

Editor's Letter	2	Travel	40
URGENT - Clunch		Eco-Gardening	45
Vacancies	2	Food & Drink	46
News	5	Features	49
Council Matters	17	Opinion	50
History	11	People	52
What's on?	25	Sports	55

**COPY DEADLINE FOR JUNE/JULY ISSUE
FRIDAY 1 MAY**

Please submit articles, letters and small ads to:

editor@clunch.org.uk

Or dropped into the Library, Post Office or Village College

On all editorial matters the editors' decision is final

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**BUNDLING THURSDAY 28 MAY AT BCP
4.30 - 6.30pm, collect from 5pm**

Contact for distribution matters: SARAH GANIFORD
clunch@ganiford.co.uk or 741302

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ADVERTISING

Contact for advertising matters: BARBARA MARSHALL

barbara.a.marshall@ntlworld.com or 605075

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Dear Readers,

I hope you'll enjoy this issue of Clunch which is bursting with news, ideas for days and nights out and interesting columns. We are very pleased to have a new columnist this issue; Burwell resident Robert Rodrigo, whose pen name is Bob Rodney is a former Daily Mirror sub-editor and published author. You can read his biography and opinion column on page 50.

So with Bob in his eighties and Lauren, our cover artist just 3 years old you are never too young or too old to get involved in Clunch. We are your community magazine, entirely run and staffed by volunteers. We have some urgent volunteer vacancies including an editor or editors. The role of editor is not especially time consuming, all the work takes place within a fortnight once every two months, but it is more than I can manage alone with two small children and no childcare. If you think you can help with any of the vacancies please get in touch. Remember, volunteering looks great on a CV in these difficult times!

With best wishes

Joanne

Editor

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Clunch Vacancies

Editor(s)

We are looking for either one person to join Joanne as co-editor or, as its easier and more enjoyable if you get along with your co-editor, a team of two or more to take over from Joanne.

No special skills or previous experience is required although it will help if you are quite computer literate and have plenty of enthusiasm. Please contact editor@clunch.org.uk for more information.

Distribution

We have vacancies for deliverers (De) and/or distributors (Di) in the following areas of the village: Westhorpe (Di), Station Gate (Di), Martins Road (Di), Hawthorn Way (Di), Ness Farm Cottages, Ness Road (Di), Newmarket Road (Di), Baker Drive (Di), North Street (Di) and Mason Road (De). Please contact Sarah Ganiford on clunch@ganiford.co.uk or 741302 if think you can help.

Committee Secretary

We are also looking for a secretary to take minutes at our committee meetings which occur in the evenings every other month. You will also be able to voice your opinions and have a vote in decisions the committee makes. Please email editor@clunch.org.uk if you would like more information.

Type-setter

We are looking for someone to lay out pages of Clunch. You will need to have a PC and be fairly confident with programs such as MS Word. Please email editor@clunch.org.uk if you would like more information.

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'Burwell's Best Mum' Competition Winner

We are very pleased to announce our winner, Tonya Barton, nominated by Sarah Ganiford. Tonya wins a well deserved box of chocolates.

Here is what Sarah wrote in her winning entry:

Tonya was widowed suddenly in June 2007 and is not only Mum, but Dad to her two daughters, Zoe & Zara. Tonya is also 'Mum' to several other children including our two, Charlie & Ben as she is a registered childminder. They consider Tonya's house their 2nd home. Tonya is surrogate 'Mum' to the 1st Burwell Brownies which she has run single handedly for the last 2 years. She takes them on trips and Brownie camps and is always looking to give them a new experience - one of her latest was Circus activities in which she managed to get a unicyclist to come along! Tonya is always happy and jolly and just loves children and in the school holidays always has a house full. I can't think of anyone else who deserves to win this as much. ☺

Carnival Committee requires some extra help...

Carnival committee are looking for a couple of able people to join their existing team. Our existing bar manager, Mike Dalzell, has successfully run the bar for many years but wants to stand down after this year's carnival.



We need someone to co-manage the bar with him this year, with the aim of managing it in 2010.

A member of the carnival committee will also be shadowing Mike this year so that there will be two new people to manage the bar in 2010 – experience has shown that the job really requires two people! The role is extremely hands-on on Carnival day itself, but also involves purchasing the stock in advance of the day as well as bar setup and break-down. You'll receive help from other members of the committee and bar-staff on the day itself. However, the role doesn't require you to attend all committee meetings. It is an important role for Carnival, as you help to run one of most profitable parts of the day. If you feel that this is a role you could commit to for this year, and 2010; then please speak to our current Chair, Mark Hassall (604276), or alternatively, our Secretary, Julia Hammond (741815).

We also require someone to co-ordinate our 'own stalls' (Bottle stall & various side-shows/games...) on the field. This would involve liaising with local groups/organisations who normally run these activities, and our field-team who help with the overall Carnival layout. If you feel that this is a role that would suit you, then do please speak to either Mark or Julia for further information. ☺

Bottisham Village College Awarded Applied Learning Specialism

Following our highly successful Ofsted Inspection in September 2007 and our subsequent designation as a High Performing School in 2008, we were eligible to apply for a second specialism. We are delighted to report that our application was successful and that the Department for Children, Schools and Families has awarded us a second specialism in Applied Learning. The Applied Learning Specialism will come into effect from April 1st this year and will run alongside our existing Humanities College Specialism.



The Applied Learning Specialism will enable us to continue to develop a broad range of vocational courses for all students throughout the curriculum and build on the success of our recently established Key Stage 4 courses. Welcoming visitors from local business/industry to share their experiences of the workplace and help develop students' skills will be key. Our Catering students have already benefited from visits from local chefs to run master classes with and managers from Addenbrookes have held question and answer sessions with students studying Health and Social Care.

In addition, the school will be able to continue its investment in updating facilities so that our students will experience a simulated workplace environment. For example, we plan to develop our recording studio and workshops, as well as create opportunities for virtual learning through ICT.



Our new specialism will complement our ongoing development of a fully personalised curriculum and all of our students will directly benefit from the opportunities and initiatives on offer. **Kate Evans, Principal** ■

Another Historical Plaque for Burwell

The next historical information plaque will be unveiled on the afternoon of Sunday April 19, to coincide with the end of passover. This will be number 8 in the series and will mark the site of Jerusalem Gardens - near the Baptist Church in North Street - which is believed to have been a Jewish burial ground in the 12th Century. There were recorded Jewish communities in Exning and Bottisham during the reign of King Henry II and it is thought that Burwell might have been chosen as a convenient spot to be used by both of these settlements.

Look out for our posters and publicity nearer the time which will give the exact time and details of where to meet.

For more information contact Pat Kilbey on 743283
or e-mail pat.kilbey@ntlworld.com ☺

Benefits and Debt Clinic, Ely and District Citizens Advice Bureau

Are you struggling to make ends meet? Are you receiving all that you are entitled to in benefits? Perhaps you have recently lost your job or are unable to work as you or someone in your family has fallen ill?



The CAB is providing a *new* service to all Burwell residents to check your benefit entitlements and help you with your benefits and debt concerns. The service is available at Trinity Church Hall, Burwell every Monday between 9.30am and 11.30am.

As well as giving information and advice we can give practical help on: Better-off calculations, Filling out form, Help with new benefits claims, Writing letters and benefits appeals, Income maximisation Referrals to other specialist services, e.g. family law solicitors, money advisers, employment specialists.

We are accessible to all members of the community and may be able to arrange to visit you in your home if necessary. ☺

Audio Clunch

Did you know that on the day that Clunch falls onto your doormat a number of people will receive their Clunch on a tape or a CD? The idea of producing a taped version of Clunch for those unfortunate enough to have impaired vision was the brainchild of Ken Ord in 1992. He ran it for three years and then Barry Hunkin took over for a year before Pauline Rogers did a sterling seven year stint. I took up the reins from Pauline in 2003. Early in the week before Clunch is delivered I, meet with three readers, who have been selected from a pool of around 10 volunteers. We meet in the quiet room at Ash Grove, away from traffic noise. A microphone is passed round as we read each article into a tape recorder. The whole process takes around two hours. It is quite a light hearted affair; we do not worry about laughing when reading a comic section or a comic verse, such as those written by Ophir Catling. We try to produce a homely feel to the tape, in keeping with the nature of Clunch.

When the recording is finished I go home and play the tape into my computer, so that I can produce the CD version. The master tape is then passed to John Harrison who uses a machine to produce sufficient copies. He then passes the taped copies and CDs to Margaret Minns, who distributes them to the recipients. We are proud of the fact that sometimes Audio Clunch is distributed before the printed version is delivered.

We know that our efforts are worthwhile and are appreciated by those who use our service. However, we are also aware that there are a number of Burwell residents who could benefit from our free service and are not receiving it because we do not know about them. If you know of anyone who you think might benefit from receiving Audio

Clunch can you please tell them about it? To receive the service contact me on 611524 or email pcr.philpott@ntlworld.com. Paul Philpott Audio Clunch Co-ordinator

News from Wicken Fen Vision

Representatives from Burwell recently participated in a workshop to consider three key challenges:- How can the National Trust ensure that additional visitors to the Wicken Fen Vision area do not have a negative impact on local communities and the conservation interest of local sites. How can visitors to the Vision area, both from the local area and further afield be persuaded to use “greener” travel options? And what alternative means of transport could be made available within the Vision area that adds to the visitor ‘experience’?

Encouraging visitors to leave the car at home and travel by more environmentally friendly means, such as foot, bicycle, bus, coach or train is a key element of a sustainable Visitor Travel Plan. The challenge of tempting people away from cars is highlighted by a current lack of public transport options. The nearest bus service to Wicken Fen calls at Soham, a distance of 3 – 4 miles away.

Suggestions discussed included provision of a shuttle bus service to and from the Network Rail station at Ely linking to communities bordering the Vision area. This could assist visitors and be used by local residents whose access to public transport in some cases is limited or non-existent. The provision of water taxis from Cambridge making the journey to Wicken Fen a key part of the overall visitor experience was a popular suggestion.



The movement of people within the Vision area received considerable attention with suggestions including the development of cycle and canoe hire and pony trekking offering visitors not only the potential to explore the Vision area, but providing healthy exercise and opportunities for economic development and employment opportunities for local communities. A detailed report from the workshop will be available in April.

Wicken Fen Vision celebrates its 10th anniversary this year and we would like to invite readers to join us for a day of celebrations on Friday 1 May at the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre. As well as free admission to Wicken Fen, there will be a range of free events from bird ringing demonstrations to an evening celebration with live music.

On Saturday 9 May the Wicken Fen team will be holding an information roadshow at the Gardiner Memorial Hall from 2 -5 pm. We'll be presenting the latest information on the new paths and bridges and staff will be on hand to answer any questions you may have on the Vision. We look forward to meeting you then.

Spring is with us and Wicken Fen will be hosting a range of events of the Easter holiday period. Why not have an egg-tastic day out and head to the Fen for the annual Wicken Fen Easter Egg Hunt from Friday 10 to Monday 13 April. All contestants who complete the Easter Trail will receive a chocolate prize. Other Easter events include, 7 April - Easter crafts (4-10 yrs, 10.30 and 14.00) 9 April- Prancing Ponies and Hairy Highlands (4-10yrs, 10.30 and 14.00) 15 April - Fairies, Pixies and Water Sprites (3-8 yrs 10.30 and 14.00) 17 April – Wildlife Detectives (5 -12 yrs 10.30 and 14.00). The ever popular Pond Dipping sessions will be held on 6, 14 and 16 April from 12.30 – 15.30. For further information and bookings please contact the Wicken Fen Visitor

BHVS - Transport Section

I am very pleased to be able to report that after some 'gentle' persuasion Janey Gostlow has agreed to take over my role as Transport Co-ordinator from 2 March 2009. A new Treasurer has also been recruited and Sally Coles will take over this position sometime during March. I have also recruited others for various roles within the Scheme. Therefore I am delighted to be passing on to Janey a very full team of volunteers which make up the Transport Section.

Barbara Marshall - Transport Co-ordinator - retired !!!

An Appreciation

Barbara Marshall has just retired after 15 years as Voluntary Co-ordinator of the Burwell Village Help Scheme transport section - or 'car scheme' as most of our clients call it. Anyone who has used the scheme for a trip to the dentist, doctor, hairdresser or to visit a friend at home or in hospital has every reason to be thankful for her work.

When the scheme first started Barbara did everything herself - picked up the phone messages every day, organised the drivers, contacted the clients. I once did this duty for her when she was away - I did not expect to have 16 requests for drivers to deal with when I picked up the messages one Sunday evening! Barbara coped with this sort of thing magnificently and very rarely were people not supplied with a driver.

Drivers would drop their clients' payments into Barbara's letterbox; she checked the money against the drivers' dockets, counted and banked it then calculated the amount due to each driver, wrote the cheques and delivered them. Then every month for 15 years she calculated the amounts due to be reimbursed by the County Council for the drivers, typed up the claims and posted them off. The paperwork did not stop there - another part of her job was to recruit drivers to the scheme. Fortunately, Barbara is very good at arm-twisting - always done with a laugh and a smile - so we now have a reasonable number of drivers. However this means CRB and insurance checks have to be done.

As the scheme expanded it became obvious that it was not possible for one person to have the task of organising trips and so Barbara recruited an number of journey co-ordinators who now take the phone messages and do the organising of the car trips a month at a time.

I do not think I have ever heard Barbara complain about her work load - she always finds time to chat to people and to offer help and support where needed - as I am sure many of you know. Nothing is too much trouble for her and considering that the car scheme is only one of a number of charitable organisations she is involved with - I am amazed at how she finds time to fit everything in whilst staying cheerful and smiling.

She made my job as Treasurer of the Transport Section of the Help Scheme very easy - everything was always so well documented and transparent.

Barbara will probably be quite surprised at my writing this appreciation, but I felt that she deserved some thanks and recognition for 15 years voluntary service to the people of Burwell. She even managed to find a successor - so the car scheme will carry on!

Ann Gilbert ☺

A Page of Thank You's...

Every Christmas we decorate our house with Christmas lights, inviting people to have a lucky wish for Christmas and the New Year by throwing coins into the fountain we have in the garden and this year we decided to donate the money between Magpas and the Air Ambulance.

I would like to thank everyone who donated to the fountain and am glad to tell you that we raised £250 - this included the £10 prize given by the Burwell Parish Council. I also raised £50 from the table sales I had outside the front gate and am glad to say that Magpas and the Air Ambulance will each receive a cheque for £150.

Very many thanks, Margaret Moss. ☺

I wanted to thank everyone in Burwell & the surrounding area for all their support over these past 20 years and for my very special retirement party & presents. For those of you who were unable to attend I had the most wonderful afternoon with patients, colleagues & friends whom I have met over the years and was then presented with a beautiful Pashley bicycle, reflective vest, mobile phone with top-up, a voucher to spend at Long Tall Sally and a book full of wonderful comments which I will treasure.

I can honestly say these years have been some of the happiest of my life. Getting involved in the village & church and being part of Burwell surgery has been a joy - I looked forward to every day at work!

I am now looking forward to the new phase of my life, working 2 days a week in a voluntary capacity as a parish Nurse but also traveling to catch up with friends and family.

I have now got my bus pass but hope to see you out on my bike!!

Sue Evans ☺

Thankyou! all who supported my Dartathon of last November. The figure raised is £4,524.10. The money raised is for The Sarah Matheson Trust which researches Multiple System Atrophy.

Jonathan Cornell ☺

...And a plea for help

Ten-year-old Emilia Hubbard, of Swaffham Prior, urgently needs your help. She has a rare blood disorder and needs a bone marrow transplant, but cannot find a suitable donor. Her family are appealing for more people to come forward and register as bone marrow donors in the hope of finding her a match, and others like her. A special clinic is being held at Swaffham Prior Village Hall on Tuesday, March 31, 6pm – 8.30pm or you can call 020 7284 1234 or visit www.anthonynolan.org.uk

Village Map - Council have been offered the opportunity to try a new method of printing the updated village maps. The idea is that the maps are reproduced onto plywood sheets rather than onto Foamlux board. The advantages of this are that the plywood is cheaper and more importantly is more environmentally friendly. We are hoping that the new maps will be soon be available and ready to be mounted into the display boards around the village.

Tan House Lane Site - There is little progress to report at present. New plans have been drawn up but were not quite as Council wished so they are now being amended prior to submission to the planning authority. We hope that this will be achieved within the next few weeks.

Speed Watch - Volunteers for the Spedwatch team have undergone training and the equipment is due to be in use within the village over the next month or so. For those who are not aware of the scheme, volunteers man the equipment which records the speed of vehicles; registration numbers of those speeding are recorded and passed to the police. This will help to identify "hot spots" for speeding throughout the village. Motorists will be sent a warning letter with a follow up for persistent offenders.

Pauline's Swamp - There has been a considerable amount of work done to improve this area. A lot of scrub clearance has been completed and the pond cleaned out. The next phase is to install a walkway towards the rear of the Swamp and a dipping platform around the pond along with new fencing for the site. We have just had confirmation of a grant from the Bio Diversity Partnership of a grant towards the cost of interpretation boards etc for the site. It is hoped that the Swamp can be ready for public use later this year once essential works are complete.

North Street/The Causeway - The new yellow lining and parking restrictions have been completed in North Street and The Causeway to try to relieve some of the congestion in this area, as well as the Co-op car park there is also a short term parking bay in Myrtle Drive.

Annual Parish Meeting - This year's Annual Parish Meeting will take place in the Gardiner Memorial Hall on Tuesday 5th May. It has been agreed that this will take the same format as last year's meeting with a much less formal format. We hope to have several displays and County, District and Parish Councillors will all be available to answer your questions.

Allotments/Composting Scheme - After many years of managing the allotment site for the Council Wynn Williams has decided to hand back the running of the allotments to the council. We are very grateful to Wynn for all of his hard work over the years and hope he now has more time to tend his own allotment. Council are working towards providing some more allotments on site as there is quite a waiting list at present and it is hoped that by creating some new plots the list can be significantly reduced. There is a newly formed Allotment Society who will be running various events throughout the year and existing allotment holders will be able to order their seeds etc. through them as well.

If you are at all interested in helping a few hours a week with the composting scheme at the allotments please contact the clerk at the office (743142, e-mail burwellpc@btconnect.com) or call in, we would like to hear from you.

Parish Council News, continued...

Police - PC Dean Thompson has joined PC Andy Martin and I'm sure he will soon become a familiar face to you all. PC Thompson will be mainly responsible for the Burwell area whilst PC Martin will cover the other villages as well as Burwell.

The Police Community Support Officers are to start regular surgeries in the Reading Room on The Causeway every Wednesday from 3- 4pm, this should provide an easy and excellent way to access the PCSO's and give you a chance to discuss any issues of concern with them.

East Cambridgeshire District Council - Report for March '09



The East Cambridgeshire part of the **Council Tax** for 2009/10 will rise by 4.5% (this is a £5.67 increase to £131.49 for band D property). The district council collects the council tax for county, district, parish, police and fire.

There has been much debate on the impact of the **credit crunch** in the district. Ely CAB has extended its **benefits advice** and a drop-in session is now held at Trinity Church Hall on the High Street each Monday morning between 9.30am and 11.30am.

Sanctuary Hereward, who own much of the social housing stock in East Cambs, wish to change their governance arrangements but this would result in ECDC having less influence over management arrangements. The district is resisting the proposal.

Swimming at Ely Paradise Pool will be free for over 60's and under 16's with government grants to ECDC.

The **yellow lines** for Myrtle Drive and the area around the Co-op and Burwell Stores are now in place.

A presentation from Public Health pointed out that **life expectancy** in the district is good and that an increase of 5.8% in the population was likely by 2021.

The Maltings in Ely will be re-opening at Easter under the management of Leiths.

A presentation was given by the National Audit Office regarding the **Comprehensive Area Assessment**. This new process is supposed to streamline the assessment of Councils and partnerships.

David Brown, Lavinia Edwards, Hazel Williams

CCC report for March 2009



1. The County Council average **Council Tax** increase for 2009/10 is 3.9% (for a band D property) or £38 per year. The opposition budget proposal of a 2.45% increase was defeated.
2. Cambridgeshire Police report **road deaths** have fallen in Cambridgeshire by 30% in the past year.
3. The **Guided Busway** from Cambridge to St Ives is now scheduled to open in late summer.
4. The **Central Library** in Cambridge City will reopen in early summer.
5. Journeys on Cambridge's **Park & Ride** have exceeded four million for the first time. The cost of a weekly park and ride ticket is £10. Individual return tickets cost £2.50 when bought on the bus, compared to £2.20 if purchased in advance from machines at park and ride sites.
6. **Cambridgeshire CABs** are very busy with financial enquiries and have experienced a steep rise in employment queries. The County Council is now directing more resources to the charity, which is working on the front line of those affected by the credit crunch.
7. The **Transport Commission** have a website www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk to give a picture of the transport and congestion problems in Cambridgeshire. Sir Brian Briscoe and Professor Tony Travers are not only looking at the TIF proposals but are able to make suggestions if they find other ways of helping improve the transport problems in Cambridgeshire. You can make your views known through the web site, by writing to them at Shire Hall in Cambridge or by attending one of the consultation meetings being held between March and May.
8. The **Children's Centre** is running from Bottisham with activities across the area, including the Swaffhams, Burwell and Reach, for families with under 5's. Activities include Dads' groups, health clinics, young parents' support and messy play.

Cllr Hazel Williams Tel. 743897

Neighbourhood Panels: continuing to progress & take effective action

Speedwatch training took place on January 17th for volunteers in the South Panel area. The team now have the Speedwatch equipment and will be soon using the device in our local area in 30mph and 40mph zones. By the end of February all areas within East Cambs will be operating the scheme. The aim is to reduce speeding through our village and in our area, with a view to the police being able to more effectively target their enforcement campaigns leading to possible prosecutions and endorsements. If you could volunteer a few hours of your time on a regular basis, please contact Alan Williams (see contact details below). Initial feedback from the pilot (Soham and East) area indicates that several local drivers are among those who are ignoring the speed limits, so please do take care as you drive around!

Neighbourhood Panels, continued:

At the last South area Neighbourhood Panel meeting in Burwell the main items were:

Feedback on actions taken to address the priorities and issues of concern raised at the meeting in October. Please note that ALL priorities and issues were actioned, and this emphasises that the Panel meetings are all about listening, clarifying and taking improvement actions - these Panel meetings are not 'talking shops'! Multi-agency working to combat anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Burwell has been demonstrably effective - crime and ASB incidents have decreased - and needs to be sustained. People and agencies are understanding the benefits of working together to bring about improvement and multi-agency panels are being introduced across the whole of Cambridgeshire.

Transport and Traffic Management - speed limits of 30mph and over are being reviewed by the County Highways team on all the A and B roads in the County until 2011. Outcomes of the reviews will be made available to local members and Parish Councils.

Four villages were concerned that there be a review of the extent of the 40mph zone close to the heart of their village, with a view to extending the 30mph zone, and 20mph close to schools. A letter is being written to the County authority on behalf of the Panel to attempt to progress these issues.

Identification of issues of concern: from local residents and Panel members, priorities for the next 3 months are:

For the police (working in partnership with other agencies):

ASB in Burwell

ASB in Bottisham

For the other agencies:

Review of the extent of 40 mph close to villages

Operation of Speedwatch scheme

Public meeting about the Wicken Fen Vision

Gritting of specific roads and paths

For on-going information about Neighbourhood Panels - minutes from the meetings, Neighbourhood Profiles, Newsletters, Speedwatch; dates and venues for the Panel meetings in 2009 - please use the A-Z section of the East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC) website: www.eastcambs.gov.uk to access the 'Neighbourhood Panel' webpage, or contact Alan Williams, the Neighbourhood Panel Coordinator at alan.williams@eastcambs.gov.uk or on 01353-616349

The next meetings of the South area Panel, all 7pm starts, in 2009 are:

Wednesday 1st April, Kirtling Village Hall (inc dealing with the economic downturn)

Tuesday 30th June, The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

Wednesday 7th October, Burwell Village College

Please come along, become involved and help to bring about improvements in your locality. If you are unable to attend but have an issue to be raised with the Panel, please contact Mick Scarff, Parish Council representative, or Lavinia Edwards on the South area Panel.

From Your Library -

Did you know that many library services are now accessible from home? As well as being able to renew and order library books, it is possible to access online reference books, including encyclopaedias and dictionaries, company information, business resources and newspapers, free of charge.

If you're researching your family history, we subscribe to Ancestry.com, which is only available in the Library.

If you need a little help with computers, we can arrange a session with our volunteer tutor. These are held in the Library on Thursday afternoons. Please talk to one of the Library staff for more information.



Our next EngAGE session is at 10 am. on Wednesday 8th April, when Terri Betson will be speaking on 'Early Photography 1900-1945', and on 13th May, local artist Peter Welch will give a talk and demonstration on landscaping in watercolour. These sessions are free and include tea or coffee and biscuits. No need to book, just turn up.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Your Library Staff

Interested in being part of a Book club in Burwell?

Do you love reading contemporary literary fiction, or biographies, or something historical? Would you like a chance to get together with like-minded people to talk about recent books you've read?

I was thinking along the lines of meeting once every two months in each other's houses, and for us all to recommend books to read on a rota basis. This could be a fun and social way to spend an evening and make new friends, with a bottle or two of wine and some nibbles thrown in for good measure! I wouldn't expect the group to grow much above 6-8 people, so as to prevent it from getting unwieldy.



I live in Burwell and don't know of any other book clubs or reading groups in the village, so if anyone else is interested in forming one with me, please email me on jeh44@cam.ac.uk

Looking forward to hearing from some sociable book-worms with a penchant for wine!

Jayne

“Comedy Night” comes to Burwell once again:

Carnival committee are proud to announce the next ‘**Burwell Comedy Night**’ for Saturday 25th April, 7.30pm, at the Gardiner Memorial Hall. “Why stay in and get your comedy on the telly, when you can try it ‘live’ on your door-step!”

The evening will be compered by Simon Fielder, a young comedian and writer, and feature the stand-up talents of Meryl O’Rourke, Ryan McDonnell & Ronnie Golden. Further information on all our booked comedians can be found on www.comedycv.co.uk. So for a sound evening of side-splitting entertainment in Burwell, book your tickets now. They are going fast, with 76 sold from a max. capacity of 120... so hurry! £8 in advance, £10 on the door, licensed bar, **over 18s only**.

Burwell Garden Club

We were pleased to welcome again Richard Ayres (retired Head Gardener of Anglesey Abbey) to our February meeting. He told us using colourful slides about the gardens he is involved with in his ‘retirement’. A really enjoyable evening!

How about growing a potato in a container? This is a class in our Annual Show in August, to see who can produce the heaviest crop. A free seed potato (Kestrel - second earliest) is available if you would like to enter. Give Pauline a ring (742953) for one.

20th April - A talk about lilies, hardy geraniums and hellebores by Roy Nunn.

18th May - Wartime gardening talk by Dr Twigs Way.

Please join us and find out about vegetables and cheaper ways to produce them.

What's On in Centrepeace

Everyone knows that the people of Burwell are a talented lot! We are always happy to support local people and at present we’ve got poetry books in stock by three different Burwell residents: Betty Simpkin, Barry Canning and David Payne, so do come and have a look.

The month of April brings Easter, and we have a good range of Easter cards and other Easter goodies. Also, you’d be welcome to join us in the shop at 7pm on Monday 6th April and/or Tuesday 7th April for Night Prayer – a short (30min) time of meditation for Holy Week.

Every Tuesday morning, Sue Evans, Parish Nurse, will be around for a word and you can meet you local councillors in the mornings of the second Saturday of the month (11th April and 9th May). Bartrams’ Mobility will be in attendance on the morning of Thursday, 7th May.

Bottisham & Burwell Children's Centre

SureStart

Children's Centre
Cambridgeshire

for parents and carers of 0-5s



- Dads! Play and bouncy castle for dads and under fives at Burwell Sports Centre, every third Saturday of the month 10am to 12 noon and at Bottisham Sports Centre every first Saturday of the month 10am to 12 noon
- Over 1s Toddler Group, Bottisham Children's Centre. Mondays 10am to 12noon.
- Pilates with free crèche, Bottisham Children's Centre. Tuesdays 11am to 11.45am. Call Jill on 07771 388303 to book.
- Bumps & Babies, Bottisham Children's Centre. Wednesdays 10am to 11.30am
- Coffee & Co – support and activities for parents of children who will be attending Burwell Village College. Thursdays 9am to 10.30am. Call Alison on 743260 if you would like to come.
- Plus Messy Play sessions, Speech & Language drop-ins and more.

Bottisham, Burwell & Cheveley Area Children's Centre
Bottisham Youth & Community Centre

Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club

In February, our club took part in an inter-club competition featuring 35 clubs in the East Anglian area. This competition is held every year to decide the two top scoring clubs who will represent our Federation in the National Finals. The projected image competition will be held at Warwick University in July and the print competition at Connaught's Quay, Flintshire in October. In the projected image section, we came a commendable 15th, and in the print category we were awarded 5th place. A very good result for a small club up against some with a membership of 80 to 100!

We are taking part in two further external competitions. The Melbourn Print Competition on 14th March and the A45 Challenge at Bury St Edmunds on 16th April. Our weekly meetings continue with our AGM and an internal print competition in April and a creative Board Competition and our Social evening in May. Details of our meetings are listed in the diary and are also listed on our website: www.bottburpc.org. Visitors are always welcome for £2.00, which includes refreshments.

Our season closes on 12th May, but after the summer break, we reconvene on Tuesday 15th September. Our 2009/10 programme is in progress and if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please get in touch with me. Email: hanson943@btinternet.com
Secretary, Daphne Hanson Tel: 741106

APRIL

Wed 1	10-12	Burwell Baby's and Toddler Group (every Wed)	GMH
Wed 1	noon	Reflections - WIP Spring Meeting	BAP
Wed 1	7pm	South Area Neighbourhood Panel	Kirtling VH
Thu 2		RECYCLING	
Fri 3		BVC breaks up for Easter	
Fri 3	9.30am	Swaffham Prior Baby & Toddler Group (Fris term time)	SPVH
Mon 6	10-12	Burwell Baby's and Toddler Group (every Mon except bank holidays)	GMH
Mon 6	9.30-11.30	CAB drop-in (Mons except Bank Hols)	Trin
Wed 8	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship - Easter Communion	Trin
Thu 9	7.15pm	Burwell & District Flower Club	Trin
Fri 10		Good Friday	
Sat 11	9.30am	Farmers' Market	BVC
Sun 12	2-5pm	Burwell Museum reopens	Museum
Mon 13	2-5pm	Easter Egg Hunt	Museum
Wed 15	2.45pm	Reflections - Israel	BAP
Wed 15	7.30pm	Burwell History Soc - AGM	BVC
Fri 17		RECYCLING	
Tue 21		BVC Summer term begins	
Wed 22	2.30	Women's Fellowship - Angela Warren	Trin
Thu 23	10am	MOPS	BAP
Sat 25		Carnival Comedy Night (see page26)	GMH

Although every care is taken to ensure the above details are correct, we would er

BDayC – Burwell Day Centre. **BExSC** – Burwell Ex-service and Social Club. **BottVC** – Bottisham Village Room. **Reach** – St. Etheldreda's, Reach. **Trin** – Trinity Church. **BAP** – Baptist Church; **BCSC** - Burwell C

Tue 28	10.30am	Story & Rhyme time for under fives (Tues in termtime)	Library
Tue 28	10am	Pins & Needles	BAP
Wed 29	2.45pm	Reflections - Metropolitan Police	BAP
Thu 30		RECYCLING	
Thu 30	7.15pm	WI - Intro to the Woodland Trust	GMH
		<u>MAY</u>	
Mon 4		May Day Bank Holiday	
Tue 5		Annual Parish Meeting	GMH
Wed 6	2.30	Women's Fellowship - Network Rally Soham	
Tue 12	10.30am	Story & Rhyme time for under fives	Library
Wed 13	2.45pm	Reflections - Members Afternoon	BAP
Thu 14		RECYCLING	
Thu 14	10am	MOPS	
Thu 14	7pm	Burwell District Flower Club - £10 call 601545	BVC
Wed 20	2.30	Women's fellowship - Bring & Buy	Trin
Thu 21	7.30pm	Burwell History Soc - Jewellery	BVC
Mon 25		Bank Holiday/ BVC Half-term week	
Mon 25	2-5pm	Grunty Fen Rhubarb Festival	Museum
Tue 26	10am	Pins & Needles	BAP
Wed 27	2.45pm	Reflections - TWAM	BAP
Thu 28	7.15pm	WI - Intro to Silk Painting	GMH
Fri 29		RECYCLING	

encourage you to check the details with the event organiser incase of any changes.

ge College. **BVC** – Burwell Village College. **GMH** – Gardiner Memorial Hall. **JRR** – Jubilee Reading
Community Sports Centre. **SPVH** - Swaffham Prior Village Hall. **BCP** - Burwell Community Print.

“Three Little Maids from school are we . . .”

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre proudly presents “The Mikado (or the Town of Titipu)” by Gilbert and Sullivan on 3rd to 6th June 2009 at 7.30pm with a matinee on Saturday 6th June at 2.30pm.

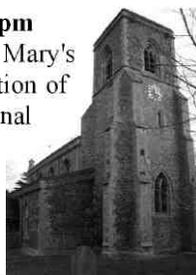
Performances take place in The Barn, Downing Farm, Swaffham Bulbeck. The barn has been adapted to create a theatre. There is a licensed bar: toilet facilities (including disabled) are available and there is off-road parking.

For ticket prices, tickets or further information, please visit our website www.sbstgands.co.uk or contact Kari Karolia on email kari.karolia@gmail.com

Cantilena Singers

Sat 11th April 2009, St Mary's Church, Stow cum Quy 7:30 pm

A concert of music and readings to celebrate the refurbishment of St Mary's church, Stow cum Quy. This concert will coincide with the completion of the refurbishment of St Mary's Church. It will feature both traditional Easter music as well as a range of celebratory anthems.



Tickets on the door; details on our website: www.cantilena.info or
phone 01223 812115

Red2Greenhouse

Farmshop and nursery

Red2Greenhouse is a local charity working with adults with learning disabilities and pupils from Bottisham Village College

We offer a range of locally grown fresh fruit and vegetables, herbs, perennials, alpines, bedding plants for all seasons, homemade jams and pickles. We operate a veg box delivery service to Quy, Lode, the Swaffhams, Bottisham, Longmeadow, Burwell and Reach.

Opening Times: Monday to Friday 9.30 to 3.30 pm

Bottisham Village College Lode Road CB25 9DL

Tel: 01223 813650 email: red2greenhouse@red2green.org

Follow signs via school swimming-pool car park to the Community Garden

Registered Charity no. 1112429

Singing Workshops are fun!

Singing Workshops for Fun! are still thriving at Swaffham Prior Village Hall on Monday evenings 7.30-9. They are open to anybody! If you would like to sing this is an opportunity to just come and sing for the fun of it. You don't have to be able to read music or have had experience. Workshops run during term time. For up to date information, email at c.coombs@talktalk.net *Cath Coombs 0781 01 465 01*

Reach Fair

Since 1201



**Bank Holiday
Monday**

4th May 2009 - 12 noon

Grand opening by the Mayor of Cambridge
Traditional Fairground Rides

Music and Dancing Country Crafts
Stalls / Arts and Crafts Children's Entertainment
Local Archaeology Raptor Foundation
Hog Roast BBQ Bar Plus lots more

Entrance and Car Park from Burwell Road £3.00 per car

Registered Charity: 280601

NCT Cambridge Branch Nearly New Sale

High Quality Nearly New Clothes
for Babies and Children (0 – 10 years)

Sunday 26th April 2009 2.30pm to 4.00pm
at Comberton Leisure, Comberton Village College
Entrance £1

We need over **100 volunteers** to run the sale, if you wish to help please contact Sarah Bowie on **01223 894839**.

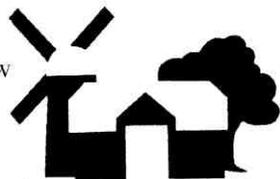
Sellers wanted, to sell please call our registration line on **07742 602363**

Burwell Museum

During the winter closed period we have made additions and improvements to some of the displays, and carried out maintenance/restoration to items in the displays. One new display is a model of Burwell railway station. This is an ongoing project and may not be completed by the Easter opening but will still be on show.

Time has flown by and opening day is rapidly approaching!

The Museum re-opens at 2pm on Easter Sunday (12th April) with an *Easter Egg Hunt* for children. The fun continues on Easter Monday, again from 2-5pm, with the eggs hidden in different places from where they were on Sunday.



On Monday 25th May Christopher South from BBC Radio Cambridgeshire will return to host the *Grunty Fen Rhubarb Festival*, probably one of the oddest and most entertaining events in the area, for the 3rd year running. Bring your rhubarb, rhubarb poems and rhubarb cakes for judging. Children are invited to enter artwork illustrating the ancient rhubarb forest of the fens where dinosaurs roamed!

Other events at the Museum to look forward to this year include the return of the *Summer Fete*, *Children's Activity Days* and the *Autumn Miscellany*. Also planned for this year *American Civil War Historical Re-enactment Day* and *A Journey through the Middle*



Ages. More information about these events will be published in Clunch during the year. Look out for posters around the village advertising each event.

Remember, you can see photos and videos of our Special Events on our website usually within a few days after each event. The website Gallery goes from 2004 to present.

Details of Special Events events can be found on the black & white "Factsheet" insert in our leaflets. Leaflets are available from the Museum, local shops and libraries. Our answering machine has brief details of events on it (Phone 605544). Information about all Burwell Museum Special Events (including fundraising events organised by the *Friends*) can be found on our website www.burwellmuseum.org.uk, where you can also download a copy of the Factsheet.

If you have never been to the Museum before and are not sure where it is, you will find it in Mill Close (off Mill Lane) next to the windmill. Opening times are 2-5pm on Thursdays, Sundays & Bank Holiday Mondays from Easter to the end of October (times may differ on some Special Event days). See our leaflet or our website for further information.

Contact information :

Phone - 605544 (Please leave a message)

Fax - 0871 661 5378

Email: museum@burwellmuseum.org.uk

Website: www.burwellmuseum.org.uk

Text/SMS - 07766 40 41 42 (start your message with our email address)

Simon Heath, Museum Trustee



Great British Fish and Chip Supper - Friday 15th May

"Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives."

Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 15th May whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services. You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5 means you will raise at least £35 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

In 2009 SIA will celebrate its 35th Anniversary and as Friday 15th May is Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Day, what better way to raise funds than eating Fish and Chips and raising money for SIA. The money raised will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs and for the rest of their lives, by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives. Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Donor Development Officer, Elizabeth Wright, says, "The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

"2009 is the first year that SIA are running the suppers but we already envisage this to be one of our top fundraising initiatives in the SIA calendar over the coming years. Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives."

For more information or to request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 678 6633 xtn 229 or email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk or visit www.spinal.co.uk

The WOW! Cafe

I'm sorry, but that pass to Leigh Halfpenny for Wales's winning try against England was miles forward. Admittedly, Harry Ellis's put-in at every scrum was so crooked it almost missed the scrum, but that's beside the point. You might agree, you might disagree, or you might not care. Isn't that life? And regardless, you might still be willing to have a drink with me.

There's a group of people who feel like that, who get together every Wednesday (except April, August and December) at the Guildhall, near St Mary's church. Most of us are members of St Mary's, but not all, and we generally have a focus of the gathering - usually about 30 minutes talking about something with a Christian theme, although sometimes we just watch a film. But there's a key point about it. Our principle is that it's not like a Sunday service, because that's not what early Christians did.

Whether or not you believe in pearly gates and St Peter (or something similar) when you die, one thing is for sure: if he's waiting for you, he won't be asking if you went to church every Sunday! He might ask if you were tolerant and understanding; and he'd probably ask if you helped the poor and visited the sick, stood up for the bullied and were a friend to those in need; but he wouldn't ask if you went to church every Sunday!

So why the Sunday services? Because it's tradition, and lots of people like them; but if it doesn't flick your switch, God doesn't care. So if you fancy meeting some new people, or you wonder what that Christian stuff is *really* all about (and what it could add to your life), feel free to stop by. We're there from 8 til 9-30ish in the Guildhall, and you'll be welcome, whatever you believe. What's more, we won't ask you to go on Sunday. That's up to you.

We don't promise to be everything you want or need (we're human, just like everyone else); but if you come, you'll discover a group of people who offer friendship; a group who wouldn't be seen dead with a loud hailer on a soap box, or bashing anyone with a bible. In fact, you might find a group who don't mention God in every conversation; who'd quite often prefer to talk about the things *everyone* likes to talk about. But you'll also discover a group who are, none-the-less, glad to call themselves Christians, whilst respecting those who don't; and who won't mind if you just want to meet some friends and have a drink.

We call it WOW!

The WOW! Team n

Youth



Youth Workers are like buses. None come for ages and then two come at once!

We caught up with Burwell's very own church-based Youth Workers Harriet Leefe and Nathan Shipley, to find out more about Youth Alpha and an exciting future opportunity!

Youth Alpha

In early 2009, we ran Youth Alpha. It's a fantastic, ten week course that investigates the basics of Christianity. Don't just take our word for it, here are some of the young people's comments,

"Youth Alpha is a great place where you meet friends, have fun and learn about the Christian faith."



"Youth Alpha is really good and the food is great!"

"Youth Alpha is an exciting experience to get to know every aspect of Christianity and all that faith has to offer us."



<http://www.ultimateevents.org.uk>

The Ultimate Event

On Saturday 9th May, we will be rocking on up to the Ultimate Event!

The Ultimate Event combines some of the best contemporary Christian music with the rip roaring rides of Alton Towers.

If you would like to join us for this excellent day out, please get in touch asap!

JORDAN - Part 2

Left Amman today for Petra, along the King's Highway, a wonderful road system. Along the way we stopped at Mount Nebo; this is where Moses viewed the Promised Land and he also died there. As we looked for ourselves over the Promised Land there was a wonderful atmosphere, warm winds and hazy sunshine. On a clear day you can see Jerusalem. Continuing along we made a detour to see the old original King's Highway and to see one of the oldest villages in the world in a valley below. We were in the middle of nowhere and the village lights below us had just started to twinkle when from out of the dusk appeared four beautiful children; our guide gave them some sweets and told us not to give them money as this leads to the begging. We took photos of them and then their big brother, aged about ten, appeared on a donkey and he was very protective of these little ones. It seems they were gypsies and lived in a tent. We all felt very humbled by them. At this moment a herd of sheep and goats came by - what atmosphere! Magic!

Next morning was our visit to Petra - at last. Petra was built around 4000BC and rediscovered by a Swiss adventurer in 1812. It starts with a walk down a siq (passage) with steep rose and terracotta walls for about an hour going downhill. After a while our guide told us to look to the right and walk backwards, then turn our eyes left and there, in front of us through a gap, was The Red City of Petra. Going out of the siq and into the canyon the first thing you see is the Treasury, which was in the film *'Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade'* - a huge building carved into the red walls. Camels were walking up and down giving rides.

On we walked, into the beautiful coloured canyon comprising hundreds of carved ornate facades, to see the rest of Petra. There is a huge amphitheatre and as we climbed up the cliffs we ventured into another building called the Monastery; the inside was like a cave with very good acoustics and one of our party sang *'Amazing Grace'* - many tears were shed!

We sat under sunshades to eat our packed lunch, not quite believing in our setting. A beautiful little girl was selling stones and when I went to put my money in her purse she had loads of money in it, but once again a bigger boy was waiting in the wings protecting her. The nomadic Bedouin tribes lived there until last year.

We set off back up the canyon and siq. Going uphill it took us about two hours. There were horses pulling small carts taking back the frail - the horses' hooves clip-clopping echoing in the siq. I shall never forget that sound nor the sight of Petra - it did not disappoint.

Ina Hayes ■

Growing herbs in containers

There are several reasons for growing herbs - they are great fresh for use in cooking; they are good for attracting bees and butterflies; they look and smell nice; and only a small space is needed to grow many types, so they are ideal for growing in containers. The container doesn't need to be very deep, but a wide pot (at least 30cm wide) is preferable. Make sure that the compost is well drained by adding plenty of grit (25% volume).

Growing in a sunny spot will result in the best flavour. Poor, hot conditions increase the production of the essential oils that give the herbs their flavour. Alternatively, you can grow them in rich moist conditions - they will grow faster and look better, but will have a milder flavour. Of course growing by the kitchen or back door means you are more likely to use them!

It's easiest to buy small plants, and replace each year. They are not expensive to buy.

Suggested herbs to try are **Parsley**, **Oregano**, **Tarragon**, and **Chives** for cooking. **Sage** and **Thyme** there are many different coloured varieties are available. **Curry Plant** is good for its scent and attractive silvery foliage **Mint** is vigorous and can get invasive. It is best to grow this in a separate pot. The same goes for **Lemon Balm**, which also makes a refreshing herb tea. **Basil** is very useful in cooking, but tends to be short lived and likes some shade. I tend to grow this separately.

Always check the labels for the final height of the plants. **Rosemary** for example grows into a large shrub, but there are some low-growing varieties.

Once planted, the herbs will need watering and occasional feeding in the growing season. The harvested leaves can be dried for future use (note that the strongest flavour occurs just before the plant is about to flower). Hang bundles upside down in a warm dry location (but below 30°C). Once dried, keep them in an airtight jar away from sunlight. Alternatively freeze the fresh herbs. One tip is to chop them and place into ice-cube trays. Add a little water and freeze for ready portions to add to cooking.



Local Sources:

Ely Farmers Market - alternate Saturdays (next market dates April 11th and 25th).

Prospect Trust, Swaffham Road, Reach.

Simpson's Nursery, Fordham.

Fat free & delicious

A friend of mine has recently been told they have high cholesterol and after looking at the list of banned food items the doctor had given them was very downhearted. Not only had all the naughty cakes and puddings got to go, but there would be no cheese, no butter for a Béchamel Sauce, no oil to brown meat or onions for stew and sauces so conventional cooking was out with just boiling and grilling in. After a bit of thinking I realised that the traditional French method “en papillote” (in a paper bag) produced good fish dishes that would liven up any diet. Here’s one we tried:

Haddock en papillote with tomato sauce (serves 2)

2 pieces of skinless haddock

(or you can use any white fish or salmon)

1 Carrot

1 Leek

1 Red onion

1 Stick Celery

Sprig Lemon Thyme

1 Lemon

For the Sauce

6 Vine tomatoes chopped

1 Onion

¼ pt vegetable stock

Sprig Lemon thyme

Preheat oven to 200C or GM6

- 1) Make the sauce by placing all the ingredients in a small pan and cooking for 20 minutes until the onions are soft and tomatoes broken up. Liquidise and push through a fine sieve (to remove the skin and pips) into a clean pan.
- 2) Cut the vegetables into very fine strips (julienne). You can do this by hand or by using a mandolin. Place in a pan and cover with boiling water, bring to the boil and blanch in cold water.
- 3) Tear off 2 squares of aluminium foil and spread out, divide the vegetables between them, place a piece of fish on each, add a sprig of lemon thyme and squeeze over the juice from the lemon (you could also add a sprinkle of white wine). Season and scrunch the foil to form a parcel.
- 4) Place on a tray and bake for 15-20 minutes. Take care when unwrapping as hot steam will come out.
- 5) Transfer to a plate. Serve with the sauce and some new potatoes.

Regardless of diet this is a lovely light dish for dinner, so if you’re thinking of having some wine with it why not try a Pinot Grigio or Sauvignon Blanc. *Janet Carrick* ■

Farmers Market

Please note: There is no Farmers’ Market on Saturday, 9 May, as the school had a prior booking.

A new vegetable supplier will be attending from March, stocking a range of seasonal vegetables. ■

Cleaning teeth

People often ask me “What is the best way to clean teeth?” Advice varies depending on the age of the patient and so over the next few editions of Clunch I hope to cover this separately for Children, Teenagers, Adults and Seniors.

Part 1: Children’s Teeth

Cleaning your child’s teeth should be part of their daily hygiene routine:

- “ Stand or sit behind your child and cradle their chin so you can reach their top and bottom teeth easily.
- “ Use only a small smear of toothpaste on a small headed toothbrush appropriate for their age; your dentist can advise
- “ Use small circular movements and try to concentrate on one section at a time.
- “ Don’t forget to brush gently behind the teeth onto the gums.
- “ Make sure they spit out the toothpaste and don’t swallow any if possible.
- “ It is important to supervise your child’s brushing until they are at least seven.
- “ Try to make brushing a routine – preferably in the morning and last thing before your child goes to bed, and give them lots of encouragement.
- “ Take them to visit the dentist as soon as possible – this will get them used to the sounds, smells and surroundings of the surgery and prepare them for future visits. The earlier these visits begin, the more relaxed the children will be.

Mabel Saw, Principal Dentist

www.burwelldental.co.uk ☐

Replacing your flat roof? Don’t fall flat on your face!

When replacing or repairing your flat roof, make sure you don’t use a contractor who is either unaware or unprepared to meet the recently revised Part L of the Building Regulations or you could fall foul of the law, have to replace the non-compliant work and be left with a hefty bill.

It is really important to ensure that all work to your home complies with the Building Regulations as the penalties for failing to do so include substantial fines – and the responsibility ultimately rests with the person *ordering* the work. Also without correct documentation you may face difficulties refinancing or selling your property.

Why the changes? Home energy use is responsible for 27 per cent of UK carbon dioxide emissions, which contribute to climate change. The Government has introduced requirements intended to make buildings more energy efficient by reducing CO2 emissions by 2010. Most of this reduction will have to come from improvements to existing homes and now includes the replacement of flat roofs under ‘Renovation of Thermal Elements’. When work is carried out to your property, opportunities often arise for efficiency improvements at little extra cost.

Chris Whitehall

www.whitehallflatroofing.co.uk ☐

The Dreaded Apostrophe.

It pains me to see an apostrophe
 Where it doesn't belong.
 When one is in doubt, they are
 sprinkled about
 And most of the time - they are
 wrong.

They are handy to show, where
 letters should go
 When the usual letter's not there,
 And one common place - the
 possessive case
 Is sure to be mastered, with care.

If something is her's, or madam's,
 or sir's
 The apostrophe goes in its place;
 But if it is Teas, or Hot Mushy
 Peas
 It simply does not show its
 face.

If the plural demands an S, you
 may guess
 The Apostrophe shouldn't be
 used,
 And when something is 'its',
 there's no way that it fits,
 But that's when the rule's mostly
 abused.

Now, if < it is > and < its > have
 addled your wits
 Please don't come running to me.
 I can't help you out. I'm into
 Umlaut
 And it'll be a while 'fore I'm free.

Ophir

We are pleased to introduce a new occasional columnist who will be writing opinion pieces for Clunch.

Robert Rodrigo (a.k.a. Bob Rodney, by which name his grandfather Robert Edward Rodrigo, was generally known in horse racing circles, and which he used as a pen-name.) was born in 1928 in Newmarket, son of Robert Rodrigo, journalist, and Hilda Drackett-Case, whose family owned a prosperous fish and game business at Mentmore House, Newmarket.

He attended Worksop College, Nottingham (scrum half as 9-year-old to fly half Nim Hall, future captain of England); Perse School, Cambridge twice (with in between 2 years at St. Joseph's College, Blackpool, where severe corporal punishment saved me from a life of bone-idleness).

He joined the Sporting Life as office boy in Newmarket and his National Service was served in the R.A.F. and, as a lowly aircraftsman captained

I never thought I could appear in the same sentence as Henry Morris, the man who invented Village Colleges. But I might, because he was once an office boy in a newspaper office (The Southport Visitor), and I was an office boy in a newspaper office, too. But ultimately, he got out of the newspaper rat-race and into Education. By 1922, he had become Secretary for Education Cambridgeshire, and he held that post until he retired in 1954.

When he began, Cambridgeshire was the third least endowed county for education in England. Cambridge itself had enormous assets, but they remained College property. Morris wanted to change the face of rural Cambridgeshire, and the way to do it was by setting up Village Colleges. In 1925 he financed the publication of a memorandum about this. He intended that Village Colleges would serve a child from the age of three until extreme old age. They would train in education, ordinary life, the environment of a

Introducing Bob Rodney

fourteen officers in an inept Rugby Union side for R.A.F Mildenhall which never won a match. He achieved his only service medal as a member of the Mildenhall hockey team, which won the Three Group Cup – with his name spelt wrongly, as usual!

He returned to the Sporting Life in London for two years. Through his Father's influence, he was taken on by The Star, Sheffield. After two years, a former boss at the Sporting Life found him a sports sub-editing job with the Daily Mirror where he acted as Racing Editor, general sports reporter, sports sub whilst simultaneously being cycling reporter (helped pick the England team for the 1955 Tour de France), amateur boxing writer, amateur Soccer correspondent (in those days the sports staff was small and everybody did everything) During this time he travelled widely.

Village Colleges

genuine corporate life. The school, the village hall and reading room, Scouts and Guides, evening classes, agricultural education courses, Women's Institute, British Legion, recreational clubs would all meet at the Village College.

Councils, unwilling to spend more than they legally must, were a problem. Morris solved that by closing some small, costly, inefficient schools and raising money himself. The first was Sawston, followed by Bottisham. However, the Village Colleges did not constantly carry out the roles Morris had allocated to them. Most were effectively turned into Secondary Modern schools, and although some have reverted to their original purpose, there remain anomalies.

It was never envisaged by Morris that Adult Education would be priced prohibitively; but today the cost of classes for OAPs is largely prohibitive, the

He was one of Paul Fox's team that invented the Grandstand TV programme from which the grateful BBC abruptly dropped him after 11 years.

He has published fifteen or so books, including several Mirror books, Berlin Airlift, The Racing Game, the "autobiography" of Jack and Bessie Braddock, Search and Rescue, and is contributor to magazines, including Picture Post, and most national newspapers. He has never learned to type, or to write shorthand.

Bob has acted as PR to various organisations including the Cactus and Succulent Society and has some 400 cacti and succulents.

Bob is very much his own man, and his views will not necessarily be those of the Editor or Clunch committee. □

Councils having decided against granting concessionary rates, and this applies at Burwell. It is even suggested, in some places, that classes should in some way incorporate a fee for the cleaning and heating of the premises, although today the rooms in which classes can be held are available only when the College is open for ordinary teaching (i.e. not in the school holidays). Morris foresaw Village Colleges as the cultural and social hub of country society. He planned them for other counties, including Cumbria, Devon, Leicestershire and Somerset. Perhaps it's time to see whether our local authorities, though stretched to provide everything from the hated Council Tax that they might wish, could not see a way to restoring the much-needed correct functions of the Village Colleges.

Bob Rodney □

Paul Hawes - Part 2- Burwell History

Paul has always lived in Burwell and is deeply interested in its history and heritage. In the 1970's he was involved with the Burwell Windmill Trust, which was working on the conservation and renovation of Stephen's Windmill, just off Mill Lane. They had the idea of opening a museum on land close to the mill to house the collection of by-gones, which many of them, including Paul, had collected.

Little did the early members of the Museum Trust know that they faced a 10-year legal battle, before they could see their dream fulfilled! They took on planning officers, charity commissioners, land owners and finally the Secretary of State, before the difficulties were resolved and the museum got the go-ahead.

They bought a 200 year-old timber framed Dutch barn to house the museum for just £50 - but it was several miles away from the site! For the next 5 years, they raised £40,000, transported the barn to Burwell and reconstructed it. Imagine the delight when Burwell Museum opened for the first time on Easter Sunday in 1992! The museum has gone from strength to strength, thanks to the hard work of its volunteers and the successful fundraising efforts of the Friends of Burwell Museum. Thousands visit it each year and this year the Trust hopes a lottery grant will allow them to appoint a part-time Commercial Manager and extend the opening hours.

Paul is keen that none of Burwell's history should be lost and so, with Jim Neale, he carried out research into the brave men from Burwell who gave their lives in two World Wars. They uncovered many fascinating facts that bring to life the stories behind the names on the War Memorial and arranged for some missing names to be added. The information they gathered, including photographs of almost every soldier who died, can be seen at the museum.

Paul is also involved in the Plaque Committee, which is marking many of the village's heritage sites. These include the site of the terrible fire in which nearly eighty people died and the stocks where miscreants were punished. Future plaques will commemorate the village industries, including, of course, brick making.

Paul has recently donated four acres of land to the Parish Council to be managed as a wildlife site and as a village amenity. The area (just off Reach Road) is known as Pauline's Swamp, after Paul's wife who died a few years ago. It consists of a wet meadow, a stream and some grassland and is home to a wide variety of birds, frogs, toads, butterflies and wildflowers. It has been recognised by the County Council as a wildlife site, which means that it will never be built on.

We Burwellians have many reasons to be grateful to Paul for all he has done to ensure that we, and future generations, can continue to enjoy this village in the years to come. Thank you Paul!

BURWELL CRICKET CLUB

Burwell CC Junior Section is holding an open day on 24th April 2009, 6pm till 8pm. (If it rains this will move to the 1st May)

All children, boys or girls, 8 yrs and above but below 15 yrs of age on 31st August 2009 are eligible to play cricket at youth level, for Burwell this coming 2009 season. The season runs from May to the end of July.

We are running three age groups this year, U11, U13 & U15 and all play in the East Cambridgeshire League and Full County Cup. The U13 & U15 last season won their respective leagues and many of the young players, boys and girls, past & present have gone on to represent the County at all ages.

Evening of fun and BBQ

Burwell Cricket Club have over 10 qualified coaches and have achieved the highly respected "Clubmark" accreditation (similar to "Charter Standard" in Football). This means all adults involved with children in Burwell CC are First Aid trained, suitably qualified and have been CRB checked

We wish to invite all eligible children to an evening of fun and supported cricket coaching on April 24th. For those who attend it will cost nothing and no kit will be required, just be prepared to exercise and enjoy yourselves. If after the evening you feel cricket is not for you then nothing is lost. However we hope many children from Burwell and the surrounding area will enjoy what they do, and wish to play cricket for the coming 2009 season and beyond.

Enrolment will also be taking place the same night with membership this season being £25 for the first child, £15 for any other siblings. This includes Membership for 2009, Insurance and also Friday night training during May, June & July.

Refreshments and a BBQ will also be available during and after training.

If you need any further clarification or have any concerns please contact Gary Summer-skill (01638 601927).

We look forward to seeing you. ☺

Burwell Community Sports Centre

Membership renewals are due from 1st April 2009 - remember with out your continued support we would be unable to function. New members are always welcome and beat the credit crunch as we have resisted any price increases and have held are current prices for the new membership year. We hope to see you all very soon. We are always looking for new people to come and join the sports centres committee, you don't have to commit to being a full committee member. As an ever-growing sports centre we need your support ideas and backing so if you are interested in attending a committee meeting to see what it is all about please get in contact with us.

Men, are you bored on a Friday night wanting something fun and sociable to do?? Then why not come and join are men's keep fit/fat group on a Friday evening from 8pm-10pm. Don't be shy everyone is very welcome to come along and join in. Don't forget that the bar will be open afterwards. The bar has a licence till 1am on a Friday so why not come up for a social drink with friends.

Why not hold a party at the sports centre? The Centre is available to hire Saturday nights with a bar licence till 12am.

Chair-based exercise sessions with Rosanna Dillon running every Monday 11am-12pm at Burwell Community Sports Centre. Come along and find out what it is all about £3.00 per session members £4.00 non members. Thursday's we run our indoor athletics club from 3.30pm-4.30pm, there are still places available so pop in a find out more or call 01638 742125 the sessions will run for 6 weeks at a cost of £19.50 per term for members or £24.50 for non-members.

Contact: 01638 742125 bcsc@bcsc.wanadoo.co.uk Buntings Path, Burwell, Cambs, CB25 0DD

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Small but perfectly formed!.....

If you're looking for a local tennis club that is small, friendly and convenient, caters for beginners as well as having a reasonable club standard, then come to Bottisham! We share the courts with Bottisham Village College.

Because of the building work at the college this year we will have less facilities during the main season but we can offer at least one hard court and two floodlit Astro turf courts for club sessions. Outside school hours at least 1 hard court will be available to book and, as a concession because of the building work, the Astro turf can also be booked outside school hours, free of charge for club members. Club sessions are between 7 - 9pm on Monday and Friday evenings and also on Saturday afternoons from 2 -4 pm.

We have 8 weeks of coaching organised for juniors on Wednesdays after school, and for adults on Friday evenings between 6-7pm. Details are available on our website or from Charlie Platten on 01223 813016.

Taster sessions are available on club nights free of charge for those interested in joining us. For more information visit our website www.bottishamtennis.org.uk where you'll find details of our calendar, subscription fees and coaching classes, or ring the secretary on 01223 812432.

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