

WELL, WHAT DO WE WANT FOR THE MILLENNIUM?

Householders in the village will have received the questionnaire from the Parish Council asking for their views on how Cottenham should celebrate the year 2000 AD. The paper asks "how will you and your family celebrate the Millennium, or how indeed will the village and our community mark the occasion?". The text reminds us how the village has celebrated many special occasions including the Relief of Mafeking, the coronations of Sovereigns, the ending of both world wars and the homecomings of soldiers, sailors and airmen from both conflicts.

The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 was marked by a week of celebration, in 1994 the Centenary of the formation of the Parish Council was celebrated by a gala day on the Green, followed in 1997 by a similar event marking the 50th anniversary of VE and VJ days. The Parish

Council now asks "what next? What should happen in the year 2000?"

Several enquiries have already been received from residents, and some groups in the village are in the early stages of arranging events, but the involvement of the Parish Council does mean the use of public funds. The Council has asked therefore for careful consideration to be given to this matter, hence the circulated leaflet which came through our doors just after Christmas. The deadline for replies to the Parish Council, using this form, is 1st February 1998, with answers to be placed in a box at R. Macbeth's chemist shop in the High Street.

The Newsletter is now asking for those who have not managed to reply in time, and indeed those who have had a better idea in the meantime, to enter our competition for "A Good Idea for the Millennium".

All you have to do is to let us have your thoughts/suggestions/daft ideas etc. Send these to Ruth Rogers, or Bridget Walker, at the addresses on the back page of this issue.

All correspondence will be passed on to the Clerk to the Parish Council, and there will be a £10 prize from the Newsletter for what the Editors consider to be the pick of the bunch. And our decision on this is absolutely FINAL, even if the Parish Council does not agree! Give it some thought, send in your completed questionnaires to the Parish Council and let us have your entries for our magnificent Millennium Prize. Who knows, your idea might just be the one selected for posterity, and wouldn't that be something to tell to your grandchildren.

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VILLAGE DIARY

FEBRUARY

- 11 "Glass Blowing" demonstration, Women's Institute,
7.30, Franklin Gardens
27 Gardeners Club AGM and Plant Auction, CVC 7.45

MARCH

- 13 "Village Signs", Village Society, 7.45 Primary School
27 Bus Pass Refund session, Franklin Gardens, 4-6pm

APRIL

- 8 "Through the Seasons" at Anglesey Abbey, W.I. 7.30
10 "History of Cambridgeshire Transport", Mike Petty,
Village Society, 7.45 Primary School
23 Annual Parish Meeting, CVC 8.00pm

MAY

- 13 Demonstration of Line Dancing, W.I. 7.30 pm
Franklin Gardens

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DIARY NOTES

Cottenham Library is running monthly events for the winter season. Tickets in advance from the Library.

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Advance notice of refuse collections for Easter, no collection on Good Friday, put your rubbish out for Saturday 28th March and again on Saturday the following week, April 5th.

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Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00pm
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Tuesday 12.30pm - 3.00pm
Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00pm
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Mother and Toddler Group meets Friday mornings 9.00am - 11.30am

Supervisor: Rosemary Miller BA(Hons) Chairperson: Barbara Johnson

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CUBS AND SCOUTS KAYAKING

With the help of a generous donation from the Schools Charitable Trust, the 2nd Cottenham Cubs and Scouts have started making kayaking (canoeing) more available to the boys and girls in the village. Forty-eight cubs and some parents canoed at the annual cub camp and twenty scouts have regularly canoed at Over. Seven of the older scouts passed their British Canoe Union One Star test and are now working

towards the Two Star test.

One of the guide troops also spent an evening canoeing at Over and were very keen to see how warm the water was! Next year we plan to do a river trip with an overnight stop, and sea surfing - when the scouts reach the appropriate level.

Ian Griffiths, Chairman, 2nd Cottenham Scouts

COTTENHAM METHODIST CHURCH

May we, the fellowship of Cottenham Methodist Church, take this opportunity to thank the residents of Cottenham for their generous support of our December services on behalf of Cambridge Womens Refuge (Womens Aid), on the 6th, and NCH Action for Children over the Christmas period. At the same time we hope that you enjoyed these particular times of worship. You can support either of these organisations throughout the year by getting in touch with us on Cottenham 251553.

Our next All-Age service is on Sunday 1st February, which is Homelessness Sunday, and will be led by our student minister Joyce Yendole. You will be very welcome at this and all of our services, which start at 10.45 am with prayers and informal singing before the service and coffee served afterwards. May we wish you all a very happy and peaceful New Year.

FREE COMPOST FROM THE WAYSIDE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Come and collect some free compost from the Wayside Community Garden at 218 High Street in Cottenham. All you need is to bring a bag, Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm.

The Wayside Garden Committee who look after the community garden behind the Cambridgeshire ACRE offices in the High Street are looking for new members to join the committee. They would like to hear from keen gardeners who could put their practical skills to good use to help maintain the garden.

The garden is open weekdays between 9 and 5 and at weekends throughout the summer for everyone to enjoy. If you are interested or would like more details, please call Anne Laing on Cottenham 250144.

DING DONG MERRILY

The annual carol collection in the village, in aid of the Princess of Wales Hospital in Ely, raised the sum of £630.

Phil Seal

❖
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AN AUDIENCE WITH THE BROAD LANE AND DENMARK ROAD DEVELOPERS

The Cottenham Village Design Group is pleased to announce a unique opportunity for the people of Cottenham to meet with the architects and representatives of Beazer Homes and Wimpy Homes, builders of the Broad Lane and Denmark Road housing developments.

This exclusive event will take place at 8.00 pm on Wednesday 11th February 1998 in the Cottenham Village College Lecture Room. There will be a short presentation from each developer and then questions will be welcome from

the floor. Please come and make your views known.

NEW CHIROPODY SESSIONS AVAILABLE

A State Registered chiroprapist will be running regular sessions in the day room at Stevens Close by arrangement with the Warden. The charge will be £10 per session. For further information contact Sheila Farrow, tel. 01954 782981

COTTENHAM SUMMER SCHOOL

"A week was not long enough, I feel as if I have had a holiday". "I thoroughly enjoyed myself and was inspired by everyone. A lovely atmosphere". "Brilliant value for money, especially with the student concession". These are some of the comments from last year's Summer School. They lead us to believe that 1998 will be just as enjoyable, if not more so.

We know that craft courses are popular, so we are repeating some old favourites as well as introducing new, exciting topics: spinning, patchwork, dyeing and wood-carving. There will be fun courses with a special appeal to young people as well as adults, such as working models. Study courses will include local history with Mike Petty, and bridge.

Our leaflet tells you briefly about each course, but it doesn't convey the atmosphere of enthusiasm, enjoyment, good food and lively company - you need to come along to find that out for yourself!

NEW FOR 1998. THREE DAY as well as FIVE DAY courses, Monday August 10th - Friday August 14th. Details from the Community Office, Cottenham Village College. tel. 01954 288944

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We may be able to help you ! Ring and ask on Cambridge (01223) 237459

THE OAKINGTON THERAPY CENTRE

JASPER KAY'S BIRD REPORT - DECEMBER 1997

People often stop me in the street to chat about birds. Some tell me about the birds they have seen, others tell me of the birds they have not seen! Among the former, woodpeckers are the most popular and certainly there are many more of them around than ten years ago. The Great Spotted and the Green can be seen almost anywhere where there are trees - Broad Lane, Beach Road, Long Drove, Histon Road. The Great Spotted has a single loud call and many people have reported seeing the bird at their bird-table. The Green has a well known laughing call (the bird is often called a Yaffle) and may come into

gardens, but is likely to feed on the ground as well as in trees. Both birds have a characteristic flight of long swooping glides. The Lesser Spotted woodpecker is less common, but it has been seen several times this year in Margett Street and on Long Drove.

Some people report that they have very few birds in their garden, and wonder why. The chief reason seems to be cats. Where there are cats (and it is just as likely to be your neighbour's cat) there are very few birds.

The winter always brings some excitement in the bird world. There

are now very many fieldfares and red-wings around, and jays and mistle thrushes are coming closer to houses for food. I have recently seen a sparrowhawk attacking birds on the bird table!

In November a rare shore lark - a most unusual looking bird - turned up in Broad Lane, and a red kite was twice seen above the High Street. These beautiful birds have now been re-introduced to Britain, in Wales and also in the Chilterns, and some birds are drifting occasionally towards East Anglia. Keep a look out!

BUMPER JUMBLE SALE

There will be a bumper jumble sale on Saturday 21st February at Cottenham Village College, doors open 2.00 pm, proceeds for the new minibus fund for the Cambridgeshire Handicapped Children and Adults Group. The usual jumble items and bric-a-brac will be on sale, and offers of jumble and other items can be collected if you contact Vic Pinner on Cottenham 250383.

HOST FAMILIES WANTED FOR STUDENTS IN COTTENHAM

There is a full programme planned for 1998 with foreign students coming to Cottenham during February and August. We urgently need additional families to take in these youngsters, aged 12 to 18, and to provide bed, breakfast, a packed lunch of sandwiches, and an evening meal. Their stay normally lasts between 3 and 6 days. Long

stays are during July and August.

This is a good opportunity to earn some extra cash whilst making new acquaintances which could lead to offers of foreign holidays. For further details please contact Joan or Vic Pinner, Cottenham 250383.

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Christopher Davis

Let The Dream Begin

Losing weight becomes a reality with *Slimming* **WORLD'S** Sin-A-Day Eating Plans. Why not come along to your local class at the **Community Room Coolidge Gdns** (off Beach Road) Every **THURSDAY at 5-30pm and 7-00pm** (New Members included with the 7-00pm Class) **Contact Georgina on 01354 688197**



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JAZZIN' AROUND! TONY PEARSON SAYS THERE'S A CONSPIRACY!

There's a conspiracy in the media, both local and national, to try and suppress any interest in jazz - there must be! Just look in the local paper and you'll see what I mean. There, under "What's On", you'll find any amount of information and advance notice about every other form of live entertainment, but jazz is relegated to a small diary entry, printed at a time by which it is too late for anyone who is interested to do anything about it. You'll probably find that events are listed for the wrong day and often under the wrong heading also - I've lost count of the number of times I've seen jazz bands under 'Rock and Pop'.

The reason for this is that it has been decided by "Them", whoever they are, that jazz is very much a minority interest, with such a small following that it is not worth mentioning. There is also the inference that nothing can take place without 'funding', which is a very over-worked word these days and usually means people trying to obtain a subsidy for something they are well able to pay for but are just too tight to do so. Here in Cottenham we know that this is All Rubbish!

On Monday 6th October, under the

heading of "Jazz in the Old Schoolroom" I arranged for Keith Nichols, the ragtime and early jazz pianist, to come and play. I charged an economic ticket price (I'm not a philanthropist) and it was a sell-out.

Cheered by the response, on Monday December 1st I staged an evening with 'Douce Ambiance'. a gypsy jazz quartet in the Reinhardt/Grappelli tradition. On this occasion I had the embarrassment of turning people away, such was the demand for tickets. It was ironic that this should be the very day that Stephane Grappelli went off to the Great Jazz Club in the Sky.

On Monday February 2nd, about the time you will probably read this, we are going to hear The Frog Island Jazz Band, who reproduce the music of King Oliver and Jelly Roll Morton, and on Monday April 6th the Bob Dwyer Band are doing their reconstruction of the unique sound and style of Bix Beiderbecke, complete with bass sax as played by Adrian Rollini. There's another event, yet to be arranged, on Monday June 1st, after which we'll break for the summer, resuming in the autumn.

Nothing to do with the above, but on Monday December 29th we had our annual 'bash' in aid of Meningitis Charities with Simply Swing and Friends. We made a staggering £533.00 this time. So much for the lack of interest!

Don't believe all you read in the paper. Jazz is alive, well, flourishing and what is more self-supporting - and right here on your doorstep. If you want to be part of it, give me a ring on 01954 250135 and I'll be glad to let you have tickets for forthcoming events in the Old Schoolroom, where we bring our own drinks and glasses and anything else we want to consume, and have a really good time - but you'll have to be quick. Tony Pearson

Editor's Note: We are delighted to hear all this. For the sake of those not in the know, the Old Schoolroom is maybe better known as All Saints Church Hall, opposite the parish church. Congratulations are due to Simply Swing and wot's 'is name for doing their best to keep jazz alive and well in Cottenham.

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N S Williams ad

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NEWS FROM FEN EDGE PATCH

With Christmas behind us and the spring not yet come, now is the time to enjoy indoor activities. If you are looking to improve your skills, get fit or for just a recreational course, this may still be possible. There are new courses in bricklaying (March 5th onwards) and with Health and Safety at Work in mind we are planning a range of short First Aid courses for businesses, schools and institutions.

On the leisure side, our Saturday Day Schools can offer a creative enjoyable

day. Painting with colour, life drawing, hypnosis, antiques, embroidery, word processing, family history, rag rugs and cookery - plenty of choice in February and March and very good value for money.

With fifty different classes for children, both after school or at weekends, there should be something to occupy your children too. All details from the Community Office, Cottenham Village College, tel. 01954 288944

CYCLEWAY UPDATE

We have had a preliminary estimate of the cost of improving the width of the cycle/pathway beside the B1049 between the 40mph signs for Cottenham and Histon respectively; more than £135,000, Wow! It is an awful lot of money to spend for very little improvement.

Sustrans, the people doing the national Millenium Cycleway, had made a suggestion, when looking at using Gun Lane rather than the railway for part of their national Huntingdon to Cambridge cycleway, that we could make a link starting at the back of the Village College, looping round to the B1049 at Jokers Wild and then down Love Lane to Gun Lane.

However, if we think about starting our "Millenium Path" (what a pity we hadn't started before now, there are no

Lottery Millenium funds any more) at the Village College, one could imagine a path across Foxhollows past Mill Lane Farm in Histon, avoiding the B1049 till the traffic lights at the Rose and Crown junction, which would make a much safer and more direct route between the two Village Colleges, as well as a pollution free alternative for pram pushers between the villages. The other link that we might more easily make starting from the Village College would be to Landbeach and so on to the national cycleway between Cambridge and Ely.

If you have any suggestions I'd love to hear from you. Also for ideas for a summer event; could we manage a traffic free day for Cottenham?

Randall Foggie, 32 Corbett Street, Cottenham

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LETTERS to the Editors

Dear Editor

The assumption seems to be that an event will mark the Millenium. Such events are ten-a-penny, and by the time the weather is good enough in the Spring of 2000 AD, we shall all be suffering from Millenium Fatigue.

We need a THING - not an EVENT, something which will be wondered at for hundreds of years to come. With the growth of the village, if not now but in the future, a PUBLIC LAVATORY will be necessary! A good, strong, stone-built edifice, with a foundation stone laid by the Chairman of the Parish Council and a plaque welcoming the new Millenium, and those generous enough to fund it can be immortalised in a casket in the foundation, to be opened in 3000 AD. *Name and address supplied, available on request to the Editors on payment of 10p.*

Letters for publication may be sent to either of the Editors, and should include the name and address of the sender, although this may be omitted from publication if requested. Please keep correspondence short and topical; please note that the Editors may use their discretion regarding publication, and their decision is final.

Deadline

**FOR NEXT ISSUE
25th FEBRUARY**

ADVERTISING RATES

Current rates are:

Size A - £17.50

Size B - £30.00

(discount of 10% for six insertions prepaid)

Artwork, if required, is charged separately, minimum £5.00, depending on the amount of work involved. Quotations are available on request.

**Contact Ruth Rogers on
01954 200020**

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police.....	Central Control.....	01480 456111
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	Dr. M. Grande, 42 Telegraph Street.....	251180
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Cottenham CareCar.....	Co-ordinator, 9.00 am - 6.00 pm.....	251837
Cottenham Helpline.....	Co-ordinator, Monday/Friday (12.00 - 2.00 pm).....	201590
	Wednesdays (12.00 - 2.00 pm).....	250937
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	Cambridgeshire County Council.....	01223 717111
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	Tony Nicholas, 77 Pelham Way.....	201314
County Councillor.....	Peter Stroude, Shire Hall.....	0800 243916
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Methodist Church.....	The Rev'd Helen Gardner, Wesley House, 250 High Street.....	250242

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