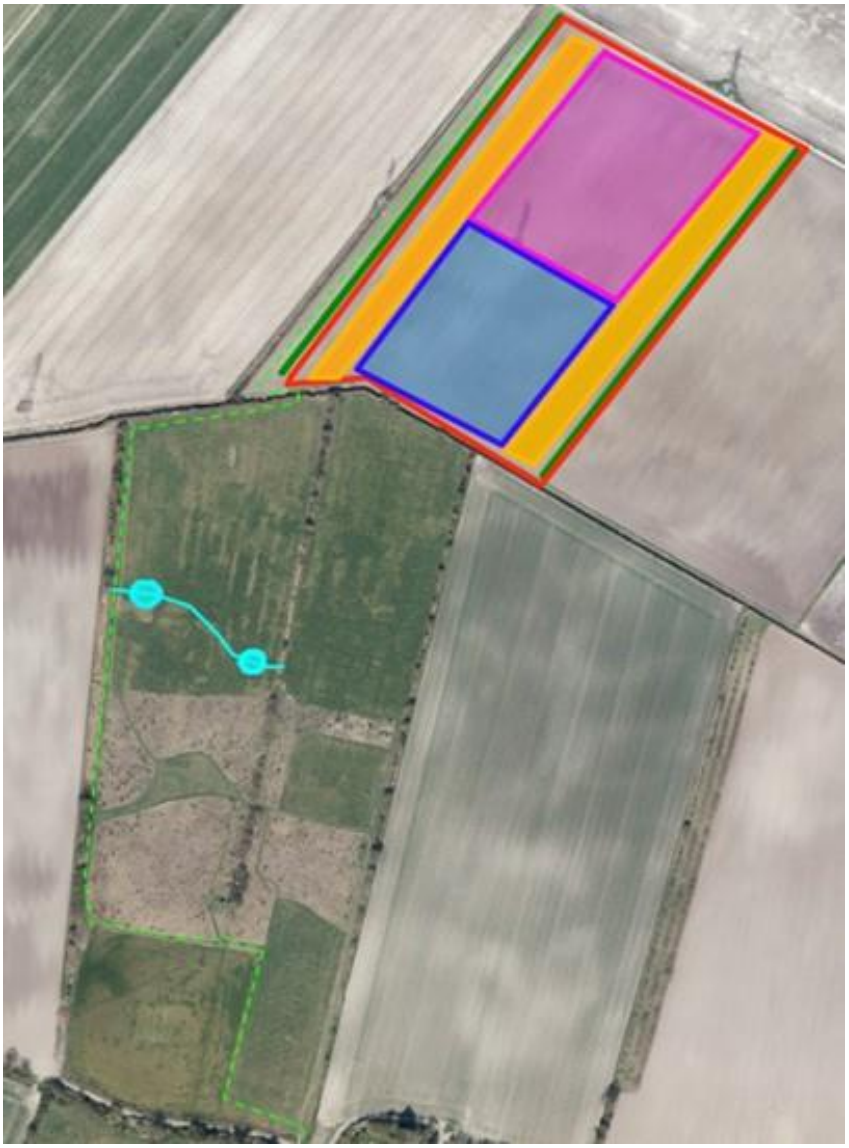
Within Reach



October/November 2023



Aerial Plan of proposed Reach for Turtle Doves Project (see page 12 of this magazine)

Key:

Dashed green line – **Permissive Footpath**

Dark green line – **Hedgerow**

Red line – **Perimeter fence**

Orange box – **Arable field margins**

Purple box – **Lowland meadow**

Blue box – **Spring wild bird cover crop**

Turquoise – **Proposed location of new ditch and ponds**

This design is subject to change pending feasibility surveys.

A culvert will be installed across the new ditch to maintain access.



Sports Day 2023

Contents

Title	Author	Page
Articles		
Allotments Plots for Rent	Nick Acklam	3
Bar Billiards	Taffy (David Lloyd)	25
Cambridge Quilters		11
Ely Food Bank	Claire Acklam	11
Reach Shoe Box Appeal	Lucy Robinson	16
Reach Veterinary Physiotherapy	Imogen Trump	4
Recruitment Fair at Police HQ		13
Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities	Pam Waters	25
Wicken Fen – Reach for Turtle Doves Project	Nick Acklam	12
Anglesey Abbey	Meghan Curteis	14
Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club	Daphne Hanson	8
Burwell and Reach Car Scheme	Pam King	30
Bus Timetable		31
CentrePeace		3
Church		
Church Services		31
Letter from the Vicarage	Eleanor Williams	20
Old Organ Item	Eleanor Williams	21
Contact Information		32
Diary Dates		31
Dyke's End	David Parr	23
Events Team		5
Food Focus	Catherine Gibson	14
Mobile Library		8
Nature in Reach	Cath Tayleur	9
Neighbourhood Watch		25
Parish Council		
Know your District Councillors		24
Know Your Parish Council		24
Meeting Minutes		26
Quy Mill Hotel and Spa		17
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore	7
Sport and Recreation		
Cricket Report	Ross Clark	22
Reach Riders	Sue Cameron	5
Tales from a Reach Garden	Danuta Gibson	18
Then and Now	Chris Patterson	32
Village Hall	Sue Elliott	6
Village Update	Alex de Giorgio-Miller	3
Wicken Fen	Julia Hammond	12

From the Editor



It'll soon be Autumn – a season I really enjoy. The nights start drawing in, central heating goes on and log fires get lit. And it's the lead up to Christmas where most of our village events take place – starting with Advent and the tree lights switch on, followed by the Senior's Christmas Lunch and then carols around the tree on Christmas Eve. Further details are on the Events Team - page 5.

There's really exciting news regarding the 24Acres in this issue – have a look at the **Wicken Fen – Reach For Turtle Doves Project** on page 12, coupled with the Aerial Plan on the inside front cover.

And we have a lovely article from **Imogen Trump**, the latest young village entrepreneur. She has set up her own business called **Reach Veterinary Physiotherapy** which you can learn more about on page 4.

Please also have a look at page 16 and you'll see that **Lucy Robinson** is organising the **Reach Shoe Box Appeal** – and needs our help.



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

Editor	David Parr
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Anglesey Abbey	Meghan Curteis
Church	Eleanor Williams
Cookery	Catherine Gibson
Cricket	Ross Clark
Events Team	Debbie Quilter
Gardening	Danuta Gibson
Neighbourhood Watch	Kevin Evans
Reach Riders Group	Sue Cameron
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore
Then and Now	Chris Patterson
Village Hall	Sue Elliott
Village Matters	Alex de Giorgio-Miller
Wicken Fen	Julia Hammond
Wildlife	Cath Tayleur

Village Update



As I write this, the girls are out in the paddling pool trying to cool off (apologies to the neighbours for the frequent screams of delight as they spray each other!) during the September heatwave - although by the time it is published I fully expect to be back in my winter boots and jumpers! Climate change is making its effects felt for sure.

Cost of living advice

The community bus is no longer stopping at Burwell, but you can still access the ECDC community advice team by visiting the council offices at The Grange, Ely for free impartial advice on anything from how to save energy in your home and cut down on food waste, to advice on benefits and community grants. The community bus will still be available every week in Soham and Littleport and plans to make regular appearances at Ely Markets and at local events. If you are not able to visit The Grange or meet the bus in Littleport or Soham you can request a personal home visit by a member of the team. To book call 01353 665555.

Could you be a Wellbeing Walk Leader?

If you, or someone you know, has a passion for walking, meeting new people and the confidence to lead a small group in your community, then the Wellbeing Walks programme is looking for new leaders. Take part in the free training and become a volunteer walk leader - for more details email Sophie.Dalpra@eastcambs.gov.uk

'The Library Presents' is back for autumn!

'The Library Presents' is back this autumn full of fun and fantasy with the widest range of arts activities yet with over 50 events across Cambridgeshire libraries. An eclectic mix of performances and workshops are on offer to suit all ages, including music, theatre and dance, as well as magic, puppetry and film showings. The 10-week-long season of 52 events, which will run until December, kicks off on 1 October with a condensed version of Macbeth.

If you're keen to embrace the spookier side of the autumn season, you may be drawn to the Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde theatre performance or the Murder in the Library interactive theatre event. The bravest audience members should sign up for 'The Cabinet of Dr Caligari' in Ely – a sinister and unnerving evening of 1920s silent film, with live music by Minema.

But the season also has a lighter side, featuring fairytales, magic and balloons. Families and young children will be well catered for at events like 'Club Origami', an adventure in a land of paper and play, for families with children 0-5 years; Norwich Puppet Theatre's 'Thumbelina' for families with children aged 2 years upwards; and the Little Angel Theatre's production 'WOW! Said the Owl'. Other family-focused performances will include the Musical Balloon Band in Littleport, the 'Silly Squirrel' in Sawston and 'The Christmas Spirits' in Wisbech.

Tickets are now on sale. Many of the summer events were sold out so advance booking is advisable! Standard performances are £8 and workshops are £6. Concessions and other affordable options will be available, in order to make the events as accessible as possible.

For more information, please visit: https://www.library.live/the-library-presents, or stay up to date on Facebook and Instagram at: @TheLibraryPresents.

Keep well and enjoy whatever the weather brings us!

Alex de Giorgio-Miller

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.

ALLOTMENT PLOTS FOR RENT

New allotment plots are now available for rent at Barston Drove

Standard plots are 12 x 15 metres but smaller plots can be negotiated

Interested villagers should contact Nick Acklam acklam@reach-village.co.uk or 07379 411993

Reach Veterinary Physiotherapy

About Me

For those of you that I haven't had the chance to meet yet, my name is Imogen Trump and I have had the pleasure of growing up with my family living on the fen just outside Reach. For as long as I can remember, horses and dogs have been my favourite things in life, starting with my first pony, Jon, at the age of 8.



It was probably around that time that I first knew that I wanted a career that allowed me to work with animals and most of my weekends and free time have been filled with animals. Over this time too, I have channelled this passion into my education, which took me from Swaffham Prior school all the way to Writtle University College from where I have recently graduated with a Masters in Veterinary Physiotherapy. Since leaving university this year, I have been developing Reach Veterinary Physiotherapy so that I can provide high quality rehabilitative care for dogs and horses locally.

So what is veterinary physiotherapy and how can it benefit your pet?

The principles of veterinary physiotherapy follow the same methodology of human physiotherapy treatment: improving musculo-skeletal health through manual and electro-therapies. This is used to increase the functionality of limbs and improve muscle strength and tone. For instance, it can be used to help relieve pain in an older dog suffering from arthritis by increasing joint health or conversely in younger dogs, I can assess areas of weakness and aid the dog in gait re-education to prevent more serious ailments in the future.

In horses, I work with the rider to analyse areas of weakness within their ridden work to treat the tension that might be causing this, or I can help to regain function after an injury or period of time off to get the horse back into work again.

For ridden horses in particular, veterinary physiotherapy provides care to the spine, which experiences pressure under saddle and horses benefit significantly from regular treatment. Dogs and horses benefit from regular physiotherapy to keep them comfortable and supple in the same way that humans do.



Residential Rehabilitation Services

In addition, at my private yard on Swaffham Prior Fen, I am just finalising two rehabilitation loose boxes so that I can welcome horses and ponies in need of specialist care. This might be post-operative care, or for a more intensive rehabilitation programme where I can offer daily treatments to support your horse to improve their strength, flexibility and muscle tone. As a keen competitive rider myself I know how important the right care is to ensuring that our equine companions are in the best physical health possible.



How to get in touch!

The best way to contact me is via phone on 07742 023859 which could be a call, text or WhatsApp. Or email: imogen@reachvetphysio.co.uk or visit my website www.reachvetphysio.co.uk where you can also use the online booking portal. I am currently offering an introductory discount for Reach residents and their connections. Get in touch and quote code 'ReachResident' to let me know how I can help your animal to experience greater comfort and mobility. I look forward to meeting you and your four-legged friend soon!

Imogen Trump

Events Team

After a quiet summer, we have an exciting few months ahead with some past successful events returning. We are really grateful to everyone who makes these events possible. We as an events team have a set of events that we take the lead on. These are the events around Christmas and the recent royal events, but many of the other village events are run by small teams of villagers. We are always very happy to support these, putting people in touch, advertising events, loaning equipment etc so if you would like to see an event happen and need some help, do get in touch.

A big thanks to the team that put on Sports Day on the 3rd September, much fun was had by all.



Harvest Supper

Saturday 11th November 7pm in the Village Hall

- Traditional two course meal with vegan options
- £10 per adult, £5 per child
- Bring your own drinks
- Raffle

All proceeds from the evening will go to the Ely Food Bank - for tickets please email: helenoliver01@btinternet.com

If you are willing to cook a casserole, make a pudding or bake some potatoes, please email Debbie at reacheventsteam@btinternet.com

Village Advent Calendar

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

Christmas Lights Switch On

5pm Sunday 3rd December

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

Seniors Christmas Lunch

12.30pm Thursday 14th December

We are looking forward to hosting this event again in the Village Hall. If you qualify (aged 65 or over), then put this date in your diary – more communication will follow in due course.

Carols Around the tree

6pm Sunday 24th December

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

Debbie Quilter

on behalf of the Events Team

reacheventsteam@btinternet.com

Reach Riders



Lessons continue at the arena and we have numerous members using it on a regular basis.

Please note that membership renewal is the 1st Oct. New forms will be sent out to existing members as bank account details have changed, but don't panic if you use the old account by mistake. The committee will be meeting shortly to agree fees for the coming year.

Maintenance of the jumps is ongoing and committee members have been busy painting the jumps with wood protection so all looking good - enjoy the facilities!

Sue Cameron

Village Hall



Village Hall AGM - September 2023

Summary

The hall committee has continued to explore ways of reducing costs, primarily those associated with energy use - although progress has been slower than hoped there has been some positive progress. The number of bookings has been higher than budgeted, providing a small but very welcome boost to finances. Following the resignation of one committee member the number of members is now just six – new recruits are welcome.

Repairs and maintenance

Investment in repairs and maintenance has been less than in the previous two years – previous work had got on top of a backlog of work that needed doing. The only significant works carried out have been repairs to the gates into the back yard and their treatment with wood preservative, replacement and painting of both back doors leading onto the back yard and repairs to the door to the wooden shed.

Further work is needed in a number of areas. The ventilators on the roof need replacing and there are several missing and broken roof tiles. This work has been held back pending decisions on energy supply for the hall and the possibility of installing solar panels. At the back of the hall a cherry tree is overhanging the roof and at the front a yew tree also overhangs the roof, both need to be cut back. A tree works application has been submitted to ECDC but the outcome is not known at the time of writing this report.

Bookings

Bookings this year have been higher than budgeted. Various long-term users of the hall, including from the community (the sewing group) help to provide a steady income and bookings for parties are also up. Hopefully this trend will continue, but it is important not to be complacent.

Financial sustainability and booking fees

A decision was made this year (from 1st January) to charge all users of the hall, including all village events, without exception. Discounts are still available for village events and village residents. This helps to ensure that all users of the hall contribute to running and maintenance costs. Thankfully this step doesn't appear to have affected the level of bookings – including for community events.

In the long term, rising energy costs are likely to be the most significant factor affecting hall finances. At present the hall is benefitting from a fixed-rate electricity tariff, which comes to an end in August 2024. After that date the cost of electricity will rise significantly.

The hall submitted a successful application to Reach Solar for funding to carry out an expert energy survey by Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT). The report is awaited, but it is expected to contain recommendations on heating, lighting, hot water, energy generation and energy conservation (insulation). Implementing recommendations will require significant fundraising, which will be a focus of activity in the coming year.

That fundraising has been boosted by the very welcome decision of the Reach Fair committee to donate the entire proceeds from the 2023 fair to the Village Hall, to support energy efficiency projects. The committee is very grateful for this generous donation.

A successful fundraising event, 'Call my wine bluff' was held in February. Not only did this raise valuable income for the village hall, it also proved to be a popular social event and the organisers (led by Tony Fordham) received lots of positive feedback. The intention is to repeat the event in early 2024.

Use by the community

In the last year the hall has been put to good use by the community. Use by the church continued until the Spring at which point services moved back to the church following completion of the renovations of St Etheldreda. A sewing course has proved popular and has recently made a block booking.

Committee members

Rebecca Fordham stepped down as committee member – she is thanked for her important contribution.

Remaining members are Natasha Bridgeman (bookings manager, among other things), Andrew Trump (Treasurer), Sue Elliot (Secretary), David Thomas (Chair), Charlotte Cane (Reach Parish Council representative) and Tony Fordham. The committee could do with additional members and interested volunteers are encouraged to come forward.

David Thomas

Reach Village Hall Committee 742268

Rosanna's Ramblings



I didn't know I wanted to ramble in praise of pylons until I took Milo out for an early morning walk the other day. It was going to be hot, had been hot the day before, so venturing out by 7am was a good idea. We set off down the drove, past Charles's oak tree and the dog had a spring in his step because he confidently expected that we were heading straight for the Gault Pond. I hoped it would be early enough for there to be no fishermen there to disturb the canine wild swimming.

But, as we made our way cautiously over the vegetation-covered dry ruts (well, who am I kidding? … as *I* made *my* way cautiously and Milo did the dog equivalent of speedy cantering), I looked up at the pylons that were looming ahead mistily. Charles had mentioned to me the day before that it was now possible to walk along the edge of what we call the Pylon Field now that the impenetrable summer overgrowth of tangled grass and wildness was reducing and the crops had been harvested. So I tested out Milo's newly-learned understanding of hand signals and encouraged him to strike off to the left at the second pylon. He was cheerily amenable and cantered off past the great metal base and was quickly on to the golden stubble field. Happy now galloping dog almost invisibly rejoicing in his labrador-coloured environment. From that field edge, the high-tension electricity cables struck off into the distance towards the next pylon and the next and the next and not for the first time I was struck by how well the flat fens suit these giants.





When I was younger, I didn't feel particularly positive about pylons. I lived in the Midlands and there was a stretch of the M1, in Leicestershire I think, where the motorway ran parallel with what seemed like a rather threatening stretch of massive pylons, their interlinking cables making a dipping and rising rhythm in one's peripheral vision as one drove. They looked ugly, an industrial blight that was necessary but unwelcome. At the time I owned a book, David Gentleman's *Britain* and among the beautiful watercolours in it was a striking image of pylons marching across a rolling stretch of green countryside and I always thought "what a shame". I also had an acupuncture patient who was so sensitive to electro-magnetic fields that she passed out near high tension electric cables and was thus unable to drive along roads near pylons. So, as I said, not particularly positive.

And then, on first getting to know the area around Reach, on my first walks with Charles and then Hector the black labrador, I began to feel differently about them. The meadow by the Lode, the pocket park, with its hawthorn trees in extravagant white blossom or extravagant red berries, was so dominated by the pylons and cables cutting across it that I began not to mind them intruding upon my otherwise bucolic photos of sheep, or cattle, or morning mist over the water. I began to admit that those two sibling pylons right on the drove could look spectacular in silhouette against a dramatic sunset, especially if photographed at an interesting angle. A snatched glimpse of a distant pylon on the horizon through abundantly leaved trees near the Hythe gave a certain sense of scale and perspective to the scene.



Soon we will be on the lookout for starling murmurations on crisp clear chilly evenings just before sunset. The first time Charles and I saw one together, or rather more accurately experienced one together at close quarters, was back in 2015 walking back towards Reach along the fen road (I thought it was spectacularly bumpy then, little did I know to what degradations it would come to sink!). As we neared the pylons and walked under the cables, we were suddenly aware of the wingbeats of thousands of starlings above us. They whirled and swirled so close, we felt we could almost feel the rush of air they created, and it was utterly beautiful. It was memorable for being not just the first, but one of the biggest, murmurations we have witnessed.

But every year, we head off down the avenue of trees that runs parallel to the pylons and as the light begins to drop, we look up with hope in our hearts to see if first a few starlings, then more and yet more, start to gather, first thickly on the pylons and then argumentatively (or so it seems, but it's probably just social chatter) along the cables. Because they are wild and have agendas of their own, they seem to get established in a pattern of behaviour that we start to think we can understand and predict and then suddenly it changes. We stand forlorn, watching and waiting and no hoped-for gathering occurs, as we watch speedy groups of birds head off in the direction of Wicken Fen. And we feel bitter.

But even on those disappointing occasions, I have to admit that the site of the pylon silhouettes close to and stretching away into the distance, with drama and colour in the sky behind them, is a fine thing to behold. There's something about their size, their machine-created visual complexity, their sense of being fixed in place yet part of a bigger thing striding across the landscape, that I actually find uplifting. I'm sure it's the fact that our flatness allows for a real sense of distance and far vision that makes it so. I certainly remember feeling very put-out having to walk near a pylon in a steep valley in the Dolomites once. So, Pylons of the Fens, I salute you. And please encourage the starlings this winter by your buzzing, fizzing energy. I'd be ever so grateful.

Rosanna Moseley Gore

Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

Our meetings commenced on Tuesday 12th September 2023 with a Welcome Evening for returning and new members. This was a special Social Celebration of last season and Cups and Trophies were presented to the award winners of our Annual Print and Projected Digital Image competitions. The award-winning print photographs were displayed and the digital images projected, together with a selection of work that was entered in the internal competitions during the year.

Through the year, we look forward to many great speakers who will talk about a range of subject matter from Long Exposure Photography, Editing Techniques in Photoshop, Urban Nightscape Photography, Landscape Photography and Portraiture. There will also be internal print and projected digital image competitions which will be judged by independent judges travelling from the north and south of East Anglian and as far afield as Kent.

Last month we lost one of our long-standing members who sadly passed away at the age of 96 years. Ron Maltby, who lived in Bottisham, was a stalwart of the club and attended meetings up until the last few years of his life, passing on his knowledge and expertise to the members for many years. As part of his 90th birthday celebrations he was made an Honorary Life Member.

Our meetings are held Tuesdays at Swaffham Prior Village Hall, High Street, Swaffham Prior CB25 0LD, from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm, the third Tuesday in each month being held via Zoom conferencing. If you are interested in joining this active club, please contact our Secretary, Debra Bennett, for further information and a copy of our programme. Email: secretary.bandbpc@gmail.com or visit our website www.bottburpc.org where you will find more detailed information - I look forward to meeting you.

Daphne Hanson DPAGB HonPAGB - Chairman

Mobile Library

The mobile library is visits Reach on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10.10 to 10.30am. This is route F16 and it parks at the Fair Green Bus Stop. They have a great selection of books for all, free NHS hearing aid batteries and walking stick ferrules. You can join Cambridgeshire Libraries on the bus if you are not already a member.

Nature in Reach



And just like that the summer fades away, morning mists roll in and our garden is now festooned with autumnal spiders. The Indian summer means the days are not without heat though and the air on my walks is heavy with the scent of ripe blackberries.

I'm enjoying the cooler evenings but am already missing the light, it always surprises me how quickly the dark sets in after the summer.

The crops have been harvested and the land is dotted with neat bales of straw. The juvenile starlings swoosh past on their training flights and soon we'll have the beautiful murmurations at Tubney Fen.

We seem to be doing particularly well with house spiders this year and after being a lifelong arachnophobe, I'm starting to come around to their charms. It might be because we have such a problem with flies in the house and I'm very happy for the additional pest control.

We've had some spectacular storms the last few days - a dramatic end to a period of warm weather. The wind helping to cover the lawn with leaves and apples. My mornings feature the happy chatter of a mixed flock of tits in the beech tree outside my window.

Elsewhere in the village some unusual sightings from Nick. Definitely anecdotal evidence of some healthy badger populations nearby - many will have seen the Environment Agency's efforts to stop them undermining the bank of the lode. I've yet to have the pleasure of seeing one in the flesh. Joss reports sad news for the local rabbits and notes the disappearance of our swallows on the long migration back to Africa. I did see a few dawdlers out over the fields on the 17th September.

Wildlife Sightings July-September

Nick Acklam

18 July: Two buzzards circling on thermals high above the village.

27 July: I find a Clifden Nonpareil moth dead in the gutter outside the house, probably hit by a car overnight. This is my first sighting of this striking and sizeable moth which is on the wing from June to October and feeds on the leaves of poplar, willow, ash and oak.

6 August: A Peregrine Falcon circles very high over the Hythe. I hear its persistent calling well before I am able to spot it. A Buzzard flying nearby which possibly explains the Peregrine's calling.

10 August: Our house appears on the verge of takeover by the insect world. I evict a large and beautifully patterned Peacock butterfly, a Dark Crimson Underwing moth and the highlight, a Roesel's Bush Cricket.



23 August: The insect world returns. I evict two caterpillars of the Buff-tip moth from our kitchen.

25 August: Four hares play out a long and energetic game of pursuit on Tubney Fen. Although out of season, this looks strikingly similar to a springtime mating ritual.

28 August: Many of the acorns of the broad oak by the entrance to the Pocket park have developed Knopper Galls as the result of gall wasp activity earlier in the year.

5 September: A dead Grass snake lies by the path through Hurdle Hall. It is about 15 inches long and freshly killed. Its body is intact and the yellow and green scales of its underside create a striking chequerboard. It's head however is missing and appeared to have been ripped off forcefully. A badger is my prime suspect.



7 September: 40 or so duck in two flights across Hurdle Hall and Burwell Fen towards the mere. They are too far away to identify but are a sure sign of the beginning of autumn.

Joss Goodchild

Hilary found an injured female ('pen') mute swan beside a fence at Tubney Fen. She alerted the RSPCA and assisted the knowledgeable attendant who, in the first place, offered a container of water and encouraged the swan to drink by gently moving head and bill several times towards the liquid. Once the swan accepted this she drank fully. The wing was clearly damaged, she was transported to South Essex Wildlife Hospital and was expected to make a full recovery, based on the outcome of several similarly injured swans previously rescued.

(I read that despite mute swans being large heavy birds, their bones are surprisingly hollow and fragile to lower weight for take-off).

Tragically the population of rabbits which survived the rabbit pox outbreak a couple of years ago in Reach, have succumbed to it again, or myxomatosis. The suffering of these creatures is beyond comprehension and they are now visible in many fields.

I saw a lone swallow on Friday 8 September but the sky and wires above our field are silent and empty once again.

Ron and Penny: Enjoyed watching swallows in their garden, especially since the swifts have left, the swallows take water from their pond. They mentioned their bird feeders are taking a hammering from the fledged goldfinches, greenfinches and many blue, great and long-tailed tits. Ron noted there are a lot of late-hatched goldfinches, the parents are still feeding them and they are not yet fully coloured up. He presumes they had 3 broods. Sitting out in the garden during warm evenings, they saw many more beautiful moths this year.

Jacqui Lewis has observed fewer birds in her Great Lane garden and feels sure this is the result of regular predation by birds of prey. She sees long tailed tits, seemingly unaware of the danger as they just pass through.

24.7 - Two buzzards wheeling high above The Hythe.

25.7 - Roe deer heads visible above crop fields beyond the village.

25. 7 - Kestrel, Swan Lake Barns.

26.7 - Jays, Reach Wood, raucous.

26.7 - Comma butterfly landed on me. Dragonflies and horseflies in the garden. Butterflies: peacocks, small whites, red admirals, common blues.

26.7 - Flock of long tailed tits. Native Hornet at the field. Spotted 2 in our garden also.

28.7 - Ron & Penny were thrilled to see a hedgehog in their garden.

31.7 - Barn owl hunting over field, Great Lane, a close sighting.

1 Aug - Family of 3 mewling buzzards above Reach.

4.8 - We disturbed a muntjac doe near Reach Wood, she dashed a short distance away, temporarily leaving a tiny newborn fawn.

6.8 - Greenfinches and goldfinches in the garden, of the latter I read 'in flight their fanned out wings reveal brilliant lemon in the middle of each black flight feather. Their liquid vocalisation likened to 'glass fragments or tiny metal shards striking each other'.

8.8 - Blackcap singing in the garden, a sweet and beautiful song.

8.8 - 'Chink chink' of a new garden blackbird, sadly no longer One Spot who disappeared this summer.

9.8 - Hummingbird hawk moth. Feel we need a further stocks of specific garden plants to feed this rarity with a plentiful supply of nectar: honeysuckle, red valerian, jasmine, lilac, phlox, Nicotiana native. Important to also supply Lady's or Yellow bedstraw, adults lay their eggs on these.

26.8 - Hornets x 3 in garden, not Asian.

3.9 - Red Underwing moth, fencepost field, large and wonderfully well camouflaged until the wings opened to reveal astonishing cerise underparts.

3.9 - Hummingbird hawk moth, garden, heard the humming before we saw it. It hovered for nectar, the long, uncoiled proboscis clearly visible.

Cath Tayleur



Ely Food Bank

Ely Food Bank is part of a network of more than 1,300 food bank centres run by the Trussell Trust.

Background

Carol and Paddy Henderson founded the Trussell Trust in 1997 based on a legacy left by Carol's mother, Betty Trussell. The Trussell Trust's initial Bulgaria projects focused on improving conditions for the 60+ children sleeping at Central Railway Station in Bulgaria.

In 2000, Paddy received a call from a mother in Salisbury who was struggling to afford food and faced sending her children to bed hungry. Paddy investigated data on poverty and deprivation in the UK and found that significant numbers of people faced going hungry as a result of a sudden crisis. So Paddy started Salisbury Food Bank in his garden shed and garage, providing three days' emergency food to local people in crisis
.
The food bank model spread rapidly through church networks and, in particular, inspiration was drawn from a verse from Matthew's gospel in the Bible which reads: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was in prison and you visited me."

Aims and Actions

The Trussell Trust's vision is for a future without the need for food banks. Food banks aim to provide a minimum of three days' nutritionally-balanced emergency food to people who have been referred to them, as well as support them to resolve the crises they face.

Statistics

Between April 2022 and March 2023 close to three million emergency food parcels were distributed by food banks in the Trussell Trust network. This is the highest number of parcels distributed by the network in a year, and a 37% increase on the same period between 2021-2. During the period April 2022-March 2023, the number of people who used a food bank for the first time was 760,000.

How this works locally

Ely Food Bank has eight distribution centres locally. Non-perishable, in-date food is donated by the public at a range of places, such as schools, churches and businesses, as well as supermarket collection points. It is then sorted into emergency food parcels by volunteers at a local warehouse and distributed to the eight centres.

Food banks work by a variety of different agencies (eg health visitors, school staff, doctors, housing associations, social workers), issuing food bank vouchers. These vouchers can then be redeemed for food parcels at the centres.

Additional support

The food bank network aims to helps people by providing additional support so that they do not need to use a food bank again in the future. This could include things like debt advice, mental health support, or benefits guidance. Citizens' Advice staff are regularly on hand at sessions to advise in these areas and give invaluable practical help such as filling in forms and phoning useful organisations.

Thank you to everyone who continues to donate to the food bank. I am happy to take any donations left in the box by our front door (15, Fair Green) or I can easily collect donations if you contact me on 07780 561701.

For more information, you can visit trusselltrust.org and ely.foodbank.org.uk.

Claire Acklam

07780 561701

Cambridge Quilters



Wicken Fen



Fieldfare by Richard Nicoll

News from Wicken Fen Nature Reserve

The autumn colours of the Fen are starting to show as the purples and red of berries and golden hues of reeds emerge. Migrant birds will be arriving over the next few weeks, so look out for fieldfare and redwing and wildfowl such as wigeon on the areas of open water.

Archaeology at Reach 24Acres
Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 October

There will be excavation of some test pits at Reach 24Acres in October as part of Footprints, our National Lottery Heritage Fund project. We'd like to invite people from the surrounding communities to come along to see what we're doing, find out more about the history of your local landscape and try excavating using a trowel and sieving soil at our community test pit. We'll have archaeologists from the National Trust and Oxford Archaeology East to talk to, supported by our Footprints archaeology volunteers and Cambridge Archaeology Field Group. Come along between 1 and 3pm on Saturday 14 October, or 10am and 12pm on Sunday 15 October. See the events section of our website for more details (link below).

October half term – Family Fun

Join our family trail to find out what animals do in the winter, make a bird box or create a street of wooden houses at our workshops – find out more on our website including booking details.

Mucky Pups
17 November 10:30-12:00

Do you have a little one who loves being outside and getting grubby? Our popular outdoor adventures for children aged 2 to 5 years continues. £7 per child, accompanying adult free. Booking is essential; please go to our website for details.

Mother and Father Christmas at the Fen

Mother and Father Christmas will be visiting Fen Cottage again this year. Tickets are now available on our website for our popular festive event and are selling fast. Check our website for information.

Christmas Wreath Making Saturday 25 November

Come along to the Fen and make your own wreath, using natural materials collected locally. We'll provide everything you need and some handy tips to get you started. Booking essential via our website.

Community ceramics workshops

We'd like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who participated in our recent ceramics workshops. This activity is part of an Arts Council research and development project to help us put together an application for a creative programme for our 125th anniversary next year. Keep an eye out for the next magazine when we will have details of the exhibition of the ceramic artefacts created as part of the project and collection of the fired pieces.

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

Wicken Fen – Reach For Turtle Doves Project

The 24Acres plot was acquired by the National Trust (NT) as part of its Vision Project in 2011. In October 2012 the NT leased the southern 12 acres (4.86 hectares) to Reach Parish Council as part of its community outreach and engagement plan. The northern 12 acres was retained by the NT and has been managed as a hay meadow.

Earlier this year, the NT acquired an additional 15 acres (6.07 hectares) of arable land adjacent to the 24Acres but separated from it by an Internal Drainage Board (IDB) ditch. The new land provides further opportunities for the NT to achieve their objectives of enhancing the habitats for the benefit of wildlife and providing access to nature for people.



One priority opportunity relates to Turtle Doves which historically used to be a regular summer presence locally. Unfortunately, British Trust for Ornithology records show that the breeding farmland index list of birds has declined by 55% in the past 50 years, with loss of habitat a significant contributing factor. Turtle Doves, one of Britain's most iconic species, is now listed as globally threatened and is the UK's fastest declining species, with its breeding population falling by 99% to only 2,100 pairs in 2022. The Corn Bunting population has fallen by 83% and Grey Partridge by 92%.

Discussions with RSPB's Operation Turtle Dove (a national program set up to target habitat creation for the recovery of the species), identified the two plots of land as a suitable location to assist this species. The woodland area planted by the Reach community on the 24Acres offers suitable nesting habitat for Turtle Doves and habitat creation designs have been developed for other parts of the plots to provide foraging and drinking habitat for the species. These designs will help increase the biodiversity of the site, as well as protecting and expanding Wicken Fen's current breeding and wintering populations of other declining farmland birds, including Corn Buntings, Grey Partridge, Linnet, Reed Bunting, Yellowhammer and Skylark.

To facilitate this, the NT secured a Species Recovery grant from Natural England (NE). The grant will fund the creation of four UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats, allowing us to plant 635m of hedgerow, to establish wide arable field margins, lowland meadow and to create ponds. A wild bird crop will also be sown in the remaining arable area to provide a spring seed mix for our list of target species. A crossing point will be installed across the IDB ditch to join the two compartments via a permissive footpath from the 24Acres to Hightown Drove, providing an alternative green route between Burwell and Reach and offering greater access to nature for the communities **(see the Aerial Plan on the inside front cover of this magazine)**.

This Autumn will see the preparation and sowing of the wild bird cover and meadow seed mixes in the newly acquired compartment. The hedgerows and perimeter fencing will also be installed in the Winter around this field. The aim is to also install the culvert crossing point to connect the fields this winter as well. Work will start on finalising designs and locations for the pond creation in the hay meadow area of the 24Acres although the ponds won't be created until next Autumn/Winter 24/25, with the project due to be completed in March 2025.

We will keep you updated on progress of this project and will also be arranging a free guided walk around the 24 Acres to discuss our plans in person, which we will look to do in January and February 2024.

Julia Hammond

Recruitment Fair at Police HQ



We're inviting people to come and meet officers from across the broad spectrum of modern policing at our recruitment fair.

Detectives, road policing and the dog unit will be among the attractions at force HQ on Saturday, 21 October.

Just register for one of four time slots, starting at 9am, and find out all you want to know about becoming a police officer and other opportunities in policing.

There will also be representatives from armed policing, scenes of crime, HR and the Police Federation, and following the open event you will be given a talk about the various entry routes now available.

Please register here:
Cambridgeshire Constabulary Recruitment Event Tickets, Sat 21 Oct 2023 at 09:00 | Eventbrite

Cambridgeshire Constabulary Recruitment Team

Anglesey Abbey

As summer ends and the days get shorter, the rich autumn colour is already starting to ignite the gardens at Anglesey Abbey. Wrap up warm and grab a hot chocolate from Redwoods and head over to some of our favourite autumn spots. We love Temple Lawn and Pilgrim's Lawn this time of year as well as Jubilee Avenue which is an absolute must for anyone wanting to truly get into the autumnal spirit and soak up the reds and burnt oranges. There is also an abundance of Cyclamen already popping up near the Mill, adding to the stunning variety of colour and sensory delights at Anglesey Abbey this autumn.

Spooky things are planned for October half term…will you brave our Haunted Woods trail? Children can try out their potion-making skills in our witch's cauldron and test their agility in the sticky spider's web! Join us 21 – 29 October to discover what other ghoulish games we have in store for the whole family.

Throughout the autumn months, families can also become 'leaf detectives' for the day as they explore and identify leaves of all shapes, sizes, and colours at Anglesey Abbey. The Woodland Play area is the perfect place for autumn adventure, climb the treehouse, build a den and why not see how many conkers you can collect on your way!

Winter Lights preparations are in full swing and we can't wait to show you what's in store for our annual fundraising event. Alongside a variety of artists and performers, we are excited to be working with Jeni Cairns, an award-winning artist and garden designer, who will be supplying us with some of her beautiful nature-inspired sculptures. Returning this year are some foodie favourites and you can look forward to plenty of good food and mulled wine, supplied by Waffle&Co, Vegetaria, Caffe Mobile and Pull Me Cheri – something for everyone! Tickets are on sale now on our website and the event will be running on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings from Friday 17 November until Sunday 10 December.

The house will be closed from the 1st to 30th November, but we will be running pre-bookable *Behind the Scenes* tours on weekdays. During this closure, the team complete essential conservation work and we begin dressing the house for a book inspired Christmas.

Find out the latest on the website:
nationaltrust.org.uk/AngleseyAbbey

Meghan Curteis
Experience & Visitor Programming Manager
Anglesey Abbey, Gardens & Lode Mill
Quy Road, Lode, Cambridgeshire, CB25 9EJ

Food Focus

Poke Bowls



I bravely, or stupidly, dabbled with Hello Fresh earlier in the summer again, lured by a discount and the idea of not having to plan some of our weekly meals. It didn't last long, as quickly I forgot to choose my meals, was sent some that no one liked and found that I was stockpiling them and trying to find ways to use the ingredients in other recipes!

However, I did cook my first poke bowl courtesy of Hello Fresh – and it went down a storm. Sticky rice, or jasmine rice as it's officially called, is the new trend in our house – we're having it with everything. Eleanor has even curated her own colourful poke bowl using it and it was really rather good. I've chosen 2 vegetarian recipes as you have to have very fresh sashimi grade fish for the true poke bowls.

What is a poke bowl? It is a Hawaiian dish of diced chunks of raw marinated fresh fish – usually tuna - served on top of rice and topped with plenty of vegetables like avocado, radishes and cucumbers and umami packed sauces. Poke means "to slice or cut" in Hawaiian and refers to the fishermen's chunking of the raw very fresh fish as soon as they were landed. It is also eminently customisable and vegan, vegetarian and meat versions abound.

Sticky Miso Aubergine Rice Bowl (with garlic pak choi and pickled radish)



Ingredients (Serves 2)

150g Jasmine Rice
1 average sized aubergine
100g Radishes
15ml Rice Vinegar

2 Pak Choi
2 Garlic Cloves
25g Salted Peanuts
15g Miso Paste
15g Honey
20ml Sesame Oil
300ml water (for the rice)
½ tsp Sugar for the Pickle
(15g Sambal Paste & 2 tbsp Mayonnaise – I didn't actually use these – but you can if you'd like to add spice).

Method

1. Preheat your oven to 220°C/200°C fan/gas mark 7.

2. Pour the water for the rice into a medium saucepan with a tight-fitting lid. Stir in the rice and 1/4 tsp salt and bring to the boil. Once boiling, turn the heat down to medium and cover with the lid. Leave to cook for 10 mins, then remove the pan from the heat (still covered) and leave to the side for another 10 mins or until ready to serve (the rice will continue to cook in its own steam).

3. While everything cooks, trim and thinly slice the radishes. Add your radishes to a medium bowl and stir in the rice vinegar. Season with salt and pepper, add the sugar for the pickle (see pantry for amount) and toss to coat. Set aside for later.

4. Trim the pak choi, then separate the leaves. Cut each leaf in half lengthways down the middle. Peel and grate the garlic (or use a garlic press). Heat a drizzle of oil in a large frying pan on high heat. Once hot, add the pak choi and stir-fry until just soft, 3-4 mins. Add the garlic to the pak choi and cook for 1 min more. Season to taste, then remove from the heat and keep warm.

5. Crush the peanuts in a bag using a rolling pin.

6. In a small bowl, mix together the miso paste, honey and sesame oil. When the aubergine has finished roasting, drizzle over the honey-miso sauce and toss to combine. In the (now empty) sauce bowl (no need to clean), combine the sambal and mayo (I didn't use this – its spicy).

7. Pour the juice from the pickled radishes into the rice. Use a fork to combine and fluff up the grains, then share between your bowls. Top the rice with the miso aubergine, garlic pak choi and pickled radishes in separate sections. Drizzle over the sambal mayo and sprinkle over the peanuts to finish.

I haven't tried this next recipe (again from Hello Fresh) at the time of going to print but intend to despite the off putting and ridiculous recipe description. Rest assured it is not necessary to smack your cucumber.

Honey-miso Cauliflower Poke Bowl (*with smacked cucumber and sriracha Avocado*)

Ingredients (Serves 2)

2 Garlic Cloves
300g Cauliflower Florets
150g Jasmine Rice
½ Cucumber
22ml Rice Vinegar
30g Sambal Paste
15g Miso Paste
15g Honey
1 Avocado
15g Sriracha Sauce
5g Roasted White Sesame Seeds
30g Butter
30 grams
300ml Water for the Rice
1 tsp Sugar for the Pickle
75 ml Water for the Sauce
2 tbsp Mayonnaise

1. Preheat your oven to 220°C/200°C fan/gas mark 7.

2. Halve any large cauliflower florets. Pop the cauliflower onto a large baking tray. Drizzle with oil, season with salt and pepper and then toss to coat. Spread them out in a single layer. When the oven is hot, roast on the top shelf until golden brown and tender, 15-20 mins. Turn halfway through.

3. Garlic Rice - peel and grate the garlic (or use a garlic press). Pop a deep saucepan (with a tight-fitting lid) on medium heat. Melt in half the butter. When hot, add the garlic and stir-fry for 1 min. Stir in the rice until coated, 1 min. Add 1/4 tsp salt and the water for the rice and bring to the boil. Once boiling, turn the heat down to medium and cover with the lid. Leave to cook for 10 mins, then remove the pan from the heat (still covered) and leave to the side for another 10 mins or until ready to serve (the rice will continue to cook in its own steam).

4. Make the Cucumber Salad - trim the cucumber, *then pop onto a board and use a rolling pin to gently smack it a few times until split*. JUST CUT IT UP! Cut into roughly 2cm chunks. In a medium bowl, combine the rice vinegar, sugar for the pickle and half the sambal (add less if you'd prefer things milder). Season with salt and pepper. Add the cucumber chunks to the bowl and toss through the pickling liquid. Set aside for now.

5. Put a large frying pan on medium-high heat (no oil). Add the miso paste, honey, water for the sauce and remaining sambal (add less if you'd prefer things milder). Bring to a boil, then lower the heat and simmer until reduced by half, 3-5 mins. Remove from the heat, then stir the remaining butter into the sauce. Season with salt and pepper. Add a splash of water if it's a little too thick.

6. Halve the avocado and remove the stone. Use a tablespoon to scoop out the flesh in one piece, then thinly slice. Season with salt and pepper. In a small bowl, combine the sriracha (add less if you'd prefer things milder) and mayo.

7. When the cauliflower is ready, add it to the frying pan and stir to coat in the honey-miso sauce. Reheat the sauce if needed and add a splash of water if it's a little too thick.

8. Fluff up the rice with a fork. Carefully pour any pickling liquid from the cucumber salad into the rice and mix through.

9. Share the garlic butter rice between your bowls. Top with the honey-miso cauliflower, cucumber salad and avocado slices in separate sections. Spoon any remaining honey-miso sauce over the cauliflower. Drizzle the sriracha mayo and sprinkle the sesame seeds over your poke bowl to finish.

Catherine Gibson

Reach Shoe Box Appeal

David, would you be kind enough to let the village know that we are collecting on behalf of Teams 4 U for the Christmas Shoe Box appeal. We are collecting donations including toys, small household items, knitted hats/gloves plus many more found in the leaflet (below). If anyone is interested in being involved please get in touch. I have the boxes ready to handout if anyone would like to fill a whole one too (please include £3 to help towards its shipping to Eastern Europe)

They can be collected and dropped off to the workshop here in Reach and will be sent to vulnerable children and families. This year the shoeboxes will be heading to the Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania.

Lucy Robinson **07762 980733**

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CATEGORY	Page
Accommodation	
Elm Tree Cottage, Culgaith	5
Hilary's Cottage, Swaffham Prior	5
The Meadow House, Burwell	5
The Quy Mill Hotel and Spa	Mag
Architectural Drawings	
Ely Design Group	6
Cars	
Manchetts Service and Repair	6
Robinson and Claydon Vehicle Services	16
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
Dry Cleaners	
Tina's, Burwell	11
Electricians	
Cartwright Brothers	2
Engineering Services	
N & G Marsh of Burwell	2
Financial Services	
Independent Financial Solutions	7
Food and Drink	
The Dyke's End	Mag
The Quy Mill Hotel and Spa	Mag
Funeral Directors	
Southgates	13
Gardens and Gardening	
AJJ Gardening Services	4
C.R. Contracting	6
C W Kirk Lawnmowers	15
Four Seasons Tree Services	3
John Reed Landscape Gardener	8
Summit Landscaping	12
Home Maintenance	
D-Branch	14

CATEGORY	Page
Gifts and Interiors	
Honeysuckle and Hawthorn	8
Tina's, Burwell	11
Haberdashery and Mending	
Tina's, Burwell	11
Home Maintenance	
D-Branch	14
Leisure	
T'ai Chi Chuan Classes	2
Oil	
Browns of Burwell	10
East Cambs Services	12
Paul Braybrooke Oil Boiler Service	4
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	3
Saniclean Drain and Plumbing Services	7
Pharmacy	
Pharmacy2Go	4
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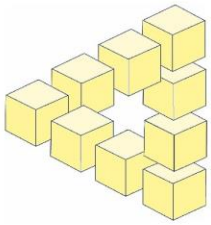

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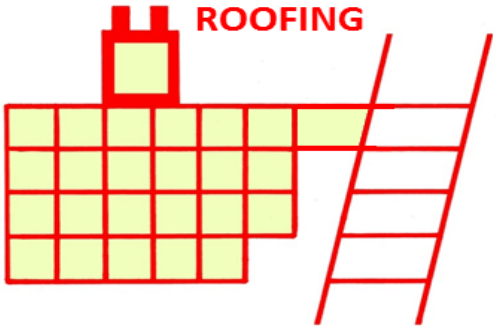

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OH CHRISTMAS TREE IN '23

Tales from a Reach Garden



This summer has been particularly good for seeing different varieties of dragonflies, butterflies and moths in the garden. When the weather dried out in August and the echinacea and marjoram were in flower, we enjoyed seeing the butterflies darting around the flowers sipping nectar. Not all of these creatures brought joy, however.



Red Admiral butterfly on marjoram



Comma butterfly on echinacea

In another part of the garden, tucked away by the back door, is a small box (*Buxus sempervirens 'suffruticosa'*) hedge. It had had its annual trim in June then some of the leaves seemed to be succumbing to a fungal infection thanks to July's damp weather. I had my fingers crossed that the damp weather would stop and the fungal infection would not get worse. I hoped it wasn't box blight. In early August it was obvious that the green leaves in the hedge had chunks missing thanks to a few small caterpillars. The few that I could see were removed by hand but at that point it wasn't clear how many were in the hedge. If there were no more caterpillars, the damage would be superficial and the hedge could recover. By mid-August we could see and hear (!) the much larger caterpillars of the box tree moth eating the leaves of the box hedge and their green "frass" (technical name for larval poo) littered the lower parts of the hedge and covered the ground beneath it. Clearly there were many more caterpillars within the hedge than could be seen and the only way we could get to them would be by chopping the box plants down. The hedge was doomed.



The box hedge in happier days (May 2017)



And today (September 2023)

Currently there are no more caterpillars on the hedge that I can see. They pupated and eventually the adults flew out. The box hedge is brown now and I've left it in its sad, brown state for a couple of weeks to see if there is any fresh growth because most of the stems and twigs are still green but there has been just one fresh leaf so far.

One of the reasons the moth was able to do so much damage was because it was easy for the caterpillars to spread from leaf to leaf and stem to stem within a dense hedge. It's less easy to do in a plant with more open structure. Also, birds and predatory insects are wary of eating the caterpillars because they taste so foul thanks to the toxicity of the box leaves that they ingest.



Box tree moth photographed at Anglesey Abbey

In the grounds of Anglesey Abbey, the many box shrubs and small box trees that are dotted around also show signs of moth damage. These box plants weren't as closely clipped like our hedge but have a more open structure as they were allowed to grow pretty much as nature intended. Thanks to that looser structure they weren't as badly affected as our hedge. This open structure makes it far easier to remove caterpillars by hand and it's less easy for the caterpillars to move around the bushes. Most of the box bushes also showed fresh growth.



Damage to box plant with signs of fresh growth

Richard and I spoke to a couple of gardeners at Anglesey Abbey recently while looking at their box trees. Both agreed that treatment by biological control using bacteria (Bacillus Thurengis) or an appropriate nematode would be worth doing to prevent moth infestation. These can be obtained online from companies like Agralan or Dragonfli. The bacillus is especially good at controlling the caterpillars but simply spraying a hedge or tree with the bacilli would not be enough - you would need to drench the plants with an extremely fine aerosol so you effectively create a mist or fog containing the bacteria that penetrates deep into a box hedge coating each leaf and stem from every direction. When the caterpillars start munching the leaves, they sicken and die.

The head gardener at Anglesey Abbey has decided that this is too much for them to do – although many of their box plants are showing signs of fresh growth, they have too many plants to deal with in this way. It's too expensive to do on such a large scale and it would have to be repeated annually, possibly more than once. Besides, box tree moth isn't the only destroyer of box: box blight fungus is just as devastating and more difficult to control. Anglesey Abbey gardeners will be digging up most, if not all of their box plants and replacing them with alternatives. The head gardener saw it as an opportunity to do something different. We too will probably replace our box hedge.

The most obvious replacement for box is yew, especially low-growing *taxus baccata repandens*. It is just as hardy and can be clipped hard to form sculptures and low hedges. Another potential replacement is *lonicera nitida*, which is a hardy small-leaved shrub that copes well in hedging. We have a small hedge of *lonicera nitida* "Baggesen's gold" growing near the front of our house. It seems to be a very forgiving plant and coped very well with last winter's icy weather. Other evergreen hardy alternatives include Japanese holly (ilex crenata), *euonymus fortunei* and *osmanthus delavayi*. Many varieties of *Pittosporum tenuifolium* provide lovely leaf colour but they are not quite as hardy. Our pittosporum survived last winter's icy conditions but lost a lot of leaves. It will be interesting to see what happens at Anglesey Abbey.



Our hedge of lonicera nitida "Baggesen's Gold"

And a closer view . . . .



When I was learning about horticulture many, many moons ago, I remember being told that box was useful for providing evergreen structure to a garden and was largely "bomb-proof". It's sad that a few infested box plants imported in 2007 have started an influx of box tree moth that is spreading across the UK in such a devastating way. In addition, our climate seems to be becoming warmer and wetter overall which encourages fungal infections like box blight. Hopefully with sufficient time and research, more pest and disease-resistant varieties of box will emerge eventually.

Danuta Gibson

Letter from the Vicarage



It was a great joy to welcome Bishop Dagmar to our dedication service on 30th July and to celebrate together, remembering Maisie Whitehead. We had a lovely card from Maisie's cousin, who was unable to attend the service, but who loved the photos we sent and thought that Maisie would have been so pleased that the church, which meant so much to her, was secure and more comfortable.

We have our Reach Harvest Service coming up on Sunday 15th October at 3.00pm, followed by refreshments. Please bring contributions to the service – tins/packets or produce – all will be donated to the Foodbank or distributed locally. We would love to involve children and families in the service and there will be a competition to help with decorating the church. November is Remembering month and on 5th November at 3.00pm in St Mary's, Burwell, is our annual Service of Thanksgiving and Remembering for those who have lost loved ones. Remembrance Sunday is on 12th November, with our Reach commemorations beginning at 10.50am at the War Memorial, followed by a short service in the church.

It's a whole year since we began Café Church at St Mary's on the first Sunday of the month. The aim has been to create a space that anyone could come into, feel welcome and at ease and perhaps 'dip a toe in the water' of coming to church. It's ok to arrive late and everyone is welcome to enjoy a hot drink and pastries, whilst exploring activities related to the theme of the day. There are toys set out for younger children and the theme for the week is carried through other activities, set out at the back of St Mary's, with colouring, word searches and simple crafts, Big Art, that anyone is free to contribute to and there is also a word challenge, for those who like to sit in the pews from the beginning.

A short service begins about 10.25am, with all the usual elements of hymns, bible readings, talk, prayers (and notices!). We have been blessed with a small music group and the choir singing from time to time. If you're interested in finding out more, come along! The next Café Church will be celebrating Harvest at St Mary's on Sunday 1st October from 10.00am.

Refresh Café is in St Mary's every Friday morning from 10.00am, for babies and toddlers with their carers and includes a simple sandwich lunch each week. We are still thinking of what we could potentially do in St Etheldreda's for young families. We were delighted with the recent gift of a train set! As a church, we are part of Burwell Food Support Group, and have been running a Pop-up Pantry on Fridays 2.00-3.00pm at Burwell Day Centre. As we go into the winter, we will be looking at other ways of supporting our community, particularly those who are struggling to make ends meet, offering hospitality where we can.

CentrePeace is our bookshop and drop-in venue on the Causeway and 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. Messy Church is on a Sunday afternoon at 4.00pm, usually monthly, for families with children of all ages.

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 aim to livestream most of our weekly 10.00am Sunday services on Facebook. Please get in touch for more information about these or any of our events or services, including weddings, funerals, christenings and baby thanksgivings, or if you would value an opportunity to chat.

Revd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams

Old Organ Item

When we were clearing Reach church for the building works, we found the casing of a former organ, which was in use in the church from 1962 to 1992. Since Maisie would have played this organ, we asked the architects to consider finding a decorative use for it in the church, but that proved to be impossible, so at that time, we simply put it into storage with many other items.

When the storage container was emptied recently, the PCC offered the organ casing to Burwell Museum, since it is of some historical interest. The organ was built by Reach resident Colin Washtell in 1962 and was of unique design, being electrically operated before the technology to do this was in common use. We have a copy of the original article about its construction, prepared by Mr Washtell, which sets out all the technical details.

The Trustees of the Museum were delighted to accept the offer. Hopefully the display about the history of the organ will also include Maisie's part in its history, and indeed in the history of Reach church.



Revd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams 01638 741262

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Cricket Report

Firstly, some results . . . .

Sun 21 May - Reach (133-5; Lewis Jarman 51) beat Histon Developmental XI (132 all out; R Clark 3-7).

Wed 24 May - Reach (133-8; Ben Kelly 40) beat Mill Green (94 all out; Ben Cooke 4-26).

Sun 28 May - Reach (269 all out; Chris Bridgeman 97, Tim Davies 77, Ewen Cameron 51) beat Milton (191 all out; Michael Mead 5-17, James Henderson 4-51).

Sun 4 June - Lidgate and Ousden (118-7; Tim Davies 3-14) beat Reach (104 all out; James Henderson 48 not out).

Wed 7 June - Reach 148-3 (Tom Wood 43) beat Wenden (142-4; Gavin Taylor 2-25).

Sun 11 June - Cam Ceylon (164-5) beat Reach (163 all out, Chris Bridgeman 40).

Sun 18 June - Chippenham (178-9; Ben Cooke 3-25) beat Reach (174-7; Aaron Brotherhood 53).

Wed 21 June - Linton (158-5) pretty well murdered Reach (53 all out).

Sun 25 June - Reach (198-5; Michael Mead 51 not out) beat Girton (122-9).

Wed 28 June - Fulbourn (186-6) beat Reach (118 all out; Tim Davies 49).

Sun 9 July - Extras (162-4) beat Reach (161 all out).

Mon 10 July - Reach (173-1; Tim Davies 93) beat Saffron Walden (96-4).

Tues 11 July - Reach (174-6) beat Balsham (107 all out; Ben Cooke 4-22).

Wed 12 July - Cam Kerala (120-6) beat Reach (116-5).

Sun 16 July - 10 over tournament at Ickworth Park. Remarkably, Reach managed narrowly to lose two cups in the space of a week. Having beaten the Ipswich Dragons and Barrow, we lost to Horringer, which put us in a play-off 'super over' with Barrow. Having restricted Barrow to just 5 runs in their over, it seemed impossible for us not to score 6 runs to take the cup. But…. A little more urgency in the running department from Tim Davies and we might just have done it.

Sun 23 July - Reach (211-8; Lewis Jarman 74) beat Camden CC (191-9).

Wed 26 July - Reach (100-3; Tim Davies 50) beat Mill Green (99-8; Nick Huckle 4-17).

Sunday 6 August - Burwell and Exning (240-7; Wilf Wood 3-42) beat Reach (150-8).

Wed 9 August - Saffron Walden (159-4) beat Reach (58 all out).

Sun 13 August - Reach (208-5; Tim Davies 50) beat Plage d'Eau (169-9).

Wed 16 August - Cambs Fire and Rescue (142-5) beat Reach (124-8; Robert Keutgen 1-1).

Sun 20 August - Reach (117 all out; James Henderson 56) beat Stansfield (106 all out; Archie Fordham 6-13).

Sun 27 August - Reach (226 all out; James Henderson 51) beat Simmons (205 all out; Tony Fordham 3-12).

Fri 1 September - Reach (127-8 beat Beckley Park (126-7).

Sun 3 September - Reach (221-2; Michael Mead 101; James Henderson 53) beat Robertsbridge (218-6).

Sun 10 September - Reach (169-9; Chris Bridgeman 58) beat Sharks (167-4; Michael Mead 3-19).

Meanwhile, off the field…. Our groundsman, Phil Kingsmill and his team of drones were awarded the prize for voluntary grounds management by Cambridgeshire Cricket – in recognition of volunteers who give up their time to look after cricket grounds.



Although it wasn't stated, the decision to award was perhaps a reflection that we have created a cricket ground from scratch – quite a rare feat given that a number of villages have lost their grounds and clubs in recent years. At the same prize ceremony, at the Essex County Cricket Ground in Chelmsford, Ed Spencer, who plays for Reach as well as Burwell and Exning, was awarded the 'gamechanger' award.

Other prizewinners had their awards presented by Graham Gooch and Sir Alastair Cook – who was playing what could be his last ever game of professional cricket. We got Tracey Smith of the Essex Playing Fields Association, who is very pleasant, but….

Ross Clark

The Dyke's End

As the current Editor of Within Reach, I've long since thought that it would benefit from the occasional "Restaurant Review" article where villagers trying a new place would be able to report back to us all about the whole experience, from making an initial booking (or not, as the case may be), to concluding the meal and heading home.

This is my first and very amateurish try and it relates to our lovely village pub, the Dyke's End and their Sunday Lunch offering. I won't be bothering you with details of how I got there, was the parking easy etc – I shall just focus on the ambience and most importantly the food.

The ambience, as ever, was delightful with lovely staff who always make customers welcome plus a clean and pleasing environment. Dan and Ruth, with plenty of help from Brian and Hilary, have subtly, but significantly, made the Dyke's End a place that villagers can be very proud of.

I like my Sunday lunches and do travel around to various places to sample them. In the dim and distant past, I have gone to the Dyke's End on a Sunday, but not often because I quite like the concept of a "trip out" and trying new places. On this particular Sunday, however, I just needed feeding since time didn't permit any kind of exotic excursion.

The current menu is below. I didn't have a starter, although I was very tempted by the soup (it looked great and smelt divine) and I always like a good prawn cocktail. I went straight onto the main and chose the beef. I also made the investment of £4 for the cauliflower cheese, which to me seemed a lot to pay, until it arrived and I tasted it, it was absolutely wonderful and sooooo worth the extra. The beef was beautifully cooked and the home-made Yorkshire pud and roasties were wonderful, I woofed it all down! I was full then so didn't sample the puddings, (I know, this is a pretty crap restaurant review)!

In summary, I highly recommend the Dyke's End Sunday Lunch – do go and give it a try.

Starters

Pea, spinach and thyme soup (V) £6.50

Dyke's End prawn cocktail (GF) £7.00

Goats cheese with beetroot, toasted walnuts, honey (V) £6.75

Mains

Sunday Roast served with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables, gravy:

Roast beef (GF) £17.00

Blytheburgh free range pork belly (GF) £17.00

Nut roast (V) £16.00

Side: Cauliflower cheese (V) (GF) £4.00

Puddings

Sticky toffee pudding, butterscotch sauce, vanilla ice cream (V) £6.50

Apple and blackcurrant crumble, vanilla ice cream (V) £6.50

Vanilla and caramel ice cream sundae with caramel sauce and toasted hazelnuts, whipped cream and fudge pieces (V) £6.50

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Your Clerk is **Susan Bailey**
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Know Your District Councillors



Full Council in July approved the Corporate Plan for 2023-7 and the actions for 2023-4. At the meeting we made the point that the street improvement actions should not be limited to towns and Ely City and that streets needed to be well kept in villages too. We welcome the recognition in the Plan that the Planning Service, waste collection and street cleaning need to be improved.

We are also pleased to see that after refusing our proposals to start the new Local Plan process, as recently as February this year, they are finally starting the process with preliminary work on a new Climate Chapter and budgeting for work to start on a new local plan from 2024/25.

Audit Committee approved the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 and these have now been published. The External Auditors were unable to present their plan for auditing the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023, or even give a timetable, because of the significant backlog in auditing Local Authority Accounts across the country.

August was a quiet month on the District Council, but the regular meeting cycle has started up again.

We continue to receive complaints about how Sanctuary Housing are managing their properties – serious problems with damp and mould, long delays in completing repairs, properties remaining empty for months or even years, anti-social behaviour by and towards tenants. We take these up individually but have also asked for a meeting with the local manager to discuss the issues more generally.

After John had arranged meetings with the GCP Greenways project managers and consultants to discuss local concerns with the Greenway projects in Swaffham Bubeck and Bottisham, meetings were also held in Swaffham Prior and Lode. The Greenways schemes aim to deliver safe cycle routes through to Cambridge, but the initial local consultation was carried out before the Covid lockdowns.

Charlotte was joined by Jonathan Cook from the AtoB1102 group when she met with the Mayor and his transport team in mid-August to discuss the number 11 bus route and other local bus issues. It was a very positive meeting and discussions are continuing. The Combined Authority is reviewing the subsidised bus network to ensure that it is getting value for money from the £7.5m which it spends on buses each year. The review has recommended that the 11 between Newmarket, Burwell and Cambridge and the 904 between Newmarket, Dullingham and Brinkley be continued with no further review, along with many other services. They will also be looking to trial a demand responsive bus service in East Cambridgeshire. Under the current system bus operators choose which routes to run commercially and keep all the profits from those routes and local authorities have to subsidise any non-profitable routes which they feel should be kept running. The Mayor is considering franchising buses where the Combined Authority would be responsible for all routes and would pay companies to run them, keeping the profits to help off-set the subsidies.

With winter coming and high energy bills, it may well be time to think of energy efficiency measures in your home. There are an increasing variety of options to make our homes more energy efficient and many government grant schemes to help with the costs, some of which are means tested.

To advise on the options and possible grants, the Council has joined with other local councils to provide all the information in one place - https://www.actiononenergycambs.org/. If you are struggling with your energy bills, or even in arrears, the Home Energy team at the Council can and will help – call them on 01353 665555.

Our next meet your Councillors will be on Tuesday 24 October 6.30-7.30pm in Reach Village Hall. And then on Monday 20 November 6.30-7.30pm in Swaffham Prior Village Hall. You are always welcome to contact both of us directly – john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk, charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk

Charlotte Cane and John Trapp

charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk 07976 607512
john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk 01223 812120

Neighbourhood Watch



No, we're not making it up, **QUISHING** is the latest trend used by scammers to get to your hard-earned cash. The scam uses fake QR codes on parking machines, charging points, even restaurant menus.

Once scanned, you're taken to a bogus website where you innocently input your details thinking you're paying for a service, when in fact, you're sharing all your personal details with the scammers.

Our fraud and cyber security advisor, Nigel Sutton, has this advice.

"Check - if the QR is on a poster in a public area, always check whether it appears to have been stuck over the poster, window, billboard. If the sign or notice is laminated and the QR code is under the lamination or part of the original print, chances are it's more likely to be genuine.

If in doubt, download the app from the official Google or Apple store or search the website on your phone, rather than scanning a QR code to take you there. It may take longer, but it's more secure.

Trust your instincts - if something doesn't seem right, don't share your details."

Larissa Chapman

(Police, Communications officer, Corporate Communications)

Bar Billiards

Players are required for the Dyke's End Bar Billiards team for this winter's league programme which starts in November. Three players make a team and they play uniquely on Tuesdays away and Wednesdays at their home pub; The Dyke's End. If a completely new team starts, they will enter a freshers league and not the one that has been running. The season is November to March during the dark months and if interested in playing please contact Dan at the Dyke's End or league and teams organiser David Lloyd on 07951010542.

Cheers!

Taffy
David Lloyd

Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities

Once again the time has come to remind everyone who lives in Reach and who considers himself or herself eligible for our Christmas Grant, that now is the time to apply.

The majority of applications come from pensioners, in particular those who have to manage on the State Pension and it may be that in the present times of uncertainty support ie required. If you are in need of help or know someone who may be in difficulty but who is unlikely to apply on their own behalf, please do get in touch.

The Trustees will always be happy to consider requests for assistance and confirm that ALL applications will be dealt with in confidence.

And financial support is available throughout the year, not just at Christmas.

Please apply to:

Pam Waters
Clerk to the Trustees 01638 741035



Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held in the village hall on Tuesday 21st August 2023 at 7.00pm.

Attendance

Cris Fletcher	Chair	Present	Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	Vice Chair	Present	Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Present
Catherine Gibson	Councillor	Present	Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present
Ed Hall	Councillor	Present			

Apologies for absence – There were none

Declaration of Interests – Councillor Cane declared an interest in item 1 due to being the PC rep on the Village Hall committee, and Councillor Fletcher declared an interest in item 1 due to being Chair of the Reach Fair CIC. As per the PC Standing Orders The Clerk gave dispensation to allow both to take part in the discussion and vote on this item as their withdrawal would mean the PC would not be quorate.

1. Decision to allow the 2023 Reach Fair proceeds to be donated, in full, to Reach Village Hall, for one year only.

The Grant fund presently has £3,248 with no known large projects requiring funding. Reach Village Hall requires a lot of work on improving its energy efficiency. A feasibility study is presently being undertaken. It was agreed that the entire amount of the Reach Fair surplus, £4,953.30, should be donated to Reach Village Hall for one year only, as a contribution to the energy efficiency measures.
A new Grant fund charity for the village will be set up in time to receive next years donation from the Reach Fair CIC.
Proposed – Councillor Fletcher
Seconded – Councillor Gibson
Approved.

2. Decision to accept the appointment of the ECDC & People 4 Places recommended external examiner, for the next stage of the NP process.

The document received from ECDC concluded to recommend two examiners. People for places expressed a preference between the two. PC will accept these recommendations. 1st Choice - Andrew Ashcroft
2nd Choice - David Kaiserman.
Proposed – Councillor Cane
Seconded – Councillor Gibson
Approved.
Clerk to inform ECDC.

3. Decision to allow the Chair & Clerk to make representations to ECDC and answer questions regarding the NP, regarding & during the examination process.

Councillor Cane was uncomfortable with this approach and proposed a slight change -
to allow the Chair of the Parish Council together with the Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan to answer questions from the Examiner regarding the NP, based on the draft response from People 4 Places, after consultation with other members of the PC. All such questions and answers to be reported to the next meeting of the Parish Council.
Councillor Fletcher felt that any questions asked by the examiner should come before a PC meeting, however there will be a 10 day window for answers to be given making the arranging of a separate meeting very difficult. Following discussion, it was agreed
It would be preferable to discuss with the full Council at the next PC meeting, but if there is no PC meeting within the given timeframe, to allow the Chair of the Parish Council together with the Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan to answer questions from the Examiner regarding the NP, based on the draft response from People 4 Places, after consultation with other members of the PC. All such questions and answers to be reported to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Proposed – Councillor Fletcher
Seconded – Councillor Cane
Approved.

DRAFT Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held in the village hall on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 6.45pm.

Attendance

Cris Fletcher	Chair	Present	Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	Vice Chair	Present	Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Present
Catherine Gibson	Councillor	Present	Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present
Ed Hall	Councillor	Not Present			

Apologies for absence - Approved.

Forum for members of the public.
There were none.

Declaration of Interests
There were none.

1. Tree works – quotation approval
Three quotes had been received for the tree works recommended by the Tree Officer. Additionally, the ECDC Tree officer had visited the village to comment & advise on the proposed work to the Ash tree 29 on the edge of the playing field. Following discussion Councillor Cane proposed accepting the quote from The Tree Surgery, seconded by Councillor Fletcher. Approved.

2. Planning
There was none.

3. District Councillor Report
The only meeting in August was Planning, which didn't consider any local applications. They reported on performance for June, stating that 100% of major and minor applications had been determined on time. However, we are aware of applications that have taken a long time, including the Bottisham Retirement Village, and we have enquired as to how 100% can have been approved on time if we know of several not approved within the target timescale. They also reported that of the 4 Appeals decided the appeal had been allowed in 2 cases.
We continue to receive complaints about how Sanctuary Housing are managing their properties – serious problems with damp and mould, long delays in completing repairs, properties remaining empty for months or even years, anti-social behaviour by tenants. We take these up individually but have also asked for a meeting with the local manager to discuss the issues more generally.
Charlotte was joined by Jonathan Cook from the AtoB1102 group when she met with the Mayor and his transport team in mid-August to discuss the number 11 bus route, and other local bus issues. It was a very positive meeting, and discussions are continuing. One thing which we are hoping the Mayor's team can help with is a survey tool to allow the AtoB1102 group to find out what journeys people want to make, and what improvements they want to see. We know there are people who want the number 11 to stop at Bottisham, as it used to do, but there are also people who prefer the new route because it is faster and more reliable. And
there are people with little or no bus service at all, who would like a service. We hope that if we can collect reliable data we can work with the Mayor's team, County, District and Parish Councils to develop a public transport and active travel network which meets the needs of our communities.

4. County Councillor Report
None received.
Clerk had received an email from Clerk at Chippenham Parish Council, detailing a complaint regarding the lack of communications and support received from the County Councillor. Chippenham Parish Council were asking for the support of all the other affected PCs including Reach. Councillor Cane abstained from this discussion. The PC agreed to support this.

5. Minutes of previous Meeting
Councillor Cane proposed accepting the minutes, seconded by Councillor Gibson. Approved as correct.

6.1 Reach Grant Fund

A request for up to £120 had been received for the Sports Day expenses, along with an apology for not applying prior to the summer as they did not realise there was no August meeting. Councillor Fletcher proposed, seconded by Councillor Gibson. Approved.

A request had been received for £450 for the purchase of a new apple press to be available for the McMillan Coffee Morning and various other users in the village. This would be considerably safer that the old one and therefore allow more people to take part and use the press. Councillor Fletcher proposed, seconded by Councillor Gibson. Approved.

6.2 Finance

Online Banking - Councillors still need to sign up to the online account, which will then hopefully, allow payments to be made.

6.3 Parish Council Members

The yearly Dykes End pub inspection had been completed.

Discussions are ongoing between Burwell PC, Reach PC and EDF regarding the solar farm money and its administration.

6.4 Play Spaces

Nothing to report.

6.5 Rights of Way

Nothing to report.

6.6 24Acres Committee

Reach Cricket club has been short listed as a potential winner in the Grounds Management Team category in the ECB 'Grassroots Cricket Collective Awards' scheme for 2023. They sent thanks for the continued support of the PC.

6.7 Neighbourhood Plan

Andrew Ashcroft (the ECDC appointed examiner). He has commenced a very preliminary review of the representations and will properly commence work on the examination from Monday 4th September.

He will then, as an estimate, follow this timetable:

Week 1 (4th Sept)

- Initial assessment of the submitted Plan.
- Confirmation of the examination arrangements with the District Council and the Parish Council.
- Background reading of the submitted Plan after the initial assessment.

Week 2

- Unaccompanied visit to the neighbourhood area.
- Preparation of the clarification note (if needed).

Week 3

- Preparation of general elements of the examination report including those policies unaffected by the clarification note.
- Update to the District Council on progress on the examination.

Week 4

- Continuation of preparation of the report after the update to the District Council.
- Preparation of those parts of the report on the policies affected by the clarification note (after the Parish Council's responses to the note are received).
- Decision on the need or otherwise for a hearing.

Week 5

- Circulation of the fact check report to the District Council and the Parish Council.

Week 6

- Despatch of the final report once the fact-checking process is completed

Please note, this is just an estimate, and the examiner is not obliged to meet this timetable, and matters may arise which require time for correspondence to take place.

6.8 Friends Of Reach Wood

Nothing to report.

6.9 A to B1102 Group

Minutes - Meeting 12th July 2023

Present Jonathan Cook, David Greenfield, Steven Odell, Tania Verdonk, Sam Chambers-Turner, Emma Fletcher, Liz Swift & Fran Platten. Apologies Colin Lizieri & Andrew Trump.

Jonathan introduced the meeting by saying that the PCs very much valued the work that the group were doing. Each parish then spoke about the Greenways and local response to the different sections.

LS represents Burwell who are trying to make changes in Burwell to support cyclists who number 400 in the cycling club alone. They are working with Sustrans to make some of the roads one way only, but it takes time. Burwell is very disappointed that the GCP will not consider improving the cycle path from S Prior to Burwell. It is too narrow, overgrown & close to the road. It needs CCC Highways to step in & support this area which does not seen to be happening. They have recently co-opted a new councillor, Chris O'Neill, who was very active when Stagecoach decided to axe the bus route. She thinks he will be a great asset, as he is good at rallying the troops! They are doing a joint bid with Suffolk county council to get the shared cycle path from Burwell to Exning. It will have funding from a section 106 agreement from the Newmarket Road development in Burwell and the housing development in Exning.

SCT spoke for S Bulbeck. She says that they are having major issues with the Greenways & have written a letter, supported by Quy, S Prior and Bottisham. However, there may be changes on the way in respect to the Denny. Sam is expecting new maps to come soon. The main criticism seems to be lack of consultation which has now been remedied, with a meeting with Peter Blake of the GCP on 27th July with both S Bulbeck and Bottisham. S Bulbeck is also concerned about connections to Bottisham to the surgery, shops, and village college. There is discussion about village gates to reduce speeding.

Quy, Sam spoke for them as well, is asking for 20 is plenty & clear access to the entrance to the cycle path, with a buffer zone at the entrance of Albert Road. I believe that has been mostly addressed by the Greenways, but some detail is being discussed. Sam said that Wilbraham is applying for the capital fund called Pride of Place which could be used for transport issues.

SO spoke for Bottisham where there is concern over the raised table outside the shops which would make the situation worse. Bottisham think that improving the cycle path along Lode Road from Lode to the schools is needed, as few children use the A1303. They too want 20mph in the village. The residents want the return of the no 11 bus, ECDC are dealing with this.

DG spoke for S Prior. The Greenways scheme want to continue the slip road cycle path into the village. The residents are anxious about the cars entering the slip road from a fast 60mph speed limit, and they want to have the limit reduced to 40mph which would make access much slower and safer. Red tarmac has been ruled out, as unsightly & very expensive.

FP spoke for Lode who have had meetings with the GCP. On the whole Lode is happy with the improvements to the cycle path.

There is concern over the sight lines in Longmeadow as there is a large building on the corner of the entrance to the village. We approve of the 40mph suggestion along the section of the B1102 from SB to Lode, in particular because of the dangerous position of the bus stop which is right on the road. We think a pedestrian/cycle refuge in the middle might be a good idea. We are working with the GCP over shared costs for the changes to Lode Road at the bus stop to extend the pavement beyond it so that children going to school cross further from the corner and the cars will have more time to see them.

<u>Fast Bus</u>

There is now a meeting planned with Peter Blake [GCP], The Mayor, Anna Bailey at ECDC & Alan Sharp our County councillor which Emma & Jonathan are attending on Aug 16th. Essential that transport plans are considered with 7000 new houses on the site of the airport. LS says that Post 16 youngsters cannot access the colleges even now. There is a need for evidence for connectivity between the villages. If the fast Bus is approved, there will be a need for Reach residents to get to Burwell for the shops and surgery, Wilbraham residents to get to Bottisham, so we need evidence to demonstrate this. More people are now using the buses, but not sure if this is because it is cheaper. We need to know the demand & how best to meet it.

JC wants to create a survey for the PCs to promote. It needs to be both online & on paper. This way we can build a case on the evidence collected to give to the Combined Authority. TV thinks we could do crowd funding to get a professional to write the survey. It needs to have direct and simple questions such as Where do you want to get to? How often and the times you would need to get there.

JC wants to advertise for volunteers who might have certain skills who can do a bit to help. An article could be put in the village magazines. FP to collate the volunteers.
Banking SCT suggested applying for a Community Chest grant to help with costs. She will continue the work to get a bank account with the Unity Trust Bank. The signatories would be CL and SCT. Once we have a bank account it will then be possible to apply to ECDC & the PCs for funding.
Possible dates for next meeting sometime during the week of 24th -28th August at 7.30 somewhere.

7. Approval of updated Standing orders

The PC Standing Orders had been updated using the latest NALC template. ***Clerk*** to consult with the District Solicitor as to whether Councillors should be informed about complaints, as her instructions, earlier this year, were different from the NALC document. Approved.

8. Approval of updated Financial Regulations

The PC Financial Regulations had been updated using the latest NACL template. Approved

9. Wicken Fen/NT community survey – to be completed

The PC has been asked to complete a survey for the NT
"*feedback opportunity to help champion our community voices. We are supporting our colleagues in creating a National Trust wide understanding of what 'being a good neighbour' looks like. We want to ensure we hear many different viewpoints and voices in creating this piece of work, so we're approaching you as we know your ideas and insight will be valuable.*
The background to why we are asking: Our leadership team know that it is important for all National Trust places to be a good neighbour to their local communities. To enable this, we'd like to gather lots of feedback and use it to define what good community engagement and collaboration looks like for our local community connections. Once we have heard from lots of people and agreed what being a good neighbour looks like - this will help us provide relevant guidance and training for our teams. So, you really will be helping us to improve how we work.
It's also a really important time for the National Trust at the moment as we're looking at our next 10 year plan. We've included a question on the survey about that in case you also wanted to share any ideas."

It was felt this was a very general survey, ***Councillor Cane*** to compose a short response.

10. Grant fund charity update

It had been proposed that the Councillors should be founding trustees of the Charity. Councillor Fletcher was unable to be a charity trustee as she was a director of the Reach Fair CIC. It is hoped some more villagers will become part of the charity. Forms are now being resubmitted.

11. Payments

E.on Next – power on the green	£11.34
CR Contracting – mowing contract	£722.00
Ross Clark – Grant fund Gate post	£150.00
CAPALC – Chairman training	£50.00

Clerk to analyse the power on the green payments and report to the next meeting.

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 me, 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 are easy to obtain through the scheme.

Diary Dates

October	Event	Location	Time
Sunday 1	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	8.30am
Tuesday 3	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		
Tuesday 3	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.00pm
Tuesday 10	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Sunday 15	Harvest Service	St Etheldreda's, Reach	3.00pm
Tuesday 17	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		
Tuesday 24	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 25	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.30am
Sunday 27	All Age Service with Baptism (TBC)	St Etheldreda's, Reach	3.00pm
Sunday 29	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.00am
Tuesday 31	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		

November	Event	Location	Time
Sunday 5	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	8.30am
Tuesday 7	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.00pm
Tuesday 7	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Sunday 12	Remembrance Service	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.50am
Tuesday 14	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		
Tuesday 21	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 22	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.30am
Tuesday 28	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		

Bus Timetable

Stephenson's Number 11 – no service Sundays and Public Holidays - NS not Saturdays, Sa Saturdays only

	NS	Sa	Sa	NS										
Newmarket, The Guineas Bus Station	--	--	700	700	820	920	1020	1120	1220	1320	1420	1520	1620	1745
Newmarket, Studlands, Park Avenue	--	--	710	710	830	930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1630	1755
Burwell, Ness Road	639	649	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Burwell, Hawthorn Way	641	651	723	723	843	943	1043	1143	1243	1343	1443	1543	1643	1808
Reach, Post Office	653	703	--	--	855	--	1055	--	1255	--	1455	1555	1655	1820
Swaffham Prior, Bus Shelter	658	708	737	737	900	957	1100	1157	1300	1357	1500	1600	1700	1825
Lode, Church	--	--	--	--	--	1004	--	1204	--	1404	--	--	--	--
Stow cum Quy, Station Rd Bus Stop	708	718	747	751	910	1012	1110	1212	1310	1412	1510	1610	1710	1835
Cambridge, Marshalls Airport	718	728	757	804	920	1022	1120	1222	1320	1422	1520	1620	1720	1845
Cambridge, Drummer St Bus Station	732	742	811	816	934	1034	1134	1234	1334	1434	1534	1634	1734	1859

Cambridge, Drummer St Bus Station	650	750	850	950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1550	1715	1815	1915
Cambridge, Marshalls Airport	702	802	902	1002	1102	1202	1302	1402	1502	1602	1727	1827	1927
Stow cum Quy, Station Rd Bus Stop	712	812	912	1012	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1737	1837	1937
Lode, Church	--	--	920	--	1120	--	1320	--	1520	--	1745	--	--
Swaffham Prior, Bus Shelter	723	823	926	1023	1126	1223	1326	1423	1526	1623	1751	1848	1948
Reach, Post Office	728	828	--	1028	--	1228	--	1428	--	1628	--	1853	1953
Burwell, Hawthorn Way	738	838	938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1538	1638	1803	1903	2003
Newmarket, Studlands, Park Avenue	752	852	952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1552	1652	1817	1917	2017
Newmarket, The Guineas Bus Station	802	902	1002	1102	1202	1302	1402	1502	1602	1702	1827	1927	2027

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

A very poor photo, taken by myself, on the day these clunch barns near the Burwell Road corner were being demolished. The buildings behind and to my right had already been levelled earlier in the day. The date I believe is 1971.

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 Elliott	01638 742268
Tents and Village Games Bookings		Claire Halpin-McDonald	01638 743330
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















Sports Day 2023