Within Reach



June/July 2017







All cover countryside photographs: Rosanna Gore Moseley

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SPORTS DAY 2017

2.30pm
Sunday 2nd July 2017

Top Field
Everyone is welcome

From the Editor



Can Reach Fair be too successful? At one point the car park was almost full to capacity and cars were backing up alarmingly towards Burwell. That's something to be aware of during next year's planning. Some changes were evident this year in particular the mayor had a marquee on the top field as opposed to lunch in the village centre.

We welcome Rosanna Gore Moseley as our new roving photographer, and enjoy her seasonal countryside photographs of Reach which make up the cover of the magazine. Thank you also to Hugh de Lacy and David Thomas for their photographs of Reach Fair and the community orchard, respectively. Martin Boswell used to visit his grandparents who lived in Reach (No.21 Fair Green) and he has sent some photographs which are included in this issue.

In June (17th and 18th) there's a Pop-Up Gallery at Wicken Fen – how thoroughly modern, and lovely. A wonderful landscape setting, high calibre art and afternoon tea. July is also the month of the Cambridge Open Studios.

The weather for Reach Fair was a bit funny – not hot, not cold, not wet but not sunny. It's been a bit odd these last few months causing Danuta Gibson to have to water the weeds to get them out of the ground! Danuta expertly guides us through the seasonal tasks of weeding, planting and mulching.

The Reach Grant Fund (formerly the Amenity Fund) is managed by the Parish Council, and anyone can propose a purchase (for example, more benches on Fair Green), and/or an event (for example, an outing for the elderly, and/or something for teenagers). Very few applications are received and I suggest you find time to sit down and think of something!

Catherine Gibson's favoured recipe is something a little different. It involves foraging and dissing a tip from Nigel Slater – so read on!

We thank Years 5 and 6 of Swaffham Prior primary school for dancing the maypole at Reach fair – such enthusiasm, concentration, team work and enjoyment from the pleasure of dancing. Thank you Ms Nicholas, and thank you also Ms Curtis for regularly keeping us informed of the school's activities.

It's hard to believe the votive candle stand was stolen from the church. We've had some trouble-free months so this has come as rather a shock. How sad for Ann Fuller's family who donated the item.

See you at Sports Day (Sunday 2nd July, 2pm Top Field)

Read this magazine carefully and appreciate what world event is being held in a small village in Cambridgeshire

Claire Halpin-McDonald

Cover photograph: David Thomas
Cover countryside photographs: Rosanna Gore Moseley
Reach Fair photograph: Hugh de Lacy
Community Orchard photographs: David Thomas

About the Magazine

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

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

The next copy date is 15th July 2017. This magazine is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

Editorial Team

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

Welcome Rosanna Gore Moseley. Our New Roving Photographer.



I'm a newcomer to Reach, having first set foot in the village late November 2015, on a wild windy day which included a long walk across the fen. I fell in love with it. Being now married to Charles who has lived in the village since 1963 - and to someone who knows an unusual amount about its history, habits and habitats - I see Reach from probably an unusual perspective - both afresh and of old.

Rosanna Gore Moseley

CAMBRIDGE OPEN studios

All artists exhibiting in the **Pop Up Gallery at Wicken Fen 17-18th June** are members of **Cambridge Open Studios**. They are exhibiting work as part of the **Isle of Ely Festival** which this year takes the theme of 'The Fens'.
The studios where the artists normally work will be open weekends in July and the public are invited to visit as part of the annual Cambridge Open Studios event. Dates for the 2017 Open Studios will be July 1/2, 8/9, 15/16 and 22/23.
Cambridge Open Studios is a flourishing community of around 470 artists, craftspeople and designer-makers working throughout Cambridgeshire. The aim is to bring artists and local people together. Pick up a guide at the Pop Up Gallery.

www.camopenstudios.co.uk

The Isle of Ely Festival is a celebration of art and culture throughout east Cambridgeshire.
It runs from Saturday 10th June-Sunday 15th July.

Isle of Ely Arts Festival

www.isleofelyartsfestival.org.uk

National Trust

Wicken Fen is a window onto a lost undrained landscape in the Fens, rich with wildflowers, birds, dragonflies.
This internationally important wetland, loved as much for its tiniest creatures as for the open vistas, is yours to explore on foot, by bike or let us take you out on our boat for a trip along Wicken Lode. Shaped by centuries of human activity, Wicken Fen has been in the care the National Trust since 1899.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen



Reach Events Team and Fair

The events team is made up of four villagers who enjoy managing events for the enjoyment of villagers and their family and friends.

These events have included:

- Christmas Tree Lights Switch on
- Carols around the Christmas Tree
- Garden Parties to celebrate special occasions
- Beacon Lighting with Time Capsule
- Reach Festival

The events have been funded from the Amenity Fund (now the Grant Fund), donations and sales of merchandise such as calendars, tea-towels and bags – with the aim being to break even over the period of a year.

All the events have generally been successful with some excitements as well! And the addition of power on to the Village Green was achieved to the benefit of all.



The opportunity then arose for the Team to take over the management of Reach Fair from the Village Centre Committee who, after many successful years decided that enough was enough. This extended the remit of the Team to be responsible for making a profit from an event for the first time.

This was a far bigger project than we had experienced before but because the Fair had been well-managed previously we had a lot of guidance in place and previous supporters of the Fair were happy to help us in the same way as they had done previously.

Minor changes were made in this first year and they included:

- Creation of zones of activities
    - Traditional items on Fair Green
    - External Food Stalls grouped together on the Top Field
    - Children's activities (inflatables) in one area of the Top Field
    - Craft and Local Producers stalls in one area of the top field
- A clearer entrance with the Information Tent to welcome visitors from the Burwell Road.
- Increased numbers of stalls on the Top Field – we reduced the cost of pitches from £65 to £40 but filled the field resulting in an increase of over £1,000 from the previous year (with many of the Festival stallholders coming along to the Fair).
- Improved advertising
    - Website
    - Social media
- Increased signage on the day of the Fair and a free programme which highlighted the Top Field

Ultimately, if success can be judged by profit, then the changes worked well. The provisional surplus at this stage is £8,300 compared to a figure of £6,000 in 2016.

And if success is judged on feedback from stallholders, villagers and visitors, then the changes, in general were welcome.

The surplus of £8,300 will be reduced by:

- £1,000 for the purchase of the marquees
- £360 for the storage of the marquess for a maximum of 6 months (£60 per month, payable in arrears)
- Insurance £290

This would leave a provisional surplus of £6,650 – all of which will be transferred to the Grants Fund.

The Fair went well but some things could have been done better:

- Traffic Management and Car Parking was stretched
    - The car park was full at one stage and only the cold weather stopped this being a bigger problem than it was
- Post Event activities were not as well managed as they should have been:
    - Collection of straw bales
    - Litter picking

Final thoughts:

- The Events Team are happy to manage the 2018 Fair
- The storage of Events Team / Parish Council inventory remains an issue
- Inventory ownership
- Spending the Grants Fund money!

A massive thank you to everyone who contributed to Reach Fair 2017 we really appreciated your support.

David Parr
On behalf of the other members of the Events Team - Hannah Baldwin, Claire Halpin-McDonald and Jo Mules

REACH FAIR 2017 PROVISIONAL ACCOUNTS

	2017			2016		
	Income	**Costs**	**Profit/Loss**	**Income**	**Costs**	**Profit/Loss**
Commercial Stalls						
Bar	£850.00		£850.00	£750.00		£750.00
Craft Stalls	£1,530.00		£1,530.00	£665.00		£665.00
Entertainments	£650.00		£650.00	£874.50		£874.50
Fair	£2,300.00		£2,300.00	£2,000.00		£2,000.00
Food Stalls	£2,540.00		£2,540.00	£1,560.00		£1,560.00
Information/Charity Stalls	£0.00		£0.00	£96.50		£96.50
Reach Residents Stalls	£20.00		£20.00	£0.00		£0.00
TOTAL	**£7,890.00**	**£0.00**	**£7,890.00**	**£5,946.00**	**£0.00**	**£5,946.00**
Village Activities						
BBQ	£2,841.64	£1,081.50	£1,760.14	£2,726.85	£1,276.91	£1,449.94
Bottle Stall	£458.90		£458.90	£355.00	£60.00	£295.00
Car Park and Traffic Management	£4,608.37	£2,812.00	£1,796.37	£2,964.45	£2,602.27	£362.18
Coconut Shy	£181.20	£37.50	£143.70	£189.15		£189.15
Football Game	£190.80	£37.50	£153.30	£0.00		£0.00
Information/Charity Stalls	£0.00	£50.00	-£50.00	£0.00		£0.00
Other	£0.00		£0.00	£195.00		£195.00
Salad Stall	£718.96	£166.19	£552.77	£588.50	£98.26	£490.24
Smash the Crockery	£473.30		£473.30	£458.15		£458.15
Tea Tent	£1,425.82	£244.41	£1,181.41	£1,392.49	£230.00	£1,162.49
Village Games	£221.93	£117.03	£104.90	£138.40		£138.40
TOTAL	**£11,120.92**	**£4,546.13**	**£6,574.79**	**£9,007.99**	**£4,267.44**	**£4,740.55**
Other Costs						
Advertising		£508.40	-£508.40			£0.00
Entertainments and PA System		£2,640.00	-£2,640.00		£2,300.00	-£2,300.00
First Aid		£329.40	-£329.40		£300.00	-£300.00
General Expenses		£523.96	-£523.96		£383.73	-£383.73
Police		£415.42	-£415.42		£415.54	-£415.54
Programmes		£150.00	-£150.00		£240.00	-£240.00
Refuse Collection		£552.00	-£552.00			£0.00
Straw Bales		£385.00	-£385.00		£400.00	-£400.00
Toilets Hire		£660.00	-£660.00		£660.00	-£660.00
TOTAL		**£6,164.18**	**-£6,164.18**		**£4,699.27**	**-£4,699.27**
INCOME			£19,010.92			£14,953.99
COSTS			£10,710.31			£8,966.71
PROFIT			**£8,300.61**			**£5,987.28**

Cambridge Open Studios Announces 2017 Summer Dates

Cambridge Open Studios has announced the 2017 dates for its month-long summer art event, which will feature an exciting range of exhibitions by 350 artists at 221 locations in the city and surrounding areas.

Artists of many different kinds will open their doors to the public over the first four weekends in July. Among the huge range of specialisms will be: fine art, photography, pottery, glass making, sculpture, illustration, textiles, jewellery and furniture making, and more besides.



The weekends are: July 1/2, 8/9, 15/16 and 22/23**.** However, as not all artists will exhibit every weekend it is important to check the website, or refer to the famous yellow guide. These guides will be widely available in local outlets including libraries, tourist information sites, galleries and selected shops.

New for 2017 is an app that will make visit planning even easier. The app will be available to download at the end of June for Apple and Android.



Sonia Villiers, board member of Cambridge Open Studios, said: "This is a wonderful opportunity for members of the public to see artists at work, discuss their inspirations and techniques, and to browse, purchase or even commission their work. As always, visitors are guaranteed a warm and friendly welcome - and no pressure whatsoever to buy anything. All Cambridge Open Studios are completely free to visitors of all ages.

"Cambridge Open Studios is a rewarding and enriching initiative offering a really entertaining insight into the multi-faceted world of art. We would encourage visitors to call in to as many studios as possible, perhaps planning a route through a particular area incorporating lunch in one of the many local pubs, cafes and restaurants. It would make an inspiring day out for the whole family."



More than 350 members are taking exhibiting in 221 different studios. Many of the artists share studios or work in a collective so in some locations visitors may be able to see work from several artists and craftspeople.

The participating studios are spread throughout the whole region, not just in the city centre, and there will be a wonderful variety of talent on show, with some artists collaborating to share their exhibition space on their chosen dates. As usual, the distinctive yellow COS flags will be out to identify participating studios.

In the months leading up to the open studio event, many artists will be running workshops, courses and exhibitions. Members of the public can keep up to date on their activities via the COS website (www.camopenstudios.co.uk) or by following them on Facebook, Twitter (@CamOpenStudios) and Instagram, where they can also follow specific artists.



Cambridge Open Studios Mini-Guide 2017. Local Artists Selected for *Within Reach*

Below are the artists who are local to the Reach area. You will find the information concerning the days and times the artist will be exhibiting as well as their location, the genre of their work and their contact information. Please note that not all of the artists open their studios every weekend.

The codes indicating which weekends the artist's will be exhibiting are as follows:

Weekend (1) 1/2 July
Weekend (2) 8/9 July
Weekend (3) 15/16 July
Weekend (4) 22/23 July

The full Guide to the Cambridge Open Studios can also be accessed and downloaded via website http://www.camopenstudios.co.uk



168 Mary Jane Montgomerie House
Oil, ink, watercolour
Linton House, 101 High Street, Swaffham Bulbeck, CB25 0LX
07850 586720
mjmontgomeriehouse@talk21.com
www.montgomeriehouse.com
Exploration of time and space depicted in vibrant oil, ink, watercolour and textile, with linked poetical text, in a medieval cottage.
Weekends: 3 & 4



169 Jamie Sugg
Acrylic and watercolour paintings
Downing Farm, Station Road, Swaffham Bulbeck, CB25 0NW
07846 481062
jamiesugg999@btinternet.com
www.jamiesugg.co.uk
Acrylic and watercolour paintings depicting the fens and East Anglian landscapes; bold and expressive, traditional and detailed.
Weekends: 3 & 4



170 Jane Goodall and Tony Whatling
Landscape photography & wood sculpture
6 Foster Lane, (Rogers Road),
Swaffham Prior, Cambridge, CB25 0FA
07540 263990
jcg23@medschl.cam.ac.uk
www.thebeautifullight.co.uk
Beautiful landscape photography and reclaimed timber sculptures in a lovely exhibition space in the fens. Delightful garden and refreshments.
Weekends: 1, 2 & 4



171 Paul Abbott
Colourful oil paintings
The Mill House, 11 Mill Hill,
Swaffham Prior, CB25 0JZ
01638 741537
paul@vividicity.com
www.vividicity.com
Colourful and uplifting oils painted with a palette knife. Local landscapes and others, including coastal, rural and floral. Next to the windmill.
Weekends: 1,2,3 & 4

172 Outside Edge
Painters in various media
Church of St Cyriac and St Julitta,
High Street, Swaffham Prior, CB25 0LD
01353 698003
heather.maunders@btinternet.com
www.heathermaunders.com
Joss Goodchild, Heather Maunders, Julia Suddaby, John Tookey, Vee Wallace and Hannah Webb. Six artists show abstract, semi-abstract & figurative work.
Weekends: 1 & 2

175 Di Cope
Oil paintings and other media
95 North Street, (Studio above garage –stairs), Burwell, CB25 0BB
01638 601342
di.cope1@btinternet.com
Detailed paintings and drawings of landscapes, buildings, people. Visit an artist at work! Original works and greeting cards available to buy.
Weekends 1, 2, 3 & 4







Martin Boswell’s Photographs of Reach

On the Saturday before Fair Day I noticed a gentleman looking keenly at my cottage. I asked him whether he had a particular interest and he said that he used to visit his grandmother here some 55 years ago. His name is Martin Boswell and I invited him and his wife in to look around and it brought back for him a host of memories - the parlour (part of my existing sitting room), the back stairs with pheasants hanging from the ceiling and so on.

He has now kindly sent me a number of photographs of those days which I thought villagers might like to see. You can still see the outline of the old front door (to the left of the current one) in some of the pictures.



Martin Boswell's grandfather who, although christened Horace, was universally known as Percy. So, Percy Mayes was once a well-known character of Reach,



Martin on David's motorbike behind No.21 Fair Green. c.1964-65



Easter 1962. Grandad Mayes (left) died November 1962. Martin (far left)





Reach Fair 1961





Carl and Martin sitting on Nanna (Kitty) Mayes' doorstep with chips. 1963



Martin, Uncle Adrian and Carl. Grandfather's van in the background and the vegetable plot behind No.21 Fair Green. 1963



Carl, Uncle David and Martin at the back door of No.21 Fair Green. 1963



Nanna (Kitty) Mayes, Uncle David and Martin. c. 1962



Cousin Beverley with a mood! Behind Nanna Mayes' house

Mark Towriss Bursary Fund Update. Family Medicine is Growing – And Our Contribution Too



Dr Moussa and Dr Gad (Class 2016) and Dr Boaz (Class 2015) at Chogoria Hospital with Ute

For two weeks in February this year I visited an inspiring, vibrant and dedicated group of doctors engaged in Kenyan Family Medicine. With Dr Bruce Dahlman (Medical Director of Family Medicine at Kabarak) and ex-Cambridge GP Robert Dobler (photographer), we travelled many miles along large stretches of rutted roads under the strong equatorial sun, passing tea plantations, paddy fields and bustling towns, to reach the outlying hospitals and meet our Towriss Bursary Scholars - and others. These district hospitals are the last bastions of precious medical care - deeper in the countryside there are only nurses, clinical officers and traditional healers.

There had been a doctors' strike in Kenya for the last two months and the Mission hospitals were overwhelmed by patients unable to get care in government hospitals. Despite this, we were given time and shown gracious hospitality - and even gained access to the wards to witness our Bursary Scholars at work at Tenwek, Kijabe and Chogoria and the government hospital of Longisa, now run by our fine ex-Bursary Scholar Dr Kibet (who had kept the hospital open throughout the strike).

These students are working hard! both in the classroom and in hospital. The 4-year course is very demanding, for it aims to provide them with the wide variety of skills needed as a doctor who may not have anywhere to refer a very sick patient. They will be presented with many emergencies. I was impressed by the imaginative and practical forms of both summative and formative assessment being developed to support this training. These doctors come not only from Kenya but also from the war-ravaged countries of Burundi, Sudan and DR Congo. Their stories and compassion for their fellow human beings was deeply moving.

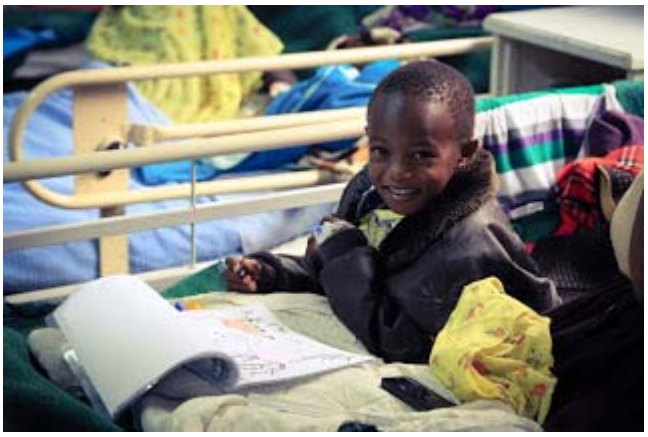
Litein was the smallest and most remote rural hospital we visited and has yet to benefit from having Family Doctors in training, though they would very much like to have them. It has over the years grown through the dedicated work of its hospital management and strong local community - and they have so very little. Yet it captured our hearts with its generosity and vitality. I left promising myself that I would do whatever I could to ensure that Kenya would have enough Family Doctors for Litein too. We will be offering a further five Scholarships for the next two years, alongside the 10 who are now in Year 1 and 2 of their 4-year training. In order to accomplish this:

- **We will still need to raise £10,000 to fund £2,200 per scholar per year. This covers 66% of fees for 20 Bursary Scholars.**

This is over and above an annual donation of £10,000 promised for the next five years**.**



Dr Maureen (Class 2016)



One of Dr Maureen's little patients

Ute Towriss

The Growth of Family Medicine in Kenya

A talk by Ute Towriss
with beautiful pictures of Kenya, its people and life in and around rural hospitals

FRIDAY JULY 7TH 2017
7.30pm
SWAFFHAM BULBECK SCHOOL HALL

84 High St., Swaffham Bulbeck
Cambridge CB25 0LX

This talk is a `thank you' to all those in the Bottisham Medical Practice area and beyond who have supported this fund

The Mark Towriss Bursary Fund
for further information email
uvt.tow@gmail.com
01223 354137

Messy Café at St Mary's

Wednesdays
July 26th August 2nd & 9th
Come any time
from 2.30 - 4.30pm
Games & Stories, Drinks & Snacks
Crafts for Children & Adults
All Ages, All Welcome
Organised by our Messy Church Team

Messy Church

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

Refresh Café at St Mary's Fridays 9.30—11.00

A café & play space
for pre-school children
& their parents & carers

Refreshments
Songs, Bible Story, Craft



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

Broadband News. New Superfast Service



As most residents now know BT has at last installed the fibre into the village that should have been completed three years ago. I got several survey responses from residents who have already connected to the new system and the results they are seeing are looking very promising with download speeds from around 35 to 50 megabits per second (Mb/s) and upload speeds from 2.4 to 9.5 Mb/s. These results can be affected by the quality of the copper wire which runs from the green cabinets on the village green to subscribers premises; for best results it is always advisable to ensure that the router box is connected to the BT master socket: this is the phone socket owned by BT where the line comes into the house and usually has a BT logo on it.

One resident had tried to order the new service direct from BT and was still waiting several weeks after the initial request. If you want to get the new service my advice would always be to use one of the better independent providers as BT's own customer service is notoriously bad. The latest Which? survey indicates that Zen Internet and Utility Warehouse are providing the best customer service according to surveys of members. Both the suppliers are available in Reach. Utility Warehouse appear to be slightly cheaper and all their packages include unlimited data downloads (lower cost packages often have limit on total data downloaded per month, e.g. 50GB).

I attended the meeting at West Wickham Hall in April that was attended by our local MP Lucy Frazer and Minister Matt Hancock. This turned out to be a complete waste of time: all they wanted was a photo opportunity with a crowd of people standing in front of the new green box waving at the camera! The promised meeting after the photographs just didn't happen. The only useful snippet of information I gained was from a conversation with one of the Connecting Cambridgeshire people who told me that it was primarily BT who were deciding which villages could get adequate broadband along copper wires without the need for a fibre: this explains how Reach was fobbed off with a copper connection to Burwell even though it was obviously too far to work and why Upware is claimed to have a service from Wicken which is also much too far to the effective. I think we have our Parish Council to thank for the service we now have: without their making a noise and demanding the presence of the CC people at meetings I doubt that it would ever have happened.

Air Broadband

We are fortunate in Reach to have a choice of broadband provider with Air Broadband having worked hard over the last 18 months to upgrade the old RaSP network. When it was handed over to them it needed a lot of work to provide a reliable service in the face of increasing demand. One of the potential advantages of Air is that, depending on circumstances, it is possible to dispense with the BT line completely, saving the cost of the line rental. This can be achieved either by using a mobile phone only for telephone services or signing up to one of the internet phone companies. Several Reach residents are getting good results using SoHo66, a small company based in the north-east who can provide a UK-wide Internet phone service for a few pounds a month and are able to transfer local 01638 numbers to the new service. There is also a one-off cost in purchasing one or more new internet enabled handsets.

Air's basic service provides a 10Mb/s download with 30Mb/s available for a higher monthly fee.

Which provider is the most cost-effective depends on individual circumstances. Where subscribers are using other BT services such as their sports channel the decision is obvious. The other consideration is the amount of bandwidth that is really required: a couple of people just using email and watching HDTV will be happy with a 10Mb/s download service. On the other hand a household with several teenagers active on social media or playing online games will put a much heavier load on the connection and the superfast service then becomes much more attractive.

Hugh de Lacy



Ely Folk Festival 2017
Friday 7th July – Sunday 9th July

Ely Folk Festival is the local festival with a big heart as it hosts some of the best folk and roots music acts around in a family friendly environment on the edge of the wonderful cathedral city of Ely.

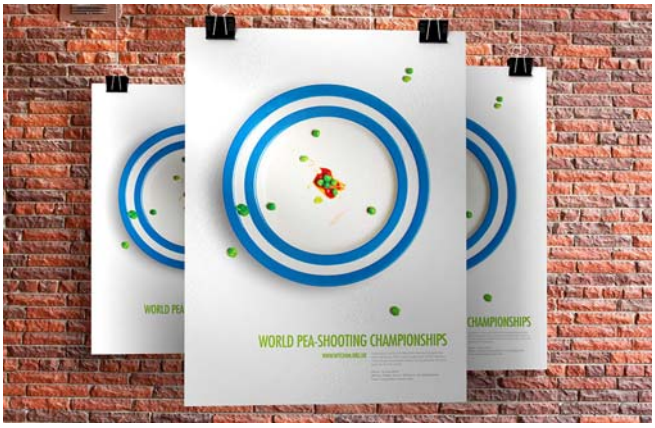
Festival headliners include the fantastic British folk musician Seth Lakeman and his band, and The Spooky Men's Chorale, who are a bunch of gloriously bonkers and fabulously harmonious Australian blokes who sing about man matters such as sheds and concrete. The 2017 festival line-up is wonderfully varied and also includes the precociously talented Sam Kelly Trio; blues and Americana aficionado Brooks Williams; legendary guitarist Hans Theessink; Anglo-French band Topette!!; Reg Meuross; Hot Rock Pilgrims; Hannah Sanders & Ben Savage; TRADarrr; Jez Lowe and lots more great music.

In addition to concerts & ceilidhs, the festival site is a hive of activity over the weekend with fabulous kids activities, performance workshops and ceilidhs, music sessions, a real ale bar, craft and food stalls. Morris sides perform on the festival site and around Ely over the festival weekend including a colourful Saturday morning morris procession. Camping facilities are available on the festival site, and a free shuttle bus service makes it easy to get into Ely city centre. Well behaved dogs are welcome too!

Ely Folk Festival tickets are great value for money with adult weekend tickets purchased before 1st June starting at £72. Tickets for each day can also be purchased. Reduced price tickets for concessions and young people are available. Kids under the age of 12 get free entry. Details on how to book tickets and lots more about the festival are available at www.elyfolkfestival.co.uk



World Pea Shooting Championship
Saturday 8th July 2017



Witcham sees the 47th holding of the World Pea Shooting Championship & Village Fair on the Green at 12 pm. (Competition starts around 1pm). This is the main fund raising event of the year for the upkeep of the Village Hall.

Website - Witcham Village

Ely's Aquafest
Sunday 2nd July 2017



Welcome to Aquafest, Ely's Premier Community event which will be in its 39th year in 2017! Aquafest covers three premier sites along the riverside, Lavender Green, Jubilee Gardens and the Maltings Green,and is a must for families of all ages and interests. Whether you are 9 or 90 Aquafest has something to offer YOU!

There is also the fun fair, beer tent, burger bar and stalls - a miscellany of charity stalls, with charity, craft and a variety of business stalls there providing something of interest to all. A major crowd pleaser is the amazing Annual Raft Race on the River Ouse, with numerous decorated rafts, everyone enters into the spirit of the day and fun is had by all. Meanwhile the two arenas provide varied entertainment through the day, often featuring local talent. There is music, dancing, interesting demonstration and audience participation.

Website - Aquafest

Burwell Museum and Windmill

It's National Volunteers' Week 1-7 June and Burwell resident Lynsey Thorpe shares her experience of volunteering at the village museum

I've never really thought of myself as the volunteering type but when I left my job in corporate communications earlier this year I decided to put my skills and experience to good use and approached Burwell Museum to ask if I could be of help. I love history and was aware that the museum relies on voluntary support. As it happened, Museum Manager, Mel Worgan, was looking for volunteers with my kind of skills so it was great timing. Within a few days of contacting Mel I joined the team and have been helping them with their marketing activities since March.

The experience has given me a chance to plan and implement activities, like social media campaigns, that I didn't have exposure to in my last role. I've had the opportunity to get creative in coming up with ideas for how to raise the profile of the museum, often using the fabulous historical resources that the museum holds in 'The Hub' which, incidentally, is open to the public - http://bit.ly/museumhub. The most challenging part of my work has been to not spend all of my time immersed in the albums of old photos in the museum's collection!

I feel that volunteering has enriched my life over these past few months; it has helped me to feel more connected to the village I moved to nearly three years ago. Of course, the enthusiastic and welcoming volunteers at the museum have played a part in that as well. Which is why, during National Volunteers' Week 1-7 June, I will be reflecting on the contribution that volunteers make to our local community. Or, perhaps more powerfully, reflect on what it would be like without them: for one thing, there would be no Burwell museum or windmill. They exist because of the commitment of local people who are passionate about conserving, sharing and celebrating Burwell's heritage and its stories.

If you are interested in volunteering at the museum you can contact the team on 01638 605544 or email volunteers@burwellmuseum.org.uk

Burwell Museum and Windmill Events

Design a 25th Birthday Mug Competition
Deadline for entries is 30 June 2017. Details and entry form at http://bit.ly/25yrscomp

Summer Exhibition: Looking Back at Burwell Schools, Thursday 6 – Thursday 7 September
Follow the story of education in Burwell through objects, archives, photos and reminiscences of local people. Standard admission applies.

Summer Folk Fair Fundraiser, Sunday 16 July, 11am-5pm
Live folk music, BBQ, beer and cider tent, musical instrument making and old-fashioned fair games. £1 entry to all residents with a CB25 postcode (please bring proof of address). Season ticket holders FREE.



SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Visit our website to find out about our 'summer of retro reminiscence', including favourite childhood games and activities.

Mystery at the Museum
In last month's issue we featured one of the many unusual objects in our collection – did you guess what it is? It's a pair of pig ringers (large pliers to fit a nose ring to the pig). Well done if you guessed it correctly.



www.burwellmuseum.org.uk
01638 605544
museum@burwellmuseum.org.uk
Burwell Museum, Mill Close, Burwell, Cambridge CB25 0HL

Burwell Museum Coach Trips 2017



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

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

Two `Stones'



A relative of Lily Steed found two curious looking stones on a gravel drive. Below is an archaeologist's opinion. Well spied!

The finds comprise two small stone objects (2g and 12g) formed from small rounded pebbles of off-white to pale brown corticated flint, likely sourced from local gravel or chalk outcrops. Based on their shape it is likely both pebbles are formed of small fossils: an echinoid (sea urchin) and brachiopod (small shellfish) respectively.

Both pieces have been modified by drilling, with the smaller spherical piece having a single hole drilled through the central axis. The larger piece has a natural cavity with a hole at one end, which has been supplemented by two further holes drilled into it from the top and bottom (thus opposing, but they are not aligned).

The stones likely represent the convenient use of easily available natural material, and while there is no definite conclusion for their use, two possibilities present themselves. The first is that the holes were drilled to allow suspension as beads, which is particularly persuasive for the smaller stone. The second is that they were drilled to make a whistling sound. The larger stone has a shape not dissimilar to lead whistles produced in the 17-19th centuries, and may have been a home-made imitation; however the more likely explanation it these were slingshots, possibly used in the Iron Age or Roman period, when slingshots were drilled so they made a buzzing or whistling sound as they flew through the air. The larger stone is the perfect size for this, much like a primitive bullet, while the smaller stone is perhaps a little light, but could have been launched as part of a cluster.

Voices4Choices – A Chance to Shape your Care and Support

Do you or someone that you care for have a disability or a long term health condition and are receiving support such as home care, a support worker, day services or respite care? Maybe you are starting to feel as though you might need some help in the future but are not sure about your options and how you go about getting the help that you need?



A Direct Payment is one way to fund care and support that you or someone that you care for needs. It is money from the council that aims to give you more **flexibility**, **choice** and **control**. For example, you could use the money to pay a friend or neighbour rather than use a care agency.

If you would like to take more control of the care and support, you may find it helpful to come along to one of our four **Direct Payment Awareness Raising Events** across the county planned for June and July.

Are you already in receipt of Direct Payments? If you have a story, good or bad, to share we'd love to learn from your experience. If you are already in receipt of Direct Payments and just want to learn a little more or have a chance to chat to a real person, then these events are also for you!

- Tuesday 20 June Huntingdon Library
- Thursday 29 June March Community Centre
- Thursday 06 July Owl Café, Sawston
- Thursday 13 July Ely Library

Time: 2.30pm to 4.30pm
Cost: Free, including reimbursement of travel expenses.
Refreshments: Hot and cold drinks will be provided.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

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.

The Ely Mothers Union

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

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.



School Readers Volunteers Needed In Cambridgeshire

Schoolreaders
improving literacy • increasing life chances

Do you have an hour or two a week to listen to children read in a local primary school?

School readers is a non-profit organisation that provides and matches volunteers from the community to listen to children read on a one to one basis in a local primary school. This service is free to schools. There is a great need for volunteers in Cambridgeshire and the scheme is flexible to fit in with a volunteer's availability and location. No qualifications are necessary – just a good command of spoken and written English. Volunteers get enormous pleasure and fulfilment in seeing the difference that their time makes in helping children with their reading and thereby increasing a child's life opportunities.

Having launched in Bedfordshire in 2013 in just 12 primary schools, School readers now has over 400 volunteer who will support 4000 children every week in almost 200 schools across the UK. School readers' volunteers will potentially deliver over 250,000 reading sessions with a child in one academic year.

Jane Whitbread, Founder and Trustee of School readers' comments:

"Too many children are leaving primary school having fallen below the expected standard in reading ability for their age group. These children face potential disadvantage at secondary school as they may not to be able to access the curriculum and as a result can have restricted opportunities in life. One of the reasons that children are not learning to read as well as they could by this age is that there is insufficient opportunity to read to an adult on a one to one basis.

"School readers is passionate about helping give children the best start in life and we recognise that reading is key to a child's development and life chances. By providing reading support early in a child's development, we are aiming to address the wider social and economic inequalities to which low levels of literacy can contribute.

"We hope to encourage people living in Cambridgeshire, who might be able to spare an hour or two a week, to sign up with School readers and assist children at a local primary school who may not be getting the reading support they need. Our volunteers tell us that they are tremendously rewarded by going into their local schools, knowing that a few hours helping a child learn to read each week can have such a great impact on their life outcome."

The scheme is able to run at a low cost due to the volunteer commitment. It costs just £15 to provide a one to one reading session with a child for whole academic year. This is such a valuable investment, with high return and reward. If you would like to sponsor a year's reading sessions for £15 or might consider including School readers in a will or legacy, please contact Bianca Myers at the contact details below.

If you are interested in becoming a school reader volunteer or are a school wishing to register, this can be done via the website www.schoolreaders.org **or for more information please contact 01234 924111 /** admin@schoolreaders.org





Quiz Night the evening before Reach Fair. Ross Clark was Quiz Master and photographed is the round, `Do you know who's speaking?' Dylan Steed (left) and his French exchange student ably stepped in to assist. Photo: Lesley Boyle

Out and About. Spring to Summer 2017



Wildlife seems so obvious as spring gathers pace, scores of birds (and almost continual song), mammals and insects populate the countryside, village and domestic gardens.

In April we had the unenviable daily task of dismantling the beautiful nest a pair of hard-working blackbirds constructed on the garage steps. It was heartbreaking to witness their increasingly ragged appearance as they continued to build their structure, which was surprisingly heavy and full of mud, twigs etc. We barricaded the area off with plastic bags, stakes, blocks of wood and still their tireless efforts continued. We knew they/their chicks wouldn't last a minute, the garage being a favourite place for village cats and the steps highly accessible. We breathed a sigh of relief when they finally moved elsewhere to raise their brood, thankfully they still return for mealworms.

In March I saw an energetic stoat zig zag along the verge on Little Fen road and a barn owl regularly perches on the Trump's paddock fencepost nearby. I spotted a weasel hunting the track to our field and the hedgehog which wintered in the garden departed, we were sorry to see it go. We moved a few toads to the verge/away from the perils of Great Lane traffic, good to know they are here. Buzzards frequently ride the thermals above the village, interestingly a group of buzzards is called a 'wake'. Three little egrets and a heron favour the bank in Chips' ex field, standing in a row. I'm told that fen people refer to herons as 'Frankies'.



Ron installing replacement swallow nest boxes in the stables

20.3: Ron telephoned to say he heard, and then watched, a red kite circle over his garden before it headed off in the Swaffham Prior direction, putting woodpigeons up as it went. He saw a little owl emerge from their walnut tree, he has regularly seen two since then. He mentioned how sad the demise of an adult hedgehog was on the Burwell Road, we can't afford to lose this declining species.

20.3: Chloe & Ray Bateman saw a fine grass snake and text – 'Thought you might like these photos for the magazine taken yesterday on our walk with the dogs. It was on the path at the back of George's field. About one metre long'.



24.3: Rebecca Fordham text that roe deer were in their paddock at High Cloud. (When I visited her recently skylarks sang above the neighbouring field).

7.4: Ron came to erect alternative swallow nest boxes in our stables. This to prevent repetition of the too-hot chicks prematurely exiting their own nest which they built too close to the sun-hot metal roof. (Ron had seen a swallow the previous day in Fordham, this an early sighting). We saw yellowhammers, robins, doves, woodpigeons and goldfinches in the single field ash tree, two buzzards soared above.

10.4: John Cole, Ron and son Mike saw two swallows over the back meadow at Hill Farm.



14.4: Nick Acklam text 'I am struck this year by just how many houses sparrows we have in the garden (and

presumably in the roof). Certainly far more than in recent years. I don't think we have done anything that makes it easier for them but interested to know if others in the village have also observed an increase in sparrow numbers'.

04. Ron and Sue Dunnitt told me they were thrilled to spot two goldcrests in their garden Christmas tree. (I read that goldcrests construct their tiny intricate nests from moss, spiders webs and feathers).

16.4: Thrilled to witness a pair of swallows take up residence at the stables using Ron's alternative white, plastic canary nest boxes.

20.4 Tracy text 'Walking 24 acres, can hear cuckoo in the distance towards Tubney'. Also 'Great/blue tits nesting in boxes in the garden'.



A toad on the lode

21. 4 Ron – delighted to spot two blackcaps at top of track near Reach Wood.

22.4 Hilary text 'just on way through fen and came across beautiful tawny owl sitting in the road with a rather large rodent in its mouth, flew off as I slowed down in front of it'. And the next day 'Just heard my first cuckoo over the fen towards Jane & John's (Covill)'.

24.4 Claire Acklam emailed: 'Bess and I have just got back from a walk on Tubney Fen and I saw (she smelt...) a very tiny, young fox cub. It still had its black fur and had ventured out of its nearby den. It beat a hasty retreat when we approached but I got a wonderful view of it. Have just googled and I think it must have been about a month old. It definitely did not have any rusty colouring to its fur. What a wonderful place to live!'

28.4 I walked across Tubney at 6pm: lapwing displaying, skylarks above, marsh harrier over the mere, geese, swans and duck on it, tadpoles in the ditch, barn owl quartering, French partridge, pheasants.

1.5 Tracy text: 'Swallows in my stables, nests I put up, one being used by a blackbird'.

8.5 Claire Halpin text: 'Saw a toad on the lode bank yesterday for the first time and took a photo. The swan's eggs started hatching yesterday (Sunday)'.

10.5 Ron rang and mentioned he had seen swifts, initially high above the village but, later, a return to their usual site under his barn eaves.



It was seven – again - this year!

Many thanks to everyone who sent details of their sitings, these accounts give an invaluable indication of the wildlife we have in and around Reach at this time of year.

Dates for diary: Tuesday 13 June 7.30 – 9.30pm talk at Welney Wetland Centre by Judith Wakelam 'A Passion For Swifts'. Tickets £3. Would anybody like to go/car share to this evening event?

Weekend 17 and 18 June Wicken Fen, art exhibition, 20 painters and sculptors show works relating to the East Anglian fens.

Joss Goodchild

Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners

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

How Do Plants Recognise Seasons?

June is the height of the summer when we enjoy our gardens in full bloom. But how do plants know when it's their turn to perform?



Bee borders

Work from plant scientists around the world is starting to decipher the code that plants use to sense the season. They have discovered how plants use day-length as an indicator to tell them what the season is. Impending spring is marked by two major changes: increasing day-length and warmer temperatures. It turns out that plants have elaborate mechanisms to sense both of these. Longer days in many plants cause the expression of genes that accelerate budburst and flowering. In this way, plants use day-length as an indicator that summer is coming.

In recent decades, many plants have also started to flower earlier in the year. While day-length has not changed, it is getting warmer. For example, globally 16 of the 17 warmest years have occurred since 2001. Plants have detected this, and many plants have flowered weeks or even months in advance. This is because plants have an intricate mechanism for sensing temperature.



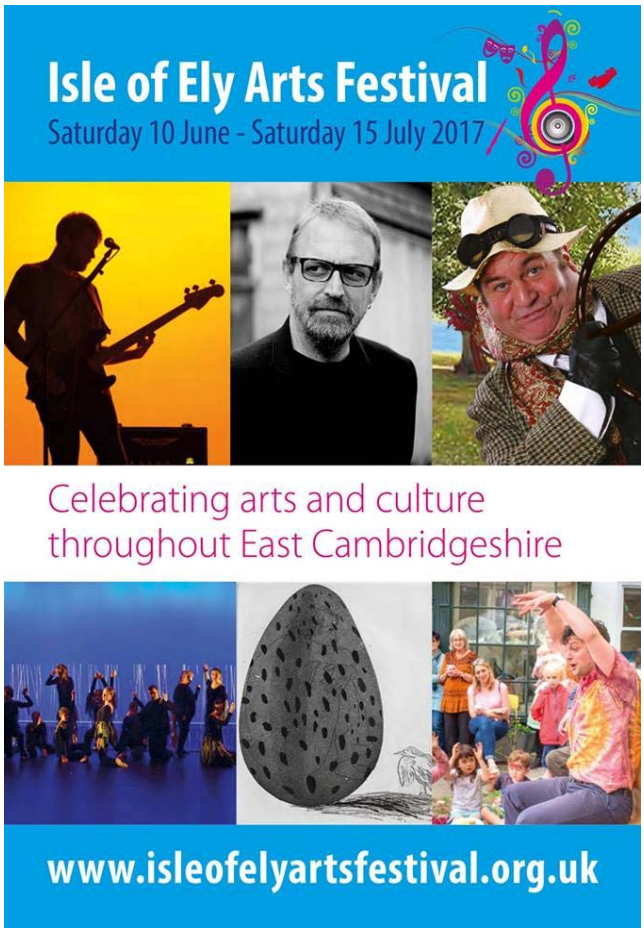
Scent garden

Plant scientists at the Sainsbury Laboratory Cambridge university (SLCU), based in the Botanic Garden, have been working with international collaborators to show that the molecule plants use to respond to light during the day, also senses temperature at night. In this way, the light sensor, called a phytochrome, moonlights during the night playing a separate role. By changing the activity of the phytochromes, the scientists have been able to change how a plant responds to temperature. This research will help them understand a long-standing question in biology, how do plants know the calendar and in time, may help them breed climate change resilient crop plants.

In his talk *How do plants recognise seasons*, plant scientist Phil Wigge, from SLCU will be explaining more about this research as part of the Botanic Garden's 'Science on Sundays' series. This is a 'drop-in' talk, 23 July at 11am and repeated at 2pm at Cambridge University Botanic Garden.

The Cambridge University Botanic Garden is open from 10am – 6pm, June – 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 or telephone 01223 336265 for details about opening times, admission charges, tours, courses and special events.

Helen Needham
Marketing and Interpretation Officer
Cambridge University Botanic Garden



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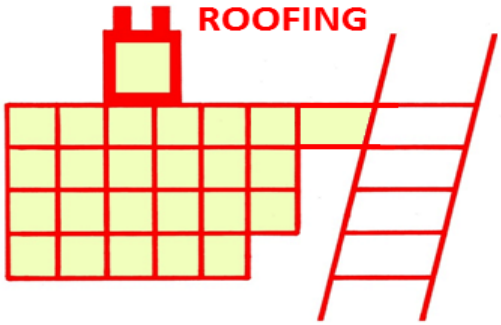

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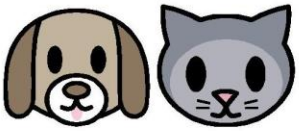

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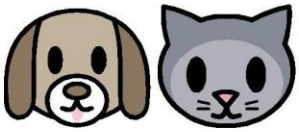

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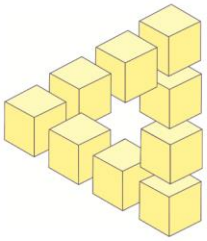

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Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey News

There's a real buzz around the reserve as the air resounds to the sound of chattering warblers, drumming snipe and cuckoos calling from the tree tops. Four male cuckoos can be heard calling from around the reserve, so let's hope a few females have made the long journey from Africa.





At the time of writing we are yet to open the seasonal section of the Nature trail around Sedge Fen, as the ground is still too wet despite the recent warm dry spell. We've closed a section of the Nature trail over the wet winter months for several years now, which has definitely had a beneficial effect on helping to conserve the section which runs alongside Spinney Bank. Unfortunately the downside has been that footfall along Wicken Lode bank to the Tower Hide has increased by 50% as people make two journeys along the footpath, there and back, rather than one on the circular walk. The path which should be 1.5 metres wide has grown to around 4 -5 metres, trampling the areas in which wild orchids grow in profusion in late spring / early summer. We are looking at various options but complete closure of the Nature Trail during the winter is a potential option.

We've had reports of youngsters riding 'Monkey bikes' small motorcycles on various parts of the reserve. Whilst they are perfectly in the rights to ride on areas like Harrison's Drove which is designated as a highway, it appears they are also riding on public footpaths which is illegal. If you see such activities please report it to the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274.

We are hosting a Pop-Up Gallery at Wicken over the weekend of 17 – 18 June. The artists exhibiting are all members of the Cambridge Open Studios, who are exhibiting their work as part of the Isle of Ely Festival , which this year has the theme of 'The Fens'. No doubt Joss Goodchild will have a picture or two in the exhibition.

The summer holidays are nearly upon us and we've a fun packed programme to keep the young ones amused over the long school holidays. Events this summer include: **Fenland Fairies and Pixies**, Mon 24 July, Fri 18 & Wed 30 August; **Pond Dipping and Minibeast Hunting**, Tues 25 July, 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 August; **Mud Glorious Mud**, Wed 26 July, Fri 11 & Mon 21 August; **Go Wild: All About Fire**, Fri 28 July; **Painting the Fens**, Tues 1 August; **Traditional Mud Oven Cooking**, Wed 3 & Thurs 4 August; **Summertime Arts and Crafts**, Fri 4 & Mon 14 August; **Go Wild: Woodcraft skills**, Mon 7 August; **Storytime: Teddy bears picnic**, Wed 9 August; **Go Wild: Owl Detectives**, Wed 23 August; **Storytime: Superworm's adventure!** Fri 25 August. Details for all events / booking arrangements can be found on our website at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen



I almost find it hard to believe but Richard Todd, Anglesey Abbey's Head Gardener has finally hung-up his trowel and retired after 43 years' service. The hand of Richard can be seen wherever you look in the gardens and we all wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement.



The gardens are looking truly amazing, especially the Herbaceous Border, Rose Garden and wildflower meadows. It's hard to fathom but June is one of our quietest months for visitors (the same is true for most visitor attractions in Cambridge) yet the gardens are at their brilliant best. So if you fancy a visit without the crowds you know when to go!
From June and throughout the summer the House is hosting a history season. This will focus on the activities that went on during the summer, particularly Lord Fairhaven's passion for racing and his guests, including members of the Royal Family.

If you are visiting, you may wish to be aware that the Redwoods Restaurant is now offering a hot food menu for young children and hot food is now being served slightly earlier from 11.30am – 2.30pm. The earlier start time should suit those who like to eat earlier, and reduce congestion in the restaurant over the peak lunch time period.

Howard Cooper
National Trust

Reach 24 Acres Community Orchard

Mulching and management



At the end of last year we removed the mulch mats from around the trees in the orchard – voles were burrowing underneath them, creating burrows around the roots, and damaging the trees.

There are, however, many benefits of mulching young trees – most importantly in our case it helps control weeds and retains moisture (by limiting evaporation) – so we were looking for an alternative that might prove less attractive to the voles.



eastern tree surgery

Thanks to Denise and the kind people at eastern tree surgery in Swaffham Prior (www.easterntreesurgery.com) we took delivery of a couple of loads of conifer wood chips (conifer was chosen to avoid the risk of transferring material that might be infected with spores of Honey fungus (*Armillaria*)). And then on the 6th May the Swaffham Prior Scouts came and helped us transport the woodchips and spread them around the base of each of the orchard's over 150 trees. As ever, many hands made for light work, and with 45 minutes to go until pick up time the wheel barrows were turned into chariots for an energetic relay race up and down the 24Acres.

scouts
be prepared . . .

The grass is already getting quite long in the orchard and may appear untidy to those who like their horticulture to be ordered and well kempt. However, our long-term vision is to establish a wild flower meadow under the fruit trees. We seeded some Yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*) two years ago. Described as 'the meadow-maker's helper' yellow rattle is a "hemi-parasite" - a partial parasite - that can be used to reduce the vigour of meadow grasses (and so allow other flowers into the mix). It has established itself in a couple of small patches, but we would like to give it an opportunity to flower and seed in the hope that it will spread so, for now, we are delaying the first mowing.

Featured fruits

Morley's seedling

This is a late-season cooking apple, originating from Cambridgeshire where it was developed by Mr C. Morley of Fordham, Ely in the 1920s. Its parents are the varieties Alfriston and Lane's Prince Albert.

We have two trees in our orchard, one of which has been sponsored by Pieter Nelissen.

New Rock Pippin

New Rock Pippin belongs to the Nonpareil family (i.e. originating from the Nonpareil variety, thought to be of French origin, that was introduced into England in the mid-1500s. Many well-known varieties have it has a parent or grandparent). It is valued as a late winter dessert apple. It is was raised by William Pleasance, a nurseryman in the Barnwell area of Cambridge and was first reported to the London Horticultural Society in 1821. It was highly regarded by 19th century writers.
The fruit is of medium size, round, even, and sometimes ribbed. The skin is dull green on the shaded side, and brownish red where exposed to the sun, and covered with brown russet.
It is usually picked in mid-October for use between January and March/May. The flesh is yellow, firm, sweet, rich, and perfumed with the flavour of anise. It has excellent keeping qualities. It can also be used for cooking and baking.

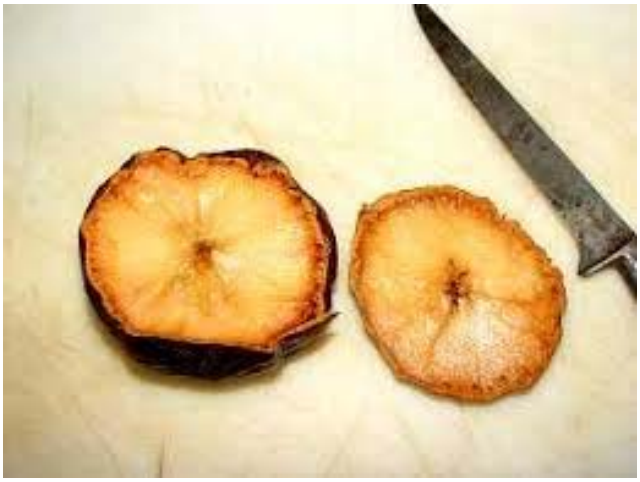
We have three trees in the nursery, just one of which has been sponsored, by Jane Prior.



Norfolk Beefing or Norfolk Biffin

The 'Norfolk Biffin', also spelt 'Norfolk Beefing', originates from Norfolk and is known by several other names including 'Reeds Baker', 'Tallesin', and 'Winter Coleman'. The name "Biffin" is thought to be a corruption of "beefing", which refers to the apple's dark red, beef-like colour.

They are round, slightly flat apples about three inches across and two and a half inches high. The skin is initially yellow-green with brown-purple and dark red streaks. Inside, the flesh has a green tint, is crisp, and is said to have a hint of the flavour of cinnamon. The apples store well, getting sweeter with keeping, and are good for cooking and drying. By March of the year after harvesting, they are sweet enough to use as dessert apples. With keeping, they turn a deeper brown or maroon colour, with harder, more solid flesh.



Biffins are a dried Norfolk Biffin, long cooked in a very slow oven, which used to be sold by Norwich bakers (who cooked the apples in their bread-ovens, weighed down with an iron plate to exclude air) and were sent to London fruiterers as a delicacy, especially at Christmas. Children used to be given them as a treat, as they might receive ice-cream or sweets nowadays.

The apples were slowly cooked whole, then cored, then rubbed with sugar. To eat, you would peel off the tough skin, and garnish with more sugar and cream and would eat them cold or at room temperature. They were very popular in Victorian times but largely died out commercially after World War II.

The Norfolk Biffin is mentioned by Charles Dickens, first in *A Christmas Carol* and in *Martin Chuzzlewit* (1843), later in *Dombey and Son* (1846-1848) and in *Boots at the Holly-tree Inn* (1858). The first of these says: "Norfolk Biffins, squab and swarthy, setting off the yellow of oranges and lemons, and in the great compactness of their juicy persons, urgently entreating and beseeching to be carried home in paper bags and eaten after dinner".

An 1882 recipe for biffins advises: "... choose Norfolk Biffins with the clearest most blemish free rinds, then lay them on clean straw on baking wire and cover well with more straw. Set them in a very slow oven for four to five hours. Draw them out and press them very gently, otherwise their skins will burst. Return them now to the oven for another hour, then press them again. When cold, rub them over with clarified sugar". [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norfolk_Biffin]

We have two trees of this historic apple variety in the orchard, both of which are waiting for a sponsor!

David Thomas

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre
proudly presents

'PRINCESS IDA'

by Gilbert and Sullivan

Wednesday 14th – Saturday 17th June 2017
Evening performances at 7.30pm and a Saturday matinée at 2.30pm
Doors open 45' before each performance

Downing Farm, Station Road, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridge CB25 0NW

Ticket prices Wednesday £8, Thursday £9, Friday and Saturday £10, matinée £7,
via our website www.sbsummertheatre.com
or from Caille Peri 07541 554845; e-mail sbst.tickets@gmail.com

On-site parking; facilities for wheelchair users; licensed bar

For further information contact Ruth Dennis on 01638 730659 or info@sbsummertheatre.com

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

Tales from a Reach Garden



As usual, we have spent a lot of time this spring weeding and mulching all our flower beds, usually a task completed by May. This year it was a race against time because the weather had been so dry our chalky clay soil became rock hard in April. These tasks took much longer than normal as we've had to water weeds to help soften the soil prior to digging them up. Otherwise we had to use a pick axe for some of the larger weeds.

The recent rains have been a relief, providing much needed water and loosening the soil to remove the weeds more easily. Mind you, it's amazing how quickly they grew after just a week of rain!



Weed seedlings



Squirell-sown walnut seedling

In dry weather like we've had recently, any methods that help to maintain moisture around plant roots is important, especially if there is a hose pipe ban. Mulching is simply adding a layer of organic matter, such as compost, straw, bark, grass clippings etc. over weeded, pre-watered soil which I water again immediately after mulching. I do this because some mulches, such as bark, can wick moisture away from the soil.

The mulch can be decorative, but it also helps to keep the soil cool and moist for longer and weeds that grow on the mulch ought to be easier to pull up. A mulch layer of about 10cm (4 inches) organic material is the ideal, alternatively using pebbles over water permeable fabric, or a layer of grit (in a rock garden) also works well. Most organic mulch gradually disappears over the summer months, either through worm action, degradation, or the blackbirds chucking it around as they look for tasty morsels. Even pebbles are thrown aside as the birds investigate what's beneath.



Broad beans (above) and climbing beans (below) planted in fabric



In the vegetable plot, we use fabric which is permeable to water wherever possible; this helps retain moisture and minimise weeding, but it can't be used everywhere. It's particularly useful for those vegetables which are sown indoors such as tomatoes, beans, courgettes and pumpkins in spring. It's also useful for leeks, cabbages, kale and broccoli when they are transplanted in late summer and I've also used it for strawberries. It involves laying the fabric over

the bed and cutting slots in the fabric where the plant is to go, then gently dropping the plant into the prepared hole through the slot in the fabric. We also add a small amount of general fertilizer in the planting hole to help it along. We've seen this method used in the organic vegetable garden at Audley End and the gardeners there also add some organic mulch on top of the fabric, such as straw or shredded bark. I guess that apart from being decorative the mulch helps to keep the roots cooler.



Straw mulched rhubarb at Audley End

If seeds are sown directly in the soil then mulching is much more difficult. The tiny seedlings need fine soil to push their way through. One reason for sowing them in straight lines is so that it's easier to spot the weed seedlings and remove them. Keeping them weed free is back-breaking work throughout the summer, but it's easier to hoe between the rows of plants until they are fully grown, then they tend to crowd out the weeds. However, the main reason for growing lettuce, spinach etc. is so that they can be picked as needed during the summer months. Each time they are picked, light is let in, and the weeds return. Adding a layer of mulch in the gaps at this point may be helpful but vegetables like lettuce and spinach do need a lot of watering, especially if you like your lettuce leaves crunchy and don't want them to go to seed - alas the weeds tend to be big and crunchy too. The alternative would be to sow the seed in pots then plant through fabric. I've tried this in the past and I've found that, in my hands at least, the pot-sown leaf vegetables take longer to get going after planting outside. They don't like to have their roots disturbed much.



Lettice seedlings

While weeding the lettuce, spinach and cabbage seedlings, thinning the seedlings is also necessary to allow space for the plants to grow in their rows. These "thinnings" provide plenty of early "baby" vegetables for the kitchen and one of the joys of this spring has been eating freshly picked and steamed tender spring greens, or using the baby lettuce leaves in salads. Bon appetit!

Danuta Gibson



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
Steve Boreham	Councillor	742098
Charlotte Cane	Chair	741064
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair	741853
Diana Ward	Councillor	744210

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

Hannah Baldwin and Nathan Bridgeman have retired so there are now two vacancies on the Council.

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.

Do you need a break in your busy day?

Why not drop in to

LUNCHBREAK CAFE

At St Mary's Church, Burwell

On the 4th Wednesday of every month

June 28th and July 26th

Open from 12.00noon till 2.00pm

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

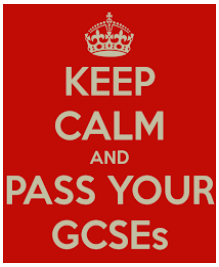
For more information, contact administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk.

Days Gone By



The song that topped the UK charts for 9 weeks at this time in 1984 was “Two Tribes” by Frankie Goes to Hollywood. FGTH were a very successful British band and became only the second act in the history of the UK charts to reach number one with their first three singles (Relax, Two Tribes and The Power of Love) - the first being fellow Liverpudlians Gerry and the Pacemakers.

In education, it was decided that O-Level and CSE exams were to be abolished and replaced by a new examination for 16 year olds, in the biggest exam shake-up for over 10 years.



Education Secretary Sir Keith Joseph said schools would begin teaching the General Certificate for Secondary Education, or GCSE, in autumn 1986, with the first pupils sitting the exam in 1988.

The new system put all children on the same scale on a range of seven grades from A to G. The 29 examination boards merged into five groups to reduce the large and complex system of assessment which operated.

The groups adhered to an agreed national standard to ensure that the same range of knowledge is required to attain certain grades throughout the country.

GSCEs also placed more emphasis on oral and practical skills where possible, the minister said.

Amazingly, teachers' unions welcomed the announcement. Fred Jarvis, of the National Union of Teachers, said: "This is one decision of Sir Keith's which will be applauded throughout the teaching profession".

In York, a massive fire devastated large parts of York Minster causing an estimated £1m damage.

Shortly after 2.00am the alarm was raised and 150 fire-fighters from across north Yorkshire spent two hours bringing the blaze under control.

The fire was concentrated in the 13th Century South Transept and left its roof destroyed.

Staff braved heavy smoke and flames to salvage the Minster's priceless artefacts while the building was still ablaze.



York Minster Fire

After much debate, the South Transept roof was rebuilt with a hand carved wooden replica and the cracked glass of the rose window was painstakingly restored with additional reinforcement.

Six of the transept ceiling bosses were designed by the winners of a competition run by the BBC children's programme, Blue Peter. Hundreds of people gave their support, which ranged from cash donations to oak trees. It took four years to complete repairs - costing £2.25m - and the Minster was finally re-dedicated in a service attended by the Queen in November 1988.

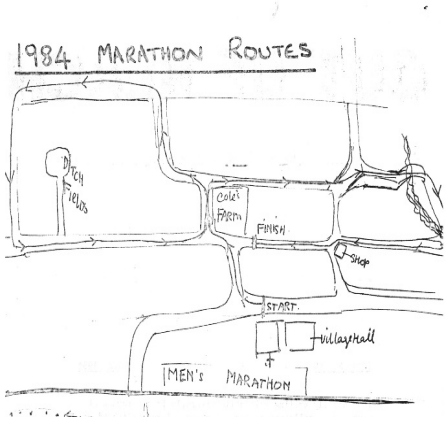
In Reach, there was the Annual Parish Meeting – and the village was typically enthusiastic, with just 4 members of the public attending (there was just one member of the public at the 2017 meeting held recently!).



The Parish Council also started to consider whether the number of councillors should be raised from the current 5 to 7 – a decision they subsequently confirmed.

In addition, it was decided that a village sign should be carved – with several designs being chosen from by the Parish Council.

Also in the magazine, it seems we ran marathons! Anybody interested in resurrecting this activity?



David Parr
01638 744081

Food Focus



Richard Mabey's Elderflower Fritters

I never regret making these. The forager in me can be indulged with the need to gather beautiful delicately scented blooms, the bargain hunter can be assuaged by the principle ingredient being free (and the other constituent parts being cheapish store-cupboard items), and the lazy me can make a "wow" pudding without shopping. What is more they are the most edible form of a spring walk you'll ever find - so evocative of a fresh spring day you can picture the cow parsley and hear the birds singing with each mouthful.

4 tablespoons of flour
1 egg
1 ½ cupfuls of water (the end result is better if you use soda/fizzy water but normal is fine)
Oil for frying
Sugar for dusting (I tend to use icing sugar, but caster can add a nice crunch too)

Elderflower heads with the stalk retained for dipping (picking these at the right time is the most critical thing. Ideally when they are just opened, and even better if you can see a dusting of pollen). I notice that Nigel Slater recommends that you dip the heads in water to rid the blooms of small insects. I would not recommend this as you will wash away what little there is of the delicately scented pollen, instead leave the blooms on the side for a while and most of the creatures will crawl out and never mind if the odd one gets frazzled. Equally don't pick the blooms after rain as they won't be so flavourful).

Make up the batter with the flour, egg and water. Holding the flower-head by the stalk dip it into the batter. Shake off any excess batter then plunge into hot oil. Deep fry until golden brown. Trim off the excess stalk and serve with sugar, mint and lemon. Alternatively serve on top of homemade/vanilla ice-cream – delicious!

Snakehall Farm

We are on the brink of seeing some of Snakehalls' best produce. I eagerly await their broad beans, as mine are miles behind, and they already have some new potatoes in the shop. The mange tout have hit the shelves along with their tasty salad bags. This year they are going to have more salad bags with edible flowers in them, so keep an eye out for these trendy treats.

Make the most of the herbs and vegetables in pots before they sell out, it gives you a bit of a head start in the garden if you've been late with your planting. Bagged herbs are available in the fridge and soon enough they will be joined by spinach, swiss chard and French beans. Yellow and red cherry tomatoes, beefsteak and the standard matina are all busy ripening as I type and will be available shortly.

Co-workers will start to harvest my favourite vegetable, beetroot, before too long too. The farm shop also always has free range and organic eggs and will continue to stock lovely cut flowers at amazing prices.

Ps Farmers Markets happening near you in the next couple of months

Ely – 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month (May 27th, June 10th and 24th, July 8th and 22nd)
Burwell – 2nd Saturday of each month (June 10th, July 8th)

Catherine Gibson

Art, Crafts + Photography Exhibition

St Mary's Church Burwell

June 10th - 13th

Launch at St Mary's Church fete Saturday 10th June 2pm
Open to public: Saturday 10th June - 2pm - 4pm
Sunday 11th June - 12noon - 6pm
Monday 12th June - 9am - 9pm
Tuesday 13th June - 9am - 9pm

FREE EVENT - Meet the artists and join us for refreshments, music and a photography presentation from award winning wildlife photographer, Kevin Pigney, on our open evening Tuesday 13th June from 7.30pm

A Burwell Festival 2017 event
supporting the Carnival fund for local groups and charities

Swaffham Prior Primary School

Red nose day took place on Friday 24th March and the school was even redder than usual! Red was the colour theme chosen by School Council and the children proved creative in their dress. At playtime, a cake stall was held which proved very popular. This week we were also shown a comic which Jamie and George created to raise money. Congratulations to the two boys for using their initiative. The total raised was nearly £200 which is an amazing figure.

A Circle Schools Choir Festival took place at Burwell and our school choir, accompanied by Mrs Holt, represented the school. Comments received about the singing included:

'Wonderful happy focus and sound…I love your expression of the lyrics which is of prime importance',

'The swaying was great. Well done!', 'Good at accurate pitching in a tricky melody. The volume build up at the end was effective',

'Lovely clear diction and vibrant singing. Lots of smiling faces and moving together. Good dynamics.'

'You were having fun! Lovely smiles. Beautiful blended sound.'

Congratulations to the choir and Mrs Holt!

The last of our class assemblies took place. Saturn Class assembly was based on two sets of experiences from the same week. We heard first from a group of children who did not go to Aylmerton. They spent some of the week creating poetry based on a Magic Box and what they would put in it. The resulting poems, which were decorated using water-colour paints, demonstrated enormous creativity and use of wide-ranging descriptive language. The second part focused on the experiences of the children who did go to Aylmerton. They described their days on the beach, where they watched seals on the shoreline and some held crabs for the first time. They talked about their muddy journey across the mud-flats and a boat trip to Blakeney Point. We also saw a slideshow of photographs taken of their time in Aylmerton. It was an extremely enjoyable week for both sets of children.

Our Easter Service took place on Thursday 30th March and was led by Reverend Sue. Saturn Class delivered some powerful messages through readings and choral speaking and Christian Club performed a thought provoking piece which was based on the Rood Screen in the church. We also heard some very enjoyable musical contributions from Mercury and Mars Classes and the School Choir.

FoSPS organised two events to celebrate Easter. Mercury and Mars Classes had an 'Easter Bonnet Parade' and lots of the children came to school in brightly coloured and beautifully decorated hats and bonnets. The judges had a difficult job to choose. Prize winners were selected for the best hats and all the children were given a prize of a chocolate egg. Easter Egg Bingo took place and a noisy time was had by all!



The annual Reach Fair took place and the Year 5 and 6 children competently performed three maypole dances in front of a huge crowd. They demonstrated good team work and very effective problem solving skills which was greeted with a huge round of applause from the audience. Congratulations to the dancers! Thank you to all of you who came to support the children and to Ms Nicholas for preparing them so well.

FoSPS for organised the Grand Draw at Reach Fair with the famous Barrow of Booze as the first prize. Nearly £700 was raised which is an incredible amount.

SATs have come and gone and the Year 6 children are to be congratulated on their mature approach to them. To help them through, there was a lot of consuming of cake!

We are now looking forward to some exciting ventures. Mercury and Mars Classes are off to Old Hunstanton to study the beach environment and looking at the history of the seaside through History off the Page, there is a KS2 production in the pipeline, and a variety of sporting events including Swaffham Olympics.

Lots to do!!

Hannah Curtis
Head teacher

Montessori School, Reach

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



Lucy's laughs

Try these jokes out on your family and friends



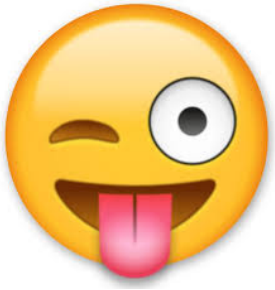
A guy in a library walks up to a librarian and says, "I'll have a cheeseburger and fries, please."
Librarian responds "you know this is a library, right?"
Guy says, "Oh sorry [in a whisper] "I'll have a cheeseburger and fries, please."

What did one eye say to the other?
Don't look now, but something between us smells.

My friend thinks he is smart. He told me an onion is the only food that makes you cry, so I threw a coconut at his face

In a Catholic school cafeteria, a nun places a note in front of a pile of apples, "Only take one. God is watching." Further down the line is a pile of cookies. A little boy makes his own note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

Can a kangaroo jump higher than the Empire State Building?
Of course. The Empire State Building can't jump.



Did you hear about the kidnapping at school?
It's okay. He woke up.

Teacher: "Which book has helped you the most in your life?"
Student: "My father's check book!"

A man got hit in the head with a can of Coke, but he was all right because it was a soft drink.

Q: What is the tallest building in the entire world?
A: The library, because it has so many stories

Reach Riders Group



The Reach Riders Group (RRG) and the committee continue to be very active.

There are currently 20 members with lots of interest coming in from riders in the surrounding area.



Minnie Halpin-McDonald, a prize-winner at the dog scurry, came home a bit tired

We had a busy day at Reach Fair, running the dog scurry. It proved very popular with visitors to the fair and raised £84. Two of our members showed their competitive side by winning the hourly prize, kindly donated by Alan's Ark. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day, and provided equipment to run it.

We continue to look at fundraising which is vital to the upkeep of the field and jumps.

Our next fundraiser will be a carriage driving lecture / demo with a BBQ in the summer, and following that we are hoping to get a well-known singer from an infamous band to come and entertain us, with food and frivolities. Watch this space!

Gemma Rolfe has now joined us on the committee, so welcome to Gemma.

The Reach Riders Group Committee consists of

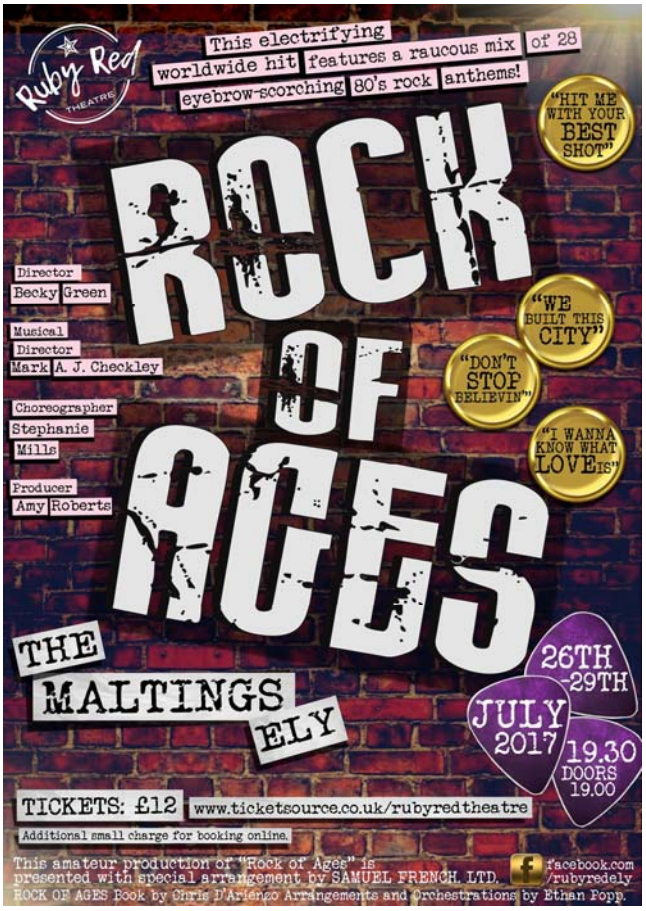
Sadie King (Chair)
Sue Cameron (Joint Secretary)
Claire Halpin (Joint secretary)
Hilary Fielding
Gemma Rolfe
Liz Tabeki

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

Pets Corner



Up until recently the male swan was in the habit of coming to the back door for food.



REACH
PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on: Wednesday 5th April 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	Not Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Not Present
David Brown	County Councillor	Present

1. Apologies for absence – received and approved.

2. Declarations of Interest

3. Forum for Members of the Public
There were none.

4 Planning
There were no applications.

7(2) County Councillor's Report
Full Council met on 28th March for the final Council meeting prior to the County Council elections on 4th May. The closeness of the meeting to the election was apparent with national policies dominating debate. Council also approved the publication of the annual pay statement for officers and confirmed arrangements for the Local Government Pension scheme.
General Purposes Committee met to discuss a number of issues. As well as the usual finance and performance reports the Committee agreed to: fund two transformation projects relating to adult social care; proceed with a capital project to create a new arts establishment together with the Arts Council and others; and approved a Corporate Energy Strategy and a Community Resilience strategy.
Children and Young People's Committee also met in March. Committee agreed a number of items including: future governance arrangements for Cambridgeshire Culture; the future make up for educational provision in Gamlingay; and arrangements for the extension of child care provision from 15 hours to 30 hours in line with national provisions.
I chaired a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board and attended a meeting of the Children's Change Programme Board. I also spent 2 days interviewing candidates to sit on the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Councillor Brown stated that this would be his last meeting as County councillor, as he is not standing in the May election. He said what a pleasure it had been working on behalf of the Reach residents and the PC thanked him for this work over the many years he had held the position.

5. Reach Fair
A single risk assessment with 3 parts has been used; this has been sent to ECDC for approval. Financially the Fair preparations are running to budget.

It is intended that the cycle parking will be improved. In previous years there has been an issue with cycles and the cemetery. The ET will padlock the cemetery this year, put up signs and the key will be available at the information stand. An email will be sent informing the village of this.
The ET have, again due to previous issues, agreed to remove and correctly replace the goal posts on the playing field.
Discussions are ongoing between the ET and the Village centre committee regarding the transfer and storage of all 'Fair' items. All 'Fair' items are to be transferred free of charge. There are tents of various sizes for which £1000 is requested. A fee of £15 per week has been proposed for the storage.
Other possible storage solutions will be investigated. ***Clerk*** to check cost and planning requirements for a container within the village.

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

Matters Arising
Councillor Boreham reported that he and Councillor Ward had had a meeting with Paul Separovic from the Environment Agency on Friday 3rd March about the dredging of silt from the lode. They took to the water on the EA launch and used sonar to record water depths up as far as Reach Lode Bridge. Down towards to The Hythe the water depth was as low as 25cm.It seems that whilst the EA is sympathetic, they claim that Reach lode is low priority and that they do not have the resources to immediately assist. However, they mentioned using Reach Lode for an experimental approach where silt is pumped directly from the bed, de-watered and placed on the bank. Councillor Ward tried very hard to get Paul Separovic to commit to push this issue up the EA agenda, but he was somewhat non-committal. ***Clerk*** to write a letter of thanks to Mr Separovic for the visit; and also to reiterate the point that there is an issue with their standard of service under the pylons and down to the Hythe. To also confirm that the PC are very interested in trialling the suction pump method.

A letter from the dog warden has been sent to the resident concerned. If any future events are reported full details need to be recorded as evidence should the issue need to be taken further.

7 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund
The Village Centre have agreed to pay the money from the 2016 fair proceeds. The amount is to be confirmed once the possibility of a previous over payment is clarified.

7(3) District Councillor's Report
Last month I attended the Commercial Services Committees of which I am a member.
We dealt with things such as Grants to Voluntary Organisations. These included-
1) Citizens Advice Newmarket, where the most frequent issues raised continue to be debt and welfare benefits. Various local charities in Newmarket and the surrounding area have recently lost funding from other external sources and there is anxiety that additional demand for services will be placed on Citizens Advice Newmarket.
2) Citizens Advice Rural Cambs has seen an increased demand for all its advice services for debt. Pay day loans are being utilised more and more as some people are not able to manage their money more efficiently in difficult times.
3) Voluntary & Community Action East Cambs (VCAEC) From October 2016 ceased receiving funding from Cambridgeshire County Council for Community and Voluntary Sector infrastructure support (£15,000) and from the Cambridgeshire Commissioning Group for promoting the health sector (£5000.00) Our grants to these three organisations help them to undertake their very important work.
We also dealt with some items under the heading of Tourism and Town Centres Services.
These included:
a) To extend Angel Drove (Ely) Car Park to provide 120 extra parking spaces to meet the needs of commuters. It already has 214 spaces that are full every day.
b) To expand the programme of events and tours available at Oliver Cromwell's House in order to increase income levels by £2500.00

I also attended a seminar to discuss the possible restructuring of ECDCs committees.
Locally, I have been involved in two planning issues and one problem between Sanctuary Housing and one of its tenants**.**

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

7(5) Parish Council Members Meetings
There were none, other than those reported elsewhere within this report.

7(6) Play Spaces
The bridge has now been repaired.

7(7) Rights of Way

More complaints had been received regarding dog poo. One, about poo along the top of the lode bank. The lode bank is private land and therefore there is little the PC can do except highlight the problem and try and persuade owners to clear up after their dogs. ***Councillor Boreham*** to produce a map of the village for 'hotspot' areas to be highlighted and published in the village magazine.

The other, on the permissive bridleway by Churchfield Farm. Not only poo left on the pathway but also dog owner's bag up the poo and either leave it hanging in the hedge or throw it over into the garden. Dog poo bins have been suggested at each end of the permissive path. ***Clerk*** to check this is possible and find out costs.

7(8) 24Acres Committee Report

Nothing to report.

7(9) Friends of Reach Wood

Nothing to report.

7(10) Local Plan

Nothing to report.

8 Straight Drove

Councillor Fielding has spoken to the Swaffham PC chair about the possibility of restricting Straight Drove: he would like a formal letter to be sent to the Clerk of Swaffham Prior PC asking for its support, Clerk to send. He has already discussed this with SP PC, and only one councillor was against. He feels that it is likely that SP PC will not be against the proposal, but will not be prepared to contribute financially. Once he has our letter, he will put it on the agenda for their next meeting.

The NT will not financially help but would help repair the Drove. Although the drove is in the Swaffham Prior parish the improvements would mostly benefit Reach residents.

Councillor Aves to show on a map the areas where vehicle access is required.

Discussion will continue at a future meeting once more information has been received.

9 May Meeting

The May PC meeting will be held on Thursday 11th May at 7pm, prior to the Annual Parish meeting at 7.30pm

10 Insurance

The PC enters its final year of a 3 year agreement with our present supplier. The PC agreed to enter another 3 year agreement for an additional 5% discount as they are very happy with the advice and service the company supplies.

11 Information Items/AOB

Defibrillator The Village Centre have agreed for the defibrillator to be located on the side of the village centre nearest to the church. ***Clerk*** to contact the committee to arrange for this to be installed prior to Reach Fair.

Streetlights. Yet again the PC contact at BB regarding the streetlights has left. The Clerk has contacted CCC and asked for urgent contact regarding this matter. ***Clerk*** to collate an email trail regarding this matter to highlight the issue it has become.

Burning of waste. A complaint had been received concerning the burning of toxic waste in the lower part of the village. This was carried out after dark and gave off particularly unpleasant fumes. A notice will be put in the next issue of the village magazine and the situation monitored. Should any further incidence happen the Environment agency will be contacted.

A letter had been received questioning the PC discussions regarding the Pub. The PC clarified that this was only due to its legal requirement to do so as lease holder of the property. ***Councillor Cane*** to contact the complainant to clarify.

The PC have received a complaint regarding the amount of litter on the footpaths around the village, along with the suggestion of a village litter picking event. ***Clerk*** to investigate.

13 Payments

E.on – power on the green	£8.79
CCC – LHI payment	£97.95
Clerk Salary	£939.20
Anglia Surfacing – cemetery footpath	£3024
CR Contracting – mowing contract	£201.50
Came & Co. – insurance	£716.21

The date of the next meeting will be Thursday 11th May 2017 at 7.00pm, prior to the Annual Parish Meeting. 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 11th May 2017

Attendance

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

1. Apologies for absence – received and approved.

2. Election of officers
Councillor Cane was elected Chair, proposed by Councillor Fielding and seconded by Councillor Baldwin
Councillor Fielding was elected vice Chair, proposed by Councillor Cane and seconded by Councillor Baldwin

3. Declaration of interests
There were none.

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

5. Election of additional officers
This was deferred until the June meeting due to the lack of councillors.

6 (1) Parish Council Grant Fund
Nothing to report

6(2) County Councillor's Report
No report received.

6(3) District Councillor's Report
No report received.

6(4) Financial Reports
The PC remains in a financially stable situation.
A problem had arisen regarding the internal audit. It had been impossible to find an individual willing to take on this task. Therefore, the accountancy firm who last carried out this role for the PC had been contacted and had agreed to take on the work. ***Clerk*** to attend a meeting to discuss and arrange.

6(5) Parish Council Members Meetings
There were none.

6(6) Play Spaces
Everything is reported to be in good order.

6(7) Rights of Way

Nothing to report

6(8) 24Acres Committee Report
Nothing to report.

6(9) Friends of Reach Wood
It seems that in addition to the problems with ragwort, there is now a problem with hawthorn invading the meadow. The first response of the Woodland Trust was to suggest using a flail cutter. This is unacceptable.
To compound matters, The Woodland Trust is having a hard time financially this year and has cancelled the extra woodland management budget they had set aside for the wood. The money for mowing is unaffected.
It may be possible to leverage some emergency funding to deal with the ragwort a little later in the season.
As Councillor Boreham, who oversees the woodland for the PC was unable to attend the meeting ***this matter will be discussed at the June meeting.***

6(10) Local Plan
To be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting, following on from this meeting.

7 June meeting date
The date for the June meeting was set as Tuesday 6th June at 7.30pm. This is due to the General Election.

10 Forum for Members of the Public
There were none.

11 Information Items/AOB
An enquiry had been received concerning the holding of a children's party on the playing field. Following discussion the PC had no concern but suggested that it would be polite for the date to be circulated around the village and that the resident ensured no rubbish would be left behind. ***Clerk*** to inform the resident.

11 Planning
There were no applications.

12 Payments

E.on – power on the green	£20.57
E.on – streetlight electricity	£500.57
David Thomas – Orchard expenses	£59.86
Susan Bailey – Stationary and postage	£66.35
P. Marsh – Defibrillator installation	£60.00
Craig Dunnett – Bridge repair	£490.00
CR Contracting – mowing	£298.50

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 6th June 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:



1st Swaffham Prior scouts assisting at Reach Fair BBQ

Letter from the Vicarage



An important part of my job is to pray with and for people, for the community, and for the world. Now I am definitely not a super-saint, and whilst sometimes prayer seems to come easily, at other times it can be really hard to know how or what to pray, and to keep going! One of the things we do at St Mary's & St Etheldreda's is to pray week by week for community and world issues. With all the turmoil and conflict in the world, we pray each week for peace. And now with negotiations towards Brexit having begun, and the general election looming, we will be praying for our country, in this time of uncertainty and opportunity. If you are a person who prays, whatever your political 'hue' perhaps you would join us in praying for our leaders, for voters to engage with the issues, use their vote, and for the outcome to be for the common good of all, particularly the poor and vulnerable.

Our churches St Mary's in Burwell and St Etheldreda's in Reach are open all day, every day, for anyone to pop in, and with a programme of regular services and activities. Over the next few weeks there are some special events: St Mary's fete on 10th June and the launch of the Burwell Festival exhibition in St Mary's. Looking ahead to July, Little Bears @ St Mary's Teddy Bears' picnic is on Thursday 6th July at the Vicarage, 22 Isaacson Road, and the first of our summer holiday Messy Cafés on Wednesday 26th July at St Mary's. For more details of our services and regular updates, see notices on our website and Facebook pages.

Please get in touch if you would like more information about these or any of our events or services, including weddings, christenings and baby thanksgivings, or if you would like would value an opportunity to chat.

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





BEAD BUDDIES

Saturday 10th Jun 2017

The Stained Glass Museum at Ely Cathedral Presents:

Inspired by the glass on display at the Museum, join us for a weaving workshop where you can make a creature out of coloured glass beads. Advance booking essential on 01353 660347 Suitable for ages 7+; All children must be accompanied by an adult £3.50 per child

Session Times -1.30pm to 2.30pm or 3pm to 4pm

Website - www.stainedglassmuseum.com

Church Update

Reach theft



Sadly the votive candle stand was stolen from Reach church in a daytime raid during May. The stand was donated a few years ago in memory of Ann Fuller by her family. Ann was church warden of Reach for many years and the loss of her memorial is a great shame.

We believe that it's important to keep both of our churches unlocked for people to enjoy and find a place of peace. Our insurers support this practice for churches that, like ours, are prominently placed in the village as they believe the vigilance of passers- by is a major deterrent to thieves. Please, therefore, keep your eyes open whenever you pass the churches and, if you see any suspicious behaviour, please call 999 and notify the churchwardens.

Ye Olde Church Fete and Burwell Festival

The annual St Mary's Church Fete will be held on **Saturday 10th June** this year **between 2pm and 4pm** in St Mary's Church and grounds - two hours of fun for all ages to enjoy while raising funds for local causes and charity.

To tie-in with the Carnival's 'Horrible Histories' theme, this year's fete will have a 'Medieval' feel, with stalls, stall holders, entertainment and games reflecting the period. There will be all the usual games and attractions, cream teas, ice cream and a BBQ (medieval of course!)

The church tower will be open to visitors to climb for a panoramic view across the village, and beyond and Burwell Folk and Samara Ballet will provide the entertainment.

The event also marks the start of the week long Burwell Festival and its Exhibition of paintings, photography, crafts and flowers will run inside the church from the fete until Tuesday evening.

Pat Chalmers



ELY CONSORT
WWW.ELYCONSORT.ORG.UK

Saturday 1st July, 7pm **St Mary's Church**
Mass in Blue - Will Todd
followed by music for a Summer's evening

Would you like to listen to one of the most exciting pieces of choral music written in recent years, *and* enjoy a picnic whilst being serenaded by one of the county's finest chamber choirs? Then come along to Ely Consort's summer concert in St Mary's Church, Burwell on Saturday 1st July!

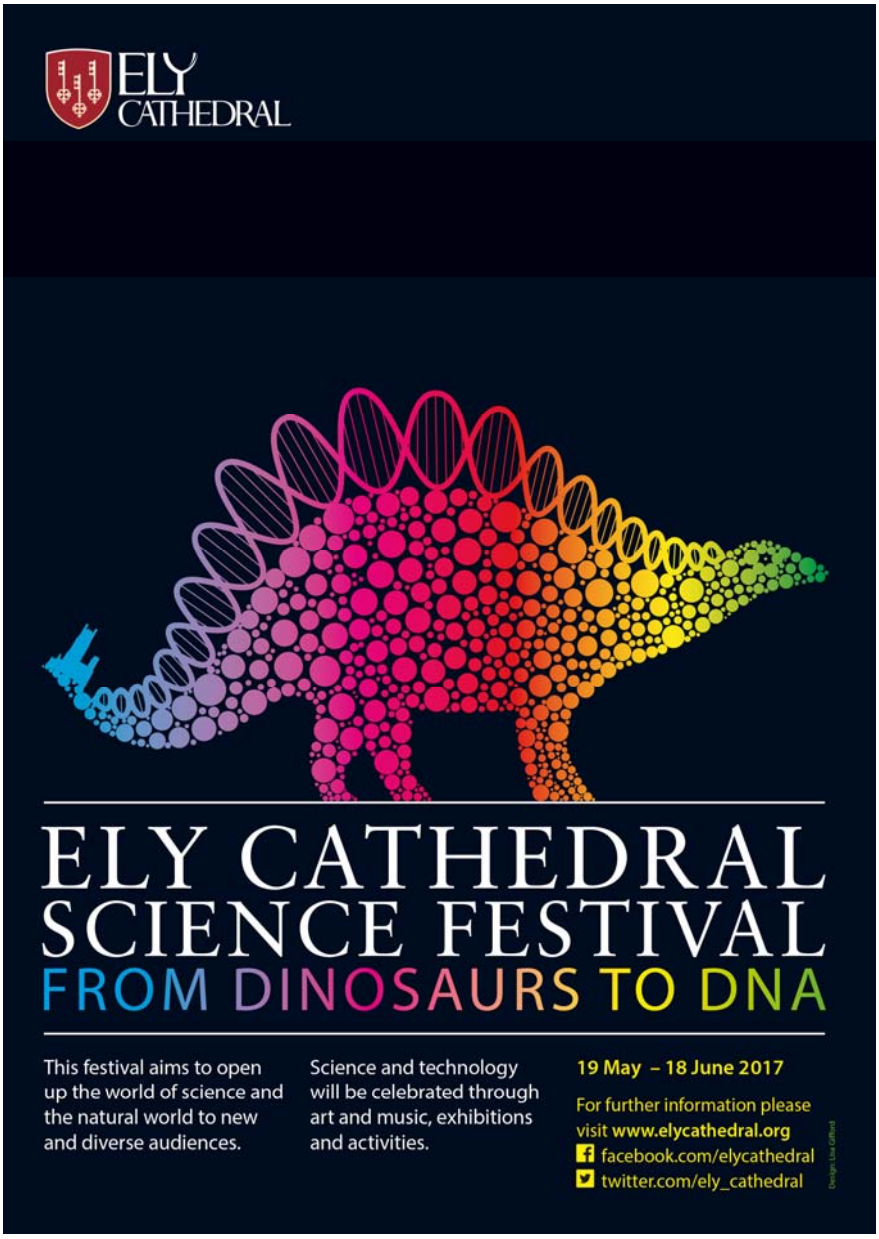
The concert begins with **Will Todd's *Mass in Blue***, which has taken the choral world by storm since its first performance. Written for choir, soprano soloist and a jazz quartet of piano, bass, drums and saxophone, *Mass in Blue* is a dynamic, uplifting, and highly popular jazz setting of the Latin mass featuring driving grooves and blues harmonies. For the second half, the audience are invited to bring a picnic (food & drink, including alcohol. - bring your picnic blanket (preferred)/chairs) and enjoy listening to Ely Consort singing outside in the grounds of the church. And do not fear - there is a wet-weather 'indoor picnic' plan!

Tickets: £10 *(U16s free) available from:*
https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/elyconsort *(+10% booking fee) in Burwell at Post Office, Hurrell's, Tina's & CentrePeace*

Church Services and Events

June 2017	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach	Other Regular Events (In Burwell unless otherwise stated)
Thursday 1st	10.00 Little Bears	8.15 Morning Prayer	
Sunday 4th Pentecost	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.00 All Age Communion		
Wednesday 7th	10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove		
Thursday 8th		8.15am Morning Prayer	
Friday 9th			Refresh Cafe 10.00am - 11.30am
Sunday 11th Trinity	10.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday @ 7	8.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday 14th	10.00am Holy Communion		7.30pm Mothers Union in the Guildhall
Thursday 15th		8.15am Morning Prayer	
Friday 16th			Refresh Cafe 10.00am - 11.30am
Sunday 18th Trinity 1	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Communion 3.00 Carers' Service		
Wednesday 21st	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court		
Thursday 22nd		8.15am Morning Prayer	
Friday 23rd			Refresh Cafe 10.00am - 11.30am
Sunday 25th Trinity 2	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion 4.00 Messy Church		
Wednesday 28th	10.00am Holy Communion		Lunchbreak Cafe 12noon-2.00pm M U Mystery Tour 2.00pm
Thursday 29th		8.15am Morning Prayer	
Friday 30th			Refresh Cafe 10.00am - 11.30am
July 2017			
Sunday 2nd Trinity 3	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service		
Wednesday 5th	10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove		
Thursday 6th		8.15am Morning Prayer	10.00 Teddy Bears Picnic at The Vicarage
Friday 7th			Refresh Cafe 10.00am - 11.30am Youth Café in Guildhall 7.45pm-9.15pm
Sunday 9th Trinity 4	10.00 Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday @ 7	8.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday 12th	10.00am Holy Communion		
Thursday 13th		8.15am Morning Prayer	
Friday 14th			Refresh Cafe 10.00am - 11.30am
Sunday 16th Trinity 5	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00 am Holy Communion 4.00pm Messy Church		
Wednesday 19th	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court		
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE	**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**	**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**	**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

Thursday 20th		8.15am Morning Prayer	
Friday 21st			Refresh Cafe 10.00am - 11.30am
Sunday 23rd Trinity 6	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion		
Wednesday 26th	10.00am Holy Communion		Lunchbreak Cafe 12.00noon-2.00pm M U in the Guildhall 2.00pm Messy Cafe 2.30-4.30pm
Thursday 27th		8.15am Morning Prayer	
Friday 28th			Refresh Cafe 10.00am - 11.30am
Sunday 30th Trinity 7		10.00 Holy Communion	



Bus Timetable

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

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

A summary of all buses serving Reach and/or Swaffham Prior Monday to Saturday is shown below.
Please note that there is no bus service at all on Sundays.

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

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

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

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

Diary Dates: June 2017

June 2017	Event	Location	Time
Thursday 1	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 2	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Sunday 4	Sunday Tea	Wicken Fen, Village Centre	3pm – 5pm
Wednesday 7	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	8pm
Thursday 8	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Friday 9	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 10	Burwell Farmers Market	Burwell	9.30am – 12.30pm
Saturday 10	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Saturday 10	Church Fete	St Mary's Church, Burwell	2pm – 4pm
Saturday 10 – Tuesday 13	Arts, Crafts and Photography Exhibition	St Mary's Church, Burwell	See Page 32
Saturday 10 – Saturday 17	Burwell Festival	Burwell	
Sunday 11	Sunday Tea	Wicken Fen, Methodist Church	3pm – 5pm
Tuesday 13	Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners	Evening visit to NIAB Histon	See Page 23
Wednesday 14 – Saturday 17	Princess Ida	Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre, Downing Farm	See Page 27
Thursday 15	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 16	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 17 – Sunday 18	Pop-Up Gallery	Wicken Fen	See Page 29
Sunday 18	Sunday Tea	Methodist Church, Wicken Fen	3pm – 5pm
Tuesday 20	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Wednesday 21	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 22	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Friday 23	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Saturday 24	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Sunday 25	Sunday Tea	St Lawrence's Church, Wicken Fen	3pm – 5pm
Tuesday 27	Burwell Museum Coach Trips	Visit to Wells next to Sea	See page 19
Wednesday 28	Lunchbreak Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	12 noon – 2pm
Thursday 29	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 30	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am

Diary Dates: July 2017

July 2017	Event	Location	Time
Saturday 1	Car Boot Sale	Burwell Village College Car Park	9am – 12.30pm
Saturday 1	Mass in Blue	St Mary's Church, Burwell	7pm See Page 8
Sunday 2	Reach Sports Day	Top Field	2.30pm
Sunday 2	Aquafest	Ely	See Page 17
Sunday 2	Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners	Coach outing to Somerleyton Hall	See Page 23
Sunday 2	Sunday Tea	Village Centre, Wicken Fen	3pm – 5pm
Wednesday 5	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 6	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 6	Teddy Bears Picnic	The Vicarage Garden	10am – 11.30am See Page 24
Friday 7	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Friday 7 – Sunday 9	Folk Festival	Ely	See Page 17
Friday 7	Talk by Ute Towriss	Swaffham Bulbeck School Hall	7.30pm See Page 15
Saturday 8	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Saturday 8	Burwell Farmers Market	Burwell	9.30am – 12.30pm
Saturday 8	World Pea Shooting Championship	Witcham	See Page 17
Sunday 9	Sunday Tea	Methodist Church, Wicken Fen	3pm – 5pm
Thursday 13	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 14	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Sunday 16	Sunday Tea	St Lawrence's Church, Wicken Fen	3pm – 5pm
Tuesday 18	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tuesday 18	Swaffham Prior Village Gardeners	Evening visit to Moat House Little Saxham	See Page 23
Wednesday 19	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Thursday 20	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Friday 21	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Friday 21	Burwell Museum Coach Trips	Visit to Newark and Heckington	See page 19
Saturday 22	Ely Farmers Market	Ely	8.30am – 2pm
Sunday 23	Sunday Tea	Methodist Church, Wicken Fen	3pm – 5pm
Wednesday 26	Lunchbreak Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	12 noon – 2pm
Thursday 27	Recycling Day (Green)		
Friday 28	Refresh Café	St Mary's Church, Burwell	9.30 – 11am
Sunday 30	Sunday tea	Village Centre, Wicken Fen	3pm – 5pm

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

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

Contact Information

Parish Council			
	Councillor	Michael Aves	742800
	Councillor	Steve Boreham	742098
	Chair	Charlotte Cane	741064
	Vice Chair	Hilary Fielding	741853
	Councillor	Diana Ward	744210
	Clerk	Susan Bailey	743794
	Rights of Way Officer	Hilary Fielding	741853
	County Councillor	David Brown	743283
	District Councillor	Allen Alderson	741744
Village Centre			
	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	



























































Reach Fair 2017









































Reach Community Orchard

Laying bark and larking about

