

Village Voices

April 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

Every time I come in and out of my front door I look at the tops of the hyacinth bulbs which I rather belatedly shoved into the planters next to the door step. They were some rather expensive bulbs a close friend kindly gave us when we moved to the Vicarage, but they were left far too long in a mouldy paper bag in the shed, and I really despaired that they would flower. When, after the Crucifixion the one or two disciples who hadn't run away hurriedly buried Jesus, they thought that the wonderful gift which God had given them had been ruined, and that there was no hope of the Kingdom of God which Jesus had promised them. They were wrong, and so was I. The leaves on the tops of the bulbs are slowly opening and revealing their tightly furled treasure. Easter is about the fact that God allowed his love for us to blossom and bear fruit even though we had tried to cut down the True Vine, Jesus Christ. May I wish you a blessed and joyful Easter and if you are not a regular churchgoer, may I encourage you to join the worshipping communities at the Easter Services.

Revd Matthew Bradbury BA, The Vicarage, Church Road, Wisbech Saint Mary, PE13 4RN. Tel: 01945 410814

Matthew.

+ Easter Services 2009 +

If you are a newcomer to the villages, or someone who attends church infrequently, or if you are 'just looking', please make this Easter the time when you come to church and join the worshipping communities for fellowship and spiritual nourishment. In Wisbech St Mary we are particularly keen to revive and renew the tradition of a Walk of Witness on Good Friday and we hope that all those who love the Lord will join us in this dignified public demonstration of our faith.

This year we are celebrating an evening Holy Communion on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, starting at 7.30pm on each occasion: Monday at Emmanuel Southea, Tuesday at Wisbech St Mary, and Wednesday at St Paul Gorefield. There will be a short themed address at each Church on the subject of *Sacrifice*. On Maundy Thursday in Wisbech St Mary Church there will be an *Agape* (fellowship meal) at 6.45pm, followed by Holy Communion at 8pm and then The Watch until midnight (Compline at 11.45pm).

On Good Friday, there will be a Children's Activity Morning from 10am-12noon in Wisbech St Mary Church, and the Walk of Witness, starting at Church House at 1pm. This will be followed by a Quiet Meditation on the Passion in the Church between 2.15 and 3pm. A similar Meditation will be offered at St Paul's Gorefield between 9am and 9.45am, and at Emmanuel, Southea, between 2.15 and 3pm.

There will be a North Nene joint service for Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil and the Easter Fire) at 8pm at Tydd St Giles.

Easter Day services in these parishes will start with an 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at Wisbech St Mary, and then Communion services at Emmanuel Southea at 9.30am, St Paul Gorefield at 10am, and Wisbech St Mary at 11am (Sung Eucharist).

For more information about the Easter Services please contact the Vicar or Churchwardens.

GUYHIRN CHAPEL OF EASE

The first service of the 2009 season to be held in Guyhirn's historic Chapel of Ease, will be **Morning Service on Sunday April 26th at 9.30am**. All residents of whatever faith are invited to share the unique atmosphere of the Chapel when in use.

The Chapel has received several visitors during the autumn and winter, including Robert Wickham, a distinguished Chartered Surveyor who has his office in Westminster. Mr Wickham attends and preaches in the City Temple in London's Holborn

City Temple, is an historic Free Church in the City of London, and, like our Chapel, has its roots in the Protestant Reformation of the 16th century. The traditional date of the founding of the Temple is 1640. Puritans, who became known as Non-Conformists, because they refused to conform with the Book of Common Prayer, campaigned for the reform of the Church of England. It is the only Free Church in the City of London worshipping in its own building, regularly every Sunday.

Copy deadline: 15th of every month.

Please e-mail articles to paynewsm@btinternet.com
or on paper to Anne Wallis in Guyhirn (450466)
Elaine Harvey in Gorefield (870558)
David Pearce in PD (700454)
Brian Payne in WSM (410755)

Advertising

Enquiries please email Jennie.village.voices1@btinternet.com
or phone Terry Brigden 450481

+ REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES +

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 Communion 2nd & 3rd Sundays
9.30am Communion or Morning Prayer, 5th Sun.
United Service at St Mark's 4th Sunday 10.30am.

Flower Rota: Easter Day, April 12th & 19th: Mrs J Markillie

St Paul's Church, Gorefield:

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

Wisbech St Mary Methodist Church

10.45am each Sunday

St Mark's Methodist Church, Parson Dr.

April 5th: 10.30. Holy Comm. Revd N Hannah
April 12th: 9.30. United service in Parish Church
April 19th: 10.30. Mrs W Chandler
April 26th: 10.30. United service. Revd Hannah.

Murrow Methodist Church

April 5th: 10.30. Mr G Beeken.
April 12th: 10.30. Holy Comm. Revd N Hannah.
April 19th: 10.30. Local arrangement.
April 26th: 10.30. Mr J Gautrey.

Special service

April 26th: 3.00pm. Easter Offering United Service at Trinity, Wisbech. *No shalom in April.

MOTHERS' UNION

Our meeting on Tuesday March 3rd helped us to think about Fairtrade goods. We had a small display for us to look at and buy, and some stories from the "Church Times" to help us to understand the need for the Fairtrade campaign. We encourage everyone to look out for the Fairtrade logo.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday April 7th at 2.15pm in the church, when we will welcome the walkers with the Student Cross and give them refreshments as they travel on to Wisbech and continue their pilgrimage to Walsingham for Good Friday and Easter. Everyone is most welcome to join us. *Love to you all.* Lilian Bridgen.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED AT

WSM

Collectors are urgently needed for Christian Aid Week, May 9th to 16th. Help is also required for counting on Sunday May 17th over lunch at 12/30pm at "Whizzers", Station Road. Please help if you can. Contact Caroline on 410342.

THE EASTER MART

The Easter Mart is on Saturday April 11th from 9am to sell-out (usually 10am) in Wisbech St Mary Church House opposite the church gate. There will be Easter goodies as well as home-made cakes and produce to choose from. Then sit and have coffee and biscuits and have a chat before you leave. Easter Joy to you all!

WSM TEA SERVICES

The Wisbech St Mary Methodist Church Tea Services continue on March 25th when the speaker is Colin Barnes. The following meeting is April 29th with David Sheldrake. The services start at 4.30pm.

TOM KENNEDY CONCERT

A concert by Tom Kennedy, the talented Irishman with the velvet voice is to be held in St Mark's Methodist church, Parson Drove, on Sat May 9th at 7.30pm.

Admittance £5, inc refreshments. Advance bookings on 700307.

In our thoughts and prayers

We say goodbye to

Hephzibah Spriggs, of Murrow, whose funeral service was at Murrow Methodist Church on January 19th.

Jessie Maria Mitcham, of Guyhirn, whose funeral service was at WSM church, followed by burial at Guyhirn, on Feb 16th.

We welcome into the Church's family

Theo Tooke, who was baptised in WSM & Guyhirn church on Sunday March 8th.

Clifford Ernest Gamble, of WSM, whose funeral service was at Mintlyn on Tuesday February 17th.

Ivan (Charlie) Brown, of Guyhirn, whose funeral service was at Peterborough Crematorium on Thursday February 19th.

John Glover, of Parson Drove, whose funeral service was at Peterborough Crematorium on Wednesday February 18th.

Ronald Desmond Bennett, of Guyhirn, whose funeral service was at Peterborough Crematorium on Tuesday February 24th.

Constance Vera Stone, of WSM, whose funeral service was at Mintlyn on Thursday February 26th.

Hugh Humphrey, of WSM, whose ashes were laid in the Garden of Remembrance at WSM on Sunday March 1st.

We send our love to all the families.

ROGATION WEEKEND EXHIBITION

The bi-annual exhibition of agricultural tools and implements will be held in Wisbech St Mary church on May 16th and 17th. We are looking for artefacts from all three parishes, preferably items that are unusual. Please would farmers and gardeners contact Brian Payne on 01945 410755 for further details. Historically, farmers often had their crops blessed by a priest at Rogationtide, which always occurs during the spring. A common feature of Rogation days in former times was the ceremony of "beating the bounds", in which a procession of parishioners, led by the minister, churchwarden, and choirboys, would proceed around the boundary of their parish and pray for its protection in the forthcoming year.

ADVANCE NOTICE: CHURCH'S GARDEN PARTY

There is to be an afternoon Garden Party in Elgood's Brewery Gardens on Sunday June 7th.

This informal, pleasant Sunday afternoon occasion is for the benefit of parishioners from the three churches and their guests. The Clarkson Singers will be singing for us in the gardens.

Details of admission and timing to follow in next issue of *Village Voices*. Please make a note in your diary!

LUNCHEON CLUBS

Parson Drove Luncheon Club meets at the "Butchers Arms" alternate Thursdays at midday. For details, contact M Shelley, 01945 700729.

WSM Luncheon Club will meet at the Bridge Inn, Wisbech St Mary, at 12.00 midday on Tuesdays the 14th and 28th April. If anyone can't make the lunch, please contact Marjorie on 410511, or the Bridge Inn on 410555.

WSM GOOD COMPANIONS CLUB

The Club's new secretary is Betty Hayden on 410708. We meet fortnightly on Thursdays at the Village Hall, with doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start and finishing at 4.30pm.

Do come along and join us; you will be very welcome.

THE CAGE'S FRIENDS

The historic Cage on the Green at Parson Drove is open on Sundays and Wednesdays 2 to 5pm.

If you are interested in helping, please ring Roger on 700501 or Anita on 701220.

WSM WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

At our March meeting, Alison Napier entertained us with a talk and photographs of Peckover House and gardens, and told us a little of the history of them.

Our next meeting is on the 4th Thursday of the month, April 23rd, when the Revd Leslie Stoker will tell us of his life as a prison chaplain. Tickets (£5) will be on sale for our Social in May, and also for the visit to Moulton Mill in July, priced at £10 including entrance fee and bus trip.

Liz Hunt.

GUYHIRN FARMERS WIN!

Members of the Guyhirn Discussion Society took part in the *Frontier Agriculture Quiz* at March Conservative Club on February 20th. Four teams entered the annual competition. Guyhirn met teams from Sutton St Edmund Agricultural Discussion Society, Holbeach Marsh Machinery Club, and the Fenland Machinery Club.

100 questions relating to Agriculture and General Knowledge were asked, and the winner was the Guyhirn team. Those taking part in the team were John Scrimshaw (capt), Stephen Mead, Robert Scrimshaw and Keith Bass.

PARSON DROVE WI LEARN ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA

Unfortunately the speaker did not turn up at the March meeting of the WI, but our President, Mrs Burkes, came to the rescue by presenting an entertaining talk about her holiday in South Africa. Well done, Sylvia!

Our next meeting is April 14th, when Dr E Sommerville will talk on "First Aid in the Home". Everyone is very welcome, £2 for non-members.

MURROW SUNSHINE CLUB

The club has held meetings on Feb 25th and March 11th. Details have been finalised for this year's special events and outings.

We received a visit from the "Fenland Citizen" who were finding out more about our activities.

Birthdays were being celebrated in March by Mrs Cundy, Mrs Searle, Mr Neal, Miss Clark and chairperson Mrs Wykes.

JOHN PECK SOCIETY

The next meeting on Tuesday 21st April, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Parson Drove, will be an illustrated talk about the Middle Level Drainage and the new pumping station at St Germans, by their Chief Executive, Iain Smith.

For those of us living in the Fens, this will surely prove an interesting evening, as the most vital service with which we are provided, but seldom have cause to think about, is the drainage of this huge area which is at about sea level, with some places many feet below high tides. John Peck, (1787-1851, who lived and farmed in Parson Drove), was very involved with improving the wet conditions and poor drainage on the land in his day. He was the driving force behind the digging of the North Level Main Drain from Parson Drove through Newton and Tydd St Giles to Tydd Four Gotes, and into the river Nene at Foul Anchor. Originally four streams entered the river, with sluice gates on each, hence the name of Four Gotes, ie: gates.

Refreshments. Entrance for non-members £3.00.

Diary date: The Society's following meeting is October 20th, when we will learn how John Peck fared on the early steam paddlers!

TIME MACHINES AND ITALIAN FOOD AT GUYHIRN SCHOOL!

In February a time machine landed in Guyhirn Church of England Primary School Hall as part of the school's theme on time travel. The children's author, Julia Jarman, came to visit for this special event. She led workshops in each class to talk about being a writer and share tips with us. We will be putting all Julia's advice into our own work.

We also had an Italian Day in February. We all had tickets and passports to board the plane in the school hall! Once the plane took off the cabin crew (the teachers) brought us drinks whilst we watched the in-flight movie. The day was spent creating Italian fashion designs and cars; playing Italian themed sports; and making and eating Italian food.

The children from Lions and Tigers class visited Wisbech Museum in March to learn about life and times in the Fens. This was an interesting and informative experience which the children thoroughly enjoyed. The children are always keen to learn about where they live, so if you are interested in sharing information about Guyhirn village, please get in touch with the school.

Our Eco committee have recently cleaned out the school pond, and, hopefully, we will see some frog spawn in there soon. We take great pride in our environment areas around the school, and enjoy taking care of them. We are looking forward to seeing the plants grow, and being able to eat some of them!

Parson Drove OFF-STREET YOUTH CLUB

All 10 to 16 year old youngsters are very welcome to come along to this club. It is open in the Village Hall each Monday from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. There will be a tuck shop, Nintendo Wii, table tennis, games, arts and crafts, music, and much more! We also go on trips and have visits from various organisations. Any new ideas from young people are welcome.

The first session is free. If you decide that you would like to come on

a regular basis, membership will be £1, and a weekly sub of just 50p. For further information contact Alice Goose on 07770 821690 or email alice.goose@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Wisbech St Mary YOUTH CLUB

Meets in the Village Hall on Thursday evenings from 7 till 9pm. All 10-16 year old youngsters very welcome to join in and to bring some new ideas. Contact: 01945 410986.

PLAYGROUP PLACES AVAILABLE IN WSM

WSM Playgroup has vacancies available for some morning and afternoon sessions.

They are now open as follows:

Monday, Thursday & Friday: 9-11.30; 12.15-2.45

Wednesday 9-11.30

Sessions cost £5.50 until the term after the child's 3rd birthday, when they will be funded. Lunch club is available on Mon, Thurs and Fri at a cost of £2, parents providing a packed lunch.

Contact: Mary on 410521, or 07944719586.

FRIENDS OF MURROW SCHOOL

The Friends of Murrow Primary School offer two dates for your diary.

April 2nd: Bingo. Doors open at 7.00, eyes down 7.30pm. In the School Hall.

May 9th: Race Night. Time, venue and ticket price to be advised. Ticket will include a fish and chip supper. A licensed bar will be available.

GOREFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Classes 1 and 2 visited Denny Abbey near Cambridge. This is Daniel's report.

"One cloudy Monday on the 9th of March, classes 1 and 2 from Gorefield Primary School went to Denny Abbey for the day.

First we went into a room, and a lady showed us some old tools and described how they were used. Next we went into a mock Victorian village shop, and we learned about how they used to do their shopping and the things they used to buy. Then we went into room with old toys in, and we were allowed to play with them.

After lunch we went into the Abbey, and we were allowed to run around and investigate where the monks lived.

Just before we had to leave we were given the chance to milk a cow (not a real one) and look around the farm building. When we got back on the bus, we all agreed it had been a real fun day".

Daniel, age 7, Year 2.

We welcome Pc Julie Coales who will be writing in Village Voices each month.

JULIE'S PATCH

It's that time of year when we will be getting out our lawnmowers and garden tools as we try to get our gardens back into shape after the winter.

Do you know what you have in your shed? More importantly, are your tools postcoded or security marked? Do you have the serial numbers of your electrical tools?

How secure is your shed or garage?

Taken a few minutes to have a look round; you might surprise yourself.

If you would like some advice, give me a call on 0845 456 4564 ext 3799, or email me at julie.coales@cambs.pnn.police.uk

GOLDEN THANKS

Helen and Ted Sanderson would like to thank all friends who helped them celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at a luncheon on February 21st. We thoroughly enjoyed our day, and hope you did too. Thank you for the lovely cards, and the generous donations you gave us for ACT Ward C9 (the transplant unit at Addenbrookes). We were given £950, which will be part matched by the Exel Foundation to the sum of £500.

We would like to thank Margaret for the beautiful floral decorations, and Jenny for making and decorating the lovely cake.

Thank you all, once again, for making it a most memorable day.

WSM SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

The Short Mat Bowls Club meets in Wisbech St Mary Village Hall each Monday evening from 7.30 to 9.30pm. New members welcome. Contact 01945 410452 for details.

KEEP FIT AND HAVE FUN!

Come line-dancing to keep fit and have fun at Parson Drove Village Hall on Tuesdays 1.30 to 4.00pm., and Wednesdays 7.30 to 9.30pm. If you are interested, ring Michelle on 701239.

P D SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

New members are always welcome at the P D Short Mat Bowls Club in the Village Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2pm to 4.30pm. Each session £2.

ST MARK'S PARSON DROVE

The Fitness League. Movement to music for young and mature. All ages. Thursdays 9.45 to 10.45am. Contact: Helen 01406 330565.

A PEOPLE'S PERSON

How shall I describe this man
This lawyer who is now a priest
He has come to live among us
Speaking words of love and peace.

Are you sick, or sad, or lonely?
Call, and he will visit you
He will listen to your problems
He will talk and laugh with you.

Go to church and hear his sermons
Even if of little faith
You will leave with deeper thoughts
Of how to lead a happy life.

Through these restless days we live in
Worlds (and families) at war
Calm and peace are what is needed
These we search for more and more.

Here we have a people's person
Kindness from the heart we see
Celebrate that he is with us
Helping us to find our way.

Such a change, from law to priesthood
He may find a stoney way
Wish him well on his fine journey
As he faces each new day.

Anon.

WSM SOCIAL CLUB

Members' Night with professional duo "Diamond White". Includes hot buffet. Saturday March 28th.

In April there is an Easter Karaoke on April 11th. On Saturday April 25th there will be entertainment; artists to be confirmed.

There will be a Tea Dance on a Tuesday during April. The date will be announced during the March dance.

Karaoke appears again on May 9th.

Parson Drove Cricket Club: 2009 Fixture List

1	Welney	26 th April	H	1.30pm
2	Werrington	3 rd May	A	2pm
3	Doddington	10 th May	H	1.30pm
4	St Ives (Fenland Trophy Cup)	17 th May	H	2pm
5	Warboys (Fenland Trophy Cup)	24 th May	A	2pm
6	Old Wilhads	31 st May	H	2pm
7	Doddington	7 th June	A	1.30pm
8	Spalding	14 th June	A	1.30pm
9	Werrington	21 st June	H	2pm
10	Wicken	5 th July	H	2pm
11	Spalding	12 th July	H	1.30pm
12	Leverington (Fenland Trophy Cup)	19 th July	A	2pm
13	Welney	23 rd August	A	2pm
14	March (Fenland Trophy Cup)	6 th September	A	1.30pm
15	Old Wilhads	13 th September	A	1pm

All fixtures are Sundays unless otherwise stated

MURROW BOOK CAFÉ

Murrow Book Café is holding a **Quiz Night** in the Village Hall on **Saturday April-18th**, 7pm for 7.30pm start. Teams of 4 are invited, £10 per team. The quizmaster is Chris Marshall. Refreshments and a raffle are scheduled for the interval. The Quiz Night is to raise funds for the Book Café to help in the purchase of new books and computer stationery.

The Book Café is situated at the rear of Murrow chapel and is open on Thursdays from 2 to 4pm, and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 12 to 2, for internet access, book loans, and chat over cups of tea or coffee. **Membership is free.** On April 14th and 28th, and May 12th and 26th, there is to be a Computer Drop-in from 6.30 to 7.30pm when Andrew will offer IT support.

Details: Chris 700792, Diana 700213

PLAY EQUIPMENT TO BE OPENED

The installation of the new play equipment on the sports field at WSM is on time, and the date for the opening ceremony at the field is **Saturday April 4th** at 10.30am. "Justso James", children's entertainer, and other children's fun activities will also commence at this time.

The equipment is in two levels, and designed for use by toddlers and 8 to 13 year olds.

EDUCATION GRANTS

The **Wisbech St Mary Poors Allotment Charity** still has funds available to help anyone, within the Charity's boundaries, engaged in further education, whatever their age. Please contact the Clerk, (Mrs C Jobson, 30 les Baux Place, Wisbech, PE13 2SU. Tel: 01945 474364), in writing sending proof of payment for university fees or purchase of books. etc. This will save time and allow us to reimburse you without delay.

MURROW 200 CLUB

Winners: B Cooper, Murrow; K Pell, Guyhirn; J Wright, Wisbech; C Claxton, Murrow; S Vials, Parson Drove; Mrs Donar, Murrow; T Brown, Parson Drove; E Southwood, Murrow.

CONTROL OF DOGS

With the children's play equipment now installed on the sports field at WSM, the trustees are grateful to the responsible dog owners who worked with the dog warden to stop the current fouling problem. Many thanks; there has been a noticeable improvement. As outlined in February the dog warden and other enforcement agencies will be continuing to make regular visits and imposing fixed penalties when dog owners or walkers are not cleaning up after their dogs.

The Trustees are still, however, keen to continue to encourage and support responsible dog owners to use the field. We hope the new signage will clarify the position.

COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR – Thanks to local support and fundraising efforts, the unit has been ordered and we are now waiting delivery. The unit is simple to use but a number of formal training sessions are planned. (4 hours) Separate funding has been identified for this purpose. Anyone is very welcome to attend the training especially persons currently involved/attending within the current user groups. Further details next month. Contact is Graham Drew on 410473.

Dates for your Diary

Gorefield Show Will be held on Saturday June 13th 2009 On the playing Field Wolf Lane Gorefield. More details next month.	GOREFIELD LADIES CLUB Gorefield Ladies Club meeting is in the Village Hall on Wednesday April 22 nd at 7.30pm. A presentation will be given by Jill Mackey on " Powder compacts; old and new ". £2 entry (includes refreshments). Come early. Enquiries: 870276.	GOREFIELD EASTER BINGO Sport and Amenity are holding a Easter Bingo on Wednesday April 8th in the Parish Room, Gote Lane. Doors open at 6.30 and Eyes Down at 7.30pm. Good prizes and refreshments. Contact: Marie Humphrey 410436
MURROW PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION Notice of AGM to be held in Murrow Village Hall Mon 20th April at 7.00pm Followed by an open meeting All residents are warmly invited to come along and share their ideas	GOREFIELD CAR BOOT SALES Sports & Amenity Centre Car Boot Sales will be held on the playing field, Wolf Lane, on Saturdays 4 th and 18 th April. Booters from 7.30am, £4 per pitch, refreshments. Contact: 01945 870387, or mobile 07918122217.	MURROW VILLAGE HALL AGM Advance Notice The Murrow Village Hall AGM will be held in the Hall on Wednesday May 27th at 7pm. Please attend and support your local amenity. The committee are looking for additional members to bring forward new ideas for the community.
ACTIVITIES AT ST MARK'S PARSON DROVE Whist Drives. Third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm.	CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU Will be in attendance at the Pavilion, Parson Drove sports field, from 1.30 to 3.30pm on Tuesdays April 28 th , May 26 th and June 23 rd .	TOMBOLA AT MURROW Murrow Village Hall on Wednesday April 8 th at 7.30pm. Proceeds in aid of Hall funds.

BREATHE EASY FENLAND

Breathe East Fenland is one of 200 support groups of the British Lung Foundation and offers social support and information to anyone affected by lung disease, including family and carers.

Meetings of this new group take place at the Youth and Community Centre, 34 Station Road, March, on the first Thursday of each month at 2pm.

Contact: Sylvia Mansfield on 01354 651821.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

Village Voices is keen to report the activities of community organisations within its area. It is important that a newsletter of this kind, covering such a wide area, shares experiences and is not just a list of diary dates.

Contact paynewsm@btinternet.com or those listed on the front page.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE "BOBBY" SCHEME

This charitable scheme provides a service to older people, and intends to reduce burglary by improving home security.

The "Bobby" vans cover Cambridgeshire and Peterborough repairing minor damage done to property as a result of burglary. Those victims of burglary aged over 65 years can have new locks, bolts, door chains, etc. fitted free of charge.

Potential victims aged 65+ pay a nominal £20 charge, as do those vulnerable potential burglary victims aged 65 and over who live in high crime areas.

The scheme is run by the Cambridgeshire Shrievalty Trust and is supported by the Cambridgeshire Police Authority, local charities and private donations. Details from the "Bobby" office, 07866 602100

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE

During the next three months, the mobile Library will be calling on April 3rd and 9th; May 1st, 18th, and 29th; and June 12th and 26th. The locations, stops and arrival times are:

Rings End	March Road,	10.00
Guyhirn	Selwyn Corner	10.25
Bunkers Hill.	Lay-bye	10.45
WSM	Cannon Close	11.05
WSM	Church Road	11.30
WSM	Blundell Terr	11.55
Lev Common	Pear Tree Cres	12.15
Guyhirn	Chapelfield Av	15.20

Mobile libraries do not visit on Bank Holidays.

Enquiries: 0345 045 5225, or online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

AN APOLOGY

The Village Voices Management Team apologise for omitting some items of news from Parson Drove in the March issue. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused.

STAY IN TOUCH

Stay in Touch is a telephone scheme offering regular telephone calls to housebound or lonely people. Calls are made by trained volunteers, either short daily calls or longer chats once or twice a week. A small charge is made to cover the cost of the calls. For details ring Sue Beel at Care Network on 01354 661926

Useful contacts

Churches

Revd Matthew Bradbury	410814
Lilian Brigden (Reader)	450481
Revd Nigel Hannah [Methodist]	466426

Village Halls (bookings)

Gorefield	870829
Guyhirn	450835
Murrow	700212
Parson Drove	700729
Thorney Toll	07887754869 or 07961957878

WSM Village Hall

410539

Parish Council Clerks

Gorefield	870454
Parson Drove	700501
Wisbech St Mary	474191

Schools

Gorefield School	870321
Gorefield Pre-school	870439
Guyhirn School	450247
Murrow School	700357
Murrow Pre School	07952573973
Payne School Parson Drove	700275
Parson Drove Pre-School	07880 606450
WSM School	410312
WSM Play Group	07944 719586

Health & Security

Parson Drove Surgery	700223
North Cambs Hospital	585781
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	01553 613613
Social Services	481100
P. Drove Surgery Car Service	07766534280
WSM Community Car Scheme	07592407283
Gorefield Social Car Scheme	870539

Police (non-emergency) 01354 652561



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Gorefield Parish Councillors
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Philip Hatton Tel: 01945 465982
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Cambridgeshire County Council
Councillor for Roman Bank & Peckover
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Peter Humphrey Tel: 01945 466966 & 589925
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Gorefield Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of each calendar month. Meetings are held in Gorefield School and start at 7 pm. Members of the public are always welcome to attend these meetings as observers but there are not permitted to be part of the meeting. However the Council is always willing to allow participation and representation from members of the parish prior to the commencement of the formal meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting, which is to be held on the **7th April 2009 at 7pm**, is the **Parish Annual Assembly**.

The meeting will receive the annual report from the Chairman and a financial report for the past year. It is at this meeting when members of the public or village organisations are invited to attend and also at this meeting they are allowed to discuss parish affairs and if necessary submit resolutions and vote thereon. Only persons residing in the parish are eligible to vote on any such resolution made at this meeting.

The meeting to be held on the **5th May 2009** is the Parish Council **Annual Meeting**.

At this meeting Councillors are selected to hold office as Chairman and Vice Chairman for the ensuing year along with Councillors selected to represent the Council on various outside bodies for the coming year.

Your comments and views are very important to the Parish Council to enable us to represent your best interests at District and County levels shaping a parish for the future the way you want to see it shaped.

It was with this in mind that we asked for volunteers to form a working party to produce a **Gorefield Parish Plan**

The Parish Plan Steering Group finished the questionnaire in June 2006. This was printed and delivered to all households in the Parish early in July 2006. The completed questionnaires were collected approximately a week later, they were numbered and given to various members of the Steering Group

to start the laborious job of entering the data in to the database. We received 32 completed Youth questionnaires and the data from these is also being recorded and this will be evaluated separately. We also received 20 volunteer forms with 30 volunteers, 6 for sport, 23 for wildlife and 1 to help with the Parish Plan.

The questionnaire data was entered into the database and the results were analysed. The results of the questionnaire, in the form of the Short Report, were delivered to all houses at the beginning of June 2007. Once the Action Plan was finished was incorporated into the Final Report. This was submitted to the Parish Council at the meeting on 4th September 2007 and was subsequently adopted. The Final Report was printed and then submitted to the Fenland Strategic Partnership for implementation.

A copy of the Final Report (which includes the Action Plan and full results of the questionnaire) and a copy of the Action Plan alone are available to download at www.gorefield.com. A paper copy is also available on request.

The Parish Council continuously monitor progress on action identified in the Parish Plan including the lobbying, on your behalf, of any organisation responsible for the delivery of any such actions.

The Parish Council with the help of John Timms at Design Site has its own website for your use. Visit www.gorefield.com to view Parish Council minutes, Councillor contact details, Parish Plan etc. The website also provides a wealth of information about our village and its community in general.

Notice of meetings and other relevant Council literature can always be found on the Parish Council Notice Board located outside the Shop and Post Office on High Road.

The Council has produced a Welcome Booklet for Gorefield which contains useful contact names and numbers. These have been delivered to every household but a replacement copy is available by contacting the Clerk.

Gorefield Parish Council is pleased to be associated with Village Voices and welcomes the opportunity to be able to regularly share information and communicate freely with the Parish.