Within Reach



October/November 2022





Contents

Title	Author	Page
Articles		
1st Swaffham Prior & Reach Scouts		7
Bus Service Update	Charlotte Cane	18
How the Reach pub rose from drinking den to royal magnet	Bryan Pearson	4
Get to Know Robinson and Claydon Vehicle Services		23
It's OK to talk about Hospice Care		20
Macmillan Coffee Morning	Helen and Pam	17
Proclamation of the accession of His Majesty King Charles III	David McMillan	3
Quy Mill Hotel and Spa	Clare Hill	19
The Sunnica Energy Farm and its potential impact on Reach	Nick Acklam	6
Anglesey Abbey	Meghan Curteis	14
Burwell Museum	Sara Phipps	27
Burwell and Reach Car Scheme	Pam King	3
Bus Timetable		39
CentrePeace		9
Church		
Church Services		30
Letter from the Vicarage	Eleanor Williams	28
Reach Church Development Update	Pat Chalmers	29
Reach Community Cafe	Claire and Helen	16
Contact Information		40
Diary Dates		38
Events Team	Debbie Quilter	8
Food Focus	Catherine Gibson	26
Getting to Know You	Karen Carpenter	11
Nature in Reach	Cath Tayleur	14
Parish Council		
Know your District Councillors		31
Know Your Parish Council		31
Meeting Minutes		33
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore	8
Snakehall Farm		25
Sport and Recreation		
Cricket Report	Ross Clark	21
Reach Riders	Sue Cameron	6
Tales from a Reach Garden	Danuta Gibson	24
Then and Now	Chris Patterson	40
Village Hall Committee	Sue Elliot	10
Village Update	Alex de Giorgio-Miller	3
Wicken Fen	Julia Hammond	16

From the Editor



I know I speak for you all in stating our sadness at the death of our lovely Queen Elizabeth 2nd. An outstanding lady who did a magnificent job, looking after us for over seventy years. The funeral event itself was very moving and wonderfully organised, reminding us that we are so lucky to be British.

Now we have a new monarch, King Charles III and we learn a little more about him and other members of the Royal Family in an excellent article on page 4 entitled ***"Charles commends, William noshes and the Queen in apostrophe drama – how the Reach pub rose from drinking den to royal magnet".*** Pics relating to this article can be found on the back cover.

And now we have **Busgate** to contend with! It won't have escaped your attention that Stagecoach have decided to remove our number 11 Bus Service completely – and not just for our village of 350 souls but also for Burwell which has getting on for 8,000 people and building houses to cater for even more. It's ridiculous bearing in mind our global warming targets. The decision is being fought, of course and there is an update from Charlotte on page 18.

Following our trend of giving you more information on our lovely advertisers, we have an article on page 22 introducing you to **Robinson and Claydon Vehicle Service** who are based out at Spring Hall Farm and can cater for all our vehicle repair needs.

Finally, have a look at the **Events Team** update on page 8 which shows you what is planned for the remainder of this year. The next event is our **Macmillan Coffee Morning** next Saturday, which Helen Oliver and Andrew Towers have agreed to host in their new house at Hill Farm Barn, 28 Fair Green. There's plenty of other fun things going to happen too, so do check it all out in this magazine and on the website – and come along.

David Parr



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. This magazine (which is fully funded from advertising) is printed by Burwell Print Centre, an excellent social enterprise which trains and supports adults with learning disabilities and provides high quality design and print capabilities.

The Team

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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	Cath Tayleur

Village Update



The smell of Autumn is in the air and it certainly feels crisper on the early morning dog walk. The girls are very much looking forward to more rain and plenty of muddy puddles to jump in. Someone mentioned Christmas to me the other day but I'm not ready to entertain that yet!

Cost of Living

The rising cost of living is having an impact on everyone and East Cambs District Council has measures in place to support residents who may feel they are struggling to cope. There are many forms of help available to residents, from benefits and grants, through to discounts, food vouchers and help with managing debt and staying healthy. Visit the government's Help for Households website (https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk) to see what cost of living support you could be eligible for. If you feel you would like to speak to someone from the council for advice, please call them on 01353 665555, or call in to their weekly drop-in sessions at the Council offices, Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm.

Vaccinations

All children aged 5-11 are now eligible for two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination.

If you are the parent or carer of an eligible child you can quickly and easily book your child's vaccination appointments online via www.nhs.uk/covidvaccine or by calling 119. You must accompany your child to their vaccination. You can also choose to walk in at many of the venues, although check with each venue before you travel.

To find out more about the vaccination programme in Cambridgeshire visit www.thevaccinators.co.uk.

For more information and advice on COVID-19, including the support available to those in need, check out the Council's website or social media channels.

Keep well, keep safe and enjoy the Autumnal sunshine!
Alex de Giorgio-Miller

Alex de Giorgio-Miller

Burwell and Reach Car Scheme

The Burwell and Reach Car Scheme offers those with travel restrictions or mobility issues a drive to the doctor, dentist, hospital, optician, hairdresser, shopping or just a visit to a friend, at a cost of 30p per mile. Just leave a message on 07399 154913 with your requirements and someone will get back to you. Or contact Pam King in Reach on 07484 852889.

If anyone in Reach would like to volunteer to drive we are always grateful for extra people. Just leave a message on the answerphone 07399 154913. DBS certificates are required but easy to obtain through the scheme.

Proclamation of the accession of His Majesty King Charles III



I was asked by our Chairman to represent Reach at this event. For those that haven't heard, this is an ancient ceremony which conveyed the news of the new Sovereign before we had newspapers or electronic communication.

We gathered on Palace Green outside the West Door of the Cathedral. Ely Military Band were playing and a sizeable crowd gathered. I was behind the Dais, so I only saw the backs of the dignitaries. These included the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Lucy Frazer MP, Councillor Alan Sharp (Leader of ECDC) and Councillor Richard Morgan. The Deputy Lord Lieutenant opened proceedings, then the Proclamation was read and signed. Next the Mayor said a few words. The band played God Save the King, which was the first time I had sung those words since 1952. The Chairman of the Council t led us in Three Cheers for His Majesty the King.

The Chairman, the Mayor and other Civic leaders then laid flowers on the Green in expression of sadness at the death of the Sovereign. I laid one on behalf of Reach.

In closing I must say what a privilege it was to represent Reach at this historic event.

David Macmillan

Charles commends, William noshes and the Queen in apostrophe drama – how the Reach pub rose from drinking den to royal magnet

Reach has had more than its fair share of Royal association over the years, though none of us can quite have predicted how in the 21st Century, our latest brush with three generations of the Royal family would have been via our public house!

Or could we? It was after all called 'The Kings' until we reopened it as a community-owned pub in 1999 and it reverted to its original name of the Dyke's End. It was a decision that cost me the chance of meeting the Queen (more later).

Whilst I am sure we might have welcomed royalty during the dark Anglo-Saxon period when the Devil's Ditch was dug, we can certainly claim a connection when King John issued his Charter in 1201 directing the burgesses of Cambridge to choose the site for an annual fayre.

And then of course there was the celebrated period in the 1970s when King Len declared Reach to be an independent state. It was a great fantasy for as long as it lasted, but sadly no pirate radio station took up the option of coming to broadcast from our parish and in the end King Len relinquished his claims and returned us as a loyal and undisputed part of the Queen's realm.

And then came Charles… Prince of Wales then, King Charles III now.

But first there was a near miss with his mum. When the organisers of the Royal Agricultural Show were putting together plans for an exhibition on 'Rural Sustainability' to be attended by the Queen and Prince Philip, they decided that a village pub should be included as an exhibit for the Royal walk. Our pub was very much in the news following the successful community rescue and we were chosen.

So, they came and pictured the pub, wrote some words (interestingly ascribing the role various organisations like *Business in the Community* had made in helping us… all news to us!) and then my then wife and I headed to Stoneleigh to tell Ma'am that it was the community wot done it. All was fine when we got there, nice pictures of the pub and they'd taken a picture of Hannah Webb's pub sign and neatly hung it side on to the illustrative material. There we were… our few square metres of Little England and there was Ma'am (dressed in lime green) and Prince Philip (standard dark blazer and not trying too hard to look interested) talking with a neighbour a few exhibits up the aisle.

Suddenly, the serenity of the situation changed. The public, watching from a few yards back, were being hurriedly moved away from in front of us. There were startled looks. Suffice to say, the Queen's "minders" had been doing their usual job of keeping an eye on what was coming up and any obstacles or steps that the royal couple might have to negotiate. And then they saw the pub sign.



Obstacle? Calamity! Sacre bleu! The snap decision was that it was entirely inappropriate for the Queen to be pictured below a sign saying 'The Dyke's End! They obviously didn't know their apostrophe from a catastrophe and she was detoured around us… and very unfairly, the next two or three exhibits she was supposed to visit, as no one wished to own up to our sign as being the cause of the last minute change of route!

We can only wonder at the fall-out that might have followed between Buckingham Palace and the organiser of the exhibition! Apostrophygate it certainly was!

In the months following, the issue of pubs closing around the country developed quite a profile as landlords cashed in on the property boom in the residential market. Charles became quite vocal on the topic and soon he became Patron of a new business-led pressure group called the Pub is the Hub which sought to encourage pubs to diversify their offering, by incorporating shops, hairdressers, post offices etc to attract more income.

And it was PiTH that pitched its Patron to visit the Dyke's End, then an early entrant on the community-owned pub scene. His office explained from the off that for security reasons, I was not to tell anyone about the plans. This was a little difficult when for instance it was decided that it would be nice if the local primary school might also turn out to meet him.

I raised the matter under AOB at the end of a Swaffham Prior school governors meeting and of course "a VIP" wasn't sufficient for them to make a decision (given coach hire cost and lesson disruption on the day). A few sound bites later and approval was given!

On the day it was arranged that his helicopter would land on the playing field and he was accompanied by a security detail, his private secretary (who had been amazingly patient in getting all the planning finalized) and the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire. We thought Charles might need a loo stop so had arranged such an opportunity at the first house he would walk past, the home of Alasdair and Olivia Cole (now the home of Ewen and Sue Cameron). As we approached I explained our cunning plan but he said 'Thank you, but actually I'm fine'. "But Sir" I responded, "There might be some disappointment if you don't take up this offer…" to which he quickly said "OK, I understand" and headed past Olivia's startled children to perform a Royal Wee!



Alex and Kana, Olivia and Alasdair's Coles' children who lived in what is now Sue and Ewen Cameron's house

The Lord Lieutenant then introduced him to the 'chain-gang' of worthies lined up on the pavement outside Vine House. County, District and Parish representatives are all invited to a Royal visitation within their jurisdiction. John Robinson was Chair of our Parish Council at the time, though was the odd one out as I don't think we give our chair a chain of office!

Lord Lieut then handed the Prince over to me to introduce the head teacher of the school… and the school children. They'd worked hard to produce some project work on King John to present (rather than trying to validate King Len's claims!) and we moved on to watch some Morris dancing, before heading to the front door of the pub where Simon and Frank lay in wait, along with the MD of Greene King and other industry representatives.

Inside, we'd set up four or five circles of villagers who had assisted one way or another in the rescuing and renovation of the pub and then signed him up for the darts team, though quickly relegated him to the subs bench after seeing his performance in throwing one hand of arrows! Charles then gave a speech commending our endeavours in retaining our pub and then he was whisked off to Cambridge (a limo had arrived) for dinner with other subjects.

It had been a fun day, with plenty of publicity from an intriguing mix of local and 'Royal' media both vying for supremacy of position. Legendary Sun snapper Arthur Edwards was good enough to share some of his pictures with us in the days after the visit.

It didn't all end there. I was invited to join the Board of PiTH for a number of years which brought interesting visits to St James' Palace, Highgrove and Buckingham Palace and the Prince launched a PiTH booklet I'd authored as a 'Community guide to saving your village pub'. Alas the launch was at a pub in Newmarket Hesketh in the Lake District. That one taught me the lesson that 'on the day' purchase of British Rail tickets can cost as much as to fly to Ghana! Bit dated now but there is a nice interview with George Gibson on the PiTH website which you can see at: https://www.pubisthehub.org.uk/case-studies/video.

And then there was the final Royal flourish when a table for ten was booked in the name of 'Mr Turner' for a Tuesday evening in 2010 or thereabouts. At the start of the evening (as reported to me by Glynis) four gentlemen introduced themselves as royal security staff and told her that the booking was in fact for William (Duke of Cambridge then, Prince of Wales now…) and Harry, plus girlfriends of the time and a further two guests (no doubt at the recommendation of their father) . Two tables were required, one for the Royals and their guests and the other for the security staff. The only other polite request was that the visit not be broadcast to the village.

Those who were there that night said it was a very easy-going occasion and the Royals were chatty and relaxed, both boys having sausages and mash followed by sticky toffee pudding, cooked by Luke who was the chef at that time, ably assisted by Lloyd.

Further **colour pics** can be found on the inside back cover of this magazine.

Bryan Pearson

The Sunnica Energy Farm and its potential impact on Reach

The Planning Inspectorate's examination of Sunnica's Solar Farm application begins at the end of September. The application proposes to build the largest solar farm in Europe on land in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk. If built, it would occupy 1,130 hectares (about 2,800 acres) of predominantly arable land. The detail of the application can be found at https://sunnica.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/SUNNICA-Consultation-Booklet-FINAL.pdf

Sunnica's proposal has attracted strong local opposition including from MPs Matt Hancock and Lucy Frazer.

Reach Parish Council is registered as an interested party to the examination and is monitoring developments. We have concerns that the scheme is not as sustainable as it claims, being too focused on electricity storage and trading rather than green electricity generation. We also believe that the battery technology Sunnica proposes to use to store electricity carries a significant fire risk which poses a threat to public health and the environment.

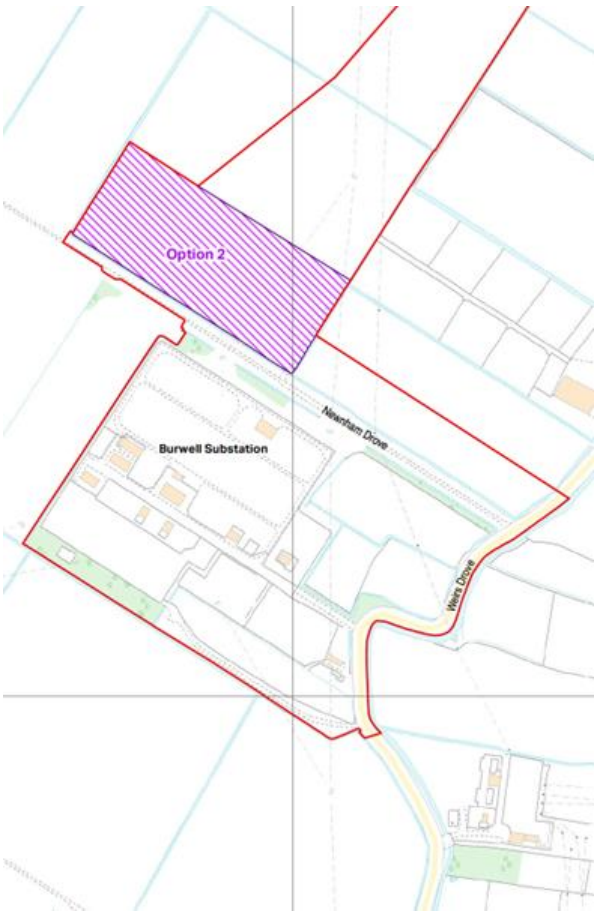
Reach lies on the periphery of the Sunnica scheme. The direct impact on our village depends on **how** Sunnica connects to the National Grid at the Weirs Drove substation. The key issue is **where** Sunnica finally decides to put the transformers required to upgrade the voltage of the electricity generated by the solar farm to the 400 kilovolts required to feed into the Grid. It must do this before the end of the examination.

The proposed locations for the transformers are in the vicinity of Chippenham or adjacent to the existing substation at Weirs Drove. Chippenham has recently become Sunnica's preferred option. Energy from transformers at Chippenham would be delivered to the Grid at Weirs Drove via an underground cable. However, Sunnica has not removed the possibility of siting the transformers at Weirs Drove from its most recent submission to the Inspectorate. It remains as Option 2 in the application. This lack of a definitive position from the applicant adds to the overall unsatisfactory nature of the application.

Were Sunnica to change its preference (again) and propose to locate its transformers at Weirs Drove then a significant expansion of the substation would be required. Sunnica has identified land for this, approximately 1.7 km (one mile) from the centre of Reach. A plan of the site is shown below. The extra land required would be around 43m by 76m. The transformers installed on the site would be up to 12m (approximately 40 feet) in height, creating a very sizeable presence in our landscape.

The site would be particularly visible from Burwell Road, from the banks of Reach Lode and from the footpaths of Wicken Vision land.

The owner of the land in question, which we understand is good arable (grade 2), is unwilling to sell to Sunnica. So, to pursue this option, Sunnica would need to invoke powers of compulsory purchase. The cost and uncertainty of this exercise probably explains Sunnica's preference for siting transformers at Chippenham. Unsurprisingly there is strong, growing and well organised opposition to this from the residents of Chippenham. Sunnica could change its preference again.



Nick Acklam



1St Swaffham Prior & Reach Scouts

It's been a busy year at 1st Swaffham Prior & Reach Scouts! The leader team have put a huge amount of effort into building the group back up (after suffering from a difficult time due to COVID-19 and the theft of our camping and cooking equipment in early 2020).

We run three sections: Beavers (6-8 years), Cubs (8-10½) and Scouts (10½ -14) and also have a number of Young Leaders (14-18). We meet weekly in Swaffham Prior during term time and our scouts come from Swaffham Prior, Reach, Swaffham Bulbeck, Bottisham and surrounding villages.

This is a summary of what the scout section have been up to for the past year, but all three sections run full programmes, giving the beavers, cubs & scouts all get a chance to learn and do new things that they might not get a chance to do at home or school.

In Autumn, the scouts spent a couple of evenings outside on the scout field, learning about fires and building outdoor shelters in the woods. All sections paraded through Swaffham Prior on Remembrance Day to take part in the church service. Before Christmas we spent time indoors learning about knots, first aid and map reading.

In the Spring, we chose to briefly return to scouting online to avoid having to wear masks in the scout hut and the scouts spent time doing an online escape room, more badge work, learning about online safety and further first aid. We also managed to meet up in person for a winter walk down the Swaffham Bulbeck lode, to the river Cam.

During the Easter half-term, we ran our traditional overnight Easter camp in Swaffham Prior. The cubs joined us for a campfire with songs and marshmallows, and a small number of scouts (and leaders) woke up the following morning to find their tents covered in frost, having made it through an overnight temperature of minus 4 Celsius!

In May, as we have for several years, we worked with the Reach fair committee to run the village barbecue on the village green, where the scouts and leaders cooked and served a seemingly endless amount of burgers and sausages, raising thousands of pounds for charitable causes.

After Easter, we spent most of our time on the field. The scouts played lots of games, learning outdoor and survival skills, such as cooking on fires and hiking stoves, pioneering (including some impressive bridge building), putting up tents, learning knots, and getting ready for camp.

During the Summer holiday, the group made its furthest trip for a few years, taking most of the Scouts to Swaledale in Yorkshire, for a four-night camp. The scouts made the most of their time in the Yorkshire Dales, hillwalking, splashing about in the river, singing lots of walking and campfire songs, and learning to climb and abseil as a team. We even managed to find time for a gang show evening!





If you think your kids might be interested in joining the group, or if you think you might want to help lead the group, please email Tim Doe, the Group Scout Leader, on gsl@1stswaffhampriorscouts.org.uk.

James Hannah
Katie Winkcup
Neil Winkcup
Steve White

Scout Section Leaders

1st Swaffham Prior Scouts

Events Team

Now seems a good time to list the upcoming events for the remainder of 2022 . . .

Saturday 8th October from 10am to midday, we have our **Macmillan Coffee Morning**, which this year has the new venue of **Hill Farm Barn, 28 Fair Green** where it will be hosted by the new owners, Helen and Andrew. We are looking for **cakes to be donated** - if you can help, **please get them to Helen**, either on the day or prior to the event.

So come along, however briefly and meet friends, support the **Raffle** (proceeds from this will go to **Arthur Rank**), peruse the **Flower Stall** and generally have fun. On the day, we can only take **cash**, but should you so wish you can **donate online at:**
https://thyg.uk/BUS007565952

Then we come to Christmas, which for us starts on the **1st of December** with our **Advent Windows**, which was so successful last year. If you would like to participate (it really is fun), please contact Debbie at:
reacheventsteam@btinternet.com.

On **Sunday 4th of December** from 5pm to 6pm we will be switching our **Christmas Tree Lights** on, with mince pies, mulled wine and the City of Cambridge Brass Band to entertain us.

On **Thursday 15th of December**, from 12.30pm to 3pm we will be having our legendary **Senior's Christmas Lunch** in the Village Hall. It's always fun for our 65 years and over villagers, if you'd like to come along please give David Parr a ring on 07887 563720 or email davidmparr@btinternet.com.

And then from 6pm to 6.45pm on **Christmas Eve**, Lucy will again be leading us as we **sing carols around the Christmas Tree**, with the customary mince pies and mulled wine.

Finally, following the carol singing, if all you children have been good, **Father Christmas will be visiting us again**!

All these events, with full information can be found on our website at http://www.reach-village.co.uk/news.html

Debbie Quilter

Rosanna's Ramblings



Well, after the drought gloom that permeated my last ramblings, it's marvellous to see the grass around the village and beyond greening up rapidly. The speed with which that happened after the first good soaking was extraordinary, wasn't it?

We were away from home for 36 hours and on our return could already see new green shoots pushing up out of what had effectively been hard-baked earth, with trampled straw, for months. What a relief, what balm to the soul, to experience freshness all around. And that gratitude I experienced made me ponder on how, even when experiencing extreme weather conditions for this country, we were not suffering anything like the devastating flooding in Pakistan or the terrible drought in East Africa.

My young Ukrainian refugee lodger in Ely often chats to me about the weather. He has been surprised by our summer humidity (or "water in the air" as he put it) because where he comes from, 40 degree temperatures are common in summer but as the heat is dry, it felt much harder when we got it. He also said he was looking forward to seeing how Milo the Labrador would react to snow this winter and was incredulous when I told him there was absolutely no certainty that would get any snow at all. "What, no snow AT ALL?" he said. And his expression when I said the coldest it generally got, if we got frost at all, might be about minus 4, was a sight to behold. "Not minus 40?" Poor lad, not only has he had to adjust to life 2,000km away from home, family, friends and all things familiar, but he's got to come to terms with all his weather assumptions coming crashing down. But he's a cheery soul, making the best of an awful situation, and I reckon Charles has a lot to learn from his positive outlook on life. You see, it wasn't many days after the drought broke that he was mithering about the potatoes and tomatoes risking getting blight. I gave him a stern look, as I rushed outside to run around in the garden in the rain, just for the novelty of the sensation of "water in the air" forming droplets and falling to earth around me.

Milo was a little slower to express excitement. In his 10 and a half months of life, he hadn't seen rain for such a long time that he had no idea what was going on. He watched Charles inspecting the garden holding an umbrella and promptly hid under the garden table. Dogs are strange – well our dog is, at least. Can't keep him out of pond or river, no chance! But attempt to put water onto him, rather than him putting himself into water and he comes over all bothered, like he might shrink or something.



As he is going through what I hope is a teenage malodorous stage, the woman we got him from texted me when she was looking after him for a few days to say he'd had three shampoos and that he was consequently smelling unusually sweet. We were puzzled how she had managed this challenging feat not once, but thrice, in as many days – and then recalled that she is a hairdresser and must therefore be in possession of skills we do not have. Not that she could ask Milo whether he was going on holiday, as he was already having a holiday with her! And the apparent sweet smell she reported? Well, sadly, that didn't last even for the duration of our five hour drive back to Reach from Hampshire. Alas, I wish it had.



And now the nights are noticeably drawing in and although it's been very warm today, there's definitely that hint of autumn in the air and the light which I have found thrilling ever since I was a studious child who found returning to school exciting. There are some huge sloes in the hedgerows, which I suspect will make an over-sweet sloe gin brew – if the sugary blackberries, and hardly tart at all Bramley apples are anything to go by.

I guess all that sun and heat and heat and sun, for weeks and weeks and weeks must have concentrated the sugars in the fruits that weren't able to grow big because of lack of water. Our freezers this year will be filled with stewed apple rather than the usual glut of beans, because the poor beans just couldn't cope with our puritanical but socially responsible watering regime.

And we're not just harvesting our own apples, numerous but tiny as they are. This year for the first time we've helped ourselves a bit from the wonderful crop of fruit in the village orchard, just to experience the range of taste and texture and aroma from some of the unusual varieties. It would be more easily done if the very long grass between the trees were cut, but that wouldn't be nearly as much fun for the romping dog and would probably make the satisfaction of picking a few interesting apples rather less than when one has had to battle to reach them.

So, shorter wetter days are upon us (which is making me whoop inwardly with happiness – it will soon be socks and boot weather, hurrah!) and our thoughts will be turning too soon to the end of 2022 and beyond. Apparently psychologists have been studying the effect (considerable) on our perception of time and memory, and context, of the pandemic and I find it reassuring to discover that my own temporal dislocation is also experienced by most people – so that as we keep making steps towards a post-pandemic life (and it hasn't gone away, whatever the politicians and media seem to imply by their silence), it feels surreal and clunky to acknowledge that two and a half years ago we were in the early days of the first lockdown. How good it would be if we could be emerging into a more positive world. But 'out there' seems to be relentlessly grim and changing disturbingly and rapidly in many ways. So my remedy for coping with all that is to remember to stop, and look at the beautiful natural world with which we are surrounded here and breathe.

I recommend it.

Rosanna Moseley Gore

CentrePeace

Tuesday 10 - 12.30
Wednesday 2 - 4
Thursday 10 - 12.30
Friday 10 - 12.30
Saturday 10 - 12.30

CentrePeace is run by volunteers and supported by our churches. Opening times may be extended as more volunteers feel able to come forward.
If you wish to volunteer, please get in touch with Hazel Williams (743897), even if you have worked in the shop in the past.

Village Hall Committee



Village Hall – AGM
Report – September 2022

In the course of the last 12 months the restrictions imposed by Covid have gradually been lifted, allowing meetings and gathering for parties, courses and other events to take place. However, as one challenge passes another emerges, and the anticipated higher energy costs, largely a result of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, will undoubtedly put further pressure on village hall finances especially as our fixed-price tariff agreement comes to an end.

Repairs and maintenance

In the last 12 months the village hall and its grounds have received significant investment in repairs and maintenance – and the work continues. It is important that the fabric of the village hall is maintained – partly because it is the hall's appearance that affects whether potential customers decide whether or not to book the hall. Repairs have included:

- Repairs to and replacements of rear doors
- External decorating of all doors, windows and facias (including the front door)
- Repairs to the drain in the back yard
- Removal of the cherry tree which was badly diseased
- Replacement of the shed roof (some temporary repairs have been carried out but further work is needed)
- Repairs to the cistern for the men's urinals
- The removal of the cherry tree created an opportunity to replant the front border – old and mostly dead shrubs have been removed and replacements planted.

Work yet to be carried out includes repairs to the gates into the back yard and their treatment with wood preservative, and repairs to the door to the wooden shed. A building like the village hall will need repairs and maintenance on an ongoing basis. Costs for this kind of work cannot easily be raised through grants. It is important, therefore, that the hall accounts maintain a significant amount of cash on deposit to allow repairs and maintenance to be carried out in a timely manner.

Bookings

Bookings have not returned to their pre-pandemic level. Whilst some new regular bookings have been made (Tai Chi), other long-term users of the hall have gone elsewhere (Slimming World).

Work is in progress to refresh the village hall website/webpage to try to attract more custom. This is taking longer than anticipated, but hopefully it will be online soon. Associated with this, the on-line booking system (Hallmaster) which has been set up is helping to reduce the administrative burden of managing bookings.

Financial sustainability and fees

In the last 24 months the village hall has benefitted from government grants for small businesses affected by Covid. These have been critical in keeping the village hall solvent and allowing essential repairs and maintenance, as described above, to be carried out.

As these grants come to an end, the future of the village hall must be considered uncertain unless bookings increase or some kind of core support is provided from other sources. Costs have risen significantly (especially energy – oil and electricity – and the cost of these will increase further), but measures to raise hire fees in line with these increases led to the threat of lost bookings from regulars – prices were adjusted back down accordingly. At present, income from bookings is below running costs (insurance, oil, electricity, cleaning etc).

For many years the village hall was supported through a share of the profits from Reach Fair. This income allowed the hall to be made available for village events free of charge (or at discounted rates). In the absence of that 'subsidy', running costs now exceed income. The village hall committee is in discussion with the parish council to explore possible ways to address this issue.

In order to help balance the books, a decision has been made to charge all users of the hall, including all village events, without exception. Discounts will still be available for village events and village residents and organisers of events will be able to apply to the village Grant Fund for a contribution towards costs. Updated fees will be published on the Village Hall web page and will come into force from 1st January 2023.

Use by the community

In the last year the hall has been put to good use by the community. The regular Community Café is held every Friday afternoon and the church is using the hall whilst renovations of St Etheldreda are taking place. Recently, a textiles course has started and a willow weaving/basketry course is also being planned.

Committee members

Graeme Radford retired after 18 years of service on the committee. Tabecki, also a long-time member of the committee, has also left. Both are thanked for their important contributions.

Natasha Bridgeman has taken on the role of bookings manager (among other things). Other members for the past year are Andrew Trump (Treasurer), Sue Elliot (Secretary), David Thomas (Chair), Rebecca Fordham and Tony Fordham. The committee could do with additional members and interested volunteers are encouraged to come forward and to speak to any of the existing members.

Looking ahead

The committee is keen to encourage use of the hall, especially as a hub for community events. It is good to see the planned workshops on textiles and on basketry/willow weaving. Committee members are in discussion with the Reach Events Team to explore the possibility of having community cinema evenings or using the hall for touring theatre events.

We are also looking into how to reduce costs in the long term – and also improve the hall's environmental performance. Installation of solar panels is under discussion along with other improvements that would increase the hall's energy efficiency.

Sue Elliott Honorary Secretary 742268

Reach Riders



Reach Riders currently have a membership of 20 with the majority using the arena on a regular basis, including having lessons with our resident instructor Lucy Tuck.
Members of the committee have been painting and treating the jumps to keep them in great condition
We are organising some events shortly, so keep an eye on the village and members Facebook pages!

Sue Cameron

Getting to Know . . . . Keith and Poppy Harrison

What is your name and where were you born?

Keith Lee Harrison and Poppy May Smith.
Keith was born at Newmarket General Hospital and Poppy was born at The Rosie, Cambridge.



A young Keith and his Mum



Poppy as a little girl

What schools did you attend, and did you enjoy them?

Poppy: I grew up in Lode, a few miles down the road and I went to Bottisham Primary school and Bottisham Village College. I have fond memories of cycling to Bottisham for school. I wasn't the most academic, I really had to put my mind to learning, I much preferred being out on the sports field captaining the netball and hockey teams. Here I developed some great friendships of whom I am still in touch with now.

I was also at Bottisham swimming pool twice a week swimming for Cambridge County. I did try and get my head down where I could and left with some fair GCSE results! It wasn't until I got to Long Road Sixth Form where I decided partying was far better than studying, so I scraped through my A Levels by the skin of my teeth.

Whilst I was at Long Road I started waitressing at a wedding and conference venue called The Temple in Abington. Sadly, the venue is no longer, but I loved working there during the holidays and at weekends. This gave me an insight into events and hospitality, so I decided to apply to go to Oxford Brookes University to study International Hospitality Management. Unfortunately, my time in Oxford didn't work out, so after a year in Oxford I decided to come home to Cambridge and studied Business Management at Anglia Ruskin. I enjoyed this a lot more, understanding the different components to business like marketing and change management

.

Keith: So growing up in Burwell, I naturally went to Burwell Village College and thinking back it was a school I loved and had some fantastic teachers, some of them I see occasionally on my plumbing rounds throughout the years and always enjoy discussing the good old days.

Like Poppy I wasn't the most academic, very middle of the road, always preferred being hands on so I really enjoyed the creative side of learning. I then moved onto Soham Village College. Being in Burwell I was slap bang in the middle of Soham and Bottisham but my brother was already at Soham, I guess the natural thing was for me to go there. It's funny at the time; as a teenager you despise school but looking back it really wasn't so bad. I was always involved with some kind of sports, usually football but also athletics, 100m, long jump and a bit of rugby.

It wasn't just sports I enjoyed, I actually used to be a pretty good trumpet player…..please don't ask me for any renditions in the pub, for everyone's sake. Then it was off to CRC for a completely non plumbing related course. I wanted to be a fireman originally but realised confined spaces were not for me… but whilst working at a Little Chef at the grand age of 16 as well as college 3 days a week, I was working with my dad (Nigel Harrison) on Mondays and Fridays fitting fireplaces from our shop in Burwell (now Tinas) and it was a natural progression into my plumbing and heating apprenticeship with Dad. 20 years later I'm still putting up with him.

Are you currently married or living with a long-term partner? If so, whom and how did you meet?

We met on a dark January evening in 2011 when we bumped into each other in the White Hart in Newmarket. Poppy was still at University and probably should have been studying. It was actually Keith's brother, Craig who introduced us that evening. We spent the night chatting away and a few days later, Keith took me for tapas at La Tasca in Cambridge. He piled me with sangria and I left thinking he was the one! Keith proposed whilst on holiday in Positano, Italy on 3rd July 2019. Everyone tells me the best things come to those who wait, right!



We got home and started planning our wedding for June 2020. Unfortunately, COVID scuppered our plans, so after quite a few rescheduled dates, we finally got married at Reach Church on 7th August 2021 with 20 of our close family and friends. Keith's parents, Nigel and Sally Harrison got married there and it was where Keith's grandma, Joyce Harrison was laid to rest so it was a very special place for us. I understand we were the last wedding before the renovations started.



We also had a bigger celebration with more friends and family on 17th September 2021 in a marquee at Cambridge County Polo Club in Lode. We had another service which our friend Will conducted so all of our friends and family could be there. Naturally, Poppy planned the whole thing! We had a truly amazing day and can't believe we'll soon be celebrating one year of marriage (and hopefully many more!).



How did you come to live in Reach and when?

We had been living together for a few years at Keith's house in Burwell when we decided in 2016 to start looking for somewhere bigger. We came across our current house, 40 Swaffham Road after viewing what felt like hundreds of houses. The house was a little run down, in fact when we viewed it there was a flood in the kitchen and we had to help the estate agent mop it up and Keith had to fix the toilet!

Poppy walked in and immediately thought we could put our stamp on this. Keith on the other hand couldn't see it and wanted to leave the viewing immediately. I tried to convince him and it worked! We got the keys in June 2016, so we've been in Reach for 6 years. We've knocked walls down, new kitchen, bathroom, garden, we've had a full makeover. We're really happy here and hope to move onto something else in the next 3-5 years. We love Reach life and definitely see ourselves here long term. If anyone is thinking of selling you know where we are!! 😊

Where do you work and what do you do?

Poppy: Whilst I was at University, I had 2 jobs: waitressing at the wedding venue and working at Queens Court care home in Bottisham as a care assistant. Two very different jobs, but I loved working at Queens Court, chatting to all the residents. My first job after leaving university was at Zeiss (Carl Zeiss) who were based on Coldhams Lane in Cambridge. I was meant to be there for 2 weeks in their marketing department but left 5 years later after working as a marketing and events executive. I arranged all of their tradeshows and medical events. I also spent 2 years as a Sales Developer, which gave me an insight into medical sales. I went into Opticians selling optometry equipment and into hospitals looking after their optical and Neuro Microscopes. Thinking sales was the career for me I left Zeiss and went to another Cambridge based company, Scientia selling university timetable software. I stuck it out for 2 years but always had in the back of my mind I was much better at events and marketing.

I joined Napp Pharmaceuticals in December 2018 based on the Science Park and worked as an Events Manager, working on their Diabetes events. Essentially, I organised our attendance at congresses and medical events where HCPs go to learn more about the advances in that area and learn about our drugs. In August 2021 I joined the global company, Mundipharma and took a Global events role working across several drug therapy areas.

A few weeks ago, May 2022, I joined AstraZeneca as a Global Events Project Manager. I really love working within pharmaceutical events, it's very fast paced, dealing with lots of moving components to get our presence at an International Congress ready, sometimes managing our attendance of over 500 people at a 3- 5-day congress. I love the travel aspect, visiting new cities across the world and meeting a variety of people. It's early days but I hope I am fortunate enough to have a long and prosperous career with AstraZeneca.

Keith: I certainly haven't had the variety of jobs that Poppy has had, we often joke I haven't ever had a proper interview or enjoy using a computer all day. My first job (like most youngsters) was a paper round in Burwell, I used to do the biggest round and earn a whopping £17 a week; just about enough for a top up card for my phone (that does make me feel and sound very old). My first real job was at the Little Chef on the A14 (now Starbucks). I had a little 50cc moped and I could get there down Heath Road. I did as many shifts as possible, most evenings and all weekend, along with fitting the fireplaces on Mondays and Fridays… I have never been so well off…. until Mum and Dad started charging rent anyway. I then started picking up a few jobs within the plumbing and heating side which I really enjoyed so I enrolled at Cambridge Regional College (CRC) on their plumbing and heating apprenticeship. One day a week at college, the other 4 days on the tools eventually getting my gas safe qualifications.

As they say the rest is history; I am one third of Harrison's of Burwell, Plumbing and Heating, still working with my dad and brother Craig. It's the problem solving/fault finding side I really enjoy and hope to have many more years doing it.

Do you have any pets?

Yes! Our favourite child is Jett, our black cocker spaniel (He's Jett black 😄). I'm sure lots of you have either seen him out on a walk, swimming in the river or enjoying a pint of Guinness at the Dyke's End.



Jett is 6 years old now. It was a big thing for Poppy getting Jett, as she was never a huge dog lover. Now she would be lost without him! We love nothing more than walking to Wicken or going to the beach with Jett.

What are your hobbies?

We love to travel; we have been lucky enough to travel to lots of amazing countries over the years, Australia, Thailand, Greece, Spain, Italy to name a few. We enjoyed an amazing trip to the Maldives in January for our honeymoon. We have also just returned from Seville in Spain where we had a long weekend with Poppy's family. We have a long list of places to visit on our bucket list 😊. On the weekends we are usually eating out in Bury or Cambridge, trying out new restaurants. Keith plays football twice a week in Burwell and Bottisham and Poppy enjoys going to the gym in Snailwell. Poppy also enjoys being creative with flowers and foliage and makes door wreaths at Christmas time with her friend Charlotte.

What is your philosophy in life?

Poppy: Say yes to everything!
Keith: Someone else is happy with less than what you have.

Content provided by **Keith and Poppy** and compiled by **Karen Carpenter**.

Nature in Reach



The nights are drawing in, the apple trees are heaving with fruit and the garden is decorated with dewy cobwebs in the morning.

The end of a blistering summer has arrived - after months of drought the rain has brought a fresh flush of green.

The garden birds, blue tits, robins, wrens and dunnocks that disappeared somewhere during the hot weather have all returned to our garden, along with the occasional flock of long-tailed tits, a greater spotted woodpecker and even a sparrow hawk. The other evening I even spotted one of my favourite UK birds, the barn owl, illuminated by the streetlight at the front of the house.



Late summer walk across the fields after harvest

Autumn in Reach for me means apples, sloes and blackberries. It seems almost miraculous that the apple trees have been able to suck enough moisture from the soil to make apples this year. Reach blackberries I find a curious affair - the majority, whilst looking plump and delicious provide a most uninspiring mouthful. I know of a few select spots where tasty ones can be picked.

A quick google suggests that there are over 1,000 micro-species of Blackberry in the UK alone and it is not uncommon to find as many as twenty individual varieties of Blackberry within a one mile radius – each with its own unique flowers, size, shape, scent, fruit and taste.



Deceptive Reach blackberries, not as tasty as they look

Autumn also means murmurations on the fen. The short trip to Tubney Fen just outside the village is well worth it to watch the flocks of starlings converge and dance before settling down into the reedbeds. Timing can be tricky but 15-20 mins before sunset is about right. We always try to make it out to the murmuration a couple of times in the autumn. It seems as if the last few years the birds have been moving on from Tubney earlier, so if you want to see them, best to catch them late October/early November. Our youngest, born in autumn, is named for the murmuration and the fenland skies - I remember us sitting near the hide at Tubney a few days before she was born mesmerised by the swirling display of thousands of starlings.

Nature sightings late July/August from Nick Acklam

29 July: A female Southern Hawker Dragonfly patrols the airspace over our pond for several minutes. A great opportunity to examine her striking yellow and green markings.

10 August: 40 or so Greylag geese in a loose flight over Burwell fen. These large groupings are a feature of this time of year and are, perhaps, the most effective way for the geese to glean grain left by the harvesters.

A Green Sandpiper flies up from a ditch adjoining Weirs Drove, its distinctive white rump is very visible.



Watching the murmuration last November

12 August: As we walk on the Reach lode bank we have the strange experience of watching a Sparrowhawk from above as it flies low along the track at the base of the bank for some distance before barrel-rolling over the hedge and onto Tubney Fen.

16 August: A herd of 20 Koniks gathers on Burwell Fen close to the cycle bridge. About half the ponies have one and occasionally two Starling perched on their shoulders. Periodically the birds drop down into the grass, presumably to snatch insects stirred up by the hooves. The savannah has come to Cambridgeshire!

Autumn Wildlife Sightings Joss

8.8 Hummingbird hawkmoth in garden, Great Lane.

10.8 Large holes in our muckheap, think badgers digging for worms.

11.8 5 rare grey partridge cross our field to use water provided in wildlife trays. Many noisy pied wagtails.

12.8 Evening calls of both tawny and barn owls.

14.8 Ron rang, he had clearly seen a rare honey buzzard, mobbed by other birds, circling above Reach, identified by its pale feathers. I mentioned this to Hilary, who exclaimed she had seen it only the day before, above the nearby fen.

Ron found a grounded swift and took it for specialist rescue care in Bury St. Edmunds:
https://bseswiftgroup.org.uk.
He mentioned the swifts departed around the second week of August.

21.8 Ron and Penny saw a red kite overhead and again at the bottom of their garden.

21.8 Martin spotted a sizeable moth on our wooden porch, a Large Yellow Underwing.

23.8 Talked to Charles Moseley who mentioned he saw an all black squirrel only a few miles from Reach at Upware.

4.9 Hummingbird moths on garden salvias and flock of long-tailed tits in our tree.

5.9 Nowadays a quite unusual sighting, a chaffinch in Great Lane.

7.9 A ball of feathers bowled down our field which transpired to be two fighting cock robins.

8.9 Solitary stable swallow, twittering on electricity wire. Ron mentioned the latest he saw a swallow still here was on 14 Nov.

Cath Tayleur
cathtayleur@gmail.com

Community Cafe

The café closed in August for a summer break and its re-start in early September was well supported which suggests that the café is much appreciated. Textile sessions (mostly sewing in its multi various forms and knitting) now partially overlap with the café and the input of new personnel has created an extra buzz.

So, the café is popular and enjoyed but we would like a larger spectrum of villagers to use this facility, for example, the café coincides with the end of the school day so it would be nice if children and their guardians joined us. Also, if you're working from home what about a break from staring at the screen and wallpaper and paying us a visit.

See you there!

Helen and Claire

Wicken Fen



Autumn wildlife

Look out for migrant birds arriving to spend the winter at Wicken Fen next time you are visiting the reserve. By the time you read this article, you should be able to spot wigeon, redwing and fieldfare. The low rays of autumn sun catch the reeds' feathery golden spikes on afternoon walks round the boardwalk and in the reedbeds on the wider reserve. The changing seasons always present something new in the natural world, so if you haven't visited for a while, it's well worth making time for a stroll on the reserve.

Footprints: Community Engagement Project

New Wicken Wellbeing Walk – Fridays 10-11am

Following our pilot series of walks in the fen edge villages, we launched a weekly wellbeing walk at Wicken Fen on Friday 30 September. The feedback we received during the pilot indicated that a regular, easy paced, sociable walk would be welcome. So, if you'd like to join us, please meet in the Visitor Centre at Wicken Fen on Friday morning ready for a 10am start. The walk will be around 2 miles in length at a relaxed pace, taking approximately an hour.

Vision Festival - Saturday 8 and Saturday 15 October

For the first time we are celebrating the Vision with activities at both ends of the Vision area: at Wicken Fen on Saturday 8 October and at Anglesey Abbey on Saturday 15 October.

We'll be showcasing Footprints activities with demonstrations and hands-on activities provided by our brilliant project partners. You'll also be able to discover more about the Wicken Fen Vision by joining us for walks, talks, boat trips and much more.

Check out our Facebook event and the What's On section of our website for more details and to book. There's a good mix of drop-in and bookable events.
We hope to see you at either (or both) Festival days.

October half term - family fun at Wicken Fen

Monday 24, Wednesday 26 and Friday 28 October
Storytelling in the Fen Cottage, with spooky Fenland stories for all the family. Free sessions throughout the day between 10:30 and 15:00 – sign up at the Visitor Centre on the day.

Tuesday 25 and Thursday 27 October
Family-friendly guided tours of Fen Cottage. Free sessions throughout the day between 10:30 and 14:00 – sign up at the Visitor Centre on the day.

Saturday 29 October
Toast-making over an open fire in the Fen Cottage. Free sessions 11:00-12:00 and 13:30-14:30 - sign up at the Visitor Centre on the day.

STOP PRESS – Father Christmas at the Fen is now available to book! See our website for details.

For the latest reserve information, please visit our website www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen

Details of our events can be found on our website at https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen-nature-reserve/whats-on

For the latest reserve information, please visit our website www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen

Julia Hammond

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Saturday 8th October - 10am to Midday

This lovely annual event is being hosted by **Helen and Andrew** in their new home (**Hill Farm Barn, 28 Fair Green**) where Andrew's legendary **bacon butties** will be available for purchase plus **tea, coffee and cakes**.

We are looking for **cakes to be donated** - if you can help, **please get them to Helen**, either on the day or prior to the event. So please come along, however briefly and meet friends, support the **Raffle** (proceeds from this will go to **Arthur Rank**), peruse the **Flower Stall** and generally have fun.
On the day, we can only take **cash**, but should you so wish you can also **donate online at https://thyg.uk/BUS007565952**.

Helen 07763 201786, **Pam** 742924, **David** 07887 563720

Anglesey Abbey

A hot chocolate from Redwoods and a camera are a must this time of year in the garden. Rich autumnal colours begin to breakout throughout the garden, some of our favourite spots to capture the burnt reds and oranges are on Temple Lawn, the Riverside Walk and Jubilee Avenue. An abundance of Cyclamen near the Mill adds to the sensory autumn delights that begin to shine through in early October.

Plans are well underway for our annual fundraising event Winter Lights. An alternative to traditional Christmas experiences 'Nature by Night, Nature by Light' is a beautiful, sensory after-dark journey that brings the gardens of Anglesey Abbey to life in all their wonder. Alongside a variety of artists and performers we'll be continuing our partnership with local author Robert MacFarlane and illustrator Jackie Morris. The Lost Words and The Lost Spells poems, music and illustrations will thread throughout the experience. Visitors to Winter Lights 2022 will see magical projections of Jackie's nature illustrations created by the award-winning projectionist team Ross Ashton and Karen Monid, as well as new versions of songs and poems from the books throughout the route.

Tickets are on sale now on our website and the event will be running from Friday 9- to Wednesday 21 December. Every ticket bought helps places, people and nature thrive. The Woodland Play area is the ultimate destination this October half term. Nestled away, at the end of the woodland path, there is something for everyone, from the swings and scrambler climbing frame to bird watching and den building. Head to Hoe Fen and see what you get up to.

The House is closed from Tuesday 1 to Wednesday 30 November as we prepare for Christmas. Join us from Thursday 1 December to kickstart your festive season, explore richly decorated rooms and delight in festive music at the weekends. Head to our website for all the details.
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/anglesey-abbey-gardens-and-lode-mill

Image credit: National Trust/Justin Minns

Meg Curteis



Number 11 and 12 Bus Service Update



Action to Save the number 11 & 12 Bus Routes

Stagecoach have announced plans to axe 21 bus routes in Cambridgeshire and reductions to several other services from 30th October 2022. The number 11 between Bury St Edmunds and Cambridge, which stops in Reach, will no longer run, nor will the number 12 between Ely and Cambridge, which stops at Bottisham.

This was announced at very short notice, creating significant uncertainty and worry. The Mayor and the Combined Authority are responsible for the transport budget locally. The Mayor has taken emergency action with the following overarching timetable:

- Services (contracts) put out to tender on 21st September
- Combined Authority in receipt of tenders on 6th October
- Combined Authority to analyse the potential results by 12th October
- Offer contracts subject to 10-day standstill period by 13th October; and
- New contracts commence 30th October

I understand that the Combined Authority is seeking to procure services on a like-for-like basis as there is insufficient time to review all the services involved, but the final picture will depend on bidders and prices as to whether everything can be replaced.

The Combined Authority has to set out policies and objectives for local transport and to manage the spending of local government transport budgets. They also have some legal duties:

- around the provision of school transport; and
- to determine local non-statutory concessions policy and administer both statutory and non-statutory travel concessions (via Traffic Concession Authorities).
- In addition they are required to "consider"
- funding socially necessary bus services; and
- the needs of elderly and disabled individuals.

The Government's *Bus Back Better* strategy https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bus-back-better also sets out (on P38) the structure of today's bus sector in England. As it says, "operators decide where and when to run commercial services, invest in the buses and facilities and set their own fares, with only a very limited role for Local Transport Authorities". The Combined Authority was among the seventy per cent of applicants nationwide to receive no funding for its Bus Improvement proposals.
And we do not yet have either franchising or an enhanced partnership in place. It appears that there is growing consensus that local moves towards franchising are the way to go, and quickly.

The AtoB1102 group has met to discuss how to save the number 11 bus route and tasked various people to collect information, prepare a survey and discuss with Stagecoach prior to meeting again shortly to agree next steps - https://atob1102.org/save-the-number-11-bus/.

You can help by signing the petition:

https://www.change.org/p/stop-the-cancellation-of-stagecoach-bus-service-11-12?recruiter=65658112&recruited_by_id=b93c6edf-bda6-4213-b265-45fff69aff49&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=share_for_starters_page&utm_medium=copylink.

[Ed: this is the same petition which I circulated via the village email recently]

And by using the number 11 bus and noting how many other passengers are travelling with you and letting me know (charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk), so I can feed into the AtoB1102 group. Maybe share picture(s) of your journey on social media asking how you will get to College/hospital/work/shops etc if the service is axed.

Charlotte Cane



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IS WAITING FOR YOU...

It's OK to talk about Hospice Care

Everyone needs support, care and encouragement, whether it's during the happiest or the hardest time of our life. "But we need it most at the end of life, when time is precious. When we only have one chance to get it right," says the national charity Hospice UK who champions the annual Hospice Care Week.

This year, the Hospice Care Week is taking place from 10th to 14th of October. To show our appreciation and to raise awareness of the support and care that hospices in our region offer to patients and their families, Cambridgeshire Libraries have teamed up with Sue Ryder and Arthur Rank Hospice Charity to hold 5 events in libraries and one event online in October.

We will have information about the hospices in the region and representatives from the hospices to answer questions and help demystifying what hospice care is about. Events include drop-in information stands, coffee and chat, public talk, information and book display, and a reading session. Please join us to share your experiences, to listen to others and to find out more about hospice care in a friendly and safe setting.

Please find information below. You can just turn up at the library on the day of the event, but please book a ticket for the online session.

Cambourne Library Sackville House, Sackville Way, Cambourne CB23 6HL	Monday 10th Oct, 10am - 3pm	Drop-in information stand
St Neots Library Priory Lane, St Neots PE19 2BH	Tuesday 11th Oct, 2pm - 4pm	Drop-in coffee and chat
Wisbech Library Ely Place, Wisbech PE13 1EU	Wednesday 12th Oct, 10am - 12noon	Drop-in coffee and chat
Soham Library 7 Clay Street, Soham CB7 5HJ	Thursday 13th Oct, 10am - 1pm	Talks and coffee event
Cambridgeshire Central Library Lion Yard, Cambridge CB2 3QD	Monday 10th – Sunday 16th	Information and book display
Online event (Zoom) Book tickets on Cambridgeshire Libraries Eventbrite page	Wednesday 12th Oct, 7pm - 8pm	Reading and info session **"With the End in Mind – Readings on Loss, Love and Living Well"**

Advertisers List

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	3
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	
Cartwright Brothers	2
Engineering Services	
N & G Marsh of Burwell	5
Financial Services	
Independent Financial Solutions	7
Food and Drink	
The Dyke's End	Mag3
The Quy Mill Hotel and Spa	Mag14
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
Gifts and Interiors	
Honeysuckle and Hawthorn	8
Tina's, Burwell	11

CATEGORY	Page
Haberdashery and Mending	
Tina's, Burwell	11
Leisure	
Bottisham Sports Centre	16
T'ai Chi Chuan Classes	2
Oil	
Browns of Burwell	10
East Cambs Services	12
Paul Braybrooke Oil Boiler Service	16
Painting and Decorating	
Andy Pumfrey Painter and Decorator	11
Pest Control	
D-Branch	14
Plumbing and Heating	
Drain-Plumb Plumbing, Heating and Drain Services	9
East Cambs Services	12
Harrison Plumbing and Heating	9
NCS	8
Saniclean Drain and Plumbing Services	7
Pharmacy	
Pharmacy2Go	2
Pre-School	
Red House Day Nursery, Burwell	16
Roller Shutter Doors	
Garolla	2
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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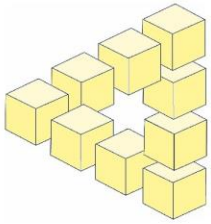

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Cricket Report

First, a triumph to report. Reach finished runners-up in the fourth division of the Adams Harrison midweek league, behind Fulbourn. There was no trophy on offer for this pinnacle of sporting achievement – so we bought our own!



Our first item of silver-coloured paint-sprayed plasticware: for runners up in the fourth division of the Adams Harrison Midweek League

The midweek league ends in the first week of August due to declining hours of daylight but following that we still had a lively schedule of Sunday friendlies and a tour to Monmouth, to play … with mixed results.

Sunday 7 August Cam Ceylon (188 all out) beat Reach (185-7) by 3 runs

This was more like a game of beach cricket, so dry and dusty was the ground. It should have suited the spinners – had we had any. Nevertheless, our new boy Alex Rowell did manage to extract three wickets for 22 runs and prevent Cam Ceylon from reaching 200 runs. They perished on 188.

Few would have given Reach much chance of batting out 40 overs as the ball turned, bounced, skidded and spat at us. Even fewer would have imagined that Reach would succeed in batting for 40 overs and still not win the match. We were off to a slow start and not even Hector Keutgen's undefeated 41 could quite help us catch up. Had there been a second day we would certainly have won the match, but alas that wasn't in the rules.

Sunday 14 August Reach (120-3) beat Waterbeach (119-9) by 7 wickets

Another week without rain and it was like playing against Timbuktu IIs – only with Greater Anglia trains rumbling past the ground rather than camel trains. Waterbeach, however, proved a happy hunting ground for father and son combination Tony and Archie Fordham, who found the reserves in their three stomachs to take three wickets apiece. The result was never much in doubt, after another half century from Tim Davies took us to the brink, and a series of wides took us to our target.

We scurried off through the dust like parched jerboas in search of a watering hole to celebrate a victory which occurred in spite of one of the greatest fielding blunders of all time – where Chris Bridgeman not only failing to catch a dolly of a slip catch but dropping onto the wicketkeepers' helmet, thereby conceding five runs. What a shame no-one caught it on film – otherwise the Reach CC TikTok account would rival that of Charli D'Amelio.

Sunday 28 August Reach (120-5) beat Horringer (119 all out) by 5 wickets

Another week, another direction, but Reach were set an identical target of 120 to win. This time it was Liam Ticehurst who inflicted the damage, taking 4 wickets for 13 runs. The Reach batting order took the job in its stride, with Tom Steed scoring 46.

Friday 2 September Reach (122-8) tied with Usk (122-7)

Our annual outing to Monmouth began with a 20-20 against Usk, on a pitch that was once used by Her Majesty's Prison next door. Usk, on paper, were a team which looked capable of humiliating us. But they had not reckoned with the tactics of young Wylie Mead, who kept tempting their batsmen to slice at the ball wide of off-stump. On the last ball of Usk's innings, he bagged himself a fifth wicket – earning himself a place on the honours board that we don't yet have.

Humiliation, though, still looked an all-too-likely outcome after a couple of overs of the Reach innings. Yet blow by blow and aided by a ball that ceased to be visible to the fielders, we crept towards our target until – for the first time in the club's history – we found ourselves tying with the opposition. It was a worthy outcome, but would it have been different had Reach's umpire known about 'leg-side wides' from the beginning (where any ball which passes behind the legs of the batsman is signalled a wide)?

The hapless individual was fined a pound for his ignorance. Given what was at stake – a rare victory on tour – a few months in the neighbouring institution might have been more appropriate.

Saturday 3 September Llanarth (124-3) beat Reach (120 all out) by 7 wickets

If we had evaded humiliation on the Friday, it succeeded in sniffing us out at Llanarth the following day – in spite of our youthful team having prepared with sobriety and a early night, with lights out by 4am. 120 or thereabouts seems to have become our favourite score – acceptable in a 20-20, perhaps, but not in a forty over match stuffed with Welsh international under 18 players. Take away Tim Davies' innings of 57 and there really wasn't much left. We hardly troubled Llanarth with our bowling, nor indeed our fielding, we succeeded in letting one ball through the doors of the village hall, to disturb a wedding party. Our defeat left a couple of yawning hours before we were booked into a Mexican restaurant, so we had a 10 over beer match. This was closer, not least thanks to a savage rule where our batsmen were forced to retire if they failed to score for two balls in a row. Requiring 13 off the last over we managed to lose four wickets in four balls, leaving us 10 short. Sunday's match was called off by the opposing team on the grounds they thought it was going to rain, leaving the team charabanc to depart early in a dejected mood up the M50.

Ross Clark

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Who are we?

We are myself, Harvey Robinson and Darren Claydon who are the Directors of the company. We also have an apprentice called Tom who has been with us just over a year, gaining more experience and confidence each day. My wife, Lucy Robinson deals with all the admin and front office work.

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Tales from a Reach Garden



I never thought that heavy rainfall would make me happy, but it finally happened late in August and again at the beginning of September when rain fell after the long, hot and dry summer weather. We had emptied most of our water butts watering potted plants and were down to just a couple of gallons in one water butt, and I had been using the water sparingly. Then the heavens opened overnight and refilled them all – the rain was surprising in its intensity, but very welcome.

Our weather this year has been virtually Mediterranean, with long dry spells of sunshine followed by heavy rain. Persistent drizzly rain seems to be a thing of the past…or maybe that's just Manchester? Mind you, my mother says that recently the weather in Manchester has been very odd too. If this is the shape of weather patterns to come we do need to improve methods of collecting rainwater nationally and Richard and I need bigger water butts.

The lawn looks lush and green again, and was mowed a couple of days ago for the first time since June. Some of the plants in the garden which I thought had perished, such as fuschia, have reappeared and are putting out flowers now. The echinacea which had suffered so much through lack of water in July have also perked up and flowered.





July's dehydrated echinacea are looking much better now thanks to plenty of rain!

In the veggie patch the runner beans have recovered, putting out flowers again and producing plump, fleshy bean pods. We kept them watered during the hot weather, but we could do little about the very hot temperatures.

Our main crop potatoes are only just putting out flowers now. They appear to be going through a second flush of growth after stalling in July and August. While the potato plants are looking so lush and green, it feels premature to dig them all up while they are putting on a growth spurt. We've started digging up individual potato plants when we need e.g. baking potatoes, because the weather is cooling now and although we still have plenty of salad potatoes, we want a change from eating salads.

We ran out of salad leaves in August (they bolted) but the cucumbers and tomatoes have been plentiful. The Mediterranean vegetables, (e.g., peppers, aubergines, tomatoes, courgettes, pumpkins) cropped and ripened very well this year. Now that autumn is upon us, nights are longer than days and cooler too, so we're removing leaves and flowers from the tomato plants to accelerate ripening of the few remaining green tomatoes. Normally, by the end of September I bring the peppers indoors just as they are starting to change colour so they can finish ripening off somewhere warmer; however, this year they ripened on the plants late in August and into September.

We've had an amazing crop of grapes this year, especially our seedless white grape which we grow outdoors. For most of the past twelve years, since we planted it next to a vine arch, it has provided very welcome shade on hot summer days and a couple of small bunches of tiny, sour green grapes in the autumn. This year we've had at least a dozen large bunches of grapes that swelled after the rainfall and sweetened in the September sunshine.



White grapes ripening on the vine arch

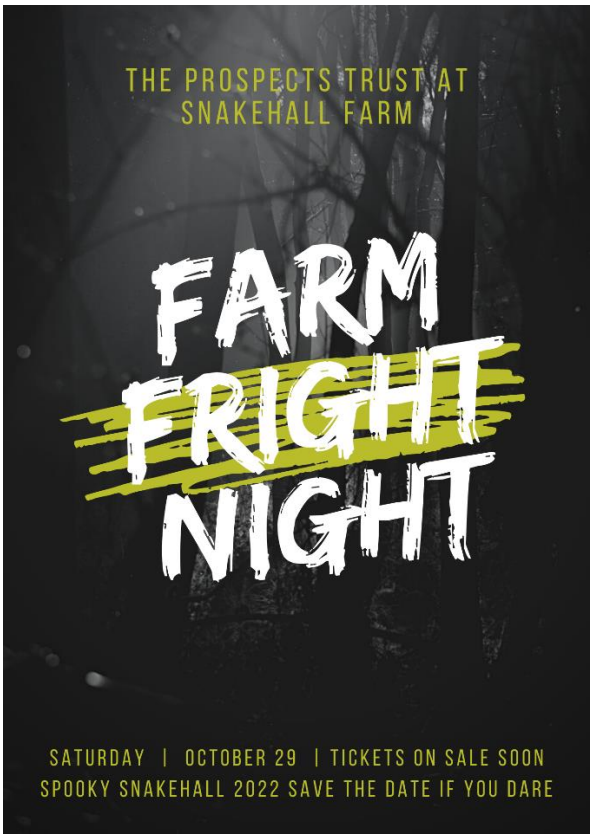
This year has also been an exceptionally good year for apples - they are plentiful but had been quite small in spite of thinning out the fruitlets in June. Then the rains came and the apples have benefitted: the fruits are larger now. Apple trees (and plums) tend to produce a very big crop one year and a much smaller crop in the following year. It's as if they overwork themselves one year then have a rest year to compensate. Thinning the crop to one fruit per spur allows larger fruit to form and reduces some of the effort by the tree. It is much easier to do if you have a small tree! After cropping, we give the trees (including pear and plums) a good dose of liquid seaweed feed followed by a large dollop of compost or manure around the base – ensuring the compost/manure doesn't touch the bark and is below the graft line, then repeat as necessary in spring.

The strawberries are surprising us by continuing to produce ripe berries well into September, this small but delicious second crop will continue as long as the weather remains warm and sunny but will probably stop within a few weeks as the days shorten further, or when the frosts arrive. We'll enjoy what's left of this unexpected bounty while we can.



Danuta Gibson

Snakehall Farm





Join Team Prospects!

We have expanded our provision, with the opening of **The Orchard** in Autumn 2022, our **Garden Team** is back to two trucks and the continued success of our Enterprise Kitchen means we have new opportunities for staff to join our super team here at Snakehall Farm, 741551 or rhian.cornell@prospectstrust.org.uk.

Food Focus



These recipes are courtesy of Karen Carpenters trip to Kerala where Sajeesh prepared them in a cookery demonstration. I can't say I've tried them, but in an attempt to prolong the summer (and make it Indian?) I include them here.

KERALA FISH CURRY

Ingredients

- Fish – 1 lb (use any white fish)
- Kudam Puli (Fish Tamarind/Gambooge) – 2 pies – tamarind can be used as an alternative. There is an amazing ingredients shop in Cherry Hinton.
- Chilly Powder – 1/2
- Turmeric Powder – 1/2 tsp
- Coriander Powder – 2 tsp
- Mustard Seeds – 1/2 tsp
- Fenu greak - 1tsp
- Chopped Onion – 1 large
- Slit Green Chillies – 3
- Garlic Cloves (finely chopped) – 4 or 5
- Ginger (finely Sliced) – 2 t
- Curry Leaves – A sp
- Water – 1 cup or more as needed
- Salt – to taste

Preparation Method

1. Clean, wash and cut the fish into medium sized pieces. Add a pinch of turmeric while washing the fish.
2. Soak the Kudam Puli in a little water.
3. Heat oil in a kadai (like a small wok) and splutter mustard seeds. fenu greak
4. Add onions, green chillies, curry leaves, ginger and garlic and saute for a while.
5. When the onions turn brown, add the masala, turmeric powder, chilly powder, coriander powder along with 1 cup water and salt.
6. When the gravy starts boiling, add the fish pieces and kudam puli/gambooge pieces.
7. Add more water if required, so as to cover the fish pieces.
8. Cover and cook on gentle heat for around 15 minutes.
9. If you like the taste of coconut milk, garnish with fried curry leaves



Kerala Fish Curry

THORAN

Ingredients

- Chopped cabbage – half of one medium sized cabbage
- Chopped Carrots – 3 big ones
- Chopped Onion – 1/2 cup
- Grated Coconut – 1 Cup
- Chopped Garlic – 4 small
- Chopped Green Chillies – 2
- Turmeric – 1/4 tsp
- Salt – As Required
- Coconut Oil – 2 tbsp
- Mustard Seeds – 1/2 tsp
- Curry Leaves – A sprig

Preparation Method

1. Combine the cabbage and carrots with some salt.
2. Heat 2 tbsp oil in a non-stick pan and splutter mustard seeds. Add chopped onion, garlic and curry leaves and turmeric powder - sauté for a few minutes.
3. Add the chopped cabbage and carrot. Sauté for 2 minutes.
4. Next add the grated coconut and combine everything together.
5. Cover the pan and cook on low flame, stirring occasionally. Do not add water while cooking



Thoran

Catherine Gibson

Burwell Museum

The Year So Far . . . .

Well, what a year 2022 has been for the Mill and Museum, a huge thank you to everyone who has visited us for your kind, generous and enthusiastic support as we emerged from Covid restrictions and embarked upon a full 2022 season.

We open each and every year on Easter Sunday and this year in beautiful sunshine, with a Mill and Museum spick and span due to the relentless hard work of our passionate volunteers, with new collections among the steadfast favourite exhibits, we welcomed visitors to the Burwell Mill and Museum 2022. Throughout the year to date, visitors have joined us in record breaking numbers and this is certainly helping us to recover from the 2 years of covid disruption. Thank you to you all!

Significant events this year have been plentiful. We celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the opening of the Museum on July 24th this year.


Village museum marks 30th anniversary

The exhibition created by Hazel and Linda, our Collections team, has bought a realisation to us all as to the hard work, determination and the very forward thinking vision to create such a significant landmark in Burwell bringing together the Mill and Museum side by side to celebrate and commemorate ' living in a fen edge village '. Rebuilding a derelict barn from Streetly End is in itself such an achievement as has been the collection of fascinating artefacts across the decades too.

Paul Hawes and John Wisbey, two of the founding members (and we are hasten to add two of our current volunteer team too), were amongst a reunion of those involved from 1982 onwards. Heartfelt thanks was bestowed upon this team in a speech from Brenda Wilson, Head of the Mill and Museum Trustees, acknowledging the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in the past, the present and of course as we look to the future too.

In June on a rainy day and housed in our Barn to protect from the somewhat lively weather, Pat Kilbey and the Folk Collective brought a cheerful patriotic spirit through song and sing along as we invited visitors to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

In July our Mill Team undertook their Annual maintenance of the mill – this was during the hottest week of the year so even more hard work in 32^0 heat. Andrew our Mill Manager took part in a 'Naked Scientist' podcast which can still be downloaded using the following link:
https://www.thenakedscientists.com/articles/interviews/how-humans-historically-harnessed-wind

Andrew our Mill Team Manager is keen to expand his volunteer Mill team and we therefore appeal to those who would be able to offer the team practical skills as well as an enthusiasm to learn more about windmills and to contribute to the continued restoration of the Burwell Mill . We also need to recruit front of house Mill Guides who would conduct the tours we offer to our visitors on Thursdays and Sundays .Even if you could offer us just a couple of hours a week or month , this would help us to do justice to the prevalence of the Mill in our portfolio . Please do contact us by popping down to the museum to see us for an informal chat or email admin@burwellmuseum.org.uk

In July we decided to open The Tea Room only on Mondays and Wednesdays , 10.30-3.30pm. As most of Burwell is closed on a Monday , we thought we would open the doors of our Tea Room to enable friends and families to meet in our beautiful surroundings adjacent to the Burwell Allotments for refreshments, cakes and snacks starting from £1 . We have traditional toys for children to play with while adults may chatter and natter.

Access to The Tea Room is through the usual Mill and Museum front entrance from Mill Close. We will continue to open just The Tea Room only on these 2 days until the end of the season on October 30th2022.



In August we hosted our Classic Car Show for the first time in 3 years.

With 33 beautiful cars and 3 classic motorcycles, the show mesmerised visitors with not only the unique engineering, the immaculate restoration of the vehicles, but with the emotional story telling for each and every car. Thank you to the owners who were truly inspiring. Thank you to Rob of Burwell Radio for the enlightening interviews conducted and the ' drivetime 'music tracks. And Thank You to Clive Leach our Mill and Museum neighbour who led this event to the record breaking success this certainly was. Look out for the date of our Classic car show for 2023 !

Throughout 2022, Alison our Head of Education and the volunteer Education Team have provided numerous talks, children's activities, hosted many community groups and School visits. Although we will be closing our doors at the end of October for the Winter, we still offer Outreach Talks and Loans boxes – just contact education@burwellmuseum.org.uk

Our School and Group Visits restart at Easter 2023 and further information can also be obtained from the above email address. Engaging with communities and showcasing the history and heritage of our Mill and Museum and of Burwell /surrounding areas is something our education team loves to do, so contact us for 2023 visits or talks we may be able to help you with asap, lets secure that date in the diary.

On Sunday 30th October please do join us for our closing day for 2022, an 'Autumn Miscellany' crescendo! Check on social media and our website for further details nearer the time.

See you then!

Sara Phipps

Trustee on behalf of Burwell Mill and Museum

www.burwellmuseum.org.uk

www.facebook.com/burwellmuseum

www.twitter.com/burwellmuseum

www.instagram.com/burwellmuseum

Church Services in Reach

Sunday 2nd October
8.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 6th November
8.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 13th November
Remembrance Sunday
10.50am at War Memorial followed at 11.05am by the Service, in the Church

Letter from the Vicarage



We have all had opportunity over the last few weeks to give thanks for the life of her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Much has been said in tribute and there have been many moving demonstrations of the affection in which she has been held by so many.

For me, what has also stood out has been how her faith in Christ shaped her reign. As the baton has now passed to the next generation, we will continue to pray for King Charles III as he begins his reign at a time of such national and international uncertainty.

As we move into the autumn, many will be facing a worrying time, as the cost of living spirals upwards at an alarming rate. For people who are already in financial difficulties, their situation will probably be at crisis point already. There are no easy answers, but as a Church fellowship, we're going to try to do what we can to support our community. Over the summer, in partnership with the Co-op, we've been able to offer a simple lunch on Fridays, as part of our family activity mornings at St Mary's and we hope to continue that in some way over the next few months, offering hospitality where we can. Let us know if you'd like to support or partner with us, or would appreciate support yourself. We'll publish more information as things develop.

As you know, St Etheldreda's is currently closed for refurbishment. We hope that the Church will reopen mid to late October and we're very much looking forward to the increased possibilities opened up by having a warmer, insulated building, with a servery and toilet. When we have a definite date for re-opening, we will be able to confirm details of a celebration service and regular services and events. We will also be reviewing our service pattern and it would be really helpful to know if you might come to a service in the Church, if it was at a different time than 8.00 or 8.30am on Sunday!

News about CentrePeace, our bookshop and drop-in venue on the Causeway, Burwell: we're pleased that we have been able to extend opening times to: Tuesday 10 -12.30, Wednesday 2 – 4, Thursday 10 - 12.30 and 2-4, Friday 10 – 12.30, Saturday 10 – 12.30. Do drop by for bargain books and jigsaws, and for a cuppa and a chat.

Our Harvest service at St Mary's will be on Sunday 2nd October, beginning with refreshments from 9.45am and activities for all ages. Please bring along contributions to the service – tins/packets or produce – all will be donated to the Foodbank or distributed in the village. Depending on when St Etheldreda's is open, we will look at options for a harvest service.

November is Remembering month and on 6th November at 3.00pm in St Mary's we have our annual Service of Thanksgiving and Remembering for those who have lost loved ones and then marking Remembrance Sunday on 13th November, with a return to the usual pattern of Act of Commemoration at Reach War Memorial at 10.45am, continuing in the Church just after the 2 minute silence at 11am. For updates about what's going on at St Mary's, Burwell or St Etheldreda's, Reach, please see our Facebook pages and website. We now aim to livestream our weekly 10.00am Sunday service on Facebook. Refresh Café is in St Mary's every Friday morning from 10.00am, for babies and toddlers with their carers and we also have Messy Church events. Please get in touch if you would like more information about these or any of our events or services, including weddings, christenings and baby thanksgivings, or if you would value an opportunity to chat. 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 Canon Dr Eleanor Williams

Vicar of Burwell with Reach, 01638 741262

vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk
www.stmarysburwell.org.uk
www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell/

Reach Church Development Update

As I'm pleased to report that the builders say they should be finished by mid-October, on schedule. In fact, they would have finished early if it hadn't been for the long delay in connecting the sewer and electricity, which is now scheduled for 3rd October. While the builders are waiting for this, they have been doing some minor outdoor repairs and redecorating. A lightning conductor has been fitted and the clock will be repainted and re-gilded.



Nave – looking East



Vestry

Inside, the church is looking beautiful, as you can see from the pictures. The wooden floor, which has been laid on top of the underfloor heating is very smart and gives the whole church a bright look. The vestry is surprisingly large, now that it no longer contains the organ. The chandelier will be taken down for cleaning and replaced with a pulley attachment that will enable us to lower it for lighting the candles – much safer than balancing precariously on a ladder!

We have designed a memorial plaque for Maisie Whitehead, whose generous legacy has made this development possible and submitted it to the Church of England authorities for approval. We hope to place it on the wall in the nave, in line with plaques commemorating other donors to the church. A plaque can only contain so much information, however, so we are considering compiling a longer document containing more details of Maisie's life, which could be stored permanently in the church. If you have any ideas about this, please let me know.

We hope the first service in the church might be on or near a day in mid-October that remembers St Etheldreda, even if some small aspects of the work are not quite finished. We hope that an official opening by the Bishop of Huntingdon will follow a little later. More information will be circulated around the village by email, as will requests for help with the practical business of sorting out all the church furnishings which are in a storage container and putting them back in church.

Reach Church Development Group

Church Services

Please note that these service arrangements may alter when St Etheldreda's re-opens.
Please check our website or the weekly news sheet for up to date information.

October 2022	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach (Village Hall or Church when open)
Sunday 2nd 16th after Trinity	10.00am Harvest Café Church	8.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday5th	10.30am Holy Communion	
Sunday 9th 17th after Trinity	10.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday 12th	10.30am Holy Communion	
Sunday 16th 18th after Trinity	10.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday19th	10.30am Holy Communion	
Sunday 23rd Last after Trinity Bible Sunday	8.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday 26th	10.30am Holy Communion	
Sunday 30th All Saints	10.00am Holy Communion	
November 2022	**St Mary's Burwell**	**St Etheldreda's, Reach in Village Hall**
Sunday 6th November 3rd before Advent	10.00am All Age Service 3.00pm Service for the Bereaved	8.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 10th November	10.30am Holy Communion	
Sunday 13th Remembrance Sunday	8.30am Holy Communion 3.00pm Remembrance Service (Act of Remembrance War Memorial at 2.30pm)	10.50am Remembrance Service (Starts at War Memorial) Continues in church just after 11.00am
Wednesday 17th	10.30am Holy Communion	
Sunday 20th Next before Advent Christ the King	10.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday 21st	10.30am Holy Communion	
Sunday 27th Advent Sunday	8.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday 28th	10.30am Holy Communion	

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

Scan QR code to go to our website for more details and links to book for services in church buildings and to join in via Facebook
https://stmarysburwell.org.uk
www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell

Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Nick Acklam	Vice Chair	743749
Charlotte Cane	Chair	741064
Cristine Fletcher	Councillor	07763 529886
David McMillan	Councillor	741259
Matt Newman	Councillor	07786 988175
Vacancy	Councillor	
Vacancy	Councillor	

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

Should there be a vacancy and you are interested in being co-opted onto the Parish Council please get in touch with the Clerk whose contact details are below.

Meetings take place in the **Village Hall** on the first **Tuesday** of each month. They start at **7.00pm** and all Reach villagers are welcome to attend.

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

Know Your District Councillors



The death of HM Queen Elizabeth II was announced on Thursday 8 September, our condolences go to her family at this sad time. The Accession Council met on Saturday 10 September to proclaim the new monarch King Charles III—the first time its meeting has been televised. Several Council Committee meetings have had to be postponed or cancelled either because the notice for, or the date of, the meeting was within the official mourning period.

On the weekend of the funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II, Stagecoach announced its intention to cancel 21 bus routes across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with effect from the end of October 2022. Their proposals include scrapping the number 11 and the number 12, leaving us without a bus service through Reach and the next nearest through Bottisham. This is despite a six-month extension of Government bus recovery funding for bus operators like Stagecoach, intended to secure the current network of bus services. There is a petition to support the 11 & 12 routes at:
https://www.change.org/p/stop-the-cancellation-of-stagecoach-bus-service-11-12
and a petition to support all 21 routes at:
https://www.cambridgeshirelibdems.org.uk/save_our_bus_services. We will be working with the AtoB1102 group and other local Councillors to try to keep the 11 & 12 buses running.

Performance for waste collection and street cleansing at ECDC has been the lowest since the service was transferred to East Cambs Street Scene (ECSS) in 2018. The performance of the service was due to be debated at a meeting of the Council's Operational Services Committee on Monday 12 September, but this was cancelled following the death of HM The Queen.

- The Council's target for 'bin deliveries within 10 working days' was 92% but the Council managed just 38%.
- Similarly, the Council's target for 'overall performance' of the street cleansing service was 90% but the Council achieved just 21% in the first quarter of the financial year.

Staff shortages, sickness and the recent reconfiguration of waste rounds are being blamed for the performance downturn. Street sweeping services have suffered as drivers have been diverted to the waste collections which was considered a higher priority.

The District Council has requested an extension for deciding the Mepal crematorium application (21/01216/F3M) until 30 September 2022. The reason why an extension of time is being requested has been given as 'to all [sic] for full assessment of the application'. 626 new dwellings were built across East Cambridgeshire last year. Of these, 154 met the Government's definition of affordable. These completions are a significant increase on previous years, but it is very disappointing that just 25% of these dwellings were 'affordable'. The definition of affordable housing detailed in the National Planning Policy Framework is at least 20% less than market rent or prices, which would leave housing costs in this area well above Shelter's definition of affordable for those on median salaries, which is 35% of income after tax.

Nevertheless, whilst we quibble with how affordable 'affordable' housing is, it is at least less expensive than market prices and we should be requiring developers to provide more than 25%. The Council will publish a breakdown of these figures by Parish on their website in the early autumn.

Government housing policy is not just about how many homes are delivered, but also what future supply of new homes are forecast for an area. The most important aspect of that policy is whether an area can demonstrate 'five years' worth' of supply which is likely to come forward via recent planning decisions. East Cambs' latest calculations demonstrate that we continue to have a very healthy supply of homes coming forward, of approximately 7 years' worth. This means that the policies in the Local Plan, including the development envelopes, are robust and enforceable.

With CPI inflation at 9.4% and forecast to rise further, the fuel prices increasing to, many of us are worried about our finances. If you are struggling with bills, or know people who are struggling, please talk to someone. There is support available – East Cambs have a team who can help, email them at: communityadviceservice@eastcambs.gov.uk or call 01353 665555 and ask for the Housing and Community Advice team. There is a list of helpful sites at https://www.angliarevenues.gov.uk/services/moneyadvice/index.cfm. Or there is Citizens Advice in Newmarket https://suffolkwestcab.org.uk/. There will be help available to at least agree a manageable payment schedule and quite possibly to get financial support.

One very sustainable way to reduce your energy costs is to ensure your home is well insulated. If you earn less than £30,000 a year or receive certain benefits, for example Universal Credit or Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, you could get a grant of up to 100% of the costs of insulating your home. If you rent, your landlord could get a grant of up to 80% of the costs.

If you want more information email: HomeEnergy@eastcambs.gov.uk or call the Customer Service team on 01353 665555 and ask about Action on Energy grants.

We are getting increasing complaints about motorists speeding and/or parking inconsiderately. Much of the speeding on the B1102 may be people from outside our villages, but most of the speeding within the villages will be people who live in that village or a neighbouring village. We all like the quiet and safety of our villages, and we all can help keep them that way by keeping within the speed limit. The York and North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership has calculated that if you hit a pedestrian:

- at 40 mph there is a 90 percent chance they will be killed.
- at 35 mph there is a 50 percent chance they will be killed.
- at 30 mph there is a 20 percent chance they will be killed.
- at 20 mph there is a 2.5 percent chance they will be killed.

The other concern is parking, especially around shops, schools, and narrow roads. When you park, please think about other road users especially pedestrians, emergency vehicles and waste lorries.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership has published its plans for transport into Cambridge. The plans include more regular buses, with flat rate fares, paid for through a 'road user charge'. They will be consulting on this in the autumn, and it has significant implications for local residents. For more details see: https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/news/ambitious-proposals-to-deliver-world-class-transport-network-for-greater-cambridge-unveiled. Fares for buses from here would be a flat rate £2 and inside the current mega rider boundary they would be £1. There would be a daily cap and concessions and free bus passes would remain as current. The road user charge of £5 for cars and motorbikes, more for larger vehicles, will be charged on weekdays 7.00am to 7.00pm. There will be discounts for regular travellers and exemptions for some people, e.g. Blue Badge holders, community transport, buses.

We will be holding a face to face surgery on 18 October from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Fassage Hall, Lode and thereafter at The Shed, Lode. With another surgery on 23 November from 6.30 at Swaffham Prior Village Hall. In the meantime, residents can contact us by email or phone.

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

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

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Saturday 8th October - 10am to Midday

Hosted by **Helen and Andrew** in their new home (**Hill Farm Barn, 28 Fair Green**)

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held at in the village hall on Tuesday 2nd August 2022 at 7.00pm.

Attendance

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

Councillor Acklam as vice Chair, took the Chair and opened the meeting

Apologies for absence - Approved.

Forum for members of the public.
A member of the public attended to listen to the planning section of the meeting.

1. Appointment of PC Chair.
The PC had been made aware that under Local Government Act 1972 s 14 (1) and s15, a Chair must be appointed. Councillor Cane was nominated by Councillor Acklam and seconded by Councillor Fletcher. Approved.

Councillor Cane took over as Chair of the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interests
Councillor McMillan declared an interest in planning **22/00863/TRE**

3. Planning – 22/00863/TRE, 17 Fair Green, T1 Japanese Elm (Zelkova serrata) - Fell due to lifting of brick paving and cracks to wall.
Councillor Acklam, as Tree Officer visited the property. The roots of this tree are already breaking the path & the garden wall to the next property. The residents had previously pruned the tree to try and improve the situation, but this had resulted in the tree growth increasing. The neighbour had been consulted and is in agreement with the felling. ***Clerk*** to write to planning in support of the felling.

22/00784/FUL - : 29A Burwell Road, Conversion of 1st floor & right-hand ground floor bay of garage to Annex.
Site visit by Nick Acklam, Charlotte Cane, Matt Newman on 27 July 2022. The applicants were also present.
Development plan Not applicable. The property is already built, and the proposal will leave the exterior substantially unaltered.
Local plan Not applicable
Previous applications/appeals None
Loss of sunlight None
Overshadowing/loss of outlook None
Overlooking and loss of privacy No windows are proposed on the sides of the property bordering neighbours. The roof lights will not provide an outlook onto neighbouring properties.
Highway issues: Traffic generation Vehicular access, Highway safety No increase in existing traffic
Noise or disturbance resulting from use, Residential use only and unlikely to impact adversely on neighbours
Smells and fumes None

Capacity of physical infrastructure Unlikely to be any increase in demand. The property will be connected to septic tank of the main house which has adequate capacity.
Deficiencies in social facilities Not applicable
Storage and handling of hazardous materials and development of contaminated land Not applicable
Loss or effect on trees Not applicable
Adverse impact on nature conservation interests and biodiversity opportunities Not applicable. There will be no additional exterior lighting.
Effect on listed buildings and conservation areas Not applicable
Incompatible or unacceptable uses The applicants envisage using the annex purely for family and friends. We propose a 'Private Use Only' condition is applied should the application be approved.
Local Financial considerations offered as a contribution or grant Not applicable
Layout and density of building design, visual appearance and Finishing materials Not applicable. The property is already built, and the proposal will leave the exterior substantially unaltered.
Inadequate or inappropriate landscaping or means of enclosure Not applicable. The property is already built, and the proposal will leave the exterior substantially unaltered.
Conclusion No objection but submit comments to state that the PC would like it stipulated for private use only, not to be used as a separate dwelling, for commercial rent or other commercial purpose.

4. Finance – approval of audit exemption

The external auditor PKF Littlejohn LLP, had informed the PC that Reach Parish Council meets the criteria to be able to claim exemption from having a review performed under the limited assurance regime. By not having a review the PC will save a fee of £200. An internal audit has already been carried out by Moore & Co, Newmarket.
The PC agreed that ***The Clerk*** should return a claim for exemption form.

5. Streetlight inspection recommendations

The PC had received recommendations from Balfour Beatty BB following a site inspection of the streetlights n the village. The PC would like more details as an inspection report had not been received before. ***Clerk*** to contact BB for more information, check the maintenance contract and obtain alternative quotes. ***Councillors Newman & Fletcher*** to visit all lights during the day and at night to see if they are working and whether there are any obvious issues. ***Councillor Cane*** to find out whether CCC are still using BB.
This item will be on a future agenda and the PC encourages residents to offer their views regarding the streetlighting within the village

6. Payments

E. on - Power on the green	£26.78l
CR Contracting – mowing contract	£383.00

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held at in the village hall on Thursday 8th September 2022 at 7.00pm.

Attendance

Nick Acklam	Vice Chair	Present
Charlotte Cane	Councillor	Not Present
David McMillan	Councillor	Present
Cris Fletcher	Councillor	Present
Matt Newman	Councillor	Not Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Not Present
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present

Councillor Acklam as vice Chair, took the Chair and opened the meeting
Following the announcement of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the PC took advise from NALC (National Association of local Councils) and decided to continue with the meeting. A minutes silence was held allowing everyone attending to pay their respects.

Apologies for absence - Approved.

Forum for members of the public.
Two members of the public attended to give details supporting the Grant application and to listen to the section of the meeting regarding the Grant Fund.

Declaration of Interests
There were none.

5.1 Grant Fund.
An application had been received for £340 for a Sewing and other textile craft workshop. This is an extension of the Community café with an increased target audience. The focus will be on learning skills and community/social interaction.
Following discussion, the PC concluded that it would approve this application as a one-off 'seeding' payment and hoped it would lead to other activities taking place in the Village Hall. The PC noted the financial pressures facing the Village Hall arising from increases in energy prices and felt that supporting the Village Hall directly via the Grant Fund would be appropriate. The detail of the arrangement required some considered thinking in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee.
Councillor Acklam to write to the Village Hall Committee to start the discussion.

1. Planning – Councillor Acklam thanked Councillor Newman for attending both site visits.
22/00969/FUL - Springhall Farm 50 Great Lane, Proposed replacement 1no. two bedroom, two storey detached dwelling
Site visit by Councillor Acklam & Councillor Newman 7th September 2022. The applicant was present.
Development plan This site is in local landscape area 4 of the Landscape Appraisal by AFA supporting the draft Reach Neighbourhood Plan. The appraisal considered this fen-edge area to be sensitive but able to adsorb limited development of up to 1.5 storeys. The appraisal notes that 'large farm buildings associated with Springhall Farm are more visible but in keeping with the wider rural landscape'.
Local plan Policy HOU8 of the Local Plan requires any replacement dwelling to be of a similar height to the original dwelling unless the building is of exceptionally high quality and enhances the character and appearance of the locality. This proposal, for a 1.5 storey dwelling, is taller than the existing property but of far higher quality and would be significantly more energy efficient. Although a larger presence in the landscape than the existing dwelling, the proposal would be partially screened from local amenity land (including the Wicken Fen Vision area) by a large mature hedge and, potentially, even more so by a hay barn (of a similar size to the existing vehicle workshop) which has approval(22/00451/AGN) but is yet to be built. We consider that some thought has gone into the choice of roof and wall fabrics such that the proposed dwelling would be a reasonably discreet presence.
Previous applications/appeals 21/01437/CLE
Loss of sunlight None
Overshadowing/loss of outlook None
Overlooking and loss of privacy None. There are no windows overlooking neighbouring properties.
Highway issues: Traffic generation Vehicular access Highway safety A replacement property would generate no increase in traffic. Construction traffic would be able to access the site without damaging or blocking public rights of way or inconveniencing neighbours.
Noise or disturbance resulting from use, including proposed hours of operation None
Smells and fumes None
Capacity of physical infrastructure There is unlikely to be a significant increase in demand. An upgraded off-grid sewage system would be installed to meet current environmental standards.
Deficiencies in social facilities Not applicable
Storage and handling of hazardous materials and development of contaminated land Not applicable
Loss or effect on trees No trees would be removed in the construction. Most of the mature hedge that flanks three sides of the existing property would be retained.
Adverse impact on nature conservation interests and biodiversity opportunities Limited. The ecological survey commissioned in support of the Neighbourhood Plan identified Blackberry Drove and the Catchwater as being of significance and the site is within a Great Crested Newt green risk zone. However, there are no recorded amphibian sightings in the area, the proposal stays largely within the footprint of the existing dwelling and does not interfere with the Catchwater or other ditches or ponds.

Effect on listed buildings and conservation areas Not applicable
Incompatible or unacceptable uses Not applicable
Local financial considerations offered as a contribution or grant Not applicable
Layout and density of building design, visual appearance and finishing materials The development would add slightly to the density of development in the Springhall Farm steading.
Inadequate or inappropriate landscaping or means of enclosure The replacement property would have a larger visual presence in the landscape than the dwelling it proposes to replace. Physical landscaping at this location would do little to mitigate this. However, the proposed development would have a roofline that is subservient to existing buildings on the Springhall site, would not project above the chalk bluff that rises away from the fen edge (considered an important mitigation in the landscape appraisal) and would be screened from the fen by an existing mature hedge and, assuming it is built, a hay barn.
Conclusion of outcome: No objection but submit comments, ***Councillor Acklam***. Were planning approval granted, the PC suggest that a condition of approval would be to restore and replant a hedge where this property is adjacent to Blackberry Drove. A fence or wall here would erode the rural feel of this important recreational route.

22/00922/FUL - 6 Great Lane, Single storey rear extension

Site visit by Councillor Fletcher & Councillor Newman 8th September 2022. The applicant was present.
Development plan This site is in local landscape area 4 of the Landscape Appraisal by AFA supporting the draft Reach Neighbourhood Plan.
Local plan Site is located with the bounds of the Reach Conservation Area.
Previous applications/appeals N/A
Loss of sunlight None
Overshadowing/loss of outlook None
Overlooking and loss of privacy None
Highway issues: Traffic generation Vehicular access Highway safety No increase in traffic. Works contractors would be able to access the site without damaging or blocking public rights of way or inconveniencing neighbours.
Noise or disturbance resulting from use, including proposed hours of operation None
Smells and fumes None
Capacity of physical infrastructure Not applicable
Deficiencies in social facilities Not applicable
Storage and handling of hazardous materials and development of contaminated land Not applicable
Loss or effect on trees No trees would be removed.
Adverse impact on nature conservation interests and biodiversity opportunities Limited; build site encompasses concrete/lawn.
Effect on listed buildings and conservation areas Not applicable
Incompatible or unacceptable uses Not applicable
Local financial considerations offered as a contribution or grant Not applicable
Layout and density of building design, visual appearance and finishing materials Negligible
Inadequate or inappropriate landscaping or means of enclosure Not applicable
Conclusion of outcome: Fully support ***Clerk*** to inform ECDC

2. District Councillor Report

The Greater Cambridge Partnership has published its plans for transport into Cambridge. The plans include more regular buses, with flat rate fares, paid for through a 'road user charge'. They will be consulting on this in the autumn, and it has significant implications for local residents. For more details see Ambitious proposals to deliver world-class transport network for Greater Cambridge unveiled. The proposed bus services for this area can be found on pages 27-29 at 26082022 Making Connections - Bus Proposition Design FINAL.pdf. Fares for buses from here would be a flat rate £2 and inside the current mega rider boundary they would be £1. There would be a daily cap and concessions, and free bus passes would remain as current. The road user charge of £5 for cars and motorbikes, more for larger vehicles, will be charged on weekdays 7.00am to 7.00pm. There will be discounts for regular travellers and exemptions for some users, e.g., Blue Badge holders, community transport, buses.
The Council had had no significant meetings in August for us to report on. Operational Services Committee will meet on 12 September, with the Waste and Street Cleansing Performance Report for the first quarter. This is the first real opportunity to discuss the problems with the service. Waste Collection is reporting 33% performance against the target 90% and Street Cleansing 21% against a target of 90%. We have all seen the crews working very hard, including over the weekends.

So, the problems seem to lie more an inability to attract and retain HGV drivers; and a very high level of sickness absence. There has been a thorough review of the service and waste collections are now becoming more reliable. Our next Councillors' Surgery is Thursday 22 September at 6.30 at Brinkley Village Hall

3. County Councillor Report
None received.

4. Minutes of previous Meeting
Approved.

5.2 Finance

5.3 Parish Council Members
Councillor Acklam reported that the EDF Burwell Solar Farm meeting had been moved to Oct. to allow him to attend. Sunnica still has on its plan one option to connect to the national grid at Weirs Drove. The PC are very anxious about this as it would involve compulsory purchase of land and be extremely visual to Reach. ***Councillor Acklam*** to write again to Lucy Fraser regarding the lack of planning departments having the ability looking at all solar farms together. ***Councillor Acklam*** also to write an article for the magazine again highlighting the concerns regarding the Sunnica project.
A resident has been having Highways issues, which have been reported several times, these will be reported again.
A lime tree on the top green needs some work. ***Clerk*** to request permission from the Tree Officer at ECDC.

5.4 Play Spaces,
A resident had reported some faults with the playground. Councillor McMillan had been to take a look and see what he could do. Komplan had been asked for costs for the bits required. ***Clerk*** to ask Komplan for a site visit as there are quite a lot of repeat issues which may be design faults as the playground is still relatively new.

5.5 Rights of Way Nothing to report

5.6 24Acres Committee
A message had been gratefully received from the Cricket Club stating that "*I wanted to pass on to the PC the great benefit the cricket club is providing to both the both the village and local community. I appreciate I'm biased but I don't want it to go unrecognised that not only are they now playing weekly but are also hosting various social events." "The PC should be commended for the support it has provided over the last few years*."

5.7 Neighbourhood Plan
A resident had written to the NP committee showing concern about the operation of and processes used by the group. The NP Chair had responded to the resident explaining in detail how all the procedures work. Following discussion, the PC concluded that the NP response had been sufficient and correct.

5.8 Friends Of Reach Wood
Nothing to report

5.9 A to B1102 Group.
Nothing to report.

6. Pets as Prizes on Council Land
Councillor Cane bought the following to the Council. Notice of Motion to Reach Parish Council. This Council:
● is concerned about the number of cases reported to the RSPCA each year, regarding pets given as prizes via fairgrounds, social media and other channels in England - and notes the issue predominantly concerns goldfish
● is concerned for the welfare of those animals that are being given as prizes
● recognises that many cases of pets being as prizes may go unreported each year
● supports a move to ban the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, on Reach Parish Council Land.
The Council agrees to:
● ban outright the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, on Reach Parish District Council land.
● write to the UK Government, urging an outright ban on the giving of live animals as prizes on both public and private land. APPROVED

7. Streetlights maintenance

The maintenance contract with Balfour Beatty is due for renewal. This is the contract used by CCC and other Parishes in the area. Following discussion, it was agreed that the contract should be renewed.
A inspection by BB had highlighted a couple of issues with some lights, however the details of the PC lights that BB had did are not the most up to date and some of the inspection details were incorrect. ***Clerk*** to ask for a site visit with BB and a Councillor to ensure all details are correct.

8. Updating of Standing orders and other policies.

A short discussion took place, and it was agreed that this item should be moved to another agenda when more Councillors are in attendance.

9. Community Payback and Queen's Green Canopy

Community Payback have been offered packs of trees to plant as part of the Queen's Green Canopy project across the East of England. Reach PC had been contacted to establish if we would like to benefit from this offer. ***Clerk*** to make contact and arrangements for the village to hopefully become part of this project.

10. Payments

E. on - Power on the green	£14.75
Multi Trade – playground repairs	£140.00
Moore & Co – Y/E accounts preparation	£440.00
Cambridgeshire County Council – LHI (local Highways improvements Scheme) contribution	£2000.00
CR Contracting – mowing contract	£144.50

Diary Dates

October 2022	Event	Location	Time
Every Friday	Community Cafe	Village Hall	3pm to 4pm
Sunday 2	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's	8.30am
Tuesday 4	Recycling Day (Green)		
Saturday 8	Macmillan Coffee Morning	Hill Farm Barn, 28 Fair Green	10am to Midday
Tuesday 11	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Tuesday 18	Recycling Day (Green)		
Tuesday 25	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 31	Recycling Day (Blue)		

November 2022	Event	Location	Time
Every Friday	Community Cafe	Village Hall	3pm to 4.30pm
Sunday 6	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's	8.30am
Tuesday 1	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.00pm
Tuesday 1	Recycling Day (Green)		
Tuesday 8	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Sunday 13	Remembrance Sunday	War Memorial, then Church	10.50am
Tuesday 15	Recycling Day (Green)		
Tuesday 22	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Tuesday 15	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 facing page for pictures)*

Awaiting the tug of war during Reach Fair week 1970

Mr Walter Wells can be seen here leaning on the gate of Vine Cottage.

Five years earlier in 1965, Mr Wells, then 80, had been interviewed for a Cambridge News article featuring Reach in which he observed “the place is very old. I know, and I’d like to get a book on it. I hear tell there is a book somewhere, but I don’t know where it is”.

He further commented that his family had lived in the village for over 150 years and “Reach hasn’t changed much since I was a boy. Peat-digging and digging for clunch, it’s all stopped now. A lot of things has stopped. No it hasn’t changed much at all, and I don’t know as how it ever will”.

Chris Patterson

Contact Information

Parish Council – see “Know Your Parish Council”			
Village Hall			
	Chair	David Thomas	01638 742676
	Finance	Andrew Trump	01638 743335
	Bookings	Tash Bridgeman	07920 516586 rvhcb25@gmail.com
	Secretary	Sue Elliot	01638 742268
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
Emergencies			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency) Police (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







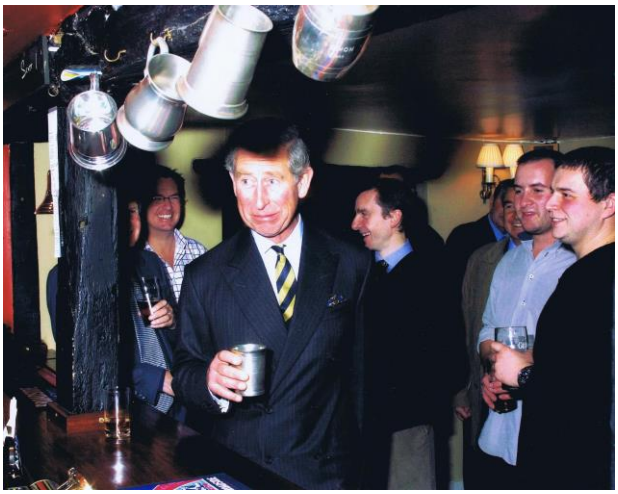
Swaffham Prior schoolchildren came to meet their future king



It's Sophie Bateman who is shaking hands with Charles, Shannon and Gemma Manchett are next to her with Leanne Turner and Emma and Laura Haird at the back



Charles soon made his way to the pub where Glynis tried to interest him in a glass of cider



It wasn't exactly to his taste . . . .

Prince Charles's visit to Reach on Tuesday 25th November 2003



Charles joined in a game of darts and from what I can gather, it's a safe bet that he didn't have access to a dartboard at the Palace



Here we see Bryan looking after Charles as he poses for pictures in front of the pub sign. Really not sure about that coat . . .