

REACH

Welcome to the ancient kingdom of Reach,
Cambridgeshire, England



The ancient Township of REACH, or RECHE, has been inhabited for 2,000 years. Local legend says that it was once a city boasting seven churches! Situated at the termination of the great earthwork known as the Devil's Dyke, with Reach Lode giving direct access to the sea, it survived the Conquest as an inland port. It was the centre of considerable trade in mediaeval times, being granted a charter to hold an annual fair at Rogationtide by King John. Later, as the activity on its hythes decreased and its maritime importance declined, Reach, with its great fair dwindling to the proportions of a village 'feast' and its many inns closing one by one, gradually lapsed into a purely agricultural community. Reche the port has gone, only Reach the hamlet remains.

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Out of Reach



Reach Community Magazine Feb/March 2006

Information

Parish Council Chairman Michael Aves 742800
 Parish Clerk Claire Denniss 604405
 Village Hall Committee Michael Allen
 Village Hall Bookings Joyce Harrison, 742405
 County Councillor
 District Councillor Allen Alderson 01638 741744
 Neighbourhood Watch Joyce Harrison

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 Hon. Assistant Priest Revd David Bush 741839
 Asst. Curate Revd Gill Smith 743589
 Licensed Lay Minister John Hooper 742026

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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, Dr Maureen Birch
 Surgery Hours
 Mon 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm
 Tues. 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm
 Wed 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm
 Thu 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm
 Fri 8.40 - 11.30 am, 3.00 - 5.30 pm

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

Church Services Mar 06



<u>Services at Burwell and Reach</u>		
Mar 06	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda & the Holy Trinity Reach
1st Ash Wednesday	No 10.00am Service 7.30pm Holy Communion	
5th Lent 1	8.00am Holy Communion (Said) 9.30am Family Service	
12th Lent 2	9.30am Parish Communion	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 7.00pm "Sunday @ 7" Informal service
19th Lent 3	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	
29th Epiphany 4	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00am Family Service

Church Services Feb 06



<u>Services at Burwell and Reach</u>		
Feb 05	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda & the Holy Trinity Reach
5th Candlemas Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Service	
12th 3rd Sunday before Lent	9.30am Parish Communion	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 7.00pm "Sunday @ 7" Informal service
19th 2nd Sunday before Lent	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm Service of Healing	
26th Sunday before Lent	8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Parish Communion	11.00am Family Service
	30	

Editorial



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 bi-monthly 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 February/March is 14th January.

From the Editor

Doesn't two months go quickly! No sooner did I get the last issue ready, had a holiday, had Christmas, had another break and then had New Year, and it was time to start putting together another issue! Some good articles this month. A reply to Alan's article on the Council Offices. It's always good to get the opinion of the other side.

I haven't yet heard the bells, or spoken with anyone who has, but I have been away a lot lately so may have missed it.

Keep the articles coming in and those birthdays for April and May. I need lots more stories, poems, jokes etc.

Grahame Radford

01638 742814

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gnk@reach-village.co.uk

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Reach Village Centre



To help raise money for the Village Hall extension we have initiated a 100 club.
Ticket at just £10.00 each per year.

The 100 club has 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 742405

Is it too much to suggest that we all who read these words could adopt them as our own aims and objects for the coming year?

So..... A Happy New Year and Peace for 2006 to you all from all of us.

David Bush

Usual Sunday Services at REACH:

On 2nd Sundays - 8.00am Holy Communion
- 7.00pm Sunday@7 Informal Worship
On 4th Sundays - 11.00am Family Worship
On 5th Sundays - 9.30am Parish Communion

Usual Sunday Service at BURWELL:

On 1st, 3rd, 4th Sundays - 8.00am Holy Communion
On 1st Sundays - Family Service
On 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sundays - Parish Communion
with Junior Church (3-11s) & Pathfinders (11-17s)

Weekday Services at BURWELL:

On 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Wednesdays - 10.00am Holy Communion
On 1st Thursdays (not Jan/Aug) - 10.00am Toddlers' Service

Monthly Special Events

Thurs 2nd Feb— Toddlers Service at St Mary's, Burwell—**10.00am**
Sat 4th Feb— Official opening of "Centre Peace" church centre in
The Causeway, Burwell by the Bishop of Ely—**10.00 am**
Sunday 19th Feb—Service of Healing at St Mary's, Burwell—**6.30 pm**
Weds 1st March—Ash Wednesday Communion at St Mary's Burwell—**7.30pm**
Thurs 2nd March—Toddlers Service at St Mary's Burwell—**10.00 am**
Weds 29th March— St Ethelreda's, Reach and St Mary's, Burwell Annual
Parochial Church Meeting in the Guildhall, Burwell—**7.15pm**

Church News



PASTORAL LETTER

The Twelve Days of Christmas are passed, the turkey bones made into soup and the decorations down and put away.. And doesn't the house look bare? No doubt by this time you will have got rid of the Christmas cards. This year we are throwing out our 2004 cards, because e keep them for 12 months in an old shoe box by the bed. Hen each day we take out one card and think of the people who sent it, say a little prayer and sometimes ring them up or write. As I put out the robins, three ships a'sailing, stars and Three Wise Men, the camels and the sheep for recycling there is one card I am keeping because of its words. These express thoughts and ideas, all of which seem like New Year's Resolutions and worthy of passing on. If only society (and the politicians) were to follow these words then ours could be a whole new world. Here they are :-

THIS CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

**Seek out a friend. Mend a quarrel. Dismiss suspicion and replace it with trust.
Write a letter. Make that call. Share some Treasure.
Give a soft reply. Encourage Youth and cherish the elder.
Manifest your loyalty by word and deed.
Make a promise. Keep a promise. Find the time. Forego a grudge.**

**Forgive an enemy. Listen. Apologise for the mistake. Try to understand.
Examine your demands of others and yourself.
Think first of someone else. Show appreciation. Be kind. Be gentle.
Laugh. Laugh a little more.
Deserve confidence. Take up arms against malice.
Decry complacency. Express your gratitude.**

**Worship. Welcome a stranger.
Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the Universe.
Gladden the heart of a child. Speak of Love. Speak it again.
Speak it still once again.
Christmas is celebration of which none compares
With the realisation of the true meaning.
The sudden stirring of the heart that extends itself toward the Core of Life.**

**Then, and only then, is it possible to grasp the significance of the first
Christmas.
Savour in the inward ear the sweet music of the Angelic Choirs.
Envision the star struck sky and glimpse the inner eye.
The ray of light that falls across the darkened path and changes the World.**

Dates For Your Diary



April

Thurs 9	Jazz Workout	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri 10	Mothers and Toddlers	Village Hall	9.30 am
Tues 14	Recycling Lorry in Reach		
Weds 15	Village Hall meeting	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Thur 15	Jazz Work Out	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri 17	Mothers & Toddlers	Village Hall	9.30 am
Tues 21	Mobile Library	Village Green	13.10 pm
Sun 26	Quiz Night	Dykes End	7.30 pm
Tues 28	Recycling Lorry in Reach		

May

Weds 1	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Thur 2	Jazz Workout	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri 3	Mothers and Toddlers	Village Hall	9.30 am
Tues 7	Mobile Library	Village Green	13.10 pm
Weds 8	Village Fair meeting	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Thur 9th	Jazz Workout	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri 10th	Mothers and Toddlers	Village Hall	9.30 am
Tues 14	Recycling lorry in Reach		
Thur 16	Jazz Workout	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri 17	Mothers and Toddlers	Village Hall	9.30 am
Tues 21	Mobile Library	Village Green	13.10 pm
Thur 23	Jazz Workout	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Fri 24	Mothers and Toddlers	Village Hall	9.30 am
Sun 26	Quiz Night	Dykes End	7.30 pm
Tues 28	Recycling Lorry in Reach		

Notices



CAKES, CAKES, CAKES

Don't forget to make some items for the Reach Fair cake stall. Now is a good time as the cold evenings can be spent in the warmth of the kitchen with oven full on.

If freezer storage space is a problem let me know - we have freezer space at the Hall.

Telephone 742814 if you need any further information

Karen Carpenter

For Hire from Reach Village Hall

Marquee £75.00
this includes erection by
experienced personnel

Large BBQ £20.00 deposit
£10.00 returned if the BBQ is returned fully
cleaned

If you are interested please contact Andrew
Hall on 01638 743737

REACH CHURCH SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING EVENTS 2006

Many thanks to all who supported our events and Gift Day in 2005.
We hope you had a good time and invite you to note in your diaries the dates of
this years' festivities.

- 11th March Moveable Feast. Tickets £13. Start 7pm. venue to be announced
- 1st May Book Stall at Reach Fair
- 15th July Barbeque 6pm at Spring Hall Farm.
Adults £6, Child £3, Family £17
- 6th October Harvest Supper 7pm Reach Village Centre.
Adult £6.50. Child £3. Family £18
- 4th Nov. Gift Day Coffee Morning 10-12 Reach Village Centre

Reach Church's Moveable Feast

An excellent home cooked feast: Three courses with wine
and coffee included. Diners move about the village to different
venues for each course.

Saturday 11th March

Starting at 7.00pm at the Village Centre
where you will be directed to the first course.

**Tickets are £13 each and can be obtained from Jen Holmwood
at the Moon and Sixpence, Chapel Lane, 742969, Joyce Harri-
son at 40 Great Lane, 742405 and Jan Robinson, Spring Hall
Farm, 743563.**

"STEPPING OUT"

ADULT TAP DANCING CLASSES

REACH VILLAGE HALL EVERY TUESDAY

7PM - 8PM: ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS - NEW CLASS

8PM - 9PM: TAP DANCED PREVIOUSLY

£3.50 PER SESSION

LEARN SOMETHING NEW - HAVE FUN -

GOOD EXERCISE - FRIENDLY GROUP

FURTHER DETAILS RING JANE: 741558



Reach & Swaffham Prior Community Broadband



Your local internet / e-mail provider
(Before going to BT contact us)
£20 per calendar month

Name.....

Address

.....

Tel No.....

Please fill in this form if you require Broadband and return it to
Paul Catling, 10 Adams Road, Swaffham Prior
For further details contact Paul on 0700 800 991

**News from
Swaffham Prior
Church of England
Primary School**



Question: What can you do with four pencils, six pieces of spaghetti, four marshmallows and four sticky labels?

Answer: Build a vehicle to hold a tennis ball.

Early in January, Venn from Destination Imagination came to inspire children from Class 3 and 4 to design from a mismatch of unusual materials. Groups of 5 - 6 children had to work together to use the materials in new and varied ways. They were given a brief, a timescale and the materials to work with. Destination Imagination will be added to this term's clubs, along with football, gym, korf ball and nature club.



Children enjoying a design challenge from Destination Imagination

**REACH VILLAGE CENTRE
100 CLUB**

**These are due for renewal NOW,
if you want to keep the same number,
Or purchase new tickets
please contact Joyce Harrison**

Tickets cost £10.00 per year.

There are 8 draws of £20.00

In July and December the prize is £50.00

100 Club Winners

September	Sue Summers
October	Jenny Maseley
November	Janet Collins
December (£50)	Ron Dunnett

REMEMBER – To win it you've got to be in it !

cont

EDF Energy – New Line

A new line has been put in right beside roadway out to Swaffham Prior about 4ft 6” from the tarmac. A barrier has been erected and further safety measures will be undertaken to alert oncoming traffic to avoid unnecessary accidents.

Playground

The playground resurfacing project is now complete and paid for. The hedge around the playing field will be cut in the near future. Grateful thanks to all those who helped to clear the old surface.

Parish Precept

The Meeting discussed the Parish Precept for £2006/2007. It was decided that an increase was necessary and £5500 would be requested.

Sewage Works

Concern over landscaping of the sewage works had been expressed. The meeting agreed that the saplings along the front of the work would provide sufficient cover once they had matured and that nothing was necessary in the interim.

Claire Denniss

This term, children from Class 4 are studying World War II; if you have any artefacts or memories to share, please contact the school. Class 3 are studying Ancient Egyptians, whilst Class 1 and 2 are looking at Homes and have visited Rose Cottage to look at the building work.

We are pleased to receive our Bronze Eco Schools’ Award which means that the school has audited areas for improvement to its environment and energy use. Our actions for the silver award are to reduce waste by improving paper recycling and composting; reduce water and electricity consumption; redesign our nature area to improve habitats and increase its use in the curriculum.

Please help by sending in your used ink cartridges, aluminium cans and old mobile phones for recycling.

The children are enjoying using the new pieces of trim trail which include a traverse pole and tyre challenge. The last piece is being purchased and will be installed by the end of term. Many thanks to FoSPS for all their fund raising.

Year 7s – please note the date of our Easter Egg Bingo; it’s traditional that you return to the school to take your places at the back of the hall.

Joanna Lakey

Community dates:

February

6th Cake stall 3pm

13-17th Half Term

20th School closed for staff training

22nd - 28th Book Fair

27th FoSPS 8pm

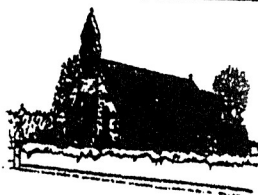
March

24th Easter Egg Bingo

30th March Easter service 11am

31st 1.30pm end of term assembly

The Parish Church of
ST JAMES
Lode with Longmeadow



Music in the Church

Friday 3 March 2006 **St Mary's Players**
Baroque and other music led by Jenny Sewell

Friday 17 March 2006 **Julian Perkins**
Julian performs on organ, electronic harpsicord and voice

Friday 31 March 2006 **David Bass**
Two violins and a keyboard

Friday 21 April 2006 **Cantilena Singers**
Old and new favourites from outstanding voices

Friday 5 May 2006 **Alexander Woodrow**
Organ recital by the director of Magdalene College Chapel Choir

Friday 19 May 2006
Sarah Maxwell with **Chris Jones** (piano),
Pauline Lapish (clarinet), **Rosie Mowatt** (guitar)
and **Sally Landymore** (flute)
A fitting end to the series, with a miscellany of songs and music

Tickets cost **£5.00** at
the door

Or a season ticket for
all concerts is **£20**

For further details contact
Ann Langran
Lananachime
35 High Street
LODE
CB5 9EW
01223 812797

Parish Council Meetings



Notes from the December and January Parish Council Meetings

Parish Plan

Mr Stan Reese from ACRE gave a presentation on the advantages of having a Village Plan. He reported that this is a community led process and that the Parish Plan has grown in importance within local government. Reach residents are invited to get involved.

Boat Moored on the Hythe

This problem still remains unsolved. The boat has been moved off parish council water, a little further along. Concerns over waste disposal have been raised. Residents are still complaining that they are unable to go fishing owing to the position of the boat and passers by feel very intimidated when going for walks by the river. The Environment Agency has been informed.

Drying Ground

The drying ground will be registered as 'common land' so that the land is tidied up and gets looked after by East Cambs District Council.

Financial Regulations

Roger Clarke, the auditor, has recommended a new financial regulations document. A number of new practices would have to be adopted. The parish council agreed to take this on board.

Signs in Village

The unsightly sign alerting heavy vehicles coming into the village has been moved to a position further back towards Burwell.

cont

Know your Parish Council

Reach Parish Council has seven councillors:

Michael Aves – Chairman 742800

Jenny Moseley – Vice-Chairman 741425

Joyce Harrison 742405

Ian Hill 742973

Michael Allen 742893

Rita Dunnett 742943

Maeve Van der Werff 743192

The new Clerk is Claire Denniss, who lives in Burwell. Her telephone number (for streetlights not working, Burial Ground enquiries, etc., is 01638 604405.

Councillors are also elected to various sub-committees.

For the year 2005–2006, the following Officers have been elected and any inquiries about the various committees can be made through them:

Village Hall Committee

Michael Allen/Joyce Harrison

Police Liaison Committee

Maeve Van der Werff

Swaffham Prior Primary School

Ian Hill

N.B. Honorary posts:

Swaffham Prior Parochial Church Charities

John Robinson 743305

Tree Officer

John Reed 742140

Pud my Jack Russell

On Sunday the 4th of December my jack Russell Pud was put down, because he was very ill. That afternoon was a very upsetting day for my family.

Pud had been with me since I was one year old. He was a long legged Jack Russell with a big brown patch on the side of his back, he had a tinted light brown face with extremely soft ears and he was a smooth haired Russell.

The vets came to our house to put Pud down and we all went into our study where the vets shaved a bit of hair of his leg to put the needle in. They kept having to shave little bits of his hair on his legs to find a vein, finally his little body flopped in my mums arms and his soul was not there.

I held him for a little longer his eyes were open which was nice but I could see that there were only little clouds of fog and Pud was no longer there.

By Shannon Manchett age 10

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

We will follow in the steps of Moses and the Israelites as they journeyed "40 years" through this arid and tough terrain to the Promised Land: a journey to freedom.

We will relax beside the Red Sea: for swimming, snorkelling, sunbathing & shopping!

Dates 6th – 17th Feb 07

with deposits payable by end of May.

For full information and itinerary contact:
Revd Stephen Earl: 01638 741262, email: earls@fish.co.uk



A WONDERFUL VISIT to EGYPT!

A rare opportunity to join in a "non-package" specialist tour of the exotic and breathtakingly beautiful land of Egypt taking in many of its ancient wonders and venturing deeply into its spectacular landscape of desert & mountain.

This exciting Special Programme is being offered by St George's College Jerusalem and will be jointly led by its Course Director Dr Henry Carse and Revd Stephen Earl, Vicar of Burwell & Reach.

We will tour the ancient Pyramids of Giza, the Sphinx, the old churches and synagogues of Cairo, the citadel, the mosque of Muhammad Ali, and the famous bazaar.

We will discover the awesome, majestic splendour of Mount Sinai of the Burning Bush & Ten Commandments, with an early morning (optional) hike to the summit, visiting St Catherine's monastery with its unique collection of ancient texts and icons.

We will meet the local Bedouin tribe enjoying traditional desert hospitality, camel trekking and sleeping "under the stars".

We will experience the piercing silence of the desert as a place of refuge, and visit remote Coptic monasteries of the Desert Fathers.

Bus Timetable



Effective 25 July 2004

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 [^] ,
[^] Not Saturday	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 [^] Not Saturday
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

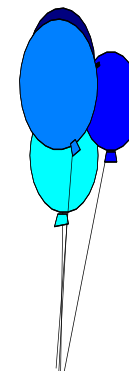
Sundays and Bank Holidays Only Bus 122

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

You will need to tell me of forthcoming birthdays.

Ed.



Letter to the Editor

I was surprised to see the one item letter, about the office move, from Councillor Alderson in the last issue of Out of Reach as I know he normally covers all that is happening at East Cambs. I am writing because I think it might be fairer if you also had the facts that he missed out.

I was the lead member for Economic Development for many years and would like nothing more than the opportunity to draw more businesses and jobs into the district, and indeed voted in favour of the proposal originally because at that time I felt it would have delivered more working space, extra parking and given an economic boost to the district. How times changed – the costs increased to £14.5 million and in order to pay that sum we would use all our (your) reserves, sell off all the land we could, have a £6 million mortgage and use a grant of £3 million pounds. All this to buy a piece of land on a flood plain that has been vacant for many years as its present owners could not find a buyer.

In case you are confusing the parking issue with the office move we also found that the park and ride would be a mile from the railway station with no direct pedestrian access and over 100 spaces would be lost in the centre of town at the Grange Site at week-ends and evenings.

Your District Councillor is correct that 15 conservatives voted in favour but every Liberal Democrat, Independent and one conservative voted against – thank goodness for common sense and democracy.

Hazel Williams
District Councillor for Burwell
01638 743897

Burwell Village Twinning Association 10th Anniversary

**Are you a musical family or individual?
Are you interested in foreign exchange?**



Then come and join a group of like-minded people to link with similar musicians in France.

**Join the band or sing in the choir!
All ages welcome - any instrument or
voice**

We aim to produce a celebratory performance on Sunday April 30th 2006.

Instrumentalists contact Jenny Sewell 01223 811632,
email:jennysewell@cooptel.net

Singers contact Celia Waterhouse 01638 604667
email: celia@waterhouse-music.co.uk

No lycra - guaranteed!

A small, friendly, exercise class which has been running for many years in Reach Village Hall is now facing closure due to a shortage of participants. The exercise is mostly low impact, with a lot of stretching and strengthening exercises thrown in. The pace of the class is ideal for those new to exercise or returning to it after a break, as well as anyone wanting to maintain a general level of fitness.

The class is very unthreatening for newcomers (no bendy young things in lycra to make you feel inadequate!), and it's so convenient being in Reach

Classes run from 7.30-8.30pm on Thursdays. Why not join us for one session to see if you like it? The new term will start on Thursday 5th January 2006 Just come along to a class, or phone Sue on 01638 742884 for more information.

*****If we do not get any new participants in the new year the class will have to shut down.*****

DECEMBER COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT.

I reported last time on The 2.5 million pound grant from government for improving public transport. One service that will benefit is the 111 Cambridge-Bottisham-Burwell-Newmarket route. From April this will run every 30 minutes (instead of hourly) and be renamed the number 11.

The Independent Commission for Social Care Inspection awarded the County Council only One Star in its assessment of Children's and Adult Social Care. This means that there are only three councils doing a worse job in the entire country. The Conservative Administration at Shire Hall has failed over a number of years to make any improvement in this crucial area of service delivery. The Corporate Performance Assessment for Cambridgeshire, undertaken by the Audit Commission, will fall from 'excellent' to 'good' this year partly as a result of inspections as damning these.

Public consultation is taking place at the moment on the proposed redevelopment of about 24 acres around Cambridge Railway Station. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to provide an effective Transport Interchange and a long term view must be taken on the provision of bus bays to help relieve the congestion and pollution at Drummer Street. Cycle provision must also be adequate and as close to the station as possible.

It is budget time again for the County Council. Facts and figures I have been given tell me that last year Cambridgeshire had the 3rd lowest Council Tax for the 34 Shire Counties but when the same Shire Counties were measured for earnings we were 5th highest. In theory this means we are under taxed in relation to our ability to pay. I am sure however that theory and practice are not necessarily the same. The good news is that the government settlement has given the county £2 million pounds more for 2006/7 than expected but the bad news is that in 2007/8 there is likely to be a drop of £3.5 million.

In the Fire Service more sophisticated rescue equipment is being issued to a number of strategic stations across the county. This speeds up rescue time as, in many cases, it negates the need to wait for a specialist vehicle from Cambridge, Huntingdon or Peterborough.

Hazel Williams

01638 743897

Hazel.Williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Have you had your grant yet?

With the onset of what promises to be the coldest winter for at least a decade, compounded by two double-digit increases in fuel prices over the last two years with more rises to come, now is the time to ensure your home is an energy efficient home.

Insulation is still by far the most cost effective way of conserving heat in your home. Most of us have some insulation in the loft, but did you realise that the recommended depth is now over 10 inches (270mm), and that topping up your loft insulation from 2 inches to the recommended depth can save you up to £50 a year on your heating bills?

In addition, many of our homes are suited to cavity wall insulation and this simple installation can save you in excess of £100 a year on your ever-increasing fuel bills!

At East Cambridgeshire District Council your energy conservation officer is able to provide you with free impartial energy advice, and can refer you to the energy efficiency grant programme most suited to your home and individual circumstances.

Every home suitable for insulation attracts a grant, and in many cases insulation and heating improvements can be installed free of charge.

Home visits to ascertain the best solution for you are available, covering all aspects of your home energy use. Contact Ian Bowers on 01353 616251 for further details or email him at ian.bowers@eastcambs.gov.uk.

Cambridgeshire County Council Parish Paths Partnership 2006/2007

Applications for a grant are now being invited from Parish Councils and local groups wishing to help protect, improve and promote their local Rights of Way paths networks.

If you would be willing to volunteer to get involved with this project around Reach, or require further information, then please contact the parish clerk, Claire Denniss on 01638 604405 (by 10th February 06).

The opportunity for a Parish Plan for Reach

Do you have some ideas on how Reach can be improved to benefit the community as a whole? What amenities would you like Reach to have over the next 10 years? We are looking for residents who would be interested in forming a committee who would produce a village plan for Reach. ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) (www.cambsacre.org.uk) are offering a grant for this purpose and also assistance with the production of the plan.

If you would be interested in being part of a local team within Reach, then please contact the parish clerk, Claire Denniss on 01638 604405 (by 10th February 2006).