

Village Voices January 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!

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

'Vicar's Verbals

I suppose starting the New Year with a broken tooth might seem to some a bad omen, but upon mature reflection it's all down to eating too many cakes and biscuits and the wear and tear of 54 years of munching. A broken tooth seems huge 'on the inside'; it feels like my tongue has twice its usual resting space, but is now bordered on one side by a great cliff of razor sharp molar. The fragment which the coriander naan 'liberated' is, however, a tiny token of my loss in the palm of my hand – no sixpence this time! Life's little disasters always seem so huge to us 'on the inside' yet often amount to nothing more than a passing irritation and some minor discomfort. And what appears a total disaster to me is merely another patient's procedure to the dentist. It's a little late to take notice of his admonition to 'take more care of your teeth and don't eat sweet things between meals' but I suppose I can always try to turn over a new leaf. Making a resolution to 'try harder next time' is commonplace this time of year, but the cost and consequences of our failure to keep promises add an incentive to succeed, especially when the teeth we lose don't grow back. Politicians and bankers please take note. **Matthew.**

Rev Canon Matthew Bradbury, The Vicarage,
Church Road, Wisbech St Mary, PE13 4RN.
01945 410814.
matthew.bradbury@ely.anglican.org

INSTALLATION OF CANON BRADBURY

The Revd Matthew Bradbury will be installed as an Honorary Canon in Ely Cathedral on Saturday January 28th at 5.30pm. Canon Bradbury will continue as Vicar of Wisbech St Mary and Guyhirn with Ring's End, Gorefield, and Southea with Murrow and Parson Drove, and as Rural Dean of Wisbech Lynn Marshland. He can be contacted on 410814.

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 21st January.

Time: 8.30 am.

Venue: Woodmans Arms, Gorefield.

SOLEMN MASS FOR EPIPHANY AT ST LEONARD'S

A Solemn Mass with a choir will be celebrated in St Leonard's church, Leverington, on Friday January 6th at 7.30pm.

Parishioners from all churches north of the Nene are invited to attend

ANNUAL EPIPHANY SERVICE AT GUYHIRN

The Annual Epiphany Service in Guyhirn's 17th century Chapel of Ease is to be held on Saturday January 7th at 2.30pm.

Residents and visitors are very welcome to attend this unique occasion. If the weather is cool, wear warm clothing and bring a rug!

The service of is followed by seasonal refreshments.

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, commencing January 14th 2012. 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 be open from 9 am to 12 noon.

MORE NEWS, PLEASE!

One of the great strengths of "Village Voices" is its capacity to report news of village organisations and community events throughout its wide catchment area. Whilst we are happy to include notices of forthcoming events, we need follow-up news of the occasion or its personalities. When sharing news and information it may encourage new members to join the wide variety of activities on offer in our five villages and four hamlets.

The editor is anxious to keep a balance of news from each of our communities. It is not necessary to send in reports in best journalistic grammar; we will happily do that for you. Just send the details to paynewsm@btinternet.com, we will do the rest!

WE DID REMEMBER THEM

Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church was filled on Remembrance Sunday when the congregations of the parish church and the Methodist church joined to commemorate those from the villages who gave their lives in the two World Wars, and those from the United Kingdom who died more recently in Afghanistan. Canon Matthew Bradbury presided at the service, and the Rev Ryk Parkinson gave a thought-provoking sermon.

Members of the Royal British Legion, WSM Parish Council, The Scout and Guide Associations and members of the congregation placed wreaths and crosses at the base of the great east window of the church which is the Wisbech Saint Mary village war memorial.

At midday a wreath-laying ceremony, led by Brian Payne and Rev Parkinson, was held at the Guyhirn war memorial.

A Service of Remembrance was held in St Paul's church, Gorefield, conducted by the vicar Canon Bradbury. At Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, the Remembrance service was conducted by Lilian Brigden and Mike Brown, who afterwards presided at a wreath-laying service at Murrow war memorial.

The Register

We welcome into the church family

Mattala Poppy Summers who was baptised in Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, on Sunday November 20th.

Lilly May Hill who was baptised in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Sunday November 20th.

Davie Lesley Lee Walters and **Harley Craig Walters** who were baptised in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Sunday December 4th.

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

Dawn Evelyn Seymour whose funeral was at Peterborough Crematorium on Tuesday November 15th.

Sheila Eileen Burrows whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church followed by burial in WSM Cemetery, on Monday November 21st.

Jennifer Birkhill whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church, followed by cremation at Mintlyn, on Friday November 25th.

William Tom (Billy) Mews whose funeral was at Fenland Crematorium on Friday November 25th.

Arthur Clark whose funeral service was at St Paul's church, Gorefield, followed by cremation at Fenland on Thursday December 15th

Evelyn Helliwell whose funeral service was at Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, followed by cremation at Peterborough on Friday December 16th.

In memoriam

John Garner whose ashes were laid in Wisbech St Mary Garden of Remembrance on Sunday November 27th.

Eileen Hammond whose ashes were laid in Parson Drove churchyard on Wednesday December 14th.

+ Regular Services +

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.

Jan 1st: Greeters. Pauline & Diane. Coffee: Sandra.

Jan 8th: Greeters. Sue & Jenny. Coffee. Shelagh.

Jan 15th: Greeter. Barbara. Coffee. Pam.

Jan 29th: Greeters Chris & Shelagh

Coffee Pam and helpers.

Flower Rota for January: Pam Willaims

St Paul's Church, Gorefield:

except 3rd Sunday.10.00am: Holy Communion

3rd Sunday.10.00am: Morning Worship

Murrow Methodist Church 10.30am

Jan 1st: Local arrangement

Jan 8th: Covenant Service. Rev N Hannah.

Jan 15th: Mr G Beeken.

Jan 22nd: Mrs E Bennett.

Jan 29th: 2.30pm. At Tydd St Giles.

St Mark's Methodist Church, P D

Jan 1st: No service.

Jan 8th: 9.30. United service in Parish Church.

Jan 15th: 10.30. Local arrangement.

Jan 22nd: United Covenant Service. Rev N Hannah.

Jan 29th: 2.30. At Tydd St Giles.

"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.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Rev. Matthew Bradbury invited the children of Gorefield Pre-school to a Christingle service on Thursday the 8th December. After the morning preparing the oranges the children, parents and teachers made their way to church to find out the meaning of the Christingle. Everyone who attended really enjoyed the service and the children sang some carols that had been practised with the teachers in school.

Thank you Rev. Matthew for inviting the Pre-school and parents along to this enjoyable service.

Rebecca Brown

**Christingle services were also held in Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove, and in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Church with the children of WSM Church of England School.

CHRISTINGLE THANKS

A big Thank You to everyone who brought gifts to the Christingle and Gift Service in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church. 70 gifts were received and divided between the Ferry Project, 32 gifts, (male and female) for the homeless under their care, and the Ormiston Trust, 38 gifts, (34 for children, 4 for adults) for those looked after by Sure Start March. The fact that we have been thinking of them at Christmas makes a big difference to them all. Thank you, once again, and please keep them in your prayers.

Lilian Bridgen

OVER £500 RAISED FOR CHILDREN'S WARD

Thank you to everyone who attended or gave donations towards our charity coffee morning on December 10th. A total of £525 was raised for the Rudham Children's Ward, at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn.

Many thanks to everyone for your continued support at our charity events. The Albutt family wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

LIVELY EVENING AT WSM WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Patsy Rose, a professional singer and guitarist, entertained us on December 1st with some lively songs and Christmas carols, followed by refreshments, mince pies and the exchanging of Christmas gifts. Leverington Ladies joined us for the evening's entertainment.

Many ladies have filled in their choice of menu for the New Year Meal to be held at the Oliver Twist in Guyhirn on Thursday January 12th at 6:30pm. Please contact Mary or Liz by 5th January if you wish to go and haven't yet given your order. Thank you.

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

£805 RAISED AT CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with Parson Drove's Emmanuel Church Christmas Fayre, and to all those who attended and supported the event so generously. Thanks also to Father Christmas and his helper for calling in with presents for the children. We are pleased to report that the splendid sum of £805 was raised for church funds, thank you all very much. **Trevor Rawlings**

TEA AND MINCE PIES AT MOTHER'S UNION

At our last meeting in 2011 we were shown the photographs by Sarah Bradbury, that were taken when the Acolytes' Guild went to London in the summer. We finished our meeting with tea and mince pies. Our first meeting in the New Year will be on Tuesday January 3rd in WSM Church House. Everyone most welcome. May you all have a really good New Year. **Lilian**

REFLEXOLOGY DEMONSTRATION

Gorefield Ladies Group, met on Wednesday November 23rd, when Glenys welcomed members and guests to a well attended evening. Patricia Harris, a Complementary Therapist, talked about her interesting work and gave a demonstration of reflexology and benefits of a neck/shoulder massage. Barbara was the lucky volunteer to receive the treatment.

The raffle was held and refreshments served by Wendy Gautrey and Jenny Blackwell. Wendy and Barbara Mitchell celebrated birthdays November. The menu choices were taken for the Christmas Meal on December 14th.

The New Year starts with our meeting on January 25th at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall, when Maralyn Clarke will be talking on her insight into the concept of Chinese Medicine and physiotherapy. New members welcome.

A Happy Christmas to all. **Glenys Grimm**

GOREFIELD PRE-SCHOOL'S THANKS

A big thank you to everyone who came along and supported our Pre-school on our bingo evening on November 18th. And a big thank you to all the businesses that donated prizes, without which the evening wouldn't have been able to take place. We managed to make a profit of £184, which will be used to purchase new toys and equipment for the Pre-school.

Thank you to all who visited our Christmas Fayre on December 3rd. Although the event wasn't a big success as in the past we are very happy with the profit we made. A big thank you to all the people who purchased a stall, and to all the staff and parents who helped out on the day and baked cakes for our stall. Profit made was £160 which will pay for the children's Christmas party. **Rebecca Brown**

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

HISTORY GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of the Villages History Group will be Tuesday January 24th at 7pm in the Sidings Room at the WSM Community Centre.

The aim of this informal group is for members to have an understanding of the local, family and social history of the ancient ecclesiastical parishes of Wisbech St Mary, (which included Guyhirn, Murrow, Thorney Toll, Tholomas Drove and Wisbech Fen), and St John the Baptist, Parson Drove.

It is envisaged that the Group will be working with old documents and photographs to add to the present knowledge of local history. Part of the evening is given over to oral history, when members can recount stories and experiences which have been handed down which enhance the parish archives.

The Group works closely with the Wisbech & Fenland Museum, where guided evening visits will be available from time to time.

MONTHLY DISCUSSION GROUP PLANNED

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: Wednesday 8th February

Time: 7.15pm to 9.00pm.

Venue: Gorefield Village Hall.

'ASPIRE' CHARITY SWIM

I have now completed the 22 mile swim for people with spinal cord injuries, mentioned previously in "Village Voices". I found this a wonderful experience, swimming 32 lengths at each session until the total reached was the required 1416. So many of you expressed interest and encouragement in my venture and I thank you most sincerely for this. Above all I must thank all those who donated to the charity I was swimming for. You raised £77.33 either by donating to me direct or putting in cash in the bucket at reception. This was a helpful boost to the grand total of £400.

David Davies

Mr Davies adds the following note:

New Year Resolutions

May I recommend that you start going to our local swimming pool at the leisure centre in Harecroft Road, Wisbech. You may not have swum since your school days or you may not be able to swim. If you are in the latter group don't worry, apparently one in five can't swim. You will find the water warm and welcoming. The staff are friendly and supportive. If you need lessons, they are available and very reasonably priced. After a short while, you will value the exercise. In fact, swimming exercises the whole body - heart, lungs and muscles. Unlike other sports swimming is practically injury-free. If you become a regular swimmer, you will in time look forward to your pool visits and will miss them when you cannot go!

A Happy New Year to all readers and Good Luck in all resolutions you make.

AN INVITATION TO PLAY BOWLS

Gorefield Bowls Club wishes everyone a Happy New Year. The Club's AGM will be held in the clubhouse on February 12th at 10.30am. If you are interested in joining please go along to that meeting .

New members will be more than welcome even if they have never bowled before. Keep looking in "Village Voices" for the date of the opening of the green, when new and current members will be competing in a drive. Tuition will be given to young and old.

THORNEY TOLL WELCOMES THE RETURN OF THE SILVER TROWEL

The unique silver and ivory trowel used by the Rev Joshua Cautley when laying the foundation stone of St Paul's Mission church and school at Thorney Toll in June 1872 has been purchased at an auction in Phoenix, Arizona and has now arrived back in the UK. At a ceremony attended by residents and visitors in Thorney Toll Village Hall on Sunday December 4th, the trowel was rededicated by the vicar, Canon Matthew Bradbury, and placed on display. Brian Payne outlined the history of the church building, now unfortunately demolished, and explained how the trowel was brought back from America. Councillor John Fish, on behalf of the residents, thanked those responsible for obtaining the trowel. Two photographs of the church were presented to the Village Hall to remind residents of part of their heritage.

**A fund has been opened to help defray the cost of purchasing the trowel, details of which are available from Mr Payne on 01945 410755.

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

A family Quiz Night is planned for Friday February 3rd in Murrow Village Hall. The Quiz, timed at 7 for 7.30pm, is to raise funds towards providing new steps at the village hall. Light refreshments will be available at half-time, but people are invited to bring their own drinks.

VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of Guyhirn Village Hall is to be held on Thursday January 19th 2012, at 7pm. This is an opportunity for residents to learn of the committee's work during the past year, and to be involved in the management of this important asset in the village.

WSM LUNCHEON CLUB DATES

There are three lunches this month at the Bridge Inn, Wisbech St Mary, for members of the WSM Luncheon Club. They are Tuesdays 3rd, 17th and 31st January, all at 12 midday. Please contact Marjorie on 410511, or the Bridge Inn on 410555 if you can't attend.

EXTRA SEATS AT THE LUNCH CLUB

Guyhirn Luncheon Club can now provide six extra lunches at the Chequers Inn, Tholomas Drove. Lunch is served at 12.30pm on the second Thursday of each month. To book your place please ring 450212.

CHRISTMAS BINGO THANK YOU

We had a wonderful result from our Christmas Bingo, raising £300 for the playing field fund towards our New Pavilion, Thanks to all the helpers, friends who donated prizes, and all who came along to support us to enjoy a very pleasant evening.

Marie Humphrey

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.

Shire Horses of Gorefield

Shire horses were worked on the farms of Gorefield until the mid 1960's when the tractor completely replaced them, though some local farmers retained them for the potato harvest. Many continued to breed and show their horses at local, county and national shows. Gorefield had many such men; the late Les Cooper, Stanley Hammond, George Brownlow, Tom Ward, Harold Reeve, as well as Dick Smith, Bill and Tom Brownlow, and Graham Ward and the stallion leader Alf Balls.

The first year the Show was held at Richmond Hall with 13 mares and foals being shown and 15 horses exhibited in the local class (ie within a four mile radius of Gorefield church).

The Gorefield Show continues to be one of the top heavy horse shows in East Anglia. More horses being shown there in 2011 than at the East of England Show. Exhibitors come from Essex, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Suffolk, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, and of course Cambridgeshire.

Over the years many top awards have been acquired both at local and national shows, including two championships at the Midland Foal Show, National Champion Female and Stallion, Champion Horse of the Year, champion of Royal Show of England and Champion single horse turnout.

2011 East of England Autumn Show: Gorefield flies the flag!

Wisbech Shire Horse Society Show in conjunction with the East of England Autumn Show at Peterborough was a great success.

49 heavy horses were shown including Shires, Percherons, Suffolk's, Clydesdales. A ridden class with 10 exhibitors followed. Young handlers from East Anglia were competing for the Championship of the year. These young people, under the age of 19, have to win at a qualifying show during the summer. They must be able to present their horse, and show it, before the judge of the day.

Graham Ward's *Decoy Royal Sunrise* was first in the yearling class of 8, and went on to become Reserve Champion of the show. Sue Collins from Tydd St Giles had a great result in the ridden class of 10.

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.

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.

DON AND BESSIE CELEBRATE THEIR DIAMOND WEDDING

as reported in the Fenland Citizen

A Gorefield couple who married in a double wedding have celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary.

Don and Bessie Bailey met when Don's sister Audrey and Bessie's brother Bernard started going out and after four years of courting, the two couples had a double wedding at Gorefield Parish Church on December 8, 1951. Sadly, Bernard died several years ago but the Baileys still include Audrey in everything and she was at the family party to celebrate their anniversary.

Don, who is now 84, worked for 50 years as a basket maker and Bessie, who is 83, worked in agriculture for 30 years. The couple had two daughters – Rosemary and Julie – and now have three grandsons and a granddaughter, as well as two great-grandsons and two great-granddaughters.

Don was practically a founder member of the Wisbech branch of the St Raphael Club and has been going there for 50 years. He and Bessie still attend weekly meetings there. They are a quiet couple and spend most of their time at home where Bessie enjoys knitting, sewing and reading and Don keeps sharp with puzzles.

PARSON DROVE POPPY APPEAL

Thanks have been expressed by the treasurer of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in Parson Drove and Murrow to all collectors, whether static or house-to-house, and to those who donated prizes for the Poppy Tombola. An impressive total of £1,720 was raised.

Snips £47.79; Swan Inn £29.08; Five Bells £100.75; The Bell, Murrow £32.21; Butchers' Arms £12.18; Murrow School £32.04; Parson Drove school £34.04; Parson Drove PO £28.74; S Vialls £45.19; ABC Meats £15.56; CB Autos £48.62; Arron Stores, Murrow £30.60; Parson Drove Pharmacy £37.22; B Hunt £129.17; Pam Judge £84.48; G Booth £175.31; Mrs Thrower £106.44; Barbara Wright £86.15; Mrs Sanderson £56.95; Mrs Cook £49.74. Total: £1,182.26. Tombola £318.60. Church collection £139.14. Wreaths £80.00.

Grand Total: £1,720.00. This represents an increase of £84 on last year.

**A Royal British Legion Branch Tombola raised £314.60.

What was the MISHY DO?

Miss Elsie Humphrey organised and ran the enormously popular "Mishy Do" in Wisbech St Mary for many years. With the active support of the parish church, the event, originally held in St Mary's Hall, and later in the village hall, raised hundreds of pounds for the Universities' Mission to Central Africa. It was a sale of work and included performances by local children.

One such event was recorded in the parish magazine of May 1964:

"The Missionary Sale with a play and a film was very successful although not a record. Nearly £31 was raised for UMCA funds. A knitted blanket, 7 coloured vests and a number of knitted roller bandages and triangular bandages were sent away for a hospital in Masasi Diocese in East Africa. The Working Party children gave a play called "A far-away visitor". Those taking part were Katherine Godfrey, Jean and Elizabeth Ward, Andrea Barsby and Susan Ward. The film "We haven't yet begun", about Father Trevor Huddleston's work in East Africa, was a really excellent one.

Many thanks are due to all who helped in any way. Stallholders: Mesdames Bird, Bunting and Barker. Bran Tub: Mrs E Smith. At the door: Mrs B Burrows, and also Mr and Mrs C Nicholson who organised the Draw".

**The Universities' Mission to Central Africa (c.1857 - 1965) was a missionary society established by members of the Anglican Church within the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, and Dublin. It was firmly in the Anglo-Catholic tradition of the Church, and the first to devolve authority to a bishop in the field rather than to a home committee. Founded in response to a plea by David Livingstone, the society established the mission stations that grew to be the bishoprics of Zanzibar and Nyasaland (later Malawi), and pioneered the training of black African priests.

BIG TURNOUT FOR CHRISTMAS MART

The Christmas Mart in WSM Church House was crowded with shoppers eagerly buying the wonderful selection of homemade food and produce. Over £150 was raised for church funds.

The next Mart is on Saturday January 14th, (8.45 to 10.00) with the usual selection of cakes, marmalades, jams, scones and other fancies, and the opportunity to have a chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

The Mart is a regular monthly feature in the village and everyone is invited to call in. The Mart ladies would welcome any help in organising the room each month. If you can assist please ring 410755.

CITIZENS ADVICE AT PARSON DROVE

The Citizens Advice Bureau will be at Parson Drove pavilion on **January 24th at 2.00pm**. Anyone wishing to arrange a consultation should telephone 01945 474926 not later than **January 20th**.

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

OVER £4,500 RAISED FOR SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL

Two significant fundraising events have been held to support the swimming pool project at Gorefield Primary School.

An Auction including Deeds and Promises was held at the Woodmans Cottage Gorefield in November. The event was an incredible success, raising just over £1,500. My fellow organisers and I would like to say a huge thank-you, not only to all who attended, but also to all the local companies, parents/carers who helped us with donations of goods, products and services, not forgetting the deeds and favours, with your support, kindness and generosity we are closer to achieving our goal and are hoping the children will have their pool back ready for the summer term. Also a thank you to the Woodmans for the use of their facility, a fun night was enjoyed by all. **Mrs L Warren**

On the 26th November it was time to get wet as over 40 parents, friends and pupils took part in the Cross Channel sponsored swim. The Hudson Leisure Centre was the venue for this challenge and huge thanks to Dan Bryan and all the staff for their help with this. The aim of the evening was to swim the equivalent of the English Channel (some 20+ miles) but sponsors were so generous and swimmers so enthusiastic that by the end of the evening not only had the channel been crossed but the return journey had been completed as well!! Once again it was a fantastic event with everyone going the extra mile (quite literally) to raise over a staggering £3000. Huge well done to everyone involved. **Helen Page**

REDUCTION IN SPEEDING FIGURES

Gorefield (High Road) -	66 Vehicles Checked, 4 Speeding
Guyhirn (High Road)	92 Vehicles Checked, 0 Speeding
Leverington (Leverington Common)	134 Vehicles Checked, 6 Speeding
Murrow (Murrow Bank)	63 Vehicles Checked, 6 Speeding
Parson Drove (Main Road)	69 Vehicles Checked, 6 Speeding
Wisbech St Mary (Station Road)	35 Vehicles Checked, 7 Speeding

CHILDRENS SOCIETY BOXES

RAISE £237

Members of the congregation at Wisbech St Mary and Guyhirn church have raised £237 in collecting boxes for the Children's Society. The co-ordinator, Wendy Foster, expressed her thanks to all who took part in the collection.

LUNCHEON CLUB'S CHRISTMAS MEAL

At Gorefield Luncheon Club's Christmas lunch we were treated to a splendid meal supplied by Kelly and Karaina of the 'Woodmans'. The meal was subsidised slightly from the profits of the monthly raffle, giving a cake for the raffle and a 'cake-pop' for each member made by Cheryl Ridley, and a biro pen for each member present. Eddie and Julie Watts conducted the quiz based on lines of songs or carols about Christmas, when everybody was frantically trying to remember the words and tunes. Our Secretary, Jean Mill, was organising the smooth running of who ordered what, and Frances Young and Brenda Frost, helped my wife Steve, to run the raffle as they do every month. As Chairman, I would like to thank all those above for their help and support in making Gorefield Luncheon Club the largest (so I have been told) in Fenland. Having had a successful 2011, we now have to strive to make 2012 as successful or even better. **Norman Carroll**

THANK YOU

Sheila Goodley, of Gorefield, wishes to thank everyone for all the cards and messages during her recent hospitalisation. She is grateful for everyone's kindness and is well on the way to a full recovery.

MURROW 200 CLUB WINNERS

Wk3 - No. 85 - Mrs Kedziora
No. 89 - Mrs Coates
Wk4 - No. 64 - Rita Patrick
No. 190 - Mary Lane
Wk5 - No. 150 - A. Lamming
No. 49 - J Morley
Wk6 - No. 58 - G Chapman
No. 55 - T Barnes

OUTSTANDING NATIVITY SERVICE AT PARSON DROVE

Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove, was filled with pupils, teachers, parents and friends for the Payne School's Christmas Nativity Service. The children sang "Mary had a baby", "Little donkey" and an African Song. China and Russia Classes performed the Nativity, and members of Russia class read "This is the Star" by Joyce Dunbar. There was also a contribution by the School Radical Recorder Group. The children and congregation joined in singing "O little town of Bethlehem" and "O come all ye faithful". The service, which was considered to be a great success, was blessed by Father Matthew Bradbury.

UNITED SERVICE FOR CANDLEMAS

Congregat8ions and cisitors from our three parishes are invited to a United Service in Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove, on Sunday Januaryu 29th at 10am, to celebrate Candlemas. The Communion service will be attended by members of the Acolytes' Guild.

***Traditionally, Candle Mass referred to the practice whereby a priest on ar about 2nd February blessed beeswax candles for use throughout the yearm some of which were distrivbuted to the faithful for use in the home.*

VOICES PAST

The Case of the Stolen Turkey at Wisbech St Mary

A report in the "Wisbech Advertiser" from the 1880s.

A respectable-looking young man, who gave the name of James Walter Scarborough, a stranger in the neighbourhood, was charged at the Isle of Ely Police Court with stealing a young turkey, value 2s 6d, the property of Margaret Steward. Mr Carrick appeared for the defendant.

Margaret Steward stated: I keep the Wheel public house at Wisbech St Mary. On Tuesday last I had a brood of young turkeys on my premises. I believe the young turkey produced to be one of the brood belonging to me. I know the accused by sight. I saw him at Wisbech St Mary last Tuesday. On the same day I saw my turkeys safe at five o'clock in the afternoon, and missed one of them at half-past six. The accused came to my house in the morning and had a glass of ale and some biscuits, and then left, and the last time I saw him was about half-past five, when he was going up the road towards Wisbech. I saw the police officer in the evening, and told him that I had lost a young turkey. The same night he showed me the turkey, and I asked him to let me have it, but he refused.

In answer to cross-examination by Mr Carrick, Mrs Steward said: The reason I asked the police officer for the turkey was because I thought it would do better with me than if he kept it. I did not think it would live till today if he kept it.

Mr Carrick: You don't want to press this charge, do you? Mrs Steward: No, but I thought if I did not take proceedings, he might be up to the same thing again when he came round in a fortnight's time. This is the first young turkey I have lost.

Joseph Thurgate, labourer, stated: I live at Wisbech St Mary, and know the accused by sight. About half-past five on Tuesday evening, I saw him come from the Wheel public house towards Wisbech. He stepped into the gripple by the side of the road, about twenty yards from the public house, and caught a young turkey. He held it in his hand, and then put it under his coat, and I expect he put it in his pocket. He stood about five or ten minutes watching the other turkeys, and then he walked away towards Wisbech with the young turkey he had picked up. I believe the turkey to be Mrs Steward's.

In answer to Mr Carrick, the witness said: There were four or five people about who could have seen the accused take the turkey. My

little boy, seven years old, also saw him take it. I was on the same side of the road as the accused. I saw him walk away towards Wisbech. I thought he was someone that Mrs Steward knew, and that he was only playing a joke with the turkey.

Pc Bunn stated: In consequence of a message I received from the prosecutrix, I came to Wisbech last Tuesday evening and went to the Recreation Ground. I there saw the accused and asked him to accompany me to the Sessions House to see Superintendent Anker. He walked with me to the Sessions House. There was nothing said between us on the way. We saw Supt Anker who charged the accused with stealing a young turkey at Wisbech St Mary belonging to Mrs Steward.

The accused said "If it's the turkey you want, you can have it" He then accompanied me to a house, when he said "The turkey is in the closet. I gave it some grass and sand" I took possession of it, and brought it away. The accused came back to the Sessions House with me, and I left him with Supt Anker. The accused said to me "A young turkey came across me as I was walking along the road, and I thought I should like to try and raise one, and I brought it to Wisbech".

Mr Carrick said he elected to have the case summarily dealt with. In answer to the charge, the accused said he now admitted taking the turkey, but not feloniously.

Mr Carrick then addressed the Bench for the accused. He said it was lamentable to see anybody brought before the magistrates to answer a charge of this kind, and it was sad indeed to see a young man belonging to a respectable family, as the defendant did, in such a position, which had been brought about by his own indiscretion. This was neither more nor less than a silly freak on the part of the defendant, which was borne out by the manner in which the offence was committed.

Mr Carrick submitted that the defendant could not have the slightest intention to feloniously steal the turkey, as he picked it up openly and in the presence of several persons whom he must have known could see what he was doing. Under these circumstances, he asked the Bench to deal with the charge as leniently as they possibly could.

After the magistrates had considered the case, the Chairman told the defendant that he must have known when he picked the turkey up that he was doing wrong, for which he was liable for heavy punishment. They had decided, however, to deal favourably with him, and he would be fined 40s with 26s 6d costs. The money was paid.

Mobile Library Stops

1st Thursday: Jan 5th	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

3rd Thursday: January 19th	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 School	11:30	12:45

3rd Wednesday: January 18th	Arr	Dep
Gorefield School	15:00	15:40
Gorefield Post Office	15:45	16:00
Gorefield Mill Height	16:05	16:25

4th Thursday: January 26th	Arr	Dep
Wisbech St Mary Blundell Terr	10:00	10:15
2nd +4th Friday: D	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
Guyhim Chapelfield	15:45	16:05

EPIPHANY

The Visit of the Magi

As told in St Matthew's Gospel

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another path.

They are mentioned twice shortly thereafter, in reference to their avoidance of Herod after seeing Jesus, and what Herod had learned from their earlier meeting.

Clerk

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

Chairman

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

Gorefield Parish Councillors

Norman Carroll. Tel: 01945 870387
Mrs Kitty Hall. Tel: 01945 870132
Alan Holt. Tel: 01945 870457
Mrs Marie Humphrey. Tel: 01945 410436
Mrs Jacqueline Hunns. Tel: 01945 870189
George Ridley. Tel: 07545 732908

Fenland District Council

Councillors for Roman Bank Ward

Philip Halton 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 and may address the meeting, before it is opened, to raise any issues they have. Thereafter members of the public may remain as observers but there are not permitted to be part of the 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**

Extracts from the minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2011

Present: Councillors Humphrey, Carroll, Holt, Mrs Humphrey, Mrs Hunns, Ridley and Mrs Hall
Apologies: Councillor Tierney and PCSO Bogunovic. Mr & Mrs Harvey

99/11 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**; No members of the public had anything they wish to discuss

100/11 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**; held on 11th October 2011 were confirmed and signed with an alteration to minute number 94/11 (7) Councillor Mrs Hall and others are interested in organising a tea for the Golden Jubilee not the Village Hall Committee.

103/11 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**; Councillor Holt declared a personal interest in planning application no F/YR11/0728/F and will take no part in the decision making process

104/11 **POLICE LIAISON**; PCSO Bogunovic unable to attend the meeting but had e-mailed a report to the clerk. Reported crimes since the last meeting: Black Lane cast iron post box stolen, High Road car stereo stolen from motor vehicle, High Road public telephone kiosk windows broken, High Road disturbance outside public house, Wolf Lane ASB on playing field, High Road white van touting for scrap seen hanging around properties. Clerk to e-mail PCSO Bogunovic with a report on all the graffiti that has been done recently.

106/11 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**: (1) Highway Matters; Charles Bedford has e-mailed photographs of a pot hole repair he says was carried out in Back Road. Unfortunately this was not the one in question. Query to be sent asking where it was. Clerk to give further details of the repair, which was outside Merlins near streetlight FPC1. Councillor Ridley has been invited to attend a meeting for Highway Wardens. Councillor Mrs Hall asked if he could get confirmation about a cold weather plan she had seen in the press. Every winter there is always the matter of liability if snow clearing etc is carried out.

Matthew Pickering has met with the manager of the home at 73 High Road and he has arranged for the hedge to be substantially cut back to improve visibility at the Cattle Dyke junction. Unfortunately this still does not solve the issue for mobility scooters crossing here (5) New Pavilion; A meeting has been arranged for 4th November to meet with Steven Barclay MP and funders.

(6) Parish Plan; Follow up meeting re speeding and parking outside the school has been arranged for 8th November at 2 pm.

(7) Queen's Diamond Jubilee; A request has been received from the Gorefield School for funding for a tea party and help to supply the children in the school with Golden Jubilee coins. It was agreed that Councillor Mrs Hall will liaise with the head teacher to see if it would be possible to amalgamate the celebrations together. It was agreed that the Council would not wish to fund the supply of coins as not all village children would receive them. If able Councillor Mrs Hall will attend the workshop being organized by Fenland DC to help with the organising of events.

107/11 **CORRESPONDENCE**; All correspondence to be circulated to Councillors

110/11 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**; Luncheon Club has now been running for 10 years. Sue Beel attended today's luncheon. Group is now the largest in Fenland. Councillor Carroll attended a Fenland Liaison Meeting where document archiving was discussed. Information to be included with the correspondence.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 3rd January 2012