

# Out of Reach



**Please note Out of Reach now has its own Email address  
OutofReach@Reach-village.co.uk**

*Reach Community Magazine April / May 2004*

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# Information

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Parish Council Chairman	John Robinson 743563
Parish Clerk	Penny Lang, 743302
Village Hall Committee	Tony Jordan, 743408
Village Hall Bookings	Joyce Harrison, 742405
County Councillor	James Fitch, 01223 811425
District Councillor	Charlotte Cane, 742509
Neighbourhood Watch	Dave Summers, 742884
Vicar	Rev Stephen Earl 741262

The purpose of Out of Reach is to serve the whole village by circulating information and interesting articles free to every household in Reach. Issues are published bimonthly with cover dates of Dec/Jan, Feb/Mar, Apr/May, Jun/Jul, Aug/Sep and Oct/Nov. Items for inclusion should reach the editor two weeks before the 1st day of the first month on the cover. Inclusion date for June / July is the 15th May.

Editor	Dave Summers 32 Great Lane, 742884 E-Mail <a href="mailto:OutofReach@reach-village.co.uk">OutofReach@reach-village.co.uk</a>
Advertising	Freda Lloyd, 742368
Distribution	Joyce Harrison, 742405

## **Doctors (The Burwell Surgery, Newmarket Road, Burwell, CB5 0AE)**

Appointments/Emergencies	741234
Enquires/Repeat Prescriptions	743602

Doctors	Dr Anne Shneerson, Dr Andrew Wills, Dr A Manning, Dr James Parry
Surgery Hours	Mon 9.00 - 11.30 am, 4.00 - 6.30 pm Tues. 9.00 - 11.30 am, 4.00 - 6.30 pm Wed 9.00 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm Thu 9.00 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm Fri 9.00 - 11.30 am, 4.00- 6.30 pm Sat 9.00 - 10.00 am (emergencies only)
Community Nurses	742382 11 - 11.30 am, 1.00 - 1.30 pm & 4 - 4.30 pm
Ante Natal	Wed. 4.30 - 5.30 pm, Run by Midwife
Child Health Surveillance	2nd & 4th Tuesdays. 2.00 - 4.00 pm

## **Emergencies**

Eastern Electric	01223 440221
Anglian Water	01603 225000
Police	999
	Non Emergencies 01223 358966

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# Editorial

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A short editorial this issue as I had to add the pension article below as some people have given away details to unscrupulous people please read the article below and be aware.

Reach Fair is upon us again and Sue or myself will be around again before long for full bottles for the Bottle stall, and I know lots of people will be required to help leading up to and on Fair Day itself so please don't make yourself too scarce.

I hope you will wish James the chef in the pub all the best as he moves back home with his son, and we welcome back Dave Lucas to take over the reigns. (Darts Dave)!

Congratulations to Grahame Miller the first winner in the 100 Club, don't forget Joyce still has some tickets to sell, if you have not got one yet then hurry as tickets are going fast.

I am sorry to see our District Councillor Charlotte Cane is leaving the village. I would like to thank her for all she has done for the village and to wish her good luck in her new job.

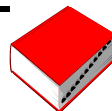
Well I have now got a quiz to do and find a front cover picture, so I will sign off now and leave you all with one thought 35 days to go before Reach Fair is in full swing for the 804th time.

*Dave*

One of the measures being taken by The Pension Service to encourage customers to convert from payment by pension book to payment into a bank account is by telephone. At talks I give I have advised people of this. It is a national initiative, with one centrally based company dealing with this on our behalf, that has been in practice since April 2003. As far as I am aware it is not only pensioners but all benefit customers who may be contacted. Customers are contacted and encouraged, but not forced, to transfer over to bank payment. The caller should already know the customers details but will always ask for name address and date of birth to confirm the identity of the person they are speaking to, to ensure that benefit information is not given to the wrong person, contravening the Data Protection Act. Every benefit customer should be sent a letter and covering leaflet explaining the change in the method of payment. There is of course the possibility that this may not have arrived when the calls were made. Newcastle were the correct people to speak to, as they would have more details on this project. This project should end by April 2005, when all customers have been converted and all benefits will be paid into bank accounts.

Clare Smith  
Partner Liaison Manager  
The Pension Service  
\* Tel: 01733 297638

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## Reach Village Centre

To help raise money for the Village Hall extension we are initiating a 100 club. We are looking for a 100 people who would like to buy a ticket at £10.00 each.

The 100 club will have 10 draws a year.

8 draws of £20.00 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month

2 draws of £50.00

July and December

**Please contact Joyce Harrison as soon  
as possible**



**Please support your  
Village Hall  
by buying a ticket**

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# Dates For Your Diary

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## April

Fri Apr 2	Schools Out for Easter		
Tue Apr 6	Re-cycling Lorry in Reach		
Wed Apr 7	Parish Council Meeting	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Apr 9	Good Friday		
Sun Apr 11	Easter Sunday		
Mon Apr 12	Bank Holiday		
Tues Apr 13	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.45 pm
Wed Apr 14	Village Fair Meeting	Reach Village Hall	8.00 pm
Tue Apr 20	Summer Term Starts		
Wed Apr 21	Village Hall Meeting	Reach Village Hall	8.00 pm
Thu Apr 22	Re-cycling Lorry in Reach		
Thu Apr 22	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Apr 23	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Tue Apr 27	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.45 pm
Thu Apr 29	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Apr 30	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am

## May

Sun May 2	Songs of Praise	Fair Green	6.00 pm
Sun May 2	Reach Fair Quiz Night		7.30 pm
Mon May 3	Reach Fair	Fair Green	12.00 pm
Wed May 5	Parish Council Meeting	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Thu May 6	District Council Elections	Reach Village Hall	
Fri May 7	Re-cycling Lorry in Reach		
Fri May 7	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Tue May 11	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.45 pm
Thu May 13	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri May 14	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Wed May 19	Village Hall Meeting	Reach Village Hall	8.00 pm
Thu May 20	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri May 21	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Tue May 25	Re-cycling Lorry in Reach		
Tue May 25	Mobile Library	Village Green	12.45 pm
Thu May 27	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri May 28	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Sun May 30	Quiz Night	The Dyke's End	7.30 pm
Mon May 31	Half Term Begins		

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# Notices

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**BOTTISHAM  
PLAYERS**

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**A CLASS ACT TO FOLLOW**

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Spring Production May 13<sup>th</sup> /14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> 2004.

Spring is the time to travel so they say. Thoughts of sun and excitement. We can help you decide where to go from the comfort of your chair if you join us in a trip “Round the world in 120 minutes”. We are planning an exciting and colourful Revue of song, dance, monologues and sketches from Scotland to Brazil.

Come and sing with us come and laugh at jokes and situations old and new. Watch the world pass before your eyes in an evening of fun.

The show is being directed by David Fisher with a new musical director and there are at least 30 people in the cast.

Dates for your travel log are Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May inclusive at 8.00 p.m. Prices are £7.00 and £5.00 on Thursday night and £7.00 on Friday and Saturday.

Take off and land via Bottisham Village College Main Hall. Please bring your own drink and glasses. “Nibbles” will be provided.

Tickets can be purchased from the end of April from Burwell Fireplace Shop, Lushers Newsagents in Bottisham and via our own telephone booking line 01223 812779 ( not Lushers)

Tickets must be paid for prior to production. Tickets will be available at the door subject to availability.  
You should book early as numbers will be limited.

# Ely Museum

Spring 2004

Saturdays 3rd and 10th April 10.30am - 4pm

## *Easter Fun at Ely Museum*

Join the Easter family trail at Ely Museum, find the right objects and win an Easter prize!

Suitable for children of all ages-normal admission charges apply- accompanied children free.

Tel 01353 666655 for more information

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 1 - 4pm

## *Ask the Archaeologist*

Bring along your object for a finds identification day- have you discovered a piece of pottery, flint, a coin or something else? Come and ask the experts to tell you more about your find.

Tel 01353 666655 for more information.

Find Ely Museum on the corner  
of Market Street and Lynn Road  
in the centre of Ely.

# CUBS AND SCOUTS

IN SWAFFHAM PRIOR

CUBS - FOR 8 - 10 1/2 YEAR OLDS  
SCHOOL HALL, WEDNESDAYS 6-7.30pm  
CONTACT JEMIMA ON 07816 984457

SCOUTS - FOR 10 1/2 - 14 YEAR OLDS  
SCHOOL HALL, WEDNESDAYS 7.45 - 9.15pm  
CONTACT TIM DOE ON 01638 743656

# REACH FAIR May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004

**Only five weeks away when you read this!**

This news may be greeted with happy anticipation by some, a disinterested groan by others and sheer panic and sleepless nights by those heavily involved with the planning. Nevertheless I believe most of the inhabitants of Reach see the Fair as a Good Thing and a day when we bond a bit more with our neighbours and put our little village more firmly on the map. That said it does put a bigger burden on some than others. This could be shared a little more equally if more folk could spare one or two hours on the day to help with various activities. Any offers of help will be very welcome to the Fair Committee and those running stalls or activities, either on the day or in the run up to the day. Even half an hour can make a difference.

There's a list below of Who does What and Who wants What so you can contact people directly to offer help or you can contact me if you want to help generally. Some things like baking for the cake stall can be done in advance. Freezer space is available. Just ask if you aren't sure what you could do.

Stall or Job	Contact
Programme sellers	Jacque Lewis(742518) or Philip Lewis(742115)
Car parks & road closure	Andrew Hall (743737)
Tea tent	Joyce Harrison (742405)
Cake stall	Rita Dunnett (742943) Cakes, biscuits etc.needed
Bottle stall	Sue Summers(742884) Bottles needed
Reach for your salad	Helen Oliver (742484) Salads needed
Barbeque	Andrew Neve(743358)
Cream teas	Sue Jordan (743408)
Book Stall	Dan Tucker (743052) books, videos, cds needed
Children's corner	helpers needed

For anything not listed or without contact number please contact Jen Holmwood (742969) or other committee members.

**Don't forget all helpers are invited to the Village Centre on Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 8pm for refreshments and informal follow up discussions.**

**See you on May 3<sup>rd</sup> Jen Holmwood**



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# Reach Fair—Parking and Access

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## Reach Fair- Parking and Access Arrangements

This year's Fair will be held on Monday 3rd May. The Fair Committee has decided to repeat the park and ride system operated over the last three years, with parking provided on the large field in Rogers Road. These arrangements enable the Committee to plan more effectively as the use of the site is not dependant on the weather conditions immediately prior to the Fair as would be the case if we used the grazing land in Swaffham Road and Burwell Road.

The Fair Committee has applied to Cambridgeshire County Council for a temporary road closure order between 11.00am and 6.00pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> May. The closed sections of road are as follows:

- Fair Green, Reach along its entire length (but allowing access between Great Lane, and Chapel Lane).
- Burwell Road, Reach from its junction with Fair Green, to its junction with Weirs Drove, Burwell
- Swaffham Road, Reach from its junction with Fair Green to its junction with Rogers Road, Swaffham Prior

Alternative diversion routes will be sign posted from the B1102 through Swaffham Prior to Upware and on Swaffham Prior Fen through Swaffham Prior to Burwell. Stewards will control the road closure points during the closure period.

Access to properties on the closure routes will be available at all times although you will need to apply for a vehicle pass (this is recommended as it will avoid any disputes on the day) or be able to identify yourself as a resident at the road closure points before the police/stewards will allow you through. You should plan your route to avoid crossing Fair Green and if using Swaffham Road please drive very carefully as there will be a lot of pedestrians as well as the park and ride buses.

To help ease congestion in the village itself and allow for some additional disabled parking it would be helpful if residents could avoid parking on the roadside anywhere in Fair Green and in Swaffham Road, particularly close to Ditchfield where the park and ride buses turn. Police 'No Parking' signs will be in place early on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

If you require a vehicle pass, alternative parking or have any questions about the closure order please contact any member of the Fair Committee or come along to one of the Village Hall meetings on 14<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> April. We still need volunteers to act as stewards for the road closure so you will be very welcome. We hope you enjoy the Fair.

**Andrew Hall**  
Treasurer

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# Your County Councillor

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**James Fitch**

**01223 811425**



## **COUNTY COUNCIL LETTER**

### **Mid February / March 2004**

#### **February**

There is never a good time to summarize what is happening in the County Council. The movement of events is unceasing. For instance, I cannot give you a finished account of this year's budget debate because the final decision has been postponed to the end of February. The reason is that one Government minister (Clarke) is saying "you must give more money to schools" and another (Raynsford) is saying "you will be capped if you put up Council Tax by more than low single figures percentage. The council is saying we can only give schools all the money Clarke wants transferred if the Council Tax is increased by about 7/8%. Negotiations are continuing .....

As some of you know, the Council is consulting - and getting different answers. The majority, depending on which group you look to, is 8% or 6%. In my view, one of the saddest things is that the pensioners and those on lowest incomes clearly want the smallest increase, yet they are the people who are now or may be in the future, in need of the very services (mainly Social Services) that are likely to be cut if a low increase is finally chosen.

I have said before, and I will say it again, Council Tax is a bad tax that punishes the least able to afford it. It should be abolished or drastically changed. My answer to the question "what would you do?" is to raise it on Income Tax. I know it is easy to say and no doubt has its difficulties but we certainly need a radical change from an increasingly unfair imposition; maybe this is the incentive the Government needs to do something and not just criticise local councils who are trying to provide essential services in difficult times.

Another moving target, difficult to pin down at any moment is Climate Change. Most of us are aware of it but feel relatively powerless to do anything to avoid its unwelcome results. The County Council has a draft strategy prepared for Cambridgeshire following the Council signing the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change in February 2002.

The strategy was designed to provide community leadership (we are the largest employer in Cambridgeshire) and to raise awareness; including tighter target for reducing emissions from motor vehicles. This strategy will be updated by a member-led review on climate change which will make an interim report this summer. I serve on this small group carrying out this study, so I'll keep you informed as it develops. We are already aiming to improve energy saving and managing waste in schools and I expect we will push for all new Council buildings, including schools, to be built to low energy specifications.

## **March**

### **2004 COUNTY ELECTORAL BOUNDARY CHANGES LIKELY**

The Boundary Committee for England is suggesting ten extra Cambridgeshire Councillors. The need for more members has become urgent as the population of Cambridgeshire leaps ahead holding the record as the fastest growing county in the UK.

In East Cambs. there are twenty thousand more people since 1981 - an increase of over a third. As a consequence an additional electoral Division is likely to be made within East Cambs. To make space boundaries will have to be changed.

What is now recommended by the Commission is that the Burwell / Bottisham Division will be split so that Burwell, Swaffhams and Reach will stand on their own as one, while Bottisham and Lode will join with all the other villages south of Newmarket within East Cambs. as another. Where as Burwell / Swaffhams makes sense, the rest of the villages from Bottisham to Ashley and all in between seems to be a very bulky and cumbersome territory. The shape reminds one of a soup ladle with Lode, Bottisham, Brinkley, Burrough Green and Westley as the handle and all the other villages south of Newmarket form the scoop! North of Newmarket all the villages and towns of East Cambs. will be divided into the seven remaining County Divisions.

Should these suggestions be confirmed, probably in September, then the next County Election of 2005 will be fought on the new boundaries.

### **LIBRARY SERVICES**

You will remember that during the campaign to save Bottisham Library (and 9 others) last year, the cabinet member promised extra money would be invested in remaining library services. The original plan was to spend 2 million pounds over the next 3 years to employ more staff and increase opening hours. The cabinet has now found it necessary to cut the intended investment by £50,000 for the year 2004 / 5 because of the financial stringency we shall experience this coming year. The latest promise is to put back this money when more funds become available (2005 onwards?).

I always dislike broken promises and wish the County administration hadn't been so "bullish" in the first place. Raising people's expectations is only justified if you know you can carry out the commitment.

Meanwhile, Bottisham Library is flourishing under the new arrangements, and so far as I am aware, there is no threat to Burwell Library or cuts to the other villages' mobile service.

*James Fitch*

***100 Club Winner for March  
Number 30  
Grahame Miller***

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# Bus Timetable

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Effective the 9th June 2002

## Monday to Saturday (except Bank Holidays) Bus 111 & Bus 122

Bus 111 Cambridge to Reach:	07.10, 09.10, 11.10, 13.10, 15.10, 16.40, 17.40, 18.10, 19.10, 21.10, 23.10
Bus 122 Cambridge to Reach	20.10, 22.10
Bus 111 Reach to Newmarket:	07.43, 09.43, 11.43, 13.43, 15.43, 18.16, 18.43, 19.40, 21.40, 23.40
Bus 122 Reach to Soham	20.40, 22.40
Bus 111 Reach to Isleham:	17.16
Bus 111 Newmarket to Reach:	06.31, 09.55, 11.55, 13.55, 15.55, 17.55, 19.10, 21.10,
Bus 111 Isleham to Reach:	07.23
Bus 122 Soham to Reach	19.08, 21.08
Bus 111 Reach to Cambridge:	06.55, 07.49(*), 10.30, 12.30, 14.30, 16.30, 18.30,
* Continues to Long Rd 6th Fm	19.33, 20.33, 21.33, 22.33

## Sundays and Bank Holidays Only Bus 122

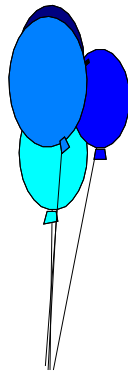
Bus 122 Cambridge to Reach:	10.10, 14.10, 18.10
Bus 122 Reach to Ely:	10.40, 14.40, 18.40
Bus 122 Ely to Reach:	11.40, 16.10
Bus 122 Soham to Reach	08.50
Bus 122 Reach to Cambridge:	09.15, 12.30, 17.00

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# Birthdays

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April	May
5	Shannon Manchett
9	Sophie Bateman
25	Felicity Blocksage
28	James Hill



*And A Very Happy Birthday to anyone else who has been missed off young and old alike.*

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# Parish Council Meeting

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## Notes on the meeting of Reach Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2004

### Present

Vice-Chairman Cllr Aves, Cllrs Harrison, Summers, Hill, and Pearson; also C/Cllr Fitch.

### Reports

County Council

#### *Drainage repairs*

Cllr Fitch reported that drainage problems in the footpath on the pub side of Fair Green would soon be sorted out.

#### *Budget*

The Leader of the County Council had stated his wish to keep Council Tax at 6%. There appeared to be confusion between the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Education Secretary over funding, said Cllr Fitch. He thought things had 'got out of hand' at government level. A forthcoming debate might reveal more information. The CCC was in a difficult situation.

#### *Education*

Funding for this depended on the budget. There would be a 1% deficit across county unless CCC was forced to put up the amount given to schools.

- Bottisham Village College were applying for special status in order to receive funding for humanities studies. This would cost in the region of £100k.
- The LEA and BVC Warden Peter Hains were to discuss cannabis. Although classification of the drug had been lowered it would still be considered a disciplinary offence at the college.
- Burwell sports centre was hoping to have a floodlit all-weather sports field.

#### *Social services*

Monies would be short at the end of the financial year. The department was trying to pass the blame for its problems onto the IT system. The CCC had only obtained a 'good' rather than an 'excellent' in the recent audit because of this department, said Cllr Fitch.

#### *Transport*

- The Highways department had done well in the recent snowy weather, using dry salt mixed with water. Cllr Fitch said Reach roads had not been salted, as there had not been five continuous days of icy roads.
- Plans for the proposed guided bus system were not going well. There would be a public enquiry.
- Fordham by-pass would be started in 2 months. The Ely to Newmarket road was having to be re-surfaced.

- There was to be an enlarged scheme for Burwell re traffic control on its entry/exit roads.

#### *Fire service*

The Cambridgeshire Fire Authority was to become independent this year. This would cost roughly £1 per week per family.

#### ***District Council***

The Conservative and Independent members of the ECDC wanted a nil increase on council tax, but this would entail cutting services generally.

#### ***Swaffham Prior Primary School***

There were now 108 children on the school roll, which put the school into the next funding band.

#### ***Village hall committee***

- Plans for the village hall extension had been put out to tender.
- Many stewards would be needed for the car park at the forthcoming fair. Discussions had taken place about the positioning of the beer tent.

#### **Correspondence**

- The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) had written about how it was dealing with equine issues. All horse owners would need to obtain a passport for their horse by the end of June this year; the Countryside Agency were to improve off-road access; and the Ragwort Control Act had come into force in February.
- The Cambridgeshire Local Access Forum had been established. It would ‘provide advice to help ensure significant and measurable improvements in responsible recreational access to the countryside’.
  - Reach village centre committee had written outlining traffic plans for the forthcoming fair. Councillors raised no objections.
- The East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership was offering a free graffiti-removing service.
- The District Council were embarking on a review of the Local Plan in the autumn. It was agreed that Reach Parish Council would not be producing its own Parish Plan.
- Planning permission had been granted for a new dwelling and detached garages at High Cloud Stud, Burwell Road.

#### **Reach matters**

- It was apparent that many Reach parishioners were not aware of the salt bins in the village (at the top of Fair Green and on its junction with Great Lane). It was agreed to have them re-filled.
- Repairs to the hut in the burial ground were going well. The weather vane had been restored. Councillors discussed the bier, which up until now had been kept in the hut, and agreed that it should be kept in the church. Clerk to write to Rev Stephen Earl about this.
- Ditchfield bus shelter had once again been vandalised.

# **Notes on the meeting of Reach Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2004**

## **Present**

Chairman Cllr Robinson, Vice-Chairman Cllr Aves, Cllrs Harrison, Summers, Hill, Moseley and Pearson; also C/Cllr Fitch.

## **Reports**

### **County Council**

#### *Education*

Bottisham Village College had applied for special status.

The government had given £400m to the education sector. Schools would, therefore, be able to maintain current expenditure.

#### *Housing*

New houses were to be built around Cambridge; Cllr Fitch showed councillors a draft plan of sites. The present site of Marshall's airport would be a good site for housing but an alternative would then be needed for the airport. Cllr Fitch said building would take place 'spasmodically'.

#### *Future electoral arrangements*

The County Council would be getting 10 more councillors. Cllr Fitch said his 'patch' had grown by over one-third in his time on the council. East Cambs was the fastest growing district in the country's fastest growing county. County council boundaries were going to be changed; Burwell, the Swaffhams and Reach would probably make up one ward, and Bottisham, Lode, and all villages south of Newmarket (11 parishes) another.

#### *Budget*

The county council share of the council tax had been settled at a 6.9% increase, despite the loss of the fire service.

#### *Library services*

£50k had been cut from the library service. It had been thought that closures of some libraries would mean more being spent on the remaining branches, but this did not appear to be happening.

#### *Environment and transport*

- There was to be a 2 metre limit on the height of hedges in private properties. Neighbours of properties with hedges higher than this could take the matter up with the District Council.
- Parking in Cambridge city centre was to be de-criminalised. Traffic wardens would give £60 on-the-spot fines, which would be reduced to £30 if paid within 2 weeks.
- There was to be a public inquiry about the guided bus in September of this year. It would cost £65 million to build; half would come from a grant and half from a loan. Landowners could be forced to sell if the route went through their land.

#### *Questions*

- Clerk voiced thanks to the Highways Department who had acted swiftly to organise replacement tarmac over a poorly repaired pavement trench on Fair Green.

- Cllr Robinson asked Cllr Fitch why signs had been put up encouraging cyclists to go to Cambridge via Swaffham Prior when it was agreed that the Old Railway Bridge was dangerous. He agreed to investigate.

### ***District Council***

- Despite statements at the recent Parish Forum that the District Council section of the council tax would remain at its present level, the PC heard there was to be a 5% increase.
- Discussions about moving the District Council offices to Witchford had been shelved for the present, having been turned down by a narrow margin at a full council meeting.

### ***Swaffham Prior Primary School***

- *A promised increase in Government funding for education was welcomed.*
- A new teacher for class 3 had started at the school.

### ***Village hall committee***

A new computer would soon be installed in the village centre.

### **Police liaison committee**

- The Police section of council tax would increase by 14% every year.
- More helicopters and cars were to be purchased by Cambridgeshire police.
- Street robberies were down and were the lowest in 2 years.
- It cost £1m to investigate every suspicious death.

### **Matters arising**

- The vicar had stated that he was happy to have the bier (when renovated) in St Etheldreda's church on a trial run.
- New 'Reach' signs and salt had been ordered from the Highways department.

### **Correspondence**

- East Cambs Democratic Services Officer had written stressing the importance of keeping information held on the District Council Register up to date. This included PC resignations, vacancies and co-options, as well as councillors' Declarations of Interest.
- Planning permission had been granted for Mr Clark (Tigh & Righ, Great Lane) to remove a dead cherry tree and prune a tree close to his house.

### **Reach matters**

- It was agreed to ask Dennis Badcock to continue cutting the grass in the cemetery for the coming season.
- Three letters had been received complaining about a car being driven by under-aged drivers in Reach wood. The matter was discussed and it was agreed to contact the Woodland Trust to ask advice about deterrents to this behaviour.

*Penny Lang*



# ELY's EEL Day

## Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

If you have walked around Ely in the past six weeks you may have come across a few unusual pieces of art that you have not seen before and have asked yourself what on earth are they!

The eel mosaic in Jubilee Gardens, the octagon of gleaves outside the Maltings, the new engraved glass entrance to Babylon Gallery, the circular bench outside Oliver Cromwell's and the beginnings of a willow hive in Cherry Park not to mention 70 circular discs set in the ground around Ely are all part of the new Eel trail which has its official launch on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

The City has lots of recognised walks already taking in many points of interest and beauty but a partnership between East of England Development Agency, East Cambridgeshire District Council and the Ely Perspective (a body of volunteers who strive to improve the quality of life in Ely) have been working on a project to relaunch the existing City Trail to form the Eel Trail. As I am sure you are aware Ely is very proud of its connection with eels and it is thought that the name Ely is derived from the Isle of Eels when Ely was surrounded by water and marshland. Eels are still caught in the Great River Ouse although only one commercial catcher still remains, Sid Merry. Sid is a well-known character in Ely and quite a celebrity having appeared on television many times. Having lived all his life along the River Ouse as did his father and grandfather before him, Sid has always had a strong interest in river life. Every morning Sid turns out on his boat to set his nets and every evening, seven days a week he collects them in. Historically eels were part of the local staple diet as well as a valuable source of income. Clients also came from London with the popularity of jellied eels although today this is a dwindling market. Smoked eels, now considered a delicacy, can be purchased on Ely's award winning Farmers Market and dishes such as eel stew and eel pie can be found regularly on the menu of Ely's Lamb Hotel as well as a few of the other restaurants in the area.

The story of a life of an eel has been very cleverly portrayed in the five pieces of public art that you may or may not already have seen and the route of the trail is marked out by brass discs set in the ground. Elizabeth Jane Grosse was chosen as the commissioned artist for this project and has spent many hours researching eels including many conversations with our Eel expert Sid. Working with local schools the whole project has had a strong community input and this is reflected in the launch day where pupils from St Mary's School, Ely and Springmeadows are involved.

The Eel Day begins with a procession leaving from Palace Green at 11.00 am and following part of the actual trail ending in Jubilee Gardens. The procession is headed by a giant eel (Chinese dragon style) made by and involving pupils from St Mary's School. The general public are encouraged to join this procession which ends in Jubilee Gardens. In the Gardens there will be dancing, music, eel tasting, story telling, puppet show, displays and exhibitions and lots more.

For further information about the day, contact Tracey Harding, Tourism and Events Officer at East Cambridgeshire District Council on 01353 616377 or email [tracey.harding@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.harding@eastcambs.gov.uk).

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# Reach Fair

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Each year at Reach fair  
People come to see the Mayor  
They come from miles around  
To see the sights and sounds  
The Fair is from noon till six  
People perform their wonderful tricks  
The Morris Men dance away  
From time to time in the day  
A beer tent where you can spend your time  
If the weather is not fine  
There are refreshments there too  
Plenty of other things to do  
People enjoyed it last year  
And the year before  
So why not come along in 2004  
It all started in 1201  
You might as well join in all the fun  
It is held on the first Monday in May  
Don't forget the day

*Dennis Millard*

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## **SPORTS CLUB**

**Sunday September 5<sup>th</sup> 2004**

**Reach Rounders**

**Contact : Tony Jordan 743 408**

# ***THE DYKE'S END***

**VILLAGE PUB OF THE YEAR 2003**

Simon, Frank & Banger at the Dyke's End extend a very warm welcome to everyone.

## **Bar**

*Open 7 days a week  
(Except Monday Lunch)  
12.00 pm until 3.00 pm  
6.00 pm until 11.00 pm*

*Bar Snacks Available*

## **Dining Rooms**

**Tuesday - Saturday 7.00 pm until 9.00 pm**  
**Tuesday - Sunday 12.00 pm until 2.00 pm**

*Folk Nights alternate Sundays starting at 7.30 pm*

*Quiz Nights last Sunday in the Month starting at 7.30 pm*

**For further information contact Simon on 01638 743816**



# Reach & Swaffham Prior Community Broadband



Installation Costs from £230.00  
Monthly Charge from £20

Name.....

Address .....

.....

Tel No.....

Preferred E-mail address .....@reach-village.co.uk

Preferred E-mail address .....@Swaffham-Prior.co.uk

2nd E-mail address.....@reach-village.co.uk

**Note: Further E-mail addresses are available on request at £10.00**

Please fill in this form if you require Broadband and return it to  
Dave Summers @ 32 Great Lane.

Or

Robert Hollingsworth at Yule House 41 Lower End Swaffham  
Prior

For further details contact Dave on 01638 742884.

## Children's Birthdays

Name	DOB	Name	DOB

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# Your District Councillor

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**Charlotte Cane**

**Tel. 01638 742509**



e-mail [ccane@cix.co.uk](mailto:ccane@cix.co.uk)

District Council Notes (Mar / Apr 2004)

Green Waste recycling collections have come to Reach, Swaffham Prior and Swaffham Bulbeck. You should have received your bag in early March and the first collection was on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The green waste is collected every fortnight along with your paper in the 'black box' and washed tins and bottles in separate bags. The April collections are on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>. And the May collections are on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>. When you put your bag of green waste out you will get a new bag. If you need more bags, they can be bought from Swaffham Bulbeck shop for 50p or you can use a cardboard box. You can put green garden waste (but not thick branches or logs), vegetable peelings, cut flowers, cardboard and Yellow Pages in the Green Waste sack.

East Cambs have increased our share of the Council Tax by 10 pence a week for a Band D property to £112.65. The County is charging £813.24 (an increase of £1.02 per week), the Police are charging £129.33 (an increase of 31p per week), the Fire Authority are charging £45.99 (an increase of 17p per week) and your Parish Council is charging £27.27 (a decrease of 6p from last year). This makes the total bill for a Band D house in Reach £1,128.48 (an increase of 8% on last year). For a Band A house the total charge is £752.32, just £75.10 of this is for East Cambs, and for a Band H the total charge is £2,256.96, just £225.30 of this is for East Cambs. East Cambs collects the money for all of these authorities, so it can be difficult to be sure how much of what you pay goes to which authority. For each pound that you pay, 72 pence goes to the County Council, 12 pence goes to the Police, 10 pence is kept by East Cambs, 4 pence goes to the fire authority and 2 pence goes to the Parish Council.

The Police Authority charge is an increase of 14% and the Fire Authority charge is an increase of 25%. So it is possible that one or both of these might get capped. This could cause problems for East Cambs, as we send out the bills. If capping happens, East Cambs would end up having to rebill (at the capped authority's expense) probably in the early summer. This would slow down our collection rates with a direct reduction in interest earned. In any event, which ever authority nominally bears the cost of any rebilling, it will be the local council tax payer who pays.

The District Council's offices at 'The Grange' in Ely are really not adequate. There is too little space and there are so many different levels that it is difficult for anyone with mobility problems to get around the office. So we have started to look at ways of addressing these problems. Because the options involved buying or renting, it was decided last year to hold the discussions in confidential session.

I felt this was wrong, and said so at the time, because I thought we should discuss the general principles in the open so that we could have wide public consultation. At the Policy and Resources Committee in February, the 9 members of the committee discussed the conclusions of the review in open session. They agreed, by 5 votes to 4, to move the offices to rented offices on Lancaster Way Business Park, near Witchford and demolish the existing offices. I asked that the decision should be referred to full council and that there should be consultation with the public, staff and our partners, such as the parish councils, before the decision was made. Unfortunately this request was voted down by 5 votes to 4. So it was agreed that negotiations on the lease should be finalised and full council would be asked simply to consider the 'financial implications' before the lease is signed. The decision was taken because the figures presented showed that the rental option was cheaper than staying in premises which we own, despite an annual rent of £430,000 (plus £20,000 Service Charges) increasing every 5 years. I believe the figures are misleading and that if corrected there is little financial difference between the two options in the first 5 years and that the rental option will cost at least £300,000 more each year after that than the option to stay put. I regret that 5 of my colleagues on the committee were in such a rush to push the council down this route when the business case made was so clearly inadequate and when there has been no public consultation.

I am therefore delighted to tell you that full council on 24<sup>th</sup> February agreed to my motion putting the decision on hold while there was full consultation, and to allow for more options to be considered. I hope we can now find a more cost effective way of improving the Council's offices.

I have resigned as the District Councillor for The Swaffhams and Reach. I have accepted promotion to a different job, which means commuting to London. We have therefore decided to move to Oxfordshire from where the commuting will be easier and which is closer to the children's grandparents. I have decided to resign now rather than simply keeping the seat until we move because I know that my input and availability would be much more limited. It has not been an easy decision to make. I have enjoyed working with your Parish Council and the people of Reach, Swaffham Prior, and Swaffham Bulbeck. And it has been a great honour to represent you on the Council.

*Charlotte Cane (Liberal Democrat ex-Councillor for the Swaffhams and Reach)*

## **SPORTS CLUB**

**Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup> 2004**  
**Sports Day**  
**Playing Field 2.30pm**

**Please make a note in your diary for our annual village**

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# Letter From The Vicar

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**Rev Stephen Earl**

**The Vicarage Tel 741262**

## **ROLE OF RURAL DEAN**

**~ Part TWO ~**

Dear Friends,

In the first of this 2-part article on the role of the Rural Dean, I spoke of this being a bishop's appointment (more on this below) although, as I see it, more as a "shop steward" than "foreman". I explained the pastoral role of the Rural Dean among clergy and laity in the deanery, and his/her specific role in an interregnum. Now we move on to other things including the inevitable committees and meetings!

The Rural Dean, through the Deanery Pastoral Committee, plays a significant role wherever there is a change of parish boundary or pastoral re-alignments, ie the different configurations of parishes attached together and the various formal / informal options there are for bringing this about. There is a cumbersome but necessary process of consultation before such changes can be effected, and much time and energy can be invested (or wasted if efforts come to nothing) in this area.

The Rural Dean plans and chairs monthly Chapter meetings with fellow clergy, and four times a year in our deanery we invite Readers to join us. The meetings fulfil a number of functions - support, fellowship, encouragement, communication, education, and quiet times for prayer and reflection - and these take careful planning if they are to be worthwhile and of interest. The Rural Dean organises various speakers.

Jointly with the Deanery Lay Chair, the Rural Dean chairs the Deanery Synod - a body with various legal functions. Time is also invested in planning these meetings (via a Standing Committee preceding each), and in arranging the speakers / venues. Often the business of Deanery Synods is determined by items "passed down" from Diocesan Synod, of which the Rural Dean is a member along with other deanery representatives who report its business to Deanery Synods. The Rural Dean liaises also with the member of General Synod allocated to the Deanery Synod.

With the Deanery Treasurer, the Rural Dean keeps an eye on parish share payments as the year progresses within the deanery, and is on hand to offer help and encouragement to parishes which are struggling. It's not always an easy task as you can imagine, as so much depends on goodwill rather than coercion! It's most helpful (as is the case I'm delighted to say) for the Rural Dean's own parish/es to be absolutely committed to contributing the full share, and to be taking the whole matter of stewardship seriously. With the Deanery Treasurer and Lay Chair, the Rural Dean is involved in proposing a formula (as fair and equitable as possible) for allocation of shares to parishes within the deanery - which must be approved by the Deanery Synod.

The Deanery organises a number of joint services and events throughout the year - eg the Songs of Praise, the Deanery Confirmation Service, the Ministry Exchange Day - most of which require some or a lot of input from the Rural Dean who co-ordinates this Deanery Calendar.

The Rural Dean also co-ordinates a Deanery Directory produced annually after the round of Annual Meetings, with service information and key contacts in every parish in the deanery. (Ours is fairly typical in size, comprising... 21 churches, 7 stipendiary clergy (including 1 curate), 7 non-stipendiary part-time clergy and 7 Readers.)

There is a direct line of communication also between the Archdeacon (to whom many of the Bishop's tasks are delegated) and Rural Deans. As well as thrice yearly meetings of all the Rural Deans with the Diocesan and Suffragan Bishops, there are separate meetings also three times a year with the Archdeacon. Both alternate between being only with Rural Deans, and with Rural Deans and Deanery Lay Chairs. A wide variety of local and general issues are raised at the meetings.

In some archdeaconries, the Archdeacon's inspection duties are delegated to Rural Deans. This involves meeting with churchwardens, checking that registers and inventory are being kept up to date, that a log book of fabric work is maintained, and seeing that all the church plate is in place. A time too to discuss any matters of concern with churchwardens. So far this has not been part of my duties, but could well be in the future.

So where does the time come from to be a Rural Dean? For most it means a (still!) longer day, and the giving up of a considerable amount of time on rest days in order to get everything done that has to be done. A parish such as ours with an Assistant Priest, a Reader and many willing lay people means there are others with whom the parish work load can be shared, and I'm immensely grateful for this. Inevitably it does mean some of the parish things I would otherwise be doing have to be left undone sometimes. The "cost" of my being Rural Dean therefore actually falls - not just on me, but on us all! And I feel we should see this not as a burden but a privilege, enabling me to be of service to fellow clergy, parishes, the Bishops and Archdeacon, beyond Burwell and Reach. The appointment is for a period of 5 years, and the expectation is that this would normally be fulfilled (and can also be renewed). In some dioceses, not ours, the additional workload is recognised by a token increase in stipend, though I'm not altogether happy with this given that the "cost", as I have explained, is shared.

Finally, how do Rural / Area Deans get to be appointed? I explained at the start that the purpose was to stamp the bishop's authority in areas where it was more difficult for him to impose this himself - so naturally it was, and still is, a bishop's appointment. However there are few if any bishops who would want to impose a Rural Dean at odds with his/her colleagues, so there is usually a process of consultation before appointments are made, with beneficed clergy invited by their bishop to nominate whoever they see fit for this post. It's a role before my appointment I thought would be just a chore, but in the event I have genuinely welcomed the extra dimension it has brought to my ministry - and my thanks to all of you who make this possible!

**May I take this opportunity to wish you all a joyful Easter as we celebrate the most wonderful events of that first Easter Sunday – the empty tomb and the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, overcoming sin and death. This is a sign of the new life we are all invited to share - now in part, and in the life to come in full. Let us show the glory of risen Lord in our own lives - in all our dealings with one another, in our relationships, in the love we radiate to others, and in our living this God-given life to the full!**

With every blessing,

Revd Stephen Earl



# Church Services April



Date	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda and The Holy Trinity Reach
<b>Sunday 4th</b> Palm Sunday	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Family Service	No Services
<b>Holy Week</b> Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Good Friday	7.30 pm Holy Communion 8.45 - 10.45 pm The watch 10.00 -11.45 Children's Workshop 12.00 pm All-age Worship	7.00 pm Night Prayer (20 Mins) 7.00 pm Night Prayer (20 Mins) 7.00 pm Night Prayer (20 Mins)  2.00 pm Devotional Service
<b>Sunday 11th</b> Easter Sunday	6.00 am Sunrise service on Castle Mound 9.30 am Family Communion	8.00 am Holy Communion (said)
<b>Sunday 18th</b> 2nd after Easter	<i>No 10.00 am Service</i> 9.30 am Parish Communion	No Service
<b>Sunday 25th</b> 3rd after Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00am Church Family Worship

# Church Services May



Date	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda and The Holy Trinity Reach
<b>Sunday 2nd</b> 4th after Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	6.00 pm Songs of Praise on Fair Green
<b>Sunday 9th</b> 5th after Easter	9.30 am Christian Aid Family Service at St Mary's	8.00 am Holy Communion (said)
<b>Sunday 16th</b> 6th after Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	No Service
<b>Sunday 23rd</b> 7th after Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Church Family Worship 3.00 pm Baptism of Scarlett Elizabeth Bailey
<b>Sunday 30th</b> Pentecost		9.30 am United Parish Communion

## Sundays

**6.30 pm Informal Evening Services (Quarterly) and other specials** at Reach normally

**6.30 pm Services of Healing (Quarterly)** at Burwell

At Burwell whenever there is a 9.30 am Holy Communion service during term time.

**Junior Church (3's - 11's)** meets in the Guildhall at 9.25 am

**Pathfinders (12's - 17's)** meets in the Vicarage at 9.25 am

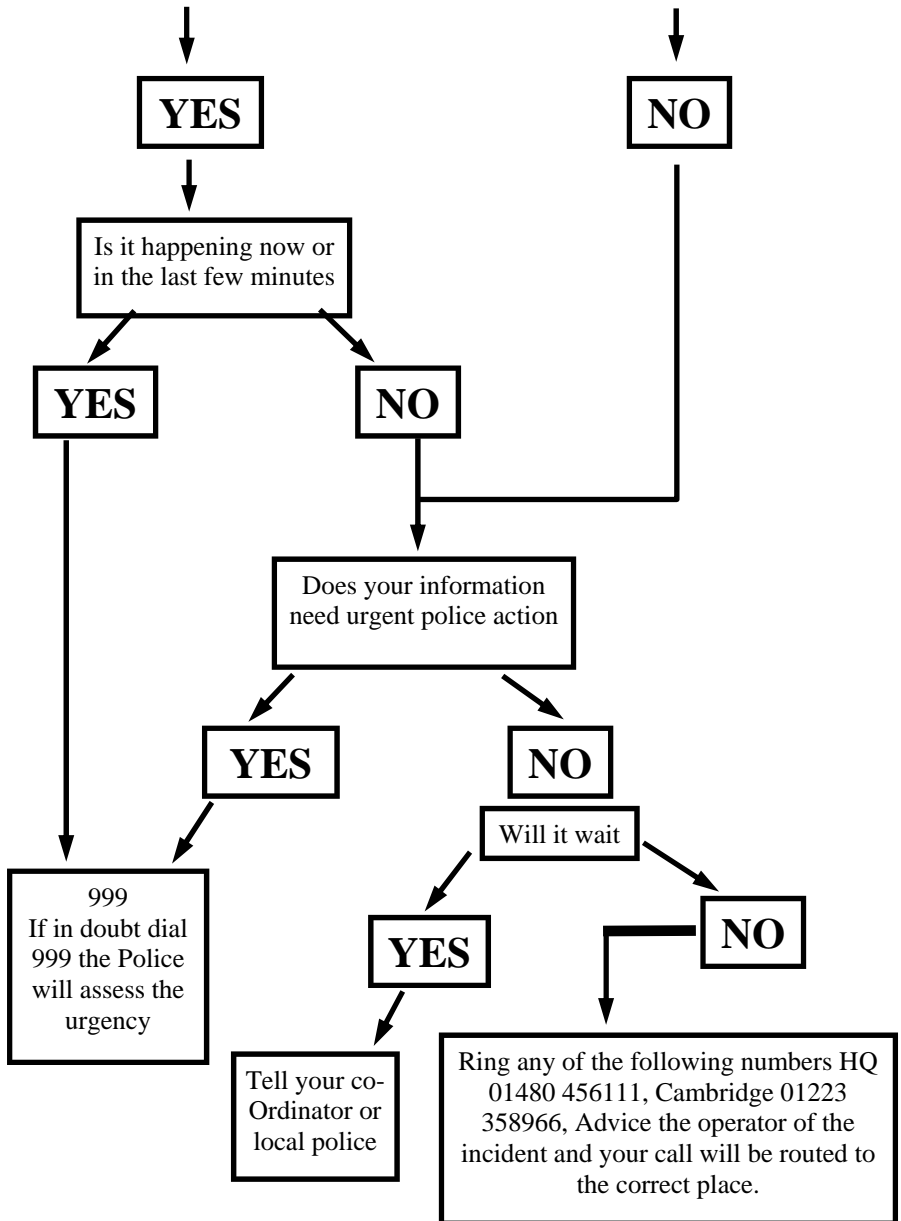
## Weekdays

**10.00 am Holy Communion** At Burwell St. Mary's on 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays

**10.30 am Holy Communion** At Burwell (Ness Court) on 3rd Wednesdays

**10.00 am Toddlers' Service** At Burwell on 1st Thursdays (excl January & August)

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# Reach

village web site

<http://www.reach.drakken.com>

take a look!