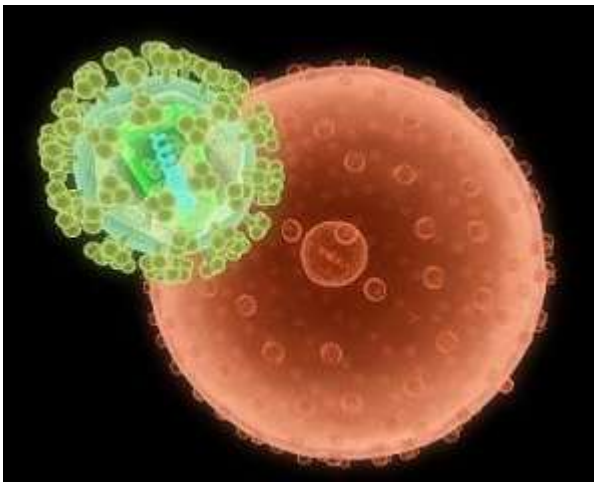
The Christmas 1981 No. 1 single was "Don't you want me" by the Human League which topped the charts for five weeks.

In March 2014 it re-entered the Top 20 thanks to a social media campaign from the fans of Aberdeen FC, who adopted the song as a terrace chant.

Human League are still alive and well, but with only one founder member, Philip Oakey, still performing.

It was at this time that the headline "Mystery disease kills homosexuals" appeared. It had claimed around 75 lives so far in the US and up to 92% of the victims are homosexual men.

The unknown condition was eventually named as Aids (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) virus. The disease caused widespread panic in the United States where 4,000 people were infected in the space of two years.



HIV-AIDS virus attacking a human cell

The virus which was isolated as the cause of the disease was called Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Around 24 million people have died from Aids since it first emerged and it is the leading cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa. There is still no cure, although it has been reported recently that survival rates have improved significantly.

In Reach, life went on as normal with people preparing for festive fun such as the Whist Drive and Christmas Draw.

David Parr
davidmparr@btinternet.com
744081

New Trustees and Volunteers Needed at Burwell Museum





A sense of satisfaction, great fun and the chance to make a real difference to the community...



...all in a day's work for the team at Burwell Museum and Windmill!

It's an exciting time at Burwell Museum and you can be involved in some great development projects. We're looking for friendly, community-minded people with a love of the past to help take the museum forward.

If you live in Burwell or elsewhere in Cambridgeshire and want to use your skills to support a really special local museum then we'd love to hear from you.

To learn more about joining our team please contact Mel Worgan on: volunteers@burwellmuseum.org.uk or 01638 605544 *(answerphone)*

Manchetts News



Manchetts Burwell workshop team were thrilled to receive the award Highly Commended for motoring at the Velvet awards. Workshop manager John Wyatt seen here with the award said "It's great to be appreciated we strive to give great service and the team are delighted that people chose to vote for us"

TINA'S

Extended Opening from
5pm to 7pm
On Thursdays and Fridays

PLUS
5 till 7 is Stitching Heaven
Sit and Knit at TINA'S during these times

Contact Tina for more details
or just pop in

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

Burglars Don't Go Away for Christmas

Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

Detectives are urging people going away this Christmas not to advertise their holiday on social media.

Officers are concerned that burglars scan networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter to find out when homes will be unoccupied.

Last December, about one in six burglaries in the county were at properties where the residents had been away for two days or more.

The worst affected areas were Cambridge, Peterborough, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire, which all had around 60 burglaries in the month.

Police issued the same warning in July when a number of homes in the Werrington area of Peterborough were broken into while residents were on holiday.



Detective Inspector Fran Jones, force lead on burglary, said: "It's understandable that people will be excited about going away, even if it's just for the weekend, but our advice would be not to advertise it on social media.

"Unfortunately, as well as your genuine friends, criminals may also be looking and take the opportunity to break into an unoccupied home. My advice would be to only tell relatives and trusted friends and neighbours."

In addition, residents are advised to keep Christmas presents out of sight as much as possible.

DI Jones said: "Before presents are placed under the tree, they should be kept out of sight, such as in closed wardrobes or under beds. Ideally, they should not be put under the tree until Christmas morning, particularly if it's visible from outside.

"And don't forget that burglars can target homes where they see discarded packaging from expensive gifts. Cardboard boxes and packaging should be properly broken down so they fit into a bin."

Residents who want advice on protecting their home are urged to visit the force's new crime prevention tool. The interactive house allows users to visit key areas around a home where security could be improved.

http://www.cambs-police.co.uk/GetCloser/Burglary.asp?utm_source=Press%20release&utm_medium=website&utm_campaign=Christmas%20burglary

Amenity Fund

If you feel you have a worthwhile project that could be funded via the Amenity Fund 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.

The VILLAGE CENTRE 100 CLUB

for 2014 began in March

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
October: Tony and Sue Jordan

Please contact Thomasina on 07787 520589
to be part of the draw

Advice from Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

It is the time of year when we're enjoying a tipple with friends, cooking heaps of delicious food and decking the halls.



The fire service has these messages to make sure your festive cheer doesn't go up in smoke:

- Kitchens are a fire hotspot, so take care while cooking festive fancies. Never leave cooking unattended and turn off appliances when not in use.
- Switch off fairy lights and unplug them before you go to bed or leave the house. Make sure they confirm to the British Standard and never overload plug sockets.
- Be careful when drinking alcohol while smoking or cooking.
- Finally, make sure you have a working smoke alarm which is correctly fitted and works. And NEVER take the batteries out to power presents!

Above all, ensure you have a working smoke alarm fitted on each floor or your home.

To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 99 94.

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @cambsfrs.

Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

The second edition of the Safeguarding Adults and Mental Capacity Act Newsletter has recently been published. It includes useful information and up-dates for people who use services, their families and carers, the general public and professionals who work with vulnerable adults.

The newsletter can be downloaded from the County Council's website at: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/social<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/social>.

Any comments about the newsletter or suggestions for information to include in future issues can be sent to James.Codling@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Burwell and Reach Car Scheme

If you are unable to use conventional transport the scheme can help you to travel from Burwell or Reach to Doctors, Dentist, Chiropodist, Opticians, village shopping or visits to relatives/friends at home or in hospital.

Transport **cannot be provided** for hospital **OutPatient** appointments

Contact Hours: 8.30am – 5.00pm Monday – Friday, please give us at least **48 hour's notice**

01638 742543 answer phone.

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



Halloween



















Out and About



In this edition Gareth shares Out and About and gives an informed update on local winter birds.

Just a few contributions which I hope may be of interest.



The winter months signalled the spectacular starling murmuration near Tubney Fen whereby thousands of birds flock together in wonderful formations and patterns before night-time roosting. Such behaviour is thought to be a form of protection from predators. Jill Bourne took these photographs and kindly offered them for use in this article.



Starling murmuration near Tubney. Photos: Jill Bourne

A note of caution to horse owners in the village. It has been reported recently that sycamore seed poisoning has caused a number of equine deaths. Apparently the seeds are particularly abundant this year, the result of a warm summer being followed by a spell of windy weather which disperses them greater distances.

The neurotoxins in seeds can attack a horse's central nervous system which then causes atypical myopathy.

The warning signs involve a depressed demeanour in your horse, breathing difficulties, muscle spasms and the inability to stand. Unfortunately the disease has an 86% mortality rate so early detection is vital.

On a happier note, in early November I viewed the Society of Wildlife Artists' annual art exhibition 'The Natural Eye' at London's Mall Galleries. Reach artist Dafila Scott's oil and pastel paintings featured such subjects as her garden, wetlands and the Kalahari Desert. Congratulations are due because she won the prestigious Birdwatch Artist Of The Year award. Another local contributor, Richard Johnson from Cambridge, showed bright and blowsy watercolours detailing the fauna and fauna of Burwell Fen.

Wishing you a merry Christmas and happy New Year. As I write the festive season feels distant, temperatures remain in double figures and bumble bees still hum in the garden.

Joss Goodchild

If you haven't been to Tubney Fen yet to see the starling flocks coming in to roost in the reeds, you should get down there just before dusk. At a rough count there are between ten and twelve thousand birds and, on a good night, the patterns the murmuration forms are spectacular.

However, if you can get there a bit earlier, or if you are walking around Fens or are on the Norfolk coast at any time, keep your eyes open for a rather larger bird. Twenty-five years ago the Little Egret was such a rare visitor to this country that my brother-in-law drove to Anglesey just to see one. Now the estimates are that there are more than 700 nesting pairs in the country, and those numbers are swollen by a further 4500 birds that visit in the winter. Recent counts suggest that there are at least 600 on the Ouse Washes.



Little Egret, Titchwell, Norfolk. Photo: Gareth Davies

If you see one at Tubney, it looks like a small white heron with a black beak and black legs. However, just wait for it to climb out of the water, where it will be searching for small fish, and you can't miss the bright yellow feet. In summer you will also see that it has long white plumes on its head. In the past these were imported and much sought after for ladies hat decoration. Weight for weight they were more valuable than gold. It was the destruction of birds for feathers such as these that directly led to the formation of the RSPB in 1889.

Initially, a women only organisation, its rules were simple:

1. Members shall discourage the wanton destruction of Birds and interest themselves generally in their protection

2. Lady members shall refrain from wearing the feathers of any bird not killed for purposes of food, the ostrich only excepted

Fortunately, Little Egrets are now finding the UK a rather more hospitable place, and they are being joined in increasing numbers by their close relatives. Great White Egrets have been regularly seen at Wicken in September and October. Unsurprisingly, these are bigger - the same size as our common Grey Heron. Their feet are black and their beak is yellow.

Rather rarer still at the moment is the smallest of the relations, the Cattle Egret. The nearest recorded siting to us this year was at Welney. As the name suggests, they like to associate with livestock. With yellowy/grey legs and a yellow beak, they feed by grabbing the insects and worms that are turned up by the cattle's hooves. Given the regular presence of the cattle on Tubney Fen and the cattle and ponies at Wicken, I have some hope that we may be seeing more of the Cattle Egret rather closer to home. If you see one, do let me know.

For further information

RSPB: http://www.rspb.org.uk
British Trust for Ornithology Birdtrack site: http://blx1.bto.org

Gareth Davies

Featured Fruits from our Orchard: Cockett's Red

Cockett's Red



Cockett's Red is a local variety of eating apple originating from Wisbech in about 1910. It produces small bright red fruit with a fairly hard, sharp tasting flesh which mellows after storage. Trees are small and compact, producing a heavy crop.

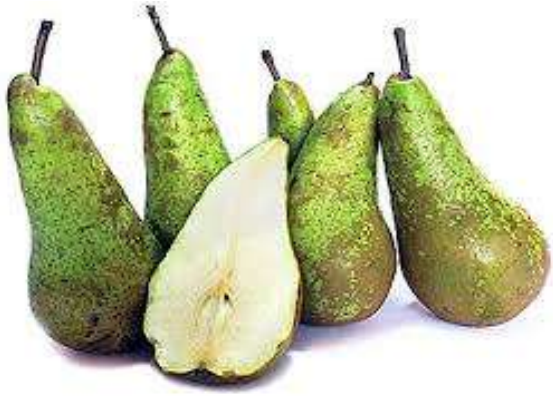
The variety was also known in the past as 'Marguerite Henrietta', and locally as 'One Bite', and they were once grown especially for use by toffee apple manufacturers.

Conference Pear

This is probably the best known and best all-round pear for growing in the UK. It is reliable and heavy cropping (even in poorer years) producing long, narrow, yellow-green fruits which are very juicy and sweet.

It was bred in Hertfordshire by Mr Thomas Rivers from the variety 'Leon Leclerc de Laval' and an unknown variety. It is named after the National British Pear Conference of 1885 where it was first displayed. Conference trees are self-fertile - but pollination by another pear will maximise yield. Fruits are harvested from October to November.

Conference has been recommended by the Royal Horticultural Society as an excellent attractant and nectar source for bees and other beneficial insects.



Cottenham Seedling

Cottenham seedling is a variety of cooking apple that was raised by Mr. Robert Norman of Cottenham in 1923 – the variety Dumelow's Seedling is one of its parents (the other is unknown). It is a long keeping apple that was once popular with gardeners and commercial growers around Cambridge. It has a delicate pale yellow, slightly greasy skin.



David Thomas



Tales from a Reach Garden



We've had a very warm autumn so far this year, haven't we? The mild weather has been more typical of autumn in Italy, but I'm not complaining, it's been lovely. The vegetable garden isn't looking as busy and green as it did in July, nevertheless, there are vegetables still growing, being picked and eaten (leeks, parsnips, kale, broccoli, cabbage, perpetual spinach and chard). I have other fruits in the garden which will ripen at this time of year: autumn raspberries which will flourish until the frosts; the last of our pears, a variety called "Winter Nellis", which I have just picked off the tree, popped in the fridge and they'll be ripe enough to eat fresh in a couple of weeks' time – if I don't cook them first…



A Winter Nellis pear, seconds before being picked

One of the most unusual fruits for 21st century England, is the medlar (*mespilus germanica* in Latin). I have a couple of medlar trees in the garden, and there are some in the orchard on the 24 acres field. They can also be grown as bushes and can be observed in some ancient hedgerows around the country. The main reason I planted them in the garden is that they are such lovely trees providing a lot of interest through much of the year: pretty flowers in late spring, large leaves which provide good colour in autumn, and then there are the very unusual, edible fruit.



Medlar blossom in May



Medlar fruit in November

Until plants men in the 18th and 19th century developed varieties of apple and pear that ripened later in the year, the medlar was grown widely and reliably provided sweet fruit for eating in November. Medlars have one peculiarity which is probably the main reason they are no longer eaten in the UK, the unripe fruit are very hard and inedible, but if brought into the house at the beginning of November, or immediately after the first frost, they "blet" and soften. This year the weather has been so mild they have bletted while on the trees. If you cut open one of the bletted fruit they look rotten and very unappetising, but they are edible. The texture is rather like that of a well-baked apple (with very large pips!) and the taste is similar to dates with a hint of lemon. Even if you close your eyes and try to ignore the fact that you are eating rotten fruit, they are definitely an acquired taste. If you are tempted to eat medlars, beware, you have to make sure the blossom end of the fruit is hollow and not expanded – the fruit should not be spherical, if it is then it's gone past the bletting stage and shouldn't be eaten.



Bletted medlars and one cut open to show the fleshy interior.

Although medlars were widely eaten in from the coming of the Romans through to the Industrial Revolution, they were the source of much bawdy humour. In William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" Mercutio jokes about Romeo:

*Now will he sit under a medlar tree, and wish his mistress were that kind of fruit as maids call medlars when they laugh alone…*the next bit was excised from my copy of the play when I studied it at school!

In Thomas Myddleton's Jacobean play "A trick to catch the old one."

Widow Medlar? She lies open to much rumour…apparently.

Why the saucy humour? Well, partly because medlars had to be rotted to become edible but mostly because of the appearance of the fruit: in France they are still known as "*Cul de chien*" which politely translates as "dog's bottom"! Nevertheless, in those hungrier times, medlars would be baked, pureed, made into cakes, sweetmeats and jellies.

Some of the fruit I collected from the tree were so soft and heavy, a sticky, syrupy juice oozed out of the fruit where it had been cut from the tree. This syrup is delicious and worth capturing and turned into a jelly. You will need 1kg of fruit, a few of which ought to be unbletted (to provide pectin which helps the jelly to set), and 2 lemons cut into wedges. Add a litre of water and bring to the boil (do not stir), then simmer for an hour. Place the resulting pulp in a mesh bag and leave the juice to filter out into a bowl (I do this overnight), then boil the juice for about 5 minutes, weigh it and add to it the same quantity of sugar. Warm the sugar to dissolve and bring to the boil again and after a few minutes check that the syrup can set. The boiling time and setting will vary depending on how much pectin is available. Once you're sure the syrup will set, pour the warm syrup it into warm, sterilised jars.



Medlar jelly and more fruit awaiting processing…

The jelly will keep for some time, providing the jars are unopened. I'm looking forward to having some on warm scones, especially on Christmas morning.

Danuta Gibson



Potted Pageantry

You don't need to go abroad to catch a bit of winter sun: in the darkest months, warm up inside with a bit of potted plant pageantry for the festive season! Our Glasshouse Range at the Botanic Garden is a great place for some inspiration.



Closely packed Christmas pots

The tropics provide Christmas cactus and poinsettia. The Christmas cactus (Schlumbergera) is a forest canopy cactus from the coastal mountains of Brazil with arching spidery sprays of segmented, succulent and toothed leaves. As the days shorten, the plant is triggered to produce beautiful waxy flowers in bright pinks, purples, scarlets and oranges. The flowers are made of up of very many tepals – as many as 40 – the outer ones reflexing and the inner ones lengthening to give the impression of a flower within a flower. Shortening days are also key to vivid colour in another great Christmas plant, the poinsettia, which is in fact a Central American member of the spurge family, Euphorbiaceae. The central knot of unprepossessing flowers is surrounded by the huge bracts which colour up in response to short winter day-length. To have them at their best for Christmas, try to restrict the plant's exposure to day or artificial light to a maximum of 12 hours a day from November onwards and keep the temperature constant at around 18°C.

The Mediterranean and Middle East provide wonderful winter-flowering bulbs including hyacinth and narcissus which bring not only their richly-scented flowers, but some Greek mythology into the house.

Hyacinth was so named after a flower sprang from the blood of the young man, Hyacinth, struck down by a discus during a fight between jealous gods, Apollo and Zephyr; Narcissus was the boy so vain and in love with his own reflection in a pool that he took root and became a flower, while the unnoticed nymph in love with him, Echo, faded away until just her voice was left. Heat treated hyacinth and narcissus bulbs will flower in time for Christmas and can be closely packed into a pot.



Snowman drops into our mountains house

In fact, closely packing potted plants together not only creates a fantastic centrepiece but increases the ambient humidity which will improve display. It's also sensible to site somewhere with good but indirect light and avoid spots with great temperature fluctuations such as in a draught or above a radiator.

The Botanic Garden is open December & January 10am–4pm. **Please note** that the Garden is closed for the Christmas holidays from 4pm on Tuesday 23 December 2014 and will re-open at 10am on Friday 2 January 2015. Admission charge is £4.50, Gift aid admission £4.95. Or join the Friends, get free admission and help the Garden grow! **Please note** that admission charges to the Botanic Garden increase from the **1 January 2015** and will be as follows: - Adult: £5.00, adult Gift aid £5.50. Concession: £4.50, Gift aid concession £4.95.

Please visit the website for details at: www.botanic.cam.ac.uk.

Juliet Day
Development Officer
Cambridge University Botanic Garden

News from Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey



At the beginning of November around 1000 revellers held an illegal rave on Burwell Fen. To access the fen, they cut fences and broke gates and bollards causing significant damage, both physical and financial. The party goers left a large amount of waste on site including 11 medical grade nitrogen oxide cylinders and human waste (as there were no toilet facilities on site) leaving a particularly unpleasant task for our Rangers and volunteers who spent several days clearing-up the mess. If you're out and about in the Vision area and suspect a rave maybe about to take place, please call the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre on 01353 720274 or Cambridgeshire Police on 101.



Essential maintenance work on the access ramps to Reach Lode Bridge is scheduled to take place in December. This will require the bridge to be closed for a period of five consecutive days between sometime between 4 - 18 December - the exact date being very weather dependent. The dates will be posted on our website and Facebook pages when known, or please call the Visitor Centre for up to date information if you plan to use the bridge.

As Christmas approaches we have our popular **Father Christmas at the Fen** over three weekends from Saturday 6 – Sunday 21 December. Tickets (£6.95 per child) are available from the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274 – advance booking essential.

Tickets for Winter Lights at Anglesey Abbey are completely sold-out for all nine nights. Sorry if you missed out this year - please remember to book early when tickets for next year's event go on sale in the summer.

In the New Year we will be running a couple of volunteering open days at Anglesey Abbey on Saturday 10 and Tuesday 13 January, 10am -1pm. There are lots of ways you can get involved from welcoming visitors and sharing stories, to helping run Lode Mill or volunteering as a family. Please email our volunteering team on:

angleseyabbey@nationaltrust.org.uk to find out more or to let us know you're coming.

Finally, if you fancy some fresh air and a walk over the Festive period, Wicken Fen is open every day, (except Christmas Day) from 10am – 5pm; whilst Anglesey Abbey is open from 10am – 4.30pm (closed 24 -26 Dec).

Have a great Christmas.

Howard Cooper
Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey

RSPB Birdwatch 24th – 25th January 2015



Take a closer look at the wildlife on your doorstep, and take part in the biggest wildlife survey in the world!

You can take part on your own or as a family, and you can even take part in your local park if you don't have a garden. To get involved, just pick an hour over the weekend of 24-25 January 2015 and tell us what you see. It couldn't be easier!

Like last year, when the Birdwatch kicks off you'll be able to use our online bird counting tool to record the birds as you see them directly on your laptop, tablet or smartphone. Just start the timer and once your hour is up all you need do is press submit to send us your results.

You can, of course, still take part with pen and paper and then enter your results via computer in the usual way.

In January 2014, for the first time, you helped us get a UK wide picture of how some of our non-bird species are fairing too. Sadly only 3 percent of people regularly saw red squirrels in their gardens, compared to grey squirrels which were seen monthly in 73 per cent of people's green spaces.

We're asking you to help us again by letting us know if you've seen badgers, hedgehogs and other creatures in your garden or local green space.

Get your friends and family involved by telling everyone you're taking part and join the conversation using #birdwatch.

Visit www.rspb.org.uk for details

What's Growing on at Snakehall Farm

MAKE SNAKEHALL FARM SHOP YOUR LOCAL SHOP THIS FESTIVE SEASON

We have created "Twinkly Tuesday" at The Prospects Trust our home grown antidote to the retail rascals who created Black Friday. Please think about our small shop stocked with our seasonal best, from produce to products, including that all important wood for your roaring heath (just don't light on the 24th December).

We are constantly striving to improve the produce and product ranges available in our Snakehall Farm Shop, we hope you can serve a Snakehall Farm feast this Christmas, with our 0 food mile vegetables making your diners delight. We also hope that some of our Co-worker's crafts find their way into your Santa's stockings.



We have it on very good authority (Elf Email) that the big fella sources from Snakehall Farm. Perhaps your children can wake up to a little reindeer or snowman made with lots of care at Prospects Trust, picked up by Father Christmas as he swoops over our 18 acres? A low cost, sustainable and charity supporting stocking filler.

The new Farm Shop is work in progress, we hope you are enjoying the new space, the new scales (no you don't need to have an A Level in mental arthmatic anymore) and the new additions. We would love to hear from you and your retail experience so please let us know at enquiries@prospectstrust.org.uk.



A MILLION THANKS FOR THE PEOPLE WHO SUPPORTED SNAKEHALL FARM THIS NOVEMBER

We didn't win....and then we did! Thanks to all who voted once or indeed 10 times for The Prospects Trust in the ITV People's Millions competition. We entered this Big Lottery fund back in the spring and have been secretly working on this all summer. Our Co-workers were delighted to show off Snakehall Farm to the ITV reporter, Kate Prout, when she visited the farm to film our appeal.

We don't think you could have possibly missed VOTE DAY as our amazing team of Prospects Vote Makers hit the streets with the call to vote on Tuesday 25th of November, Tilly Tractor popped to Waitrose in Newmaket and our social media screamed out the #happytomatoes message to our supporters wide and far.



We have updated our website www.prospectstrust.org.uk with a full list of thanks to all those who supported our small but dynamic team on voting day.

Sadly we didn't win in the head to head vote on the Tuesday. Wet Wednesday was a dark, cold, cheerless day but that just made our fab Thursday even more exciting.

We were delighted when we were all surprised on Thursday 27th November with a great big cheque for £50,000 of grant as we secured the runner up prize for the charity with the most public votes.

The grant will fund the installation of an accessible training kitchen at Snakehall Farm, so we can sow, grow, grade and then transform the un-gradeables into lovely tasty new products, all for sale in our Farm Shop. We are looking forward to a very busy New Year.

2014-15 OUR SUPER SHINY SILVER JUBILEE

This just leaves us with a little space to say thank you to all our local Reach residents for continually supporting the work of the Prospects Trust or shopping for Snakehall Farm's seasonal best. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a tip top 2015.

Marianne (Maz) Baker

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

Reach Calendars

These have been a huge success!

We have fewer than 20 left out of the 150 purchased – so if you want one, please get in touch with (744081 or davidmparr@btinternet.com).

And please start taking those pictures for next year's calendar NOW!



Harvest Supper



Sarah Keutgen and the Canes



Helen Oliver and Rev Roger Williams



Marvellous foliage



Neville Dunnett, Jo Kirkpatrick and the Holmwoods



Penny Lang enjoys a smile with John and Jenny Reed

Harvest Supper



John and Janet Robinson (foreground)
Booze everywhere – 7 people, 8 bottles!



Allen Alderson



John Dunnett, Catherine Gibson and Thomasina Oldfield



Harry Oliver-Towers and Jodie Halpin-McDonald
Just half a bottle each for them!



Hugh de Lacy and Lesley Boyle plotting



Sarah Keutgen



George and Hannah Gibson

Ross's Reflections



You may have thought we had a hard day planting trees last winter, but there is a still a little way to go. Still a little way to go, that is, before East Cambridgeshire has as much tree cover as London or Cambridge. You may think you are leaving the big smoke behind when you leave King's Cross, but that is not quite how it looks from satellite.

A Leicestershire digital mapping company Bluesky has just analysed the whole of England for tree cover and come to the remarkable conclusion that London is one of the leafiest places in the country. East Cambridgeshire, by contrast, comes out as the district with the ninth-lowest tree cover. Just 5.3 per cent of the land surface, it found, is shaded by trees.



Only one London borough came out as having less tree cover: the City of London, at 4.4 per cent. Relative to the rest of the fens, though, we are densely-forested: the bottom three districts for tree cover were respectively South Holland and Boston on 2.1 per cent and Fenland on 2.3 per cent. That we are not down among them is presumably down to southern-most fringes of East Cambridgeshire, around Dullingham and Kirtling.

No wonder it is fairly easy to obtain grants to plant trees in East Anglia, when we have even fewer of them than the East End of London. It is very easy to assume that we are losing biodiversity when farmland is given over to housing and other development. Yet it doesn't always work like that. The leafiest districts of the country, with greater tree cover than even South Gloucestershire (which has the Forest of Dean) or the New Forest are all in Surrey. In Surrey Heath 40.6 per cent of the ground surface has tree cover followed by 40.2 per cent in Waverley. Both are areas with low-density outer suburban sprawl: houses with large gardens and golf courses, compounded by areas of ancient woodland which were never grubbed up for farming in medieval times because the soil was so poor.

The notion of attractive countryside has changed somewhat over the years. To us, woodland is a haven of nature, but that is not how it seemed to William Cobbett, whose early 19th century rural rides often took him over Hindhead in Surrey. He called it the accursed hill, because to him it was a barren wasteland which had defied agriculture.

With the Wicken Fen project and other tree-plantings we are becoming slightly more wooded, but every so often there is a reminder that once Reach was covered by great oak forest. Mowing the cricket pitch in early autumn we came across a fragment of bog oak sticking out of the ground: a delicate fragment of 5000 year old wood, which had been preserved most of that time in waterlogged soil. Exposed to the air its age soon becomes apparent; when you rub it between your finger and thumb it turns to peat. It is the only sign that once we were once as wooded as Hackney.

Ross Clark
01638 743725
rossjclark@aol.com

Meeting Juliet Vickery

My full name is Juliet Anne Vickery.

I was born and brought up in Plymouth and didn't leave the West Country until I went to university. It was an unremarkable but very happy childhood; a working dad, unpaid working mum and two younger brothers. I was a passionate gymnast from primary school, one brother was a swimmer and the other a white water canoeist so my parents were constantly journeying round the West Country to training sessions and competitions. My grandparents lived nearby and my grandfather was an Italian from Tuscany. For many Italians family is everything, and they were the bedrocks of our family.

I went to a local girls' grammar school. I enjoyed great friendships and developed a passion for biology – in large part thanks to a brilliant biology teacher. I enjoyed wildlife and the environment and to be honest I was a bit of a 'biology swot'; I just couldn't read enough about the natural world. Living in the West Country environment was probably a contributing factor, my parents were keen walkers and we spent a lot of time on Dartmoor.

My passion for biology led me to Oxford. I took the entrance exam in the fourth year of 6th Form and went to the all girls college of St Hugh's, on the north side of the city. I completely adored Oxford, exposed to eminent scientists like Richard Dawkins and John Krebs, lots of younger researchers and vast libraries and museums. I'm sure there were some not-such-fun times, tons of hard work and swotting, and it must have seemed that I had shares in the College library, but it didn't feel like that because it was a real journey of discovery into a subject I loved. I was told by a school Careers Advisor to forget my ideas of working in conservation that there was no such job! That just increased my determination to do so and Oxford reinforced that desire, though it was actually my father who gently suggested my career path.

There were lots of opportunities outside 'biology' at Oxford. I did gymnastics again, coxed in the woman's boat race boat race and was very involved with the Christian Union. It was a fabulously happy time and I made many lifelong friendships.



I stayed on at Oxford to do a DPhil – as it was increasingly apparent that I needed one for my chosen career path. I studied swifts nesting in Oxford Museum tower as an undergraduate – using a long established and elegant set up of boxes in the tower roof that allow you to observe birds without disturbing them. This got me interested in issues of air pollution and acid rain was a big concern at the time. The net result was three years research on the impact of acid rain on waterway birds in south west Scotland. It was a fantastic three years – perhaps some of the best of my life. I lived in a tiny caravan on a farm in Dumfries. My parents donated the caravan; my Mum 'refurbished it' and my Dad towed it up the M6. It was my first home and I adored it.

The farm, near New Galloway, was owned by a wonderful Scottish couple who became (and still are!) second parents. I shared the yard with pregnant ewes and highland cattle and spent the days studying birds called dippers on a series of streams across that area of Scotland. I met fascinating people in a really wonderful part of the world and dippers remain my favourite bird. If you've never seen them, imagine chunky, chocolate brown robins with a white bib. They build dome-shaped mossy nests over rushing water, and feed on aquatic insects under water. They are great characters; very feisty and fearless in their mountain stream environment.



First Year Zoology Undergraduates Oxford 1981

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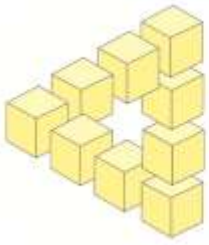

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After three summers of field work I returned to Oxford to write up, getting a job a Field Assistant at Witham Wood checking nest boxes for blue tits and great tits – resulting in father sending me letters to the 'Witham Wood 'tit' assistant'! it was at Oxford that I also discovered my love of international travel and research and I was lucky enough to join scientific expeditions to Dominica in the West Indes, Greenland, The Columbian Amazon and the Hindu Kush in Pakistan. All amazing in very different ways and exposed me to extraordinary people and wildlife.

I actually got into running quite late. As a cox I always cycled the 3 miles to the river rather than run with the rowers, but after months of field work in Scotland, sitting at a desk all winter was horrendous.



Oxford University Women's Boat Club 1983

I shared a lab with a University cross country runner who basically said, you're built like a runner, bring your kit in and I'll bring in a large slice of chocolate cake which you can have if you run, and if you don't I'll eat it instead. This was the beginning (or the end if you listen to David). Running came quite naturally; I ran for university the following year and pretty much haven't stopped running since. I finally left Oxford in 1989 - seven years after I started there.

I applied for jobs in conservation and soon realised that a doctorate was not enough; I now needed post doctoral research. I was hugely lucky to land a three year post doc at University of East Anglia (Norwich), studying under the, now, professor of conservation biology at Cambridge. This time the focus was Brent Geese on the north Norfolk coast; they breed in the high Arctic and half the world population winter in the UK. Half of the world's population of Brent Geese settle here. We were based at Brancaster in what is now a smart National Trust house but was then quite plain. My colleagues and I were known as the `Goose Gang' and I was Mother Goose. We spent three winters on the Norfolk coast, clothed in German army, fleece-lined, tank suits as the only thing that worked against the NE wind (the big joke being that while the 'boys' got theirs from army surplus my, tiny one, was from an action man shop!). We looked at the behaviour of the geese, where they grazed, the damage they caused and worked with government conservation and agriculture departments to develop solutions to the conservation/agriculture conflict around these birds. This was exactly the sort of research I wanted to do – answering real world problems.

I applied, and got, a job in Edinburgh with Scottish National Heritage thought I had finally made it – at last a job in conservation. But it was awful, ridiculously bureaucratic and definitely not for me and I left after nine months for a short term lectureship post at the University in Edinburgh.



My return to academia turned out to be more important than I could have imagined as it was through this post that I met David.

I had an office next door to a senior lecturers who had a long standing interest in declining, migrant birds which over winter in Africa. It was to study these birds with him that took me to Africa for the first time. In 1992 I went to North East Nigeria (now out of bounds) and was welcomed to a '1.5 star' guest house (half a star was painted out when it lost running water inside) that was linked to a development project for which David worked. It was David who welcomed us and it was love at first sight, I thought `oooooooh, he's completely gorgeous' and luckily he didn't think I was too bad either; I soon became known as Madame David. He was enormously popular in the area and being Madame David, I bathed in reflected glory and got twice the produce for my money in the market. We married two years later, and sent money to the community in Africa for coca cola and a goat to celebrate with us on our wedding day.



David was finishing a PhD in Cambridge, linked to the development project in Nigeria, and we had an Edinburgh / Cambridge existence for quite a while. We both shared a loved of hill walking, the natural world and a Christian faith. I got into mountain marathons for which our walking holidays in Europe were great training. David got a job in Cambridge and I followed, a year later, to work with the British Trust for Ornithology. That was how we came to live in Reach. We were looking for somewhere between Cambridge and Thetford and someone David worked with spotted this house for sale. I wasn't sure but David persuaded me it was a great house and a nice village – how right he was!

With the British Trust for Ornithology my work focussed on the decline of farmland birds such as the yellow hammer and skylark, trying to understand the causes of the declines and develop solutions that could be incorporated into agri-environment schemes. I loved being back in a world where science was used to answer conservation questions. I had a fantastic boss and a good team and spent 11 great years there before the perfect job came up at the RSPB as Head of the International Research Section. I've been in the post now for five years and it has brought me back to two subjects: migrant birds, like cuckoos and turtle doves, in Africa and what is causing their decline, and the impact of introduced rats to a wonderful island in the Pacific called Henderson (a UK Overseas Territory) where these invasive mammals threaten the existence of seabirds (they eat the chicks) and suppress numbers of four species of birds which are only found here and nowhere else in the world. I am also back working on conservation and agriculture, this time in landscapes of coffee, cocoa and bananas and have team members working in tropical forests in West Africa and Indonesia and species like vultures in India and Nepal. It's taken a long time but I finally do have the job I wanted but was told did not exist back in secondary school.

My move to Cambridge also got me into triathlons, as it wasn't exactly ideal training grounds for mountain marathons! I completed my first triathlon at the age of 34, swimming breast stroke with my head high out of the water. The experience prompted me to take swimming lessons and the rest is history.

My strongest discipline remains the running and early on I was mentored by some top class female triathletes in the Cambridge Tri Club. They encouraged me to go for the British Age Group Team for which you qualify, through a series of races, in five-year age bands. Younger people, like Daniel Blocksage, face very tough completion but there aren't so many good women athletes in my (elderly) age group. I qualified for my first 'age group world championships' in Edmonton, Canada in 2000 where I scraped top ten. Since then I have worked hard on my swimming and cycling and 2008 was my 'glory year'. I won Gold in my Age Group in the World and European Championships and I am delighted I managed it once. In subsequent years I won Silver in Edinburgh and (in 2013) in London on the Olympic Course and with David watching. I think that will be my last international race - its hugely expensive and the top competitors in my age group are Brits who I might as well race at home.

I love sport and the challenge of all three disciplines in triathlon makes it special. Through it, I know people I would never otherwise have met, have had amazing conversations on long winter bike rides and shared the highs and lows of training and racing. The difficulty with triathlon is finding time for training in all three sports. It means two training sessions a day: it might be an early morning swim; a run at lunch time; a cycle in the evening or a gym session. Racing over 25 miles on a bike means long training rides and fitting it around work, travel and family are a juggling act. David has been amazingly supportive and we share the domestic and taxi-duties for Freya but it requires organisation. My motivation to train comes, in part from knowing my competitors will be doing the same, and wanting to get to the start of each race in the season knowing I have done all I can to give them a race for their money!



Harvest supper 2014

Ed: Given your time is so precious it's amazing how much you contribute to the village: the Salad Stall at Reach Fair, organiser of the Harvest Supper and also Sports Day, and a regular contributor to the magazine!

We eat healthily at home so I don't follow a special diet. I do use energy drinks and protein recovery drinks, which help in training and racing, but I don't go in for many of the other fads – bananas and cereal bars usually do the trick!

Freya character-wise is more like David than myself. Like him, she is calmer, avoids confrontation (at least with friends if not with us!) and is far less judgmental. They both enjoy art, music and literature more than sport.

When we plan our holidays we are mindful of our carbon footprint so we enjoy an 'exotic' trip every 3 - 4 years. As we both travel so much through work we are happy to holiday at home: Wales, Northumberland and Devon. We also like France and Spain.

I can cook but don't particularly enjoy cooking. I have a practical approach; it's something that has to be fitted in between work and sport. That said we always cook a proper meal. David tends the garden and grows fruit and veg. I'm useless round the house so it's a good job David isn't. I am quite good at repairing bicycle punctures though!

My philosophy is that most good things in life require a bit of hard work and, to some extent, you make your own luck. Someone once told me 'Luck is where hard work meets opportunity' and I think that is true of much of my life.

I'm very lucky to I have a job I really love, my health and great family and friends. People matter more than anything.

Claire Halpin-McDonald





No entries were received! Too many big words?

Thanks to Puzzleric alias Richard Maddox

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Your Clerk is **Susan Bailey**
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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.

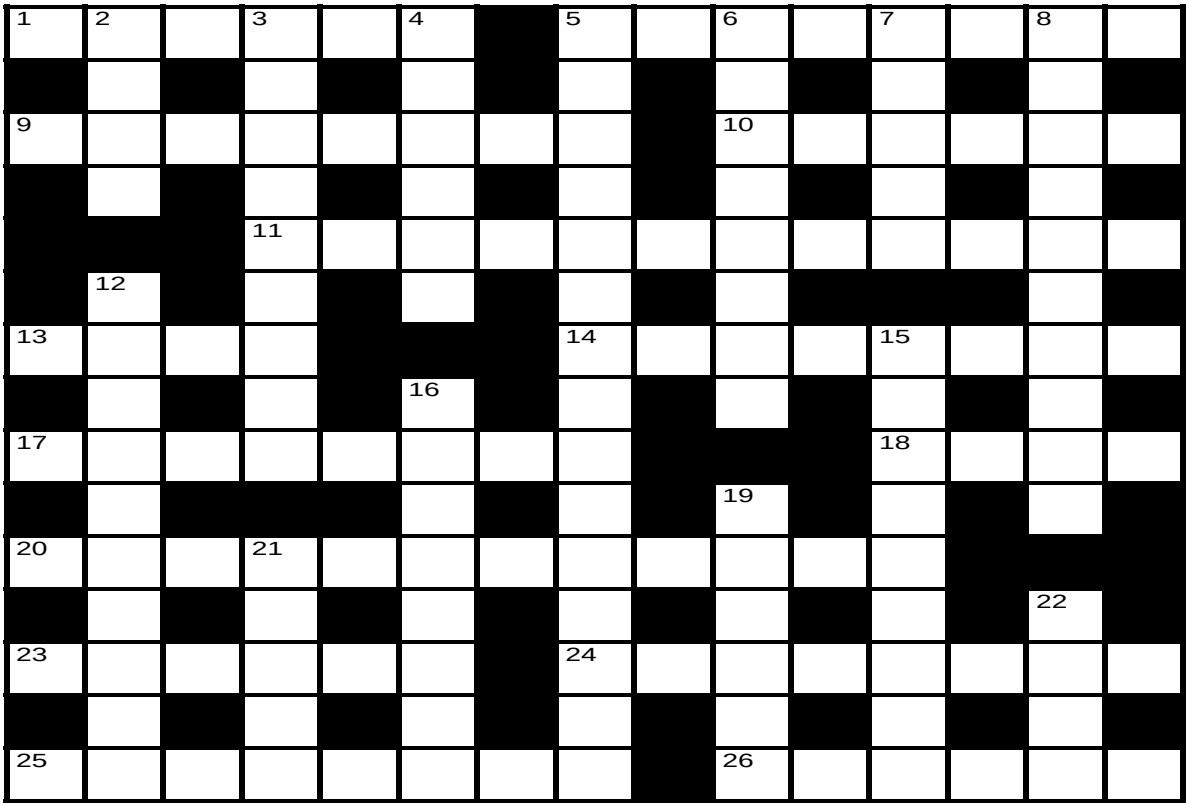
In addition to her councillor duties **Hilary Fielding** is Rights of Way Officer.

The Parish Council also has a new addition in Charlotte Cane who has recently been co-opted onto it following the untimely death of Rita Dunnett.



Charlotte Cane

Crossword No. 28



Across

1 Phases make for different patterns (6)
5 Sends back an exact image (8)
9 Outpouring form lachrymal gland (8)
10 A snore is why it happens (6)
11 Long word written in short (12)
13 Side of coin or garden e.g. (4)
14 Sing even at the end of days (8)
17 Take away from total (8)
18 Shopping area mainly in USA (4)
20 Made curly hair opposite to what it was (12)
23 Way round the problem road (6)
24 Look to a devil for mistreatment (8)
25 Find four on game board (8)
26 Reads out words one letter at a time (6)

Down

2 Shoe for Dutch type gardening tools (4)
3 Never to be changed or altered (9)
4 Woody small plants (6)
5 An American political house for agents (15)
6 Let off ones mistakes (8)
7 Absolutely correct and specific (5)
8 Completely with no mistake (10)
12 Tandem just used to make amendment (10)
15 Straight away with no hesitation (9)
16 This type of court will have you hopping about (8)
19 Takes great delight in (6)
21 Take on other peoples ideas etc (5)
22 Secure against leakage (4)

The answers to the previous crossword can be found on Page 23
Please send your entry to this crossword by Friday 9 January 2015 to CROSSWORD, 16 Chapel Lane, Reach CB25 0JJ giving your name and address.



Focus on Food



Tis the season to eat Sprouts…..

With the aim of locality and seasonality in mind and Sprouts readily available at Snakehall Farm (apparently at their best after a frost), the Christmas version of Marmite takes centre stage this month. I can't claim to be a lover or a loather of sprouts, but plenty can and it's all down to whether or not you have a certain gene which enables you to taste the bitterness in them. Either way there is something so fundamentally traditional about them that few Christmas tables, including ours, will be lacking them on the 25th December.



But, don't be fooled into believing that sprouts are just for Christmas. Following a wonderful Toppings evening talk/demonstration at Ely Cathedral on Monday by Ottolenghi, my eyes have been opened to a world of sprouting possibilities. I have to put my hands up and declare myself totally guilty of boiling sprouts, never giving them a chance with a sprinkling of fried bacon or chestnuts (rumour has it people do), or dare I say it, an alternative cooking method.

I did once, during a short-lived period of vegetable self-sufficiency and sprout glut, make a delicious sprout soup. Sadly I can't find the recipe but if any of you are brave enough to try it, it was essentially a soupy base (onion chopped and fried in butter/olive oil mix - I'm pretty sure the garlic was omitted), chopped sprouts added and browned for a bit and then chicken stock. Oh yes and a potato chopped and thrown in for thickness, but the key ingredient and possibly the indicator that I have the bitterness gene (but have just overcome it) was a teaspoon of sugar.

Anyway on to more experienced sprout cookers who claim that sprouts tossed in olive oil and then roasted or fried, are delectable with the natural sweetness preserved rather than leached into boiling water. Ottolenghi suggests both sweeteners to offset the caramelised brassicas (pomegranate seeds, maple syrup or caramelised garlic) and salty, sour, creamy or nutty elements….anchovies, lemon or lime juice, parmesan, fresh or dried chilli, toasted almonds, croutons, to offset the bitterness. The days of boiled sprouts are numbered in this house.

In his new book "Plenty More" (a good Christmas present for a vegetarian) there are 3 Brussel sprout recipes I will be trying over the festive season, but for the sake of brevity and keeping the ingredients simple (does anyone know what a pomelo is?), I'm going to just provide you with one. If you are brave and not intimidated by pomelos and such like look up Roasted Brussel Sprouts with Pomelo and Star Anise, and if you have a lot of people in your house who have the Brussel Sprout bitterness gene look up Brussel Sprout Risotto.



Brussel Sprouts with Caramelised Garlic and Lemon Peel (serves 4)

200g garlic (5 regular heads or 3 large), cloves removed and peeled
120m olive oil
2 tsp balsamic vinegar
3 tbsp. caster sugar
1 medium lemon
600g brussel sprouts
1 red chilli, deseeded and finely chopped
20g basil leaves coarsely shredded
Salt and black pepper

Put the garlic cloves in a pan of boiling water and blanch for three minutes. Drain. Fry the garlic in a couple of tablespoons of olive oil; put them on a high heat and keep turning them until they are golden. Add the balsamic vinegar, a tablespoon of sugar, 90ml water and a pinch of salt. Simmer until there's virtually no liquid left (about five minutes).

Make thin strips 1-2mm thick from the lemon peel (using a potato peeler then knife, or, if you've got it, one of those hole-y implements that make fine strips of zest). Put them in a small pan with a tablespoon of sugar, and the lemon juice made up to 100ml with a little water. Cook until the syrup is reduced to about a third (about 15 minutes), strain and discard the syrup.

Trim and halve the sprouts. Fry them in olive oil and a smidgeon of salt (in batches) at a high heat for about five minutes. Don't stir them more than once or twice, otherwise they won't char.

Add the sprouts to a bowl with the chilli, garlic and its syrup and leave for 10 minutes before adding the basil and candied lemon peel. Serve warm or at room temperature.



PS Foody Markets happening near you this month

Burwell Farmers Market (Burwell Village College) 2nd Saturday of the month (9.30- 12.30) – 13th December & 10th January.

Ely Farmers Market 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month (8.30 - 2) - 13th & 27th December and 10th and 24th January in addition there is a Christmas Market (with lots of food producers) - 23rd December (8.30-3.30).

Cambridge's Mill Road Winter Fair 6th December with 120 market and food stalls lining the street and a food fair in Gwydir Street Car Park (10.30 – 4.30).

La Hogue (farm shop near Chippenham) has Father Christmas visiting on Saturday 13th December and Friday 14th December (10- 3.30)

Catherine Gibson

Christmas Fayre



Burwell Print Centre's first ever Christmas Fayre at Mandeville Hall, Burwell Saturday 6th December 10 to 4pm.

- Santa's grotto
- 15+ craft stalls
- Mulled wine
- Cakes and refreshments
- School choir
- Local singing group
- Tombolas
- Face painting
- And more …

Please come along to help us celebrate the festive season and support one of your local Social Training Enterprises.

- Free admission
- Plenty of parking

Burwell Print is a Registered Charity 1053026 supporting adults with learning disabilities in a work and training environment.



Swaffham Prior Primary School

Since the last newsletter, we have immersed ourselves in all sorts of activities...

On Saturday 4th October, members of the KS2 choir performed at Reach Church as part of their Harvest festival. They sang extremely well and there were lots of very positive comments made about the beautiful music they made.



Grounds Day - Mrs Aspin and Tobias

Our Harvest Celebration at St Mary's led by Reverend Sue. The KS2 choir performed again for us and each class prepared their own special contributions. Mercury Class confidently retold in song the story of The Enormous Turnip and Mars Class entertained us with an action song based on beans! Neptune Class and Saturn Class sang for us a Harvest song and Reverend Sue demonstrated the distribution of food around the world.

Despite there being enough food for all there are still countries that do not have enough to feed their populations.

FoSPS Pumpkin Parade took place and yet again, the entrance to the school was a blaze of orange and there were some ingenious designs. They ranged from a Rubik's Cube, a Cinderella coach, a Dalek to cats, those with beautiful and intricate decoration and carving. Well done to all! There were some special prize winners. Congratulations to Wiley and Charlotte, Molly, Martin, Verity, Sam and Jayden, Eleanor and Brad.

A cafe also took place and children from the School Council were on hand to serve cakes and biscuits. It was a chance to catch up with friends and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee. The event raised over £100 which is a fantastic achievement.



Grounds Day. Mr Keutgen and Hector

Ely Cathedral report by Eleanor C

On Tuesday 14th October Years 5 and 6 went to Ely Cathedral. We got on the bus at 9.20am. We arrived at 10.00am. First we went to the station at which we soon discovered to have heating next to us. Once we had got there we began the autograph hunt, which is a competition where you have to go round and get autographs from other schools.

Once we had done that it was time to go to are our separate workshops. We were split in two groups. Groups A and B. Group A went to see the Nun who told us about gods and goddesses and then we went to the man who told us about King Edmund and the battle of Moulden. Group B went to the man who told them about king Edmund and the battle of Moulden and they did a role play.

Next group B went to the Nun who told them about medicine and how to treat bad wounds.

Now it was time to get together, for a play about Etheldreda. After part one it was time for lunch and we could see our friends from other schools. Then we had some songs and the then it was time for part two of Etheldreda At 2:00 it was time to go and say good bye to our friends and get ready for a half an hour bus drive back to school.
Despite the forecast predicting heavy showers, the sun appeared and Grounds Day successfully took place on the last day of the half term Children and adults worked together all day in all areas of the schools' grounds on jobs including, clearing leaves, putting down wood chips, weeding flower beds, cutting back shrubs, clearing and tidying the vegetable garden and Nature Area, fixing gates and putting up a bird box, planting bulbs. The grounds look fantastic!



Freddie enjoying Grounds Day with a friend

On Tuesday 11th November, we took part in a special Remembrance Day Ceremony. Mrs Janet Wilmott asked the school to help her in putting together a Poppy Display in St Mary's as part of a special event taking place in the church. All the children and adults in the school made poppies and these were taken to the church and displayed just inside the front door. Our own 'Tower of London' field of poppies! Later that day we all went to the church and heard the choir sing, held two minutes silence and watched as members of the School Council added the final poppies.

The School Council successfully organised some events to celebrate and raise money for Children in Need. Children and staff arrived at school dressed as Super-Heroes and other heroes of their choice. Apart from the dressing-up, they arranged a 'Guess how many sweets in a jar' competition and a 'Design a Pair of Super Hero Pants'. The total raised was an incredible £225, which included £40.05 raised by Ben Q, who held a cake sale.

Now we are starting to think about Christmas and Mercury and Mars classes are already beginning to prepare for their Christmas Production. We have a lot to look forward to including a 'History off the Page' day, Decoration Day, a Christmas celebration at St Mary's, a trip to the panto (- oh yes we are!!) and Christmas lunch. PHEW!!

We would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Heritage Lottery Funding

The school has been awarded a grant of £21,400 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for an exciting project, 'The Great War Through Our Windows'. Planned to start in the spring term, Saturn class children will work with the community and heritage professionals to conduct research into life in the village during the period 1910-1920 and explore the war stories of those recorded on the memorial plaques under the church windows in St Mary's Church and of those from First World War on Reach War Memorial.



Creating the poppy display at St Mary's Church

The project will provide a real opportunity for the children to find out about the lives of the local men who sacrificed their lives and the struggle inflicted on those left behind, put in context of the rural way of life in the village at the time. The information that is discovered will be shared with the other children in Key Stage 2 so that they can benefit from this opportunity as well.

"The Great War Through Our Windows" will take inspiration from the unique stained glass War Memorial Windows in St Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior, to create a musical drama that will illuminate the story of the people of the village both on the home front and on the Western Front during the First World War.

The project is aimed at involving the local community and using their knowledge and expertise to help the children develop a greater understanding of the impact the Great War had on their village. In January 2015 the school will start a research club to provide the children with the opportunity to get 'hands on' with researching the lives of those names recorded on the memorial. The information they find will be used in school to inspire the content of a performance which will include narrations, song, dance, poetry, story and drama. If you have information and/or expertise that you think could be useful in the project then please contact the school and let us know.

Hannah Curtis
Head teacher



CHRISTMAS KIDS' PAGE



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

JOKES!

Q. What goes 'Oh, Oh, Oh'?
A. Santa Claus going backwards!

Q. What's brown and sneaks round the kitchen?
A. Mince Spies!



Christmas **Angel** **Bauble** **Present** **Reindeers**
Star **Tree** **Snow** **Santa Claus** **Robin**
Mary **Magi** **Jesus** **Myrrh** **Gold**

Unscramble the names of the Christmas carols!
(Answers Page 37)

1. Slento ltigh
2. Wana iy m naegar
3. Donkle littey
4. Te where knigs

Cool Christmas Website!
www.emailsanta.com

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Cricket News



We finished the season in late September perversely with the driest conditions we had had all season – and a game against our regular opponents the Rain Men. It was match we might have won, having inched out way to 139 on a pitch of variable bounce. But the wickets failed to come.

Stumps have been drawn for the season on the cricket ground and the pitch 'put to bed' for the winter – a process which involves spreading loam over the surface. We have fenced off the square to protect it from animals and will leave it now until March when the task of cutting and rolling in preparation for the season will begin.

Dogs are of course welcome on the 24 acre field but please could those exercising them always clear up afterwards. We haven't had a big problem this season, but dog turds for obvious reasons are extremely unwelcome on a sports pitch.







Discussing tactics



Equestrian News

Over the past couple of months I have been busy getting my young horses, Frances and Stella, ready for shows. At the end of October we took Frances away to Arena UK in Lincolnshire for three days for her first show. She handled it all amazingly well and jumped two double clears in the British Novice. After this show she has kept up great form in the past two weeks jumping the only double clear in the British Novice to win it last week, and then jumping another double clear in the same class this weekend at Houghton Hall in St. Ives, which means she has now qualified for the second rounds next year. Stella is coming on very well and has been out to several different places schooling and to have lessons, so she should be ready to start competing soon.



Recently there was an equestrian car boot on the village green to raise money for the community arena on the 24 Acres. It made many more aware of the project and kick started the fundraising very well. There are further fundraising events being planned, such as a sponsored ride being organised by Hillary Fielding in the New Year, among many other events.

Laura Steven



Raising Awareness of Cycle Safety in Cambridgeshire



Cambridgeshire Constabulary is raising awareness of cycle safety, for urban and rural areas of the county, as the days get shorter and nights get longer.

The aim of the THINK campaign, a government initiative, is to encourage cyclists to have the right equipment and clothing and to remind motorists to be vigilant on the roads.

The number of cyclists seriously injured or killed in Cambridgeshire has decreased from 68 in 2012, to 60 in 2013, despite an increase in cyclists across the county.

Inspector Mark Rogers, from the force's road policing unit, said, "It is really important, especially at this time of the year for cyclists and motorists to be extra cautious of their immediate surroundings and to show each other consideration."

"We want motorists to acknowledge cyclists and in turn, cyclists need to make sure they wear suitable high-visibility reflective clothing."

The force has been trialling the Lights Instead of Tickets (LIT) scheme in Cambridgeshire since 2012.

Cyclists caught without lights during the hours of darkness are handed a leaflet giving them the option to buy a set of lights within seven days to avoid paying a £30 fine.



REACH

PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on: Wednesday 5th November 2014

Attendance

Michael Aves	Councillor	Present
Ross Clark	Vice Chairman	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Not Present
David Thomas	Chairman	Present
Diana Ward	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

1. Declarations of Interest
There were none.

2. Forum for Members of the Public
Two members of the village Events Team attended to discuss the idea of placing a Christmas tree on the Green opposite the Village Centre. The Events Team will submit an application to the Amenity Fund to cover the costs of this. The Parish Council approved this event and it will therefore become a Parish Council event, run by the Events Team.

3. New Parish Councillor
Charlotte Cane was welcomed as the new member of the Parish Council.

4. The Avenue of Limes.
After discussion it was proposed and approved that the Limes would be left until this time next year to see how they develop. The trees will be monitored and those that are dead will be cut back or removed, to give a better appearance, and possibly replaced next year.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting
The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were signed as correct.

6 (1) Amenity Fund Committee
No Activity this month.

6 (2) County Councillor's Report
Full Council in October debated a number of motions, including 3 about future governance arrangements. Council agreed a motion to instruct the Chief Executive to examine links with other public bodies, including the District Councils and health, and not just consider unitary status. Other motions included support for upgrading the A428 and the Local Assistance Scheme, which offers emergency help to individuals.

General Purposes Committee agreed a number of items including a land swap in Littleport, using County Farms land, to secure the site for the new Secondary School, and the 'in principle' decision to take legal proceedings over defects on the guided Busway. The Committee also received the usual range of financial reports.

The Children and Young People's Committee also met in October, with business planning the main agenda item. We still have £5.9 million of unidentified savings for 2015/16 and officers are preparing further options to present to the November meeting, prior to the Committee recommending a balanced budget in early 2015.

I attended meetings of: the Corporate Parenting Board, group spokes for Children and Young People, a seminar about the City Deal and a cross-departmental meeting with the chairman and vice-chairman of Economy and Environment Committee. I also attended the official opening by Edward Timpson MP, Minister for Children, of Cambridgeshire Coram adoption, the new joint venture voluntary adoption agency we have set up.

6 (3) District Councillor's Report
There have been two instances of fly tipping in the ward. By Swaffham Bulbeck Lode, near Slades Farm. Also Headlake Drove, which included a small amount of asbestos.
Fly tipping of asbestos costs ECDC £285 for its removal.
There has been an unauthorised encampment at Forty Acre Drove since 18th October. It is on County council byways land.
I contacted the CCC traveller's liaison officer and the enforcement officer. A court order has been served and they have until 12th November to leave the site.

6 (4) Financial Report
Very little activity this month, the Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation.

6 (5) Parish Council Members Meetings
Councillor Fielding attended a meeting with the Local Highways Improvement Programme Committee, to discuss our application. A decision is awaited.

6 (6) Play Spaces
Three quotes have been received for the repair work required. A quote was accepted. *The Clerk* to arrange for the work to be carried out.

6(7) Rights of Way
Councillor Fielding had contacted CCC with regard to the track damage on Barston Drove. The response from CCC was that they will attempt to set the track fair if it is within budget. CCC also stated that it local farmers should keep the byway in a good state and repair if necessary. Parish Council were also concerned about damage to the byway from 4x4 vehicles.
Councillor Fielding to contact local landowner's if/when the repairs happen.
Councillor Fielding had also met with the NT on the 24Acres to discuss the potential placing of a culvert from the 24Acres onto the fen. This is a NT project. Permissive access would need to be given by a local landowner and the NT.

6 (8) Village Centre
Councillor Ward was unable to attend the last meeting due to a change of venue. Minutes had not been received. *Clerk* to ask for a copy. *Councillor Clark* to attend the next meeting.

6 (9) 24Acres Committee Report
A meeting was held in October. Updates on the various projects and plans for the future were discussed. A project to plant a hedge along the front boundary was also discussed. The NT are to closely monitor the condition of the access track over the coming winter months.
A car boot sale was successfully held to raise money for the manege/horse users project.

7. The Cemetery
The Parish Council had received a complaint with regard to Muntjac deer destroying plants in the cemetery. The PC are very sympathetic to this and understands that it is very upsetting. However, stopping the deer from entering the cemetery maybe very difficult. *The Clerk* to investigate the various options regarding the fencing of the boundary.

8. The Clerks Annual Review
The Parish Council were happy with the performance of the Clerk over the previous year and approved the National Salary Pay Award as and when it is agreed.

9. Precept YE 2016
The Clerk proposed a budget for the next financial year and this was approved by the Parish Council. Within this budget it was agreed that the precept would remain at £7,150 for the fifth financial year.

10. Planning Applications
There were none.

11. Information Items/AOB
Memorial Bench - designs for the bench were discussed and will continue to be looked at prior to *Councillor Thomas* discussing them with the family.
Salt Bin on Great Lane - A resident had complained that the salt bin outside their property had been knocked by a vehicle and was now resting against their wall. *Councillor Aves* to arrange for the salt bin to be repositioned.
Reach Wood Meadow – Residence have shown concern about the lack of mowing of the meadow. Ideally this needs mowing twice yearly however, the Woodland Trust only have the budget for a once yearly cut. It was agreed that in future the meadow will be cut once in September at a 10cm height.

12. Payments

CR Contracting – September mowing	£ 329.00
Neil Kennedy – Tree damage repair	£ 85.00
CR Contracting – October mowing	£ 105.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 3rd December 2014 at 7.30pm. The Agenda for the meeting will be issued by the previous Wednesday and can be accessed from the Parish Council area of the Reach website (www.reach-village.co.uk).

Letter from the Vicarage



Christmas is coming! Shopping and cooking, twinkling lights and tinsel. Reindeer and Santas, pudding-making and parcel-wrapping. It's very easy to get caught up in the excitement of it all! For others, though, the thought of Christmas just brings sadness, remembering times past, and loved ones no longer here.

And I guess for most of us, there is a longing that there would be peace in our very troubled and broken world. The message of Christmas is about the coming of God among us, right into the joyful busyness, right into the heartache and loss, right into the conflict. Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, offering to bring God's love and grace, forgiveness and hope, into each and every situation. My prayer this Christmas is that we would each come to know a little more about what that means.

Best wishes for an Advent full of hope, a Christmas full of joy, and a New Year filled with peace, from all of us at St Mary's and St Etheldreda's!

All welcome to join us at our Nativity Carol Service at 4pm on Sunday 21st December. I'm looking for helpers to take part, especially to read, so please let me know.

On Tuesday 23rd December the church will be open later, until 8pm, if you would like to pop in for a quiet space to remember loved ones and perhaps light a candle.

Please do get in touch if you would like to find out more about any of our events or services in Reach or Burwell

Revd Dr Eleanor Williams
Vicar at St Mary's Burwell and St Etheldreda's Reach

vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk or 01638 741262
http://www.stmarysburwell.org.uk/
https://www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell



Evie Mitchell and Liv Mules with the new candle stand in the church



Update on Church Repairs

At the time of writing, the repairs to the stonework on the west side (front) of Reach church have been completed and the scaffolding is about to be removed. It turned out that more repairs were needed than had been thought and this has delayed the whole process. The conservator who carried out the work, David Armstrong, has done a thorough and painstaking job and was particularly interested to hear that the work was paid for by the legacy from Maisie Whitehead, someone who had given faithful service to the church all her life. He said he'd think of her while he was working.

As soon as the scaffold is down, the handrail will be fitted to the front entrance and it will be good to have that in time for the busy Christmas season and dark mornings and evenings. Because of the extra work to the front, the repair work to the rest of the external stonework will have to wait until the Spring when risk of frosts and wet weather have passed. Meanwhile, the architect will carry out the scheduled five yearly inspection shortly, concentrating particularly on work that needs to be done inside the church, such as decorating and treating a few large cracks. When we know what we need to do to keep the building sound, we can begin to develop the ideas that have been put forward for enhancing the facilities and hopefully come up with a plan that makes sense and avoids repetition or undoing something that has just been done.

Pat Chalmers

Harvest Supper



Harvest supper re-styled seemed to go down well suggesting sometimes change is good. So this time it was bangers (Hurrells and Newmarket) and baked spuds and crumble and custard all round. Dining was interspersed with a two-round picture quiz featuring breads and cakes and followed by the compulsory raffle, this time in aid of the Syrian refugee crisis. Hopefully the pictures speak for themselves – a fun night in Reach.



The supper was preceded by a short harvest service where we were lucky enough to have the Swaffham Prior school choir singing for us and many kindly contributed to the Christian Aid collection and the food bank

Thanks to all those who came and supported the event with lively conversation, generous giving and a great deal of help clearing up. Just as Harvest was, and I imagine still is, a team effort, even if modern agricultural teams are smaller in size, so is Harvest supper. Lots of people helped share the load from selling tickets to washing dishes.

Special thanks to: All those who baked spuds and sausages and crumbles and to Helen Oliver and Andrew Towers and Marie Bambrick for red cabbage and onion gravy (respectively) for 80; Liz Tabecki for the wonderful autumnal decorations, harvested by Claire Halpin and Jodie; Grahame Radford for devising and comparing the quiz; everyone for the hall set up; George Gibson and Hugh de Lacy for fabulous raffle prizes of a meal for two in the Dykes End and tickets for Hugh's wine tasting. Apologies to anyone I have omitted to mention

All these things need one person who spots the gaps, does the things others can't (or don't want) to do and is there before everyone else arrives and after everyone else has gone home. For Harvest Supper that person is Pam King – Thank You Pam!

The highlight was our team of helpers on the day, our team of young waiters and waitresses – Hector and Violet Keutgen, Lily Steed and Alice Trump who drew raffle tickets with enthusiasm and served tea and coffee in style

Thanks to your generosity, and the persuasive combined selling power of Alice Trump and Lilly Steed, we gave £150 to Syrian refugee crisis, collected £62.00 for Christian Aid and raised £259.50 for the church.

Juliet Vickery



Kid's Page

The answers to Susie's Christmas carols anagrams are:
Away in a Manger, Little Donkey,
We Three Kings and
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,

Church Services at Burwell and Reach

	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach
December 2014		
Wednesday 3	10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Thursday 4	10.00 Little Bears	
Friday 5		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 7th December Advent 2	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.00 All Age Service 4.00 Christingle Service	
Wednesday 10	10.00am Holy Communion	2.00 – 4.00pm CentrePeace at Reach
Friday 12		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 14 Advent 3	10.00am Parish Communion (Contemporary) 4.00 Carols at Ness Court	8.00am Holy Communion
Wednesday 17	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Friday 19		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 21 Advent 3	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Communion 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight	4.00pm Family Carol Service
Tuesday 23	Light in Darkness Church open till 8pm for quiet reflection	Light in Darkness Church open till 8pm for quiet reflection
Wednesday 24 Christmas Eve	10.00am Holy Communion 3.00pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Communion	6.00pm Carols at Christmas Tree
Thursday 25 Christmas Day	10.00am All Age Communion	8.00am Holy Communion
Friday 27		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 28 Christmas 1	10.00am Said Holy Communion	
Wednesday 31	10.00 Holy Communion	
January 2015		
Friday 2		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 4	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Communion	
Wed 7	10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Friday 9		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 11	10.00 Parish Communion (Traditional)	8.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday @ 7
Wednesday 14	10.00am Holy Communion	2.00 – 4.00pm CentrePeace at Reach
Friday 16		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 18th January	8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Week of Prayer for Christian Unity United service at the Baptist Church	
Wednesday 21	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Friday 23		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 25th January	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00 Parish Communion (traditional) 4.00pm Messy Church	
Wednesday 28	10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday 30		8.15am Morning Prayer

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	0639	0709	0724			0849		1049		1249		1449	1459	1549	1649	1749
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	10A	10	10	10	10	10	10		10	10	10	10
				M-F	**NMD**											
Cambridge (Drummer Street)				0655	0755	0825	0925	1025	1125	1225	1325	1425	1525	1635	1735	1845
Swaffham Prior				0729	0829	0902	0959	1102	1159	1302	1359	1502	1559	1712	1809	1919
Reach				0735	0835		1005		1205		1405		1605		1815	1925
Burwell (Hawthorn Way)				0742	0842	0912	1012	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1722	1822	1932
Newmarket (Guineas Station)				0810	0910	0940	1040	1140	1240	1340	1440	1540	1640	1800		

M-F - these buses run on Monday to Friday only
NMD - this bus calls at Noel Murless Drive at 0905
Sat - these buses run on Saturday only

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: December 2014

December 2014	Event	Location	Time
	Haddenham Galleries Craft Centre	20 High Street, Haddenham CB6 3XA	Tues - Sat 10am – 5pm Sun 12noon – 5pm
Mon 1 to 3 January 2015	Christmas Tree Festival	St Peter and St Mary's Church, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ	
Mon 1 to 8 March	Floodlit Swan Feeds	Welney Wetland Centre, Welney PE14 9TN	3.30pm 12 noon from 26 Dec
Wed 3	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thurs 4	Recycling Day (Green)		
Sat 6 – Sun 7	Glass Blowing Christmas Open Weekend	Stewart Hearn Glassworks, 112a High Street, Chatteris PE16 6NN	Sat 10am – 5pm Sun 11am – 4pm
Sun 7	Christmas Special	Prickwillow Drainage Museum, CB7 4UN	11am – 4pm
Wed 10	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Wed 10	Choirs from Cambridge, Ely and Newmarket	Ely Cathedral	7.30pm
Thurs 11	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Tues 16	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.15pm to 12.50pm
Tues 16	Talk: Village Gardeners	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8.00pm
Thurs 18	Recycling Day (Green)		
Tues 23	Special Christmas Market	Ely	8.30am – 3.30pm
Saturday 27	Recycling Day (Blue)		



The Keutgens enjoying the snow in February 2009

Diary Dates: January 2015

January 2015			
Saturday 3	Recycling Day (Green)		
Wed 7	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thurs 8	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wed 14	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Tues 20	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tues 20	Talk: Village Gardeners	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8.00pm
Wed 21	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thurs 15	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thurs 22	Recycling Day (Blue)		
24 – 25	RSPB Birdwatch		
Thurs 29	Recycling Day (Green)		
Sat 31	Curry Nigh	Reach Village Centre	

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

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

Club Contact Information

Club	Contact	Tel
Brownies (Burwell)	Heather Dean	615521
Carpet Bowls (Swaffham Prior)	David Folkes	745551
Cubs (Swaffham Prior)	Steve White	743555
Cricket (Reach)	Ross Clark	743725
Gardeners (Village, Swaffham Prior)	Margaret Joyce	744390
Mothers Union (Burwell)	Susan Baker	741791
Scouts (Swaffham Prior)	Steve White	743555
Tennis (Reach)	Philip Lewis	742115
Youth Club (Swaffham Prior)	Alan Badcock	742228



Contact Information

Parish Council			
	Councillor	Michael Aves	742800
	Councillor	Charlotte Cane	741064
	Vice Chairman	Ross Clark	743725
	Councillor	Hilary Fielding	741853
	Councillor	Joyce Harrison	742405
	Chairman	David Thomas	742676
	Councillor	Diana Ward	744210
	Clerk	Susan Bailey	743794
	Rights of Way Officer	Hilary Fielding	741853
	County Councillor	David Brown	743283
	District Councillor	Allen Alderson	741744
Village Centre			
	Chairman	Grahame Radford	742814
	Finance	Hugh de Lacy	
	Bookings	Grahame Radford	742814
	Marquee Bookings	Andrew Hall	743737
Amenity Fund Committee			
	Chairman	Ross Clark	743725
	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
	Enquiries		743602
	Community Nurses		742382
	Surgery Hours	Mon 8.30am to 6.00pm with extended hours on a Monday please phone the surgery for details	



I'm not sure we've got all the bits



The Boyz got the job done



Olivia Mules, Evie and Rose Mitchell



There are 1600 lights on the tree!



It's a Christmas tree, Dan



Halfway



Hmmm - the picture's nothing like our tree



We love watching people work



Up a bit Andy, down a bit



Higher Hannah, higher









Putting up a tree takes more work than you think, so well done!