Within Reach



October/November 2021





A spotted orchid noticed by Dereck and Yvonne Coombes in Reach Wood





Contents

Title	Author	Page
Articles		
Fen Donkey Event in Reach	Joss Goodchild	15
Lucy Frazer MP	Lucy Frazer	-
Anglesey Abbey	Kayley Wilcockson	23
Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club	Elliot Needham	-
Bottisham Village College Adult Learning		14
Burwell Museum and Windmill	Alison Giles	11
Bus Timetable		31
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue		-
Church		
Church Refurbishment Update	Pat Chalmers	19
Church Services and Events		21
Letter from the Vicarage	Eleanor Williams	19
Contact Information		32
Cricket Appeal!	Ross Clark	20
Crossword	Courtesy of the Guardian	-
Diary Dates		30
Dyke's End		12
Events Team	Debbie Quilter	6
Food Focus	Catherine Gibson	18
Getting to Know You	Joss Goodchild	7
Neighbourhood Plan	Nick Acklam	3
Neighbourhood Watch	Ken Evans	11
Out and About	Joss Goodchild	9
Parish Council		
Agenda for next Parish Council meeting	Susan Bailey	26
Know your District Councillors		22
Know Your Parish Council		22
Meeting Minutes		25
Reach Fair 2022	Claire Halpin-McDonald	8
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore	4
Snakehall Farm		16
Sport and Recreation		
Cricket Report	Ross Clark	24
Reach Riders	Sue Cameron	20
Tales from a Reach Garden	Danuta Gibson	17
Then and Now	Chris Patterson	32
Village Hall Committee	Sue Elliot	5
Village Update	Alex de Giorgio-Miller	3
Wicken Fen	Julia Hammond	13

From the Editor



Autumn seems now to be upon us, after an unexciting summer. Covid-19 remains a discussion point but maybe other items are vying for top spot on occasions – currently it is the lack of, or not lack of, fuel. Those manufacturers of electric cars must be loving it a lot more than we are!

The cover picture is of a gentleman called Andy Sewter who arrived to paint our phone box around 9.00am one Sunday morning. He is responsible for painting all UK phone boxes (on behalf of BT) and thoroughly loves his job. And for those of you who are wondering about his painting skills, that covering of red paint on his overalls has been built up over a 2 year period! I can highly commend the BT phone box people who actually picked the phone up when I called, then organised repairs in no time at all (replacement glass, replacement signage, a nice new like and the door now shuts properly) and then sorted the painting – all within a month!

The Events Team met in September for the first time in 18 months and it was lovely to start planning for our usual Christmas Events. If you have a look at page 6 you'll see them all listed – and it includes a visit from Santa again, he clearly loves our village!

One event organised by Pam King was the Macmillan Coffee morning – which went wonderfully well. Around £550 was raised on the day and I see this morning on our Donations page that we have achieved £1,000 with a donation from Jake Rote. Congratulations go to everyone involved in making it happen and all those that supported this excellent charity.

Progress has been made with the tennis court refurbishment in as much as cleaning has taken place. We now await a date for the court painting to take place and assume that this will be done some time in October.

And the other bit of exciting news is that the Cricket Club have got grant funding to build a pavilion on the 24Acres, which as well as being used by the cricketers can be used for all sorts of village events. A little more funding is needed though so please have a look at Cricket Appeal! on page 20.

David Parr
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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 20th November 2021. This magazine (which is fully funded from advertising) is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

The Team

Editor	David Parr
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Church	Eleanor Williams
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Cricket	Ross Clark
Events Team	Debbie Quilter
Gardening	Danuta Gibson
Getting to Know You	Joss Goodchild
Neighbourhood Watch	Kevin Evans
Reach Riders Group	Sue Cameron
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore
Snakehall Farm	Liz Pitt
Then and Now	Chris Patterson
Village Matters	Alex de Giorgio-Miller
Wicken Fen	Julia Hammond
Wildlife	Joss Goodchild

Village Update



As I write we are still enjoying the late summer spell and making the most of the playground after school – how long it will last is anyone's guess! We have noticed that there has been an increase in litter at the playground – we know it is annoying that the bin is so far away nearer the entrance to the field (rules about how far from the road bins can be for the council to empty them!) but would encourage everyone to make the effort to keep our facilities clean and safe.

Whilst things are noticeably opening up more now, there are still coronavirus cases in the community and inevitably some of us will need to isolate at some point, either because we display symptoms or because track and trace tells us about positive cases we have come in contact with. Most people have their support networks well set up by now, but if you do find yourself self-isolating for whatever reason, please do know that the **Reach Help Network** is still available to anyone who needs us. If you do need some shopping, a prescription picking up or something from the post office, or just a chat, then do get in touch and we will be happy to help. Email a.degiorgiomiller@gmail.com or call 07771 348013. Please do pass on this information to anyone in Reach who you think it may help.

I have been asked to share information about a Cambridgeshire County Council initiative called **Happy at Home**. The aim is to change how care and support is accessed and delivered for people living at home in East Cambridgeshire. Happy at Home will support people to fulfil their wish to remain living at home for longer, enjoying a good quality of life and wellbeing. This service is planned to begin in March 2022 but they are asking residents to help them as they create this service and are starting with friendly, informative events where they will listen and build their plans. If you, or anyone you know would like to attend any of the events and join in the conversation then you would be very welcome. The second round of events are as follows:

Tues 5th Oct, 19:00-21:00 Mandeville Hall, Burwell
Wed 6th Oct, 19:00-21:00 Soham Pavilion, CB7 5ED
Fri 8th Oct, 19:00-21:00 Littleport Village Hall, CB6 1GZ
Tues 12th Oct, 19:00-21:00 The Maltings, Ely, CB7 4BB

The email address for further information is HappyatHome@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Keep well and enjoy the last of the sunshine!

Alex de Giorgio-Miller

Neighbourhood Plan



The consultation exercise was completed in late July. The Group received 57 responses offering over 300 substantive comments which is very good for exercises of this kind.

The great majority of responses were positive - approval for the key proposals in the draft Plan is always above 71 percent and in most cases, higher than that. Furthermore, many of the comments are supportive, offer constructive criticism or make a reasoned case for change. A number are complimentary and appreciative of the Group's work over the last two and half years. However, a petition raised by one respondent, seeking maintenance of the existing village development envelope, attracted 90 signatures.

The consolidated responses will shortly be posted on the NP webpage. Unfortunately, we cannot publish the petition because we understand that to do so would breach GDPR guidance.

The Group is now working through what is a large amount of material before deciding on next steps.

The consultation exercise generated a strand of personalised commentary, much of it directed at me. There are significant inaccuracies within this and it diminishes the work and roles of other members of the Group. Reluctantly I have concluded that to remain in the Project Group would distract from delivering the Plan and I have therefore resigned.

I continue to believe that an approved Neighbourhood Plan that accurately captures the sentiments of the village as a whole and is supported by a body of free-standing evidence would give Reach the strongest possible voice in future planning issues and on travel and environmental concerns on which many of you feel passionately. The Group is very close to creating such a Plan and it will be for villagers to decide whether to endorse it or not.

Nick Acklam
n.acklam@reachparishcouncil.org 743749

Rosanna's Ramblings



The year has turned – it's boiling hot as I write a few weeks before publication date, but the early mornings feel distinctly autumnal and the generous scattering of dried leaves on the lawn (albeit probably caused by lack of rain) creates an impression of the fall which is to come.

I'm writing rather early in the month because we are soon off for our annual pilgrimage to the Scottish islands – this time vaccinated but nervous because of the soaring virus rates up there, compared to last year unvaccinated but nervous because of such a trip having felt utterly impossible just a few weeks earlier. So just as others are returning from more adventurous holidays that have involved flying to scorching locations, we are looking forward to unpredictable west coast weather and are busy packing all possible clothing to deal with all possible conditions. I do love my enormous waterproof poncho!



So as always, as I feel the turning of the seasons, I'm aware of that strange conjunction of 'things familiar' rubbing up against 'things that are subtly different'. Take our ever-changing, though ever-present, moorhen family. Last year for the first time, the young teenagers were attempting to climb the apple trees with their hugely inappropriate footwear and I recall the Cox tree being absolutely laden with tempting fruit. This year, a new generation of sleekly adorable youngsters are attempting the same monumental challenge – but it seems rather pointless to us as those April frosts really did scupper the apple harvest and our trees are looking distinctly underwhelming. Lots of leaves, hardly any rosy-blushed plumpness to be seen. Other than the moorhens, that is, who are plumping up nicely – and are even starting to show signs of their red flash of feathers developing.

But although the moorhens' presence in the garden was already A Thing this time last year, it's quite different this time round. These youngsters have clearly had it passed on with their mother's milk, as it were, that we are harmless, so they graze right up to the house and are frequently slow off the starter's block as they sprint back down to the dock if we appear. It's almost as if they run because it's fun to have a bit of a frisson of fear powering your exercise, compared to last year's "run for your life" headlong hurtling towards the safety of the water and vegetation.



The vegetable garden has been playing its usual tricks on us. An inexplicably awful show of beetroot has left me almost weepy and whimpery as, dear reader, it was Charles's magnificent ability to grow magnificent beetroot that put the flourishing seal on my burgeoning love for him. I still love him, I really do, but the beetroot … (horrified face emoticon needed here!). A few pathetic bulbs are begrudgingly showing beneath a scanty clump of withered leaves, but as I write we are yet to harvest a single one. Unheard of! Almost too distressing to admit.

And yet … and yet … just nearby is this season's undisputed gold medal Olympian of the kitchen garden. It is a yellow courgette, bought as a baby from the Darwin nursery, which is now quite the biggest such plant I have ever seen. It's a good five feet across and has not the usual one, or perhaps two, fruiting branches but four! And thankfully being yellow, the many, many courgettes being produced are all visible and not covertly converting into giant yellow marrows that no-one could possibly want to tackle. I wish I could say, honestly, that the glut of courgettes makes up for the terrible blight losses of the tomato crop, but that would be taking positivity a bit too far. We still have too many tomatoes, but that's not the point as it's not actually possible to have too many tomatoes really. Though you can't store tomatoes in quite the same way as we could have stored our apple crop to ripen slowly in trays in the shed, had we only had an apple crop. But we do have kilos of sloes in the freezer, picked this year in good time compared to the ones we got last year after they got frosted, leading to the creation of an oversweet bland version of sloe gin which we will just have to drink anyway.



It's extraordinary how multi-layered is the experience of harvesting the sloes for me. In my first ever Rambling here, I wrote about turning around from heading into Cambridge to visit my old dad because the golden light and weather conditions were perfect for picking sloes for the first time with my Reach love – so every subsequent year the experience of doing it again is overlaid by that memory from 2016, the conversation Charles and I had about epistolary novels while Hector did his snuffling and digging in the ant hills and we picked and picked; and I think back to exactly where I, a Londoner finally living in the countryside, picked my first sloes near Badby Woods in Northamptonshire; and I think about how, when the frozen mummy of the Bronze Age "Ice Man" emerged from an alpine glacier exactly 30 years ago, one of the things they found in his vicinity, presumed to be from some food supplies, were sloe kernels. With our modern taste sensibilities, even a sloe that has steeped in gin and sugar for three months is unpleasant to taste – bitter, sour and with the dry sensation that comes from loads of tannins. But they *are* loaded with Vitamin C so must have been nutritionally important. So picking them and thinking of the Ice Man taking sloes with him as he crossed the mountains on his perilous last journey makes me respect our ancestors all the more.



Finally and regretfully, I wish I could say that one of the things that has changed completely as the season turns and the year presents itself for retrospective assessment is the woodpigeon population. But I can't. If anything, I think their numbers are even higher. Everywhere I look, there is an unseemly ménage à trois engaged in yet more mating shenanigans. As usual, almost the only bird song to be heard is their constant cooing. I still hate them with a vengeance and took the presence of a messy nest in our birch tree as a personal affront. I *do* wish they would go away. But I'm not holding my breath.

Rosanna Moseley Gore

Village Hall Committee

At the recent Village Hall AGM Grahame Radford, as outgoing Chair, reported that it had been a year of mixed fortunes with covid restrictions and no booking income but thanks to grants from ECDC, the VH continued to be viable with a healthy balance of funds. GR was proud of his long legacy to the VH and had organised the purchase of new chairs, crockery and cutlery together with a commercial dishwasher and installed Wi-Fi.

In addition, the boundary wall had been sympathetically repaired and made safe and the driveway had been re-surfaced. Grahame had also supervised the changes following the separation of running the Reach Fair and the Village Hall and brought the VH Constitution up to date. The Committee showed their appreciation to Grahame for his immense contribution over so many years to managing and applying for grants as well as promoting bookings and generating income. Jan Tabecki was also thanked for his long contribution to the VH and his work seeing through the updating of facilities and maintenance work and working for the Fair in the past. Both were given a deserved round of applause!

We are very pleased to welcome Tony and Rebecca Fordham to the committee and a new focus on keeping the VH running smoothly. Grahame Radford has been appointed to act as the Administrator with support from hall-master (a not for profit organisation for support of all VH across the country) and will be paid a small nominal salary for the hours worked, with help from Natasha Bridgeman with bookings. Andrew Trump as our excellent Treasurer will continue to manage the finances and has set up Microsoft 365 to ensure all the financial and admin data is recorded and available for access.

So…. The VH is safe and viable so long as we have bookings coming with enough income to cover the high costs of running a village hall, currently £9,500 for 2020/2021 including cleaning, maintenance and heating and all we need is your continued support. If you would like to join us or have ideas please contact me.

Sue Elliott Hon Sec 742268

Events Team

It's the middle of September as I write this, the kids are back at school, Tim is out at work, the house is quiet. While this should feel normal, it feels a little odd and I am a little lost as to what do with my moment of peace and quiet!

The Events Team also had a moment of normality last week as we met together for the first time since March 2020. We have tentatively planned the Christmas events in the hope that we can see some of the favourites return this year.

Advent windows



We are planning to continue with our village advent calendar, asking households to sign up to create an advent window which will be revealed on a given date in Advent. If you would like to participate in this event please contact Debbie via the Events Team email below or over Facebook on the village page. Please be aware that in agreeing to participate you are also agreeing to have your address identified on the website and map so people can look for your window.

Christmas lights switch on
5pm Sunday 5th December

Join the count down as we switch on the Christmas tree lights. Come and hear the brass band and enjoy some gingerbread, mince pies and mulled wine. Wrap up warm I have heard there may be snow this night!

Seniors Christmas Lunch
12.30pm Wednesday 15th December

We are bringing back this much-loved event. It may have to look a little different, according to the guidance at the time. We appreciate that people feel differently in social situations at the moment and we are keen to talk to the seniors of the village and will be in touch shortly.



Carols Around the tree
6pm Friday 24th December

Join us as we share in the festive spirit and sing carols round the tree.



We are delighted to announce that as long as you children remain good, **Santa will be visiting again** on Christmas Eve!

We're also planning to have a **Reach Village Christmas Card**, so please have a look through your festive pics and email the one's you are proud of to davidmparr@btinternet.com.

Watch this space regarding the yet to be confirmed **Christingle** service.

Debbie Quilter
reacheventsteam@btinternet.com

Getting to Know . . . .
Sue Elliott

Q. What is your full name and where were you born?

Sue Elliott nee Eykyn born at my grandmother's nursing home in Southampton in June 1949, my parents were living on a boat moored at Hamble. The family moved to Stebbing, Essex after my father took up a locum at a GP practice in Dunmow. After my father retired he joined the British India Steam Navigation Co as a ship's doctor and sailed all around the world with the Indian crew to many exotic places.

Q. Where did you work after leaving school?

I joined the WRNS in March 1967 as a Wren Driver. In those days there was no opportunity to go to sea but I did travel to many postings in the UK. In time I was promoted and did my officer training at the Royal Naval College Greenwich and caused much hilarity as I was hopeless at giving commands in marching and had to practice by myself around a quadrangle in full view of other RN Courses!



1970 newly promoted third officer WRNS

My career involved HR at RNAS Culdrose from August 1970 where I met David, a SAR helicopter pilot and went onto London Ministry of Defence to support the large group of Foreign Naval Attaches involving lots of embassy cocktail parties!

After David and I were married in 1973, I was posted to Portland to join David as OiC WRNS and Commanders Asst. Then we were off again to RNAS Culdrose which in 1974 was the largest helicopter station in Europe, covering search and rescue for the southwest with Sea King helicopters which David flew and I was the PRO and sending out press releases for the average 5 a day launches of the SAR.



1999 Dartmouth Boat Trip

Q. How did you come to live in Reach?

After I retired, I followed David around to air stations around the country and when David left the RN in 1985 we came to Burwell to take up an Emergency Planning job with the Cambridgeshire County Council. We came with our three children who attended Burwell Village College and Soham Village College. We had always loved Reach and bought very small Little Barn in 2003 as our family had all left home.

Q. Tell us about your family

David and I had two sons and a daughter, Robert, Timothy and Elizabeth and we lived a very busy life involved in their activities and David became a special constable. David had always loved motorbikes until he skidded on gravel and endured two brain operations but eventually had to sell his beloved BMW 750cc. Robert went to Agricultural College and worked on local farms until he joined Stennerts Haulage at Bury St Edmunds by which time he had married and had two children. Tim went to Hills Road, took up rowing and joined the RN and rowed for the Navy when he was able to, doing long stints at sea and flying as an observer in Lynx helicopters. He now lives in Cheltenham with his GP wife and three children. Lizzie went to CRC then onto Roehampton University for her degree in Early Years Teaching and is now teaching at a school near Woking and has two sons.

Q. What do you enjoy about living in Reach?

The peace and joy of walking the fields, the wildlife and the sense of community. Reach is a unique place with some talented and inspiring people who make such a contribution to the enjoyment of living here.

David and I stepped back from joining in activities here because we had been so involved in Burwell, I had been Chair of Burwell Sports Centre and Soham Village College PTA and I had opened up the Burwell Day Centre in November 1989 and then worked for the Alzheimers Society based at Fulbourn. David was commuting from Dorchester at weekends and he wanted to enjoy more Wicken bird ringing and his beloved boat at Upware, but we did help with the car parking for the Fair and David planted trees and mowed the grass with the village tractor. I joined Reach Village Hall Committee and was still involved in projects in Burwell. We also had regular and wonderful stints looking after precious grandchildren.



I always loved the seaside

Q. What is your philosophy in life

In May 2019 David died from cancer after having a kidney removed in 2014 and my son Robert died 8 weeks after, he endured an amputation of his leg with Sarcoma in 2017 - they both suffered a great deal. As a family this was so devastating and traumatic, but we managed to hold together fast and in my case, I was so lucky to have such good friends around who helped me endure this awful loss. Please hold your family and friends close and live your life with joy and love and grasp every opportunity as you don't know what may be heading down the line.

Please continue to preserve the peace of this lovely village and please offer to help plan and provide the enjoyable events which take place here. Without good people who make things happen they just won't!

Sue Elliott – interviewed by Joss Goodchild

Reach Fair 2022



The Parish Council have requested that Reach Fair proceeds for 2022 and so the organising committee has sprung into action. The date for the Fair will be Monday 2 May 2022 and the year coincides with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee marking her 70-year reign.

The critical external contributors have been contacted and despite the pandemic the majority of individuals, institutions, clubs, businesses etc. seem to have `come through the dreadful storm' and are looking forward to joining the Fair once again, for example, the Mayor, the Fair, the Devil's Dyke Morris Men, Jezo, and the dance troop Performance Without Limits have all confirmed their attendance.

The Reach Fair Committee is a Sub-Committee of the Parish Council and its current members are Alex de Giorgio-Miller, Cristine Fletcher and Claire Halpin-McDonald. Do contact a member if you would like to get involved, and our next meeting dates are Thursday 21 October and Thursday 18 November at 8pm in the Village Hall.

Thank you

Claire Halpin-McDonald

Out and About Late Summer/Autumn 2021



September indicates the start of autumn and a time of significant change for wildlife. As summer recedes and the nights draw in nature adapts to its changing surroundings.

Spiders' webs sparkle in autumn dew on our field gates and catches, their size can be a hint of cold weather ahead.
I am reminded that the tiny goldcrest (Britain's smallest bird) weaves basket-like nests from moss and strands of spiders' web.



In late August an orange-coloured stoat raced across the fen road ahead of me, bounded up a gate post and into a tree, its creamy white belly and black-tipped tail clearly visible. I rarely spot stoats or weasels on walks these days, the increasing number of rabbits grazing the fields beside Reach Wood need to be wary of these agile predators. Rabbits dig burrows and scrapes with their forepaws, ideal areas for pioneer plants, insects and nesting birds.

In our small garden apples have been falling from the tree for some time but, unfortunately, it has been another poor crop. Apparently the harsh rime frosts in April and May zapped the blossom buds. Blackbirds and insects help themselves to these small under-ripe windfalls although I note the scarcity of wasps.

We saw two large hedgehogs in Great Lane recently and noted they easily negotiated steep steps into gardens and squeezed between/under picket gates.

The air above our field is no longer full of the high pitched shrieks and burbles of swallows. A second brood of four chicks were raised and subsequently fledged from the stable ceramic nests. But cooling weather sent them on their long journey to Africa in early September.

Yellow flowering ragwort, still visible in the verges, fields and hedgerows around Reach, is often regarded as a problem for it is poisonous to horses. It does, however, provide bees, moths and butterflies with a valuable nectar and pollen food supply when there is little else in bloom. Orange and black Cinnabar moth caterpillars, seen in July and August, munch the leaves of ragwort to make themselves poisonous to birds.

Similarly, ivy is not a weed but an important autumn flowering plant for insects and butterflies such as the red admiral. Butterflies dislike cold weather, the brimstone, small tortoiseshell and peacocks are entering hibernation, their favoured places include dark, cool, dry places such as outhouses, sheds, garages and attics.

Dwindling insect populations are a major concern, their loss will have dire consequences for they: feed other creatures, control pests, recycle organic material, keep soil healthy, disperse seeds and pollinate. Three quarters of the crops we grow need pollinators. Put simply, pollination raises production and keeps food prices down.



Grow a pot of Marjoram to help bees and hoverflies

We often see coal tits on our feeders, (photo 2) these active little birds, hardly bigger than blue tits, are easily recognised by their black and white heads. They habitually arrive on the mesh, snatch a seed or nut and, rather than devouring it immediately, fly away to eat. The situation whereby house sparrows are disappearing from towns and cities is thankfully not the case in Reach, where there are no shortage of young and adult birds.



Coal Tit

Berries are forming good crops, most birds use them as a food source later on although wood pigeons are already feasting. They are not necessarily greedy but have big frames to fill. These large and common birds make devoted parents, often pairing for life.

Other autumn notes - as the grey feathers of cygnets change to white the adult swans chase their offspring, biting tails and necks hoping to drive them away to find their own territories.

Both male and female robins can be heard singing the same territorial song in autumn/winter but their notes are weaker. The song that males sing in the spring is made up of different sounds, delivered with more strength in order to attract a mate.



At night, tawny owls can be heard hooting in Great Lane as they also search for different territories. Young birds are reaching maturity and look for new homes whilst older birds are fighting to hold on to their patch. The fact these owls hoot in autumn and through the winter months indicates this species breed early in the year.

Hilary Fielding sent her wildlife sightings:

'28.7.21. Two roe deer fawns standing in the road opposite Tubney Fen.

29.7.21. Delighted to see a rather large grass snake sunbathing on the surface of my fish pond this morning. Turns out they will eat goldfish! Not so pleased to see it now.

3.8.21. Four buzzards soaring on the thermals and calling to each other over Reach Crossroads on the fen.

6.8.21. Sparrowhawk on the track leading down to Reach Wood from the "Ditchfield" Byway... flying up into the hedges on approach.

7.8.21. Badger activity resumes in my paddock after several months ...evidence of digging for dung beetles and other tasty morsels in the horse droppings.

8.8.21. A pair of tree sparrows and a couple of families of young goldfinches chirruping in the apple trees at the stable yard.

25.8.21. Pair of young stock doves reared in one of the stables – see below.



26. 8.21. Heron striking a "hunting" pose in the mowed NT field opposite Tubney Fen followed by another heron standing in the road near the Swan Lake grain store, very reluctant to move. I had to stop the car to wait for him.

4.9.21. Red Kite circling over the paddock this morning.

4.9.21. Finally found proof that it is Badgers digging holes in my paddock, as I have yet to actually see one, a huge latrine filled to the brim with badger droppings'.

Penny & Ron Greenhill sent their sightings:

'A pair of swifts here much later than usual - 3 weeks after the others had left - they have gone back to Africa now and hopefully taken the babies with them.

We are feeding a hedgehog every night and see it occasionally.

A little mouse scuttles by every night just as it gets dark'.

Joss Goodchild

Neighbourhood Watch

I thought I ought to pass on something that has come down from the national neighbourhood watch. They recommend the site MY SUPPORT SPACE for certain people that have experienced crime.

The introduction on the site is:

My Support Space is for people aged over 16 who have experienced crime and need help to cope and move forwards.

It is designed for people who are experiencing a low to moderate impact after crime. For people who are experiencing a much more severe impact after crime, or who are at risk, this online resource should only be used when you are already in touch with a Victim Support caseworker.

The web site is, www.mysupportspace.org.uk

Hopefully you will not have had the nasty experience of crime that would make this site useful.

If you think this may be something you can take on, please contact:

Kevin Evans

01353 614892

kevin.g.evans@ntlworld.com

Burwell Museum



The Mill shutters were replaced in July

Well, it's been another odd year for the museum, but we're really grateful to everyone who has supported us this year. A particular thank you to all of our lovely volunteers, our two wonderful Sunday assistants Sarah and Irina and Pat Kilby and all the musicians who kept us entertained at our events. We're also grateful to East Cambridgeshire District Council for grants which have helped us to survive financially during closure and to keep the museum and mill well maintained. We were very pleased to receive an anonymous donation via Clunch magazine – whoever you are, thank you very much and we'll make sure the money is well spent! If anyone else is similarly inclined we have an online donations page at: https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1016814 (or just search for "Burwell Museum Trust" on Virgin money giving).

Visiting in October

We can't yet reopen the mill fully because of the difficulties of social distancing in such a small space and because we need to keep our volunteers safe while they're doing essential maintenance, but everything else is now open for our usual hours from 11-5 on Thursdays and Sundays (last entry at 4pm). Look out for further information nearer the time about our half term activities on the afternoon of Thursday 28 October and our end-of-season Spooky Special day on Sunday 31st!

Alison Giles

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

The Dyke's End



Opening Hours

Monday & Tuesday
Closed

Wednesday
Bar & Kitchen - 12-2pm
Bar Only - 5pm-9pm

Thursday
Bar & Kitchen - 12-2pm
Bar Only - 5pm-9pm

Friday
Bar & Kitchen - 12-2pm
Kitchen - 5pm-8pm
Bar - 5pm-10pm

Saturday
Bar - 12-10pm
Kitchen - 12pm-2pm
Kitchen - 5pm-8pm

Sunday
Bar 12pm-8pm
Kitchen 12pm-2pm

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FIND US



Wicken Fen



Autumn misty morning on Sedge Fen by Glynis Pierson

'Footprints' Community Engagement Project

Work on Wicken Fen Nature Reserve's exciting new heritage project, *Footprints*, has begun. Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the project will focus on creating opportunities for local people to access a range of recreational activities and to connect with nature, understand the cultural value of this special place and be part of its story. We're grateful to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for supporting this project.

Join us for our Vision Festival on Saturday 2 October, where we will be showcasing project activities and volunteer opportunities. We'll also be celebrating the Wicken Fen Vision with special guided walks and boat trips - don't leave it too late to book as last time we sold out quickly – see https://bit.ly/VisionFestival

There are also plans for tree planting and community archaeology in the wider areas of the reserve. These activities will take place in November. If you're involved with a school or community group that would like to get involved, please email:
julia.hammond@nationaltrust.org.uk
for more information.

Cycle Centre news

Our Cycle Hire team are offering free sessions for you, if you are nervous about cycling, or have never ridden a bike, or not for a long time anyway. These Return to Ride sessions will be taking place on Fridays 1st, 8th and 15th October, at 11am. We'll cover the basics, including how to do a safety check, control and balance on a bike, fitting a helmet and end with a short ride. We will restrict numbers, so give the team a call if you are interested to join, for 1, 2 or all 3 dates. We are being supported by Sport England, so if you need to borrow one of our hire bikes, the normal hire charge will not apply if you are signed up.

We will have further sessions in November on Basic Cycle Maintenance, on Saturdays 6th and 13th. Again these are free, but we need names up front as places are limited. And on Fridays from 26th November to 10th December, why not join us for a guided Ride Out event, exploring some of the cycle paths and routes around the Vision area with our team. Again, thanks to Sport England funding, these are free for participants (including use of our bikes) but we need your names so we can manage numbers.

Wicken Wednesday Walk

And don't forget… every Wednesday at 10am there is a social Wicken Wednesday Walk of about 1 hour, or just over, meeting up in the car park. No need to book for this, just turn up ready to stride out around one of our selected routes on the wider reserve or round Wicken village, with the guides and the rest of the group.

For families, at the Fen

We have various autumnal family activities at the Fen this October. All month there will be a Funky Feet trail to follow round the boardwalk, challenges for you to step out like our animals. For half-term, we are offering the chance to sign up for one of our Bird Box building sessions, on either Monday 25th or Wednesday 27th October. Please call us to reserve a space at our hand-on workshop and for details; £8 per box. And there will be an Autumn Adventure event, on Tuesday 26th and Thursday 28th, games and fun themed around leaves, and nuts, with craft too, featuring some of our wildlife favourites. Again, call us for reserving a place, and for more details.

BREAKING NEWS! We've just heard that Father Christmas will be back at the Fen this Christmas! Keep an eye on our website as booking details will be released shortly.

For the latest information please visit our website and keep an eye on our social media feeds www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen

Julia Hammond
Senior Programming and Partnerships Officer
Wicken Fen Nature Reserve

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Fen Donkey Event Summer 2021

Sunday 27 June 2021 dawned fine and dry enabling the 4 mile Fenland Donkey Event in Reach to get off to a good start. Before commencing, participants lined up for a group photo beside the grain store doors at Swan Lake Barns, the only request from landowner George Hurrell who kindly loaned the large concrete area for parking. This image (below) is destined for his farm webpage.



Stewards (kind village friends with equine interests) acted as guides and husband, Martin, obligingly read his weekend newspaper at the horseboxes so ramps could be left down. Grace and her daughters, Isabelle and Emily, led my donkey Dante in hand, they know one another well. Excited by his first event and not overly enamoured by walking in last position, he took rather a hold!

Nine donkeys participated, driven in pairs and single carriages, long-reined and led in hand. An initial short walk down Little Fen Drove led us into Old Bar Drove, a straight grassy track owned by the National Trust, their Wicken Fen Rangers kindly mowed it for us two days beforehand. This branched into Blackberry Drove where donkey owners' skills were tested by having to negotiate a couple of deep ruts, everyone managed admirably and with good humour. The route continued past 'Catchwater Drain' and fields of ripening corn. The only hill in this open landscape offered a gradual climb. Help was on hand at all times for those test-driving new harness and encouragement given to newcomers, the donkeys travelled at a relaxed 'Sunday morning' pace.

The last section of track descended through trees to the village, Donkey Breed Society banners and bunting indicated the lowered kerb for access to the green, participants were welcomed by a sizeable crowd of local residents and well wishers. Donkeys stood calmly and patiently whilst admiring pats were administered by young and old, refreshments were eaten, colourful DBS rosettes given out and obligatory ginger biscuits offered (donkeys have an undisguised passion for these).

Pictures, including last month front cover, courtesy of **Dave Toone**.



Old Bar Drove



The Toone Family with Dante

Joss Goodchild


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CATEGORY	Page
Accommodation	
Hilary's Cottage, Swaffham Prior	5
The Meadow House, Burwell	5
Architectural Drawings	
Ely Design Group	6
Cars	
Manchetts Service and Repair	6
Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning	
Rothwell's Carpet Cleaning	15
Chimney Sweep	
Brush Electric Sweep	7
NCS	8
Chiropodist	
Stepwise Footcare	11
Cleaning	
Hazel's Cleaning Services	10
Computing	
Burwell Computers	10
Dental Services	
Chapel Dental	4
Dry Cleaners	
Tina's, Burwell	11
Electricians	
K Domestic Electrical Solutions	16
Engineering Services	
N & G Marsh of Burwell	5
Financial Services	
Independent Financial Solutions	7
Food and Drink	
The Dyke's End	Mag13
The Red Lion	2
Funeral Directors	
Southgates	13
Gardens and Gardening	
AJJ Gardening Services	4
C.R. Contracting	6
C W Kirk Lawnmowers	15
D-Branch	14
Four Seasons Tree Services	3
John Reed Landscape Gardener	8
Summit Landscaping	12

CATEGORY	Page
Gifts and Interiors	
Honeysuckle and Hawthorn	3
Tina's, Burwell	11
Haberdashery and Mending	
Tina's, Burwell	11
Oil	
AMH (now East Cambs Services)	12
Browns of Burwell	10
Paul Braybrooke Oil Boiler Service	16
Painting and Decorating	
Andy Pumfrey Painter and Decorator	11
Pest Control	
D-Branch	14
Plumbing and Heating	
AMH (now East Cambs Services)	12
Drain-Plumb Plumbing, Heating and Drain Services	9
Harrison Plumbing and Heating	9
NCS	8
Saniclean Drain and Plumbing Services	7
Pre-School	
Red House Day Nursery, Burwell	16
Roofing	
Kennedy Roofing	12
Taxis	
Burwell Private Hire	14
Window Cleaners	
K. Wells and Son	15
Woodwork	
Paul Waldmann Woodwork	14

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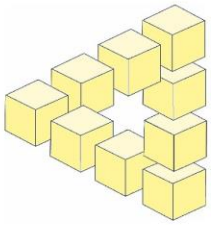

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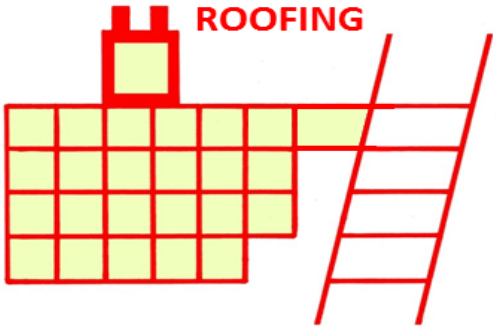

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Tales from a Reach Garden



Autumn has definitely arrived with its cool, misty mornings, although so far temperatures have been mild. Plums, pears and apples are being picked. Our courgettes are still producing but more slowly now and we are still picking beans but the pods are curlier.

The pumpkin and butternut crop is much smaller this year than previously. Winter squash need a long, warm, sunny season to grow well but the growing season this year hasn't been as long as last year when the warm, sunny weather started in April and continued through to late September. We're fast approaching the time of year when only root vegetables and cabbages and kale will continue to grow in the garden and be harvested.

On the whole we have had a good summer in the garden, in spite of the shorter growing season and this year there has been a small success. For the first time we have managed to grow some beetroot roots large enough for meals. I've never wanted a huge crop of beetroot, just a 1m row of plants. We used to grow them in the same bed as spinach and chard as they are members of the same plant family; in fact, chard is also known as leaf beet. We had no problem actually growing beetroot from seed for salad leaves. The problem has been growing them so that the swollen root is larger than a small cherry or then finding that the local rodents had got there first.



Beetroot leaves – the young leaves are tasty in salads

Like all root vegetables beetroot roots swell as they grow, but their root-tops appear above soil level in late spring which leaves them vulnerable to pigeons, squirrels, mice and voles. Very often the top of the root is bitten down to soil level leaving the central tuft of leaves. This type of damage is very annoying. The root doesn't grow any larger, but at least the plant's ability to produce leaves isn't badly affected – alas, there isn't much root for us to eat.

Back in 2018, I'd sown a variety of beetroot called "Boltardy" in March and by late May it was obvious that the roots had started to swell to the size of golf balls. A couple were lifted and eaten (by us) but the others were left to continue growing. There was no sign of damage so the rest of the bed was covered with netting to keep off any opportunistic pigeons and squirrels and we went away for a week's holiday (in Pembrokeshire).

When we returned, the garden looked very green and lush; evidently it had rained while we were away, although it seemed to have missed the beetroot because the whole row of beetroot leaves was withered and yellow, while the spinach and chard were lush and green. I lifted one of the beetroot plants up and it was obvious that the root had been eaten away leaving just the core. This was true of every single plant of beetroot in the row and almost certainly caused by voles. We can't keep field voles out of the garden and often find their subterranean runs in the soil when vegetable beds are cleared at the end of the growing season. With most vegetables their damage is annoying but manageable, but complete root destruction makes beetroot an unviable crop to grow. I haven't bothered to attempt to grow it since 2018.



Beetroot "Alto" growing in a tub of compost

However, beetroot is a highly nutritious vegetable, high in fibre and with all sorts of health benefits ranging from anti-cancer properties to lowering blood pressure. I felt I ought to try to grow some once more – but how to keep the voles off?

At the end of April this year, I decided to try and grow beetroot again, not in the main vegetable beds, but on the patio in an old plastic, rectangular tub about 30cm (1 foot) deep, which I had been on the point of throwing out as it was damaged at the top, otherwise it was serviceable. So, I filled it with a mix of garden soil and compost with a bit of multipurpose fertilizer and sowed some beetroot seeds about 1 cm deep. I chose a variety called "Alto" because they produce cylindrical roots which can be grown closer together than the spherical-rooted varieties. I covered the tub with fleece to protect the seedlings from the frost and any inquisitive pigeons. The seedlings were thinned out to about 5cm (2 inches) apart, kept watered and the fleece left over the tub (May was frosty!) until the leaves were pushing the fleece off in June.

Later I thinned out (and we ate) a few tender roots which were about 3 cm in diameter allowing their neighbours to fatten. The picture shows how much the roots poke out above soil level even though I had topped the compost to cover the root-tops in July. Beetroot needs to be well watered to prevent the plants from bolting (i.e., forming a flower spike), which was easy to do as it was obvious when they needed watering. I'll keep them growing in the tub until late October, when they'll have to be lifted to prevent them becoming too woody and inedible. Then we'll have to choose the right recipe to enjoy them.



"Alto" beetroot prior to roasting in the oven

Danuta Gibson

Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities

At this time of year, the above charity would like to remind Pensioners to apply for the annual Christmas Grant.

The Charity is here to help not only Pensioners but any person who feels they are in need of assistance and not only at Christmas time but also during the rest of the year.

If you should wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Pam Waters
Clerk to the Trustees
01638 741035

Food Focus



This is a recipe that I remembered from a childhood stay with old family friends. It has honestly stuck in my head as one of the most memorable puddings of my life and since the age of about 8, when I was lucky enough to have it, I've wanted to have it or cook it again. It's not healthy.

I think my view of it is so rose-tinted because my Mum was always inclined to try and find the healthy option with any pudding; jam tarts made with brown flour, orange jelly with oranges and orange juice (don't be tempted), any recipe with less sugar or brown sugar. 1970s Kranks was her go-to cookbook on the rare occasions she went to cook a pudding. Recently I made the effort to get in touch with its maker and have since recreated it with success on several occasions. It is like a crumble with a crispy topping so in theory you could use other crumble bottoms ie. Rhubarb/blackberries. Seriously yummy. Serve with cream or ice cream.



Apple Crisp (courtesy of Jayne Ivimey)

You cook the apple in chunks first, add a small amount sugar, but keep it sharp.

Cool apple in a shallow-ish dish.

Make a rich buttery crumble by mixing 4oz butter, 4 flour, 4 caster to brown sugar and sprinkle over the top.

Put in a hot oven so it nearly burns for 10 minutes - I turned the oven up to max (there were exclamations from family members that surely this was too hot – it wasn't!). **Watch it!**

The topping should form a hard crunchy shell/crust on top of the apple. None of the other recipes I've seen for it seem the same or look the same in the photos although there are recipes out there for apple crisp. I'm guessing it's not well known as I haven't ever had it anywhere else – but perhaps you all know about this delightfully delicious pud?

Catherine Gibson

Letter from the Vicarage



Over the last few weeks, we have seen many things gradually returning to a new 'normal' and it's becoming easier to think further ahead. Let's hope and pray that this continues! I am very pleased that in mid-August we celebrated the long-awaited re-opening of CentrePeace, our bookshop and drop-in on the Causeway.

The bell-ringers have returned and the clock has been fixed. St Mary's, in Burwell, is open every day, for anyone to pop in, with some Covid precautions still in place. Currently the toilets are not available, except at services and we have not yet been able to put back the toys in the children's area, but hope to do that when we would be able to do so safely. St Etheldreda's, is also open every day and we are anticipating that work will start soon on our plans to develop the interior of the church, so the building will be closed for several months whilst work is progressing. During the summer, our main 10am Sunday services have been held outside in St Mary's churchyard. This service has also been live-streamed to Zoom most weeks, for those who find it difficult to attend. Refresh Café, for babies and toddlers, with their parents and carers, has had a singing session outside most Fridays since May and will be continuing, either outside or in St Mary's, gradually moving back to our full play and café session in St Mary's. Messy Gathering has continued to meet on Zoom and outside, using resources from Muddy Church, focussing on engaging with the natural world and future sessions may be a mix of Messy and Muddy!

Creationtide lasts from 1st September to 4th October - a special season of celebrating the earth. Our Climate Sunday Harvest Service will be on 3rd October, outside if possible. Harvest celebrations have traditionally been a time for thankfulness, giving thanks for the labour expended, for the gathering of the crops, for the fruitfulness of the earth. It's also a time for celebrating the beauty of the earth and praying for the protection of the natural world, and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles. There are many challenges – the effects of climate change, overconsumption of the world's resources, many species being at risk of extinction. We may feel like saying: 'What can we do?' This harvesttime, may we pause, look around us, say thank you and keep looking for the ways that we can make changes, as we recognise how much we are connected and dependent on each other. Later in October, with the COP26 Climate Change Conference beginning on 31st October, we are looking at how we might mark this, perhaps with a prayer vigil. Please let me know if you would be interested in taking part.

We are very excited to be hosting a concert on Saturday 16th October by St Martin's Voices, from St Martin in the Fields, in London. They have provided choral resources for churches to use all through the pandemic, which we have been profoundly grateful for, and we look forward to thanking them in person. More details are in the separate notice. Looking forward to November, we are hoping to hold a Remembering Service on Sunday 7th November, for remembering those who have died. We anticipate that this will be an especially poignant service for many who have lost loved ones during the pandemic. Remembrance Sunday falls on 14th November and we hope that with Churches Together, the Parish Council and other village organisations, we may be able to return to something like the commemorations from previous years. We will be publicising details nearer the time.

There are more details each week about how to get involved on our website https://stmarysburwell.org.uk/ and our Facebook pages www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell/ and www.facebook.com/messychurchburwell/.

You may also like to listen to Cross Talk, presented each Sunday at 4.30pm by Churches Together in Burwell on Burwell Community Radio. Tune in to hear from each of the churches in turn and from time to time presenting a programme together https://burwell.radio/.

If you'd like to find out more about who we are and what we do, please get in touch, and also if you would like to chat or if we can pray for you, if you are struggling, or know someone who is, or need help accessing Ely foodbank.

God bless you!

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

St Etheldreda's Church – from Reach Development Group

We are pleased to say that, since our last update, the Faculty application to the Diocese of Ely was made and subsequently forwarded to the Church of England Registrar. This prompted some further questions, the most straightforward of which have been answered.

We are hoping that the Chancellor may allow us to proceed with the work while two outstanding matters are finalised: clarification about the historical and architectural merit of the pulpit and local planning permission for the modifications to the path (which will be the last part of the project to be completed). We are very much looking forward to sharing plans with you when they are finalised and to announcing a start-date.

Pat Chalmers

On behalf of the Reach Development Group

Before the church is closed for works, there will be a service to give thanks for what has been, what is and what is to come at St Etheldreda's. We very much hope that you will be able to join us for that occasion.

Pat Chalmers
On behalf of the Reach Development Group

St Martin's Voices in Concert
St Mary's Church, Burwell
Saturday 16th October
7.00pm – 8.00pm

For our first concert post-lockdown, we are delighted to welcome singers from the famous St Martin's in the Fields church in London. They have been supporting churches all over the country, including ours, as they explain in this extract from their website:

'*Since the beginning of the pandemic, St Martin's Voices have partnered with the Church of England and the Royal School of Church Music to record music for churches to use in their online services. At a time when congregational singing was prohibited and choirs unable to perform, it was hugely rewarding to be able to contribute our music to the continuation of worship across the country'.*

If you've been to a service in St Mary's church or on Zoom, any time in the last 18 months, you will have heard them singing and it will be great to be able to meet them in person. The concert reflects on themes of love, hope, joy and peace, with music from over four centuries of choral masterpieces, including works by Thomas Tallis, Hubert Parry, John Stainer, Amy Beach, Ola Gjeilo and James MacMillan.

Tickets for the concert cost £10 for adults and £5 for under 16s and may be obtained from St Martins in the Fields online box office. To find out more, or to book, please go to their website www.smitf.org/tour. If you would like to come, but are unable to book online, please contact Pat Chalmers, 01638 742006, who will be happy to help.

Appropriate COVID precautions will be in place for this concert and those who book will be updated nearer the time.

Reach Riders



We currently have 23 members of Reach Riders and are going from strength to strength. Many of the jumps have had a refresher of paint and the arena is being well maintained.

Membership is to be renewed on the 1st October. We are updating the current membership form so everyone will be required to complete a new one this year.

Thank you, as always to Craig Reader for doing a great job on managing the land and to all the committee members for their continued hard work.

Sue Cameron

Cricket Appeal!



Reach Cricket Club have now been awarded a grant from Amey/Cambridgeshire Communities Foundation to build a pavilion which should be on site around the end of February/beginning of March next year and will be available for community events on the 24Acres, besides cricket matches. We have to raise a small amount in match-funding from private donations and we are already halfway to reaching the target. If anyone would like to donate please contact Tony Fordham, the cricket club treasurer at tonyfordham@me.com.

The picture above is an artist's impression.

Ross Clark

Church Services

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

Scan the QR code to go to our website for more details and links to book for services in church buildings and to join in via Zoom and Facebook

https://stmarysburwell.org.uk

www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell

REGULAR PATTERN OF SUNDAY SERVICES IN BURWELL AND REACH

August and September 2021

St Mary's, Burwell

Every Sunday	10.00am	Morning Service, usually Holy Communion

St Etheldreda's, Reach

1st and 3rd Sunday	9.00am	Holy Communion Service

Further dates to be confirmed once we have a date for the start of building work when services will move to the Village Hall

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Please check for up to date information each week on our website and Facebook

CHURCH BUILDINGS OPEN FOR INDIVIDUAL PRAYER

St Etheldreda's will be open every day, until start of building work.

Some Covid-19 precautions remain in place

PHONELINE 01638 598958 - dial in to hear a recording of our Facebook Services

Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Charlotte Cane	Chair	741064
Nick Acklam	Vice Chair	743749
Cristine Fletcher	Councillor	07763 529886
David McMillan	Councillor	741259
Andrew Trump	Councillor	07980 955490
Hannah Web	Councillor	
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, normally in the Village Hall (with alternative arrangements when Covid-19 restrictions are in place), on the first **Tuesday** of each month. They start at 7.45pm and all Reach villagers are welcome to be involved.

Know Your District Councillors



The Council leadership is reviewing the funding for the Newmarket Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB). We are concerned that the funding might be cut. The Newmarket CAB provides support and advice to people across the South of the District. Importantly, this advice is seen as independent of the Council. Whilst the Council may be able to offer similar support, it will not be seen as independent and it will not be as readily accessible as Newmarket CAB.

Thank you to everyone who responded to the District Council's public consultation on cycle ways and footpaths which started before the Covid lockdown. Following this consultation, the District Council is working with the County Council to improve cycle ways and footpaths. East Cambs is paying for feasibility studies for cycle routes across the District in order to support bids to the County Council for funding. One of the routes being considered is Swaffham Prior-Reach-Burwell. As well as looking at new routes, East Cambs are asking Parish Councils to comment on the condition of existing cycle ways and footpaths.

We are working with Parish, District and County Councillors from Bottisham, Great Wilbraham, Little Wilbraham/Six Mile Bottom and Fulbourn to consider a cycle route between Bottisham and the Wilbrahams. The current suggestion is to utilise the wide verge (ca. 2metres: owned by the County council) on the road from the A1303 past the air museum and across the A14 bridge to the Wilbraham Road to form a cycle path alongside the highway. To provide a full active travel route, this path would need to be linked to a crossing of the A1303, repairs to the footpath between High Street and Bell Road Bottisham (in need of repair in any case, whether or not there is a cycle path), and Sheffield cycle stands at the bus stop for the No. 12 bus.

East Cambs has created an Audit Committee, which Charlotte is a member of. This committee considers the findings of Internal and External auditors, the Annual Governance Statement and the Risk Register. Charlotte requested that several senior officers attend the Committee to answer questions about their areas of responsibility. Unfortunately, the Chief Executive decided that it was not appropriate for most of these officers to attend. As a consequence, many of the questions raised at the Committee were not answered on the day and we were promised answers after the meeting. The meeting was held on 26 July and replies were not provided until 19 August.

One of the queries was why officers considered the risk of "Loss of… access to ICT systems due to … or weaknesses in the IT infrastructure" to be "unlikely" given that the Council's email service had been down for over 48 hours on two separate occasions this year already. We warned that the explanation given for the most recent failure suggested there would be another failure in the near future. Although we didn't get answers about what was being done to avoid further failures, we did get agreement that Internal Audit would bring forward their planned review of the IT infrastructure and business continuity arrangements. Unfortunately, a few days later the email system went down again. It is now back up, but it is not clear how stable it is and whether any emails have been lost in the interim. This illustrates the importance of an honest assessment of risks, so that management can concentrate resources on avoiding the highest risks.

The two planning applications have now been published in respect of the council leadership's crematorium on the site of the Mepal Outdoor Centre. Unfortunately, the timescales for commenting are tight and will have expired by the time you read this. As it is such a major local development and will take away a much-valued outdoor activity centre, it would have been good if a longer consultation period had been allowed.

21/01054/DEM is an application to demolish all buildings at the former Mepal Outdoor Centre. The application is made by a demolition firm in Nuneaton. It was submitted on 16 July, when it was envisaged that the demolition would take place in the first half of August. However, the application was not published until late in August and now has a determination deadline of 22 September.

Meanwhile, 21/01216/F3M is an application for 'construction of a crematorium and associated service and administration building, function building, memorial garden, natural burial areas, pet cemetery, car parking, new vehicular access from the A142 north of the site and landscaping'. The original planning statement prepared by the applicant's agent, Nexus Planning, stated that the applicant was East Cambs Trading Co Ltd, the council's trading arm. A Councillor colleague questioned this and it was hastily changed to East Cambridgeshire District Council. This is worrying evidence of how blurred the boundaries are between the Council and its commercial trading arm. The consultation expiry date for the construction application is Tuesday 21 September and the determination deadline is Thursday 18 November.

Attempts by the council leadership to find ways to avoid implementing civil parking enforcement (CPE) continue to founder. Almost everywhere else in England, 'civil' enforcement of on-street parking is carried out by the council not the police but East Cambridgeshire's current leadership is adamant it will not take this on. To avoid introducing CPE like everyone else, East Cambs has tried:

• offering to pay for a designated PCSO to enforce street parking enforcement—but this was vetoed by the Chief Constable following the recent cut in PCSO numbers.

• using the national Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) to give police powers to accredited individuals, including council staff - but legal advice to the council said that if any council staff were involved this could create a conflict of interest.

These were already obvious issues which had been raised at the time these ideas were proposed and it has taken a year to get nowhere. The latest recommendation to use community 'Police Service Volunteers' to issue fixed penalty notices, was pulled from the Committee on the day of the meeting and will now go to full Council on 21 October.

To help us all cut down on waste going to landfill, the Council has set up an A-Z of what can be reused or recycled, you can find the A-Z at https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/wasteA-Z

Our next Councillors' Surgery will be on Monday 25th October at 6.30pm by Zoom. Meeting ID: 865 7631 8040, Passcode: 490667. If you prefer to join by 'phone, the number is 01314 601196. Our following Councillors' Surgery will be on Wednesday 1st December at 6.30 by zoom using the codes above.

Charlotte Cane
charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk 01638 741064

John Trapp
john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk 01223 812120

Anglesey Abbey

Join our team:

Here at Anglesey Abbey we're recruiting for six new members to join our team. We have two part-time contracts available, with either a minimum of 7.5 hours per week, or a minimum of 15 hours per week.

At the National Trust we're passionate about championing good, honest food and creating food experiences that make our visitors happy. And not only that, our food does good too, by helping support our charitable goals. If you share our passion and can bring energy, warmth and enthusiasm to this role, in return we can offer you a competitive salary, great development opportunities, a benefits package - and the chance to work in beautiful surroundings. To find out more about these roles and working with the National Trust visit www.nationaltrustjobs.org.uk and search for IRC108432 (7.5hr contract) or IRC108435 (15hr contract). Applications close on 10 October.

Winter Lights 2021:

We're very excited to confirm that Winter Lights, our biggest fundraising event of the year, will be going ahead this December. Winter Lights 2021 brings new creative partnerships together for its tenth year. Combining iconic favourites such as the Silver Birch Grove and Riverside Path, with new sensory experiences around every corner of the 1½ mile route, it's set to be an amazing evening for everyone.

Tickets are on sale now and are available via our website nationaltrust.org.uk/AAWinterLights or by calling 0344 249 1895.

Kayley Wilcockson
Senior Programming and Partnership
Anglesey Abbey 01223 810390

Reach Cricket Team 2021



Sunday 18 July
Woodford Green (193-5) beat Reach (192-5) by five wickets

A rare day trip to London in the team charabanc saw plenty of runs from Dominic Phipps (56), Chris Bridgeman (47) and Michael Mead (49) but ultimately no victory as the wickets wouldn't quite come and the east Londoners crept over the line with a couple of overs to spare.

Sunday 1 August
Reach (86 all out) beat Rain Men (80 all out) by six runs

The Rain Men lived up to their name as a pre-match deluge put the fixture in doubt. But our makeshift cover just about managed to keep enough water off the pitch to allow the game to commence after a delayed start. In fact, the whole game was a triumph of the improbable as the Rain Men arrived three apples short of a picnic, the vacant spaces filled by eager quislings from Reach. Putting themselves in to bat, Reach coped with some difficulty on a moving pitch, skying the ball on several occasions to the quislings, who seemed inspired by the chance to catch their usual team-mates. Allowed to bowl – an honour not always granted him by Reach captains – Chris Bridgeman seized the chance to take 3-9. Only Tim Davies (27) managed to evade an early departure as Reach dribbled to 86 all out. As the pitch began to dry and batting conditions improved it seemed hardly adequate. But the wickets began to tumble, with Reach's quislings unable to capitalise with the bat. Tony Fordham, Archie Fordham and Tim Davies ending the day with identical bowling figures of 2-7.

Sunday 8 August
Reach (174-8) beat Cambridge NCI (116-9) by 58 runs

Standing in for our original opponents who had dropped out at the last moment, Cambridge NCI arrived for another rain-affected match.

John Gray (49) was in the runs. Chris Bridgeman (38 and 3-49) put in an all-round performance but was denied the man of the match award he so coveted by a superb catch in the slips by Ben Cooke, the ball snatched from nowhere as NCI crumbled to 116-9.

Sunday 15 August
Reach (162-8) beat Waterbeach (142 all out) by 20 runs

Michael Mead (53) led the way as Reach advanced to 162 off 30 overs. Waterbeach fought their way to 142 but were ultimately washed away by the tide, with Tim Davies and Will Kingsmill each taking three wickets and Ben Cooke and young Wylie Mead two apiece.

Sunday 22 August
Reach (160-5) beat Sharks CC (152-8) by 8 runs.

Another half-century for Tim Davies, as well as 48 from Chris Bridgeman, took Reach to a competitive 162 off 30 overs. For a while, the Sharks circled thanks to big-scoring opener, but Reach ultimately scrambled into a metaphorical bigger boat and denied them at the last.



Bryan Pearson showing the experience of decades on his way to a swashbuckling 2 against the Sharks

Sunday 29 August
Reach (228-6) beat Simmons CC (109 all out) by 119 runs

Last year, Simmons – a travelling team from North London – provided us with the most dramatic finish of the season, winning off the last ball. This year they were unable to repeat the feat. After posting an intimidating score of 228-6 thanks to Michael Mead (49) and a visiting Gwilym Davies, taking a rare break from his day job of making Michael Gove's tea (42), Simmons were wrapped up by Ben Cooke, taking 4 for 22.

Saturday 4 September
Llanarth (238-4) beat Reach (188 all out) by 50 runs

Our second international tour (to Monmouthshire) was to have begun with a Hundred blast against Usk. But then Usk's under-19s reached the semi-final of the Wales cup and their players chose to watch that match. But they did allow us to use their overflow pitch – an artificial strip on the old HMP Usk playing fields – to have an 8 a side intra-club match. So instead of us versus Usk it was us versus us – Reach residents taking on the club's interlopers resident in neighbouring parishes (the latter won). Then it was off to Llanarth where, as last year, we ceded too many runs and left ourselves too much to do. Even so, there was a brief moment of hope when Tim Davies took to the crease. "That's about it, now," they were heard to mutter to themselves when Reach's hapless number 6 trudged back to the pavilion after footling a catch into the hands of the bowler. But, no, it was just a cunning ploy to make Llanarth over-confident. Soon, the Welshmen were eating their words.
With 56 runs off 35 balls, Tim dared us to hope he might emulate Ben Stokes and win the match from a seemingly impossible position. Sadly, it was not to be.

Sunday 5 September
Reach (144-9) beat Penallt and Redbrook (131-4) by 13 runs

The following day it was up the hill to Penallt, with a few sore heads from the previous evening's revelries at Monmouth's Mexican restaurant. Jimmy Henderson notched up 47 and a youthful Wilf Wood took 2-11, but Reach's victory was really owed to the sporting decision of Penallt's captain to give a young lad a chance to bat with the team motoring towards what looked like victory. For the youngster, the boundary was a long, long way away and his partner couldn't snatch enough of the strike to get the required runs. The Reach team charabanc took to the M5 like the coach in the Italian Job – though thankfully with less dramatic results.

Sunday 12 September Caldecote (169-9) beat Reach (131 all out) by 38 runs

Let's just leave this one, shall we? Reach put in a credible bowling performance, with Will Day taking 4–11. Impressed, Caldecote's decided, after all, to deploy the secret weapon they had intended to keep in its bunker: a fast bowler who silenced Reach's usual big hitters. Even so, we only fell 38 runs short.

Ross Clark

Fixtures 2021

Sun 25 Apr	**Home** start 1.30pm Kerala - LOST by 131 runs
Sun 2 May	**Home** start 1.30pm Ivanhoe - LOST by 1 wicket
Sun 9 May	**Home** start 2.00pm Milton - LOST by 44 runs
Sun 16 May	**Home** start 1.30pm Chippenham - **WON** by 46 runs
Sun 23 May	**Home** start 2.00pm The Journeymen **WON** by 3 wickets
Sun 30 May	Away start 1.30pm Barrow – LOST by 58 runs
Sun 6 Jun	Away start 1.30pm Fen Ditton – **WON** by 51 runs
Sun 13 Jun	Away start 1.30pm Mellis – **WON** by 3 wickets
Sun 20 Jun	**Home** start 1.30pm Guilden Mordan Cherubs LOST by 7 wickets
Sun 27 Jun	**Home** start 1.30m Extras CC – LOST by 22 runs
Sun 4 Jul	**Home** start 1.30pm Little Shelford – **WON** by 60 runs
Sun 11 Jul	**Home** start Midday Lidgate and Ousden **WON** by 98 runs
Sun 18 Jul	Away start 1.30pm Woodford Green LOST by 5 wickets
Sun 1 Aug	**Home** start 2.00pm Rain Men – **WON** by 6 runs
Sun 8 Aug	**Home** start 2.00pm Cambridge NCI – **WON** by 58 runs
Sun 15 Aug	**Home** start 1.30pm Waterbeach – **WON** by 20 runs
Sun 22 Aug	**Home** start 1.30pm Sharks CC – **WON** by 8 runs
Sun 29 Aug	Away start 1.30pm Simmons CC 1.30 **WON** by 119 runs
Sat 4 Sept	Away Llanarth – LOST by 50 runs
Sun 5 Sep	Away Pennalt and Redbrook **WON** by 13 runs
Sun 12 Sep	**Home** start 1.00pm Caldecote – LOST by 38 runs
Sun 26 Sep	**Home** start 1.00pm The White Walkers CC LOST by 42 runs

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held at in the village hall on Tuesday 24th August 2021 at 7.45pm.

Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Chair	Present
Andrew Trump	Councillor	Present
David McMillan	Councillor	Present
Cris Fletcher	Councillor	Present
Nick Acklam	Vice Chair	Present
Hannah Webb	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Present
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present

Forum for members of the public.
There were none.

1. Declaration of Interests
Councillor Trump declared an interest in the cricket pavilion and Councillor Cane declared an interest in the solar discussion.

2. Planning
There was none.

The church had approached The Chair to ask that once the PC are informed of their building application, could it be considered quickly so as not to hold up the process. Approved

3. Cricket pavilion – acceptance of quote
Three quotes had been received for the building, and the water pipe.
Following discussion, it was concluded, considering price and reputation, that the PC accept the following quotes –
Hortons Portable Buildings Ltd, for the pavilion.
Jason King Groundworks, for the water pipe work.

Anglia Water will be used for the standpipe installation.

4. District Councillor Report
Report to follow.

5. County Councillor Report
No report received.

6. Minutes of previous Meeting
A resident had commented on the proforma form now used for planning application visits. Although the resident appreciated the structured approach to applications, they felt that the PC should not be referring to the policies from documents which were produced as part of the Neighbourhood plan as the NP had not yet been through referendum and adopted.
Following lengthy discussion, it was concluded that the policies had been adopted by the PC, separate to the NP, when the planning proforma was produced and agreed upon. Therefore, whether the NP is successful or not the PC is able to use these documents as a guide when looking at planning applications.

Minutes approved as correct.

7.1 Reach Grant Fund
The PC were extremely grateful for a donation received from the family of Philip Lewis. ***Councillor Cane*** to write and thank the family. Thoughts will be given as to what the money is used for.

7.2 Finance
Nothing to report.

A discussion took place as to what the CIL money can be used for – infrastructure projects, and whether CIL money would be received from the caravan park development on Weirs Drove. ***Councillor Cane*** to check.

7.3 Parish Council Members
The PC would like to thank David Parr for arranging and overseeing the refurbishment of the telephone box. The box is now fully operational for all phone call with the use of a credit or phone card. DM to check please

Nick Acklam and Steve Boreham had pruned the lime trees in the cemetery after a comment from a resident. The cemetery will be added to the next agenda for a discussion on works needed.

Despite the new length restrictions on the Fair Green/Great lane corner one of the houses had again been hit by a tractor causing damage and tyre marks to the wall and windowsill.
The sign in Swaffham Prior is to be moved from the centre of the village to the bottom of Rodgers Road.

Councillor McMillan had spoken to Matt at The Dykes End regarding concerns, by some residents, to the music nights recently hosted. It was agreed that the music would be inside the pub in future. The PC are keen for the pub to prosper, and these nights have been popular.

7.4 Play Spaces
Nothing to report

7.5 Rights of Way
Nothing to report.

7.6 24Acres Committee
Nothing to report

7.7 Neighbourhood Plan
The six-week pre-submission consultation period ended on 31 July.
We received 59 completed responses from residents which, I understand, is very good for an exercise of this kind. There was a late surge of responses reflecting, I believe, the Project Group's engagement with the village on social media and the doorstep. We now await Ian Poole's collation of the returns. The Project Group will meet to decide next steps once we have received this and a similar summary of responses from statutory consultees. This is likely to be several weeks away.

It would be premature to assess the attitude of the village as a whole to the draft Plan. If the 12 paper responses which we keyed in (the only ones of which we have had visibility to date) are representative of all responses (and village sentiments more generally) then we have a supportive village. However, a villager, who is strongly opposed to significant elements of the Plan, submitted a response with a petition requesting that the development envelope be left unchanged to which 90 villagers had lent their names. Interestingly a number of those named on the petition also submitted responses in support of the Plan.
In our situation, Ian Poole's assessment of the responses, particularly the detailed comments that villagers have made will be particularly important.

Once the Group has decided whether and how to amend the current draft, it will be returned to the PC for second approval before we refer it to ECDC and independent examination. If we clear these hurdles then the Plan will go to a referendum of residents on the electoral roll, so that the village has a final say on the document.

<u>Outlook</u>
We hope to undertake the referendum in late 2021 or early 2022.
There had been some particularly personal and unpleasant comments aimed at the NP committee and some of the consultants used, which has been disappointing. It is therefore impossible to publish every comment received. Use of the term independent and the process was explained, which helped to clarify some of the confusion over the independent procedure.

The NP requires some new members both on the committee and the working group, interested parties should contact Councillor Acklam in the first instance.

Councillor Cane thanked Councillor Acklam for getting the NP to this stage and all his hard work with the project, all very much appreciated.

7.8 Friends Of Reach Wood
Relation with the WT have improved thanks to the hard work of Steve Boreham. The wildflower mix is with the group and following the cutting of the meadow this will be scattered in the agreed areas.

7.9 A to B1102 Group
The group is holding a meeting with CC on Thursday. The GCP will not engage with the group as their remit is only to the Quy roundabout. It is hoped that the meeting with CC will open up a way of communicating.
A bike survey is soon to be launched to understand how the cycle paths are being used and what people would like going forward.

8. Reach Fair 2022
Three residents had agreed to start working on a plan for the Fair 2022. ***Councillor Cane*** to meet the volunteers and report back.

9. Swing on the green & Bus shelter – acceptance of quote.
It had only been possible to obtain two quotes for this work. Following discussion, the PC decided to accept the quote from David Pallant. ***Clerk*** to arrange.

10. Biodiversity in the village
The first point of interest is the verges in and around the village. These are cut by both by residents and CCC Highways. Also, by NT & local people on the fen roads. A Highways Ecologist met with Councillor Acklam and suggested Swaffham Road as an area with the most potential for biodiversity. They are running a scheme with villages where in Highways will cut and volunteers will collect & remove, this system helps plants establish. There may be a Health and Safety issue with the Swaffham Road, ***Councillor Acklam*** to discuss with Highways. Within the village verge cutting is subject to several differences of opinion. ***Councillor Webb*** to engage with the residents on Swaffham Road to see if they are willing to trial a small area.
Once Reach has established an approach there is the opportunity to link with other local villages to produce a wider ranging plan.

11. Land at Reach Clunch Pit
Discussion had previously taken place regarding the registering of the ownership of the land at the clunch pit, a resident had offered to fund this. ***Councillor Acklam*** to now move forward with this.

12. The Challenges of green energy developments
Councillor Acklam had been approached by the "Say no to Sunnica" group who have also leafletted the village. This group has similar views to the PC, that of a lack of an overview from the planning department to the many developments requesting or obtaining planning permissions. Although Reach is on the edge of the Sunnica area, Weirs Drove will be affected. The group would like to come and talk to the PC and village. It was agreed that this would be useful. ***Councillor Acklam*** to arrange.

Reach PC had also been invited to join the Parish Council Alliance, ***Clerk*** to add this to the next agenda.

13. Payments

E. on - Power on the green	£14.11
CR Contracting – mowing contract July	£276.50
CR Contracting – mowing contract August	£403.50
Moore & Co – internal audit	£408.00
D Thomas – 24Acres benches – Grant fund	£487.97

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th October 2021 at 7.45pm.

The agenda for this meeting will be issued by the previous Tuesday and can be accessed from the Parish Council area of the Reach website (www.reach-village.co.uk).



Agenda for Next Parish Council Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of REACH PARISH COUNCIL will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 5th October 2021 at 7.45pm.

Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of considering & resolving upon the business to be transacted at the meeting as set out below.
Susan Bailey – Clerk 28th September 2021

Members of the public, Joshua Schumann (County Councillor) & Charlotte Cane & John Trapp (District Councillors) are cordially invited to be present.

PUBLIC ADDRESS TO THE COUNCIL – The public address is dealt with prior to the commencement of the meeting and does not form part of the formal business of the Council. The purpose is to hear matters raised by members of the public or from Councillors with a pecuniary interest on agenda items (3 mins each) - Members of the Council may not be permitted to respond, except to ask questions for the purposes of clarification. The public address shall continue for a period of not more than 15 minutes (an additional 15 minutes shall be allowed in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Chairman).

AGENDA

Apologies for absence – to receive and approve apologies. Forum for members of the public.

1. Declaration of Interests
2. Planning –
   21/01315/FUL - 16 Chapel Lane, Reach**.** Construction of wooden summer house and wooden shed, both on concrete slabs.
   21/01309/FUL - : 7 Ditchfield, Reach. Construct four bedroom house with associated parking.
   21/01265/FUL - Church Of St Etheldreda And Holy Trinity Fair Green. External works to provide level access.**18/01397/DISA** Land SW Of Hill Farm, Fair Green.
   To discharge Condition 4 (Risk assessment of Contamination), 6 (Surface Water Drainage), 7 (Archaeology), 9 (Biodiversity Improvements), 11 (Access), 14 (Arboricultural Method Statement), and 15 (Arboricultural Impact Assessment) of decision dated 05/04/2019 for Demolition of existing agricultural buildings, construction of two detached bungalows, associated parking and infrastructure.
   21/01334/FUL - Land SW Of Hill Farm Fair Green, Installation of two temporary mobile homes and associated infrastructure during construction work
3. District Councillor Report
4. County Councillor Report
5. Minutes of previous Meeting - to be approved as correct.
6. Reports: (1) Reach Grant Fund (2) Finance (3) Parish Council Members, (4) Play Spaces, (5) Rights of Way (6) 24Acres Committee (7) Neighbourhood Plan, (8) Friends Of Reach Wood, (9) A to B1102 Group, (10) Reach Fair
7. A-B1102 group contribution
8. Repairs to the power on the Green
9. Remembrance Sunday
10. Payments

E.on – Power on the Green	£14.11
CR Contracting	£276.50
Fuse – IT licenses	£102.53
NT – 24Acres lease	£10.00
Horton buildings 50% payment cricket pavilion	£12,857.41
Amey Cespa – cricket pavilion match funding	£1.414.32
S. Bailey – Clerk Salary	Confidential
S Bailey – Postage	£19.07

If you have any enquiries regarding this Agenda, please contact Reach Parish Council Clerk Susan Bailey on 01638 743794 or email clerk@reachparishcouncil.org

Diary Dates

October	Event	Location	Time
Tuesday 3	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.45pm
Thursday 7	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 14	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 21	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 28	Recycling Day (Green)		

November	Event	Location	Time
Tuesday 2	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.45pm
Thursday 4	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 11	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 18	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 25	Recycling Day (Green)		



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	07:28	07:36	08:08*	08:49
07:50	08:28	08:36	09:08*	09:49
09.50	10:28	10:36	11:08*	11:49
11:50	12:28	12:36	13:08*	13:49
13:50	14:28	14:36	15:24*	15:49
15:50	16:28	16:36	17:30	17:55
18:15	18:53	19:06		
19:15	19:53	20:06		

Cambridge to Bury - Saturdays (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Cambridge Drummer Street	**Reach**	**Burwell Ness Road**	**Newmarket Bus Station**	**Bury Bus Station**
06:50	07:28	07:36	08:08*	08.49
07:50	08:28	08:36	09:08*	09:49
09.50	10:28	10:36	11:08*	11:49
11:50	12:28	12:36	13:08*	13:49
13:50	14:28	14:36	15:08*	15:49
15:50	16:28	16:36	17:08	17:55
18:15	18:53	19:01		
19:15	19:53	20:03		

Bury to Cambridge - Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Bury Bus Station	**Newmarket Bus Station**	**Burwell Ness Road**	**Reach**	**Cambridge Drummer Street**
		06:19	06:33	07:12
		06:39	06:53	07:32
	08:40	09:06	09:20	09.59
10:05	10:35*	11:06	11:20	11:59
12:05	12:35*	13:06	13:20	13:59
14:05	14:35*	15:06	15:20	14:59
15:05	15:35*	16:06	16:20	15:59
16:05	16:35*	17:06	17:20	16:59
17:05	17:35*	18:06	18:20	17:59

Bury to Cambridge - Saturdays (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Bury Bus Station	**Newmarket Bus Station**	**Burwell Ness Road**	**Reach**	**Cambridge Drummer Street**
		06:19	06:33	07:12
		06:49	07:03	07:42
	08:40	09:06	09:20	09:59
10:05	10:40*	11:06	11:20	11:59
12:05	12:40*	13:06	13:20	13:59
14:05	14:40*	15:06	15:20	15:59
15:05	15:40*	16:06	16:20	16:59
16:05	16:40*	17:06	17:20	17:59
17:05	17:40*	18:06	18:20	18:59

* 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 large crowd assembled to watch the Reach tug of war across the lode in 1962.

Both photos have been taken from the Hythe looking approximately North West down Straight Drove.

King Len (Warren), the self appointed King of Reach, can be seen equipped with hailer adjudicating waist high in mid-stream. It's likely that the team on the opposite bank have just lost the pull and are taking the obligatory dunking by crossing the river.

Detailed scrutiny of the photo reveals a great many recognisable faces from the village.

Bill Estall's and Ernie Cole's excellent description of this event in the April/May 2003 Out of Reach Magazine is well worth a read and can be accessed from http://www.reach-village.co.uk/magazine.html.

Chris Patterson

Contact Information

Parish Council – see "Know Your Parish Council"			
Village Hall			
	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
	Churchwarden	Dr Stephen Martin	01638 611235
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Jacqui Portman	01638 741058
Emergencies			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency/Non-Emergency)		999/101
	Water (Anglian Water)		08457 145145
Doctors, Burwell			
	Contact Phone Numbers		01638 741234, out of hours dial 111
	Surgery Hours		Mon to Friday, 8.30am to 6.00pm
	Website		https://www.theburwellsurgery.co.uk/index.aspx

Then and Now pictures – see facing page







*This year we will again have our **Reach Village Christmas Card**, (see last year's to the left) printed for us by Burwell Print. They will be on sale in November with a pack of 5 costing £7.50 or just £10 for a pack of 10.*

In the meantime please email davidmparr@btinternet.com with any festive village pictures that you are proud of so that a choice can be made by the end of October.

*Also, our **Tea Towels** make excellent Christmas gifts. They come in 3 colours, teal green, french navy blue or burgundy (below). Pricing is £4 for 1, £7 for 2 or £10 for 3.*

