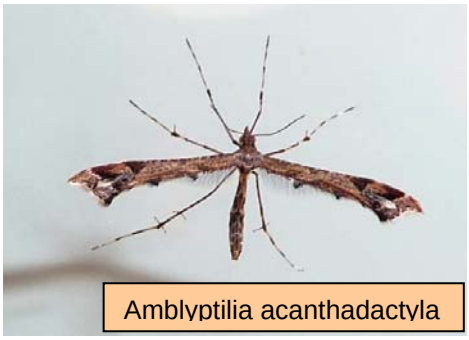
Within Reach



December 2010/January 2011



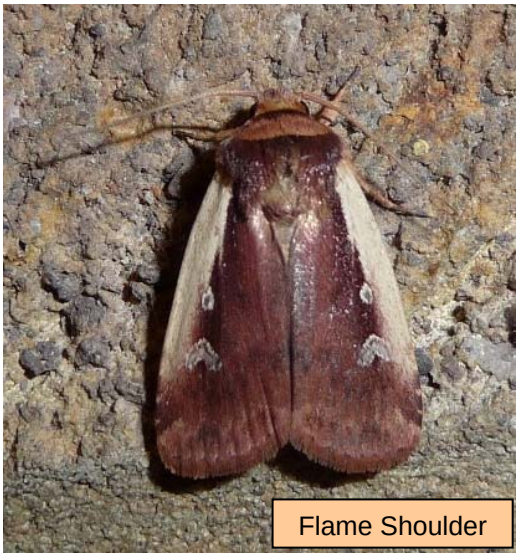
Amblyptilia acanthadactyla



Barred Rivulet



Bee Moth



Flame Shoulder

Super photos. Once again by Alison Lewis (see page 7)



Spindle Ermine



Swallowtail



Small Magpie



Turnip Moth

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Carol Singing

All Welcome

7pm
Wednesday 22nd December
Reach Village Centre

Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

From the Editor



The generosity of Christmas is already apparent with four recipes from Rita Dunnett, a super-sized word search from Susie Tucker and a remarkably easy crossword from Zenida McDonald.

Zenida has also prepared a book review and David Cane has submitted a film review. How brilliant! Please submit similar items if you have enjoyed a book, a film, a restaurant, an event etc.

Alison Lewis has taken some amazing photographs of moths, and Janet Hall has written a beautiful article on birds, berries and winter. Enjoy.

William and Kate very recently announced their engagement and already someone has said that their marriage will only last years. Read about the Robinsons who celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in October.

We have reflections from David Prior (An Expatriate), Jan Robinson (Fifty Golden Summers) and Maisie Whitehead (in Days Gone By). David Thomas is also in a reflective mood with the allotments.

This month the construction of a tennis court in Reach will be completed. How good is that? Our grateful thanks go to David Parr who, inspired by a chance remark, set about to raise the cash. David is now looking for new challenges…..

Big surprise Juliet Vickery identified some tennis champions in Reach…. And rugby… and middle distant running… Ross Clark ends the cricket season with a heroic tale.

Thank you to all the Editorial Team of ***Within Reach***. Your contributions are not taken for granted

Very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Claire Halpin-McDonald

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Editor's Notes

The purpose of ***Within Reach*** is to serve the whole village by circulating information and interesting articles free to every household in Reach. Additional copies are available at a charge of £1.50. Issues are published by-monthly which cover the dates of Dec/Jan, Feb/Mar, Apr/May, June/July, Aug/Sept and Oct/Nov.

The next copy date is 15th January 2011. This magazine is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

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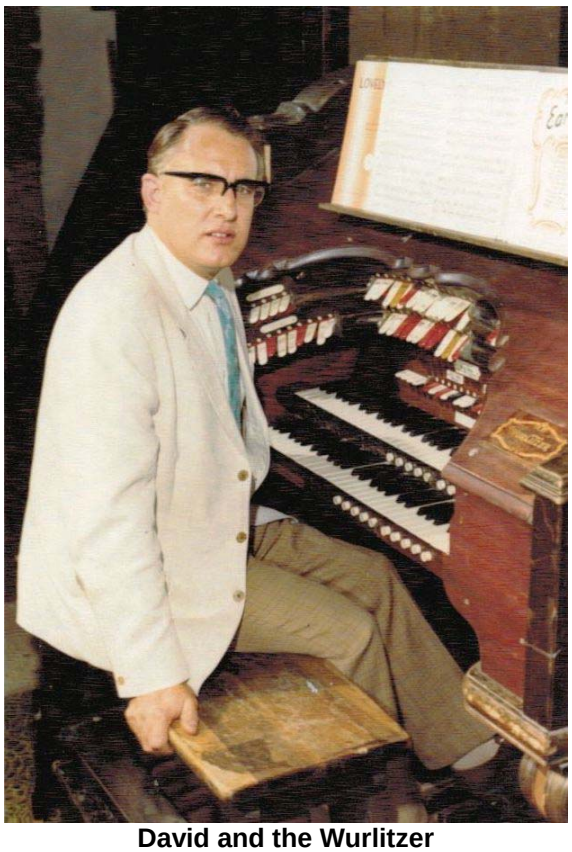
Cricket	Ross Clark
Crossword	Zenida McDonald
Days Gone By	David Parr
Fen Chitchat	Lesley Boyle
Kids Page	Susie Tucker
	David Cane
Little Windmills	Susan Bluck
Mothers Union	Zenida McDonald
Neighbourhood Watch and Police	Annie Austin
Parish Council	David Parr
Plants	Janet Hall
Snakehall Farm	Maz Baker
Sport	Juliet Vickery
Swaffham Prior School	Diane Hawkes
Wicken Fen	Howard Cooper
Wildlife	Joss Goodchild
	Alison Lewis
Womens Institute	Zenida McDonald

Reach – By an Expatriate

In 1968, having acquired a post in Cambridge, moving my wife Jane and son Andrew down to the county became the next challenge. Previously we had lived in the North West, overseas in the Middle East and in Wiltshire so the East of England was to be something new.

Searching for real estate over 40 years ago was a bit different than it is to-day. There were no virtual tours on the internet and often it was difficult even to find a photograph of a property. Above all prices were not astronomical. What is still the same are the agent's descriptions. You soon learned that "ripe for restoration" and "sympathetic treatment" meant the property was probably falling down or needed serious work.



David and the Wurlitzer

I am not sure what actually attracted us to Reach or to what was described as a pig farm. We found an old property with disused buildings - a mass of concrete and totally overgrown. An enthusiastic uncle who was a local builder accompanied us. As we did, he also quickly saw the possibilities for "sympathetic treatment." The price was right and Fitzroy Farm became the first home we actually owned. With our second son Ian almost due, we came to Reach. The local nurse who took care of the post natal period must have been horrified to see our bed was a folding spring supported on bricks. However that period passed off well.

The idyllic village was an inspiration with a surprise. We had found ourselves living next door to the most helpful and friendly farmer Ernie Cole and his family. Without them and their machinery we could not have carried out many of the tasks ahead. Even today, some 36 years later, the wonders of Skype keep us in touch and up to date on the events in Reach. So does the excellent website which is a great generator of homesickness.

There are many memories.

Ian's arrival was announced by a note in the milk bottle on the front door step. News spread rapidly by that method in those days.

One local resident was an expert in producing his local wine. After a session in the lower village it was unforgettable to see him being transported home up the street in a wheelbarrow.

Tangible memories we have include the Family Bible from the Wells family. This leather bound tome was sold from Vine House after Mr Well died and in copper plate writing, chronicles a family register going back to 1800.

While not strictly a farm anymore, we kept Muscovy ducks, hens, sheep and a donkey "Neddy" who enjoyed the attention he got when tied up to the tree on the village green. Breeding miniature Dachshunds increased the population no end.

The tradition of pig keeping was kept up for a while too. The memories include an escaping porker which to his delight, had a great meal of tulips one morning, which was not appreciated by a Ditchfield resident. Getting him back home was no easy feat either.

Who can think of Reach without recounting the antics of "King Len"?

The community appeared to be very tolerant of the noise we made. Having installed the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ from the Gaumont, Bournemouth in an outbuilding, it received visiting enthusiasts wanting to play it. This is an unfortunate phenomenon of owning such an instrument. On the internet there is a page describing its stay in Reach.

I hope being elected to the Parish Council brought a positive contribution to the village. The Fair also occupied time and we were able to mount an art exhibition in the Church and even a Horse Sale one year. It is well known that the Fair used to have horses for sale lining the road from the now Ditchfield area to the Hythe. We managed to get two or three

horses and fortunately a very enthusiastic auctioneer. At least we tried.

Our children had the pleasure of helping to bottle the milk and bring up the cows. Some time ago I researched Reach expatriates. It was surprising to hear from interested descendants whose subsequent family have been over to visit. The website has been instrumental and informative in this area.

I heard from Ernest Gotts in the USA whose great grandfather was a butcher who was born and died in Fitzroy Farm and got married in Reach Chapel on Christmas Day 1905.

Also Jackie Badcock (see picture on the right), now living in Australia but who used to live in Ditchfield and Simon Dickens who emigrated to New Zealand together with his cat.



Jackie Badcock

For various reasons, years later, it was time for us to move on and Canada called. As I look at the village website I sometimes wonder if that was the right thing to do. But England as you all know is not the same country we left. Car number plates and cats didn't seem to disappear in the good old days. Milk was produced in the village, the local store did a good trade and the cows were allowed to walk along the road depositing what they wished without complaints. We read the UK papers daily and are disappointed by the decline in moral standards and the increase in various crimes.



Andrew, Ian and their Mum Jane Prior

Over here in a small fishing village, we enjoy many of the attributes of a former Reach. Locking your doors is unnecessary and the same with your vehicle. Neighbourly help is amazing. In season, fresh cod will arrive as will lobsters. Benefit concerts are constantly being held for those who fall ill and need help. No CCTV cameras around. There are, however, increasing signs of the problems just described, mainly in urban areas.

Reach was one of the best times of our family life. Those who live there now hopefully appreciate what they have and will strive to preserve the ideals of years ago.

This is country life, not the town and new residents who are lucky enough to move in should strive to promote the traditional village. It is heartening to hear about the National Trust involvement and that so many people are interested in matters such as the Travellers.

Keep up the good work.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone in Reach from across the Atlantic.

David Prior

Whiteway, Newfoundland, Canada
Email: davidprior@personainternet.com

Christmas Wreaths
£10

Sarah Keutgen
01638 745244

One to One Tuition

For **Primary School** Children

Claire Acklam BEd. (Hons)

01638 743749 or
c.h.a@reach-village.co.uk

Harvest Supper – Just Delightful



The village hall was beautifully decorated with autumnal colour and set out splendidly to accommodate the hungry hoards.

It was nice to sit and chat with faces that on a normal day would only afford a customary wave as we go about our busy lives. The family quiz this year bought young and old together and competition between the teams was fierce! And when did I get to be so knowledgeable about chocolate bar wrappers, how many could you name?!

As we sat and waited for our table to be called, the aroma of all the fabulous homemade dishes wafted through the hall. Then came pudding which were just as well received, with some managing to find space for seconds. We certainly have some budding Delia's in the village!



The whole event works so well because it seems everyone in the village who comes gives donations of food, their time and prizes for the very popular raffle! The raffle alone raised a fantastic £76 (thanks to Freya Thomas, and Anya and Kasia Tabecki), and in total £366.50 was raised for the church. This type of support is fantastic and without it the church is unlikely to stay open.

A BIG thank you goes out to everyone that helped out in one way or another, from behind the scenes to the fabulous kitchen staff, those that helped in preparing the hall to those that cleared up at the end! Well done Helen Oliver for another great fund raising evening!

That's it ....

Jo Riches

Travellers Site at Swaffham Prior Update

The East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC) Strategic Development Committee met on 9 November 2010. Agenda Item 12 was the Consultation Results on Site Options for Development and Infrastructure. The Principal Forward Planning Officer's recommendations to the Committee were:

Goodwin Farm in Swaffham Prior is not progressed as a gypsy, traveller and travelling show people option, given the high level of community opposition and this Committee's September 2010 decision to set a lower interim requirement for sites.

Following the incredible response from Swaffham Prior, an amendment was proposed by the Members that more than just Goodwin Farm should be removed – it should be the whole area of Swaffham Prior. The Committee Members voted unanimously:

- Goodwin Farm as a site for a gypsy development is no longer
- There will be no gypsy development sites in Swaffham Prior

It was also noted that the level of response in Swaffham Prior, clearly proved a mandate has been given to using new legislation to move on `illegally' camped gypsies in the area.

Should you wish to read the various documents that are relevant to Goodwin Farm at this meeting follow these links

Strategic Development Committee Agenda 9th November 2010
http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/sites/default/files/agendas/sd091110ag.pdf

Consultation Results on Site Options for Development & Infrastructure
http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/sites/default/files/agendas/sd091110ag_K169.pdf

Appendix 2 to the above – Summary of Responses
http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/sites/default/files/agendas/sd091110ag_K169App2.pdf

Swaffham Prior Village Steering Committee

Grant Awarded for Reach Village Centre

Reach Village Centre Committee has been successful in its application to Cambridgeshire Community Foundation for a Grassroots Grant. The full amount of £4280 has been awarded which should cover the main costs for refurbishing the brick shed and rear boundary wall.

The Committee is planning to carry out the refurbishment works starting early December. Having better watertight storage will allow us to safeguard Fair equipment, and also allow us to clear out the small meeting room within the front extension of the Centre. This will have the benefit of releasing additional space for let (the meeting room is currently being used as a storage area which is not what it was intended for). This was the second successful application to Grassroots, the first being a grant of £720 towards the purchase of additional upholstered chairs for the centre back in 2009. The applications were submitted on behalf of the Committee by Jan Tabecki.

Bottisham Village College
Community Education

Courses for Spring Term 2011

All courses start week commencing 10th January. They are evening classes and are for 10 weeks, unless otherwise stated.

Bookkeeping Level
Tuesday - £85 (+ exam fee)
Cookery – Pastries
(5 weeks starting March) – Thursday - £43
Cookery: Traditional Thai
(5 weeks) – Thursday - £43
Cookery for Adults with Learning Difficulties – Tuesday
Counselling – Introduction
Tuesday – £120
Creative Painting and Drawing
Thursday morning - £85
Dressmaking
Mon/Wed morning, Thursday evening - £85
Garden Design – Tuesday - £99
IT for Beginners – Thursday morning - £90
Printmaking for Beginners – Thursday - £85
Sculpture – Thursday - £85
Self Protection for Women
(5 weeks) – Thursday - £43
Sewing for Beginners – Tuesday - £85

Ross's Reflections

Ross Clark



I achieved a distinction last January: I became the first person for at least a decade to skate down Reach Lode: right from junction with Burwell Lode all the way to the Point.

Theodore, whose new pair of skates were unfortunately held up in the post until after the thaw, became possibly the first person ever to cycle the same route.

Of course the fact that it was ever so slightly risky was part of the fun – although I had been skating for a couple of days on very solid ice covering the washes at Upware. It can't be a lot of fun going through the ice into chest-deep water, and I understand that you don't get a lot of warning (old fen skaters tell me that it is not so much cracking that you need to be wary about but when the ice starts to bend).

But there is a worse fate that could have befallen us: we could have ended up on the front page of the *Daily Mail* under a headline: What Was He Thinking? That was what happened last year to Elisabeth Pennell who was taking her daughter to school across Wimbledon Common when she took a fancy to a frozen pond – oblivious to the presence of a press photographer. It made a nice photo because Mrs Pennell and her daughter passed just the other side of a sign saying "Danger: thin ice". But as she pointed out, the part of the pond she was one was only a few inches deep and the sign had been put there some days before, when the ice had just started to form. Needless to say, the council worker who put it there had no intention of going back to remove it in the event of the ice thickening up.

We have a strange aversion to winter weather in Britain. It is the same every winter: a drunk drowns in a slushy pond or comes a cropper on a toboggan and everyone is ordered to stay indoors. Yet we are quite happy to take part in winter sports abroad. On one day last January the BBC website carried two stories: one was about 'foolish' youths walking around on the frozen Oxford Canal. The other was about the Dutch happily skating on frozen canals in Amsterdam, where it was no colder. When it snowed all the schools in Birmingham were closed on the grounds that it was too dangerous for children to go out in the snow. There was one exception: one school made an exception: for the children who were due to go off on their skiing trip.

Of course skiing and skating are dangerous activities. But simply telling everyone to keep off the ice is a pathetic, Jobsworth's response. We should encourage people to do as everyone once knew in the fens, and as they still do in Holland and other countries where people happily take to frozen lakes and very rarely go through: to learn how to read when ice is safe and when it is unsafe. When the ice is three inches thick and the water beneath it scarcely any deeper anyone with any sense can tell it is the former -- even if the ubiquitous 'danger' signs claim otherwise.

Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Michael Aves	Vice-Chairman	742800
Ross Clark	Chairman	743725
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	742943
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	741853
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	742405
Angela King	Councillor	742266
Helen Platt	Councillor	742331

Your Clerk is **David Parr**:

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

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

In addition to their councillor duties;

Rita Dunnett is Play Spaces Officer, overseeing our two play areas and playing field.

Hilary Fielding is Rights of Way Officer.

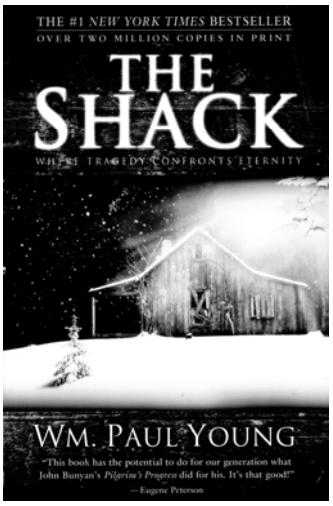
Elections for the Parish Council take place every four years with the **next election** being held in **May 2011.**

Moths

The photographs of the moths on the inside front cover were all taken around my front porch light, apart from the Spindle Ermine which was taken in the garden. I've identified 50 species of moths at the light and in the garden this year.

Alison Lewis

Book Review



The Shack is a work said by its author to be fiction, but in places reads more like fact. Be warned, this book has reduced some readers to tears as well as laughter. After the disappearance of Mack's daughter, Missy during a family vacation, it seems she was abducted by a serial killer and the bodies of the victims have so far not been found. This depresses Mack and leads to his Great Sadness, but one day he receives a note inviting him to meet God at the shack where Missy's blood-stained dress had been found. Full of trepidation, Mack goes to the shack and asks God many of the questions that grieving people seek answers to, like 'Why does God allow suffering?' The replies have affected many people deeply and allowed them to come to terms with their own sadness, or anger, face their fear and in some cases, helped them to reach a state of forgiveness.

The author, **William Paul Young**, a Canadian, was brought up by Missionary parents in what was New Guinea and did not have a happy childhood, but seems to have come to terms with it. He wrote this book firstly for his children, but by public demand later published it and it has become a bestseller, with over two million copies in print. It is a very thought-provoking book.

The Shack, by William Paul Young was published in 2007 by Windblown Media, U.S.A.
ISBN - 978-0-9647292-3-0. Paperback. $14.99.

News from the Allotments

David Thomas



The reason why we have to thank William the Conqueror for our allotments. Or should it be Edward the Confessor? Or Harold Godwinson?

Either way, it is possible, in a roundabout sort of way, to link our muddy patches of cultivation on the edge of Reach to the incidents surrounding 1066. As we dig and hoe, weed and harvest, our use of the Reach allotments forms part of a historical chain of events dating back nearly a thousand years.

Before William came along, the Saxons (when they weren't busy building the Devil's Dyke) would have cleared woodland to form fields which were then held in common – their use shared by the community. But following the Norman conquest land ownership became more concentrated in the hands of the manorial lords, monasteries and church. That is partly what the Doomsday Book was all about – a catalogue of assets (including land) that permitted their transfer to William's supporters. Move on a few hundred years and a further reallocation to the lords took place during the reformation in the 1540s when church lands were confiscated, and then in the late 1500s, under Elizabeth I, common lands that were being used for growing food and keeping animals began to be enclosed, further dispossessing the poor.

We can only imagine what it must have been like at that time – landless, subject to the rule of the lord of the manor, the lands where you have been grazing your livestock and growing the corn for your daily bread for years suddenly taken away. But of course even the lords realised that people would need some land to grow vegetables in order to survive and so in compensation 'allotments' of land were attached to tenant cottages.

Today, reading the gardening pages of the Guardian you'd think that allotments were the fashionable preserve of the middle classes. Certainly (as far as I am aware) none of those tending their vegetables on the Reach allotments is in danger of starving because of a lack of food (or land on which to grow it). But its clear that the initial allotment of land to poor, landless folk can be traced back to the events of 1066, and the link between allotments as a form of social security is something that only strengthened in the centuries that followed.

So from the 17th to 18th Century, as the industrial revolution took hold, further land was enclosed and more and more people moved to the cities and towns. These changes saw the number of poor, without land on which to grow their own food, increase. And of course unable to sign on for a 'Job Seekers Allowance' the prospect for them and their families was bleak. However, by the mid-19th century the tide started to turn, and the General Enclosure Act of 1845 began to include provisions to protect the public and have land set aside for allotment use. This wasn't exactly a willing action on the part of the ruling and landowning classes but was prompted more by the fear of civil unrest and the prospect of 'revolting' peasants than by any altruistic concern for people's welfare. However, it was the beginning of a succession of legislation, including the 'Allotments and Cottage Gardens Compensation for Crops Act 1887' and the 'Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908' which required council's to provide land for allotments wherever there was demand.

Of course the Victorians had their own take on the value of allotments. They saw them (in typical Victorian fashion) as a productive use of time that would keep the poor away from the evils of drink and other unhealthy pursuits, and provide wholesome food for a workforce housed in terraced tenements without gardens.

The First and Second World Wars put a new spin on the value of allotments. In both wars the blockade of Britain by the Germans caused food shortages. With food rationing the demand for home-grown foods was high and allotments came into their own, providing an effective and highly productive addition to the nation's food supply. During the war allotments were estimated to contribute some 1.3 million tonnes of fresh produce from 1.4 million plots.

From that peak in the 1940s, the number of allotments in the UK declined sharply until by the 1970s only a third that number remained. However, interest in self-sufficiency and home food production then started to grow again – perhaps inspired by the TV series the Good Life?

So where do Reach's allotment gardeners fit into all of this? Are we landless peasants on the verge of starvation? A restless workforce threatening civil unrest? An unhealthy, fickle bunch lacking self-restraint that needs to be diverted from the evils of drink? A beleaguered band of patriots, facing up to a (potential) foreign invader, doing their bit for Queen and country? Or perhaps in love with Felicity Kendal (or Richard Briers)? Perhaps its best not to 'dig too deeply' into our motivations …..

[With thanks and apologies for part of the content to http://www.allotment.org.uk]

Bird Berries and Bad Winters



The shrubs are full of berries as I write this, which some say herald a hard winter but it is probably more likely to be a sign that there was good weather when pollination took place in the late spring.

But the over wintering Bewick swans at Slimbridge in Gloucestershire were early arriving from Russia (October 18th) this year, two weeks earlier than last year which was the coldest winter for 31 years!

The first berries of the year are probably the cherries. We have seen masses on the Green in Reach over the past two seasons. Sloes are also in the cherry family and there are loads of them around at the moment. The soft fruit come next, strawberries, red currants and raspberries being of special interest to the birds. Blackcurrants can sometimes go un-netted as the may not be spotted as with gooseberries which we often pick before they are really ripe. Another black-berried plant is the common elder. These are fast growing shrubs producing fruit early in September. There are some lovely varieties but I especially like Sambucus Black Lace with its flat heads of pink flowers and finely divided leaves. Another one is S. canadensis, which I have tried without success, which has berries the size of currants.

In my garden cotoneaster berries are still (early Nov) hanging heavy on branches this year but the Pyracantha (Firethorn) has been stripped by a flock or starlings. A blackbird can apparently eat 300 Pyracantha berries in a day, equivalent to its own weight! A lonely Mistle thrush has been fiercely guarding a bush by the back door keeping the fruit for himself. Birds can see red easily so they take these berries first. Very often evergreen bushes have red berries as they show up well against the foliage. Varieties have then been selected for orange and yellow berries by gardeners, as we like to have different plants. One of their advantages is that very often the yellow berries will remain uneaten for several weeks after the red ones have gone.

I have three Rowan trees. My common Mountain Ash (Rowan, Sorbus aucuparia) has no berries left now. The thrushes have stripped it preferring its red berries with small seeds as they only make use of the flesh. The yellow-berried Mountain ash has still got its berries and looks lovely this year with bright orange leaves. The third rowan (Sorbus cashmeriana) has white berries the size of marbles. The birds do not easily see these and they are too big for most of the songbirds, but I have seen a jay giving them a try. This tree keeps its berries well into December when they fall to the ground, making it a good ornamental tree for a small garden. The white berried; Skimmia Kew White will keep its berries until they fall off in spring. (They do have a pungent small so perhaps the birds don't like them.) Mistletoe has sticky white berries. These the birds take in the late winter and spring but they aren't popular because they are so annoyingly sticky that the birds have to wipe their beaks on the tree bark to get them off, so spreading mistletoe around.

Ivy is a really good wild life plant. It flowers late in the autumn giving the late bees a feed of pollen, and the black berries which stay un-noticed and uneaten until they ripen around Christmas providing as much energy, weight for weight, as a "Mars" bar!! The seeds pass through the birds gut undamaged and are "sown" with a coating of fertiliser. You can often find ivy seedlings around a popular bird perch. A few berry seeds will not germinate unless they have passed through a bird, Juniper for one.

Hips and haws stay uneaten until times get harder for the birds. They are large seeded with little flesh making them less desirable. Finches, however, can digest the seed thus destroying it. Mice and larger mammals, even badgers and foxes also eat these during the winter.

So let's hope that if we are to have a bad winter, and the swans are right, then the hedge row and garden berries will help the birds through this winter. (That's if the pigeons haven't eaten everything!)

Janet Hall

For Sale

Two black and white long coated Border Collie pups. Boys. Ready Dec 16th when they will be 8 weeks old



Ring Janet on 01638 743737

What's "Growing On" at Snakehall Farm?

So will it be white again this year? Perhaps you are reading this edition whilst eating that final seasonal mince pie (oh go on, one more really won't matter) or even contemplating the start of that dreaded January calorie counting diet? Either way, we can always promise some low calorie, vitamin enriched organic goodies at Snakehall Farm. So when planning your healthy new you in the New Year pop into our Farm shop and see what is seasonally on offer. Remember root veg is much kinder to the waist line than chocolate.



When the cold wind blows and the promise of a white winter drifts closer it would make sense for the whole of the Co-worker team to go into hibernation at The Prospects Trust. But oh no not us! Growth of the crops may slow down but these winter months are a great time to catch up on all those little jobs so neglected during our frenetic growing season, especially now as we have our new farmer in residence. Even more importantly, they give us the time to reflect, not on the growth of our organic produce, but on the growth of the people who make Prospects Trust a very special place to be. Starting with our 21st AGM in November, we publicly acknowledge the contribution of all of our Co-workers and recognise their achievements throughout the past year. Then we swiftly move into the biggest planning exercise seen to date.....THE CHRISTMAS PARTY. Always held during the farming day, donned in our most festive frocks or Christmas clobber, we boogie the afternoon away in a local hall; toast our seasonal success and get all competitive with the party games. But this year the transition from AGM into Christmas Party has been excitingly interrupted by the long awaited planting of the Prospects Trust Orchard. The orchard has been an aspiration of the farm, with the first trees being planted by the local pre-schoolers, we hope this project bears fruit for future fun and community events on our lovely farm site. We are still seeking "adoptive parents" for our 36 apples and pears. For a community donation from £15 per tree or a business donation of £30 we will personalise a tree plaque with your name or special message. Our co-workers will send you a personal letter and photo upon receipt of your donation and provide you with photo update next winter. See our Adopt an Apple or Parent a Pear for more details; it could make an excellent stocking filler for the person who already has everything.



January is most commonly the time for resolutions and trying something new. At Snakehall Farm we start the task of plotting, planning and planting as soon as the festive fun finishes. Perhaps this year your resolution maybe to get more involved in something local? We are looking to recruit new Trustees and volunteers for our year ahead, give Rhian Elis a call on 01638 741551for more information or to arrange a visit to see what's growing on at Prospects Trust.

Marianne (Maz) Baker 01638 741551
Email enquiries@prospectstrust.org.uk or
maz.baker@prospectstrust.org.uk
Web: www.prospectstrust.org.uk

Copies of photographs from the following village events are available on CD:

Cricket Team
Sports Day
Church BBQ
Harvest Supper
MacMillan Coffee Morning
Opening of the Bridge
Reach Fair

Suggested donation of a minimum of £5 to MacMillan

Contact Claire on 01638 743330
Email claire.halpin@ascontracts.couk

Wicken Fen News



Thank you to the children and staff of Little Windmills Pre-School for their participation in our recent Scarecrow Festival. Their scarecrow 'David the Commuter' certainly turned many heads and his picture featured widely in local press coverage of the festival.

We were delighted to welcome the BBC Countryfile camera's to Wicken Fen at the end of September. Thankfully the fen was bathed in glorious sunshine as Julia Bradbury and Matt Baker filmed sequences on the Wicken Fen Vision, Lodes Way, Sedge harvesting, extensive grazing, stand-up paddle boarding and eel catching. It was fantastic coverage and a perfect opportunity to showcase our beautiful part of Cambridgeshire to a national audience.



Discussions are progressing with community representatives and the County Council regarding the potential purchase and use of 24 acres of land adjacent to Reach. Proposals put forward include the creation of a community orchard, cricket square and football pitch and a horse ménage. The Council have re-let the land to the existing tenant which gives a 12 month window to raise finance to fund the purchase. A grant application will be submitted within the next few weeks to the Veolia Environmental Trust for a grant under the Landfill Communities Fund designed to support community and environmental projects. In these difficult economic times opportunities for grants are limited and we are likely to face intense competition for a grant.

The Reach Lode bridge has been open for a little over two months and the increased numbers of cyclists at Wicken is noticeable. A cycle counter on the Swaffham Bulbeck Lode bridge indicates that the number of cyclists using the bridge has doubled since the opening of the Reach Lode bridge. Regretfully a picnic bench, gate, bollard and fence posts were stolen recently from the Southern side of the bridge. These will be replaced with additional security measures to hopefully prevent a reoccurrence. If you witness a similar incident please report it to the Police or call the Visitor Centre as soon as possible on 01353 720274.

Bovril, manufacturer's of that well known beefy spread have donated a massive £100,000 to the National Trust to help encourage people to experience and enjoy the great outdoors. A competition is being held where the public can vote for their favourite project, with the five most popular projects each receiving a whopping £20K each. At Wicken would like to hold wild camping weekends where children could learn about conservation and outdoor skills in a safe friendly environment. The money would be used to create a wild campsite consisting of simple log structures to provide shelter against the elements, eco toilets and controlled fire pit whilst an existing outdoor shelter would be renovated to provide a weather proof shelter and communal meeting place. We're facing lots of competition from other National Trust properties so your support would be greatly appreciated. To register a vote for Wicken Fen, please visit www.bovril.co.uk/revival and enter the post code for Wicken Fen, CB7 5XP. The closing date for voting is 31 December.



Lois Baker has joined the Wicken Team as our new Community Officer. Lois will be working in and with local communities to enhance community participation in the Wicken Fen Vision and access to the Vision lands. Some of her initial projects including the publication of horse riding guides, expansion of our popular series of geocaches across the Vision lands and the introduction of Heart Beat Healthy Walks, part of the Walking the Way to Health initiative.Lois has an MSC in Applied Ecology and Conservation from the University of East Anglia and previously worked as a Warden at the Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Weeting Heath Nature Reserve.

The Trust has joined forces with East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC), Lode Parish Council and the Woodland Trust to create a community woodland on White Fen, near Lode. The woodland is part of the ECDC Planting Parishes initiative to increase the level of tree cover in East Cambridgeshire (one of least wooded areas in England) by 5-10%. The site will be planted with trees and shrubs that will provide food for wildlife and humans, including blackthorn for sloes, crab apples and cherries for jams and jellies, and hazel for a delicious source of nuts. A fundraising campaign is currently underway to raise the £8,000 needed for the project. If you would like to support the project you can make a donation online by visiting www.eastcambs.gov.uk/environment/planting-parishes-lode £10 is enough to create 25 sq metres of woodland capable of capturing and storing 1 tonne of carbon in its lifetime. A community tree planting day is planned for early in the New Year.

Christmas is nearly upon us so why not skip the crowds of Cambridge and head to Wicken Fen for your Christmas shopping. We are having a late night shopping evening on Friday 10 December (4.30-8.30pm) as part of our **Lantern Lit Christmas Carols and Chestnuts** evening. Why not make a Christmas lantern, belt out some traditional carols and enjoy mulled wine and chestnuts whilst shopping. For the youngsters, **Father Christmas** will be in his secret grotto at the Fen on Saturday and Sunday 11,12,18 and 19th December. Please phone the Visitor Centre to book an appointment with Santa as spaces are limited -Tickets cost £6.75 which includes a present for each child.

Have a great Christmas and best wishes for the New Year from all the Wicken Fen team.

Howard Cooper

Meeting the Robinsons



Q Congratulations on your 50th wedding anniversary. Exactly when and where were you married?
John: We were married in Witchford, Cambridgeshire on October 15th 1960
Jan: Well done, exactly right.

Q How did you meet?
Jan: We met at a Young Conservatives dance.
John: I reckoned that there were more attractive women at the Young Conservatives, than the Young Farmers
Jan: And I committed the crime of going to the dance with one man and coming back with another

Q Did John go down on once knee?
Jan: No, no. We were in Grunty Fen and John said, `I think we should get married', and I replied, `Oh! That's fine'. We had known each other for about six months, and we met and married in just over a year.
John: I knew that I was in with Jan's father when he invited me to come and see his pedigree pigs

John: Jan had no domestic skills when we first married, and she needed a cook book for every dish. She served up a lovely steak and chips and then I realised it had been cooked by her mum
Jan: I have to agree. My sister is the domesticated one.

Q Where do you honeymoon?
We had our honeymoon in Devon. It had to be between the cereal harvest and the sugar beet. We were the first of our group of friends to get married

Q. So you were young in the 1960s?
Yes, we enjoyed the swinging 60s with parties in the barn etc

Q Are you both from local farming families?
Jan: We come from farming families going back six generations. John from Sutton and I'm from

Witchford. We farmed within about three miles of each other but had not properly met before the dance

Q Spring Hall Farm has been your married home?
Yes we have lived here for 50 years. We bought the house, two cottages and 60 acres. We kept cattle, pigs and had arable land (for cereals, potatoes and sugarbeet, and rye grass for seeds).



Q Were the travellers/gypsies part of farming life?
Jan: Oh yes. On my family's fruit farm they worked from June to October.
John: On our farm we employed them for seasonal work several weeks at a time. They helped here at Reach too, chopping out sugar beet. They had worked for us for three generations and there was mutual respect.

Q Does the landscape look a lot different?
John: Not so much the landscape. The change has been in the loss or conversion of farm buildings, although the majority of houses remain intact. When we first came here it was possible to buy a cottage for a few hundred pounds.
Jan: But it's all relative. When we first married I kept house on £5 10 shillings with an extra 10 shillings when our first son was born.
John: There were more people about during the day when we came here as very few women went out to work. There was a chair in the shop so the elderly, especially, could stay awhile and chat to other customers. Twenty or so years ago newcomers didn't seem to mix so well. Now it is just the opposite and they seem very village orientated which is great.
Jan: We used to have a house in the French Pyrenees. The scenery was breathtakingly beautiful but after a while I would feel claustrophobic and yearn for our fenland landscape, vast skies over our chestnut tree!

Q You have children?
Jan: Yes two sons, Paul and James and also one grandson of twenty two followed by five grand daughters. The youngest is twelve. We helped look after them when their mothers went to work. Wonderful times! I taught at Parsonage Close, Burwell, for ten years whilst the boys were still at school. When the boys went to Writtle Agricultural College I stopped. Then my parents died suddenly and my sister and I carried on running their farm for two more years.

Q How did you get into water skiing? It doesn't seem the most obvious sport when living in Reach
John: We've always had a place by the sea at Hunstanton. I taught our sons to sail then James became keen on windsurfing. Hunstanton Ski Club formed in the 1970s and we became members.

Q What is your advice for a long and happy marriage?
Although we came from similar backgrounds surrounded by loving families our interests and often our opinions were different. In many ways it was a matter of opposites attract and grow more alike. We are very family orientated and have friends of long standing. This helps when you have been married this long.

Claire Halpin-McDonald

Fifty Golden Summers



`There's a farm for sale in a place called Reach' a friend told us. In those days the Rogation Fair was rather parochial and hadn't yet made the big time so we didn't know the village, even though we lived no more than thirty miles away.

It was only a matter of days before we decided to travel south and have a look. John and our fathers declared that the land was fine, and we cast our eyes over the imposing clunch barn and other buildings. The house and two cottages were of secondary importance but it looked as though we would have a roof over our heads.

On closer inspection later on, we discovered that the house was sound and there were tenants in the cottages. The spring water posed no problem as long

as it came up through the taps but I did not think that I would be using the brick copper in the outhouse!

We had two weeks to move in before the wedding. John was busy on the Sutton farm and my mother was occupied doing whatever bride's mothers did in those days. So with two carefully selected helpers I was dispatched to Spring Hall to prepare it. As I hadn't a clue what to do I took my orders from them and managed fine.

So in mid October 1960 John set up home with a wife who couldn't cook, sew or iron. I passed my sewing on to my sister and after ironing holes in John's silk vests, I had a word with my mother. I began to see that the life of fast cars and Babysham pass into oblivion. Then I remembered my amazing gift. I could read! Fifty years and fifty cookery books later we are still here.

We were never lonely. Friends would call unannounced with beer and biscuits. There were several seasonal workers on the farm and a steady stream of tradesmen. The butcher and baker called twice weekly, Mary and Ernie Cole delivered milk from their own cows daily, and Maisie Whitehead cycled round with the post. The Clean Easy man arrived every few weeks and if the urge took me I would purchase a duster the colour of egg yolk. Monthly visits from dear Father Hicks with the Church Magazine were a delight. After enjoying a sherry and a piece of my mother's rich fruit cake, he would gingerly negotiate the planks over the drain to his car.

Early on I became fairly hands on with sick calves. This was a new experience and I well remember the cold nights John and I spent with storm lanterns giving light and warmth in the pens. I suppose this stood me in good stead when later I had to get up during wintry nights to attend to our infant sons. The only heat being from an ancient Arga. A few years later they would don extra sweaters and fingerless gloves to do their homework in their rooms. Being indulgent parents they were often given a one bar electric fire to ease their pain.

Our two little boys grew up planning expeditions to the moon, climbing Mount Everest and trekking the Sahara Desert. In Reach it is still possible to indulge in these adventures. The Kon Tiki experience is memorable for its failure when the Robinson-Moseley raft proved too heavy and Justin sustained a nasty injury.

It has been necessary to drop our interests which revolved around our former homes, and anyway we are content just being here. Nevertheless when it was agreed that the former school building be renovated John joined the group of volunteers to help. Gradually it was used for a variety of things including a monthly auction and a Table Tennis Club. John became the first chairman.

The biggest change is the demise of the family farm but this is the same almost everywhere. Gone is The White Horse Pub where our mothers drank sherry out of tumblers (no small glasses available), and declared that Reach was a very, very nice place.

For me as a mother, my memories are of our children and later our six grandchildren canoeing along the drain through a tunnel of grasses and flowers, lost to the real world, living out their adventure.

The spirit of Reach is quite special. I'm so glad John brought me here fifty summers ago.

Jan Robinson

Days Gone By



In December 1977 and January 1978, Mull of Kintyre (by Paul McCartney's group, Wings) topped the charts, the first Star Wars movie reached London to a rapturous reception and silent film legend Charlie Chaplin died (on Christmas Day).

In Reach, there were few exciting events although the following advert did appear in Out of Reach magazine;

WANTED: Three machetes for sale or hire, as security against council eviction! Contact Colin, Toni or Pete, Highfield Farm. I understand that these were three schoolteachers at Bottisham Village College who rented the farm from the Council at this time. To the best of my knowledge the machetes were never required!

The Table Tennis Club was flourishing and completed a 24 hour marathon to raise money for a new table. Colin Fletcher, Club Secretary, wrote an article in Out of Reach magazine congratulating Paul Fuller for being there at the beginning and the end, Peter Bridgeman for not starting or finishing but merely being there for the rest of the 23 hours and 55 minutes and Nicola Harding for consuming more food and drink than any other person.

Our eating habits may have been a little different in those days. The magazine recipe in December was for "Ham and Banana Rolls". A slice of ham was to be wrapped around each peeled banana. Then margarine was melted in a pan and flour blended in with milk and cheese. This sauce was then poured

over the bananas and ham and baked in the oven before being served with a green salad. Yummy!?

The Village Centre seems to have been a vibrant place at this time. Every Monday evening there was table tennis and Tuesday was Bingo. Other events were:

Dec. 2nd	Tramps Night with Pete Brown Sound.
Dec. 7th	Over 60's Dinner
Dec.10th	School Age Disco with Fancy Dress Competition
Dec.15th	Annual Hospital Whist Drive
Dec.30th	New Year's Eve Party

And in January "King" Len Warren used the Village Centre to deliver what was doubtless a riveting lecture entitled "Kingdom of Reach, City of Angelsea and Devolution". According to John Robinson at the time, "Len Warren has made various claims about our history, varying from Selling the (Kingdom) to the Russians, to Independence for Reach".

Probably Maisie Whitehead would have attended some of those Village Centre events.



She and her brother Dick were brought up in the village, living with their parents at Water Hall Farm before moving into her present property next door to the farm on Great Lane. She was a postwoman for years (crossing the river at Hurdle Hall by boat), took Church Sunday School for a good sixty years, played the church organ, taught the piano and was a fine seamstress. She was part of a farming family and still cooks cakes and sometimes bread.

She is sensitive about her age but I am sure she won't mind me saying that she is our most senior village citizen. Her sight and hearing are not what they were but she has an excellent memory and when I visited her with Janet Robinson, she was able to give me a lovely insight into how life used to be in Reach.

During the Second World War she worked at Marshalls and remembers the Swan Lake pillbox and the searchlight which was installed behind her house. An unexploded bomb was found and dealt with – but not without some humorous moments in the process.

She remembers the introduction of electricity into the village in 1953 by Mrs Bert Badcock and the Coronation Supper in the Village Centre. She has photos of the damage caused to the Church in 1958 when it was hit by lightning during a storm.

One of her other photos is clearly of a Christmas Party at the School. If anyone can recognise any of the children and can date the event, please let me know.



Maisie is a lovely lady and long may she enjoy her life in Reach - I thoroughly enjoyed our meeting (with thanks going to Janet Robinson for making it happen).

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

David Parr

SOLUTION TO ZENIDA'S CROSSWORD NO.3

ACROSS: 1. CALLIGRAPHY. 5. GENIAL.
8. WINDSOR. 11. GOWN. 12. THANK.
13. SHAMROCK. 15. ARROWS. 17. FLIP.
19. KNELL. 22. PLAYING. 24. CAP. 25. TRICKS.
28. MAKING. 30. FABLE. 31. EMU. 32. LID.
34. ROT. 35. DRUM. 37. MARROW. 40. OPALS.
42. NECTAR. 43. SOME. 44. AWARE. 45. STINT.

DOWN: 1.CLOG. 2. LEAN. 3. GUITAR. 4. HAWK.
6. LIVID. 7. ENOUGH . 9. SALMON. 10. ROAN.
13. SCROLL. 14. KELP. 16. WRINKLED.
18. PLAID. 20. LECTERN. 21. RISOTTO.23. GIN.
26. RABBLE. 27. DENTISTS. 28. MUSHROOM.
29. GLUM. 30. FALCON. 33. DREAMER.
36. PORT.

Women's Institute

At the Burwell W.I. meeting on 30th. September, the members were entertained with an account of Keith Baldwin's experiences about when he had served as a soldier in the Household Cavalry.

He explained that they have a large armoured division, which mainly serves overseas, while a smaller section remains in London to guard the Queen. He experienced both of them. His accounts of the horses he rode in London and his exploits overseas were very amusing.

Zenida McDonald

Burwell W.I. had a fun evening with a Beetle Drive in October. As it was a progressive game it gave an excellent opportunity to mingle and get to know fellow members better.



Avis Brown

It was also a chance to hand over the decorated, present-filled shoe-boxes members had assembled for the Samaritan's Purse Scheme which sends the gifts to children in deprived countries.

On 25th. November, at the Gardiner Memorial Hall at 7.30p.m. the speaker will be Hilary Fielding, whose title for her talk is 'A Festive Thought'. Yes, Christmas is fast approaching! Visitors are very welcome to join us.

There is no meeting in December because of the holiday, but members will celebrate with dinner at a local hotel. The first meeting of 2011 will be in the Gardiner Memorial Hall on 29th. January at 7.15 for 7.30 p.m.

For further information please contact President Kay Tee on Tel: 01638 743191.

Avis Brown

The Mothers' Union

The Burwell Mothers' Union Programme from November 2010 to January 2011 is as follows:

24th November at 2.30p.m.
M.U. Social Policy -Helen Banyard, at the Guildhall.

1st December at 7.30p.m. Advent Reflections.

15th. December at 2.30p.m. Christmas Party.

5 January 2011 at 7.30p.m. Meal.

26th. January at 2.30p.m.
Experiences of China- Hazel.

Please phone **Susan Baker** on: 01638-741791 for confirmation of dates and venues. Many thanks to Susan for providing the above details.

The Women's Harvest Breakfast, held on 2nd. October 2010 in the Guildhall was very well attended. The breakfast was delicious. We enjoyed the illustrated talk presented by **Susan Bowden-Pickstock** about the 'quiet gardens' Susan and Chris Bard visited around Britain, over the space of two years, for a radio documentary. Unfortunately, Chris, who was a vicar, died suddenly at Dublin airport before the tour was finished. Susan wrote about their tour in her book 'Quiet Gardens-The Roots of Faith,' exploring how making a garden can provide spiritual upliftment, transcending cultural and religious differences. A conversation was reported from Beth Chatto's garden near Colchester. Triangles in Beth's garden represent Earth, Heaven and Humankind. Some gardens were ideal for reflection or meditation and provided comfort for those who had lost a wife or a husband.

Quiet Gardens-The Roots of Faith, by Susan Bowden-Pickstock, is published by Continuum at £16.99. ISBN9781847063410 Hardcover, 184 pages.

Zenida McDonald

Little Windmills

Little Windmills are having a busy Autumn term.

Harvest Festival was held in Reach church at the end of September. Olivia Coles led us in our celebration of the harvest. Thank you to Olivia and her husband Alasdair who baked a plaited loaf of bread for all the children to share. The service was very much enjoyed by all.



The children had great fun constructing our very own scarecrow. The children named him David and as Nicola our Deputy Manager donated one of her sons smart suits he became 'David the Commuter' complete with hat, tie, umbrella and briefcase! We entered David into the first Wicken Fen Scarecrow Competition and we were delighted to win the 'Best dressed scarecrow' category.



For Halloween we carved a pumpkin and made delicious soup from the pumpkin flesh.



The children were taken on board in small groups to explore and parents were also invited on at the end of For the second year running we were able to arrange a special visit from the Mobile Library the session .

Once again we are participating in the Children in Need appeal. This year we are asking the children how many spots are on the teddy bear.

In early December we have been invited to participate in a tree planting activity session organised by Snakehall Farm. A report of this will follow.

Towards the end of term we are hoping that Father Christmas will pay us a visit if he is not too busy at the North Pole. We will also be holding a Christmas service in the Church followed by our end of term party.

This term we welcomed Sue Burge to our team who is also studying towards the Level 3 Diploma for Children and Young people at Cambridge Regional college. We will be saying farewell and thank you to Yvonne at the end of term and we wish her well in her new job. This term has also seen some changes on the Little Windmills committee and we extend a warm welcome to all the new volunteers and thank all previous members for their hard efforts, commitment and support.

If you would like to know more about our Pre-school, please visit our website on: www.littlewindmills.co.uk or ring 07803671200 during our session times to check availability.

Susan Bluck

RECENT 100 CLUB WINNERS

October	**David Harrison**	£20
November	**Not drawn**	£20

Swaffham Prior Primary School

Diane Hawkes
Head teacher

Christmas always starts very early in schools – and at Swaffham Prior it is no exception!

You will not be surprised to know that Christmas Carols have already started resounding through the walls into my office as both our Key Stage 1 and KeyStage 2 choirs begin the task of learning all the words and tunes of their various chosen Carols.

We are looking forward, very much to our Christmas events this year:

The Christmas Fair – this is going to be on Friday 10th December from 2.30pm. We will have a varied assortment of stalls where you can win a prize or buy a gift for someone, visit Santa's Grotto or the Book Fair, have a nice cup of tea and a mince pie at the café. Everyone is welcome and we are sure that there will be something of interest for all.



Our Christmas Celebrations – This year we are having two performances of our Celebration at St Mary's Church. The first is at 1.15pm on Tuesday 14th December and the second at 6.30pm on Wednesday 15th December. The children will be presenting a varied programme including some traditional nativity elements, drama/acting, instrument playing and of course lots of singing!

Our Key Stage 2 choir is going to be very busy over the coming weeks with their first Christmas event at Anglesey Abbey on Sunday 5th December when they are going to be performing for people in the restaurant while they eat their Christmas lunch. They will obviously then perform at our Church celebrations and finally they will be singing at St Mary's for the Village Carol Service.

We were very pleased to have sent off 46 shoeboxes filled with toys and gifts this week to the Operation Christmas Child charity. We have been told that our boxes are heading off to Kurdistan – somehow knowing their destination makes it an even more poignant event to take part in. A big thank you to all our families and friends who kindly sent in boxes.

On a completely different theme, we are very excited that our new school website is finally under construction and as pages are completed they will appear on the site. This should start happening next week. We are intending to upload the newsletter fortnightly onto the site as well as other useful information for the whole school community. We will keep you updated about its progress! The address for our website is: www.swaffhamprior.cambs.sch.uk. Please visit our site and let us know what you think!

Even though it seems very early I would like to take this chance to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

Country Lore

On the evening of Sunday 7th November a nearby private firework display reduced our dog to a quivering wreck. Shortly afterwards, at 8.20 pm we received a message from Lorraine advising that the close proximity of these fireworks was driving our two (sensible, elderly) horses demented down in their field. We raced over and discovered them in the farthest corner high-blowing and terrified. Despite countless years of ownership they wouldn't let us anywhere near.

The following morning revealed the field lacerated with hoof skid marks. It contained a substantial quantity of firework detritus – rocket casings, wooden sticks and large, solid pieces of plastic. One horse was very obviously lame.

The people who let the fireworks off neighbour the field (whoever they are). Therefore they know the horses are there. Surely they could hear the unmistakable sound of galloping hooves or see the rocket flares revealed two panicking animals? With forewarning we could have moved the horses to another field or, had the display been earlier in the evening, certainly made sure we were there.

Please, spare a more responsible thought for livestock next November 5th, 6th, 7th ….

Joss Goodchild
Great Lane


Event Room
Hire Available!
Tea at
By Jove!
Don't
forget!
By Jove! is pleased to announce the launch of Murder Mystery evenings. Experience the thrill and excitement of your very own Cambridgeshire Agatha Christie evening! Please call for further details and dates.
By Jove! Tearooms
By Jove! Tearooms in Burwell, offers a quintessentially British tea experience. Since tea was imported into the United Kingdom over 300 years ago, it has been rightly chosen as the drink of the nation!
With a selection of over 25 loose teas & freshly ground coffees there is a taste to suit all discerning palates. Great effort is made to ensure we offer the widest variety of homemade cakes, always served generously! Whilst our Breakfasts, Lunches and Afternoon Teas offer the best of British produce.
By Jove! is also proud to be the home of two superb gift shops.
Why not support British with Murphy Baker Woven Heritage Gifts. We have scoured the land to bring customers the most unique- and classic British design and wares from across the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. Working with companies that have over 250 years experience in their respective industries you are sure to be proud of Britannia.
So the only question is…Will You Support British?
Murphy-Baker
Woven Heritage Gifts
By Jove! Tearooms & Murphy-Baker Woven Heritage Gift Shop | Call 01638 602086
The Old School, 30a High Street, Burwell | Visit www.byjovetearooms.co.uk
Opening Times Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 10am - 5pm, Sat & Sun 10am - 5.30pm

Christmas Kids' Page



Riddle

The last letter of the first word of the pub's name

The first letter of the name of the last house on The Hythe

Answer: Page 34

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

Find these words:

BELL	SANTA	REINDEER	SNOW	STABLE
TURKEY	DONKEY	SHEPHERD	ANGEL	CHRISTMAS
BAUBLE	STABLE	MARY	BETHLEHEM	JESUS
JOSEPH	PRESENT	RUDOLF		

Find these odd words out: TRACTOR, EASTER-EGG

Susie Tucker

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To place an advertisement contact David Parr on **01638 744081** or **davidmparr@btinternet.com**
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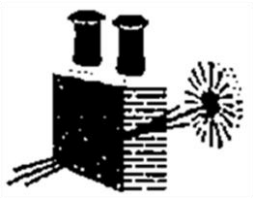

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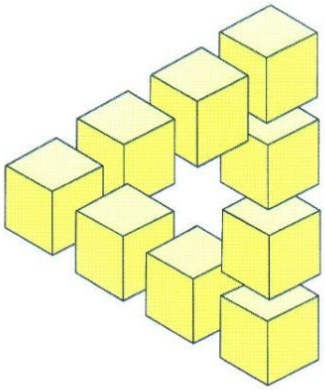

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Saturday	Midday to 11pm	Midday to 2pm, 7pm to 9pm
Sunday	Midday to 11pm	Midday to 2pm
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You risk disappointment if you don't book in advance so please give us a call during our Opening Hours on **01638 743816**

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You can download all of our menus from our website at **www.dykesend.co.uk**

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Film Review



David Cane



In October I saw despicable me, it was really funny. It is a film of an ‘evil’ man who adopts three children to find a shrink-ray to steal the moon.



My favourite characters where the minions.



Gru is cool as well but his mum is a bit mad.



Gru’s enemy is Vector who wears a tracksuit and glasses.





The three children are funny. They get to see an embarrassing picture of Gru’s past.

I Love Teddi

I Love Teddi Todie

Halpin mc donald.

Ted loves to eat human food but is supposed eat dog food. She won 1 FB prize at inbedience class, She has never been in inbedience class befor.

ted like to sleep alot.

She lives whith her mum who is pix, her brother ollie, and sep mum bun. the best thing about Teddi is she is a lively puppy even though she is 5.







DOG FACTS:

Dogs dont mind cats, dogs live to 20, Some dogs are friendley Some are not but are dogs are friendley.



Rita's Recipes

It's Christmas – are you like me behind with the preparations? No time to bake `the Cake'! Try the following recipe for a quick and easy fruit cake. The addition of the brandy makes it a suitable substitute for the traditional cake which should have been made weeks ago.

Easy Fruit Cake



Rita Dunnett

Ingredients

225g Self raising flour
100g Sugar
100g Butter (cut into small pieces)
2 Large eggs
350g Mixed Ground Fruit
Small teacup of milk
Pinch of salt
½ Teaspoon mixed spice
2 Tablespoons Brandy (optional)

Method

Grease and line a 2lb loaf tin. Pre heat oven to 180 C.
Put all the ingredients into a bowl and mix thoroughly transfer the mixture to the tin and bake for 1½ hours

For the Chocoholics – No Bake Delights

Ingredients

300g Nice biscuits
100g Seedless raisins
4 Tblsp Golden syrup
1 Tblsp Rum (optional)
100g Glace cherries
100g Chocolate
150g Butter
Swiss roll tin (lightly greased)

Method

Crush the biscuits (not too fine). Cut the cherries into pieces and add them to the biscuits with the raisins. Break up the chocolate and melt it in a saucepan with the syrup and the butter. When it is quite smooth, stir the liquid into the biscuits and mix thoroughly. Press the mixture into the tin and leave to harden. Cut into squares and store in an airtight tin.

Truffles

Ingredients

200g Plain chocolate
100g Unsalted butter
100g Ground almonds
4 Tblsp Brandy or orange juice
120g Sieved icing sugar
Glace cherries (halved)

Method

Break up the chocolate into a bowl and place this over a pan of hot water. Add the brandy and leave to melt over a gentle heat. Remove from the heat and stir in the butter (this should be fairly soft). Mix in the icing sugar and the almonds so that it is well blended. Leave in a cool place until the mixture is firm enough to handle. Roll the balls in grated chocolate, drinking chocolate or chocolate strands. Put into paper cases and press half a cherry on the top. Pack into a box and store in a cool place.

For the Children – Shortbread Biscuits

Ingredients

225g Block of butter (at room temperature)
100g Caster sugar (little extra for dusting)
350g Plain floor
Small pinch of salt

Method

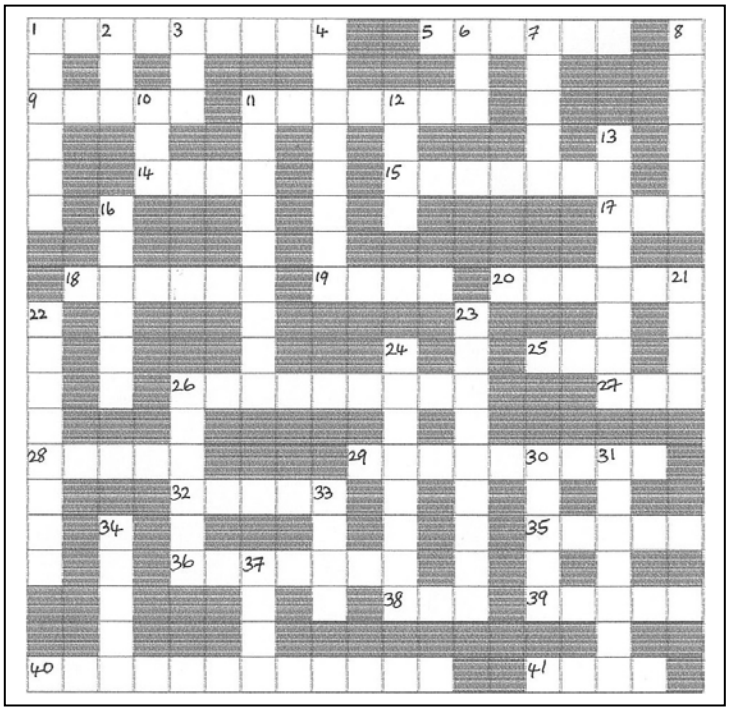
Lightly grease two baking trays. Pre-heat oven to 180C

With a wooden spoon beat the butter and sugar together in a bowl until thoroughly incorporated. Sift in the floor and the salt. Continue using the wooden spoon work the mixture until it resembles breadcrumbs.

Using your hands gather the mixture together and form into a ball. Transfer to a floured board and knead lightly, try to avoid too much handling. Using a lightly floured rolling pin roll out the dough (1cm thick) and cut out the biscuits using Christmas Cookie Cutters. Bake for about 20 minutes until golden, cool for a few minutes, and transfer the biscuits to a cooling tray. Dust with sugar and store in an airtight tin.

Get busy and have a Merry Christmas - Rita

Zenida's Crossword Number 4



A £5 Book Token will be awarded for the first correct entry opened.

Please send your entry by Friday 7th January 2011 to **Zenida's Crossword No.4**, North View House, 16 Chapel Lane, Reach, CB25 OJJ and giving your

Name: _____

Address:

_____

_____

Tel: _____

Congratulations to Miss J. Griffiths, Leeds, on sending in the only correct solution to Zenida's Crossword No. 3.
A £5 book token has been sent to her.

ACROSS

1 I'm dreaming of a white … (9)
5 Used to decorate tree? (6)
9 Bird often seen on Christmas cards? (5)
11 He may have a carrot nose. (7)
14 A seasonal log. (4)
15 It makes cards sparkle. (7)
17 Part of a play. (3)
18 Glass tree decoration. (6)
19 Gift given to Baby Jesus. (4)
20 Christmas table bird. (6)
25 Tree we decorate. (3)
26 Kiss beneath it! (9)
27 A respectful male title. (3)
28 Twelve. (5)
29 Seasonal theatrical show. (9)
32 Exchanged at Christmas time.(5)
35 Rustic. (5)
36 He has a very shiny nose! (7)
38 Opposite of 'No'. (3)
39 It has red berries. (5)
40 Gift for Baby Jesus. (12)
41 We …. you a Merry Christmas! (4)

DOWN

1 Sung in December. (6)
2 Chest bone. (3)
3 It shines on us! (3)
4 Hang it up on Christmas Eve. (8)
6 There was no room in the … (3)
7 Snowy rain. (5)
8 The period before Christmas. (6)
10 The holly and the --- (3)
11 They watched their flocks. (9)
12 The three Wise Men. (4)
13 They may contain jokes. (8)
16 A type of nut. (6)
21 And a Happy New…. (4)
22 He had a very shiny nose!
23 Nice hot and roasted!
24 Ssh! Don't wake the kids! Be … (8)
26 Away in a … (6)
30 Gift for Baby Jesus. (5)
31 A child's game. (7)
33 It goes with pepper. (4)
34 Pleasant odour. (5)
37 Day-break. (4).

The answers to the previous Crossword can be found on **page 15**



Reach Tennis Court

It was in June 2009 that Helen Oliver suggested that the village would benefit from having a tennis court. I've always been one for a challenge so this seemed like a fine project. My friends and I used to play the game at school since it gave us the opportunity to meet girls (it didn't work in my case so I haven't played since).

The project was raised during the July Parish Council meeting and got the support of the councillors, subject to there being a good demand from villagers. An email was sent out and without coercion over 20% of the villagers were positive and enthusiastic so now money needed to be found.

The Amenity Fund responded well, providing the project with £1,000 but the major break-through came from S106 monies from ECDC. We went for £20,000 and got half of this amount but it gave the project credibility when seeking further funds. A Reach villager donated £500 and a local firm Delta-T devices, generously gave us £666. The largest donation ultimately came from Donarbon with £14,850 which gave us the £27,000 that we needed. Our grateful thanks go to all our donors.

With the money in place (this was now July 2010) the search for a supplier took place with Peterborough based Anglia and Midland Sports Surfaces being chosen based on quality, a good reference and cost. Work started on the 25th of October and the court was ready for use on the 27th November. At this stage it is not painted – this will happen when the temperature is more as required in April 2011 but temporary white lines are in place.



Grateful thanks go to John Cole and Graham Reeve who worked hard and long taking away around 300 tons of spoil (as opposed to the 120 tons I mentioned to him!) and also to Sue and Ewen Cameron who allowed access to their water for mixing cement and laying the macadam.



So – how is it all going to work?

- The court is freely available to Reach residents and their accompanied guests. Whenever the court is in use, at least one Reach resident must be playing.
- Play can take place at any time during the hours of daylight.
- The court will be locked when not in use. A combination lock will be used and the combination will be freely made available to Reach residents by the Clerk, David Parr, who can be contacted on 744081 or 07887 563720.
- Courts may be booked using the weekly forms kept within the cabinet on court. Individual sessions can be booked up to a maximum period of 1.5 hours and up to two weeks in advance.
- If a booking has to be cancelled, this needs to be done using the forms kept within the cabinet on court.
- If you play without making a prior booking, please fill in the sheet as a booking so that the level of court usage can be monitored.
- The net tension must be released when players leave the court vacant.
- Trainers or tennis shoes must be worn on court.
- To keep the court maintenance costs as low as possible, players must change into their trainers or tennis shoes when they arrive on court.
- It is recommended that younger children do not use the court unless supervised by a responsible adult.

The aim is to make it all as simple as possible.

The Parish Council also agreed that the court can be used for badminton and netball, but it will not be marked out for these games. No other games are allowed to be played on the court – neither the surface nor the fencing is suitable, for instance, for football.

In due course we hope to identify a coach who will help us to improve.

There will be a formal opening of the court after it is painted, probably in April 2011 – when our donors will come along and maybe make the odd speech with photographs. In the meantime, a small opening event is planned for Reach residents at **3.00pm on Sunday 5th December** – so please make a note in your diaries.

David Parr

BOTTISHAM PLAYERS
A CLASS ACT TO FOLLOW

BOTTISHAM PLAYERS PRESENT

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
THE PANTOMIME

Our next production will be the Pantomime in January 2011. We will be performing Beauty And The Beast written and directed by Dan Park one of our members. An epic tale of a Prince transformed into a beast, a witch out to ensure that the prince does not find true loves kiss, a Dame looking to flirt with everybody, and Lazy Ben who his just pretty lazy. There is of course the beautiful village girl, however will she and the Beast fall in love, or will the self-obsessed Brutus who is secretly a mummy's boy get the girl of his dreams, and all before the last petal of the rose falls.

Throw in a few pieces of talking furniture, a pantomime horse, and a host of enthusiastic skeletons, and this is one pantomime that you really do not want to miss. The venue is Bottisham Village college main hall on Thursday January 20th, Friday 21st, Saturday 22nd 2011 starting at 7.30pm with a matinee on the Saturday at 2.30pm. Tickets are £7.50 with concessions at £5.50 on Thursday evening and Saturday matinee. Tickets will be available early in January from Bottisham Post Office, Chris Clarke Hairdressing and Tina's of Burwell. Or you can ring Ted Southcombe on our telephone booking line 01223 811033.

So put these dates in your diary and we will see you there for this great pantomime. For more details or information on Bottisham Players visit our website www.bottishamplayers.org.uk.

Cricket Report

Ross Clark
743725
rossjclark@aol.com



I've been right through my well-thumbed copy of the *Oxford Dictionary of English Sporting Cliches* and I give up.

I just can't find anything which does justice to our final game of the season, the annual Reach versus Burwell Derby. David versus Goliath? At least David could launch a spherical object in a straight line. The mouse that roared? But even the Grand Duchy of Fenwick had several times the number of grown men as Reach does.

Let's just look at the facts: Burwell, population approx 4,500 against Reach's 350. Burwell's cricket team is up there in the East Anglian Premier League, stuffed with former Zimbabwean test players. Our occasional team of made up of greying horticulturalists. Put the two teams together on a cricket pitch and surely there could be only one outcome. Even the famous odds of 500-1 given against an England win at Headingley in 1981 would have looked mean when you looked at our chances on paper.

Okay, we had two of Burwell's usual first-team players – Paul Redfarn and Andy Knight, who fulfil the residency requirements for Reach. Admittedly without their contributions we scored a total of 35 runs between us. Two of Burwell's players were under 10 and one was in his 70s. But these are minor matters. The fact is that by the end of the afternoon we had snatched a victory that has shaken the world of cricket.



Putting Burwell into bat, we bowled them out for 211 runs in 39 overs. Gwillym Davies ripped his way through the under 10s to finish with 4 for 33. It wouldn't have been the same without heroic fielding on the part of Andrew Trump's, who took a rising ball from the bat of Adam Huckle, formerly of Zimbabwe, off my bowling. Never mind that the ball had really deserved to be called wide, it was my first-ever test wicket.

But one reaps, as it were, what one sows: Huckle took savage revenge on my entire family in the following innings, with not a run between us. But it wasn't enough on his part. Thanks to Andy Knight, who managed 74 before succumbing to his own son's bowling, and Paul Refarn's boisterous 78 we were home.
I think we know who we are going to have to face next year: Burwell's entire first team, made ravenous on a diet of nothing but red meat for a week beforehand.

Sports News

Juliet Vickery



Gwilym Davies 'Raves about Rugby'

Gwilym plays for the Newmarket under 15s Rugby team as part of a 20 strong squad.



Gwilym Davies (centre), a demonstration of why rugby is called a contact sport!

Having played for them as an Under 11 he plays the positions of winger or outside centre. "We travel all over East Anglia to play teams like Woodbridge, Ipswich Ely and Huntingdon" says Gwilym. Their biggest rivalry is apparently with Shelford and Cambridge. Shelford is one of best teams in East Anglia but Newmarket were only narrowly defeated by them earlier this month. The rugby season starts in September and finishes at the end of April 8 months of serious contact sport (see the photo) much of it in cold wet and freezing winter weather. What does he enjoy about it so much? "getting it right on the day, the feeling of the training coming god when you do a good tackle for example" . judging from the accompanying action shot I certainly wouldn't like to get into an argument with this young him! Despite playing for four years one thing has eluded Gwilym – scoring a try but he adds "not for lack of trying!"

Thoughts of a middle-aged, middle-distance runner by Sue Jordan

It all started with one of those casual throw-away comments one makes over New Year - 'I wouldn't mind a go at a half marathon before I 'm fifty' , I said to my younger brother. It came as no surprise to me that he replied he couldn't let his older sister have a go without joining in himself (we have always been a competitive family – trivial pursuit, beach rounders, spitting cherry stones etc). And in a way it all made sense to sign up for the Great North Run as my brother and his family live within walking distance of the start, and my sister-in-law helps run a charity called Northeast Special Needs Network which offers support to children and young adults (including my nephew) and their families in the Newcastle area. (www.nsnn.org.uk for further information and donations)



Sue Jordan and her brother, Graham

Our first race was in September 2004 and so with trepidation we began to train in the spring, adopting the GNR Training Plan 3 aimed at 'Those who want to get around safely in sub 2 ½ hours'. It begins gently enough with a run on a Sunday, a shorter run on a Wednesday and a middling length run on a Friday. We stuck to this plan independently throughout the spring and summer, keeping to the same pattern but gradually increasing the distances from a modest 6 miles per week at the start of the training to a more respectable 20 miles and more per week (in good weather and with a following wind) towards the end.

September 26, 2004 saw the two novices turning up for the race far too early, far too excited and far too full of water, most of which needed to be jettisoned before we could even contemplate running! We were also unprepared for the dress code for the event – evidently one turns up in warm joggers and tops, gloves and hats, which are off-loaded at the beginning of the race to be collected up later for charity clothing outlets. We now remember to buy clothes at a charity shop beforehand and drop them off at the beginning of the race, which is a very green and satisfying way of making a further donation. We have also learnt from experience over the years to modify our fluid intake (but invariably nerves mean we need to take a comfort break just before the race starts -keep away from the grass verges near the start line on the A167M!) and to take the sports drinks on offer during the race to keep up our fluid and salt levels. We have also learnt to pace ourselves very steadily at approximately 10 minutes per mile throughout the race which means that we are constantly over taken at the beginning of the race but pretty smug towards the end when we are ourselves doing some overtaking.

And the Great North Run itself? A wonderful experience of physical highs and lows along the route, of friendship and support from 54,000 other runners and even more spectators, of noise from steel bands, Elvis lookalikes, heavy metal rock bands and 'oggi, oggi, oggi' from the Newcastle Toon supporters, of laughter at those dressed in wide array of outfits from Daffy Duck to Doctor Who, of admiration for soldiers in full combat gear with heavy rucksacks, and of compassion for those running in t-shirts marked with 'I'm doing this for you, Dad' or in 'memory of a beloved sister, Gran, baby son' etc. The final swoop down onto the sea front at South Shields and the final mile along the prom, with the Red Arrows flying overhead, the cheers of the crowd and the thought of the food parcel and warm clothing brought along by our loyal partners marks the end of half marathon for another year. Already our thoughts are changing from 'never again' to 'if we start training a little earlier next year we may get an even better time and raise even more money!'

(PS for those still interested in our achievements we have now run in 6 Great North Runs together, trained by running some 2,000 odd miles each (some very odd depending in which country we were training in at that time) and have achieved finishing times of between 2 hours 10 minutes and 2 hours 30 minutes, while raising some useful funds for the Northeast Special Needs Network)

Sarah Matta Talks Tennis

Given Reach is soon to get its own tennis court I asked the Matta family (well Sarah Matta [mum!] to be precise) to tell us a bit about the part tennis plays in their life - it's a huge part of it as you will see. Not only does Sarah still play competitively but she has inspired her two sons Joe (15 years) and Charlie (13 years) to follow in her foot steps with some great results!

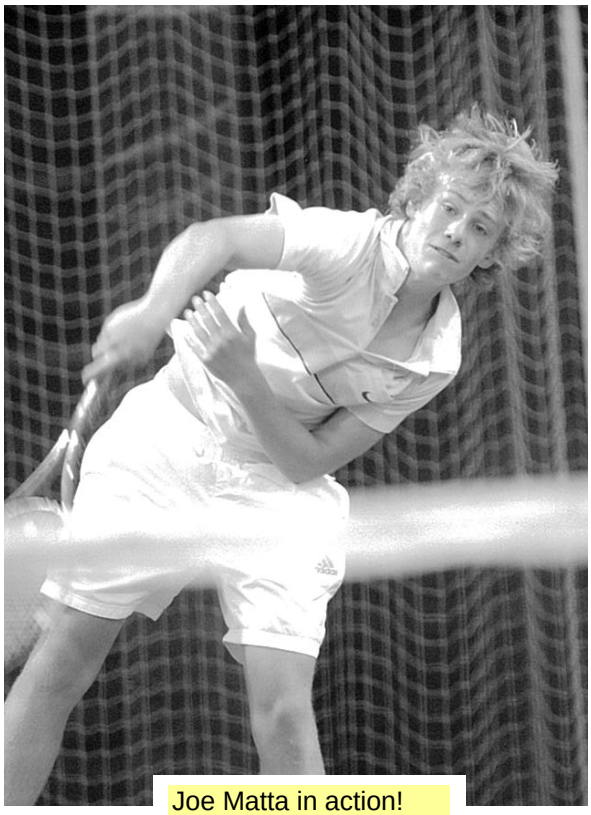
As a family we are very excited that the village of Reach is going to soon have a tennis court. It was the one thing that, as a child, I loved and when possible played every day. So since my two boys Joe and Charlie were able to walk they have played tennis and thankfully they love the game as much as I do, in fact it has become a huge part of their life.



Joe (left) and Charlie Matta

They both now go to Culford School in Bury St Edmunds, where they are fortunate to have an indoor tennis Centre that they regularly use. Joe is part of the tennis Academy, which means tennis is actually built into of his school timetable. He will play each day for an average of 3 hours, both with a coach and within a group, which enables him to have hard but sociable tennis. Most evenings he won't come home until 7.30pm and then have homework for a couple of hours, which he will do without complaint as he feels fulfilled by his day of vigorous exercise. Charlie also plays on a regular basis and is part of the Culford tennis team, recently travelling to Devon to compete against another club. This was very successful and wonderful fun.

Tennis is a game that can be played by all ages and all levels, as a family for fun or as I have now found out with two boys to WIN!!! In East Anglia there are many competitions that both children and adults can take part in. We spend our school holidays and many weekends travelling around the country with both boys and myself competing in matches and tournaments, this is a huge commitment for the whole family, but a time that we get to spend together which is unusual with teenagers.



Joe Matta in action!

Joe had a very successful summer winning four singles events and a doubles event with his brother; this was a very proud moment. Joe became player of the year at school, we are very proud of both our boys.

Having a tennis court in the village is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to have some fun, get some exercise and maybe, who knows we may find our new world champion!! It is a fabulous sport that can be enjoyed by everyone.

Sara Matta

REACH SPORTS CLUB

The Sports Club exists to promote sporting activities within Reach.

Our prime function over the past few years has been the organising of the annual Sports Day and this has been left to one or two individuals with minimal input from the Sports Club.

In the past we have organised table tennis tournaments, darts evenings etc, but these have lapsed due to lack of interest.

In order to gauge the interest within the village for these and other sporting events, Juliet and I are calling a meeting of the Sports Club on Wednesday 12th January 2011 at 8:00pm in the Village Hall.

This meeting will also serve as an EGM for the Sports Club and will elect the following officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary

The current balance of the Sports Club account is £123.60

Everyone from the village is welcome to attend and put forward their views.

After the Election of Officers the meeting will then discuss any future sports related events which could be organised.

If you cannot come to the meeting with your views please contact Juliet or me in advance.

AP Jordan
Chairman

Juliet 724676 juliet.vickery@yahoo.co.uk

Tony 743408 tony@reach-village.co.uk

Juliet's joy at second successive title win

TRIATHLON

by Graham Clark
graham.clark@
newmarketjournal.co.uk

JULIET VICKERY has rounded off another successful season by taking her second successive Eastern Region Triathlon title.

After racking up four successive victories in the series, which requires athletes to submit their best five scores with a minimum of two results from both Olympic and sprint distance events, the 47-year-old from Reach made it five out of five in the 45-49 age group with a win in the Bedford Sprint Triathlon earlier this month.

Vickery completed the 400m swim, 24k cycle ride and 5k run in a time of 1 hour 12 mins 57 secs, just under a minute ahead of runner-up Gill Fullen from the Bedford Harriers Athletics Club.

As a result of victory in her final event Vickery scored a perfect total of 50,000 points, 10,017 ahead of second-placed Elizabeth Ross from the Tri-Sport Epping Club.

Victory in the series comes just six weeks after she bagged a silver medal in the 45-49 age category at this year's World Duathlon Championships in Edinburgh.

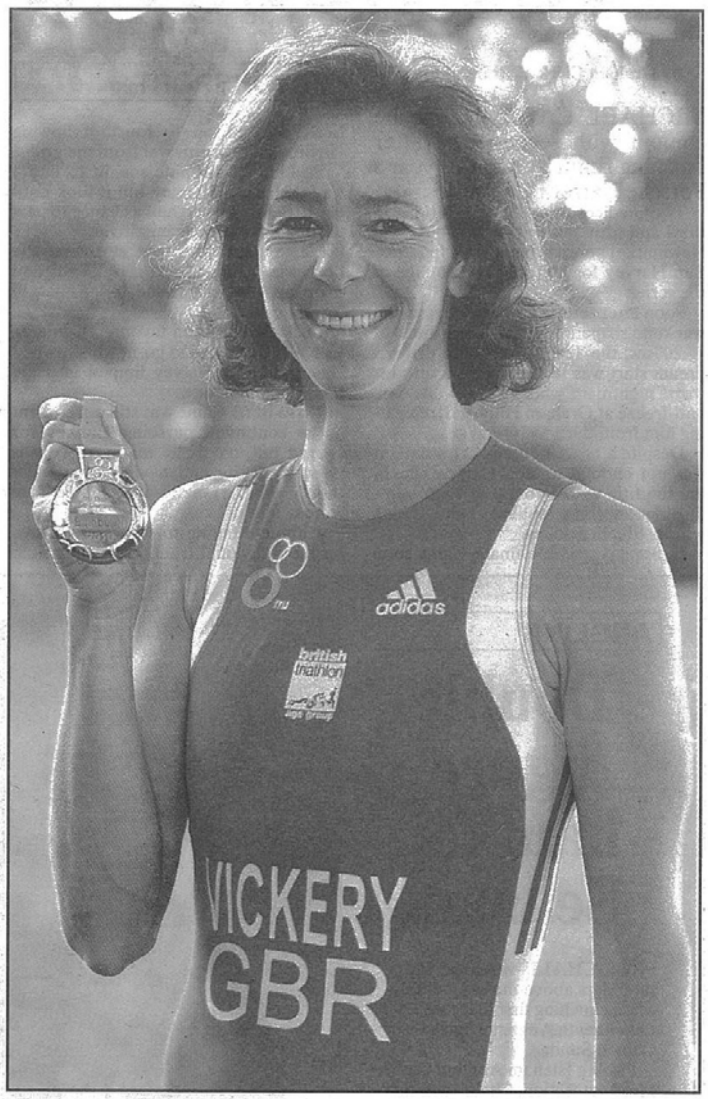
"It is a really nice way to end the season on a high and I am really pleased to have finished with a perfect 50,000," said Vickery.

With this season's events all done and dusted, Vickery – who works for the RSPB – has already laid early plans for next year.

She said: "I am going to take a month of to give my Achilles' the chance to have a rest along with spending more time with my family, who have been very supportive throughout the season.

"I am thinking at this stage that I may take a year off triathlon and concentrate on my cycling. Hopefully, by focusing on just one discipline, it may make me stronger in that field.

"With next year's World Duathlon in Spain, I may even give that a go depending on how things go."



CHAMPION AGAIN: Juliet Vickery who has won her second successive Eastern Region Triathlon Series.

I came across this article in the Newmarket Journal (dated 14 October 2010), and it is re-produced with their permission. If you come across articles featuring someone from Reach please let me know. Thank you. Ed.

PS Well done Juliet!

November Parish Council Meeting Draft Minutes

REACH
PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on;
Wednesday 3rd November 2010

Attendance

Michael Aves	Vice Chairman	Present
Ross Clark	Chairman	Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
Angela King	Councillor	Not Present
Helen Platt	Councillor	Present
David Parr	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Part-time
David Brown	County Councillor	Part-time

1. Forum for Members of the Public

One member of the public attended but made no comment.

2. Declaration of Interests

There were none.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

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

4 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

Payments have been made to Snakehall Farm (£500) as a contribution to their new bus shelter and to the Parish Council (£1,000) as a contribution to the tennis court. No further applications for funds have been received.

4 (2) County Council Report

October started on County Council duty with a meeting of the Neighbourhood Panel, held at Burwell Village College. The Highways Policy Review Group met twice in October and looked at the winter gritting arrangements and member comments on the policy in general. This will result in a paper going to cabinet shortly.

Full County Council met on19 October. Various motions were debated including (1) the County Council PR budget which Council felt should be dealt with through the budgetary process, (2) moves to GP consortia and the NHS white paper where Council accepted the need for close scrutiny and (3) schools moving to academy status where Council felt that following recent Government announcements about the Pupil Premium, schools need good information to help them decide whether academy status is right for them.

As reported last month, I have been asked to act as Cabinet Assistant to help and advise the cabinet members looking after issues surrounding children and young people. Much of that work surrounds budget discussions and I have attended two meetings in October to look at ideas for budget savings. There is still some way to go for that work.

4 (3) District Council Report

There will be no further moves by the Council, at this time, to seek a single colour for Hackney Carriage vehicles.

At the recent Neighbourhood Panel meeting I raised the issue of the state of some of our droves and also the lack of response to our concerns regarding the cuts to our bus services.

There will be a new Sainsbury store in Ely early in 2012.

The government has indicated a 28.4% reduction in grant support over the next four years. The specific impact will not be known until the Council support grant is announced in December but it is clear that significant savings will be needed.

At next week's Strategic Development Committee meeting it will be recommended that Goodwin Farm in Swaffham Prior is not progressed as a gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople option.

4 (4) Financial Report

The Parish Council is in a financially sound situation.

4 (5) Neighbourhood Panels Report

No report provided since no meetings have taken place. **The Clerk** will add attendance at the next Neighbourhood Panel meeting to the January 2011 Parish Council meeting agenda.

4 (6) Parish Council Members

No meetings attended.

4 (7) Play Spaces Officer Report

Based on £5 per metre costs, the **Play Spaces Officer** was asked to acquire and arrange to put in place rubber spikes to deter birds from alighting on the top of swings.

4 (8) Rights of Way Report

It was agreed that a number of Public Footpath signs will be put in place and the **Rights of Way Officer** will do what is necessary to achieve this. She will also compile a list of landowners who have a responsibility to keep rights of way clear and pass this to **the Clerk** who will send them all a letter, reminding them of this responsibility.

4 (9) Speedwatch

There was no activity in the preceding month.

4 (10) Village Centre Committee Report

The fire alarm is now operable but the repairs to the roof remain to be carried out. Lighting in the meeting room has been upgraded.

5. Land Availability – 24 acres on the Burwell Road

At a recent meeting, the three main areas of community involvement (a) orchard, (2) horse ménage and (3) cricket/football pitches were reviewed with the National Trust. The National Trust asked for further specific information and will provide villagers with their thoughts over the next six weeks. In addition, the possibility of horticulture therapy was discussed and this becomes an additional project option.

6. Noticeboards on the Bus Shelters

It was agreed that instead of notices being posted on the exterior of the bus shelters, a board should be placed at the interior back of the shelters. **Councillor King** will secure the necessary wood and arrange for the boards to be put in place.

7. Precept 2011/2012

Following a review of forecast finances for the year ending March 2011 and consideration of financial needs for the year ending March 2012, it was agreed that there will be no change in precept level year on year.

It was also agreed that as required by the Parish Council's Standing Orders the mowing of the cemetery will be put out to tender for the period year ending March 2012.

8. Tennis Court Update

The court is under construction and should be completed by the end of November (but with a black surface and temporary white lines with the court surface being painted and the white lines re-done in March 2011). The Parish Council agreed that the formal opening will take place in 2011 when the court is fully complete. It was also agreed to insure the court on the basis of malicious damage only.

9. Tree on Fair Green Remedial Action

This work will take place next week.

10. Planning Applications

There were none.

11. Information Items

Councillor Fielding will investigate the legal situation with regard to residents planting trees on Highway land.

It had been suggested that if guttering was added to the cemetery shelter together with a water butt, this would be helpful to visitors looking after the graves. The cost estimate for materials was approved at approximately £75 and subject to suitable access to the back of the shelter **the Clerk** will carry out this work.

It appears that the government will be encouraging the use by Parish Councils of on-line banking some time in 2011. The Clerk felt that this would be helpful to him and the Parish Council agreed to review the opportunity when it is better defined next year.

It was agreed that the Clerk would be allowed to open a Simple Servicing Authority with Barclays to allow him to enquire about the Parish Council and Amenity Fund accounts but without the ability to transfer funds.

12. Payments

100937	D. Blocksage	Cemetery Mowing October	£67.00
100939	Rita Dunnett	Playground Expenses	£8.00
100940	Suffolk Acre	Bus Shelter Insurance	£17.45

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 1st December 2010 at 7.30pm. The Agenda for the meeting will be issued by the previous Wednesday – and will also be posted in the Parish Council area of the Reach website (www.reach-village.co.uk).

Chairman: **Date:**

Answer to Riddle on Susie's Kids' Page

STABLE

VILLAGE CENTRE 100 CLUB

To help raise money to run the Village Centre we have a 100 Club. Tickets are just £10 for a full year.

We have 10 draws a year.
Eight draws of £20 on the third Wednesday of the month, and two draws of £50 in July and December.

Please contact Joyce Harrison (742405)

Reach Village Centre Available for Hire. Price £10/hour, discounts available for block bookings,

Facilities include: Main Hall accommodates 90 people standing and 75 seated. Separate room accommodates 20 people. Disabled access. Baby changing facilities. Fully equipped kitchen. Toilets including disabled. Licensed for music.

For booking enquiries contact Joyce Harrison (01638 742405)

Out of Reach



Have you heard about Parish Nursing? This is a newly developing area of nursing practice in the UK but is well established in the USA.

Parish Nurses are registered nurses with community experience who work through a church, offering spiritual as well as physical & mental care. They serve the community as well as the church with respect to people of all faiths or none. Parish Nurses believe that health is about moving towards physical, mental, social & spiritual wholeness.

I have been working with St Marys Burwell as a Parish Nurse since 2004; it was one of the first pilot sites. This was initially for half a day a week but, since I have retired as a District Nurse, I have increased this to 2 days a week, normally a Tues & Wed.

So what do Parish Nurses do? I think the most valuable aspect of our work is to offer people time; time to explain what services are available and how to access them, time to explore personal health needs, to liaise with other health care professionals on someone's behalf or even accompany them to an appointment, to act as an advocate; time to identify the needs for self-help groups or volunteer support and indeed to set up volunteer groups.

At St Marys I am part of the ministry team so take part in planning & leading services and offer pastoral care but am also available to help the wider community. One way that I can do this is by working regular shifts at Centre Peace, now visiting Reach on the 3rd Wed pm each month. I also do Drop-In sessions at Ness Court and The Day Centre but mostly see people in their own homes. If you think there is something I could do to help please ring N 743688; it will probably be the answer phone but I will get back to you as soon as I can. If you would like to know more about this exciting development in nursing, perhaps even how to become one(!) have a look at the website www.parishnursing.org.uk or give me a ring.
With God's blessings

Sue Evans MBE, Parish Nurse

Church News



While clearing some of the church property that was stored in the Vicarage, we found some boxes of old church magazines. There is almost a complete set from the mid 1960's to the 1990's, except for a few years just after the launch of Clunch, when there was no church magazine.

There are also a few magazines from a much earlier era, which make very interesting reading. We plan to offer the magazines to the county archivist, but they will be in Burwell for another few weeks if anyone would like to see them.

We hope and pray that one of the highlights of 2011 will be welcoming our new Vicar and getting used not only to a new person but also a new Vicarage. It will be an exciting new era and a time of change, but before we take that joyful step into the future, let us glance back at the past and see what we can learn. These are the messages some of our previous Vicars, who were also probably known to the people of Reach, were giving their congregations in days gone by.

December 1967 Revd. Kenneth Haynes

We are now in Advent and Advent recalls the Church to the fact that earthly existence is not to go on for ever. …..Advent is a time for men to wake up and turn to God.

December 1975 Revd Ian Secrett

The shepherds and the wise men had their priorities right – they came to worship. May we follow their example, not only at this Christmas time, but throughout the whole year. As we offer ourselves to God in the regular ongoing worship of the church we shall not only be fulfilling our duty to God, but we shall enrich our fellowship with each other and be strengthened for the common tasks that Our Lord has for us to do.

January 1972 Revd David Young

Behind us there is a year of hard work, with perhaps little to show. Ahead there is another year of hard work in which we shall see some of the fruits of these labours. One final thought from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 'I planted the seed and another watered it, but God made it grow'.

The Churchwardens and Assistant Churchwardens and all the ministry team would like to thank you all for your help and support in the last year and to wish you every blessing this Christmas and in coming New Year. We look forward to seeing you at one (or more!) of our Christmas services shown in the separate calendar.

3.30 pm Sunday 12th December
St Etheldreda, Reach

Family Carol Service and Nativity

Come and join us for a magical family friendly candle lit service. Sing your favourite carols while the children dress as the main characters in the Christmas story to build up our nativity tableau.

CentrePeace at Reach

Wednesday 15th December
2pm-4pm
We'll have Christmas cards, books, African crafts and Traidcraft goodies, so come and do some Christmas shopping!
Refreshments as usual.

CentrePeace at Reach

The success of CentrePeace at Reach since we started it back in April means that we will definitely be continuing next year. In the summer months we enjoyed sitting outside, but in winter, it's quite cosy to huddle round the heaters at the front of the church. Thank you to all who have supported us this year. We look forward to seeing you again next year, and if you haven't been to see us yet, why not give it a try? We'll be there on the third Wednesday of every month.

Dates for 2011

January 19th
February 16th
March 16th
April 20th
May 18th
June 15th
July 20th
August 17th
September 21st
October 19th
November 16th
December 21st

Pat Chalmers



Postcard part of the Lesser Spotted Britain series:
START Devon; SOAR Isle of Anglesey;
REACH Cambs; START Fife

Postcard received by Megan Lewis, Alison's sister

Church Services at Burwell and Reach





Date	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda and the Holy Trinity Reach
Sun Dec 5th	8.00am **Holy Communion** (said) 9.30am **Parish Communion** Guest Preacher Revd Nobel Gembeeram from Lahore 4.00pm **Christingle Service**	
Sun Dec 12th	9.30am **Family Service with Nativity Play**	8.00am **Holy Communion** (said) 3.30pm **Family Carol Service & Nativity**
Sun Dec 19th	8.00am **Holy Communion** (said) 9.30am **Parish Communion** 6.30pm **Carols by Candlelight**	
Fri Dec 24th Christmas Eve	3.00pm **Jesus Birthday Party Toddlers Service** 11.30pm **Midnight Communion**	
Sat Dec 25th Christmas Day	9.30am **Family Service**	8.00am **Holy Communion** (said)
Sun Dec 26th Boxing Day	9.30am **Holy Communion** (said)	
Sun Jan 2nd Epiphany	8.00am **Holy Communion** (said) 9.30am **Family Service**	
Sun Jan 9th Epiphany 1	9.30am **Parish Communion**	8.00am **Holy Communion** 7.00pm **Sunday @ 7**
Sun Jan 16th Epiphany 2	8.00am **Holy Communion** 9.30am **Family Communion**	
Sun Jan 23rd Epiphany 3	8.00am **Holy Communion** 10.30am **Ecumenical Service**	
Sun Jan 30th Epiphany 4	No 8.00 am service	9.30am **Parish Communion**

January 24th – 29th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Bus Timetable

BUS SERVICE

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**										
Newmarket (Guineas Station)				0704	0719	0814	0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1424	1514	1614	1714
Burwell (Toyse Lane)	0630	0700	0715	0730	0745	0840	0940	1040	1140	1240	1340	1450	1540	1640	1740
Reach	0638	0708	0723			0848		1048		1248		1458	1548	1648	1748
Swaffham Prior	0644	0714	0729	0741	0756	0854	0951	1054	1151	1254	1351	1504	1554	1654	1754
Cambridge (Drummer Street)	0727	0807	0812	0837	0842	0937	1037	1137	1237	1337	1437	1547	1637	1737	1837

Cambridge - Bottisham - Reach - Burwell - Newmarket															
Service No:	10	10A	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
	M-F										**M-F**	**Sat**	**M-F**	**Sat**	
Cambridge (Drummer Street)	0655	0755	0825	0925	1025	1125	1225	1325	1425	1525	1635	1645	1735	1745	1845
Swaffham Prior	0729	0829	0902	0959	1102	1159	1302	1359	1502	1559	1722	1722	1819	1819	1919
Reach	0732	1832		1002		1202		1402		1602			1822	1822	1922
Burwell (Toyse Lane)	0742	0842	0912	1012	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1732	1732	1832	1832	1932
Newmarket (Guineas Station)	0810	0910	0940	1040	1140	1240	1340	1440	1540	1640	1800	1800			

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

Diary Dates

DECEMBER	Event	Location	Time
Wed 1	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Wed 1	MU Advent Reflections	Contact 741791	7.30pm
Sun 5	Small Informal Opening Event	Tennis Court	3pm
Thurs 9	Recycling Day	-	
Fri 10	Late night shopping Lantern Lit Christmas Carols & Chestnuts	Wicken Fen	4.30 – 8.30pm
Sat 11	Father Christmas	Wicken Fen	Booking reqd.
Sun 12	Father Christmas	Wicken Fen	Booking reqd
Wed 15	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Wed 15	MU Christmas Party	Contact 741791	2.30pm
Tues 21	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.15pm
Wed 15	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	8.00pm
Sat 18	Father Christmas	Wicken Fen	Booking reqd.
Sat 19	Father Christmas	Wicken Fen	Booking reqd.
Wed 22	Carol Singing	Village Centre	7pm
Thurs 23	Recycling Day	-	
Sun 26	Pub Quiz	Dyke's End	7.30pm
JANUARY			
Wed 5	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Wed 5	Mothers Union Meal	Contact 741791	7.30pm
Thurs 6	Recycling Day	-	
Tues 18	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.15pm
Wed 19	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Wed 19	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	8.00pm
Wed 26	MU Experiences of China	Contact 741791	2.30pm
Thurs 20	Recycling Day	-	
20 & 21	Beauty & the Beast	Bottisham College	7.30pm
Sat 22	Beauty & the Beast	Bottisham College	2.30pm & 7.30pm
Sat 29	Burwell WI	Gardiner Memorial Hall, Burwell	7.15pm
Sun 30	Pub Quiz	Dyke's End	7.30pm

Wednesdays 7.30pm onwards **Bellringing at Swaffham Bulbeck**.- new recruits will be welcome

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

Pilates Classes take place in the Reach Village Centre every Tuesday - 2 classes at **7.00pm** and **8.15pm in Term Time**

Contact Information

Parish Council			
	Chairman	Ross Clark	743725
	Vice Chairman	Michael Aves	742800
	Councillor	Rita Dunnett	742943
	Councillor	Hilary Fielding	741853
	Councillor	Joyce Harrison	742405
	Councillor	Angela King	742266
	Councillor	Helen Platt	742331
	Clerk	David Parr	744081
	Play Spaces Officer	Rita Dunnett	742943
	Rights of Way Officer	Hilary Fielding	741853
	County Councillor	David Brown	743283
	District Councillor	Allen Alderson	741744
Village Centre			
	Chairman	Andrew Towers	742484
	Finance	Grahame Radford	742814
	Bookings	Joyce Harrison	742405
	Marquee Bookings	Andrew Hall	743737
Amenity Fund Committee			
	Chairman	Ross Clark	743725
	Committee Member	Rita Dunnett	742943
	Committee Member	John Holmwood	742969
	Committee Member	Claire Halpin-McDonald	743330
	Committee Member	Andrew Towers	742484
Church			
	Hon Assistant Priest	Reverend David Bush	741839
	Reader in Training	Frances Leadon	741770
	Priest in Retirement	Reverend David King	742924
	Parochial Church Council Member	Pam King	742924
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Pat Chalmers	742006
Emergencies			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency)		999
	Police (Non-emergency)		0345 456 4564
	Water (Anglian Water)		08457 145145
Doctors, Burwell			
	Appointments and Emergencies		741234
	Community Nurses		742382
	Doctors	Dr Anne Schneerson, Dr Andrew Wills, Dr Alex Manning, Dr Anthony Parry, Dr Maureen Birch	
	Surgery Hours	Mon 8.30am - 8.00pm, Tues - Fri 8.30am - 6.00pm	



Michael Aves



Angela King



Joyce Harrison



Ross Clark



Rita Dunnett

Your Parish Council



Hilary Fielding



Helen Platt

Harvest Supper Saturday 9th October 2010











