

Village Voices April 2011



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

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

DIOCESAN CHILDREN WELCOME THE NEW BISHOP

Bishop Stephen Conway was Instituted as Bishop of Ely in the Cathedral on Saturday March 5th. Before the formal service began the Bishop met children from the diocese at a Celebration Service in the neighbouring St Mary's Church. Among the young people was 9 year old Kate Goy, an acolyte and server at Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove. This is Kate's report for "Village Voices".



A few of us kids from Gorefield, Wisbech St Mary and Parson Drove were very fortunate to attend Bishop Stephen's Celebration Service at St Mary's Church in Ely. I have been on many trips in my life before – Wickstead Park, Woburn Safari Park and a whole lot more, but nothing was as exciting, wonderful and amazing as the preparation for the enthroning of Bishop Stephen.

As we entered the church we were handed a plastic windmill and a glow stick – we hadn't got a clue what these were for! When we entered the church wonderful singing and music filled our ears. The service started with Bishop Stephen walking down the middle of the little church wearing a bright purple robe - he is so tall!!

Bishop Stephen sat at the front of the church on a throne like chair. After a couple of hymns Bishop Stephen was presented with the Crozier by 3 boys – the Crozier was beautiful - I think it was made of pure gold and shimmered in the light. Then came the presentation of the Pectoral Cross – a young girl helped Bishop Stephen place the large golden cross, which was attached to a golden chain, around his neck. The girl said a prayer, we all sang some lovely hymns.

Bishop Stephen put on his golden robes and a child then presented him with the Mitre which made him even taller! As we prayed for Bishop Stephen and said Amen we blew on our windmills and this was a reminder of the breath of God. The glow sticks represented the light of the world and the children placed a glow stick as a bracelet on an adult's wrist. Then the adults placed a glow stick as a bracelet on a child's wrist.

When the service ended we walked out of the warm church and were given a pot of bubbles to blow. Then we escorted Bishop Stephen to Ely Cathedral across the green to the beat of a drum.

We stopped just in front of the cathedral and realised that there were two white cages stuffed with gleaming white doves. There was a drum role and two boys lifted the lids off the cages and the doves flew off high into the sky – a few needed some pushing and shoving though!

Bishop Stephen then entered the cathedral hand in hand with two children to begin the enthroning ceremony.

We went back to St Mary's Church for cups of squash and a munch on some delicious Bishop's Biscuits.

I had a great day and it was an experience I will never forget.

"When I survey the wondrous Cross"

Services for Holy Week and Easter

Sun April 17 Palm Sunday.

Parson Drove. 9.30: Holy Communion.

Gorefield. 10.00: Morning Worship

WSM & Guyhirn. 10.55: Procession followed by
Sung Eucharist at 11.00.

WSWM & Guyhirn: 6.00: Evening Prayer.

Mon April 18

Gorefield. 7.30: Holy Communion.

Tues April 19.

WSM & Guyhirn. 7.30: Holy Communion.

Wed April 20.

Parson Drove. 7.30: Holy Communion.

Thur April 21 Maundy Thursday.

WSM & Guyhirn. 6.45: Agape.

8.00: Eucharist followed by

The Watch and at 11.45: Compline.

Fri April 22 GOOD FRIDAY

Parson Drove. 2.15-3.00: Meditation. Lilian
Brigden.

Gorefield. 2.15-3.00: Meditation. Fr. Matthew.

WSM & G. 2.15-3.00: Meditation. Brian Payne.

Sat April 23

St Leonard's, Leverington: 8pm: Easter Vigil.

Sunday April 24. EASTER DAY

Parson Drove. 9.30: HOLY COMMUNION

Ven David Fleming.

Gorefield. 10.00: HOLY COMMUNION

WSM & Guyhirn. 11.00: SUNG
EUCCHARIST

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Easter Service at St Mark's, PDr.

Sunday April 24th, 10.30am.

Conducted by Rev Joe Goodridge.

Lunch to follow £5. Anyone wishing to stay to
lunch please advise any church member in
advance.

*Jesus Christ is risen today.
Alleluia!*

Vicar's Verbal

The aftermath of a disaster brings with it considerable aftershocks of all kinds. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the terrible events in Japan will have started to recede and that most resourceful and dignified of peoples will have started to rebuild its stricken country. One reason, I learn, why the British and Japanese people get on quite well is their peculiar, indirect and understated way of addressing issues, sometimes misinterpreted as coolness or indifference. We avoid overt shows of emotion and prefer not to compliment or criticise directly, instead inviting those we meet to enter into a curious verbal dance, an oblique exchange of mild rewards or concerns. But this quiet costume cloaks a vigorous and gritty frame, a 'no fuss and get on with it' mentality which both nations have as their default setting. The Japanese have their own particular brand of Buddhism which combines intense spiritual focus and disciplined tranquillity with a deep reverence for the heritage of their ancestors. In this country many people are losing touch with their equally unique religious traditions, which is a shame because I believe many of our strengths come from a hidden spirituality. After all, there were Christians in East Anglia while the Romans were still our masters. Easter, with its theme of death and resurrection, of new life out of decay, of hope after disaster, is a good time for reclaiming those traditions. **Matthew.**

Revd Matthew Bradbury, The Vicarage, Church Rd, Wisbech St Mary, PE13 4RN. TEL 01945 410814
matthew.bradbury@ely.anglican.org

Approaching God through the five senses

There are five study groups in this year's Lent Study Group entitled

*Touch
 *Sound
 *Taste
 *Sight
 *Smell

Daytime meetings will be held at 2.30pm in St Mark's Methodist Church, Parson Drove, on five Tuesdays from March 15th to April 12th.

Evening meetings will be held at 7.30pm in St Leonard's Church, Leverington, on five Thursdays from March 17th to April 14th.

For further information, including help with transport, contact Revd Matthew Bradbury on 410814.

The course is designed for anyone with an interest in the Christian faith, so anyone who cannot make all of the sessions can just 'dip in' when available. Join us on this journey to find fellowship and faith in action!

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday March 25th 7.30pm: SOLEMN MASS.

Mothering Sunday
Parson Drove 9.30am: Holy Communion.
Gorefield 10.00am: Holy Communion
WSM & Guyhirn: 11.00am: Family Service.

A PLEASANT AFTERNOON IN GUYHIRN CHAPEL OF EASE

"Anniversary"

A delightful programme of words and music
by local people to celebrate the 350th
anniversary of the Chapel.
Saturday May 7th, 2.30pm.
Admission free.

The Register

We say farewell to our friends and send love to their families

Brian Button, whose funeral was at Peterborough crematorium on Wednesday February 2nd.

Gracie Furlong, nee Cunningham, whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Thursday February 17th, followed by burial at Mount Pleasant cemetery, Wisbech.

Barbara Howard, whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Friday February 25th, followed by burial in Guyhirn churchyard.

John Garner, of Wisbech, whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Friday February 25th followed by cremation at Peterborough.

In memoriam

Barry Summers, whose ashes were laid in Parson Drove churchyard on Thursday February 17th.

+ Regular Services +	
<p><u>St Paul's Church, Gorefield:</u> except 3rd Sunday.10.00am: Holy Communion 3rd Sunday.10.00am: Morning Worship <u>Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove:</u> 1st Sunday in month:- 9.30am Family service. 2nd & 3rd Sundays:- 9.30am Communion. 4th Sunday:-United Service at St Mark's 10.30. 5th Sunday:-9.30am Communion or Morning Prayer April 3rd. Greeters:Pauline & Diane. Coffee: Sandra. April 10th. Greeters: Sue & Jenny. Coffee: Bridget. April 17th. Greeters: Pam. Coffee: Pam. April 24th. Greeters: Sue & Jenny. Coffee: Trevor. Flowers: April 3rd (Mothering Sunday): Jean. Easter: Mrs P Johnson & Mrs P Williams.</p>	<p><u>Murrow Methodist Church</u> April 3rd. 10.30. Mr T Osborne. April 10th. 10.30. Rev N Hannah April 17th. 10.30. Rev L Stoker April 24th. 10.30. Easter Day. Mrs A Emmerson. <u>St Mark's Methodist Church, Parson Drove</u> April 3rd. 10.30. Local arrangement April 10th 9.30. United service in Parish Church. April 17th. 10.30. Mrs W Chandler. April 24th. 10.30. Easter Day. H Comm. Rev Goodridge <u>Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church:</u> Every Sunday exc 1st :- 11am. sung eucharist. 1st Sunday:- 8am Communion,11am Family Service 3rd Sunday:- Evening Prayer: 6.00pm</p>

HELP URGENTLY NEEDED FOR CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION

The annual house to house collection for Christian Aid takes place from 15th to 21st May. The organiser is urgently seeking help for collections in certain areas of Wisbech St Mary including the Churchfield Estate. Assistance is also required for counting on May 22nd. Please contact Caroline on 410342. Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty. They work globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. They provide urgent, practical and effective assistance where need is great, tackling the effects of poverty as well as its root causes.
Please give generously.

A NEW LEASE OF LIFE FOR GUYHIRN VILLAGE HALL

Guyhirn Village Hall has had its problems in the last year due to the unstable floor surface but after receiving a grant from the parish council the hall has been recently fitted with a brand new purpose made floor. The village hall committee now want to make the most of these improvements by welcoming the local community back to this wonderful versatile space!
They are looking to support local businesses in setting up regular groups or classes within the village hall; for example, fitness exercise classes, computer training, drama and dance classes, parent and toddlers and other activities. The committee also wants to see the hall used on regular basis for non profit organisations and community driven activities.
The trustees understand that in this challenging economic climate starting a new class or group is difficult, so we will offer a discount hire price for the first four sessions, for anybody wanting to start a new regular class or group. For more information please contact Marie the booking secretary on 01945 450835.

THANK YOU

Marjorie Palmer would like to thank everyone who attended a coffee morning at her house in Wisbech St Mary. The event was in aid of the Meningitis Trust and the total raised, including donations, was £170.

SECURITY AT SANDRINGHAM

At the last meeting of WSM Women's Fellowship, David Reeve, former head of security at Sandringham House, explained the gravity of his role, but also kept us very amused by recounting humorous incidents involving himself. It was a really enjoyable night for everyone.

April 7th is our next meeting when we plan for our coming year. Please bring any ideas you have for our future entertainment. At the meeting we will be selling tickets for the Spring Social at £5, with a choice of Ham, Cheese or Quiche Ploughman's supper. The social is on May 12th at 7pm.

Our meetings are held in the School hall at 7pm and new members are always welcome.

Liz Hunt & Mary McClagish

DEMONSTRATION OF 'MAKE-UP' TECHNIQUES AT GOREFIELD

Gorefield Ladies Group, held their January meeting on Wednesday 26th. It was the first meeting of the New Year, with 28 people attending on a cold dark evening.

Glenys Grimm welcomed everyone, who all agreed that the December Christmas meal had been a great success. Suggestions for the June Outing were discussed, and a booking has been made for a two hour evening visit to Wisbech Castle on Wednesday 22nd June, commencing at 7pm.

Names of members wishing to attend will be dealt with nearer the time, in the meantime members are asked to mark this date on their calendars.

Glenys then introduced Sharon and Vanessa, from Mary Kay Cosmetics, the cosmetic and skincare specialists. They demonstrated "make-up" techniques on two volunteers, Chris Ashton & Hilary Turner.

Refreshments were served by Brenda Frost and Sheryl Mace. Celebrating February birthdays were Roma Andrew and Margeret Tibbs.

THANK YOU

Murrow Village Hall Management Committee would like to thank JB Bikes and GB Motors for their generous donation of over £1000, the proceeds from their very successful "Race Night" in February.

We also want to thank Donna for her organisation of recent Tombolas in aid of the Village Hall.

EASTER BINGO and HOT CROSS BUNS!

Gorefield Playing Field Association are holding an Easter Bingo on Friday April 8th in the Village Hall. Doors open 6.30, eyes down 7.30pm. Excellent prizes, and Hot Cross Buns

POST CARDS OF PARSON DROVE!

Attractive coloured postcards of places of interest in the village are now available at Parson Drove Post Office.

ACTIVITIES AT PARSON DROVE

Short Mat Bowls Club meets in the Village Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays, 2pm to 4.30pm. Session £2.
Luncheon Club meets at the *Butcher's Arms* alternate Thursdays at midday, Details from M Shelley 700729.
The Fitness League meets Thursdays 9.15am to 10.15am at St Mark's. Contact Helen 01406 330565.
Line Dancing at the Village Hall on Tuesdays 1.30pm to 4pm, and Wednesdays 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Michelle 701239.

NEW COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS FAULT REPORTING SYSTEM

Cambridgeshire County Council has introduced a new interactive on-line reporting system for highway problems which will ensure the person reporting a fault is kept fully informed about its repair.

The Highways Reporting Project allows people to

- Report a fault using a web-based mapping system to ensure the exact location is identified and notified to repair teams
- Check on-line to see if the fault has already been reported
- Let the customer go on-line to check progress on repair work
- Does away with the need for the public to use other reporting systems
- People will still be able to report faults by telephone on 0345 045 5212.

The on-line service is available on

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/highwaysfault

DO YOU HAVE "TYPE 2" DIABETES?

Are you interested in helping a research team find out how to help those with diabetes look after their diabetes better?

A trial, backed by Addenbrooke's Hospital and the Institute of Metabolic Science, is being carried out across Cambridgeshire communities to see whether better support for those with diabetes can improve their health and reduce the likelihood of long-term complications. If you would like to help, please contact a Diabetes Research Nurse on 0800 084 2362, or leave your details with your GP or Practice Nurse.

"VILLAGE VOICES" READERSHIP INCREASES

The circulation of "Village Voices" is increasing to 2,700 to enable it to reach all new housing developments in the three parishes.

The success of "Village Voices" is largely due to the support of local businesses that support it each year by buying advertising space. The additional circulation of the newsletter represents even greater value to advertisers and local organisations.

If you need someone to do an odd job, or need professional advice, always consult this newsletter first, and please mention "Village Voices" when contacting advertisers.

ADULT BEFRIENDERS REQUIRED

An appeal has been made for volunteers to support Cambridgeshire Mencap as Adult Befrienders. Cambridgeshire Mencap supports adults in Fenland with a learning disability through the befriending scheme. The scheme helps people to live the lives they want to, enabling them to take part in social activities of their choice. Without the support of local volunteers Mencap simply would not be able to provide this individual support.

Mencap currently has 37 adults on the waiting list looking for a befriender. They are desperate for new volunteers. They are holding a small coffee morning in a few weeks time to encourage people to come along and find out more. Please watch for details.

Contact: Suzanne Lombardo, Cambridgeshire Mencap Support Co-ordinator, on 01354 651166.

Mobile Library Stops

1st +3rd Thursday: April 7th +21st

Arr	Dep
Murrow School	10:00 10:40
Murrow Station Ave	10:45 11:00
Murrow Front Rd Paddocks	11:05 11:20
Parson Drove The Bank	11:30 12:00
Parson Drove Newlands Corner	12:10 12:25
Parson Drove Henlow Farm	12:30 12:45

4th Thursday: April 28th

Arr	Dep
Wisbech St Mary Blundell Terr	10:00 10:15

2nd +4th Friday: April 8th + 22nd

Arr	Dep
Rings End, March Rd	09:45 10:05
Bunkers Hill Lay-by	10:15 10:35
Wisbech St Mary Church Rd	10:55 11:25
Wisbech St Mary Cannon Close	14:40 15:30
Guyhirn Chapelfield	15:45 16:05

3rd Wednesday: April 20th

Arr
Gorefield School
Gorefield Post Office
Gorefield Mill Height

BEES, HONEY AND JERUSALEM AT THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The March meeting of Parson Drove Women's Institute began as usual with the singing of *Jerusalem*. The attendance was very good, and the president welcomed everyone including one visitor. After the business of the evening our speaker, Mr John Woodford, spoke passionately about bees and his life as a bee-keeper. We saw a power-point display and asked some pertinent questions! His talk was followed by tea and biscuits, and there was also an opportunity to buy honey and chat to the speaker and his guests **Ann Payne**

CHRISTIAN AID SOUP AT "WHIZZERS"

Caroline Dobson invites everyone to her home, "Whizzers", Station Road, WSM, for home-made soup on Friday March 25th between 12 noon and 2pm. The gathering is in support of Christian Aid, and a minimum offering of £1 is requested. The house-to-house collection will take place in May"

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED FOR PARSON DROVE YOUTH CLUB

'Off-Street' Parson Drove Youth Club runs weekly on Mondays from 6pm until 8pm at Parson Drove Village Hall for young people who are in year 7 (first year of secondary school) to 16 year olds. They do various activities including sport, cooking, arts and crafts, decorating display boards, jewellery making, quizzes, team games and competitions. They have a tuck shop, a Playstation3, Wii, pool table and a football table. In the summer they use Parson Drove Playing field for team sports and games. They have done litter picks with Street Pride in the village. The youth club has been on various trips including bowling, Grafham Water Activity Centre, Laserforce, Activity World, Wisbech Fire and Rescue Station and several visits to the Hudson Leisure Centre for the free swimming sessions that were held there.

They are also looking for residents of Parson Drove who would be interested in being involved in forming a committee for the youth club. The committee members would meet regularly to develop and sustain the youth club. If you are interested in this opportunity, or would like further information then please contact Laura Burgess (youth worker) on 01945 582438 or 07824606624 or email on laura.burgess@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

MOTHERS' UNION MEETING

Our discussion at the March meeting was very interesting. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday April 5th when we will be welcomed by Marjorie to her home, "Tudor Lodge", High Road, WSM, when we will see a special DVD. Anyone from the three parishes is welcome. **Lilian Bridgen.**

GOREFIELD CAR BOOT SALES

Car Boot Sales will be held on Saturdays April 9th and 30th on the Playing Field, Wolf Lane, Gorefield. Sellers 7.30am. £4 per pitch. Toilets and refreshments available. Contact: 870387 or 07918122217.

WSM LUNCHEON CLUB

The WSM Lunch Club will meet at the Bridge Inn on Tuesdays 12th and 26th April at 12 noon. If any member can not attend, please let Marjorie (410511) or the Bridge (410555) know in advance.

JANET'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO VILLAGE HALL

The Gorefield Village Hall Annual Supper was held on 5th March. A very tasty meal was prepared by the committee of savoury mince, baked potato and salad, followed by apple crumble and custard, and tea or coffee. After the meal a presentation was made by Mr Colin Tibbs to Mrs Janet Ward in recognition and appreciation of 50 years of service on the Hall committee. Janet was most surprised to receive an engraved Rose Bowl and a bouquet of flowers.

Mrs Janet Ward, the present chairman had planned a presentation of her own – a basket of flowers to Mrs Margaret Tibbs for organizing the fortnightly bingo sessions throughout the winter. Margaret works tirelessly in getting all the prizes and making all the arrangements. Her efforts are much appreciated by everyone.

The entertainment was by Tony G with his 60's and 70's music. He soon had everyone singing and dancing. The evening was a great success and enjoyed by everyone. **Roy Cott**

MURROW FLORIST CLOSES

We regret to note that Murrow florist Boccasions, a long time supporter of Village Voices, has ceased trading. Proprietor Kay Brown explained that difficulties associated with the current recession had made it necessary to close the business. She said "I would like to thank all customers for their custom and support".

BINGO!

There will be a Bingo Session in Murrow Village Hall on Friday April 1st for Hall funds. Doors open at 6.30, Eyes Down at 7.30pm. Excellent prizes. Raffle and refreshments.

NEWS FROM ST MARK'S CHURCH

We had a very enjoyable evening with the inimitable Rusty Relics which raised £280 for church funds. Many thanks to all who worked hard to set up the chapel for this event, and the catering, not forgetting all our friends who came along to support us.

Forthcoming events are:

Sat April 16th. Concert by Michael Muldoon. 7.30pm. Admission £7.

Saturday May 7th. Concert by Tony G: "The voice of Elvis and many more". 7.30pm. Admission £5. **David Pearce**

BRIC A BRAC STALL AT MURROW

The popular Bric-a-brac stall will be outside Murrow Chapel on Saturday April 9th from 11am to 2pm. Homemade cakes, jams and marmalades, bric a brac. Come and browse and support your local village! **Maureen Woollard**

RIDE FROM 'THE BELL'

A message from Andy Kedziora at the "Bell Inn", Murrow:

"Easter is coming and so is our second annual charity ten-mile bike ride. The route is as follows. Easter Sunday, April 24th, start off from the Bell Inn, Murrow, at 1pm towards Guyhirn. Head to Wisbech St Mary, turning left at the Bridge Inn, then down towards Parsons Drove, through the village turning left at the Swan to Murrow ending at The Bell. Last year many people, including myself, were in fancy dress. and raised lots of money for charity. There will also be a BBQ. and a quiz in the evening. So come a long with your bike and join in the fun and make this a great fund raising day. Please collect your sponsorship forms from me, "Andy", at The Bell"

GOREFIELD LADIES HEAR ABOUT CHILDREN'S HOSPICES

Gorefield Ladies Group met in the Village Hall, on 22nd February. Despite a very wet and gloomy evening, it was very well attended. Glenys Grimm welcomed everybody, and gave details of an evening outing, arranged for June, to Wisbech Castle for a guided tour, talk and refreshments.

Betty Turner was the guest speaker from the East Anglia Children's Hospice. She explained about her own work as fund raiser and also the day to day work of the three hospices in this region. A DVD was shown of the children's party with a singing concert being performed by the children. Their siblings and parents were there to assist, as most have life threatening illnesses or complex health needs. Each provides both help and support to all both at home and in the hospices. Betty was thanked by Glenys and a collection made. Refreshments were served by Margaret Burras and Irene Allen.

The next meeting will be March 23rd in Gorefield Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Louanne Tyler will demonstrate parchment card making, and members will be making Easter cards.

The April meeting will be on Wednesday April 27th. This will be an Open Meeting for all villagers to attend. An illustrated talk by June Barton, "Queen of the Salt Marshes". Her subject will be Pigsties, Privies and Old Coppers!!! Information from Glenys 01945 870276

Public Notice

GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Gorefield Adventure Patch now has 10 pieces of gym equipment on site, each piece will accommodate 2 people. It is recommended that children under 12 do not use the equipment. There are information plates each side of the equipment explaining which parts of the body this exercise tones up, and how that piece should be used. It also advises that those people that are going to use it for more than fun, or for prolonged periods, should warm up first and warm down after use to prevent cramp and other aches and pains. While using the equipment, please be aware of the little ones. The equipment is open to everyone, it is free of charge. This is the first such installation in Fenland.

PLEASE ENJOY.

GUYHIRN VILLAGE HALL Music for a Spring Evening

A showcase of singing and music, performed by local children and adults. Featuring a diverse mix of songs, from musicals to modern pop!

Saturday 21st May, 7pm

Tickets £3, Contact Gemma for more information and tickets on 01945 450487

MUSIC AND CAKES IN THE GARDEN

"Clear View" in Cross Lane, Wisbech St Mary, is opening its garden for the National Garden Scheme on 28th and 29th May, from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Cranwell, (clarinet and keyboard), will be providing occasional light music. Refreshments, home made cakes and produce, will also be available.

Admission, on the gate, £3; children under 16 free.

The garden is also open by appointment, from April to July. Contact 410724.

FORTHCOMING CAR BOOT SALES

Several Car Boot Sales, organised by the Parent Teachers Association of Wisbech St Mary Church of England school, are planned for 2011.

The dates are Saturdays March 26th, April 30th, May 28th, June 25th, July 23rd, September 24th, October 22nd.

This year there is an earlier set-up time of 8.00am for car booters, and an earlier start for shoppers at 9.00am. Seller's cars £5, trailers and vans £8.

On each occasion there will be limited parking on site for Disabled Badge Holders. No dogs or smoking are allowed onto the premises. A snack wagon and toilets will be available on site.

MOTORISTS CAUGHT SPEEDING

The Neighbourhood Policing Team held a number of Speedwatch events in the rural areas surrounding Wisbech during February. The number of vehicles measured as speeding at each location is as follows:

Fri 4th - High Rd, Guyhirn	4 vehicles
Sat 5th - Leverington Common	17 vehicles
Tues 8th - Church Ln, Tydd St Giles	16 vehicles
Mon 21st - Friday Bridge Rd, Elm	43 vehicles
Thurs 24th - Church Rd, Leverington	61 vehicles
Fri 25th - High Rd, Wisbech St Mary	5 vehicles

Letters containing a warning and appropriate advice have been sent to all the registered keepers of the offending vehicles. The Speedwatch events will be continuing in all villages surrounding Wisbech throughout 2011.

FAMILY BINGO

The next fundraising Bingo at the Gorefield Village Hall will be on Friday April 1st followed by the last one of the season on Friday April 15th. They start at 7.30pm. Refreshments are available and a draw takes place during the evening. All are welcome to join in the fun – particularly families

FRIENDSHIP CLUB MEETINGS

Parson Drove Friendship Club meets at St Mark's Methodist church at 2.00pm on alternate Thursdays to the Luncheon Club. Contact Dorothy Hopkins 700350 for details

FANCY A FANCY DRESS PARTY?

A number of people from Parson Drove are organising an 80's Fancy Dress Party which is to be held at Leverington Sports and Social Club on St George's Day, April 23rd from 7.30pm to 12.00. All proceeds will be given to MAGPAS. Tickets £5 in advance or £6 on the door

Contact Louise 07587179082 or Joy 07876762726.

CITIZENS ADVICE AT PARSON DROVE

The Citizens Advice Bureau will be at Parson Drove pavilion on **Tuesday April 26th** at 1.30pm. Anyone wishing to arrange a consultation should telephone 01945 474926 not later than **Thursday April 21st**

Advice can also be obtained by calling 01945 464367, Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 1.00pm.

Parson Drove Amenities 95.

A Bingo evening will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday April 14th. Eyes down at 7.30pm.

STREET PRIDE DATES

The next scheduled Street Pride dates are Parson Drove: March 26th and April 20th.

The Good Old Days

We met, we married, a long time ago
We worked long hours and wages were low
No telly, no radio, no bath, times were hard
Just a cold tap and a walk up the yard
No holidays abroad, no carpets on floors
We had coal on fire, we never locked doors
Our children arrived, no pill in those days
We brought them all up with out state aid
No valium, no drugs, no LSD
We cured our pains with a strong cup of tea
If you were sick you were treated at once
Not "fill in a form and come back next month"
No vandals, no muggings, there was nothing to rob
In fact you were rich with a couple of bob
People were happier in those far off days
Kinder and caring in so many ways
Milkmen and paper boys would whistle and sing
And a night at the flicks was a wonderful thing

Oh we had our share of troubles and strife
But we had to face it, that was our life
But now I'm alone and look back through the years
I don't think of bad times, the troubles and tears
I remember the blessings, our home and our love
We shared them together, and I thank God above

DISABLED CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO CHILDCARE (DCATCH)

The Cambridgeshire County Council Disabled Children's Access to Childcare (DCATCH) project is aimed at supporting parents/carers of disabled children in accessing suitable childcare; enabling them the chance of returning to employment and/or training. It is part of the Cambridgeshire Childcare Information Service (CIS).

The aim of DCATCH is to highlight that *"a child with a disability and his/her family should have access to the full range of childcare options that are open to other families"* *Sure Start, 2005*

The aim of the project is to work closely with parents, childcare providers and professionals, embedding the principles of DCATCH; ensuring inclusion into early years and childcare settings for all. A referral service to parents shows where to go for support and guidance with their childcare options via the Childcare Brokerage Service.

Once a family is identified we can then, through the CIS Childcare Brokerage Service, enquire about suitable childcare. This will include information on provision of childcare from providers, funding options, costs, specialist care and specialist facilities, if required by the provider.

The DCATCH project provides a service to families, which is free of charge and completely impartial. If you would like further information on DCATCH then please ring 0845 04 54 014 and ask for Denis Green or send an email to denis.green@opportunitylinks.co.uk Alternatively check our website www.familiesandchildcare.org.uk and click on the DCATCH link

The copy deadline for *Village Voices* is the 15th of each month.

Please email news, etc. to

paynewsm@btinternet.com

or on paper to

Anne Wallis in Guyhirn (450466)

Elaine Harvey in Gorefield (870558)

David Pearce in Parson Dr (700454)

Brian Payne in WSM (410755)

For advertising, e-mail Jennie at

ads.villagevoices@btinternet.com

Or phone Terry Brigden on 450481.

February:

M Grosspietsch - Parson Drove

I Raggett - Murrow

D Grosspietsch - Parson Drove

K May - Murrow

L Markillie - Murrow

N Court - Wisbech St Mary

Mrs Wardill - Murrow

K May - Murrow

MURROW 200

CLUB WINNERS

March:

Mrs Fennelow - Wisbech St Mary

Mrs Wilshaw - Murrow

S E Laws - Guyhirn

Mrs Roche - Wisbech

M Ackhurst - Murrow

W Barnes - Wisbech

S Simms - Wisbech

BINGO DATES AT THORNEY TOLL

Bingo sessions are to be held each month for the rest of 2011 in Thorney Toll Village Hall. The first session will be Monday March 28th followed by April 18th and May 23rd. Doors open 6.30 for 7.30pm start. Subsequent dates will be given in "Village Voices".

MEMORIAL BINGO FOR PAT

"Village Voices" understands that a Bingo Evening in memory of Pat Spriggs is to be held in Parson Drove Village Hall on Thursday April 28th at 7.30pm.

Proceeds from the evening will be shared between Southea churchyard and the Fenland Friendship Club.

CALLING RESIDENTS OF MURROW

A message from two Julias

Some of you will remember the street party we had to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Next year on June 5th there will be a public holiday to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

If you have an idea how we can celebrate this day and/or are willing to assist please contact Julia Morley on 700410, or Julia Barnes on 700212.

GOREFIELD STREET PRIDE

I have taken on the role of Chair for Gorefield Street Pride, John Timms has volunteered for Secretary and Allen Holt as Vice Chair. Our Treasurer Barry Cornett is in the process of opening a bank account: we are promised £100 to kick start us off. Now that we have formalised the Street Pride Group we hope to go from strength to strength. We will meet the third Saturday of every month, the next meeting will be the 16th of April 10.00 am at the Playing field. If anyone wishes to join in the litter picking or any of the organised clean ups then just turn up, young or old it matters not. Any ideas as to where we clean next would be most welcome. Ideas for long term projects such as pond cleaning, village gateway signs and areas set aside as bird sanctuary / butterflies would be welcomed. The village can only be the better for us all pulling together to ensure it remains one of the cleanest and loveliest villages around.

George Ridley

WORK STARTS ON NEW SEWAGE DISPOSAL UNIT

Work has started on a new sewage disposal unit in Mowbray Close, Wisbech St Mary. The £110,000 system will replace the former unit which was no longer fit for purpose.

A spokesperson for the Churchfields Residents Association said, "We have waited a long time for this, and are pleased the contractors are now on site. Our small working party has spent many hours negotiating the details of the scheme, and they are most grateful for the support and patience of the vast majority of the residents on the estate."

SHAPE YOUR PLACE' PRESENTATION at PARISH COUNCIL'S ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Terry Jordan and Sandy Willett will be attending the Gorefield Parish Council meeting on Tuesday April 5th at 7pm in the School to give a presentation on the Shape Your Place website. The presentation will be of interest to everyone in the parish and all Gorefield parishioners are invited to attend. The annual assembly which will follow, is an opportunity for residents to speak to, or ask questions of, the Parish Council. A chance to share ideas and comments with the councillors.

The Annual Assembly will be followed by the April council meeting, to which residents may remain but not speak.

MURROW BUS SERVICE CANCELLED

Local bus service providers have been faced with reductions in financial support from central Government and the County Council. Consequently, Norfolk Green have withdrawn their weekday Murrow to Wisbech service after Friday April 8th. Ben Colson, director of Norfolk Green, in a letter to parish councils said, "This bus carries typically two to three people a day (it normally peaks on Thursdays with four or five people) and this is just insufficient to cover our costs of providing the route."

INVITATION TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN GUYHIRN

You are invited to come to a free afternoon in Guyhirn Village Hall on Thursday 14th April between 2pm and 4pm. It will be your chance to say what you would like to see in your village. There will also be competitions, a mini Easter egg hunt and refreshments. We look forward to seeing you.

Young People Guyhirn Committee.

SUNSHINE CLUB DOES ITS EXERCISES

Murrow Sunshine Club held meetings on February 23rd and March 9th when birthdays were celebrated by Mr Neal, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Wykes, Mr Searle and Miss P Clark. At the March meeting the Club had a welcome visit from representatives of Age UK, who gave a talk, and a demonstration of useful light exercises. Each member received information packs covering all aspects of help available to senior citizens.

D.Ralf, Sec.

HISTORY GROUP MOVES TO THE EVENING

The History Group which meets in WSM Community Centre has moved, by popular preference, to the third Tuesday evening of each month at 7pm.

The next meeting is on April 19th, and will include a talk on the parish Poor House at Bunkers Hill. Everyone from the three parishes very welcome. This meeting admission free.

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Disclaimers.1. The editors of "Village Voices" rely on news from parishioners or organisations being factually correct, and therefore can accept no liability for any late changes in the details of any event

2. Persons conducting business with those who advertise in this magazine do so at their own risk and the editors and management committee of Village Voices can accept no liability for any losses that customers may sustain by responding to adverts published in these pages.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN MAY

Parish Council elections are scheduled for May 5th this year. The elections are held every four years and give an opportunity for residents in each parish to evaluate the work of their councillors during the past four years, and also to think about being a candidate themselves.

In the "Village Voices" delivery area there are three parish councils. The clerk of each council will be pleased to supply details of election procedure and to give advice. The clerks can be contacted as follows:

WSM Parish Council: Mrs C Jobson, 30 Les Baux Place, Wisbech, PE13 2SU. Tel: 474364. carolyn.jobson@btopenworld.com

Gorefield Parish Council: Mrs R Gagen, 78 High Road, Gorefield, PE13 4NB. Tel: 870454. rosemary@gorefield.com

Parson Drove Parish Council: Mrs Y Reader, Back Road, Murrow, PE13 4JW. Tel: 700501. Theclerk@parsondrove.net

Elections will also take place on the same day for Fenland District Council. Anyone wishing to be a candidate for this election should contact Joanne Anderson, Electoral Services, Fenland District Council, Fenland Hall, County Road, March, PE15 8NQ. Tel: 01354 622383, who will be pleased to give guidance.

To be a candidate at the Parish or District elections the nomination paper, and consent to nomination, must be delivered to the Returning Officer, Fenland Hall, County Road, March, PE15 8NQ by noon on **Monday 4 April 2011**.

GLADYS DUNN

Gladys Dunn moved into town and decided to visit the parish church near her home. She appreciated the stately architecture, the music, the choir and the colour, but the sermon went on and on. Worse, it wasn't very interesting. Glancing around, she saw many in the congregation nodding off. Finally it was over.

After the service, she turned to a sleepy gentleman next to her, and extended her hand and said "I'm Gladys Dunn". He replied "You and me both!"

Public Notice

LEVERINGTON CHARITY FEOFFES

(Charity No: 232526)

Help for those in Leverington & Gorefield Parishes who are in need, hardship or distress

Applications may now be made, in cases of need, for clothing, children's shoes and specific needs. Application forms can be obtained, by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

The Clerk:

Mrs R J Gagen, 78 High Road, Gorefield, Wisbech, PE13 4NB.

for return by 12th May 2011

Useful contacts

Churches		Schools		Health & Security	
Revd Matthew Bradbury	410814	Gorefield School	870321	Home-Start	582552
Lilian Brigden (Reader)	450481	Gorefield Pre-school	871042	Parson Drove Surgery	700223
Revd Nigel Hannah [Methodist]	466426	Guyhirn School	450247	Parson Drove Pharmacy	701778
Village Halls (bookings)		Murrow School	700357	North Cambs Hospital	585781
Gorefield	870829	Murrow Pre School	07754758332	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	01553 613613
Guyhirn	450835	Payne School Parson Drove	700275	Social Services	481100
Murrow	700212/700200	Parson Drove Pre-School	07503165432	P. Drove Surgery Car Service	07766534280
Parson Drove	700729	WSM School	410312	WSM Community Car Scheme	07592407283
Thorney Toll	07887754869 or 07961957878	WSM Play Group	411864	Gorefield Com. Car Scheme	07500479444
WSM Community Centre	01945410473	WSM Little Saint's Toddlers	410503	Childline	0800 1111
Parish Council Clerks		Murrow Children's Centre	701237.	Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Gorefield	870454	Post Offices		Dog control/Animal welfare	01354 622442
Parson Drove	700501	Parson Drove	700511	Drugs Helpline	0800 776600
Wisbech St Mary	474191	Gorefield	870273	Fenland District Council	01354654321
		Wisbech St Mary	410288	CCC Highways Maintenance	03450455212
		Police (non-emergency) 0345 456 4564		Samaritans	08457909090
				Victim supportline	08453030900
Websites: www.gorefield.com		www.guyhirn-online.org.uk		www.wisbechstmary.org.uk	

Clerk

Mrs Rosemary Gagen, Sportsman's Lodge, 78 High Road, Gorefield, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 4NB
Tel: 01945 870454
E-mail: gorefieldpc@aol.com

Chairman

Michael Humphrey, Aynsley Lodge, Allens Drove, Gorefield
Tel: 01945 410436 & 410644
E-mail: mhumphrey@fenland.gov.uk

Gorefield Parish Councillors

Mrs Kitty Hall. Tel: 01945 870132
Alan Holt. Tel: 01945 870457
Norman Carroll. Tel: 01945 870387
Chris Cooke. Tel: 01945 871144
Mrs Jacqueline Hunns. Tel: 01945 870189
George Ridley. Tel: 07545 732908

Fenland District Council

Councillors for Roman Bank Ward

Philip Hatton Tel: 01945 465982
Michael Humphrey Tel: 01945 410436 & 410644
Christopher Seaton Tel: 01945 870812

Website www.fenland.gov.uk

Cambridgeshire County Council

Councillor for Roman Bank & Peckover Division

Steve Tierney Tel: 07831 616127
Website www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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.

Website www.gorefield.com

The Parish Council, with the help of John Timms, has its own website for you 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 that 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**.

Gorefield now has a unique status in Fenland as the only village to boast adult exercise equipment, comparable to that found in your local gym or health club, available free to use in the **Adventure Patch**. This is the final phase of a project to improve the facilities available in Gorefield that has been led by Councillor Norman Carroll who has attracted well in excess of £67,000 of external funding for the project. Work to bond markings to the concrete area for a remote car track and other games, which was started but abandoned due to the weather, will be completed soon. The Council also has three new bench seats and two new refuse bins waiting to be fitted to complete the Patch ready for everyone's enjoyment.

THIS MONTHS BAD NEWS STORY

Recently there have been several incidents of Graffiti in and around our village. If you have been a victim, or have any information about who might be responsible, please report it to the Police without delay. The non emergency number to call, in confidence, is 0345 456 456 4 but always remember to call 999 if you feel threatened, at risk or are witnessing an incident as it happens.

COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT

You will by now have received your 2011/2012 Council Tax demand from Fenland District Council and may well be wondering why the Gorefield Parish Council precept has gone up by 10.3% while others have kept to a nil increase. Before explaining the reason let me put it into context. The 10.3% increase amounts to £1.77 per year on a Band D equivalent, that is just under an extra 3.5 pence per week. When setting the budget for the coming year an additional £1200 was identified as extra expenditure but £500 of this was offset from reserves. The resulting increase of £700 on the 2010/2011 precept of £6800 equates to 10.3%. This means a Band D equivalent charge in Gorefield of £18.94 for the year which compares well to the highest precepting Parish in Fenland (Wisbech St Mary) which charges £36.72 and the lowest (Leverington) at £16.65. Both these Parishes have a vastly different tax base and geographical area to Gorefield. Our closest comparative Council, one of similar size and tax base, is Newton who has set a precept for 2011/2012 of £18.83 while the average Parish precept in the District works out to be just under £24.00. So back to 'why the increase', well it is mainly due to the success of the Adventure Patch because even though funding was from external sources it does mean regular safety checks, additional maintenance, extra manual grass cutting etc. There is also the not insignificant matter of insurance for the field, the pavilion and the play equipment, sadly success has a price but not bad for an additional £1.77 a year.

GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY. The Council will hold its Annual Assembly on Tuesday 5th April 2011 in Gorefield School, starting at 7 pm. This is your opportunity to attend and speak to the Parish Council. It is your chance to share your ideas, comments and feed back with the Council who will then take those views forward on your behalf. This will be followed immediately by the April Council meeting, the last one of the present 4 year term. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND**