Within Reach



June/July 2025





In preparation for Reach Fair, Nathan Bridgeman organised a working party which included Simon Burnett who runs the Dream Team Cleaning Company in Swaffham Prior – his help, was invaluable!



It wasn't just a washing exercise, it was also gardening - and plenty of villagers came along to help



The quiz was well attended and lots of fun – it was won by the cricket team, the income of £100 going to the "Just George" charity



Then the Fair was opened in the normal - and lovely - manner!



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From the Editor



Are we now getting used to this weird weather? It features quite a lot in this issue of the magazine, in Danuta's Tales from a Reach Garden (page 19), Nick's Nature in Reach article (page 10) and Rosanna's Ramblings (page 8). Lovely articles, as ever!

Reach Fair came along and was a most delightful event, congratulations go to the Reach Fair Team plus all their helpers prior, during and following the event. It's always a big village effort but its also always worth it. You can see Alex's Report and the draft accounts on page 6.

One big village change, which started just yesterday, Wednesday 27th May is that we have a new bus route serving the village. It's called T4 and will take us from Newmarket and Addenbrookes (with plenty of stops on the way). I've updated the Bus Timetable page and it now shows the timings for the T4 but also those of the T5 which goes from Soham to Drummer street but doesn't come through Reach. So now to get to Drummer street one plan would be to go from Reach to Swaffham Prior and then pick up the T5. One good thing about the new timetables is that there will be more buses, another 8 a day, Monday to Saturday. Less good is that we still have no buses on a Sunday – and Charlotte has thoughts about that in her Spring Report (page 5).

Charlotte also has concerns with large-scale battery storage and coincidentally we have an interesting article from Cambridge Fire and Rescue who are also very concerned about the fire risks of charging batteries being used by electrical devices (page 4).

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 £3.00. 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 unded from advertising) is printed by Burwell Print Centre, an excellent social enterprise which trains and supports adults with learning disabilities and provides high quality design and print capabilities.

The Team

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Reach Riders Group	Sue Cameron
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore
Then and Now	Chris Patterson
Village Hall	David Thomas
Village Update	Alex de Giorgio-Miller
Wicken Fen	Ajay Tegala
Wildlife	Nick Acklam

Village Update

What a difference a little bit of sun makes!



My children had the paddling pool out in the week and declared it 'sooooo hot' – goodness knows what they'll be like when we actually get to summer!

Hate Crime reporting to East Cambridgeshire District Council Offices

ECDC has become the latest Third-Party Hate Crime Reporting Centre (TPRC) in East Cambridgeshire. A hate crime is any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim, or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a personal characteristic, specifically actual or perceived race, religion/faith, sexual orientation, disability and transgender identity.

Some people may not feel able to report these crimes directly to the police, but a third-party reporting centre can overcome these barriers by providing an alternative way to report a hate crime. Staff at a third-party centre can give confidential advice, help a person report the crime and support the person along the way. The person can remain anonymous if they wish and they don't need to have contact with the police if they don't want to. The council offices are open Monday to Thursday, 8.45am to 5pm and Friday, 8.45am to 4.30pm. You can also call the council on 01353 665555. People can also seek help for hate crimes from trained advisors at Littleport Town Council, Sutton Parish Council, Fordham Parish Council, The Kite Trust and The Lighthouse in Ely.

Anyone interested in finding out more about becoming a HCRC or hate crime training should contact ECCSP@eastcambs.gov.uk.

Quality of Life survey

Initially launched in 2023, the annual survey by CCC tracks the responses over time so local feedback not only gives councillors and decision makers vital insight when they make business planning decisions, it also means they can see how changes to decisions and policies – and the work of other public sector bodies in the county – affect people's views across Cambridgeshire.

The online and telephone-based survey seeks the feedback of 5,500 residents and is being run in partnership with Cambridge Ahead, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and South Cambridgeshire District Council. The 20min online and telephone survey is run by an independent market research company, Thinks Insight.

The company aims to speak to 1,100 people over the age of 18 living in each of the five Cambridgeshire five district areas. The survey asks residents about their views on topics such as life and community, transport, health and wellbeing, children and young people, the council and its services. In previous years, the survey has highlighted most residents feel happy, safe and have a sense of belonging, with residents believing that Cambridgeshire is a good place to raise children. However, it also highlighted that roads and pavement maintenance, the cost of living and mental health and loneliness are areas of concern. There is an opportunity for everyone to take part if they want to, with the survey available via the County Council's website: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/quality-of-life-survey

The survey will remain open into the summer and it will close on Monday, 21 July. The responses will then be collated and fed back to councillors and the public in the autumn. The results will help inform council meetings and priorities for the years ahead. If you are approached, the market research team's commissioned service 'Team Search' will identify themselves as working on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council and will give contact details which allow people to check their purpose. No one will be asked for identifying personal details, or any financial information.

What books have you been borrowing?

From Richard Osman's cosy crime best-sellers to Elmer the Elephant and potty training aides for toddlers – Cambridgeshire Libraries' most borrowed books of 2024 reflect the diverse and vibrant communities our libraries serve. The list in order is:

1. The Queen's knickers, Nicholas Allan
2. The bullet that missed, Richard Osman
3. Harry Potter and the philosopher's stone, J.K. Rowling
4. I really, really, need a wee, Karl Newson
5. Elmer and the tune, David McKee
6. The Thursday murder club, Richard Osman
7. Elmer and the race, David McKee
8. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Wrecking ball, Jeff Kinney
9. Lost and found, Oliver Jeffers,
10. Drew's fab jab, Greg Hodder

The 2024 most borrowed books list reflects the continued value the library service brings to varied and dynamic communities across our county – from young families reading children's classics together at bedtime stories through to lifelong readers borrowing in-demand best sellers.

In safe and friendly surroundings at any Cambridgeshire library you can browse the shelves, sit and read, access computers and Wi-Fi for free, or get involved with a variety of events and activities, including board games clubs and craft sessions.

Cambridgeshire Libraries is also proud to host The Library Presents, one of the few library services in the country which receives Arts Council funding to deliver a programme of arts and culture across the county. Visit www.library.live/the-library-presents to see upcoming events.

Keep well and fingers crossed for more sunshine!

Alex de Giorgio-Miller

Cambridge Fire and Rescue

Charging batteries have already caused several fires in homes across the county so far this year. Firefighters have been called to fires involving batteries being over charged, resulting in thermal runaway from the lithium-ion contained in them and causing significant damage to people's homes.

Crews from Wisbech and March, along with crews from Norfolk, recently attended a well-developed house fire. They arrived to find the battery from a DIY home conversion e-bike kit had exploded, with the fire spreading throughout the property causing significant damage and one resident was treated for burns.

At the start of April crews from Cambridge attended a fire on the ground floor of a house in Chesterton. They arrived to find an e-scooter, as well as several other items including power tools, on charge in the living room, with one of the batteries having exploded. Luckily the residents closed the doors while evacuating the property, which limited the damage.

At the end of March, crews attended a fire in Soham. They arrived to find a fire in the kitchen resulting from two devices being charged, a games console controller and a portable power bank.

Station Commander Gareth Boyd, one of the Service's community risk managers, said: "These incidents highlight the potential risks that lithium-ion batteries can pose and how it is vital for people to be alert when charging any kind of device. Last year firefighters attended around 20 fires involving batteries charging in homes, with more occurring already in 2025.

"Electrical devices are a key part to everyday life. These include mobile phones, tablets, laptops and games console controllers, as well as e-bikes and scooters.

"Most devices come with safety features to ensure they do not overheat when being charged. Using the charging packs, cables and plugs provided by the manufacturers, rather than cheaper versions will help charge devices safely. Replica replacement chargers sometimes don't have these features and can end up overcharging the battery, which causes thermal runaway leading to explosions and rapidly intense fires."

"We have seen items for sale, at car boot sales as well as online, that people can use to convert a standard bike into an e-bike. These, whilst seemingly a cheap alternative, can be highly dangerous and do not conform to the required standards to be sold in the UK."

Gareth added: "Most new items come with a suitable battery and charger, however if you are looking to purchase additional ones then make sure they are the right voltage and are fully compatible. Other things like charging a mobile phone while you are awake and alert, rather than while sleeping, means the device won't be overcharged and risk overheating the battery. This can be the same for any device."

"The Service is encouraging people to plan a good bedtime routine. Things like making sure all internal doors are closed, electrical sockets are switched off, any candles or heating appliances are off and keeping hallways and stairs clear of obstructions. This will not only help prevent a fire from happening but also ensure an easy escape if one does."

"Many fires in the home start at night while people are asleep. This can be down to a number of different causes but can be easily avoided by following a few simple tips, as well as having working smoke alarms on each floor of your home. A bedtime routine is a great way to help you and your family stay fire safe in your home. By following a few simple tips before heading to bed for the night, you can prevent a fire from happening or, if one does break out, stop it from spreading."

Residents can also use our online home safety check to carry out their own fire risk assessment of their home. This simple to use tool goes through each area of a property and generates a safety plan for the occupants to follow. The check can be carried out on behalf of a vulnerable family member. More information and safety tips on how to Take Charge and Be Safe can be found in the Community Safety section of our website.

For more information log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk, follow us on social media or call 01480 444500.

Spring Report from our MP

It's hard to believe, but it's now been over ten months since I was elected as your Member of Parliament and what an honour it continues to be. I'm delighted to have spent that time fighting as your local champion and standing up for our communities in Parliament. My team and I have now closed over 4,300 cases, each one representing someone who reached out for help, advice or support. Every case matters, and I remain committed to making sure your voice is heard and your concerns are taken seriously.



Healthcare continues to be one of my top priorities. I recently spoke in Parliament about the challenges facing the NHS, including how hard it is for people to see a GP or dentist and the difficulties local practices face in getting the resources they need. While we don't have a major hospital in Ely and East Cambridgeshire, we rely on others nearby and it's vital that our own Princess of Wales Hospital is properly maintained. I've spoken with some of our local pharmacists, who are under huge financial pressure and I've called on the government to give them the support they need and stop the wave of pharmacy closures affecting so many communities.

I'm also pressing the government for greater investment in rural public transport. Too many of our villages have no bus service at all, while others have infrequent services and nothing on Sundays. Our rural communities are fantastic places to live but they must be accessible for everyone.

With proposals for large-scale battery storage sites across our constituency, I'm concerned that current fire safety regulations don't do enough to protect residents or the environment. These sites are crucial for supporting renewable energy but safety must come first. I've raised the issue in Parliament and written to the Secretary of State, but so far there has been no satisfactory response. That's why I've launched a public petition calling on the Government to urgently strengthen safety regulations for large-scale battery storage sites, including requiring local fire services to be consulted during planning stages. It is possible to sign the petition here: bit.ly/batterystoragesafety.



This spring, I enjoyed visiting Witchford Village College and the Centre School in Cottenham, school visits are always a highlight. I've also attended fantastic local events including Ely's Beer and Eel Festivals, Reach Fair, Soham Repair Café, and the new Policing Hub ceremony in Milton. On the doorstep, I've spoken with residents across the constituency, from Littleport and Haddenham, to Bottisham and Burwell. And I've hosted Community Meetings with residents and councillors in Waterbeach, Sutton, Soham and Ely. The next is in Cheveley on 7th June, get in touch to book your place. My team and I are here to help. If you need advice or support, or to book a place on my in-person or online advice surgery, please get in touch by email at charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk or call 0207 362 1601. Appointments can also be booked online: bit.ly/bookasurgery



Best wishes

Charlotte Cane

MP for Ely and East Cambridgeshire



Reach Fair



Once again, the team have pulled off another successful fair and feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

A packed quiz on the eve of Reach Fair managed to raise an amazing £100. Out of 13 teams the winners were the Reach cricket team and they chose the charity 'Just George' to receive the donation. A big thanks from the Reach Fair organising committee to all who took part.

As usual, the Fair was opened by the Mayor of Cambridge and pennies were thrown to the crowd. The mayor's party received posies, prepared by Anne Emmett and assisted by Debbie Quilter and children from the village. The Maypole Dancing by the children of Swaffham Prior School was fabulous as always and then both stages entertained the visitors across the long afternoon.

This year we had a rethink of our entertainment offering and rather than having a band on the top field, we opted to invite more local groups to perform. We welcomed Evoke Ceroc (a partnered dance group – who had the audience up and joining in!) and Synergy Majorettes (sparkly and full of energy!). These joined the Performance Without Limits dance group, who are a Reach Fair staple and the effect of these performers, interspersed with traditional Punch and Judy and Tug o' War, was to keep a more traditional fair feel for the visitors browsing the fabulous craft stalls who had come to exhibit their wares.

We stuck to the tried and tested combination of Maypole dancing, Jezo's magic show and then a singer/guitarist (this year Graham Buxton returned – always a winner!) on Fair Green and this was followed by the 'After Party' in the beer tent, which led to a very relaxed end to the event.

Aware that costs had been rising significantly year over year, we worked hard to explore areas we could make savings without impacting the feel of the fair. Having increased our prices the previous year, we were keen not to lift prices again and put off visitors. Jezo, who provides the staging and PA equipment has been fabulous and met with us to work on reducing our spend on entertainment, which made a huge difference. We managed to make big savings by changing waste management companies too. Last but not least, a big thank you goes to Cambridgeshire County Council for agreeing to reduce our licence fee for use of the car park field by 50%!

This year we were grateful to be supported by 4 Gold sponsors. We were delighted to once again receive support from Robinson and Claydon vehicle services who are based in Reach. The local estate agents, Pocock and Shaw, also took up a spot as one of our major sponsors. Xtreme 360 Trampoline Park became one of our major sponsors this year (my kids love it there!) and we had a new sponsor in the form of Riverside Spa at Quy Mill. Back for another year, we were also fortunate to be supported by Harrisons of Burwell and Richer Spirits and Liqueurs. We are hugely grateful to all our sponsors.

It was felt that numbers attending were comparable to last year, which was lower than the two years previously. We certainly had far fewer cyclists arriving as the CamCycle annual ride was not organised this year due to lack of volunteers at the charity. This was felt at the village salad stall and tea tent which have previously been very busy serving hungry cyclists as they arrive with the group at around 11am. But it made moving around the fair more comfortable without the dense crowds and those who came all seemed to enjoy themselves.

We are grateful to all our contributors: Newmarket Explorers (on the tombola, football game and litter picking), Swaffham Prior and Reach Scouts (the BBQ), the Sea Cadets (the car park) and Reach Cricket Club (the roadblocks and car park).

This year we also have to say a special thank you to Claire Halpin-McDonald. When the Events Team passed the Fair over to the Parish Council, it was Claire who took up the reins and her vast experience from fairs past meant that the new team has continued being successful. As one of the Directors of the CIC which was set up to run the fair going forward, she has undoubtedly been the leader and kept us all running to schedule. She announced last year that she was retiring from fair duty and has been fantastic at passing on her huge volumes of knowledge so that the team can continue without her – well done to Paul Greer for absorbing so much of that knowledge so efficiently – you are a great addition to the team! Thank you!

Anyone else who fancies joining the committee please do get in touch, we'd love to have you! The more people we have the more we can share out the jobs…

Lastly, we thank the villagers of Reach, for their outstanding support and assistance leading up to the Fair, the day itself, and the clearing up thereafter. So many villagers and their families and friends contribute to the success of the day that it makes all the angst worthwhile.

Until next year…….

Alex de Giorgio-Miller, Claire Halpin, Gayle Chapman, Cristine Fletcher, Paul Greer, Oliver Rausch, Susan Hatley, Nev Fletcher, Dan Marsh

Reach Fair CIC Committee

DRAFT ACCOUNTS 2025

		2025		2024		2023		2022	
		Income	Costs	Income	Costs	Income	Costs	Income	Costs
Item	**Commercial Stalls**								
1	Bars	£1,100		£1,100		£1,045		£950	
2	Charity Stalls	£0		£0		£0		£0	
3	Craft Stalls	£1,260		£1,531		£1,520		£1,280	
4	Entertainments	£310		£310		£310		£280	
5	Fairground	£3,310		£3,200		£3,000		£2,700	
6	Food Stalls	£2,830		£2,925		£2,610		£2,090	
7	Reach Residents Stalls	£30						£40	
8	Sponsorship	£1,455		£1,055		£950		£0	
9	Donation from Mayor for hospitality	£150						£350	
10	Marquee hire			£80					
	TOTAL	**£10,445**		**£10,201**		**£9,435**		**£7,690**	
	Village Activities								
11	BBQ	£2,941	£1,507	£2,852	£1,523	£3,884	£1,648	£3,550	£1,575
12	Bottle Stall	£349	£7	£581		£404	£4	£594	£0
13	Car Park and Traffic Management	£5,691	£3,819	£5,394	£3,943	£5,557	£2,088	£5,508	£2,242
14	Coconut Shy	£227	£76	£220	£40	£218	£86	£258	£53
15	Football Game	£227	£76	£196	£40	£254	£50	£166	£17
16	Salad Stall	£959	£243	£1,320	£121	£1,396	£228	£1,198	£221
17	Tea Tent	£1,483	£263	£1,278	£212	£969	£253	£979	£309
18	Tombola/Village Games	£311	£14	£269	£13	£125	£54	£177	£57
	TOTAL	**£12,187**	**£6,004**	**£12,109**	**£5,891**	**£12,806**	**£4,411**	**£12,430**	**£4,475**
	Other Costs								
19	Advertising/Programmes		£112		£240		£416		£780
20	Entertainments and PA System		£3,160		£5,052		£4,318		£3,580
21	First Aid		£428		£576		£396		£360
22	General Expenses		£807		£999		£731		£543
23	Refuse Collection		£382		£554		£905		£676
24	Straw Bales						£35		£152
25	Toilets Hire		£1,128		£1,128		£1,128		£948
26	Insurance		£716		£673		£673		
	TOTAL		**£6,732**		**£9,223**		**£8,602**		**£7,039**
27	**INCOME**		**£22,632**		**£22,310**		**£22,241**		**£20,120**
28	**COSTS**		**£12,737**		**£15,114**		**£13,013**		**£11,514**
29	**PROFIT**		**£9,895**		**£7,196**		**£9,228**		**£8,606**
30	**Donations to groups for services**		£1,775		£1,775		£1,275		£1,275
31	**Donations to Village Hall**						£4,953		£1,829
32	**To carry forward in Fair bank account**						£3,000		
33	**To Grant Fund/CIO**		**£8,120**		**£5,421**		**£0**		**£5,502**
	Investments/Exceptional Items								
34	Sumup machines				£284		£142		£320
35	Signs (road, village, info)								£604
36	New coconut shy						£195		
37			**£0**		**£284**		**£336**		**£924**

Notes:

Line 30 includes donations to Scouts, Cadets, Explorers and Cricket Club

Rosanna's Ramblings



It's not quite my earliest memory, but it is an early memory. I'm sitting on the wall of our suburban front garden in London. The wall rises up in steps making access to its highest point – the column of a gate opening – easy for my six-year-old self.

And why do I want to be sitting high up on the wall? Because that way I can be right up close, in amongst, the branches of the hawthorn tree planted to adorn the pavement outside our house. I absolutely LOVED that tree! Especially ts abundance of flowers, which were of that dull dusty crimson hue that you sometimes get with hawthorns. It's almost almondy smell. The shade on a sunny day. The fact that, small as I was, I could be almost hidden in plain sight. I liked watching the world go by while remaining unnoticed. Not that there was much world going by, it being a leafy suburb in a leafy borough and well away from main roads. But there were neighbours' cats to watch and the elderly gentleman diagonally opposite who tended his small front lawn with obsessive care so that its velvety green stripes could put everyone else to shame. There were the goldfish in the little pond just below me in our front garden and the pond skaters and the tiny-leaved pond weed from above, looking like a different kind of green lawn as seen from a low-flying plane. And best of all, there was the craggy trunk of the tree which I could reach out and touch and which was deemed especially good because it grew out of the ground at a nearly 45 degree angle so appeared to me both rebellious and perilous.



Why, you may ask, is Rosanna rambling on about a hawthorn tree in 1966? This is for the June edition of the magazine and the may tree blossom will doubtless be fading by the time you read it. Well, perhaps that's one of the reasons to celebrate the hawthorn right now. Because this year the spectacle of the may blossom has been doubly, triply spectacular. I know, it's always wonderful, coming hot on the heels of the blackthorn … and this year, as with everything else, it was really early to start flowering.

Certainly, mid-ish April in some sheltered spots, definitely late April abundantly everywhere. But it's still going very strong on 15 May, as I write. And it makes my heart sing.

Charles tells me that the whole riverbank along the meadow of the 'pocket park' used to be a continuous line of hawthorn trees, until the Environment Agency decided that they constituted a flood risk. So, they spent a lot of money grubbing some of them up (though why not all, seeing as they were so DANGEROUS?) and the magnificent line of frothy whiteness and pinkness became the gap-toothed but still joyous sight of today. Some of those trees this year seem to be of a simply implausible candy pinkness, far more than I can recall in the ten years I've been in Reach. I'm sure they used to be either white, or white with a charming pink blush, but genuinely almost Barbie pink? (Barbie pink, by the way, I regard as acceptable in flower form, as indeed is yellow, but otherwise not!)

Those same trees produced plump red hawthorn berries which, a couple of years ago, we harvested to make hawthorn gin. Charles had read a book on foraging and it said the brew had a delicious sherry-reminiscent taste. It didn't, though was more flavoured and coloured than a previous mistake not to be repeated … rosehip gin (colour of pee, flavour only of Vitamin C tablets). It made a nice summer drink, mixed with tonic water, which was rather like the love child of Pimms and Campari Soda. Will we repeat the experiment? Probably not, but maybe the abundance of nature's bounty will yet again force our hand. It seems so churlish to ignore it.



Driving towards Ely from Stretham a couple of weeks ago, the view from left to right, close by and far to the horizon, was simply a crazy extravagance of may blossom, shining in the hot sunshine. It made us realise how prevalent hawthorns must be, at least round here, in those hedgerows that haven't been destroyed. It was an extraordinary, unforgettable sight, those quite modest-sized, modest-shaped trees emerging for a few weeks from the green anonymity to which they will soon return. A blink of an eye in geological time, not even that. But also, a reassuring reminder of the natural cycles that carry on with their yearly carrying on, despite climate change glitches making things too hot, too early. Or toooooo dry, as right now (though maybe it will be too wet by the time this comes out).

And today is, quite frankly, very cold with a stiff northerly wind making the blossom come down like the artificial snow made of paper they use in the film industry. I always see those scenes and think of all the clearing up that must have to be done when filming is done. At least nature will just get on with it, breaking the petals down into nourishing humus to fertilise next year's growth. Though with the current hard, dusty ground, perhaps they'll just desiccate and blow away to the far horizon. Or become a layer of fossilised flower petals to puzzle whatever earth-bound species might have evolved by then to think thoughts geological.

Perhaps I've spent too much time with my head in the clouds, or at least in the dusky pink canopy of my six-year-old self's hawthorn escape room! It doesn't do anyone any harm to let one's mind wander, just a bit. And I have to think of something while I do my walking challenge. 879.9 km so far this year. Pretty good. Not as pretty as a pink mayflower though. That would be unachievable.

Rosanna Moseley-Gore

Burwell Belles Women's Institute

Burwell Belles WI – A Warm Hello!

Spring has arrived in full bloom and Burwell Belles WI has enjoyed a busy and rewarding start to the season. With regular monthly meetings and a range of special interest groups, our members continue to engage in a variety of enjoyable activities.

Our cookery group recently spent a fun and interactive evening making pizza dough - in a bag! We've also launched a new creative writing group, delightfully named "The Scribblers", providing a space for members to explore their creativity through storytelling and shared writing exercises.

In March we had a visit from Alison Moore from Cottenham WI who shared her experience of restoring dolls houses, including her own childhood house which was saved from gathering dust and is now on display with fantastic-themed interiors for passersby to enjoy.

Beyond our regular get-togethers, we love an outing! Some of our members recently visited Porter's Lodge, a beautiful working garden and charming tea room just outside Cavenham. Having first discovered it last autumn, we were thrilled to return and see the gardens come alive in spring bloom.

We're also proud to be doing our bit for the environment with our blister pack recycling initiative — and it's going brilliantly! You can drop off used blister packs at several locations in the village: The Parish Council Reading Room, Burwell Surgery, Burwell Day Centre, Ness Court, or bring them along to one of our meetings. We take these to Katie at Superdrug in Newmarket, where the recycling process helps raise funds for Marie Curie.

Looking ahead, we'd love to invite you to our **Annual Open Meeting** on the **26th June**, where we will welcome **Alan Gray**, former Wimbledon umpire (1988–2012). His talk, *"You Cannot Be Serious!"* promises to be both entertaining and insightful. This event is open to everyone — non-members and men are welcome. Tickets are £5 for non-members and include strawberries and cream, plus afternoon tea with scones and homemade jam. What's not to love?

On the **31st July**, we'll hear from **Rosanna Moseley Gore**, who will share *"Songs from a Suitcase: Inhabiting an Inheritance"* — a story inspired by a treasure trove of family letters, photographs and documents passed down after her parents died.

We're always happy to welcome new faces, so if you're thinking about joining, why not come along and see what we're all about? We meet on the **last Thursday of the month** at **7.30pm** in the **Gardiner Memorial Hall**. To get in touch, feel free to drop us a line at **alisondodds@hotmail.co.uk** — we'd love to hear from you!





Nature in Reach



Not for the first time in these articles, I am prompted to comment on the unusual weather of the last couple of months. It has been the driest early spring in this region since 1956. The east of England received less than a quarter of its (already modest) average rainfall in March and half the average for April.

This is in distinct contrast to the wet spring of 2024 which preceded one of the wettest winters on record. Variability is, of course, part of the 'charm' of English weather and nature is resilient. Unfortunately, the scale of variation appears to be increasing and this, alongside the increased frequency of extreme weather events, may be beyond nature's ability to adapt.

The lack of early spring rainfall will be particularly challenging for amphibians as ponds and ditches are drying up before tadpoles have completed their aquatic phase. However, Ron and Penny Greenhill's report of newts on their doorstep (below) suggests a degree of resilience, perhaps supported by our garden ponds.

The lack of water will have affected the breeding patterns of insects and invertebrates. Conservationists assess that there will have been a knock-on effect on migratory birds and bats which rely on them as a food source.

Sightings

20 March: A starling peeps out from our jackdaw nesting box on our chimney. This brave and perhaps foolhardy opportunism is short-lived. The jackdaws are back in occupancy a couple of hours later.

Two Chinese water deer sprint from ditch to ditch in the field to the west of Straight Drove.

22 March: It feels as if there has been a sudden increase in birdsong on Tubney Fen in the last day or so. Chiffchaff, blackcap, Cetti's warbler, linnet, common and lesser whitethroat, great tit, blue tit, blackbird, wren, yellow hammer, and stonechat are all detected - some by my own ears, rather more by the birdsong app installed on my mobile phone (https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/). I have found this particular app to be accurate, responsive and significantly better than the app I had used previously. It is also free.

A carrion crow mobs a pair of buzzards high above Tubney Fen.

27 March: I spot a short-eared owl flying fast and low over Hurdle Hall in the warm afternoon sun. There have been fewer short-eared owls sighted locally this winter. This one though is a late stayer and its departure for the continent, perhaps ending as far east as Russia, must be imminent.

A willow tit is calling from the scrub on the side of Reach Lode.

30 March: The rookery in the ash trees on the Hythe continues to evolve. The birds have colonised the trees least affected by ash die back. Interestingly, they had begun nest building before, to a human eye at least, the full extent of dieback was apparent. In all there are ten nests, two of which are a curious semi-detached affair.

1 April: A barn owl hunts over Hurdle Hall in full daylight.

One of the mute swans, resident at the village end of Reach Lode, has a noticeable orange patch on its head. This, according to the internet, is due to high levels of iron and tannins in its diet.

2 April: Cetti's warblers are calling loudly from several of the hawthorn trees on the lode bank in the Pocket Park. Jonathan Latchford reports a close encounter with a large badger when cycling back from the pub in Bottisham. It crashed out of the hedge by Snakehall Farm, trundled ahead of him on the road to Reach before barging into the verge on the Devil's Dyke side.

3 April: The first flowers emerge from the wisteria on the front of our house. This is early, reflecting the warm spring but is part of longer-term trend to earlier flowering. Twenty years ago, the wisteria used to be in full flower during Reach Fair. Now, and for several years, it has been well past its prime when the fair arrives.

12 April: First reed warbler heard by Reach Lode.

15 April: I see a solitary lapwing over Tubney Fen which reminds me that sightings of this most acrobatic of birds have been low this winter and spring. I hear a willow warbler in the 24Acres woodland.

16 April: Ron and Penny spot three swallows above the field behind the village hall. Later in the day, Claire and I see a single swallow over Hurdle Hall. Graham Lingley reports seeing a house martin by the large willow tree on the lode bank to the north of the cycle bridge a few days earlier

20, 21 and 29 April: Short walks along Straight Drove armed with my bird song app 'reveals' the amazing diversity of songbirds present in the tall thorn hedges on either side of the track. Most were unseen. In addition to the birds recorded on 22 March, goldfinch, greenfinch, chaffinch (no longer the common bird of two decades ago), grasshopper warbler and long-tailed and blue tits are detected.

21 April: On a triangular tour of Burwell Fen along the lode banks we see and hear our first cuckoo of the year. It is slightly late and may reflect the dry spring. We also see marsh harriers engaged in a spectacular courtship flight over Adventurers Fen and spot a large egret, probably a great white egret, at distance on the newly bunded area of Burwell Fen.

27 April: Late in the evening I encounter a small hedgehog by our back door. This is a welcome return after many years of absence. Jonathan has a hedgehog lodging somewhere in his garden. It is the first he has seen in the eight years he has lived in Reach. As suggested previously, perhaps hedgehogs are staging a little recovery locally.

29 April and 16 May: A cuckoo calls at length from the trees surrounding the fishing pit by Straight Drove. Whilst late in arriving this year, cuckoo calls are now a consistent backdrop in the village. Rosie Almond says that she can't think of a better alarm to wake up to.

30 April: A pair of carrion crows approach the rookery on the Hythe. There is a brief period of mayhem before the crows are moved on.

Ron reports the first sighting of swifts in the village.

In early May Charles Moseley notes thick cobwebs draped on shrubs in Reach Wood. These reveal the presence of micro-ermine moth caterpillars.

5 May: Ron remarks on the large number of stock doves around the village

7 May: A barn owl is hunting by Little Fen Drove in full sunshine, presumably to meet the demands of a growing brood.

13 May: Ron and Penny report an exciting discovery when moving their back door mat - several smooth newts. Ron believes they use a nearby garden pond.

19 May: Jonathan sees a sparrowhawk over his garden. He notes that the great tits nesting in his apple tree have fledged.

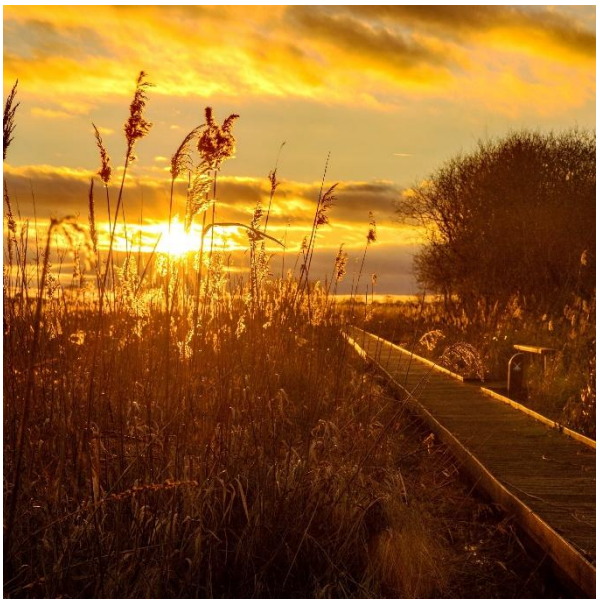
As always, sightings from other villagers for inclusion in future reports would be most welcome.

Nick Acklam

acklam@reach-village.co.uk



Wicken Fen



Courtesy of National Trust - Mike Selby

It's the perfect time to enjoy a walk around Wicken Fen and listen to the birdsong, which reaches its peak at this time of year, with African migrants such as cuckoos, reed warblers and sedge warblers filling the air. As well as the dawn chorus, the dusk chorus is very special at Wicken and we have a Dusk Chorus Walk at 6.30pm on Thursday 5th June. This is the first of our Summer Evening late openings, which take place every Thursday in June, July and August with the visitor centre and gift shop staying open until 8pm and the café serving an evening menu between 5pm and 7.30pm. Other Summer Evening events include Morris dancing by SlapMaGurdle on 12th June.

As part of our *Listen to the Voices of the Fen* sound art project, funded by Arts Council England in collaboration with artist Kathy Hinde and Babylon Arts, we have some exciting workshops and events coming up . . . .

You can craft a flute from natural materials on 28th and 29th June and a subsequent live performance on 20th July to officially launch a brand-new art sculpture trail around the boardwalk and woodland walk, which will run until 28th September.

The Summer Nature Trail opens on 1st June, offering stunning views of orchids and other colourful Fen flowers, as well as sightings of dragonflies and damselflies.

Over the past 18 months, thanks to Natural England's Species Recovery Capital Grant Scheme, we've been working to enhance wildlife habitats and improve access to nature. Located near Reach village, the project has improved-habitat suitability for turtle doves.

This includes planting wild bird cover crops, creating flower-rich meadows and planting 5,400 saplings to create 600 metres of hedgerow. We've also excavated a new pond, re-profiled a ditch to provide additional drinking points for birds and installed a culvert to connect two fields, creating a new green footpath linking Burwell and Reach. This work is a significant step towards restoring vital habitats, boosting biodiversity and offering a beautiful green space for the local community to enjoy.



Burwell Fen after peatland restoration

The past 6 months have also seen a major peatland restoration project across Wicken, Burwell and Tubney Fens, funded predominantly through DEFRA's Nature for Climate' Peatland Grant Scheme, managed by the Fens East Peat Partnership, with additional funding from grants, philanthropy and corporate partners including Starling Bank and Anglian Water. Part of the works included creating new wetland areas on Tubney Fen, which have attracted cranes. The new habitat on nearby Burwell Fen has attracted great white egrets, spoonbill, curlew and a pair of little ringed plovers!

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

Ajay Tegala

Reach Riders



Lessons at the arena have begun again - the going is great and the arena has been well maintained over the winter.

We have a date for our committee members to treat the wooden structures to prolong their life!



A big thanks to everyone who came to the Pie and Pint night at the Dykes End. The raffle raised close on £100 which will go towards the upkeep of the arena, so thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets and supported the event.

Future events to follow and we hope they will be as well supported

Sue Cameron

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Burwell Surgery
Patient Participation Group

BURWELL SURGERY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG) – HAVE YOUR SAY!

The PPG is a group of patients and GP practice staff who meet for 90 minutes, four times a year, to discuss practice issues and patient experience to help improve the service. We also act as a consultative group for any changes at the practice.

Our next meetings will be at 6.30-8pm on Tuesday 15th July and then at the same time on Tuesday 14th October.

Meetings take place at the Burwell Day Centre with an option to join online via Teams.

ALL WELCOME!

If you would like to be part of the group, please contact the Surgery on:
01638 741234 or by email at:
cpicb.burwellsurgery.admin@nhs.net

For more information, including a wide range of articles about Surgery services such as health checks, social prescribing and health and wellbeing coaching, please visit:
https://www.theburwellsurgery.co.uk/patient-group/about-our-ppg/

Mobile Library

The mobile library 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.

Able Community Care



Able Community Care is a Norfolk, family owned, Home Care provider, established in 1980. We are often asked by our clients, carers and members of the public, questions across a wide range of care issues. Care information is often time-consuming and difficult to access, so we are happy to share some of our questions and answers with you.

Question – I need some help to get an older relatives feet looked after. Where can I get such help and does it have to be paid for?
Answer - If it is a foot condition that limits movement, then your relative may qualify for free chiropodist and podiatry services through the NHS. Many Age UK branches also have trained workers who will provide a basic level of foot care, such as toenail cutting and can offer general guidance. If such footcare is not freely available in the area in which your relative lives then you will have to pay a podiatrist, also known as a chiropodist, to get the help needed. To find one locally, visit the regulating body, the Royal College of Podiatry's website for a list of their members.

Question – Being a person with a disability, I can purchase some pieces of equipment and other things VAT-free. Can I do this with the online retailer Amazon?
Answer - Amazon can issue VAT refunds on eligible sales to customers who are registered disabled or chronically ill. To apply for your VAT refund, after your order has been completed, you'll need to fill out an eligibility declaration form which can be requested from their Customer Service department or obtained directly from HMRC (HMRC Notice 701/7 VAT reliefs for disabled people). Visit their websites for further details.

Angela Gifford

Managing Director

Able Community Care Ltd

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www.ablecommunitycare.com 01603 764567
You can see our advert in the adverts section of this magazine.

Bus Timetables

The timetables below came into force on Wednesday 26th May 2025 – and it is now the T4 (run by Stagecoach) which comes through Reach. We will be getting 8 extra buses coming through each day (Monday to Saturday – still no buses on Sundays).

The only negative is that the T4 does not go to Drummer Street – but the T5, which goes through Swaffham Prior, does. Below, you will see how the connections might work.

TIGER BUS ROUTES

T4 - NEWMARKET TO ADDENBROOKES - Monday to Saturday (no buses on a Sunday)

Newmarket Bus Station	-	07:30	08:40	09:40	10:40	11:40	12:40	13:40	14:40	15:40	16:40	17:40	18:40
Burwell Newmarket Road	06:50	07:50	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00
Reach Post Office	**06:58**	**07:58**	**09:08**	**10:08**	**11:08**	**12:08**	**13:08**	**14:08**	**15:08**	**16:08**	**17:08**	**18:08**	**19:08**
Reach Ditchfield	**06:59**	**07:59**	**09:09**	**10:09**	**11:09**	**12:09**	**13:09**	**14:09**	**15:09**	**16:09**	**17:09**	**18:09**	**19:09**
Swaffham Prior Bus Shelter	07:03	08:03	09:13	10:13	11:13	12:13	13:13	14:13	15:13	16:13	17:13	18:13	19:13
Lode Church	-	-	09:20	-	11:20	-	13:20	-	15:20	-	17:20	-	-
Lode Quy Road	07:10	08:10	09:21	10:20	11:21	12:20	13:21	14:20	15:21	16:20	17:21	18:20	19:20
Bottisham Bell Road	07:14	08:14	09:26	10:24	11:26	12:24	13:26	14:24	15:26	16:24	17:26	18:24	19:24
Fulbourn Babraham Road	07:31	08:31	09:43	10:41	11:43	12:41	13:43	14:41	15:43	16:41	17:43	18:41	19:41
Addenbrookes	07:47	08:47	09:59	10:57	11:59	12:57	13:59	14:57	15:59	16:57	17:59	18:57	19:57

T4 - ADDENBROOKES TO NEWMARKET - Monday to Saturday (no buses on a Sunday)

Addenbrookes	06:25	07:50	08:50	09:59	10:59	11:59	12:59	13:59	14:59	16:05	17:05	18:05
Fulbourn Babraham Road	06:46	08:11	09:11	10:20	11:20	12:20	13:20	14:20	15:20	16:26	17:26	18:26
Bottisham Bell Road	07:03	08:28	09:28	10:37	11:37	12:37	13:37	14:37	15:37	16:43	17:43	18:43
Lode Quy Road	07:07	8.32	09:31	10:41	11:40	12:41	13:40	14:41	15:40	16:47	17:46	18:47
Lode Church	-	-	09:35	-	11:44	-	13:44	-	15:44	-	17:50	-
Swaffham Prior Bus Shelter	07:15	08:40	09:43	10:49	11:52	12:49	13:52	14:49	15:52	16:55	17:58	18:55
Reach Ditchfield	**07:18**	**08:43**	**09:46**	**10:52**	**11:55**	**12:52**	**13:55**	**14:52**	**15:55**	**16:58**	**18:01**	**18:58**
Reach Post Office	**07:20**	**08:45**	**09:48**	**10:54**	**11:57**	**12:54**	**13:57**	**14:54**	**15:57**	**17:00**	**18:03**	**19:00**
Burwell Hawthorn Way	07:31	08:56	09:59	11:05	12:08	13:05	14:08	15:05	16:08	17:11	18:14	19:14
Exning St Martin's Church	07:41	09:06	10:09	11:15	12:18	13:15	14:18	15:15	16:18	17:21	18:24	19:21
Newmarket Bus Station	07:49	09:14	10:17	11:23	12:26	13:23	14:26	15:23	16:26	17:29	18:32	19.29

T5 - SWAFFHAM PRIOR TO DRUMMER STREET CAMBRIDGE - Monday to Saturday (no buses on a Sunday)

Swaffham Prior Bus Shelter	07:12	08:12	09:27	10:27	11:27	12:27	13:27	14:27	15:27	16:27	17:32	18:42
Cambridge Drummer Street	07:42	08:42	09:57	10:57	11:57	12:57	13:57	14:57	15:57	16:57	18:02	19:12

T5 - DRUMMER STREET CAMBRIDGE TO SWAFFHAM PRIOR - Monday to Saturday (no buses on a Sunday)

Cambridge Drummer Street	06:35	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:05	17:15	18:15
Swaffham Prior Bus Shelter	07:08	08:33	09:33	10:33	11:33	12:33	13:33	14:33	15:33	16:38	17:48	18:48

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https://reach-village.co.uk/Village_Hall.html

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Best wishes
Kate Bowman
Care Manager for Cambridgeshire

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We are just outside Norwich NR14 8TZ

You can also visit our website at www.ablecommunitycare.com which includes an application form

Best wishes

Kate Bowman

Care Manager for Cambridgeshire

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Burwell Museum



We are well and truly open!

It was a bit of a rush before we opened, but I would like to thank everyone who helped us get ready again to welcome you through the door.

Thank you also to everyone who visited us at our Easter event, bought one of our season tickets, or met us at the Farmers Market or Reach Fair! We have enjoyed meeting you and hearing your stories about Burwell and all the things you got up to and look forward to welcoming you again!

We would like to remind everyone that as we are a completely voluntary led charity, we are unable to open on a Saturday if it is followed by a bank holiday Monday. We will arrange to change our signs to make this clearer to prevent any further misunderstandings. Our website already says this but just to make it clear.

By the time you read this, the Museum will have participated in a National event to celebrate how wonderful our Heritage mill is. The mill team were hosted by the team at Wicken Mill in April to cast some new shutter cranks and cleats to enable us to complete some repairs to our shutters – thank you must go to them for allowing our team to work with them. It's amazing how many people will visit, interested in hearing about what our charity has achieved and how our mill operates.

Every mill is individual and has been built slightly differently – did you know that our sails operate a different direction to normal ie. anti-clockwise??

It's not just our mill team who have been busy, our maintenance team have been hard at work repairing the observatory dome which was donated by Barrie Bushell's family. This was finished just after Easter and has allowed us to place the dome onto the running rail which, apart from a small amount of flashing around the base and door, means that this phase has now been completed.



Barrie constructed this observatory himself, including making the telescope. The telescope is in good condition, but we just need to have the mirrors re-mirrored before this element can also be installed. We are looking forward to holding an official opening event later in the year – details are being worked on so look out for our facebook posts and our next article for details.

Barrie sadly passed away a few years ago, but he had a great interest in clocks and steam engines. This included making working models of both and therefore these skills were easily transferrable to making this telescope. His family were kind enough to donate several items of Barrie's to the museum, as well as tools from his workshop and we would like to acknowledge their generosity in this article.

During March, we welcomed our Solar installation team, who managed to get our scheme installed and operational before we opened. Our education hub is still in the planning but anyone who is interested in helping put this together, please get in touch with us or come along and have a chat.

We are well into our planning for our next 2 events:

Made in the Fens – 21st June

1940's – Evacuation to Burwell – 13th July

Made in the Fens is a celebration of all things crafty – our only criteria, items need to have been made by someone living in the Fens!

We have singers, dancers and a re-enactment group already booked to attend our 1940's event in July and we want as many of our visitors to come in period costumes. Are you up for the challenge?

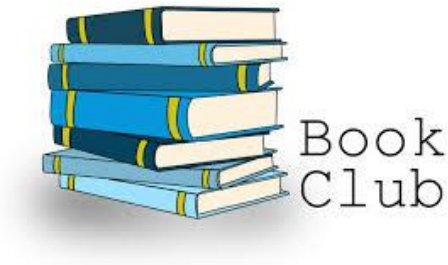
August will see our annual Classic Car Show – entry forms can be obtained by emailing museum@burwellmuseum.org.uk. We already have some cars signed up – it's free to bring along your vehicle so why not join us for the day!

Finally, May has seen the return of our blacksmith to the Museum. Unfortunately, Wil of Steel has made the difficult decision for medical reasons to stop blacksmithing, but his son Ryan has taken over. We thank them both for their commitment to us and helping to bring this exhibit to life for our visitors. Please keep an eye out for our postings on facebook as to when Ryan will be in the Forge.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Museum soon.

Burwell Museum Trustees

Dyke's End Book Club



Calling all bookworms! Join our new Dyke's End Book Club.

Here's what you need to know . . . .

Meeting date and time: **Thursday, 12th June at 7pm**
Location: **Dyke's End Pub in Reach**
How to join: **Simply turn up!**

Ally Eariss

07897 672329 or aeariss123@hotmail.co.uk

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.

Bulbeck Band

A warm welcome for toddlers and their grown-ups at Swaffham Bulbeck School

The Swaffham Partnership are excited to announce, we are reforming the band! **Bulbeck Band** is a much-loved toddler music group based at Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School. Come and join us for a sing-along and a cuppa with your very small people.

Babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers with their grown-ups are all welcome. Our reception teacher Mrs Weaver will be leading the singing for our first session **9.15-10.15 Wednesday 4th June 2025** and the group will then run **every Wednesday during term time**. No need to book, just turn up, and enter school via the main entrance.

The group is free to families, donations are welcome. Please spread the word.

The Swaffham Partnership – Swaffham Prior Primary School and Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School - offer a friendly and inclusive learning environment routed in our local community. Children attend our schools from a wide range of local villages. Places are still available for school starters in September 2025 and we would love to show you around.

Please contact our school office for more information:
office@swaffhamprior.cambs.sch.uk
01638 741529 (Mon-Fri, 0900-1500)

Burwell Open Gardens Day



If you are looking for a lovely way to spend your Sunday afternoon on June 8th between 12:00 and 5:00pm, then make a note that it is Burwell Open Gardens day.

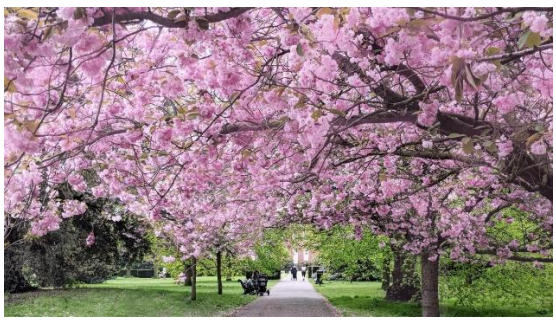
You have the opportunity to visit six private gardens in Burwell. They vary in size from small to large and each has their own unique collection of plants, ranging from a traditional cottage garden to a modern new build lockdown garden.

They feature drought tolerant planting, a large acer collection, a national collection of Yucca, a zoned garden and a living wall. All the gardeners will have worked hard to present their gardens in beautiful condition with a desire to give all visitors pleasure and hopefully some inspiration for your own gardens.

The National Garden Scheme (NGS) is a registered charity and the proceeds support many other charities with an emphasis on health care and hospices. The cost is £8 to gain entry to all 6 gardens, (under 16 are free).

Homemade refreshments are available at Isaacson's 6 High St (additional cost). Tickets can be bought at the garden gate either in cash or by card, or visitors can buy their ticket in advance from the NGS website (Google it).

Quentin Cooke



Letter from the Vicarage



Summer's nearly here (we hope!), which means BBQs, garden parties and fetes.

We're delighted that St Mary's Church Fete will be back this year, taking place in St Mary's church and churchyard on Saturday 7th June from 2.00 till 4.00pm.

Come and browse the Bric-a-Brac, Plant and Book stalls, take part in the Grand Raffle and the Children's Games and take time out with a Cream Tea. Expect some wildlife activities as we celebrate God's creation and with a Messy Church Tent, it's going to be a great family afternoon! If you would like to take part with a Charity or Trade stall, donate a raffle prize or would like to volunteer to assist on the day please contact Jo Proctor (LLM@stmarysburwell.org.uk). By request, we hope to again light the church green in the evening of 7th June, to mark Tourette's Awareness Day.

Carers Week this year is 9th – 15th June and is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. It also helps people who don't think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access much-needed support. This year the theme is 'Caring About Equality' highlighting the inequalities faced by unpaid carers, including a greater risk of poverty, social isolation, poor mental and physical health. We are holding a Thank you service to support Carers on Sunday 8th June at 3.00pm at St Mary's, followed by tea and all are welcome, if you are or have been a carer, along with those who need that extra support.

With the renovation work at St Etheldreda's church having been completed, we have a special service coming up on Sunday 29th June at 10.00am, to mark the feast of St Etheldreda. Everyone welcome to join us for this significant date in the church's calendar.

Pop-Up Pantry at Burwell Day Centre has been running for over two years, helping many in financial need is to access support to help them get back on their feet, offering short life fresh food items, toiletries & hygiene products and cupboard basics. We are in the process of reviewing how the Pantry operates, so that we continue to reach those most in need. Look out for more updates on our Pop-Up Facebook page.

We have lots going on for young people, children and families. Our new Connect Café is monthly on Wednesdays 3.30 – 5.00pm, with next dates 11th June and 9th July - a connecting space for families, with games and activities for all ages. Refresh Café is our group for babies, toddlers and their grown-ups, which meets on Friday mornings at St Mary's from 10.00am, with a simple sandwich lunch from 11.30am. We offer a very warm welcome to any little ones and their parents/carers, and continue during school holidays, welcoming older children as well for these extended sessions. Café Church is usually the first Sunday of the month, beginning from 10.00am with refreshments, time to chat and themed activities, followed by a short service. Next dates are 1st June and 6th July.

To find out more about what's going on at St Mary's or St Etheldreda's in Reach, please see our Facebook pages and website. Most weeks, we aim to livestream our weekly 10am Sunday service on Facebook. Please get in touch if you would like more information about these or any of our events or services, including weddings, christenings and baby thanksgivings, or if you would value an opportunity to chat.

Revd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams, Vicar of Burwell with Reach, 01638 741262 vicar@stmarysburwell.org.ukx
www.stmarysburwell.org.uk;
www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell/

Burwell Food Support Group

Pop-up Pantry & Ely Foodbank

working together
to support our local community

at Burwell Day Centre
Fridays 2.00 - 3.00pm

Pop-up Pantry is working towards reducing waste and offers short life food and more as is available.

Donations towards the Pantry are gratefully received and can be dropped off at the Day Centre.
A voluntary contribution of £2 is helpful towards running costs.

Ely Foodbank provides food for 3 days and can help with issues such as benefit changes, low incomes and more.

Citizen Advice join the team on 1st Friday of month.

If you require help from the Foodbank please ring 01353 468626
or email info@ely.foodbank.org.uk

Burwell Food Support Group links individuals and groups working to support those in need in our community, and includes Burwell Help Group, Open Arms, St Mary's Church, Burwell Baptist Church, Burwell & District Day Centre, Burwell Co-op

St Etheldreda's Church
Reach
Sunday 29th June
10.00am
A service for
St Etheldreda's Day
followed by refreshments



Carers Week
9th - 15th June 2025

Annual Carers' Service
to thank and support unpaid carers
Sunday 8th June 2025
3pm
St Mary's Church Burwell
followed by tea
All very welcome

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

Carers Week is an annual awareness campaign to celebrate and recognise the vital contribution made by the UK's 6.5 million carers. For more information visit carersweek.org



Tales from a Reach Garden



We have had various animal visitors to the garden over the years that we've been growing vegetables in our garden; some are welcome, such as pollinating insects and those insects that munch their way through aphids. We also appreciate having most birds in the garden, partly because of the birdsong, but we also enjoy watching them flit or scurry around the garden.

At this time of year, we observe the fledglings make their first flights, occasionally watched by their parents and sometimes, alas, spotted by jays who always seem to fly in pairs and dive in. It's fascinating how birdsong changes from delicate tweets and chirrups to loud alarm calls when a bird of prey flies nearby, or a weasel has been spotted in a hedge and these calls are taken up by almost all the birds in the garden. There can be quite a cacophony of calls when that happens and I'll check to see what's causing the noise, then the culprit flies off or scuttles away (sometimes with a chick) and normality resumes within a few minutes. It's at those times that the garden can feel like the film set for a wildlife documentary!

Robins wait so politely while we dig or prune and then swoop in to devour some tasty little morsel that they've spotted, but they leave plants alone. Occasionally we hear a tap-tap-tap from the thrushes as they demolish a snail shell and we often find empty and broken shells around the garden; their preferred spots are the corner posts of the vegetable beds to do this. Some birds, like wood pigeons, aren't so welcome because of the damage they can do to seedlings if they fancy something fresh and green, so we have to bear them in mind when planting in the beds. We also have to consider rabbits, deer, voles and mice which can also ruin a whole bed of vegetables given the chance. After several years of frustration, trial and error we've gradually figured out how to do this without using pesticides and by reusing a lot of useful materials.

We've had to use chicken wire to put around some of the beds to keep nosey deer and rabbits away. We put fabric netting over some beds to keep out pigeons and cabbage white butterflies - although butterflies somehow manage to find the occasional larger hole. Very fine mesh fabric netting is draped over some beds to prevent attack on vulnerable plants by carrot fly, allium miner or various aphids.



Well-protected pea bed

It looks like a lot of effort (and cash) to do this, but chicken wire and fabric mesh only need to be bought once and they are reusable - we've had them for well over ten years now. We do use a lot of chicken wire in the pea bed; some is tied to poles to provide a "trellis" for the peas to scramble up, but we also have chicken wire around the bed to keep nosey animals away. Weeding the pea bed could be very time-consuming and awkward with all that protection around it, so we have placed lengths of black fabric between the rows of peas which are held down either by bricks or hooks, which does the job very well.

In spring (especially this year) we also have to protect vulnerable seedlings from cold north winds. Earlier in the growing season we used agricultural fleece to protect shoots of potatoes, onion, garlic and shallots – it also prevented curious blackbirds from trying to pull small onions up to see what's underneath. These plants gradually harden off and don't need so much protection later in the season, but we do use a wind break to protect the northern side of the beds containing taller plants, like peas and beans, until they're mature enough to cope - or the weather warms up.



Broad bean bed with windbreak protection

To minimise weeding and also help keep in moisture (and reduce watering) we use black fabric as a mulch on many of the beds. This isn't as long-lasting as netting, but can be rinsed and reused for a couple of years, providing mice haven't shredded it first. The alternative is to hoe the weeds when they are tiny seedlings (especially on the onion bed) or add a thick layer of compost to smother the weed seedlings, which also feeds the crops. In the potato beds we add compost or soil to cover the stems as the plants grow, but then they get to the stage where we have to remove weeds by hand until the plants are bulky enough to shade them out and in early summer we'll have our first potatoes of the season.



Courgette planted through black plastic



First early potatoes are shading out the weeds

Danuta Gibson

Landlines are changing

By January 2027*, traditional landlines will be upgraded with digital technology so landline calls will be made over the internet. Telephone providers are responsible for switching customers to the upgraded service, but everyone is encouraged to check if and how the change will affect them, especially those who rely on their landline or use a telecare device.

For many, the change will be simple. All you will have to do is plug your landline phone into a broadband router. But for others, especially those who rely on their landline for care alarms, medical devices, or staying in touch, it's important to understand what the change means and what action they need to take in order to stay connected. **Connecting Cambridgeshire** is running the *Get Ready, Go Digital, Stay Connected* campaign to help local residents prepare for and feel confident about, the change.

The switchover will mainly affect

- People without **an internet connection** at home
- Those who **rely on a traditional land line** not already upgraded a digital phone service

- Users of telecare and personal alarm systems, eg fall monitors or lifelines.

3 things to do today

1. Contact your phone provider to find out if the change affects you.
2. Need support? Ask a trusted friend or family member to help.
3. Use a personal or fall alarm? Contact your provider to ensure it will still work with the new system.

Look out for scams

The switchover doesn't require upfront payments. If you get a suspicious call, hang up and contact your phone provider using the official number from a recent bill.

Support each other

Know someone who might need help? A quick conversation or offer to help them call their phone provider could make a big difference. No one should be left behind. Whether it's you, a neighbour or a relative, now is the time to ask the question: *Is your landline ready?*

For more information, visit:
www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/digitalswitchover

Know Your Parish Council

Your Parish Councillors are:

Nick Acklam	Councillor
Nathan Bridgeman	Chair
Hilary Fielding	Councillor
Rowan Foster-Marian	Councillor
Catherine Gibson	Councillor
Edward Hall	Councillor
Tim Quilter	Vice Chair
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor
John Trapp	District Councillor
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor

Meetings normally take place in the **Village Hall** on the first **Tuesday** of each month. They start at **7.30pm** and all Reach villagers are welcome to attend.

The Parish Council now has its own website which you can access at: https://reachparish.gov.uk/.

You can also get to it from the **Reach Village website** on the **Parish Council page**.

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

Know Your District Councillors

Extraordinary Council meeting 20 March 2025

This Council meeting was to confirm formally an acknowledgement to the Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution that we had received his letter about Local Government recognition, and that we were working with the other Councils in Cambridgeshire to formulate a consistent plan for the county.

The Council formally adopted the Witchford Neighbourhood Plan that was modified to include a Climate Change Single-Issue Review. It is interesting to note that NPs are organic and can be updated to keep abreast of changes to local concerns and issues.

Operational Services committee 24 March 2025

Not an exciting meeting, as the agenda contained a number of housekeeping reports: the ECSS business plan for next year, the Community Safety Partnership six-monthly report, End of Year Reports on Service Delivery and the Plans for next year, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, Housing Adaptations and Repairs Policy, Quarter 3 2024/25 Budget Monitoring Report (which predicts an overspend of £335,000 on operating costs and an underspend of £1.7m on capital mainly because money set aside for buying black bins (£1m) and for the Mepal Crematorium (£1m) has been deferred until the following year), Quarter 3 2024/25 Performance Report for the Waste and Street Cleansing Services which shows that bin collection is still not within target, Citizens Advice West Suffolk SLA Performance Update (which surprisingly showed that residents as far afield as Littleport and Ely were coming to the Newmarket CAB, the one at Ely having been scrapped some time ago, as well as residents from Bottisham Ward).

Finance & Assets committee 27 March 2025

Two items of housekeeping were discussed: the ECTC Business Plan for the next year and End of Year Reports on Service Delivery and the Plans for next year.

It was also agreed that three ECDC assets in Ely, Oliver Cromwell House, the Maltings and Maltings Cottage should be sold to City of Ely Council for £1 each, or if the City of Ely Council did not want to buy them, to offer them on a 25-year lease. Substantial renovations and repairs are necessary to all three and a short-term lease as hitherto done would not be in the interests of these heritage buildings. Having been assured by the Monitoring Officer that this would be legal and with constraints on the use to which they could put and on the resale of these properties, this was unanimously resolved.

Sanctuary Housing

Sanctuary Housing will soon no longer have a support desk at The Grange, Ely. Instead, they will reach out to their tenants and do local visits.

Members have had a seminar from Sanctuary Housing, and it was reported that many more houses have been renovated and now occupied. If anyone is aware of unoccupied Sanctuary Houses, please let us know so that we can check with Sanctuary. Sometimes major renovations must be done after a tenant leaves a house, particularly when they have been in residence for a long time.

Other news

The by-election at Stretham ward, caused by the resignation of a Lib Dem Councillor for reasons of ill health, was won by a Lib Dem, so ECDC remains evenly balanced with fourteen each of Conservatives and the Lib Dem & Independent Group.

Members have also had a seminar with the Police about Community policing and John is discussing with the Area Police sergeant some of the problems that villages in this ward are facing. Please direct any further concerns or matters about policing to John.

We have also had a seminar about the Mepal Crematorium for which the building costs have escalated. Although it is possible to find the money from existing and expected CIL contributions, it will curtail other community projects. A petition against the building of the crematorium can be viewed on https://change.org/stop-mepal-crematorium.

Ward surgery

From half past six to half past seven at Swaffham Prior Village Hall on Thursday 19 June, followed by socialising at the Red Lion in the same village.

Also, a surgery at the Pavilion on the Denny at Swaffham Bulbeck on Thursday 24 July from half past six for an hour, followed by socialising at the Black Horse in the same village.

Cllrs Charlotte Cane MP and **John Trapp**



Reach Cricket Club

Sunday 27 April Reach (224-4) beat Motley Crew (223 all out) by 6 wickets. Michael Mead 2-3 and 92 runs.

Our hastily-arranged opponents turned up with full video kit to record this match for the benefit of their fans stuck back in their native Lincolnshire. Or rather so that they will be able to have a laugh at each other's expense by playing back the highlights at their annual dinner. We gave them plenty of material to work with, although our own absent fans complained of boredom when invited to watch the chairman's bowling. But this was Michael Mead's match. Brought on to bowl late – as he was down to open our innings – he took a quick three wickets for just two runs. Then he took us nearly to victory with the bat. A great opening to the season in fantastic weather – for April.

Sunday 4 May Barrow (186-7) beat Reach (185-7) by three wickets. Michael Mead 53, Tim Davies 53, Malcolm Richmond 2-11

One week later and about 10 Celsius lower, we returned in thermal underwear for another go. We didn't bat or bowl badly, but it seems that is not always enough.

Wednesday 14 May Cam Kerala (159-6) beat Reach (100-7) by 59 runs. Do we have to go into this? We wuz knocked out of the cup by one of our long-running adversaries. But don't blame me – I was abroad.

Wednesday 21 May Reach (216-5) beat Ickleton (146-7) by 70 runs. I didn't watch this one either, but the scoreline is fairly self-explanatory, so who needs more?
Sunday 25 May Reach (224-7) beat Newmarket Hockey Club (223-5) by three wickets (or four wickets if you count the fact that we were playing with 12 batsmen a side.

As their name suggests, Newmarket Hockey Club weren't quite playing their primary sport, but they nevertheless had us against the ropes (to confuse things with another sport which absolutely no-one was playing) with their opening partnership, which just sort of went on and on until both batsmen sportingly retired, although not before one of them struck a sleeping dog at long on, producing the loudest yelp of the afternoon. After the double retirement we got stuck in a bit more. Then, with the aid of our Australian ringer, we got our own innings off to a rapid start. Valuable contributions from our regulars, Tim Davies and Chris Bridgeman, completed the job.

We always appreciate supporters, or even spectators who want to cheer on the other side, if you feel that way. Entry is free after 1pm. Full corporate packages available. Our upcoming home fixtures:

Sun 1 June	1pm	vs Isleham
Wed 4 June	6pm	vs Wratting Lions
Sun 8 June	1pm	vs Cam Ceylon
Wed 11 June	6pm	vs Haverhill
Sun 15 June	1pm	vs Theo Invitationals
Sun 22 June	1pm	vs Journeymen
Wed 25 June	6pm	vs Chesterfords
Sun 6 July	1pm	vs Cam Kerala
Wed 16 July	6pm	vs Ickleton
Sun 20 July	1pm	vs Camden Casuals

Ross Clark

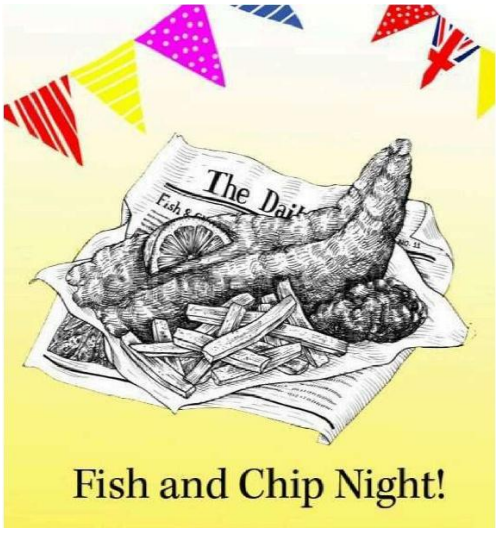


Dyke's End Pub



The Fantastic Tennessee Twin are back at the Dyke's End!
Playing a blend of modern Country, Folk & Americana, combined with lyrical honesty and melodic tunes.
Their debut EP 'Tips In A Jar' went straight into the iTunes UK Country Chart at No.1 back in 2019 and they now perform at venues and country music festivals across the UK including C2C (Country To Country Festival at London's O2 Arena),The British Country Music Festival and Cambridge Folk Festival to name just a few!
Check them out here
https://www.tennesseetwin.com/videos/

And every Friday its Fish and Chip Night! So give us a call on 10638 743816 of book online at www.dykesendreach.co.uk/contact



Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 7.30pm

Attendance

Edward Hall	Chair	Present
Tim Quilter	Vice Chair	Present
Nick Acklam	Councillor	Present
Nathan Bridgeman	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Rowan Foster-Marian	Councillor	Present
Catherine Gibson	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Not Present
John Trapp	District Councillor	Not Present
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present

Apologies for absence
There were none.

Forum for members of the public
Several members of the public attended the meeting to listen to the energy developments discussion, with particular interest in the Grenergy battery storage scheme.
The residents main concerns were, the safety of the battery storage and the lack of knowledge & plans should an incedent occur. Other worries were the environmental impact, the wildlife is already effected by the numerous solar schemes. Noise is another big concern and it was noted that noise polution was a factor in the rejection of a battery storeage scheme on the Reach Road a few years ago.

Declaration of Interests
Councillor Hall declared an interest in the Solar discussion, due to the location of his property. Following this all other Councillors felt they should declare an interest as well.

6. Energy developments in the locality, discussion.
Councillor Acklam is the lead Councillor for the Parish Council on all the solar developments in the local area. He gave a brief outline of the thoughts of the PC and its actions.
Grenergy had wanted to meet with the PC but only in a meeting closed to the public. The PC feels this is unacceptable and ***the Clerk*** will invite them to the Annual Parish Meeting. The PC are aware of a site meeting with Grenergy & Burwell PC, which a Burwell Councillor has asked Reach PC to attend. ***Councillor Acklam*** to establish whether this is an official invite and attend should he be invited.
The Grenergy scheme is not yet an official planning application and therefore the PC are unable to comment to ECDC planning department. However, Councillor Acklam is in discussions with them regarding the number of solar schemes in various stages of development on Burwell Fen. Unfortunately, the development of a revised local plan has stopped due to the reorganisation of local government and the present local plan is from 2015 when solar was not an issue in the area. No one is looking at the overall picture, as no one has to.
Additionally, Grenergy have been told they will not require an Environmental Impact Assessment.
Councillor Acklam to contact the National Trust to discuss their views.

1. Planning Applications - There were none.

2. District Councillor Report - No report received.

3. County Councillor Report - No report received.

4. Minutes of previous Meeting
Approved as correct.

5.1 Finance
The year end accounts are now complete & with the auditors.

5.2 Parish Council Members – Nothing to report.

5.3 Play Spaces
Counillor Bridgeman reported that the playground was in a safe but unloved condition. He will be organising a working party to do a spring clean, and put up bird spikes etc. This will be completed in time for Reach Fair.

5.4 Rights of Way
CCC are aware of the car parking space at the rear of houses at Ditchfield which intrudes onto the byway. And the resident has been asked to move the curbing back onto their boundary line.

5.5 24Acres Committee
Councillor Acklam reported that construction of the pond on National Trust land had been completed.

5.6 Friends Of Reach Wood
Nothing to report.

5.7 A to B1102 Group
Nothing to report.

5.8 Nature Recovery Plan
Councillor Acklam reported that a resident of Burwell regularly cleared the piece of land between the Dyke and the field by the playground. He has asked that the village with the clearance in Autumn. ***Councillor Acklam*** to speak to the tenant of the piece of land to seek his approval for clearance work by village volunteers.

5.9 Hythe Restoration Group
Councillor Acklam had not received an update from Anglian Water. He will therefore bring a letter to the next meeting for approval. This will be shared with Charlotte Cane MP and sent to the AW chief executive.

5.10 Website & public communications
Nothing to report.

5.11 Energy developments in the locality
Please see above.
Councillor Acklam had also attended a CCC update regarding the Kingsway development. This was a well attended event with a growing body of people and organisations against the scheme. However, there was nothing substantive to report.

7. Annual Parish Meeting in May
The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Tuesday 6th May at 7.30pm

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 7.30pm

Attendance

Edward Hall	Chair	Present
Tim Quilter	Vice Chair	Present
Nick Acklam	Councillor	Present
Nathan Bridgeman	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Rowan Foster-Marian	Councillor	Not Present
Catherine Gibson	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Not Present
John Trapp	District Councillor	Not Present
Yannifer Malinowski	County Councillor	Not Present

1. Apologies for absence
Received and approved.

2. Election of Officers; Chairman, and Vice Chairman.
Chair – Councillor Bridgeman was proposed by Councillor Hall, Seconded by Councillor Gibson. Approved.
Vice Chair – Councillor Quilter was proposed by Councillor Fielding, Seconded by Councillor Bridgeman. Approved.

3. Declaration of Interests
There were none.

4. Minutes of previous Meeting
Approved as correct.

5. Election of additional officers
Rights of Way – Councillor Fielding
Play Spaces – Councillor Bridgeman
IT – Councillor Hall & Councillor Quilter
Trees, Nature Recovery Plan, the 24 Acres/National Trust, Swaffham Prior Parochial Charity – Councillor Acklam
Burwell Solar Farm Liaison Group – Councillor Gibson
FORW – Steve Boreham
Village Hall – Councillor Foster-Marian
AtoB1102 – Andrew Trump
Bus stop rep for AtoB1102 – Councillor Quilter
Defibrillator Officer – Councillor Gibson

6. AOB
Prior to the meeting Councillor Acklam had circulated a draft letter to Anglia Water CEO detailing the need for the removal of the tanks and other above-ground plant at The Hythe and a significantly reduction of the size of its compound. Approved, ***Councillor Acklam*** will send.

Due to personal reasons The Clerk will be attending the next two meetings via zoom.
Streetlight PC13 in Ditchfield is not working, ***Clerk*** to report.

Councillor Gibson reported that 20 people had taken part in the defibrillator training. The PC will offer more training next year both for new people and as a refresher.

7. Payments

Npower – Streetlight electricity	£1754.98
CR Contracting – mowing	£331.00
E.On next – Power on the green	£18.29
Reach Village Hall	£192.00

Clerk to check and update signatories as required.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting Tuesday 3rd June 2025 at 7.30pm.

The agenda for this meeting will be issued by the previous Tuesday and can be accessed from the Parish Council website https://reachparish.gov.uk/parish-council/agendas-and-minutes

Minutes of Reach Annual Parish meeting held at Reach Village Hall on Tuesday 6th May 2025

Attendance
As per the above meeting attendance

1. Grenergy presentation followed by a limited question and answer session
Following a presentation from the Grenergy representatives. ***Slides available from The Clerk***.

Questions were taken from Councillors. These centred around an unanswered set of questions the PC had previously sent to Grenergy. These questions included questions on the cabling, fire on site and the supply of water, the containment of thermal runaway, airborne toxins, consultation with The NT, and noise effect on humans and wildlife, size of the development, .

Following a good question and answer session the Grenergy Representatives agreed to supply the answers to the PC questions in writing. These questions will be resent to Grenergy along with new points raised following the presentation, and written answers ***will be available from The Clerk.***

Discussion also took place regarding the cumulative effect of solar on Burwell Fen.

Grenergy stated that they have a 40 year temporary agreement on the land, and the site will have a 30 year life span. Although they will be able to apply for an extension which would require another planning application. They will also have a legal requirement to reinstate the site to its original state.

Reference was also made to a community fund, part of which should be made available to Reach. Again, the PC are asking for clarification & confirmation.

Their planning application is expected to be submitted later in May. It is expected that consultations will take up to one year, it will take another year before site work starts. Connection will be expected 2029 at the earliest.

Diary Dates

June	**Event**	**Location**	**Time**
Sunday 1	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	8.30am
Tuesday 3	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 3	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Tuesday 10	Recycling Day (Brow/Green)		
Thursday 12	Book Club	Dyke's End Pub	7.00pm
Tuesday 17	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 18	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.30am
Tuesday 24	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		
Sunday 29	Holy Communion - Etheldreda Day Service	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.00am
July	**Event**	**Location**	**Time**
Tuesday 1	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Tuesday 1	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
Sunday 6	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	8.30am
Tuesday 8	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		
Tuesday 15	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 16	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.30am
Tuesday 22	Recycling Day (Green/Brown)		
Tuesday 29	Recycling Day (Blue)		

To see the upcoming Reach Cricket Team fixtures have a look at Ross's Report on page 22

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

My Grandfathers notation on this slide is ‘Mr. Johnson and black pig’. They are crossing the Drying Green in front of ‘White Roses’ towards Little Lane. The house on the corner, ‘Triple One’ as it was known then, belonged to the Warren family, the residence of ‘King Len‘.

Chris Patterson

Contact Information

Parish Council – see “Know Your Parish Council”			
Village Hall			
	Chair	David Thomas	01638 742676
	Finance	Andrew Trump	01638 743335
	Bookings	Diana Greer	rvhcb25@gmail.com
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	Rev 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 (Surgery)	https://www.theburwellsurgery.co.uk/index.aspx	
	Website (Patient Participation Group)	https://www.theburwellsurgery.co.uk/patient-group	

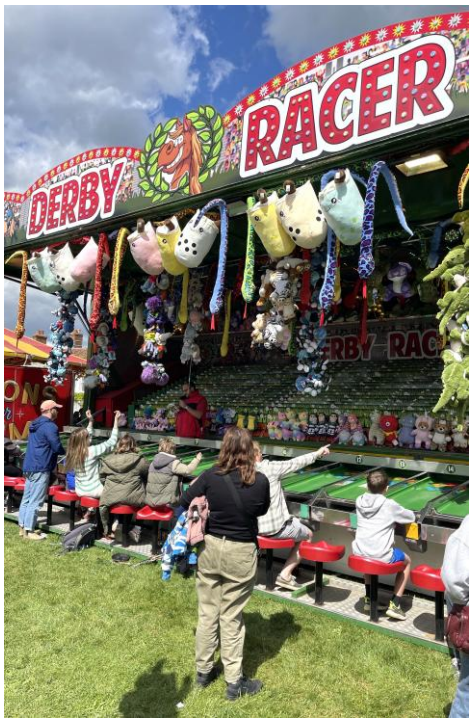
Then and Now pictures – see facing page







Our lovely face-painter is always very popular





Bryan, flogging stuff . . . .



Footie game, always popular, well done Cliff



You can never have too many dignitaries . . . .