Within Reach



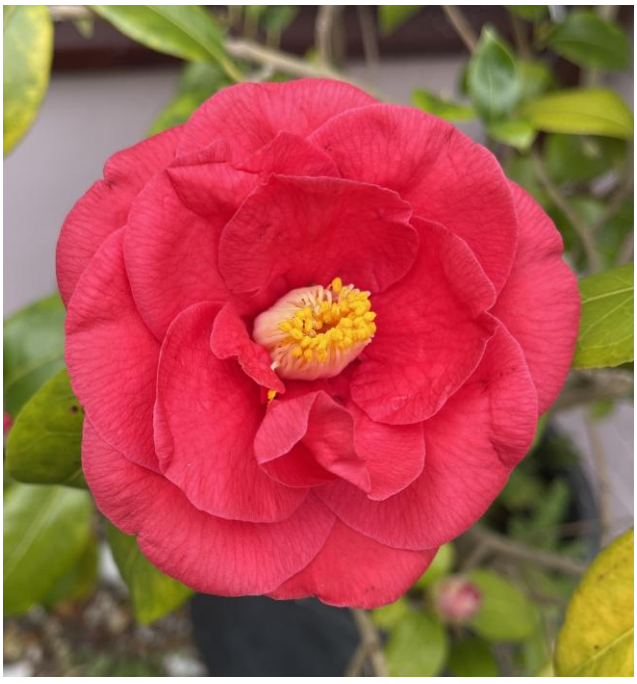
April/May 2026











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From the Editor



As I write this, we have just moved back onto British Summer Time which is always a joyous occasion for me – I can't stand the cold, dark and dismal weather!

And Reach Fair is around the corner, just 5 weeks away. As ever, the Reach Fair team will be needing your help to make sure it all goes smoothly.

We have a "flyer" in this issue, from Nick, who gives us an update on the Energy Developments Around Reach. Some positive signs, but Nick indicates that we're not out of the woods yet and further vigilance is needed.

As you are probably aware, the magazine is funded by our advertisers - and we have three new ones. Firstly, **Leaf and Lawn** on page 9 of the adverts section; they provide fencing, clearance and landscaping capabilities.

Then we have **Viscount Property Services** on page 4 of the adverts section - they are focusing on window cleaning, where they are using a premium **hot** water system.

And last, but by no means least, on page 13 of the magazine you will see that there is an opportunity to play **Padel Tennis** – a fast-growing sport, with two new courts being housed within the **Xtreme360 Trampoline Park building in St Neots.**

The magazine annual printing costs are some £1,800 which goes to Burwell Print, a very worthwhile charity. Our advertisers are very important to us so please check out the adverts pages of the magazine and consider any suitable advertisers in your selection process.

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

The Team

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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



Hurrah for Spring!

A bit of sun makes such a huge difference to my mood and seeing the daffodils begin to bloom is a welcome sign of some warmer weather on the way – fingers crossed!

Find out more about your new bins

Residents are being encouraged to find out more about the new waste and recycling upgrade being rolled out across East Cambridgeshire. The waste and recycling team will be at Ely Eel Day all day on Saturday 2 May before the new service rolls out on 1 June. Residents will be able to see the new free of charge bins they will receive and ask questions about changes that are being brought in to help people reduce waste and recycle more. To support the waste and recycling upgrade the council is also including information for residents with its annual council tax bill and putting messages out on social media. When the new containers start to arrive at peoples' homes from 16 March, a full information pack will be attached. This includes a guide to what goes where and their collection calendar.

People can also visit the council's website or speak to a customer services advisor on 01353 665555.

Transitional holiday vouchers approved to support families

Cambridgeshire County Councillors have approved transitional Holiday Voucher amounts for the remainder of the current academic year, at a meeting of the Children and Young People Committee. The council has previously supported children eligible for Free School Meals during school holidays by providing Holiday Vouchers, funded through the Government's Household Support Fund (HSF), which the Government is withdrawing at the end of the current financial year on 31 March 2026.

At the committee meeting councillors approved proposals to provide Holiday Vouchers at a reduced weekly rate of £10 to the scheme's current recipients over the next three school holidays (Easter, May Half-term, Summer). The full weekly value of the Holiday Voucher had previously been £15. The new £10 rate is based on the total level of funding set aside by the council for the transition and the expected number of recipients of the vouchers. The council is currently developing a number of new proposals, which will be supported by £15.9m from the CRF over the next three years, to ensure families and households in need across Cambridgeshire can access other kinds of support in times of financial shock.

Four farm tenancies offering rural business opportunities

Cambridgeshire County Council is looking for entrepreneurial and enthusiastic tenants for four rural business opportunities with tenancies starting in October 2026. One third of England's fresh vegetables are produced in Cambridgeshire, where the county council holds 33,000 acres of land. It's one of the largest publicly owned estates in England and Wales with over 160 progressive tenants aged from 23 to over 90 who carry out a wide range of enterprises.

The county's farm estate is mainly arable and many tenants are addressing the climate change challenge, with some exploring regenerative farming, which benefits carbon capture and biodiversity. The properties available this year are in Whittlesey, March, Warboys and Littleport and are being offered on a 10-year farm business tenancy. Applicants should have some experience in the enterprise they propose to undertake and have a sound business plan, which takes into account the council's Net Zero and Doubling Nature targets and the changes that are currently under-way in farming. Interviews will be held in April.

Keep well and fingers crossed for more sunshine!

Alex de Giorgio-Miller

Cyber Security Workshop

If you're a small organisation, charity, or community group, and you would like to know more about cyber crime and how to protect yourself, Cambridgeshire Constabulary's cyber security advisor, Nigel Sutton, is offering a free cyber escape room challenge.

The escape room is a fun and competitive way to learn about the basics to protect your organisation from cyber crime. Working in small teams, you take on the role of a police cyber detective. After watching a short video, you have 30 minutes to solve a series of puzzles… will you be the winning team?

At the end of the session, Nigel will talk about key security issues you encountered during the exercise, including how to create a strong unique password, the importance of two-step verification and understanding phishing.

For more information and to book the escape room challenge,
email: CyberProtectCambs@cambs.police.uk

Larissa Chapman

MP Update



Like many residents, I share the frustration with the state of our roads — it's something I experience myself every day. One of the biggest challenges specific to our area is soil-affected roads. In our part of the world, many roads are built on peat-based soil that expands and contracts with the weather.

This leads to cracking, sinking and rapid deterioration. Around 40% of the county's roads are affected and they can cost up to four times more to maintain than those built on stable ground.

This isn't just an issue for rural lanes. Some of our key routes — used by commuters, farmers, businesses and emergency services — are among the worst affected.

Cambridgeshire County Council is taking action, including trialling longer-term solutions to properly rebuild and stabilise the most damaged roads. But the scale of the problem is far beyond what local council budgets can cover alone. The total cost of fixing these roads properly is estimated at around £500 million.

That's why I'm calling on the Government to step in with dedicated funding to help bring Cambridgeshire's soil-affected roads back up to the standard we deserve. If you'd like to support this campaign, please sign my petition here: www.bit.ly/fixoursoilaffectedroads.

Separately, I know many households locally rely on heating oil and are concerned about rising costs. I wrote to the Minister earlier this month to press for support and while I welcome the Government's subsequent £53 million package, it does not go far enough.

Unlike households on the gas grid, those using heating oil have no price cap protection and remain exposed to global price spikes. I am continuing to push for stronger action — including a temporary VAT cut and a proper price cap — so rural families are not left behind.

As always, I will keep working to ensure our area gets a fair deal and the investment it needs.

If there's ever anything I can help you with, please do get in touch via charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk or +44 20 7362 1601. You can also keep up to date with my work through my fortnightly newsletter — sign up here: www.bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte

Charlotte

Rosanna's Ramblings



I don't know why the Reach community still surprises me after living here for ten and a half years, but it does. But you'll have to read further into my ramblings to find out what it's done this time.

Firstly, we need to talk about mud. "Oh no, she's not going to go on about mud *again*, is she?" you might well be muttering. And yes, sorry (but defiantly) I am, though this time it's not fulminating against the off-roaders' selfishly wrought havoc (though I could do). It's not even about what should by now be the legendary quality that Reach mud has of being able to make you stick in it *and* slide on it simultaneously (though I could do). I won't, because it's occasionally starting to dry out a bit, so walking Milo isn't quite as treacherous as it's been for most of the past few wet months

.

No, it's the river mud. Or more specifically, the gloop that was recently scooped out of the Catchwater Drain behind Great Lane by the enormous digging/scooping machine operated by someone who – possibly – hadn't done this particular stretch of inland waterway maintenance before. Why that conclusion might be arrived at will be explained later. But in invisible parentheses, my beloved tells me that when he first came to the village in 1063 (oops, my finger slipped, he's not that ancient!), I mean 1963, the annual job of 'slubbing out' the river was done by a man called Reuben who lived on Little Lane and wore his hair long in the old fenland fashion, wearing waders and wielding a scythe and a billhook. And once it started to be dredged out, he always felt a concern for the disturbance caused thereby to the ecosystem of the riverbed, the disruption to the microorganisms that fed the small creatures that fed the fish that fed the kingfishers and the herons … you get his drift.

So, back to a week or two ago. It started with bumping into Christine and dogs by the bridge on the Hythe. The coon hounds had apparently been very unhappy about the noise and sight of the Big Machine working its way slowly along the long stretch of water edging their land. It was useful to know that they were coming, because Milo does like to delineate his territory by barking at people across the river from the dock in the garden. He enjoys it. But since his 'little op' three years ago, he's also been more easily spooked, particularly by vehicles that rattle (bin bag collecting van, Hilary's trap, trailers of any sort) and by Big Vehicles that lumber and roar (like rubbish lorries and well, giant digger/scooper monsters). So, he was kept indoors after his walk and we thought nothing more about it.

That evening we went out and Charles got a text from Luke next door. Had he seen what they'd done to 'his' grass across the river? No, he hadn't and it was dark when we got home. He got back from taking Milo out on his late night visit to the oak tree with a tale of torchlit ghastliness – mud, mud everywhere where it shouldn't be; mud all along the drove covering much of the lumpy hard core that had been making it somewhat more walkable for the past year, Milo up to his hocks in mud.

The next morning we could see what the fuss was about. Rather than scooping giant bucketloads of gloop, swinging round and dumping it on the dry side of the drove as usual, this particular operative had decided it was what - easier? more satisfying? – to spread a layer nearly a foot deep over a large area of the grass that Charles has carefully tended and mowed, with frequent help from good neighbours, for sixty years, for the benefit of all.



He was cross, crestfallen and to be honest quite defeated by the hugeness of the task it would take to remove it. Luke talked of sowing it with new grass seed. The ugliness of the blighted stretch was depressing.

And then … and here finally comes the surprise, the dénouement … another day or two passed and Charles came bursting through the back door, almost gulping back his excitement and gratitude. He'd just come back with the dog to find Good Neighbour James and Good Neighbour Luke, plus children, had laboriously barrowed the great stretch of mud off the grass and over the other side down the drove where it should have been dumped in the first place.



How wonderful! How marvellous! That bank of the river doesn't belong to him, but he had been its custodian for a very long time indeed.

And these good people had done this good deed not just to restore a community resource, but also to do him a good turn. The sort of good turn he's been doing for neighbours and friends for decades. And it nearly knocked him sideways.

This morning, as we set off on a brilliantly sunny and somewhat frosty dog walk, the first green spikes of grass were already poking their way through the remains of the mud. All will be well. Until the next drought, of course. Or next year's repeat gloop scooping event. But in the meantime, greenness will prevail and the world will be rendered more than a bit better by it's being there.



Rosanna Moseley-Gore



The Swaffhams' WI

Blind as a bat? I don't think so!

In the February meeting of The Swaffhams' WI, we delved into the life and habits of bats expertly led by ecologist Katie Pollard. Did you know that bats are the only true flying mammals and that the oldest bat skeleton, found in the USA, is circa 52 million years old?



Bats are divided into two main groups: the microbats (found in the UK) and the fruit eating megabats (found in the tropics). Our beautiful microbats are small insectivores, have tiny eyes (hence blind as a bat not being true) and roost both in trees and buildings. They are very clever users of echolocation where the bats will shout out of their mouths bouncing the sound off objects allowing them to navigate when flying.

There are 18 species of bats in the UK and Ireland (12 species in Cambridgeshire) and each species uses a different frequency. This is where your handy bat detector will recognise which bat you are talking to! All bats are protected in England under two pieces of legislation.

So why should we care about these harmless beautiful creatures? The megabats provide amazing ecosystem services e.g. seed dispersal through their copious fruit eating habits. Bats are an efficient means of pest control. Our pipistrelle bats can eat up to 3,000 mosquitoes each night and finally megabats are great pollinators. Sadly, bats are rare and threatened in the UK. As they often roost in loft spaces, these roosts can be threatened by human interference e.g. loft conversions. Solar panels on rooves can block their entrance and exit sites. Street lighting, intensive agriculture and road building can all disturb the bats.

What does a year in the life of a bat look like? From November until March the bats hibernate. From April to May the females will return to the maternity roosts and all being well with have one birth per year. The male bats disperse elsewhere. In June the female bats are pregnant and in July the baby bats are born. From August to September the bats leave their roosts, swarm and mate. The female bats store the sperm over winter and if conditions are right, she uses the sperm when waking up in the spring. Very clever!

So, can we come to love and admire these very clever creatures? Bats have had a bad press in the media over many years but they do not damage buildings. If you think you have a bat in your loft, one way of checking is to see if the droppings crumble in your hand. If so, then you are lucky enough to have a bat! However, you should never touch a bat and there are people you can phone if you are worried (see below).

How can we help our beautiful, endangered bats? Put up bat boxes in trees or even build them into your house walls. Bats love ponds, trees and insect attracting plants. So please lay on a banquet for our bats and invite them to bed and breakfast at yours!

Bat Conservation Trust - https://www.bats.org.uk
Cambridgeshire Bat Group
- https://www.cambsbatgroup.org.uk

Do please have a look at our programme and come along to any of the talks that interest you. There will be a charge of £5 for visitors and we would love to welcome you to join our friendly group.

Kate Muscroft
katemuscroft@gmail.com



Anglesey Abbey



Characters from The Wind in the Willows trail

The Wind in the Willows trail at Anglesey

Following the success of the *Shaun the Sheep* sculpture trail, we're delighted to welcome a wild cast of characters to the gardens this spring. Come along between Saturday 28 March and Tuesday 5 May to be immersed in the world of Kenneth Graeme's classic *The Wind in the Willows*. Meet Badger, Mole, Mr Toad and Ratty the Water Vole as you explore how wildlife, farming, people and the environment are connected through twelve artist-designed sculptures. Presented in partnership with Wild in Art, the trail is free to but normal admission charges to the gardens apply. It's suitable for all ages and there's no need to book.

Spring highlights in the gardens

Don't miss our free daffodil tours which run until Friday 17 April. Our friendly garden guides will be leading tours at 11am and 1:30pm, Monday to Saturday, exploring the varieties of narcissus across the estate – we have over 40! Tours are free to join, but we would welcome donations to support the gardens. Heading into May, for No Mow May and National Walking Month, the wildflower meadows at Anglesey Abbey will be teeming with butterflies and provide the perfect spot for you to enjoy a spring walk outside in nature. The meadows contain over 50 species of wildflower in the summer and if you visit in May, make sure you look out for the rare bee orchids.

Looking ahead to the summer

Tickets are already available on our website for some exciting open-air entertainment over the summer months. Come along on 7 & 8 August to enjoy The Lord Chamberlain's Men as they bring Shakespeare's powerful tragedy of deceit and jealousy, Othello, to the gardens. Or bring your popcorn along in September to catch some cinema favourites with Adventure Cinema.

To plan a visit and find out more about Anglesey Abbey this spring, please visit our website Anglesey Abbey, Gardens & Lode Mill | Cambs | National Trust or follow us on social media.

Wicken Fen



This Spring is perhaps the most wonderful time of the year on Wicken Fen: coming back to life after winter, with greenery sprouting and birds singing. With emerging butterflies, spring flowers and birdsong, it's a joyous time of year and well worth a walk on the Fen, especially on warmer days. But, whatever the weather, a cheery welcome awaits in our Visitor Centre and gift shop, plus delicious refreshments in the Docky Hut Café. Our Book Nook is always grateful for your pre-loved books and jigsaw puzzles.

The beginning of 2026 has seen peatland restoration works on Hurdle Hall Fen. An area of 36 hectares is being restored adjacent to last year's work on Burwell Fen. Work is nearing completion, to provide more habitat for wetland wildlife as well as storing more carbon in the damp ground, mitigating the impacts of climate change. Last spring was incredibly dry, making it challenging for fen wildlife – we hope that 2026 will be kinder to our special species. To stay up to date with the latest reserve news (including peatland restoration progress), visit our website.

Boat trips are running and the Fen Cottage is open. Our boat, the Mayfly, runs most days, depending on weather conditions. Cycle Hire is open at weekends and during school holidays until 1st November, and also on Thursdays & Fridays from the beginning of May to the end of October. For price and more information, visit our website.

As always, we will have themed activities at the Family Discovery Area in the visitor centre and our popular Easter Egg Hunt runs until the 12th April (while chocolate egg supplies last!). We are also running Family Craft Workshops on 30th March and 9th April (age 5+). Check our website for event details and booking. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Our daily opening hours are:

The Docky Hut Café: 10.00am-5.00pm
Visitor centre, shop, reserve: 9.30am-5.00pm
Website: nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen

Nature in Reach



At this time of year, I tend to look back and assess the winter that has (hopefully) passed. Whilst we experienced lying snow for the first time in several years, in the round it has felt wet and mild. Research on local Met Office data by Anne Millar of Carbon Neutral Cambridge confirms this but, more importantly, reveals that the past season is part of a long-term trend to warmer and wetter winters. Since the 1960s, average winter rainfall in our locality has increased by 30 per cent.

The good news is that this winter's increased rainfall will have recharged the chalk aquifer underlying this part of East Cambridgeshire, giving some reprieve to our threatened chalk streams. I will write more on plans to improve the biodiversity of local chalk streams in a future edition of this magazine but, for now, draw your attention to some excellent preparatory work by Steve Boreham. Steve has produced a catchment plan for the Catchwater and Reach Lode which are fed by chalk springs and prior to agricultural drainage would have been a chalk stream. His plan can be seen on the PC website: https://reachparish.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Reach-Lode-Catchment-Plan-V0.97.pdf

In terms of wildlife observations:

17 and 21 January: A barn owl hunts, in full daylight, along the verge of Little Fen Drove. Another, very pale barn owl is seen hunting over Tubney Fen on 25 January. I see what is probably the same bird again on 28 January. In poor light, it appears completely white.

19 January: A Cetti's warbler calls loudly from a hawthorn on the lode bank in the pocket park, the first I have heard for a couple of months. The shrub in question is a regular haunt for Cetti's warblers. It is not clear whether Cetti's warblers have been present, but quiet, in Reach over the winter months or whether this bird has returned from somewhere milder.

20 January: A Bewick's swan is heard but not seen on Burwell Fen. This is a new identification in the Reach area for me although Dafila Clutton-Brock remembers seeing a Bewick swan family feeding on winter wheat on the west side of Reach lode four or five winters ago. Bewick's are the smallest and rarest swan seen in the UK - not much bigger than a goose. They are winter visitors, flying in from Siberia. Although the east of England is a favoured stopover location, numbers here are falling. In part this is due to hunting and poisoning from lead shot in summer breeding areas but, with warmer winters, fewer Bewick's are travelling to the UK, staying instead on the continent where wetlands are now staying ice-free.

21 January: A small flock of lapwing sits on a ploughed field at the top of factory drove. This is the first gathering of lapwing I have seen this winter.

23 January: A corn bunting sings, perched on a wire fence in Tubney Fen. Its size and 'chunkiness' make it easy to identify. Once corn Buntings were commonplace in the fields around our village but, as with several other arable bird species, their numbers have tumbled over the last fifty years due to loss of nesting habitat and winter food. The RSPB believes that the decline has ended, in part thanks to conservation efforts. Nonetheless the bird remains endangered or 'red listed' and it is still quite rare to see one locally.

27 January: Charles Moseley sees a male hen harrier flying low to the ground near to one of the new shallow water areas on Tubney Fen.

1 February: nine villagers join a team from Cambridge Conservation Volunteers to lay part of the hedge that runs along the southern edge of the 24Acres.

The hedge had been planted by the village over a decade ago and in recent years has become unruly. Rather than flail it into shape, the PC decided that we should lay it. The hedge will become neater and more robust and be a better haven for wildlife as a result. The Conservation Volunteers led the hedging work, passing on the traditional skills involved to residents.

We have now laid 90 of the 150 metres of this particular hedge and plan to complete the task in early 2027. If anybody wants to have a go at hedge-laying then, let me know.

17 February: an afternoon walk around Burwell Fen, on a rare dry day, produces sightings of wigeon, teal and shoveler ducks on the now much expanded mere. The expansion is largely due to the clay bund that was installed on the northern edge of Burwell Fen by the National Trust in 2024. Five little egrets lurk in the reed fringes. A solitary great crested grebe calls from the centre of the lake at Pout Hall.

On the return home, linnets are singing from the tall trees by the fishing lake and there are large flocks of goldfinch in the tall scrub on either side of the lode.

18 February: eight swans sit on the field to the south of Headlake Drove. I think they are mute swans but they are too far away to identify with certainty.

22 February: linnets are singing high in the willow avenue on the edge of Tubney Fen. Linnets, too, are red listed so it is good to have two sightings around Reach.



Linnet

23 and 24 February: in recent days it feels as if there has been a significant increase in the volume and variety of early morning bird song. The stalwart robins and song thrushes have now been joined by wrens to create a backdrop, punctuated by occasional pockets of song from blackcap, dunnock, reed bunting and chaffinch. My Merlin bird song app registers a nuthatch although I see and hear nothing to confirm this! Joss Godchild comments that wrens have over-wintered in her stable, using last summer's swallow nests.

26 February: Cetti's warblers are now prominent in the morning soundscape along the lode bank. My bird song app also claims to have identified the presence of redshank and avocet. I dismiss the latter as false until Diana Greer mentions that her bird song app had also identified an avocet locally. Some readers will recall that avocets nested by Tubney Mere a decade or so ago.

27 February: I hear my first chiffchaff of the year. Chiffchaffs are among the first summer migrants to arrive in the UK, typically returning from Africa in early March to early April. While main arrivals start around early March, particularly during warmer spells, some individuals are now overwintering here, especially in southern England.

28 February: Venus, Jupiter and Saturn can be seen in the early evening sky to the west of the village. Mercury, Uranus and Neptune, the other bodies in the much publicised 'planetary parade', elude me.

2 March: a red kite circles the village, the sun illuminating its orange black and cream plumage. Earlier in the day, Ron Greenhill had butchered a roe deer and he speculates that the bird may have been drawn in by the prospect of food. Joss also remarks on the increased frequency of red kites over the village. We wonder whether they are displacing buzzards, which have been a less obvious presence in recent times.

Ron and Penny comment on the presence of stock doves foraging for drilled barley in the field behind the village hall. Three pairs regularly eat under their bird feeder and are becoming very tame. They join thirty or more goldfinches along with blue tits and chaffinches. Penny mentions that rabbits at the bottom of her garden have young and can be seen grazing.

5 March: a great spotted woodpecker drums high in one of the ash trees at Hurdle Hall. Joss mentions hearing the yaffling of green woodpeckers.

Dafila and Tim Clutton Brock spot five pintail ducks on Burwell Mere (and two on 9 March) among shovelers, teal, wigeon, mallard and gadwall. Pintails are relatively uncommon winter visitors. Dafila and Tim are pleased to see more extensive water on Burwell Fen this year.

Dafila and Tim also comment on nest building by rooks in the ash trees on the Hythe. It is a dynamic process. There was just one nest at the beginning of March, eleven a fortnight or so later and now ten.

Joss remarks on the increased number of corvids in the neighbourhood. She also notes the growing number of roe deer. At one point she spotted 24 browsing in a field outside the village. I believe this is the largest group seen around Reach and probably reflects a total population of over 100 roe in our neighbourhood.

8 March: an early morning encounter with one or more otter cubs at the fishing pit. The first sighting is amongst the reeds by the far bank and then, slightly later, a curious cub swims in and out of fallen willow on the near bank. The cub shows no fear despite being less than a yard from our boxer dog (who is bemused).

15 March: a common crane calls from the newly flooded area of Tubney Fen.

Bob and Veronica Wood spot a fieldfare in their garden. As a winter visitor, it is a bit of a late stayer although, very occasionally, fieldfare will hang around until early May.



16 March: Penny photographs a cluster of wintering ladybirds in Reach Wood. The collective noun for ladybirds is a 'loveliness' - rather nicer than a swarm. Penny, Dafila and Joss all remark on a welcome return of blackbirds to their gardens after periods of absence.

Nick Acklam

Reach Riders



AMAZING NEWS!

Thanks to a huge amount of work by committee members, primarily Claire Halpin McDonald, funding has been secured for the rabbit fencing. This was secured from two grants - Reach Village Amenity Fund and Sport England - we are very grateful to them both.

We are now liaising with our chosen contractor (Craig Reader) about when the work can start - hopefully in the next few weeks now the weather has improved!

The arena will be out of action whilst the work is being done, but we will post on the Facebook page and contact members with regular updates.

In the meantime, the committee members have been down and filled in holes with soil provided by Meads.

If you haven't already rejoined, new membership subscriptions for this year were due on March 1st. We are reviewing a family/non-riding membership at a different fee and will keep you posted.

Enjoy the sunshine and your horses and ponies.

Sue Cameron

FABULOUS
FLORA



Reach grown, seasonal flowers.
Posies, bunches, bouquets and buckets.
Please get in touch with Thomasina on
07787 520589.
Can deliver to your door (locally!).

Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club



Our club keeps very busy with meetings during the Spring. In February, we enjoyed a Photography Workshop on tabletop photography led by our members Debra and Jim Bennett. Members experienced different lighting techniques and abstract patterns with water and glue.

Also in February, we held our Print League Competition No. 3 judged by Jonathan Vaines from Bedford with monochrome and colour sections on a variety of subject matter. The monochrome and colour sections were won by Yvette Smith, entitled 'Heads or Tails' and 'High Maintenance' respectively.

Our zoom meeting held on the third Tuesday of the month was a talk by Roger Hance from Ipswich called 'Making a Silk Purse from a Sows Ear'. Roger showed us photographs before and after photoshop treatment, encouraging members not to throw away initial capture and demonstrated how photographs can be rescued and made award winning images using the photoshop software.

On our last meeting in February, we were taken on an African Safari by Paul Radden from Hunstanton. This was a safari with a difference with night photography taken in a hide at a specific water hole visited by many animals during the night at eye level. Quite an experience to see wildlife so close up and personal!

Our forthcoming meetings are scheduled as follows:

24 March:	Print League Competition No. 4 judged by Dave Stewart, Wibech.
31 March:	PDI presentation 'Japanese Culture, Geisha, Snow Monkeys, Tokyo & Mount Fuji by Robert Snary, Enfield.
7 April:	Annual General Meeting

14 April:	The Hanson Trophy PDI Competition judged by Ben Pike, Biggleswade
21 April:	'Urban Exploration to Fine Art' by Vivec Koh FRPS FIPF – Zoom presentation.
28 April:	The Roger Human Print Trophy judged by Paul Radden, Hunstanton

Our meetings are held Tuesdays at Swaffham Prior Village Hall, High Street, Swaffham Prior CB25 0LD, from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm, except the third Tuesday in each month when the meeting is via Zoom conferencing.

Visitors are always welcome to join the zoom presentation and weekly meetings for a small fee of £4.00.

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 and a gallery showing a selection of our members' work

Daphne Hanson DPAGB HonPAGB
Chairman

Bus Pass



Reach Village Hall



On Saturday 28 February, more than 40 people attended the *Call My Wine Bluff* quiz. The event helped raise awareness of the Village Hall and generate funds for much-needed repairs. On behalf of the Village Hall Committee, thank you to everyone who attended or donated raffle prizes. We raised over £600 for the Hall.

If you know which country has the largest area under vine, or how many standard bottles are in a Nebuchadnezzar, you would have beaten every team on the night, so do come along and try your luck next time!

We are pleased to report that bookings remain strong and the Hall continues to be well used. However, there is still plenty of availability, so if you need a space for a party or other event, please get in touch. To check availability and pricing, either look at our webpage: https://www.reach-village.co.uk/Village_Hall.html
or email r*vhcb25@gmail.com*

You may have noticed that part of the wall along the left-hand boundary of the property has collapsed and is still missing. Unfortunately, the wall is no longer in a condition that allows repair. Although the collapse followed 24 hours of heavy rain, our insurance company has declined the claim. As a result, the entire wall will need to be taken down and rebuilt, which will represent a significant cost for the Hall. We are currently sourcing quotes and exploring potential grant options to help fund the work.

Tony Fordham

On behalf of the Reach Village Hall Committee

The Dyke's End

Spring is in the air and we are looking forward to some sunny days in the pub garden! Locally produced Spinney Abbey cider is back on tap and we are adding a new addition to our Saturday lunch menu: a Walker's Lunch (also available to people arriving via other forms of transport), soup, sandwich and a mug of chips for £9.95.



We have some fantastic music lined up with Tash and Co on Good Friday 3rd April. Tash is a phenomenal singer from Peterborough, a friend of the always popular Mark Stevens and we are delighted she is happy to travel all the way to our little pub in Reach. Music from 8pm and don't forget to preorder your fish and chips served from 6pm.

And as a treat for the village after the main Reach Fair event has finished, join us in the pub for the extremely talented duo of John Wright and Ranjan Vasudevan. John is a highly versatile and skilled guitarist who is teaming up with the equally talented Ranjan who, those of you that regularly attend our music nights will recognise, is one half of The Lightwaves.

We are getting the garden ready for the summer and will be laying new turf. This will mean a few weeks where we will need to keep off the grass but hopefully after that the garden will be looking much greener!



Upcoming dates for your diary:

- 1st April - Food van: Pizza Mondo 5 - 8pm
- 3rd April - Live music: Tash & Co 8 -10pm
- 8th April - Food van: Hit Wrap 5 - 8pm
- 15th April - Food van: Steak & Honour 5 - 8pm
- 22nd April - Food van: Azahar Spanish Food 5 - 8pm
- 29th April - Food van: Wandering Yak 5 - 8pm
- 4th May - Live music: John and Ranjan, Reach Fair Afterparty! 5 - 7pm

Food at the Dyke's End

- Wednesday: Food vans 5 - 8pm
- Thursday: Pie and a Pint Night 6 - 8:30pm
- Friday: Fish and Chip Night 6 - 8.30pm
- Saturday: Soups and Stews lunch menu 12:30 - 2pm
- Sunday: Sunday Roast 12 - 3pm

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Xtreme360 Indoor Padel Tennis Club in St Neots



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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Tales from a Reach Garden



Spring has arrived early this year after a relatively mild but damp winter. The snowdrops in our garden started flowering at the end of December, but their flowering is over now; the hellebores, daffodils and hyacinths are blooming in the garden and blackthorn blossoms festoon some of the hedgerows. I love spring, even if it can be very busy in the garden, but it is a joy to see blossom and leaf buds and to hear birdsong, after the gloom of winter. March is always full of promise, but the weather can still change suddenly if the winter winds return.



Hyacinths in bloom amid the weeds (and snowdrop leaves)

Our native plants, ("weeds") such as bitter cress have also enjoyed the mild, damp weather and have been colonising any patches of bare soil available anywhere: – in the vegetable patch, flower beds, pots and especially gaps between paving slabs. It's best to remove them before they flower and set seed, so that they can be composted. If they're composted with seed pods attached, those seeds will germinate in the compost - unless the temperature generated in the compost bin is high enough to kill the seeds. Unfortunately, it's the large, well-aerated municipal compost bins which are most likely to generate high enough temperatures, rather than the average compost bin at the end of most gardens. I've found weeds are easier to remove if the beds and pots have been mulched first as their roots are only lightly bound to the loose mulch and spring is a good time to mulch and feed beds, after the weeding has been done. Otherwise hoeing to cut the weeds at the base, or using a fork and trowel to lift the weeds will do the job, but it does take longer.



Broccoli for harvesting

Over in the vegetable patch, we had a bit of a problem over the winter with local deer which found a way into our garden, which they often do. They (it?) bit through the netting which was supposed to protected the chard from birds and ate up every leaf - apart from a few nettles. Back in early January, Richard spotted the hole in the netting and the mangled stumps where clumps of large green leaves should have been, so he strengthened the defences around that bed, and thanks to the mild damp weather the chard is flourishing again.

The recent spell of warm weather has also triggered the formation of spears of broccoli so they are ready for cutting and eating. This was a pleasant surprise, and we've already picked a lot more than we can eat. Richard and I do like broccoli, but there is only so much you can eat in a week, so we have frozen some to enjoy at a later date. We've found that if you keep cutting the broccoli spears, more heads are formed lower down the stems, though they become smaller and spindlier as the season progresses. If the broccoli spears are left uncut, the purple buds will develop into bright yellow flowers which seems to prevent more buds being formed, especially if the flowers are pollinated and set seed.

Elsewhere in the vegetable patch, the leeks have fattened nicely over winter and they've found their way into soups and stew in the kitchen. The spring cabbages are also growing well and starting to form hearts. Rhubarb has also put on a spurt of growth so in a couple of weeks' time we can start to pick enough stems for a rhubarb crumble.

Danuta Gibson

Food Focus

Food Focus – Healthy breakfasts



Inevitably, as the parent of a type 1 diabetic child, my interest in and knowledge of blood sugar has rapidly increased in the last 5 years. I've been on a metabolic health retreat myself, I've watched my daughters blood glucose levels for hours, worn a blood glucose sensor myself and as a family we've changed our eating habits significantly. What is more, I've learnt a bit more about it all since my skinny, healthy 82 year old Aunt, was recently diagnosed with pre-diabetes.

At around the same time as my daughter was diagnosed the Zoe Project was started which initially provided a covid symptom checker app but has now morphed into a population scale study and gut health programme researching and helping people improve their health through practical, evidence-based advice. I haven't actually taken part in the Zoe Project, but a lot of the project information is freely available – so I've lapped that up through newsletters, podcasts and emails.

Today I'm going to share some Zoe "Better Breakfasts". Skip straight to the recipes below if you know about this already, but I'm going to give a quick lesson in morning blood sugars to help you understand why starting the day with a non-sugary, low carb breakfast may have a big impact on your long term blood glucose level (or HbA1c – a check which measures your blood sugar average over a 3 month period). Normal blood sugar range for someone without diabetes or pre-diabetes is 4-7 mmol/litre (this will fluctuate during the day after eating/exercise/with hormones etc). That equates to an Hba1c of 20-42mmol/mol (apparently optimal is 30-39mmol/mol).

There are many other factors which can affect your blood sugar (at least 42) including age (apparently we can become more insulin resistant as we age) and statins, if for example you were taking these to control cholesterol. But the important thing to understand in relation to breakfast relates to hormones. When we wake up in the morning the amount of melatonin in our blood stream is diminishing and the amount of cortisol is rising. This is completely natural and normal, but the hormone cortisol itself increases insulin resistance (explaining why high stress levels are a contributing factor in the development of Type 2). Consequently, in a Type 1 Diabetic their ratio of insulin:carbohydrate will always be much higher at breakfast time, because the insulin has to work in an environment with higher cortisol levels. Start the day with a glass of fruit juice before breakfast and you may as well have a can of coke for the impact it will have on your poor pancreas!

What you can do if you are wanting to improve your HbA1c is start the day with some fibre. Fibre in your stomach first lines the gut, prevents you absorbing as many calories and smooths the blood sugar curve so that it isn't so spiky (apparently a spiky blood sugar profile isn't ideal either). We went through a phase of eating cucumber or avocado before breakfast to help with post breakfast highs. Food order within a meal can significantly affect your blood sugar levels, so in an ideal world eat the fibre first, then the protein followed by fat and then carbohydrate. Inevitably this isn't always possible, but as I've mentioned in this column before salad or any kind of fibre can be a game changer when it comes to post prandial highs.



Zoe's Better Breakfasts below:

1. Dark Cacao Chia Pudding (serves 1)

I have made this and can recommend it. This filling pudding is great on its own or you can add some extra seeds or nuts to it or add it to a yoghurt bowl.

Ingredients: 2-3 teaspoons of chia seeds, 1 teaspoon raw cacao powder (2 if you love chocolate, but it will be strong – I think it needs 2), 1/2 cup - 3/4 cup dairy milk, plant-based milk, or kefir.
Optional: Frozen berries, Honey

Method: Add chia seeds to the bottom of a glass jar. Add the raw cacao powder. Pour in the milk or kefir. Add the berries for a little acidity (optional). Add the honey for sweetness (optional). Put it in the fridge and let it rest overnight. Eat the next day. The chia pudding should have a creamy consistency.

2. Probiotic Bircher Muesli (serves 1-2)

This recipe is highly customisable, so feel free to flavour yours however you choose.

Ingredients: 1 apple, 100g kefir (3.5 oz), 2 tbsp Greek yoghurt, 1 tsp cinnamon, 50g oats (1/2 cup), 50ml milk of choice (or extra kefir) (1/4 cup), 40g mixed seeds, (1/4 cup + 1 tbsp) Optional: 25g raisins (1/4 cup) Toppings: Fresh or frozen fruit, nuts like almonds or walnuts, seeds such as chia or flax, and a drizzle of honey or maple syrup are all great options.

Method: Grate the apple into a large bowl before mixing in the remaining ingredients. Cover and place in the fridge, ideally overnight, but for at least a couple of hours. When ready to serve, add your favourite toppings and enjoy.

3. Cottage Cheese Pancakes (serves 2)

Ingredients: 50g oats (1/2 cup), 1 egg, 150g cottage cheese (2/3 cup), pinch each of salt, baking powder, and cinnamon, a splash of water or milk. 1 banana (optional) If you prefer to leave out the banana, you can simply adjust the quantities of cottage cheese, milk, and oats to achieve the desired texture

Method: Add the oats to your blender and process until they form a fine flour. Add the banana, cottage cheese, egg, salt, baking powder, cinnamon, and a splash of water or milk to the blender. Blend until smooth. The batter should be thick but pourable; add more liquid if needed.
Heat a non-stick pan over medium heat and add a little butter or oil. Pour a couple of tablespoons of batter per pancake into the pan. Cook for a few minutes on each side until the pancakes are golden brown and cooked through. Stack the pancakes on a plate and top with Greek yoghurt, frozen raspberries, walnuts, figs, and a drizzle of honey, or any toppings of your choice.

4. Breakfast Hash (serves 2)

Ingredients: 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil, 1 small sweet potato, diced, 1 red pepper chopped, ½ courgette diced, a handful of cherry tomatoes, 1 can black beans drained, ½ tsp smoked paprika, 1 tsp cumin, ¼ cup crumbled feta, Coriander for garnish. Optional: 2 eggs, 1 scoop of Daily 30+, Zoes 30+ plant gut supplement (I haven't tried this but might!)

Method: Heat extra virgin olive oil in a skillet and fry sweet potatoes until cooked. Add bell pepper, courgette, tomatoes, and spices, and cook until soft. Stir in black beans and cook for another 2 minutes. If using, crack two eggs over the top and cover until whites are cooked. Top with feta, coriander, and a scoop of Zoe Daily30+

5. No Ordinary Avocado Toast (serves 2)

Ingredients: 1 can white beans drained, 1 ripe avocado juice and zest of 1 lemon½ tsp, red pepper flakes, ½ tsp za'atar, 2 slices of sourdough bread, salt and black pepper, pickled red onions or sauerkraut.

Method: Mash the white beans and avocado together with lemon juice, zest, salt, pepper, and red pepper flakes. Spread on toasted sourdough bread, top with sauerkraut or pickled red onions, za'atar, a scoop of Zoe Daily30+, and enjoy.

6. Tims breakfast bowl (serves 1-2)

Ingredients: 25g Greek yoghurt (1/2 cup), 80ml kefir (1/3 cup), 1 tbsp almonds, 1 tbsp walnuts, 1 tbsp pecan nuts, 200g mix of fruit, defrosted if frozen, (about 1½ cups), 2 tbsp Seed Mix Sprinkle

Method: Mix the Greek yoghurt and kefir in a bowl, top with the remaining ingredients, customising to your taste with the top-ups or swaps. Top ups: nut butter or cinnamon pecan granola (see below)

Cinnamon Pecan Granola (10 portions) or see my (superior!) Steff Davis granola recipe in Within Reach May 2016

Ingredients: 60g flaked almonds (1/2 cup), 100g pecan nuts roughly chopped (1 cup), 120g oat bran (1 cup), 85g mixed seeds (2/3 cup), 40g coconut flakes (1/3 cup), 2 tbsp chia seeds, 2 tbsp ground flaxseed, 2 tsp ground cinnamon, Pinch of salt, 1 tbsp almond butter, 4 tbsp honey. 100ml olive oil (1/3 cup + 2 tbsp)

Method: Preheat the oven to 150°C/130°C fan/300°F/gas 2 and line a 32x22cm baking tray with baking parchment. In a large bowl, mix the dry ingredients together. In a separate bowl, whisk together the almond butter, olive oil, and honey until combined. Add to the dry mixture and mix until everything is thoroughly coated. Spread the granola mix out onto the baking tray, pressing it into a single flat layer. Bake for 45 minutes, or until golden and crisp, checking halfway and turning if necessary to ensure it browns evenly. When ready, remove from the oven and allow to cool completely in the baking tray — this is really important to allow the granola to set and break into chunky pieces. Store in an airtight container for 2-3 weeks.

Catherine Gibson

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.

Burwell and Reach Car Scheme

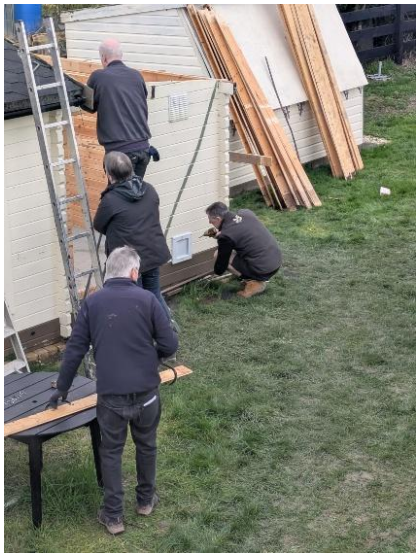
The Burwell and Reach Car Scheme offers those with travel restrictions or mobility issues a drive to the doctor, dentist, hospital, optician, hairdresser, shopping or just a visit to a friend, at a cost of 30p per mile. Just leave a message on 07399 154913 with your requirements and someone will get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

Burwell Museum

By the time this magazine pops through your letter box we will just be completing the finishing touches for our opening on **Sunday 5th April**.

It's been a very wet winter at the Museum with the grassy ground becoming very 'tricky' to negotiate under foot and as a result, we had to cancel our first school visit booked for the 18th March for safety reasons. This coupled with the fact that the rain has rather delayed our plans with the tearoom extension/winter plans meant we were not in a position to welcome the children into our buildings either.

Our team have been working hard on our tearoom, but unfortunately, due to a delay in the new building being available, it will not be completed before we open. We are hoping this will be ready for Mills Weekend in May. Work on site is currently progressing at speed again this week (now its dried out a bit), with outside work including digging a trench for the extension to the water pipe, levelling the ground for the new building and the re-located events shed. Inside work included new plumbing and electrics for the tearoom kitchen. Here's a couple of photos of this work so far:





The whole team have pulled together to get us this far, but special thanks must go to Clive Leach, Lee Morgan and Bob Rawlinson for their continued efforts to get us back up and running for our opening day.

Other things that the team have been working on include, refreshing and updating the Nissan Hut and its exhibits, refurbishing and installing the Trinity Church notice board, and putting in a window to our new environmental hub room. This was kindly donated by Eastern Windows and thanks to Clive Monk who has taken the lead on this project.



We have also been working with Malcolm Busby and the Wild Burwell team, to replace our Owl Box which was falling to pieces. Malcolm kindly designed it, and then Colin Marshall created drawings from this and cut out the pieces. Clive Leach then constructed it, painted it black to blend in and then installed it!!! A true team effort - we hope it lasts another 25 yeas!

Away from this busy scene the Trustees have been working on the Memory box scheme. Boxes 1 & 2 – Toys, and 21st Cenutry are now complete and ready to loan. Check out our website for information on how to borrow them.

Following our appeal in our last article, we have received an offer from a lady called Yve to purchase a new collections freezer for us - thank you very much for your kind offer.

We are however still looking for a Social Media Volunteer, Raffle Prizes and, a new request - for someone to help with fundraising for our next Mill Repair Project. If you think you could help us, please get in touch.

We are very excited about sharing with you the changes we have made and to celebrate, we have decided to keep our admission and season ticket costs the same – see our website for more details. However, due to increased costs, we are unable to hold on our Childrens event prices and our Easter Hunt will be going up to £3.00 per child. Tickets can be purchased on the day or online in advance (admission prices apply in addition to the Hunt cost).

Our next two event dates for your diary are:

Easter Sunday – 5th April

Mills Weekend – 9th/10th May

We look forward to seeing you when we open, but if you feel like you would like to get involved and become a volunteer, please do get in touch or turn up on a Tuesday and ask for Clive.

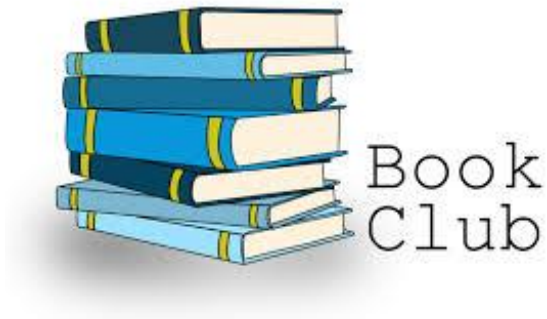
See you soon.

Burwell Museum Trustees

PS – don't forget you can still support us via your purchases as part of the Coop Community Fund scheme!



Dyke's End Book Club



Next meetings: **Thursday 9th April 2026 and Thursday 14th May 2026 at 7pm** in the **Dyke's End**

How to join: **Simply turn up** – you don't need to have read the current book - and you can influence the choice of the forthcoming one!

Ally Eariss

07897 672329 or aeariss123@hotmail.co.uk

Letter from the Vicarage



There are many things I love about Easter – not just chocolate! For some, the weeks of Lent leading up to Easter will have been a time for reflection, perhaps giving up things, or taking up different ways of living. Holy Week is a time for remembering the events leading up to Good Friday.

We will have been counting days through Lent and now we move to counting down hours and minutes, until time will seem to stand still as we remember Jesus dying. At St Mary's, we begin Holy Week on Palm Sunday, 29th March, with Café Church at St Mary's and go through the week remembering in different ways, culminating in our service in Reach on Good Friday afternoon. Good Friday may feel anything other than good, followed by the desolation of Easter Saturday, but then, when everything seems hopeless and all is lost, new hope comes, as we enter into the glorious, wonderful joy of Jesus' resurrection on Easter morning. Entering into Holy Week in this way can be very moving and powerful, and although it can be tiring, I love it! If you'd like to find out more about what Easter could mean for you, why not come along to any of our services or groups.

At St Mary's, Refresh Café continues each Friday morning from 10.00am - a welcoming café and play space for babies, pre-school children and their grown-ups, ending with a simple lunch. All welcome in school holidays. On Good Friday Refresh opens up to become our Messy Easter for all ages, starting a little later at 10.30am, exploring Easter together, including games and crafts, outdoor trails, hot cross buns and egg hunt.

We will also be hosting an Easter egg hunt in Reach:



St Etheldreda's is hosting a concert on Sunday 19th April, with Cambridge Vocal Consort, followed by tea and cake. We will once again be serving cream teas in the church at Reach Fair. We are delighted to have been able to offer our beautiful space for hosting several day retreats, with more booked in over the next few months.





For updates about what's happening at St Mary's and St Etheldreda's, please see our Facebook pages and website. If you're new to church, a good place to start is our Café Church is usually the first Sunday of the month. We begin with pastries and drinks, time to chat and themed activities, followed by a short service.



Other groups for children, young people and families include Connect Café, on 2nd Wednesday of month in term time, and a new Youth Café. 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, funerals and memorial services, or if you would like would value an opportunity to chat.

If you find yourselves struggling to make ends meet, Pop-Up Pantry is at Burwell Day Centre on Fridays 2.00 – 3.00pm, moving to Wednesday 1st April in Holy Week.

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

Older Driver Workshops

The Older Driver Workshops, delivered by the fire service, are free sessions designed to help us all keep driving safely for longer.

They discuss how driving can become more challenging as we get older, and what simple checks we can do at home to keep ourselves fit to drive.

This interactive, two-hour session covers the following topics:

- Age-related changes when driving
- Eyesight and driving
- Conducting a vehicle check
- License renewal
- Signs to be aware of
- Alternatives to driving.

The Older Driver Workshop does **not** include a supervised drive. Upcoming Workshops . . . .

- Wednesday March 25 between 1-3pm at Soham Town Rangers Football and Social Club
- Thursday March 26 between 1-3pm at Chatteris Fire Station
- Thursday April 16 between 1pm-3pm at St Ives Fire Station
- Wednesday April 29 between 1pm-3pm at Sawston Fire Station
- Thursday May 7 between 1pm-3pm at Soham FC (Julius Martin Lane, Soham CB7 5EQ)
- Monday May 18 between 1pm-3pm at Chatteris Fire Station
- Wednesday May 20 between 1pm-3pm at Sawtry Fire Station
- Thursday May 21 between 1pm-3pm at St Neots Fire Station
- Wednesday June 10 between 1pm-3pm at Cambourne Fire Station
- Thursday June 11 between 1pm-3pm at St Ives Fire Station
- Wednesday June 17 between 1pm-3pm at Sawston Fire Station
- Thursday June 18 between 1pm-3pm at Soham FC (Julius Martin Lane, Soham CB7 5EQ)
- Wednesday July 15 between 1pm-3pm at Stanground Fire Station
- Thursday July 16 between 1pm-3pm at Sawtry Fire Station
- Wednesday July 29 between 1pm-3pm at St Neots Fire Station
- Thursday July 30 between 1pm-3pm at Cambourne Fire Station

To book onto an Older Driver Workshop please email road.safety@cambsfire.gov.uk with your name, age, location, and contact number. Once you've sent the email to us, we would kindly ask that you wait for a confirmation email confirming your place on the workshop. If the date you've selected is not available, you will be offered alternative dates or the option to join our online webinar.

Know Your Parish Council

Your Parish Councillors are:

Nick Acklam	Councillor
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair
Catherine Gibson	Councillor
Edward Hall	Councillor
Tim Quilter	Chair
Vacancy	Councillor
Vacancy	Councillor
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor
John Trapp	District Councillor
Yannifer Malinowski	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@reachparish.gov.uk

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 3rd February 2026 at 7.30pm

Attendance

Nick Acklam	Parish Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Parish Councillor and Vice Chair	Present
Catherine Gibson	Parish Councillor	Present
Edward Hall	Chair	Present
Tim Quilter	Parish Councillor and Chair	Present
Vacancy	Parish Councillor	
Vacancy	Parish Councillor	
Susan Bailey	Parish Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Not Present
John Trapp	District Councillor	Not Present
Yannifer Malinowski	County Councillor	Not Present

Apologies for absence - There were none.
Forum for members of the public - There were none.
Declaration of Interests - There were none.

1. REACH LODE CATCHMENT PLAN – an introduction by Steve Boreham
Steve Boreham gave an excellent presentation covering his document Reach Lode Catchment Plan. The PC fully endorse the Plan, and ***Councillor Acklam*** & Steve Boreham to arrange a presentation to Swaffham Prior PC to encourage wider endorsement. ***Clerk*** to circulate to the village emails & ***Councillor Hall*** to upload to the website.

2. Planning
Since the agenda was published several applications had been received for tree works at 9 Burwell Road.
The PC's main concern regarding the work centered on the ongoing health of the trees.
The PC delegated power to ***Councillor Acklam***, as tree officer, to look at the plans, speak with the ECDC tree Officer, visit the site should he see fit and make any necessary representation to ECDC. Any representation would be circulated to the PC prior to submitting to ECDC.

3. District Councillor Report
Operational Services Committee 26 January
- Roll out of the new Waste Collection project remains on budget and on track. Further information will be sent to all residents to prepare them for the change. It was noted that discussions on collecting waste from flats and shared bins were ongoing, and that the operating crews were being consulted on the changes, which was sadly lacking when the collection rounds were last changed.
- The Committee approved the RECAP Waste Strategy; a joint document produced by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership. Unfortunately, we are still locked into a contract for dealing with waste which is no longer suitable for us.

Local Government Reorganisation
There will be a public consultation on this issue. This is currently expected to be in February.
Finance and Assets Committee 29 January
- The East Cambridgeshire Biodiversity Report was presented and discussed. Some members felt that it had not enough ambition; reports will be submitted bi-annually in the future.
- The revenue budget for the next year was presented, but there was little debate as the major discussion will be at Full Council on 24 February.
- The contingency budget for the Mepal Crematorium has been fully committed since more subterranean structures were encountered despite assurances that a full ground survey had been done before the project was costed. There was some concern that this was a fixed cost agreement with the construction company, and that we should not be giving more money. With the Chair's casting vote, it was agreed that an additional £300,000 should be made available for the project to go ahead. No other option, e.g., reducing some of the facilities, was presented to the committee.

4. County Councillor Report - No report received.

5. Minutes of previous Meeting - The minutes were approved as correct.

6.1 Finance - Nothing to report.

6.2 Parish Council Members
Councillor Gibson agreed to become the PC liason member for the Village Hall.

Parking on the village green had continued dispite the PC asking the Village Hall and residents to refrain from doing so, to avoid damaging the surface.
A resident had asked the PC for permission to park on the green for a party being held at the hall, following discussion this was approved if necessary, but the PC request that parking on the road is used if available.

The Dykes End had informed the PC that opening hours had been reduced on Saturdays & Sundays. ***Clerk*** to add to next agenda.

Defibrillator, it had been recommended that the unit was locked now it is in a more prominant place, and defibrillator signs are need on the top window ***Councillor Gibson*** to arrange. The box also needs some repairs and painting ***Clerk*** to arrange. ***Councillor Hall*** add a tab on the PC website menu bar to give easy access to the defrib information.

6.3 Play Spaces - Nothing to report.

6.4 Rights of Way - Nothing to report.

6.5 24Acres Committee
On 1st February nine villagers joined a team from Cambridge Conservation Volunteers to lay part of the hedge that runs along the southern edge of the 24 Acres.
The hedge had been planted by the village over decade ago and in recent years has become unruly. Rather than flail it into shape, the PC decided that we should lay it. The hedge will become neater and more robust and a better haven for wildlife as a result. The Conservation Volunteers led the hedging work, passing on the traditional skills involved to residents. We plan to use the skills acquired to manage this and other hedges in the future.
We have now laid 90 of the 150 metres of this particular hedge and plan to complete the task in early 2027. If anybody wants to have a go at hedge laying, please contact Councillor Acklam.

6.6 Friends Of Reach Wood - Nothing to report.

6.7 A to B1102 Group - Nothing to report.

6.8 Nature Recovery Plan
Councillor Acklam & Steve Boreham continue to interact with the Ground Up & Chalk Stream groups but there has been little concrete progress. They will continue to participate for the time being to see what develops.

6.9 Hythe Restoration Group
Councillor Acklam continues discussions with Anglia Water regarding the land at The Hythe. AW are concerned about access to the site and parking along the road way. ***Councillor Acklam*** to arrange to meet AW on site again to discuss, other councillors hope to attend.

6.10 Website & public communications
Councillor Hall has been discussing IT support with a local company, quote to follow. The present IT package renews at the end of March ***Clerk*** to add to the next agenda. ***Councillors Hall & Acklam*** to meet and uodate documents & articles on the website.

6.11 Energy developments in the locality
<u>Kingsway Solar</u>
In late December 2025, the National Energy System Operator (NESO, the publicly owned body that oversees the planning of the UK's energy infrastructure) completed a review of all applications to connect to the grid from solar farm (and battery storage) developers. The review was needed because there has been substantial over subscription in both areas. Kingsway failed to secure a guarantee of connection to the grid before 2035. This calls into question the financial viability of its project. Nonetheless Kingsway has indicated that it intends to proceed with its proposed development.
In early January Kingsway launched a targeted consultation on amendments to its proposal in light of submissions to its statutory consultation. (Reach PC and virtually all other consultees had objected to the proposal). The amendments are limited and make no reference to the proposed pylon route between the solar farm and Burwell substation so there is nothing for us to add. However, parishes in the southern part of the development area are concerned about a seeming expansion of the area designated for battery storage.
Given the uncertainties, Reach PC, and the Alliance of PCs (to which we are affiliated) are continuing to prepare for an application for development consent from Kingsway at some point in the spring of this year.
The Alliance continues to grow and now has a membership of twelve parish councils representing 21,300 people.
Councillor Acklam has agreed to join the Alliance steering group which oversees funding and tasking of professionals supporting our opposition to the proposal. His presence ensures that the northern part of the area affected by the Kingsway scheme is represented on big decisions and the steering group has agreed to fund an examination of the landscape impact of the entire pylon route. This analysis is likely to provide important evidence in opposing Kingsway's application.

The Pc has received correspondence from the Alliance solicitor asking for confirmation of consent to the PCs name being included in correspondence sent by the Solicitors regarding the Kingsway Solar Farm. ***Clerk*** to sign and return.

Grenergy Battery Storage

On 15 January ECDC's Planning Committee met to consider Grenergy's application to build a battery storage plant on a field between the 24 Acres and Newnham Drove. The planning officer had recommended acceptance of the application despite strong opposition from local people. ECDC had received nearly ninety formal objections.

The opposition (BEAT, the National Trust and Reach and Burwell residents) was well represented at the committee meeting. Councillor Acklam was there to reiterate the objections of both Reach and Burwell PCs. Our collective concerns focused on public safety (the proposal is too near to homes, given the consequences of a fire at the site and noise from the plant), damage to the landscape and natural environment and associated loss of amenity, especially at the 24 Acres, and a failure by the applicant to demonstrate that the scheme is needed (NESO's above mentioned review reveals there are already more BESS schemes with planning approval than the UK electricity grid can possibly accommodate in the foreseeable future)

Our concerns were taken on board and the Committee looked minded to reject the application but pressed by ECDC officers, it has deferred taking a decision to confirm that the case for refusal is watertight. The planning officers have a legitimate concern that the Planning Inspectorate could award costs against ECDC if it finds a planning refusal wanting on appeal. Nonetheless, from a commonsense perspective at least, the case for rejecting the application is compelling and the PC hopes the Committee sticks to its guns.

Since the Planning Committee meeting, Grenergy has submitted amendment documents. The PC questions whether this is procedurally appropriate. The PC feels the amendments have not made any difference to the concerns submitted, there is still an absence of an emergency plan, BESS are a risk to public health, there is also no mention of cyber security at the site. Additionally, the Burwell group have commissioned an independent noise assessment as the Grenergy assessment is not robust enough. ***Councillor Acklam*** to produce a letter of comments on the amendments and circulate to the Councillors prior to submission by ***the Clerk***.

7. Village Community assets register

Councillor Acklam had produced a Village Community assets register to help keep track of village assets and their upkeep. ***Clerk*** to add known costs to document.

9. Payment

E.on – Power on the green		£22.17
Reach Village hall	- hall hire	£19.20

Payments approved. ***Councillor Hall*** to authorise.

Draft Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at 7.30pm

Attendance

Nick Acklam	Parish Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Paris Councillor and Vice Chair	Present
Catherine Gibson	Parish Councillor	Present
Edward Hall	Parish Councillor	Not Present
Tim Quilter	Parish Councillor and Chair	Present
Vacancy	Councillor	
Vacancy	Councillor	
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Not Present
John Trapp	District Councillor	Not Present
Yannifer Malinowski	County Councillor	Present

Apologies for absence - Recieved & approved.
Forum for members of the public - A member of the public attended for the Dykes End Pub discussion
Declaration of Interests - Councillor Gibson declared an interest in the planning application and left the room for the discussion.

1. The Dykes End Pub – opening hours

The PC had been informed by the lessee of the Dykes End Pub that they would be reducing the opening hours and therefore, closing at 6pm on both Saturday & Sunday evenings. The PC was grateful for this briefing. The Lease Clause 3.2.2 states 'to keep the building open as a licensed Public House during such hours as the Lessor might reasonably require.' Ideally, the PC would like the pub to be open 7 days a week; however, it is understood that it may not currently be commercially viable for full week opening but it is disappointing that full weekend opening is not possible.

The PC feels that it is a fateful step to the viability of the pub as a business to not be open on a Saturday night.
The lessee stated that if people were in the pub at 6pm on Saturday & Sunday he would stay open.
The PC suggested many ideas for widening the scope of the business offering but the lessee stated that costs were prohibitive.

The lessee also informed the PC that they intend to move out of the premises and are considering other uses for the upstairs flat. They will keep the PC informed of any further changes.

2. Planning - 26/00062/FUL Manor House 10 Chapel Lane, Construction of a natural swimming pond with decking areas

Councillor Gibson left the room for this discussion.
All Councillors felt they knew Councillor Gibson too well to lead on a visit to this site, however they had studied the application documents. The PC concluded that the application would have no visual impact or intrude on the surrounding properties as it will be well fringed by vegetation & the decking is to be discreet.
The PC also noted that the application will have a good biodiversity impact. No comment to be made.

3. District Councillor Report

Local Government Reorganisation
There is a public consultation on this issue with a closing date of 26 March - https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-reorganisation-in-cambridgeshire-and-peterborough
This is your chance to tell Government whether you want East Cambs to go into a Unitary with Cambridge and South Cambridge or with Peterborough, Huntingdonshire and Fenland.
Greater Cambridge Development Company
There is a consultation about the powers and area of responsibility for the Cambridge Growth Company. As with the GCP, this company is likely to have a significant impact on our area. This consultation closes on 1 April - https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/establishing-a-development-corporation-in-greater-cambridge
Licensing Committee 11 February
There was an item on a consultation to a proposal by the Government to transfer responsibility for taxi and Private Hire Vehicles to Local Transport Authorities (the Combined Authority in our area) to save money; the safety and the protection of the public or drivers was not considered. The Committee will be replying to this consultation.
Full Council 24 February
This was quite a long meeting and the budget for the forthcoming year was put forward. The increase of £300,000 to the Mepal Crematorium contingency budget was brought forward from the last Finance and Assets meeting and was approved with the Chair's casting vote.
The Lib Dem & Independent group proposed in the budget for next year that funds should be given to:

- establish Civil Parking Enforcement in the District (which 97% of other Councils have) to tackle the blatant illegal parking in most of our towns and villages,
- further tourism in our District; the only tourism effort in the District is done by Ely City Council and is, obviously, Ely-biased,
- to increase the Environmental spending by £100,000,
- to help reinstate the Ely Citizen's Advice Bureau, restoring a much-needed independent advice service in Ely and taking some pressure off the CAB in Newmarket,

These proposals, which would have still been within budget and not require a rise in Council Tax, were defeated by the casting vote of the chair.

4. County Councillor Report

Councillor Malinowski had been absent for part of the last month & therefore asked whether the bridge repairs had taken place & the streetlight on Ditchfield repaired. Neither of these problems have been resolved. Councillor Malinowski to check for updates. It was reported that potholes continue to be a major problem for the whole area, and that the road repair contract cannot go out to tender until the LGR has been completed.

5. Minutes of previous Meeting - The minutes were approved as correct.

6.1 Finance - Nothing to report.

6.2 Parish Council Members

Parking on the village green had continued despite the PC asking the Village Hall and residents to refrain from doing so, to avoid damaging the grass surface. ***Councillor Gibson*** agreed to contact the Village Hall committee again.

Councillor Acklam had completed the online LGR consultation on behalf of the PC including the additional idea of splitting the ECDC area to allow the south of Ely parishes to become part of the Cambirdge area and the north of Ely parishes part of the Peterborough area. ***Councillor Acklam*** to contact Jonny Edge, the local County Councillor, who is pulling together a collective response for parishes in the Bottisham, Burwell and Wood Ditton wards to promote this idea and to confirm Reach PC's continued support for Option A - a unitary authority for Cambridge and surrounding commuter communities.

Land near Reach wood still contained dumped rubbish. This situation willl be monitored.

A lock code will be fitted to the Defibrillator this week.

6.3 Play Spaces - Nothing to report.
6.4 Rights of Way - Nothing to report.
6.5 24Acres Committee - Nothing to report.
6.6 Friends Of Reach Wood - Nothing to report.
6.7 A to B1102 Group - Nothing to report.

6.8 Nature Recovery Plan
Talking continues with the Ground Up & Chalk Stream groups but there has still been little practical progress.

6.9 Hythe Restoration Group
An onsite meeting has now been arranged between the PC and the Anglian Waters (AW) agent to discuss access to the site and the possibility of making a parking area on site. Councillor Acklam had asked for more detailed feedback as to why funding application to AW had been turned down.

6.10 Website & public communications
See below.
Information & reports need to be added to the website. ***Councillor Quilter*** to investigate whether there was an easy way for this to happen allowing more Councillors & The Clerk to add the required information.

6.11 Energy developments in the locality
Kingsway Solar
There have been no new developments this month.
Grenergy Battery Storage
Tomorrow the deferred Grenergy application will come back before the ECDC planning committee, with the planning officer still pushing for approval. ***Councillor Acklam*** to attend the meeting. A large turnout of residents from both Reach & Burwell is expected.

7. IT Contract
As previously discussed the PC IT contact will be changed before renewal in mid March.
The Microsoft subscriptions will be replaced with a direct to Microsoft licences agreement (PC to Microsoft – no middle person).
IT support will be provided by a local Burwell company – email, telephone or in person support to be provided.
The benefit of this is firstly cost, & licences that include better features including PC SharePoint site that can be accessed by all councillors and clerk for document storage. The PC will also be moving the email addresses to the new @reachparish.gov.uk domain which aligns with the PC website and the intent from UK Government to have PCs on recognisable and trusted domains in the coming.

8. Payment

E.on – Power on the green	£22.17

Payments approved. ***Councillor Hall*** to authorise.

Burwell Surgery Patient Participation Group

At the PPG's January meeting we had a great presentation from Maxine Cooper and Gina Garrett, Perinatal Infant Feeding Coaches who support families across the Ely Primary Care Network, including those registered with Burwell Surgery.

They are both trained Infant Feeding Coaches and NCT Counsellors. They listen to families' needs and give tailored, practical guidance. The aim is to offer early help to prevent common feeding issues from escalating and we support families without judgement, respecting all feeding choices (breast, formula or combination). They also provide emotional support, building confidence and reassurance.

They provide face to face support at one of our three drop-ins:
- **SOHAM** Baby Drop In: every **Wednesday 10.00am to 11.30am** at Soham Child and Family Centre (CB7 5BH)
- **ELY** Baby Drop In: every **Monday, 1.30pm to 3pm** at Ely Child and Family Centre (CB7 4RB)
- **LITTLEPORT** Baby Drop In: every **Tuesday, 1.30pm to 3pm** at Littleport Child and Family Centre (CB6 1JT)

Your GP can refer you directly to this service through the Surgery system. Your Midwife, Health Visitor or local children's centre may refer you in to our service by email, and you can also self-refer by emailing us at cpicb.elypcn.perinatalhealthcoach@nhs.net.

The next meeting of the PPG will be at 6.30pm on Tuesday 28th April at Burwell Day Centre – all welcome.

Diary Dates

April	Event	Location	Time
Friday 3	Reflective Service	St Etheldreda's, Reach	2.00pm
Sunday 5	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	8.30am
Tuesday 7	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 7	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 9	Book Club	Dyke's End Pub	7.00pm
Saturday 11	Easter Egg Hunt and Story Trail	St Etheldreda's, Reach	11.00-12.00am
Tuesday 14	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		
Wednesday 15	Morning Prayer	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.30am
Tuesday 21	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Tuesday 28	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		
May	**Event**	**Location**	**Time**
Sunday 3	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	8.30am
Tuesday 5	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Tuesday 5	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 12	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		
Thursday 14	Book Club	Dyke's End Pub	7.00pm
Tuesday 19	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 20	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.30am
Tuesday 26	Recycling Day (Brown/Green)		

Grant Fund

The structure of the new Grant Fund team is as follows:

Chair:	Hilary Fielding
Secretary:	Grahame Radford
Treasurer:	Edward Hall
Member:	Catherine Gibson



They can be contacted by emailing: reachgrantfund@gmail.com or you can call Grahame on 01638 742814 or deliver applications to 14 Ditchfield.

The team is in the process of reviewing and updating the paperwork and the village website will be updated accordingly in due course.

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

Winter 1962/63 and the 'greasy' pole spanning the river near the Hythe footbridge, that provided additional entertainment at the annual tug of war, assumes a different role.

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





Football Report



Left to Right: Abi Janes, Abby Dodds-Patrick, Molly Preston, all from Swaffham Prior and Lacey Bridgeman from Reach. Their team was 3rd out of 18 teams in the recent Cambridgeshire and Suffolk Schools tournament in Mildenhall, losing to the eventual tournament winners. Ottilie de Pfeiffer-Hall from Reach was the U9's girl's player of the tournament



Left to Right: Oliver Smith and Hugo Cooper, both from Swaffham Prior. Oliver and Hugo were the joint U9's boy's players of the tournament.

