

Village Voices July 2009



Village Voices is produced by the parish churches for the local community providing news and information for:
Guyhirn-Gorefield-Murrow-Parson Drove-Rings End-Tholomas Drove-Thorney Toll-Wisbech St Mary
A warm welcome to all newcomers&visitors to our villages!

'Vicar's Verbals'

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

Matthew.

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

CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION IN WISBECH ST MARY

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

....AND THE RAIN CAME!

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

NORTH NENE JOINT EUCHARIST

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

MOTHERS' UNION

At our meeting on Tuesday June 2nd we heard about the Retreat to Launde Abbey that had taken place on May 27th to 29th.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday July 7th at 2.15pm in the Church House, WSM. Everyone is most welcome at our meetings. There will be no meeting in August.

Love to you all, Lilian Brigden.

CANON FRANCIS WOOLLEY TO RETIRE

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

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

SERVICES AT GUYHIRN CHAPEL OF EASE

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

The next scheduled service is **Morning Worship at 9.30am on Sunday June 21st**.

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

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

Copy deadline: 15th of every month.

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

Advertising

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

+ Regular Services +

St Mark's Methodist Church, Parson Drove

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

Murrow Methodist Church

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

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

Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church:

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

Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove:

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

St Paul's Church, Gorefield:

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

GOREFIELD LADIES' GROUP HEAR ABOUT TV ROBOTS

Glenys Grimm welcomed members to the May meeting. In the absence of the scheduled speaker, Gordon Grimm attended at short notice and gave a talk on his involvement in Team Iron Awe. He and his son have been competing with robots since 2000, and have appeared on the TV show "Robot Wars". His team are currently UK champions, and also Robots Live & Robot Wars champions. Thanks were extended to Mr Grimm. The proceeds of the evening were donated to the Donkey Sanctuary. The next meeting is on Wednesday June 24th, when Brian Payne will give a talk entitled "Prison or Workhouse". On July 22nd the Group will enjoy an escorted visit to florist Tim Meakin's NGS garden at Outwell. Members must arrive at 7pm. Refreshments will be available at £2, which is donated to a charity. Details on 870276.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP PLAN AHEAD

At the June meeting of the WSM Women's Fellowship we planned our entertainment for the new season - and I look forward to seeing the swans at Welney as well as hearing many new speakers. July's meeting is our coach trip to Moulton Mill. We have a few tickets available if anyone would like to join us. We leave from school at 5:30pm on Thursday July 9th 2009. Tickets cost £10 and include entrance fee, coach trip and light refreshment. Tickets are available from Mary McClagish on 410521 until Friday 3rd July. Liz Hunt.

THANK YOU!

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

COUNTRY +GOSPEL

A country +gospel evening is to be held at St Mark's, Parson Drove, on Sunday July 26th at 6.30pm. Tickets £7, inclusive of refreshments, are available from Chris Coates 700307 or Roma Andrew 870602.

IN OUR THOUGHTS

We say goodbye to

We welcome into the Church's family

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We send our love to all the families

THE WI AND THE SAINT OF ST MARY'S

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUPPORTING MURROW SCHOOL

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

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

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

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

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

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

WSM MART GOES 'EN FETE'

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

PARSON DROVE WI COFFEE MORNING

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

THE CHAPEL OF EASE, GUYHIRN

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

Harry Jones

SUMMER FAYRE AT THE BEDFORD HALL

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

Details from 01733 270908.

IMPORTANT CHANGE IN MANAGEMENT OF GUYHIRN PRE-SCHOOL

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

The headteacher, Mrs Justine Sands, said, "The Governors and whole school community look forward to working with our pre-school children and parents, and moving the pre-school forward at this exciting time"

Anyone requiring further details should contact Mrs Sands on 450247.

Advance Notice

THORNEY TOLL'S WEEKEND IN BLACKPOOL

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

HOG ROAST AND LIVE BAND AT CAR AND BIKE SHOW

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

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

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

WISBECH ST MARY'S ANNUAL GARDEN FETE

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

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

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

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

NOVELTY DOG SHOW AT W S M

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

JULIA CARTER and DIANE RAY DOING IT THE CHINESE WAY!

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your generous support. Diane Ray.

WISBECH ST MARY VILLAGE & COUNTRY FAYRE

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

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

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

There will be a large car boot.

A fun-packed day is promised.

Admission is just £2 and £1 for children.

WISBECH GUIDED WALKS 2009

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

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

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

Forthcoming events:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

diane.ray07@googlemail.com

See www.specialolympics.org

JULIE'S PATCH

Pc Julie Coales, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, writes

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

If you leave your car, make sure the windows are closed and your valuables are out of sight (if you cannot take them with you). Think where you keep your car keys. Some thieves fish for keys through the letter box. If you are out in the garden, make sure any unsighted doors and windows are locked. While you are occupied, you don't know who is round the corner.

Keep your garage door closed or locked while you are round the back mowing the lawns. Take care with your wallets, purses and handbags. If we are out for the day or on holiday, we all tend to have a little bit of extra cash with us.

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

THOLOMAS DROVE FUN DAY

Tholomas Drove is holding its annual Fete and Family Fun Day on Saturday August 1st from 2pm to 5pm.

Attractions include BBQ, Air Rifle Range, Plant Sale, various stalls and children's games. There will also be the opportunity to soak your neighbour (and the committee members?) in the Stocks.

All proceeds will help to raise money for recreation facilities on George's Field.

SCARECROWS IN GOREFIELD

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

Details: Marie 410436 or David 870059.

JOHN BEND UNITED CHARITIES

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

HAVE A GO AT THE GUYHIRN SUMMER QUIZ

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

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

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

PARSON DROVE VILLAGE PLAYERS' NEW PRODUCTION

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

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

MURROW SUNSHINE CLUB

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

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

D Ralf, Hon Secretary.

GARDENS OPEN IN WISBECH ST MARY

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

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

LEADING JAZZ CLARINETIST TO PLAY AT WSM

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

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS IN THE GARDENS

In addition to the seasonal weekday opening times, Elgood's Brewery Gardens will be open to the public on two Sundays during the summer. Visitors are invited to walk and sit in these beautiful gardens on July 5th and August 2nd from 1pm to 4pm. Normal entrance fees requested.

ACTIVITIES AT PARSON DROVE

At St Mark's:

Whist Drives: Third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm.

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

At the village hall

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

WSM LUNCHEON CLUB

The WSM Luncheon Club will meet on Tuesdays July 7th and 21st, at the Bridge Inn at 12 noon. Please let Marjorie (410511) or the Bridge Inn (410555) know if you cannot attend

P D LUNCHEON CLUB

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

RSPCA OPEN DAY AT BLOCK FEN

Block Fen Animal Centre is having an Open Day on Sunday July 19th from 11am to 4pm. There will be craft stalls, refreshments, raffle and many more stalls. Go along and support your local RSPCA Re-homing Centre. A Dog Show commences with booking in from 11am and judging from 12 noon. There are 10 classes including "The dog the judge would like to take home", "Best trick your dog can do", and "Dog most like its owner". There will be parade of Block Fen dogs looking for new homes. Turn off the A141 on to the B1093 at Wimblington, and then turn right to the RSPCA Centre. Details at glynisbull@btinternet.com

MURROW BOOK CAFÉ

Part of the remit for the Book Café is to arrange IT courses for a small fee. Currently we are seeking a tutor, and may have some funding available. This is addition to the computer drop-in on Tuesday evenings with Andrew. The next Tuesdays are 14th and 28th July.

PARSON DROVE STREET PRIDE

The next two litter picks are scheduled for Wednesday June 24th at 7pm (Clough Bridge), and Saturday July 11th at 10am (Murrow public footpath). Anyone interested in joining please meet at the Village Hall at the scheduled time. All volunteers will be made most welcome.

CAR BOOT SALES AT WSM

In aid of the Parent Teacher Association at Wisbech St Mary Church of England School, will be held on the following Saturdays: July 18 and September 12.

MURROW CAR BOOT SALES

The Friends of Murrow School have announced the dates of their car boot sales: Saturdays June 27th, July 25th and September 19th. Booters from 10am, buyers from 10.30am. Refreshments and toilet facilities available.

WSM YOUTH CLUB

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

Advance Notice MURROW AUTUMN SHOW

The Murrow Open Flower and Vegetable Show will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday Sept 5th. Schedules now available from Mrs M Woollard, 'Roseacre', Front road, Murrow. 01945 700673.

SHORT MAT BOWLS AT PD

Parson Drove Short Mat Bowls Club meet in the Village Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays 2.00 to 4.30pm. Each session £2. New members very welcome.

HELP REQUIRED TO FIND THE LOST BISHOPS' PALACE!

In 1478 Bishop Morton of Ely demolished the Norman Castle at Wisbech and built a palace on the site. In the reign of Elizabeth I it was decided to use the palace as a prison for Roman Catholics. The palace was demolished and replaced by a mansion in 1656, which was also demolished when the present house was built in 1816.

There is to be an archaeological investigation of the site during September 2009, and volunteers are invited to help with the work. If you are aged between 14 and 70 years and would like to be part of this exciting project, application forms are available from the Castle or the Wisbech & Fenland Museum, returnable by Friday August 28th.

MURROW 200 CLUB WINNERS

The latest winners of the Murrow 200 Club are D Almey, Wisbech, P Allen, Guyhirn, Mrs James, Wisbech and L Quince, Wisbech St Mary.

CAR BOOT SALES AT GOREFIELD

The next scheduled Car Boot sales on the Playing Field, Wolf Lane, Gorefield, will take place on Saturdays July 18th and 25th. Booters from 7.30am. Toilets and refreshments available.

THE CAGE'S FRIENDS

The historic Cage on the Green at Parson Drove is open on Sundays and Wednesdays 2 to 5pm. If you are interested in helping, please ring Roger on 700501 or Anita on 701220.

Advance Notice MURROW FUN DAY

A Fun Day for Murrow is being organised for August 22nd with entertainment for all the family. Attractions will include football tournaments, races, hog roast and live music. Details in next month's *Village Voices*.

WSM SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

The Short Mat Bowls Club meets in Wisbech St Mary Village Hall each Monday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm. New members welcome. Contact 01945 410452 for details.

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE

The locations, stops and arrival times are:

Alternate Tuesdays	June 30 th , July 13 th , 28 th
Murrow Station Ave	10.30
Murrow FrontRd Paddocks	10.55
Parson Drove The Bank	11.15
Parson Drove Springfield Rd	11.35
Parson Drove Newlands Corner	11.50
Parson Drove Henlow Farm	12.10

Alternate Wednesdays	July 1 st , 15 th , 29 th
Gorefield School	15.15
Post Office	15.40
Mill Height	15.55

Alternate Fridays	July 10 th and 24 th
Rings End	March Road, 10.00
Guyhirn	Selwyn Corner 10.25
Bunkers Hill	Lay-bye 10.45
WSM	Cannon Close 11.05
WSM	Church Road 11.30
WSM	Blundell Terr 11.55
Lev Common	Pear Tree Cres 12.15
Guyhirn	Chapelfield Av 15.20

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

NEW NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE

Cambridgeshire police has launched its new non-emergency number.

The number is **0345 456 4564** and it works out cheaper for most people, said the police. The old 0845 number will remain operational alongside the new number until April 2011 to allow people time to get used to the new number.

Cambridgeshire police are following in the footsteps of other forces which have already made the change to 03 numbers.

Force control room manager Ed Essad said: "The number has been introduced to give callers a better service".

CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

Will be in attendance at the Pavilion, Parson Drove sports field, from 1.30 to 3.30pm on Tuesday July 24th.

SWINE 'FLU

"Don't panic" remains the message from Cambridgeshire health authorities for anyone concerned by reports about Swine flu. At the moment there is still a low risk of contracting the illness. There are 28 confirmed cases in the East of England, including seven in Cambridgeshire. All are recovering at home. Simple measures to prevent infection include covering the nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, washing hands regularly and throwing away any used tissues.

Anyone who does develop flu-like symptoms should go home and contact their GP by telephone or NHS Direct on 0845 4647. They should not attend hospital Accident and Emergency departments except in an emergency.

Useful contacts

Churches		Schools		Health & Security	
Revd Matthew Bradbury	410814	Gorefield School	870321	Parson Drove Surgery	700223
Lilian Brigden (Reader)	450481	Gorefield Pre-school	870439	North Cambs Hospital	585781
Revd Nigel Hannah [Methodist]	466426	Guyhirn School	450247	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	01553 613613
Village Halls (bookings)		Murrow School	700357	Social Services	481100
Gorefield	870829	Murrow Pre School	07754758332	P. Drove Surgery Car Service	07766534280
Guyhirn	450835	Payne School Parson Drove	700275	WSM Community Car Scheme	07592407283
Murrow	700212	Parson Drove Pre-School	07880 606450	Gorefield Social Car Scheme	01945 870539
Parson Drove	700729	WSM School	410312	Childline	0800 1111
Thorney Toll	07887754869 or 07961957878	WSM Play Group	07944 719586	Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
WSM Village Hall	410539	Websites: www.guyhirn-online.org.uk		Dog control/Animal welfare	01354 622442
Parish Council Clerks		www.gorefield.com		Drugs Helpline	0800 776600
Gorefield	870454	www.wisbechstmary.org.uk		Fenland District Council	111101354654321
Parson Drove	700501			Samaritans	08457909090
Wisbech St Mary	474191			Victim supportline	08453030900
				Police (non-emergency)	0345 456 4564

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.

Gorefield Parish Council Newsletter July 2009

15th Annual Assembly of Gorefield Parish Council held at Gorefield School on Tuesday 7th April 2009

Present: Councillors Humphrey (Chairman) Davall, Carroll, Holt, Cooke and Mrs Hunns Natalie Rowlands and PC Coales. Mr & Mrs Harvey

Apologies: Councillor Mrs Hall

Chairman's Report: I begin with a brief look back at last years Chairman's report to the Annual Assembly.

The growth of the village continues with the Oxfield Drive development by Twigden's nearing completion. Permission exists for another 14 homes off High Road / West End although this development has some way to go.

The Parish Council has acted on some of the points raised in the Parish action plan and will continue to monitor progress and delivery.

Village 'Welcome Pack' has been distributed to each household in the Parish providing contact details and useful information about the village community.

The Council still has concerns about vehicle speeds through the village along with the parking problems associated with the Oxfield Drive development

Preliminary discussions are ongoing about the Parish Council becoming Custodian Trustees of the playing field.

During the year the local pub been closed for some time and had several landlords but hopefully will soon be able to accommodate the Luncheon Club again.

The Parish Council provided the Christmas tree and lights at the Church again this year and while a permanent tree has now been planted, a larger tree, supplied free of charge, by Baytree Nurseries was used.

During the year we have seen the replacement of the footbridge at Chapel lane. We have maintained a low Precept

We have joined the Village Voices Newsletter bringing news and information to 8 villages and hamlets in our locality. The Parish

Council will have the opportunity of a quarterly Newsletter in that publication.

As a Council we continue to have concerns about:

- *Speeding
- *Highway matters
- *Play equipment
- *Planning and enforcement

As a Council we continue

- *To be consulted on all planning applications and make comments and observations as appropriate.
- *To administer our Parish affairs and finances and were able to keep our Parish precept increase to a minimum.
- *To comment on all matters concerning the Parish at District and County levels

Thanks must go to Pc Coales for her work in the community and her regular attendance at our meetings.

Natalie Rowland our FDC Liaison contact whose has followed on from John Dubber and kept the Council informed of FDC issues on a regular basis as well as following up local problems on our behalf.

My thanks must go to all the members of the Council for their input and involvement during the year.

A special thank you to those of you who have attended any meetings, seminars or presentations for, or on behalf of, the Council.

Finally special thanks to our Clerk, Rosemary, for all her hard work and dedication during the year.

Michael Humphrey, Chairman.

The Parish Council has its own website. Visit www.gorefield.com to view Parish Council minutes, Councillor contact details, Parish Plan etc.

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.

Full details of the Council's minutes and accounts are available from the Clerk, Mrs Rosemary Gagen, 78 High Road, Gorefield, PE13 4NB. Tel: 870454. gorefieldpc@aol.com