

11

July 1977

# Out of Reach



Clara Cohen

County Councillor

Geoffrey Woollard, Chalk Farm,  
Bottisham. Tel. Cambridge 811209

District Councillor

Mrs. Margaret Cook, Mill House,  
Commercial End, Swaffham Bulbeck.  
Tel. Cambridge 811335

Parish Councillors

Albert Johnson (Chairman),  
Snake Hall Farm, 50 Swaffham Road,  
Tel. Newmarket 741437

Ray Folkes, 8 Great Lane.

Harvey Harrison, Tilden House,  
Burwell Road. Tel. Newmarket 741150

Joyce Harrison, Prospect Farm,  
40 Great Lane.

Rodney Housden, Manor Close.  
Tel. Newmarket 741386

Clerk to the  
Parish Council

Alison Housden

Village Hall Committee Members:-

John Robinson (Chairman)  
Springhall Farm. Tel. 741426  
Bill Estell, 5 Ditchfields.  
Ray & Anita Folkes  
Harvey Harrison  
Joyce Harrison  
Rodney Housden  
Albert Johnson  
Sam & Heather Mitchell, The Wilds, Burwell Rd.  
Bob & Emily Smith, Meadow View, Delph End.  
Tel. 742130  
Phyllis Webb, Blackberry Drove.  
Co-opted Member - Nicholas Hellawell,  
4 Swaffham Rd. Tel. 742081

"Out of Reach" Committee Members:-

Margaret Cook  
Ray Folkes  
Harvey Harrison (Business Manager)  
Joyce Harrison (Distribution)  
Alison Housden  
Rodney Housden  
Albert Johnson  
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Patricia Harrison

"O U T O F R E A C H"

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Issue No.11

JULY 1977

EDITORIAL

What better medium is there than the Community magazine to acknowledge the great community spirit we felt during our Jubilee Celebrations. Many people contributed but particular thanks are due to those who organised and ran the day. I am sure that we all want to do it again without waiting for the year 2002!

Another result of joint effort is that, in spite of the recent threat of a reduction in the staff/pupil ratio, all four of our teachers are now to remain at Swaffham Prior School. Parents, present and future are delighted.

I apologise to Sylvia Greenhill, our Miss Reach, for having wrongly called her Sylvia Greenfield; the latter is a Johnson family name, hence my mistake.

I shall be away (yet again) during July and the beginning of August, so please note that CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ISSUES should go to - Harvey Harrison, Tilden House, Burwell Road and Janet Biggs, Delver House, respectively.

Happy Holidays to everyone!

Jenny Johnson.

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TO SOOTHE SUNBURN, you could use vinegar, but an even better recipe is half a cup of milk with a pinch of bicarbonate of soda dissolved in it.

Janet Biggs.

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council have reviewed the burial charges for Reach's Cemetery.

No other relevant business was discussed.

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K.S. & N.E. PEACOCK

REACH POST OFFICE STORES

Groceries  
Fruit  
Provisions

Cambridge Evening News  
Orders delivered weekly  
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Wines  
Beers  
Ciders

JUBILEE DAY CELEBRATIONS

The organising Committee hope that fun was had by all on Jubilee Day - everything seemed to work out O.K. Thanks are due to "King Len" for getting the afternoon underway and to the Fancy Dress Judges, who placed:-

Simon & Joanne Housden in 1st place as Bride and Bridegroom  
Justin Moseley in 2nd Place as An Explorer  
Karen Greenhill in 3rd place as The Queen of Hearts

-also the Judges for the Sports - the results of which are too many to list here - but we had joint winners of the John Robinson Sports Cup - Esther Morris and Simon Housden.

Probably the most memorable part of the afternoon was the village Jubilee Tea - enough food was so generously donated and so beautifully prepared and presented by the ladies in charge, that it fed the whole village and some had supper too!! To all those who gave - thank you very much. The high spot of the Tea was the most delicious cake; made and presented by the Cooks and kitchen of Peterhouse College, Cambridge. I hope that the village's sincere thanks will be conveyed to them through the instigator, Major General Crookenden. From the whole village - many thanks.

Let's hope the children look after their crowns - they'll keep increasing in value and in sentiment!!

The man with the hardest job was surely Nigel Bloxham - to organise 150 plus people for a photograph. He seems to have been successful - See photo details.

The Reach Marathon - The Junior Cup was won by James Robinson after leading from the start, and Our paperman, Les Bridgeman, a "good stayer" ran through the tape to take the Senior Cup.

Both cups are being engraved and will be held by the winners for one year- the cups were given by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Harrison.

By popular request, it seems that the sports should become part of Reach's calendar - fitting either into Reach Fair Week, probably on the Saturday, or as a separate event on the Spring Bank Holiday. Although this will only happen if enough support is forthcoming - as was demonstrated on 7th June - a crowd means fun for all!

We are not OUT OF REACH - For prompt attention contact

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JUBILEE ACCOUNTS

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Collection	64.89	Stationery	2.75
Parish Council	5.00	Crowns	28.00
Donations	9.00	Vouchers	2.25
		Envelopes	30
		Race Vouchers	14.20
		Lollies	1.79
		Prizes	2.75
		Food/Apples	10.99
		Toffee Apples	1.00
		Sports Cups	4.80
		Engraving	1.00
		Photographer	6.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£78.89	Balance	75.83
	<hr/>		3.06
			<hr/>
			£78.89

At the last meeting of the Jubilee Committee it was decided that with the balance of the Fund, two small cups would be bought for the joint winners of the Robinson Sports Cup which they can keep as a reminder of the Jubilee Sports. Any other monies will be used to purchase an enlarged copy of the village photograph to be hung in the Village Centre.

JUBILEE PHOTOGRAPH

It will cost approximately £18 for a large photo for the Village Centre - we have £3.06, so we need a little more - donations gratefully received.

Hopefully someone in the village will frame it for us!

Individual orders for photos can be taken from the selection available at REACH POST OFFICE. The recommended size is the 7 x 5 and it is CASH WITH ORDER PLEASE.

ALL ORDERS TO BE MADE BY JULY 16th.



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DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS - from Councillor Mrs. Margaret Cook

There has been some concern in the village recently about a colony of gypsies who took up temporary residence on John Robinson's land. The problem of gypsies is a national one, and in 1968 an Act of Parliament gave the County Councils responsibility for establishing permanent sites for the caravans of itinerant people. Up to date, Cambridgeshire County Council has not grasped this nettle, one of the reasons being that wherever a site has been suggested there has been an outcry from local residents. More recently the County Council can use the lack of money as an additional reason for not tackling this very thorny problem.

The District Council has an Environmental Health responsibility, and on several occasions during their stay the gypsies were visited by officers of that department, and their means of sanitation investigated (of course, little more than a bucket in most cases); so staff of the Environmental Health Office do keep a watchful eye on these people wherever they stay in East Cambridgeshire. As well as their responsibility for management, the District Council can, if it wishes, establish sites on their own initiative (this East Cambs. has done, notably at Grunty Fen) and the Planning and Environmental Health departments are actively investigating this possibility at the present time.

I realise it is of small comfort to farmers immediately concerned with this problem to know this and to know of the hours of time staff have to spend over the gypsy community, but I do not think the farmers of Reach and Swaffham Prior would be happy to see pitched battles between Council Officials and gypsies take place in our area, as has happened in certain parts of the Midlands.

I think the best way to proceed is for everyone concerned to bring pressure to bear on the County Council to carry out its obligations to the gypsy community. The District Council has done this in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

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SHIRE HALL TITBITS

When I wrote last month's Titbits for Out of Reach I had not been formally appointed as the new Chairman of the County's Finance and Review Sub-Committee, but many will know by now that I am really in the hot seat!

The job of the Committee is two-fold - firstly, to initiate and recommend general financial policy for the Council, and starting off as we do in a semi-solvent position with revenue and expected expenditure balanced on a knife-edge, and the prospect of worse to come, it is not very comfortable; hence the appeal for Justice for Cambridgeshire launched in the local Press. Cambridgeshire is not poor in asset terms, but it is certainly strapped for cash, and we are asking Central Government to reverse its discrimination against the County - e.g. Population up 8%, Grant down 42%, compared with Liverpool, Population down 9%, Grant up 62%. Cuts should be made, but they must be fair, and I have received hundreds of letters agreeing with this viewpoint.

The Review part of my Committee's work is self-explanatory, in that our job is to watch with eagle eyes the financial implications of the Council's various activities and to recommend changes large or small if necessary. Good suggestions for economy and improvement have already come from Reach, and I would certainly welcome more at any time. I'm out a lot these days so may not answer the phone myself. Please excuse the lack of the personal touch!

Geoffrey Woollard,  
County Councillor.

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Village Centre News

During the last month many people from outside the village have had a chance to look at the improvements made in the Centre and their compliments abound. They have been impressed by what can be done by such a small village.

At our meeting on June 15th we looked at the possibilities of improving Reach Fair for another year. Suggestions have been made and we decided to hold a meeting early in July to discuss the extension of Rogation Week festivities. Watch for notices of this meeting.

Mr. William Pedley was voted on to our committee at the last meeting and he has undertaken to collect waste paper every **FIRST WEDNESDAY IN THE MONTH.**

The Table Tennis evening has proved very successful. Twenty seven people joined in last Monday which is a large number for the one available table.



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REACH FAIR ACCOUNT 1977

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Dog Show	45.36	Holiday voucher	50.00
Raffle	10.74	Hire of tent	15.00
Stall	2.00	Engraving Darts Cup	3.88
Horse Sale & Donation	35.16	Journal advert.	8.00
2 days refreshments	27.76	Horse sale adverts.	17.42
Straw stall	7.10	Gas	3.84
Donations	3.65	Posters	12.42
Darts Night	23.90		
Darts competition	9.37		
Raffle	12.08		
Hot dogs	8.60		
Clay shoot	29.50		
Shoot refreshments	9.29		
Family evening	8.10		
Bingo and Raffle	10.50		
Grand Draw	30.70		
Donation	93.51		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£367.32		£110.56
			<hr/>
		<u>PROFIT</u>	<u>£256.76</u>

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FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

We would like to thank all those who helped to make the Summer Fair such a success; those who sent donations and prizes; those who manned the stalls; those who volunteered their services so willingly in the preparations and tidying up, and especially those of you who supported our efforts and spent the afternoon with us. We hope, when all expenses are paid, to clear £100, which is the largest amount achieved for some time, so £25 will be sent as a donation to the Prince of Wales' Jubilee Fund.

Our July events are School Sports afternoon on Saturday July 9th, at 2.30 p.m. and our Family Barbeque and Disco on Saturday July 16th, at 7.30 p.m. Everyone will be welcome at both events.

If anyone is willing to start a group for Guides, Scouts, Cubs, or Brownies, we would like to hear from you. Please give your names into School if you are able to help.

At the end of the School year, we wish you all a happy holiday, and look forward to seeing you all at our family events organised for next year.

## REACH TUG O' WAR by ERNIE COLE

On 26th June 1959 Reach Sports and Social Club was formed from the old Reach Cricket Club. Reach Church had been struck by lightning in September 1958 so the Club organised a few fund raising games (darts, cricket and football), the single men challenging the married men. Every game the younger men won.

The next idea was a Tug O' War across the Lode. This proved to be a very popular event with many spectators. The first year the married men won by 2 pulls to nil. The next year the Tug was even more popular. All roads to Reach were full of cars, and the Green too. An estimated 2,000 people came to watch, including the ITV cameras - Reach had been on the telly! This was the year the married women decided to give their husbands a ducking and lent their help to the single mens side - just as their husbands were about to win by 2 pulls to 1.

I used to play in the Burwell Crown Darts Team and in 1961 another darts player challenged me to raise a Tug O' War team. At the last minute the challenge was called off but Mr. Vic Perkins, the then landlord of the Burwell Crown arranged, through Mr. Dusty Miller, for the N.C.O. Club, U.S.A.F., Mildenhall, to pull against us; Master sergeant Olle captained the American Team. We won by 2 pulls to nil. The Reach versus Americans Tug became an annual event, and in spite of the size and weight of the American team members (usually they weighed 16 - 20 stone) we went on to win for four years.

Other challenging teams over the years came from Waterbeach, Oakington and Wittering R.A.F. bases, Tillotson's and Ely Young Farmers Club.

The rope we used had to be 120 feet, two 60 foot ropes joined together. It was traditional for Breweries to lend Tug O' War ropes to various teams around the country and our rope was either borrowed from the Greene King Brewery or from the Great Ouze River Authority in which case it was a barge rope. For practising we used cart ropes.

The span of the Lode was 24 feet but the direction of pull had to be at an angle across the water and the banks, in order to have sufficient room for the teams. The only suitable point was across the site of the present sewage works; hence when the works were erected it was no longer possible to have the July Pull.

There are many people in the village who remember the excitement of the event; the crowds thronging the banks of the Lode, the bridge and the trailers set back behind; the hilarity of the splashings and wettings. Mr. Len Warren, with his hailer borrowed from Cheffin, Grain and Chalk, and standing chest deep and fully clothed in the water, started the teams pulling. Even this was no easy task as the men on the ends weren't visible amongst the crowd.

Monies raised from the events were mainly collected as voluntary contributions in a tin bath on the Hythe. Church repairs, the bus shelter and table tennis equipment were bought with this money and the rest was allowed to accumulate as a playing field fund.

We greatly regret the passing of the occasion!



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From the Vicar:

May I begin by simply thanking Mr. Fuller for re-decorating the doors of the church and re-pointing the walls: our thanks, too, to all who have assisted him in cutting and clearing away the grass in time for the Jubilee.

When I first arrived I was lucky enough to receive from an old friend a copy of the volume dealing with Cambridgeshire in Nikolaus Pevsner's famous series on The Buildings of England. I'm sorry to say his brief remarks about Holy Trinity, Reach, (pp.366-7 in the old Penguin edition), are not very complementary: "1860. With all the bold hideousness of which the High Victorian decades were capable in their less genteel representatives. The architect seems unrecorded. Front of grey stone with red brick dressings. The transition from the double doorway to the arched window above and the details of the bell-cote must be seen to be believed. Equally original and ugly the E. end inside with apse and transepts etc".

Well, I suppose one has to admit there is truth in what he says. On the other hand, I suppose, as a newcomer, I can testify, perhaps more positively than most, to the strange way in which one gets to love even the least promising interior. (My last parish church in Cheshire, built in 1863 for a mere £2,000, was even darker and in some ways uglier, and yet it became part of one's being in the end).

But the way it happens is mysterious. The secret is simply worship. A building feels different after the bread of life has been broken, and folk have prayed, in it. But this is the catch: actually being there, actually praying, actually there receiving the bread broken for the world's salvation. There seems to be much goodwill towards religion in Reach, but a strange reluctance actually to cross the threshold into the only remaining place where Christ can be known, as he has always been known, in the prayer that has its climax in the Breaking of the Bread.

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	taken in Oils.

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

A Table Tennis Club has recently been formed in Reach and meets in the Village Centre on Monday nights. Anyone wishing to play is cordially invited to come along. There are two sessions:

- 6.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. for juniors
- 8.00 p.m. onwards for seniors.

The cost is a mere 10p. per evening.

Colin Fletcher.

SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

Following the recent success of the Table Tennis Club, it is hoped to reform the Sports and Social Club. Anyone interested should attend an open meeting in the Village Centre on Wednesday 13th JULY at 8.00 p.m.

Colin Fletcher.

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JULY IN THE GARDEN

A busy month keeping down weeds.  
 Spray main crop potatoes with Bordeaux mixture (copper sulphate) against blight.  
 Ground cleared of early potatoes can be planted with leeks.  
 Watch stalked tomato plants and remove side shoots. Feed with a well balanced fertilizer as soon as bottom truss of fruit has set.  
 Complete transplanting cauliflower plants by mid month.  
 Sow catch crops no later than third week of the month, dwarf beans, red beet, carrots etc. Kelvedon Wonder Peas are resistant to mildew.  
 Peg down strawberry runners, cut off when rooted.  
 Many plants need support now, dahlias, gladioli etc. Disbud dahlias to get large blooms.

Dick Whitehead.

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BOTTISHAM YOUNG FARMERS CLUB

This month's meetings included:  
 an illustrated talk by the Thomas Cook Travel Agency in Cambridge  
 a visit to the Ambulance Station at Addenbrook's Hospital, Cambridge.  
 a talk on Crime prevention by Detective Sergeant Webber  
 a discussion about the annual Young Farmers Rally which was held on June 11th at Elsworth.  
 a visit to Fordham Potteries.

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STRAWBERRY MERINGUE

2lb. Strawberries (hulled)  
 8 tbsps. Icing sugar  
 6 tbsps. liqueur (orange, Kirsch, Framboise or brandy): optional,  
 use vanilla sugar if preferred.  
 1/2 pt. double cream  
 1/2 pt. single cream  
 Meringues using two egg whites.

Chill cream  
 Chop most strawberries, keeping a few to decorate.  
 Sift icing sugar and sprinkle liqueur over fruit. Chill for 1 hr.  
 Whisk creams until thick.  
 Fold strawberries and crushed meringues into cream  
 Decorate with whole strawberries and serve immediately.

Serves 6.

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ADVERTISEMENTS

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