Within Reach



April/May 2015



Blue tits



Female sparrow hawk with its lunch

(A blackbird) in our garden



Not a common pheasant! A couple of these blue-back/ring-neck pheasants were around the village in January / February and this one frequently visited our garden to eat the seed that had fallen from our bird feeders and once it came right up to the patio door. Alison Lewis





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Reach Fair
Open Evening
Wednesday 15th April
7.30pm Village Centre
Wine and Nibbles

See page 6 for further information

From the Editor



This issue records not one but three historic events!

Firstly, the installation of a beautifully designed, solid English oak bench in memory of Rita Dunnett in the woodland glade on the 24Acres. Enjoy a stroll and the pleasure of the bench and its surroundings. Take some time out.

John Holmwood has made a faithful replica of the village sign with huge care and talent. The new sign is again of English oak - the very best - from oaks felled to make way for the Fordham bypass.

Finally a new hedgerow has been planted down at the 24Acres. It includes shrub species comprising hawthorn, blackthorn, dog rose, hazel, field maple and crab apple - and will be a haven for wild life potentially including dormice. I look forward to watching it grow and become established.

Hilary Fielding delights us with her reflections inspired by the observation of numerous magpies on a fence. It's lovely to receive her contribution. Do send your photos, thoughts etc for inclusion in the magazine. Joss Goodchild sent a photo for Pets Corner which is super appreciated. I feel bound to make the observation that cats are underrepresented in Pets Corner – moggies rise up and demand to be photographed. You can look quite nice.

Catherine Gibson is evidently a foodie because not only do we get a seasonal recipe but also guidance as to what is seasonal in the shops - oops and at Snakehall Farm. The latter goes from strength to strength, not just in its range of produce but also the environment and opportunities it provides for its Co-workers. Against stiff national competition it secured £50,000 to install a training kitchen in its Tea Barn so it can turn its harvested produce into chutneys, soups etc. Maz's article about the Farm is packed with news and the Farm will once again have a stall at Reach Fair.

We've just enjoyed the sunniest winter for 80 years – I think that's what I heard. This bodes well for this year's Reach Fair. Please offer your assistance both before and during the Fair by ringing Grahame Radford (742814).

As the year creeps on don't forget to take photos for Reach Calendar 2016. They've got to be landscape format, have lots of pixels and be predominantly village scenes rather than individuals. Get clicking.

Read this magazine carefully and find out who's dusting off bats and is not fussy.

Claire Halpin-McDonald

Front cover photo: Hugh de Lacy
Cover photographs: Alison Lewis and 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 May 2015. This magazine is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

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Gardening	Danuta Gibson
Kids' Page	Susie Tucker
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Snakehall Farm	Maz Baker
Sport	Juliet Vickery
Swaffham Prior School	Hannah Curtis
Wicken Fen	Howard Cooper
Wildlife	Joss Goodchild Alison Lewis

Rita's Bench



Neville Dunnett

On behalf of everyone in Reach, the Parish Council has installed a bench in memory of Rita Dunnett. The bench has been designed and built from solid English oak by local craftsman Jamie Cakebread. It has been placed in the woodland glade on the 24Acres, facing south with a view of the village. Do please take time to walk down there and sit for a while.



David Thomas and Neville Dunnett



Village Sign



The village sign was built soon after Jen and I came to Reach. It was first designed and carved by the people who lived next to the pub: Ron and Iris Morris. Iris carved it and her daughter is the artist Hannah Webb. It was erected 22 years ago, on the 23 October 1992.

Nine years ago I refurbished it and recently I was asked to refurbish it again. In fact this time it was too far gone to be renovated (there would have been more filler than wood), so I have carved a new replica sign from scratch. People think the funding for the sign came from the Parish Council but this is not true. The initiative to have a sign came from Michael Aves and his family, and he raised to money to erect one. When I refurbished the sign, and now when I have carved a replica, I have given my time and the materials (even now) have been purchased by the original fund set up 22 years ago and with the money still in the Building Society.

Oak has been used for the sign. It's 10 years old and is as good as it gets. Oak is either air dried for 10 years or kiln-dried. Our's air dried with the wood cut into planks, mounted for the air to circulate and left for 10 years. Ranulf Scott of Burwell acquired the oak for his business, and when I enquired his oak was the best price and better. The oak is from trees felled to make way for the Fordham bypass. Ranulf constructed by parish noticeboard and also the bench around the horse chestnut tree, and he refurbished the Burwell village sign.



The tools I used to carve the sign belonged to my grandfather

The paint used for the sign is special. It was used to re-paint the finger sign which has lasted for nine years and so is obviously a very good paint to use again. It's water-based which makes mixing he colours easier. An aluminium primer is used which is the right thing for oak.

Michael Aves with a machine lifted the sign off its pedestal and brought it to my workshop. The sign was constructed from the first to allow it to be moved. The shaft is a long shallow box which is lowered down on to a 6" square sprig get of wood on the base. It drops on to the base and is secured using stainless steel bolts.

I've modified the current construction slightly to stop water collecting and getting into the grain and causing rot. Water should run off the new sign.

The design is the same as that used by Ranulf Scott for the Burwell sign. The latter was renovated about two years ago; it includes a lot of filler and is already beginning to deteriorate.



Michael Aves (left) and Glen Newman put the finishing touches to the base of the sign which was unveiled on 23 October 1992. Photo: Grahame Miller

I have created an identical sign which is not a quick job but I have promised that is will be completed and up again before the Fair, and its near completion now. I've made the new sign by measurement and by eye. I used callipers to get the main dimensions correct and drew the outlines in pencil. As you carve the pencil lines are removed, and then re-drawn and cut. The oak is physically hard and I use a hammer and chisel, it's not a pushing motion. The carving tools were my grandfathers. Jen reckons the new King John has slightly more hair than the old one! Our sign is more elaborate than most. The majority of signs are mounted on a pole but ours has a tableau all along the post.



Michael Aves transported the sign to my workshop. The carving and painting of the new sign has taken many hours but I've promised that the sign will be in place in time for this year's Fair.

To commission a sign now would be prohibitively expensive especially if one had to pay for the time involved. The wood was c. £550 and the paint and fittings £100. I've developed some skill in carving over the years. I made a rocking horse in the past. The painting of rocking horses follows a tradition, for example, they have white legs with black knees. Iris Morris encouraged me and gave me some tips for the paintwork.

John Holmwood



Reach Fair 2015

When you read this there will be about four weeks to go to this year's Fair on May 4th.



It has been suggested that for the benefit of our new residents and as a reminder to the older ones, we write a brief history of the Fair and why it is important to the village.

In 1201 King John, he of Magna Carta fame, granted a charter for the holding of a fair in Reach on each Rogationtide. The charter was awarded to the Mayor and Burgesses of Cambridge, who at that time held the legal monopoly over the water trade in Cambridgeshire, of which Reach, or Reche as it was then known, was an important part. This is why the Mayor of Cambridge, accompanied by the Aldermen in full regalia, still attends and opens the Fair as one of their duties representing the Monarch. The tradition of throwing newly-minted pennies goes back many years and some residents have a large collection!

The dates have since been changed several times and it is now held on the Spring Bank holiday. As far as we know Reach Fair is the oldest fair in the country and apparently has been held continuously for over 800 years, except on 2 occasions during the Second World War. It was originally a horse and trade fair but now it is more of a fun family affair with traditional crafts, entertainment and merchandise in addition to the funfair. Sadly, a lot of the traditional fairground rides - the Carousel for example - are now too old to be economically repaired and have therefore been replaced with more modern versions, but the organisers still try to keep to the spirit of the original fairground.

So, there you have it. You may also be interested to know that the proceeds from the Fair are used to run our superb Village Centre, which benefits the village as a whole by providing the building for community use and as no funding is provided by the Parish Council, it reduces our individual financial burden. In addition, 25% of the annual profits go to the Amenity Fund, which is used to fund worthwhile projects within the village.

Obviously, the weather plays a very important part in the success or otherwise of the event and some years are better than others. But most important is the contribution made by volunteers who serve on the management committee and those who kindly offer help in other ways.

You can make a contribution in several ways. We need help in setting up on the Sunday beforehand, marking out the car park and most importantly, help with manning the road closure points and taking money at the car park on the day. We also rely on volunteers to man the various stalls that the committee organises, thereby ensuring that the profits benefit the village rather than outside organisations. This especially applies to the tea tent. Unfortunately, our dear Rita is no longer with us so Catherine Gibson has agreed to co-ordinate the arrangements. She would appreciate any guidance and assistance from those who have helped in the past.



The Committee will be holding an Open Evening on Wednesday 15th April for anyone to come along and find out about this year's Fair and enjoy a glass of wine and some nibbles. Start time is 7.30pm.

If you are able to help please contact a committee member or myself on 742814 where we will be delighted to accept your offer. If not, we hope you will come and support Reach Fair, which is a long standing part of our village heritage.

Grahame Radford
Chairman
Reach Village Centre Committee

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ON FAIR DAY SWAFFHAM ROAD, FAIR GREEN AND BURWELL ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10.00AM TO 5.00PM.

ALL CARS SHOULD BE REMOVED TO THE CAR PARK FROM THOSE ROADS BEFORE 10.00AM FOR SAFETY REASONS.

Quiz Night 7.30pm Sunday 3rd May Beer Tent, Village Green





Girls Night Out Friday 17th April

Any takers for a spring Friday night get-together - hopefully there will be sunshine? Eighteen of us had a cosy supper in November and it would be nice if we can fill the places again. I have booked the upstairs room in the Dyke's End for 17th April 2015 - 7.30 for 8.00pm. Numbers are limited to just 18.

The idea is to have a Friday night chat and dinner. You can book one course or two or three. I need to have your choice and money - either cash or a cheque payable to the Dyke's End - by Friday 10th April. It will be on a first come first serve basis, so I am assuming I will have a full house before then.

Starters
Cream of cauliflower and cheese soup (v)
Smoked haddock souffle
Warm Mediterranean vegetable salad

Mains
Courgette rosti on macaroni cheese with a poached egg (v)
Escalope of pork with apple and mushroom sauce, dauphinoise potatoes and vegetables
Fillet of trout with artichoke heart and potatoes

Dessert
Almond Tarte, crème fraiche
Rhubarb and stem ginger Eaton mess
Cheese board

1 course = £14.95; 2 courses = £17.95; 3 courses = £20.95

Drinks and coffee extra

Please let me know - Karen Carpenter at 14 Ditchfield (742814)

The VILLAGE CENTRE 100 CLUB for 2015

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
March: Jane Garner £20

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

Awesome Technologies Changing the World

As well as loving nature, I am also very interested in science and technology and I am lucky enough to work for a research and events company that covers what we call “emerging technologies”. These are new or evolving technologies that are continuing to change the world as we know it and here are a few of them . . . .

Printed Electronics - the basic idea of this is that you can print circuits with conductive/metallic ink. The advantage is that your circuit or ‘wires’ end up being very thin and even flexible. This is enabling electronic products like smart phones, laptops, smart watches and wearable sensors to become ever thinner and bendy.



3D Printing – this currently usually involves the printing of melted plastic, metal or ceramic and building up many thin layers to create a 3D product. The process is currently quite slow and can take hours to create a small item, but there are many benefits. The item can be completely unique and a one-off without the need to first make costly moulds. Multiple and movable parts can be created in one go which would be impossible with traditional manufacturing. Small 3D printers are now available for home use - so you can make your own plates or chess pieces or all the bits to build your dream toy car with moving parts!

Electric and Autonomous Vehicles – electric cars are still not very popular mainly because of the cost of batteries and their limited range (distance you can drive on a full charge). Now you can get hybrid or electric versions of almost all types of vehicles from buses, trucks and tractors to boats and aeroplanes. Electric buses are becoming particularly popular around the world. The technologies enabling all these vehicles are continually being improved. For example we now have a new form of battery, called a supercapacitor, which can charge quickly and works in extreme environments.

Autonomous (driverless) cars are the next new thing - they contain sensors and radars that detect the other vehicles around and control the speed and movement to ensure there are no collisions. Now imagine how wonderful it would be living in a world with little or no traffic noise, traffic pollution or accidents!

Learn more at www.IDTechEx.com and on our free news journals: www.PrintedElectronicsWorld.com
www.EnergyHarvestingJournal.com
www.ElectricVehiclesResearch.com
www.3DPrintingProgress.com
www.WearableTechnologyInsights.com

Alison Lewis

Community Solar Farm – Share Offer



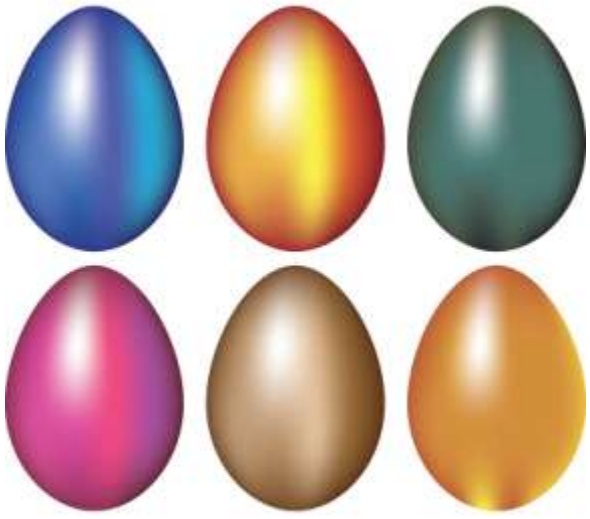
The share offer for the community solar farm managed to raise over £160,000 in just five weeks - which is good going! We'd really like to thank those in Reach (and elsewhere) who have invested. Thanks to you we hope we'll soon be feeding clean, renewable energy into the power line that supplies the village and raising money for the community fund.

With hindsight, however, it was rather ambitious to try to raise the full amount we need of over £300,000 in such a short time, so we've extended the deadline for the share offer until the end of May. We do have the offer of a loan to make up some of the shortfall if we are still short then, but we'd rather as much as possible of the scheme is owned by local people. So if you didn't manage to get in before the deadline but would still like to invest - there is still time!

We had some good news from HMRC that we should have a few more months to benefit from the EIS tax relief scheme, which should mean that those who invest will be able to reclaim 30% of the cost of the shares off their tax bill. There are more details on the reachsolarfarm.co.uk website, where you can also sign up for our occasional email newsletter.

We hope to have a stand at Reach Fair, so do come and chat to us then!

Andy Rankin



Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

When you receive this issue of Within Reach, the Club's year will again be drawing to a close. Tuesday 14 April sees our last major guest speaker for the year - John Hooton of Southern Ireland will be giving a print talk entitled 'Landscapes & Seascapes'. The year ends with our final competition on Tuesday 21 April, The Hanson Trophy Projected Digital Image Competition.



Misty Hut. Photo: Daphne Hanson DPAGB APAGB

In February 2014 the club entered the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies (EAF) Projected Digital Image Club Championship annual competition. A total of 34 clubs entered from around the region and Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club were placed ninth. The winning clubs were first: Beyond Group, from Ipswich, Norfolk Photographic Group came second with Ipswich & District Photographic Society coming third.



Winter. Photo: Daphne Hanson DPAGB APAGB

Date for your diary:

'**Welcome Back**' First meeting of the 2015/2016 year will be held on Tuesday 8 September 2015, when members are asked to bring photographs (prints or images), which have been taken over the summer break. Members' winning prints from last year will also be on display.

New members would be very welcome and can bring any pictures that they have taken during the summer.

The club welcomes guests and new members to any meeting at our venue, Lode Chapel **CB25 9EW** from 7:30 – 9:30pm. Fee of £3.00 including refreshments, refunded on joining.

Annual subscriptions: Adult: £40.00, Joint Membership: £67.00, Student: £21.00, refreshments 50p.

For further details contact:

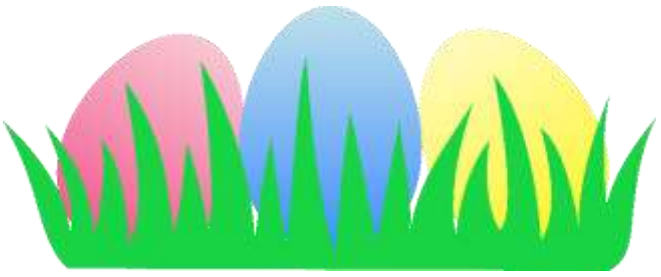
Mrs Daphne Hanson DPAGB APAGB
T: 01638 741106
Website: www.bottburpc.org

Burwell Museum Coach Trips 2015

Supported by The National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund | heritage lottery fund

Wisbech	Thursday 23rd April	£12.50
Lowestoft	Thursday 28th May	£16.00
Brightlingsea	Tuesday 23rd June	£16.00
Cromer and Wells	Tuesday 28th July	£16
Hunstanton and Lavender Farm	Tuesday 18th August	£15.00
Sheringham 40s Day	Sunday 20th September	£17.00
Boundry Mills, Downtown and Newmarket	Friday 30th October	£17.50
Wickstead Park Christmas Show and Dinner and Tea	December 3rd	£39.00

Tickets only from Tina's - for information ring 741581 or 741705



Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

FREE fire safety seminars for businesses

DO you own or manage a business? Do you know what fire safety laws apply and how to conform to legislation?

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is running free seminars for you to swot up on your knowledge - why not organise one for the businesses in your village?

We hold at least two seminars, lasting about two-and-a-half hours, every month and whether your business runs out of a small industrial unit, is a side-street coffee shop or is a licensed premises, our free workshops will help you better understand important fire safety legislation – and may even save you money in the long-run.



Seminars start at 10am and run on the second Tuesday of each month in Cambridge and the third Tuesday of the month in Peterborough, but we can organise them on an ad-hoc basis. If there are a number of businesses in one location or trade that would like to attend a seminar, the fire service is keen to accommodate.

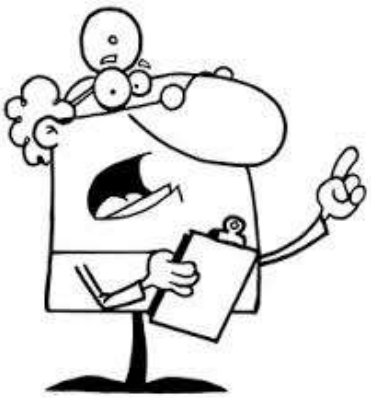
To find out more or book a free place on a seminar, call (01733) 353206.

Make sure fire safety still stays at the forefront of your mind in April – and don't forget to test your smoke alarm.

Find out more on www.cambsfire.gov.uk and find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Burwell Surgery Needs Your Help to Reduce the Number of Missed Appointments

Missed appointments have an enormous impact on the healthcare system in terms of cost and appointment availability for other patients. At The Burwell Surgery we have an alarming average of 150 missed appointments every single month. This equates to approximately 33 hours of the doctors' and nurses time that could have been used to see other patients. We would really like to try and improve these results and request your assistance to make it possible.



We completely understand that there are many genuine reasons for non-attendance and it is not always possible or convenient to keep your original booking. These can include forgetting your appointment date, your health has improved and you no longer need the appointment, work commitments, childcare issues, travel problems and difficulties in accessing public transport.

What can The Burwell Surgery do to help?

- Be clear when booking appointments and re-confirm details;
- Issue appointment cards where possible;
- Ensure letters are easy to read and understand; and
- Send a reminder text message two days prior to your appointment.

What can patients do to help?

- Complete our text message consent form, so we can help you to remember the appointment made; and
- Notify us as soon as possible if you are unable to make your appointment. We always welcome appointment cancellations. Even a last minute cancellation on the day of your appointment, can usually be re-booked as there are many calls every day for patients who need to see a clinician urgently and availability is limited.

If we could achieve a 50% reduction in the number of missed appointments, this could allow us to see 75 more patients each month.

Please help us to improve our service to you! Many thanks

Debbie Everitt - Practice Manager

Peer Support for People with Type 2 Diabetes

DIABETES UK
CARE. CONNECT. CAMPAIGN.

Diabetes UK has launched a new peer support & education service called **Type 2 Together**. Diabetes UK has joined forces with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group to set up a network of peer support groups for adults with Type 2 Diabetes.

The new groups will connect people who have diabetes in their local areas. The relaxed and informal group sessions will be led by volunteers who themselves are living with diabetes and are trained to share their advice and experiences. Type 2 Together will also include materials following different themes relating to the condition. The service is completely free and those that attend group sessions will be given information leaflets to take away with them to help people live well with their Type 2 diabetes.

TYPE2 TOGETHER

Available to anyone living with Type 2 diabetes in these areas, they aim to set up to 25 peer support and education groups, so if you live locally you're bound to find one near you. The groups will give you the chance to meet others with Type 2 diabetes, to support each other and make friends, and share experiences and information.

If you are interested in joining a group you can email Type2Together@diabetes.org.uk or call 0345 123 2399 to speak with your regional Co-ordinator about how to get involved.

If you would like more information on the project visit the Diabetes UK website: www.diabetes.org.uk/How_we_help/Talk-to-someone/Type-2-Together



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.

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



Well done Joyce Harrison of Great Lane. All correct

Thanks to Puzzleric alias Richard Maddox

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD No. 29

ACROSS: 7. CONCENTRATION. 8. FREEZING. 9. EVER. 10. MESSAGE. 12. USING. 14. STEAL. 16. CROCKERY. 19. DRUM. 20. PUDDINGS. 22. ILLUSTRATIONS.

DOWN: 1. POOR. 2. SCREWS. 3. INNINGS. 4. DRUGS. 5. OTHERS. 6. GOVERNOR. 11. ENTIRELY. 13. GRADUAL. 15. ARMOUR. 17. CRISIS. 18. SPOTS. 21. GANG.

Events Team



The team consists of Jo Mules, Me, Hannah Baldwin, Claire Halpin-McDonald and Karen Carpenter

The team's aims are:

- Each year, to put together a list of all the village events in a calendar and offer help to the current organisers in making them happen
- To keep a list of the village events on the website, with dates and detail, so everyone knows what is going to happen and when - and can plan accordingly
- To organise any "special" events
- To help villagers who have ideas for other events make them happen
- To fundraise for the above by creating and selling village products

The team does not want to take over any of the current events or activities – it merely wants to offer its help to the organisers.

In April and May we have the following events:

- **Girls Night Out** at the Dyke's End on Friday the 17th April, starting at 7.30pm. For further information please contact Karen Carpenter on 742814
- **Quiz Night** takes place on Sunday 3rd of May
- And of course we have **Reach Fair** on Monday 4th May

Arrangements are being made for our **Midsummer Madness** event which takes place on Saturday 20th June. A better title might be **"Midsummer Melodies"** – there will be music and entertainment on the Lower Green, starting at 2.00pm and finishing at 6.00pm. Please make sure it is in your diaries.

And finally, don't forget to keep taking those photos for our **Reach Calendar 2016**.

Your photos should be in landscape format – width 19.2cm and height 12.8cm giving an aspect ratio of 1.5. We'll be asking you to send them to us later on in the year, probably in readiness for our October meeting.

David Parr

744081 or reacheventsteam@btinternet.com



Heritage Street Lighting Update



It's been a little while now since this project started so you'd be forgiven for asking what is going on! Well the answer was "not a lot" – but over the recent week there has been some good news.

But firstly, a recap. The County Council wishes to replace all its streetlights in Cambridgeshire with modern, high-efficiency ones. In Reach, this meant that of the 21 lights that the CC had, 2 would be removed and not replaced – and also, their 4 "Heritage" lights would be replaced with the new ones. Pleasingly, the Parish Council decided to adopt those 4 Heritage lights, thereby saving them for the village and at the same time removing the need for the village to lose 2 other lights.

In addition, the Parish Council decided to try and extend the Heritage lighting to the other side of the Fair Green – 7 lights in total from CC10 to CC16. This had been the original plan at the turn of the century when the other Heritage lights were introduced into the village, but ultimately the money ran out.

Donations to fund this project were sought from individual villagers and village institutions. Pleasingly £6,650 has been raised which includes contributions from 17 villagers, the Amenity Fund, the Parish Council, the Village Centre and Within Reach Magazine. This money is expected to be sufficient to provide the 7 new Heritage lights – but we await final confirmation of this from the County Council.

And just last week a further substantial donation of £5,000 was promised by the Simon Gibson Trust. This money will be used by the Parish Council for the introduction of even more Heritage streetlighting in the village and possibly also the upgrading of our current Heritage lights to LEDs, so they match the new ones. Any remaining monies could be used to upgrade the remaining 7 PC-owned streetlights in the village. **Huge thanks go to the Simon Gibson Trust – and to George and Catherine who made it happen.**

So, it looks like we remain on track, albeit progress is painfully slow.

David Parr



Fabulous Frits

Fritillaria is a bulbous genus of around 130 species found from western Europe to east Asia with about 20 species native to North America. Just one species, the beautiful snakeshead fritillary, *Fritillaria meleagris*, is native to Britain and is at its best from April through to May. A lover of water meadows and ditches, the snakeshead fritillary has bell-shaped flowers gorgeously marked with a checkerboard of purple and white; naturalised in grass, they make a spectacular show if conditions are damp enough. We have established a small colony along the stream that feeds the Lake, but for a really good show, you must visit the Other Place – Christ Church or Iffley Meadows in Oxford!



Very few bulbous genera have the kind of variety in form, colour and growth habit that is seen in fritillaries. This makes them an exciting and very collectible genus for keen gardeners. They range in colour from almost black, bruise purple and mauve to green, yellow, cream; several exhibit beautiful, tessellated patterns. Some are just a few centimetres high and naturally occur in snow melt areas in mountains – these make a wonderful display in the Mountains House of the Garden's Glasshouse Range throughout April; some reach up to one metre often growing along woodland edges or in open meadows.

The orange and yellow crown imperials, *Fritillaria imperialis*, are also at their best this month, producing circlets of bell-shaped blooms on tall stems in lightly wooded areas. Crown imperials are the only UK plant species to have been documented to be, occasionally, bird pollinated, when a Cambridge-based researcher observed blue tits hanging upside down on crown imperials in the Woodland Garden here. In probing for nectar, the blue tits effected pollination. Bird pollination syndromes are often seen in South and Central American and South African flora, but rarely in Europe.

Fritillaries are also of particular interest to plant scientists as they have been found to contain enormous quantities of DNA - in fact the highest quantities known in any plant or animal species - for absolutely no discernible reason!

The Botanic Garden is open April – September 10–6. Admission charges to the Botanic Garden are 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

Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners

Calling all Reach gardeners. Would you like to join our friendly group in Swaffham Prior? You would be very welcome.

Tuesday 21 April Barry Gayton
'The Scented Garden and Glasshouse'

Tuesday 19 May Herbal Haven
'Herbs in General'
'Herbs in Folk Law and Legend'

Indoor meetings at 8pm in Swaffham Prior Village Hall. Details of Summer visits will be confirmed nearer the time.

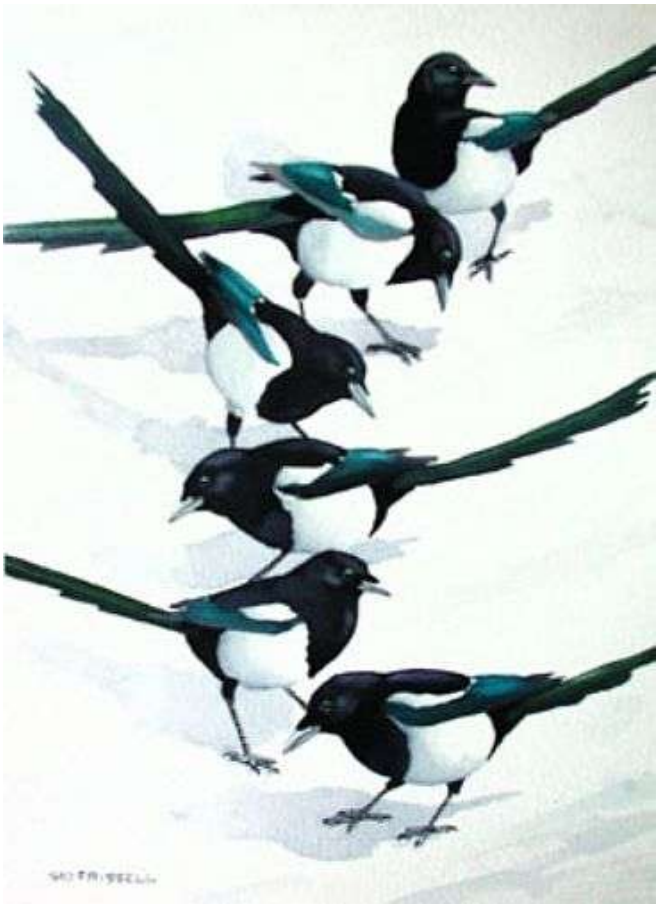
Membership £15 per person. New members and Visitors always welcome - £3 per evening.

Chairman/Treasurer: Peter Hart 01638 741681

Joint Secretaries: Margaret Joyce and Mary Hart
01638 744390 / 741681



A Murder of Magpies



Upon looking out of my bedroom window the other morning, I witnessed what some would describe as a "*Murder"* (others may say it was a *"Tiding*") but I think the more sinister version is more fun!

Ten magpies were lined up on the fence of the pony paddock opposite. I personally have never seen more than four or five in one go, but I'm sure that ten or more is not uncommon to avid ornithologists.

However, they proceeded to root around in the grass, bobbing up and down and jiving about, obviously finding something worthwhile to eat, until they finally cavorted out of my view.

The sight of these pied comedians set me off reciting the old nursery rhyme that we Oldies became very familiar throughout the 1960's and 1970's, with the broadcast of the ITV children's TV show *"Magpie".*

One for sorrow,
Two for joy,
Three for a girl,
Four for a boy,
Five for silver,
Six for gold,
Seven for a secret never to be told

Wondering if the rhyme had once upon a time continued further, I did some research.

According to ancient superstition, the number of magpies one sees determines if one will have bad luck or not. The magpie is considered to be an ill omen in some cultures and in Britain as far back at least as the sixteenth century (the age of the Tudors).

The rhyme was first recorded around 1780 in "Observations on Popular Antiquities" by John Brand with the lyric:

One for sorrow,
Two for mirth,
Three for a wedding,
Four for death

It was subsequently extended upon in 1846 in Michael Denham's "Proverbs and Popular Sayings of the Seasons". This version gave me what I was looking for:

One for sorrow,
Two for mirth,
Three for a wedding,
Four for death,
Five for silver,
Six for gold,
Seven for a secret not to be told,
Eight for heaven,
Nine for Hell,
And ten for the devil's own sell!

(whatever that means! I saw ten!)

Hilary Fielding

Swaffham Bulbeck
Summer Theatre
is proud to present

Gilbert & Sullivan's 'The Gonodoliers' in the wonderful 'Theatre in a Barn',

Downing Fram, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridge CB25 0NW

on
Wednesday 10th June 2015 at 7.30pm - £9
Thursday 11th June 2015 at 7.30pm - £9
Friday 12th June 2015 at 7.30pm - £10
Saturday 13th June 2015 at 2.30pm (matinee) - £6 and 7.30pm - £10

Tickets and further information are available via our website: www.sbsummertheatre.com

or by contacting Ruth Dennis on 01638 508171

Please book the dates in your diaries

Although the dates are different to last year the prices are still the same!

Out and About



Although short, the bleak and cold 28 days of February are known as the last true winter month. March, the arrival of spring and migrating birds are just around the corner.

A few Reach enthusiasts emailed their RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch Survey recordings and as one may expect in a small village, these were similar and included numbers of:

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Chaffinch, Collared Dove, Woodpigeon, Reed Bunting, Dunnock, Great Tit, Jackdaw, Jay, Long-tailed Tit, Starling, Robin, Sparrow, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Thrush, Wren and Pied Wagtail.

Frustratingly, our feeders were invaded by large numbers of starlings ten days before the Birdwatch Survey, reducing our core list dramatically. Small birds shied away from the associated noise and aggression and eventually we discontinued putting out seed, it took two weeks for the starlings to leave.



Alison Lewis recorded two interesting additions to the general list: a great spotted woodpecker and a Michigan blueback pheasant. Two of these exotic cock birds frequent our paddock but as yet I haven't seen a hen bird.

Alison's photograph in the last magazine featured a leucistic sparrow. This conspicuous bird also spends much time in our garden, obviously dividing its time between two locationally-close sets of feeders. They are referred to as 'pied' by locals. Their strange markings (in this case cream and dark streaked plumage) can make them more obvious to predators but nonetheless many live normal lives and can even give rise to local populations of similarly coloured birds.

During February, Ron spotted a pair of bullfinch in the hedge bordering Toni and Ian Dennis' field and also in Reach Wood. He currently awaits the arrival of new lambs with Penny on hand for any bottle feeding duties! He mentioned that the dawn chorus is a lovely accompaniment to his early morning walk to check the ewes.

Tracy saw grey wagtails locally, a curlew on Tubney Fen and has regular views of barn owls both there and at Springhall Farm on her walks with Cookie, also a little egret on the dyke's bank outside the farmhouse. She updated (12th March) that - although the day had only just begun she saw four deer on George Gibson's field, an egret by the narrow boat and green woodpecker at the fishing pit.

Continuing, I've noted that green woodpeckers spend time each day on the grass in Gareth's sheep field probing for ants. Five magpies wait in the hedge nearby for the ponies to be turned out, often landing neatly in a row on Thistle's dipped back. Initial fears that they were pecking for lice proved unfounded, I've been advised that, in all likelihood, they are plucking hair for nests – these are large domed structures constructed in thorny bushes or high in tall trees or even pylons to prevent predation by other crows.



Skylark

Further, kingfishers favour an overhanging 'watching perch' branch on the lode near the Jo and Redfarn's house. Buzzards can be heard in the Swaffham Prior direction; I spied a sparrowhawk with its flap-flap-glide flight flush the hedge by Barston Drove for potential bird victims. Kestrels are here (there are approximately 46,000 pairs in the UK) hovering effortlessly whilst hunting for voles, mice and invertebrates. Surprisingly they also hunt worms on damp, short-cropped fields.

Herons grace the riverbanks and black headed gulls the fields. Ralph from Wicken Fen tells me he counts up to 30 whooper swans passing overhead in the evenings to roost at Burwell/Tubney Fen. Essentially winter visitors, the whoopers stay until April, apparently they spend a lot of time calling, especially when flying or nervous.

Hearteningly, the skylark's rising song flight can be heard in the skies above our open countryside again. William Wordsworth's poem To A Skylark springs to mind:

> Up with me! up with me into the clouds!
> For thy song, Lark, is strong;
> Up with me, up with me into the clouds!
> Singing, singing,
> With clouds and sky about thee ringing,
> Lift me, guide me till I find
> That spot which seems so to thy mind!

In the evening the night sounds of the fen continue – with the cries of lapwing and various screeches of ghostly owls and regarding our mammals, roe deer and hares are plainly visible at the Reach end of the Burwell Road and out towards the fen. Muntjac and rabbit sightings are widespread.

10 March – Whilst planting spring pansies in the garden today two things happened of note: the welcome, unexpected arrival of a bumble bee and hearing a starling on the overhead wires repeatedly mimic the first four notes of the ice cream van!

Joss Goodchild

A New Hedgerow in Reach

Today, hedgerows are valued for many reasons. In the past they were considered essential for marking ownership boundaries and for keeping livestock in or out of fields. Although hedgerows remain vitally important for agriculture, these particular reasons for keeping hedges are less valid now, with the easy availability of accurate maps, GPS and wire fencing. However, there are additional, new, justifications for looking after hedgerows and for planting more.



Danuta Gibson and Andrew Trump

These new reasons recognise the importance of hedgerows for their great value to wildlife and the landscape. The UK is rightly known throughout the world for its rich and varied patterns of hedgerows, a part of our cultural and landscape heritage. Although many hedgerows were planted across an open landscape under the Enclosure Acts of the early 19th Century, at least half our hedges are older than this and many are hundreds, some even thousands, of years old. In Devon for example, it is believed that over a quarter of the hedges are more than 800 years old and some are underlain by banks built in Bronze Age times four thousand years ago.



Richard and Danuta Gibson being busy bunnies

The networks of hedgerows and in some places dry stone walls that cover much of our countryside, pick out changes in topography, soils and underlying geology and define current and often past, patterns of agriculture and other land use. Together with woods, roads and settlements, they give character to the landscape and impart much local distinctiveness.

Hedgerows are very important for wildlife and those that consist predominantly of native trees and shrubs are recognised as a priority habitat for conservation action, providing a home for threatened or rare species like the Plymouth pear, the brown hairstreak butterfly, the curl bunting and the dormouse.

Despite their importance, since World War II, hedgerows have been removed at a much faster rate than they have been planted. In some parts of the country 50% of hedgerows have gone, while others are so badly managed that their value to wildlife is much reduced. In Cambridgeshire, 30% of hedgerows were lost between 1984 and 1990 and aerial surveys carried out in 1969 and 1988 indicate the loss of 33% of hedgerows over this 19 year period. Reasons for loss include changes in farming practices, development, damage caused by straw and stubble burning, spray drift, neglect and indiscriminate trimming.



So the planting of a new hedgerow in Reach should be celebrated!

On Saturday 28th February a 170 metre hedgerow of mixed native tree and shrub species (Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Dog Rose, Dogwood, Hazel, Field Maple, and Crab Apple) was planted along the southern boundary of the 24Acres. Yet again a good turn out from the village saw the work done in record time – many thanks to everyone who showed up and worked so hard to plant the 800 trees and wheel-barrow four tonnes of compost-mulch. Hopefully our hedgerow will, in time, provide a haven for wildlife and will still be standing, a feature of the Reach landscape, in 800 years from now. The hedgerow was funded by grants from the Woodland Trust, the National Trust and the Village Amenity Fund.

(Most of the information on the value of hedgerows has been shamelessly plagiarised, with a bit of editing, from the Hedgelink website - http://www.hedgelink.org.uk/. Hedgelink is “a partnership that brings together organisations interested in hedgerows”. If you are interested, the website is a good source of information on anything to do with hedges!)

David Thomas



Pam King (left), like the head gear – with Lois



Andrew Trump on the shovel





Marcus: I've been told we all get treated to a pub lunch when we've finished



Helen Oliver (foreground) very busy



The secret is good planning *["planting" – shurely Ed]*

Tales from a Reach Garden



It is a joy to see daffodils and hellebores in flower in the garden, isn't it? We have just had one of the brightest winters on record although it hasn't been quite as warm as the previous winter but thankfully, not as wet.



Hellebore hybrids in flower in our garden



This March the soil is warming up and we don't appear to be as plagued by annual weeds as much as we had by this time last year. So it's good to be sowing seeds, chitting our first early potatoes, planting onion sets. If you didn't manage to plant any fruit plants or bushes last autumn, March is also a good time to be planting them. This year we are replacing our strawberries with virus free plants in a new bed in the garden. We noticed last year that some of the plants had crinkled leaves, others were distorted or small with discoloured leaves and many of our fruit were small and misshapen – a sign that various pathogens were doing their worst and that some soil nutrients were becoming depleted. So it was time to replace the plants, including the runners and grow them elsewhere. If you were growing strawberries in pots and tubs, it's important to replace the growing medium (soil or compost) and to disinfect the pot or tub (inside and outside) prior to replanting. The viruses, fungi, bacteria, could be lying dormant on any soil particles where the infected plants had been growing.







Strawberry problems: stunted growth, crinkle leaf, micronutrient deficiency

I'm a big fan of the old flavoursome varieties like "Cambridge Favourite" and "Royal Sovereign", so I'll be planting some of those as well as a tasty (allegedly) newer variety "Marshmello" and an everbearer variety (i.e. a strawberry that will crop from June to September). These softer fruiting strawberries are less likely to be found on supermarket shelves these days, because they bruise too readily. Many newer varieties of strawberries have been bred deliberately for supermarkets; they have larger fruits and a firmer texture so that they'll bounce rather than flatten, but the flavours of these strawberries are rarely as good as many of the older varieties.







Arum Italicum: winter foliage (left), summer flower (below left) and poisonous berries in autumn (above)

I said above that we don't have a lot of annual weeds to remove at the moment, but we do have a garden plant that is far too happy in our garden and which I discovered, it's forbidden to import to New Zealand and the US state of Oregon (although it is a problem in other US states too.) When we first moved to Reach one January several years ago, we walked around the garden to see what, if anything, was growing and came across a few clumps of Arum Italicum, the Italian Lily, a south European relative of our native Cuckoo Pint. My daughter took an immediate dislike to the foliage, which she decided looked "evil" - I'm beginning to feel that way too! Many horticulturalists will tell you how wonderful the foliage is, that this arum copes with dry shade and that it is worth growing for this alone and it also has an interesting flower and those lovely red berries produced in early autumn are adored by birds, while sometimes adding (as if in small print) *it may be a bit invasive*.

Well, it is more than just a bit invasive - one chore that Richard and I face almost every spring since we have been here is to try to dig it up wherever we can, to limit its spread. We have removed bucket-loads of them and we need to do the same again now. There are areas in the garden where we are succeeding and other places where it has lodged itself between tree roots. I've also taken to removing their flower spathes wherever they pop up in the summer to prevent the berries from appearing (don't fret, the local birds have plenty of other things to eat in our garden). We still find new clumps of arums growing from once-dormant seeds deposited by local blackbirds possibly a few seasons ago (the seeds are very slow to germinate) although they could be eating the berries in other gardens and depositing them in ours! Occasionally it makes an appearance in the vegetable garden, but is easily removed from the very free draining soil there. This plant just adores the rich, heavy, alkaline clay soil conditions in most of our garden.

The native cuckoo pint shows up in the garden too but this "weed" is a delicate flower compared to its thuggish cousin. I'd say that Arum Italicum is more difficult to control in our garden than either bindweed or ground elder (yes we have those too…). Yet they can still be bought from garden centres and plant nurseries and you'll find it recommended in many gardening books too, yet it is a problem plant wherever it thrives, from Scotland to New Zealand… You have been warned!

Danuta Gibson

What's Growing on at Snakehall Farm

MORE TEA FARMER?

We enjoyed a rather interesting five minutes of fame in November 2014. Our Co-workers flourished in the media glare with an ITV crew on the farm and then appearing on Anglia News. Monty Don and Alan Titchmarsh must have been shaking in their wellingtons when our farming prowess was televised across the region. We are certain a number of our Co-workers would love a prime time gardening slot to showcase their horticultural skills.

But what was all this interest about? Well about this time last year we entered into the Big Lottery ITV's People's Millions Competition with little hope we would make it through their short listing process, especially after we had won Tilly Tractor in previous years. But WE did it. So after a secretive summer of planning and form filling we finally got to share our new project with the wider world (well Anglia West) and showcase our farm in action, aiming to capture the hearts and voting fingers of the Anglia News viewers. And vote they did! We were amazed by the sheer voting numbers; we ranked second across the region and secured £50,000 in capital grant to bring our new project to life on Snakehall Farm.

So now the project starts. We are installing a brand new accessible training kitchen into our old Tea Barn building. The hope is to create a homely and hygienic catering kitchen where our Co-workers (adults with disabilities) can take their sown, grown and harvested produce and turn them into yummy new products such as chutneys and soups. This year our focus is on installing the kitchen and getting the training packages in place. We are looking forward to savouring the tasty treats later this year. We thought we would share with the *Within Reach* readers our project as it develops.

FARM SHOP SEASONALLY STOCKED AND SNAKEHALL FARM SOWING STRONG

Why not pop in to our new farm shop (launched in 2014 by the Santander Enterprise Development Awards) and stock up on some of our seasonal best? Over the next few months our regular produce range will be: winter salad, mixed leaves, sprouts, sprouting broccoli, kale, spinach, eggs, leeks, onions, swede, parsnip, garlic, carrots, potatoes, logs and kindling and to add a bit of springtime colour some sweet smelling potted plants. After last year's successful cut flower project, our very creative Support Workers have been planning and helping our Co-workers by planting more blooming beautiful blooms to adorn your vases in the coming months.

Please remember we can always make to order including pre-packed veg boxes for your Easter feasts. We also make bespoke animal boxes and very unique bird tables. Call the Farm Team on 01638 741551 if you have a special request. We look forward to seeing you in the shop.



The Farm Team have completed their seed orders and have started sowing in earnest. As we type they are busy sowing early potatoes, onions, shallots and French climbing beans. We are excited to say we are trialling a few new varieties this year, so keep your eyes on the shelves in the shop we may have some different veg to try this summer, did someone mention celeriac and aubergines? As you skip past on the Swaffham Road our new caxtons will have signs swinging to let you know just what is new in the shop.

Farmer Mark and his team wishes to thank the hard working horses of Joss Goodchild, we salute you and your organic manure. Keep it coming! *[Do they have a choice? – Ed]*

REACH FAIR 2015 - WE WILL SEE YOU THERE

Our polytunnels are getting prepared and our Co-workers are busy sowing the seeds and cultivating cuttings so our Farm Stall will be brimming with all the best of Snakehall Farm at this year's Reach Fair. We missed it last year and we have unanimously voted to be back with you this year. We hope to see you on the big day, pop along and purchase your kitchen herbs and organic produce ready for the summer of BBQs. We will also have a range of other garden plants and Tilly may make an appearance too.

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE PUPILS SUPPORT SNAKEHALL FARM

We are delighted to have been selected as St John's School's charity of the year, throughout the spring and summer terms the parents and pupils of the school are busy fundraising for our unique farm. We will be taking some of our herbs and plants to their Open Day in May and they have already hosted a very successful fundraiser. We love working with local groups, organisations and businesses here at Prospects Trust. From working in partnership on fundraising activities to offering team building volunteering days on the farm, we are always looking for wider support to keep our care farm growing and supporting more people with disabilities.

GARDEN TEAM TOP TIPS

We are launching our new look Prospects Post (our seasonal newsletter) this spring and we have been working with our Co-workers on what news stories and interesting articles we can include. One idea is our Garden Team Top Tips, where our expert Garden Team Co-managers and Co-workers will give novice gardeners some vital timely advice. If you want to see our newsletters we can add you to our email distribution list or you can check it out online at www.prospectstrust.org.uk. This month's top tip comes from Co-worker Trevor. It is now the time to start mowing again. Trevor loves this job best of all on the Garden Team and he has a fresh spring to his step as the ride-on mower starts going out with the team. However Trevor advises not cropping too short as we are still experiencing early morning frosts. Now is also the time to start raking your lawns to get rid of the moss so you can have the perfect lawn to yawn upon in the lazy summer holidays.

WOLF WHISTLE FOR THE WOLFSON FOUNDATION AND OUR SPEND A PENNY COLLECTORS

We enjoyed the first flush of our new loos back in September at our 25th Anniversary Open Day however the Conveniencing our Inconveniences project didn't stop there.

We have now linked our Tea Barn and Farm Office to the new toilet block with a beautifully constructed canopied walkway complete with rain water harvesting, hand rails for our disabled workforce and visitors and new trellis so we can sow sweet smelling herbs and flowers to really make this a blooming lovely area for all. We have also installed a new First Aid and Welfare Room into our new loos, complete with a defibrillator, so we can deal with any emergency in a safe environment. We thank all those who donated to this project, from the sponsors of the Snakehall Superhero Skydivers, the customers and families who collected in the spend a penny jars and the external funders including: The Wolfson Foundation, The Frank Litchfield Foundation, Bailey Thomas, Pye Foundation, Selwyn College Cambridge and The Mitcham Trust. We are flush with happiness.



WHAT WE WHEELY NEED IN 2015

We always have a wish list, after last year's capital requirements of new farm shop, new kitchen and new toilets we were hoping to take it a little easier, but NO, we are an ambitious bunch at Snakehall Farm and our Co-workers continue to come up with creative ideas. This year we are fundraising for a new accessible MPV, a vehicle than can be used to offer transport to our disabled Co-workers, to take more Co-workers out on wholesale deliveries and to access off site training opportunities. We have created the Wheely Need a Van appeal, take a look at our website for more details or contact maz.baker@prospectstrust.org.uk if you can help get our farm wheels turning.

Do you love our potatoes? So many customers come especially for the Snakehall spud, accompanied with some of our organic mint and melting butter, they really are a carbohydrate craving for many. We are looking at a new potato lifter and are raising funds so we can raise those taters of joy easier in the future.

Tilly Tractor continues to develop her range of eye catching accessories, the potato lifter being her next seasonal must have. She is more demanding than an IT girl.



We are also fired up for a new log burner in our revamped Tea Barn. With the introduction of the new kitchen we are looking at installing a new log burner to keep our Co-workers as warm as their cuppas during their break times. Keeping one area warm in the winter is vital for our Co-workers, especially when working in the open fields during the colder months. We can supply the logs but we are looking for funds to cover the cost of professional install of a high capacity energy efficient heating solution.

Marianne (Maz) Baker
01638 741551

I stumbled across this amusing sentence recently, it may strike a chord with the horse owners in Reach:

"My biggest fear is that when I die my husband is going to try to sell all my horses and tack for what I told him they cost."

Joss Goodchild



Fruits from our Orchard: D'Arcy Spice



D'Arcy Spice is an old apple variety originating near Colchester, Essex, prior to 1800. It was possibly developed from a seedling raised in the gardens of Tolleshunt D'Arcy Hall.

D'Arcy Spice is a rather slow-growing tree that is fairly tolerant of relatively poor soils, sandy soils, windswept areas and salty air - conditions in which many apples will not thrive. Blossom is the usual pink buds, becoming almost white once the flowers are open. The substantial amount of tip-bearing of the fruit gradually weighs down the upright branches and transforms the tree from a very upright shape, into the more normal spreading shape associated with apple trees.

Fruits are average size, somewhat knobbly at the base, mostly dull green, with patches of light brown russet and a dull purplish-red sunny side. The skin is quite tough which is probably what gives the fruits some resistance to scab and insect damage. In windy weather, the fruits cling to the tree, with few windfalls.



The fruit is picked very late in the season - often early November. When first picked, the apples are hard and sharp-tasting, with a reasonably tough skin. The storage qualities are very good, with fruits often remaining in good condition until the following spring. Historically the fruits would be stored for a month or two before they became edible. The mature fruits will also tolerate being lightly frosted without apparently being damaged, while the previous season's windfalls can often be found lying in the grass in late winter, looking as fresh as the day they fell off the tree in the previous autumn. During storage, after a good year, the fruits sweeten and become a pleasant flavour, with hints of "sweet spice" rather like mince-pie filling (apple, cinnamon and raisins) which gives the variety its name.

The D'Arcy Spice trees in our orchard have been sponsored by Graham Thomas and Charlotte Morgan.

David Thomas

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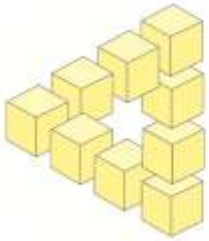

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Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey News



The introduction of an extensive grazing programme using free roaming herds of konik ponies and highland cattle has been one of the key elements of the Wicken Fen Vision. The breeds were chosen for their robust ability to live outdoors year round in a wetland environment.

Originally confined to Adventurers' Fen, in the last year herds have also been established on Burwell Fen. Popular with the thousands of visitors who visit Wicken Fen each year, the animals are playing an essential role in maintaining and creating new habitats for the incredible range of species that live on the nature reserve.

From May you can help support our herds of Konik ponies through a sponsorship scheme. For £25 per year, sponsors will receive an information booklet on the Koniks, a sponsorship certificate, three newsletters a year and an opportunity to meet the Koniks in the company of an experienced Ranger or volunteer. To find out more please pop along to our stand at the Fair, attend our launch event at Wicken over the weekend of 9 & 10 May, or email peter.green@nationaltrust.org.uk for more information and an application form.

There was a fantastic turn-out for our recent hedge planting on the Reach 24Acres plot. The new hedge will provide a barrier between the track and the cricket pitch and will in time provide habitat and berries for wildlife to feast on.

Both Anglesey Abbey and Wicken Fen will be running **Easter Egg Trails** sponsored by Cadbury's over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend. Trails cost £2 per child (normal admission applies) with a delicious Cadbury chocolate Egghead reward for each child that successfully completes the trail.

Additional Easter holiday events at Wicken include **Den Building** on Wednesday 1 April, **Pond Dipping,** & **Painting the Fens** on Tuesday 7 April, **Bug Hunters** on Wednesday 8 April and **Sounds & Stories** (storytelling and music inspired by the fen) on Friday 10 April.

Looking further ahead, we have a **Basket Making Workshop**, where you can learn how to make a traditional round basket on 25 April. The workshop runs from 9.45am – 5pm. Tickets £65 (Inc. materials) are available from the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre on 01353 720274.

Forthcoming wildlife events include a **Dawn Chorus Walk** on Saturday 9 May, 4.45 – 7.30am £10 and a **Bat Discovery Evening** on Wednesday 20 May, 8 -10pm. Tickets for all events (with the exception of the Basket Making Workshop) can be booked online via our website at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen or by calling the NT Box Office on 0844 249 1895.

We are hosting the launch of **Cuckoo – Cheating by Nature**, a new book by Nick Davies, who is a Professor of Behavioural Ecology at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Pembroke College. Acknowledged as one of the world's leading experts on cuckoos, Nick will be leading a guided walk on Saturday 2 May at 2.30pm. There will also be an exhibition over the Bank Holiday weekend of watercolours by James McCallum and photographs by wildlife photographer, Richard Nicoll, which were used to illustrate the book.



This year marks the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta by King John at Runnymeade. A copy of the Magna Carta, produced in 1816, will be on display at Anglesey Abbey until June. The copy (printed in gold leaf) was part of Lord Fairhaven's collection which he bequeathed to the National Trust. There is a strong link between the Fairhaven family and Runnymeade, as the land where the Treaty was sealed was donated by the Fairhaven's to the National Trust in 1931.

Howard Cooper
Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey

Guineas Festival at Newmarket Sat 2nd and Sun 3rd May 2015



2 for 1 Grandstand and Paddock Tickets for Sunday 3rd May

Celebrate the very best of British Horseracing with packed grandstands, stylish race-goers, an unbeatable atmosphere and entertainment to suit all ages, the QIPCO Guineas Festival is one seriously special party not to be missed.

We have a whole host of on course entertainment including our amazing Guineas Carnival Funfair, a face painter, inflatables, music from our roaming jazz trios and much more. The official Après Racing after party is back for those who wish to wind down and enjoy live music, dancing and cocktails.

To book your **2 for 1 Grandstand & Paddock tickets for Sunday 3rd May,** simply visit our website www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk and enter the code **LAUNCH15** in the promotional box.



Newmarket Nights



Enjoy an evening of summer racing followed by music from some of the best music acts around. This year the Adnams July Course will see a total of seven Newmarket Nights as well as Summer Saturday Live on Saturday, 29th August.

Confirmed artists currently include the queen of pop **Kylie Minogue** on Friday 20th June (SOLD OUT), **Madness** on Friday, 26th June, **Boyzone** on Friday 24th July**, Kaiser Chiefs** on Friday, 31st and **Tom Jones** on Friday 7th August with more internationally acclaimed acts being announced in due course.

To keep up to date or to book tickets visit our website www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk.

Wine Tasting

Friday after Reach Fair – 8th May
Village Centre
7.30 pm

As usual there will be an interesting mix of wines at least some of which will be available locally

The cost per head will be a maximum of £17 (I hope to keep the cost down to £15)

Please let me know as soon as possible if you want to come and I will send out more details nearer the time.

Hugh de Lacy
01638 743839

Days Gone By



There was an exceptional singles chart number one over the period April/May 1982.

“Ebony and Ivory” was created and performed by Paul McCartney and Stevie Wonder. At the simplest level, the song is about the ebony (black) and ivory (white) keys on a piano, but is very much focused on integration and racial harmony.

The title was inspired by McCartney hearing Spike Milligan say "black notes, white notes and you need to play the two to make harmony, folks!"

In the UK and the world, the main news centred on the invasion of the Falkland Islands by Argentina and the subsequent war.

At 0600 on the second of April 1982, Argentina began "Operation Rosario" when a unit of Argentine troops landed near Port Stanley. The leader of the Argentine forces, Admiral Jorge Anaya, had contacted the Falklands' governor Rex Hunt, to appeal for a peaceful surrender.

But the request was rejected and the 80 members of the Royal Marine regiment stationed on the island and 20 locals were mobilised. But by early afternoon they were vastly outnumbered by about 3,000 Argentine troops.

After an attack on Government House during which one Argentine soldier is said to have been killed, Rex Hunt ordered the British troops to surrender.

No Falkland Islanders or Royal Marines died in the fighting though one serviceman is reported to be badly wounded.

The British Government cut diplomatic ties with Argentina and started to assemble a large naval taskforce to reclaim the islands.

The next major event in the war was the retaking of South Georgia by British troops – they met little or no resistance.

Probably the most controversial action in the war was the sinking by HMS Conqueror, a nuclear-powered submarine, of the Argentine Cruiser, the Belgrano. The second largest ship in the Argentine navy, with a crew of 1,000, was struck by two torpedoes.



The Belgrano was outside the 200 mile total exclusion zone at the time of the attack and British Defence Minister John Nott was asked whether the bombing was therefore justified. He replied: "The Belgrano was a threat to our men and therefore it is quite correct that she was attacked by our submarines." 368 Argentine sailors lost their lives.

The Argentines responded quickly and the following day HMS Sheffield was sunk, with the loss of 20 lives, by an Exocet missile fired from a Super-Etendard fighter bomber.



HMS Sheffield was the first of four Royal Navy ships to be sunk during the Falklands War. The others were the frigates Ardent and Antelope and the destroyer Coventry. The Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel Sir Galahad and the British Merchant Navy ship Atlantic Conveyor were also lost.

The war continued through May 1982, concluding mid-June with the overall loss of 910 lives.

In Reach, the magazine had a two page spread of the celebration of the silver wedding anniversary of Ray and Anita Folkes. The event was held in the Village Centre with around 100 people attending.



In Reach, the 1982 Fair seemed to have been a success – and the Annual Parish Meeting was typically well-attended as ever with just three villagers turning up!

David Parr
744081

Curry night



Marie Bambrick serving the curries



The Curry Night was most enjoyable and the money raised was donated to the Ebola Appeal. Same again next year Marie!





Jo Mules is excited by the raffle. Grahame Radford will judge if she has won



Thomasina Oldfield, Catherine Gibson and Sarah Keutgen



Jon Cane with daughter Kathryn

Pancakes





Violet Keutgen snacking

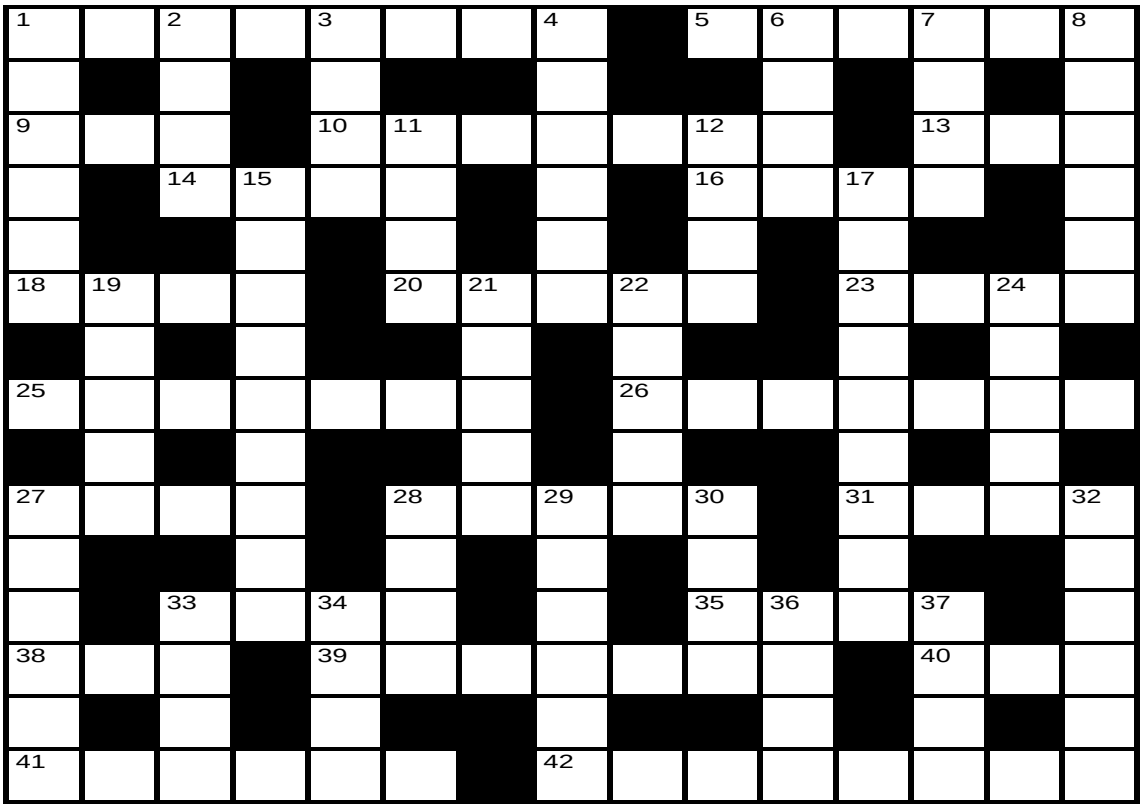




The Gibson family



Crossword No. 30



Across

1 Trust me when I relabel myself (8)
5 Did as one was told (6)
9 Chew it and stick with it (3)
10 Going on and on (7)
13 A very wide world has one (3)
14 Watched what someone was doing (4)
16 Sues and puts to work (4)
18 Find them on Olympus (4)
25 Went into competition (7)
26 Something unique and above expectations (7)
27 Mr Flintstone for e.g (4)
28 House building basic (5)
31 Draw picture on skin with these (4)
33 Spare one as well as other 4 (4)
35 Reposes to tell untruths (4)
38 Initially the time to get there (3)
39 Dame rid of it looking nice (7)
40 Take T and place ball on green (3)
41 Utters at a podium (6)
42 Considered likely to arrive (8

Down

1 Violent and forceful bull (6)
2 This meal has a bad leg (4)
3 Carries wheels on front and back (4)
4 The full content everything (6)
6 Creepy crawlies annoys one (4)
7 Let sway from intended course (4)
8 Put tea in bed for argument (6)
11 Is it dads totals (4)
12 Stun coming back for foodstuff (4)
15 I had no troubles then (9)
17 Perform to good use (9)
19 New or used it's still mine (5)
21 With berries and fruits being old enough (5)
22 The food of love so they say (5)
24 Slaked ones thirst (5)
27 All bones removed (6)
28 I did when cut (4)
29 Ask to come along to party (6)
30 Type of curly cabbage (4)
32 Do this on thin ice and took a chance (6)
33 Remove from and give as well (4)
34 Where taxis stand (4)
36 I lied with having nothing to do (4)
37 Have one about petty matters (4)

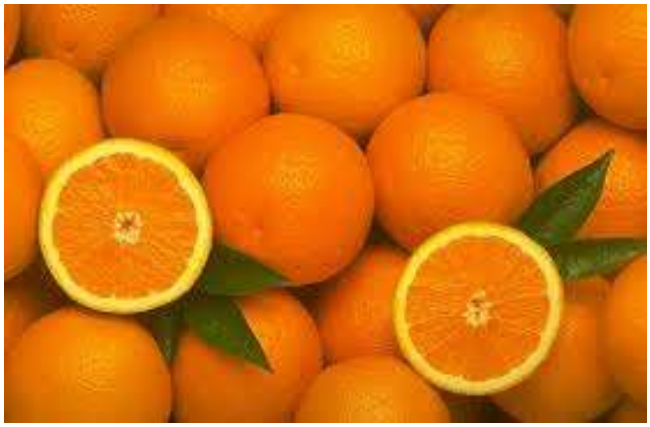
The answers to the previous crossword can be found on Page 11
Please send your entry to this crossword by Friday 8 May 2015 to CROSSWORD, 16 Chapel Lane, Reach CB25 0JJ giving your name and address.

Food Focus – The Hungry Gap



The hungry gap is the gardeners' name for the period between January and May when there is little or no fresh produce from the garden. It's also a time of year when most British growers have a very limited range of produce on offer unless it has had some sort of artificial assistance, for example, heated greenhouses. Outside, not only is it too cold for most crops to actually grow in the fields, but supplies of many of the staples crops (which commercial growers will have stored since harvest last year) are either starting to dwindle or reaching the end of their shelf lives.

Vegetables which are still seasonal and mostly British are purple sprouting broccoli, leeks, sprouts, cauliflower and kale with spinach and spring greens coming into their own in April. Swede is past its best and sadly Jerusalem Artichokes are nearly over. The only fresh British fruit available at this time is forced rhubarb, with normal rhubarb appearing in April, but many long standing trading relationships have ensured that we benefit from fruits which are seasonal abroad during our time of low productivity. In March bananas from the Windwards, citrus from Europe and kiwi fruit, passion fruit, pineapple and pomegranate are traditional imports.



I'm including this delicious recipe to make the most of tasty oranges at this time of year. Not only is this classic Spanish cake moist and light, it's also gluten and dairy free – a useful recipe to have up your sleeve. Although it has a few time consuming stages it is actually easy to make. Its other major plus is that you can serve it as a pudding first with honey sweetened Greek yogurt/crème fraiche and as a cake the next day if there is any left over.

Spanish Orange and Almond Cake

(Serves: 10)

Preparation: 1hr
Cooking time: 55min
Ready in: 1hr 55min

Ingredients

- 2 oranges, about 280 g (10oz) in total, scrubbed and roughly chopped (with skin)
- 5 eggs, separated
- 200g (7 oz) caster sugar
- 225g (8 oz) ground almonds
- 2 tbsp flaked almonds
- sifted icing sugar to decorate

Method

1. Put the chopped oranges in a small saucepan, discarding any pips. Add 1 tbsp water, then cover and cook gently for 30 minutes or until the oranges are soft and excess liquid has evaporated. Leave to cool.

2. Preheat the oven to 180ºC (350ºF, gas mark 4). Line the bottom and sides of a 23cm (9in) springform cake tin with baking parchment. Finely chop the oranges in a food processor or blender, or with a large knife.

3. Put the egg whites in a large bowl and whisk until they form stiff peaks. Gradually whisk in half the caster sugar, then whisk for 1 minute.

4. Using the same whisk, whisk the egg yolks with the remaining caster sugar in another bowl for 2–3 minutes or until pale and quite thick. Whisk in the finely chopped oranges, then carefully fold in the ground almonds.

5. Stir in 3 spoonfulls of the whisked egg white to loosen the mixture then gently fold in the remaining whites with a large metal spoon. Transfer the mixture to the prepared tin and level the top. Sprinkle with the flaked almonds.

6. Bake for 50–55 minutes or until the cake is golden and a skewer inserted in the centre comes out clean. Check the cake after 20 minutes and again at 30 minutes and cover lightly with foil if it is browning too quickly.

7. Leave the cake to cool in the tin, then turn it out, peel away the lining paper and transfer to a serving plate. Dust with icing sugar before serving. The cake can be kept in an airtight tin for up to 2 days.

C**atherine Gibson**

Swaffham Prior Primary School

The week before half term saw the first of our class assemblies. The assembly was based on the topic of World War 1 and Neptune class confidently presented information about the Royal Family at that time and how the war itself began. It illustrated to us just how complicated relations were throughout Europe at that time.



History off the Page. Tobias

Saturn Class was the second class to lead an assembly. The children treated us to a selection of pieces from artwork to poetry based on the 1st World War. The poetry was especially thought provoking and the children painted vivid pictures of how awful it must have been in the trenches.

As part of their project, Saturn Class has also been on a visit to the Imperial War Museum in London.

'We went to the Imperial War Museum and we learnt about soldiers and their wives. We found out that a person that we were studying was the youngest person to win the Victoria Cross. All his friends were shot but he continued to fire. Unfortunately a shell exploded and he got hit by some of the fragments and he died. We also looked at an original cannon whose crew had won Victoria crosses. Our favourite exhibit was the trench because it gave you a taste of what it was like for the Germans and the English.

There was a tank on the edge of the trench. You could stand underneath it and get an idea of the conditions. We heard sound effects which really enhanced what it was like. The constant shelling would drive you mad. We also saw some original uniforms. Some of it was camouflage and you couldn't see the person. We would recommend the museum because the staff were brilliant and it is an interesting place to go to.' By Alfie W and Lucas



Red Nose Day. Hector (left) and a friend

You may have been made aware that a pirate ship 'sailed' into the school grounds earlier this term. FoSPS raised over £2,000 to purchase the wonderful ship which replaced the little boat that the children had previously played on and loved. It is through FoSPS hard work and dedication and the organisation of events such as the recent cake sale and Bags2school that the money has been raised. Many thanks FoSPS!



Mrs Mitchell leading our assembly

The beginning of March saw many book characters coming to school to celebrate World Book Day. There were fairy story characters including Snow White and Baby Bear from 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', characters from the classics such as Mary Lennox out of 'The Secret Garden' and two boys in dresses! We had a day of book based activities and a celebration of reading assembly at the end of the day.



Red Nose Day. Evie (right) and a funny friend

School Council, with Ms Rampley, and Mrs Baker and Mrs Winkcup with the sewing club organised our own Red Nose Day. We celebrated at the beginning of the week and the day began with a sea of crazy faces, some of which were very difficult to recognise! By the end of the day everyone had made their own 'face furniture'. Many thanks to Mrs Mitchell for the idea of a Crafterafternoon. We had a great time! There was also a cake sale and craft stall held to raise further funds. All proceeds will be going to Comic Relief. At the last count there was over £200 which is fantastic!



History off the Page. Freddie

'History off the Page' visited the school this month. Mercury and Mars Classes transformed into knights and other medieval citizens. They spent a morning trying out activities and experiencing what it might have been like to live in a castle in those times. The lady of the castle worked them hard as they learnt how to make scented soap, nose-gays, scary gargoyles and pouches to keep precious buttons and chalk. The afternoon culminated in a feast which was enjoyed by all!

Nearly the end of term but we still have more to come before the end of term - a concert with the other Circle Schools at West Road and a residential trip to Burwell House.

We wish you a Happy Easter!

Hannah Curtis
Head teacher

Little Windmills

Little Windmills
PRE-SCHOOL

Opening hours: 9.15-12.15, Monday-Friday.

For further information or to discuss availability please contact a member of the team. 07803 671200. manager@littlewindmills.co.uk

Pets Corner



12-Weeks old and running us ragged. Fen Goodchild. Dachshund

☺ KIDS' PAGE

Easter and spring themed!

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

Easter Chick

Egg Chocolate

Bunny Spring

Daffodils Ducklings

Lambs Blossom

ANAGRAMS

Khicc
=
……

Grinps
=
……

Fidlasfod
=
……

Tarese
=
……

JOKES

Q: When do monkeys fall from the sky?
A: During Ape-ril showers!

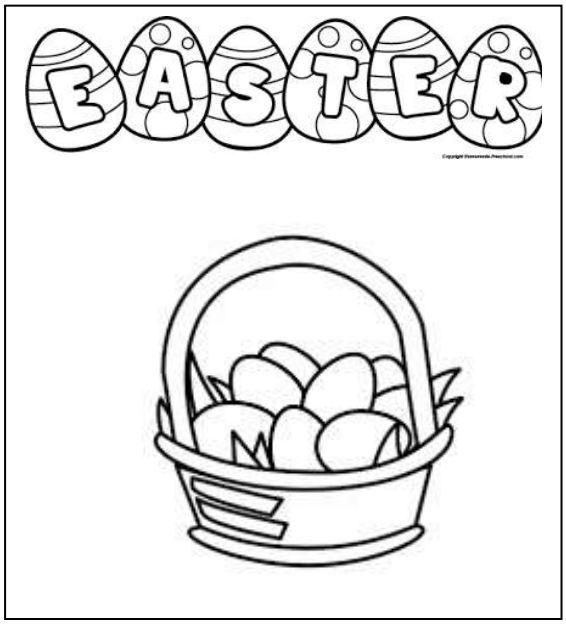
Q: Can February March?
A: No, but April May!

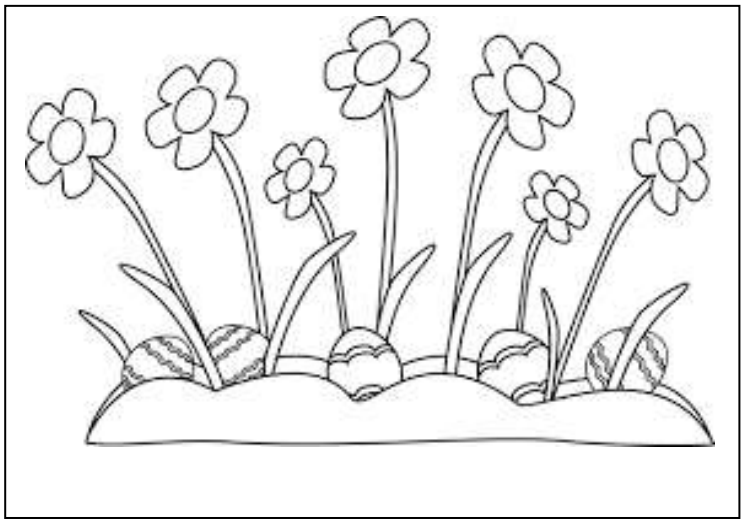
Q: What do you get when you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?
A: A hot cross bunny!

☺ David's Colouring Page









Equestrian News

The past couple of months have been really busy with shows and getting all the horses ready for the fast approaching outdoor season, as well as recently getting another two horses. All the horses are going well, with Frances jumping double clear and being placed nearly every time she has been in the ring, so she is ready for two weeks jumping in France at the end of this month and for what will hopefully be a successful summer season. One of the new horses, Nina, has also jumped brilliantly at my first two shows with her, gaining a double clear and placing 3rd, behind Frances, at our first show together, after only having her for a week and then jumping a double clear last week when put in a bigger class.



Frances jumping at Keysoe

The other new horse, Vera, who is related to both Nina and Frances, is a just backed 4 year old who is looking like a great prospect for the future.





Nina, Frances and Vera all come from the same stud and are all related, despite the fact they all look opposite from each other. However, they are very similar in their personalities and attitudes, which is great. Stella and Fleur are progressing really well and are looking promising for the shows this summer.

Laura Steven

Free Sessions of Indoor Cycling System



The Newmarket Cycling & Triathlon Club

Calling young cyclists

Come along to the regular free sessions of the Indoor Cycling System supervised by David Peck

It's a great way for learners to gain confidence and more experienced young cyclists to practise time trials. Please bring your own bike

Saturday 4 April, Sundays 3 May and 7 June
10am to 12.30pm at the Fassage Hall, Lode

Cricket

It is that time of year again when cricketers all over Reach awake bleary-eyed from eight months of hibernation, dust down bats, stitch together pads and get down to a solid eight hours a day in the nets. We are always looking out for new players, whether they are newly-retired from the England XI or whether they have never played before. So please, if you would like to have a go let me know on 743725 or rossjclark@aol.com.

We are going to kick-off the season on own ground on Sunday 10 May with a match between Reach Elders and Reach Yoof, starting at 2pm. That should be a fun game and a chance for anyone, old or young, who has never played for us before to come along and have a chance to bat and bowl. We won't turn you away if you turn up on the day, but it would be helpful to know beforehand how many players we will have at our disposal.

These are our 2015 fixtures so far (there are more to be confirmed in June/July/August)

Wednesday 29 April
Swaffham Bulbeck (away) 20 over evening match beginning 6pm

Sunday 10 May
Reach Elders vs Reach Yoof (home) 2pm

Sunday 31 May
Thriplow or Fordham (away)
National Village Cup match 1pm

Sunday 26 July
Grantchester (away) 2pm

Sunday 6 September
Burwell (home) 1pm

Sunday 13 September
Swaffham Bulbeck (home) 1pm

Sunday 27 September
Rain Men (home) 12.30pm



Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Michael Aves	Councillor	742800
Charlotte Cane	Councillor	741064
Ross Clark	Vice Chairman	743725
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	741853
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	742405
David Thomas	Chairman	742676
Diana Ward	Councillor	744210

Your Clerk is **Susan Bailey**
29 Great Lane Reach CB25 0JF
Tel: 01638 743794
Email: reachparishcouncil@live.co.uk

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

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



Answers to Susie's anagrams:

chick, springs,
daffodils and Easter

REACH

PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on: Wednesday 4th March 2015.

Attendance

Michael Aves	Councillor	Present
Ross Clark	Vice Chairman	Present
Charlotte Cane	Councillor	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	Not Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Present

1. Forum for Members of the Public
None present

2. Declarations of Interest
There were none.

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

4 (1) Amenity Fund Committee
The Amenity fund had agreed to give £850 to the street light funding.

4 (2) County Councillor's Report
Full Council met on 17th February with the business plan being the main item on the agenda. Following some debate the plan, put together by the various committees over the course of the year was approved by a majority vote. This includes a 1.99% increase in Council Tax for the coming year, coupled with identified savings of £32 million for 2015/16.

I sat on an assessment panel to consider applications to run a new primary school at Alconbury Weald. Following a full day of interviews it was agreed unanimously to recommend a joint bid from the Diocese of Ely and the Methodist Church as the sponsors for the new school.

Other meetings attended included a meeting regarding progress with the School Building capital programme, meetings regarding streetlights in Reach and Swaffham Bulbeck and a workshop of the General Purposes Committee looking at the business planning process for 2016/17. I have been invited to a meeting with the police regarding a proposal for some targeted youth work in Burwell. I am also pleased to report that I have been shortlisted for an award at the annual councillor awards, with winners to be announced in London on 2nd March.

4 (3) District Councillor's Report
At full council on February 26th the budget for 2016/16 was approved. Having made savings of £797,722 in 2014/15 we were able to produce a balanced budget for 2015/16 and 16/17 with no increase in ECDC council tax for the next two years.

Community Land Trusts (CLTs) are our preferred mechanism for enabling people to live and work locally. We have a CLT at Stretham and Swaffham Prior. We are also working with Soham Thrift CLT to bring another site forward.

I attended a Housing seminar where we examined ways that ECDC and Sanctuary Housing can improve joint working for the benefit of social housing tenants.

I also attended a Transformation seminar. With reducing resources and increasing public demand on the Council we need to make sure that we have a motivated/focused staff and more efficient processes. We are promoting a 'can do' culture, doing the 'right thing' for our residents.

Fly tipping has increased lately and is something I am keeping an eye on.

4 (4) Financial Report
The Parish Council remains in a financially stable situation.

4 (5) Parish Council Members Meetings
There were no meetings this month.

4 (6) Play Spaces
Grants for new equipment were briefly discussed, along with the need to appoint a new play spaces officer after the Election.

4 (7) Rights of Way
Again complaints had been received with regard to dog mess on various paths around the village. ***Clerk*** to contact the Woodland Trust, who have previously discussed additional signage for Reach Wood.

Councillor Cane to investigate the possibility of bylaws being introduced, to try to reduce this continuing nuisance.

Horses are still being ridden around the wood and along the load bank, ***Councillor Fielding*** to discuss with the Environment Agency and ***Clerk*** to look into signage for the wood.

4 (8) Village Centre
No information available.

4 (9) 24Acres Committee Report
A hedge had been planted along the front boundary of the 24Acres and also around the storage container.

5. Mowing Contacts
Only two quotations had been received. Decision postponed until next meeting and a third quote obtained.

6. Insurance Renewal
Three quotations had been obtained for the village insurance cover, for the coming year. A quotation was accepted. ***Clerk*** to contact the insurance company to accept the quote and to add additional items, the adopted street lights and the three benches on the 24Acres.

7. Planning Applications
There were none.

8. Information Items/AOB
Traffic Calming – Once the PC have more information on this project, consultation with residents will take place.

Street light PC13 was reported as not working; ***Clerk*** to contact Balfour Beatty (BB) who hold the maintenance contract for the street lights.

Complaints had also been received about the holes and inadequate fencing left along the footpath of the Swaffham Road. ***Clerk*** to contact BB.

The forth coming Election was discussed ***Clerk*** to initiate advertising for this around the village.

A discussion took place with regard to the PC having residents email address to allow the PC to communication with and consult residents directly. Data protection rules would be checked. ***Clerk*** to investigate.

9. Payments

Cambridge Restoration – memorial bench	£ 895.00
David Thomas – 24Acres hedge	£ 72.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 1st April 2015 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



After a break for the winter months, the repair work to the exterior of Reach church should begin again soon. We have also had the architect's report on the 5 yearly inspection. We will then be in a position to discuss new repair work which has been identified. We can then begin discussions about possible options for new work to improve and develop the building, to give us more scope for using the church for different events and activities. I've been really encouraged by the progress on the current phase of our Building to Serve project at St Mary's, in Burwell. It's given us a lot of experience of the procedures we need to go through and will hopefully help us to move quickly through the necessary official consultations and processes for any work at St Etheldreda's.

We are hoping that the work at St Mary's will be completed by mid to late April. We have planned a date for celebrating the completion of the building work at St Mary's. The Bishop of Ely is coming on Pentecost Sunday, May 24th, for a communion service at 10am, followed by a dedication ceremony and refreshments and an opportunity to look around. We'll also be having a 'bring and share' picnic lunch later.

Before then, we would like to invite you to our Easter Services, as we remember the week leading up to Jesus' crucifixion and then celebrate the joyful news of his resurrection on Easter day. On Good Friday April 3rd, we have Messy Easter event for families at 10.30am at St Mary's and then a quiet reflective service at Reach at 3pm. On Easter Sunday April 5th you're welcome to join us at 6am(!) at the Castle Mound, at 8am at Reach, or 10am at St Mary's.

And also coming up on May 3rd at 6pm will be the Eve of Reach Fair Songs of Praise. And later on July 5th will be the special celebration service and tea to commemorate Maisie Whitehead's generosity to the church. Full details in the next edition of the magazine.

On a completely different note, several people have told me recently that they would welcome an opportunity to talk about the questions they have about death and planning their own funeral. It's not a subject that many of us find easy to discuss, but for some, it would give peace of mind to be able to talk about things, in a friendly and open setting. We are hoping to run a pilot event, probably later in May, at St Mary's, with lots of tea and cake and a chance to ask questions, air your thoughts. Please get in touch if you would like more information about this, or any of our services, groups or activities.

Eleanor Williams

Revd Dr Eleanor Williams, Vicar of Burwell with Reach
01638 741262 or vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Church News

CentrePeace (CP@R) at Reach Dates 2015

We'll continue to be in Reach church on the second Wednesday of every month from 2pm – 4pm, serving free tea and coffee, with home-made cake. Also, of course, we have our selection of good quality second hand books, greeting cards and crafts. All are welcome to drop in to browse and meet friends for a chat!

We'd also be interested to hear from anyone who would like to help with the setting up and clearing away for CP@R, either regularly or occasionally. Speak to Pam King or Pat Chalmers if you can help.



Church Services at Burwell and Reach

	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach
APRIL		
Wednesday 1	10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove 7.00pm Night Prayer at CentrePeace	
Thursday 2 Maundy Thursday	10.00am Little Bears 7.30pm Holy Communion followed by The Watch	
Friday 3 **Good Friday**	10.30am Messy Easter for families in the Guildhall	8.15am Morning Prayer 2.00pm Hour at the Cross meditation
Sunday 5 **Easter Day**	6.00am Easter Sunrise service on Castle Mound 10.00 All Age Communion	8.00 am Holy Communion
Wednesday 8	10.00am Holy Communion	2.00 – 4.00pm CentrePeace at Reach
Friday 10		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 12th **Easter 2**	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Parish Communion (Traditional)	
Wednesday 15	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Friday 17		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 19th **Easter 3**	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.00am Parish Communion (Contemporary) 11.30am Annual Parochial Church Meeting followed by Bring and Share Lunch	
Wednesday 22	10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday 24		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 26th **Easter 4**	8.00am Holy Communion **10.00am Parish Communion (Traditional)** 4.00pm Messy Church	
Wednesday 29	10.00am Holy Communion	
MAY		
Friday 1 May		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 3rd **Easter 4**	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service	6.00pm Eve of Reach Fair Songs of Praise
Wednesday 6	10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Thursday 7	10.00am Little Bears	
Friday 8		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 10th **Easter 6**	10.00 Parish Communion (Traditional)	8.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday @ 7
Wednesday 13	10.00am Holy Communion	2.00 – 4.00pm CentrePeace
Friday		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 17th **Easter 7**	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00 am Parish Communion (contemporary**)**	
Wednesday 20	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Friday 22		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 24th **Pentecost**	10.00 am Parish Communion with the Bishop of Ely 11.30am Dedication of new facilities, followed by Bring and Share picnic	
Wednesday 26	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday 28		8.15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 31st **Trinity Sunday**	4.00pm Messy Church	10.00am Parish Communion

Bus Timetable

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

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

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

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

Newmarket – Burwell – Reach – Bottisham – Cambridge																
Service No:	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10		10	10	10	10
	M-F	**M-F**	**Sat**	**M-F**	**Sat**							**Sat**	**M-F**			
Newmarket (Guineas Station)				0704	0719	0814	0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1424	1514	1614	1714
Burwell (Manchetts Ness Road)	0628	0658	0713	0728	0743	0838	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1448	1538	1638	1738
Reach	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

Ely Cathedral Choir Tour Fund

Etheldreda Craft and Food Fair

Saturday 30th May Palace Green, Ely 10am – 5pm

Supporting traditional English music with a traditional English fair

The annual Etheldreda Craft and Food Fair takes place on Saturday 30th May on Palace Green, surrounded by the splendour of Ely Cathedral and The Old Palace - two of Ely's magnificent historic buildings.

An entertaining day for the whole family, the fair includes a selection of over 40 tempting stalls featuring crafts, local foods, jewellery, plants, gifts and summer produce.

In keeping with the tradition of this well established country fair, visitors will have the opportunity try their luck on the tombola and test their aim on the coconut shy as well as enjoying a Pimm's and strawberries and cream on the lawns in front of the Cathedral. This, along with bacon rolls, afternoon tea, delicious cakes and champagne, all add to a great day out in Ely.

The Etheldreda Craft and Food Fair takes place between 10am – 5pm on Saturday 30th May with all profits going to the Ely Cathedral Choir Tour Fund.

Additional notes:

The Etheldreda Fair was started in the early 1990's by the Director of Music at Ely Cathedral and his wife when they opened their home and garden for refreshments and light lunches on the Open University Degree Ceremony Day. The OU has for many years held it's East Anglian Degree Ceremony at Ely Cathedral in late May or early June and they saw it as an opportunity to raise much needed funds for the Ely Cathedral Choir Tour Fund.

It was named 'The Etheldreda Fair' as St Etheldreda, the founding Abbess of the first Abbey in Ely, is celebrated annually on June 18th.

By the late 1990's the organisation of the fair was taken on by the boy chorister parents who broadened it to the full scale fair, on Palace Green, in front of Ely Cathedral.

Diary Dates: April 2015

February 2015	Event	Location	Time
Wed 1	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thurs 2	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Friday 3	Messy Easter	The Guildhall, Burwell	10.30am – 12.30pm
Saturday 4	Indoor Cycling System	Fassage Hall, Lode	10am – 12.30pm
Sunday 5	Sunrise Service	Castle Mound, Burwell	6am
Sunday 5	8am Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's	8am
Sunday 5	Open Garden	Netherhall Manor, Tanners Lane, Ely CB7 5AB	2.00 – 5.00pm
Sunday 5 and Monday 6	Easter Egg Hunt	Burwell Museum	11am – 5pm
Wed 8	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Thurs 9	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 9	Butterflies and Bugs Craft Morning Ages 5 – 11 years	Ely Museum, The Old Gaol, Market Street, Ely CB7 4LS	11.00am – 12.30pm
Saturday 11	Craft Fair	Ely Cathedral Centre, Palace Green, Ely CB7 4EW	10.00am – 3.00pm
Sunday 12	Car Boot Sale	Fordham	7am – 1pm
Tues 14	Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club: Lanscapes and Seascapes	Lode Chapel CB25 9EW	7.30 – 9.30pm
Wed 15	Reach Fair Open Evening	Village Centre	7.30pm
Wed 15	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	8.00pm
Thurs 16	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Friday 17	Girls Night Out	Dykes End PH	7.30 for 8.00pm
Saturday 18	Ask The Archaeologist Bring items for identification	Ely Museum, The Old Gaol, Market Street, Ely CB7 4LS	10.30am – 12.30pm
Tues 21	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.15pm to 12.50pm
Tues 21	Talk: Village Gardeners: The Scented Garden and Glasshouse	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8.00pm
Wed 29	Cricket: Swaffham Bulbeck (Away)	Swaffham Bulbeck	6pm
Thurs 23	Wisbech	Burwell Museum Coach Trip	Tickets from Tina's; £12.50
Thurs 23	Recycling Day (Green)		
Sunday 12	Car Boot Sale	Fordham	7am – 1pm
Thurs 30	Recycling Day (Blue)		

Diary Dates: May 2015

March 2015	Event	Location	Time
Sunday 4	Indoor Cycling System	Fassage Hall, Lode	10am – 12.30pm
Sun 3	Songs of Praise	St Etheldreda's Church	6.00 – 6.45pm
Sun 3	Quiz Night	Beer Tent, Village Green	7.30pm
Mon 4	Reach Fair	Village Green and Top Field	12noon – 5pm
Wed 6	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thurs 5	Recycling Day (Green)		
Sunday 10	Motor Bikes and Cycles	Prickwillow Museum	11.00am – 4.30pm
Sunday 10	Car Boot Sale	Fordham	7am – 1pm
Wed 13	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Thurs 14	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Tues 19	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tues 19	Talk: Village Gardeners: Herbal Haven	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8.00pm
Wed 20	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thurs 21	Recycling Day (Green)		
Sunday 24	Car Boot Sale	Fordham	7am – 1pm
Monday 25	Soham Carnival and Heavy Horse Show	Soham	
Monday 25	Bank Holiday Market	Ely Market Place, Ely	10.00am – 4.00pm
Thurs 28	Lowestoft	Burwell Museum Coach Trip	Tickets from Tinas; £16999
Thurs 28	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Saturday 30	Etheldreda Craft and Food Fair	Palace Green, Ely	10am – 5pm

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
	Committee Member	Diana Ward	744210
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	



Mrs Swan this last week started to nest build



Jo Fitzpatrick and Bertie (left) and Sue Clifton and Flynn



Pam King and Jess who likes to chase deer



Ross Clark and Happy Ted



David Parr pancake-maker extraordinaire







Our new village sign in the making

Huge thanks to John Holmwood



