

Village Voices

July 2009



Village Voices is produced by the parish churches for the local community providing news and information for:
Guyhirn • Gorefield • Murrow • Parson Drove • Rings End • Tholomas Drove • Thorney Toll • Wisbech St Mary

A warm welcome to all newcomers & visitors to our villages!

Vicar's Verbals'

It is one of the great pleasures of my job that I get the chance to meet lots of our youngsters from the schools and to introduce them to something of the workings of our churches. Whilst it is perhaps regrettable that children do not have the instant familiarity with places of worship as those shared by previous generations, this does allow for a real sense of curiosity and a certain wonderful naivety. When I asked a very young pupil what she thought was the function of the pulpit, she replied that it was 'where the Vicar hid from the other people in church'. We laughed, but children are always wiser than we will give them credit. Plainly it is my job to preach, but the 'churchy' business of ministry can drain away my time and sometimes prevents me from being a visible presence in the parishes. Jesus commissions all Christians to be diligent in worship but more importantly active in service to others. By the time this edition is on your front door mat I hope to be back from a short holiday and once again on my bicycle (which has been in the garage since my little operation in April). There will be no hiding then!

Matthew.

Revd M L Bradbury BA, The Vicarage,
Church Road, Wisbech St Mary, PE13.

CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION IN WISBECH ST MARY

Thank you to all who collected, and to all who gave. The total from the house to house collection in Wisbech St Mary was £303.81. Many thanks! Caroline Dobson.

....AND THE RAIN CAME!

Much needed rain for the farms arrived at lunchtime on Sunday June 7th just before the Three Churches' Garden Party opened. Sadly the adverse weather affected the attendance at the Party in Elgood's Brewery Gardens, but those present enjoyed the music of the Clarkson Singers, and were able to see the gardens when the rain stopped. Although not a financial success, it was nice to informally meet friends from our neighbouring parishes.

NORTH NENE JOINT EUCARIST

The churches of the North Nene Group will join together for a Eucharist service at 10.30am on Sunday July 12th in St Paul's Church, Gorefield. The parishes involved are Southea and Parson Drove, Gorefield, Wisbech St Mary and Guyhirn, Leverington, Newton-in-the-Isle and Tydd St Giles. Visitors and parishioners from all parishes are invited to attend. The service is followed by a Bring and Share BBQ meal.

MOTHERS' UNION

At our meeting on Tuesday June 2nd we heard about the Retreat to Launde Abbey that had taken place on May 27th to 29th. Our next meeting is on Tuesday July 7th at 2.15pm in the Church House, WSM. Everyone is most welcome at our meetings. There will be no meeting in August. Love to you all, Lillian Brigden.

CANON FRANCIS WOOLLEY TO RETIRE

His many friends in our parishes will be interested to hear that the Rev Canon Francis Woolley is to retire from the benefices of Balsham, Weston Colville, West Wickham and West Wrattling. He has ministered in the Ely Diocese since 1986, having served at the Church of the Ascension in Cambridge, Leverington, Wisbech St Mary and Parson Drove. He celebrates 30 years in the priesthood on June 28th. His last services in his parishes will be on Sunday July 12th 2009.

Whilst he was working in our parishes, everyone benefited from his kindness, compassion and his sense of fun fuelled by his lifelong interest in the theatre. We wish him a long and fruitful retirement.

SERVICES AT GUYHIRN CHAPEL OF EASE

The little Puritan chapel came to life again in May when the traditional Ascension Day service was held.

The annual Thanksgiving Service commemorating the restoration of the chapel in the mid 1970s is to be held on **Saturday July 18th at 2.30pm**, followed by tea in the school.

Come and join us and experience the unique atmosphere of worship in such an historic setting.

Copy deadline: 15th of each month.

Please e-mail articles to
or on paper to

paynewsm@btinternet.com

Anne Wallis in Guyhirn (450466)

Elaine Harvey in Gorefield (870558)

David Pearce in PD (700454)

Brian Payne in WSM (410755)

Advertising

Enquiries please email ads.villagevoices@btinternet.com
or phone Terry Brigden 450481

+ Regular Services +

St Mark's Methodist Church, Parson Drove

July 5th: 10.30am. Mr G Beeken
 July 12th: 9.30 United service, Parish church
 July 19th: 10.30. Holy Comm. Rev N Hannah.
 July 26th: 10.30. United service, Mrs J Killingback.

Murrow Methodist Church

July 5th: 10.30. Chapel Anniversary, Mrs E Bennett.
 July 12th: 10.30. Circuit United Service, Trinity, March.
 July 19th: 10.30. Local arrangements.
 July 26th: 10.30. Holy Comm, Rev D Nash.

Methodist Special Service: 31st July "Shalom". Venue to be advised.

Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church:

11am. SUNG EUCHARIST Every Sunday exc 1st.
 8am Communion, 11am Family Service: 1st Sunday.
 Evening Prayer: 6.00pm 3rd Sunday.
 Other services as announced.

Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove:

9.30am Family service 1st Sunday in month.
 9.30am Holy Communion 2nd & 3rd Sundays
 9.30am Holy Communion or Morning Prayer, 5th Sun.
 United Service at St Mark's 4th Sunday 10.30am.
 Flower Rota: July 5th, 12th & 19th Mrs B Brown.

St Paul's Church, Gorefield:

10.00am: Holy Communion except 3rd Sunday.
 8.00am: Holy Communion 3rd Sunday.

GOREFIELD LADIES' GROUP HEAR ABOUT TV ROBOTS

Glenys Grimm welcomed members to the May meeting. In the absence of the scheduled speaker, Gordon Grimm attended at short notice and gave a talk on his involvement in Team Iron Awe. He and his son have been competing with robots since 2000, and have appeared on the TV show "Robot Wars". His team are currently UK champions, and also Robots Live & Robot Wars champions. Thanks were extended to Mr Grimm. The proceeds of the evening were donated to the Donkey Sanctuary.

The next meeting is on Wednesday June 24th, when Brian Payne will give a talk entitled "Prison or Workhouse"

On July 22nd the Group will enjoy an escorted visit to florist Tim Meakin's NGS garden at Outwell. Members must arrive at 7pm. Refreshments will be available at £2, which is donated to a charity.

Details on 870276.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP PLAN AHEAD

At the June meeting of the WSM Women's Fellowship we planned our entertainment for the new season - and I look forward to seeing the swans at Welney as well as hearing many new speakers.

July's meeting is our coach trip to Moulton Mill. We have a few tickets available if anyone would like to join us. We leave from school at 5:30pm on Thursday July 9th 2009. Tickets cost £10 and include entrance fee, coach trip and light refreshment.

Tickets are available from Mary McClagish on 410521 until Friday 3rd July.
 Liz Hunt.

THANK YOU!

Casey and Barbara would like to say "Thank you" for all your support for the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon show last month. Proceeds amounted to £170 which will go towards the Over 60's Christmas Party.

COUNTRY + GOSPEL

A country +gospel evening is to be held at St Mark's, Parson Drove, on **Sunday July 26th** at 6.30pm.

Tickets £7, inclusive of refreshments, are available from Chris Coates 700307 or Roma Andrew 870602.

IN OUR THOUGHTS

We welcome into the Church's family

Rhys Parrin who was baptised in WSM and Guyhirn church on Sunday June 7th.

We wish every happiness to Amanda Warren and Andrew Wren who were married in St John's Church, Parson Drove on Saturday

We send our love to all the families

We say goodbye to

Frederick Skells of Gorefield whose funeral service and burial was at St Paul's on Thursday May 21st.

Rita Bunn, of Guyhirn, whose funeral service was at WSM & Guyhirn church, followed by burial at Guyhirn, on Friday May 22nd.

Dr Ian Andrew, of Gorefield, whose funeral service at St Paul's was followed by cremation at Mintlyn, on Friday May 22nd.

William Gedney, of Murrow, whose funeral service was at Peterborough Crematorium on Wednesday May 27th

Justin Mann, of WSM, whose funeral service was at Mintlyn on Friday May 29th.

Patricia Anne Bolton, of Murrow, whose funeral service was at Mintlyn on Thursday June 4th.

Florence Abbott, formerly of WSM, whose funeral service in WSM & Guyhirn church on June 5th was followed by cremation at Mintlyn.

George Haylock, of Parson Drove, whose funeral service was at Mintlyn on Monday June 15th.

THE WI AND THE SAINT OF ST MARY'S

Parson Drove Womens Institute meet in St Mark's on the second Tuesday of each month. On June 9th Brian Payne spoke to us about the "Saint of St Mary's". It was a very good talk about Canon Mowbray Smith, a very popular vicar at WSM, and his Great War experiences, restoration of the church and various forward-thinking projects in the village.

On July 14th there will be a flower arranging demonstration by John Richmond. There will be a £3 charge for visitors.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF RURAL WISBECH WEST CHILDREN'S CENTRE IN MURROW

On Wednesday May 27th the Children's Centre in Murrow was officially opened. It is located behind Murrow County Primary School in the log cabin building which is shared with the Pre-school.

The day was a roaring success with around 50 children involved in activities including a teddy bears' picnic and the planting of mini gardens. The Chairman of the County Council Mr Tony Orgee officially opened the centre and cut the celebration cake. Representatives from the District Council and County Council Chief Executive Mark Lloyd also attended.

SureStart Children's Centres provide services for children under 5 and their families, and offer family support, early learning, health services and advice and help on common parenting issues. All sessions are free.

We run sessions at village halls in the area as well as the Children's Centre. Currently we have baby yoga and baby massage at the centre on Wednesdays from 9.45am, the last session being July 1st. Our 'Stay N Play' sessions are proving popular; these run at the centre and surrounding villages. We are currently working on a timetable of summer holiday activities. For times and locations please call Anne-Marie on 07795091791 or Hilary on 07824302441.

SUPPORTING MURROW SCHOOL

A number of events are planned in support of Murrow Primary School.

On Saturday June 27th there is a Car Boot Sale at the school. Sellers from 10am, buyers from 11am. Refreshments and toilet facilities available.

A Prize Bingo evening will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday July 16th. Doors open 6.30pm, eyes down at 7.30pm.

Sunday July 12th is the date of the Summer Fair, 11am to 3pm.

A great family day out with a selection of stalls, plus various displays in the arena. The attractions include BBQ, Bar, Bouncy Castle, 'Beat the Goalie', Tug of War, Teddy Tombola and a Welly Wanging Competition.

If you would like to run your own stall please contact Nichola on 07533 772417 or Donna 07917 765881.

Advance Notice

THORNEY TOLL'S WEEKEND IN BLACKPOOL

Thorney Toll's annual weekend in Blackpool is from Friday October 16th am to Sunday October 18th pm. Cost, including the illuminations, £90 per person. To book contact Sue 07765020615 or John 07887754869 now.

WSM MART GOES 'EN FETE'

The popular Mart at WSM will be included in the Church Garden Fete on Saturday afternoon July 11th. so there will be no Mart on that morning. The usual cake stall will be in business together with the refreshing cups of tea or coffee.

PARSON DROVE WI COFFEE MORNING

The Coffee Morning is to be held in St Mark's Methodist Church on Saturday July 18th from 10am to 12noon. There will be stalls, refreshments and a raffle.

THE CHAPEL OF EASE, GUYHIRN

Long looked for though it was,
And specially designed to meet their needs,
It was just the wrong time to build it.
Up in London their betters were restoring
The King to his throne and the Bishops to their
palaces.
Ely would soon send word
Their congregation was proscribed, their Minister
banned.
Kneeling at rails before an altar
was not idolatry but proper respect
For God's Holy Word interpreted by those
Duly anointed to be set above them.
Not for them to interpret scripture for themselves
Or presume to make a covenant with God
different from what the law required.
So they locked the door and went away,
To meet in secret somewhere else
Till independence came again.

Harry Jones

SUMMER FAYRE AT THE BEDFORD HALL

A Summer Fayre for all ages is to be held by the Thorney Society at the Bedford Hall, Thorney, on Sunday July 12th from 10.30am to 5pm. Ploughman's Lunch (pre-book) and refreshments. Visitors will see a lot of stalls and people in costume. There is entertainment from lunchtime in the main Hall. Details from 01733 270908.

IMPORTANT CHANGE IN MANAGEMENT OF GUYHIRN PRE-SCHOOL

It has been announced that Guyhirn Church of England Primary School will be taking over the management of the Pre-School from September 2009.

The headteacher, Mrs Justine Sands, said, "The Governors and whole school community look forward to working with our pre-school children and parents, and moving the pre-school forward at this exciting time" Anyone requiring further details should contact Mrs Sands on 450247.

HOG ROAST AND LIVE BAND AT CAR AND BIKE SHOW

Parson Drove's annual Custom and Classic Car and Bike Show is to be held on Sunday July 26th from 10am to 5pm. The attractions on the Playing Field will include a Hog Roast, live music from the "Houndogs", stands, stalls and games, Sumo wrestling, Egg throwing, and a Clay Pigeon Shoot.

The World Pillowfight Championship will be a highlight of the day.

The event is in aid of East Anglia Air Ambulance and local charities. Details from Roger Reader on 700501.

WISBECH ST MARY'S ANNUAL GARDEN FETE

The Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Church Garden Fete will be held on Saturday July 11th at 1.30pm. The very popular Dog Show is to take place during the afternoon. (see separate details).

The organisers would be grateful for donations of bottles, cakes, grocery or vegetables, and would like to hear from anyone who would be able to spare some time helping on the stalls, etc.

An added attraction this year will be a display of children's comics from the 1890s to the 1950s.

Further details from David Wheeler 410692, or Terry Brigden 450481.

NOVELTY DOG SHOW AT W S M

A very popular part of the annual Garden Fete in the grounds of Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church is the Novelty Dog Show. This year's Fete, on Saturday July 11th, is no exception. The Dog Show will start at 2.15pm with eight classes, including Best Puppy, Waggiest Tail, Beautiful Bitch, Handsome Dog, Best Junior Handler, etc. Rosettes and prizes will be awarded. Entrance is only £1 per Class.

JULIA CARTER and DIANE RAY, DOING IT THE CHINESE WAY!

You may have seen me out and around Parson Drove and surrounding villages training for my Great Wall trek. In September I am taking part in a charity walk on the Great Wall of China, raising money for Special Olympics G.B.

It is an organisation that provides all year round sports and athletic competitions for more than 8000 children and adults with learning disabilities (not to be confused with Paralympics which is elite sports for persons with physical or sensory disabilities) through 135 volunteer led accredited local clubs. It is funded by individual and corporate donations and as yet receives no government funding.

The impact that Special Olympics has on athletes with learning disabilities enables them to develop physical fitness, motor skills, greater self confidence and a more positive self image.

Special Olympics is the third member of the Olympic family and is the only sporting organisation that is authorised to use 'Olympic' in its title.

I have been training with Julia Carter who is also trekking the Great Wall and raising money for the Foundation for Conductive Education.

People have supported us generously in raising money through bingo, cake sales, face painting sponsored events and donations but we still need to continue fund raising to meet our target.

Thank you for your generous support.

Diane Ray.

WISBECH ST MARY VILLAGE & COUNTRY FAYRE

Sunday June 28th is the date of this year's Village and Country Fayre at Wisbech St Mary's sports field. Following on from last year's successful event, even more activities, amusements and interests are planned.

Among the attractions there will be Craft Stalls, Trade Stands, Vintage /Classic Vehicles and Equipment, Fire Engines, Reptiles and Animals, Falconry, Dog Handling Display, Live Music, Model Aircraft Display, Laser Clay Pigeons, Aerobatic Displays, 'Ted Devils!' Johnny Dee, Dog Show, Children's Activities and Amusements. Dog Agility, Food Stalls, Licensed Bar.

Exhibitions include Vintage & Classic vehicles, farm machinery, country crafts.

There will be a large car boot.

A fun-packed day is promised.

Admission is just £2 and £1 for children.

WISBECH GUIDED WALKS 2009

The very popular evening walks around Wisbech will continue throughout July. All walks take place on Wednesday evenings under the guidance of local historians, and are open to everyone.

The details of forthcoming walks are: July 1st Norfolk Street; July 8th Peckover House & Garden; July 15th Richard Young, Wisbech ship-builder; July 22nd Angles Theatre; July 29th "Down among the Dead Men", a walk through the Borough Cemetery led by Brian Payne.

The walks last approximately 1½ hours and cost £2 adults. More details from TIC on 583263

Forthcoming events:

Sunday 5th July 10am - 1pm: Car boot sale at Thomas Clarkson Community College, Wisbech.

Sunday 19th July: Sponsored walk from Spalding to Peterborough.

Thursday 23rd July: Bingo, Parson Drove Village Hall.

Friday 24th July: Golf competition at Thorney Golf Club. To book a tee time call 01733 270570.

Sunday 26th July: Face painting at Vintage Car Rally Parson Drove

Prize draw tickets (£1 each) for Official Match ball signed by recently promoted Peterborough United.

To donate on-line visit www.justgiving.com and enter either of our names.

For further information, or if you would like to take part in any event please contact 701524 or e-mail

diane.ray07@googlemail.com

See www.specialolympics.org

JULIE'S PATCH

Pc Julie Coales, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, writes

Now that summer is here, we are spending more time outside, or in the garden. Here are just a few reminders while you are enjoying the weather to keep you and your property safe.

If you leave your car, make sure the windows are closed and your valuables are out of sight (if you cannot take them with you).

Think where you keep your car keys. Some thieves fish for keys through the letter box.

If you are out in the garden, make sure any unsighted doors and windows are locked. While you are occupied, you don't know who is round the corner.

Keep your garage door closed or locked while you are round the back mowing the lawns.

Take care with your wallets, purses and handbags. If we are out for the day or on holiday, we all tend to have a little bit of extra cash with us.

If you need to contact me, I can be reached on 084545645643799, or e-mail me at julie.coales@cambs.pnn.police.uk

THOLOMAS DROVE FUN DAY

Tholomas Drove is holding its annual Fete and Family Fun Day on Saturday August 1st from 2pm to 5pm. Attractions include BBQ, Air Rifle Range, Plant Sale, various stalls and children's games. There will also be the opportunity to soak your neighbour (and the committee members?) in the Stocks.

All proceeds will help to raise money for recreation facilities on George's Field where the event takes place.

SCARECROWS IN GOREFIELD

Gorefield will be holding its second annual Scarecrow Competition in August with the theme "Occupations". The organisers are hoping to build on the success of last year when 35 wonderful exhibits were displayed around the village and parish. Judging will take place during the week of 22nd to 29th August, and the results and presentation of trophies will be at the annual Show which is to be held on September 5th.

Details: Marie 410436 or David 870059.

JOHN BEND UNITED CHARITIES

Grants are available for children leaving primary school for secondary school in September this year. Anyone in Parson Drove parish is eligible. Grants are also available for college or university students. For either grant please apply, before July 18th, to the Clerk. Mrs T Jarvis, 5 Swan Bridge Farm, Fen Road, Parson Drove, PE13 4JP. 01945 700697.

HAVE A GO AT THE GUYHIRN SUMMER QUIZ

"What type of drink is Bristol Cream?" "What would you do with a yashmak?" These are two questions included in the Summer Quiz Sheet produced by the Guyhirn Village Hall committee to raise much-needed funds for repairs to the hall. There are cash prizes for the winners.

Quiz sheets are available price £1 from committee members or from Chairman Terry Jennings, Holly Farm, High Road, Guyhirn.

Guyhirn is fortunate in having an excellent village hall, and it is hoped that the local community will rally round to help secure its future.

PARSON DROVE VILLAGE PLAYERS' NEW PRODUCTION

This year the Adults took their play called "Songbird" to the Hunstanton Festival on Saturday June 20th. It is a very amusing little play, and so we will perform it again in the Methodist Chapel, on Sunday July 12th at 4pm. Please come and enjoy the show, and then indulge yourselves afterwards.

Tickets for the Strawberry Tea are £5. They may be obtained from G Frost 870213, Mrs A Watson 450381, or Mrs J Skinner 700565.

MURROW SUNSHINE CLUB

Since our last report the Club has not had a general meeting. On May 20th we celebrated our 50th anniversary with a party with entertainment by Sam's Sounds, and excellent catering by Jenny Edwards and her helpers.

On June 3rd we went on our first summer outing to Walpole St Peter Flower Festival, then on to Hunstanton for the rest of an enjoyable day. Normal Club meetings have now resumed.

D Ralf, Hon Secretary.

GARDENS OPEN IN WISBECH ST MARY

Wisbech St Mary's Garden Open Day 2009 is on Sunday June 28th from 10am to 5pm in aid of MAGPAS.

Tickets £3 and programmes available from Popeley's Stores, WSM, or at all gardens open on the day. There will be a large wooden orange flower outside the gardens taking part.

LEADING JAZZ CLARINETIST TO PLAY AT WSM

Well-known clarinettist John Crocker will be performing in one of the gardens which will be open during WSM Open Gardens Day. Crocker, born in Nottingham, was the leading clarinet and sax player for the Chris Barber jazz band for just over 30 years, retiring in February 2003, when the band permanently increased to 8 musicians. Since 'retiring' Crocker has guested with several bands including Kenny Ball and a Ken Colyer tribute band.

