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## From the Editor

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A time of going to press we were still in lockdown across the UK but with the promise that we'll be allowed out from Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Hopefully we'll still be in Tier 1 with the least restrictions - and it does seem that Boris will let us have the best Christmas that he thinks he can allow.



As regards Christmas in Reach, then the flyer and the Events Team article on page 5 will let you know what is planned – please do visit and enjoy the Advent windows. Also have a look at what is going on in our Church on page 23 and also in our pub on pages 16, 17 and 24.

And we have a “new” regular article, courtesy of Joss Goodchild, entitled “Getting to Know You”. In this first one, on page 7, she gets to talk to the village’s own Hell’s Angel!

As always, we have the Parish Council Minutes, this time for October and a draft version for November. They’re always worth a read and in them we see that a decision has been made to cancel Reach Fair for 2021 – maybe try and do something towards the end of Summer, but not on the same scale.

In addition, there are still two vacancies for Parish Councillors that need to be filled. To be quorate the council needs 3 councillors at any meeting and recently the 5 we have were reduced to 4 due to unavailability.

And finally, it was very sad to hear of the death of John Robinson.



A lovely man and a friend to many of us, he will be much missed.

### David Parr

davidmparr@btinternet.com

Cover Photo courtesy of **Rosanna Moseley-Gore**

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## About the Magazine

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The purpose of *Within Reach* is to serve the whole village by circulating information and interesting articles free to every household. Additional copies are available at a charge of £2.50. Issues are published bi-monthly covering the months of Feb/Mar, Apr/May, June/July, Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov and Dec/Jan.

Copies of *Within Reach* magazine and its predecessor *Out of Reach* can be found on the village website [www.reach-village.co.uk](http://www.reach-village.co.uk). The next copy date is 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021. This magazine (which is fully funded from advertising) is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

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## The Team

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<b>Editor</b>	David Parr
<b>Distribution</b>	Freda Lloyd, Claire Halpin-McDonald and Grahame Radford
<b>Photographer</b>	Rosanna Moseley Gore
<b>24Acres</b>	David Thomas
<b>Church</b>	Eleanor Williams
<b>Cookery</b>	Catherine Gibson
<b>Cricket</b>	Ross Clark
<b>Events Team</b>	Debbie Quilter
<b>Gardening</b>	Danuta Gibson
<b>Getting to Know You</b>	Joss Goodchild
<b>IT Advice</b>	David McMillan
<b>Metal Detecting</b>	Luke Mercer
<b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>	Kevin Evans
<b>Parish Council</b>	Alex de Giorgio-Miller
<b>Reach Riders Group</b>	Sue Cameron
<b>Rosanna’s Ramblings</b>	Rosanna Moseley Gore
<b>Snakehall Farm</b>	Liz Pitt
<b>Then and Now</b>	Chris Patterson
<b>Wicken Fen</b>	Julia Hammond
<b>Wildlife</b>	Joss Goodchild

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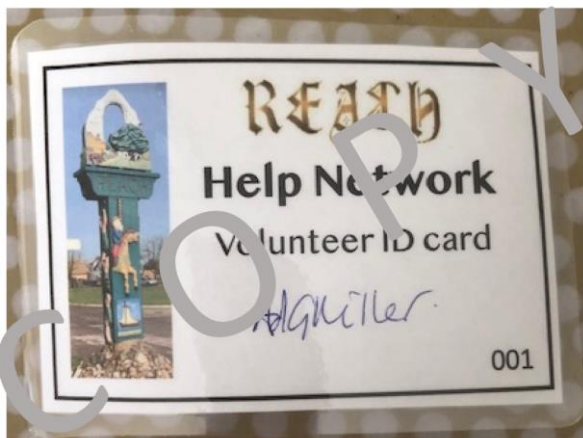
## Village Update

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One of the positives of not being able to go anywhere is the opportunity to spend far more time on things that used to be done in a rush. My children, fully kitted out in their waterproof suits, have spent hours at a time jumping in the puddles up by the woods.



And where normally I would be dragging them back home because we've had somewhere else to be or other things to do, they've been able to indulge in some truly epic mud sessions – a small positive for them at this weirdest of times! And it's been lovely to see (at a respectable distance!) others out enjoying the woods too and those small social interactions feel very special at the moment. So thank you for saying hello – and sorry if you inadvertently ended up a little splashed too!



Hopefully by the time you are reading this, lockdown restrictions will have eased a little. But either way, we just wanted to remind everyone that the **Reach Help Network** is still available to anyone who is choosing to reduce their interactions. We aren't planning to reinstate the twice weekly Co-op delivery service at this time unless people are having trouble securing delivery slots from the supermarkets, but if you do need some shopping, a prescription picking up or something from the post office then do get in touch and we will be happy to help. Email [a.degiorgiomiller@gmail.com](mailto:a.degiorgiomiller@gmail.com) or call 07771 348013. Please do pass on this information to anyone in Reach who is not on Facebook or email.

The Parish Council have made enquiries about setting up a Speedwatch group in Reach after concerns expressed by residents about the speeds at which some vehicles are entering the village. The local police fully support the Speedwatch program, training volunteers and assessing locations to ensure they are safe to operate from.

Groups either use tripod mounted kits or MVAS (mobile vehicle activated signs) that flash a vehicle's actual speed. They then record the details of vehicles they observe speeding and send the details into the police, who then engage with those drivers. In order to take this idea further, volunteers are required – please contact the Clerk for more information: [clerk@reachparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@reachparishcouncil.org).

There are also still vacancies for Parish Councillors if you fancy doing your bit for the community. Again, please email the Clerk for more details.

The Reach Fair committee met (at a 2m distance!) to discuss the plans for Reach Fair 2021. Sadly, it has been agreed that the fair will not go ahead again next year – we just can't be sure of the restrictions that will be in place at that time and we wouldn't want to bring lots of people to our little village if it wasn't safe to do so. There have been discussions of a smaller event, more like the Reach Festival of several years back, later in the summer or Autumn of 2021. Further plans for this will be discussed in the Spring, when we have a clearer picture of what sort of events would be allowed. Fingers crossed...

Keep well, keep safe, and keep jumping in the puddles!

**Alex de Giorgio-Miller**

[a.degiorgiomiller@gmail.com](mailto:a.degiorgiomiller@gmail.com)

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## Reach Riders

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The arena remains open for use and we have had 4 new members this year already (membership runs from 1<sup>st</sup> October), so it is proving popular. Recent checks show the arena to be in good condition with the ground looking great and the jumps and fencing all well maintained.

Fund raising remains on hold as to do any social activities or fun rides, but hopefully with restrictions being planned to be lifted early December we can organise a fun ride for members before Christmas

Any new membership enquiries should be directed to:

**Sue Cameron**

[ewenandsue@btinternet.com](mailto:ewenandsue@btinternet.com)

07879 627859

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## Neighbourhood Plan

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Over the past couple of months the NP Project Group has:



- Secured central Government funding to take our Plan virtually to completion. The project has drawn very little on Parish funds and we believe that Government funding will cover remaining expenditure.
- Assessed and responded to the Government's recently published white paper 'Planning for the Future' and an associated consultation document on changes to planning policy and regulation. We have found them wanting - there are major gaps in the explanation of how the proposed reforms would work in practice and significant inconsistencies in the role and influence of Neighbourhood Plans. In the round we judge that, if implemented, the proposals would erode local democracy. For example, residents would no longer have a say in future development applications in Reach. Furthermore, the ability of our Neighbourhood Plan and East Cambridgeshire District Council's (ECDC) Local Plan to set a framework relevant to local needs for the consideration of future development would be greatly diminished.
- The Parish Council has written to express our concerns to our MP Lucy Frazer and to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, the sponsoring department. We are not alone in having concerns. ECDC has also expressed reservations, as have a number of planning experts and politicians of all hues. We await the Government's response. In the meantime the NP Group is forging on with its work, as a completed Neighbourhood Plan would give Reach a strong voice, capturing what makes our village a special place to live and articulating how we want Reach to evolve.
- Appointed MKA Ecology to pull together the environmental evidence that the Group has gathered, to undertake a small amount of field work to fill in the gaps and to produce an environmental assessment that dovetails with our other evidence packages, especially the landscape appraisal. MKA will be in the village on 30 November for an initial familiarisation visit. Shortly thereafter we will be announcing a public meeting, very probably by video, for MKA to explain their approach and to take views and ideas from villagers.

As a start point for their work, Will O'Connor, the lead ecologist for MKA, has asked for your views on the following:

### **Can you let us know which areas you feel are most important for biodiversity in the neighbourhood?**

This might help to throw up some locations which aren't immediately obvious from the mapping and assessment of key sites.

### **Can you remember species which you used to see but no longer do?**

We wondered if this might provide some interesting context - and targets!

### **Are there any species or habitats which you think have a particular connection to Reach?**

It can sometimes be easy to focus on the rare and scarce, however there are other species and habitats which often provide character for an area and that are valued by the community and individuals. For example, in my village I love the hops which trail throughout the hedgerows and the chatty swallows. It would be interesting to hear if there are other features within the neighbourhood that are valued in this way.

### **Are there any biodiversity projects that you would like to see in the neighbourhood?**

As part of the appraisal we would like to put forward some biodiversity projects for the community to consider over the coming years. If there are already ideas out there, we would like to hear about them for inclusion.

### **Have you any photos showing biodiverse Reach?**

We'll be undertaking our work through the winter months. However, we would like to include some good photos of biodiversity within Reach. This could be hard to achieve in the winter so if anyone does have good photographs it would be great if we could include these in our report too. We'd ensure they are all attributed to the photographer.

*It is probably worth explaining that biodiversity is shorthand for the variety of plant and animal life in our neighbourhood, a high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable.*

If villagers could send their responses and images to me, I will collate them and send them on to Will. Coronavirus restrictions continue to be disruptive, preventing us from consulting you face to face about our work. The November to December lockdown obliged us to shelve plans for an open day in the Village Hall and as mentioned above, may well prevent face to face meetings with our ecologists.

We are currently looking at alternative ways to take your views of the evolving Plan in light of current and possibly future restrictions. In early 2021 we will circulate a draft Plan to all villagers for comment as we begin a wider consultation of stakeholders such as ECDC and Anglian Water. We still hope to put a finalised Plan to you for endorsement (or otherwise) in a referendum in the late summer or autumn of 2021.

### **Nick Acklam**

Chair Reach Neighbourhood Plan Project Group  
n.acklam@reachparishcouncil.org 743749

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## Events Team

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### Advent Windows in the Village



















Following on from the success of the Scarecrow festival we are going to create Advent Windows in the Village during the lead up to Christmas – and we are delighted to announce that we are fully subscribed!


This is an idea where each night of advent a window in the village is revealed, decorated in a Christmas theme. You may have seen something similar if you drove through Exning last year. If you Google 'Advent Windows' you can find the wide range of ideas and ways that people have decorated their windows elsewhere - there is no need to be religious or arty and there is no 'theme', the aim is for each window to be a surprise as it is revealed.



The locations per day are as follows:

 **Advent Windows in Reach 2020** 

33 Fair Green <sup>1</sup> 	16 Great Lane <sup>2</sup> 	8 Swaffham Road <sup>3</sup> 	22 Fair Green <sup>4</sup> 	14 Ditchfield <sup>5</sup> 	30 Swaffham Road <sup>6</sup> 
41 Great Lane <sup>7</sup> 	8 The Hythe <sup>8</sup> 	14 Little Lane <sup>9</sup> 	32 Swaffham Road <sup>10</sup> 	11 Chapel Lane <sup>11</sup> 	7 Fair Green <sup>12</sup> 
15 Fair Green <sup>13</sup> 	42 Great Lane <sup>14</sup> 	Hill Farm 28 Fair Green <sup>15</sup> 	40 Great Lane <sup>16</sup> 	1 Ditchfield <sup>17</sup> 	31 Great Lane <sup>18</sup> 
36 Great Lane <sup>19</sup> 	3 The Hythe <sup>20</sup> 	The Dykes End <sup>21</sup> 	14 Fair Green <sup>22</sup> 	16 Fair Green <sup>23</sup> 	St Etheldreda Fair Green <sup>24</sup> 



Sadly, the Seniors Lunch cannot go ahead, nor can we have gatherings for our Christmas Tree Lights Switch-on or carols around the tree – but if you look at the flyer within this issue you'll see that there are still plenty of things happening!

**Debbie Quilter**

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## Rosanna's Ramblings

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Mid November and my rambling deadline arrives, as always, rather unexpectedly as surely another two months can't really have rushed by, again?



But they have and the strangeness of 2020 continues unabated. Back into lockdown as of two days ago and as in the spring version, the weather immediately obliged by turning brilliantly sunny.

Though this time, of course, satisfyingly cold – even a little frosty which has to be A Good Thing. Well, it's certainly a good thing when a frosty sunny morning brings with it the delightful sight of our resident gang of teenage moorhens at the bottom of the garden.



Unperturbed by Covid stresses, by US election dramas, by question marks over whether Christmas can, and will, be 'saved'... their daily imperative is to get their early cider fix, as they graze like a flock of miniature dinosaurs under our apple trees and gorge on rotting windfalls. They have a very tolerant and liberal mum, too, who clearly shares their enthusiasm for fermented beverages with which to start the day. A couple of months back, while there were still Bramleys on the branch, I spent a precious half hour watching the then younger teens slowly discovering why, and how, moorhen foot physiology doesn't lend itself to flying up into trees and clambering thereon in order to eat fresh fruit.

They were clearly rather slow learners, as they were still attempting this challenging feat when I got distracted by something less life-enhancing. It was probably answering one of the too frequent scam phone calls we get ... you know the ones, a pause ... a click ... a recorded American woman's voice saying ("quackily", as Charles is prone to say) "I'm calling about your BT Internet account". Ah, that will be the BT Internet account we don't have. Or the problem with our PC (I'm a Mac user). Or the car accident I didn't have – but hey, why don't I make a claim anyway?

When I put fingers to keyboard to start this rambling, I had no idea what I was going to write. I certainly didn't expect to be having a grouse about unwanted phone calls. But thinking about it, those intrusions into our private space and time feel particularly unwelcome this year. Being fortunate enough to have been locked down for months in Reach and to be locked down again for however long it actually turns out to be, 'home' has developed for me a distinct new personality. No longer a place for welcoming friends and family into its warmth (warmth being a relative concept when married to Charles who overheats at the mere thought of having to eat indoors). No longer the venue for planned house guests. No longer the proposed or expected location of a Christmastime visit from my children. Instead, it feels like a sacrosanct, sequestered space – sometimes a reliable safe haven, sometimes a bit sad and lonely in the absence of injected life from visitors.

I look up from my typing at the dining room table and see rooms and doorways into other rooms that have heard only our four footsteps, heard only our two voices (other than those regularly Zoomed in from the ether), for EIGHT MONTHS! In the 149 years of this house's life, this must simply be unprecedented. Our last 'garden lunch' with friends was three days before this lockdown – I have to say it was very windy and uncomfortably wind-chilled. And although we had considered adding our names to the multitudinous crowds of people who have apparently bought firepits and chiminieres in the hope of being able to continue outdoor hospitality over the colder months, we haven't got round to it. And now lockdown (and realistically, the possibility of dipping in and out of further lockdowns and restrictions ahead) has dampened the enthusiasm for something that might not even be allowed ... No, there's no denying that the house and garden would like to welcome people in. We would like to welcome people in. We would really like to feel certain that we will see treasured family members and friends again, and to be able to hug them. And speak eye-to-eye, heart-to-heart.

So, against that backdrop of – if I'm honest – quite a dose of heartache and anxiety coupled with stoical endurance and gratitude for the good things we've had and the good fortune we have experiencing this pandemic and its challenges in the absence of famine, war and earthquakes ... well, it isn't surprising that I lose patience at those phone calls.

Just GO AWAY and leave me to my contemplations of moorhens, my knitting (daughter's jumper nearing completion, having been started in January – but knitting in hot weather is just wrong!), my trawling the internet for new and exciting beetroot recipes.

On that subject, our garden's productivity has been its usual mixed picture – enormous gluts of tomatoes, beetroot and french beans; average crops of chard, celeriac and onions; disappointing parsnips (though excellent at our Ely allotment), runner beans and leeks (distinctly rusty, if you're interested). As ever, the vegetable garden provides us with so many analogies for the vagaries and vicissitudes of life. Just because last year 'this' happened is no guarantee that 'this' will happen again this year, or next year. The best laid plans can be dashed by unexpectedly adverse weather conditions. Or the arrival of a botanical blight or pestilence. Or a human one.

You didn't need me to tell you that. I've just been chatting to neighbours over the garden fence and heard that a dear friend of theirs has just died of Covid-19 and they have suddenly joined the growing ranks of folk who have lost someone close to them. And that reminded me to remember my handwashing after being outside the house (even if I don't think I've touched anything). And to count my blessings. And to tell my kids and my sister in France, that I love them. And to treasure every moment, even the ones that feel stressed or sad or angry.

Wishing you all a festive season sprinkled generously with philosophical acceptance, surprising gifts of friendship, and tentative joy at the light to come.

**Rosanna Moseley Gore**

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## Burwell Museum Coach Trips

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I would like to wish a very happy and healthy new year to all our trippers and we look forward to planning our travels for 2021!

**Barbara Turner**

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## Getting to Know You – Alison Kohlman

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**Q. What is your full name and where were you born?**

**A.** My name is Alison Kohlman and I was born in Mill Road Maternity Hospital in Cambridge which is no longer there and I think is now mixed use housing.

I lived in Swaffham Bulbeck all my life until I got married to Tony and moved to Reach in 1993. I have a sister who lives in Newmarket. I had a lovely childhood and spent many hours with my friends on the Denny and was particularly upset when it had to be partly dug up to stop the Travellers from returning.

My mum has lived in Swaffham Bulbeck all her life being born in Commercial End and when she married my dad moved into a bungalow that they had built in the village. Before my dad married, he lived in Swaffham Prior at Corona the old Dairy. They had a small herd of cows and used to do various milk rounds around the villages. My dad used to work on the family smallholding Snakes Hall by Reach bridge. When he and mum married he worked at the old mill in Mill Lane, Swaffham Bulbeck.

**Q. How did you come to live in Reach?**

**A.** I moved to Reach when I married Tony. We visited various houses but really liked Reach as a village. It was also near to Swaffham Bulbeck where I was keeping my horse at that time.

**Q. What school did you go to and did you enjoy it?**

**A.** I went to Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School and then onto Bottisham Village College. The only thing really I didn't enjoy about going to Bottisham was having to cycle there. I was part of the first year group to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme at the College and used to be in a few of the sports teams.

**Q. Where do you work and what do you do there?**

**A.** I work in Finance at Savills in Hills Road in Cambridge. The Finance team for Savills UK is based in Cambridge and I've been there for 14 years.

**Q. When did you marry and how did you meet?**

**A.** I met Tony when we were both working at Tim Brinton Cars in Cambridge and we got married in 1993.

**Q. What pets do you have?**

**A.** We have two cats Sophie and Lucy who are Balinese Variants and one horse Springy

**Q. What is your hobby?**

**A.** My main hobby is Horses. I started riding at 13 and got my first horse Annabelle when I was 21. She was a 15hh Connemara type and I was lucky enough to have her for 22 years when she died at the age of 28. I then got Toskin an ex-racehorse, trained in Newmarket by Jeff Pearce. Toskin somehow ended up at a small Equine Charity called The Horse Rescue Fund in Beccles Suffolk and I had him for 14 years before sadly having him put to sleep in January also at the age of 28.

In February I started to visit a horse called Spring Loaded (Springy) trained by Newmarket Trainer Paul d'Arcy that was at Palace House (Newmarket Horseracing Museum) as part of the Retraining of Racehorse (RoR) programme. ROR is British Horseracing's official charity for the welfare of horses who have retired from racing to retrain and rehome them. Springy was a very successful racehorse with one of his wins being The Portland at Doncaster in 2017. Springy came to live here in Reach just before lockdown started in March this year and you have most likely seen him in his field with his friend Big Bad Lol, also an ex-racehorse. I also like walking and often go out with my sister to various places walking.

I can also ride a motorbike and used to have one of my own. When I was having lessons before I took my bike test my instructor told me that if you are a horse rider you normally make a good bike rider as you have good balance but I think that was not the case with me. Might be why I fall off horses as well.

**Q. Where do you & Tony like to holiday?**

**A.** We love France and have been to Montenegro quite a few times which is beautiful. Also enjoy narrow boat holidays.



**Q. What do you enjoy about living in Reach?**

**A.** I love living in Reach. During this terrible year It has really made me feel very lucky to live here with access to lovely countryside for riding, walking and cycling. During this summer Tony and I got new bikes which we have enjoyed many trips on sometimes calling at the odd pub along the way. We are also very lucky to have the Reach Riders group in the village.

**Q. What is your philosophy in life?**

**A.** As I've got older, I seem to worry about "What ifs" too much and have decided recently that I need to stop doing that and just get on with living life.

Interviewed by **Joss Goodchild**



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## Out and About Autumn 2020

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Autumn has a beauty all of its own. As nights draw in and temperatures cool, the landscape transforms. Verdant summer greens give way to a palette of beautiful gold and russet hues. Skeletal hedgerows and trees reveal clusters of berries and twiggy nests. A time of fiery sunsets, morning mists, dew covered spider webs and crispy frosts.



*Picture courtesy of David Thomas*



Having successfully avoided traffic in Great Lane and the enthusiastic attention of our dog, grey squirrels squeeze through the picket gate and bury walnuts in our garden pots. Other evidence is there - tiny paw marks, pats and scratches, occasionally the exposed tip of a shell. These industrious creatures spend Autumn preparing a cache of nutritious food before winter hits. Squirrels have the ability to sniff out stored nuts from under a layer of snow.

On yet another wet October walk we spied a group of roe deer in the fields bordering 24Acres. They lifted their elegant heads and watched for a while before gracefully bounding on. The most common of our native deer, roe form loose groups in winter having lived a rather solitary existence prior to that. Males shed their antlers in October (short and usually 3-pronged), regrowth starts in November.



Returning from this route via Reach Lode bank we noted a solitary cormorant on the grassy point opposite. A juvenile waterbird, its pale chest contrasted with otherwise dark plumage. Something seemed wrong with this possibly displaced bird, it did not appear entirely healthy and sat at a strange angle, tilted back on its legs and feet. We saw it on several occasions, it finally dived and swam down the lode so, hopefully, all will be well.



A startlingly vivid yellow caterpillar crossed our drive, this photo cannot do its luminescence justice. Identified as a Grey Dagger, this moth gets its name from the dagger-like markings on its forewings.



Martin pointed out the many clusters of wild mushrooms in and around Reach Wood. They varied dramatically in shape, size and type. I have little knowledge of fungi and a healthy respect for anything which may be poisonous. From the Wildfooduk website we identified those featured in the photos but I am of course open to correction.



*Chestnut Bolete*



*Shaggy Ink Cap*

As winter approaches and natural food becomes scarce many domestic birds such as blue, great and coal tits form small flocks. Forming a group enables multiple pairs of eyes to spot a likely food source and keep a watchful eye out for predators. Many of our common garden birds move south and west within Britain to find a milder climate. Birds from the continent fly here, leaving frozen lands and a lack of food behind. The song and mistle thrushes in Reach are joined by two further members of the thrush family - the redwing (orangey red flank) and fieldfare (reddish breast). These birds fly in flocks during the night calling to each other as they travel.



*Redwing*



*Fieldfare*

**Tips for supporting wildlife in the coming months:**





#### Wildlife sightings:

11 Oct. Philip Lewis saw a grass snake near the Hythe.

26 Oct. Hilary saw and heard a small flock (approx. 6) of linnets in the hedgerow at Tubney Fen this morning.

8 Nov. Bumble bees in our Great Lane garden.

Ron telephoned; he had observed an absence of the larger bats he used to see regularly out in the fen several years ago. These may have been Daubenton's which hunt over water and catch insects on the surface.

Dafila & Tim emailed: 'On Burwell fen we saw the great white egret a couple of times (might have been 3rd and 5th Nov) but not since. There are now a couple of hundred wigeon, plus lapwings, black headed gulls, shovellers, teal, gadwall, a few mallard on the fen all of which makes a lovely spectacle. I just hope they put in a bit more water because if it doesn't rain soon, it will dry up again and the birds will go elsewhere. We have also had good sightings of roe deer out there'.

#### Nick Acklam's nature notes:

19 September. Three buzzards ride the thermals over the 24 Acres/Burwell Fen. They are very high but their calls are crystal clear.

22 September. An emerald damselfly suns itself on a willow by the Hythe.

23 September. A flock of about seven Yellowhammers flits through the willow avenue next to Tubney Fen.

25 September. A hare crosses the drainage ditch fringing Tubney Fen. It is large and dark, so large that, at first take, I mistake it for a muntjac.

26 September. High winds overnight have brought down large numbers of acorns from the broad oak by the Pocket Park kissing gate. It is a mast year for oak and I take advantage, gathering acorns for planting on the 24Acres.

28 September. Eleven mute swans - all young adults - are gathered on the bank of Swaffham Lode.

6 October. Three small roach lie dead, clustered on the bank of the catch water at the Hythe. I cannot identify the cause but when I return, a short while later, the fish have disappeared and Cormorant sits on the bank nearby. For a more than ten days thereafter a solitary cormorant, I assume the same one, takes up residence at the tip of the Hythe.

8 October. A juvenile Stonechat is perched in one of the taller trees of the 24 Acres wood.

9 October. My first sighting of Fieldfares this autumn. A small group chattering noisily in a large hawthorn hedge next to Tubney Fen.

26 October. More Yellowhammers on the move. This time a large flock of around 20 birds over Little Fen Drove.

6 November. 20 or so Goldfinches pass over Little Fen Drove on a frosty morning.

7 November. A kingfisher flies north along Reach Lode - a flash of turquoise in the sunshine. Another gathering of Mute Swans on the bank and channel of Swaffham Lode. This time a dozen birds including first year juveniles.

12 November. A Red Admiral and a Brimstone butterfly on the wing in my garden. It is warm (13C) and sunny so perhaps not unexpected.

15 November. Sizeable flocks of Fieldfare and Redwing fly west over Tubney Fen. A male Sparrowhawk, pursued by a crow flies low and hard over Burwell Road, its brick red chest is very visible in the low late afternoon sunshine.

20.11 Penny & Ron Greenhill - 'seen in our garden last evening. Amazing, the coldest night of the year and there he was - a young, male newt!'



Joss Goodchild

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## Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club

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Hello " It's not luck if you're ready for it....

So sometimes I'll hear someone comment on one of my photographs by saying 'Wow, that is an incredibly lucky shot!' or 'Wow, I wish I was lucky enough to take a shot like that!'



Trust me – I'm not that lucky. More often people say other things about my photos, but that's for another time....

While there is almost certainly an element of luck associated with all types of photography, there's a lot more to it than just happening to be in the right place at the right time with your randomly selected but entirely appropriate photographic kit. No, a lot of this "so-called good luck" is down to something far more mundane and boring: preparation.

While you can argue that every photograph taken might very well prove to be a throw of the dice, as photographers, there's a lot you can do to load the dice in your favour for a cracking shot.

Plan ahead – No really.

The tried-and-tested way to ensure "good fortune" is on your side is simply to plan ahead. Sit down, have a cup of tea and think carefully about the type of image you're after, the location and subject, whether it is a walk around the block, a day out in the park or a holiday to an amazing location. Think about the type of shots you want to achieve and what will they require. We all know it isn't simply about having a telephoto lens for photographing wildlife, remembering a reflector when taking portraits, or having a wide-angle lens and tripod for landscapes.

You also could think about the clothes needed. About whether insect repellent or sunscreen will be necessary if outside. About permits and passes if shooting somewhere exotic. Always think about having fully charged batteries and spare bits and pieces in your camera bag and comfy socks too. Very important, comfy socks.

When I tended to be a little less organised, I often found I got a lot less 'lucky' as a result. The wrong lens, a flat battery and insect bites seemed to plague a lot of my early photographic adventures.

It still happens today, my wife jokes when on our travels around the villages we only see Deer and Hare when I don't have my camera sitting with me.

I have learnt over the years that planning ahead goes far beyond just packing the right equipment. It also means having that equipment or at the very least a camera on standby, normally my trusty but battered iPhone. For example, if I'm on a bus travelling from one place to another and something gorgeous presents itself through the window, I'm ready, camera-in-hand, and a camera on a phone is more than up to task of getting that quick unexpected shot.

There are a lot of scenarios you might consider 'lucky' that really have very little to do with luck. Some of it is down to experience, some of it is planning and some of it is simply thinking 'what if...' all the time. Of course, sometimes your judgment will be off, an animal might show up at an unexpected location, or things don't go to plan in ways that you couldn't have predicted. Undoubtedly, there is always a little bit of luck involved with taking that great photo – but most of the time, it's down to skill, planning, and experience more than sheer dumb luck.

It might sound far-fetched, but every now and again I find it is worth dreaming up outlandish scenarios and imagining how you might react to them. What would you do if your lens refused to focus? How would you respond if an animal suddenly appeared behind you? What would you do if something happened really close to you... or really far away? Or what if that bloke in the bright blue mac really won't get out of your shot.....!!? If you've thought up a potential answer, you'll be better prepared should the (almost) unthinkable happen, and I've found being ready for the unthinkable is when the magic happens.....

If you are enjoying these adventures in photography, then why not joint a camera club.

A great place to join is the Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club. We meet every Tuesday via Zoom at 7:30pm. We're a local friendly bunch and if you would like to know more please visit our web site at <http://bottburpc.org> or visit our Facebook page, just look for Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club in the search bar.

As always, thanks for reading and until next time, happy snapping.

**Elliot Needham**  
Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club.

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## Jubilee Tree Wood Products

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Over the last few weeks the Ely Guild of Wood Turners has delivered over 50 mementoes made from Jubilee Tree timber to villagers. These range from robust bowls through to candlesticks, clocks and barometers and pens.



The timber from our tree surpassed the Guild's expectations - horse chestnut is normally difficult to season and turn and can be bland and uninteresting. Our tree yielded the best horse chestnut the turners have ever encountered, being stable and carrying lots of interesting burring, spalting and bark inclusions. This was reflected in many of items supplied.



There are a few more bowls in the pipeline and some finished items left for sale. If anybody wants to make a purchase please get in touch.

### Nick Acklam

n.acklam@reachparishcouncil.org  
743749

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## Anglesey Abbey

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With the rich tones of oranges and reds beginning to appear in the gardens, autumn is well and truly on its way at Anglesey Abbey. Whilst the house remains closed, the gardens are still providing much needed fresh air to all who visit, with a focus on the circular route in the coming months which takes in many of the tree-lined avenues. Coming up in the next few weeks for families we've got our Autumn Bucket List activity and we'll be going mad for minibeasts this October Half Term, sharing details of the creepy crawlies who call Anglesey Abbey Home. Keep an eye on our website for further details in the weeks ahead.



We've loved welcoming back some of the regular faces we've come to recognise and hearing their joy in response to being able to explore the gardens after such an unprecedented year. We've introduced advance booking at many places to keep everyone safe and maintain social distancing. To avoid disappointment please book in advance, especially at busier times such as weekends and bank holidays. However, where space is available on weekdays, pre-booking may not always be necessary so you can pop in for a more spontaneous visit. We hope to see you soon."

### Kayley Wilcockson

Visitor Experience Officer  
Anglesey Abbey, Gardens and Lode Mill

### National Trust

Anglesey Abbey, Quay Road, Lode,  
Cambridgeshire, CB25 9EJ  
nationaltrust.org.uk

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## Wicken Fen

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*Image of the Short-eared owl by Richard Nicholl*

Overwintering birds have been steadily arriving at the fen, with winter thrushes such as redwing and fieldfare enjoying the berries around the reserve and lapwing gathering in numbers on Baker's and Burwell Fens. At the time of writing the first couple of hen harriers have been spotted and we're expecting the arrival of short-eared owls very soon – keep an eye on our social media channels for the latest news.

We've got an exciting new activity planned for the winter period. For families and all fans of Beatrix Potter young and old, we will have a Peter Rabbit™ winter activity trail on the Boardwalk. Due to the recent lockdown, the opening date has been postponed and we are hoping to start the trail in early December. To take part you'll need to book an entry slot for Sedge Fen in the normal way and pick up a children's Peter Rabbit™ trail activity pack for £2 when you check in at the Visitor Centre. More information will be available soon in the 'What's On' section of our website.

We're planning on being open every day apart from Christmas Day over the festive period, so if you need a peaceful stroll or to walk off the Christmas excess; our car park is open 8.30am to 4.45pm (last entry 3.30pm); the Docky Hut Café is open 10am to 3pm on weekdays and 10am to 4pm at weekends; and the Visitor Centre is open from 10am to 4.30pm. This is subject to the latest government guidance, so do check our website before visiting to get the most up to date information.

Tickets are released every Friday for the following week for Sedge Fen walks (Boardwalk and Woodland Walk), and booking details can be found on our website: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen-nature-reserve>.

It's not necessary to pre-book to use the car park and walk in the wider reserve.

**Julia Hammond**

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## Burwell Museum

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We knew that 2020 was going to be a memorable year at Burwell Museum and Windmill, but we weren't expecting it to be quite like this!

We're now closed but look forward to reopening as normal on Easter Sunday 2021 (4<sup>th</sup> April).



Keep an eye on our website and social media, as well as your favourite local magazine, for more information when we have it.

We wish all of our volunteers, visitors and supporters well, have a great festive period and we look forward to welcoming you back on 4<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Sunday 2021!

**Alison Giles**

**Website:** [www.burwellmuseum.org.uk](http://www.burwellmuseum.org.uk)

**Tel:** 01638 605544

**Email:** [museum@burwellmuseum.org.uk](mailto:museum@burwellmuseum.org.uk)

Burwell Museum, Mill Close, Burwell CB25 0HL

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## Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE  
pressoffice@cambsfire.gov.uk  
www.cambsfire.gov.uk

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

### Recruiting wholetime firefighters from January 2021



In case you've missed it, we will be recruiting for wholetime firefighters to join fire stations across the county from January 2021. Applications will open on Monday 4 January 2021, at 8am, and will close two weeks later on Sunday 17 January at 11.59pm.

The recruitment process has been refreshed for 2021. Applicants won't need to register in advance or attend a mandatory recruitment event. Instead, those interested can sign up to receive information about the process and reminders.

### Firefighters come to the aid of Daisy the Cocker Spaniel

We recently saw an unusual rescue for Huntingdon Black Watch. The were called to an animal rescue on a field near Buckworth after a dog had gone walkies down a drainage pipe. Fortunately it was a happy ending for Daisy and her owner, after some teamwork between local farmers and our firefighters, who came to her rescue.



For more information visit:  
[www.cambsfire.gov.uk/oncall](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/oncall)

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## Neighbourhood Watch

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### Neighbourhood Watch launches PROTECT YOUR Pa\$\$W0rD campaign with 3 quick and easy steps

As we spend more time at home and on our online devices, over one third of people say that they're more concerned about cybercrime than physical crime and a startling 1 in 5 people are a victim of cybercrime!\* You could be more at risk than you might think.

If strengthening your passwords is something you keep putting off, or you feel overwhelmed by the sea of online security information, you're not alone.

As part of our Cyberhood Watch initiative, launched in 2019 in partnership with Avast, we have launched a **PROTECT YOUR Pa\$\$W0rD** campaign that targets both the overwhelmed and complacent, providing everyone with 3 easy steps to be more secure online.

#### PROTECT YOUR Pa\$\$W0rD in 3 easy steps

1. Create a separate password for your email account
2. Use 3 random words
3. Turn on two-factor authentication (2FA)

To find out more about how to do each step visit our **Password Protection** page on our website.

But we won't stop there! Whilst taking those **3 easy steps** will go a long way to protecting yourself online, we want to protect not just you but **your whole community!** To do this, we are asking you to spread the word and help protect your family, friends, colleagues and neighbours by **sharing these 3 easy steps with 3 others.**

To share with others you can forward this email to at least 3 of your friends, share the information from our Password Protection page in your local newsletter, or share our campaign on your social media channels using our Protect your Pa\$\$W0rD Campaign Pack

#### Kevin Evans

Secretary, East Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch  
01353 614892 or [kevin.g.evans@ntlworld.com](mailto:kevin.g.evans@ntlworld.com)

# *The Dyke's End*

## CHRISTMAS PARTY MENU

SERVED THROUGHOUT DECEMBER UNTILL THE 23RD

### STARTERS

Honey, Fig & Balsamic Onion Tart (V)

Smoked Salmon & Horseradish Cream Blini

Ham Hock & Pea Soup, Bread & Butter



### MAINS

Roast Turkey Crown, Chestnut & Apricot Stuffing

Mushroom, Hazelnut & Spinach Wellington (v)

Red Mullet, Caper, Lemon & Spinach En Papillote

Thyme Butter Basted Hanger Steak (Served Pink)

(Mains Served With ALL The Trimmings)



### DESSERTS

Christmas Pudding & Brandy Sauce (v)

Lemon Roulade, Mango Sorbet (v)

Sticky Toffee Pudding, Toffee Sauce & Vanilla Ice Cream (v)



### TEA OR FILTER COFFEE & MINCE PIE

WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY

2 COURSES £18.00 3 COURSES £22.00

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

2 COURSES £20.00 3 COURSES £24.00

Pre-order required 5 days in advance

This menu is also available as a take-away with a 15% discount but has to pre-ordered 5 days in advance

Please advise of any dietary requirements at time of booking

Maximum table size is 6 in line with current government guidelines

A deposit of £5 per person is required at the time of booking.

This is a non-refundable deposit should you need to cancel or a member of the party fails to attend however In the event of entering another lockdown we can offer your Meal as a takeaway or we can refund your deposit





# *The Dyke's End*

## CHRISTMAS DAY MENU 2020

### WELCOME DRINK & APÉRITIF

Mimosa, Prosecco topped with Orange Juice  
or  
Orange Juice for Children

Choose from:

A Fresh Oyster with Preserved Lemon & Ginger Marinade  
Smoked Salmon & Horseradish Crème Blini  
Goats Cheese & Caramelised Red Onion Tartlet (v)



### STARTERS


Honey, Fig & Balsamic Onion Tart (v)  
Ham Hock & Chicken Terrine, Chutney, Toasted Rye Bread  
Blackened Onion Soup, Gruyère Crouton (v)  
King Prawn Cocktail, Tabasco Marie Rose Sauce, Bread & Butter



### MAINS


Roast Turkey Crown, Chestnut & Apricot Stuffing, Pigs in Blankets  
Mushroom, Hazelnut & Spinach Wellington (v)  
Red Mullet, Caper, Lemon & Spinach En Papillote  
Roast Ribeye of Beef, Pigs in Blankets

All main courses served with Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes,  
Seasonal Vegetables, Sprouts, Caramelised Red Cabbage, Creamed Mushroom & Leeks



### DESSERTS

Christmas Pudding & Brandy Sauce (v)  
Lemon Roulade, Mango Sorbet (v)  
Clementine Posset, Cranberry Compote & Shortbread (v)  
Sticky Toffee Pudding, Toffee Sauce & Vanilla Ice Cream (v)  
Cheeseboard - Stilton, Brie, Mature Cheddar, Crackers, Grapes & Chutney (v)



### TEA OR FILTER COFFEE & MINCE PIE

**£70 PER PERSON**

**£35 UNDER 14'S**

Pre-order required by the 18th December 2020

Please advise of any dietary requirements at time of booking

Maximum table size is 6 in line with current government guidelines.

Various times available between 12pm-2.30pm

**A deposit of £20 per person is required at the time of booking.**

This is a non-refundable deposit should you need to cancel or a member of the party fails to attend, however in the event of entering another lockdown over the 25th December we can offer your Christmas Day Meal as a takeaway for £40 per adult / £20 per child (excluding apéritif & welcome drink) or we can refund your deposit

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### Advertising Rates

£34 for a quarter page (w 90mm, h 120mm) or  
£62 for a half page (w 180mm, h 120mm)  
per year (6 issues)

Please contact David Parr on 01638 744081  
or 07887 563720 or email  
davidmparr@btinternet.com

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## Tales from a Reach Garden

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Autumn starts at a frantic pace in the garden. It's a time of harvesting fruit and vegetables and planting bulbs for spring flowering. It's actually a good time to be planting many hardy new flowers, trees and shrubs, even sowing grass seed while the soil is still warm and rain is plentiful.



October was very wet this year and we endured many very gloomy days thanks to low cloud, so it felt like the garden was falling asleep earlier than usual this year. I am not a fan of gloomy days, I find it difficult to be motivated to do anything when the sky is so dull and dim.

We did manage to dodge the rain showers to bring the pumpkins indoors, they need to be dry in order to store reasonably well. Normally we leave them outdoors till mid-October to dry off in the autumn sunshine. No chance of that this year! The leaves on the squash and pumpkin plants remained green throughout September and into October. Normally the leaves die back in late August revealing the squash which can continue to harden off in the sun. In spite of that, and probably thanks to the rain, we had a very good crop of butternut squash which have been lovely to eat in risottos, pilafs and curries, just the type of filling, warm dishes needed on cool, damp days.

We also have three large, blue-skinned "Crown Prince" type pumpkins which should keep for a few months longer providing us with several meals through the winter months.



*Butternut squash lurking amid the leaves*

We have a few hazel bushes which we planted a few years ago in the vain hope that they will provide us with a few cobnuts in Autumn.

Alas, the local squirrels always get to them first, then forget where they hide them, so we have a few hazel "weed trees" springing up around the garden (as well as walnut "weed trees"). The only hazel bush from which I have collected cobnuts successfully is a corkscrew hazel, which the squirrels seem to treat with suspicion. I have read that squirrels are wary of snakes so some gardeners claim that they have successfully deterred marauding squirrels by hanging rubber snakes on their hazel bushes. I have yet to try this, but it may explain why squirrels keep away from this particular bush; they may be perturbed by the squiggly nature of its branches and twigs (hence the corkscrew, in its name) that is until one intrepid - or desperate - squirrel finds a couple of nuts I have missed.



*Cobnuts collected from the corkscrew hazel*

I've noticed that the cobnuts I amass from this bush are more elongated compared to the few I managed to collect from the other hazels in the garden. Hazels respond well to coppicing so even if they don't provide nuts, they do provide props and poles for our runner beans in the vegetable garden. However, we don't do this to the main stems of the corkscrew hazel, the branches and stems are far too contorted for that, although there are always a few straight stems growing from the base of the bush but they are cut back to the ground as soon as they are spotted.

The local small birds also like to nest in there; we always find a small, empty nest deep within the bush when the leaves are shed at this time of year. This bush provides a lot of comment from visitors in the winter and early spring when the leaves have been shed and its twisted stems and yellowish catkins are on display providing a sculptural focal point in the garden.



*Corkscrew hazel with catkins in March*

Danuta Gibson

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## Cambridge Eastern Access Consultation

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The Greater Cambridge Partnership consultation for the Cambridge Eastern Access project is now live. The consultation runs until **18th December 2020**.

We believe that it is of great interest to your Parish, and we would like as many people as possible to have their say. Here is a link direct to our Cambridge Eastern Access consultation page:

<https://consultcamb.s.uk.engagementhq.com/cea-consultation-2020>

This page describes the options, has a brochure, maps and a video, and contains a Frequently Asked Questions section. It also has a link to our online survey. If any of your residents would prefer to be sent and complete a paper copy of the survey, there is a telephone number to call.

We usually run public meetings to give local people a chance to comment on our projects. This is obviously not possible at present, but we would be more than happy to organise Zoom meetings for your Parish. You can then meet our Project Manager and other key staff to ask questions, raise concerns and obtain clarification.

### Background information

As the delivery body for the Greater Cambridge City Deal, the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) is investing in solutions to tackle current and future transport problems by offering better and more sustainable ways to make journeys by public transport, cycling and walking.

The Cambridge Eastern Access corridor provides the main access into the city from the east and consists of the A1134/A1303 Newmarket Road between Quy Interchange and Elizabeth Way and connects with the main Strategic Road Network at A14 Junction 35. Newmarket Road Park & Ride is located approximately 500m west of the junction with Airport Way and is accessed off the A1303.

The route suffers considerably from congestion during peak times, particularly at the Cambridge end including Newmarket Road causing delays, disruption and worsening problems for an existing infrastructure that cannot support future growth.

Kind regards

David Charlesworth  
Communications Manager  
Greater Cambridge Partnership  
<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/>

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## Snakehall Farm

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<https://localgiving.org/appeal/ProspectsTrustUnwrappedCanopyofCare/>

The Prospects Trust Unwrapped **Canopy of Care** project is going to create more than just a place to sit for the community of Ely & East Cambridgeshire. We wish to install a commercial grade canopy across our outside fully accessible seating area outside of Unwrapped, LuvEly's Community Larder and Lighthouse Community Centre to enable our Co-workers, Customers and Community Groups to have a safe place to interact.

**Please, donate a tenner and kick off our Crowdfunder, donate £20 to be our Crowdpleaser and if you can £50 to be our Chief Crowdonor!**

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## Food Focus

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Catherine is taking a break for this issue – Jo has kindly agreed to fill in for her.

### Gingerbread Stars

A super easy recipe to make and the best gingerbread you'll enjoy! This is an American recipe, so the measurements are in cups - if you don't have a cup measure, 1 cup equates to 234g. Beware if you make the full recipe, it makes a lot but they freeze extremely well, that's if they ever make it to the freezer!

### Ingredients

1 cup of spreadable margarine  
1 cup of sugar  
¾ cup of molasses / or black treacle if you don't have!  
½ teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon freshly ground cloves  
1 egg beaten  
5 cups self-raising flour  
1.5 teaspoon baking soda  
2 teaspoons of ground ginger – although I normally use 4 or 5!  
1 teaspoon of cinnamon

Small splash of water if a little dry and crumbly although it's normally ok!

This can be made by hand or a mixer. If you make the full quantity, it can be a large amount of mixture for the machine to handle so use a metal dough hook.



### Directions

1. Cream margarine and sugar.
2. Beat in egg and molasses.
3. Add flour, baking soda, salt, ginger, cinnamon and cloves.
4. Chill for 3 hours – but realistically I only wait for 30 minutes or so. The longer you can leave it, the more the flavours can develop.
5. Flour work surface and roll dough out to about 1cm thick making sure it doesn't stick.
6. Cut out using your desired cookie cutter shape – stars and bells work well during the festive period but beware of star cutters that are very pointy as the dough can get stuck.
7. Place on a greased baking sheet and bake for 5 minutes at 192 degrees. (You will need at least 5 baking sheets on the go as they cook so quickly!)

If you don't have a cup measure, 1 cup equates to 234g.

Don't bake for longer than 5 minutes or you won't have a lovely soft gingerbread – it's not a crispy biscuit it's cakeier.

If you're feeling creative, you can decorate with a simple icing sugar and water drizzle and a flurry of sprinkles. This is a super easy recipe to follow with pleasing results. Why not make a few batches and gift to friends and family, I guarantee they'll be extremely well received!

Enjoy the baking and Happy Christmas from all of us in the Riches-Steed household!

**Jo Riches**

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## Letter from the Vicarage

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Is Christmas cancelled?

No, not at all! Christmas may look different, but the story is still the same, of heaven touching earth, of God made visible as the baby of Bethlehem, God with us, bringing a message of hope, of comfort and joy for these difficult days.



From ancient times, the season of Advent leading up to Christmas has been a time of waiting, of hope, of longing for the light to come. This year Advent may be less about shopping and more about waiting, as we all hope and pray for better news about the virus by the time we get to Christmas. Perhaps you could light a candle for each Sunday and pause for a moment's peace and a prayer.

It's difficult at the moment to look very far ahead, as once again, things seem to be changing very quickly, with further restrictions and uncertainty about whether services in church may be possible, but we're looking at creative ways of making sure we stay connected, keep reaching out in love, and celebrate with joy. Christingle services will be online, with a bag of bits to make your own, and join in on Zoom. Create for Christmas, our popular Christmas crafting evening will be on Zoom on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30pm. It looks like Carol services will be recorded and shown on Facebook and with a live singalong on Zoom (you'll have to bring your own mince pies!). We hope to have our Remembering Tree in St Mary's, with times where the church is open to spend some time in quiet remembering loved ones. We'll be planning to celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day online, and if we can, find a way of celebrating in our church buildings.

All to be confirmed, but Christmas is not cancelled! Message us for more details if you'd like to join in with what we're doing. Our regular services and groups are continuing online, on Facebook and Zoom: Refresh Café on Fridays 9.30 – 10.00, Messy Gatherings on Sundays and our main Sunday service at 10am. We'll be posting regular updates on our website and Facebook pages. For those who can't access the internet, we have a church phonenumber, where you can listen to audio versions of our services, for a local call charge on 01638 598958.

God bless you.

**Eleanor Williams** Vicar of Burwell with Reach

**Email:** vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk 01638 741262

**Website:** www.stmarysburwell.org.uk

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell>



**St Etheldreda's, Reach**  
**During lockdown restrictions**  
**the church will be open**  
**for Individual Prayer**  
**Sundays 2 – 4pm**  
**Thursdays 9 – 4pm**  
**Times may change when we are**  
**permitted**  
**to re-open for services**

Please come by yourself or with a member of your household, and make sure you follow the social distancing and Covid-19 precautions.

Please do not visit our church buildings if you have any symptoms of Covid-19 or if you have been asked to stay at home following contact with someone who has the virus.

Thank you and God bless you

**Create for Christmas**  
**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**  
**7.30pm in Zoom**  
**Book in via church website**  
**Craft Pack will be available**  
**Bring your own drinks & snacks**  
**and join in from your home**  
**The event is free but donations**  
**welcome - give via website**  
**[www.stmarysburwell.org.uk](http://www.stmarysburwell.org.uk)**

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## Know Your Parish Council

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Your councillors are:

Charlotte Cane	Vice Chair	741064
Nick Acklam	Councillor	743749
Cristine Fletcher	Councillor	07763 529866
David McMillan	Councillor	741259
Andrew Trump	Councillor	07980 955490
Vacancy	Councillor	
Vacancy	Councillor	

Charlotte Cane	District Councillor
John Trapp	District Councillor
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor

Your Clerk is Susan Bailey  
29 Great Lane Reach CB25 0JF; 01638 743794  
clerk@reachparishcouncil.org

Meetings take place, normally in the Village Hall (with alternative arrangements when Covid-19 restrictions are in place), on the first Wednesday of each month. They start at 7.45pm and all Reach villagers are welcome to be involved.

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## Do You Travel into Cambridge?

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Improvements to travel into Cambridge from the East are being explored by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council working together) and they have started a public consultation that includes all who travel, by whatever means, into Cambridge.

They are considering short-term and long-term improvements. From moving the Park 'n' Ride site, or an underpass under Cambridge airport, to opening up Cambridge East, a rail station at Fulbourn or Six Mile Bottom. Although five options have been put forward in the brochure, there is no reason why you don't make your own observations and suggestions. For example, would a Park 'n' Ride site to the east of the Quay roundabout be appealing? Even though you may only use a car to travel into Cambridge, it will still be useful to let them know why you do so and what may tempt you to change your mode of travel.

All the information, including ways in which you can respond, is online at:  
[www.greatercambridge.org.uk/CEA-Consultation](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/CEA-Consultation).

If you have difficulty in accessing the internet, or want a hard copy, then please contact Charlotte Cane or John Trapp, your District Councillors, whose telephone numbers are 07976 607512 and 01223 812120 respectively. The consultation closes at midday on Friday 18 December 2020.

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## Know Your District Councillors

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Licensing Committee considered minor changes to licensing taxis and Covid-19 restrictions. Generally, businesses were complying, but some found the rules difficult to understand and our officers are providing advice. Government has given extra funding to help with this.

At the last meeting of the District Council:

- Several questions from the public around Climate Change: divesting from fossil fuels, EV Charging points, energy efficiency of homes
- Petition calling for Mepal Outdoor Centre to remain as an outdoor activities facility
- Agreed a motion to seek rural area designation for affordable housing and thus lower the threshold at which affordable housing starts
- Agreed a motion to ask officers to discuss options for parking enforcement in the District with the Chief Constable.
- Adopted our Statement of Licensing Policy (which we do every 5 years)
- Agreed our response to the Planning White Paper – one of concern that the policies in the Paper would reduce local participation

Councillors were given a briefing on the outcome of the bus questionnaire and the bus route that meanders from Burwell to Cambridge was deemed to be the most useful of all the others in the District. There were many responses supporting a more extensive timetable, as well as a Sunday service. There was also concern about the time it took to reach Cambridge in the rush-hours.

Although we don't normally hold a surgery in December, we have decided to hold one using Zoom this abnormal year for which the joining particulars are:

**Topic:** John Trapp's Zoom Meeting  
**Time:** Dec 16, 2020 06:00 PM London  
**Meeting ID:** 357 775 2400 **Passcode:** 098359

**Charlotte Cane:** 07976 607512  
**John Trapp:** 01223 812120.

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## Cricket Report

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### **20 September Reach (156 all out) lost to Simmons CC (157-9) by one wicket**

Our original opponents having dropped out, we were forced to trawl the internet for another team against which to show off our talents. This produced Simmons CC, an agreeable bunch from Harrow. A solid batting performance took Reach to 156-9 off 36 overs, an unusually equable scorecard not a single duck but no-one getting past 30 either – Will Day's 27 was as good as it got. In reply, Simmons were halfway there and four wickets down after 15 overs, but the wickets just kept on coming: three for Tim Davies, three for Hector Keutgen and a couple for Gwilym Davies. It turned out to be closest game of the season, but Simmons managed to crawl over the line with nine down.

### **27 September Reach (slightly more than 122-5) beat the Rain Men (122-9) by between one and four runs**

Our decision to play on to the very last Sunday in September faced three formidable obstacles: the weather, the light and the government's Scientific Advisory Committee for Emergencies which, we now know, would love nothing so much as to get us off the pitch and lock us up back in our homes to defeat rising numbers of Covid 19 infections. In the event, none of these intervened. An early start prevented the Rain Men from taking their customary Sunday lunch before the game, but they were weighed down by something, perhaps age.

They seemed determined to run themselves and each other out. This left precious few wickets to be claimed by our bowlers, although Archie Fordham managed to bag four and Will Kingsmill one. Thus the Rain Men's innings turned out to be more of a passing shower than a downpour. I am pretty sure that we went on to win; in fact I know we won because I was there. Yet the scorer inexplicably stopped recording our runs at 88. Add up the squiggles in the individual batsmen's columns, however, and it seems to come to 126, which makes sense. There were strong contributions from John Gray (39) and Chris Bridgeman (29) but it was a partnership from the Davies brothers which out the matter beyond doubt. Or rather I'd say it was beyond doubt were it not for our scorebook. But luckily, Donald Trump wasn't playing for the Rain Men and they willingly conceded

**Ross Clark**

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## The Dyke's End

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As the magazine goes to press, we await an understanding from Boris regarding when and how we can re-open – but suffice it to say that when we are properly informed - we will be re-opening!

We'll inform you digitally of the new arrangements when we can.

For information about our plans for Christmas, please have a look at pages 16 and 17 for our menus.

And we will still offer our very popular **Takeaway Service**, please call or email to place your order.

We look forward to welcoming you all back to the Dyke's End shortly!

**Matt and Mel**

**Email:** [bookatdykesendreach.co.uk](mailto:bookatdykesendreach.co.uk)

**Tel:** 01638 743816





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## Parish Council Meeting Minutes

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### Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held via Zoom on; Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020

#### Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Vice Chair	Present
Andrew Trump	Councillor	Present
David McMillan	Councillor	Present
Cris Fletcher	Councillor	Present
Nick Acklam	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Present
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present

#### Apologies for absence

#### Forum for members of the public.

There were none.

#### 1. Declaration of Interests

Councillor Cane declared an interest in the solar discussion, as she is a director of a solar farm, and Councillor Fletcher declared an interest in the planning application.

#### 2. Councillors – Election of Chair, and Tree officer. Recruitment of new councillors

There were no volunteers or nominations for the position of Chair of the Council. Vice Chair Councillor Cane agreed to act as Chair temporarily. Councillor Acklam volunteered to be the new Tree Officer which was unanimously agreed. A discussion took place regarding the lack of Councillors and residents willing to put themselves forward. Councillors agreed they would be more active in the recruitment process.

#### 3. Planning Applications - Extending of hard standing at The Old Paddock, 48B Great Lane.

Residents had asked Councillors about the extending of hard standing at The Old Paddock, 48B Great Lane. The PC have confirmed that this is permitted under the criteria and regulations at this site.

#### 4. County Councillor Report

No report received.

#### 5. District Councillor Report

At the last meeting, which lasted all of six hours and both of us were present, of the Finance & Assets Committee:

1. The Custom and Self-Build Housing Supplementary Planning Document was adopted
2. The Natural Environment Supplementary Planning Document was adopted.
3. A Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been composed, and will be sent out for consultation to residents and organisations (including Parish Councils) in the District; because SPDs cannot create new policy which is not in the Local Plan, these policies are guidance rather than mandatory. Please consider a response to this consultation.
4. The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy 2020 – 2023 proposal was presented and will be sent round for consultation in the District. Please also consider a response to this consultation.
5. The East Cambs Trading Company accounts were noted despite some misgivings.
6. The East Cambs Trading Company Business Plan was accepted, again with some misgivings.

7. The Medium Term Financial Strategy report showed a need for substantial savings to be made in two years' time – rising to a shortfall of £4.4m in 2023/24, and the shortfall won't be covered by a rise in Council Tax. Services may be affected, and we pressed for consultation with residents and organisations in the District.

At the last meeting of the Operational Services Committee:

1. Resolved to ask local MPs for more information on the Local Electricity Bill before deciding whether or not to support it.
2. Received an update from the Housing & Community Team on the impact of Covid-19
3. Received an update on the Climate Change Strategy and Action plan.
4. Noted a small forecast underspend on the Operational Services revenue budget and a small forecast overspend on the capital budget.

## 6. Minutes of previous Meeting

Approved as correct.

### 7.1 Reach Grant Fund

Nothing to report.

### 7.2 Finance

Nothing to report.

### 7.3 Parish Council Members

It had again been reported that the gate was still down on the Dyke. **Clerk** to contact highways again. **Clerk** to contact LHI for an update on the Great Lane, Fair Green corner.

Councillor Fletcher pointed out that the PC had not been following its new planning procedure correctly. **Clerk** to ensure the document procedure is followed for each application.

Councillor Acklam stated that he was still chasing the replacing of the vandalised signage at The Hythe. Anglia Water had contacted the PC regarding the problems with the sewage capacity, **Councillor Acklam** to take this forward.

A resident had complained about the road where the broadband trench had been dug. **Councillor Cane** to have a look and speak with the resident.

A resident had complained about some building work taking place which they felt was outside of the permissions given. **Councillor Cane** to speak with the resident and with ECDC planning department.

### 7.4 Play Spaces

Nothing to report.

### 7.5 Rights of Way

Nothing to report.

### 7.6 24Acres Committee

Nothing to report.

### 7.7 Neighbourhood Plan

The NP Group is now meeting (online) approximately once a month. However our next meeting will be set by the production of an outline draft Plan which itself will be determined by clarification of the implications of a couple of strategic planning issues that have arisen in recent weeks (see below).

#### Evidence Building

As mentioned in our previous report, we have built a substantial body of evidence to support the Plan. We are currently in discussion with a number of consultancies about the feasibility, critically the affordability, of employing an ecologist to pull together data about the environment of our neighbourhood already gathered by the Group and to ensure that the environmental package dovetails with other evidence, particularly the landscape appraisal. If feasible in principle, we will then apply to central Government for funding. Assuming that is successful we will then revert to the PC with a business case and a recommendation on whom to appoint.

## Issues

Two issues have arisen in recent weeks, the implications of which we need to understand better before sharing a draft Plan with the village:

- the Government's white paper 'Planning for the Future' and the associated consultation document on changes to planning policy and regulation. I don't propose to detail the contents of either document or the likely implications here. In brief both initiatives are designed to streamline the planning system in the UK. Both mention the importance of local input including Neighbourhood Plans to revisions of the planning system but lack detail to explain how this will happen. In this area we (and all communities in East Cambridgeshire) are very probably more vulnerable because of the dated nature of our Local Plan and possibly because of proposed revisions to the way in which housing targets are calculated.
- a challenge from a developer to Witchford's NP based on the fact that the plan had based its housing allocation exclusively on land for which planning permission already existed. We are seeking the full background to this ruling which seems to run contrary to our understanding of the Locality Act 2011 viz. that once voted for in referendum (as is the case in Witchford) an NP is legally binding.

Overall, the interim view is that the uncertainty arising from these events strengthens rather than diminishes the case for an NP.

## Summary and Outlook

In the next month we hope to have reduced the uncertainty mentioned above, to have clarified our position on the appointment of an ecological consultant, to have submitted a bid for funds for FY20/21 to central Government, to have produced a rough draft of the Plan and to have begun to think about how best to consult and engage the village on next steps in a world that is not fully on top of coronavirus.

Reported at the meeting – The group had received 3 returns from Environmental Consultants showing really significant differences in approach and cost which will need to be looked at. The group will be taking a pause to consider how the White Paper affects the NP, but the intention is still to get to referendum next year.

### **7. Friends of Reach Wood**

The Woodland trust have said that the meadow will still be mown this Autumn.

### **8. Government Planning White paper**

Following discussion, the PC felt that the White Paper would damage the District Councils ability to determine local development, destroying local democracy. The paper does not work for rural communities.

**Councillor Acklam** to respond on behalf of the PC.

### **9. Speed cameras – SID results**

A resident had asked for additional speed limit signs at the Swaffham Prior entrance to the village. Having looked at the SID data shows that the speeds at all entrances are very similar, and that entering and leaving the village are both problems. The flashing speed signs can be moveable, so people do not get used to them, however these are very expensive. Handheld versions are a possibility. The police were lending these to communities and train people to use them. **Councillor Cane** to contact the police.

### **10. Sunnica Energy Farm**

Following discussion, the PC concluded that this would have limited impact on the village. More worrying was the lack of an overall plan regarding solar farms. The PC feels strongly that ECDC needs a strategy to consider solar farm applications. **Councillor Acklam** to respond to Sunnica and write to ECDC.

### **11. Gatherings on Reach Village Green – Remembrance Sunday and other events**

The church has clear rules on how to conduct services during the Covid pandemic. As the remembrance service takes place at the War memorial on the Green the PC must give the Church permission. **Councillor Cane** to draw up a risk assessment for approved at the November meeting.

## 12. Information Items

Following discussion at the October meeting Councillor Acklam had spoken to the mowing contractor regarding ideas for a more environmentally friendly way of mowing around the village. There would be considerable extra charges for this. The PC would like to consult with the village prior to making any changes. An article will be placed in the village magazine and expert advice obtained.

## 13. Payments

E. on - Power on the green	£9.32
Cr Contracting – Mowing contract	£318.50
N Acklam – Reach wood signs	£88.90
S Bailey – Clerk salary	£1058.46
National Trust – 24Acres lease	£10.00

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# Parish Council Meeting Minutes

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## Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held via Zoom on; Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### Attendance

Charlotte Cane	Vice Chair	Present
Andrew Trump	Councillor	Not Present
David McMillan	Councillor	Present
Cris Fletcher	Councillor	Present
Nick Acklam	Councillor	Present
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Present
Joshua Schumann	County Councillor	Not Present

### Apologies for absence

Received from Councillor Trump and approved

### Forum for members of the public.

A member of the public attended to hear the planning discussion.

### 1. Declaration of Interests

There were none.

### 2. Councillors – Election of Chair. Recruitment of new councillors

There were no volunteers or nominations for the position of Chair of the Council. **Councillor Cane** to draft something to go into the next village magazine.

**3. Planning Applications - 20/01154/ORN - Change of Use from Offices (Class B1(a)) to Dwelling houses (Class C3), 68 Reach Road Burwell.** The PC were concerned about the precedent that this application would set for permitting housing in this area, contributing to the erosion of the zone of separation between Reach and Burwell. The Neighbourhood Plan survey had a result of 88% that thought it very important to maintain separation between Reach and Burwell. **Councillor Acklam** to write to ECDC.

**Preplanning at site adjacent to 27 Burwell Road** – a full application had been received after the agenda was published. This will be discussed at the December meeting. **Councillors Fletcher & Acklam** to visit the site with the applicant.

**20/01371/FUL - 22 Fair Green Reach. Replacement of existing garage with an annexe and store.** No Councillors had visited the site as all felt they knew the applicant too well, creating conflict of interest. **Clerk** to contact ECDC to get a dispensation. **Councillors Fletcher & Trump** to visit the applicant.

#### **4. County Councillor Report**

No report received. However, it was reported that during the new Lockdown tips would remain open by appointment only and that libraries would be operating a click and collect service.

#### **5. District Councillor Report**

Licensing Committee considered minor changes to licensing taxis and COVID-19 restrictions. Generally, businesses were complying, but some found the rules difficult to understand and our officers were providing advice. Government has given extra funding to help with this.

#### Full Council

Several questions from the public around Climate Change:

Divesting from fossil fuels

EV Charging points

Energy efficiency of homes

Petition Calling for Mepel outdoor centre to remain as an outdoor activities facility.

Agreed a motion to seek rural area designation for affordable housing.

Agreed a motion to ask officers to discuss options for parking enforcement with Chief Constable.

Adopted our Statement of Licensing Policy (which we do every 5 years)

Agreed our response to the planning white paper – one of concern

Noted the CA report

#### **6. Minutes of previous Meeting**

Approved as correct.

#### **7.1 Reach Grant Fund**

Nothing to report.

#### **7.2 Finance**

Nothing to report.

#### **7.3 Parish Council Members**

Councillor Acklam is in the process of arranging a meeting with Anglia Water, at The Hythe, to discuss the environment & sewage capacity issues.

Councillor Cane had met with Frances Dylong at the Dykes End pub for its annual inspection. Councillor Cane was delighted to report that everything is looking clean and fresh. The kitchen was immaculate. The flat and its bathroom were in very good condition a great improvement from the last visit. All fire inspection certificates and extinguishers are in date and Insurance cover is in place. The tenants have done a very good job.

#### **7.4 Play Spaces**

Nothing to report.

#### **7.5 Rights of Way**

Councillor McMillan commented on the state of the pathway along the Devils Dyke, and its fences, gates, and steps.

**Clerk** to contact CCC to establish if there is a maintenance plan for the Dyke and who is responsible for the permissive path.

It was also noted that there is an increase in the amount of dog poo at the far end of the village towards Upware. Several paths meet near to the Swan Lake barns. **Clerk** to enquire about putting a bin roadside at this location

## 7.6 24Acres Committee

Nothing to report.

## 7.7 Neighbourhood Plan

### Meetings

There were no meetings in October. The NP Group will meet shortly to review an initial draft Plan and to consider how to take it to the village given the ongoing disruptions of coronavirus.

### Planning Issues

Reflecting the NP Group's concerns, the PC submitted a response to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and wrote to Lucy Frazer MP about the Government's white paper 'Planning for the Future'. Our principal issue was the erosion of local democracy over planning issues that proposals in the white paper represent, including a significant reduction in the role of neighbourhood plans. Lucy Frazer has undertaken to write to Robert Jenrick, the Minister sponsoring the white paper, relaying our concerns.

We are not alone in having reservations about the white paper. ECDC will write to MHCLG to express significant reservations and Locality, the agency charged by MHCLG with delivering Neighbourhood Plans across the country, has also articulated significant practical problems with implementing the white paper. We shall see if the white paper proceeds in its current form. Whatever, encouraged from a variety of corners, we intend to complete our Plan because:

- the Government's proposals may not make it into law, especially in their current form
- a 'made' Neighbourhood Plan would give Reach a strong voice in any development challenge even if the Plan is no longer legally binding
- we have done a lot of the hard work already
- we have secured the funding from Locality to complete all the work planned for this financial year.

### Finances

Locality has approved our application for £9,970 to cover costs for the remainder of this financial year and the money should now be in the PC account. The funding will primarily pay for professional fees including those of an ecological consultant.

### Appointment of an ecological consultant

Our bid to Locality included £2,700 to pay an ecological consultancy to pull together the data on the natural environment of our neighbourhood and to integrate this with other evidence packs, especially those relating to landscape and the emerging work on green spaces. We will use this to support our policies on housing allocation, improvement of our environment, links with the NT's Wicken Vision Project, development of green links to create networks in our neighbourhood and links to other neighbour-hoods etc.

A spreadsheet summarising discussion with four ecological consultancies recommended to us by Ian Poole and Alison Farmer and the final quotes for the work from three of them is attached. We did not develop our conversation with Castle Hill Ecology as their initial quote was markedly more expensive than the others.

All three remaining consultancies place quite a lot of emphasis on reviewing existing data and ideally, we would have wished to have enabled more field work to corroborate this material. Unfortunately, this was impossible given the funding cap set by Locality. However, given the expertise and enthusiasm in the village we should be able to mitigate some of this risk by assisting the chosen consultancy by taking on a bit of tasked field work etc.

Two consultancies (Greenwillows and Arbtech) are similarly priced and offer similar approaches. Both have expressed a willingness to engage with the village when visiting.

The third consultancy, MKA, is particularly keen to draw in the local community to support their work and came in with a quote that is significantly (i.e. over 20 per cent) cheaper than the Greenwillows and Arbtech. This is primarily because their day rates are lower, and they believe they can deliver what we require for less consultant input. MKA was considered by Alison Farmer to be a good bet for producing a report that dovetailed with her work and, in our exchanges, seemed particularly sensitive to meeting the specifics of our requirement (also attached).

In summary, all three consultancies are affordable and assessed as being capable of meeting our requirement including producing an ecological report to a nationally approved (CIEEM) standard. The unanimous view of the NP Group is to appoint MKA because they are cheaper, enthusiastic, and recommended by Alison. The PC is invited to approve this appointment. **Approved.**

### Outstanding work

The draft Plan is work in progress. We have recently added our mapping of the areas of the village that we would like to see classed as Local Green Spaces, including the village green. We are clear about the structure and overall aims of the Plan and are beginning to flesh out the detail.

### Summary and Outlook

In the next month we hope to have:

- appointed and met with MKA
- produced a rough draft of the Plan and
- begun to think about how best to consult and engage the village on next steps in a world that is not fully on top of coronavirus.

### **7.8 Friends of Reach Wood**

Nothing to report.

### **8. Burwell Road hedge cutting**

The main areas requiring cutting are the corner of the building plot at 27 Burwell Road, owner agreed to attend to the matter. And the corner onto Weirs Drove. This is in the parish of Burwell. **Clerk** to contact Burwell PC to see if they will write to the owners of this property.

### **9. Change to planning pro-forma add box titled 'Discussion with applicant/site visit'**

Approved.

### **10. Gatherings on Reach Village Green – Remembrance Sunday and other events**

A risk assessment had been produced for Remembrance Sunday. Government guidelines state that this should be for invited guests only, however, due to the location of the memorial on the village green the PC felt it prudent to have track and trace scheme up and running. **Councillor Trump** to read the names from the memorial and lay the wreath on behalf of the PC and **Councillor Fletcher** ensure track and trace and social distancing procedures are followed.

### **11. Reach Fair 2021**

A meeting had been held by the Reach Fair planning committee and a decision had been made to cancel Reach Fair 2021. This is because of the uncertainties around COVID-19, and the need to start working on the organisation now. It may be possible to hold a smaller event at some time next year. **Councillor Fletcher** to check with Claire Halpin that the Mayor had been informed. The PC were grateful to the committee for meeting and thinking ahead.

### **12. Community Speedwatch**

The local police fully support the Speedwatch program – they train volunteers and assess locations to ensure they are safe to operate from. Groups either use tripod mounted kits, or MVAS (mobile vehicle activated signs) that flash a vehicles actual speed. They then record the details of vehicles they observe speeding and send the details into the police afterwards, who then engage with those drivers.

Groups need to have a coordinator who is the organiser and main point of contact – they do not need to attend every session, just be the person to gel the group together. It is this volunteer that the PC requires if the village would like to take this forward. **Clerk** to contact the resident who initiated this enquiry. Any other volunteers please contact The Clerk for more information

### **13. Information Items**

The PC would like to thank Alex de Giorgio-Millar for her continued work leading the Reach Community help scheme in light of the new lockdown.

Ely Guild of Wood turners will now be selling the mementos online rather than in the Village Hall.

### **14. Payments**

E. on - Power on the green	£9.32
Cr Contracting - Mowing contract	£276.50
Royal British Legion – poppy wreath	£17.00

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## Bottisham Village College Adult Learning

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# Bottisham Village College

## Adult Learning

### Covid-19 Update

We remain committed to providing Adult Learning for our community and are looking at how we can provide and develop a programme during these challenging times. We are currently running some qualification courses, but hope to resume other courses again soon.

However, if we are unable to offer classroom based courses over the next few months due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are researching alternatives, such as online learning.

We would be grateful if you could spare a few moments to let us know your thoughts on the following:

- Would you be interested in participating in online learning if offered through Adult Learning at Bottisham?
- If so, would you find it useful for us to provide you with a guide to accessing online learning via post or email?
- What type of course(s) would you like us to offer online?
- What would be your preferred time of day for an online course?
- How many weeks would you like the course to run?
- If your course started in the classroom, but changed to an online course midway through, would you continue?
- Do you have any further comments or suggestions?

Please email your replies to the Adult Learning Office at Bottisham Village College: [adultlearning@bottishamvc.org](mailto:adultlearning@bottishamvc.org) or visit our website, where you will find a link to the survey: [www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning](http://www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning)

Thank You.



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## Church Services in Burwell and in Reach

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### SOME GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SERVICES

We are planning on the basis of everything being conducted online or in a limited in-person way. If it becomes possible to do more, we will adjust plans nearer the time.

#### Zoom Gatherings

Please register via the 'Connect with us' page on our website, where we will ask you to agree to adhere to our Zoom Code of Practice: [www.stmarysburwell.org.uk](http://www.stmarysburwell.org.uk). Booking will be available from 7-10 days before each event.

#### Facebook Services and Events

Main Church page [www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell/](http://www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell/)

Families' page: [www.facebook.com/messychurchburwell/](http://www.facebook.com/messychurchburwell/) (for events for families, Refresh Café & Messy Church/Gathering)

#### Messy Bags

For some events eg Create for Christmas, Christingle Service and Crib Service, we will be preparing bags of things you will need. These will be prepared in accordance with Covid-19 precautions, and quarantined before collection or delivery. Nearer the time, we will update you on when & how these will be made available.

#### Churches Open

We are hoping that even if a service will not be taking place in church, we will still be able to open the churches at set times, for you and your family to visit and to pray. For up to date social distancing, wearing of face coverings, test & trace and other measures, check notices at the churches and on our website.



**OUR SPECIAL SERVICES  
FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**

Details may be subject to change  
For Zoom services, we hope to also make  
available short recorded services on Facebook  
Some services may also be on Burwell Radio

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December**  
5.00pm Christingle Service in Zoom  
Donations may be given for the work of The Children's Society

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**  
5.00pm Reach Zoom Christingle Service  
Donations may be given for the work of The Children's Society  
6.30pm St Mary's Carols in Zoom

**Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December**  
3pm Zoom Crib Service  
11.30pm Midnight Service TBC

**Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December**  
10.00am Christmas Service TBC

## Diary Dates

December	Event	Location	Time
Thursday 3	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 7	Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting	7.45pm
Thursday 10	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 17	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Wednesday 23	Recycling Day (Green)		

January	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 4	Parish Council Meeting	Virtual Meeting	7.45pm
Saturday 2	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Friday 8	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 14	Recycling Day (Blue)		
Thursday 21	Recycling Day (Green)		
Thursday 28	Recycling Day (Blue)		



## Bus Timetable

Reach is served by the Stagecoach number 11 bus service - summary of all buses serving Reach is shown below.

**Please note that there is no bus service at all on Sundays**

Cambridge to Bury - Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Cambridge Drummer Street	Reach	Burwell Ness Road	Newmarket Bus Station	Bury Bus Station
06:50	07:28	07:36	08:08*	08:49
07:50	08:28	08:36	09:08*	09:49
09:50	10:28	10:36	11:08*	11:49
11:50	12:28	12:36	13:08*	13:49
13:50	14:28	14:36	15:24*	15:49
15:50	16:28	16:36	17:30	17:55
18:15	18:53	19:06		
19:15	19:53	20:06		

Cambridge to Bury - Saturdays (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Cambridge Drummer Street	Reach	Burwell Ness Road	Newmarket Bus Station	Bury Bus Station
06:50	07:28	07:36	08:08*	08:49
07:50	08:28	08:36	09:08*	09:49
09:50	10:28	10:36	11:08*	11:49
11:50	12:28	12:36	13:08*	13:49
13:50	14:28	14:36	15:08*	15:49
15:50	16:28	16:36	17:08	17:55
18:15	18:53	19:01		
19:15	19:53	20:03		

Bury to Cambridge - Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Bury Bus Station	Newmarket Bus Station	Burwell Ness Road	Reach	Cambridge Drummer Street
		06:19	06:33	07:12
		06:39	06:53	07:32
	08:40	09:06	09:20	09:59
10:05	10:35*	11:06	11:20	11:59
12:05	12:35*	13:06	13:20	13:59
14:05	14:35*	15:06	15:20	14:59
15:05	15:35*	16:06	16:20	15:59
16:05	16:35*	17:06	17:20	16:59
17:05	17:35*	18:06	18:20	17:59

Bury to Cambridge - Saturdays (excluding Bank Holidays)				
Bury Bus Station	Newmarket Bus Station	Burwell Ness Road	Reach	Cambridge Drummer Street
		06:19	06:33	07:12
		06:49	07:03	07:42
	08:40	09:06	09:20	09:59
10:05	10:40*	11:06	11:20	11:59
12:05	12:40*	13:06	13:20	13:59
14:05	14:40*	15:06	15:20	15:59
15:05	15:40*	16:06	16:20	16:59
16:05	16:40*	17:06	17:20	17:59
17:05	17:40*	18:06	18:20	18:59

\* These are departure times - buses will arrive approximately 5 minutes earlier

A full timetable can be downloaded from [www.reach-village.co.uk/bus\\_service.html](http://www.reach-village.co.uk/bus_service.html)

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## Then and Now *(see opposite page for pictures)*

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A frosty late afternoon in December 1962 approaching Christmas. This photo taken from my grandparent's bedroom window at 'White Roses' with Burwell Excelsior Brass Band playing Christmas carols in front of 'Punch' King's cottage.

The barn attached to Dolphin Cottage (Black-eyed Susie) and the other farm buildings immediately behind the band have all gone, as has the water tap on the drying green and the lean-to construction that was Punch's kitchen.

**Chris Patterson**

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## Contact Information

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<b>Parish Council – see “Know Your Parish Council”</b>			
<b>Village Centre</b>			
	Chair	Grahame Radford	01638 742814
	Finance	Andrew Trump	01638 743335
	Bookings	Grahame Radford	01638 742814
	<b>Marquee Bookings</b>	Andrew Hall	01638 743737
<b>Church</b>			
	Vicar	Eleanor Williams	01638 741262
	Curate (duty days Wed, Fri and Sun)	Reverend Paula Spalding	07545 868549
	Priest in Retirement	Reverend David King	01638 742924
	Parochial Church Council Member	Pam King	01638 742924
	Churchwarden	Dr Stephen Martin	01638 611235
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Sarah Wingate	01638 742498
<b>Emergencies</b>			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency/Non-Emergency)		999/101
	Water (Anglian Water)		08457 145145
<b>Doctors, Burwell</b>			
	Appointments and Emergencies		01638 741234
	Enquiries		01638 743602
	Community Nurses		01638 742382
	Surgery Hours	Mon 8.30am to 6.00pm with extended hours on a Monday please phone the surgery for details	