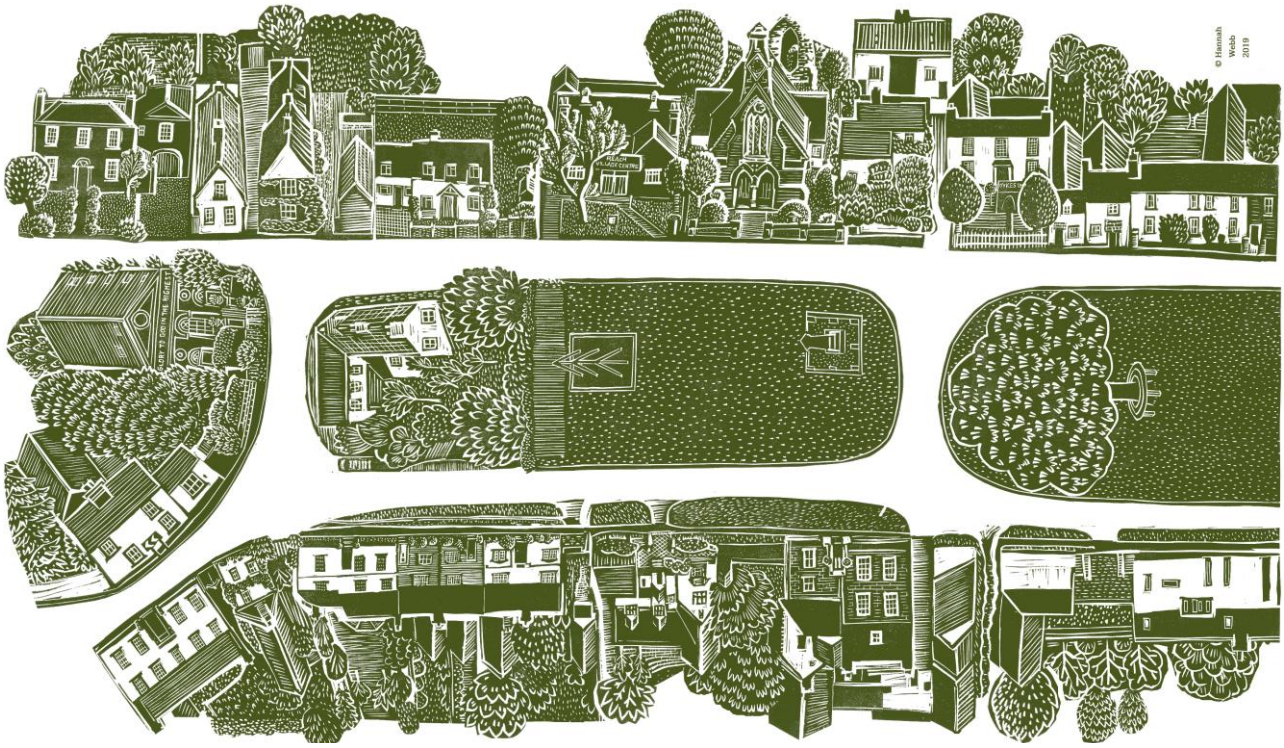
Within Reach



June/July 2020



We still have **Tea Towels** available for sale – in the three colours of:

Burgundy, French Navy Blue and Olive Green

Big thanks go to Hannah Webb for her work in creating these

They cost £4.00 each, £7.50 for 2 or £10.00 for 3





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From the Editor



Two months have gone by and the virus continues to dominate most people's lives and for a second time, this magazine can only be viewed online. The good news is that it seems to be on the decline, but the government is in no great hurry to end the lockdown.

In Reach, life goes on with villagers making the best of things as you would expect. But there does appear to me to be an increasing frustration with the huge interruption to lives and especially the economy, that the virus has caused.

The pub continues to provide excellent takeaway meals – the latest menu can be found on page 26. There is some hope that they will allowed to open, with restrictions, over the next month or so, especially since they have two beer gardens available.

Steve and his colleagues at the Co-op in Burwell continue to serve us well – with excellent help from villagers. And bread supplies continue from Lanes. Others make calls to those who live on their own, to have a chat and make sure all is well. The community has rallied round wonderfully.

The Parish Council carries on with its duties, using Zoom to facilitate their virtual meetings – and we can all join in, very easily, to watch the proceedings. Check out the agenda for the July meeting and see what you have to do.

I am reasonably confident that we will be able to get the August issue printed – Burwell Print are keen to get back to work!

Just a request of you all, if you are looking for tradespeople or services, then please do look at our adverts section. Those advertising in the magazine pay for the printing of it and since they support us, it would be nice if we support them too.

Stay well everyone.

David Parr
davidmparr@btinternet.com or 07887 563720

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 *Within Reach* magazine and its predecessor *Out of Reach* can be found on the village website www.reach-village.co.uk. The next copy date is 15th July 2020. This magazine (which is fully funded from advertising) is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

The Team

Editor	David Parr
Distribution	Freda Lloyd, Claire Halpin-McDonald and Grahame Radford
Photographer	Rosanna Moseley Gore
24Acres	David Thomas
Church	Eleanor Williams
Cookery	Catherine Gibson
Cricket	Ross Clark
Events Team	Debbie Quilter
Gardening	Danuta Gibson
IT Advice	David McMillan
Metal Detecting	Luke Mercer
Neighbourhood Watch	Kevin Evans
Parish Council	Alex de Giorgio-Miller
Reach Riders Group	Sue Cameron
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore
Snakehall Farm	Liz Pitt
Then and Now	Chris Patterson
Wicken Fen	Julia Hammond
Wildlife	Joss Goodchild



Village Update



I hope you are all keeping well. I've loved our village since we moved here, but right now I am very grateful to live in such a wonderful community, with such beautiful places to take our daily exercise.

Following Government advice, sadly both the playground and swings remain closed for the time being, despite the fact that the signs keep disappearing. We have been told that, as the surfaces of the equipment could harbour the virus and because it is very difficult to maintain a 2m distance with children, the play equipment should remain closed until the threat of the virus has decreased.

We held our first virtual Parish Council meeting at the beginning of May and it looks like this will be how they will be conducted for the foreseeable future. We have chosen to use the 'Zoom' platform and members of the public are welcome to join us.

Thank you to everyone for their help setting up and running the Reach Help Network. The fantastic Steve Smith and his Co-op team have been amazing, allowing us to set up a twice weekly delivery service to residents who are isolating. The wonderful Claire Acklam and Cristine Fletcher have done the majority of the deliveries and there are lots of people in the village who are hugely grateful to them – thank you!

We also have volunteers who are able to collect prescriptions for you if you are unable to go out (thank you to Claire Acklam for co-ordinating) and have a regular bakery delivery service (thank you to Diana Ward and David Parr). Pam King is co-ordinating a group of volunteers who are happy to chat (thank you Pam) - please do give her a ring if you'd like to receive a call. And if there is anything else that you are struggling with then get in touch and we'll do our best to help.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered, we are so lucky to be living in such a caring community. Stay safe and enjoy the forecast sunny weather.

To see the full list of current councillors and their contact details please visit the website at:
http://www.reach-village.co.uk/parish_council.html
and note that we have a vacancy, so if you would like to be considered for co-option please get in touch with Susan Bailey (clerk@reachparishcouncil.org).

Alex de Giorgio-Miller

Chair – Reach Parish Council
a.degiorgiomiller@reachparishcouncil.org

Tennis Court



The construction of our tennis court commenced on the 25th October 2010 so this year will be its 10 year anniversary.

The informal opening took place on Sunday 5th December and you can see the pictures taken on the day by clicking on the link.



Its been used well over the period, an excellent court in a delightful setting. Its showing its age a bit now and some work needs to be done:

Firstly, the superb bookings box, excellently constructed by the then Clerk, fell apart a few years ago. A new box has been purchased and will be put in place shortly. So you will be able to make bookings for matches, just as you used to. The net mechanism needs attention – nothing too significant – we just need to be able to lower the net after each match. Line re-painting is needed too but maybe court repainting can be delayed for another few years. We have around £2,200 as reserves, a fair proportion of this coming from non-Reach residents who pay £20 a year to be Sponsored Visitors.

To see how to Access the Court, click on the link.

Enjoy your tennis – its great exercise!

David Parr

Cambridge Open Studios

Although the dreaded Covid-19 virus has seen an end to this year's annual art extravaganza we've grown to love, all is not lost. A group of budding members have stepped up to the mark and are in the middle of organising a treasure trail of art for the public to enjoy whilst out on their daily walks.

#Openwindows2020 is a national campaign that is celebrating art in its many forms, displayed in as the name would suggest, a window or perhaps front garden. For all four weekends in July, artists will display their artwork for local residents to enjoy.

WHY? - As chief organiser Kate Green explains, "It's a way that we as a group of artists can invest into our community at this extraordinary time. We hope it will help to keep Cambridge Open Studios on people's radar, whilst promoting creativity and the art businesses, as well as giving the artists something positive to work towards."

WHEN? - the original COS weekends: July 4th/5th, 11th/12th, 18th/19th, 25th/26th inclusively.

HOW? A treasure trail map will be created with spots to indicate the location of participating artists. The map will be available to download from camopenstudios.co.uk/open-windows at the beginning of June.

Usually, the details of each artist and their work is available in advance. However, participating artists will decorate their houses with the Cambridge Open Studios yellow flag and it will become an art treasure hunt for the local neighbourhood.

Each participating artist will display their name and the Cambridge Open Studios website address alongside their art in their window (each artist has their own page on this website) so people can find out more about each artist they have visited.

If the lockdown is still in place, we will encourage people to adhere to social distancing rules and remind them to only travel locally as part of their daily exercise.

There are actually a handful of artist members who have already been doing this independently, to various degrees, since the lockdown began.

We now have 100+ artists signed up to take part in this initiative during the month of July.

We look forward to bringing you **#COSart2020** this July. More information can be found at: camopenstudios.co.uk/open-windows from 1st June.

Best wishes

Jo Riches
07854 210837



Jubilee Tree Wood Products



Further to my article in the April/May edition of 'Within Reach'. I have been in touch with the Ely Guild of Woodturners who salvaged a quantity of timber when the Jubilee Horse Chestnut was felled on 19 February.

There are promising signs that bowls and other wood products can be turned from our timber. However, there is some way to go and not yet a guarantee that all demand for mementoes from the tree can be met.

Horse Chestnut wood is prone to splitting during seasoning, a process that can take up to two years. The Guild is attempting to season the Jubilee Tree timber and return products to us a little more quickly than that. Nonetheless it is unlikely we will see anything before the end of the year. So far, the Guild has rough-turned 50 or so bowls from the green timber.



These are now being left to season fully, wrapped in newspaper and with the assistance of a dehumidifier. There is a risk that some, perhaps many, will split as the drying process continues. The bowls need to reach a moisture content of 12% or less before they can be finished. They currently have a moisture content of twice that.



Plenty of other timber remains for other products such as candlesticks. The time required to complete the seasoning process is the same.

The Guild will keep the village posted on progress. I am happy to add to the list of villagers who have expressed an interest in buying turned wood. However, as it remains unclear how many products can be extracted from the timber, we will be meeting the demand according to date on which interest was registered. When the time is right, I hope to persuade Guild to come to the village with a range of samples so that we can finalise orders and organise payments.



Above you will see a ball-point pen in gift box. They can make the pens from the white heart wood or use the more 'conker-coloured' wood from nearer the bark. The conker-coloured pens have a more "natural" finish i.e. not so smooth, whereas the white ones can be more highly polished. Pricing will be £15.

The price for the coffee scoops will be £18.

Could people with new requests get in touch quickly as the Guild need to organise their 'production line'.



Here we have "conkers" – very appropriate since it was a conker tree. The price of these will vary from £6 to £12 based on size and finish.

On an associated issue, we plan to reinstall the seat that encircled the Jubilee Tree when public health guidance on coronavirus permits. It will go around the Sweet Chestnut tree. The seat is being refurbished thanks to the generosity of Manchetts Ltd.

Nick Acklam

Neighbourhood Plan



As with almost everything else, progress on the Neighbourhood Plan has been slowed by the coronavirus pandemic. Crucially it has prevented us from consulting you face to face. Nonetheless we have made progress and hope to present a draft plan to the village for comment, amendment and addition later in the year. Hopefully we can do this at an open day in the Village Hall.

Residents' Survey

We have produced a detailed summary of the Residents' Survey that the majority of you completed a couple of months ago. This is available on the Neighbourhood Plan web page, just go to:
http://www.reach-village.co.uk/neighbourhood_plan.html
and then click on the relevant document at the bottom of the page.

We wanted to give you as much detail as possible so that you can compare your own views with those of other villagers. However, you will see there are some areas where we have removed comments because they were too personal or might have identified the respondent. These comments have been taken into account though.

The NP Group draws the following messages from the summary:

We, very probably, have a **representative view** of how the village wants to develop. *Evidence: a 53% return of surveys, responses that are broadly consistent with the age and employment profiles of the village.*

The village supports our work for now. *Evidence: 96% of respondents agreed with the Vision statement.*

Reach is a **community that cares about its future development.** *Evidence: the preceding points, 97% of respondents think Reach is a good place to live. 86% have no plans to leave, a significant proportion of responders had invested considerable time and thought on their survey, evidenced by the frequency and length of free text responses. Very few respondents expressly disliked the village.*

Villagers wanted Reach:

to remain largely unchanged. *Evidence: 49% of respondents said so without prompting, strong affinity in free text comment to older buildings in the village and against modern developments and an associated interest in maintaining traditional building styles (89%), densities (80%) and to a lesser degree, local building materials.*

to grow very modestly. *Evidence: 66% of respondents wanted one to ten houses built in Reach to 2036. Taking account of those who wanted no houses built, three quarters of respondents were opposed to the building of more than ten houses during this period. 60% wanted housing growth to be achieved through individual developments only. 79% were concerned about future development that was unsustainable and would damage the things that make Reach a good place to live.*

…but not necessarily within the existing development envelope. *Evidence: 52% of respondents wanted to see housing growth within a carefully expanded development envelope.*

…and to contain a mix of housing types. *Evidence: all types gained some approval. There was a strong preference for private market housing (77%), with emphasis on houses for first time buyers (74%) and houses for those wishing to downsize (69%). However there was some reservation about sheltered housing or housing for the elderly in Reach, given amenities and transport. There was also some questioning of the feasibility of delivering affordable market housing or prescribing housing for local people or first-time buyers.*

to retain its connections with the surrounding countryside and to increase greener and safer transport options. *Evidence: 93% of respondents thought ready access to open countryside was very important, 80% supported the creation of vehicle-free routes to neighbouring villages.*

to remain a discrete settlement. *Evidence: 88% of respondents thought it very important to keep a zone of separation between Reach and Burwell, 81% thought it very important to keep a zone of separation between Reach and Swaffham Prior.*

to continue to benefit from open views into and out of the settlement. *Evidence: 77% of respondents thought such views were important, a significant proportion expressing the view that all views should be preserved and the landscape around the village should be viewed as a whole.*

to retain and perhaps enhance its amenities, especially the pub. *Evidence: frequency of free text comments about the pub's importance, 79% of respondents were concerned about insufficient amenities. 43% would like the addition of a shop and/or cafe. The survey did, however, demonstrate how very lightly many of amenities were used and drew out a significant minority concern (21%) about Reach's ability to sustain or enhance its amenities.*

to preserve and enhance its natural, archeological and historic assets. *Evidence: 99% of respondents thought our woodlands were an important asset, 98% thought the village green at the heart of the village very important and wanted it to be given Local Green Status, 90% thought the Devil's Dyke-Fair Green-Hythe-Lode core very important, 90% wanted the above ground sewage plant at the Hythe removed. Over 80% thought it very important to minimise development that would damage our natural, archeological and historic assets.*

There was also a sense, in comments throughout the returns, of a community that valued being at the core of an archeologically and environmentally important landscape.

to control road vehicles. *Evidence: 80% support for traffic free routes, 76% of respondents wanted to discourage HGVs transiting the village, strong concerns about speeding on roads approaching the village, 74% wanted off road parking to fully meet the needs of any new development.*

to become greener. *Evidence: 86% of respondents stated they would support a community energy scheme (75% still use oil for home heating), 84% wanted new housing built to the highest environmental standards. Becoming a greener, more sustainable settlement was the second most frequent aspiration for the future of Reach. 8% of respondents expressly said they wanted Reach to become a green or low carbon settlement without prompting. The same aspiration also featured in 'What is missing' comments. Whilst 50% of respondents never use the bus services to the village, there were indications that a cheaper, faster and more frequent services especially to the Cambridge railway station, Addenbrookes and the Science Park might lead to a reduction in car use.*

to remain vibrant, thriving and diverse. *Evidence: frequent free text comments on future hopes and amenity provision.*

Villagers were moderately interested in:

enhancing Reach's tourist potential. *Evidence: 58% wanted to promote Reach's attractions.*

Villagers were equivocal about:

enhancing employment provision in the village. *Evidence: 48% wanted the NP to make provision for employment in Reach. 51% did not want the NP to make such provision.*

Design Code

The design code for Reach has been completed by AECOM, the consultants appointed to the task and approved by central Government. This is available on the Neighbourhood Plan web page, just go to:
http://www.reach-village.co.uk/neighbourhood_plan.html
and then click on the relevant document at the bottom of the page.

In final form the code included all of the Group's amendments. The code provides guidance to ensure that new development and refurbishment of existing buildings in Reach reflect local identity, reinforce the sense of pride we have in our village and work well for villagers' needs now and into the future.

Landscape Appraisal

Alison Farmer, the landscape architect appointed by the group to undertake a landscape appraisal of our neighbourhood, is finalising her report. Her appraisal identifies what gives Reach its unique sense of place. It will help us ensure that our neighbourhood's special qualities and distinctive characteristics are protected and enhanced in the Plan. We will share Alison's appraisal with you in the near future.

The Hythe

The residents' survey returns demonstrate the strength of village opinion on this issue.

Anglian Water (AW) is, so far, unwilling to consider our proposals to enhance the Hythe. We are researching the circumstances in which this land was compulsorily purchased in 1964 as part of a case for persuading AW to think again.

As always, the Project Group would welcome your views on any of the above. The Group will be meeting soon by video conference and we will publish access details in advance so that you can participate if you wish. We would also be keen to have some fresh perspectives in the Group so please let me know if you would like to join us.

Nick Acklam

Chair Reach Neighbourhood Plan Project Group
n.acklam@reachparishcouncil.org 743749



Shopping for Isolating Villagers

Working with the fabulous Co-op in Burwell, we have set up a system to serve our vulnerable in the village. For those over 70 or self-isolating due to underlying health conditions, we are able to take email orders which will be picked by the Co-op staff for us and collected and delivered by our volunteers. Deliveries will be made to the village on Wednesdays and Sundays to coincide with when the Co-op has most stock delivered.

Placing an order
Orders please to be sent by email to a.degiorgiomiller@gmail.com on a Monday for the Wednesday delivery and Friday for the Sunday delivery. For those unable to email, please call Pam King on 07484 852889 or David Parr on 07887 563720 and they will be able to take down your order and email it on. I will need your address and contact number. When writing your shopping list, please be mindful that your normal brands might not be available. If you prefer a particular brand then feel free to list it, but it will be substituted if not available. If brand isn't important then generic requests, eg. 1x White, sliced loaf, will work.

You will receive an email confirming your order and letting you know the name of the volunteer who will be delivering for you, and the number of the ID card I have issued them.

Payment
In the morning on the delivery day, a volunteer will knock at your door and then step 2m back. They will show you a Reach Help Network identification card like this:



Please could we ask that you wash your debit card (and hands) in soapy water before putting it outside for the volunteer to pick up once you have closed the door. This debit card will be taken to the Co-op to pay for your shopping contactlessly. Please wash it again when it is returned as the volunteer will not have been able to. The current limit for contactless payments is £30, so your shopping will be split into £30 bundles. The government is due to increase the limit to £50 to help this.

Delivery
Your shopping and card will be left on your doorstep later on your delivery day. Your receipt will be in the shopping bag. The volunteer will leave your shopping on your doorstep, knock on your door and will then stand back 2m to let you collect it. We need to see that you have taken your card back safely so please come when you hear the knock!

Data protection
Only the volunteers will have your name, address and contact number details. The Co-op have asked for each delivery to be numbered so that they do not get any of that information.

Alex di Giorgio-Miller

Events Team

The remaining events we have planned for this year are as follows:

Reach Sports Day

Sunday 5th July
The usual fun of watching the children expel their energies – we clearly will need to await guidance from government on this one.

Car Boot Sale

Sunday 13th September (CANCELLED)
We were hoping to build on the success of last year's event, but we feel encouraging visitors to the village, at this time, is not appropriate.

But as soon as we can properly organize this, we will, it was a lovely event last year.



Village Advent Calendar

December 2020
An idea put forward where window displays are revealed across the advent period. Watch this space for more information and get in touch if you would like to take part. We will be needing a number of volunteers.

Christmas 2020 Dates

Christmas lights switch-on	Sun 6th Dec
Seniors Christmas lunch	Wed 16th Dec
Christingle service	Sun 20th Dec
Carols around the tree	Thurs 24th Dec

We're always keen to hear ideas from villagers – the Senior's Lunch, which has become such a success, came from a suggestion from Ann Jennings for example.

Our **Village Tea Towels**, in three different colours, have been selling really well. We do have some left (we purchased enough to last through this year). Pricing is £4.00 each, £7.50 for 2 or £10.00 for 3. If you like to buy some, please let David Parr know on 07887 563720 or davidmparr@btinternet.com

Debbie Quilter

Reach Riders

We had lots planned for the year and a recent festive ride to the No Hurry between Christmas and New Year proved good fun for those taking part. The weather was kind, even with a bitter wind





We hosted a pie and pint night at the Dykes End - it was hugely successful and we raised a very good amount from the raffle

We also hosted a very interesting talk from the local horse hospital – again very successful.

The arena is looking good and remains open at this time.

Our membership is ever increasing and it's great to see more people enjoying the use of this facility

Unfortunately, with the lockdown, fund raising has been put on hold, as have our committee meetings, but we will be full steam ahead once we get the green light and look forward to organising some more events in the future.

Thanks as always to our team on the committee and Craig Reader for doing a great job keeping the grass in great condition

Sue Cameron
ewenandsue@btinternet.com

Bottisham Village College
Adult Learning

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, all Adult Learning courses are suspended presently, but the below gives you a flavour of what is normally on offer:

Tango Salon Dancing – Beginners
Vegetarian Indian Cookery
Creating Glass Jewellery
Quick and Easy Italian Cookery

Saturday Workshops include:
Cook with Your Kids
Digital Desktop Photography (Still Life)
Glass Bracelets, Rings and Brooches
Stained Glass Colourful Suncatchers
Vegetarian Indian Delights (Cookery)
Dressmaking Workshop
Quick and Easy Indian Cookery
Reactive Glass Jewellery
Spring Flowers in Acrylics
Springtime Flower Arranging
Yoga Workshop

Would you like to suggest a course? We are always looking for new ideas, so if you would like us to provide a course which is not offered, or you have skills you would like to teach to adults, please let us know.

https://www.bottishamvc.org/commed/courses/
Tel: 01223 811372 **Email: adultlearning@bottishamvc.org**
Facebook: BottishamAdultCommunityLearning **or Twitter:** @CommunityEdBo

Rosanna's Ramblings



Before I sat down to write my ramblings for the June 2020 magazine, I thought it might be a good idea to re-read what I wrote 2 months and 1 day ago.

Well, some things were spot-on – the timing of David King's walks; the endless delivery vans; and particularly the wonderful flowering of good neighbourliness and mutual support within the village (actually, while I expressed a confident hope, I absolutely could not have predicted quite how brilliantly and movingly, that support would have been organised and put into excellent effect – with a level of 'can do' cheerfulness that has been humbling and a level of communicative friendliness that has been a joy – THANK YOU to everyone involved!).

What I didn't predict correctly, though, was:

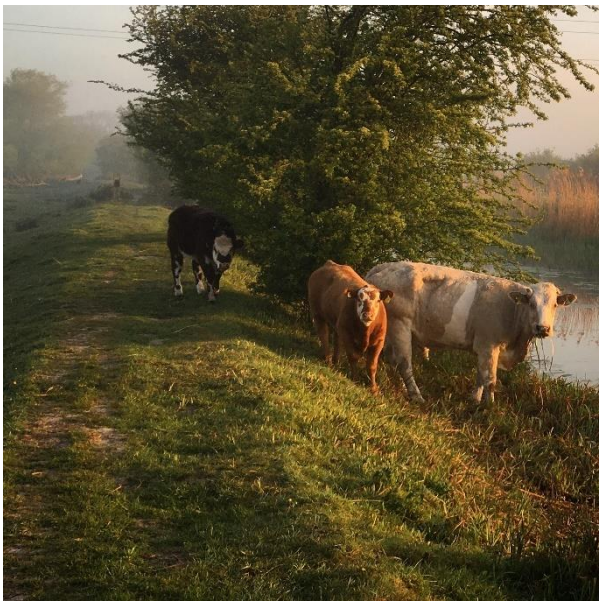
1) my hoped-for being able to continue in normal work (WRONG);

2) the impossibility of my being able to conduct my professional life remotely, from home (WRONG) - necessity being the mother of invention, I've managed to keep at least some of my acupuncture and Zero Balancing clients well-supported in new and creative ways and indeed - humbled again - some of my long-term people whose work and income has continued, albeit differently, have said quite wonderfully that they want to ensure that I will still be in business once we're through to the other side of this crisis and so they are helping me to continue helping them. Mutually assured benefits, at this time of worrying and unsettling uncertainty.

3) the expectation that 'self-isolation' would mean being shut indoors for weeks on end, when in fact lockdown Reach-style has been a quite extraordinary blessing.



It's not just the amazing (or too warm, if you're me) weather, the seemingly endless days of wall-to-wall sunshine. It's the fact that we are, of course, not locked down inside but, in the (hopefully continuing) absence of illness, the Reach lockdown means having miles of empty droves and fen and wood to walk, in a mostly flat landscape that means it's easy to take evasive action should someone else be on the horizon. And because I am rather an insomniac and am often awake far too early, I've been heading out on my own at 6 or 6.30am from time to time. And what a gift that has been. The 'silence' filled cacophonously by extravagant bird song; the stunning clarity of light, the like of which Charles hasn't seen here since he first came to the village in the early 1960s; the joy of watching dawn mist rise off the fields and Reach Lode, the curling 'steam' brilliantly illuminated by beams of sunrise sunlight coming through the trees on the Hythe; the quiet private morning lives of cows and calves, once caught in the most exceptional rich light so that I felt I had stumbled upon a scene from one of those Old Master painters who specialized in bucolic scenes of farm animals.



The deer, and hares and the other day a Common Tern flying up and down the lode with its unmistakable flicky dancing wingbeats; and this morning I witnessed the swan family (the nine cygnets whom we watched yesterday evening take their first trip from nest to water) waking up on the tip of the Hythe, the father preening ostentatiously standing up, the mother more discretely while still nestled down and the babies imitating as best they could from their jumbled huddle right next to her. I could go on. And on. And on. These daily walks (and unashamedly and at no risk to ourselves or others, we go out for two – one early one on our own, for contemplation and a later one together for reviewing the day) have been my mental and emotional life-saver, helping me make sense of this impossible to grasp situation, at least a little bit. Helping my missing my family and friends feel less raw. Helping me have time to map out various possible scenarios for my/our post-Covid world. Not that we can really do that, as at this point, we simply don't know the size or shape of what it is that is happening and will continue to unfold.

And all the time, over these weeks and weeks, I am reminded of another time in my life – seven years ago or so – when the rhythm of daily walking, even though I had no dog to make that a given, saved my bacon. I was in a crisis in my life and things were deteriorating. I felt stuck and bad about myself and was doing so much knitting that I never really moved my body much. I woke up one morning and resolved to walk every day for a year and post something about it every day on Facebook with a photo (as a way of being accountable to others for my stated commitment). I started out unfit and unhappy and as the days, weeks and months progressed I got fitter and more positive about myself and learned to take photos with my phone. And my friends liked what I wrote, and my photos apparently got better and better. By the end of the year, I was in far better shape to cope with the final unfolding of the crisis and I was so transformed within myself that in hindsight I was much better equipped to embrace the quite excellent changes that life had in store for me.



Fast forward to life in Reach and while Hector was alive daily walking obviously continued. But as the second anniversary of Hector's death approaches, to be honest we often didn't have the heart to walk that much because every tree, every turn of the path, every pond and every gate just made us remember him painfully and that pain wasn't getting any easier. But since lockdown, somehow that has been transformed into a very clear sensation that he has been delightedly running along beside us, thrilled that we're both at home ALL THE TIME and he never has to nudge our elbows to say it's time for a walk.

And the other thing that has happened is that I, habituated by my coming from refugee stock to feeling ungrounded wherever I am and always yearning to put my roots down somewhere … I who have felt rather reticent about fully 'landing' in Reach as it isn't really mine to belong to, not really my life or my village and one day I'll be living in my house in Ely won't I? … I have found myself utterly held in this wonderful place and community, and land. And finally I know that - even though the day may come when I really will be living in Ely, perhaps on my own in future years – this lockdown time in Reach will have fused itself into my memory, my heart and my soul. And there will forever be a part of me that will feel that Reach and its surroundings are 'home'.

Rosanna Moseley Gore

Snakehall Farm

Prospects Trust
AT SNAKEHALL FARM

Did someone mention Covid-19?

Did you miss our April edition of Prospects Post? We are sorry if you did but we were very busy trying to respond quickly to the organisational challenges of Covid-19, safely sending home all of our Co-workers and doing a little bit of well controlled and very quiet arrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrgggggghhhhhhs!

It has only been one month, but it feels like forever. One of our Trustees recently shared a new Covid based dictionary and it introduced the new phrase "Coronacoaster". Wherever you are on this roller coaster of a situation please keep your arms inside of the Coronoacoaster at all times and stay safe!

How we have responded to Covid-19:

We made a lot of hard decisions quickly in order to safeguard our people and our charity. We sent our Co-workers home and we closed our farm gates to the very people we were set up to support over 30 years ago. We also closed our shop and cafe ahead of the imposed lock down which was a massive blow to our very new enterprise; Prospects Trust Unwrapped. We believe it was the only right and moral response to the Government Guidance for people with Learning Disabilities being placed on the "at risk group" and we transformed our service provision overnight. Our main over-arching aim is to "Survive to Thrive" until our Co-workers can return to their placements at The Prospects Trust. We need your support to weather this storm. We are actively fundraising and if any of our Farm Friends can share their support here is the link to our Local Giving Appeal Page.

Making contact with Co-workers safely:

We are in regular contact with over 60 of our Co-workers and we have already delivered our first "Prospects Parcels" to each and every Co-worker currently staying safe at home. We salute the family and carers of our Co-workers for keeping them busy, safe and supported in these challenging times. Its great to talk with you, hear what our Co-workers are doing and we love the photos so please keep sending them in.

Keeping our staff safe:

We have placed some of our staff team onto the Job Retention Scheme in order to financially stay solvent as a charity while we weather the storm of what next. The remainder of our staff members have been divided into teams and put a rota in place ensuring that we can keep farming & retailing at a safe distance. We are thankful for

the 18 acres in terms of space, perhaps less so in terms of weeds! All this change has resulted in a very quiet farm which is missing the laughter and smiles of our people. We can't wait to have you back.

Unwrapping the new Unwrapped:

Overnight our lovely little zero waste shop converted to an online basic supplies service. During lockdown we are so pleased that we have been able to keep our loyal and our new customers stocked in larder essentials, fresh produce and LOO ROLL, flour and yeast. We have made temporary changes to our stock and we are offering a contactless customer supply option. It's not what we set out to be but we are delighted with the customer feedback. Orders can be placed online here, our friendly team prepare your order and give you a call to arrange payment and delivery. We are using our Snakehall Farm vehicles to get customer orders out in a five mile radius of Unwrapped quicker than the time it takes to book a click and collect slot.



Liz Pitt



Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club



"Since my last article, the world has changed.

A lot.

The world is locked down.

For those with a passion for photography it can be particularly hard.

Photographer or not, we are all starting to get a little "cabin fever". This has become a photographer's bad dream. Landscape, street, nature, any photography has become very limited and often near impossible.

This does not mean that your photography has to be on hold…..

I am sure those family members we are locked down with and or fur babies, are by now, tired of modelling for the camera. My cat will no longer come near me and Bingo the bunny rabbit is now permanently grumpy with me……

This situation does not mean we cannot stay creative while confined to our homes.

To help, I've come up with a few tips for you to scratch that photographic itch while we are all locked down….

1 – **Join a photographic society.**

I know. We are all locked in at the moment and cannot get out, so, bear with me on this. With the current situation I'm sorry to say that the Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club have brought their season to an early end and will not be holding any more meetings until September, but that does not mean that the club and its members have put their cameras down. And nor should you. The club, like many others, has an online presence which continues to operate. The club has a website at **bottburpc.org** which is full of hints and tips for you and you can find details on how to join, even while in isolation. Plus, the club also has an open Facebook page for anyone with a photographic passion to join. Just look up **Bottisham And Burwell Photographic Club** next time you are visiting Facebook. Being part of a photographic group, online or in person, will help you make connections with other photographers, access great content for you to learn from and possibly provide some purpose to your photography during these times….

2 – **Learn from online Blogs and "Youtubers"**

While you are online looking up the Bottisham And Burwell Photographic Club website and Facebook page, why not look up what other material is out there. The internet is full of great free photographic material. There are some great photographers out there giving out their advice which will help you to fine tune your skills.

In fact, I have written a list of some I recommend, and you can find it on the club web site. Go have a look…..

3 **– How about a challenge? Give Macro Photography a go….**

As the lockdown does not allow us to see the bigger picture, how about looking at the small ones? There is so much to learn from the little details and there is so much beauty in all objects. Macro photography is all about shooting objects up close. We all have access to flowers, textured walls, pets and many other cool looking objects to use as subjects. Just think a little differently….

I've some ideas to help you get "up close and personal" with your subject matter….

- **Make sure your subject is perfect** - When you're working at such close focusing distances any imperfections become more noticeable and they can end up distracting the viewer or spoiling what could be an excellent shot.
- **Switch to manual focus** - When working close to a subject, autofocus tends to end up searching backwards and forwards for something to focus on.
- **Avoid the shakes** - Camera shake is more noticeable when working close to your subject so always use a tripod.
- **Get in close, then add some space** - By isolating part of a flower, insect or leaf you can create strong, abstract shots. So, find detail that interests you and really zoom in close, filling the frame with striking shapes and interesting patterns.
- **Light your shot well** – Where possible, use natural light, do not use your camera's built in flash.

4 **– Re-edit old images**

Your photography is constantly evolving. I've become a better photo editor with time and right now love going back through old image files for retouching and editing. Results are almost always better than they were in the past, well, almost always, not to mention I get to try out new techniques and creative edits I've learnt in the time since the original image was taken. Try it in Black and White, make the colours warmer or colder, try some HDR, but not too much – GO NUTS!!!

5 **- Improve your smart phone photography!!**

I've said it before and so has everybody else. The best camera is one you have on you at the time. It's very true. Today, even the most affordable phone can take amazing pictures. So, while out on your daily exercise try and get more acquainted with your phone's photographic capabilities and its available editing apps, so you are ready for when that perfect image finds you. You don't have to go with just your smart phone, if you have a camera – take that with you too. There is never going to be a better time to capture that empty street scene. Just mind the little bit of traffic that's still out there!

No one likes the feeling of being trapped inside for days or weeks at a time, just ask my family about living with me. Setting up some sort of routine and creating a new normal is a good way to keep yourself productive, and importantly, your mind healthy.

I recommend setting up a daily to do or goal list, in our house we have a "Jar "O" wishes" for things to do after the lock down and if you don't have one already, make a home editing area for your photography. Having a dedicated space where you "go to work" with your images helps keep you on task, and possibly gives you something different to look at.

As always, thanks for reading, and remember to stay home, stay safe and get creative.

Elliot Needham
Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

Neighbourhood Watch

Suffolk people are being asked to continue their great efforts, which are successfully reducing the spread of COVID-19. However, we are not out of the woods yet. The number is continuing to rise, although more slowly, which is why it is crucial that people keep following the instructions.

These are:

- ✓ Keep staying at home
- ✓ Keep working from home where you can
- ✓ Keep 2 metres apart if you go out
- ✓ Keep exercising safely
- ✓ Keep washing your hands with soap and water
- ✓ Keep self-isolating if you or anyone in your household has symptoms
- ✓ Keep travelling by car, bike or walking
- ✓ Keep staying safe at work
- ✓ Keep shielding yourself if you are vulnerable
- ✓ Keep supporting local businesses
- ✓ Keep looking out for each other

Kevin Evans
Secretary, East Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch
01353 614892 or kevin.g.evans@ntlworld.com

Out and About Spring and Summer 2020



During our circuitous daily walk to the donkeys we pass many people who remark on their village wildlife sightings. These are welcome additions to this account although I fear a few may have been forgotten along the way. Apologies for any such oversights, please remind me again.

I find these daily perambulations and contact with nature invaluable, they slow me down in this strange world that seems already stalled. Spirits lift, senses heighten, there's a renewed awareness of surroundings and of course, time passes. Within Reach we have the good fortune to be locationally close to countryside, nature and water to benefit emotional states. It is well documented that wetlands not only encourage wildlife and provide vital habitat but also nurture people.

As temperatures rose in April, hedgehogs stirred from their winter hibernation. Released from this torpor they awoke both hungry and thirsty, support can be provided with shallow bowls of water and crushed dog/cat biscuits (not fish based). On our nocturnal strolls we observe bats in Great Lane fluttering out from their roosts to feed.

Butterflies have re-emerged and bask in warm April sunshine, insects are busy, birdsong fills the air, hawthorn bushes froth with May blossom, creamy cow parsley and wildflowers grow tall on uncut verges. Out on the fen the paleness of umbels (flat white flower heads) contrast markedly with the rich, dark peat soil.

I found the sight of 3 tired swallows on the telegraph wires above our field on 13 April quite moving. The welcome return of these amazing little travellers has been quickly followed by tireless bouts of feeding and nest building. They furiously scold us from the rafters as we move in and out of the stables, their exit flights skim our heads.

On May Day we took the track across Tubney Fen, skylark song accompanied every step. Water levels were high, the ditches buzzed with insects which, in turn, boosts wildlife populations. Lapwing uttered their pee-wit calls, these fast-declining, notoriously jumpy birds require areas of short vegetation in which to nest. Their spectacular territorial flight displays are said to herald Spring. In the field to the right 7 elegant roe deer got up, 1 buck (male) was clearly visible, the does (females) showed distinct seasonal colour changes to their coats. We failed to get a decent photo of them silhouetted against the pylons, which would have been a modern take on a fen view. The travel writer, Sophy Roberts, thinks pylons have a linear beauty and views them 'as giant daddy long legs walking across the land'.

In the distance we caught the sound of a woodpecker drumming on dead wood (can be up to 40 strikes per second), this sound carries half a mile and is performed to both attract a mate and establish territory. Closer to hand a tractor toiled with gulls trailing behind. Four hares grazed the opposite field.

We have a cleverly concealed bumblebee nest at the stables. Bees fly in, land on the earthen floor and crawl a surprising distance to the hidden area. I read there are 24 species of bumblebee in the UK and that this insect, even with a full stomach, is only 40 minutes from starvation.

I'm not a big fan of magpies and their seasonal nest robbing habits. In the privately owned small wooded area bordering our field/Reach Wood known locally as The Pit there are increasing numbers of these predators. They build their domed-shaped nest in tall prickly trees and bushes, such height affords an excellent observation point, the especially thorny twig construction offers further protection. Magpies usually pair for life.

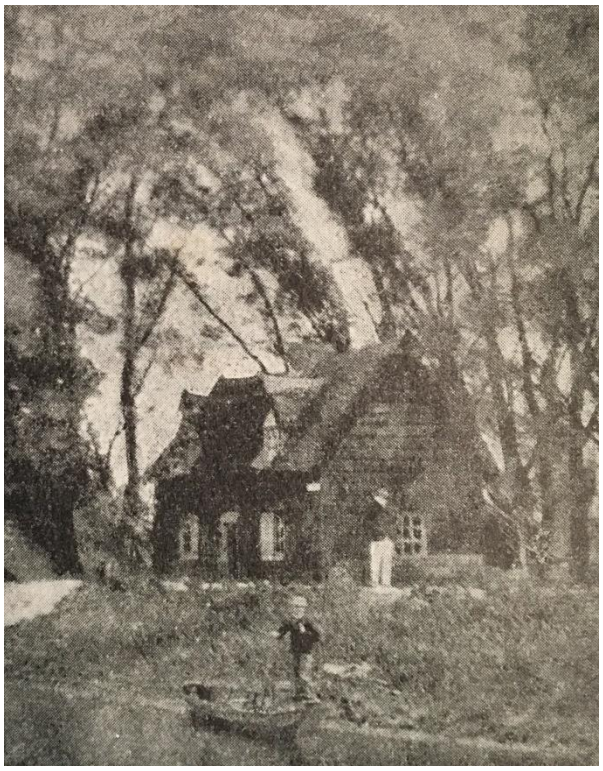
Jenny Prew has horses in a field near Reach Wood. 7 weeks ago she found a lifeless kestrel there, placed it in a feed container and took it home to Burwell. In the transference to a cat box it moved and crawled to the back but continually keeled over. She offered food and water then, for additional safety, placed the cat basket into a rabbit hutch. She visited the Burwell vets but, unable to assist, they called the Raptor Foundation at St Ives who travelled over and collected the bird. They removed a massive tick but as the kestrel declined further they then drove 70 miles to specialists in Leicester for an x-ray which revealed a metal fragment inside. The Raptor Foundation took it back to their aviary to recover, this took 3 weeks during which time the metal passed through its system. They then further transported it to Reach for release in Jenny's field. It flew straight into Reach Wood. Not only is this a positive, heartwarming story but the efforts the Raptor Foundation put into the recovery of this bird deserve high praise and recognition.

When Dafila mentioned an area outside Reach called New Zealand I failed to place the location although, with such an interesting name it should have rung bells.



The hunt for New Zealand begins

I asked several villagers, most recognised the name but not the whereabouts although John Cole was definitely the closest. As Ron said, in days gone by these fields and areas had unique names which were memorable rather than the anonymous numbers given today. Armed with maps old and new, directions from a Wicken Fen reserve warden and Eric Ennion's book Adventurer's Fen we set off on the evening of 16th of May to find it. We crossed the National Trust cycle bridge to the east side of Reach Lode and walked half a mile in the direction of Upware. A cuckoo almost brushed past us and set up calling further ahead towards Pout Hall (demolished).



Pout Hall - now demolished

We found the area of New Zealand although nothing remains of the ancient row of cottages, sheds and barn that were tucked in against Reach Lode.

In Tim Dee's book Four Fields he states New Zealand was 'so named because they were so far from anywhere' although, contrarily, Eric Ennion believed the name derived from the early Dutch drainage engineers (Zeeland) brought over by the Duke of Bedford.

Sightings by Reach Villagers:

March - Sue & Ron Dunnett noted reed buntings and, for the first time, yellowhammers in their garden.

28 March - Tubney Fen. Martin and I saw a sparrowhawk, skylarks, mute swans, greylag and Canada geese, little grebe, goldfinches, yellowhammer, 4 roe deer, 2 hares.



Roe deer near Springhall Farm

April - Jacquie Lewis observed 2 red legged partridge cross her patio.

April - Alan Alderson mentioned buzzards were again nesting in their trees, they raised 2 young there last year.

4 April - Grace, who has a pony in Great Lane, spotted a red kite above her field which flew over the hedge into Lesley & Gareth's grassland.

9 April - Hilary saw the first swallows return to her stables just outside Reach along Little Fen Drove.

9 April - In our garden 3 types of tit on the bird feeder: blue, coal, great. A pair of collared doves attempted to build a nest on the impossible site of our external bathroom extractor fan pipe thereby effectively jamming the working mechanism with twigs!



Coal tit on bird feeder

10 April - Philip Lewis emailed: 'Yesterday at about 4pm I saw an adder swim across the Lode and come ashore just below the bench I was sitting on, looking up the Lode. Beautiful - and what a strong swimmer!'

15 April - Rosanna emailed 'wanted to say that we've just spent a happy ten minutes watching the after-sunset colours across the bridge by our house, with loads of pipistrelle bats flitting about, silhouetted against those colours. Magical!'

17 April - Ron mentioned the presence of orange tip butterflies in Reach Wood, that this butterfly overwinters as a chrysalis and emerges in spring. The males have orange tips on white bodies, the females black tips on white bodies.

21 April - Watched several rabbits grazing our field, looking healthy once again, a solitary yellowhammer, wren and pied wagtails by the muckheap.

22 April - Shaun Mayes photographed a red kite (a large bird of prey) flying above Hilary's garden at Ditchfield.



25 April - Dafila texted to say she saw a hummingbird hawkmoth in the pub front garden, visiting flowers on the shrub next to the entrance door.

26 April - Penny emailed that when walking to the Wood to check on the sheep 'we are noticing a peacock butterfly in exactly the same place every afternoon and also several orange tip butterflies. I did hear a blackcap singing the other day, I recorded it on my phone and checked when I got home. Very pleased with myself!! Many years ago now I heard (and saw) a nightingale at the top of the tallest tree at the bottom the meadow in Reach Wood'.

26 April - Dafila texted 'Tim first heard cuckoo on the fen on Sun 19 April and then saw one the following day along the east bank of the lode beyond Hurdle Hall. We saw swallows first on 18 April and house martin on 19. We heard our first reed warblers on 24 April and have been hearing Cetti's warbler intermittently down the drove and on east side of the lode this side of Hurdle Hall for 3 weeks. First definite white throat yesterday. We've also been hearing chiffchaff & blackcap for 2 - 3 weeks'.

27 April - Dafila text 'we saw our first swifts today over the village!'

29 April - Rosanna emailed 'just been watching a beautiful display of flying and twisting and dipping of a tern over Reach Lode'.



Tern over Reach Fen

29 April - John & Jenny Reed mentioned a pair of kestrels had nested in their owl box. Some time later a commotion was heard and the kestrels appeared to be attacking a would-be nest robber on the ground, which may have been a squirrel. After that the nest seemed, sadly, to have been abandoned.

11 May - Rosanna emailed 'today we saw a pair of shovellers on the mere near the hide on Tubney Fen and a pair of greylags with 9 goslings and many swifts (our first sighting this year, maybe others have already seen them)'.

12 May - Martin and I had a close view of the rare and protected blue-grey male hen harrier in low hunting flight, long narrow black-tipped wings held in a V shape as it crossed the fen road in front of us.

17 May - David Thomas found a Star of Bethlehem on the lode bank and said 'I thought it must be a garden escapee but it was miles from anywhere and when I looked it up in my field guide it said it was native to East Anglia'. David was delighted to hear the unmistakable grating call of the rare corncrake (Red List bird of high conservation concern) at Wicken Fen on 9 April.





Corncrake

18 May - We saw small day-flying vividly coloured (cerise pink & black) cinnabar moths in Reach Wood.



Nick Acklam:

7 March: I almost stand on a hare laid up at the far end on Tubney Fen. For a fraction of a second I am staring into an amber eye before it takes off from under my foot. Magical!

13 March: A sandy brown Barn Owl hunts in the scrubby field adjacent to Reach cycle bridge.

15 March: A cream Barn Owl hunts over the field between Swaffham Road and the Dyke. This and the earlier sighting were in broad daylight but, I would have thought, too early to be driven by the demands of nestlings.

28 March: My interest continues to be drawn to the shallow pond on Tubney Fen, created by National Trust with water drawn from Reach Lode. The pond has undoubtedly drawn in birdlife, geese, gulls and corvids especially and has expanded and contracted in an interesting way over the last couple of months. At its largest, it measured 150 metres by 50 metres in extent although it was never more than 20 cm deep. It has now contracted to about a fifth of that extent even though the water continues to flow. Steve Boreham believes that this is very probably due to the water finding a way through the surface peat to underlying gravel. By 2 April, a day or so after the water abstraction ends, the pond has disappeared completely.

30 March: A late flock of fieldfares by the railway bridge, the afternoon sun captures their chestnut plumage.

4 April: A woodpecker drums for some time from the Great Lane area. This is first time I have heard woodpecker drumming in 2020, two months later than last year.

7 and 9 April: A sandy coloured Barn Owl is active among the trees on Headlake Drove

13 April: A Marsh Harrier flies without lingering over Tubney Fen.

16 April: My first swallow sighting of the year - the bird flying low over the frosted grass of Tubney Fen. I know other villagers spotted swallows a few days earlier.

24 April: First cuckoo heard on Burwell Fen. Again, I know other villagers heard cuckoos a week or so earlier.

28 April: I uncover a toad of middling size whilst shifting manure at the Barston Drove allotments. It is dark grey in colour and blends well into the muck.

1 May: A male Marsh Harrier hunting at length but unsuccessfully over a narrow sector of the arable field on the Reach side of Tubney Fen.

3 May: First swifts sighted.

5 May: A broken eggshell beside the nest, a first sign that the Hythe Mute Swans' clutch is hatching. Two Wheatears on the cycle path by Burwell Fen.



Mute Swans and cygnets - Shaun Mayes

8 May: A cuckoo spotted in flight on Straight Drove.

9 May: A Whitethroat perches on the fence wire at Burwell fen.

Joss Goodchild
jossbmg@icloud.com



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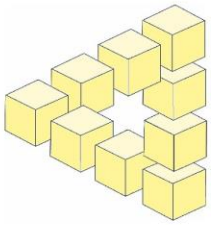

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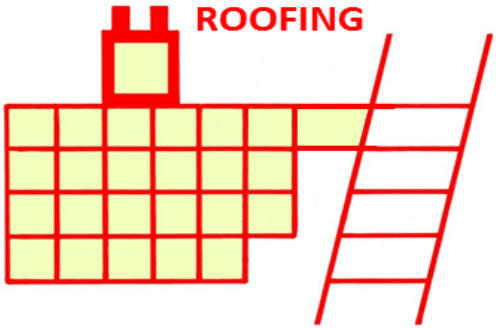

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The car park, gardens and toilets at Anglesey Abbey will re-open on Wednesday 3 June and you will need to book tickets before you visit.

Members can book for free, while non-members will need to pay when booking. We'll be releasing tickets every Friday.

Please note we will be turning people away who arrive and haven't booked.

We looking forward to welcoming you back.

You can book online at:

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We'll also be continuing our community partnerships and access schemes that enable families and individuals who may not usually be able to visit us to do so for free, through partnering with new and existing support organisations.

Chloe McMath
Senior Visitor Experience Officer

Burwell Museum Coach Trips



Due to Coronavirus these trips cannot be guaranteed please phone Barbara on the numbers below to get confirmation or otherwise.

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Tues 14th July	Wroxham Boat Trip	£30
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Wicken Fen



Our firstborn foal Louis by Ajay Tegala

The National Trust is looking forward to welcoming people back to its places and is working on plans to gradually reopen (see notice above). The safety of our staff, volunteers, visitors and local communities is our priority. We'll be updating our website with more information on how and when we'll be opening, so please check it regularly.

The Sedge Fen, Visitor Centre and Docky Hut Café remain closed

Our car park has reopened for you to enjoy the wider reserve

You will need to book in advance to secure a parking space

Check our What's On for the latest information

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In the meantime, we're trying to help people connect with nature, wherever they are. If you don't already do so, we'd highly recommend following the national and local National Trust social media feeds; they're full of rich content including family activities to do at home, podcasts, inspiring images of beautiful places and much more. Wicken Fen's feeds can be found here: Facebook https://www.facebook.com/WickenFenNT Twitter https://twitter.com/WickenFenNT and for Instagram search for wickenfennt.

A small team of rangers are still carrying out essential work on the reserve: maintaining and repairing fences and looking after our livestock. It's a busy time for our herds as foals and calves are born and all the animals enjoy grazing on the new growth of spring fen foliage. Unlike domestic animals, it's vital that the livestock living on the reserve feed on the plants that grow on the Fen; they don't need any other food, so we try to discourage visitors from feeding them carrots, apples or any other food.

Our rangers check all the livestock daily, so we'll be able to share more news about our foals and calves over the coming months. Our firstborn foal Louis's path into the world was straightforward, but the second foal born, Jelly Roll, was born in a ditch and ranger Carol had to put her waders on and rescue him. He then proceeded to roll back into the ditch twice – Carol spent a lot of time in the ditch that day!

Rangers are also keeping an eye out for returning migrants. So far, this includes: sedge, willow and reed warblers, swallows, swifts, cuckoos and hobbies. You'll probably be noticing nature from your windows at home, whether it's seeing blossom on the trees or hearing birdsong. If you'd like to know more about the birds you can see from home: how to recognise them visually or by listening to their song, you'll find lots of useful and interesting information here: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lists/our-guide-to-birdsong-and-bird-spotting

Julia Hammond



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During the school holidays, and in particular in hot weather, increasing numbers of children are drowning. On average, there are 50 of these tragedies each year in the UK.

If you do decide to swim in a lake or river, make sure you keep yourself as safe as possible . . . .

- Don't jump or dive in as the water can contain unseen hazards and be far deeper than it looks
- Never swim near weirs or locks as there are often dangerous currents
- Always make sure someone on land knows you are swimming

If you see someone in trouble in water

- Do not hesitate - call 999 immediately with clear details of your location
- Send someone to the nearest road to flag down the emergency services when they arrive and direct them to the incident.
- Find the nearest life ring and throw it to the person. If a life ring is not available, throw in anything that could help them float, for example, a football.
- If someone goes under the water, mark on the water's edge the place they were last seen with something like a piece of clothing.

Burwell Museum



Sadly, we are closed to both the public and volunteers for the foreseeable future. Most of the volunteers who keep us going are in the more "vulnerable" groups, as are a large proportion of our visitors, so we won't be reopening until it's very clear that it's safe to do so. Events in April and May have already been cancelled and it's likely that June will follow unless things change dramatically in the next couple of weeks.

Thanks to a grant from ECDC and a legacy last year from Mr Michael Mitcham, we're very lucky to be in a good position financially. We're very grateful to both the council and to Mr. Mitcham and his family for that, as it means we can continue to pay our staff during lockdown and spend the time making sure that our paperwork is all up to date (we'll spare you all the details, but it will be good to have it done!). Many small museums are struggling, though, so if you want to support local museums and industrial heritage then our friends at Prickwillow Museum, Ramsey Rural Museum and the Cambridge museum of Technology are among many appealing for help at the moment.

We're still waiting for planning permission for the path to the windmill, so we'll need to wait until the council has finished dealing with the crisis, and once our volunteers are able to safely come back to work we will continue with site maintenance and refreshing displays. If you are going past the windmill you may notice that it's looking a bit bedraggled- we've removed most of the shutters to make sure it's safe while we're not working on it. Our next project will be to paint each shutter and put them back again, so although this isn't the kind of year we'd planned for the 200th anniversary year of the windmill we will get it looking smart again as soon as we can!

We wish all of our volunteers, visitors and supporters well and hope to welcome you back very soon!

Website: www.burwellmuseum.org.uk
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Email: museum@burwellmuseum.org.uk
Burwell Museum, Mill Close, Burwell CB25 0HL

Tales from a Reach Garden



The weather we have had recently has been lovely, ideal for our one-a-day walks around the village. It's hard to believe that when the Coronavirus lockdown happened in March the empty supermarket shelves left me concerned that we may not have had enough food in addition to those other essentials (like toilet paper and flour), especially since my son had joined us to work from home.

Well, flour is still in short supply, and the nation's "museum millers" have been putting all those lovely old windmills and watermills to some much-needed use. However, our freezer had a lot of fruit and vegetables from the summer of 2019, (including frozen leftovers and batches of tomato sauce - courtesy of last year's tomato harvest), which has been especially useful. Even the courgettes, which tend to be watery so don't freeze as well as other vegetables, have been turned into some very tasty courgette fritters, or toppings for pizzas.

It's hardly surprising that growing vegetables has become a national pastime. Richard and I are fortunate that we have a lot of space for growing fruit and vegetables. We have always enjoyed gardening for as long as we've been married - even if that garden was fairly small - but we always found space for growing fruit and vegetables. If we wanted trees for shade, we'd plant a "family" apple tree, plum and pear. The "family" fruit trees have more than one variety grafted onto a central trunk. The flowers appear at the same time so they can pollinate each other.

The family apple tree we grew consisted of branches of "James Grieve", "Fiesta" and "Spartan" apples which ripened at different times. We'd pick large yellow fruits of "James Grieve" in August and the deep red "Spartan" apples at the end of October. "James Grieve" is not a variety you'll find in shops because they bruise easily and those large yellow apples don't keep for very long. They have a lovely fresh tang when picked ripe but become soft after a couple of days. I used to stew them and put them in the freezer for baking in pies later in the year, or turned them into apple cakes, which also froze well.

We also had gluts of plums and gages from our family plum tree, which consisted of "Kirke's Blue" plum and "Oullins" gage. One year we had so many plums, I had frozen so many of them or turned them into jam and still had a surplus, so Richard made a plum wine with the rest. The wine was very tannic to taste, although it had a unique plummy "bouquet" and I only ever used it for cooking, adding it to a stock for some "interest" in a stew. When we first moved to our house in Reach, we found a case of 12 wine bottles among all the boxes we were emptying. It was the plum wine, vintage 2005. I thought it had all been used. Dear reader, I confess my heart sank (sorry Richard!) but it was eventually all used up in cooking.

When growing vegetables in a small garden, space and yield is very important. The highest yielding vegetables for small spaces are courgettes and climbing/runner beans. You can grow new potatoes like "Jazzy" or "Charlotte" in large bags of compost or soil and they will produce, but they do take up a lot of space if you're hoping to grow enough for more than just a couple of salads.



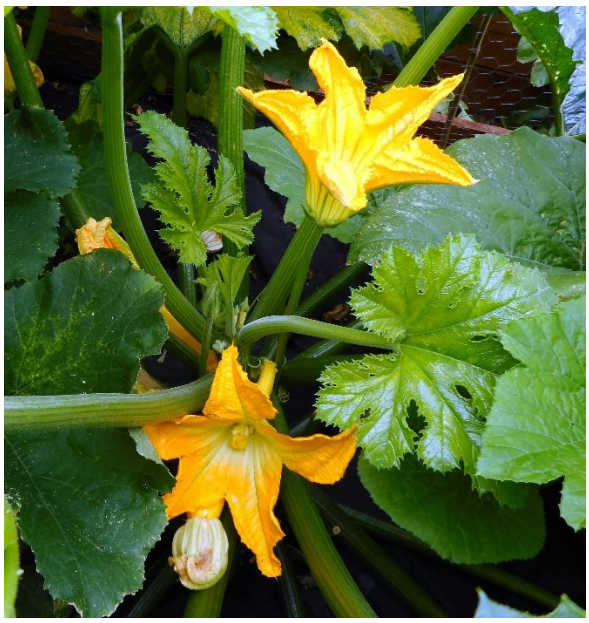
Potatoes like "Cara" are high yielding

This is also true for most root vegetables. If you want to grow enough beetroot for a few pickles and a couple of chocolate beetroot cakes, then sowing a few seed in compost in a sack on the patio will be sufficient.

Tomatoes do well in grow bags and pots on the patio, but they are susceptible to blight if the weather turns wet in late Summer, so they need to be grown under glass, or you keep your fingers crossed for a dry Summer. We grow aubergines in pots on the patio and they keep us fed through the Summer but they don't freeze well unless cooked.

Courgettes and climbing beans are largely problem free. I used to grow courgette plants in the flower border. The leaves are interesting and the large yellow flowers also looked good at the front of a border. There are yellow fruited varieties like "Lemona" which have ornamental value and which I've grown (and sown again this year).

It is important to leave enough space for the courgette plants to spread because they can grow up to a metre across (and high) though they do tolerate some pruning if they're too big. It's amazing how many courgettes you can grow from three plants in an enclosed suburban garden.



"Lemona" courgette flowers, leaves and fruits

Runner beans are also a favourite in many gardens because they are high yielding in a relatively small space. I have grown traditional British runner beans like "Polestar", "Scarlet Emperor", "Red Rum" and "Enorma" in the past and they do grow reasonably well but they cope better with the milder, wetter summers of yesteryear (or Manchester). These traditional varieties need a lot more feeding and a lot more watering to cope as well as "French" climbing beans like "Cobra" or "Blauhilde" especially during the hot dry weather of the last couple of Summers, and the yields were also disappointing compared to the other varieties we grew.



Purple bean pods of Blauhilde

In the hottest weather the pods kept running to seed, so they were very fibrous when cooked, whereas the pods from the other climbing beans remained reasonably edible. This year I shall be growing a white flowered variety called "Stardust" which is recommended by the RHS as one of the best of the traditional varieties. I shall also be growing "Cobra" and "Blauhilde" again. I grew Blauhilde for the first time last year and I was not disappointed. It just kept producing succulent, purple pods all through the summer and we finally put it to bed in October – not because it had stopped producing flowers, but because the other beans had. I would definitely recommend this variety for growing in a small garden.

Danuta Gibson





Food Focus

Lockdown food ideas



I'm enclosing two recipes from a cook called Diana Henry. Not being a Telegraph reader, I didn't discover her cooking until relatively recently when my aunt kindly bought me her book "Simple". What I like about her tasty recipes is that she minimises faff.

She is at the other end of the complicated spectrum to Otttolenghi (even though somewhat ironically he also has a recipe book called "Simple"). Ingredients lists are short and one pot dishes are plentiful. The crab dish below is one of the most successful dishes I've ever made as far as diner feedback is concerned and is for those among you who are busy experimenting and using extra lockdown time to cook, the chicken recipe is for those rushed off their feet and needing easy ways to eat well with leftovers for meals later in the week.

Toast with Crab & Coriander-Chilli Mayo (Serves 2)

Ingredients

35g/just under 2tbsp mayonnaise
½ tbsp double cream
Finely grated zest of ½ lime, plus a couple of squeezes of lime juice
1 small red chilli
2 tbsp finely chopped coriander leaves
2 slices of sourdough bread
Salt and petter
100g white crab meat, picked over
Unsalted butter
2 small handfuls of watercress, coarse stalks removed

Method

Mix the mayonnaise with the cream and add the lime zest and a squeeze of juice. Halve the chilli, remove the seeds and cut into fine shreds. Stir this and the coriander into the mayonnaise and mix well.

Toast the sourdough, season the crab meat and add another squeeze of lime juice. Butter the toasts, put the crab on top, then add a good dollop of the mayo. (You can stir the mayonnaise into the crab and eat it that way too, but Diana Henry prefers to come across some plain unadorned crab every now and again here). Serve with watercress.

***PS** Snakehall has an increasing range of seasonal, local produce and is now stocking a few tinned items too. The mange tout, broad beans and new potatoes have been particularly delicious this year.*

Greek Chicken with Orzo (Serves 6)



Ingredients

1.8kg whole free range chicken
75g feta
2 medium tomatoes roughly chopped
75g coarse country bread torn into small pieces
5 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
2 garlic cloves grated to a puree
2 tsp dried oregano
½ tsp cayenne pepper
225g orzo pasta (pasta that looks like rice and can be used as an alternative to Arborio rice in risotto)
500ml boiling chicken stock
1 tbsp fresh chopped parsley or oregano

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 190°C, gas mark 5. Put the chicken into an ovenproof dish (I use a cast iron one) or a roasting tin about 30cm across. Mix the feta, tomatoes, bread, 4 tbsp oil, garlic and 1 tsp dried oregano together in a bowl.

2. Stuff this mixture into the neck cavity of the chicken, then seal and secure with a cocktail stick if needed. Drizzle the chicken with the remaining olive oil, sprinkle with the rest of the dried oregano, the cayenne and seasoning.

3. Roast in the oven for 50 minutes. Remove from the oven. Sprinkle the orzo around the chicken and pour the stock over the orzo. Put this back in the oven to cook for 20 minutes. Check during this time to make sure the orzo isn't drying – there should be enough stock, but top it up with a little boiling water if needed.

4. Once the 20 minutes are up the chicken should be cooked – check that the juices run clear, with no trace of pink meat – and the orzo should be tender. The stock should also have been absorbed. Stir the fresh herbs into the orzo. Serve the chicken straight from the pan. A green salad or roasted red peppers are all you need on the side.

Cook's tip
You can increase the amount of cayenne if you like your food a little hotter

Catherine Gibson

The Dyke's End

The Dyke's End
FREE HOUSE AND KITCHEN

As you know, we are closed – so the below is just a reminder of what will be when we finally open again – sometime soon hopefully!

In the meantime, we are offering our Takeaway Menu (see facing page) which is proving to be very popular.

OPENING HOURS (Takeaway Collection Only)

Monday:	Closed
Tuesday:	Closed
Wednesday:	6pm-8.30pm
Thursday:	6pm-8.30pm
Friday:	5pm-8.30pm
Saturday:	5pm-8.30pm
Sunday:	12pm-3pm

Phone Orders: There will someone available to take phone orders one hour prior to opening times shown above.



THE DYKE'S END

TAKE-AWAY MENU
WED & THU 6PM-8.30PM
FRI & SAT 5PM-8.30PM

FISH

6oz Battered Fish, Skin on Fries, Garden Peas (GFS)	£9.00
Scampi, Skin on Fries & Garden Peas	£8.00
Fishcake, Skin on Fries & Garden Peas *(Cod & Asparagus)*	£8.00
Mixed Fish Pie, Seasonal Vegetables	£9.00

MEAT

6oz Homemade Beef Burger, Burger Sauce, Salad & Skin on Fries	£8.00
- Add Cheese (Stilton/Cheddar) & Bacon	£1.00
Homemade Pie of the Day, Skin on Fries & Gravy	£9.00
Jerk Chicken Breast Burger, Jerk Sauce, Salad, Skin on Fries	£9.00

VEGETARIAN

Vegetable Burger, Vegan Cheese or Cheddar, Relish & Skin on Fries (VG or V)	£8.00

KIDS CHOICE

Chicken Goujons, Skin on Fries & Garden Peas	£6.00
Beef Lasagne & Skin on Fries	£6.00
Scampi, Skin on Fries & Garden Peas	£6.00
Cheeseburger & Skin on Fries	£6.00

HOW TO ORDER

Email anytime for pre-orders
Someone available for phone orders from 3pm

book@dykesendreach.co.uk
Tel: 01638 743 816

Collection Only

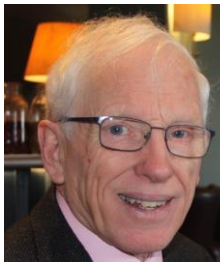
Payment by Contactless/Apple Pay/Bacs/Cash

Allergies or Intolerances
Please speak to a member of staff before ordering

Matt and Mel

743816

IT Advice



Hello again, I hope you have escaped the virus. I have noticed an increase of 'phishing' emails during Lockdown and with many people spending more time online I want to help you keep your computer from being infected with a virus.

A 'phishing email tries to get you to reveal details of one of your accounts, be it a credit or debit card or a shop or online account. The easy ones to spot are those purporting to be from a service that you do not have an account with, in my case Lloyds, Santander or Netflix among others, straight to Junk. Your System may start to recognise these and put some in the Junk (or Spam) folder automatically. Other emails try to install a 'Trojan' (Trojan Horse) which dumps all sorts of undesirable stuff onto your computer, phone or tablet.

So you have received an email that you are not sure about. Look first for poor English in the email e.g. misspelling or clumsy phrasing typical of someone who is not a native English speaker, British companies do not normally use American spellings like 'color' for 'colour' or a 'z' instead of an 's'. I have had several copies of the same email coming in at the same time which is also suspicious.

Now we come to the more doubtful ones e.g. purporting to be from TV Licensing or one's own bank. DO NOT use the 'click here' button. If you think the problem might be genuine, log in to the account directly from your browser (Chrome, Safari, Edge) or an App and check your details. If you get an email saying you have a new Amazon order which you know nothing about, check on Amazon's website, do not reply to the email or click a button in it. DO NOT open attachments with the suffix .PDF or .JPG unless you know they are genuine. A malicious version can hide a virus from anti-virus programs in the file. It is normally easy to confirm that a file is genuine with the sender.

If you are still not sure who the sender is check the email address, sometimes this is displayed when you open the email, but programs like Office Outlook and Apple Mail hide the sender's email address. In Apple Mail open the email, click on View>Message>All Headers, in Office Outlook double click the email so it opens in a separate pane then File>Properties and at the bottom of the new box is another box called Internet Headers. There will be a lot of unintelligible information, but you will find the sender's email address in there somewhere. One that was troubling me recently roughly translates from Malay as 'Unemployment Evil' which perhaps explains the sender's motive!

Finally, if you are unfortunate enough to infect your computer shut it down immediately, disconnect all the Internet and USB storage and open up in 'Safe Mode' then do a full scan with your anti-virus program and with the free version of Malwarebytes. If you do not know what this means phone me.

And some excellent advice from the Police regarding Cyber Crime . . . .

Police have shared advice to help keep the public safe online after the national Action Fraud and Cyber Crime reporting centre received more than 65,000 calls throughout January, February and March 2020.

With more people taking to the web on an array of electronic devices to do their shopping, to work and keep in touch with loved ones during the current Covid-19 pandemic, sadly the chance of falling victim to online fraudsters is increasing.

Nigel Sutton, Cyber Protect Officer at Cambridgeshire Constabulary, has years of experience in helping people avoid online scams and knows all too well how adaptive and clever criminals can be in order to catch people out.

He said: "Cyber criminals are looking to steal your private information and ultimately, money. In the physical world, people are familiar with the concept of protecting their property from burglars and physical thieves, such as by locking doors and windows, maybe installing a camera, a security light or an alarm, but they may not be as aware of how to protect themselves from virtual thieves.

"While online you need to ensure your devices are also locked and secure from criminals, and here's how:

Create a separate password for your email account

Make sure your password is as secure as possible. Forget your favourite pet's name, I recommend using three random words with a mixture of upper and lower case letters, and some numbers and characters for example: @AppletOadBicycle81

If your email account is hacked all your other passwords can be reset, so use a strong password that is different to all your others.

Save your passwords in your browser

It's good practice to use different passwords for all accounts but remembering them can be difficult. If you save them in your browser, you don't need to remember them so store passwords in your browser when prompted; it's quick, convenient and safer than re-using the same password.

Turn on two-factor (2FA) authentication

2FA is a free security feature that adds an extra layer of protection online and prevents cyber criminals getting into your accounts, even if they have your password. 2FA reduces the risk of being hacked by asking you to provide a second factor of information such as a code sent to a mobile phone.

Update your devices

Cyber criminals exploit weaknesses in software and apps to access your sensitive personal data, but providers are continually working to keep you secure. Keep your operating system, browser, software and apps updated.

Be alert to phishing

Do not click on links or open attachments in any text, email or instant message unless you are satisfied the sender is genuine. This common form of cyber attack is called phishing and by clicking on a link you may be allowing malware to be installed on your device, this could activate the camera and mic, or it could encrypt all our data and demand a payment. Or, it could just trick you into believing you were logging into an online account such as Netflix but actually it was a fake webpage created by criminals to steal your login credentials.

Turn on backup

If any of your devices are hacked, your sensitive personal data could be lost, damaged or stolen. You can choose what data is automatically backed and to where, such as the cloud or a USB memory stick.

For additional cyber security advice including; anti-virus and firewalls, visit www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home

To contact Nigel with any questions or for any additional advice, you can email him direct at: CyberProtectCambs@cambs.pnn.police.uk

In your real life and your virtual life 'Be Aware' and stay safe.

David McMillan
741259



Letter from the Vicarage



We live in strange times! "Looks like the church broke the internet!" was the joke on Twitter on Sunday 17th May, when users were experiencing problems with Zoom, which seemed to coincide with the time when many churches were live streaming their services. We've all had to adapt very quickly to using new means of communicating with each other, in the absence of face to face meetings - even churches!

One of the challenges is to try to make sure that even those who don't have access to the internet are not left out. We are sending out prayer resources and printed services by post and there are more services being broadcast on radio and TV. The Church of England has set up Daily Hope – a free phoneline of hymns, reflections and prayers. Please do pass on the number to anyone you know who might find it helpful.

Much has been written about the effects this prolonged lockdown has had on us – the psychological trauma of the prolonged uncertainty and anxiety. For many there has been the very real anguish of illness, loss and bereavement and for others, financial stress and even physical danger. This pandemic has impacted all of us, but those in poverty have been disproportionately affected, as Emily Maitlis so eloquently pointed out on Newsnight on 8th April. I am conscious that my experience is very different to that of someone in a small flat in a tower block in a big city and perhaps as the inequalities have been more starkly exposed, we may find better ways of addressing them.

For the first time in my life, it feels as if the road map has been completely re-written and we're walking forwards into an unknown future. There are days when I feel overwhelmed and other days when I am able to just 'be' in the moment and appreciate what I do have. I'm probably praying more than ever, as I reach out to God and am enabled to keep going, moment by moment, day by day. And there is a powerful sense of sharing together in this new normal, as we reach out to each other in our shared need and vulnerability. Someone has said this is a time when people really mean it when they say: 'How are you?'

Some have asked me about when churches may be opening again. The answer to that is quite simple – we don't know. The government have suggested that some places of worship may be able to open in July, but the practicalities are yet to be worked out, as social distancing and hygiene measures would still be in place. As soon as we know more, we will update you.

In the meantime, we are still taking funerals, at the graveside or at the crematorium and supporting families in their loss, but as yet weddings and baptisms are only permitted in emergency situations.

We are continuing to worship, to care, to serve. We are active on Facebook, posting regular updates and prayers and are exploring ways of engaging with worship online, including gatherings on Zoom. We continue to pray for our world, our country, our community, our friends and families.

Each week, we send our pew sheet by email, which gives updates about what we're doing. If you'd like to be added to that mailing, you can sign up via our website www.stmarysburwell.org.uk. If you'd like to join in on our Zoom gatherings, please email me or Pat Chalmers at administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk. The Church of England website has links to many different online resources: https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online.

Please get in touch if you would like to talk, to pray, or need practical help. If you find yourself in need of the support of the Foodbank, I do have emergency vouchers, or you can contact Ely Foodbank on 01353 468626.

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



Church Building Update



In the last issue of Within Reach I reported that we expected the work on the arch to start in April, when the risk of frost was past. Like so many other things, of course, this was halted by the lockdown, which was very frustrating!

With the easing of restrictions last week, I can now report that the contractors are due on site at the end of the month, so by the time you read this, work should be underway. The plan, based on detailed surveys of the arch, is to repair and conserve it as far as possible in its current condition and to slow down the rate of deterioration.

We expect the work to last a few months. It won't be possible for people to walk round the back of the church while the work is in progress but, hopefully, we will be able to open the church itself when the Covid-19 restrictions on opening places of worship are lifted.

The work on preparing the detailed specifications for the development of the church building has also been temporarily delayed by the lockdown, but we hope it will resume soon.

If you would like any further information about the building works, please contact Pat Chalmers on administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk or Revd Paula Spalding on curate@stmarysburwell.org.uk.

Pat Chalmers



Know Your District Councillors



Due to the restrictions to control Coronavirus, the District Council cancelled all its meetings up to the end of May. Following the change in the law, allowing on-line meetings, we pressed the Council to resume its meetings. After several Parish Councils had held successful meetings using Zoom and Skype, the District Council finally held two Planning Committee meetings. The Annual Council Meeting will have been held by Zoom and will be available on YouTube at www.eastcambs.gov.uk/meetings/council-21052020.

The Council staff are mostly working from home. People should still phone the switchboard number - 01353 665555, or the Direct Dial number if they have it and they will be put through to the member of staff. Waste bin collections have continued as normal and fly tipping will be collected if reported, although staff will not check through to see if there is anything to identify who left the rubbish.

Only 74% of the businesses thought to be eligible for grants to support them through this pandemic have applied. If you know of anyone who might be eligible, please encourage them to apply via the District Council. **They should email their name, business name, business address and phone number to** covid19businessgrants@eastcambs.gov.uk **or telephone the Council on 01353 665555.**

Unfortunately, our call-in requesting a 6 month delay to the decision to cease funding the CAB in Ely was rejected. As a result of losing the funding from East Cambs the CAB in Ely has now closed. East Cambs DC have expanded their services to cover the housing advice which CARC used to deliver.

We are holding our surgeries and 'Meet your Councillors' by Zoom. The next one is Tuesday 23 June – please contact john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk for the link if you want to join.

Because we can't get out and about, Charlotte has set up a Facebook Page where she posts latest information. The address is - fb.me/charlottecanelibdem

We are always happy to be contacted by phone or email:
john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk 01223 812120
charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk 07976 607512
Contact us about anything – we may not always have the answer or be able to help you ourselves, but we will do our best to find someone who does know and can help.

Charlotte Cane & John Trapp

Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Alex de Giorgio-Miller	Chair	07771 348013
Charlotte Cane	Vice Chair	741064
Nick Acklam	Councillor	743749
Cristine Fletcher	Councillor	07763 529866
David McMillan	Councillor	741259
Andrew Trump	Councillor	07980 955490
Vacancy	Councillor	

Charlotte Cane	District Councillor
John Trapp	District Councillor
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor

Your Clerk is Susan Bailey
29 Great Lane Reach CB25 0JF; 01638 743794
clerk@reachparishcouncil.org

Meetings take place in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month. They start at 7.45pm and all Reach villagers are welcome to attend.

Reach Grant Fund

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

Application forms should be downloaded from:
www.reach-village.co.uk/grant_fund.html
and should be completed and sent to the Clerk, Susan Bailey whose contact details are above.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

There was no Parish Council Meeting held in April

DRAFT Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held via Zoom on; Wednesday 6th May 2020

Attendance

Alex de Giorgio-Miller	Chair	Present
Charlotte Cane	Vice Chair	Present
Andrew Trump	Councillor	Present
David McMillan	Councillor	Present
Cris Fletcher	Councillor	Present
Nick Acklam	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Present
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present

Apologies for absence – none were received.

Forum for members of the public.
A member of the public attended the meeting to object to the planning application. The condition is justified and not a blanket condition, it does not stop any development but requires a planning application. Removal of this condition could allow other buildings and extensions to be built. It is a concern that much larger applications were previously submitted on the site.

Another resident wanted to speak about planning procedure. It was felt that the PC must be clear & concise, and only discuss what is relevant. The PC must be seen as impartial.

1. Declaration of Interests
Councillor Fletcher declared an interest in the planning application and left the meeting during the discussion.

2. Planning Applications – 20/00494/VAR - To remove condition 14 of previously approved 16/01008/FUL for the demolition of derelict stable block and construction of a dwelling house. The Old Paddock 48B Great Lane, Reach.
Following discussion, the PC decided to object to the above application.
Application 16/01008/FUL was marginally approved with condition 14 attached & the Parish Council can see no change in circumstance to warrant its removal.
Condition 14 is a reasonable condition; it does not stop development on the site it merely requires a planning application to be submitted to allow ECDC to assess build plans individually and maintain control.
This is a very sensitive site on the outer edge of the village and can be viewed from the Fen, the byways, & the Wicken Vision lands. A recent village survey, conducted for the developing Neighbourhood Plan, revealed that 77% of respondents felt that fen edge & landscape views were very important. A landscape appraisal of Reach undertaken by Alison Farmer Associates in early 2020 confirms the sensitivity of Barston Drove to development and advises that particular care is needed 'to retain the rural character of the lane …. and to avoid extending the gateway of the village beyond Hilltop Farm'

3. County Councillor Report
No report received.

4. District Councillor Report

Councillor Cane reported to the meeting that most ECDC staff are working from home. The Annual council meeting was due to take place virtually at the end of May, All precepts had been paid in full, and that the first wave of Government grants had been received quickly. She stated that the refuse collection workers deserve gratitude for continuing to work under difficult circumstances.

5. Minutes of previous Meeting

Approved as correct.

6.1 Reach Grant Fund

The Fair committee have requested that the £260 +VAT for hedge cutting for the Fair be paid by the Grant Fund. Approved.

It was proposed that a budget meeting for the Grant Fund be held at a later date, to discuss the implications of no income from Reach Fair this year.

6.2 Finance

Nothing to report.

6.3 Parish Council Members

Councillor McMillan stated that people were ignoring lockdown rules within the village, runners & cyclists were not taking regard for walkers. There had been an increase in litter & dog poo. This is not only village related as there are a lot more people out & about around the village. The PC will keep under review.

Councillor Trump reported that one of the slats on the pedestrian bridge was coming loose. ***Clerk*** to report.

Councillor Acklam continues to investigate the viability of cycle routes. He continues to research The Hythe and Anglia Water. The PC approved a land register search. ***Clerk*** to investigate the archives and add The Hythe to the next Agenda.

The Friends of Reach Wood would like to be a subcommittee of the PC. ***Councillor Acklam*** to contact Steve Boreham and ask for him to draft a term of reference to go before the PC at the next meeting.

6.4 Play Spaces

The playground is presently closed.

6.5 Rights of Way

Nothing to report.

6.6 24Acres Committee

Nothing to report.

6.7 Neighbourhood Plan

<u>Finances</u>

We have completed an end of year financial report to Locality/Groundwork and will be returning the unspent element of the grant as required. We will shortly be submitting a request for funding for FY20/21 which hopefully should take us through to completion of the Plan.

<u>Residents' Survey</u>

We received an excellent response from villagers, both in terms of return rate and quality of responses. A headline summary of the returns was published in issue 60 of 'Within Reach" which is available on the village website. The NP Group will shortly think about how best to provide feedback to the village given current and ongoing restrictions on social gatherings. Similarly, we need to work out how to secure the views of under-16 residents.

Consultants

We have received and are processing a draft landscape appraisal from Alison Farmer Associates and a draft design code from AECOM. The Group is impressed and broadly content with both and hopes to approve both in the near future.

The Group aims to meet shortly (by VC) with Ian Poole to plan out the year ahead insofar as coronavirus restrictions will allow.

Anglian Water

There is a desire within the village for Anglian Water (AW) to remove much of its redundant plant from the Hythe. A more detailed examination of the residents' survey returns strengthens this view and, I think, gives us enough to ask AW to review again it's 'do nothing' stance. As a village we need to work out how and when it is best to do this.

Summary

The coronavirus lockdown has delayed delivery of the Plan. The ongoing impact of social restrictions make it impossible to calculate the length of that delay. However, despite the constraints we are building a solid body of evidence in support of the Plan. There is good evidence that we are supported by the village in our work so far. Our key current challenges are inter-related - maintaining our own momentum and the dialogue with and interest of villagers.

7. Reach Fair

Reach Fair 2020 was cancelled due to restrictions in place for control of COVID-19.

All bookings have been cancelled with no costs incurred.

All the fees paid by stallholders have been returned.

Two tea urns (£113.98) and one BBQ (£599.99) had already been purchased prior to the decision to cancel the fair – these have been paid for by the Grant fund and will be required next year.

£71.86 was paid for website hosting for the Reach Fair website, this has also been covered by the Grant Fund.

The bushes on the green were removed to provide better access to the toilets on fair day at a cost of £260 + VAT. This was due to be paid by the Reach Fair account, but we are now asking for the Grant Fund to pay for this.

Councillor Fletcher has agreed to take over role as PC representative on the Reach Fair committee. Approved.

Plans for Reach Fair 2021, including financial structure, will be discussed after the summer.

The PC would like to thank Claire Halpin & Alex de Giorgio-Miller for all their hard work organising The Fair.

8. PC planning procedures

The PC recognised that the current protocol was light on detail and might usefully be revised so that the PC could demonstrate that it always followed an agreed process in impartial and rigorous manner. It was agreed that a framework would be drawn up that would detail the issues that the PC needed to consider in arriving at a view on any planning application that affected the village and then record it's decision in a consistent fashion. This might include applications outside the parish boundary. The framework would draw on the DHCLG Material Planning Considerations guidance, which the PC had been using for some years, but would also draw on other guidance that was becoming available to it, including the Design Code, the Landscape Appraisal and in due course, on the assumption that the village voted for it, the Neighbourhood Plan. The framework would also ensure that there was consistency in whatever a PC representative said on those occasions where attendance at Planning Committee was deemed necessary.

The PC felt that it continued to have a role in the planning process, adding value to some applications by representing the collective view of the village and by offering a detailed perspective on applications that might otherwise be missed in the decision making process at District Council level.

Following the discussion ***Clerk & Councillor de Giorgio-Miller*** to produce a draft document for the next meeting. They will investigate SLCC & NALC for advice. ECDC may be willing to send an officer to talk at a future meeting to ensure that councillors were fully up to date with district and national processes.

9. Refurbishment of the circular seat on the Green

The replacing of the seat on the village green will wait until social distancing rules allow.

10. Bus Questionnaire and the environment impact

Following discussion, the PC will submit the following responses to this survey. ***Councillor de Giorgio-Miller to submit.***

Bus Services

Question 8

Are there any changes you would like to see made to an existing bus service you currently use? E.g. earlier, later or more frequent services, easier connections to other services?

In a survey of Reach residents conducted in February 2020 and completed by 53% of the adult population, four issues emerged as key to increasing usage of the existing bus services through the village.

These were

- a service that was more frequent especially in the evening and early morning and extended to Sun-days
- faster, more direct services to Cambridge and Newmarket especially to BR stations, Addenbrookes and the Science Park
- cheaper fares
- improved reliability

Cycling

Question 3

Where would you like to be able to cycle to/from but cannot because there is not a cycle path? Please give details of route/s below, including a start and end location.

In the above-mentioned survey 80% of respondents thought creation of safe access routes for cyclists to Burwell and Swaffham Prior were very important. A further 13% thought it quite important.

From Reach (Fair green) to Burwell (Weirs drove turn off) along Burwell Road. It is a small and winding country road which is not safe to cycle on as a family. From Fair Green, Reach to Lower End Swaffham Prior via the Prospects Trust at Snakehall Farm.

Question 9

If you would like to make any further comments/suggestions about cycling routes, please do in the space below.

We suggest that consideration is given to the creation of secure, weather-proof cycle parking at bus stops on routes near to Reach that offer faster and more frequent services to Cambridge. We believe that this would increase both bus and cycle use by Reach villagers. Similarly, we suggest that thought is given to provision for the carriage of cycles when new buses are purchased and potentially retrofitted to the existing fleet.

Walking

Question 3

Where would you like to be able to walk, or use a wheelchair or mobility scooter to get to/from, but cannot, because there is not a footpath? Please give details of route/s below, including a start and end location for each route.

In the above-mentioned survey 80% of respondents thought creation of safe access routes for pedestrians to Burwell and Swaffham Prior were very important. A further 13% thought it quite important.

From Reach (Fair Green) to Burwell (Weirs drove turn off) along Burwell Road. It is a small and winding country road which is not safe to walk along as a family.

11. Information Items

Reach Help Network, the village's support system for those isolating due to Coronavirus, was set up outside of the PC initially due to ease. Should it be required in the future, perhaps for insurance purposes, the PC is happy for this group to come under the PC. The issue of supporting those who are experiencing financial difficulties was raised and Councillor de Giorgio-Miller is going to investigate and will report back if PC support is required.

12. Payments

E.on – power on the green	£9.60
CR Contracting	£318.50
Groundworks - Repayment of unused NP grant	£2995.60
Archaeological Solutions – Shrub clearance Reach Fair	£312

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be Wednesday 3rd June 2020 at 7.45pm.

Diary Dates

June	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 3	Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting	7.45pm
Thursday 4	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 11	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 18	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 25	Recycling Day (Green)		

July	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 1	Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting	7.45pm
Thursday 2	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 9	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 16	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 23	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 30	Recycling Day (Blue)		

Church Services in Burwell and in Reach

As of 17th March 2020, all Church of England services have been suspended until further notice.

Should that restriction be lifted in the next few weeks, we will put updates on the Church noticeboard, on our website and on Facebook.

If you are a person who prays, this is a prayer you might use, written by Miranda Threlfall-Holmes, Vicar of St Bride's, Liverpool.

Bus Timetable

Reach is served by the Stagecoach number 11 bus service - summary of all buses serving Reach is shown below.

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

Cambridge to Bury - Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Cambridge Drummer Street	**Reach**	**Burwell Ness Road**	**Newmarket Bus Station**	**Bury Bus Station**
06:50	07:35	07:45	08:17*	08:49
07:50	08:35	08:45	09:17*	09:49
09.50	10:35	10:45	11:17*	11:49
11:50	12:35	12:45	13:17*	13:49
13:50	14:35	14:45	15:17*	15:49
15:50	16:42	16:45	17:24	17:55
18:15	19:00	19:10		
19:15	20:00	20:10		

Cambridge to Bury - Saturdays (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Cambridge Drummer Street	**Reach**	**Burwell Ness Road**	**Newmarket Bus Station**	**Bury Bus Station**
06:50	07:35	07:45	08:17*	
07:50	08:35	08:45	09:17*	09:49
09.50	10:35	10:45	11:17*	11:49
11:50	12:35	12:45	13:17*	13:49
13:50	14:35	14:45	15:17*	15:49
15:50	16:35	16:52	17:17	17:55
18:15	19:00	19:10		
19:15	20:00	20:10		

Bury to Cambridge - Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Bury Bus Station	**Newmarket Bus Station**	**Burwell Ness Road**	**Reach**	**Cambridge Drummer Street**
		06:14	06:29	07:22
		06:39	06:54	07:50
	08:40	09:08	09:23	10:13
10:05	10:35*	11:08	11:23	12:13
12:05	12:35*	13:08	13:23	14:13
14:05	14:35*	15:08	15:23	16:13
15:05	15:35*	16:08	16:23	17:13
16:05	16:35*	17:08	17:23	18:13
17:05	17:35*	18:08	18:23	19:13

Bury to Cambridge - Saturdays (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Bury Bus Station	**Newmarket Bus Station**	**Burwell Ness Road**	**Reach**	**Cambridge Drummer Street**
		06:19	06:34	07:22
		06:49	07:04	08:00
	08:40	09:08	09:23	10:13
10:05	10:40*	11:08	11:23	12:13
12:05	12:40*	13:08	13:23	14:13
14:05	14:40*	15:08	15:23	16:13
15:05	15:40*	16:08	16:23	17:13
16:05	16:40*	17:08	17:23	18:13
17:05	17:40*	18:08	18:23	19:13

* These are departure times - buses will arrive approximately 5 minutes earlier

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

Then and Now *(see opposite page for pictures)*

A great many changes are apparent on this side of the village when comparing these two photos, the first from about 1960 and the other courtesy of Tony's drone taken in May. In the foreground we see the roofline of the 'Ship inn' and one of the chimney pots of the school and in the distance 'Hurdle Hall' clearly visible on the right side of the lode.

The world was flat back then as well!

No pylons either!

Chris Patterson

Contact Information

Parish Council – see "Know Your Parish Council"			
Village Centre			
	Chair	Grahame Radford	01638 742814
	Finance	Andrew Trump	01638 743335
	Bookings	Grahame Radford	01638 742814
Marquee Bookings		Andrew Hall	01638 743737
Church			
	Vicar	Eleanor Williams	01638 741262
	Curate (duty days Wed, Fri and Sun)	Reverend Paula Spalding	07545 868549
	Priest in Retirement	Reverend David King	01638 742924
	Parochial Church Council Member	Pam King	01638 742924
	Churchwarden	Dr Stephen Martin	01638 611235
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Sarah Wingate	01638 742498
Emergencies			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency/Non-Emergency)		999/101
	Water (Anglian Water)		08457 145145
Doctors, Burwell			
	Appointments and Emergencies		01638 741234
	Enquiries		01638 743602
	Community Nurses		01638 742382
	Surgery Hours	Mon 8.30am to 6.00pm with extended hours on a Monday please phone the surgery for details	

Then and Now pictures – see facing page













