

Village Voices February 2012



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

A warm welcome to all newcomer and visitors to our villages!

ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22nd

In the Western Christian calendar, Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs forty-six days (forty days not counting Sundays) before Easter. It is a moveable feast, falling on a different date each year because it is dependent on the date of Easter. It can occur as early as 4 February or as late as 10 March. Ash Wednesday gets its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of people as a sign of repentance. The ashes used are gathered after the Palm Crosses from the previous year's Palm Sunday are burned. Ash Wednesday is, therefore, a day of repentance and it marks the beginning of Lent. Ashes were used in ancient times, according to the Bible, to express mourning. Dusting oneself with ashes was the penitent's way of expressing sorrow for sins and faults.

SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday is a term used for the day preceding Ash Wednesday, the first day of the Christian season of fasting and prayer called Lent. The word *shrove* is the past tense of the English verb *shrive*, which means to obtain absolution for one's sins by way of Confession and doing penance. Thus Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the shriving that English Christians were expected to do prior to receiving absolution immediately before Lent begins. Shrove Tuesday is the last day of "shrovetide", a season that developed after the Protestant Reformation. In England and many other countries, the festival was widely associated with the eating of rich foods made with eggs, sugar and butter, such as pancakes. It is often known simply as Pancake Day, originally because making such foods used up ingredients such as fat and eggs, whose consumption was traditionally restricted during fasting associated with Lent.

BISHOP OF ELY AT IMPOSITION OF ASHES SERVICE

The Bishop of Ely, Rt Rev Stephen Conway, will be presiding at an Imposition of Ashes service at Tilney All Saints church on Wednesday February 22nd at 7.30pm. Congregations from all the parishes in the Wisbech Lynn Marshland Deanery are invited to attend this important service which marks the beginning of Lent 2012. If anyone requires transport please contact any member of our Ministry Team or your churchwardens.

Vicar's Verbals'

'To err is human, to forgive divine'. When I was a little boy there was an almighty bust-up between my father and my grandfather. It was over money of course. For three years they didn't speak; until my little brother was born and my father relented and invited his dad around to see the new addition to the family. It was I who, at the age of nine, opened the door, and only at that moment realised that I hadn't seen my grandad for three years. I guess all families have their ups and downs. 2012 is a special year; the Olympics and of course the Jubilee. In ancient Israel, a *Jubilee* was celebrated every 50th year and all debts were cancelled, and all grievances were set aside. It was a solemn, religious duty to do this. If you have an ongoing disagreement or grievance with someone in your family, or a neighbour or friend, this could be the year to settle it. You might not be able to do this on your own – it's often sensible to engage a neutral third party – 'phone a friend' if you like – and the path to reconciliation is usually costly. But don't miss a chance to build bridges. I bury too many people who have left unfinished business for their children and grandchildren to mop up.

Matthew

Revd Matthew Bradbury, The Vicarage, Church Rd, Wisbech St Mary, PE134RN.
T 01945 410814 matthew.bradbury@ely.anglican.org

£1000 FOR THE AIR AMBULANCE

Dawn and Andy at the *Bell Inn*, Murrow, would like to thank everyone who helped to raise £1000 for the Air Ambulance funds. The *Bell* held a 1970s Fancy Dress Party on New Year's Eve, during which the raffle made £337.20. A donation from Keith Bagworth, whose daughter needed the Air Ambulance recently, and a contribution of £262.80 from the *Bell* made an impressive total of £1000.

Andy said "Thank you to everyone who has helped *The Bell* to raise money for charity during the past year, and we hope you will continue to do so".

METHODIST TEA SERVICE

The next Tea Service will be held in the Methodist Church, Wisbech St Mary, on Wednesday February 29th at 4.30pm. Everyone is warmly invited to attend this popular event to enjoy afternoon tea, meet friends, and listen to a guest speaker.

MONTHLY DISCUSSION GROUP

Parishioners are invited to come together each month in a new discussion Group to look at the forthcoming Sunday service readings (or any other issues pressing on your mind). This will be a chance to look at the readings in greater depth than is possible in the sermon. It is your chance to express your ideas and thoughts – you might influence the next sermon!

**Date: Wed 8th February Time: 7.15pm to 9.00pm.
Venue: Gorefield Village Hall.**

CHRISTMAS SERVICES WELL ATTENDED

There were good attendances on Christmas Eve at the celebrations of Midnight Mass at Parson Drove, and Wisbech St Mary.

On Christmas morning Christmas Communion services were held at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church and St Paul's church, Gorefield. The collection at St Paul's, amounting to £70.50p, was donated to Water Aid.

SATURDAY OPENING FOR PARISH CHURCH

Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church is to be open to residents and visitors on the second Saturday of each month. It will be an opportunity for people to spend some quiet moments in a beautiful setting, for private prayer and meditation, or to contact a member of the Ministry Team. The church will next be open from 10 am to 12 noon on Saturday February 11th.

Thirty people attended the annual Epiphany Service in the Chapel of Ease at Guyhirn. The service of Evening Prayer was led by Brian Payne and the preacher was Revd Ryk Parkinson. As always, the 17th century chapel warmly welcomed its visitors to the peace and tranquillity it provides.

CAROL SINGING SUCCESS

Thanks are expressed to everyone, including the marvellous young lady trumpeter, who took part in carol singing around Wisbech St Mary at Christmas. £175 was raised and shared between The Children's Society and the Methodist Children's Homes

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all who sent me cards and good wishes while in the Norfolk and Norwich hospital over Christmas. I am now well on the way to recovery. Many thanks and good wishes to you all in 2012.

Phyl Brownlow

The Register

We say farewell to our friends and send love to the families.

Joan Crowe, whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church followed by Cremation at Mintlyn on Monday December 19th.

Michael Harrington, whose funeral service was at St Paul's church, Gorefield, followed by burial in the churchyard, on Thursday December 22nd.

William Woodruff, whose funeral service was at St Paul's church, Gorefield, followed by burial in the churchyard, on Thursday December 29th.

Bryan Embling, whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church followed by Cremation at Peterborough on Wednesday January 4th.

Nora Rust, whose funeral service was at Emmanuel church, Parson Drove,, followed by burial in the churchyard, on Friday January 13th.

Pastoral Measure 1983

Guyhirn St Mary Magdalene (Diocese of Ely)

The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft scheme providing for the sale of Guyhirn St Mary Magdalene and its churchyard* for residential use. A copy of the draft may be obtained from the Commissioners or inspected on the noticeboard outside the school, High Road, Guyhirn. Representations for or against the draft scheme may be made in writing to Anne Griffiths, Closed Churches Division, Church Commissioners, Church House, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3AZ, or by email to anne.griffiths@churchofengland.org to reach her not later than 5th February 2012. The Commissioners cannot treat any communication received after this date as a representation. For details of this process see www.ccpastoral.org or phone (Anne Griffiths) on 020 7898 1742.

* There are no burials in the church grounds.

+ Regular Services +

Murrow Methodist Church 10.30am

Feb 5th: Revd N Hannah

Feb 12th: Holy Comm. Revd P Dewdney.

Feb 19th: Revd L Stoker.

Feb 26th: Mr V Davidson.

St Mark's Methodist Church, P D

Feb 5th. 10.30: Local arrangement.

Feb 12th 9.30: United service in the Parish Church.

Feb 19th 10.30: Revd N Hannah.

Feb 26th 10.30: United service. Mr G Beeken.

St Paul's Church, Gorefield:

except 3rd Sunday. 10.00am: Holy Communion

3rd Sunday. 10.00am: Morning Worship

Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church:

Every Sunday exc 1st :- 11am. sung eucharist.

1st Sunday:- 8am Communion, 11am Family Service

3rd Sunday:- Evening Prayer: 6.00pm

Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove:

1st Sunday in month:- 9.30am Family service.

2nd & 3rd Sundays:- 9.30am Communion.

4th Sunday:- United Service at St Mark's 10.30.

Feb 5th: Greeters: Pauline & Diane. Coffee: Sandra.

Feb 12th: Greeters: Sue & Jenny. Coffee: Barbara.

Feb 19th: Greeter: Trevor. Coffee: Sheelagh.

Flowers February: Mrs P Johnson.

TIME CAPSULE PROPOSAL FOR SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL PROJECT

Gorefield Primary School intends to place a time capsule within the foundations of their new swimming pool. A school representative said "This will be a brilliant piece of social history for the future residents of the village. The last pool was in place for around 50 years so the school is hoping the new one will be too!

Residents, students, and businesses are invited to help. For just a £1 donation they can place an A4 piece of paper inside the capsule. On it you can write all about yourself, where you live, in fact anything interesting, even your weekly shopping list with today's prices! What message would you like to leave future generations? Don't forget there are two sides to a piece of paper so you can indeed leave lots of 'stuff' and interesting facts. Completed contributions should be taken to the school together with a £1 donation.

The school hopes everyone will get involved, the great-grandchildren of the future are waiting to hear from you today"

SWIMMING POOL TO BE BUILT IN TIME FOR THE SUMMER

I am extremely pleased to inform you that after contacting a local charity, they are very pleased to be supporting our cause and have offered to match fund £9000. This means that they will give school £9000 towards the pool which is half of the money to have the pool built, providing that school raises the other £9000. Currently our total stands at £8949 and we still have money coming in from the sponsored swim and the children's raffle. Therefore we will be building the swimming pool and it will be up and running by the summer. This is an amazing feat of fundraising by parents, children and the community and the children, staff and governors would like to thank everyone for their efforts in raising such a large sum of money. This is your legacy to the children of Gorefield School and your never know we might even have an Olympic swimmer of the future!

We will continue to fundraise for the pool but on a much smaller scale. The running costs per year are in excess of £1500. We usually use money from the summer bar-b-cue and the Gorefield Show with the rest being made up from school budget. We would also like to look at the possibility of covering the pool sometime in the future so that we could have greater use of it through the year.

Alyson Palmer

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 ads.villagevoices@btinternet.com

Or phone Terry Brigden on 450481.

HISTORY OF JOHN LEWIS STORES

Parson Drove Women's Institute held their first meeting for 2012 on Tuesday January 10th in St Mark's Hall. It was a very well-attended meeting, and we were rewarded with an excellent speaker from John Lewis in Peterborough. He gave a very interesting illustrated account of the history of the firm, from its inception to the present day. His talk included a number of his own personal anecdotes, which added to the overall interest of members.

Ann Payne

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS URGENTLY REQUIRED

The Wisbech St Mary Community Car Scheme urgently needs a number of volunteer drivers. Anyone able to help is asked to contact 0759 240 7283 as soon as possible for further details.

£120 DONATED TO AIR AMBULANCE FUND

Members of Parson Drove organisations have made donations instead of sending Christmas cards to each other. The Over-60s Friendship Club, the Women's Institute, and Short-mat Bowls Club, collected £120 which was presented to the East Anglian Air Ambulance Service at a meeting in St Mark's church in January.

The organisers expressed their sincere thanks to all who supported the project.

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

You are invited to a Family Quiz Night in Murrow Village Hall on Friday February 3rd at 7 for 7.30pm. Teams must not exceed 5 persons at £2.50 per person.

Light refreshments will be served at half-time, but you may bring your own drinks. All proceeds will go towards providing new steps for the Village Hall.

Details: 700212.

RACE NIGHT AND SUPPER DATE

Payne Primary School are hosting a Race Night at Parson Drove village hall on Saturday March 3rd. Doors open from 7pm for 8pm start. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £3 for children, with the choice of fish and chips or sausage and chips included in the price. There will also be a raffle. Tickets available from Colin Killingworth 01945 700744 or 07511656933, and Robert Elbury 07860576030.

PARSON DROVE WHIST DRIVES

The Whist Drives in St Mark's, Parson Drove, will continue as usual during 2012 on the third Tuesday of each month, except for February when the meeting will be on the 28th.

LOCAL HONEY FOR SALE

(Said to be good for Hayfever sufferers)

£4 per 1lb jar, or £10.50 for 3 x 1lb jars.

Contact Margaret 410724.

Will deliver within 5 miles.

Useful contacts

Churches

Revd Canon M Bradbury	410814
Revd Ryk Parkinson	465818.
Lilian Brigden (Reader)	450481
Revd Nigel Hannah [Methodist]	466426

Village Halls (bookings)

Gorefield	870829
Guyhirn	450835
Murrow 700673	700212
Parson Drove	700729
Thorney Toll 07887754869	07961957878
WSM Community Centre	01945410473

Parish Council Clerks

Gorefield	870454
Parson Drove	700501
Wisbech St Mary	474191

Schools

Gorefield School	870321
Gorefield Pre-school	871042
Guyhirn School	450247
Murrow School	700357
Murrow Pre School	07754758332
Payne School Parson Drove	700275
Parson Drove Pre-School	07503165432
WSM School	410312
WSM Play Group	411864
WSM Little Saint's Toddlers	410503
Murrow Children's Centre	701237.

Post Offices

Parson Drove	700511
Gorefield	870273
Wisbech St Mary	410288

Health & Security

Home-Start	582552
Parson Drove Surgery	700223
Parson Drove Pharmacy	701778
North Cambs Hospital	585781
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	01553613613
Social Services	481100
P Dr Surgery Car Service	07766534280
WSM Com Car Scheme	07592407283
Gorefield Com. Car Scheme	07500479444
Childline	0800 1111
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Dog control/Animal welfare	01354622442
Drugs Helpline	0800 776600
Fenland District Council	01354654321
CCC Highways Maintenance	03450455212
Samaritans	08457909090
Victim supportline	08453030900

Websites:

www.gorefield.com
www.guyhirn-online.org.uk
www.murrow-village.com
www.parsondroveamenities95.org
www.wisbechstmary.org.uk

Police (non-emergency) 0345 456 4564

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL AT THE WI

The Wisbech St. Mary Women's Institute December meeting was after the business a Christmas Social evening with refreshments, games and lots of laughter which was enjoyed by all.

The next meeting will be on 23rd January at 7.30pm at the Sidings Room. The Speaker will talk about "Guide Dogs" Meetings will be held on the third Monday of each month. Ladies of all ages are welcome. Contact Alma Walsh 410843 for further information.

PAYNE PRIMARY SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS

Parson Drove's Payne Primary School governors have been considering the possibility of giving Councillor J W Payne (who first opened the school) his correct title. They have been thinking of slightly amending the name of the school from "Payne Primary School" to "Alderman Payne Primary School". Alderman is another name for a council member, and the governors thought that it was important to recognise this in the name of the school.

Unfortunately, the School has recently lost the elderly people's day centre that used to be on the site. However, to replace it the council have provided a very large state of the art classroom which is used for the older children. This has created more space for the rest of the school, as well as much needed storage space. At the moment the school has a very healthy 95 children on role, the largest for many years and an increase of 11 from last year's role of 84.

Anyone who has any comments on this proposal or would like to visit the school to see the new room should contact Sue Blyth the Headteacher on 700 275, email the school at office@payne.cambs.sch.uk or leave a comment on the school website's page: www.payneprimary.ik.org.

MURROW ART GROUP.

There is to be a meeting in Murrow Village Hall on Monday 27th February, between 7 and 9pm to discuss the setting up of a new Art Group in the village for all residents of Murrow and the surrounding towns and villages.

All are welcome, no matter your age, skill level or your chosen art medium. Those who wish to have lessons in drawing as well as painting are more than welcome.

If you have always wanted to learn, or to just be in a like minded group, please come along. Should you have any worries or concerns ring Terry on 01945 700236.

WSM GOOD COMPANIONS

A very warm welcome awaits any new members of the Wisbech St Mary Good Companions Club which meets every two weeks in the Sidings Room at WSM Community Centre on Thursdays from 2.00 to 4.30pm.

Details available from Betty on 410708.

200 CLUB WINNERS

GOREFIELD CLUB

Wk1	£5	54	Collin Tibbs
Wk2	£5	187	Geoff Howlett
Wk3	£5	111	Maggie Tuck
Wk4	£5	181	Ellen Tranter
Wk5	£5	110	Sheila Goodley
Wk6	£5	147	Joy George
Wk7	£5	9	Tony Bailey
Wk8	£5	134	M Humphrey
Wk9	£5	177	Mrs D Ward
Wk10	£10	161	Alan Young
	£50	163	Ann Button
	£250	78	G Rawling

MURROW CLUB

Wk 7	Mrs Sergeant, Murrow.
	G Pike, Murrow.
Wk 8	I Harrison, Murrow.
	E Southwood, Murrow.
Wk 9	J Roche, Murrow.
	B Lane, Murrow.
Wk 10	S Butler, Wisbech St Mary.
	A Newton, Murrow.

Voices Past starring Robert Plumb!

**LOCOMOTIVE
TRAVELLING ON THE
HIGHWAY**

As reported in the "Wisbech Advertiser", June 1st 1881

Robert Plumb, of Wisbech St Mary, was charged that he being the owner of a locomotive engine travelling on the highway in the parish of Leverington on the 9th May 1881, did neglect to have a person to proceed it for the purpose of assisting horses and carriages to pass the same, as required by the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act. The defendant said he was under the impression that he had taken sufficient precaution to prevent an accident by being in a cart with a flag in front of the engine.

The Clerk said "The Act says you must have a person on foot in front of the engine".

The defendant said his son was in the cart with him ready to assist anybody past the engine.

The Chairman of the Bench said they could not assist people if they were in the cart.

The defendant said he did not know that he was doing wrong, and the Chairman commented "Then you are using an engine on the highway without knowing the regulations prescribed for its use".

The defendant admitted that this was so, and ultimately pleaded guilty saying he did it in ignorance of the law.

The Clerk said that the defendant was liable to a penalty of ten pounds. Mr Plumb said he hoped it would not be so serious as that. He asked the magistrates to deal leniently with him, as one of his men had gone to Spalding statute.

The Bench ordered him to pay a fine of 5s, and 13s 6d costs.

**NOTICE
TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

**THE WISBECH ST MARY
INDEPENDENT FORESTERS'
CLUB**

As reported in the "Wisbech Advertiser" July 1881

This Club did arrange last year to have the Club registered and I, **Robert Plumb**, did send two rules up to the Central Office to be registered on July 24th 1880 with a Form and other papers connected therewith in accordance with model rules as per the Act, relative to the matter of Registration, viz, the rule number 7, to sick members 20 weeks instead of 16 weeks as aforesaid, full pay 12/- for the year ending June 1881, and after the 20th week has expired, then the Committee of Management to arrange on all matters relative to the illness of the sick member.

Number 9 rule was to have enacted that every member coming into the room intoxicated to be fined 1/-, and for annoying any member 2/-, and rejected out of the room if required by the members assembled. All monies received in fines to pay Sick Fund and constitute a part thereof.

Number 11 rule that any member not being orderly in procession to church on the day of the anniversary, to be fined 1/-. All able members in attendance at the time the procession is formed shall rank in the procession, or be subjected to the aforesaid fine.

And it is the wish of Robert Plumb to know from each member whether he votes for a solicitor to be employed, or whether the matter of registration is to be carried out as agreed on at a meeting in July 1880. And each member will be asked at the time his name is called by two members of the Society appointed for that purpose, and be it further known that there can not be any money withdrawn from the Savings Bank without the authority of three trustees. All members are respectfully requested to be punctual as to time as per Bill for Anniversary.

Robert Plumb
July 12th 1881.

WSM LUNCHEON CLUB DATES

Lunch dates at the *Bridge Inn*, Wisbech St Mary are Tuesdays February 14th and 28th. If anyone can not attend, please contact Marjorie on 410511 or the *Bridge Inn* on 410555.

CHURCHYARD CONSULTATION

Residents Of Guyhirn, Thorney Toll and Rings End are invited to a meeting in Guyhirn Village Hall on Saturday February 25th at 10.30am to discuss the maintenance of Guyhirn churchyard.

MOTHERS UNION'S FIRST MEETING

We didn't manage to hold our January meeting, so Tuesday February 7th will be our first meeting of 2012. Everyone is most welcome at 2.15pm in the Church House, Wisbech St Mary.
Lilian Brigden

News from Murrow Book Cafe

The Christmas event was most successful and everyone enjoyed the visit by Father Christmas, especially as he told his own stories to the children.

Knitting

On the same day we handed over 7 completed baby blankets for the SANDS charity and a message has been received which asked that all knitters be thanked for their hard work and care. Knitting will continue on Mondays between 10.30am and 12 noon in the Cafe. Other ideas for knitting for charity are welcome.

Computer Course

A free 6 session computer course sponsored by Roddons Housing Association will begin in February on Thursday evenings to include improving skills in Word and Excel, accessing job related websites and updating CVs. New laptops with up to date software will be used, all sponsored by Roddons. The course will take place in the Cafe, situated in the schoolroom of the Chapel in Murrow, Further details are available from Diana on 700213.

MEET AT THE MART

The first Mart of the New Year was well-attended by visitors who snapped up the delicious array of home-made cakes, scones, preserves, sausage rolls, etc. on offer. The Mart will be open again on Saturday February 11th from 8.45am to about 10am. The early shoppers get the best choice! Everyone is invited to call in the Church House for a chat and a cup of tea or coffee.

CHARITY EVENT

A Bingo in aid of Animal Rescue will be held in Parson Drove Village Hall, Thursday February 16th, 6.30 for 7.30pm.

LADIES ENJOY THEIR MEAL AT THE 'OLIVER TWIST'

On Thursday January 12th twenty-eight members of the Wisbech St Mary Women's Fellowship enjoyed a superb meal at the Oliver Twist Country Inn at Guyhirn. It was a great way to start the New Year - good food and good company! Our thanks to John and his staff.

February's meeting is on the 9th, when Margaret Sparrow will be demonstrating 'Encaustic Art' (hot wax painting) followed by a hands-on session.

Our meetings usually take place in WSM school hall on the second Thursday of the month and new members are always welcome. Our annual subscription is only £2, and the evening fee £1:50 per session for those you attend - if you miss a meeting - you don't have to pay for it.

Liz Hunt and Mary McClagish

ST PAUL'S ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS.

On Sunday December 18th welcoming lights shone from the church, as villagers and visitors made their way to the service. The interior of the church was beautifully decorated by volunteers and included a lovely Christmas tree kindly donated by Ashley Baldrey. Canon Matthew Bradbury welcomed everyone to the service at which lessons were read by David Humphrey, Mary Carter, Chris Seaton, Kitty Hall and the vicar.

The large choir led the carol singing and also performed 'Bright Mystical Starlight', 'The Daylight Is Fading' and 'God Be With You'. During the service the vicar gathered the children round the crib to bless it and sing 'Away in a Manger'. Michele Larkin and Katrina Mason sang a beautiful duet 'The Angel's Carol'. Following the blessing everyone united to sing 'Rocking around the Christmas tree'. Organist for the service was David Stone. As the choir sang 'We wish you a Merry Christmas' mince pies and sherry were served by Rosemary and her helpers.

Churchwarden Bill Peggs thanked everyone for coming, the choir and organist, the vicar and those who had conducted services and supported the church during the past year, including the special volunteers who keep the beautiful churchyard in such immaculate condition! Thanks also go to Phil Mason, whose installation and operation of the temporary sound system greatly enhanced the whole service.

We are grateful to Katrina for having the choir at her home for practices and with the help of mum, Daphne, and organist, David, preparing us to sing together harmoniously in time for Christmas.

Brenda Stamp

"Village Voices" 2011 © Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parochial Church Council.

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.

“FARMING IN THE FENS: 50 YEARS OF CHANGE”

Well-known local farmer, John Hoyles, of Newton, is giving the above talk in Newton Village Hall on Saturday January 28th at 7 pm. John's family have farmed in the Fens since the mid-eighteenth century and are now one of the largest local suppliers of a variety of crops to many national outlets, including Marks & Spencer, Waitrose, Morrisons and the Co-op. For over a hundred years they have been Colman's largest provider of mustard seed and have also exported bulbs to Holland!

Tickets (which include light refreshments) £4 from 01945 870413. Whilst it is possible that tickets may be available at the door, it is advisable to book early.

CITIZENS ADVICE AT PARSON DROVE

The Citizens Advice Bureau will be at Parson Drove pavilion on **February 28th** at **2.00pm**. Anyone wishing to arrange a consultation should telephone 01945 474926 not later than **February 24th**.

Advice can also be obtained by calling 01945 464367, Monday to **Thursday** between 9.30am and 1pm

GOREFIELD PLAYING FIELDCHRISTMAS DRAW

Turkey	Les Williams	Gin	George Frost
Fruit	Mrs J Bailey	Sweets	Andrew Humphrey
Whiskey	Robert Holt	Caribbean Twist	James Bradford
Rum	Melissa Bullen	Wine	M Hunt
Hamper	Melissa Bullen	Crackers	S Frost
Wine	George Frost	Notelets	June Jarvis
Tin Of Sweets	Michael Tibbs	Candle	Julie Darracot
Sherry	N Halls		

GLENYS RECEIVES A SURPRISE!

On Wednesday December 14th., Gorefield Ladies group met for their Christmas meal in the local village pub. Twenty-two ladies attended for a very enjoyable meal and happy evening in a cosy, welcoming room.


Glenys was surprised when she presented with an enormous bouquet of flowers and a thankyou from Marg. Gudgin, on behalf of the group.

Glenys gave her sincere thanks and returned her thanks for the support, at the monthly meetings. on Wednesday 25th January , was mentioned when Maralyn Clarke will speak, giving an insight into the concept of Chinese medicine.

New members always welcome at the Group's meetings in the Village Hall.

Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council would like to hear from any organisation in the parish who are planning local celebrations to mark the Queen's Jubilee. The council will be willing to make a contribution towards the costs of the event, providing they are volunteer led and not commercially based parties. Please contact the Clerk to the Council for further information.



ORMSGARD!
Dark Ages Theatre

We are an independent Dark Ages Re-enactment group with an enviable reputation. Often the preferred choice for prestigious venues such as the Sutton Hoo Royal Cenotaph and West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village.

Self-funded and active all year, we enjoy a sensible approach to 'authenticity' and maintain an excellent safety record.

We can offer challenging training in our fighting system but encourage a healthy balance between combat and traditional crafts (beginners equipment can be provided).

Whether you're an event promoter, class tutor, warrior, weaver, new recruit or old campaigner, we would welcome your enquiry...

Tel: 01945 700515
ormsgard@hotmail.com
www.ormsgard.co.uk

Notice

LEVERINGTON CHARITY FEOFFEEES
(Charity No: 232526)

Help for widows in the Parish of
Gorefield
who are in need, hardship or distress

Thomas Criplin Trust

Applications for Grants from the above Trust
will be considered from
Widows of the Parish of Gorefield

For an application form please send a stamped
addressed envelope to

The Clerk:
Mrs R J Gagen, 78 High Road, Gorefield
Wisbech, PE13 4NB

for return by **6th March 2012**

SCHOOL FUNDRAISING EVENT

On Sunday 11th December ladies choir Cantus performed at Gorefield School Hall. The choir performed lots of Christmas songs, together with many popular songs, some old some new! There were also some young soloists who's ages ranged from 10-18, their voices were beautiful. Thank you Cantus and everyone who helped make it an enjoyable afternoon. Just under £200 was raised. All proceeds go toward the Primary School New Pool Fund.

ACTIVITIES AT PARSON DROVE

Over 60s Club meets on alternate Thursdays at 2pm in St Mark's. New members welcome, Contact: M Shelly 700729.

Short Mat Bowls Club meets in the Village Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays, 2pm to 4.30pm.

Luncheon Club meets at the Butcher's Arms alternate Thursdays at midday, Details from M Shelley 700729.

Whist Drives are held on the third Tuesday of each month at St Mark's.

Line Dancing at the Village Hall on Tuesdays 1.30pm to 4pm, and Wednesdays 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Michelle 701239.

Yoga Classes are held each Monday evening in St Mark's from 7.30 to 9.00pm. Contact 700415 for details

ARCHAEOLOGIST'S TALK

Non-members are invited to a meeting of The March Society on Wednesday February 1st at 7pm in March Library. The special speaker is archaeologist Quinton Carroll who will give an outline of different settlements in the local area, entitled "The Emergence of the Fenland Towns".

SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men's Breakfast – come and join us for breakfast on a Saturday morning. Relax in a comfortable pub environment with good company, enjoy a traditional breakfast (fried or other) and have a chat about anything you want (so long as it is not illegal, immoral or fattening). We could consider current events, the church's take on things, or just general matters of interest.

The important thing is to get together in a relaxed environment.

Date: Saturday 25th February. Time: 8.30 am.

Venue: Woodman's Cottage, Gorefield.

PRIZE BINGO AT MURROW

There will be a Prize Bingo Session at Murrow Village Hall on Thursday 23 February at 7.30pm. Doors open 6.45. Excellent prizes. Raffle and refreshments.

Any donations would be gratefully received by Donna Barnes or Maureen Woollard.

All proceeds are going to the village hall to help with renovations.

SKIFFLE PLAYERS WANTED

There are plans at the *Bell Inn* Murrow to form a Skiffle group. They have a lot of percussion items, washboard, spoons, tea chest bass, etc. but they need one or two people to play Rhythm. Anyone interested is invited to contact Andy at the *Bell*. It promises to be a lot of fun!

GOREFIELD LUNCH CLUB

Another splendid meal served up to a reduced number of members of Gorefield's Lunch Club, but those that attended had a good time and enjoyed their meal. The lunch on the 7th February is liver and bacon or roast pork, and for sweet, treacle sponge or cheesecake.

Norman Carroll

VILLAGE HALL FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Sausage Supper

A Sausage Supper will be held on Saturday February 11th at 7.30pm

This has been a very enjoyable and popular event in the past so booking tickets early is advised. The cost is £8, and they can be obtained from Margaret on 870829 or any member of the committee. After the meal (please bring your own drink) the entertainment of sixties music will be provided by Tony G.

Tombola

In February there will be Tombolas on Friday 10th and Friday 24th. in the Village Hall. They will begin at the usual time of half past seven and refreshments will be available.

The March Tombolas will be on the 9th and 23rd.

EVENTS AT PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL

January 28th: Katharine of Aragon Festival

Tudor Living History Day

A day packed with activities for history fans of all ages. Enjoy some Tudor dancing and music, get involved with Tudor crafts, and make a visit to the apothecary's surgery and much more. Peterborough Cathedral 10.00am to 3.00pm all welcome – no ticket required.

Children's Tours with 'Old Scarlett'

Let the Cathedral's famous gravedigger Old Scarlett take you on a tour with a difference, packed with stories of Cathedral life in the 16th Century. Suitable for children aged five and above and accompanied by an adult. Peterborough Cathedral 10.00am – 2.00pm Tickets are £3 per adult, £2 per child. Please call Amber on 01733 355300 for more details or to book your ticket.

Cathedral Tower Tours

Reach the highest parts of Cathedral interior and its roof with a guided Tower Tour that brings a unique perspective on the buildings history and architecture. Due to the climbing and the height and the narrow staircases, these tours are unsuitable for children under ten or anyone suffering from an unsuitable health condition. Please also note also that the tours can only be run if the weather permits.

Peterborough Cathedral 10.00am to 2.00pm

Tickets are £10 and need to be booked. Please call Amber on 01733 355300 for more details or to book your ticket.

COPIES OF OLD PARISH NEWSLETTERS FOUND

A number of copies of Wisbech St Mary parish newsletters have been found and handed to the vicar, Canon Matthew Bradbury.

Included in the bundle are 49 copies of the "St Mary Messenger" which was written locally and then stapled to the "Ely Diocesan Gazette" and the "Fiery Cross" magazine. Later years' newsletters were inserted into the "Church Illustrated" magazine.

The "St Mary Messenger" was produced monthly and cost 6d per issue. The copies date from the mid-1950s to late 1960s.

Exactly 50 years ago in February 1962, the parish was in interregnum, waiting for the arrival of Rev and Mrs Barker. One of the Licensed Readers acted as editor, and in the newsletter there are details of a splendid party at Guyhirn to which the Young Wives and Mothers Union were invited. There is news of the Women's Institute and of a children's party in the Church Hall. Miss Humphrey who ran the "Mishy Do" [described in last month's "Village Voices"] had received a letter from a nurse in Masai Hospital, Tanganyika. She wrote

"Life in hospital continues as before. My first day back a man with smallpox walked in; the first case I had ever seen. We also seem to have had a number of nasty snake bites in, one man having to have his leg amputated. We've also coped with a crocodile bite and a leopard maul, plus, of course, the normal diseases and the normal and abnormal midwifery cases".

Reading the names of the flower ladies and the sidesmen bring back a lot of memories.

Flower Ladies: Mrs J Smith, Mrs Hustler, Mrs W Foster, Mrs A & Mrs L Quince, and Mrs E Shippey. Sidesmen: Messrs J Clarke, P Bird, W Armstrong, B Moyses, S and M Tawn, R Peters, A Parker, W Foster and L Francis.

Also included in the February 1962 edition was a report of a parting gift.

"When Father Bill Woodhouse left recently he was presented with a wallet containing treasury notes. Making the presentation, the churchwardens said that people in the village were losing a great friend, especially those who had suffered illness, trouble or bereavement. Mention was also made of the many improvements made in the church building during the time he was with us".

Fr Woodhouse was vicar of Wisbech St Mary for ten years. He left in December 1961 to be Rector of Yate, near Bristol.

THE ST. MARY MESSENGER

FEBRUARY, 1962



PRICE - - - - SIXPENCE

print EXCELL

- Business Cards
- Letterheads
- Leaflets
- Brochures
- Catalogues
- Newsletters
- Programmes
- Invites / Tickets
- Posters

LET US
QUOTE YOU
HAPPY!

Tel: 01945 466711 Mobile: 07783 943 743
Email: info@printexcell.com

8 ALGORES WAY • WISBECH • CAMBS • PE13 2TQ

Wisbech St Mary Community Centre **User Groups & Times 2012**

Lots of clubs, activities and entertainment – also please look for local updates, posters etc.

Mon. Murrow Children's Centre – Weekly Mon. 12.30 – 3.00 (held in the Sidings) parents/carers and children. Contact Christina 01945 701237

Street Dance/Ballet – Instruction – Weekly on Mondays from 3.30 – 6.00 (held in the Sidings) Contact Mrs. Edwards 01406 540023

Women's Institute – Monthly (third Monday in the month) from 7.30 (held in the Sidings) Contact Alma Walsh 01945 410843

Zumba, Fitness Dance – Weekly Mon. eve. 5.45 – 8.45 contact Kathleen 07880543821

Short Mat Bowls – Weekly on Mon. eve. from 7.00 – 9.30 contact Avis 01945 410452

Tues. Parents & Toddlers – Weekly on Tues. mom 9.30 – 11.30 (held in the Sidings) Contact Sarah 01945 410503

History Group – Monthly (fourth Tues. in the month) from 7.00 – 9.00 (held in the Sidings) Contact Brian 01945 410755

Dance Group – Monthly Tues. from 2.00 - 4.30 monthly and Sat. Night, monthly contact Alf 01945 450432

Tea Dance – Monthly Tues. from 2.00 – 4.30 Contact Tanya 01945 410473 (latest date displayed on notice board)

Line Dancing Instruction – Weekly Tues. eve from 7.30 – 9.00 Contact Brian 01354 656641

Ballroom & Latin Dance Instruction – Weekly Tues. eve. at 8.00pm contact Brian 01354 656641

Wed. Girl Guides – Weekly on a Wed. 6.30 – 8.00 Contact Sarah 01354 659269

Pool Team – Weekly on Wed. nights from 8.00 – Contact Nick 410038

Thurs. The Youth Club – Weekly on a Thurs. eve. from 7.00 – 9.00 contact Paul 01945 410610

Good Companions – Fortnightly on a Thurs. 2.00 – 4.30 (held in the Sidings) contact Betty 01945 410708

Fri. Murrow Children's Centre – Weekly Fri. 9.00 – 1.30 Catering Courses (Station Bar Kitchen) Contact Christina 01945 701237 (from 24th Feb.)

Darts Team – Weekly on Fri. nights – Contact 01945 410432

Sun. Zumba Fitness Dance – Weekly on Sun. morning from 10.30 – contact Nicola 01945 411874

WSM Social Fishing Club – Fish every 2 weeks – Contact Simon 01945 410274

WSM Football Club – provides football for all ages. Ladies, men, girls, boys contact Martin 01945 410243

For general enquiries or bookings – Please contact us on 0845 2255566 or via website
www.wsmcommunity.com

~ Entertainment & Events Planned So Far for 2012 ~

'Fenland's Got Talent' – Heats on Fri. Eve's March 2nd & April 27th (from 7.30)
and Sat. June 23rd (afternoon)
(Final on Sunday afternoon during The Country Fayre)

This Year's Country Fayre: Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th June
(Saturday may include 'It's a Knockout' – Any group or organisation that may be interested please contact....Prize for Winning Team)

Fenland Beerfest with Evening Entertainment Wed. 20th to Sun. 24th June

For Further Information please see local updates, posters or contact number/website as above

