Reach

Claries Cochan

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District Councillor

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40 Great Lame.

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Clerk to the Parish Council

Alison Housdon

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Springhall Farm. Tel. 741426
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Ray & Anita Folkes
Harvey Harrison
Joyce Harrison
Rodney Housden
Albert Johnson

Sam & Reather Mitchell, The Wilds, Burwell Rd. Bob & Emily Smith, Meadow View, Delph End. Tel. 742130

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#### T U O" 0 F REACH"

#### COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Issue No.8

APRIL 1977

### EDITORIAL

We have, I hope, a new trend beginning. Contributions are pressing a Spring growth on the magazine. With so much to report last month you may have noticed the absence of any feature articles. This month we have two - one stimulated by the Bridge Controversy and one which Janet Biggs allowed me to 'Bank', but which deserved to be included some time ago.

I want to say a special word of thanks this month to Joyce Blocksage, who very kindly and meticulously typed the stencils for our March issue and who is also relieving Pat Harrison again this month.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS.

Approval has been given for the extension at the Dyke's End and for a Public House sign on a post.

The request for a new footpath at Well's Close has been placed on the Council's list. The work will be done when funds are available.

A request has been made for steps to be built into the grass bank alongside the Swaffham Road Council houses.

The Parish Council have asked a County Engineer to attend a meeting in April, as certain villagers are still not satisfied that The Bridge is structurally safe.

Next Meeting:-

1st April

A.G.M.

15th April (provisionally)

### FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL NEWS.

This year's designs, in two different packs, still Birthday Cards: at the reasonable price of 45p for 10, or 42p each, available now from Committee members, or school, while stocks last. - It is useful to have some ready, - buy a pack now!

Easter Egg Bingo:

Friday, April 1st at 7-15 p.m. - Fun for everyone-All welcome.

Easter Dance:

Saturday, April 16th. 8-Op.m. until 11-30p.m. Licensed Bar. Refreshments.

Tickets available now from School or Committee members £1 including refreshments. - Bring your

friends and make it a Night Out!

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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#### BRIDGE AGAIN. THAT

There has been much talk of late over the future of Reach Railway Bridge - all of it with regard to that travelling over it: that which passed under it has long faded from most peoples' interests, so I hope that a few notes here on the old railway system will be appropriate.

The Bridge was built late in: 1884 and was one of many such overbridges on the 19 mile Barnwell Junction (Cambridge) - Mildenhall branch line of the Great Eastern Railway. The line was constructed with high hopes of providing a feeder route for the prolific agricultural produce of the area and to help develop Mildenhall. The track was started from the terminus at Wildenhall in June 1884 and reached the Combridge -Morwich line at Burwell Junction by April 1885.

The branch, like so many of its genre, was never financially successful, olthough it was essential in serving Mildenhall Air Base during World War ll. Towards the end of its life most passenger trains had one carriage only, so light was the demand. I am sure there are many in the Village who will remember hearing the Engines regular whistle as it headed down the straight after passing under 'our' Bridge into Burwell Station. Most services ceased as recently as July 1964, although the section from Fordham Junction to Burwell survived until 19th April 1965 in order to serve Tillotson's Factory.

Whilst on the subject of Railways into Eurwell, the Village did have a second railway terminus, albeit for freight only, in Factory Road on a separate branch from the Ely line near Soham, just la miles long; but that is another story.

Reach villagers using the line had three options for catching their train: Burwell or Swaffham Prior were the obvious stations, but for Eastbound travellers Exming Road Halt could be reached by a quick spurt up Issacson Road if the train was already standing at the Burwell Platform. The little gate and steps leading down to the short platform on the East side are still to be seen.

The line was single track throughout and steam engines for passenger services ended during July 1958 when diesel railbuses were introduced as an economy measure. Traces of soot still line the apparently sound underside of The Bridge.

Today The Bridge stands as an anachronism, a useless artefact from the past. How different from the hopes and aspirations of the Great Eastern engineers when it was built for a far longer and more worthy future. Edward C.W. Huggins.

Footnote: I am contributing to a new Regional History of local railways and would be most interested to see any old photographs of the line in its heyday. ~2~

# K.S. & N.E. PEACOCK

#### REACH POST OFFICE STORES

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> MONDAY **APRIL** 4TH 1977 AT 8-0PM CENTRE REACH VILLAGE

ANNUAL GENERAL ALL WELCOME.

# VILLAGE CENTRE NEWS

Preparations are going smoothly for Reach Fair and all events previously advertised in the magazine have now been organised. Work in the hall has progressed well. We have the new ceiling installed and its effect on the heating is muite startling, as Committee members noticed during our last meeting. There are two other effects; the hall looks longer and the acoustics are improved. The latter will certainly help our musical functions, as the problem of distortion could not be solved by groups who have played there. It is hoved that the approach to the hall will be concreted by Fair date. A number of volunteers will be undertaking the task on the afternoon of Saturday, 26th March.

As this is the end of the Financial year for the Village Centre, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone for their support during the year.

WASTE PAPER COLLECTION. - It is hoped to start a waste paper collection fortnightly, as from Monday April 11th. Could anyone who will be saving paper please contact Joyce Harrison or myself.

John O. Robinson.

安存农务技术等的还是安安存款的证券农农安务等等的不需要要要

#### REACH PROTECTION SOCIETY.

There will be a meeting tonight, in the Village Centre, to be addressed by Mr. Geoffrey Woollard and guest speaker, Dr. J. Oakey. On the agenda will be:- 1. The tree planting scheme;

An application by property developers 2. to build sixteen executive houses on the Green;

3. The recent proposal by the Ministry of the Environment to evacuate the Village by April 1st 1978 and use the surrounding agricultural land for field trials on the effects of radiation.

STOP PRESS: SEE PAGE 7 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

MIKE AND BRENDA WARRINGTON Welcome you to

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# THE COUNTRYSIDE IMMIGRANT.

Would not it be interesting to know why townsfolk go to live in the country? Perhaps some long-hidden secrets would be brought to light! The problems imposed by such a move seem, however, to worry the villagers more than the immigrants, for an influx of 'strangers' can present a very real threat to the life of the 'natives'

It seems to me that the sort of passport one needs to achieve acceptance into a small community, is a willingness to adapt and by this I mean, to adapt one's attitudes. In contrast to the closed and insular existence one leads in a town, resenting any hint of another's interest in one's affairs, the life of a village is for more open. 'Who is my neighbour?' is a far more meaningful question, because one's neighbours in a village are far less likey to come and go; they become friends.

As an immigrant, I can honestly say that if I am not liked or welcomed, it is probably my own fault, because I haven't yet reached a sufficient understanding of my adopted village to be counted a proper part of it. But I am hoping to become 'naturalized'. Already everyone else appears to know all about me and my idiosyncrasies: they seem prepared to accept me as I am, so long as I take part in local functions and behave as a good neighbour in return. This is small payment for the benefits of living in a village, as opposed to a noisy and dirty town; I feel that I am an individual instead of an automaton, and I have time to be guiet, and think things out.

None of my busy town-friends can understand why the novelty of 'living in the country' hasn't worn off; they look at me in sincere amazement when I tell them that living here is like belonging to a bigger family - that when I moved here, what I was really doing was coming home.

JANET BIGGS.

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# From the Vicar:

By the time you will be reading this, Spring will have burst, and those of you who are not jaded beyond the hope of recovery will be revelling in that sense of renewal, even resurrection, which arrives each year. Jesus was a genuine countryman, and was acutely aware not only of nature generally and its delights, but of the extent to which, far more then than now, man was dependent on the weather for his crops. So quite naturally he used the skills and risks of husbandry, or the business of farming as we call it now, for the material of those marvellous parables by which to illustrate the nature of his Kingdom. What makes these so memorable is their extreme accuracy, and succintness. Accuracy is also one of the marks of great poetry, which in turn, as in the case of Jesus, is the fruit of close and steady observation of life over long periods. So I thought it might interest readers to have before them at this particular period of the year, one of the finest and most remarkable poems of a very homely and peculiarly English poet, George Herbert, who died as the Vicar of Bemerton, near Salisbury, at the early age of 40, in 1633. The poem is called 'The Flower', and I choose it for various reasons, not least for that stern economy in the use of words which we see in Jesus' parables. I am not attempting a cheap pun when I say there is nothing flowery about it. But there is also its accuracy, born, as in the case of Jesus, of close familiarity with the country in all its seasons. (I sometimes suspect he was also familiar with that ourious sensation of slowly turning into a block of ice which overcomes East Anglian Parish Priests as they minister in their churches through the Winter months). Most remarkable is the power it also shares with the parables of causing our minds to flash like an electric current between related levels of meaning. In it the basic parallel is between the re-appearance of 'flowers in the Spring' and the recovery of his 'shrivel'd Heart' from the frosts of gloom, sin and spiritual deadness, echoing the intuition, born of that experience, that such spiritual revival comes from God alone. All else apart, it is a fine analysis of the oscillation of the soul's moods. But as Dr. Johnson used to say, 'Things are made darker by defination', so here is the poem, a lovely complex thought, you might say, for Spring:

# THE FLOWER.

How fresh, O Lord, how sweet and clean
Are thy returns, ev'n as the flowers in spring;
To which, besides their own demean,
The late-past frosts tributes of pleasure bring.
Grief melts away
Like snow in May
As if there wer no such cold thing.

Contd...../6

# From the vicar - poem continued.

These are thy wonders, Lord of power,
Killing and quickning, bringing down to hell
And up to heaven in an hour;
Making a chiming of a passing-bell.
We say amisse,
This or that is;
Thy word is all, if we could spell.

O that I once past changing were,
Fast in thy Paradise, where no flower can wither!
Many a spring I shoot up fair,
Offring at heav'n, growing and groaning thither;
Nor doth my flower
Want a spring-showre,
My sinnes and I joining together.

But while I grow in a straight line,
Still upwards bent, as if heav'n were mine own,
Thy anger comes, and I decline;
What frost to that? what pole is not the zone,
Where all things burn,
When Thou dost turn,
And the least frown of thine is shown?

And now in age I bud again,
After so many deaths I live and write;
I once more smell the dew and rain,
And relish versing: O my onely light,
It cannot be
That I am he
On whom thy tempests fell all night.

These are thy wonders, Lord of Love,
To make us see we are but flowers that glide:
Which when we once can find and prove,
Thou hast a garden for us, where to bide.
Who would be more
Swelling though store,
Forfeit their Paradise by their pride.

George Herbert. (1593 - 1633)

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3 Apr. PALM SUNDAY. - 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Reach)

9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St. Mary's)

11.00 a.m. Youth Church (Reach)

6.30 p.m. Evensong (Reach)

4,5 & 6 Apr. Holy Weck 7.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)

7 Apr Maundy Thursday 7.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)

7.30 p.m. Holy Communion and Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament (St.Mary's)

8 Apr Good Friday 12.0-3.0p.m. Three Hours Devotion (St. Mary's)
(The actual form of this will be announced lator)

9 Apr Easter Eve 7.00 p.m. Confessions (St. Mary's)

7.30 p.m. Lighting of the Paschal Fire and

Renewal of Baptismal Promises (St. Mary's)

10 Apr Easter Day 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (Reach)

10.00 a.m. Parish Communion (St. Mary's)

6.30 p.m. Evensong (St. Mary's)

11 Apr. Monday in Easter Neck.

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)

12 Apr. Tuesday in Easter Week.

7.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)

13 Apr. A.G.M. of P.C.C.

8.00 p.m. in Village Hall.

17 Apr. Easter I 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St. Mary's)

11.00 a.m. Family Communion (Reach)

6.30 p.m. Evensong (St. Nary's)

23 Apr. Farewell to Bishop from Youth of the Diocese, Cathedral 3.0p.m.

24 Apr. Easter II 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St. Mary's)

11.00 a.m. Family Communion (Reach)

6.30 p.m. Evensong (St. Mary's)

25 Apr. S.MARK. 7.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Mary's)

### REACH PROTECTION SOCIETY.

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# SHIRE HALL TITBITS.

The most painful and difficult budget-making in recent history has now been completed at Shire Hall, and I think it would be fair to say that, having had some £10m. snatched from us, we have none-the-less, produced a package of cuts maintaining priorities and retaining the essential Civilisation with which the name of Cambridge is naturally associated. The prospects for the two following years look extremely alarming unless the hoped-for change in the Government grant formula comes about. We must, together, keep up the pressure by illustrating Cambridgeshire's unfair treatment.

This may be the last time that I can write to you as your County Councillor, and so I would like to take the opportunity of thanking the residents of Reach for their kindness shown to me personally, and for enabling me to spend two and a half stimulating and rewarding years on the County Council. Many colleagues have bemoaned to me the present financial constraints, and have said, "It's not as good as the old days." I have no means of judging whether this is true or otherwise, but my term at Shire Hall has been satisfying, and whilst I cannot boast of massive improvements in our area, I have been glad to be associated with a variety of efforts to preserve some quality in village life. As an example, I am delighted that 'Out of Reach' has started an important development. I am confident that we have, together, seen off the threat of industrial waste-dumping at Burwell at no small personal cost: More than anything though, I am proud to have played some part in the voluntary effort that culminated in the construction of Bottisham Village College's new swimming pool. To me this was good philosophy clearly illustrated - the community banding together in a common effort to provide an amenity for thousands of people-self-help writ large. Thank you all for everything.

> Geoffrey Woollard, County Councillor.

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MISS REACH WILL BE CHOSEN

SATURDAY 30TH APRIL 1977. 8.0PM - 11-30PM.
BAR AND BUFFET.

# BOTTISHAM YOUNG FARMERS.

Bottisham Young Farmers Club has held several interesting meetings during the past month - the first meeting being an illustrated talk about Young Farmers Clubs by Mr. Nick Baldry who is a member of Cambridge Young Farmers Club. The following week, Miss Peggy Watts gave a talk on Czechoslovakia and Poland, also illustrating it with slides. On 25th February, the members challenged the Advisory Committee to a Just-a-Minute Competition which, after a very close contest, the Club members just won. The last meeting of the month was a talk on Environment Health which was given by Mr. David Gwynn who is the Chief Environmental Health Officer of East Cambridgeshire District Council.

# APRIL IN YOUR GARDEN.

Now the soil is beginning to warm up, most seeds may be sown. Runner beans can be raised in pots and planted out when all danger of frost has passed. Continue to sow salad crops, lettuce, onions, raddish at 10 day intervals. Protect pea seedlings from birds. If you notice semi circular pieces taken from the edges of the leaves, this is the work of the pea weevil; dust with Gamma Dust.

Rather than sow red beet in a thin row, rake along with a fork, then space seed  $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide each way along the width of fork marks. This way you get  $\frac{2}{3}$  more beet per yard run.

Sow outdoor tomato seeds in pans. Dwarf ones need no staking, just some straw round the plants to keep fruit off the ground. Varieties: Sleaford, Abundance, Sigmabush.

Seed potatoes that have been chitted are best planted when ground temperature has reached 45°F. Nothing or very little is gained before this.

Plant onion sets.

Remove dead heads from daffodils and tulips.

Sow half hardy ennuals, Aster, Antirrhinum etc.

Mow lawn with blades set high.

Dick Whitchead.

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I stand and wonder, At the beginning or the end, At the earthworks before me. Was it built to defend? · · · How many hands did it take To shope the soil so high? How many backs were broken? How many days slipped by? What tools did they use To cut the sides so neat? What kind of men were they to accomplish such a feat? Who's great mind thought of this? And whose hand drew the plans? Did it stop the wild hordes From pillaging the land? The answer to those questions We may never find. The Ditch still stands, The only thing left behind.

W. Estall.

\*

### JOHN READ

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# THIS MONTHS RECIPE

# SMOKED MACKEREL PATE

2 Slices of White Bread A little Milk 2 Smoked Mackerel 2 oz. Cream Cheese 1 Clove Garlic, crushed Lemon Juice White pepper, salt.

Remove bread crusts and soak bread for about 10 minutes in milk then drain well. Bone mackerel carefully and mince flesh finely. Rub mackerel, croom cheese, bread and garlic through a sieve. Add a little lemon juice, pepper and salt. Shape or put into individual dishes.

Clariasa Cochran

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