

News from

The Wicken Fen Vision marks its 10th anniversary in 2009, a good opportunity to take stock of what has been achieved during the past decade. Land under conservation management has more than doubled to 755 hectares with significant progress being made to the re-creation of a mosaic of fenland habitats for wildlife and people to enjoy.

Public access to the countryside has been significantly enhanced and the development of a spine route linking Waterbeach and Anglesey Abbey to Wicken Fen is on course to be completed in the next year or so. Wildlife highlights include return of Otter, Water Vole and Bittern's one of the UK's most elusive wetland birds breeding at Wicken Fen, the first time since the 1930's. Whilst much has been achieved it must be remembered



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COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL/MAY ISSUE MONDAY 2 MARCH

Please submit articles, letters and small ads to:

editor@clunch.org.uk

or 35 Mason Road

Or dropped into the Library, Post Office or Village College

On all editorial matters the editor's decision is final

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BUNDLING THURSDAY 26 MARCH 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'm really pleased to be back in the Editor's chair after a fairly short maternity leave. Many thanks to Kath and Jude who did a fantastic job with very little training or support. I'd also like to say a huge thanks to Victoria who has decided to step down as co-editor. Victoria and I put lots of changes in place and got a good system going to produce Clunch with minimum fuss. Putting Clunch together over a bottle of wine (or a box of chocs when we were pregnant) was a lot of fun. For the next few issues at least I plan to edit on my own (mostly because this allows me to do it at times that fit around my family my brain is turning to mush at 7pm each evening at the moment!) This is only possible because we have a fantastic team who lay out the pages and try to spot mistakes. So I'd also like to thank Neil and Linda Larnar, Maggie Larbey, Carol Owen, Louise Roberts and David Martin the unsung heroes of Clunch, our typesetters.

Talking of thanks, Mothering Sunday is 22 March this year and Clunch would like to hear from you about great mum's in the village. If you know a special mum who deserves a treat for Mothers' Day let us know why and the best entry will win a box of chocolates for the mother. See below for more details. Please do take the time to enter - it will make someone's day.

What an unromantic bunch you are! No-one sent in any entries for the request made last month for all things relating to Valentines. To enable even the shyest of you to 'share the love' this Valentines Day Ophir, one of our regular contributors, shares a selection of poems suitable for sending to your beloved.

Last issue we asked you if you thought Clunch should change with the arrival of the Burwell Bulletin and the answer was a resounding 'NO!' However we do need your help to keep Clunch going. We are entirely volunteer run with lots of people around the village giving up their time each issue to write, edit, lay-out, collate and deliver it. We don't have teams of reporters hunting down news items, we only print what gets sent in to us. Clunch is your community magazine and we want everyone to get more involved. On page five we've got a number of suggestions for how you can help make Clunch more informative, interesting and fun to read.

Hope you enjoy this issue

Joanne

Burwell's Best Mum Competition

Is your mum the best? Is the mum of your children amazing? Do you know a special mum who deserves a bit of recognition? Tell us why and you could win a lovely box of chocolates to spoil her with. The winner will also be announced in Clunch. Competition closes March 2 2009.

Please include the name of the mum, your name, your telephone number and why you think she deserves to win. Email editor@clunch.co.uk or drop in at the Post Office, the Library and the Village College. Post it to Clunch, c/o Burwell Village College, The Causeway, Burwell, Cambrdge, CB25 0DU.

Clunch is your community magazine. To help it serve and reflect the community we need as many people to join in as possible. This can be on a casual or ongoing basis but here are some ideas of how to get involved.

INDIVIDUALS

- Enter our competitions - we get very few, if any, entries for most so you stand a good chance of a prize!
- Send a letter - share your woes or give thanks where its due. Even share a funny story. We'll give prizes to the best.
- Write a column - If you have a skill, an interest or a passion to share with others. Now and in the past we've had the saga of Di's chickens, vegetable gardening, travel articles amongst others and they have all been very popular. We are particularly interested in columns or diaries on the subjects of thrifty or green living.
- Suggest or write an article. Like columns they can be on practically any topic. The best ones will be topical and with local flavour.
- Send in photos or artwork, local images especially. - we want to add as much interest to the pages as possible, we can use these to decorate the cover or illustrate articles.

Deliver Clunch - Contact Sarah Ganiford clunch@ganiford.co.uk or 741302

KIDS AND TEENS

- Get drawing! - We are always looking for drawings from you to decorate our front cover or illustrate articles. Think about different things that happen in the time the issue covers - Valentines Day, Harvest, Christmas etc. We'll give prizes for any we use.
- Get writing! - Write us a book or movie review. Write about clubs you attend. Tell us about anything you are interested in. We'll give prizes for anything we print.

CLUBS AND CHARITIES

If you are involved in a club or charity let us know what you are doing or what you have done, appeal for new members and celebrate your successes.

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Write an article on your area of expertise or offer our readers discounts or special offers.

WAYS TO GET IN TOUCH

The contact details for Clunch are always on page 1 of every issue. The easiest way for many of you is to email editor@clunch.org.uk. Save it as a contact so you always know how to get in touch when you have news for us. If you aren't IT savvy then we have drop boxes in the Post Office, the Library and the Village College. If you want to post something post it to Clunch, c/o Burwell Village College, The Causeway, Burwell, Cambridge, CB25 0DU. Unfortunately we don't have telephone numbers to call.

DEADLINES

Clunch is published six times a year in February, April, June, August, October and December. The deadline is always around the 1st of the previous month. So the April/May deadline will normally 1 March. The deadline date is always published in the previous issue of Clunch on page 1. A reminder email is sent out every month so please email editor@clunch.org.uk if you'd like to be added to the list.

C

New policy, New bags, New Zealand!



Top L: The winning entry, Top R: Tina presenting the prize to Maureen,
Bottom: Florida and Capetown are far but not far enough!

Earlier this year we at Tina's decided to stop using plastic bags and to introduce this new policy along with our new bags we challenged customers to take a photo of themselves and their Tina's re-usable bag at a location between Tina's and beyond. We have been surprised at the response and have many interesting photo's, displayed in the shop, that were taken in various locations around the world. For these we offer our thanks to all that participated. If you have not already done so you are welcome to pop in and have a look as they will be there for a little longer.

The challenge included a gift voucher for the owner pictured with their Tina's bag at the location furthest from Tina's. We are pleased to announce that the location is Queens-town, New Zealand and the owner of the picture is Maureen Briggs of Burwell.

Maureen happily received the gift voucher from Tina and a photo of the presentation can also be seen in the shop.

On a serious side we thank all our customers for their support in minimising the use of plastic bags and hope that this will result in less contamination of the environment.

Tina and Dave. C

Wicken Fen

that the Vision is a long term project and is expected to take at least another 90 years to implement in full.

The inaugural meeting of the Wicken Fen Vision User Forum was held in early December. Representatives of User groups such as waders, anglers. The forum will look at plans and infrastructure, make sure that new facilities and infrastructure meets the needs and requirements of the forum. At the first meeting in Wicken Fen, the design for a new bird hide, mounting blocks for horse riders and a new path to hear from the public and would welcome suggestions by the forum. Suggestions should be submitted to David Dench, Countryside and Community Manager at Wicken Fen

Tel 01353 720274 or e-mail david.dench@nationaltrust.org.uk

The wonder of Wicken Fen has recently been captured on six short video films which can be found on the Wicken Fen website www.wicken.org.uk The films cover topics such as the Wicken Fen Vision, management of the Fen, the extensive grazing project and the wildlife of Wicken Fen. The videos can be viewed by clicking the link on the Wicken Fen homepage.

Hopefully many readers will have seen the documentary, Cuckoo, broadcast as part of the BBC Natural World series early in the New Year. Filming took place at Wicken Fen over the last two summers under the direction of Professor Nick Davies of Cambridge University, the worlds leading expert on Cuckoos. Although nationally Cuckoo numbers have declined by about 60% over the last 30 years Wicken Fen remains a stronghold for Cuckoos with about 8 breeding females resident on the Fen each summer.

It maybe cold but it's a great time to wrap-up warm and enjoy the wonderful walks and wildlife Wicken Fen can offer at this time of year. Don't forget to call in at the Visitor Centre for Trail Guides and reports on the latest wildlife sightings.

Hope to see you at the Fen soon.

Howard Cooper

National Trust – Wicken Fen C

Burwell Village Help Scheme - Transport

Due to personal reasons it is with regret that I have decided to 'hang up my boots' as Transport Co-ordinator of the Burwell Village Help Scheme. I set up the Transport Section in September 1994 and intended to be Co-ordinator for three years!! The years have flown by and I now feel it is time for someone else to take over at the 'helm'. It has not been an easy decision to make as I have thoroughly enjoyed my time running the Transport Section. I have seen many changes over the years some good and some beyond my control. I have been very lucky to have an excellent team of Drivers and Journey Co-ordinators and I will certainly miss working with them. Thank you to you all for your years of dedication and hard work.

Ann Gilbert has also decided that it is time to give up her role as Treasurer. She has worked with me for a number of years (in fact she is only the second Treasurer during my time) and I would like to say a personal thank you to Ann for all her hard work over the years – I feel we were a good team.

Now to the hard bit – a new Transport Co-ordinator and Treasurer will be required by **2 March**. Driver payments, Cambridge County Council returns and accounts will be processed by myself and Ann up to **2 March**. If anyone is interested in either of these roles please give me a ring on **605075** and I will be only too happy to discuss what the job entails.

I would just like to remind everyone that the Burwell Village Help Scheme is run totally by volunteers who, like me, find their roles very rewarding indeed. I do hope someone will come forward as the Transport Section would be greatly missed by many people if it had to close.

Barbara Marshall, Transport Co-ordinator

C

Burwell Carnival 2009



The new committee held its first event in November; a Comedy Night at the Gardiner Memorial Hall. We were delighted that it was a sell-out. A great time was had by all and over £700 was raised. Due to the popularity of this event we have booked another Comedy Night for **Saturday 25 April**, so put this in your diary. If you would like to purchase tickets when they become available, please pre-register by e-mailing **hammond.julia@btconnect.com**. We are also planning a Quiz Night before Easter, details to follow.

Don't forget the Carnival theme this year is '*Periods of History*' so do please get involved in the procession; it's great fun and your group will benefit from a donation from Carnival proceeds for taking part.

C

New Manager for Burwell Early Learners

Burwell Early Learners welcome Emma-Louise Mckenney as their new Manager. Emma-Louise coming from an Ely based setting and brings a wealth of experience with her including the NNEB diploma in childcare and education and Chartered Institute of Management certificate. Emma-Louise is also studying a degree in Early Years Childcare and Education at Anglia Ruskin University. Emma-Louise told us, "It was the wonderful facilities and reputation of BEL that attracted to me position of Manager. "I'm now looking forward to helping all at BEL - children, staff and premises, grow and meet their full potential."

If you are interested in sending your children to BEL telephone: 744065 and speak to Emma-Louise or Liz. C



Burwell Early Learners Fundraising

Burwell Early Learners is our local nursery school. It is run from a purpose built building on the primary school site.

As a charity organization it is vital for us to continue fund raising to replenish and upkeep the nursery to the standard we are all proud of.

In the upcoming months B.E.L is pleased to have organised some events both for adults and children.

February sees our table top sale held at Burwell Sports Centre. Tables are available for £5 booked in advance. Look out around the village for our posters.

In March we will be having a wine tasting evening. Also a pudding club with homemade puds and cakes.

We are always happy for new members to join the fund raising team. If you have a little spare time and lots of enthusiasm, please contact us and help your local nursery.

Donations and raffle prizes from local company's are always welcome. If your business is willing to contribute, please contact:

Linda 602325

Chris 741484



**PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH NODA
PETER PAN THE PANTO!
29, 30 & 31 JANUARY 2009**

Peter Pan is a Pantomime written by Ron Hall. It is the traditional story of how Wendy Darling and her brothers end up in the Never Land with Peter Pan and the Lost Boys, after being helped to fly there by Tinkerbell. During their stay in the Never Land they meet some very nasty pirates led by Captain James Hook who tries his best to kidnap the Darling children and the Lost Boys. Not only does Peter Pan save the day, Hook is also reunited with the crocodile who ate his hand when he last went into battle with Peter, the crocodile also gives a helping hand (ha-ha) to secure victory against evil. There is also as in most Pantomimes a wedding to end the story. On this occasion it is Liza the Dame who enters into wedlock, but with whom I hear you ask? To find out come and watch our Pantomime at **Bottisham Village College Main Hall** on **Thursday 29 January & Friday 30 January** at **7.30pm**, and **Saturday 31 January** at **2.30pm** and **7.30pm**.

Tickets can be purchased from Bottisham Post Office & Village Stores, Chris Clarke Hairdressers, Bottisham and Tina's, North Street, Burwell. **Tickets are priced at £7.00 Adults and £5.00 concessions at all performances.**

Our telephone booking line is **01223 811033**.

So get your tickets now and come to watch this hilarious Pantomime with some familiar faces and some new faces entertaining you.



QUIZ NIGHT
FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2009
7.30PM START
At
Bottisham Village College
TEAMS OF UP TO EIGHT
Tickets £8.00 each
Including supper
Advance Tickets Only
Tickets available from
01223 811250 EXT 275
Or
email: friends@bottishamvc.org

es new talent to work alongside its regular



Singing for Fun!
Monday 7.30 - 9pm
Swaffham Prior Village Hall
No previous experience of singing
necessary
For more information, contact Cath
Coombs on 0781 01 465 01 or
c.coombs@talktalk.net



How has the credit crunch affected the Burwell Housing Market?

With lots of doom and gloom in the press about housing its easy to feel despondent but there seem to be lots of turnover in the market in burwell. Different areas of the country are faring differently. Clunch asked Jamie Morris of Morris Armitage for his predictions for Burwell and East Cambridgeshire.

2008 will go down as one of the most testing times for the property sector in East Cambridgeshire for sellers and agents alike, seeing a percentage reduction in houses prices of approximately 20% from the heights of 2007. Those who have accepted the changing prices with the market are those who will continue to get interest and sell. Currently remains a buyers market and there will be some looking to move up the property ladder or buy their first this year. As a firm we experienced a more positive end of sales than we had initially anticipated, so there are many people wanting to buy and sell. We've also seen a flurry of people of this year aiming to secure a house within the local area. The market may look to level out come the summer this year as more confidence grows and pressure on lending increases. My advice would be, if you're thinking of selling this year, let us come out and give you some clear guidance or if you are looking to buy, register your details now to be the first to know about upcoming properties in your chosen area. *C*



Neighbourhood Panel

Following on from the Neighbourhood Panel Meeting held on Tuesday night at the Gardiner Memorial Hall in Burwell which is an opportunity for anyone to come along and have a say about what different agencies including the police can do to improve issues in your neighbourhood. At every meeting at least 2 priorities are made and these are kept for the following 3 months. The next 3 months priorities are Anti Social Behaviour in Burwell and Bottisham. The ASB issues in Burwell have greatly reduced due to increased patrols in the area, we felt the need to keep this as a priority to keep the level of ASB down, Bottisham has come up as being a slight problem area of ASB and so has been given the second priority so our time can be split between the two villages. Other villages all had their own separate issues, mainly being speeding which can now start to be dealt with by each parish as the speed watch has been brought in although PC Andy Martin will still be doing speed checks in all the villages at random dates and times. There were no major issues brought up for you to be made aware of which is great news and the next panel meeting is to be held in Kirtling in April.

PCSO Amy Griffin *C*

48-Hour Dartathon Update



Wow! I knew that the people of Lode and the surrounding villages were kind and generous, but on the weekend of 21 November they surpassed that kindness and generosity by a country mile!

In July last year I decided to try and make a difference to the people who are suffering from Multiple System Atrophy which, as many of you know, is the illness that my mum Valerie suffered from with great dignity. Many of my friends and family said

"why 48 hours? why not just 24?". Well, I wanted to make it a real challenge.

Setting up at the social club on Friday afternoon was almost in jeopardy when I received a phone call saying that my son Dan had most probably broken his right wrist (he had broken his left one about three months previously), but Grandad Clive stepped in as he often does and went to A & E with Dan for the inevitable long wait. 8 o'clock soon arrived and we were on the oche throwing arrows at four different boards and recording high scores and checkouts! As closing time approached, the great supporting cast gradually dwindled, promising to come back and support the next day after a well earned rest. This left around a dozen hardy souls to cover the late shift and enter the witching hour and beyond until Saturday breakfast arrived, which was superbly cooked at 49 Northfields by Clive. On Saturday from mid afternoon the club was as busy as we've seen it for many a year, and this continued into the evening when Dan made his come back with right wrist in plaster but throwing arm intact. But the hardest shift was still to come! The Saturday crowd lasted until midnight, and then we were down to seven very weary arrowsmiths. Boards 2,3 and 4 were no longer in use and we were running on empty. Somehow we managed to motivate each other until dawn finally broke and then, as snow fell, along came Clive with reviving sausage and bacon rolls. The home straight was now in sight with only 12 hours to go! Yet more new faces arrived at lunch time and the last darts were thrown at 8pm to complete the 48 hour dartathon.

It was a very emotional ending and the Cornell family would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who sponsored this event so generously and gave raffle prizes, their support and time.

We have raised around £2000 so far, although there is still more being pledged and we are still collecting money during this busy festive period. The total sum raised will be published in February's LodeStar.

Jonathan Cornell **C**

Burwell Baptist Church

Burwell Baptist Church will be holding a series of events with the Rev Daniel Cozens from **12 to 15 March**. Daniel is the founder of Through Faith Missions and The Walk of 1000 Men.



Daniel Cozens is also a gifted artist who, in recent years, has felt released to combine his love of art with his passion for Christ. He has made greeting cards from many of his paintings and has produced prints from a couple of them.

In his Night of Colour events Daniel provides a colourful and easily accessible presentation of his life as an artist and telling of his conversion as a young man. This is accompanied by a presentation of a number of his canvases. These events have been warmly received by a variety of different audiences. There will be a Night of colour on **Thursday 12 March** in Burwell - time and venue to be confirmed.

Daniel will also speak at a healing service on Friday 13 March and other events over the weekend. He has been described as a man who must be heard so do come along and hear what he has to say. Look out for our publicity material nearer the time.

Of course, you are welcome to join us at the church for any of our services - Sundays at 10.30am and 6.30pm. We look forward to welcoming you.

Kevin Burdett

C

Farmers Market

Just to say a big thank you to our loyal customers who battled against freezing wind and rain to get to the market in December.

We have done a survey over the past few months and have found since the fuel crisis that our local produce is now very much on a par with that of a similar nature in the supermarkets and, in some cases, we are now below their prices.

Our markets around Cambridge usually have a raffle at Christmas for a local charity, but this year we decided to donate a goat via Oxfam to help struggling people in Africa establish their own herds and thereby enable them to feed themselves. It also gives them the opportunity to use any surplus money to support their childrens' education or buy clothes and food.

The Burwell markets will operate either from the Village College or the Sports Centre throughout the year, but we will not be able to hold a market on **9 May** in Burwell. We will remind you again nearer the date.

Good wishes and good eating to everyone in Burwell for 2009!

C

BOTTISHAM & BURWELL PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

February

Sun 1	6.30pm	Sunday Serenity - Service of Healing	StMary
Mon 2	10am	Burwell Baby & Toddler Group (every Mon & Wed)	GMH
Mon 2	7.30pm	Singing for Fun (every Monday)	SPVH
Tue 3	10.30am	Story & Rhyme Time for under- fives (weekly term-time)	Library
Wed 4	2.45pm	Reflections: Rev Kevin Burdett	Bap
Thu 5		RECYCLING	
Thu 5	10am	Toddlers' Service	St Mary
Fri 6	9.30am	Swaffham Prior Baby & Toddler Group (Fris, term time)	SPVH
Wed 11	2.30pm	Trinity Women's Fellowship: Rev June Mallabon	Trin
Thu 12	10am	MOPS	Bap
Thu 12	7.15pm	Burwell & District Flower Club: Hands on	BVC
Sat 14	9.30am	Farmers' Market	BVC
Sat 14	7.30pm	Let's Dance	BottVC
Mon 16		School Half Term	
Wed 18	2.45pm	Reflections: Beryl Secrett	Bap
Wed 18	7.30pm	History Society: Early photography and Magic Lantern	BVC
Thu 19		RECYCLING	
Tue 24	10am	Pins & Needles	Bap
Wed 25	2.30pm	Trinity Women's Fellowship: Rev Graham Locking	Trin
Wed 25	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Communion	St Mary
Thu 26	7.30pm	Churches Together talks: mental health	Trin
Sat 28	7pm	Burwell Tigers' FC Bingo Night	GMH



After the Christmas and New Year holidays, we look forward to reconvening our weekly meetings, and as I write this our club is looking forward to once again entering the annual Cambridge Inter-club Digital Competition in which 35 local clubs take part. Each club is invited to submit 5 digital images, which are assessed and scored by a photographic judge who resides outside the East Anglian area. As you can imagine, there is a lot of rivalry!

In February we have a return visit by Ann Miles of Cambridge Camera Club who will give a print talk entitled "A Passion for Pictures". Ann is sponsored by Permajet, photographic printing suppliers, and during her talk she will demonstrate the various types of papers that she uses for her pictures and which are available from Permajet. Details of our meetings for February and March are listed below, but of special note are a digital audio visual evening by Jim Hartje of Peterborough on 3rd March and a print talk by Bill Day of Sheringham called "A Bit of This & a Bit of That". Visitors are always welcome to attend our lecture evenings for which we make a small charge of £2.00, which includes refreshments. February and March are included in the "What's On" calendar. If you are interested please contact the Secretary. Email: secretary@bottburpc.org or www.bottburpc.org.



----- WHAT'S ON -----
meetings at 7.30 pm in Lode Chapel:

- FEBRUARY**
- 3rd EAF 2008 Exhibition Portfolio/Panorama
 - 10th "A Passion for Pictures" by Ann Miles, Cambridge, CC
 - 17th Half Term – no meeting
 - 24th Print Competition No. 3
- MARCH**
- 3rd Digital Audio Visual "Photo WHAT!!!" by Jim Hartje, Peterborough.
 - 10th Projected Image Competition No. 3
 - 17th "A Bit of This & a Bit of That" by Bill Day, Sheringham
 - 24th The Hanson Trophy Projected Image Competition
 - 31st The Roger Human Print Competition Trophy

Secretary, Daphne Hanson 741106

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 Villa
Room; Reach – St. Etheldreda's, Reach; Trin – Trinity Church; BAP – Baptist Church. BCSC - Burwell Cc

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

International and Interdenominational



“IN CHRIST THERE ARE MANY MEMBERS YET ONE BODY.”

On Friday 6th March, over 3 million people worldwide will be praying and worshipping together during our annual day of prayer, using a service prepared by Christian Women in Papua New Guinea. This is always an exciting day. The extent of unity in prayer is shown by the fact that the first service begins at sunrise in Tonga and travels around the world until the sun sets in neighbouring Samoa. By then, the Day will have been celebrated in over 170 countries, and throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland alone over 5,000 services will have been held.

Papua New Guinea is a land of many ethnic groups and over 800 distinct languages, of which more than a half are unrelated. As a result, there is great cultural diversity, yet the women of Papua New Guinea have emphasised the oneness there is in Christ.

In spite of gender inequality, women in Papua New Guinea are beginning to take their place in professions previously closed to them. There are now women who are pilots, engineers, doctors, lawyers, judges, lecturers and also officers in the military forces. In this way, they are making a very positive contribution to their nation.

We extend a warm invitation to the people of Burwell to join us at the Baptist Church, North Street, on Friday 6th March at 10.30 am, when the speaker will be Miss Janine Sothorn, the Youth Worker at Red Lodge, supported by members from all the churches in the village. We look forward to welcoming you to what is always an interesting and inspiring service.

Margaret Prater, Sec. Burwell Branch of W. W. D. P.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BURWELL

Churches Together in Burwell has organised a series of talks. All the talks will be at Trinity Church beginning at 7.30, with tea and coffee served afterwards.

- Thursday 26th February Rev. Dr. John Parr will discuss issues surrounding mental health.
- Thursday 5th March A representative from the Money Advice Centre at Barnwell Baptist Church will talk about debt counselling.
- Thursday 19th March Jane Savin from Newmarket Open Door will talk about homelessness and substance abuse
- Thursday 26th March Tracey Dove also from Newmarket Open Door will talk about the Street Pastors and the work they do in the town.

WHAT'S NEW IN CENTREPEACE FEB –MAR 2009

At the time of writing we have just completed our very successful Christmas season. Thank you to everyone who supported us – it was good to see some new faces in the shop and we hope that, now you know we're there you'll come again. We also enjoyed taking a CentrePeace stall out and about to various places during the autumn and will be doing more of this in the New Year. Our stalls at the farmers' markets were successful and we'll definitely be there again, though perhaps not every month. We'll also be at the Day Centre on 27th March, so look out for us there, especially if you aren't able to come to The Causeway.

It quite often happens that somebody comes into the shop and asks us to put aside some books to be collected later, or perhaps to reserve for them any books on a particular subject that might arrive. We're always happy to help in this way – but we'd be even happier if you'd remember to come back and collect them! At present we have about 20 reserved books taking up space in our very limited store room and some of them have been there for months. In future, please make sure you leave us your name and phone number so that we can notify you if something is waiting for you. Otherwise, we reserve the right to put back on general sale anything that has been awaiting collection for more than two weeks. We hope you'll understand.

ST MARY'S GIFT DAY

This year, the Diocese of Ely, of which we are part, celebrates its 900th anniversary and as the year progresses, there will be various celebrations of this event. The Diocese is very keen that it should be seen not only as a time to celebrate the achievements of the last 900 years, but also as a time to look forward and plan for the future. With that in mind, every parish has been asked to produce a Mission Action Plan and these plans were presented at a special service at Ely Cathedral in January, attended by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Here in Burwell, our plans include development of our youth work; responding to the needs of the community by supporting initiatives like Burwell Visiting Scheme; strengthening our overseas links and making progress on updating our church building. We are very aware that St Mary's belongs to everyone in the village and not just those who attend services every week, so we'll be seeking your views in the months to come on the details of our plans to improve the building.

Of course, all of these plans will require funds, in addition to what we need for the day-to-day expenses of running the church. We hope that many of you will support this year's Gift Day on 14th March. The Vicar and Church Wardens will be in church from 10.00am till 12.30pm to receive your gifts and refreshments will be available, so do come along if you can. Alternatively, you can take your gifts to the Vicarage, or leave them in CentrePeace.

On the evening of 14th March, we are delighted to welcome Ridley Hall Gospel choir to entertain us with a concert of gospel music. The concert starts at 7.00pm in St. Mary's and refreshments will be available in the interval.

Vacancy**BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COL-
LEGE**
CLEANING STAFF REQUIRED

**Hours of work available:
Term Time plus training days**
6am – 9.00am
(Mon – Fri)

£6.37 per hour
(April 2008)
Uniform & training provided

Please contact:
Mrs Claudine Bateman
On
01223 811250 Ext 275
For an application pack



“Bottisham Village College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment”

March

Mon 2		Clunch copy deadline	
Mon 2	10am	Burwell Baby & Toddler Group (every Mon & Wed)	GMH
Tue 3	10.30am	Story & Rhyme Time for under- fives (weekly term-time)	Library
Wed 4	2.45pm	Reflections: Audrey & Eric Jacobs	Bap
Thu 5		RECYCLING	
Thu 5	10am	Toddlers' Service	St Mary
Thu 5	7.30pm	Churches Together talks: debt counselling	Trin
Fri 6	10.30am	Women's World Day of Prayer	Bap
Sat 7	7.30pm	Let's Dance	BottVC
Wed 11	2.30pm	Trinity Women's Fellowship: Pat Chalmers	Trin
Thu 12	10am	MOPS	Bap
Thu 12	7.15pm	Burwell & District Flower Club: Kaleidoscope	BVC
Fri 13	2.45pm	Reflections: Mission Meeting	Bap
Sat 14	9.30am	Farmers' Market	BVC
Wed 18	7.30pm	History Society: Burwell War Memorial	BVC
Thu 19		RECYCLING	
Thu 19	7.30pm	Churches Together talks: homelessness	Trin
Thu 19		Blood Donation 1-3.30pm and 4.30-7pm	BCSC
Fri 20	7.30pm	Friends of Bottisham Village College Quiz Night	BottVC
Tue 24	10am	Pins & Needles	Bap
Wed 25	2.30pm	Trinity Women's Fellowship: Members' Bring & Buy	Trin
Thu 26	10am	MOPS	Bap
Thu 26		Blood Donation 1-3.30pm and 4.30-7pm	BCSC
Thu 26	7.30pm	Churches Together talks: Street Pastors	Trin
Sat 28	7.30pm	Let's Dance	BottVC

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
ommunity Sports Centre. SPVH - Swaffham Prior Village Hall

Happy Valentine's



Claudius the Roman Emperor was having trouble getting men to serve in his army so he passed a law which did not allow any more marriages. (Single men were more willing to go off to war.) Valentine, who was a minister who did not support the new law, was caught performing marriage ceremonies secretly. Jailed and sentenced to death, many young people came to visit Valentine. One was the daughter of the prison guard. On the day of his death, Valentine wrote a note to the daughter signed "Love from your Valentine". This was on 14th February, 269 A. D. Allegedly!

Valentines are people who
Are willing to be flowers,
Letting us enjoy their beauty
Even if for hours.



No Valentine hides from the sun,
Though sometimes lost in light.
If you love them, they just open,
Not unhappy to be woken
Even in the night.



I hate the way you talk to me,
and the way you cut your hair.
I hate the way you drive my car,
I hate it when you stare.
I hate your big dumb combat boots
and the way you read my mind.
I hate you so much it makes me sick,
it even makes me rhyme.
I hate the way you're always right,
I hate it when you lie.
I hate it when you make me laugh,
even worse when you make me cry.
I hate it when you're not around,
and the fact that you didn't call.
But mostly I hate the way I don't hate
you,
not even close
not even a little bit
not even at all.



Unwillingly Miranda wakes,
Feels the sun with terror,
One unwilling step she takes,
Shuddering to the mirror.



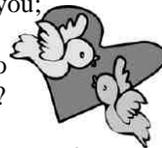
Miranda in Miranda's sight
Is old and gray and dirty;
Twenty-nine she was last night;
This morning she is thirty.

Shining like the morning star,
Like the twilight shining,
Haunted by a calendar,
Miranda is a-pining.



Silly girl, silver girl,
Draw the mirror toward you,
Time who makes the years to whirl
Adorned as he adored you.

Time is timelessness for you;
Calendars for the human;
What's a year, or thirty, to
Loveliness made woman?



Oh, Night will not see thirty again,
Yet soft her wing, Miranda;
Pick up your glass and tell me, then--
How old is Spring, Miranda?

Ogden Nash

As none of you are romantic enough to send in dedications, Ophir Catling gives Cupid a helping hand with poems for Valentine's

Hello, it's Valentine again
And to show you're not forgot;
Here is yet another one
To put with this year's lot.



In this year of crisis
One must try very hard
To keep a sense of reason
And so I send this card.



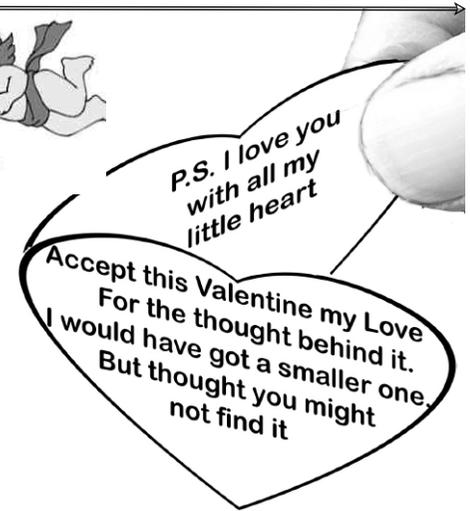
Whatever future hardship
2009, may see
It will be much more bearable
If you're a Valentine to me

Valentines both big and small
You've had in previous years
"Better than no Valentine at all"
You might say, through your tears

And that indeed, is food for thought,
And so I hope to please,
With this year's Valentine, My Love;
A heart made out of cheese.

Although it's hard to prove, my Love,
"The Woman always pays"
It's what they've always said, my Love,
Since the Good Old Olden Days.

But here's a welcome change, my Love,
For here is, as you see,
A cardboard symbol of my love,
A Valentine, FOR FREE!



P.S. I love you
with all my
little heart

Accept this Valentine my Love
For the thought behind it.
I would have got a smaller one,
But thought you might
not find it

Some people get elaborate cards
At this time of year;
They're costly and expensive too,
Not to mention, dear.

But although this Valentine, my Love
May seem to those, quite tame
You know it's a PLAIN POSTCARD,
yet,
The sentiment's the same:-



This year's crop of Valentines,
May be rather small
So I've tried to make quite sure
You didn't get none at all

The years when many was the rule
By now, perhaps have gone;
But, being older, one has learnt,
One mustn't sneeze at one.

Good News from a Church Pew

Dear Friends All,

We have finished celebrating Christmas, as you read though not as I write, but somehow this year the Cheerfulness of the Season of Goodwill has had a knock and gained a more sombre feel to it - not unlike, I remember, the first Christmas of the Second World War (but at least it WAS delightfully white that year.)

The media is showering us with bad and depressing news - but why can't we have a newspaper of Good News sometimes? Because there is always some good news if you look for it. But we have been having some interesting broadcasts over the last few days of 2008 and I thought it might be a good idea to set a New Year Quiz, guessing who said what. So here goes. The five speakers were:

- 1: The Queen
- 2: The Archbishop of York, John Sentamu
- 3: The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, Cormac Murphy O'Connor
- 4: The Iranian President Ahmadinejad
- 5: A weather forecaster

and, muddled up in a different order, they said :

A: We need to rediscover that spirit of togetherness that helped the British people during WW2 to stand together in the face of food rationing and the Blitz.

B: The ills in the world have come about through nations failing to follow teachings of Jesus. There must be a return to human values.

C: There are tantalising signs that the outlook will be brighter in 2009.

D: Over the years those who have seemed to me to be the most happy, contented and fulfilled have always been the people who have lived the most outgoing and unselfish lives; the kind of people who are generous with their talents or their time.

E: We need a society rooted in care and compassion.

Well, it doesn't really matter whether you got any right or none at all. What does matter is that we try this year, each one of us, to remember those words of Jesus Christ: Love God and your neighbour. The poet Ella Wheeler Wilcox wrote :

“ So many Gods, so many Creeds,
so many paths that wind and wind,
while just the act of being kind
is all this sad world needs.”

Do you believe it ? Try.
David Bush

Answers to the quiz are: 1.D, 2.A, 3.E, 4.B, 5.C

Cambridgeshire County Council Report, December 2008

Local representations were successful in the decision of the County Council to retain the evening and Sunday buses (10 and 10A) in this area of looking again at the numbers using the Sunday buses in t
now run as Stagecoach commercial services and are no lo
The last two buses of the day, although following the 10, numbered 12.



Cambridgeshire – the fastest growing county in the country - will receive an increase of 1.9% (£1.71 per person) in Government Grant next year compared to a county council average of 4.2%. As a result Cambridgeshire County Council will need to find savings of around £19 million. This compares with Essex receiving £3.47, Suffolk which will get £8.87 and Norfolk who benefit by £12.88 per person.

Cambridgeshire's below inflation increase will have to meet the cost of any increases in road maintenance, social care, respite care for children and libraries at a time of rising unemployment, when spending in the public sector is being expected to support the economy.

Adult Social Support Services provided by Cambridgeshire County Council and its partners have been given a two star rating by Government inspectors – up from the previous year's one star rating.

Home to School Transport charges are due to go up on September 1st. Parents and students will be advised of the eligibility criteria when making choices about post 16 transport. This is because Stagecoach have put up their charges by 10% so the current rate won't cover the Authority's costs for 2009/10.

The new Milton Road park and ride is located south of Butt Lane just off the A10. The new site provides customers with improved facilities including over 500 car parking spaces with room to expand to 1,000 at a later date. The Cowley road site is now closed. The buses will depart every 10 minutes on weekdays. For all route and timetable information for Milton Park & Ride call 01223 845561 or log onto www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/parkride.

A list of cycling improvements costing around £7.2 million will be delivered over three years in Cambridge and nearby surrounding villages, as Cambridgeshire successfully bid to become a national 'Cycling Demonstration Town'. £3.6 million will come from the government. As well as physical schemes, other things such as better cycle training and publicity will be included.

There has been a meeting at Ely to explain the importance of the Local Area Agreement. The LAA is a way for local authorities and partner agencies to work together to improve services in the area. The board is called CambridgeshireTogether.

The Cambridgeshire Compact is a countywide partnership agreement between statutory bodies such as councils and the voluntary and community sector. It is designed to improve relationships and provide a framework within which there is an understanding of what to expect from each other.

Organisations needing small grants will find information about a number of grant-giving bodies on www.cambscf.org.uk

Cllr Hazel Williams 01638 743897 C

Parish Council News

Christmas Display Competition – Christmas now seems a long way away but we hope you all had a good one. The number of entries for the festive display competition was a little disappointing but a big thank you to those who took the time to enter and indeed to those who put up displays and did not enter but helped to make the village a brighter more cheerful place over the festive season.

Tan House Lane Site – At the time of writing there is no further progress on the site. It is hoped that an informal meeting with the planning authority to gauge what they consider acceptable on the site will take place in the near future and new plans can be submitted and approved soon after this meeting to allow work to commence.

Anti-Social Behaviour – Reports of anti social behaviour (ASB) appear to have dropped over the past month or so. The police have been targeting ASB in the village over the past few months and it would appear that this along with the cold weather is having a positive result. The Youth Bus is now making regular visits to the village and seems to be a popular venue for the younger members of the parish. Council continue to work alongside all the other agencies to reduce ASB throughout the village.

Recreation Ground – The work to re-instate the pavilion following the damage caused by the burglary is now nearing completion and the football clubs are able to use the facilities once more.

Council Meetings – You might have noticed if you are an avid reader of the council minutes that with effect from December 2008 our full council and planning meetings have been amalgamated into one meeting. This will mean that only one set of minutes will be produced covering both general and planning issues in the future.

Cemetery – We are trying to address the problem of loose headstones at the Cemetery. If you are a visitor to the Cemetery and notice a label on the grave asking the person who tends the grave to contact the office please do so. This enables us to make a record of the next of kin so that should a problem occur with a headstone or grave we can make contact with a relative prior to taking any further action such as laying down a stone for safety reasons. If you see a label on a grave that you do not tend but have knowledge of a relative could you also let us know for the same reason. Unfortunately it is only in recent years that a record of the next of kin has been kept so in some cases it is very difficult to identify relatives in order to discuss their wishes.

C

Something for the Weekend...



WWW.BEBO.COM/BBCYOUTHGROUP

Saturdays from 7:00pm - 9:30pm

@ Burwell Baptist Church, North Street

Youth Group runs on a Saturday evening from 7:00pm to 9:30pm during school term-time only. It's open to all secondary school aged young people within Burwell! There is a £1 admission charge.

During each session there are a number of different activities which the young people can choose from e.g. craft, pool, table tennis, table football and large-screen Playstation 2. There is also a small tuck shop.

Past activities have included pancake making, ten pin bowling, Cambridge on Ice, fabric painting, a meal at Pizza Hut, sponsored walk and creating a short film.

At 8:30pm those in Year 7 and 8 leave; with the remaining young people there is an open discussion around a topical issue. Past discussions have included alternative Christmas messages, Fairtrade, remembrance, poverty and change.

Sunday 8th February from 6:30pm - 7:30pm

@ Burwell Baptist Church, North Street

New for 2009 - The Sunday Night Project!

No Alan Carr. No Justin Lee Collins. It's a church service for young people, but not only that, it's one where young people are encouraged to get involved!

We're not pretending to have all the answers - we're just up for trying to find them!



For more information about either of these events please contact Nathan on 742944 or at nathan@burwellbaptistchurch.org.uk C

Bring Wildlife to

Did you know that legislation last year means you now need planning permission to tarmac your front garden?

There is increasing pressure on front gardens with more than one in five front gardens in the UK now mostly paved over.

Front gardens are important for several reasons but the main factor behind the new legislation relates to surface run-off and flooding. Gardens soak up rain, but hard surfaces cause the water to flow into street drains, which can't always cope with the excess, leading to flooding and pollution of watercourses.

Home owners must apply for planning permission if they want to pave front garden areas over 5 sq m with impermeable materials such as asphalt and concrete – but will be exempt if using porous products (see below).

According to the RSPB, the house sparrow population in Britain has fallen by 68% in the past three decades. Sparrows need lots of insects in summer to feed their young and it is thought that that paving of front gardens has reduced the numbers of insects that the birds need. In urban areas, bird declines have been most dramatic.

If parking space is required, suggestions are:

Only pave as much as you need (this will also save money).

Use porous materials such as gravel, permeable paving blocks, or grass reinforcing structures (the RHS produce a leaflet with further details).

Make the most of 'dead' areas such as edges and corners for planting hedging and small trees.

If your garden is already paved, consider removing a section for a small tree, or growing nectar rich plants and shrubs in containers.

Surveys show that an attractive front garden can add value to your home. Leafy streets attract buyers - if lots of homeowners along a single street pave over their gardens, then the average house price drops. Stone and tarmac change the microclimate of the street making it dry, dusty and windy.

Burwell History Society

Our November meeting gave one of Burwell's local historians the chance to share some of his research, as David Occomore gave us *Extracts from newspapers*. How did a mail coach set off with 4 passengers but arrive at its next stop, Newmarket, with 5? Did you know that a World War I rehearsal was held in East Anglia? Who drowned in a 500 gallon butt of beer? All these, and more, were revealed at this fascinating meeting. David added details from his research into social conditions, the history of buildings, weather conditions and so on.

In December we had our Christmas party. There were games, a quiz, food and drink. The quiz was based mainly on local subjects, with the odd curve ball included - who is best known for the numbers 7 and 23? ^a

Using a book called *Forgotten English* by Jeffrey Kacirk, the committee put together a game of *Call My Bluff*, challenging the rest of the gathering to find the real meanings of such words as 'pilgarlic' ^b, 'curtain-lecture' ^c, 'elf-locks' ^d and 'piepowder' ^e. A lot of thought went in to the made-up definitions - most of which seemed to be more believable than the correct ones!

Thank you to everyone who contributed something for the evening.

All meetings are at **Burwell Village College** and start at **7.30pm**. Guests are welcome

^a David Beckham ^b a C16th word for a bald head ^c a wife's nagging talk, delivered to her husband once the curtains have been drawn around the bed ^d hair knotted at night by mischievous fairies ^e an itinerant traveller, from the French *piéd poudre* - dusty foot

C

District Nursing in Burwell

Michelle Bullivant's course of Local History has given me the impetus to have a go at writing the history of District Nursing in Burwell in the twentieth century.

Do you have any memories, written history or information of past district nurses/midwives of Burwell? If so, would you be prepared to share them with me?

Please contact me at **37 Toyse Lane** or telephone **742953**. Your help would be much appreciated.

Pauline Rogers

C

Paul Hawes

Paul Hawes was born in Burwell and, apart from a short spell in the army, has lived here all his life. He grew up in the North Street area and can remember a traffic free village, where everyone knew each other, and families stayed here for generations.

The Hawes family first came to Burwell in the 18th century and, after leaving school, Paul followed his father, grandfather and great grandfather to work in the Burwell brick factory. This huge factory was situated down Factory Road on the edge of Burwell and its two tall chimneys were a local landmark for many years. In its heyday, the factory was producing *ten million* bricks a year from clay found locally. The white bricks that it produced are to be seen in many of the Victorian houses in the village and were in demand from Liverpool to London. Sixty people were employed at the factory at that time and Paul was soon learning many of the different jobs that were needed to produce bricks, including digging the clay out of the pit, setting the bricks, operating the press and loading and firing the drying kilns.

Sadly, however, building methods moved and the demand for bricks decreased. When the brickworks closed in 1970, it might have been the end of an industry that dominated Burwell for more than one hundred years. However, a few years later, the Ely Preservation Society led by Mr John Hardiment from Burwell, decided to investigate the possibility of producing hand made local building materials. The bricks and tiles were needed for buildings in conservation areas, because it was not possible to buy suitable items anywhere else. Mr Hardiment gathered together a group of people with relevant knowledge, including Paul Hawes and, with help from East Cambs District Council, investigated the possibility of setting up a small brickworks close to the old Burwell clay pits. It took a while to raise funds and secure the necessary buildings and equipment, but eventually in 1993, Cambridgeshire Tile and Brick Company was born, with Paul Hawes in charge of the technical processes. He found he was on a steep learning curve because his long experience in the automated factory was not quite applicable to this smaller cottage industry. However, he persevered and soon perfected a range of products.

Cambridgeshire Tile and Brick now makes about 500,000 items a year, from local clay in the traditional way. The bricks and tiles are hand moulded in wooden moulds and allowed to air dry before being fired in the kiln. The resulting products have unique variations in colour, which blend beautifully into older buildings and conservation areas. Although Paul officially retired a few years ago, he still visits the factory most days to make sure that all is well.

To be continued.....

For more information about Cambridgeshire Tile and Brick Company, see www.cambstileandbrick.co.uk or call 01638 743953

Breakfast! Why not make a meal of it?

Breakfast in most houses is usually a rushed affair as everybody as tries to leave the house on time, but at a weekend, when you have time why not make it into a real meal? Whether you planning a lazy day, setting yourself up for a long walk with the dog or have something to celebrate, making a sumptuous breakfast for a loved one on their birthday, anniversary or Valentine's day can be a real treat.

It doesn't need to be unhealthy either if you grill your sausage, bacon, mushrooms and tomatoes with poached or scrambled egg there wouldn't be as many calories as a fry up. To make more of a brunch I like make Rosti, the traditional Swiss version of Hash Brown.

Rosti

2 medium potatoes

½ an onion finely chopped

Seasoning

Peel then grate the potatoes onto a clean tea towel. Gather up and wring out to remove excess water.

Place the grated potato into a bowl, add the onion, season and mix well.

Heat up a 30 cm [12"] frying pan with a couple of tablespoons of oil.

When hot, tip in the potat and spread over the bottom of the pan, patting down well.

Reduce the heat and cook for about 10 minutes; the potato should become opaque as it cooks.

When golden brown on the bottom, slip onto a plate, add a little more oil to the pan and return the Rosti, uncooked side down, and cook for a further 10 minutes.

When done slide onto a chopping board and cut into wedges

If you fancy something sweet and more decadent try this variation on an old classic:

Sweet French Toast (per person)

1 beaten egg with a pinch of cinnamon and drop of vanilla

2 slices of brioche

Soak the slices of bread in the egg and gently fry in butter until golden, drain and dust with icing sugar.

Served with some poached fruit and yoghurt (you can also have this as a dessert with ice cream).

And don't forget to round it of with some freshly brewed tea or coffee and perhaps a glass of fruit juice to ease the guilt.

BURWELL COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE

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 football group on a Friday evening from 8.30pm - 9.30pm. Don't be shy everyone is very welcome to come along for a game. Don't forget that the bar will be open afterwards. The bar has a licence till 1 am 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 12 am.

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.

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.

We will be holding are fun Active8 multi sport days during the February half-term, Look out for posters and flyers of to book a place or find out more get in contact or pop into the sports centre. Prices are per day and are £8 for members or £12 for non-members.

New members are always welcome and with fantastic discounts on membership that runs until the end of March the time has never been better to join. 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.

Contact:

742125

bcsc@bcsc.wanadoo.co.uk

Buntings Path, Burwell, Cambs, CB25 0DD

your Front Garden

Suggested plants to try:

Pyracantha (brightly coloured berries for birds to eat in winter)

Hawthorn (perfect for insects and therefore house sparrows)

Climbers such as Honeysuckle, and Ivy.

Salix caprea 'Kilmarnock' (dwarf willow) – the dense branches in the crown are ideal for robins to nest.

Salvia x superba (ornamental sage) – attracts bees.

Some low growing plants such as *Ajuga* and thymes will tolerate being parked over and can be planted in pockets in the paving or gravel.



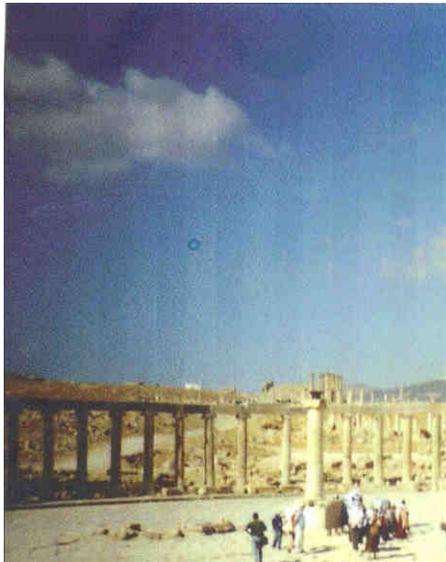
I first went to Jordan about either years ago, having always wanted to see 'The Rose City of Petra'.

This was my first visit to the Middle East and I had arrived in the capital, Amman, at night, so I was not prepared for the view from the hotel window next morning. All the buildings, roofs and roads in the same limestone colour, with no greenery at all.

Our first trip out was to Ar-Rabad Castle at Ajlun. On the road heading out of Amman we passed a place where Turkish refugees had settled, a right old shanty town, so run down and dirty, but fascinating. Workshops and garages lined the road with old cars, lorries and miscellaneous ironwork and, quite out of place, flower nurseries. After about two hours we rounded a corner and from the coach we could see a castle across a valley, never thinking that was where we were heading. Ar-Rabad Castle was built on top of Mount 'Auf in about 1185, so it is quite old! Whilst there we heard our first calling to prayer and it was so eerie resounding across the vast valley, and if you closed your eyes you could have been back in biblical times.

Next came Jerash, I suppose everyone know of this place. It is a wonderful example of a Roman provincial city dating back to 333 BC, and is well preserved with a huge hippodrome once seating up to 15,000 spectators. There are gates, arches, temples, baths and everything that goes with an old Roman city.

Amman itself has a citadel with large stone pillars and we were there as the Sun was setting - very good for getting silhouette photos of the pillars. Also housed in the small museum were some of the Dead Sea scrolls. Our next visit was the Dead Sea and we went on a wonderful road passing through mountains, villages and Baptistial sites; yes, John the Baptist was here. Then we got to the lowest point on Earth, the Dead Sea.



I was expecting mud, but the sea is a lovely deep blue with a pebbly beach. The water is so salty it is impossible to swim, you just float and it is so weird. I did not believe I would float, but I did. On the way back to Amman we passed wonderful houses and embassies. After an hour or so we were at what our guide 'Travelodges of the day', old stone houses for overnight stays, one of which was used for a meeting between Lawrence of Arabia and King Faisal. I wonder why?

Ina Hayes
C

Burwell Bus Timetables

The good news is that the views of local people were taken into account and the evening and Sunday bus services were saved. The bad news is that they are still under review. If we want to keep them we need to use them. Here is a **simplified** timetable to help you. A dayrider+ allows you to travel anywhere on the buses all day and cost £5.

Monday to Saturday

Newmarket	0652	0722		1752	1852	-
Manchetts	0716	0746	Then	1816	1916	-
Toyse Lane	0718	0748	every 30	1818	1918	2143
The Causeway	0721	0751	mins until	1821	1921	2146
Cambridge	0805	0835		1905	2005	2230

Cambridge	0730	0800		1830	1900	2100	2300
Manchetts	0808	0838	Then	1908	1938	2138	2338
Toyse Lane	0810	0840	every 30	1910	1940	2140	2340
The Causeway	0813	0843	mins until	1913	-	-	2343
Newmarket	0838	0908		1938	-	-	-

Sundays

Manchetts	0858	1058	1258	1558
Toyse Lane	0900	1100	1300	1600
The Causeway	0903	1103	1303	1603
Cambridge	0939	1139	1339	1639

Cambridge	1025	1225	1525	1755
Manchetts	1058	1258	1558	1828
Toyse Lane	1100	1300	1600	1800
The Causeway	1103	1303	1603	1833



While we have taken care to reproduce this timetable accurately please check with Stagecoach before travelling if timings are critical. Some other journeys exist Mon - Fri.