

Out of Reach



**Village & Community Magazine Awards
Highly Commended 2000 & 2001**

Reach Community Magazine February / March 2003

Information

Parish Council Chairman	Keith Lambert, 741233
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	Contact J. Norris 741465
PCC Secretary	Mrs. J. Moseley, 741425

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 Aril / May is the 15th March

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Appointments/Emergencies	741234
Enquires/Repeat Prescriptions	743602

Practice Staff Dr Patrick Ridsdill Smith, Dr Anne Shneerson,
Dr Andrew Wills, Dr A Manning

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, 2.30 - 5.00 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 & 4 - 4.30 pm
Ante Natal Tues. 9.30 - 11.30, 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

Editorial



Christmas and the New Year celebrations are now over and life returns to normal, we are all back at work awaiting Easter, soon be here and so will Reach Fair Monday May 5th. Any submissions for the fair must be included in the next issue. Please let me have them by March 15th. Pre warning in April Sue or I will be round for bottles for the bottle stall.

As most of you will already know Phil & Tess are at the Hilton Hotel in London, as I write this, for the finals of the Village Pub of the Year awards, they have made the finals with two other pubs in the country. Congratulations to them, unfortunately I will not know the result before this issue has to go to the printers but whatever the outcome 1st or 3rd is a true success story. Unfortunately Phil and Tess have decided not to take up the option on purchasing the Dyke's End and will be parting at the end of February for pastures new. We wish them every success in their new venture. On page 9 a letter about what will happen in the interim until a successor can be found has been included from Reach for a Pint Limited. I would like with you to thank both Phil and Tess for all their hard work and effort they have put in, in making the Dyke's End Pub the success it is.

I have had some interest in broadband, in fact 18 people have asked for their names to be added to the list. The gates are not closed so if you are interested and have not as yet contacted me then please do so. (742884).

As you will notice the crossword does not appear in this issue, the response is poor, I know I get clues wrong but they are not hard and one can guess a bit. Anyway I have decided to give it a rest and there is a word search on page 12 instead with no prizes. You can take as long as you like to do it, with no pressure from me. Good luck.

Make sure you read the article about the parish council elections on page 18, and if you are interested in becoming a councillor please contact the people concerned and get your application in. Whilst on the subject of the Parish Council we are still in need of a new clerk see advert on page 9. Penny has been doing the job for a long time and I know she would like a rest.

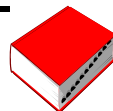
You will notice from the church services we have now moved parish's. We come under the wing of Burwell Church Parish. I have been asked to put the church services in the form of weeks per month, which has been done, however I did find it easier afterwards to add the services for February and March as well. So you get the best of both worlds.

I must as usual wish the new blood in the village a very warm welcome. I hope they will enjoy their stay with us whether it be long or short.

Well that's it for another issue, see you in April.

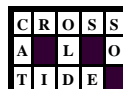
Dave

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Answer to Crossword No 24



T	H	E	T	H	R	E	E	W	I	S	E	M	E	N	
H			U		O			H		A		I		O	
A	D	O	R	E	D			I		I		S		W	
N			K		O	B	S	T	I	N	A	T	E		
K			E		L			E		T		L		A	
S		N	Y	M	P	H			A	S	L	E	E	P	
G		E			H		H			T		T		P	
I	M	A	G	E		W	O	B	E	E	G	O	N	E	
V		T			A		L			P		E		A	
I	N	N		T	W	I	L	I	G	H	T			R	
N		E			A		Y			E		S		I	
G	U	S	H	E	R	S				N		K		N	
		S			E			B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G

Down

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----|----------------|
| 1 | American Holiday | 7 | When |
| 2 | Christmas day lunch | 10 | Show yourself |
| 3 | Reindeer name | 11 | Tidiness |
| 4 | Snow colour | 13 | & the Ivy |
| 5 | Boxing day | 16 | Informed |
| 6 | Where to kiss at Christmas | 19 | Winter sport |

Across

- | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|----------------|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh | 12 | Not Awake | 18 | Dawn or dusk |
| 8 | Worshipped | 14 | Likeness | 20 | Oil well not pumped |
| 9 | Stubborn | 15 | Dismal looking | 21 |in disguise |
| 11 | Immature Insect | 17 | No room in the | | |

Dates For Your Diary



Wed Feb 5	Parish Council Meeting	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Thu Feb 6	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Feb 7	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Wed Feb 12	Village Fair Meeting	Reach Village Hall	8.00 pm
Thu Feb 13	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Feb 14	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Fri Feb 14	School Halt Term Begins		3.30 pm
Wed Feb 19	Village Hall Meeting	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Sun Feb 23	Quiz Night	The Dyke's End ?	7.30 pm
Mon Feb 24	Back to School		8.45 am
Thu Feb 27	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Feb 28	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Wed Mar 5	Parish Council Meeting	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Thu Mar 6	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Mar 7	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Wed Mar 12	Village Fair Meeting	Reach Village Hall	8.00 pm
Thu Mar 13	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Mar 14	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Wed Mar 19	Village Hall Meeting	Reach Village Hall	8.00 pm
Thu Mar 20	Jazz Work Out	Reach Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri Mar 21	Mothers & Toddlers	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Fri Mar 28	Mothers & Toddles	Reach Village Hall	9.30 am
Sun Mar 30	Quiz Night	The Dyke's End	7.30 pm

Children's Birthdays

Name	DOB	Name	DOB

Notices



Learning Access Point Organiser for Reach and Cheveley Areas.

Do you feel like this with your computer?
In Reach the Local Pub "The Dyke's End"

We can make you feel Happy **again**
With your computer.

Come along and see what we can do for you,
We can help you learn from scratch,

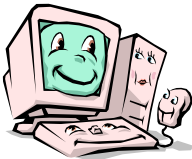
Or even just have some fun surfing the net.

Tuesdays Dinnertime 12.00-2.30p.m.

Tuesday evening 6.00-9.00p.m

The best bit of all is it's **FREE!!**

Ring Denise Meale 07789 273904



Burwell Concert

Andrew Ashwin

Bass-Baritone

Saturday 1 March, 7.30pm

St Mary's Church, Burwell

Opera by Mozart and Rossini

Songs by Schubert, Fauré,

Finzi and others.



Tickets £5 including refreshments, available
from Burwell Post Office. All welcome.

Out Of Reach June 1977

There were two carriers in Reach living at Spring Hall and at the Moon and Sixpence. They went to Cambridge on Wednesday and Saturdays. For about 3p. They would collect or deliver a parcel, pick up groceries or even arrange for the sale of produce at the market, collecting the monies

before returning. The last carrier in the village seems to have been Steve Cracknell of Cross Keys. For other purchases the villagers would have to travel, perhaps to Swaffham Prior for shoes or to Cambridge or Newmarket. At one time it was not uncommon to walk these distances, indeed many men walked the Dyke to work in business or trade in Newmarket, later the bicycle saved many weary feet.

It was possible to catch a train from Swaffham Proir to Cambridge, 8p, return, or from Burwell to Newmarket. In 1922 Burwell and District bought their first solid wheel bus, a Garner, and this ran to Cambridge on Mondays to the Cattle Market and on Saturdays for general shopping. Other than on Friday, maintenance day and Sunday rest day, the Burwell and District bus went out every day to different towns including Newmarket on Tuesdays. In 1926, after the General Strike affected the rail services, Burwell and District started running daily buses to Cambridge for those children attending school there and for those working in Cambridge. The first education contract had been made with Burwell and District a little earlier to take Reach and Swaffham Proir children to Burwell Village Collage. Of course there was a village school here until 1960 which most of the children attended. There were two teachers employed there and they came far away as Wicken. Christian worship was predominantly at the Chapel, Reach being administered from Burwell. There was also a Vicar at White Roses until the 1950s.

The social life of the time was perhaps more spontaneous and seasonal than it is these days., as with the Fair, there were set times for major festivities e.g, the Harvest Hawkees, when hot dinners and free beer rewarded the hard workers on the land. Fireside gatherings, home made wine tastings and visits to local pubs, The White Horse, The Swan and Uncle Toms Cabin were the norm. There was a social club in the schoolhouse where villagers might play various games for which they paid 3p per month. The younger generation enjoyed Hares and Hounds on the Fen and in the summer cricket on nearby fields., The ladies also had a cricket team and much fun must have been had when they traveled to and from matches by barge along the Lode, apparently the escorting gentlemen often took the role of barge horse. It was possible then to swim in Reach Lode and swimmers frequently went in large numbers.

These were the times when practical jokes were played whenever there was the opportunity, Woe betide the man silly enough to leave his horse and cart long outside the pub for he might spend a good while searching for it later. The Rag and Bone man who once lived at Fitsroy Farm was a victim more than once when he returned to the gate at the bottom of the Dyke to find his horse yoked to the cart but on the other side of the Gate.

I often wonder whether the older members of the community owe their good completion and health to the exercise that was unavoidable in the course of their daily work or in pursuance of leisure time activities. Undoubtedly it is interesting to look back over these years of rapid change Who, I wonder, will be looking back seventy years hence?

This is the end of Reach in the early 1900s as remembered by Mr Stan Webb, issue no 10 1977

W ESTALL 2002

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY WIND ORCHESTRA

Conductors: JAMES TORRY & SAMUEL HAYES

Cartoon Paul Hart * *Dona Nobis Pacem* Mark Ellerby
Suite No. 2 in F Gustav Holst * Overture: Candide Leonard Bernstein
Downland Suite John Ireland

**St Peter & St Mary Magdalene, Fordham, Ely,
Cambridgeshire**

Friday 14th March 2003 at 7.30pm

**Unreserved Tickets £6 Concessions £4
from**

**Artists' Corner, Ely * D N Jenkins, Fordham * Discus
Music, Newmarket Soham Books**

At the door

Ring: 01638 720328

Letters



Changing of the guard at the Dyke's End

Phil and Tess have decided that they don't wish to stay at the Dyke's End, and have handed in their notice with the intention of quitting in late February. It's a surprise, as the offer on the table was generous, and it is also disappointing considering the terms of their tenancy to date. Nevertheless, we thank them for substantially restoring the reputation of the pub, and of course wish them well in the future. For those who don't know, they've taken a short lease on the Anchor pub in Burwell.

There is plenty of interest in the pub and I have no doubt we'll find someone good to take it onwards and upwards. However the short notice does give us a bit of a headache as it is exceedingly unlikely that a sale will be concluded before Phil and Tess quit. For your information, we are therefore exploring getting someone in for, perhaps, three months, to allow for a sensible and orderly transition to whoever will be the pub's next owners.

Bryan Pearson
Reach for a Pint Ltd

Reach Parish Council Clerk

I would like to remind the parishioners of Reach that we are still seeking a person to fill the role of clerk to the parish council.

Penny Lang, our current clerk, expressed her wish to stand down last summer. She was good enough to offer to continue for as long as it took the parish council to fill the vacancy. To date we have been unable to do this. Penny still wishes to step down. This is a very interesting role, and it does pay a small annual fee.

Clearly we cannot expect Penny to continue to fill this position during an unending transitional period. We need somebody now!

If you are interested in this position, do not be shy please talk to myself or Penny, or any of your parish councillors. Penny can be contacted during work hours on 01638 743633 or in the evenings on 01638 743302. She would be happy to show anyone interested what the role involves.

Keith Lambert
Reach Parish Council

Bottisham Burwell Linton Village Colleges

Weekend Courses

1st March

Basic Food Hygiene – Basic Sign Language
Chair Caning & Upholstery
Chinese Brush Painting
Computer Hygiene – Life Drawing
Mailmerge – Meditation & Relaxation

2nd March

Appointed Persons First Aid

8th March

Creative Life Changes – Dressmaking
Equal Ops in Early Years Setting
Excel – French Polishing
Hope to Cope with Work
Intro to Internet & Email – Life Drawing
Managing Stress – Patchwork & Quilting
Wildlife Gardening – Woodturning

8th / 9th March

First Aid for Childcarers

Further information from:
The Community Offices at
Bottisham Village College 01223 811372
Burwell Village College 01638 741901
Linton Village College 01223 892400



Bus Timetable



Effective the 9th June 2002

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

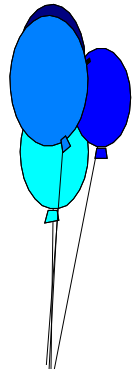
Bus 111 Cambridge to Reach:	07.10, 09.10, 11.10, 13.10, 15.10, 16.40, 17.40, 18.10, 19.10, 21.10, 23.10
Bus 122 Cambridge to Reach	20.10, 22.10
Bus 111 Reach to Newmarket:	07.43, 09.43, 11.43, 13.43, 15.43, 18.16, 18.43, 19.40, 21.40, 23.40
Bus 122 Reach to Soham	20.40, 22.40
Bus 111 Reach to Isleham:	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

Birthdays

February	March
4 Daniel Blocksage	1 Holly Preston
	2 Megan Lewis
	22 Megan Sidley
	28 William Hasleham
	30 Emma Preston



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

Word Search 1

Girls 'R'

R O C H E L L E U Q A R I N A
H R Y A N N A E H R E G I N A
I E Z O I R N Q N N U B K T V
A B W Q L O Y A E N O T P D A
N E E L A S O R X R A C H E L
N C R O S A L B A O T S R E V
O C I A O M T M Y M R Q O D C
N A K B R U O K B I E A P R X
A V K A E N A I U L B S I Q A
P C I I A D O H R D O I O N B
F N S I N V A N G A R A E R A
E O N O N C G V N M L R G F A
R E H D A L Q N B T U R C D R
E R M Z X R L B J K H Y F T S

Rachel

Ragna

Raina

Raine

Raisa

Ramona

Raquel

Reanna

Rebecca

Regina

Rena

Rene

Rheanna

Rhiannon

Rhoda

Rhonda

Rikki

Rina

Rita

Roberta

Robin

Rochelle

Romilda

Rosalba

Rosaleen

Rosaline

Rosamund

Rosanne

Rosemary

Rosie

Roxanne

Ruby

Ruth

Swaffham Prior School



We are now embarking on a building project which will give the school a staff room where all the staff can fit in! The office space will also been increased with work due to be completed at Easter. The next project in the pipeline is a group room which can be used for music lessons, teaching small groups and for meetings.

Focus on reception...

Children have a wealth of experiences in their reception year and the delight of working in a secure, friendly atmosphere. The children follow the Foundation Stage Curriculum which covers broad areas of learning: Personal and Emotional Development, Mathematical Development, Communication, Language and Literacy, Knowledge and Understanding of the World, Physical Development and Creative Development. These areas make up the curriculum for three to five year olds, allowing for their learning to take place via the Early Learning Goals which outline stages in development within the Foundation Stage.

Here are some thoughts about our school from some of the reception children, who have now been in school a term.

I've been counting.

Mr. Muddle muddles up the numbers and we have to sort them out again

I like feeding the guinea pig.

I like playtime, playing on the space ship.

We have been colouring, and learnt the rainbow colours. We learnt a song.

I have done abcs.

When I was at home I practised doing school things. I played in the vets.

I had a circle and I cut some bits and I sewed some ribbons on.

I know how to save work.

I like printing.

Last term's pet focus was a great success, leading to their first class assembly where the class sang rhymes and songs, explained what pets needed, linked babies to their adults, booked a poorly cat into the vets. Class assemblies are one of the ways parents can be involved in the

Thank you for your support at our recent events – our Christmas Fair was a big success and it was lovely to see lots of villagers joining in.

Joanna Lakey
Head teacher

Parish Council Meeting



Notes on the meeting of Reach Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2002

Present

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

Visit

James Fisher, the newly appointed Project Officer for the restoration of the Devil's Dyke, came to give the PC an update. He said a draft management consultation plan had been drawn up for the next 5 years, during which time it was hoped to restore the dyke to its original condition. James said he was drawing up detailed maps of the site as it is now. He said that archaeologists were keen to open up the site, whereas English Nature saw trees and grassland as being important. Although a lot of scrub would be cleared, it was hoped that grass would be established under the remaining scrub, which would be grazed by sheep to keep it down. Banks would be seeded by locally sourced grass, and bird habitats maintained. Access to the dyke would be improved with wider paths and steps at access points.

Councillors agreed that local working parties would be happy to join in butterfly surveys etc. Cllr Robinson asked what would happen when the lottery money ran out as there was concern that the dyke would revert to its present state. James agreed that before any work commenced in Reach he would walk the dyke with councillors; he added that he was keen to take on local people's views.

Reports

County Council

Area cost adjustment

Cllr Fitch spoke about the imminent government statement relating to funding for county councils. He said that more money was likely to be spent on the northern part of the country; this would of course mean less for areas like Cambridgeshire. He was not optimistic about the news benefiting the county.

Education

Bottisham Village College is 'going from strength to strength' said Cllr Fitch. There were 1050 pupils on the roll in September this year. The wardens of both BVC and Soham Village College were concerned about funding in the future.

Library service

Bottisham library was one of ten libraries under threat (the public section of the library, which accounts of a quarter of the library, not the college section). Cllr Fitch said he was fighting to keep the library open, as the proposal to use a mobile in the area was not cost effective. The Lion Yard library in Cambridge was being refurbished.

Social services

The social services department was £2.7 million overdrawn, although it hopes to get back on track by April 2003. Many old people's homes were shutting, as they could not meet the new national standards imposed.

Highways

Cllr Fitch discussed the Reach bid to have a path around the Old Railway Bridge. He said the volume of traffic using the bridge was a great consideration. A lively discussion took place about the type of vehicles coming into Reach, including cars using the village as a through route from Burwell to join the main road into Cambridge, and the large amount of farm vehicles.

Cllr Fitch spoke about the poor use of the bus service. They were now becoming a luxury because they were too expensive, he said.

Fire service

During the present dispute for a pay increase by full-time firemen Swaffham Bulbeck and Burwell fire stations were working normally, said Cllr Fitch. The service was £97,000 overdrawn, which was the equivalent to 1% of the firemen's' pay claim.

Swaffham Prior Primary School

Cllr Pearson said the school was operating under a standstill budget. No date had been set for the OFSTED inspection. The mobile was to be replaced but there had been no progress re building plans.

Village hall committee

The contractor who had given a lower price had not known that the hall would have to remain open during building work, said Cllr Lambert. This would have public safety implications.

Police liaison committee

Councillors discussed the damage caused to Fair Green by a vehicle. It was agreed that it would recover naturally.

Planning application by 24seven utility services for dual circuit line out of Burwell main sub station

Cllr Robinson summarised the report submitted by 24seven and ECDC's environment report. It was agreed to write objecting to the application, mainly on the grounds of the effect to the local environment. Invited to speak, Gareth Davies, said one of the extra pylons might be installed in a field in a conservation area where children come on educational visits. The visits would have to stop on safety grounds and the hedges would be destroyed by large earth-moving vehicles gaining access to the fields.

Correspondence

Friends of War Memorials had sent a cheque for £250 as a grant towards the refurbishment of the war memorial. A separate letter thanked the PC for subscribing for Life Membership of the FOWM.

The Road Safety Office from County had written about the Christmas drink/drive campaign, which this year would be called ‘What will it take to stop you drinking and driving’.

Planning permission had been granted for a new house to be built at High Cloud Stud, Burwell Road. The existing house was to be demolished and the new one would be ‘of same footprint shape and area’.

The Wildlife Trust had written asking for a donation. PC declined.

Notes on the meeting of Reach Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th January 2003

Present

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

Reports

County Council

Social Services

Eric Robinson has been appointed as the new director of social services for the county.

County budget

This was out for discussion with three options said Cllr Fitch. There may be significant cuts depending on which option was chosen.

Comprehensive performance assessment

The county had been judged as ‘good’ by a recent inspection by the Audit Commission on behalf of the government. It was rated in the top half of counties generally. District councils are to be inspected in the same way next year.

Library service

Despite petitions Bottisham public library was to close. Cllr Fitch said £91k would be saved by doing this although it would cost £100k to send out a mobile library in its place. He is trying to see if there is another way of running the library, possible as a charity along the lines of Bottisham swimming pool.

Area cost adjustment

Cambridgeshire County Council’s area cost adjustment was £18 million, which was somewhat unexpected.

Police

Cambridgeshire Police had received £4.2 million for extra work involved in the Soham murder case and the protection of Huntingdon Life Sciences.

District Council

Cllr Cane relayed that ECDC were aware of a dumped care in Reach. She said promised government legislation should mean that such cars could be removed more quickly than was presently possible.

Swaffham Prior Primary School

Cllr Pearson said the school’s OFSTED inspection would be carried out on 24–27th February. The mobile was to be replaced shortly and builders had started work on a new staff room.

Correspondence

Alan Barnish, Chief Executive of CCC had written outlining the Comprehensive Performance Assessment and the 2003-4 Budget Provisional Revenue Support Grant.

John Richards, Divisional Traffic Engineer from CCC had written explaining the decisions of the Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvements Programme for next year. Reach was not to be included in the scheme.

Reach matters

It was reported that a lot of household rubbish had been dumped in Harrison Drove. Clerk to report to environmental health.

Grass was growing in the play area. The playing field was also very mossy. Councillors agreed to form a working party in the Spring.

Cllr Summers reported on possibilities for broadband access in the village. He said there were some subsidies available for villages to go onto broadband. PC voiced its support.

The bus shelter at Ditchfield had been damaged again.

Cllr Harrison spoke about cars speeding into the village from the Swaffham Prior end – Clerk to write to Highways department to enquire about traffic calming. Cllr Robinson commented that drivers from the Burwell direction were using Reach as a ‘rat run’ to get into Cambridge.

Cllr Pearson asked when the enhancement scheme for replacement lights would be continuing as only half of Fair Green had been done so far. Clerk to enquire about this and also lights which were not working in the village (but had already been reported).

Penny Lamg

Saint Etheldreda and the Holy Trinity Reach

Candlemas

An Evening Service in the style of Taize

**Sunday 2nd February 2003
at 6.30pm**

Reach Parish Council Elections

May 2003

It's amazing how time flies; the current four year term for the Parish Council is nearing its end. On the 1st of May we will all be required to elect a new Parish Council to serve for the next four year term.

The role of a Parish Council. Although often maligned, is very important. It is the first level of the democratic process. It is the vital link between the parishioners and the district and county councils. Parish Councillors are your representative at the grass roots level, seeking to look after the best interest of the village. It is none political.

Parish Councils through out the country will be elected on the 1st of May 2003. Make sure you get the representation you want for your village.

If you would like to play a role on the next Parish Council, or you know somebody living in the village who you believe would make a good Parish Councillor then come forward, let me or Penny, our clerk know. This is the time to act.

At the time of the last elections, when all the other communities were electing their councils, Reach did not have an election. This was because only seven parishioners put themselves forward for election to fill a council of seven seats. (Five of whom were existing councillors putting themselves forward for re-election)

This was a very sad reflection of the communities' perception of the role and importance of a Parish Council. We should all care for our community and it starts with the Parish Council elections.

Now I know that there are many parishioners who have views on what is best for the village, what should be done here, what should be done there and so on? The coming elections are your opportunity to put yourself forward to make a front line contribution to the running of your village.

Your village needs you now! Can you make a difference?. Do not delay. Your Parish Council needs new blood, it is a good council and has achieved much in recent years, but it does need new people to come forward, new ideas, fresh energy, to take the council forward.

These are challenging times and your parish Council needs you now!!.

If you are interested in knowing more, talk to me or any Reach parish councillor. Penny (743302) has the applications forms, or you can obtain them directly from East Cambridgeshire District Council in Ely (01353 665555).

**** DO IT NOW ****

You can contact me on 01638 7471233 or e-mail me at www.keith@carouselreach.co.uk

Keith Lambert
Chairman Reach Parish Council

SNOW TIME

Feel the kiss of the snowflake, as it floats gently
To the ground.
And marvel at the picture it makes, as it settles
All around.
Hear the crunch of every step, see the footprints
In the snow.
And feel the freshness in the air, as the north wind
Gently blow.
See the snow building up, on the branches of the
Trees.
And watch it slowly drifting, blown by the playful
Northern breeze.
See our friend the cock robin, hopping round in the
Snow.
And leaving a trail of toe prints, as he hops quickly
"To and fro."
The blackbird is busy scratching, in some leaves he
Has found.
Searching for his dinner, on this bare patch on the
Ground.
The children are happy playing, and building a marl
Made of snow.
Throwing snowballs and laughing, with their cheeks
A rosy glow.
The dormouse is snugly sleeping, in a nest below
The ground.
And a squirrel has a quick feed, on some nuts that he
Has found.
See the big firs trees hanging, now heavy with the
Fallen snow.
And the field are now all covered, so only the tallest
Weeds show.
So go outside now and stand and took around, like
The snowy man.
And take in aft the wonders you see, in this winter
Wonderland.

BILL EST'ALL

Funding For Crime and Disorder Projects



The East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership has produced a three-year strategy for how crime and disorder in the district will be tackled. The main priorities included in the Strategy are:

Anti-social Behaviour

Substance Misuse

Property Crime – vehicle crime and burglary

Violent Crime

Protecting vulnerable groups (such as ethnic minorities and older people)

Reducing the fear of crime

Increasing levels of reporting

Developing data sources for future research and to inform project work

Adopting a problem solving approach to reducing crime and disorder in Ely, Soham, Littleport and Burwell.

Reducing the Risk Factors of crime.

Some funding is available to community groups who are experiencing any of the problems listed above and can provide details of how their project would reduce crime and disorder.

To request an application form and a summary of the Community Safety Strategy, contact Julie Buck on: 01353 616394 or Melanie Rose on 01353 616256.

Staine Hundred

All meetings of the Staine Hundred Local History Society are held in the Lecture Room of the Bottisham Village College at 7:30pm.

Feb 12 - 'A short history of the department store' (Gill Rushworth)

March 12 - 'Monks, Merchants & Craftsmen, the Broad Street area of Ely' (Ann Holton-Krayenbuhl)

April 9 'History of strawplaiting' (Mrs S Pearl)

Maureen Rogers - Secretary 01223 - 812146

Your County Councillor

James Fitch

01223 811425



COUNTY COUNCIL LETTER

Mid January 2003

First of all greetings and wishes for a better year than last. In May there will be elections for all District and Parish Council seats so there will be opportunities for new policies and development of old ones derived from changes in representation.

This is an opportunity to confirm that I shall not stand for re-election to East Cambs District Council. This is a two-year old decision as colleagues knew and gives me the chance to concentrate on the ever-increasing demands of the County Council, Fire Authority and Village College Governors.

BOTTISHAM LIBRARY

The major news this month is to report that the Conservative County Council Cabinet will recommend the closure of the community side of the rural libraries. Bottisham Library is one of them. We have known of this threat since late November and there has been a magnificent response from the people of Bottisham and nearby villages contesting these plans. (154 individual written protests. Thanks for this outstanding effort). Our protests whether verbal, letter, e-mail or petition may have convinced most people of the rightness of our case -regrettably not the Cabinet.

At the crucial meeting Annette Steckelmacher, representing the Friends of Bottisham Library, and I both had only three minutes each to put forward our case for the defence. Annette was very good and had to withstand some hostile questioning which the Cabinet Leader should never have allowed.

The subsequent "debate" was totally one-sided, cabinet members regretting the situation but hurrying to back Cllr Lucas' recommendation to close all ten libraries. No opposition spokes person was allowed to comment or correct and they even forgot to take a vote! Not a good advertisement for the new cabinet system.

So now the Cabinet of 28 January will have to consider against its own recommendation. Obviously, the decision may be a repetition of 7 January.

The Scrutiny Committee met immediately after the Cabinet on 7 January but their probing questions and the unconvincing answers received hardly altered the main decision of the earlier Cabinet. The Liberal Democrats put in a minority report suggesting "maintaining the present library network with a substantial increase in the book fund". The better than expected Government Grant would allow this if the will was there. A monitoring check could be done in mid-year to see how the libraries then stood and there would be more time available to negotiate alternative solutions to crude closure.

I fear the minority report will receive the reaction as already witnessed to verbal and written comments of supporters of the 10 libraries now under sentence of death.

We must now move to alternative plans to save as much as possible of the public side of our library, preferably not just a mobile for half the hours at present. After all, the school side will remain untouched and the building remains. There must be a way if we all rally round. I have started discussions with the Warden and other interested parties, such as the District and Parish Councils. We can expect some help from officers at Shire Hall.

At least Burwell Library is not threatened!

James Fitch

Lunch Aid

About Lunch-aid.com plc

Lunch-aid commenced trading in August 2000. Shops are at 22 St Andrews Street, Cambridge and 18 Market Place, Ely and we are in the process of opening a production unit on 6 January 2003 in Cambridge to cope with our expansion in the outside catering sector.

Our products are made fresh every day yet our prices are no higher than our competitors'. We strive to avoid the use of artificial additives and flavours and endeavour to produce excellent natural products you can trust.

Lunch-aid donates 5% of turnover to worthy local causes and charities. We are delighted that we have been able to donate so very generously and we have raised over £25,000.

Donations have already been made to the following: The Special Care Baby Units at Addenbrookes and Hinchingsbrooke Hospital; Macmillan Cancer Care; Arthur Rank House Hospice, Cambridge; Wood Green Animal Centre; The Manderson Trust; Meldreth Manor School; Community Lunch Project at the Zion Baptist Church, Cambridge and Highfields School Ely. We have just recently made a donation MAGPAS, presenting them with a complete First Responder Kit, which including training, costs in excess of £5,000!

Our future promises to be even more exciting as we seek further expansion with Lunch-aid shops and extended deliveries, thus raising even more money for local charities. It is hoped that Lunch-aid will not only expand locally but will extend within our region.

Dr Ridsdill Smith's Retirement

Many of you will know that Dr Ridsdill Smith is retiring from the surgery at the end of March 2003. We know he will be greatly missed and many of you have benefited from his care over the years. Consequently we are having an open afternoon at the surgery on Saturday March 22nd from 3 - 4.30 pm. This will be an opportunity, over a cup of tea and a slice of cake, for those of you that would like to come to say your goodbyes and wish Dr Ridsdill Smith well for the future.

Anyone that would like to contribute to a retirement gift, please contact Miss Mary Patrick, 5 Hall Lane Burwell who has agreed to co-ordinate this on our behalf.

Dr Anne Shneerson, Dr Andrew Wills, Dr Alex Manning.
Cheques payable to Dr. P. Ridsdill Smith Retirement Fund

Come and Join the Celebrations

The Workers' Educational Association (WEA) is celebrating its centenary in 2003. As part of those celebrations the Bottisham and District Branch is holding a coffee morning for all past, present and potential class members on Thursday, 20 February 2003 at 11:00 am in the Bottisham Youth Centre.

The Bottisham and District Branch has been very active over the last 25 years. We have created some display boards which give a flavour of some of the fascinating courses we have enjoyed over the years. It is hoped that some of the tutors will be able to attend.

Do come along and join us for coffee, cake and a chat.

If you would like more details contact the secretary, Shirley Ellis (01223 811891).

For details of the work of WEA in Cambridgeshire contact Sue Young, WEA County Organiser (01480 455080).

Charity Registration Number: 314001

Your District Councillor

Charlotte Cane

Tel. 01638 742509



e-mail ccane@cix.co.uk

District Council Notes (Jan/Feb 2003)

Happy New Year. I hope you and your families had a happy and relaxing Christmas holiday.

Would you like to cut your fuel bills and keep warmer, as well as help the environment? If so, you will find our 'Stay Warm Surgeries' useful. For people who live in private accommodation, whether you own your home or rent it, we can help you find discounts on insulation materials and in some cases help you get grants towards the costs of insulating your home. Anyone can come to the surgeries and you will be given a free energy efficient light bulb and asked to fill out a home energy check about the insulation in your home. Our Home Energy Conservation Officer will then use this home energy check to help you find ways to save on your fuel bills and to keep warm. Unfortunately, these grants and discounts are not available to Housing Association tenants. I shall be joining Ian Bowers, our Home Energy Conservation Officer, at the Stay Warm Surgery in Swaffham Bulbeck Village Hall on Tuesday 11th February between 1.00-4.00pm. I hope people from Reach will be able to come to this surgery. If you cannot come at that time, but would like to come to a 'Stay Warm Surgery' please let me know. If there is enough interest, I will organise another surgery later in the year.

We are finding that more and more people need help with their housing. We have therefore put a lot of effort into devising our Housing Strategy. In 1999 and 2000 the Government Office for the Eastern Regions said that our Housing Strategy was 'Below Average'. By 2001 we had improved to 'Average' and our 2002 strategy was assessed as 'Above Average'. I hope this will help our housing Association partners to succeed in their bids for funding to build new affordable housing across the District.

We are working closely with Housing Association partners to identify land and funding to build new affordable housing. We are also asking Parish Councils to help us to identify suitable land. In 2003/04 we hope that our Housing Partners will get funding to build 89 new affordable homes in Ely, Soham, Little Downham, Witchford, Stretham and Fordham.

In order to dump less rubbish in landfill sites we have been piloting the doorstep collection of green organic waste, which we then have composted. The pilot was very successful, and during 2003 we will be rolling out Green waste collection across the District. From Spring you will be given paper sacks to keep your green waste in and Cleanaway will collect it fortnightly.

Households with a person with a disability may qualify for a special Council Tax Band, which will reduce their Council Tax. To qualify the householder has to show that the property has been adapted for the needs of the person with the disability, e.g. doorways widened to allow wheelchair access or a room with medical equipment such as a dialysis machine. If you think you may be eligible contact John Longworth in the Council Tax Section on 01254 585561. Once you have applied, a Council Tax Inspector will visit your home to check that you are eligible. To qualify for the relief, the disability has to be permanent but you do not have to be registered as a disabled person.

The Council has recently introduced a £47 charge for treating rat infestations. This puts rats in the same category as treatment for other pests, for which we have charged for some time. When our pest control contract came up for renewal the quotes were significantly higher than the cost in previous years. By charging for the rat service we saved £25,000 from these extra costs. This represents £1 for a Band D Council TaxPayer or 1% of their Council Tax. I understand that the commercial charge for controlling rats is £120 per visit. The £47.00 that we charge is to eradicate the problem regardless of the number of visits, so it is still cost effective. We were concerned that it may lead to increased problems with rats and mis-use of poisons. We looked at the experience of other councils who introduced charges some time ago and they did not find that these problems had increased. This gave us sufficient re-assurance to introduce the charges. Nevertheless we are monitoring the situation and will reconsider the charges if there is a growth in pest problems and/or mis-use of poisons. We also have a budget which officers use at their discretion to provide free treatment to householders who otherwise could not afford it.

We are starting the consultation process for our budget for 2003/04. The government has finally accepted that East Cambridgeshire needs a higher grant. But because they set a ceiling on their grants, we still do not have as much as they now agree that we should have. Despite this, the draft budget is suggesting limiting the rise in the District Council's share of the Council Tax to 5%. This will take the Band D Council Tax to about £107. The bill that you will receive from us will be considerably higher, as we also collect the tax for the County Council, the Police and the Parish Council. In 2002/03 these added about £763 to a Band D Council Tax. In order to keep the Council tax as low as possible next year, we are considering moving the date on which we collect the tax forward to the first of each month. This will increase the interest that we can earn. I would be interested to know what you think of this suggestion.

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

THE OLD ROPE STRING BAND



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from 01353 740999 / 664706

"Once they were merely hilarious, these days, they are devastating" Glasgow Herald

From The Vicar



Rev Stephen Earl

The Vicarage Tel 741262

Dear Friends,

The beginning of February marks the beginning of the new Reach-Burwell partnership, as I assume pastoral responsibility for Reach as well as Burwell in my capacity as Vicar. The partnership is already under way to some extent, with a number of folk attending each others' events and services in recent weeks - which is an encouraging sign! Members of the Parochial Church Councils of both Reach and Burwell have warmly and wholeheartedly welcomed the new arrangement, which I believe will work well and benefit both churches and communities. In fact I understand that, not all that long ago, part of Reach on eastern side of the Dyke was in the parish of Burwell, until all became linked with Swaffham Prior. So there is a sense of what we are doing now, not being so new after all!

The word "partnership" for this arrangement has deliberately been chosen to avoid any sense of "takeover" or one parish being more important than the other, but rather to emphasis how we can complement each other and draw on each other's strengths. There will be occasions for example when a large church is most appropriate for a particular service; although on other occasions this can be a handicap and a much smaller, more intimate setting will be more suitable, as at Reach. In fact Reach's Victorian church of St Etheldreda and the Holy Trinity is quite similar to the former church of St Andrew in North Street that was functioning in Burwell until 1990. Notwithstanding my comments about size of buildings, pastoral offices however will continue normally in the respective parishes where folk reside, and this remains a requirement in law in the case of marriages.

The "normal" new pattern of services, with immediate effect, is set out on the sheet enclosed with this magazine. Spare copies are available in the churches of Reach and Burwell (the latter open daily during daylight hours), although specific up-to-date information will always be included in this magazine and you'll find this also posted on the church notice boards.

This new arrangement means that, for all practical purposes, Reach's link (as regards churches) with Swaffham Prior and Swaffham Bulbeck now comes to an end as they now join with the Anglesey Group (Bottisham, Lode and Quy) as soon as a new appointment is made - hopefully with a new clergyperson in situ sometime around Easter. As I write this in early January, interviews are about to take place.

To mark this new partnership there will be a special evening service in the church of St Etheldreda and the Holy Trinity on Sunday 2nd February, the feast of Candlemas, at 6.30pm. It will be quite different from most "normal" services and include some beautiful music and songs from the Taize Community in France, with a small group of musicians, following a typically "Taize" service pattern that flows from start to finish without announcement.

If you haven't been to a Taize service before, I would thoroughly recommend you give it a try! Many folk who don't regularly attend church services find these services especially enjoyable.

I trust the new partnership will continue to be welcomed by all as we make new friends and explore new ways of sharing together and witnessing to the love of the Lord Jesus Christ - whatever parish we live in. I hope Reach folk will happily join in services and events at Burwell from time to time, as Burwell folk may also be welcomed in Reach - so we function more-or-less as one parish, but with two centres of worship.

It's likely that, as well as myself, services in Reach are sometimes led by Revd David Bush, an Honorary Assistant Priest residing in Burwell in retirement; John Hooper who is a Reader and lives in Burwell; or Gill Smith who is also resident in Burwell and is currently training for the ordained ministry.

I and Abigail my wife look forward to getting to know many more of you in Reach in the months ahead as we begin this exciting new chapter together.

With every blessing,

Revd Stephen Earl

Parochial Church Council

SWAFFHAM PRIOR WITH REACH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

CHURCH NEWS

We would like to bring you up to date with what is happening in the parish during the interregnum. The Church services for February will be as on the printed sheet. Please note that services for Reach will be changed from the beginning of February, as Stephen Earl will be looking after Reach Church from that time. Services at Reach will be on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 8.00 am (Parish Communion – Prayer Book version from the Common Worship Liturgy) and at 11.00 am on the 4th Sunday (Family Communion – Common Worship (Modern Language)). Services at Swaffham Prior will follow the same pattern as usual until after the installation of the new incumbent for Bottisham, who will be looking after Swaffham Prior church as well as Swaffham Bulbeck, Quy and Lode. Interviews for this position have taken place on 16th January, and Revd has been appointed.

After the Annual General Meeting on 24th March, four Reach members of the PCC will move over to Burwell PCC and attend meetings there (including myself, who will no longer continue as secretary). Burwell and Reach have already started the process of joining together, and the members of Reach Church have been warmly welcomed. They are sorry, however, to leave Swaffham Prior, and some of us will continue to attend services at Swaffham Prior too, occasionally. It is hoped that the new Bottisham Group will work successfully, under a strong leader.

Jenny Moseley (PCC Secretary)

Church Services



Sunday of Month	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda and The Holy Trinity Reach
1	8.00 am (said) Holy Communion, Common Worship, Traditional Language 9.30 am , Family Service	No Service
2	9.30 am Parish Communion, Common Worship, Modern Language	8.00 am (said) Holy Communion, Book of Common Prayer, Traditional Language
3	8.00 am (said) Holy Communion, Common Worship, Traditional Language 9.30 am Parish Communion, Common Worship, Modern Language	3.00 pm Baptism upon request
4	8.00 am (said) Holy Communion, Common Worship, Traditional Language 9.30 am Parish Communion, Common Worship, Modern Language	11.00 am Parish Communion, Common Worship, Modern Language (incl. Baptism upon request)
5	No Service	9.30 am United Parish communion, Common Worship, Modern Language

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

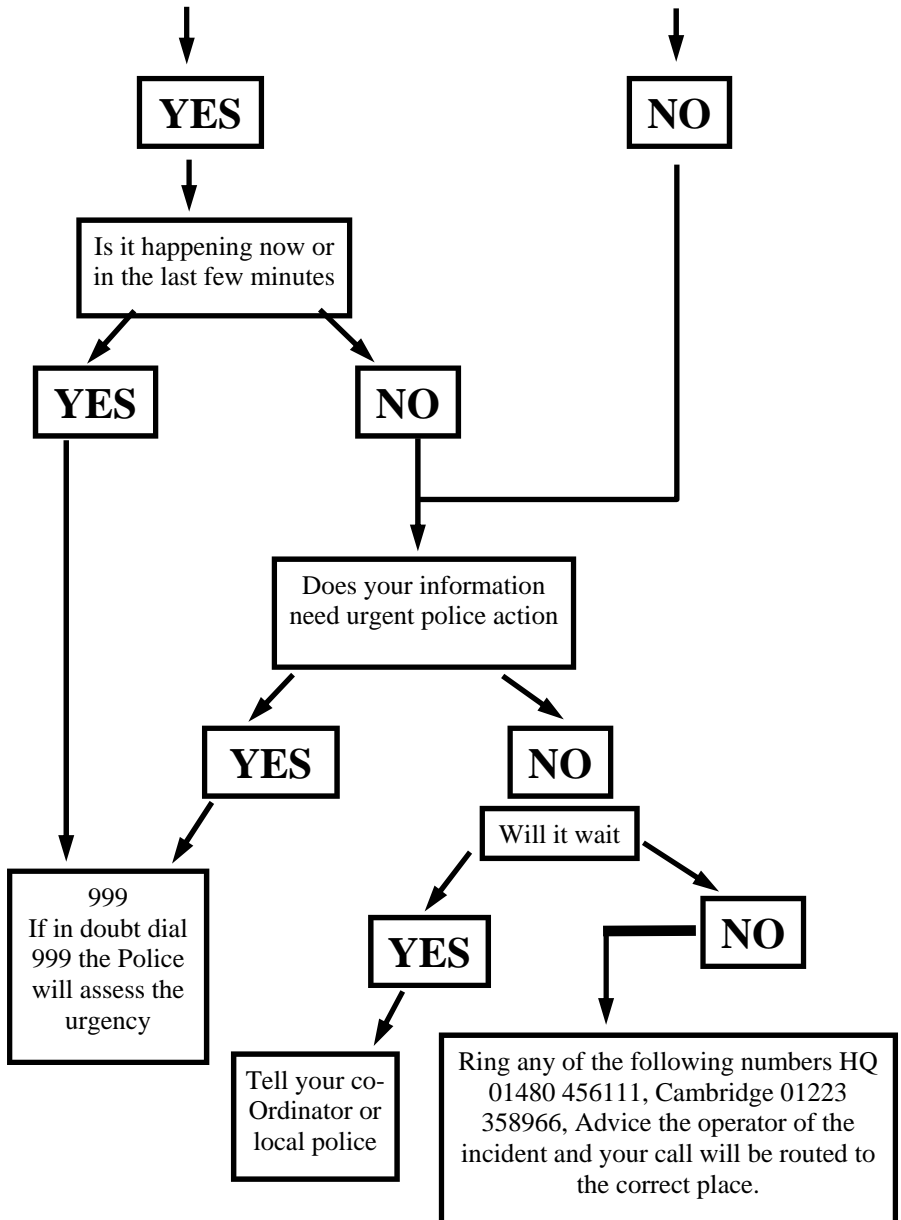
10.00 am Toddlers' Service At Burwell on 1st Thursdays (excl January & August)

Church Services Feb/Mar



Date	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda and The Holy Trinity Reach
February		
Sunday 2nd Candlemas	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am, Family Service	6.30 pm Taize Evening Service
Sunday 9th 4th before Lent	9.30 am Parish Communion 6.30 pm Service of Healing	8.00 am Holy Communion (said)
Sunday 16th 3rd before Lent	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	3.00 pm Baptism upon request
Sunday 23rd 2nd before Lent	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Parish Communion (Inc Baptisms upon request)
March		
Sunday 2nd Sunday before Lent	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am, Family Service	No Services
Wednesday 5th Ash Wednesday	7.30 pm Holy Communion	
Sunday 9th Lent 1	9.30 am Parish Communion	8.00 am Holy Communion (said)
Sunday 16th Lent 2	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	3.00 pm Baptism upon request
Sunday 23rd Lent 3	8.00 am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Parish Communion (Inc Baptisms upon request)
Sunday 30th Lent 4 Mothers Day	9.30 am United Parish Com- munion (Not @ Reach this month)	

ARE YOU WITNESSING A CRIME OR SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT



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