April/May 2017



Within Reach



The jockies ready for the first race with Harry Oliver-Towers at the end



The racing is underway and the tension is palpable

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Reach Fair Meeting

Wednesday 12th April 2017
7.30pm

Village Centre

Find out about the Fair and get involved!

From the Editor



Just four weeks to go to Reach Fair which this year falls on 1st May. The organising committee have been really pleased that people have come forward to run various elements of the Fair. It's a very big event and we're still looking for assistance. There's a meeting on Wednesday 12th April in the Village Centre at 7.30pm if you would like to know more about the Fair and get involved.

We have a profile of the RSPCA shop in Newmarket. By means of a donation their unsold china ends up on the Smash the Crockery stall at Reach Fair.

The evening before the Fair – on Sunday 30th April - we traditionally hold a quiz and Ross Clark is this year's Quiz Master. The money raised will go to Macmillan.

It's going to be hard to say good bye to Hugh and Marie who will be leaving us shortly to live in Sheffield. We wish them well and thank them for all that they have contributed to the village. This issue has a profile of Hugh and we learn about the de Lacys of past times.

We meet the Fordham's llamas, Caspian and Whisset, who have toes not hooves.

The daffodils have been beautiful this year. Spring has sprung and Joss records the siting of many wild animals and birds by herself and villagers, including a handsome toad in Hilary's pond.

David Thomas focuses on cherries starting with Morello, a traditional English cooking cherry and that surprises me. Danuta's gardening year has got off to a good start as she has already been picking broccoli. Her article is packed with information and filled with enthusiasm for the coming year. Catherine has trialled a couple of food businesses and guides us through the pros and cons of their services, and includes delicious recipes.

We have some great photos from Snakehall Farm. Visit them now and look out for them a the Fair

Claire Halpin-McDonald

Cover photographs: Hugh de Lacy



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 May 2017. This magazine is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

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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



Everything remains on track!

We had an excellent village meeting with a very good attendance and the "lead roles" were volunteered for as follows:

- BBQ — Andrew Towers
- Bottles Stall — Susan Bailey and Jo Redfarn
- Car Park — Andrew Trump
- Coconut Shy — Tony Jordan
- Crockery Stall — Tim and Debbie Quilter
- Football Game — Cliff Parr
- Marquees — The Halls and the Jordans
- Salad Stall — TBA
- Tea Tent — Claire Acklam
- Traffic Management — Sue Elliott
- Village Games — Alex de Giorgio-Miller

There will be a follow-up meeting in the Village Centre on Wednesday 12th April starting at 7.30pm. The aim is to "dot the I's and cross the t's" on the event – all villagers are welcome to come along and we'd like as many as possible of the "Leaders" above to be there.

As you may have seen, we do have a separate website for Reach Fair now and it can be found at:

www.reachfair.org.uk/index.html

We'll be advertising the site, which gives details of what attractions there will be, via social media and your help in "sharing" what goes out would be very much appreciated.

The next step is to get together a **rota of villagers** who are happy to help set up on the Sunday and/or help out on the various village activities on the Monday – and the clear up.

The Events Team: Claire, David, Hannah and Jo

Out of Reach magazine had an article dated 9th May 1768 as follows:

Reach, Rogation Monday, 9th May 1768

"I [Rev William Cole, Vicar of Milton] dined here with the Mayor and Aldermen & observed that only the east wall of the chancel was standing, with a small part of the chancel north and south walls by it; so that the great part of what was standing, when I was here in 1743, is now pulled down.

The Corporation went in their formalities, viz scarlet gowns and music. The Mayor, Mr Bentham with his principal mace went with me in my carriage. He got out about half a mile above the town, at a break in the Ditch and got on horse-back, with the mace before him, and rode in the bottom of the ditch all the way to the middle of the town or Market place, where the proclamation was read before the Mayor, Mr. Crisp Molineux, a West Indian, formerly a Fellow Commoner of St. Johns College in Cambridge about 1751, and who married the late Mr. Montgomery of Chippenham, his daughter, dined with us: and with him, one Mr. Freeman, a merchant of Lynn, nephew to Mr. Freeman formerly of Reche. Mr. Molineux was lately, about 6 weeks ago, cast in his selection for the town of Lynn, against Mr. Walpole & Sir John Turner.

The Ditch was made quite to the water-side, where barges come up with merchandise: it seemed to me as if they had lately dug away part of it close to the water side. We drank coffee at one Mr. Peacheys, a merchant at Reach, a little man, young and who lately has had the smallpox in a very full manner."

The above is preserved in the British Museum.

Please remember that on Fair Day Swaffham Road, Fair Green and Burwell Road will be closed from 10am – 5.30pm. This applies to all vehicles except authorised vehicles.

All car should be removed to the main car park from those roads before 10am for safety reasons. A controlled one-way system will operate on Burwell Road between the above times.

Reach Fair Quiz

Bring your brains and your own alcohol

Sunday 30th April 2017
Village Centre
7.30pm start
Quiz Master: Ross Clark

All proceeds go to the Macmillan charity

Say NO to the Container Port!

Many of you will already be aware of the plan by Leviathan Shipping Inc of Milwaukee to build a container port on Reach Fen. Obviously, this has serious implications for the village and could have a negative effect on house prices. I have tried to find out what I can. Perhaps we could have a meeting and then discuss how we can set about fighting this development.

The good news is that from what I can see no residential properties will be lost, but as the artists' impressions (reproduced with the kind permission of Leviathan Shipping) show, it will spoil the iconic view down the village green, not to mention causing noise and traffic. The proposed cranes will reach a height of 400 foot and the docks will spread over 120 acres, cutting off well-loved walks and snuffing out much of the bird life. The lode will be widened and deepened and the lock at Upware upgraded, while the clunch pit will be enlarged to create a dock. In the longer term it is proposed that a relief road would be built to the west of the village, but in the short term the plane is to turn the village green into a gyratory system, with lorries accessing the port by means of the Hythe and returning via Chapel Lane.

There has been talk of the need for extra container port capacity for some time, given that Felixstowe is already operating close to capacity. But the most obvious question is why Reach, when surely there are more suitable sites along the coast? What I didn't realise is that ports in England can only legally receive foreign ships by means of a royal charter. Moreover, under a decree issued by Elizabeth I in 1585 at the height of the wars with Spain the number of ports allowed to have such a charter is limited to 27. This was reaffirmed in the Shipping Act 1811 when fears of invasion by Napoleonic spies led to government to try to limit the number of points of legal entry to the country. This never been repealed, thanks to successful lobbying by existing ports who jealously guard their monopoly. Moreover landing a foreign ship in a port without a charter remains, along with mutiny on the high seas, one of the very few capital offences on the statute book.



Reach, however, is one of the 27 ports which does have a royal charter – granted by King John in 1208 when the village was part of the wool trade with the Netherlands. That trade fell into disuse sometime in the 16th century, but the charter remains in place, containing within it the right to receive ships and to 'erect such craynes and derrickes that are necessarie for the execution of trayde'. Disturbingly, it seems as if this means that Leviathan Shipping can pretty go ahead with the development without planning permission. Permission would only be required for port buildings, which the company says it will sidestep by operating, at least initially, from portakabins.

It isn't all negative. There will be jobs, of course. Under its community outreach programme Leviathan Shipping has offered us a second hand shipping container, which could be useful for storing equipment for the fair. But to my mind this isn't nearly enough to compensate for having to put up with the constant clattering of ships being unloaded on our doorstep and having the village over-run with inebriated sailors.

We will have to be extremely careful how we go about opposing this development. From what I have been able to establish, Leviathan Shipping doesn't exactly have the best reputation for community relations. At the deep water port it is developing at Wenquan in Qinghai Province, China, it has already levelled a village and displaced a community of mandarin ducks. Objectors are reported to have disappeared – only to turn up in chain gangs, spending 18 hours a day mixing cement on the site of where their homes once stood. I can't say any more for legal reasons, but when questioned on this, Leviathan's executive president, Larry G Seersucker III, merely retorted: "When you drain the swamp, you don't ask the frogs". Charming.

But there are a few things we can do. I suggest:

1. Firstly, that we all display the accompanying poster, 'No to the Container Port', in our windows, as a show of strength
2. Secondly, that we write to our MP, Lucy Frazer, at House of Commons, London SW1AA 0AA
3. That the keen nature-watchers in the village do some research into rare birds and other wildlife that might be disturbed by the development. If we can find a nesting site for a rare species of shrew it could just help justify a legal challenge under the European Habitats Directive
4. Finally, I would like to call a public meeting for Saturday 1 April at 7.30 pm, to give us all a chance to study the plans in greater detail and come up with an action plan. Perhaps some of you could think of a design for the campaign tee shirt. Unfortunately, the village hall is already booked for pilates, but Mr and Mrs de Foule, who have recently moved into 22 Great Lane have kindly offered to host the meeting in their large rococo drawing room. See you there.

Ross Clark



RSPCA Shop, Newmarket



Debbie Warren-Clarke, Manager (right), assisted by Jenner Beckett

I'm Debbie Warren Clarke and I've been the Manager at this shop since about .2015. I've been employed by the RSPCA since 2011, firstly in the Great Yarmouth area. Originally I started as a volunteer for a charity and have been working for charities ever since.

This shop was on the High Street before it moved to these premises. We have a nice location here, within a pedestrian area and a pet shop close by. We're a busy and friendly shop. We have our regular customers and I get to know people by name. People do the rounds of the charity shops in Newmarket and we try to offer the best quality that we can. If people let me know what they are looking for I will see if I can find it out the back, or contact them if we get such an item come in.



The window display reflects the quality and range of items on sale

Twice a year we have a tombola, at Christmas and Easter and this raises extra funds.

We have several animals that regularly visit the shop. George the black cat from the public house pops in. He's getting chubby so we have been asked not to feed him. Dogs come in with their owners, and the dogs are given treats with their owner's permission. We keep the dog bowl outside for passing pouches which is nice.

We're always looking for extra help: in the shop; at the back of the shop; and picking up from people who wish to donate items. At the moment I have girls in on a Saturday who are doing animal care so they come for the work experience. Jenner Beckett is helping me today.



Oh dear, some creatures close to home have required some nursing

Our aim is to open seven days a week but without the help we cannot open Sundays and Mondays. Our hours are 9.30 -am – 4.40pm. It's best to drop donations into the shop when it is open otherwise we cannot guarantee that we will get your items if they are left outside unattended.

We sell a very large range of items: clothing and shoes, bric-a-brac, CDs and DVDs, and jewellery. We can receive electrical items but I must arrange for them to be PAT tested so I have to wait until I have as many as 50 items so they can all be tested at the same time. If someone was able to offer PAT testing for free that would be a great help.

There are some things a RSPCA shop would not sell: anything to do with hunting, shooting, fishing, bull fighting and

the like. No coral or shell because it would have been harvested, and no fur or ivory.

I'm very pleased, and appreciative, to be able to say that we get a lot of donations. I am able to call upon people to look at items which may be antiques or valuable. And I can look on line and seek advice if I am unsure. I price everything and my pricing is based on experience. We do have price guides for Basic, Standard, Quality and Premium items.

We have had some exceptional things like the Littleput Lane House ornaments. We regularly get very good designer clothes with names like Ghost, Karen Miller, Hobbs and Gucci. We once had a Versace suit. We do have a designer rail for new items, designer items and premier high street brands.



The shop has many new and nearly new items

If something is not sold it gets recycled and these items include clothes, shoes, books and jewellery. We sell stamp collections and re-cycle stamps. We appreciate the donations we receive for the unsold crockery items which contribute to the Smash the Crockery stall at Reach Fair.

Despite being a charity we don't get any special reductions for the rental of the shop. All the money from the shop goes to the RSPCA of course. There is a RSPCA headquarters and then the country is divided into branches. The money raised in the branch area stays in the branch area, so any money raised really does help local animals. The need to help animals is getting greater not less, so all the money raised is appreciated. We help all abused and neglected animals: wild, farm and domestic.

It's best to drop donations into the shop when it is open otherwise we cannot guarantee that we will get your items if they are left outside unattended.



The money raised by the shop stays in the area and helps local animals



Meeting Caspian and Whisset at High Cloud Stud

On a beautifully warm and sunny Spring morning Rebecca Fordham introduced me to the family's llamas, Caspian and Whisset. I was captivated by the sight of these animals running up the field to her call and gambolling together before dust bathing in a suitably muddy scrape. I had no idea they were so large, with elegant small heads and luxurious coats that rippled in the breeze.



Rebecca advised these were two males, both aged 1 year 20 months but unrelated. They have been halter trained and could go on to do trekking. Their characteristics are playfulness, kindness and gentleness. They do not spit at people but can at each other, over food. They are hardy, quiet, curious and intelligent.



Whisset (brown) and Caspian

Maintenance of llamas is minimal although their coats are clipped after a year or so, a shearer arrives to undertake this task. At the current time they have no outlet for the wool. Llamas have toes not hooves and, on rare occasions, these may require a trim. Llamas can live for twenty years or more.

llamas need grazing land and, ideally, some form of shelter, Caspian and Whisset have a deeply bedded stable where water, hay and feed are given. They eat a ruminant mix which suits a very different digestive system involving one stomach with three compartments. They have excellent natural manners and patiently wait for feeds to be put down before coming forward, they know their names.



They were originally purchased to keep the paddock grass cropped but in reality there is too much land for a duo to manage and the Fordhams have decided against increasing the herd. Instead the llamas have become undemanding field pets and particularly enjoy the attention of their children Miranda and Archie who have learnt the art of stroking them with the required back of the hand.

Joss Goodchild



The Bet365 Craven Meeting Tuesday 18th April 2017



The bet365 Craven Meeting signals the start of the Flat racing season and the beginning of an exciting spring and summer of world class sport and entertainment at Newmarket Racecourses. Racing's HQ will be abuzz with anticipation of what lies ahead and eager for the first opportunity to see the early season form of some of the best horses in training, as well as the trainers and jockeys. The bet365 Craven Meeting is also seen by many as a key fixture for potential contenders in the first two Classic races of the year, the QIPCO 1,000 and QIPCO 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket Racecourses.

Tuesday of the bet365 Craven Meeting is a community day whereby anyone with a CB8 postcode will gain free entry to the meeting*. The first 100 bookers will also be offered the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic Discover Newmarket Tour. If you live within a CB8 postcode all you need to do is book in advance using the promotional code **CRAVENCB8** at www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk.

*Maximum of two FOC tickets per household (KIDS GO FREE), advance offer only – ends midnight the night before the event. Please also note that tours will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

The link for this if you need it is: https://newmarkettickets.thejockeyclub.co.uk/online/seatSelect.asp?BOset::WSmap::seatmap::performance_ids=6D2AB6C1-A451-4852-9F66-0F7549BAEDE3&BOparam::WSmap::loadBestAvailable::promocode_access_code_url=cravencb8

Please note that you don't need the promo code and the link, just one or the other!

Reach Fair Quiz
Bring your brains and your own alcohol

Sunday 30th April 2017
7.30pm start
Village Centre
Quiz Master: Ross Clark

All proceeds go to the Macmillan charity

Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

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

Heritage Street Lighting Update



Sadly, there has been little progress.

As reported previously, a meeting took place in the middle of December with a brand spanking new Balfour Beatty man who agreed that everything could be done in time for Reach Fair (we assumed he knew we meant 2017!)

A quotation was provided before Christmas and was duly approved by the Parish Council early in January.

Nothing has happened since and we have now been informed that our brand spanking new contact at Balfour Beatty is now ex-Balfour Beatty!

Susan Bailey is now in touch with the County Council Street Lights team so that a way forward can be planned and hopefully delivered.

If you need to remind yourself of what this is all about have a look at: www.reach-village.co.uk/street_lights.html

David Parr
744081 or davidmparr@btinternet.com



Burwell Museum and Windmill is Open!

The Museum re-opens at Easter weekend, Sunday 16th April and Bank Holiday Monday 17th April 2017 for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Loads of family fun including chocolate prizes for all egg hunters, crafts, tombola and Easter treats in the tea room!

Standard museum admission applies, season ticket holders and under 3s are free. Egg hunt entry £1.

The Museum will be open every Thursday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday from Easter-October, 11am – 5pm. Last entry at 4pm.



Egg Hunt

Fun with Flour, Classic Cars and More…

Our 2017 events are now listed on the museum website and leaflets can be found dotted around the Burwell and many community facilities in surrounding villages. If you own a classic car and want to exhibit your pride and joy at our event on 21 May please contact us on the details below and we'll book you a free parking spot.

Action Stations! Volunteers needed

We're still looking for friendly, community-minded people of all ages to join our volunteer team as welcome assistants, tea room support and windmill tour guides. Plus - if you're aged 14-20yrs and looking for work experience in a unique setting, please get in touch. We'll put together a training programme to suit your needs and give you some interesting tasks to get your teeth into! Give us a ring on 01638 605544 or email volunteers@burwellmuseum.org.uk



Volunteers outside the windmill

Mystery at the Museum – just for fun!

We know that you all love a quiz so this month the museum's collections team want to share an interesting but unusual object with you. Do you know what it is? We'll publish the answer on our Facebook page or pop up to the museum to enjoy a cup of tea and we'll tell you all about it!



www.burwellmuseum.org.uk
01638 605544
museum@burwellmuseum.org.uk

Burwell Museum, Mill Close, Burwell, Cambridge
CB25 0HL

Burwell Museum Coach Trips 2017



Braintree, Tues 16 May £15

Wells next to Sea, Tues 27 June £17

Newark and Heckington, Fri 21 July £27

Hunstanton and Lavender, Tues 15 Aug £15

Sheringham 40s, Sun 17 Sept £18

Northampton, Fri 6 Oct £17

Brick Lane Xmas Show (Adults Only), 8 Dec £68

Tickets from Tina's Shop, Burwell or ring Barbara on 01638 741581

Reach Community Solar Farm



Time flies, and it's already been over a year since we flipped the big red switch on the solar farm!

We're delighted with how it has been performing. By the anniversary of the switch-on we had generated and exported 264 megawatt-hours of electricity - over 10% more than we had expected based on the generation model we used.

Wholesale prices have been very low over the last year so we have been paid a bit less than we had hoped for each unit of electricity we exported. However, with the additional yield we are bang on track with our original financial projections.

There aren't so many wildflowers on the site this time of year, but there is still plenty of wildlife - can you spot the muntjac?

Our AGM is on the 9th May - put it in your diary now!

We expect to be in a position at the AGM to recommend making our first interest payments to members, and first payments to the community fund. The directors will look at our finances carefully before recommending the amounts to be paid, but they are likely to be in line with our original projections. The final decision however is up to the members at the AGM.

We're also really keen to get suggestions on what we could put the community fund to in this first year. We would have a preference for supporting local causes, and projects that improve energy efficiency, but we are open to any ideas you might have - there are no fixed rules on how it can be spent. Please get your thinking caps on and email us with suggestions! A couple of ideas that have come forward so far are:

- Help the local primary school in Swaffham Prior with the costs of lagging pipes to reduce heat loss, or with fitting more efficient LED lighting;
- Make a donation to a local charity, such as East Anglia Childrens Hospices or the Cambridge Volunteers Centre;
- Investigate putting solar panels on new affordable housing in the surrounding area.

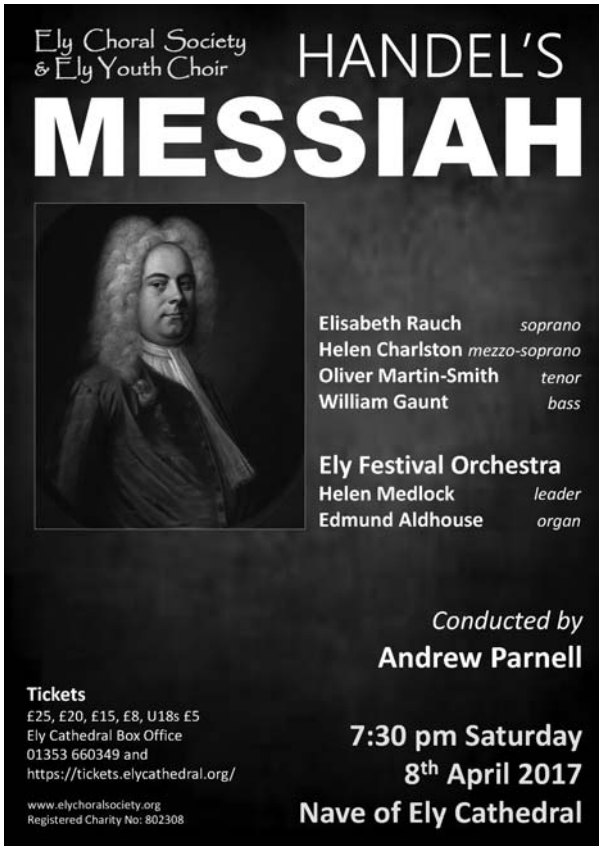
The AGM is also an opportunity to consider standing as a director. We are likely to have one vacancy coming up and we'd love some new blood. Now that the solar farm is up and running the duties are not very onerous - just 4 very civilised meetings a year in the village pub. It's a great opportunity to see how a community enterprise works.

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.



Ely Cathedral

Saturday 8 April 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

ELY CHORAL SOCIETY & ELY YOUTH CHOIR

Regular concert-goers will need no introduction to *Messiah*. It has more than earned its place as the most popular choral work and one that is central to the oratorio repertoire.

It is very much the stuff of remarkable stories:

- Handel took just 24 days to compose *Messiah*.
- The common belief is that King George II was so impressed with the *Hallelujah Chorus* that he stood up to listen to it, which obliged the whole audience to follow suit. This is still the custom in many performances to this day.
- Mozart 'modernised' the orchestration with the addition of flutes, clarinets, horns and trombones.
- The work attracts large scale performances. Even as early as 1857, it was promoted as part of a Handel festival at the Crystal Palace with a chorus of 2000 and an orchestra of 500. There is an annual *Messiah from Scratch*® in the Royal Albert Hall with upwards of 4000 singers.

Ely Choral Society, with Ely Youth Choir (who have sung in three *Scratch*® *Youth Messiah* concerts, also at RAH) are joined by Ely Festival Orchestra (leader Helen Medlock) and Edmund Aldhouse on the chamber organ.

ECS is also delighted again to be supporting four young soloists who are making promising starts to what are sure to become high-profile careers.

The concert is conducted by Andrew Parnell.

Follow us on social media for all the latest news on our concerts, youth choir and events.

www.facebook.com/ElyChoralSociety

@ElyChoralSoc

Ely EEL FESTIVAL Weekend

Ely's Best Loved Quirky Eel Festival is back! 28th April to 1st May 2017

Ely's FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL

Ely is preparing itself once again for its four day extravaganza to celebrate the origins of the humble eel. Organised by the Visit Ely team, **Ely's Eel Festival Weekend** runs from **28th April to 1st May**. This year, as always, we see the return of the **Eel Food Safari** which runs all weekend where a selection of local food outlets provide special dishes inspired by the eel theme.

The **Eel Parade** kicks off Saturday's **Eel Day** with a colourful array of eels processing through Ely's High Street, down to the river where a whole host of eel related activities take place. Special highlights include the **Town Criers' Competition** and the **World Eel Throwing Competition** (no eels will be harmed in this competition, just stuffed toys!). Can you beat the World Record of over 17 metres? The full programme of arena events includes music, dancing, a living history encampment and a street food scene (including eels!).

Rounding up the weekend is the ever popular two day **Food and Drink Festival** where over 60 artisan and specialist food and drink traders will be showcasing their wares. We have an amazing **Street Food Scene,** comprising of a range of culinary delights which will tantalise your taste buds with the unusual, yet exquisitely crafted combinations. We also have a beer tent and cocktail bar with some easy listening live music to enjoy.

This year we welcome into our fabulous **Cookery Theatre** internationally renowned chef **Theo Randall** and current MasterChef's winner **Jane Devonshire** who will be demonstrating a variety of dishes alongside some of our much loved local chefs**.**

New this year is our **Kitchen Pantry** on St Mary's Green with a selection of goodies to help stock your pantry, some handy gadgets and beautiful kitchenware along with a seating area and some scrumptious light bites.

Also the chance to personally meet and greet our celebrity chefs for a Q&A hour plus book signings at our "Audience With" sessions which will be held at **Oliver Cromwell's House**. Check out our website for booking details.

All in all, Ely will make the perfect place for a Spring Bank Holiday visit. For the full Ely Eel Festival programme check out www.elyeelfestival.co.uk

Don’t swallow up your NHS – local NHS reveals the cost of prescribing basic medicines – A Letter of Reply



Dear Editor,

Leaving aside the question of whether Within Reach is an appropriate vehicle for the dissemination of NHS propaganda, I must take issue with aspects of Jo Hobson’s article in the last issue.

We are fortunate to have an excellent GP service in Burwell and in my experience the doctors there will always suggest buying over the counter medicines when available rather than using the NHS prescription service.

However the implication that patients should avoid visiting their GP and self-diagnose instead is much more contentious. Everyone is familiar with the symptoms of a common cold but other symptoms are not necessarily so easy to self-diagnose. To give an example: I recently suffered a persistent sore throat; after two weeks of taking painkillers I visited the GP and was reassured that I was suffering from pharyngitis (a new one to me) which would clear up in another couple of weeks – which indeed it did. However if the symptoms had been due to something more serious (e.g. a developing cancer) then a delay in seeking a diagnosis could have had serious consequences.

The reality is that the UK, one of the world’s richest countries is spending around 20% less on the NHS than health spending in comparably wealthy European countries. This could be very easily remedied by reversing the current excessive use of private services when public provision is more efficient and raising additional funds through a fairer taxation policy.

Yours faithfully,
Hugh de Lacy

Macmillan. Calling Local Groups and Associations

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Every day in Cambridgeshire, 12 people hear the devastating news they have cancer, more money is needed to ensure that Macmillan is able to support people affected by cancer and help ensure no one faces cancer alone. For this reason, Macmillan is looking to local groups, clubs, organisations and associations to help.

Fundraising Manager Chloe Coombs is well aware of the importance of local generosity “We’ve seen some amazing events and fundraising ideas throughout the year so far, and we can’t thank everyone enough for their support. Yet there’s always an inherent challenge in keeping the wheels turning and ensuring we’ve got the right funds to allocate to the right places. Donations are literally what keep us going, and we want to continue giving our renowned support to cancer patients across the county. If you’re part of a rotary club, a library, a local parish or any other gathering of likeminded individuals, we’d be thrilled to hear from you.”

From parish councils to bowling clubs, schools and colleges to members of the armed forces, raising funds for Macmillan couldn’t be simpler. Summer sports days, barbecues, raffles or more are just three of the countless ways you can get involved. No matter what your group can give, it all contributes in a big way to the lives of cancer patients and their loved ones.

Contact your local Fundraising Manager, Chloe Coombs on 07540 674385 or ccoombs@macmillan.org.uk<mailto:ccoombs@macmillan.org.uk> please visit www.macmillan.org.uk<http://www.macmillan.org.uk> to find out how you can help. One in two people will be diagnosed with cancer during the course of their lifetime. No one should face cancer alone and with your help no one will.

More than one in three of us will get cancer. For most of us it will be the toughest fight we ever face. And the feelings of isolation and loneliness that so many people experience make it even harder. But you don’t have to go through it alone. The Macmillan team is with you every step of the way. We are the nurses and therapists helping you through treatment. The experts on the end of the phone. The advisers telling you which benefits you’re entitled to. The volunteers giving you a hand with the everyday things. The campaigners improving cancer care. The community there for you online, any time. The supporters who make it all possible.

Chloe Coombs, Regional Fundraising Manager
Macmillan Cancer Support

Twitter @mac_cambs_beds
Facebook:https://www.facebook.com/#!/macmillaneastofengland/

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service are committed to supporting the safety and wellbeing of residents in all of the communities that we serve. The Safe and Well visit will provide us with sufficient information to support you and, with your permission, refer you to selected partner agencies who will be able to support you further. We will not share your data with marketing companies or for other purposes.

Our visit will last no longer than 60 minutes and is completely FREE of charge. Our visit will assess five key elements:

1. Fire safety in the home - including cooking, general safety and escape plans;
2. Falls prevention - including simple remedial action such as replacing lightbulbs or taping down loose carpet;
3. Alcohol use - Alcohol related illness in the over 65s is on the increase. We can provide you with helpful information;
4. Stay well and warm - Can you afford to heat your home? Do you have access to a hot meal? Do you have access to all the services available to you?
5. Crime reduction - We can provide advice on making your home more secure in addition to advice to make you less vulnerable to scams or fraud.

You are under no obligation to answer any questions that you do not want to, but the more information you provide us with, the better we will be able to support you. We can also provide advice in relation to promoting the health and safety of individuals with hoarding concerns, as well as providing valuable information to care providers.

We often find smoking is one of many factors making someone more at risk of fire, for example, when combined with poor mobility, health problems or being elderly, it increases someone's chance of having a fire. Here are some tips to take on board or give to friends and family that smoke:

- Never leave a lit cigarette or pipe unattended;
- Always use a proper ashtray and make sure the contents are cold before you tip it in the bin; and
- Never smoke in bed and avoid smoking in a chair if you are likely to fall asleep.

Most importantly, fit a working smoke alarm and test it regularly. Don't forget to also test the smoke alarms of those you love. If you have an elderly or vulnerable relative, friend or neighbour, pop by and make sure they have a working smoke alarm. If they don't, that is something we can provide as part of a Safe and Well visit. Eligibility

To find out if you are eligible for a Safe and Well visit, Enquire online. Alternatively, if you are unable to apply online or have a query about an enquiry form that has already been submitted, please telephone 0800 917 9994.

Opening days / times – All Year. Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm

Visit our website and search for "Safe and Well"

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.

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



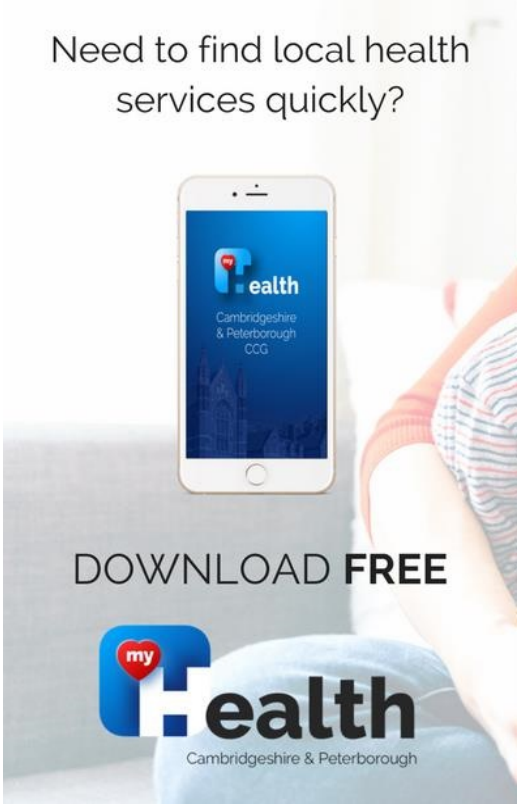
Need to Find Local Health Services Quickly? New `MyHealth' App for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

A new app to help Cambridgeshire and Peterborough residents find local NHS services available to them has been launched.

Quick and easy to use, the **'MyHealth Cambridgeshire & Peterborough'** app will direct you to your nearest appropriate NHS service. This includes local GPs, pharmacies, minor injury units, and dentists, based on your location or postcode.

Free to download and available in five other languages, including Polish, Latvian, and Lithuanian, MyHealth provides up to date information on current services including directions, opening hours, and contact details.

The app is available to download for iOS via Apple Store, Android via Google Play, and Windows phones via Microsoft Store by searching for **'MyHealth C&P CCG'**.





REACH FAIR 2017
MONDAY 1st MAY

A COLLECTION FOR THE

BOTTLE STALL

WILL BE MADE ON THE EVENINGS OF
TUESDAY 18th, WEDNESDAY 19TH
AND THURSDAY 20TH APRIL

PLEASE MAKE A CAKE FOR THE

CAKE STALL

CLAIRE ACKLAM WILL RECEIVE
CAKES BEFORE THE DAY
OR JUST BRING THEM TO THE STALL

OFFERS OF HELP
TO DAVID PARR (744081)

PRETTY PLEASE

Out and About



Blackbirds are much in evidence along the Great Lane side of the village, dotting road, gardens and verges. I counted thirteen in the Reed's field which borders Aves' farm last week. Panoramic morning birdsong accompanies my equine tasks and flocks of yellowhammer brightly colour the track to Reach Wood. Fieldfares search for insects and worms in Gareth & Lesley's nearby field and lovely brown hares can be seen on land at Tubney and Little Fen.

During one short journey we counted five kestrels on the road to Upware. Slightly further afield, over two hundred mixed geese (greylag and Canada) congregated noisily on grassland opposite Ducketts Farm together with mallard, woodpigeon, rooks and crows. A marsh harrier put up a large flock of lapwing in the field beyond.

On 2nd March our garden hedgehog came out of hibernation and a few days later an exotic Michigan blueback cock pheasant (not a native of the US but bred there selectively for its flying ability) returned to the paddock muckheap. I notice two little egrets stand in ex-Reeve's field on Great Lane.

A short walk in Pocket Park revealed heron, kestrel, green woodpecker, swans at the point, a cormorant flying over. Molehills litter the pasture, despite having no external ears and poor eyesight moles have excellent touch and smell senses, a single animal can dig its way through 14 metres of soil in just an hour! I read that a group of moles is called a 'labour'.



`Mouldywarp' an old fashioned name for a mole

Strangely, the intermingled calls of little grebe and distant peacocks can be heard from Tubney Fen at dusk. Frogspawn in the ditch there has turned green and frothy, Hilary text that toads were out on the neighbouring road again.

Thank you to the Reach villagers who sent their local sightings:
Tracy Lynch text 6.2.17: Fab walk over Tubney – kestrel, heron, reed bunting and on 20.2 walking riverbank heron, pair green woodpecker. Also saw a brimstone butterfly.

Ron & Penny 7.2.7: proving that small steps can reap big rewards when it comes to wildlife conservation: Ron and Penny heard that the large pile of brushwood and hedge cuttings which had accumulated on farmland bordering the boundary of their garden and the back of Reach Church was to be levelled recently. Concerned that the timing of this operation would undoubtedly cause the demise of various mammals, amphibians, insects and hibernating hedgehogs they felt the impact on this communal habitat was too great to ignore. After contacting the landowner it was agreed that the brushwood pile should be left as a permanent refuge for the wildlife.

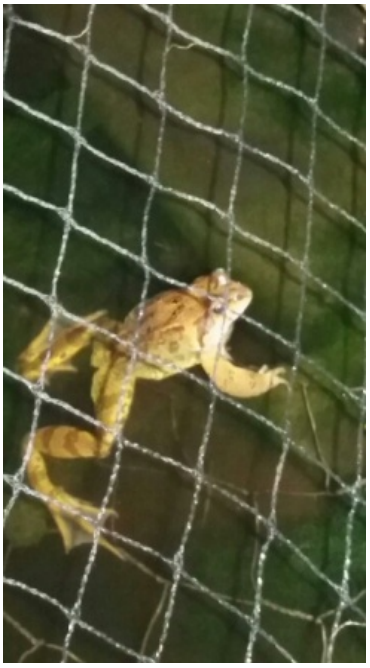
Ron was delighted to spot several clumps of frogspawn in the small pond he created in their sheep field two years ago. This further demonstrates that there are frogs in Reach Wood.

Nick Acklam email 12.2.17: It was well worth braving the weather walking Bessie this morning! A vocal Barn Owl perched in the large hedge that flanks the left hand side of Reach Lode up to the bridge. It would occasionally foray out into the narrow pasture that runs between the Lode and what I think is called Straight Drove. There was no sign of another owl in the vicinity despite a loud, sustained and quite varied broadcast.

A kingfisher glimpsed in Reach Port, flying up the Lode branch that leads to White Roses. What a flash of turquoise in the gloom!

David Thomas text 18.2.17: Just saw eight cranes over Burwell Fen. Three came in to roost, others flew on to Wicken.

Hilary Fielding text 5.3.17: watching birds on yard feeders, only tit not here is coal tit. Yellowhammers galore, several robins, reed warbler, dunnock, a pipit of some sort and a very rare (here anyway) female blackbird. Strange but very few finches this winter. 8.3 flock of long tailed tits, siskin and female chaffinch. Rosie watched a hare attacking a crow on NT field where sheep were, must have young nearby. 12.3 Have handsome toad in my pond, croaking loudly.



Toad in Hilary's pond

Something unforeseen has happened, thwarting Thistle and my retirement from riding. I feel the necklace may have to be returned although the mince pies are a goner! Unexpectedly the pony developed a ventral edema, a fluid swelling which appeared overnight and ran from her front to hind legs at a depth of over 6 ins. This the direct result of inactivity i.e. periods of time simply standing in her field. The remedy is exercise, she has been led out by Tracy and Martin and Jodie has also ridden her but, on the instructions of my Surgeon, I must recover more bend in my knee and it's my turn now …



Jodie Halpin-McDonald exercising Thistle reducing edema visible under pony's stomach

Joss Goodchild

The VILLAGE CENTRE 100 CLUB for 2017

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

Please contact Andrew Towers to be part of the draw

Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners

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

St Mary's Church Burwell
Service for Godparents' Sunday
30th April

9.45am Refreshments and Children's Activities
10.30am Service to Celebrate
and Pray for Godparents and Godchildren
11.15am Celebration Cake

St Mary's Burwell
St Etheldreda's Reach
Loving God, Loving People



Messy Church

Reach 24 Acres Community Orchard. Featured Fruit – The Cherries



We have planted four varieties of cherry tree in the village orchard. Whether we will ever see any fruit or whether the pigeons will take them all remains to be seen, but we can live in hope.

Cultivated cherries are one of two species – the sweet cherry (*Prunus avium*) and the sour cherry (*Prunus cerasus*) which is used mainly for cooking. We have five varieties of sweet cherry in the orchard (Merchant, Merton Bigarreau, Merton Glory, Polstead Black and Summer Sun) and one variety of sour cherry (Morello). Both species originate in Europe and western Asia and the stones have been found in deposits at Bronze Age settlements throughout Europe, including in Britain.

Cherries aren't easy to produce and as a result they are expensive to buy – they often need irrigation and spraying and are easily damaged by rain or hail. Labour costs are high - they are often picked by hand to avoid damage to both fruit and trees, although in commercial production they are now harvested by using a mechanized 'shaker'.



The English word cherry derives from French *cerise*, Spanish *cereza*, and Turkish *kiraz*, all originating from the Latin *cerasum* referring to an ancient Greek region near Giresun in Turkey from which cherries were first thought to be exported to Europe. Today this region has a rich agriculture, growing most of Turkey's hazelnuts as well as walnuts, cherries, leather and timber.

In 2014, world production of sweet cherries was 2.25 million tonnes, with Turkey producing 20% of this total. Other major producers of sweet cherries were the United States and Iran. World production of sour cherries in 2014 was 1.36 million tonnes, led by Russia, Ukraine and Turkey.

We have the following varieties in the orchard:

Morello

Morello is a traditional English cooking cherry - if you want to make cherry pies, cherry crumbles, or jams and preserves, this is the best cherry variety to choose - when cooked it has a strong rich cherry flavour. The fruits are smaller than modern dessert cherries, looking more like small seedless grapes. Morello cherries (like most sour cherries) contain melatonin, a natural anti-oxidant substance which is also involved in regulating sleeping and wakefulness.

Merchant

This variety originates from Norfolk, having been developed by the John Innes Research Institute and introduced commercially in the 1970s. It is an Early to mid-season variety with very large, black fruits.

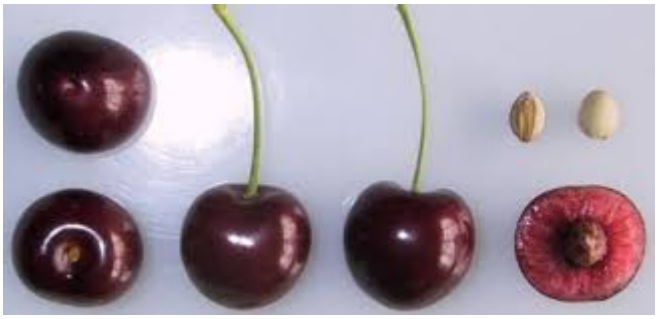
Merton Bigarreau

This variety has purple, heart-shaped fruits that are firm, juicy and with a very good flavour. The stones are small. It is a very-late season variety.



Merton Glory

This is a well-known large English "white" cherry – though in practice the skin is predominantly flushed red over a white background. Merton Glory ripens towards the end of June in southern England. It was raised in the 1940s (by the John Innes Research Institute). Trees crop heavily producing very large, sweet and juicy fruits with an excellent flavour.



Summer Sun

Summer Sun is a modern English dark red cherry variety with firm-soft flesh and a good flavour. It is regarded as one of the best cherry varieties for the UK climate, being a consistently heavy and reliable cropper even if the summer weather is indifferent.

Polstead Black

A small black skinned sweet cherry local to the village of Polstead near Hadleigh in Suffolk. It is first recorded as

being sold on Sudbury market in the 1940s. It is distinctively red fleshed and very juicy.

(The village of Polstead is also is noted for being the site of the Red Barn Murder in 1827, which is actually more interesting than reading about the colour of cherries so here is a bit more information. A young woman, Maria Marten, was shot dead by her lover, William Corder. The two had arranged to meet at the Red Barn, a local landmark, before eloping to Ipswich. Maria was never heard from again. Corder fled the scene and, although he sent Marten's family letters claiming she was in good health, her body was later discovered buried in the barn after her stepmother spoke of having dreamt about the murder. Corder was tracked down in London, where he had married and started a new life. He was brought back to Suffolk, and after a well-publicised trial, found guilty of murder. He was hanged at Bury St Edmunds in 1828).

Sponsors

The sponsors of our cherry trees are as follows:

Polstead Black	Tony, Rebecca, Archie and Miranda Fordham
Merchant	Sue & Tony Jordan
Summer Sun	Charlotte Cane
Morello	Tony, Rebecca, Archie and Miranda Fordham
Merton Bigarreau	Sarah Mollart and Marcus Waithe
Merton Glory	Andrea, Martyn, Oliver and Freya

Sources: Mainly https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page and https://www.orangepippin.com/

David Thomas





The Primula Parade



Primula Allionii `Chivalry'

Few plants raise a gardener's spirit more than the sight of early spring flowering primroses (Primula vulgaris). Thriving in the dappled shade of woodlands throughout most of Europe, they mark the end of cold, bleak winter months and herald the beginning of the explosion of growth in the woodland. Primroses are one of around 600 Primulas found largely throughout the northern hemisphere. They come in a bewildering array of sizes and flower forms, and fill widely differing ecological niches.



Primula Denticulata

In the Alpine House at the Cambridge University Botanic Garden, starting in February through March is the amazing *Primula allionii.* In SE France and Italy these flowers cling to life in crevices in limestone cliffs until the spring when these surprisingly small plants pack a huge floral punch, covering themselves in an array of pink to white flowers. Next to flower in the Alpine House is *Primula auricula* with elaborate flowers straight out of a catalogue of beautiful buttons. Later in the spring and summer by the stream side and Bog Garden and also this year in our Alpine House Himalayan display, we will have a range of some of the Asiatic moisture loving Primulas. These start with the purple drum sticks of *Primula denticulata* followed by a host of others until their floral peak in the summer with the tiered magenta *Primula japonica* and nodding yellow bells of *P.sikkimensis.*

Primulas all have in common a crafty way of ensuring they are cross pollinated. They have two flower forms – either 'pin' or 'thrum'. 'Pin' plants have their stigma (receptive tip of the female part of the flower) sticking out of the petal tube and their stamens (male pollen bearing parts) held deep inside. With 'thrum' plants it is the other way round. This helps to make sure that pollen transferred by an insect onto the receptive stigma must come from a primula flower of the opposite form. Only the pollen from a 'pin' flower will reach down far enough into the petal tube for a 'thrum' flower and only the pollen from the raised up 'thrum' stamens will reach the similarly raised 'pin' stigma.



Primula Vulgaris (Primrose)

What floral delights we and the bees have to look forward to these next few months!

The Cambridge University Botanic Garden is open from 10am - 6pm, April - September, 7 days a week.

The Glasshouses and Café close 30 minutes before the Garden and the Botanic Garden Shop at Brookside closes 15 minutes before the Garden. Please check the website at www.botanic.cam.ac.uk for details about opening times, admission charges, tours, courses and special events

Cambridge University Botanic Garden



Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey News



We're delighted to have completed the purchase of eight acres of land at Old Bar Drove, which adjoins our existing land holding at Tubney Fen.

Sarah Smith has recently been appointed as the new General Manager for Wicken Fen. Sarah, who starts on 15 May, joins us from the Wildlife Trust, where she has been heavily involved in the Great Fen Project, a landscape restoration project very similar to our own Wicken Fen Vision.



The Easter Holidays are upon us and both Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey have a full programme of activities for the school holidays. Once again we will be holding our **Cadbury's Easter Egg hunts** over the Bank Holiday weekend. There's no need to pre-book for Wicken Fen but Anglesey Abbey have introduced pre-bookable timed slots which can be booked online from our website at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/angleseyabbey or by calling the National Trust Box Office on 0344 249 1895, (pre-booking is not essential but you will guaranteed to receive a chocolate prize as supplies are limited). The Easter Egg Hunts at both properties are £2.50 per child, plus normal admission.

Other Easter events at Wicken include **Den Building** (3 April), **Pond Dipping** (4 &11 April), **Mud Oven Cooking** (5 April) **Nature Survival Skills** (7 April), **Waking up for Spring** (10 April), **Nature Crafts** (12 April). At Anglesey Abbey the programme is, **Design a Flag** (4 April) **Woodland Crafts** (6 April), **Stick Tower Challenge** (11 April) and **Bug Hotels** (13 April).

As I write the arrival of the first cuckoo of spring is eagerly awaited. The earliest recorded date for Wicken Fen is the 8 April, although the mean average is the 15 April. Nick Davies, who is one of the world's leading cuckoo experts, will be leading two **Cuckoo & Warbler Walks** on Saturday 27 May at 10.15 & 1.45pm. Over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend, award winning local wildlife photographer, Richard Nicoll, will be presenting an exhibition of his photographs taken at Wicken Fen. We are also running a 24 hour **BioBlitz** (similar to last year's one on Reach 24 Acres) from 11am on Bank holiday Monday.



It hardly seems real, but Anglesey's inspirational Head Gardener, Richard Todd, will be hanging up his trowel at the beginning of April. Richard has worked at Anglesey for over 40 years, the last 17 as Head Gardener. His influence can be seen throughout the gardens from the Winter Walk, Hoe Fen Wildlife Discovery Area, to the new Skylight Garden. It's true to say that under his leadership the garden has been elevated to one of national, if not international significance.

Although we are sad to see Richard go, we're delighted to have found a very able successor. Andrew Myson, currently Head Gardener and Facilities Manager, at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, will be joining us as our new Garden & Outdoor Manager, in June.

Howard Cooper
National Trust

St Etheldreda's Church

Eve of Reach Fair

Songs of Praise

Sunday 30th April 2017

6.00 - 6.45pm

A short service of well known hymns readings & prayers



Tales from a Reach Garden



While I am writing this in the middle of March, the daffodils are in full bloom, the weather is warm and very sunny, it seems that spring has arrived at last! Alas, this being Britain, the weather is unlikely to remain so mild for more than a couple of days. Nevertheless, it's a cheering sign, and the vegetable garden will become very busy as seeds are sown and seedlings planted out in the coming weeks.



Heads of early purple sprouting broccoli

I've already picked some early sprouting broccoli and the leeks have been superb. Normally we don't get to pick any broccoli until April or May, but the "Early purple sprouting" broccoli has lived up to its name and we started picking at the end of February. The leeks have been remarkably disease free considering the cold and damp weather we have had. Normally I would have to remove a lot of leaves marked with spots of rust fungus, and lift the stunted leeks early to prevent the disease spreading.



Rust-free leeks "Malabar"

In previous years I have sown a variety of leek called "Neptune" which was alleged to have some resistance to rust and it was certainly better than "Musselburgh" which is one of the oldest known varieties and still widely grown. Last year I sowed seeds of a leek variety called "Malabar" recommended for organic gardening as it is supposed to be very disease resistant, so that there is no need to use fungicide (not that I have). I have been very pleasantly surprised by the health and size of the leeks this year. My only quibble is that the blanched part of the leek shank isn't white all the way through – only about 2 cm of base and the outer part of the shank is white, the inner part is green. The leeks are tasty, but a pumpkin and leek soup takes on an unappetising mid beige colour, rather than a vibrant orange when the leeks are green instead of white.

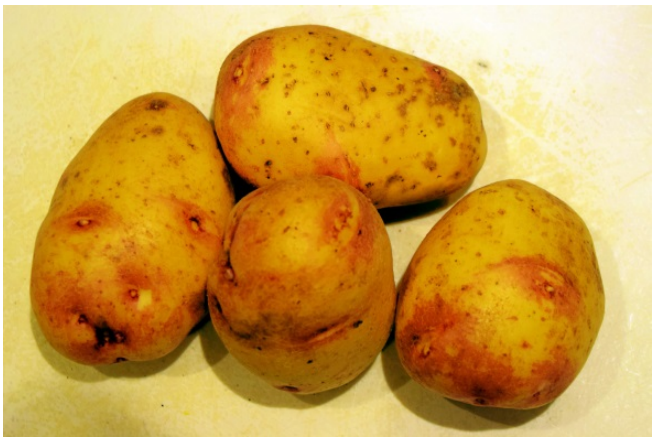
As there are virtually no fungicides available for amateur gardeners to use when growing fruit and vegetables, it makes sense to look for varieties which are being bred for resistance to disease. Some vegetables are susceptible to a large range of diseases, and weather conditions so it's worth growing more than one variety if you have the space to do so. Our weather is so variable, who knows what problems each year will bring. For instance, last year we were able to pick a huge yield of ripe tomatoes because they were not affected by blight, in the previous year we were not so lucky…



Our Alicante tomatoes were blight free last year

The wholly blight-resistant tomato is still the holy grail of tomato breeders – some show resistance but eventually succumb such as "Matt's wild cherry" and "Ferline" which just take longer to collapse than other varieties. The latest variety to be promoted for blight resistance is an F1 hybrid variety called "Crimson Crush" which I am sowing this year. F1 hybrids are more expensive than other varieties and I'd be lucky to receive more than a handful of seeds per pack. These hybrids are produced from two different varieties to provide desired characteristics – in this case, blight resistance. The down-side is that any seeds I collect from my "Crimson crush" tomatoes will not provide the same type of tomatoes when I go on to plant them in following years, so I would have to buy some more.

Our Alicante tomatoes were blight free last year. Potatoes also suffer from the same type of blight as tomatoes, caused by the *phytophthora infestans* pathogen – the same disease which caused the Irish (and Scottish) potato famines of the 1840s. Late season blight tends to occur in wet summers, particularly after July. So first early potatoes planted at the end of March, should not be affected by blight provided they are picked before the end of July. Second early crops should be in the ground by the middle of April and lifted before the end of August, they tend to be used as salad potatoes. We've had some success with varieties such as, "Wilja" and "International Kidney" in the past, but in the last couple of years we've been growing "Jazzy" which provide a high-yield of potatoes with a lovely-flavour. I've boiled, steamed, sautéed and roasted them, about the only thing you can't do is mash them, though they can be crushed, and I don't bother to peel them as the skins are so thin. Neither first earlies nor second early potatoes are meant to be stored for months.



A few of last year's crop of Picasso potatoes

It's the traditional main crop potatoes such as "King Edward", which tend to be clobbered by late season blight, because they are slower to mature and aren't ready to be lifted until late August, though the skins will harden and the potatoes swell if left in the ground until October. We had some blight last year which affected some of our red skinned (and very versatile) "Desiree" potatoes which usually cope well with dry summers. But the most blight-tolerant potato variety we have ever grown is "Picasso" which has done well for us over the past three years. "Picasso" has given us big yields of large "baking potato" size tubers and they keep very well – we are only just coming to the end of last year's yield. In recent years a pink skinned variety called "Sarpo Mira" has been proven to be best for blight resistance. I haven't grown any yet; the tubers are "floury" but are supposed to be an all-rounder in the kitchen. If our Desiree potatoes fail this year, I'll certainly consider growing them next year. Meanwhile, it's the time to start chitting potatoes ready for planting…

Danuta Gibson

Bottisham Village College
Adult Learning

Saturday Workshops
20th May
Bread Making
Fun with Flowers
Illustration for Beginners
Stained Glass
Vegetarian Indian Cookery
Willow Weaving – Cut Flower Baskets
(Most workshops run from 10.00 - 4.00)

New Courses for the Summer Term
(from 25th April)
British Sign Language (Evening)
Food for Summer Entertaining (Evening)
Introduction to Counselling (Evening)

Our full programme can be found on our website, together with enrolment information:
www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning
01223 811372
adultlearning@bottishamvc.org

Reach Grant Fund

The Grant Fund replaces the Amenity Fund and exists to fund community activities in Reach.

The Grant Fund shall principally be funded by profits from Reach Fair.

The Grant Fund shall be a Designated Fund of the Parish Council.

Any resident of the village may make an application for a grant. Applications can be made by non-resident organisations if they benefit residents in the village. Approval will only be given for projects which benefit a reasonable number of villagers.

Approval will not be given to any application which would normally be a core activity for the Parish Council.

Decisions as to which applications are successful will be made by the Parish Council. Small grants will be decided at any Parish Council meeting. Large grants (over £2,000) will normally be decided at the Annual Meeting, to allow all villagers to share in the decision. Where this is not possible, they will be advertised in advance of the next Parish Council meeting to allow villagers to give their views.

If at the end of a Financial Year the fund has more than £10,000 the Parish Council will identify a project or consider whether applications for funding should be actively sought.

The Parish Council shall communicate its decisions directly to the applicants and make them public on the Reach website and in the village magazine.

The Parish Council can use the fund to fund its own projects, as long as they are not normally a core activity of the Parish Council, for example, new equipment for the playground, but NOT general maintenance of the playground; new street lights, but NOT general maintenance.

Applications should be sent to the Parish Clerk:
Susan Bailey
29 Great Lane Reach CB25 0JF
01638 743794
reachparishcouncil@live.co.uk



Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Michael Aves	Councillor	742800
Hannah Baldwin	Councillor	07702 813845
Steve Boreham	Councillor	742098
Charlotte Cane	Chair	741064
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair	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.

Reach Fair Meeting

Wednesday 12th April 2017
7.30pm
Village Centre

Find out about the Fair and get involved!



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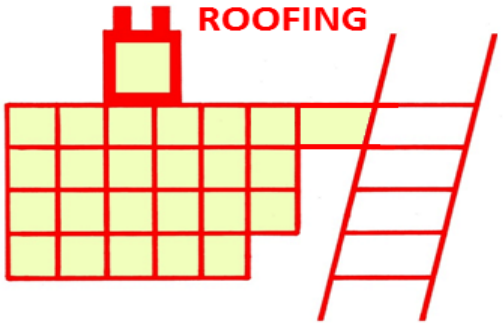

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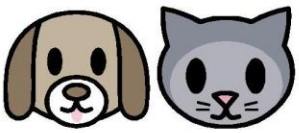

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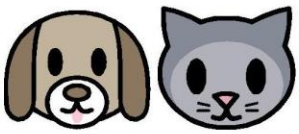

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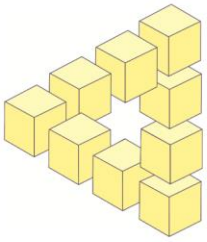

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Days Gone By

The song that topped the charts for six weeks in April/May 1984 was “Hello” from Lionel Richie. Memorable for the line "Hello, is it me you're looking for?" the song came as a third single from his second solo album “Can't Slow Down” and inspired a lawsuit by songwriter Marjorie Hoffman White, who accused Richie of plagiarizing her composition "I'm Not Ready to Go".



In central London, WPC Yvonne Fletcher was killed and ten people injured after shots were fired from the Libyan People's Bureau.

Helping to control a small demonstration outside the embassy when automatic gunfire came from inside – the WPC received a stomach wound and died soon afterwards at Westminster Hospital.



The Libyans, led by Colonel Gaddafi, blamed Britain's police and security forces for "attacking" their embassy and Libyan soldiers then surrounded Britain's embassy in Tripoli trapping 18 diplomats inside.

The Libyans were ordered out of the UK and left peacefully but due to their diplomatic immunity police were unable to question suspects before they went. However, in 1986 a British businessman who had worked for Colonel Gaddafi's regime reported WPC Fletcher's killer had been hanged as soon as he returned to Libya.

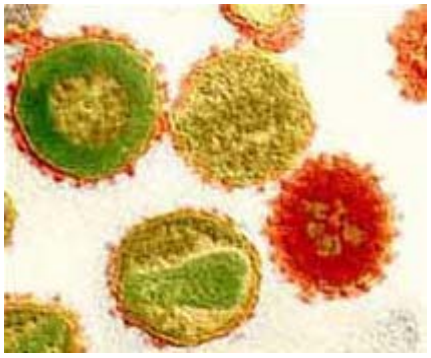
Britain restored diplomatic relations with Libya in 1999 after the Libyan Government admitted it bore "general responsibility" for WPC Fletcher's death. It also paid a six-figure sum in compensation to her family.

The discovery of a virus which may cause Aids, the fatal disease sweeping through America, was been hailed as a "monumental breakthrough" in medical research.

Aids had started as a mystery epidemic in 1981, consisting of two separate diseases and quickly claiming the lives of 75 people. The disease caused widespread panic in the United States where 4,000 people were infected in the space of two years.

During that time it also became apparent that the epidemic was not restricted to homosexuals.
Cases of Aids were also discovered among heterosexuals, drug users and blood transfusion patients.

The virus which was isolated as the cause of the disease was called Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and it was first discovered in 1983.



Aids Virus

Around 24 million people have died from Aids since it first emerged and it is the leading cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa. There is still no cure for the disease despite numerous trials in North America, Europe and Thailand.



In Reach, excitement revolved around the suspicion that there may be a puma in the area! It had allegedly been sighted near the Lode and it was suggested that its presence could be confirmed by viewing its paw prints or its droppings (whose appearance was described as “of a shiny black colour about the size of a dessertspoon”).

We also had footballing success with “Reach Rovers” winning a Five-a-Side Football League Tournament. Team members were Malcolm Daines-Smith of Reach, David Almond of Swaffham Prior, Paul Cole from Reach and Steve Hockley and Kelvin Belmonte from Burwell.

David Parr
744081 or davidmparr@btinternet.com

A cowboy walks into a bar and orders a beer. His hat is made of brown paper, his shirt and vest are made of waxed paper and his trousers and boots are made of tissue paper.
The bartender called for the Sheriff who arrested him for rustling.

Snakehall Farm



REACHING OUT TO NEW CUSTOMERS AT REACH FAIR

Our farm team are busy preparing their products for our stall at Reach Fair again this year. We will be bringing our usual ranges of organic produce, chutneys and Co-worker crafted creations to encourage new customers to try some of the best organic veggies for miles around. The Reach Fair milestone is something we set our growing plans around and marks the start of the busy season for all of us at Snakehall Farm. It is a great way to meet our neighbours but also make lots of new friends and supporters of our charity. Now will we be wearing our sunhats or our wellies?

FULLY ACCESSIBLE FRUIT CAGE PROJECT WILL BEAR FRUIT OF OUR LABOURS THIS YEAR

This time last year we asked you all to VOTE PROSPECTS at the local Tesco stores and this year we are pleased to say we have fully spent the winnings! £10,000 was donated by Tesco as part of their Bags for Help Scheme, using the 5p plastic bag charge to great community use. 2016 was a busy year with the erection of a massive new fruit cage, with fully accessible pathways laid by teams of corporate volunteers and raised beds built by our Farm & Garden Teams. This year we hope to be harvesting lots of lovely new fruits, for onward sale in the shop and of course to turn into great new Prospects Preserves.

POLYTUNNEL POPS UP THIS SPRING THANKS TO SWAFFHAM BULBECK'S BLACK HORSE DONATION

We were delighted to be selected as the Swaffham Bulbeck's Black Horse pub's charity of the year last year and are pleased to report we have put their local's kind donations to great use. Pub Quiz Master Beryl Barrett and Landlord James Aldridge personally delivered a cheque for a whopping £1541. With the donation we have erected a brand new polytunnel on the farm site, this is located next to the Fruit Cage and again will be fully accessible for our Co-workers with more profound disabilities. We are now waiting for the polytunnel to be skinned and we will be planting up for a bumper harvest.

PROSPECTS WOODWORK WORKSHOP BUSY WITH NEW PRODUCT RANGES

Our on-site wood workshop waved goodbye to the sparkley reindeers but welcomed in the new year with lots of new woodern creations. We have created wooden wigwams, marvelous mud kitchens and lots of new inspirational natural play items. Take a look at our website for prices and photos. Here are the Spring Close Montersorri children putting their new kitchens to the muddy test.



WOODLAND TRUST HELPS US CREATE A TINY FOREST AT SNAKEHALL FARM

Our Co-workers (adults with disabilties) have been setting down fresh shoots for future generations in our Far Field at

Snakehall Farm. We were awarded with tree packs from The Woodland Trust and have now planted over 400 new trees, promising to create shelter and habitats, year around colour and of course ensure our organic care farm blooms. We hope to plant more trees in November if we are awarded more tree packs from The Woodland Trust.

Maz Baker



St Mary's Burwell and St Etheldreda's Reach

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday 9th April

8am Holy Communion
at Reach

10am Holy Communion
at St Mary's

4pm Ness Court
Churches Together
Songs of Praise

Holy Week

Holy Week 10th - 14th April

Mon, Tues, Weds
6pm Evening Prayer at St Mary's

Tuesday 11th April
3.30pm Student Cross visit

Maundy Thursday 13th April
7.30pm Holy Communion
at St Mary's

Good Friday 14th April
10.30am Messy Easter at St Mary's
11am Walk of Witness
from North St Co-op
2pm Devotional Service at Reach

Easter

Easter Sunday 16th April

6am Sunrise Service
on Castle Mound

8am Holy Communion
at Reach

10am Holy Communion
at St Mary's
followed by
Easter Egg Hunt

Meeting Hugh de Lacy



De Lacy is a Norman name. It derives from a small village in Normandy called Lassy which still exists. The first de Lacy in England, Ilbert de Lacy, came over with William the Conqueror in 1066. The de Lacys served as William's henchmen and were used to defend some of the more marginal areas of the Kingdom, for example, the Welsh borders: there are a string of de Lacy castles starting at Ludlow in the north. An old priory, Llanthony, in the Brecon Beacons (now ruinous), was founded by Walter de Lacy around 1100.

Later on the de Lacys were sent to Ireland where they fought the Celts and subdued them. There were several Hugh de Lacys. One was assassinated in 1080 after he pulled down a local church to use the stone to build a castle: the natives did not take kindly to this act!

All the warlords, especially in Ireland around Dublin, eventually went native and grabbed land to create their own little kingdoms. They then got put down by the English Crown and lost their land and titles. By the 14th or 15th century de Lacys had lost all their power and influence.

I have lot of cousins in Ireland. My father was born in Ireland, in Limerick, and his father (my grandfather) came from Kilkenny. My grandfather originally trained to be a priest but he met a woman called Ann Whiteand they eloped. She was a protestant in a country where after the Reformation the Catholic religion was dominant, so they went to Limerick to avoid the flak. He became a policeman and they lived in a town house in Limerick. He and Ann had eight children of which my father is the youngest.



My parents' wedding 1948

One of my father's older brothers, Stanley, played hockey for Ireland, and my father played rugby for Ireland. So my family is quite sporty. I hated rugby. I did a bit of running; long distance and cross country and I ran a mile on the track. I was not distinguished but I enjoyed it.

My father didn't like Ireland much. It was a very repressive society in those days and didn't really open up until the 1970s. The Church was so dominant and being Protestant in the south wasn't easy. There is a Protestant cathedral in Limerick where my grandparents are buried.

My father studied at Trinity College, Dublin, where he read chemistry. He got a first at Trinity and was captain of the rugby team. He then came to England and joined the Royal Navy Voluntary Reserve in *c.*1945. He got attached to a US government mission to Japan to study and find out Japanese military secrets. His project was torpedoes which were then propelled chemically. He went to a naval base at Hiroshima in November 1945. It was a blasted landscape just a few weeks after the bomb had been dropped. The Americans were very very organised; they sent teams out within a few days of the surrender of Japan and prepared published reports.

My mother was a Londoner and the daughter of Harry Richards. Her father had some German ancestry and was a director at Wolf tools. My parents lived in west London, at Osterley, a stop on the Piccadilly Line. In 1948 they married and had a grand wedding at the Brompton Oratory with lots of rugby players. My mother was studying medicine at St Mary's College, London, and in her second year. But she gave it all up to get married which seems to me the waste of a good career. She was very pleased when my eldest daughter, Patricia, pursued medicine. I was the eldest child with three younger brothers.



Beaumaris to Bangor Road Race 1971

My father got a job with a paint company in Birmingham. We lived in a suburb, Moseley, which was the location of a good rugby club and my father played for them for a while. He was a senior lab technician for the paint company and very ambitious. Within four years of being with the paint company he was MD. How he did it I don't know.
We lived in Birmingham until 1967 and all my secondary schooling was in Birmingham. Sometimes when I hear early

recordings of myself I can detect a Birmingham accent but I went to a good school, King Edwards one of the old 'direct grant' schools. Fees were low if you could pass their exam. There was talk about sending me to boarding school which I would have hated. I like school but I was lazy: I've read some of my old school reports, and they are terrible! I was a bit of a rebel. I would do things like formulating explosives and bring them into school and let them off behind the Scout Hut at break time. The school had an old-style cadet force with Army, Air Force and Navy sections. I was in the Army. It was boring at first with square bashing but it had a 'signals' section with World War II communications equipment. After square bashing I joined them and it was far more interesting. I was always interested in science. My mother said I took my toys to pieces (Marie quips: he's taken his wife to pieces). I still take things to pieces. The signals section helped me get an amateur radio licence while still at school – aged 17 – and this took me towards electronics as a career.



Radio Room 1971

I finished school in 1967 and got a place at Bangor, the University College of North Wales. The Welsh colleges are a bit like Oxford and Cambridge with a central degree awarding body. The university is small, near the Menai Bridge and Anglesey. I had lost some of my shyness by then and really enjoyed student life. Bangor was one of the few colleges in the UK at the time to offer pure electronics degrees as opposed to electrical engineering. The Head of the Electronics School got people with a background in semiconductors so the university offered a very good education in that area – at a time when the new integrated circuits and microchips were very expensive and used only in military areas.

Bangor opened the way for me employment-wise and my first job was with one of the GEC companies, in Rochester, Kent, with air craft systems. I stayed for just for a year as the work was not quite right for me. I then had a string of jobs in the area of 'assembly technology' in microelectronics. This principally involves what you do with chips after they have been separated from the large wafer which carries hundreds of identical chips.. Most chips are now plastic moulded but even today there are many specialised applications, for example for aircraft electronics where you want them to be very reliable. One of my most interesting jobs was with a company making fibre optics, based in Ipswich. The company was started by British Telecom and later became Hewlett Packard.



Typical semiconductor industry working environment. Manila, Philippines 1987

The downside of electronics is that the technology moves so fast that often companies are caught out and places shut down causing redundancies. I had lots of jobs which entailed moving around the country. I had seven jobs in my career in Rochester, Surrey, Brixham (Devon), the London area, Ipswich and my last job was in Norwich. It wasn't great for my family – constant moving – and probably was part of the reason for my divorce.

I have three children; a daughter and two sons. Patricia, my daughter, joined the Red Cross when she was eight years old and said she wanted to be a nurse. I said why don't you be a doctor? She went for medicine and is now a neurosurgeon in Sheffield.

My son, Edward, is not academic. He was identified very late as being dyslexic. His school never picked it up and it was only at college in Ipswich that his tutors realised that he was dyslexic. He is very good at drawing. I took photographs of my children's drawings and when he was just six or seven years old I could see he had a flare that the other children did not have. He did Art and Design at Ipswich, and then went on to Leeds to take a Fine Art degree. He was a terrible spend thrift and was always asking me for money. He started making leather bags and now has a successful business, and he hasn't asked me for money for a least ten years!



Children Chris, Patricia and Edward at Eds Wedding in Manchester 2015

Chris the youngest is different again. Very bright but rather nerdy. He got into Exeter University and read Ancient History, and then couldn't get a job. He worked for a charity for a while. He's keen on computer games and plays tournaments at weekends. He met a guy who worked with a gaming company in the Isle of Wight. After two years the guy asked Chris if he would like to join the company. It's based in Newport and he's been there six years. His girlfriend is a Cambridge graduate, also nerdy, and he got her a job with the same company. By-the-by the Isle of Wight is one of the most deprived area of the UK as out of season there is virtually no work.

I enjoy photography. My father was a keen photographer and I borrowed his camera occasionally. At university I had a reasonably good camera and used of lot of colour slide film. I had quite a serious interest in photography which I've maintained. I was a die hard for film and switched to digital when Kodak stopped making Kodachrome film. I have *c*.5000 Kodachrome slides which I am scanning so I can make prints for my children.

I have enjoyed taking photographs for the magazine. Being given different assignments has forced me out of my comfort zone and I've learnt a lot about how to capture the flavour of different events.



Hugh are you really going to share that bottle?

I have also enjoyed running wine tastings in the village. A very specific event got me hooked on wine. In the mid-70s I moved from Rochester and was working for a research company in Leatherhead. A French guy worked there; he was around my age and was interested in wine and put a note on the staff board inviting people to join a syndicate to bid for wines at Christie's auctions in London. We were advised that prices would be *c*. £2 a bottle. The supermarkets sold very little wine at the time: most people drank branded blends like 'Hirondelle' at 75p or £1 a bottle so £2 was expensive. We decided to give it a go and a good number of people expressed interest. We got mixtures of different wines. The first bottle I opened was a mature Burgundy (about 15 years old). I remember taking the glass of wine to my nose and experiencing a smell both enticing and exotic, quite beyond any previous experience of wine. I was instantly hooked at 25 years old! It's been my hobby for the last 40 years. When we moved to Ipswich I met a professional wine educator, Neil Courtier of Grapesense and did a course with him so I've actually got a qualification in wine. The whole area is endlssly fascinating because the wine industry is always developing and there's always more to learn. It's also completely different from my professional interests.

I've retired from full-time work; I did some consultancy for a while but I gave up all paid work a couple of years ago. I now volunteer for an organisation in Brussels, a lobbying group called the Impact Assessment Institute (IAI). It critiques European Union policy initiatives. There is truth in the argument that the EU is a rather clunky structure with its Commission, Parliament and Council. However it does try to address the big topics where only international cooperation can be effective. The 'impact assessment' is a report that the Commission is required to produce to define who is affected by proposed new legislation and how. It has been rather sloppy in the production of these reports and doesn't think things through enough. The Institute critiques impact assessments that the EU introduces on a range of topics and is making a name for itself by identifying omissions, lack of justification and lack of clarity in Commission reports. I particularly cover climate change related legislation, using my analytical capabilities to assess the consistency and validity of EU proposals.



Bambrick Family in Western Australia in 2014

Marie and I married in Australia. Marie is one of ten children and three of her brothers and one sister live in Australia. Our wedding was in the house of her sister, Helen, who lives in the Sydney area. We've also been to Perth where her three brothers live and are all in the furniture removal business. The eldest brother started a business and invited the next youngest one to join him. They fell out and the second brother set up his own business. A third brother was invited to join the business and the same thing happened so now there are three Bambrick removal businesses in Perth!

Marie and I like to travel. We often toured Ireland, not just visiting relatives. My father took me to Ireland, and I took my children. The relatively small population (about 3M) means that if you talk to a stranger for long enough you will invariably find you have an acquaintance in common.

Living in Reach is the first time for Marie and I have lived in a rural area: we have both spent most of our lives in cities. We've enjoyed out time here but have both decided we prefer city living. Marie suggested the move and is keen to get back into a city. She used to live in Cambridge and liked to walk into town. For me the move to Sheffield will get me nearer to two of my three children (and grandchildren). There's good public transport which will enable us to get rid of one of our cars. Sheffield has been re-developed in an enlightened way since the loss of the steelworks, with a vibrant atmosphere

and friendly people who are blunt and down to earth (a bit like Birmingham). I'm also looking forward to walking in the hills and dales rather than the flat lands of East Anglia!.

I guess we conform to the traditional roles of me, handyman, and Marie, cook, but I do like to cook as well. We eat out quite a bit. Wine and food are common interests of ours and we like to try new restaurants. We've noticed how much Cambridge has improved over the last seven years partly, no doubt, to the influence of the foreign students especially the Chinese. Sheffield has a lot of students and a good range of restaurants – just about every cuisine you can imagine. We will enjoy exploring this.

My philosophy is:

- to take life seriously and put some effort into the things I choose to do;
- to live a life that has a moral (not necessarily religious) purpose – it's important to give something back; and
- raising children is one of the most important things one can do. I have taken this very seriously, and it's a great satisfaction to see how my children have turned out and blossomed in their different ways.

I'm not desperate to live to be 100. Growing life expectancy is causing big problems and I'll be happy to live to 70: anything beyond is a bonus!

Hugh de Lacy



We wish Hugh and Marie much happiness in their new home in Sheffield and thank them for all the fun times. Ed.

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Why not drop in to

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On the 4th Wednesday of every month

April 26th and May 24th

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.

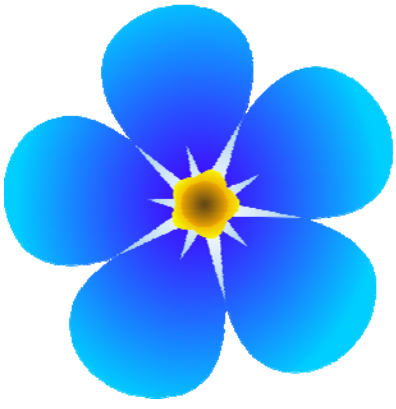
Food Focus



Half Ready-Meals

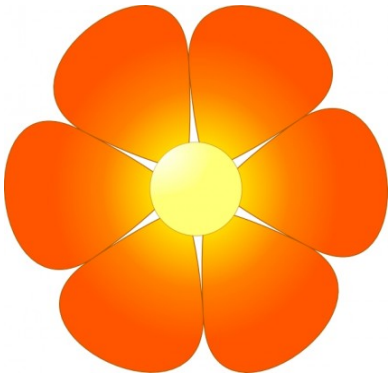
In a recent attempt to make life, well evenings, easier I trialled “Hello Fresh” and “Gousto”. These two companies, for quite a price, provide the exact raw ingredients for dinner with an accompanying recipe. Depending on the option you select, the ingredients for a certain number of meals, arrive each week in portion control packages ready for you to prepare and cook.

Not rocket science I hear you say (particularly if you don’t cook), but for those of us that do, I’m sure you like me are on a fairly fixed rotation of dishes that you have the ingredients for, you’ve cooked a number of times before, you know you like and that are relatively easy. Also if you are like me, you’ll suddenly think half way through the day, or the night before – “help/whoops what are we going to have for dinner”. I know there are lots of people who are terribly organised and set their menus for the week ahead on a Sunday night, shop for the ingredients and cook as planned, but sadly I’m not that organised and things are a bit more haphazard here.



In theory therefore, what Hello Fresh and Gousto are doing is taking away 2 elements of that think/plan, buy and cook process. With Gousto you get to choose your recipes, while with Hello Fresh you choose a box type (classic, vegetarian, family), and because I’m tempted by deals and wanted to try this concept out, I thought I’d give them both a go while they had half price introductory offers on (more on that later). Gousto first. The box arrived with three meals worth of ingredients as planned, packaging although largely recyclable, was a bit of an issue. I managed to repurpose the wool blanket that the chilled ingredients arrived in, to junk modelling at Beavers, but George spent half of the next week waving around a single carrot in a zip lock bag at anyone who would listen. However two out of the three meals that I had chosen were delicious and I’ve since cooked them again having bought the ingredients myself, what’s more I’m sharing one of those recipes with you below. Second Hello Fresh. The recipes, a couple of weeks later, took longer to prepare, were rejected by the other half, and didn’t inspire me enough to want to cook them again (apparently the family box is better).

One big advantage of both of these companies is that faff is reduced. You really don’t have to think, you have the ingredients to hand, you do what it says on the tin and supper is ready. No rummaging for that random spice you know you bought a jar of two years ago, and no buying of random spices for a teaspoons worth so that it then sits in the cupboard for two years. There is no food waste as quantities were bang on.



However for me the big negative is that you have little control over where the ingredients come from (I find this a problem with online shopping too). With Gousto because you can choose your recipes I chose ones which were vegetarian or used sustainable fish as the chicken and pork are welfare but not free range, and Hello Fresh have a comparable meat policy, while there isn’t really a policy on fish so I just chose vegetarian dishes. Although both companies claim to use seasonal ingredients, I can safely say the vegetables weren’t in the least bit seasonal so that bit of spin is exactly that.

Now to value. In my opinion when a half price deal is on, the value is exceptional. Essentially the cost for each meal (for two) was approximately £5, which I would say is the top end of what our average meal costs (without the thinking, planning, buying bit), but when you are paying full price you are paying an additional £5 (approximately) for that service. In short if you have a really busy week, you want to revive your menus, and you are feeling flush, it’s worth doing periodically. When there is a half price deal on, and you aren’t worrying about the provenance of your food, it’s a no brainer!



Sri Lankan Crab Curry (serves 2) A curry served with a cucumber salad

150g Basmati Rice
50g of creamed coconut
20g fresh coriander
½ cucumber (the not very seasonal bit along with all the other exotic ingredients!)
3 garlic cloves
15g knob of fresh ginger
1 lime
1 tsp nigella seeds
100g crab meat (50g white, 50g brown) – British and particularly Devonian crab is sustainable according to the MSC
1 red chilli
3 shallots
1tsp turmeric
1tbsp curry powder (this was their own blend – I've since done it with a standard curry powder)
Vegetable oil
1tsp sugar

Curry
Cook the rice. Chop all of the garlic, 2 of the shallots, the chilli, the ginger (handy new tip – scrape the skin off with a teaspoon) and the coriander *stalks* (leave the leaf for later). Either blitz these ingredients in a blender with 1 tbsp of vegetable oil or if you don't have one chop finely and add the oil. Heat a large pan with 2 tbsps of vegetable oil over a medium heat, add the turmeric and the curry powder for 1 min. Add the blitzed ingredients with a large knob of butter and a generous pinch of salt, cook for 3-4 mins until fragrant and softened. Chop the coconut cream into pieces and combine with 400ml of boiled water, whisk to dissolve. Separate the white crab meat from the brown. Add the coconut water, 1tsp sugar and the brown crabmeat to the pan and cook for 5 mins or until it has reached a loose consistency. Serve the curry in a bowl with the cooked rice and garnish with the white crabmeat. For fancy presentation press the rice into a small bowl and tip out before pouiring the curry around it. Serve the cucumber salad alongside with the remaining ½ lime cut into quarters (other half used below).

Cucumber salad
Halve the cucumber lengthways, scrape the seeds out and discard (I can't bear to waste these so I just incorporate them into the salad later!), finely slice the flesh into half moons. Chop the coriander leaf roughly, peel and finely chop the remaining shallot. Mix the cucumber, coriander, shallot and nigella seeds in a bowl, squeeze in the juice of half the lime and a pinch of salt.

Prospects Produce

It is the hungry gap so fresh produce from Snakehall is a bit thin on the ground at the moment, but there will always be some seasonal vegetables in the shop to keep customers happy from COFCO (also local organic produce). There is wonderfully pink rhubarb in there at the moment and over the next couple of months we'll be able to buy new potatoes, salad, eggs, spinach, broad beans, mange tout, climbing French beans, herbs and carrots. There will be sweet peas to buy and plant out as well as vegetable and herb plants for your own garden. The co-workers will be producing jams and chutneys to Mama Julies recipes so look out for the interesting combinations.

Ps Foody Markets & Events happening near you over the next two months

Burwell Farmers Market (Burwell Village College) 2nd Saturday of the month (9.30 - 12.30) – April 8th & May 13th.

Ely Farmers Market 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month (8.30 - 2) April 8th & 22nd, and May 13th & 27th.

Stretham Feast – weekend of 19th – 20th May – this year the feast looks to be a spectacular event with yarn bombing, a swinging 60s theme and a balloonist booked. Check out their facebook page to find out more - Stretham-Feast

Elys Eel Festival (28th April - 1st May 10-5 each day). The Eel Parade kicks off Saturday's Eel Day with a colourful array of eels processing through Ely's High Street, down to the river where a whole host of eel related activities take place. Special highlights include the Town Criers' Competition and the World Eel Throwing Competition (no eels will be harmed in this competition, just stuffed toys!). Rounding up the weekend is the ever popular two day Food and Drink Festival where over 60 artisan and specialist food and drink traders will be showcasing their wares.

Catherine Gibson



Swaffham Prior Primary School

We have had a busy term with two residentials and the term is not yet over…

Neptune Class visited Burwell House and had a wonderful time. The majority of activities were based outside and ranged from learning how to read compasses and use them to follow simple routes and locate areas on a map of the grounds, to working in teams to solve team challenges. The children created batik designs on bags and took part in the infamous 'Great Eggscape'.



Here is a report from Max, Caitlyn, River and Rory on Burwell House and their Class Assembly (which took place when they got back):

'We had to make a safe and comfy place for the egg in the Great Eggscape and then dropped it down the fire-escape. They went down like a bullet. One egg survived, one splatted, one leaked and the rest cracked. In Burwell Fox you had a map showing a bird's eye view of the grounds and you had to find spots and then go to them using the map. There was a Play Pod where they kept things to play with that other people had thrown away and did not want. They included Zimmer frames, costumes, tyres, a teddy and some pipes. Rory, Jamie, Jayden and Wilf made goalposts and played football. It was fantastic in the bedrooms although nobody got any sleep! Their food was fantastic. We had a roast dinner on the second day and sausage and mash on the last day. Tobias gave the roast 9 out of 10. We also had sticky toffee pudding which scored 10 out of 10.'



Neptune Class assembly: We showed a PowerPoint about our trip and it included learning about nature and Mabel's acrostic poem. We showed our batik bags and Thomas and Phoebe explained how we made them. The designs had to be simple.

Mercury Class's assembly took place in February. They have been learning about space and the assembly started with a retelling of a story they have been reading. They had made a huge rocket to help them in retelling the story. We were also shown a selection of art work that they have been doing, based around the view from a rocket window, and the children told us how they had created them.

World Book day took place on Thursday 2nd March and the school became full of book characters. We had Harry Potters with magic wands, Tintin, 2 Things, Where's Wally characters, Dennis the Menace, Matildas and various knights, princes and princesses. There was a special assembly and the children took part in book related activities. £60.80 was raised for Bookaid

On Monday 6th March, the school became filled with Ancient Greeks as KS2 enjoyed a day with History off the Page.

Here is a report of the day By Evie and Thomas: 'In the morning we did activities. We made things and started off a storyline. There was a story about the Persians coming to attack us. We made candles with olive oil, charms out of clay and string, mosaics for the Goddess Athena's temple floor, pots for putting wine in and wax tablets to write on in Greek. There was a hospital. Some time in the morning some people were given role playing cards e.g. if the card said you had a bad headache, you had to walk over clutching your head. We had to crush herbs and sniff them to make us feel better. In the afternoon, we had a banquet. Before we had the banquet we rehearsed plays and then at the banquet we showed them.'

Bikeability took place during the week commencing 6th March and the Year 5 children learnt about riding their bicycles safely. All the children made good progress.



Years 5 and 6 had their residential visit to Aylmerton. They were there for a week and had an action-packed time! Activities included, den-building, a 5-mile walk to Blakeney Point (during which they saw a seal on the beach), climbing on high ropes, team building activities and bowling. The weather was good and on a couple of days the sun shone and it was quite warm. The children had a wonderful time!

On Wednesday 15th March we enjoyed Mars Class Assembly. Their assembly was wide-ranging and we were entertained with diary entries in the style of a book they have been following, 'Space facts', Artwork of aliens, Moon Buggy models, a song and a very lively poem. The children spoke up loudly and confidently and displayed considerable knowledge of the topic covered.

The Easter holiday is looming and there are still some events to look forward to. There is a Circle Schools Choir Festival at Burwell for our school choir. They will be accompanied by Mrs Holt. Saturn Class will be presenting their class assembly. FoSPS have organised two events, an 'Easter Bonnet Parade' and Easter Egg Bingo. We also have our Easter Service led by Reverend Sue to look forward to.

We wish you a Happy Easter!

Hannah Curtis
Head teacher

Swaffham Prior CE School is looking for a New Midday Supervisor

Could you play games with children, encourage children to play together and ensure that they have a good playtime? Then we need you! We need an enthusiastic, lively and happy individual to supervise children at lunchtimes. You will be required from 12.00 to 1.00pm for up to four lunchtimes per week plus relief cover when needed. The job is term time only.

The ideal person will:

- Enjoy working with children
- Have a positive attitude towards the school and working with others.
- Demonstrate professionalism in all actions and be reliable.
- Have a good sense of humour and lots of patience!

The role will involve:

- Helping the children to develop good social skills and manners.
- Recognising and supporting children that might need extra help with joining in games and making friends.
- Helping with the daily running of the dining hall.
- Participating in training as required.

Please contact the school office for further information and an application form. Visits to the school are welcome.

Telephone: 01638 741529
Email: office@swaffhamprior.cambs.sch.uk

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The appointment is subject to the receipt of good references and an enhanced DBS check.

Montessori School, Reach

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

Reach Fair Meeting

Wednesday 12th April 2017
7.30pm
Village Centre

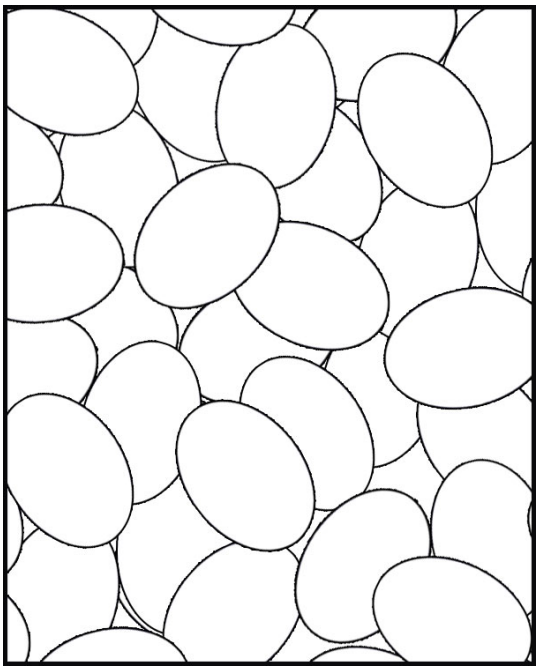
Find out about the Fair and get involved!

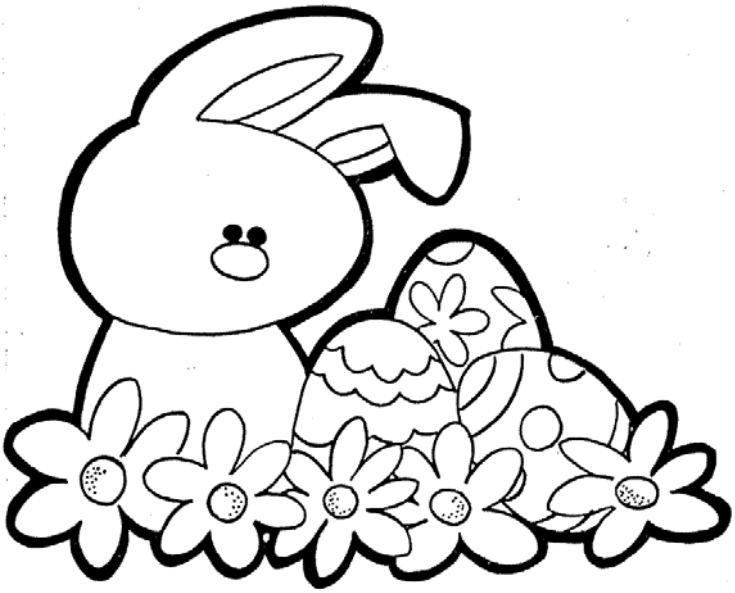
David's Colouring Page





All my own work





Reach Riders Group



The Reach Riders Group held A Fun Evening at the Races at the Reach Village Centre on Saturday 11th of February. This was a *FUN* evening although we did not get the number of people we thought we may have, after much advertising. The evening however was a great success; some of us could not stop laughing and those that did come had brilliant fun.

We raised just over £300 which will go towards the upkeep of our arena at the 24 Acres in particular the cutting and rolling of the grass and the maintenance of the fencing.



We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who donated prizes to the raffle including Mandy and Shaun Manchett who donated a cash prize of £55; Alan's Ark who donated a lovely bundle of horsey items; and David Parr who gave entry tickets to the 360 Extreme Trampoline Park. We thank the Friends of Swaffham Prior School for the loan of the horses.

We would also like to thank all of the other people who made donations and gave raffle prizes. We do have a small membership fee but the fundraising keeps us afloat.

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

Marathon sponsorship



Will you run the London Marathon with me?

Sadly, there are now no places but I invite you to be a part of my run.

It helps a runner on such a long run to know:

- That others benefit from the event
- That others have spurred the running by contributing money
- That reaching the finishing line means a toilet block for a school in a third world country can be built

So you can run with me in spirit and you can help a third world school have a toilet block

www.justgiving.com/ian-woodroffe5 cheques payable to WaterAid, 4 Station Road, Swaffham Bulbeck, CB25 0NB

Somebody asked me why I am so passionate about water projects, the answer is simple:

I talked to a lady in Tanzania about her long walk and her heavy load of water on her head each day.
It was a humbling moment, her eyes, her smile and not a hint of grumble or grudge. That moment changed part of my life, for I knew we could create change for her and many like her.

Many thanks
Ian Woodroffe

WaterAid



REACH
PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on: Wednesday 1st February 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	Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

Local Plan Meeting
Prior to the PC meeting a village meeting was held to discuss the new draft Local Plan. Reach remains a 'small village' within the local plan however there is to be significant building in neighbouring villages, approaching 600 new homes and an employment area on the Reach Road, Burwell. Concern was raised regarding the local infrastructure including access into Cambridge city centre and the increased traffic through the village should it be used as a 'rat run'. ***Councillor Cane and Ward*** to compile a response to ECDC from the village and the PC.

1. Apologies for absence – received and approved.

2. Declarations of Interest
Councillor Baldwin declared an interest in the Reach Fair discussion and Councillor Fielding declared an interest in the National Trust discussion.

Forum for Members of the Public
There were none.

3. Martin Lester, National Trust
Martin Lester from the National Trust attended the meeting to discuss the changing and gating of access near to Reach Lode Bridge. This is to allow cattle to move freely between two fields. The NT need to allow the cattle to roam as part of their land management plans. Gates will be erected to allow people, bikes and horses to cross where the fields join. Many local residents are unhappy with this gating, particularly horse riders who stated that they will be unable to use this crossing point should this go ahead. Horse riders stated that the gates and the cattle are a danger to horses, because horses are easily spooked, and that they will not take the risk of going that way. Riders were upset as this has been a permissive route for decades and is highly valued. Martin stated that this was unfortunate and that the NT worked hard to ensure access for the public to its land but that it had an obligation to its land management program.
An idea was put forward that Straight Drove be improved and then riders maybe able to use this route. The PC and Swaffham Prior PC will talk to CCC to discuss the repair of this byway to reinstate access via Straight Drove and to investigate Straight Drove being made into a "restricted" byway.

4 Planning – 17/00029/OUT
The plans and a model of this build were viewed. The PC are content with the plans. ***Clerk*** to inform ECDC.
Notice of a tree preservation order had been received from ECDC, for an area of land alongside the Burwell Road. This will be in place for 6 months. The PC supports this order but noted that some pruning work is required on these trees for safety reasons ***Clerk*** to inform ECDC.

5. Reach Fair
The Reach Fair document had been amended and was approved by the PC. ***Councillor Cane*** to send to the Events Team for their approval. ***Councillor Baldwin*** will update the PC on the Fair progress.

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

Matters arising
Discussion continued regarding The Dykes End pub and the PCs responsibilities to the village regarding the lease of the pub and the assurance that it be kept as a fully functioning pub. As part of the lease the PC should ensure that the building is kept in a good & substantial state of repair. ***Clerk*** to arrange for a professional body to inspect the building to confirm that the structure/condition/safety of the building is up to standard and that adequate insurance cover is in place.

7 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund
The new grant fund document was reviewed and will be updated prior to publication. ***Clerk*** to arrange for the Amenity Fund monies to be transferred by cheque to the PC's bank account prior to receiving the Reach Fair 2016 payment from the Village Centre.

7(2) County Councillor's Report
General Purposes Committee met to discuss the proposed Business Plan/Budget for the next four years.
The political groups at the County Council came to the meeting with their stance on Council Tax rates for 2017/18 clearly defined:
- Labour – 3% increase on Council Tax and 2% increase for Adult Social Care;
- Liberal Democrat – 2% on Council Tax and 2% for Adult Social Care;
- Conservative – 0% on Council Tax and 2% for Adult Social Care;
- UKIP – 0% on Council Tax and 0% for Adult Social Care.

After a long, and at times heated, debate no agreement was reached on a budget paper to be presented to Full Council.
Full Council meets on 14th February to debate the Budget and Business Plan. With no agreed plan to present to Council I am expecting that the meeting will exceed the 12 hours it took to agree a balanced budget at the 2016 meeting.

7(3) District Councillor's Report
New Ely Cinema
During January, we had a site visit of the new 6 screen cinema on the Ely bypass. It is nearing completion but will not open until the A142 underpass is completed, which should be this Spring. The underpass will enable cyclists and pedestrians access to the site without the need to cross the A142.
Also in January, I attended a full council meeting, a Commercial Services Committee meeting, and a budget seminar meeting.
I have recently inspected all of the 16 kerbside grit salt bins in the ward. They were all full or mainly full. The bins are for our residents to keep the roads clear of ice.
I am working to solve problems that two local residents have with Sanctuary Housing. My efforts aren't helped by the fact that very often their case officer leaves the company and the case is put back on the shelf to be dealt with by someone else.
Sanctuary Housing certainly needs to sharpen up their act. The big issue this next year should be affordable housing, with the emphasis being on Community Land Trust Housing – local houses for local people.
The Ely leisure centre work has started this week and is expected to be completed by April 2018.

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
The new playground plans continue to develop. Children at the nursery group & at Swaffham Prior primary school are to be asked for their 'wishes' for the new playground. A report will be provided.

7(7) Rights of Way
There have again been reports of horses in Reach Wood. Residents and riders are asked to please report any riding in the wood to Councillor Fielding with as much detail of rider and horse as possible.

7(8) 24Acres Committee Report
There had been a successful planting of trees in the unplanted areas. The wassailing event went very well.

7(9) Friends of Reach Wood
Nothing to report.

7(10) Local Plan
As above.

8 Approval of NALC financial regulations
These were approved with the following changes, that there will be no need for any petty cash. A quarterly bank reconciliation will be produced by the Clerk, and approved by Councillor Boreham for a one year period.

9 Cemetery path
Three quotes had been received for the new path at the cemetery. A quote was approved; ***Clerk*** to inform the successful contractor. Complaints had also been received regarding Muntjac in the cemetery destroying plants and flowers. ***Clerk*** to get quotes for fencing.

10 Streetlight Update
The PC have received an updated quote to include the painting and bulb replacement of the PC owned heritage lights along Fair Green. This was approved. ***Clerk*** to inform BB.

11 IDB – Reach Lode

The IDB would like a site meeting to discuss the issues with the lode. ***Councillor Ward and Boreham*** to arrange. ***Clerk*** to contact EA to reiterate the PCs feelings regarding the adding of Reach Lode to its capital works program for next year.

12 Information Items/AOB

The application to the British Heart Foundation for a free defibrillator had been successful. Following discussion it was felt that the best location, it must be an unlocked public place, for this would be the wall of the Village Centre a weather proof box maybe required. ***Clerk*** to contact the village Centre regarding this.

Anglia Water have unfortunately decided not to allow Reach Village to use their land at The Hythe. Councillor Boreham is still trying to establish why this decision had been made follow such positive previous conversations. A letter of explanation has been requested.

An amount of Reach village books have been passed to the Clerk. These will be advertised and sold with funds being added to the Reach Parish Council Grant Fund, ***Clerk*** to arrange. Additionally a number of Royal commemorative mugs had been received. The PC felt these would have no value and they will be passed to the Events Team for use at Reach Fair.

13 Payments

Eon – power on the green	£ 25.45
BHT Nursery – 24Acres planting	£ 158.28
D-Branch – playground gate replacement	£ 110.00
D Thomas – Wassailing Event	£ 159.47

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 1st March 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 1st March 2017

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	Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Not Present

1. Apologies for absence – received and approved.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Cane declared an interest in the CCC report school funding and Councillor Ward declared an interest in the IDB.

3. Forum for Members of the Public

The PC had received a complaint from a resident regarding the de-silting of the drain alongside Blackberry Drove. Unfortunately due to the amount of silt that had accumulated and the appalling weather on the day the silt began to move from the top of the drain across the drove and towards the property. Both the IDB and the PC were on site when this began to happen and worked hard to

control the problem. As agreed on site at the time with the resident the situation will be looked at again in 2 weeks' time, when the silt has dried, to see if any further work is required.

4 Planning
There were no applications.

5. Reach Fair
The Reach Fair document has been agreed and signed, ***Clerk*** to email a copy to The ET. The ET are aware that risks assessments are urgently needed and will ensure these are completed in the coming week. A copy of the ET insurance cover was supplied. A meeting had been held with the Mayor who will have a hospitality tent on the playing field to allow the dignitaries to meet with the public and for historic artefacts to be on display. This will free up the village centre for other uses. Discussions are ongoing between the ET and the Village Centre regarding the use and possible charges for the 'fair assets' village games, marquee, BBQ etc.
A working budget was supplied along with a request for a loan of £1560 from the PC Grant fund to use as cash flow prior to the fair. This was agreed.

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

Matters Arising
Councillor Fielding had met with the Swaffham Prior PC Chair to continue discussions regarding the restricting of access to part of Straight Drove as discussed with the NT at the last meeting. SP PC to discuss at their next meeting. This would be restricted access during the winter months only. Councillor Fielding had contacted CCC to discuss the procedures and costs. ***Councillor Fielding*** to continue to investigate.

7 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund
Loan agreed for The ET cash flow for Reach Fair, see above. The money from the Village Centre, from the proceeds of Reach Fair 2016, had still not been received. Discussions are ongoing.

7(2) County Councillor's Report
Full Council met on 14th February to debate the Budget and Business Plan. After a 6 hour debate agreement was reached on a proposal to implement a 2% rise in Adult Social Care Precept and to freeze the general Council Tax. Council also agreed reporting arrangements for the Council's representatives on the Shadow Combined Authority for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and also on the Scrutiny Committee for the Shadow Combined Authority.
We held an additional meeting of the Children and Young People Committee to consider the review of Secondary Education provision in Cambridge City. The officers are recommending the expansion of Chesterton Community College to cope with the identified shortfall in places in North Cambridge. The Committee also considered proposals for re-structuring the senior management in Children, Families and Adults.
I attended a meeting of "Voices Matter", the Children in Care Council for Cambridgeshire. This is an opportunity for Children in Care to raise concerns and report on activities to senior managers and members.
Schools Forum met with Heidi Allen MP, Lucy Frazer MP and Daniel Ziechner MP to discuss the current consultation on a fair funding formula for schools in England.

Councillor Cane commented that although Cambridgeshire is to receive more money many schools are getting less. In 2018/19 Swaffham Prior school will receive £50,000 less funding.

7(3) District Councillor's Report
<u>Buildings of Local Interest Register</u>
The register dated January 2017 has now been published. It has four categories of buildings:
Historical Association, Architectural Interest, Local Characteristics, Townscape Significance.
The Swaffham Ward has two inclusions; Newnham House, 48 Commercial End and the Little Chapel in the Fen, Swaffham Prior Fen.
<u>No Council Tax Increase</u>
157 Local authorities are increasing their council tax, 4 are not. East Cambs District Council are one of the 4. Because of the careful way that we manage our financial affairs we are in budget again this year without the need to raise council tax in order to run our services. Also, we are the only council in East Anglia not to have car parking charges. These two of the ways that we give our residents value for money. The Band D District Council Tax will once again be £142.14p
<u>Temporary Accommodation for Homeless People</u>
Three years ago, East Cambs Council had a yearly bill of £750,000. After much work helping people avoid homelessness, this year our bill is zero.

Councillors asked for information on the ECDC trading scheme LATC, to avoid the need for procurement. No information was available. ***Clerk*** to write for clarification

7(4) Financial Report
The PC remains in a financially stable situation. The Amenity fund money has now been transfer and will be held in a restricted reserve for the Grant fund, within the PC bank account.

7(5) Parish Council Members Meetings
Councillors Cane and Fielding had visited a resident to discuss the ongoing dog issues, particularly in Reach wood. The meeting went well and the owners assured the councillors that they would try to stop the dog getting out. Unfortunately since the meeting the dog had again been seen loose in the wood. ***Clerk*** to contact the dog warden.

Councillors Ward and Boreham had met with the IDB to discuss the de-silting of the catch water drain and will meet with the Environment agency regarding the Lode this coming Friday.

7(6) Play Spaces
Following successful visits to Swaffham Prior School and the village nursery the team are now aware of what play equipment is required and are moving onto fund raising.

7(7) Rights of Way
Nothing additional to the Straight Drove issue, see above.

7(8) 24Acres Committee Report
Minor storm damage had occurred. Damaged stakes in the wood have been replaced. There has also been damage to some cricket equipment, which had a minor impact on trees in the community orchard.

7(9) Friends of Reach Wood
Nothing to report.

7(10) Local Plan
Councillor Cane had submitted the documents as agreed at the previous meeting.

8 May Meeting
It was agreed that the May meeting should be moved due to the election. ***Clerk*** to do a Doodle poll to arrange a new date. It was also agreed that in future years the May meeting would be held on the **second** Wednesday of the month.

9 Mowing contract
The annual rise in the mowing contact will be 50p per cut. The PC accepted this.

12 Information Items/AOB
The Defibrillator has arrived. The PC awaits a decision from the Village Centre regarding its intended location.

The CAPALC draft agreement was accepted.

A quote had been received for the cemetery fencing, PC asked for an update to include 4" stock fencing at the back. ***Clerk*** to obtain an update.

13 Payments

Eon – power on the green	£ 9.92
Balfour Beatty – street light maintenance	£ 354.12
Nick Acklam – 24Acres storm damage	£ 37.90
Events Team – Reach Fair cash flow loan	£1560.00

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 5th April 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:

Letter from the Vicarage



Many of you will have heard that Revd David Bush died on 13th January, and this will be the first edition of Within Reach since then. Over the last few weeks, many have shared about what he meant to them, as he contributed so much to our church life, and to the local community. We paid tribute to David in our church magazine, Contact, in February. Shortly before he died, David told me that he felt surrounded by love and peace. For his memorial service, the final hymn he chose was 'One more step along the world I go', with the line 'From the old I travel to the new,' which reflected his confidence in the Christian hope, as he looked towards the next stage of his journey, and a future home with Christ.

The good news of Easter is that out of death comes new life; when everything seems hopeless, and all is lost, new hope can come. That is what we remember, year by year in the Church's calendar: the terrible events of Good Friday and Jesus' death, the desolation of Easter Saturday, and the glorious, wonderful joy of Jesus' resurrection on Easter morning. We would love to welcome you to any of our Easter services, which follow a similar pattern to previous years (see church diary page). Also each year we have a display of lilies in church from Easter Sunday, in memory of loved ones. Please get in touch if you would like more details of how to include a name on the list.



For families and children, we regularly post updates on our Facebook pages. If you'd like to join an email list please let me know. Refresh café has been running weekly on Friday mornings since January, for pre-school children and carers. Our next Messy Church is on Good Friday, from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Looking a bit further ahead, Godparents' Sunday was celebrated nationally for the first time in 2016, and this year is on 30th April. Godparents really matter to families and are an important part of family life, into adulthood and beyond. We've decided to hold a service at St Mary's in Burwell on 30th April, and ask for God's blessing on godparents and godchildren. We'll be starting at 9.45 with coffee and some activities for children, followed by a short service starting at 10.30, followed by refreshments and cake. Please invite your godparents and godchildren, and come along together to this very special service.

Also on 30th April is our annual Eve of Reach Fair Songs of Praise at 6pm in St Etheldreda's. This is a great opportunity for singing favourite hymns, so please let me know if you have any requests, and come along and have a good sing!

If you would like more information about Christenings or Baby Thanksgivings, or any of our events or services, or to find out more about the Christian faith, please get in touch.

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

REACH FAIR 2017
MONDAY 1st MAY

A COLLECTION FOR THE
BOTTLE STALL
WILL BE MADE ON THE
EVENINGS OF TUESDAY 18th, WEDNESDAY 19TH
AND THURSDAY 20TH APRIL

PLEASE MAKE A CAKE FOR THE
CAKE STALL

CLAIRE ACKLAM WILL RECEIVE
CAKES BEFORE THE DAY
OR JUST BRING THEM TO THE STALL

OFFERS OF HELP
TO DAVID PARR (744081)

PRETTY PLEASE

Church Services

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	
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: April 2017

April 2017	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 5	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	8pm
Thursday 6	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 7	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 8	Burwell Farmers Market	Burwell	9.30am – 12.30pm
Saturday 8	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Saturday 8	Handel's Messiah	Ely Cathedral	7.30pm see page 12
Wednesday 12	Reach Fair Open Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 13	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Friday 14	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Tuesday 18 Wednesday 19 Thursday 20	Bottle Collection for Reach Fair	All houses in Reach	Early evening
Tuesday 18	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tuesday 18	Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners Gardening Then and Now	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8pm See Page 17
Wednesday 19	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 20	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 21	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 22	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
From Tuesday 25	New Courses for the Summer Term	Bottisham Village College	See page 23
Wednesday 26	Lunchbreak Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	12 noon – 2pm
Thursday 27	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Friday 28	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Friday 28 – 1 May	Elys Eel Festival	River side park	10am – 5pm
Sunday 30	Eve of Reach Fair Songs of Praise	St Etheldreda's Church	6.00 - 6.45pm
Sunday 30	Reach Fair Quiz	Village Centre	7.30pm

Diary Dates: May 2017

May 2017	Event	Location	Time
Bank Holiday Monday	Reach Fair	All Village	12noon – 5pm
Wednesday 3	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 4	Recycling Day (blue)		
Friday 5	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Tuesday 9	AGM Reach Community Solar Far,	Dykes End PH	See page 11
Thursday 11	Recycling Day (green)		
Friday 12	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 13	Burwell Farmers Market	Burwell	9.30am – 12.30pm
Saturday 13	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Tuesday 16	Burwell Museum Coach Trips	Visit to Braintree	See page 11
Tuesday 16	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tuesday 16	Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners. The English Landscape Movement	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8pm See page 17
Wednesday 17	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 18	Recycling Day (blue)		
Friday 19	Refresh Cafe	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 20	Saturday Workshops	Bottisham Village College	See page 23
Saturday 20	Feast	Stretham	
Wednesday 24	Lunchbreak Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	12 noon – 2pm
Thursday 25	Recycling Day (green)		
Friday 26	Refresh Cafe	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 27	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm

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

	Councillor	Michael Aves	742800
	Councillor	Hannah Baldwin	07702 813845
	Councillor	Steve Boreham	742098
	Chair	Charlotte Cane	741064
	Vice Chair	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	



Ewen Cameron Champion of Champions



Andrew Towers a worthy winner



Grahame Radford organises the start. Note, he's also available for Aintree



At the interval we enjoyed a lavish buffet



The punters jostle to place their bets

A Fun Evening at the Races
Photographs: Hugh de Lacy



Some of the organising committee: Sadie King (left), Sue Cameron, Grahame Radford and Liz Tabecki