

Contents

Title	Author	Page
Anglesey Abbey	Issy Vetoshkina	8
Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club	Daphne Hanson	11
Burwell and Reach Car Scheme	Pam King	19
Burwell Belles WI	Sara Phipps	21
Burwell Museum		19
Burwell Surgery Patient Participation Group		11
Bus Timetables		15
Cambridge Fire and Rescue		-
Cambridge Light Opera Group – Pirates of Penzance		18
Church Letter from the Vicarage	Eleanor Williams	20
Church Services	Eleanor Williams	27
Contact Information		28
Council - District Councillors	Charlotte Cane and John Trapp	22
Council - Parish Councillors		22
Council - Parish Meetings Minutes		23
Cricket Report	Ross Clark	-
Diary Dates		27
Dyke's End	Dan and Ruth	13
Dyke's End Book Club	Ally Eariss	22
Ely Consort Chamber Choir		26
Events in Reach		-
Food Focus	Catherine Gibson	17
Football Report	Nathan Bridgeman	-
Grant Fund		27
Mobile Library		17
MP Update	Charlotte Cane MP	4
Nature in Reach	Nick Acklam	9
Reach Fair		12
Reach Riders	Sue Cameron	10
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore	5
Swaffham Prior Pre-School		-
Tales from a Reach Garden	Danuta Gibson	16
The Swaffhams' Women's Independent Group (SWIG)	Kate Muscroft	6
Then and Now	Chris Patterson	28
Village Hall		-
Village Update	Alex de Giorgio-Miller	3
Wicken Fen	Ajay Tegala	7
Xtreme360 Padel Tennis Club and Trampoline Park		14

From the Editor

So, the big day is upon us! The new refuse collection schedule starts this coming Wednesday 3rd June – and it's taken me forever to document it properly in the "Diary Dates" section of this magazine. Hopefully it is correct, it's from the ECDC website, but I, like probably many of you, got a totally different set of dates through my letterbox earlier in May – so fingers crossed!



Whilst we are on the subject of getting things right, a correction needs to be made regarding an item in the last issue of this magazine. In it, the daughter of Edward Hall and his wife Dr Lucy de Pfeiffer, had her name misspelt; the correct spelling is Otilie de Pfeiffer-Hall.

Reach Fair was the usual delightful event. My feeling was that it was more relaxed than many recent Fair's but certainly it was well attended as the financial report shows you on page 12 of this issue. Thanks go to everyone who contributed to making the 2026 Fair the success that it undoubtedly was.

And on page 13, you'll see that the Dyke's End is going to get a makeover – with Dan and Ruth getting new, double-glazed windows fitted at the front of the building, which will certainly improve the heat retention in the building. And just before Reach Fair they invested in a brand-new lawn in the front garden which is a huge improvement. For those of you who may not have visited the pub for a while, why not head their way and check things out!

Another success story in May was the Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall which was attended by 31 villagers - that's 31 more than last year! The Parish Council revamped the format and village organisations were encouraged to speak about what they had achieved in the last year – and their thoughts for the future. Also, individual villagers were also able to comment on what they felt should be done to improve our lovely village. The minutes will be published on the Parish Council and the village websites shortly and for those who didn't make it, they will be well worth a read.

David Parr



About the Magazine

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 £3.00. 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. This magazine (which is fully funded from advertising) is printed by Burwell Print Centre, an excellent social enterprise which trains and supports adults with learning disabilities and provides high quality design and print capabilities.

The Team

Editor	David Parr
Distribution	Freda Lloyd, Claire Halpin-McDonald and Grahame Radford
Photographer	Rosanna Moseley Gore
24Acres	David Thomas
Anglesey Abbey	Issy Vetoshkina
Church	Eleanor Williams
Cookery	Catherine Gibson
Cricket	Ross Clark
Events Team	Debbie Quilter
Gardening	Danuta Gibson
Neighbourhood Watch	Kevin Evans
Reach Riders Group	Sue Cameron
Rosanna's Ramblings	Rosanna Moseley Gore
Then and Now	Chris Patterson
Village Hall	David Thomas
Village Update	Alex de Giorgio-Miller
Wicken Fen	Ajay Tegala
Wildlife	Nick Acklam

Village Update

With the sun making a regular appearance it's feeling more summery with every day and our dog walks down by the river are simply wonderful and remind me of how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful place. Whilst the allotment would appreciate a little more rain, I'm very happy with the current weather and ignoring the rainy forecast for the week ahead!



New bins are here!

It feels like I've been writing articles on the new bins forever – and now they are here! The new black wheeled bins and food caddies have been provided as part of a district wide waste and recycling upgrade, to help people reduce waste and recycle more. Each household on a standard waste collection will get one new black wheeled bin, which is replacing black sacks. This will be collected every two weeks. Residents will also receive a smaller green food caddy to keep somewhere handy in their kitchen and a larger grey caddy with a lockable lid for food waste, to put out every week for collection. The council are also providing a year's worth of caddy liners to help.

Attached to the black bins was an information pack for residents and a calendar to explain when the new service will start and which bins to put out on which day – we were delivered the wrong calendar so you should have received a new one in the post correcting it! The collection day for Reach is moving to Wednesday.

Residents are being asked not to use the new bins until the service starts from 1 June. Black wheeled bins and food caddies put out before these dates will not be collected because they require specialised vehicles which won't start operating until 1 June. The caddy liners cannot be used in your green lidded bins at any time. They won't be able to empty your bin if you do.

There is more information about the new service on the ECDC website, including information on how to request additional bins and what to do if you need help moving bins, or if you cannot accommodate the bins.

Library Presents is back for summer

The Library Presents has lots of feel-good events to keep you entertained from 16 May until 25 July. Tickets are available to book now. Chosen by local residents, this season has a line-up of 29 different events. There is a mix of live music, theatre, comedy and puppetry and workshops in art, craft, dance and writing. Hosted in 24 towns and villages around the county, there will be something on your doorstep to enjoy.

Come along to laugh, relax, meet new people, express yourself or support your wellbeing.

The Library Presents is making the arts accessible to everyone. This season there is range of assistance at events: relaxed events, safe spaces for neurodiverse or autistic audience members, hearing loops, a Makaton signed performance and captioned performances. We also provide adjustable height tables and aids for more comfortable seating and standing up.

Find more information at: www.library.live/the-library-presents

Lots of Grants!

Burwell Community Sports Centre has received a Community Sports Fund grant of £48,000 towards the £63,000 cost of replacing a worn-out sports hall floor. The centre's sports hall currently provides a venue for activities including badminton, roller-hockey, table tennis, cricket and football, plus many other groups and targeted programmes to benefit the community. The new flooring will provide a step-change in the range and quality of sports the centre is able to offer, including new opportunities such as pickleball. The work is expected to take place during the summer and last for two weeks.

Community groups are being encouraged to apply for grants of up to £1,000, offered by East Cambridgeshire District Council. The groups can spend the money on new or existing projects designed to improve the quality of life for residents. Successful applicants in the last round of funding included the Burwell Cooking Together scheme; All Inclusive Football Coaching for their adult pan disability football sessions; Star Struck, helping to nurture creativity and confidence among 7 to 17 year olds and Safe Soulmates, an organisation that creates safe, inclusive spaces for neurodivergent and disabled adults to connect, build friendships and explore opportunities.

The East Cambridgeshire Community Fund will be open to applications between 11 May to 22 June 2026. Applying for this grant is simple. Information about the grant including eligibility criteria and application guidance can be found on the ECDC website.

In addition, the Local Infrastructure Fund and the Inclusive Play and Open Spaces Fund are also now open for applications. The Local Infrastructure Fund has been set up to provide local communities with access to thousands of pounds worth of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to deliver new infrastructure required as a direct result of growth. Funds can support new facilities like community centres, village halls, or multi-purpose community sports and leisure centres, or create additional capacity to meet the growing needs of the community. The Inclusive Play and Open Spaces Fund will provide CIL funding to meet the capital costs of ensuring playgrounds are accessible to all. Organisations will need to submit an application form and applicable supporting evidence to be considered.

More information, including eligibility criteria and application details, are available on the ECDC website.

Keep well and fingers crossed for more sunshine!

Alex de Giorgio-Miller

MP Update



On 29 April, Parliament was prorogued, bringing the first parliamentary session since the 2024 General Election to a close. The recent King's Speech has set out the Government's priorities for the year ahead.

Among the measures announced were plans my Lib Dem colleagues and I have been pushing for: to break the link between gas and electricity prices to bring prices down; to invest in homegrown renewable energy; to tackle sewage pollution and water company failures; and to end unfair residential leaseholds for new properties. While these steps are welcome, we urgently need to see more ambition and action from the Government, particularly on protecting consumers, cleaning up our waterways and extending leasehold reform to existing homeowners.

There were also several areas I was disappointed not to see included in the King's Speech. In particular, I believe we urgently need action to address the social care crisis, and a Good Food Bill to strengthen food security and back British farmers.

As the new parliamentary session begins, I am continuing to press for the improvements our area urgently needs: fairer funding for Cambridgeshire's SEND provision, rural policing and highways (especially those affected by peat soil as we see here in our region), and long-overdue investment in Ely Junction which would drive national growth.

In the last session of Parliament, I opposed a number of Government decisions which I believe risk harming vulnerable people and local services, including reductions to winter fuel support, pressures on disability assistance, and tax and National Insurance changes affecting GPs, hospices and family farms.

The concerns residents raise with me are often deeply personal: families struggling to secure support for children with special educational needs, older people unable to access care, tenants facing unacceptable housing conditions, and ongoing delays within the Home Office immigration system.

My Liberal Democrat colleagues in Parliament and I will continue holding the Government to account and pushing for action on the issues that matter most to people: tackling the cost-of-living crisis, protecting nature, rebuilding our NHS and ensuring rural communities receive the investment they deserve.

If there's ever anything I can help you with, please do get in touch via charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk or +44 20 7362 1601. You can also keep up to date with my work through my fortnightly newsletter - sign up here: www.bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte

P.S. Have you signed my petition calling on Government to fund long-term fixes for our peat soil-affected roads? These roads are failing twice as fast and costing far more to maintain. Back my "Fix Our Soil-Affected Roads" campaign—please take 30 seconds to add your name: <https://bit.ly/fixoursoilaffectedroads>

Charlotte

A poster for the Ely Consort performance of 'Psalms, Spirituals & Sonnets'. The background is a soft-focus image of a person in a long coat and hat, possibly a shepherd, standing in a field. The text is in various colors and fonts. At the top, 'ELY CONSORT' is written in red and black. Below it, 'PSALMS, SPIRITUALS & SONNETS' is in large blue letters. The program includes 'John Rutter - Psalmfest', 'James Bassi - Harps onnets', 'Jack Halloran - Witness', 'Moses Hogan - The battle of Jericho', and 'Norman Luboff - Were you there?'. The piano accompaniment is by 'Anne Reece - piano', 'The Quintessential Ensemble', and 'Matthew Rudd - conductor'. The performance is on 'SATURDAY 27TH JUNE 7.30 PM' at 'ST MARY'S CHURCH, BURWELL'. Tickets are £20 (U18's free). The website is www.ticketsource.co.uk/elyconsort or on the door. A QR code is in the bottom right corner. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are at the bottom left.

Rosanna's Ramblings

Oh Editor, you caught me by surprise this time, with your gentle nudge of an email reminding contributors of your next deadline! Because something strange has been happening in 2026, not just to me but anecdotally to other people I chat to. January seemed to go on for at least three months. And February to May seem to have galloped by in about a week. How can it possibly be this far on in the year already?



It's not helped by the perishingly cold weather we've been having (doubtless to be replaced, by the time you read this, by a heatwave). The wind has been coming from what Charles describes as "that mean quarter", which I think is the north-north-east. Whatever, it's horrible. I know that gardeners are wise to be prepared for the odd frost in May, but having to put on a duvet coat for the late night dog walk? That's surely taking things too far. And of course, checking my many weather apps this morning to see the forecast for Lincolnshire in a week's time (Charles's granddaughter's wedding), it is OF COURSE predicting horrible heat and relentless sun, which isn't a great prospect for a marquee reception and chaps in morning suits. Oh well, can't be helped. In another few days it might be snowing.

Walking in the wood in the early morning sunshine today, we came across an intriguing sight. There is a hawthorn shrub next to the path skirting what we call Ron's field even though Ron doesn't have his sheep there any more. It has become infested with the caterpillars of the Ermine moth, rendering it covered in sticky and messy webbing. It's a really ugly sight, and makes one feel sorry for the plant being attacked, though Charles says it will recover.



But as we walked past, my eye was caught by a long dangling thread which nearly reached the ground, along which were distributed at fairly even intervals little green caterpillars.



They looked like beads on a necklace, except that they were squirming in their awkward peristaltic motion. Were they heading up the thread, or down it? Hard to tell at quick glance, but on closer inspection we could see that their painfully slow progress was upward. At the base of the thread were two rather entwined caterpillars, one of which appeared to be producing the silk while the other one did what? Looked on helpfully? Tried desperately to stop his companion making a fool of itself? Enjoying the gentle swing on the breeze?

It made me think how utterly impossible it really is to try to fathom what goes on in the consciousness (if they have it) of members of other species. We anthropomorphise all the time, don't we? My sister, who is an animal communicator, balks at my saying Milo becomes dim when he's happy to retrieve a thrown toy for an endless amount of time in the garden. We can have no idea, she says, of what's going on in their heads, what wealth of information they are gathering with their canine senses doing something that seems repetitive and dull to us.

So, I think it's pretty inevitable that my mind started to draw analogies from a human perspective with the seemingly pointless efforts of the tiny caterpillars to climb ever upwards, painfully slowly, towards some fruitless goal (the hawthorn having by now become virtually denuded of nourishing foliage). Charles and I use the French term *à quoi bon?* (To what end? What's the point? etc) a surprising amount, about all sorts of things. And so often, life can feel like that, can't it? You fix your sights on some sort of goal, which may not really be clear to you and you make yourself busy each and every day working towards that amorphous thing. Call it financial security. Or family life and values. Or, dare I say it, happiness? And the hours and days, the weeks and years, move inexorably onwards and the goals slip further and further out of sight into the clouds while the effort towards them continues unabated. No wonder we're all so exhausted in our society. Busy, busy, busy ... but the things we REALLY yearn for, like peace and harmony, a good night's sleep and a future for our children in a world with values that prioritise our beautiful planet and our shared humanity ... well, those things might as well be in a completely different universe from the one in which our mouse-on-a-wheel efforts exist.

Apologies, I've used the word 'we' when really I should just fess up and say 'I'. I've spent the whole of my adult life trying to make the world a better place, mostly in the guise of one-to-one therapeutic work with its beneficial ripples that can spread out into that world. But when I look at my children's lives and future, in a world of work that is fast disappearing into an AI nightmare, it's hard to see where we're all heading. At a meeting last night, I heard that accountancy and law firms were hardly taking on any junior recruits as AI could do that work just as well, and faster. So, in the absence of a total restructuring of the capitalist world, a restructuring saying there's enough for everyone (which there is) and it needs to be redistributed, what on earth lies ahead?

When I opened this new document in Word, it offered me the malevolent services of its CoPilot AI assistant to draft what I wanted to write. Usually I just shut it down, scowling, but this time I tried something different. I prompted it to write me a 1,000 word Rosanna's Ramblings piece on the theme of weather, caterpillars and goals. An icon whirled, it said something like "just thinking for a minute" and then "just gathering some ideas". I thought to myself, "Oh goodness, perhaps it can find all my previous Ramblings and will come up with a piece recognisably in my style – how awful!". But no, to my immense relief, my prompt effectively crashed the system. It blamed my operating system. But I know better and, for now, my job in Reach is safe.

Rosanna Moseley-Gore



The Swaffhams' Women's Independent Group (SWIG)

May 2026 saw the exciting launch of The Swaffhams' Women's Independent Group.

Our inaugural talk was led by Sarah Dickinson from The Edge Café in Cambridge and what a powerful woman she is! Ten years ago, with the help of a government grant, Sarah and her business partner, Gail, created The Edge Café to give people with addictions a safe place to go to, to help with their recovery. Their vision was to create a 'yes' space – open and welcome to all. This quickly developed into a space not just for people with addictions but for people with mental health concerns, loneliness or anyone simply struggling with life. Over the last 10 years the café has continued to thrive and is now also a venue for a huge variety of workshops and group meetings, plus so much more.

As far as the café is concerned, Sarah, with her catering background, was determined that it had a clear identity and therefore everything they serve, including the jams and chutneys, is prepared, cooked and baked on site. Volunteers work in a number of areas within The Edge Café including the kitchen, where the emphasis is not only on delivering food of a very high standard but also on developing an excellent work ethic. FareShare and Neighbourly work with Sarah to help provide a food hub where food from supermarkets, which would otherwise be classed as wastage, is made available on a daily basis.



There is so much more to say about The Edge Café; the Peer Mentor scheme 'Let's Talk', the Freedom Programme (a 12-week course to help women struggling with relationships with men), the outside catering they offer, the volunteering and work experience opportunities and, of course, a vibrant café for all the community. Do please have a look at their website <https://www.theedgecafecambridge.com> or simply call in for delicious food and coffee. .

So, what is the Swaffhams' Women's Independent Group (SWIG)? We are a group of women from Swaffham Prior and the surrounding villages, meeting once a month for a talk on a huge variety of topics. And naturally there is also time set aside in each meeting for home baked cakes and tea or coffee. Our aim is to enable stimulating and thought-provoking talks and discussions whilst at the same time bringing friendship and fun to our members. There is a subscription required of £30 a year and members are welcome to bring along visitors at £5 a visit.

If you are interested in joining our group or would like to come along for a visit, please get in touch with Kaye by email (kayejanelew@gmail.com) or Kate on 07752 011308. We meet in Swaffham Prior Village Hall at 7:30pm on the third Monday of the month. Our next meeting in June is our Garden Party and then in August Alastair Cairns will be talking about his Traveller's Tales. It would be lovely to see you there.

Kate Muscroft, Committee Chair
katemuscroft@gmail.com

Wicken Fen



Orchids and bird hide on Wicken Fen (National Trust, Mike Selby)

It's that glorious time of the year when Wicken Fen is at its absolute best, in all its summer glory. The Summer Nature Trail (open June to September), gives views of orchids and other colourful wildflowers, while the Fen fizzes with dragonflies and brims with butterflies. So much life all around. A cheery welcome awaits in our Visitor Centre and gift shop, plus delicious refreshments in the Docky Hut Café. Our Book Nook is always grateful for your pre-loved books and jigsaw puzzles.

Boat trips are running most days, depending on weather conditions. Cycle Hire is open, until the end of October, from Thursday to Sunday (closed Monday to Wednesday) and open daily during school holidays. For more information, including prices, please visit our website.

For families, our Stick Trail is returning too, runs until 7th June. Grab a stick and follow the trail, to discover the many, many fun things you can do with a stick. No need to book, just turn up for a sticky adventure! We will also different themed trail during the school summer holidays.

Throughout the summer months, we are running monthly Fen flower walks, a chance to learn about the fascinating flora of the Fen with an expert guide. Check the events page on our website for more details and other events to be announced soon, including our programme for the summer holidays.

Our daily opening hours are:

The Docky Hut Café: 10.00am-5.00pm

Visitor Centre, Shop, Reserve: 9.30am-5.00pm

nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen

Anglesey Abbey

Anglesey Abbey: A Century in the Making

This summer at Anglesey Abbey, we will be celebrating two landmark anniversaries. 2026 marks both 100 years since Lord Fairhaven purchased the house and 60 years since the property joined the National Trust. As part of the celebrations there will be two exhibitions on display.

The Art of Collecting: 100 Years of the Fairhaven Legacy – 12th June to 1st October 2026

This summer's exhibition in the house looks at Lord Fairhaven's love of collecting, the treasures accumulated during his four decades at Anglesey Abbey and his vision for the legacy he left behind: *'My thought and hope is that in a changing world the house, its furniture and the gardens and their lay-out should be preserved and kept representative of an age and a way of life that is quickly passing'*

Anglesey Abbey: 60 Years with You June and July in the Heritage Orchard

During June and July 2026 we will be filling the gardens with memories, celebrating 60 years of the National Trust's visitors to Anglesey Abbey.

We asked our visitors, followers and supporters to send in photos taken in the gardens or house between 1966 and 2026. We asked for photos from memorable days out with loved ones and images that show how much the estate has changed over the years. Come along this summer to discover six decades of stories.

In the gardens...

The Rose Garden is already starting to bloom and the full fragrant display will be at its best during June and July. The Herbaceous Border is now open and promises to be beautiful. Don't forget that there are free Garden Highlights tours, Monday to Friday 11am and 1.30pm. No booking needed, included in normal admission.

Looking ahead

The Summer of Play

All summer holidays at Anglesey Abbey

The Summer of Play returns for 2026 with fun activities for all the family. Explore your playful side in five interactive zones. Look out for more details on our website.

Adventure Cinema

Friday 11 to Sunday 13 September

The UK's No.1 outdoor cinema shows are coming to Anglesey Abbey in July. Bring your camping chairs, picnics and blankets and get ready for an unforgettable cinema experience with friends and family.

Films on show include Dirty Dancing, Pride and Prejudice, Wicked (Sing-a-Long) and Bing and his Friends (for the little ones). See the full schedule and book tickets on our website.

To plan a visit and find out more about Anglesey Abbey, please visit our website [Anglesey Abbey, Gardens & Lode Mill | Cambs | National Trust](#) or follow us on social media.

Below you will see a 1966 advert for Anglesey Abbey.

ANGLESEY ABBEY, NEAR NEWMARKET.
THE FINE OLD MANORIAL RESIDENCE.
built principally of stone from the remains of the original Priory of Anglesey, in Elizabethan style, in 1629, contains objects of great historical and architectural interest, and has been cleverly restored adapted, and equipped as a comfortable modern country house.



Lounge hall (36ft. by 20ft.) with stone groined roof, three good reception rooms, 15 bed and dressing rooms, two bath rooms, complete offices, with servants' hall.

Electric light, central heating, good water supply, and drainage.

BEAUTIFUL PLEASURE GROUNDS.
Lawns, fine yew and box hedges, rose garden, together with a grandly timbered park extending in all to about
193 ACRES.
and intersected by a river, affording boating and fishing, hunting, shooting over 2,000 acres by arrangement.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN MAY UNLESS PREVIOUSLY SOLD PRIVATELY.
AS A WHOLE OR WITH A SMALLER AREA.
Sole Agents, Messrs. BIDWELL and SONS, 11, Benet-street, Cambridge; Messrs. HARRODS, Ltd., 62-64, Brompton-road, S.W.1.

Nature in Reach

After a notably wet winter, our weather has delivered a very dry spring. April 2026 was the driest on record for Cambridgeshire with the county receiving less than 5% of average rainfall according to the Met Office. This follows the extraordinarily dry spring of 2025. It is too soon to talk of a firm trend to drier springs and as I write, there is a heavy rain shower outside. Nonetheless extreme variability now characterises this season. This creates challenges for local wildlife.



This year's lack of water will have disrupted breeding cycles, especially those of amphibians. We can mitigate this. Retention of winter rainfall on the land rather than, as we do at present, pumping it into the Ouse at Upware would be a significant help. The retained water would then be available for summer irrigation. Some farmers are already making such contingencies and the National Trust's recent civil engineering on Burwell, Tubney and Hurdle Hall fens is designed to store winter rainfall and to prevent the local water table falling, thereby preserving the peat and providing better habitats for wildlife.

Sightings Log

30 and 31 March: Sightings of eleven roe and seven roe deer by Little Fen Drove and on Hurdle Hall. The numbers are indicative of our sizeable deer population - I estimate that are now around 100 roe deer in the parish and goodness knows how many muntjac. The damage that such dense populations cause is clear in our woods. A browse line at the height of a metre runs through the 24 Acres woodland. Below this, the under-storey of shrubs and plants on which nesting birds, smaller mammals and invertebrates depend, is threadbare. Joss Goodchild also notes the large number of deer in the locality.

11 April: Bare soil in fields around the village has turned from mocha brown to light beige in the last few days under warm, dry conditions. The transformation is sudden and striking.

Blackcap and common whitethroat are singing in the tall hedgerow that divides the Pocket Park from Straight Drove.

Jonathan Latchford texts that he has been inspired to catalogue the flora and fauna of the Catchwater bank at the bottom of his garden. To date he has recorded 83 plant species. We will publish the catalogue once Jonathan has completed the exercise in a year's time.

13 April: I hear my first reed warbler of the year on the fringes of Reach Lode, a day later than 2025.

16 April: Dafila Clutton-Brock reports hearing her first cuckoo. She also notes the singing of willow warblers on the fringes of the Pocket Park.

17 April: Common whitethroat are singing in elder scrub by the lode. At the same time I see my first swallow although Diana Greer tells me she had spotted one in the same place a week earlier.

18 April: Claire and I hear our first cuckoo of the year at the far end of the Pocket Park. For us this is early (but not exceptionally so) and forms part of a trend towards earlier 'hearings'. Whilst hardly scientific, our records suggest that the cuckoos are arriving about a week earlier than when we arrived in the village in 1992. There is, of course, no surprise in our findings. Scientists believe earlier springs are driving cuckoos to arrive sooner to keep pace with the breeding cycles of the host birds they rely on. Indeed, this year a satellite-tagged cuckoo named Ashok reached Europe on 25 March - the earliest date ever recorded for a British Trust for Ornithology tagged bird.

18 April: Penny Greenhill emails to say 'we have a pair of song thrushes feeding young, seen with beaks full of worms, it really is joyful. We also saw a swallow a few days ago flying overhead.....The bad news for us with chickens is that no fewer than four foxes are prowling locally. Ron has fenced off half the bit at the bottom of our garden so the fox can't hide in long grass. Another sighting we don't want is the heron who flew over the fence into our garden but, when I shouted, he didn't land thank goodness!' Penny also mentions the regular presence of three pairs of stock doves under their garden feeders. This is unusual for these shy birds but welcome as they are very attractive.

20 April: Sedge warblers are singing alongside reed warblers in the lode side reeds.

21 April: The song of common whitethroat, lesser whitethroat and wren is prominent in the scrub on the northern end of the Devil's Dyke. I ponder whether the populations here have increased or I am simply more tuned into their songs.

20 April: Rosie Almond reports 'I've just had a lovely sighting of an otter whilst walking through the pocket park; it was relaxing in and out of the reeds on the Burwell bank side. And whilst silently admiring it, a large and bright kingfisher swooped by as well. Mother Nature has blessed me today!' On the same day Diana reports seeing a kingfisher by the lode and Dafila reports hearing a bittern booming by the bank of Wicken Lode.

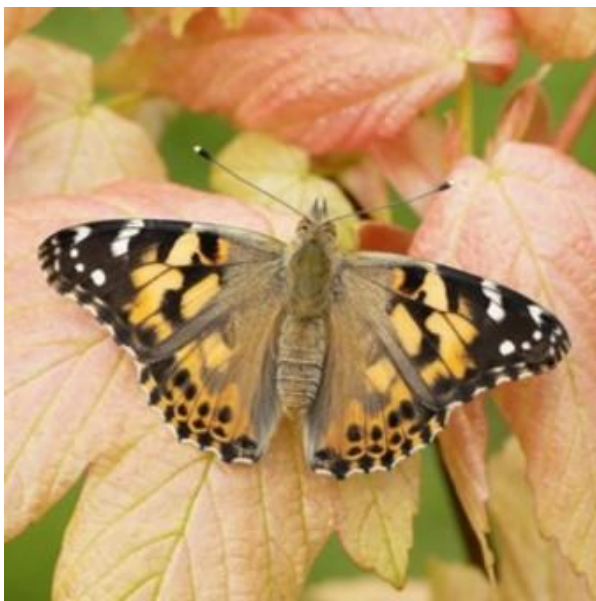
24 April: Rosie comments that 'there has been a barn owl screeching almost every night outside our window the last fortnight, and I have just heard my first bittern of the year on Wicken Fen'.

26 April: Dafila reports her first swift sighting of the year. This seems to be a few days earlier than usual. The swifts are active under the eaves of Ron and Penny's house a few days later.

5 May: A stonechat calls from a large hawthorn at the top of the 24 Acres. As its name suggests, it sounds like the chinking of two flints.

9 May: A juvenile rook has fallen from one of the nests in the ash trees on the Hythe. It seems unharmed but unwilling or unable to fly just yet and seeks cover in a nearby nettlebed.

A pair of painted lady butterflies sun themselves on bare earth at Hurdle Hall. This butterfly is a long-distant migrant, recolonising Europe from North Africa and Asia every year. While they can appear as early as February, they usually arrive from April to June with numbers peaking during the summer. Recently the Butterfly Conservation charity confirmed that painted ladies make the return journey at the end of the summer. Some of the routes exceed 9000 miles. However, the whole journey is not undertaken by individual butterflies but is a series of steps by up to six successive generations. Furthermore scientists discovered that the butterflies make the return journey at high altitude. Radar records revealed that they fly at an average altitude of 500 metres and at speeds of 30 mph in favourable wind conditions.



Painted Lady Butterfly

11 May: A female sparrowhawk launches an unsuccessful strike on goldfinches on Ron and Penny's feeders.

12 May: Joss reports hearing a raven at nearby White Fen. Whilst this is rare occurrence, there are signs that ravens are following buzzards and red kites in recolonising the east of England. More sightings of ravens around the village are likely in the future.

12 May: Charles Moseley spots a pied flycatcher near the lode bank. He also mentions that bees are extraordinarily active: 'Luke and I have had three big swarms arrive already. Most helpfully, they hived themselves!' He also reports large numbers of bee flies around the village and the spectacular shrouding of hedges by the webs of a host of ermine moth caterpillars and is delighted that a pair of peregrine falcons are again nesting at Ely Cathedral. Four eggs have been laid and three have hatched. The nest can be [live streamed here: https://www.elycathedral.org/plan-your-visit/things-to-see-and-do/peregrine-falcons](https://www.elycathedral.org/plan-your-visit/things-to-see-and-do/peregrine-falcons)

During the period several villagers report on the activities of jackdaws with varying degrees of affection. Charles notes a pair gathering moulted fur from his dog; Joss is irked by the damage and disruption that jackdaws cause to her bird feeders; I am amused by our jackdaws' frequent and comically unsuccessful attempts to force twigs into their nest box. Several residents also commented on the presence of hedgehogs in their gardens. I hope this is a further sign of a recovery in the local population of this much loved creature.

Nick Acklam

Reach Riders



We have done it! Well actually Craig Reader has ... our rabbit fencing has been installed and the arena has been re-rope! The ground is perfect and it looks amazing Well done to everyone who helped with grant applications and to all members of the committee who keep this fantastic facility going.

We were given the opportunity to speak about our group at the Annual Parish Meeting this week and had a large audience!

Keep an eye out for future events, socials and rides on our Facebook page. Further colour pics on the cover.

Sue Cameron

Bottisham and Burwell Photographic Club



Our club ceased meetings on 5th May for our Summer break when members showed and discussed their most successful images entered during the year. Our Autumn term commences on 8th September with a Welcome Evening when Cups & Trophies awarded from last season for the internal Print and Projected Digital images will be presented.

The Summer recess however has so far been busy as we exhibited our members work at the Swaffham Feast which took place at Swaffham Prior Village Hall on Saturday 16th May. Prints and Projected Digital Images were displayed for visitors to view and enjoy during the day.

On the 7th June we will be attending a Federation Engagement Day at Duxford Air Museum when clubs will be taking part in the EAF Duxford Challenge Competition. During the day members will also be able to enjoy iconic WW2 exhibits and capture wartime re-enactors such as Aircrew, Pilot, Staff Sergeant, Civilians, WRAF, Nurse and Lindy-Hop dancers.

Our Club Outing this year is on the 12th July to Cambridge when members will capture photographs to enter 3 digital images on specific subjects taken on the day for The Metcalfe Trophy on 29th September.

Before the close of meetings on the 14th April members entered the Hanson Trophy PDI Competition judged by Ben Pike from Biggleswade, viewed a Zoom presentation by Viveca Koh on 'Urban Exploration to Fine Art' and on 28th April took part in the Roger Human Print Trophy judged by Paul Radden from Hunstanton.

In our Autumn term we look forward to a Zoom meeting 'Home & Away' by Peter Ormsby from Glasgow on 15th September and on 22nd September our members Debra & Jim Bennett will demonstrate how to master basic Photoshop techniques. We will also enjoy Table Top Photography on 24th November and a 3-way Friendly Cup Print Battle with Melbourn and Ely Photographic Clubs, hosted by ourselves and judged by Jonathan Vaines from Bedford.

Our meetings are held Tuesdays at Swaffham Prior Village Hall, High Street, Swaffham Prior CB25 0LD, from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm, except the third Tuesday in each month via Zoom conferencing.

Visitors are always welcome to join our weekly meetings and zoom presentations for a small fee of £4.00.

If you are interested in joining this active club, please contact our Secretary, Debra Bennett, for further information and a copy of our 2026-2027 programme. Email: secretary.bandbpc@gmail.com or visit our website www.bottburpc.org where you will find more detailed information and a gallery showing a selection of our members' work

I look forward to meeting you.

Daphne Hanson DPAGB HonPAGB
Chairman

Burwell Surgery Patient Participation Group

The Burwell Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG) is a group of patients and GP practice staff who meet in person, and with the option to join online, for 90 minutes, four times a year.

Members of the PPG get to hear about any upcoming changes at the surgery as well as being able to provide feedback on the patient experience to help improve the service. We also act as a consultative group for any changes at the practice and the wider NHS.

Our next meeting will be at 6.30-8pm on Tuesday 14th July at the Burwell Day Centre with an option to join online via Teams.

Joining the PPG does not mean you have to come to every meeting or attend for every item on the agenda. You can dip in and out, or send feedback in advance of the meeting, but by being part of the group you will receive the agenda and minutes of each meeting.

If you would like to be part of the group, please contact the Surgery on 01638 741234 or by email at cpicb.burwellsurgery.admin@nhs.net.

For more information, including a wide range of PPG articles about Surgery services such as weight loss jabs, perinatal feeding, prostate cancer awareness, health checks, social prescribing and health and wellbeing coaching, please visit:
<https://www.theburwellsurgery.co.uk/patient-group/about-our-ppg/>



Once again, the team have pulled off another successful fair and feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. An amazingly packed quiz on the eve of Reach Fair managed to raise an outstanding £181, a big increase from the same event last year. Out of 15 teams, the winners were 'One Biscuit Short' with an amazing 47 out of 61 possible points. They nominated Arthur Rank Hospice as their chosen charity to receive the donation. A wonderful start to Reach Fair and a big thanks from the organising committee to all who took part.



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity Receipt

Donation amount	£181
Donation frequency	Single
Payment Type:	Credit/ Debit Cards
Total amount paid	£181

As usual, the Fair was opened by the Mayor of Cambridge and pennies were thrown to the crowd. In a change to previous years, only the Mayor received a beautiful posy, made by children from the village using locally grown blooms (thanks Thomasina!). Thanks also go to Debbie Quilter for continuing to organise this fantastic tradition. The Maypole Dancing by the children of Swaffham Prior School was fabulous as always and then both stages entertained the visitors across the long afternoon.

The top field welcomed back Evoke Ceroc (a partnered dance group – who had the audience up and joining in!) and Performance Without Limits dance group, who are a Reach Fair staple. The East Anglian Swing Troupe gave a brilliant display and then had many in the audience up to learn how to Charleston! The more traditional fair feel of the brilliant craft stalls on the top field was appreciated by the Fair visitors and we will look to build on this again next year.

We stuck to the tried and tested combination of Maypole dancing, Punch and Judy, magic show and then a singer/guitarist (Graham Buxton returned – always a crowd pleaser!) on Fair Green, which led to lots of crowds taking advantage of the chairs and sampling the bar and village food stalls.

We were aware that costs had been rising significantly year over year, so we were keen not to lift prices again and put off visitors or stall holders from attending. Jezzo, who handles our staging and PA, was brilliant – he sat down with us and found a way to make it work within budget.

After many successful years on the BBQ, Andrew Towers stepped back and we are hugely grateful to Cris for taking on the organisation and Dan and Jake who stepped forward to run the BBQ on the day – fantastic work!

Our village stalls benefited from a smart new look - aprons printed with our logo (thank you to Paul Redfarn and the Stitch lab for donating these!) and banners to put above the marquees. And profits increased from last year so something worked!

Summary Financials 2026

	2026	2025	2024
Total income	£ 21,927	£ 22,705	£ 22,310
Operational costs	£ 11,670	£ 12,943	£ 15,114
Profit	£ 10,258	£ 9,762	£ 7,196
Donations to charity groups for services*	£ 2,000	£ 2,025	£ 1,775
Carried forward into Fair bank account			
Profit to Reach Village Charity	£ 8,258	£ 7,737	£ 5,421

Profits from Village Stalls

Car Park and traffic management	£ 2,298	£ 1,872	£ 1,451
BBQ	£ 1,521	£ 1,434	£ 1,329
Salad stall	£ 1,017	£ 716	£ 1,199
Tea tent	£ 1,588	£ 1,220	£ 1,066
Bottle stall	£ 383	£ 342	£ 581
Coconut shy	£ 188	£ 151	£ 180
Football game	£ 146	£ 151	£ 156
Tombola/Village games	£ 273	£ 298	£ 256

Donations to charity groups includes to Scouts, Sea Cadets, Explorers and the Cricket Club.

This year we were grateful to be supported by 3 Gold sponsors. We were delighted to once again receive support from Robinson and Claydon vehicle services who are based in Reach. Xtreme360 were one of our other major sponsors this year, promoting their two new Padel courts in St Neots. We also had a new Gold sponsor in the form of C.W. Kirk Lawnmowers in Burwell who are celebrating 20 years in business. Back for another year, we were also fortunate to be supported by the wonderful Harrisons of Burwell Plumbing and Heating Services and by Richer Spirits and Liqueurs. We are extremely grateful to all our sponsors for their valued support.

The atmosphere throughout the Fair was jovial and numbers attending were comparable to previous years despite the patchy weather forecast in the weeks before the fair. We are grateful to all our contributors: Newmarket Explorers (tombola, football game and litter picking), Swaffham Prior and Reach Scouts (BBQ), the Sea Cadets (car park) and Reach Cricket Club (road closures and car park). And a very special "thank you" goes to Craig Reader for not only preparing the village green and top fields but also mowing the large car park field for us at cost!

We are so lucky to have such a great team organising the fair – a great bunch of people to work with – thank you! Anyone else who fancies joining the committee please do get in touch, we'd love to have you! The more people we have the more we can share out the jobs...

Lastly, we thank the villagers of Reach, for their outstanding support and assistance leading up to the Fair, the day itself and the clearing up thereafter. So many villagers and their families and friends contribute to the success of the day that it makes all the angst worthwhile.

Until next year.....

Alex de Giorgio-Miller, Cristine Fletcher, Dan Marsh, Gayle Chapman, Nev Fletcher, Oliver Rausch, Paul Greer, Susan Hatley

Reach Fair CIC Committee

The Dyke's End

Summer is upon us and the beer garden is ready for action; the turf is laid, the benches are out and the hanging basket has some new flowers freshly purchased from Simpson's. We've got world cups, beer awards, wine tastings, music and more.

For those that enjoyed our Reach Fair after party, **John Wright** is back and this time with the amazing **Chris Newman on Friday 5th June**. You will struggle to find two better guitarists in the Cambridge area and they are playing right here on your doorstep - even if you just pop in for a drink, this one is not to be missed. Music playing from 8pm. Fish and Chips 6pm - 8:30pm.

FIFA World Cup 2026

Canada, Mexico, USA, Reach. From 11th June we'll be showing a large selection of the World Cup games on our big screen with surround sound, including all England games (the first of which is Croatia 17th June 9pm). Rather than watching at home, why not experience the World Cup highs and the lows with other fans right here at your local pub. A full list of all fixtures we'll be showing will be available on our website.

Wine and cheese event 25th July

In partnership with Liberty Wines: Liberty Wines are one of the UK's premium and award-winning suppliers of fine wines and we're very excited to welcome back the exuberant Kate Mcfruin who has a huge wealth of knowledge to share. Come and join us for a Saturday afternoon treat and allow Kate to take you on a journey through their delicious portfolio.

The Cambridge & District branch of **CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale)** have named the Dyke's End in Reach as **Rural Pub of the Year, and overall Branch Pub of the Year for 2026**. Having scooped the award for Rural Pub of the Year, and then subsequently named overall Branch Pub of the Year is a real honour and testament to the quality of the ale and selection. A big thank you to everyone that enjoys our real ales - if you don't drink it, we can't stock it! It's a team effort and we should all be proud.

June also sees the installation for our **brand-new front-facing windows**. It's been quite a long planning process; we've taken the Conservation Officer's recommendation of window style and they've approved our selected manufacturer, and so we're all set for installation. It's a significant investment, but the new windows should make a huge difference to the longevity of the pub, add significant value, and help a lot with heat retention in the winter.

We were visited in April for an inspection by the East Cambridgeshire Environmental Health food safety team. We are pleased to announce we have **retained our score of 5/5**, the visiting environmental officer having been happy with our record keeping, systems and processes for food management.

Upcoming dates for your diary:

- 3rd June - Food van: Pizza Mondo 5 - 8pm
- 5th June - Live music: Chris & Johnny 8 -10pm
- 10th June - Food van: Hit Wrap 5 - 8pm
- 17th June - Food van: Steak & Honour 5 - 8pm
- 17th June - FIFA World Cup England vs Croatia 9pm
- 23rd June - FIFA World Cup England vs Ghana 9pm
- 24th June - Food van: Wrapunzel 5 - 8pm
- 27th June - FIFA World Cup Panama vs England 10pm
- 1st July - Food van: Pizza Mondo 5 - 8pm
- 3rd July - Live music: Tennessee Twin 8 -10pm
- 8th July - Food van: Papas Locas 5 - 8pm
- 15th July - Food van: Steak & Honour 5 - 8pm
- 22nd July - Food van: Manna Seoul 5 - 8pm
- 25th July - Wine tasting: Liberty Wines - 2pm
- 29th July - Food van: Wondering Yak 5 - 8pm

Food at the Dyke's End

- Wednesday: Food vans 5 - 8pm
- Thursday: Pie and a Pint Night 6 - 8:30pm
- Friday: Fish and Chip Night 6 - 8.30pm
- Saturday: Soups, Stews & Sandwiches lunch menu 12:30 - 2pm
- Sunday: Sunday Roast 12 - 3pm

Dan, Ruth and Lila

The Dyke's End
8 Fair Green, Reach CB25 0JD
www.dykesendreach.co.uk
dykesendpub@gmail.com
01638 743816



XTREME 360
PADEL

@Xtreme360padel

XTREME360

PADEL

OPEN EVERY DAY | 6 AM – 10 PM



Learn more and book at
xtreme360padel.uk

Bus Timetables

The timetables below came into force on Wednesday 26th May 2025 – and it is now the T4 (run by Stagecoach) which comes through Reach. We will be getting 8 extra buses coming through each day (Monday to Saturday – still no buses on Sundays).

The only negative is that the T4 does not go to Drummer Street – but the T5, which goes through Swaffham Prior, does. Below, you will see how the connections might work.

TIGER BUS ROUTES

T4 - NEWMARKET TO ADDENBROOKES - Monday to Saturday (no buses on a Sunday)

Newmarket Bus Station	-	07:30	08:40	09:40	10:40	11:40	12:40	13:40	14:40	15:40	16:40	17:40	18:40
Burwell Newmarket Road	06:50	07:50	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00
Reach Post Office	06:58	07:58	09:08	10:08	11:08	12:08	13:08	14:08	15:08	16:08	17:08	18:08	19:08
Reach Ditchfield	06:59	07:59	09:09	10:09	11:09	12:09	13:09	14:09	15:09	16:09	17:09	18:09	19:09
Swaffham Prior Bus Shelter	07:03	08:03	09:13	10:13	11:13	12:13	13:13	14:13	15:13	16:13	17:13	18:13	19:13
Lode Church	-	-	09:20	-	11:20	-	13:20	-	15:20	-	17:20	-	-
Lode Quay Road	07:10	08:10	09:21	10:20	11:21	12:20	13:21	14:20	15:21	16:20	17:21	18:20	19:20
Bottisham Bell Road	07:14	08:14	09:26	10:24	11:26	12:24	13:26	14:24	15:26	16:24	17:26	18:24	19:24
Fulbourn Babraham Road	07:31	08:31	09:43	10:41	11:43	12:41	13:43	14:41	15:43	16:41	17:43	18:41	19:41
Addenbrookes	07:47	08:47	09:59	10:57	11:59	12:57	13:59	14:57	15:59	16:57	17:59	18:57	19:57

T4 - ADDENBROOKES TO NEWMARKET - Monday to Saturday (no buses on a Sunday)

Addenbrookes	06:25	07:50	08:50	09:59	10:59	11:59	12:59	13:59	14:59	16:05	17:05	18:05
Fulbourn Babraham Road	06:46	08:11	09:11	10:20	11:20	12:20	13:20	14:20	15:20	16:26	17:26	18:26
Bottisham Bell Road	07:03	08:28	09:28	10:37	11:37	12:37	13:37	14:37	15:37	16:43	17:43	18:43
Lode Quay Road	07:07	8.32	09:31	10:41	11:40	12:41	13:40	14:41	15:40	16:47	17:46	18:47
Lode Church	-	-	09:35	-	11:44	-	13:44	-	15:44	-	17:50	-
Swaffham Prior Bus Shelter	07:15	08:40	09:43	10:49	11:52	12:49	13:52	14:49	15:52	16:55	17:58	18:55
Reach Ditchfield	07:18	08:43	09:46	10:52	11:55	12:52	13:55	14:52	15:55	16:58	18:01	18:58
Reach Post Office	07:20	08:45	09:48	10:54	11:57	12:54	13:57	14:54	15:57	17:00	18:03	19:00
Burwell Hawthorn Way	07:31	08:56	09:59	11:05	12:08	13:05	14:08	15:05	16:08	17:11	18:14	19:14
Exning St Martin's Church	07:41	09:06	10:09	11:15	12:18	13:15	14:18	15:15	16:18	17:21	18:24	19:21
Newmarket Bus Station	07:49	09:14	10:17	11:23	12:26	13:23	14:26	15:23	16:26	17:29	18:32	19:29

T5 - SWAFFHAM PRIOR TO DRUMMER STREET CAMBRIDGE - Monday to Saturday (no buses on a Sunday)

Swaffham Prior Bus Shelter	07:12	08:12	09:27	10:27	11:27	12:27	13:27	14:27	15:27	16:27	17:32	18:42
Cambridge Drummer Street	07:42	08:42	09:57	10:57	11:57	12:57	13:57	14:57	15:57	16:57	18:02	19:12

T5 - DRUMMER STREET CAMBRIDGE TO SWAFFHAM PRIOR - Monday to Saturday (no buses on a Sunday)

Cambridge Drummer Street	06:35	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:05	17:15	18:15
Swaffham Prior Bus Shelter	07:08	08:33	09:33	10:33	11:33	12:33	13:33	14:33	15:33	16:38	17:48	18:48

Tales from a Reach Garden

I almost always start these articles with a reference to the weather, but there's a reason for that, not least because I'm British and we love to talk about the weather! In the main part of the garden, some of our plants have struggled to cope with the vagaries of the weather in recent years: hot, dry summers; icy cold winters; mild and very wet winters; damp gloomy summers and everything in between from one year to the next. The wind seems to be more noticeable and not just from the south west where we get most of our weather fronts, but also from the north. Maybe as I'm aging, I'm feeling the cold northern winds more, but they do seem to be stronger and more frequent. In fact, we've lost a few of the trees on the northern side of the garden, over the last couple of years, we've found them keeled over after a wet and stormy night because their roots failed to cling to freshly-waterlogged soil. It's not just trees that are struggling. I've noticed some of our herbaceous perennials have disappeared in the last couple of years. The flowering plants that do best in the garden either have deep tap roots, bulbous roots, hefty rhizomes, or leathery leaves. Plants that originated from around the Mediterranean seem to be coping very well. It helps that some grit has been added to soil to keep it free draining, so extremely wet winters are less of a problem for them.



Pineapple Broom in flower (with bee)

There's a Pineapple broom in one part of our garden that is in flower at the moment. In full sunshine it gives off a beautiful pineapple scent - hence one of its common names. It does have a complex latin name (*argyrocitissus Battandieri*), but the original habitat for these shrubs is in the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, so it is also known as Moroccan broom. It will continue to flower throughout the summer and will need pruning after flowering so it doesn't sprawl across neighbouring plants.

Spring weather in the UK has always been difficult to predict, but recently that unpredictability has become a tad extreme, hasn't it? We had an unusually warm and dry spell of weather in April after Easter which went on for a few weeks. It seemed an ideal time to plant a lot of the seedlings in the ground, because the soil was warm and still moist from the winter rains. However, for the first time ever, we've had to water our potatoes in April because it had not rained since they'd been planted and the soil had become very dry. It seemed difficult to believe that this balmy weather would not continue into the Summer. What on earth had happened to the April showers? Well, they seem to have turned up in May – along with icy winds from the north and frosty nights. We've had to protect the seedlings with wind breaks around the northern sides of the beds and cover them with fleece to protect them overnight, then roll up the fleece during the day as the weather tried to warm up, in the effort to get the seedlings to grow – or at least not die, then roll the fleece back into place as temperatures dropped overnight. I pity our local farmers who can't fleece up their potato plants or have to water huge fields of crops at this time of the year. Newly sprouted leaves are particularly vulnerable to icy winds and drought.



Potatoes have needed extra help this spring

Elsewhere in the vegetable garden, we're picking asparagus, rhubarb and overwintered cabbage. We've had to protect our vegetable beds, not just from the frost and wind, but also from inquisitive bunnies, birds, deer and a badger(!), which left some holes - and its paw prints - on a freshly manured bed. We're guessing it was looking for worms, and found them. Now we're waiting for the warmer weather to return so that all the fruit and vegetables will start growing again and we can look forward to some tasty crops. Summer is coming, but will it be hot and dry – or cool and wet?



Redcurrants ripening, ready to eat in June

Danuta Gibson

Food Focus

Energy balls

A university friend of mine is completely obsessed by these, always has them at the ready in the fridge, makes the next batch before the last batch has run out and fortunately for me, brings them whenever we go walking together. They are her alternative to sweets and chocolate and I suppose they must be healthier than sweets, but they'd have a similar effect on blood sugar!



Almond & Chia Energy Bites (Deliciously Ella)

1 mug almonds (200g)
 2 mugs medjool dates (400g)
 4 tablespoons raw cacao powder
 2 tablespoons coconut oil
 2 tablespoons chia seeds
 2 tablespoons of almond butter (Jo says this is an optional extra – as there are already plenty of almonds in the recipe)

Start by putting the almonds in a food processor and whiz for about 30 seconds, until they're nicely crushed. Then pit the dates and add them, plus all the other ingredients and 2 tablespoons water, to the processor and blend again until everything has mixed together perfectly and it's all nice and sticky. Roll the mix into balls. Place the balls in the freezer for an hour to set, then store in an airtight container in the fridge.

Top tip:

If you don't have any almonds, try swapping them for any other nuts. You can also add things like hemp protein or maca if you want to give more goodness to each bite.

Lime & Ginger Energy Bites

125g cashews
 large handful of pumpkin seeds
 1 tbsp chia seeds
 200g medjool dates (pitted)
 zest and juice of one lime
 3 teaspoons ground ginger

Place the nuts and seeds in a food processor and blitz for about 30 seconds until crushed but not yet a flour. Add the remaining ingredients and blend until it sticks together. Scoop spoonfuls of the mixture out and roll into balls. Place in the freezer for an hour or so to set, then store in the fridge. They will keep for a few weeks in the fridge.

Cinamon & Honey Energy Bites

125g cashews
 large handful of pumpkin seeds
 1 tbsp chia seeds
 100g medjool dates (pitted)
 3 tps honey
 2 tps almond butter
 4 tps ground cinnamon
 Repeat method above.

Catherine Gibson

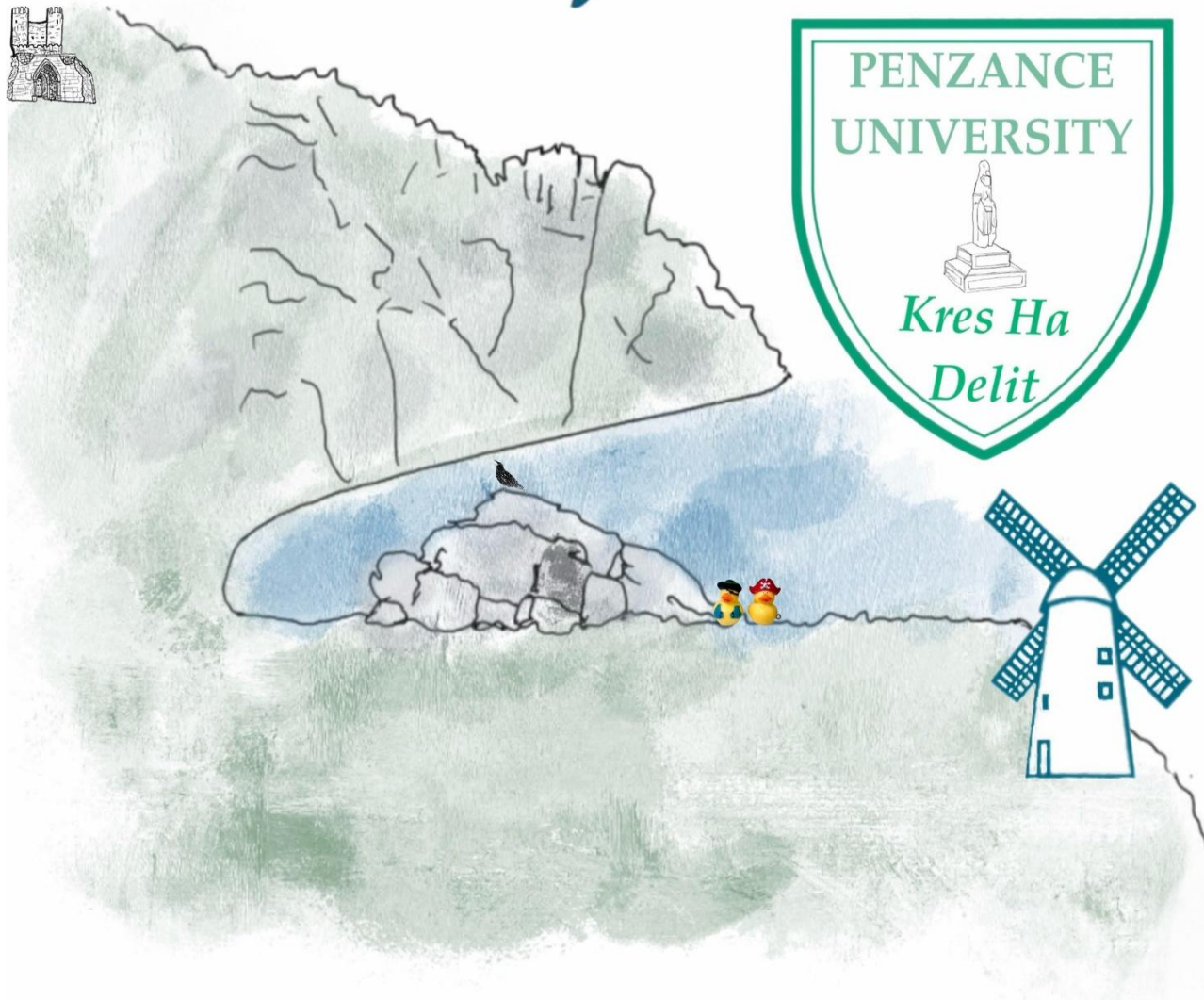
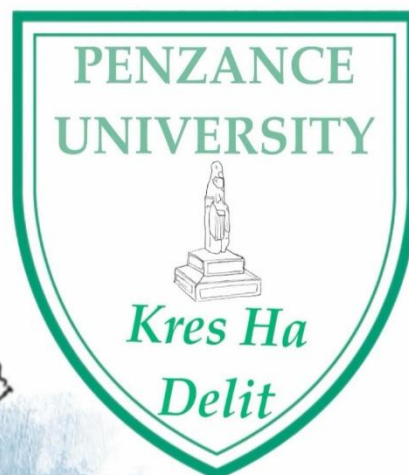
Mobile Library



The mobile library visits Reach on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10.10 to 10.30am. This is route F16 and it parks at the Fair Green Bus Stop.

They have a great selection of books for all, free NHS hearing aid batteries and walking stick ferrules. You can join Cambridgeshire Libraries on the bus if you are not already a member.

Cambridgeshire Light Opera Group
presents Gilbert & Sullivan's
Pirates of Penzance



17th-20th June 2026 @ 19.30 & 20th @ 14.30

Gardiner Memorial Hall, Burwell, CB25 0HD

Tickets (£15 Evening, £12 Matinee) available at:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/clog or phone 07708 577 570

Burwell and Reach Car Scheme

The Burwell and Reach Car Scheme offers those with travel restrictions or mobility issues a drive to the doctor, dentist, hospital, optician, hairdresser, shopping or just a visit to a friend, at a cost of 30p per mile. Just leave a message on 07399 154913 with your requirements and someone will get back to you. Or contact me, Pam King in Reach on 07484 852889. If anyone in Reach would like to volunteer to drive we are always grateful for extra people. Just leave a message on the answerphone 07399 154913.

Burwell Museum



It was a glorious sunny Easter Sunday for our opening day and we had a huge turn out! Thank you for everyone who attended but we would like to apologize to anyone who was caught up in our opening day IT glitch!

We managed to finish our new Tea Room kitchen before we opened and decided to try and broaden our offering and on special event days we will have savoury as well as sweet treats – all home made! Our extended Tea Room is getting closer to completion. The cabin company came in early April and installed our new extension building, and our team are now working on getting it painted and covering the roof, to make it wind and watertight. Next will be lighting and flooring – all very exciting.



Now that we have broken the back of the Tea Room Extension, we are back concentrating on finishing the Observatory and new Education Hub. Lots of work is taking place behind the scenes with help from Mik Atkinson and Malcolm Busby.

We're sorry to report that the Museum has not escaped from the vandalism that has been taking place around the village and our car park sign was damaged beyond repair. Thank you to the kind lady who offered her sign as a replacement, but we have decided to repair and replace our existing sign. New panels are being produced by the Print Centre and we hope to have the sign back out again shortly.

Our Collections team have also been busy and on the 18th April participated in the Really Useful Family History Show – East Anglia, which took place in St Ives. Thanks go to Hazel Crane and Brenda Wilson for volunteering to promote the Museum at this event. Some of the people they met were so impressed, they visited the Museum on the Sunday. Don't forget, we are always looking for new exhibits. If you think you have something that we might like, please do email us with a photo of the item and we will come back to you.

On the 26th April we celebrated 'National Drive it Day' by welcoming the Matching Green Car Club from Harlow, who brought 13 cars with them for a day out. We were able to offer a special entry price with included lunch. Maybe there are more clubs out there who would like to do something similar? Get in touch with us for more information.



Letter from the Vicarage

There is nothing quite like knowing that you belong somewhere. We are made to be in community and whether we are outgoing or shy, we all flourish more when we have a network of people around us, a place where we feel we belong. This summer, we have a number of events focussed on building community.



This year's Church fete will be Saturday 6th June between 2 and 4 pm, save the date! There will be all the usual favourites including a raffle, tombola, Splat the Rat, Bowling for a Pig, the Human Fruit Machine and more. Browse the craft stalls, pick up a plant or two and when you're in need of refreshment have a burger from the BBQ and pop into the Guildhall for a cream tea. As an extra this year we are hoping to have a mini competition.

If you enjoy baking brownies why not enter our Brownie Bake-Off and see if you can earn that coveted handshake! For all enquiries, please get in touch with Jo Proctor: llm@stmarysburwell.org.uk



Coming up in Reach – we hope to hold an Animal Service over the summer. This would be a time to come along with your pets or working animals - all creatures, great and small, furry, feathered, scaly or smooth, are welcome (or bring a photograph if you can't bring your pet or your beloved animal friend is no longer with you). Look out on our Facebook pages for final details.

Carers Week is 8th – 14th June and the theme this year is 'Building Carer Friendly Communities', highlighting the impact carer friendly communities can have in making a real and lasting difference to the lives of carers everywhere. We are holding a Thank You service to support Carers on Sunday 7th June at 3.00pm at St Mary's, followed by tea and all are welcome if you are or have been a carer, along with those who need that extra support. Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. It also helps people who don't think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access much-needed support.



Pop-Up Pantry at Burwell Day Centre continues monthly, usually on the 1st Friday of the month, 2.00 – 3.00pm. We aim to support those in our community who are struggling with financial need, offering short life fresh food items, toiletries & hygiene products and cupboard basics. Others in the community can contribute by donating items in the named baskets in the Co-op and chemist, or contacting us if you have surplus fruit and vegetables from your gardens or allotments, and we distribute at the Pantry, or our Pop-Up in the Porch at St Mary's.

We have lots going on to build community for young people, children and families. We have a new venture – a Youth Café, open once a month on Fridays, 3.30-5.00pm at St Mary's. There is one more café this term, on Friday 26th June, when year 6 are welcome, then we'll be back in the autumn. Connect Café is monthly on Wednesdays 3.30 – 5.00pm, with next dates 10th June and 8th July - a connecting space for families, with games and activities for all ages. Refresh Café is our group for babies, toddlers and their grown-ups, which meets on Friday mornings at St Mary's from 10.00am, with a simple sandwich lunch from 11.30am. We offer a very warm welcome to any little ones and their parents/carers, and continue during school holidays, welcoming older children as well, for these extended sessions. Café Church is usually the first Sunday of the month, beginning from 10.00am with refreshments, time to chat and themed activities, followed by a short service. Next dates are 7th June and 5th July.




St Mary's Church Burwell
Annual Carers' Service
to thank and support unpaid carers
Sunday 7th June 2026
at 3pm, followed by tea
with special guest Charlotte Cane
MP for Ely & East Cambridgeshire
All very welcome



St Mary's Burwell
 St Etheldreda's Reach
caring that, loving people

Carers Week
 is an annual awareness campaign
 to celebrate and recognise
 the vital contribution made
 by the UK's 6.5 million carers.
 For more information visit carersweek.org

To find out more about what's going on at St Mary's or St Etheldreda's in Reach, please see our Facebook pages and website. Most weeks, we aim to livestream our weekly 10.00am Sunday service on Facebook. Please get in touch if you would like more information about these or any of our events or services, including weddings, christenings and baby thanksgivings, or if you would value an opportunity to chat.

Rev'd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams, Vicar of Burwell with Reach, 01638 741262 vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk
www.stmarysburwell.org.uk;
www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell/

Burwell Belles WI

Stories, Scents and a Very Special Dog

Gardiner Memorial Hall has been full of conversation, laughter and delicious refreshments over the past few months, as Burwell Belles WI has enjoyed a varied programme of speakers and activities.

We began by considering the WI national resolutions, with members voting to support the call for accessible, clean and free public toilets. There was also a delicious Bakewell Tart competition, judged by Jean Gawlinski-Reeves and won by Teresa Jones. Needless to say, the tasting afterwards was a very popular part of the evening!

In February, Leonard Priestley entertained us with hilarious stories from his working life as a lorry driver and removal man. From driving the family mobile shop and working for Smedleys, to being named Lorry Driver of the Year and setting up his own removals business, Leonard had plenty of stories to share. One unforgettable highlight involved coaxing an 11'10" lorry through a 12' bridge, helped by volunteers jumping up and down in the back.

March brought our Annual Meeting, where we reflected on another busy year for Burwell Belles. Our very own Sara Phipps then led us through "Know Your Nose," a fascinating talk on the origins, science and psychology of smell, including perfume, memory and emotion. Members sampled fragrances and explored how personal our responses to scent can be - including a surprising comparison to Imperial Leather soap along the way!

Our April open meeting welcomed Angela and Dory the Dog for "The Life of a Hearing Dog". We learnt about the rearing and training of hearing dogs, how they support people with hearing loss and the confidence, companionship and connection they can bring. Members also had the chance to meet the lovely Dory, who was beautifully behaved.

Still to come this year, members are looking forward to a talk about "Gemstones and Jewellery of the Rich and Famous", a village plaque walk and the continuing activities of our book, cookery, craft, gardening and writing groups. We will also continue to fundraise to support the upkeep of our two village defibrillators.

Our June meeting will be held on Thursday 25th June at 7.30pm in the Gardiner Memorial Hall, when we will be taking part in CPR training. New faces are always welcome. To join us for a meeting, make new friends and enjoy an evening of fun and conversation, email alisondodds@hotmail.co.uk, or simply come along.

Sara Phipps
 07768 763145

Know Your Parish Council

Your Parish Councillors are:

Nick Acklam	Councillor
Hilary Fielding	Vice Chair
Catherine Gibson	Councillor
Edward Hall	Councillor
Tim Quilter	Chair
Vacancy	Councillor
Vacancy	Councillor
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor
John Trapp	District Councillor
Yannifer Malinowski	County Councillor

Meetings normally take place in the **Village Hall** on the first **Tuesday** of each month. They start at **7.30pm** and all Reach villagers are welcome to attend.

The Parish Council now has its own website which you can access at: <https://reachparish.gov.uk/>.

You can also get to it from the **Reach Village website** on the **Parish Council page**.

Your Clerk is **Susan Bailey**
29 Great Lane Reach CB25 0JF
01638 743794
clerk@reachparish.gov.uk

Dyke's End Book Club



Next meetings: **Thursday 11th June 2026 and Thursday 9th July 2026 at 7pm** in the **Dyke's End**

How to join: **Simply turn up** – you don't need to have read the current book - and you can influence the choice of the forthcoming one!

Ally Eariss

07897 672329 or aeariss123@hotmail.co.uk

District Councillor's Report

Changes to Bin collection.

Delivery of the new bins is proceeding and you should have received, or about to receive, two bins: one for general waste and the other for food waste. The new service is due to start in June, once all the bank holidays are over, and a regular routine is established. Full information will be given with the arrival of the new bins. Information can also be sought from the Council website.

Change to Group sizes

One Lib Dem member has left the party and decided to form a group with the Conservatives; the Conservative and Independent Group has 15 members and the Lib Dem and Independent Group has 13 members.

Operational Services Committee 23 March 2026

Not an exciting meeting, as the agenda contained a number of housekeeping reports: the ECSS business plan for next year, the Community Safety Partnership six-monthly report, End of Year Reports on Service Delivery and the Plans for next year, Quarter 3 2024/25 Budget Monitoring Report (which predicts an underspend of £229,000 on operating costs and an overspend of some £3.7m on capital mainly for buying black bins and for the Mepal Crematorium had been deferred from the preceding year.

The proposed Mepal Crematorium rules and regulations were presented, discussed and accepted.

Finance & Assets committee 26 March 2026

Two items of housekeeping were discussed: the ECTC Business Plan for the next year, and End of Year Reports on Service Delivery and the Plans for next year.

The proposed Mepal Crematorium fees were presented, discussed and accepted, even though no benchmark for them was presented.

Two new funds were created, one for Local Infrastructure, the other for Inclusive Play and Open Spaces. Information about these funds will be provided to Parish Clerks.

Surgery

On Wednesday 24 June at the Memorial Hall, Brinkley, from half past six to half past seven, and to be followed by socialising at The Red Lion in the same village.

Cllrs Charlotte Cane MP

(charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk) 07976 607512 and

John Trapp (john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk)
07942 685599

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 7th April 2026 at 7.30pm

Attendance

Nick Acklam	Parish Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Parish Councillor and Vice Chair	Present
Catherine Gibson	Parish Councillor	Present
Edward Hall	Chair	Not Present
Tim Quilter	Parish Councillor and Chair	Present
Vacancy	Parish Councillor	
Vacancy	Parish Councillor	
Susan Bailey	Parish Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Present
John Trapp	District Councillor	Not Present
Yannifer Malinowski	County Councillor	Not Present

Apologies for absence – Received and approved

Forum for members of the public - There were none.

Declaration of Interests - There were none.

1. Planning – None.

2. District Councillor Report

Operational Services committee 23 March 2026

Not an exciting meeting, as the agenda contained a number of housekeeping reports: the ECSS business plan for next year, the Community Safety Partnership six-monthly report, End of Year Reports on Service Delivery and the Plans for next year, Quarter 3 2024/25 Budget Monitoring Report (which predicts an underspend of £229,000 on operating costs and an overspend of some £3.7m on capital mainly for buying black bins and for the Mepal Crematorium had been deferred from the preceding year.

The new bin collection arrangements were on course for a June start.

The proposed Mepal Crematorium rules and regulations were presented, discussed, and accepted.

Finance & Assets committee 26 March 2026

Two items of housekeeping were discussed: the ECTC Business Plan for the next year, and End of Year Reports on Service Delivery and the Plans for next year.

The proposed Mepal Crematorium fees were presented, discussed, and accepted, even though no benchmark for them was presented.

Two new funds were created, one for Local Infrastructure, the other for Inclusive Play and Open Spaces. Information about these funds will be provided to Parish Clerks.

Councillor Cane attended the meeting and discussed the new bin collection, bins to be delivered from mid May. The ongoing LGR and the fact other areas had not followed the set guidelines.

She also highlighted the Governments funds, available through CCC, for those on benefits struggling with oil price increase.

3. County Councillor Report - No report received.

4. Minutes of previous Meeting - The minutes were approved as correct.

5.1 Finance - Clerk had contacted the auditor and work had begun on the year end figures & documents.

5.2 Parish Council Members A complaint had been received about the unkemptness of the Cemetery. Particularly the weeds & grass growing along the front fence and the overgrowth of the cemetery path. The PC operates a low maintenance regime to encourage bio diversity within the cemetery. However, the PC would encourage a village volunteer group to do a spring tidy up. This would not allow the use of weedkiller, would not include individual graves or the trees.

A complaint was also received about verge cutting along Great Lane and Little Fen Drove, as there is a no spring cut policy at CCC. **Councillor Acklam** to investigate and respond to the complainant.

A LGR letter had been submitted to Central Government by Jonny Edge, a local County Councillor, on behalf of parishes in the Bottisham, Burwell and Wood Ditton wards.

In addition to reiterating support for Option 2 (a unitary authority based on Cambridge City, South Cambs DC and ECDC) the letter promoted splitting the ECDC area to allow the south of Ely parishes to become part of the Cambridge area and the north of Ely parishes part of the Peterborough area, should they so wish. A decision should be known by June.

The PC had applied to ECDC to register a patch of communal land at the northland of Chapel Lane as an Asset of Community Value.

5.3 Play Spaces - Nothing to report.

A new play spaces officer is required, this does not need to be a councillor. Without monthly inspections the play area will have to be closed. **Councillor Quilter** to inspect this month. **Clerk** to add play spaces to the next agenda.

5.4 Rights of Way - Nothing to report.

5.5 24Acres Committee - Nothing to report.

5.6 Friends Of Reach Wood - A resident had enquired about the amount of dead tree in the wood.

Steve Boreham informed the Council that

"What you are seeing is 'standing deadwood.' These are mostly dead and dying ash trees, the victims of ash die-back disease.

I first documented the die-back in 2018 (see attached 'drones' article).

The Woodland Trust decided to leave the standing deadwood as insect habitat in their updated Reach Wood management plan.

I have asked them about this several times and they tell me that their policy is only to remove standing dead trees where they are adjacent to paths and pose a risk to people or animals."

5.7 A to B1102 Group - Nothing to report.

5.8 Nature Recovery Plan - The NT have been doing extensive earth moving work at Hurdle Hall as part of its peat restoration programme. Despite a slight delay the work is expected to be completed by the end of April. It will then need to be connected to the Lode & the IDB ditch to allow the introduction of water.

5.9 Hythe Restoration Group - Another onsite meeting had been arranged, for 8th April, between the PC, AW, our MP & CCC however, this had been cancelled as special arrangements were required by CCC officers to meet with an MP. The PC continues to believe that an onsite meeting is required to make progress but itself has a very limited remit to make the changes that are needed.

The main issues are improving tanker access to the site and the possibility of making a parking area on land that is currently part of the redundant sewage works.

5.10 Website & public communications - *Councillor Quilter* to add the missing reports and take a general overview of the website and update as required.

5.11 Energy developments in the locality

Grenergy Battery Storage

ECDC Planning Committee voted to reject the application by Grenergy for a BESS at Hightown Drove, overturning a recommendation by planning officers to accept. No Committee Member was in favour of the scheme. Whilst Grenergy will almost certainly appeal the decision, the delay will further undermine the viability of the scheme. The issues that shaped the decision may offer useful pointers for tackling the Kingsway BESS scheme:

- the absence of a credible safety plan - for example, the failure to consider worse case scenarios and the complete absence of anything on the cyber threat to control mechanisms and absence of detail such as the battery technology that was to be deployed really exercised Committee members
 - the testimony of BEAT and residents about how low frequency noise from the nearby Weirs Drove BESS dogged their lives. The exclusion of LFN from the developer's noise report was noted by the Committee.
 - testimony of the National Trust and local residents about how the scheme would degrade adjacent land that has been developed over the last decade to create a tranquil haven for people and wildlife and undermine Reach's Nature Recovery Strategy and the NT's Wider Wicken Vision both of which have been endorsed by ECDC. The cumulative impact (this being the tenth green energy proposal in the area) also had impact with the Committee.
 - the sense that nobody would gain from the scheme apart from the developers. Despite the Director of Planning's attempted to exclude my observations on need (and para 168 of the NPPF does specifically say that a demonstrable need for green energy schemes should not be part of planning consideration), the significant oversupply of BESS identified in the NESO Connections Reform and Grenergy's absence of a confirmed connection had impact with the Committee. It highlighted the speculative nature of the scheme and the absence of local or national benefit to set against the evident harms of the scheme. An NSIP process is a different beast but a targeted and coordinated testimony by local residents and experts had a telling impact during the Sunnica public examination.
- There have been no new developments with regard to Kingsway Solar this month. Additionally, a BESS scheme 4 x the size of Grenergy had been approved at a site in Wicken.

6. The Environment Agency's management of Reach Lode - Many residents were unhappy with the extent of the IDB ditch clearance. This also increases the sediment that settles at The Hythe and further downstream in the Lode.

The EA have not dredged the Lode properly for many years. Councillor Acklam had spoken to GOBA with regard to this. **Clerk** to research the previous attempts to get this work done and **Councillor Acklam** to write to the EA stating the PC's disappointment that nothing has been done this year and to ask to see their management plan for Reach Lode.

7. **Bus Shelter repairs** - A quote had been received for repair and maintenance work to both bus shelters, as these were above the threshold 2 additional quotes are required. **Clerk** to seek more contractors.

8. **IT Contract** - The PC IT support is now provided by a local Burwell company – email, telephone or in person support will be provided. The Councillors will be moving their email addresses to the new @reachparish.gov.uk domain which aligns with the PC website and the intent from UK Government to have PCs on recognisable and trusted domains in the coming.

9. **Defibrillator** - The Grant Fund had agreed to pay for the costs of moving the defibrillator but it was felt that a quote received for the repairs to the telephone box were too expensive and that the work was not necessary.

10. **May Annual Parish Meeting** - The date for the Annual Parish meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 5th May. **Councillor Quilter** to invite the village groups to attend to report on the last year and discuss plan and priorities for the next. Residents will also be encouraged to attend.

11. Payments

E.on – Power on the green	£40.24
Susan Bailey – Clerk salary	Confidential
CAPALC - affiliation	£312.88
Insurance	£1689.04
CR Contracting - Mowing contract	£233.00

Draft Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 5th May 2026 at 7.30pm

Attendance

Nick Acklam	Parish Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Paris Councillor and Vice Chair	Not Present
Catherine Gibson	Parish Councillor	Present
Edward Hall	Parish Councillor	Present
Tim Quilter	Parish Councillor and Chair	Present
Vacancy	Councillor	
Vacancy	Councillor	
Susan Bailey	Clerk	Present
Charlotte Cane	District Councillor	Not Present
John Trapp	District Councillor	Not Present
Yannifer Malinowski	County Councillor	Not Present

1. **Apologies for absence** - Recieved & approved.

2. **Election of Officers; Chairman, and Vice Chairman.**

Chair – Councillor Quilter was proposed by Councillor Acklam, Seconded by Councillor Gibson. Approved.

Vice Chair – Councillor Fielding was proposed by Councillor Gibson, Seconded by Councillor Acklam. Approved.

3. **Declaration of Interests** - There were none.

4. **Minutes of previous Meeting** - Approved as correct.

5. **Election of additional officers**

- Rights of Way – Councillor Fielding
- Play Spaces – Councillor Hall
- IT – Councillor Hall
- (Trees, Nature Recovery Plan, the 24 Acres/National Trust) Environment, Swaffham Prior Parochial Charity – Councillor Acklam
- Burwell Solar Farm Liaison Group – Councillor Gibson
- Village Hall – Councillor Gibson

6. **AOB**

A brief discussion took place regarding villagers comments received regarding travellers along the byways around the village. **Clerk** to speak to the CCC Traveller Liaison Officer & arrange for him to attend a meeting & to also add for discussion at the APM.

7. Payments

Npower – Streetlight electricity	£1851.04
CR Contracting – mowing	£329.00
WEL Medical – Defib, lock – grant fund payment	£193.14
Compass – IT support	£115.50
S Bailey – Stationary	£45.21



Ely Consort is a Chamber choir of about 40 voices, performing music in a wide variety of styles within local venues including Ely Cathedral. We have built up a performing reputation over the last 30 years, to be known as one of the premier Chamber Choirs in East Anglia.

We will be performing a programme of joyful music for the summer with **John Rutter's *Psalmfest*** being the major choral work; this is a collection of varied psalm settings showcasing the full range of John Rutter's music, amply demonstrating why he is loved by choirs and audiences alike - you can expect beautiful melodies, joyful rhythms and dramatic climaxes. *Psalmfest* is accompanied by **The Quintessential Ensemble**, adding even more colour to this wonderful piece. The programme also includes *three traditional Spirituals*, arranged in very different styles for unaccompanied choir, culminating in a highly energetic version of the *Battle of Jericho*. In addition to instrumental items performed by **The Quintessential Ensemble**, the programme is completed by a performance of **James Bassi's *Harpsonnets***; as the name suggests, this is a setting of *three sonnets* by **Shakespeare**, accompanied by harp.

Saturday 27th June, 7.30_{pm}

St Mary's Church, Burwell

Tickets: £20 (U18's free)

www.ticketsource.co.uk/elyconsort



Registered Charity: 1194693

Diary Dates

June	Event	Location	Time
Tuesday 2	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 3	Bin Day (Blue and Food Caddy)		
Sunday 7	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	8.30am
Wednesday 10	Bin Day (Black, Brown/Green and Food Caddy)		
Thursday 11	Book Club	Dyke's End Pub	7.00pm
Wednesday 17	Bin Day (Blue and Food Caddy)		
Wednesday 17	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.30am
Wednesday 24	Bin Day (Black, Brown/Green and Food Caddy)		
July	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 1	Bin Day (Blue and Food Caddy)		
Sunday 5	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	8.30am
Tuesday 7	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 8	Bin Day (Black, Brown/Green and Food Caddy)		
Thursday 9	Book Club	Dyke's End Pub	7.00pm
Wednesday 15	Bin Day (Blue and Food Caddy)		
Wednesday 15	Holy Communion	St Etheldreda's, Reach	10.30am
Wednesday 22	Bin Day (Black, Brown/Green and Food Caddy)		
Wednesday 29	Bin Day (Blue and Food Caddy)		

Grant Fund

The structure of the new Grant Fund team is as follows:

Chair:	Hilary Fielding
Secretary:	Grahame Radford
Treasurer:	Edward Hall
Member:	Catherine Gibson

They can be contacted by emailing:
reachgrantfund@gmail.com or you can call Grahame on
 01638 742814 or deliver applications to 14 Ditchfield.

The team is in the process of reviewing and updating the paperwork and the village website will be updated accordingly in due course.



Then and Now (see facing cover page for pictures)

The Horse Chestnut tree once dwarfed fairground proceedings but for now must hide amongst it. Photo around 1970. The cork airgun shooting gallery and coconut shy seem a little tame when compared to today's more exciting offerings.

Chris Patterson

Contact Information

Parish Council – see “Know Your Parish Council”			
Village Hall			
	Chair	David Thomas	01638 742676
	Finance	Andrew Trump	01638 743335
	Bookings	Diana Greer	rvhcb25@gmail.com
Tents and Village Games Bookings		Claire Halpin-McDonald	01638 743330
Church			
	Vicar	Eleanor Williams	01638 741262
	Curate (Duty days Wed, Fri and Sun)	Reverend Paula Spalding	07545 868549
	Priest in Retirement	Rev David King	01638 742924
	Churchwarden	Dr Stephen Martin	01638 611235
Emergencies			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency)		999
	Police (Non-Emergency)		101
	Water (Anglian Water)		08457 145145
Doctors, Burwell			
	Contact Phone Numbers	01638 741234, out of hours dial 111	
	Surgery Hours	Mon to Friday, 8.30am to 6.00pm	
	Website (Surgery)	https://www.theburwellsurgery.co.uk/index.aspx	
	Website (Patient Participation Group)	https://www.theburwellsurgery.co.uk/patient-group	