Within Reach



February/March 2017



Hilary, with her carriage, came to greet Joss and Thistle at the end of their last ride



Thistle enjoyed a mince pie after his ride



Funny how it snows at just the right time



The Christmas tree was excellent again this year



Great band!

Photographs: Hugh de Lacy

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Reach Fair
Planning Meeting

7.30pm Village Centre
Wednesday 8th February

From the Editor

If you receive your copy of "Out of Reach" a few days late this month, it will be because Pat Harrison, this month's typist, has taken a short, unexpected holiday. You may not realise that after the stencils are typed each month, Pat and Harvey duplicate the stencils before passing them on to Sandra Harrison (Joyce's daughter) who then compiles them ready for Joyce to deliver. So the whole process involves the work of six people before you receive your copy of the magazine.

I



The quote is from the Editorial of Reach magazine June 1982. Just about every time I put the magazine together I think how easy it is with the web, email etc, compared to the typewriter and tippex of the past. Note that Joyce Harrison was delivering the magazine in 1982, just as she did until last year – that's 34 years minimum.

For various reasons, for example, people moving away from the village, the magazine has lost some of its regular contributors. If you would like to contribute an article/s do contact me.

The planning of Reach Fair 2017 is underway and you will know that this year it's being organised by the Events Team. There's an Open Meeting on Wednesday 8th February in the Village Centre at 8pm. Do come along with your ideas for the Fair.

The community solar farm has been generating electricity for just over a year, and they would like some sheep!

The very keen readers of the magazine will know that some time back we had an article from Joss Goodchild about her unusual Highland pony, Thistle. Joss retired Thistle recently and we enjoy her reflections on their happy and adventurous days together. Joss is also our featured personally, and it's lovely to read about the person who produces the marvellous paintings that we so admire.

David Thomas brought the old English tradition of wassailing to the community orchard. It was a chilly day but there was singing and chanting, tree dressing, toasted marshmallows and cider. The trees enjoyed it.

I love rhubarb and I've found it grows quite well without needing much attention. But for true wisdom see Danuta's article. Via Catherine's foodie column Gordan has given up his recipe for Sticky Toffee Pudding – wow!

Read this magazine carefully and learn who, surprisingly, is exceptionally messy in the kitchen.

Claire Halpin-McDonald

Cover photographs: Hugh de Lacy and David Thomas

About the Magazine

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

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

The next copy date is 15th March 2016. This magazine is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

Editorial Team

Editor	Claire Halpin-McDonald
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Roving Reporter	Marie Bambrick
Roving Photographer	Hugh de Lacy
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Cookery	Catherine Gibson
Cricket	Ross Clark
Days Gone By	David Parr
Equestrian News	Lorna Steven
Fen Chitchat	Lesley Boyle
Gardening	Danuta Gibson
Kids' Page	
Memories	Anita Folkes
Parish Council	Susan Bailey
Snakehall Farm	Maz Baker
Sport	Juliet Vickery
Swaffham Prior School	Hannah Curtis
Wicken Fen	Howard Cooper
Wildlife	Joss Goodchild

Reach Fair



Good progress is being made – everything is on schedule.

What the Events Team would like to do is to share with the village the plans that they have for Reach Fair 2017 and get some guidance for villagers about their thoughts on this and how improvements might be made for 2008 and beyond.

In addition, we'd like to understand what help might be available from villagers pre-Fair and then on the day itself. To this end we are planning a meeting as follows . . . .

Wednesday 8th February in the Village Centre, starting at 7.30pm and lasting around an hour:

The loose agenda will be:

- ***Briefing on the status of the Fair***
- ***Listening to thoughts of people on the above – the main review will, as ever, take place shortly after the Fair and influence our 2018 Fair***
- ***Looking and "Lead Roles" where the Events Team needs help pre-Fair***
- ***Assistance on the day – we're looking for some commitment from villagers at this stage***

Please come along if you can – we really need your comments if we're going to move the Fair forward to your satisfaction - and for the good of the village

The Events Team

Claire, David, Hannah and Jo

Heritage Street Lighting Update



We have further progress!

Cambridgeshire County Council have come back to the Parish Council with a proposal regarding replacing seven columns around the Fair Green with new "Heritage" columns which match the ones we already have.

Have a look at . . . .
www.reach-village.co.uk/street_lights.html
and you can remind yourself of what this was all about.

The Parish Council is happy with the proposal and CCC, via Balfour Beatty are making plans to implement the new lights. Two representatives visited the village recently and were very apologetic about the time it has taken but have promised to do whatever they can to get everything completed in time for Reach Fair 2017.

Those who promised funding some time ago are thankfully all still alive – and all have agreed to contribute as they previously committed – which is excellent news.

David Parr



Reach Fair

REACH FAIR 1981

"Probably the most successful fair ever", was one comment to me on the evening of Fair day - this remark echoes I'm sure many peoples feelings about Reach Fair 1981. By forward planning, inviting new ideas and above all attracting more "fresh faces" to help organise and run the various sideshows and events, more than £500 should be raised to help keep the Village Centre viable and off the village rate.

When the weather threatened to put a dampener on the event many people scurried about helping to erect shelters but by the opening the rain had disappeared and although it was cold, the sun did shine on the Maypole Dancers.

I cannot possible thank everyone individually who helped with 'Fair 81' but the original committee will want me to thank all those new faces who came and helped and I hope enjoyed themselves - Mr. & Mrs. Dudley and Co. for the children's corner and that 'awful horse'; Mrs. Jean Parker and the children for a splendid float and lots of hours put into their handicrafts - for an anonymous donation to pay for the "Punch and Judy Show" - for the mushy pea and hot dog ladies who completed marvellously against their 'bionic opposition'; for the donation of cakes which Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Hyde sold so well; Dennis Millard for selling treasure squares on Iris Morris's splendid treasure island, for Mr. & Mrs. Tony Jordan on the coconut shy; Mr. & Mrs. Pote on the Bullseye Bowls (plus being barbecue chefs with Rodney Housden and Anthony Dudley on Saturday night); for Ron Greenhill and Malcolm Hall for "throwing the weight", and for Emma Tierney for pony and trap rides.

Thanks also are due to our regulars, Mrs. Booton and her Maypole dancers. The folk singers - Tapestry Fayre - and to Burwell Band; and also to the Mayor and his entourage for coming and opening it and bringing the crowds.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Folk Evening, the Darts evening and the barbecue, that was so nearly a washout - but our chefs kept going even through a thunder storm - well done!

Although we have encountered a little trouble from the showman who brings his fair, we managed to enlarge our "share of the Green". However, he has threatened to withdraw from next year's fair and also stop (he is able to by Showmans Guild Charter) anyone else coming to replace him if we do not accommodate him and allow him back on to his original corner site.

The committee would be pleased to hear from anyone who has any objections that by now standing our ground, it may mean losing the showman's fair. What it would really involve is a fair comprising of village stalls and sideshows and complemented by trade stalls - a few of which came this year and said they would like to come again. If villagers were keen on this and will support the fair committee, then it will mean a far greater involvement by more villagers to make it a success and so stop it dying out. After all we will have to have something for the Mayor to open!

H.R.H.

Reach Fair report 1981. What catches your eye?

I note, Tony Jordan on the coconut shy which he still does to this day, that's 35 years minimum!

Reach Fair

REACH FAIR ACCOUNT 1977

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Dog Show	45.36	Holiday voucher	50.00
Raffle	10.74	Hire of tent	15.00
Stall	2.00	Engraving Darts Cup	3.88
Horse Sale & Donation	35.16	Journal advert.	8.00
2 days refreshments	27.76	Horse sale adverts.	17.42
Straw stall	7.10	Gas	3.84
Donations	3.65	Posters	12.42
Darts Night	23.90		
Darts competition	9.37		
Raffle	12.08		
Hot dogs	8.60		
Clay shoot	29.50		
Shoot refreshments	9.29		
Family evening	8.10		
Bingo and Raffle	10.50		
Grand Draw	30.70		
Donation	93.51		
	£367.32		£110.56

PROFIT £256.76

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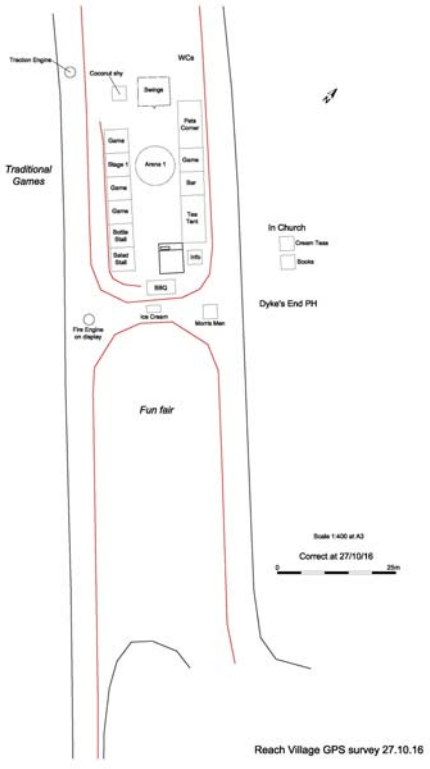
Early Reach Fair Accounts –

When the whole family could have a good night out, fish and chips on the way home and still have change from a fiver





We're looking for people to become involved with Reach Fair 2017, and there's a meeting in the Village Centre on Wed 8th Feb at 7.30pm

For Reach Fair 2017 the lower green, Fair Green, will have a more traditional feel – with the larger bar located on the Top Field and the village games located on the lower green.
How do you think the Fair should be structured?
Let us have your thoughts

Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

FEBRUARY

7th **'Ten Thousand Miles of Ocean'**
Digital presentation by Sarah Kelman DPAGB ARPS who with her family, cruised the Carribean and the Eastern Seaboard of the USA.
***Print list to be emailed for next week's competition**

14th **Print League Competition No. 2**
Judge: Liz Hatten, Cambridge CC

21st **'Portrait Photography Workshop'**
A chance to practice the skills and techniques demonstrated at the portrait evening in February. Bring your camera, tripod etc. - lighting equipment and models provided.

28th **'Sixty Years and Counting!'**
Andy Hanson MPAGB ARPS APAGB FIPF will take us through his photographic journey from the days of darkroom prints, colour slides and colour prints to the digital technology of today.
***Email images for next week's PDI competition**

MARCH

7th **PDI League Competition No. 3**
Judge: Mike Cowling, Woodbridge.

14th **'Photography USAF Style!**
A team from Mildenhall Air Base will talk about projects set to enhance their photographic skills.

21st **'Barbie's Indian Takeaway'**
Digital presentation by Barbie Lindsay EFIAP/b MPAGB FBPE on her recent visit to India.
***Print list to be emailed for next week's competition**

28th **Print League Competition No. 3**
Judge: Marilyn Steward ARPS DPAGB EFIAP.

Guests are welcome to attend any meeting at our venue, Lode Chapel CB25 9EW on Tuesday's from 7:30 pm to 9:30pm. Fee: £3.00, including refreshments, refunded on joining.

Annual subscriptions: Adult: £40.00, Joint Membership: £67.00, Student: £21.00. Refreshments 50p. New members joining now will receive a pro rata rate.

Lastly we would respectfully ask guests attending the club not to **double park** in the vicinity of Lode Chapel, as there is local concern regarding access for emergency vehicles.

For further details contact:

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





Don't swallow up your NHS – local NHS reveals the cost of prescribing basic medicines

Health Chiefs in Cambridgeshire are urging local residents to buy basic medications from pharmacies instead of getting them on prescription.

Last year your local NHS spent over £4 million on prescribing medicines that can be bought easily from local pharmacies or supermarkets. This includes £1.5million on prescribing pain relief (paracetamol), £1.2 million to treat upset stomachs, £550,000 on antihistamines and £320,000 to treat heartburn and indigestion.

All of these medicines can be bought at local pharmacies or supermarkets for less than it costs the NHS to prescribe.

Sati Ubhi, Chief pharmacist said "We want the public to really think before they visit the GP, is this something that I can treat myself? Is there a medication I can buy for this over the counter? A packet of paracetamol can cost as little as 25p for 16 tablets at a pharmacy. But if you go to your GP with your ache or pain and get a prescription, the total cost to your NHS is approximately £45*. We all have a responsibility to look after our own health and look after our NHS."



This is how much the local NHS spend on medicines and how much they cost patients to buy:

- Pain relief (paracetamol) – cost to NHS £1.5 million, cost for patient to buy 25p (16 tablets)
- Upset stomach treatment – cost to NHS £1.2million, cost for patient to buy £1 (six capsules)
- Antihistamines (hayfever) – cost to NHS £550,000, cost for patient to buy £2.75 (30 tablets)
- Heartburn and indigestion treatment – cost to NHS £320,000, cost for patient to buy £2 (200ml)
- Travel sickness treatment – cost to NHS £93,000, cost for patient to buy £2.30 (10 tablets).

Sati Ubhi, Chief pharmacist added "Keeping a selection of essential medications at home can help you treat common conditions at home such as colds, coughs and flu and avoid unnecessary trips to see your doctor."

Further information on self-care visit http://www.cambsandpeterboroughchoosewell.co.uk/

*The £45 the NHS spends on a prescription if you see a GP is made up of the GP consultation time, the cost of the medication, and dispensing fee.

Jo Hobson

Communications & Engagement Manager

NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG

Tel: 07973 698039 / Email: jo.hobson@nhs.net

I work Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

SATURDAY 11th February 2017
7:30 pm

St. Mary's Church, High Street
Swaffham Bulbeck

The St. Mary's Singers and Players
21st Annual Concert

Directors: Toby Hessian and Leo Popplewell

Handel: Zadok the Priest
Schutz: Die mit Tränen Säen
Haydn: Cello Concerto in C
(soloist: Leo Popplewell)
Batten: O Sing Joyfully
Goss: O Saviour of the World
Stanford: The Blue Bird
Walton: A Litany
Vaughan Williams: Five Mystical Songs

Refreshments available.

Free admission on the door with
retiring collection for the Church and charity

Fibre Broadband



Dear Residents and representatives of Reach

As you will be aware, fibre broadband is being rollout out to premises in Reach as part of the Connecting Cambridgeshire superfast broadband programme working with BT and Openreach.

Work is continuing to deliver fibre broadband to premises in Reach. As you will have seen the new cabinet has been installed, however it requires further ducting and trenching and National Grid work to complete the connection, which is scheduled for mid-January.

Once this is completed, we anticipate that premises in Reach served by this new cabinet will be able to upgrade to fibre broadband in February.

We wanted to make you aware of the situation and will update you as soon as we receive confirmation from BT that fibre broadband is available to order. We will also amend the 'my area' page on the Connecting Cambridgeshire website to reflect this information.

Residents who have not already done so can register their postcode and contact details here so we can update them by email when the fibre cabinet serving their premises has gone live and is accepting orders for fibre broadband.

Once this is confirmed, we recommend that you check with your chosen Internet Service Provider (ISP) to see if you are able to upgrade to fibre services

Kind regards,

Sarah Marsh
Connecting Cambridgeshire Programme Manager

Community Solar Farm Update



Time flies... it's hard to believe that it was just over a year ago that the community solar farm finally went live! We're delighted to report that it's been running very smoothly all year and we've generated about 10% more electricity than we estimated. The figure at the moment stands at over 250 megawatt-hours of electricity, or enough to supply the electricity usage of half of the village.

The hedge that volunteers from the village planted is growing very well and is already providing some screening of the site from the road. The other thing that is growing very nicely however is all the grass around the panels - it needs regularly cutting to keep it under control. We'd love to hear from anyone who might be interested in keeping some sheep on the site as they would do an excellent job of keeping the grass down for us - let us know at info@reachsolarfarm.co.uk if that might be of interest!

Andy Rankin



TESCO Your Chance to Bag up to £5000 for Local Community Projects

TESCO Bags of Help

TESCO is inviting local community groups, green space projects and other organisations to apply for their share of a £12MILLION carrier bag charge fund.

The supermarket has teamed up with the charity Groundwork on its Bags of Help initiative, which sees the money raised from the 5p bag levy being used to pay for a large number of local projects to improve green spaces in communities.

Tesco customers will decide on a monthly basis which groups get grants of up to £5,000, £2,000 and £1,000 in regions up and down the country.



It's expected the new monthly format will see more than 100 projects receive vital funding across Cambridgeshire every year. Funding will be awarded to projects that use and develop outdoor spaces in ways that will benefit their local community. We've already seen local groups, schools and charities benefit and look forward to seeing many more exciting projects come out of this initiative.

Find out more about how to bag your share or nominate a good cause at www.groundwork.org.uk/tesco

Massive Spring Jumble Sale
The Fassage, Lode

Saturday 18th March
2 – 4pm

Entrance adults £1
and children free

Please come along and support us as we attempt to recycle all your unwanted clothes, shoes, toys, books, bikes, small bits of furniture, pots, pans bric a brac, etc. etc.

The autumn Jumble sale raised about £700 of which £200 went to four different charities and £500 to Lode Parish Council for play equipment and useful things in the village.

It is amazing how much money it generates, and we are very grateful for the support people show us in giving Jumble and then coming along and buying it all back again!

Just perfect. Put the date in your diary and we look forward to seeing you on the 18th.

Please bring jumble from 10.30-12 in the morning of the sale. Thank you.

Fran Platten 01223 813 016
fran.patten@googlemail.com

Please park in the High Street and then walk through Fassage Close beside the post office



Health Watch – Community Listener Volunteers Needed



This is Lizzie, she is one of our local Healthwatch Cambridgeshire volunteers and is helping us with a new project to look at how health and care services communicate with people who have a sensory loss.

Lizzie's told us *"I am a service user myself and have disabilities so I rely on good healthcare and support, such as having a good relationship with the GP."*

Our volunteers are people like you who live or work in Cambridgeshire. You know the place you live and the people in your community. We need your help to talk to more people about Healthwatch and find out what care is like for them.

- You will listen to people within your local community who have used health or social care services. This may be your family, neighbours and friends, or people you meet within your local networks.
- You may visit local groups, chat with people and record what they have to say.
- You might talk to people about Healthwatch Cambridgeshire. This may involve giving a short presentation, or working with us on a display stand.

We will give you training and support, as well as paying agreed out of pocket expenses.

As a Community Listener, you could also train to take part in our 'Enter and View" visits to local health or care services. This is our legal right to visit places that provide publicly funded health or care services, to see and hear how people experience care. In the last year, we have visited Addenbrooke's and Hinchingbrooke Hospitals.

Contact Heather or Elizabeth for an informal chat.
01480 420628
enuquiries@healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk
www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk



East Anglian Air Ambulance

It has been an exciting and extremely busy year for our Operations Team. April saw the arrival of a new H145 helicopter. Much larger than its predecessor, the EC135, it can carry enough fuel to fly for over two hours, with a range of 300 nautical miles (335 miles).



Extending the reach, and therefore, the effectiveness of the EAA medical teams enables the charity to play a leading role in training the next generation of pre-hospital clinicians. More space means that more can be done to help patients during the transfer process. Also, during the year, six new pilots have been trained. The new team delivers the Cambridge operation over two shifts spanning 17 hours every day of the year.

To enable this priceless work to continue. EAAA continues to rely on the support of its fundraisers in all walks of life and, importantly, on those who generously contribute by way of collection boxes, foreign currency and our own lottery.

If you have any ideas on how you might further help please do not hesitate to get in touch.

From all at East Anglian Air Ambulance, and from the many people who have been helped over the years – Thank you.

Michael White
East Anglian Air Ambulance

PS. A quote from the year, "The work you did for my family leaves me forever in your debt. You gave me the gift of time with David. Thank you."



The Ely Mothers Union

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month, at 2:00pm in The Guidhall.

We also meet at various venues on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm. Please check the Pew Sheet for this month's venue, or contact the Branch Leader, Mrs S Baker.

The VILLAGE CENTRE 100 CLUB for 2015

Help raise money to run the Village Centre

Tickets are just £10 for a full year and we have eight draws of £20 on the third Wednesday of the month and two draws of £50 in July and December

100 CLUB WINNERS
October £20: Marie Bambrick
November £20: Debbie Blocksage
December £50: Geoff Newman

Please contact Grahame Radford 0168 742814 to be part of the draw

Burwell and Reach Car Scheme

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

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

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

01638 742543 answer phone.

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

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

Looking for something new to do in 2017?

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is looking for volunteers in your area to join our successful Community Champion scheme.

Community Champions encourage local residents to carry out fire safety checks in their homes, visit community groups and educate about fire safety and escape plans.

We will train you, give you a uniform and provide you with a wide range of activities to choose from, all of which will help to keep our communities safe from the risk of fire.

No previous qualifications or specific skills are needed to become a Community Champion as CFRS is always seeking people from diverse backgrounds. The scheme is run by the charity Groundwork on behalf of CFRS. To find out more about the Community Champions scheme, contact Katie Dean on 01480 587140 / 07736 132870 or email katie.dean@groundwork.org.uk.

And don't forget to make a New Year Resolution to test your smoke alarm, and that of your elderly relatives, once a month by pressing the 'Test' button on the device. To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check please visit our website.

Ensure you have a working smoke alarm fitted on each floor or your home and a carbon monoxide alarm installed.

For the latest news, incidents and safety advice, or to contact us, log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk, call 01480 444500. Find us on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook.



Cambridgeshire Police. Do something Special this New Year

Cambridgeshire police is urging residents who want to give something back to their community to consider becoming a Special.

With Christmas and then New Year approaching, what better time for people to consider doing something new, exciting and rewarding.

Not only does joining the Special Constabulary allow you to do something really positive and worthwhile, it also gives you unique and valuable skills and experience.

Specials are volunteer police officers who wear the same uniform, carry the same equipment and have the same powers as police officers, including the power of arrest.

They volunteer a minimum of just four hours a week and the constabulary can fit around their lifestyle.

Being a career Special is a vocation in its own right and there is a whole range of roles, including specialist areas such as road policing, the major crime unit and the rural crime action team (RCAT).

You could be tackling anti-social behaviour, involved in crowd control at major events, going on foot or vehicle patrol, assisting at the scene of collisions, fights or fires or enforcing road safety initiatives.

You will get professional training, skills and experience that can be used in everyday life and career progression. Training takes 10 weeks and consists of distance learning via online training packages that can be completed in your own time.

People often ask if being a Special could upset their employer. Our experience is that employers are usually extremely happy for staff to become Specials and many actually support them by giving paid time off while they're on duty.

Some organisations actively encourage their staff to become Specials and work in partnership with the Special Constabulary.

For more information and an application form visit the Cambridgeshire Constabulary website

Angela Mellor Studio and Gallery



Award-winning international ceramic artist Angela Mellor is captivated by the seductive qualities of bone china: its smoothness, whiteness and translucency make it a very tactile medium, inviting the viewer to hold and appreciate its inherent beauty.

Landscape, light and coastal environments are reflected in her work which ranges from small cups that are a delight to drink from to one-off pieces and most recently, larger-scale sculptural work.

Angela is delighted to welcome visitors to her studio throughout the year by appointment. Her beautiful historic Grade II listed building is easy to locate opposite Oliver Cromwell's House in the heart of Ely.

Open by appointment only. ww.angelamellor.com

Faire is the Heaven

Saturday 18 March, 7.30pm
St. Mary's Church, Church Lane,
Newmarket CB8 0HP

Join the Cantilena Singers for an evening of unaccompanied and accompanied sacred music, including works by William Harris, Charles Wood, Herbert Howells, Samuel Sebastian Wesley, and others.

Director Daniel Spreadbury
Organ Jonathan Giles

Refreshments available
Tickets £10 (free admission for under 18s)
on the door
or contact Caille Sugarman-Banazsak
01223 813918
website: www.cantilenasingers.org

Send a Card to a Friend Day Tuesday 7th February



Everyone loves and appreciates their friends, and we all just assume that they know how much we care and that we are always thinking about them. Sadly, many of our friends will experience loneliness and feel under appreciated from time to time. That's just how life goes. That's why **Send a Card to a Friend Day** exists, and why year after year it is so popular!

A small gesture that we may not think make any difference could actually make our friends' day. All it takes is a cute little card with a nice personal message in it to put a smile on their face. This could be an e-card that you send to them online, a store bought card, or better yet, a home made one that oozes thoughtfulness, ideal for your extra special besties. Whatever you do, don't miss out on celebrating your friendships on this special day!

Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

March is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Organised by Prostate Cancer UK, this special month aims to raise awareness of prostate cancer, as well as raise money so the charity can provide even better support to both sufferers and their families.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men and it is thought that here in the UK around 36,000 are diagnosed with this terrible disease each year. Throughout the awareness month volunteers from Prostate Cancer UK will be working in your local community, giving group talks and providing information. All the volunteers have been affected by prostate cancer and know first hand how scary and difficult it can be to deal with.

If you would like to get involved or make a donation, vist the official website. You can also learn how to check your prostate, and if you have any questions there is a free and confidential helpline. By raising awareness we can help more people to get diagnosed earlier, so get involved

The Cathedrals Express to Bath



Tuesday 7th Mar 2017

The Cathedrals Express comes to East Anglia for a fabulous day trip to the Roman city of Bath. On Tuesday 7 March, the train will start out from Ely at approximately 7:00 and will be diesel-hauled as far as London. Here, the magnificent Royal Scot steam locomotive will join the train. It will then head out across the Thames Valley and through the picturesque, rolling hills of Wiltshire, before arriving in Bath at 14:10 and Bristol at 14:30.

Tickets for The Cathedrals Express trip to Bath and Bristol on Tuesday 7 March with Royal Scot are available in four classes, ranging from £119 per person in Premium Standard through to the top class of Pullman Style Dining of £265 per person.

Website - Steam Dreams

Haddenham Galleries



An innovative creative art gallery and exotic ethnic gallery. Ten changing exhibitions each year by regionally and nationally known makers. Also natural meadow sculpture garden and working artists' studios.

www.haddenhamgallery.co.uk

Anglesey Abbey Snowdrop Festival



Monday 23rd Jan 2017 - Sunday 26th Feb 2017

Anglesey Abbey has one of the finest snowdrops collection in the country with over 300 varieties of the delicate white flowers, including 20 varieties that have been discovered at Anglesey Abbey. The snowdrop, or galanthus to use its correct botanical name, is often seen growing in religious or monastic sites because of the coincidence to the period of the Feast of Candlemas & Purification each February.

Their true origin can be traced across the world to Southern Russia, Turkey and Southern Europe. It is widely believed that the first great plant hunters, the Elizabethans, introduced them to this country. During our Snowdrops season we open half an hour earlier at 9.30 am until Sunday 28 February. Maps detailing the best places to see Snowdrops in the gardens are available from Reception when you arrive.

Website - Anglesey Abbey

Ely's Liberty Belle River Cruises



From the first weekend in March until the end of October, cruise the river Great Ouse on the Liberty Belle. 30 minute cruises depart regularly from the riverside near the Maltings starting from 11 am daily. Specialist evening cruises are also available, please enquire for details.

07927 390380

World Wetlands Day Walk

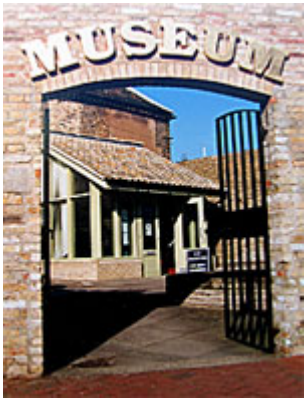


Sunday 2nd April 2017

Join Wicken's rangers for a guided walk to discover the history of the fen, Wicken's amazing wildlife, and the National Trust's ambitious plans to expand the nature reserve.

Tickets £5.50 (includes a hot drink) from the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274

Ely Museum



Thursday 16th February 11am-12.30pm & 1.45pm-3.15pm

Up in the Air children's craft activities

Join us this half term for fun children's crafts and actvities with a "Up in the Air" theme

Suitable for children aged 5-11

Tickets are £3 per participating child and booking in advance is recommended to avoid disappointment. Tickets may not be available on the day. Please call the museum on 01353 666655 or email admin@elymuseum.org.uk to book.

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www.palacehousenewmarket.co.uk

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www.olivercromwellshouse.co.uk

Out and About



I feel unqualified to write an article about village wildlife sightings for, following surgery, I've been more In & Confined than Out & About, unfortunately. However, friends have sent texts with their observations and one can't help noticing winter flocks of fieldfares pepper the land, gulls the plough, redwings the hedgerows, barn owls hunt fen ditches and green woodpeckers yaffle from Reach Wood.

Kestrels sit atop telegraph poles and buzzards wheel above Barston Drove.

Ron: noted 'fieldfares and redwings have been eating the apples in Reach Wood which thankfully saw them through until the end of the year. Joe the crow continues to frequent the village'.



Penny: saw 'an egret taking off from the lode right in front of me whilst walking Tommy Dog. Think it's probably the same one which is often seen around The Weirs. Many goldfinches and long tailed tits in our garden, battling with fat squirrels to eat from the feeders'.

Hilary: Many birds including flock of yellowhammer on stableyard birdfeeders along Little Fen Drove. Six herons on National Trust land nearby and a great egret on Tubney Fen. Frequent sightings of buzzards, two call to one another on the drove. As dusk started to fall, and returning from a carriage drive with Shaun, they witnessed a barn owl fly towards them along the verge, it circled over the carriage three times, mere feet away, and scaled the hedge to land in the paddock looking confused. They thought these strange antics were caused by the flashing side lamps on the carriage. A great tit roosts in her field shelter swallow's nest, usually inhabited at this time of year by a wren. 7.1.17 – During carriage drive 'from National Trust bridge over Burwell Fen saw 9 roe deer, 7 short eared owls, 1 great egret, 1 green woodpecker within the space of 15 minutes'. The following day 'saw bullfinch in hedge near Robinson's, next to lode'.

Tracy: 19.11.16 'Walking riverbank Pocket Park, heron basking in early morning sun'. The next day 'cormorant flew over from the fishing pit'. 18.11 'James saw two barn owls quartering the 24 acres at the same time and very close to each other. Could it be parent bird trying to teach the offspring how to hunt?' 2.12 'Walking Tubney – lapwing, heron, buzzard flying over reservoir and the sound of frantic ducks!'. 10.12 'Walking 24 acres, kestrel over field and the sounds of voles in the long grass. Four deer in the distance, Burwell Fen. Reed bunting plucking reed seedheads along the ditch'. 7.1.17 'Flock of fieldfare eating fallen apples in my garden, wrens, chaffinch, greenfinch, great/blue/long tailed tits on feeders'.



Nick: We have been tree planting on the 24 Acres today. I thought you might be interested to know that Bessie raised a couple of short eared owls in the National Trust's rough grassland that sits beyond our woodland in the middle of the day. A barn owl was quartering the site when we arrived at first light. Both good signs of the conservation benefit that the site brings - sight of these birds certainly softens the blow of saplings lost to voles!



Early years with Thistle

I've taken the liberty to use the remainder of this article space to pay tribute to my much loved Highland pony, Thistle. She has been with me for 21 years and was the method of transport that allowed my greatest sightings of wildlife in and around Reach. Somehow, her quiet and steady footfall did not disturb wildlife, hare, roe and muntjac deer, viewed close by, would raise heads and stare but never flee.

From the day I bought her, at a farm in the hills above Kippen, Stirlingshire, she has been a joy to own and the most accommodating, patient and sensible of mounts, allowing me to ride and enjoy the countryside years beyond the Surgeon's advice. Her kindly nature has forgiven so many shortcomings, the inelegant scramblings on to/out of the saddle from a variety of surfaces (oil drums, gates, pheasant pens), over-long rides in Scotland that descended into darkness, rescued dogs carried home in arms, hours left tied up awaiting my return from something or other.



Early years

We've had adventures, scaled mountains, braved snowstorms, crossed fallen logs, become lost in the hills whereby, reins slackened, she would find our way home, we once rescued a galloping riderless racehorse in the far reaches of Exning. She has taken part in location filming and farrier demonstrations, been loaned to racehorse trainers as a sensible lead for young thoroughbreds, taught a showjumper and a flat jockey to ride.



Claire & Ouzo, constant Reach riding companions

We had a lovely last hack on Sunday 4 Dec with friend and riding companion Claire and her horse Ouzo. The sun shone, we chose our favourite fen route followed by various tracks around the village. Trotting smartly along we laughed and chatted, spotted buzzards, kestrel and heron, our horses happy in each other's company. Reach friends hosted a farewell party on the green with port, hot mince pies and a lovely presentation necklace, they said Thistle had been an iconic part of village life. I was touched beyond belief.



Our last ride and party on the village green

And so the combination of Thistle's advancing years, 26 now, and my new prosthetic knee has forced our decision to retire from riding, together. This somehow seems fitting and our journey will now have a very much more pedestrian aspect, hers to a quiet and peaceful paddock existence and mine to providing her with the most comfortable equine care I can.

Joss Goodchild



Joss and Thistle, a fantastic last ride

Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners

21 February	Liz Mann	National Memorial Arboretum
21 March	Stephen Poyser	Beekeeping and the Gardener
18 April	Rodney Tibbs	Gardening Then and Now
16 May	Andrew Sankey	The English Landscape Movement
13 June	Evening Visit	To NIAB Histon
Sunday 2 July	Coach Outing	Somerleyton Hall
18 July	Evening Visit	Moat House Little Saxham
17 October	AGM	
21 November	Pippa Temple	Elizabethan Gardens

Indoor meetings are on a Tuesday at 8pm in Swaffham Prior Village Hall. Details of the summer visits will be confirmed nearer the time.

Membership is £15 per person. New members and visitors are always welcome: £3 per evening.

Chairman: Peter Hart 01638 741681

Treasurer: Maggie Haverson

Joint Secretaries: Margaret Joyce and Mary Hart 01638 741681



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Wedding Flowers
Willow Weaving
Russian Decorative Painting

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Our full programme can be found on our website, together with enrolment information:

www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning
Tel: 01223 811372 email: adultlearning@bottishamvc.org



Reach 24 Acres Community Orchard – Here we come a Wassailing!



Hopefully our community orchard is assured a good harvest now that the trees have been woken up, the good spirits blessed with our offerings of cider-soaked toast, and the evil spirits frightened away by the banging and shouting (and singing?!) that took place during our village wassailing.

As an old rhyme goes:

Wassaile the trees, that they may beare
You many a Plum and many a Peare:
For more or lesse fruits they will bring,
As you do give them Wassailing.

The word wassail comes from the Anglo-Saxon greeting *Wæs þu hæl*, meaning "be thou hale" (or "be in good health") and a central part of the custom involves the drinking of hot mulled cider. We didn't let that tradition down (with a non-alcoholic version available for the children).



It was a bit of fun – a reminder of England's rich rural traditions. We enjoyed tree dressing (decorating the trees) some of which were hung with beautiful hand-made, hand-painted decorations created from salt dough by Hannah and Eleanor Gibson. There was plenty of singing and chanting; toasting marshmallows, nuts and popcorn gathered round fire bowls to keep out the chill; the essential mulled cider; and then back to the village centre for baked apples & custard and home-made apple cake.

Thanks to all those who helped prepare the event – especially Hilary Fielding for organising the singers; Graham Lingley for mulling the cider; Catherine Gibson for organising the tree dressing; Andrew Trump for being in charge of the fire bowls, nuts and marshmallows; Juliet Vickery, Jo Riches and Lily for baking, brewing tea and serving back at the village centre; and all those who baked a cake.

During the event, participants' had their knowledge of the wassail tradition tested with a number of questions. For those who were unable to participate the questions have been reproduced below (answers on Page 34).

We look forward to sharing the fruits of our orchard together later in the year!



Wassailing fun facts quiz

1. Where does the word Wassail come from?
2. What other name is wassailing known by?
3. When is the traditional date for wassailing?
4. What were the main ingredients of the earliest forms of the wassail 'punch'?
5. Where does 'crab apple' gets its name?
6. Why do we hang pieces of toast soaked in cider on the tree?
7. …. and what does the robin represent?
8. Men used to fire their weapons at the trees – why did they do this?
9. When they got home, the (male) wassailers would have to answer a question correctly before they were allowed indoors – whatever the weather. What was the question?
10. In the wassailing song, what is a purse of 'ratching leather skin'?
11. Why was ensuring a good apple harvest especially important to farmers that had hired labour?
12. Who wrote these words: "*He is wit's peddler, and retails his wares; At wakes and* ***wassels****, meetings, markets, fairs*."
13. In the Wassailing song, what is 'small beer'?

David Thomas

Caring for Orchids

It's that time of the year again, the heady days of summer seem so far gone and Spring is still a couple of months away. The garden is short on flowers, but for a couple of winter staples. This is when house plants step into the fold to provide some much needed winter colour. Amongst these is the moth orchid (Phalaenopsis) which has saturated the market with its exotic blooms and affordable price. It does, however, remain an enigma to many when it comes to watering regime and re-flowering. This is one of the most common questions I get asked, so here is a quick guide to orchid care.



Phalaenopsis `Fadeus Fireworks'

Phalaenopsis is a mainly tropical genus, so these orchids are best grown at temperatures above 18°C. In their natural habitat, they grow on trunks and limbs of rainforest trees, in medium to low light and so when kept as houseplants, they are best kept on an east facing window sill, which receives the gentle rays of the morning sun. They should be potted in a course bark and watered with a wet-dry cycle allowing the roots to dry, but not desiccate, before re-watering. The key to keeping orchids healthy is to avoid overwatering them. Between Halloween and Valentine's Day watering should be reduced considerably, with moisture being added a couple of times during this period. And finally re-flowering: you can initiate this by a drop in temperature of 2-3°C for a couple of weeks. Do this during the winter period when you reduce the watering, or move the orchid to a cooler location in your house. It should then be a matter of weeks before you see a new flower stalk emerge. Watering should remain as per above and this is also governed by light and temperature.

If this has whetted your appetite for a bit of winter colour, then why not visit the Garden, where our Orchid Festival will run from 12 February to 12 March in the warmth of our Glasshouse Range. This year's theme is India and will showcase an array of South Asian orchids, many drawn from the Garden's reserve collections, to provide a colourful taste of the Subcontinent – enough to brighten up any dreary winter day.



Phalaenopsis Hybrid

The Cambridge University Botanic Garden is open from 10am - 4pm in January, 10am - 5pm February & March, 7 days a week. Please check the website at www.botanic.cam.ac.uk for details about opening times, admission charges, tours, courses and special events

Sally Pettit, Head of Horticulture
Cambridge University Botanic Garden

SATURDAY 11th February 2017
7:30 pm

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21st Annual Concert

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Handel: Zadok the Priest
Schutz: Die mit Tränen Säen
Haydn: Cello Concerto in C
(soloist: Leo Popplewell)
Batten: O Sing Joyfully
Goss: O Saviour of the World
Stanford: The Blue Bird
Walton: A Litany
Vaughan Williams: Five Mystical Songs

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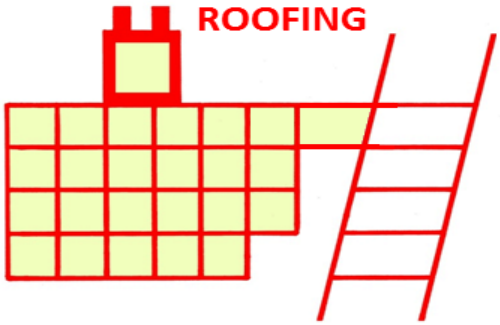

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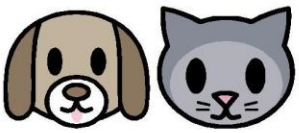

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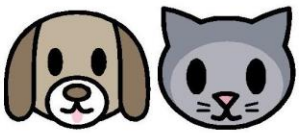

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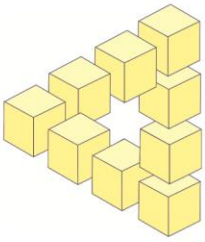

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Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey News



At the time of writing we are hopefully close to completing the purchase of a small area of land in the northern part of the Vision area. This will be our first land acquisition since the purchase of the Reach24 acres.

This winter we've enjoyed significant populations of short-eared owls on the reserve, especially on Burwell Fen and Bakers's Fen / Guinea Hall. It's good to see people watching the birds but please keep to designated footpaths to view / photograph the birds. Unfortunately there are always a few people that try and get just that little bit closer, and in this cold weather the birds need to concentrate their energies on finding food, rather than avoiding un-wanted human interference.

If you've got some spare time on your hands have you thought about volunteering for the National Trust? We've a range of opportunities available at Wicken Fen ranging from business support, marketing, retail, visitor reception, to boat, bike and campsite volunteers. We're holding an Open Day at Wicken Fen on Saturday 18 February, 10.30 – 2.30pm, if you fancy popping over for a chat to find out more. Anglesey Abbey are also holding volunteer open days on Wednesday 1 and Saturday 4 February, 10am -1pm, where they are looking to recruit volunteers for two new and exciting roles in the House.

Historical Engagers will bring the House alive for our visitors by delivering engaging stories, tours and activities, whilst Conservation Engagers, will share how we look after the collection by demonstrating conservation tasks, leading tours and helping to run conservation activities for our visitors. If you would like to find out more please pop along to one of the open days or contact Peter Green at Wicken Fen peter.green@nationaltrust.org.uk or Richard Bunn at Anglesey Abbey tel 01223 810083 or email richard.bunn@nationaltrust.org.uk).

We've some fun events for half-term including **Love Birds** on Tuesday 14 Feb and **Wintry Wild Art** on Thursday 16 Feb. The Cambridge Science Centre will also be visiting on Friday 17 Feb, 11.00 -15.00 with some fun interactive science activities for all the family to enjoy. Other events include a **Willow Plant Support & Bird Feeder Workshop** on Saturday 25 March and **Mothering Sunday Boat Trips** (complete with a glass of bubbly) on Sunday 26 March. Full details / ticketing information are available on the Wicken Fen website at www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Down at Anglesey Abbey February means snowdrops! Unlike last year when many varieties were flowering in early January, the recent cold snap has held the snowdrops back slightly this year, so we should have wonderful displays right throughout our Snowdrops Festival which runs until Sunday 26 February. Our volunteer garden guides offer free tours of the gardens / snowdrops at 11.30 & 1.30 (weekdays), whilst for a more detailed introduction we have tours of the private snowdrops collection daily at 2pm. These tours are for a maximum of 30 people – 15 places can be pre-booked by calling Visitor Reception on 01223 810086, with the remaining spaces available on the day.

Howard Cooper
National Trust



Tales from a Reach Garden



After the wind, rain and frequent fros of the past month or two, the vegetab garden is looking quite dishevelled. Th leeks, onions and garlic seem to hav shrugged off the weather and a growing well and there are few signs s far of the rusty spots of fungu developing on the strap-like leave which could inhibit growth.

The spinach and chard have suffered from the icy winds and probably won't show new leaves until daytime temperatures climb above 10°C regularly. The cabbages are puny this year and are facing competition from opportunistic chickweeds which have to be pulled up on a regular basis.

Our rhubarb plants are showing no signs of poking their heads above the soil either – so very different from this time last year, although we'll probably be pulling stems of rhubarb to eat in early spring. Rhubarb is the earliest "fruit" to be harvested in the garden. Now is a good time to mulch the crowns with a thick layer of compost or well-rotted manure, or even an old woolly jumper. The mulch retains moisture during the growing season and slowly releases nitrogen which is essential for the juicy stems of what is basically a perennial vegetable, albeit one with toxic leaves and roots. Rhubarb leaves and roots are very high in oxalic acid which can cause kidney damage when ingested in huge quantities; but the large leaves are excellent for composting.



Rhubarb and "forcing pots" in spring

That stems of rhubarb are eaten at all, even as a fruit, is down to the persistence of one Victorian entrepreneur called Joseph Myatt, who developed a variety called "Victoria" which is still grown widely today. Unfortunately, his sales of rhubarb at Borough market in London did not really take off until the price of sugar fell in the 1850s making his 'fruit' easier to eat. His rhubarb would have been 'forced' - a method of growing rhubarb in the dark; he would have used an old chimney pot, or one of the special tall clay forcing pots becoming popular then for forcing vegetables like chicory, sea kale, or rhubarb. The stems grown this way are more tender and sweeter. We have used an upturned bucket (with some aeration holes drilled in it), to do this. It works well, but the stems eventually lift the bucket off the ground. A tall, old plastic compost bin left open at the top also works very well – we found that if the lid is left on, the stems can rot so adequate ventilation is important.

Most commercially grown rhubarb still comes from the "Yorkshire Triangle" an area between Wakefield, Leeds and Bradford, where rhubarb stems have been grown in the dark in warmed forcing sheds and harvested by candlelight since the late 19th century. The rhubarb growers use shoddy (a wool by-product from the local woollen weaving industry) to mulch the plants outdoors as well as indoors. The downside of forcing the rhubarb is that the plant is weakened because like all plants, rhubarb does need light to grow properly. A rhubarb crown can only be forced for one season then should be left unharvested for at least another season before stems can be picked again.

After five years growth the rhubarb crowns should be divided, otherwise, like most perennials, the plants grow outwards with a weak central core and tend to put up large flowering stems (which should be cut down). Autumn or early spring are the best times to do this, the clump of rhubarb crowns should be dug up and using a spade cut the rhizome into two to four clumps so that each clump has some root and a bud or two at the top. After replanting it's probably best not to pull any stems that grow for a few months, to allow the plant to recover. This is also true for any newly planted crowns of rhubarb.



Rhubarb bed in May 2016: "Champagne" in left foreground; "Timperley Early" on right hand side (and in forcing tube); "Victoria" at left background.

We grow three different varieties of rhubarb; "Timperley Early" which as the name suggests is the earliest to put out stems which tend to be thinner than other varieties; "Victoria", which tends to be the last to show its stems; and "Champagne" which produces fat, red, juicy stems and is probably the sweetest variety. We pull the stems from February to June then leave the plants to grow unharvested for the rest of the year. We usually have a glut of rhubarb stems, but they are easy to freeze in chunks with sugar, and they're a treat to look forward to in the depths of winter before the new seasons' growth is ready.

Danuta Gibson

Sunrise. A Poem by Bill Estall

As I watch the sunrise shining through the mist at dawn

I see the jewels of the morning dew as they shimmer on the lawn.

I hear the rustle of the mighty tree as it reaches for the sky

And smell the scent of the wild rose as it lifts its head up high.

I feel the air on this new morn, so cool so fresh so clean

And watch the gentle breeze rock the corn in their different shades of green

I can feel the life around me stir to awake and greet the day

And see the moon gently sink in the west to hide its face away

I watch the early skylark as he sings and climbs his way up high

I see a flock of wild duck in formation as they fly swiftly by

I hear our summer visitor call in the distance behind this misty shroud,

And see the dancing sunbeams light up the edge of every passing cloud.

I gaze at the bushes around me, now dressed in their Sunday best

And watch our ever friend the Robin proudly show his scarlet breast.

These things are free to you and me and to everyone

When you what the rising of our morning sun.

W. Estall

The Whist Drive and Xmas Draw held on December 15th at the Village Centre raised £200, which was divided between Newmarket Hospital Xmas Funds and Addenbrookes Hospital. I would like to thank everyone who helped or gave in any way.

J. Harrison

The Lucky Draw Prize Winners are as follows:-

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Sherry	P. Sheldrick, Swaffham Prior
Sherry	K. Godlengton, c/o 23 Greenhead Road, Swaffham Prior.
Martini	D. Cole, 17 Carter Rd., Burwell
Whisky	Mr. Cox, Lode
Cake	Tracy Ison, 32 Council Houses, Lode
Chocolates	T. Cole, Reach
Crackers	A.E. Fuller, 11 The Leys, Burwell
Voucher	Gill Allan, Eastern Traffic, Camb.
Liqueurs	F. Lngram, Mill Lane, Fordham
Cookies	E.G. Moore, Wicken
Shortcakes	Mr. G. Lewis, Swaffham Prior
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Lucky Draw Prize Winners, January 1981, when evidently sherry was the prosecco of the day.

Note John Reed's advert – that's a minimum of 35 years of advertising in the magazine.

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West Hoathly, a small rural village in Sussex for the first 11 years, Yorkshire and Derbyshire thereafter.

What do you remember of your school days?
That it was a bewildering jump from small country primary school to large co-ed boarding school deep in the Pennines. I remember harsh weather and poor food. I was only moderately academic but ran well, 800metres and cross country for Calderdale.



1995. Riding my cob Fyval

What career path did you choose?
We were given a straight two choices, train to become a nurse or secretary. Nobody ever suggested anything else was attainable. I did a 9 month crammer at secretarial college in Oxford then, aged nearly 18, started work in London.

I was fortunate in being able to combine the dullness of secretarial work with some interesting jobs: worked at The Royal Mews for the Crown Equerry, The House of Commons and British Field Sports Society. After a few years I fled back to the countryside.

Moved to Newmarket and spent three years as P. A. To Anne Hammond at her show jumping centre, Connemara pony stud and riding school in Stetchworth.

Travelled north, worked for Viyella at their historic Nottinghamshire mills and looked after beef store cattle on a nearby farm. A few years later I returned to Newmarket and spent six years working at the British Racing School.



1997. Out with the keepers, Scotland (Joss far right)

Following that I journeyed to the Scottish Highlands and spent five years on the remote Ardkinglas Estate. I worked for a Conservation Scientist, painted and helped run a kennel of world class Scottish deerhounds. These were dual purpose hounds, during the season we ran them on the hill and then showed at Championship level, i.e. Crufts We ran dog training classes from isolated sheep sheds deep in the glen, I learnt how to fish and fly birds of prey.



1999 Running Scottish deerhounds

The estate changed hands and I returned to Newmarket in 2000 and worked within the horse racing industry (racecourses and bloodstock agencies) from then onwards. I was also employed by the National Trust at Wicken Fen and remain involved and fiercely committed to the reserve to this day.

Have you always been an artist and have you received training?

I sketched from a young age and painted seriously in Scotland. With Martin's encouragement I obtained a BA as a mature student in 2010.

What art mediums have you practiced (portrait, sculpture)?
Practised all at Foundation Art level but later specialised in painting.

Your love of the countryside and art seem closely linked?
More so since moving to the fens. I am passionate about them, their history and wildlife. Whenever artistic doubts and insecurities arise (often), I'm consoled by the fact that my subject, the fens, remains constant.



1999 Painting in Scotland

And you have an association with horses?
Horses and dogs (dachshunds, deerhounds, lurchers) have played a vital part in my life. I started riding as a toddler although my parents weren't horsey and we didn't have ponies at home. However, we had a weekly riding lesson and they kindly allowed a multitude of other pets: stick insects, mice, hamsters, fish, gerbils, a rescued pigeon and hen, guinea pigs, rabbits, tortoises, budgies etc. and there was always a family dog. We currently have a young dachshund Fen, two ponies, Thistle and Chalky (a rescue), a lovely feral yard cat, Feather, and hens.

Where did you and Martin meet?
In the Dykes End nearly 13 years ago at a lunch party. My mother refers to him as 'your Knight In Shining Armour'. We live in Great Lane.

It's lovely that you contribute so regularly to the magazine.
The wealth of rare and plentiful wildlife we have here, on our village doorstep, is a constant surprise. I enjoy feeding it back via the magazine ably assisted by the sightings of knowledgeable, interested and concerned people who have become good friends.

Where do you like to holiday? Rural mountainous Spain and off-season Southwold/Walberswick.

Can you cook? Am a capable, disinterested farmhouse-style cook. Martin produces exotic aromatic dishes but the clearing up afterwards is diabolical.

What are your favourite paintings?
Landscapes by Joan Eardley, 94 Degrees In the Shade by Lawrence Alma-Tadema and Shepherd Boy by Franz Von Lenbach.

What book are you currently reading?
The Luminaries by Eleanor Catton.

What's Your Moto?
Nothing's what it seems.



2006 Our wedding day



Food Focus



Gordons Sticky Toffee Pudding
(always available at the Dykes End)

Whenever Gordon, the Chef at the Dykes End, tries to take this off the menu, he gets complaints, so it has become a firm fixture. He has very generously offered to share the recipe with you – try it at home, or save the hassle and come and try it in your village pub.



Sticky Toffee Pudding (serves 8)

8oz dates
3oz butter
6oz sugar
3 eggs
8oz self-raising flour
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 tsp vanilla essence

Cover the dates with water and bring to the boil while stirring continuously. These will stick to the bottom of the pan if given a chance. Keep stirring on the heat until you have a smooth paste. Cream together the butter and sugar, then add the eggs and vanilla essence very slowly ensuring you combine well after each amount added. Add all the dry ingredients to the dates and then combine with the egg/butter mixture. Grease a large loaf tin and put in the oven at 180°C for 30 minutes, checking after 20 minutes to make sure it isn't cooking too quickly.

For the sauce

125g/ 4½ oz butter

125g/ 4 ½ oz brown sugar (mixture of light and muscovado would be good)

200ml/7fl oz double or whipping cream

pinch salt

Put all the ingredients into a saucepan, stirring until the butter has melted and the sugars have dissolved. Turn up the heat and bring to the boil, then simmer for a few minutes, until the sauce has thickened to the consistency of a light custard (that is it should coat the back of a spoon). Then you can either poke holes in the top of the pudding while it is still hot and pour over half the sauce, then pour the rest over when you serve it, or just poor all of it over when you serve it.

Snakehall Produce

You will soon be able to find purple sprouting broccoli and winter salads in the shop in addition to the existing farm produce of onions, leeks and sprouts (these have been particularly good this season). Co-workers have been busy making seasonal squash chutneys, marmalade and jams while the ground is frozen as well as producing living herb wreaths (I can't wait to try one of these), potting up more herb plants for resale and producing lots of wooden products for sale in the shop or to order. Picnic benches and tables/ log planters will be in the shop while mud kitchens for children to play with in the garden can be ordered.

Ps Foody Markets & Events happening near you this month

Burwell Farmers Market (Burwell Village College) 2nd Saturday of the month (9.30 - 12.30) – 11th February & 11th March.

Ely Farmers Market 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month (8.30 - 2) January 28th, February 11th & 25th and March 11th & 25th.

Burwash Manor (a series of converted barns in Barton, the other side of Cambridge) 13th & 14th February: Love Food – Join them on 11th & 12th February in the Secret Garden Marquee to celebrate all of the Food Hall's wonderful suppliers. There will be samples and tastings galore as well as half-term activities for the kids during the week. At the same time - Little Love Food is running - Keep the little ones entertained with a range of cookery classes.

Catherine Gibson



Swaffham Prior Primary School

2017 is now upon us and we wish you a happy and successful new year. We had a lovely lead up to Christmas…

Decoration Day took place on Wednesday 30th November and was enjoyed by all. The children spent the day making decorations which were up around the school.

The FoSPS Christmas Fair was held and it proved to be a very popular event. There was a wide range of stalls, including dropping a coin on to a reindeer's nose, glitter tattoos, decorating baubles, a selection of crafts, Christmas stationery, tombolas, a book stall and Guess the Name of the rabbit. The café had a steady stream of customers and the main raffle offered some terrific prizes. About £600 was raised which is a fantastic amount. Many thanks and congratulations to FoSPS for organising the Fair, and thank you to those who supported it.

Mercury and Mars Classes performed their production, 'The Nativity'. The stage was filled with narrators, soldiers, shepherds and sheep, inn keepers, a camel, Kings, donkeys, a star, Mary and Joseph. The children performed confidently, reciting their lines loudly and clearly, and we were entertained with a selection of catchy songs. It was fantastic!

Christmas lunch took place we were treated to a sumptuous meal of turkey and all the trimmings. With Christmas music, aprons donned and the sound of crackers being pulled filling the air, we enjoyed a feast!

Mrs Charlotte Cane and Mrs Anita Lang were judges for the Governors Handwriting Award and presented prizes to a group of selected children for their handwriting. All the children in the school copied a Christmas carol in their best handwriting and then the best were chosen from each year group. The samples of writing have been kept and in the summer term, the governors will be awarding prizes for the most improved handwriting.

FoSPS organised a 'Christmas Jumper Day' to raise money for Save the Children. The day was suitably chilly to allow for a very bright and sparkling selection of jumpers and non-uniform to be worn. Everyone entered into the spirit of the day and there were reindeer, cheery Father Christmases, snowflakes, penguins, Christmas trees by the dozen! The day ended with hot chocolate and cookies being sold outside.

Our Christmas service was led by Reverend Sue. The theme was 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' and we learnt a new version of the carol.

Term has begun again and each class has started another new topic. Mercury and Mars are thinking about Space this term and Mercury Class has a Space Centre set up in the classroom which the children can access. In Mars Class the children have a lunar landscape with moon rocks and rockets. Neptune and Saturn Classes are studying 'Ancient Greece'. Children in Neptune Class have been designing classical scenes on plates and in Saturn Class they have been maki
ng clay pottery in the style of pots used in Ancient Greece.

There is a busy term planned with the residential trips to Burwell House for Years 3 and 4 and Aylmerton for years 5 and 6, History Off the Page for KS2, a Choir Festival and much more.

Once more, lots to do…

Hannah Curtis
Head teacher



Do you need a break in your busy day?

Why not drop in to

LUNCHBREAK CAFE

At St Mary's Church, Burwell

On the 4th Wednesday of every month

February 22nd and March 22nd

Open from 12.00noon till 2.00pm

Whether you work in Burwell or Reach, or your days are filled with the type of work that's unpaid, you may feel in need of an oasis of calm in your busy day. We serve light lunches in the beautiful and tranquil setting of St Mary's, so come along for a break, meet some friends and return to your work refreshed. Children's Corner with books and colouring available.

For more information, contact administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk.



Days Gone By



The song that topped the charts i March 1984 was “99 Red Balloons which was sung by Nene – German singer-songwriter, actress and comedian.

In May 1984 while on a tour in th UK, Nena made the headlines of th British red-top press for havin unshaven armpits.

At the time this was not uncommon in continental Europe but was considered unusual in English-speaking countries to the extent that some people consider it explained the commercial failure here of the follow-up songs from her. Just thought I’d share that with you.

In sport, the UK was having some outstanding success due to the exploits of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean who were crowned the Olympic ice skating champions after scooping gold in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.



More than 24 million people watched the British couple score maximum points at the Zetra Stadium for their slow, sensuous free dance performance of Ravel's Bolero. It was an overwhelming St Valentine's Day victory for the duo in an event traditionally dominated by Soviet skaters.

The couple from Nottingham received a standing ovation from the 8,500 spectators in the arena and flowers rained onto the ice after they completed their stirring four-minute performance. They scored 12 out of 18 possible sixes for their free dance and the maximum possible of nine sixes for artistic impression.

The major event, maybe of the whole year in the UK, was when thousands of Britain's miners stopped work in what became a long battle against job losses.

More than half the country's 187,000 mineworkers went on strike with those in Yorkshire and Kent being the first to down tools, joined shortly afterwards by colleagues in Scotland and South Wales.

The trouble began over an announcement by Chairman of the Coal Board Ian MacGregor that 20 uneconomic pits would have to close, putting 20,000 miners out of work.

Miners at Cortonwood colliery in Yorkshire - the first earmarked for closure - walked out at midnight on 5 March in protest at the plans.



National Union of Mineworkers president Arthur Scargill is called on members across the country to join the action - relying on flying pickets to drum up support. Violence flared on many picket lines throughout the strike which ultimately lasted a year – partially due to the stockpiling of 22m tons of coal at the pitheads and more than 26m at the power stations.

The strike only began to crumble when the NCB offered miners various pay incentives to return to work before Christmas. On 3 March 1985, the NUM's executive narrowly voted for a return to work.

In Reach preparations were taking place for the Fair. It seems at that time that it was at a low ebb with the committee deciding to dispense with the funfair. They sought to compensate with boat rides and pony rides and the English Civil War Society.

This year’s Fair is progressing well and there will be a meeting taking place this coming Wednesday 8th February in the Village Centre, starting at 7.30pm and lasting around an hour

The loose agenda will be:

- ***Briefing on the status of the Fair***
- ***Listening to thoughts of people on the above – the main review will, as ever, take place shortly after the Fair and influence our 2018 Fair***
- ***Looking and “Lead Roles” where the Events Team needs help pre-Fair***
- ***Assistance on the day – we’re looking for some commitment from villagers at this stage***

Please come along if you can – we really need your comments if we’re going to move the Fair forward to your satisfaction - and for the good of the village

David Parr
744081 or davidmparr@btinternet.com

Reach Riders Group



The Reach Riders Group Committee consists of

Sadie King (Chair)
Sue Cameron (Joint Secretary)
Claire Halpin (Joint secretary)
Hilary Fielding
Liz Tabeki

Anyone interested in joining should contact Sue Cameron for a membership form, terms and conditions and disclaimer. Email ewenandsue@btinternet.com or Tel 07879627859

Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Michael Aves	Vice Chair	742800
Hannah Baldwin	Councillor	07702 813845
Steve Boreham	Councillor	742098
Charlotte Cane	Chair	741064
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	741853
Diana Ward	Councillor	744210
Nathan Bridgeman	Councillor	

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

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

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

Montessori School, Reach

For further information please contact Christine Hobbs:
Tel: 01638 743304 or 07816 082353
Email: chrishobbs333@gmail.com



Following on from the article in the last issue about Ray Folkes. We include a photograph of some of his family: Callum Missing (left), Amy Folkes, Emily Blunsten, Isabel, Matthew, Kelly Blunsten and baby Joshua.

Parish Council Meeting Draft Minutes

REACH
PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on: Wednesday 7th December 2016

Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Chair	Present
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair	Present
Michael Aves	Councillor	Present
Hannah Baldwin	Councillor	Not Present
Steve Boreham	Councillor	Present
Diana Ward	Councillor	Present
Nathan Bridgeman	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Not Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

1. Apologies for absence – received and approved.

2. Declarations of Interest
Councillors Cane declared an interest in a planning issue.

Forum for Members of the Public
There were none.

3. Planning
It was reported application 16/01392/FUL. 11 Fair Green had been withdrawn.
Also reported that 16/00016/ North View House 16 Chapel Lane had gone to appeal,
and that outline planning had been approved for 16/00686/OUM Stanford Park caravan park, Weirs Drove, Burwell.
Applications 16/01592/FUL was discussed. The PC had no comments to make.

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

5 (1) Amenity Fund Committee
No activity to report.

5(2) County Councillor's Report
The main item of interest at County Council in November has been the proposed Devolution deal for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. An extraordinary meeting of Full Council took place on 22nd November at which it was agreed, by a majority vote, that the County Council should accept the deal and agree to join a combined authority with an elected mayor. The deal has now been agreed by all seven constituent local authorities and the Local Enterprise Partnership. The deal will bring at least £600 million over 20 years for infrastructure projects, local control of skills funding and £170 million for affordable housing over the next 5 years for the area.

General Purposes Committee met to consider a number of items. These included the results of the public consultation on the 2017-18 business plan and approaches to Cambridgeshire Guided Busway defects and a review of the Waste Private Finance Initiative,

Children and Young People Committee met. The major item for discussion was a proposal to bring together the management of the Enhanced and Preventative Directorate with Children's Social Care Directorate. It was agreed unanimously that this was the right direction of travel. Committee also agreed to further work on joint working between Cambridgeshire Catering and Cleaning Services (for schools) with neighbours.

I attended a workshop with Senior Management Team regarding transformation work in the Council. I also attended Constitution and Ethics Committee, and the Children's Change Programme Board. Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Probation has been undertaking a 2-week inspection of Youth Offending Services in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and I attended their formal feedback session. The full results of the inspection will be published in 2017.

5(3) District Councillor's Report
No report supplied.

5(4) Financial Report
The PC remains in a financially stable situation. Payment had been received from the Woodland Trust for this years mowing of Reach Wood.
Councillors delegate the power to the clerk to spend up to £100 in any month to carry out repairs to the playground identified in the weekly inspections. Any such expenditure will be reported to the Council at the following meeting.

5(5) Parish Council Members Meetings
Councillor Boreham continues his discussions with Anglian Water regarding The Hythe and things are continuing to move forward. It is likely that Reach PC will be able to take on a licence to use some of the land at The Hythe. Fences will need to be moved and work will need to be done to make the area useable. There will be a cost to this and fundraising maybe required.

Councillor Boreham also continues discussions with IDB & EA regarding the silting up of the Lode.

The idea of putting a defibrillator in the public phone box on Fair Green was discussed. The cost is very high and Councillors agreed that the telephone should be kept. It was also agreed that having a defibrillator in the village was a good idea. ***Councillor Boreham*** to investigate costs and ideas on where this could be best situated.

5(6) Play Spaces
The repairs to the bridge logs were discussed and it was decided that all should be replaced to make the bridge safe, ***Clerk*** to arrange.
Investigations continue for the replacing of the play equipment. Meetings have been arranged with suppliers and designers to get an idea of layouts and prices. Consultations will then take place with residents.

5(7) Rights of Way
Nothing to report.

5(8) 24Acres Committee Report
Nick Acklam had been told he could buy more trees, he will be organising a planting weekend for them in January 2017.

5(9) Friends of Reach Wood
The 'No Horses - Public Footpath' signs have been installed near Reach Wood.

5(10) Local Plan
It is likely that the public Local Plan consultation will end in January. ***Clerk*** to establish the dates and arrange a public meeting to discuss.

6 Amenity Fund
It has been agreed that the Amenity fund will be taken over by the Parish Council. A payment is needed from the Reach Fair committee from this year's fair and then the accounts can be finalised and moved into the Parish Councils account. ***Councillor Cane*** to draft a document detailing the operating procedures for the new Amenity fund. This will be circulated and approved prior to been advertised to the public.

7 Precept
The precept will remain at last year's figure of £8,150

8 Burwell Road repairs and signage
Some road patching had been taking place this week. Hedge cutting had not taken place following the Clerks requests to landowners. ***The Clerk*** will continue to chase CCC for details following the on-site meeting with Councillor Fielding, write to Burwell PC to ask them to contact their landowners and will again write to Reach landowners.

9 NT land and roaming animals
Cattle have been escaping from various area of the NT land causing considerable problems and dangerous situations. The cattle have now been moved. Councillor Fielding had been in touch with the NT to discuss to try and avoid a similar situation occurring next year. ***Councillor Boreham*** to write to the NT highlighting this problem and ***The Clerk*** to follow up with a letter from the PC.

10 Information Items/AOB
Another complaint had been received regarding dog poo on the pavements within the village. ***Clerk*** to ask Councillor Baldwin if she was able to obtain the signs previously discussed. These can then be placed around the village.

The Clerk is in the process of arranging an on-site meeting with BB regarding the streetlights on Fair Green. This will hopefully happen next week and she will report back at the January meeting.

11. Payments

Simpsons Nurseries – Christmas Tree	£100.00
Eon – power on the green	£ 8.51
Susan Bailey – postage	£ 10.44
Councillor Boreham – No horses signs	£ 40.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 4th January 2017 at 7.30pm. The Agenda for the meeting will be issued by the previous Wednesday and can be accessed from the Parish Council area of the Reach website (www.reach-village.co.uk).

Chairman: Date:

REACH
PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on: Wednesday 4th January 2017

Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Chair	Present
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair	Present
Michael Aves	Councillor	Present
Hannah Baldwin	Councillor	Present
Steve Boreham	Councillor	Present
Diana Ward	Councillor	Present
Nathan Bridgeman	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Not Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

1. Apologies for absence – received and approved.
Councillor Fielding chaired the meeting due to the illness of Councillor Cane.

2. Declarations of Interest
Councillors Bridgeman declared an interest in the Dykes End discussion and Councillor Baldwin declared an interest in the Reach Fair discussion.

Forum for Members of the Public
There were none.

3. Planning
There was none.

4. The Dykes End
Following rumours circulating around the village the PC, as lease holder, had asked Mr Gibson to attend the meeting to discuss the situation with the Dykes End Pub.

5. Reach Fair
The Events Team attended the meeting to discuss the agreement for them to organise Reach Fair. A document was circulated which the PC would like to amend.
The Events Team updated the PC, stating that they had set up a charitable incorporated organisation; they had taken out their own public liability insurance and opened a bank account. They also reiterated that all profits would be passed to the PC to be used for the benefit of the village.

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

7 (1) Amenity Fund Committee
The Amenity fund now ceases to exist as a separate entity and is part of the PC. ***Clerk*** to arrange for the monies to be transferred by cheque to the PC's bank account.

7(2) County Councillor's Report

May I start this report by wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2017 and hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas.

Full Council met on 13th December. A number of motions were debated and agreed. Two of these motions included decisions to overturn previous decisions taken at the budget meeting in February 2016. These related to winter gritting and street lighting,

Council agreed to re-instate the previous gritting routes and to re-instate the previous levels of street lighting (over-turning the previous decision to dim street lights overnight), with the associated savings being met from reserves. The decision on street lighting has been implemented, and new gritting lorries have been procured and drivers are being trained to enable the increase in winter gritting.

General Purposes Committee met to consider a number of items. These included the usual range of financial reports. The Committee also agreed to commence a consultation on a draft energy strategy for the County Council (details are available on the website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

I attended a seminar regarding the latest position on business planning for the coming years and also attended a joint meeting with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Economy and Environment Committee to discuss growth areas across Cambridgeshire and the associated educational/schools requirements. Following the announcement of a Government consultation on fairer funding for schools nationally, the County Council is currently working up a lobbying campaign with our MPs to continue to make the case for Cambridgeshire schools.

UK Power Networks is urging any people in need of special support in the event of a power cut to register on the priority helpline. Further details and how to register can be found at www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/prioritysupport or by calling 0800 169 9970.

7(3) District Councillor's Report
No report supplied.

7(4) Financial Report
The PC remains in a financially stable situation.

7(5) Parish Council Members Meetings
There were none.

7(6) Play Spaces
A complaint had been received regarding the goals on the playing field. A resident has offered to repair and replace to bring the two goals back into use. The PC were grateful for this offer and agreed that this should go ahead. The goals will still need to be moveable for Reach Fair. The Events team have assured the PC that the goals will be correctly replaced after the Fair.

7(7) Rights of Way
There have been reports of horses in Reach Wood. Local riders have been reminded that this is not allowed. Residents are asked to please report any riding in the wood to Councillor Fielding with as much detail of rider and horse as possible.

Yet again complaints have been received about dogs loose in the wood. A discussion took place, the law states that dogs should be under control at all times even when off lead. Dog can be perceived as being dangerous by other people who are afraid of dogs running up to them even if the owner believes them not to be. ***Councillors Cane and Fielding*** to discuss with the owners.

7(8) 24Acres Committee Report
Nick Acklam will shortly be organising a planting day to in-fill the area of the woodland originally earmarked for a pond. And a Wassailing is being organised for 22nd January.

7(9) Friends of Reach Wood
One of the new 'no horse riding' signs has been removed on the footpath leading to the wood.

7(10) Local Plan
The local plan consultation will take place from the middle of January until the middle of February. The next PC meeting will start early at 7pm to allow time for residents discussion. ***Clerk*** will send an email will to residents advertising this meeting.

8 Parish Council Grant Application
A request had been received for £120 for funding of the Wassailing event at the 24Acres. Approved.

9 Playground update
Quotes are continuing to be sought, to gain ideas to put to residents and to establish how much funding will be required.

10 Burwell Road Update
Highways at CCC have stated that the patching work will continue, gullies have been cleaned, a CCC team has been requested to hedge cut along the entire length of the road, and the slow horse riders signs have been ordered.
There is nothing that can be done regarding the bend, just after the 24Acres entrance. Any work to widen the road would be very costly due to the ditches on either side. This would be major work that there is no budget for. Ditchfield has been added to the list for repair, however this is low priority for them but now it is on the list it should happen at some time in the future. However, this may be a very long time in the future.

11 The Hythe Update
Councillor Boreham has been informed that an important meeting about the future of The Hythe will take place at Anglian Water at the end of this week.

12 Streetlight Update
An onsite meeting had taken place with Balfour Beatty. The PC have received a quote for the replacement of 7 lights on Fair Green to Heritage style lights, along with one in Chapel Lane. Balfour Beatty have stated that they are able to complete the works prior to

Reach Fair. Residents who previously had made offers of donations have been contacted and are still happy with their commitment. This was approved.

10 Information Items/AOB

A letter had been received asking whether access to the cemetery could be improved for disabled visitors. ***Clerk*** to obtain quotes for a new pathway.

Reach Village Sign committee would now like to transfer responsibility and funds to the PC. Approved, funds will be held in a restricted reserve for future repair to the sign.

Councillor Boreham has made an application to the British Heart Foundation for a free defibrillator. This will provide a defibrillator, cabinet and training pack at no cost to the PC. If successful, all we will need to do is provide a location accessible 24/7. It seems like the bus shelter or the wall of the Village Centre might be the best options.

11. Payments

Eon – power on the green	£ 13.61
Susan Bailey – postage	£ 939.62

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 1st February 2017 at 7.00pm. The Agenda for the meeting will be issued by the previous Wednesday and can be accessed from the Parish Council area of the Reach website (www.reach-village.co.uk).

Chairman: Date:

Answers to the Wassailing Quiz

1. The word *wassail* comes from Old English *was hál*, related to the Anglo-Saxon greeting *wes þú hál* , meaning "be you hale"—i.e., "be healthful" or "be healthy".
2. The practice was sometimes referred to as "howling".
3. Old Twelfth Night – 17th January (this is twelfth night according to the Julian calendar, proposed by Julius Caesar in 46 BC and the predominant calendar in the Roman world, most of Europe, and in European settlements in the Americas and elsewhere, until it was refined and replaced by the Gregorian calendar, promulgated in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII).
4. The earliest versions were mead (fermented honey, water) into which roasted crab apples were dropped and burst to create a drink called 'lambswool'
5. Crab comes from a Norse word (scrab or scrabbe) that meant the fruit of the wild apple tree.
6. For the robins
7. It represents the 'good spirits' of the tree
8. Shotguns were fired or pots and pans beaten to make a tremendous racket to raise the Sleeping Tree Spirit and to scare off demons.
9. The men would have to guess the name of the roast that is being prepared for them – beef, pork, lamb…?
10. One that is made from leather that is soft and stretchy
11. This custom was especially important during a time when part of a labourer's wages was paid in apple cider. Landlords needed a good apple crop to attract good workers.
12. Shakespeare, from *Love's Labor Lost*
13. Small beer is a beer/ale that contains very little alcohol. Sometimes unfiltered and porridge-like, it was a favoured drink in Medieval Europe and colonial North America as against the more expensive beer with higher alcohol. Small beer was also produced in households for consumption by children and servants.

Letter from the Vicarage



Getting older hopefully brings maturity and wisdom, but definitely brings its drawbacks - creaking joints, getting a bit battered and faded round the edges, and bits beginning to fall off! Buildings are pretty similar to people in that respect! It's a great privilege being the guardians of such ancient, beautiful and cherished buildings as St Mary's in Burwell, and St Etheldreda's in Reach, but there's also a lot of work! We're really pleased that things are moving on with our plans for developing Reach Church. Each generation has made its mark on the building, as they have responded to the needs to the current generation, and we hope that with the help of our recently appointed new church architect, our church buildings will continue to serve the community and the needs of those who come to visit, to meet with others, to pray, to worship. Sometimes the building needs to adapt, and so too does the way we gather as a church.

A number of new initiatives have begun over the last year, and we're very pleased that Refresh, our monthly Friday morning café at St Mary's for babies, toddlers and their parents and carers, is going to be running weekly for a trial period. And you've heard of Messy Church - we're going to have a session of 'Sweaty Church' - a slightly tongue in cheek name for a sporty themed event for families to learn together through physical activities. We're still working out the details, so look out on Facebook or our website nearer the time.

Some special services coming up at St Mary's: on Sunday 5th February at 10am is Let your Light Shine, a special service celebrating Baptism and Thanksgiving, and on 26th March at 10am is our Mothering Sunday Thanksgiving Service, where posies of flowers will be given out. All are welcome.

On a sadder note, Revd David Bush died peacefully on 13th January, after a long illness. He and his wife Anita retired to Burwell about 18 years ago, and contributed a great deal to the church and wider community. He was much loved, and will be greatly missed.

Please get in touch if you would like more information about any of our events or services, including christening or a baby thanksgiving service, or to find out more about the Christian faith, or just if you'd like a chat.

Revd Dr Eleanor Williams, Vicar of Burwell with Reach
01638 741262
vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk
Come and find us on Facebook!

Church Building Update



The latest plans were duly received from the architect before Christmas. We've now entered into a series of meetings with various experts to help us finalise the detailed designs for heating, lighting, audio-visual systems. As with any development, there is a lot to decide and this takes time, but it's good to see the project taking shape.

I mentioned last time that we would like to recruit a small number of people in Reach to form an implementation team. Their roles would be to get involved with working out the final details of the plans and, when the time comes, to help with preparing the church for the builders, by packing up items for storage etc. During the construction phase, it would be good if some of this group were available to liaise with the builders on a daily basis, answering small queries and assisting with site security etc. These practicalities can be resolved much more efficiently by someone on the spot in Reach, who has a knowledge of the locality, than always having to be referred to the church wardens who live in Burwell, so please do consider carefully whether you could help. If you would like to be involved in this exciting phase of the project, please contact Pat Chalmers in the first instance (01638 742006 or pat@patchtcs.co.uk).

Pat Chalmers
Church Administrator
administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk



Church Services at Burwell and Reach

February 2017	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach
Wednesday 1st	10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Thursday 2nd	10.00am Little Bears	
Friday 3rd		8.00am Morning Prayer
Sunday 5th 4th before Lent	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service	
Wednesday 8th	10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday 10th		8.00am Morning Prayer
Sunday 12th **3rd before Lent**	10.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday @ 7	8.00am Holy Communion
Wednesday 15th	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Friday 17th		8.00am Morning Prayer
Sunday 19th 2nd before Lent	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Communion	
Wednesday 22nd	10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday 24th		8.00am Morning Prayer
Sunday 26th **Sunday before Lent -** **Transfiguration**	8.00am Holy Communion **10.00am Holy Communion** 4.00pm Messy Church	
March 2017		
Wednesday 1st **Ash Wednesday**	10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Thursday 2nd	10.00am Little Bears	
Friday 3rd		8.00am Morning Prayer
Sunday 5th 1st Sunday of Lent	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service	
Wednesday 8th	10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday 10th		8.00am Morning Prayer
Sunday 12th **2nd Sunday of Lent**	10.00 Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday @ 7	8.00am Holy Communion
Wednesday 15th	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Friday 17th		8.00am Morning Prayer
Sunday 19th 3rd Sunday of Lent	8.00am Holy Communion **10.00 am Holy Communion**	
Wednesday 22nd	10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday 24th		8.00am Morning Prayer
Sunday 26th **4th Sunday of Lent** **Mothering Sunday**	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00 All Age Service	
Wednesday 29th	10.00am Holy Communion	
Friday 31st		8.00am Morning Prayer

Bus Timetable

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

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

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

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

Newmarket – Burwell – Reach – Bottisham – Cambridge																
Service No:	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10		10	10	10	10
	M-F	**M-F**	**Sat**	**M-F**	**Sat**							**Sat**	**M-F**			
Newmarket (Guineas Station)				0704	0719	0814	0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1424	1514	1614	1714
Burwell (Manchetts Ness Road)	0628	0658	0713	0728	0743	0838	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1448	1538	1638	1738
Reach	0639	0709	0724			0849		1049		1249		1449	1459	1549	1649	1749
Swaffham Prior	0644	0714	0729	0741	0756	0854	0951	1054	1151	1254	1351	1454	1504	1554	1654	1754
Cambridge (Drummer Street)	0727	0807	0812	0837	0842	0937	1037	1137	1237	1337	1437	1537	1547	1637	1737	1837

Cambridge – Bottisham – Reach – Burwell – Newmarket																
Service No:	10	10A	10	10	10A	10	10	10	10	10	10		10	10	10	10
				M-F	**NMD**											
Cambridge (Drummer Street)				0655	0755	0825	0925	1025	1125	1225	1325	1425	1525	1635	1735	1845
Swaffham Prior				0729	0829	0902	0959	1102	1159	1302	1359	1502	1559	1712	1809	1919
Reach				0735	0835		1005		1205		1405		1605		1815	1925
Burwell (Hawthorn Way)				0742	0842	0912	1012	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1722	1822	1932
Newmarket (Guineas Station)				0810	0910	0940	1040	1140	1240	1340	1440	1540	1640	1800		

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

A full timetable can be downloaded from **www.reach-village.co.uk/bus_service.html**
Please note that the bus stops at a number of stops in Burwell – those listed are just timing points

Diary Dates: February 2017

February 2017	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 8	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	8pm
Thursday 2	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 8	Reach Fair Open Meeting	Village Centre	8pm
Thursday 9	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 10	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 11	Burwell Farmers Market	Burwell	9.30am – 12.30pm
Saturday 11	A Fun Evening at the Races	Village Centre	Doors open 7pm
Saturday 11	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Saturday 11 and Sunday 12	Love Food	Burwash Manor	Plus half term activities for kids
Wednesday 15	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 16	Recycling (Blue)		
Thurs 16, Fri 17 & Sat 18	Theatre: It Runs in the Family	School Hall, Swaffham Bulbeck	7.30pm See Page 6
Friday 17	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Tuesday 21	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tuesday 21	Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners National Memorial Arboretum	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8pm See Page 18
Wednesday 22	Lunchbreak Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	12 noon – 2pm
Thursday 23	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 24	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 25	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm

Diary Dates: March 2017

March 2017	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 1	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 2	Recycling Day (blue)		
Friday 3	Refresh Cafe	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Thursday 9	Recycling Day (green)		
Friday 10	Refresh Cafe	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 11	Burwell Farmers Market	Burwell	9.30am – 12.30pm
Saturday 11	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Tuesday 14	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Wednesday 15	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 16	Recycling Day (blue)		
Friday 17	Refresh Cafe	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 18	Massive Spring Jumble Sale	The Fassage, Lode	2 – 4pm
Saturday 18	Saturday Workshops	Bottisham Village College	See Page 18
Wednesday 22	Lunchbreak Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	12 noon – 2pm
Thursday 23	Recycling Day (green)		
Friday 24	Refresh Cafe	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 25	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Thursday 30	Recycling Day (blue)		

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

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

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

Contact Information

Parish Council			
	Vice Chair	Michael Aves	742800
	Councillor	Hannah Baldwin	07702 813845
	Councillor	Steve Boreham	742098
	Chair	Charlotte Cane	741064
	Councillor	Hilary Fielding	741853
	Councillor	Diana Ward	744210
	Councillor	Nathan Bridgeman	
	Clerk	Susan Bailey	743794
	Rights of Way Officer	Hilary Fielding	741853
	County Councillor	David Brown	743283
	District Councillor	Allen Alderson	741744
Village Centre			
	Chair	Andrew Towers	
	Finance	Hugh de Lacy	743839
	Bookings	Grahame Radford	742814
	Marquee Bookings	Andrew Hall	743737
Grant Scheme (Formerly the Amenity Fund)			
	Applications to:	Charlotte Cane	741064
Burwell and Reach Car Scheme			01638 742543
Church			
	Vicar	Eleanor Williams	741262
	Reader in Training	Frances Leadon	741770
	Priest in Retirement	Reverend David King	742924
	Parochial Church Council Member	Pam King	742924
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Simon Rogers	741205
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Sarah Wingate	742498
Emergencies			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency)		999
	Police (Non-emergency)		101
	Water (Anglian Water)		08457 145145
Doctors, Burwell			
	Appointments and Emergencies		741234
	Enquiries		743602
	Community Nurses		742382
	Surgery Hours	Mon 8.30am to 6.00pm with extended hours on a Monday please phone the surgery for details	









Wassailing – Reach Community Orchard











David Thomas organised the Wassailing and took the photographs. Massive well done!

