

# THERE IS A CERTAIN RELIEF IN CHANGE, EVEN THOUGH IT BE FROM BAD TO WORSE...\*

And so, the end of one era and the beginning of another. Hearty thanks on behalf of the village to Ruth and Bridget for their years of faithful service to Cottenham's Newsletter.

As the new editors we would also like to thank all the advertisers for their continued support, and all those who have submitted articles and letters for this edition. If you have toyed with the idea of writing a piece, please do so! Or, if you have any suggestions as to what you would like to see included on a one-off or regular basis, we are keen to hear about it. Do you feel, whatever your age group, that you and your peers are represent-

ed in the Newsletter? Again, please share any good ideas you may have. This is your Newsletter after all.

By now, Cottenham will have many new residents; welcome! If you think it has been a poor Summer, take comfort that it wasn't a patch on the Summer of 1763! (see enclosed article), and let us hope for a ripe and rosy Autumn!

*Miranda and Michael*

\*Washington Irving, 1824: Tales of a Traveller

# NEW YORK, NEW YORK!

Anyone who has been up and about in the early mornings recently may have seen a lone runner pounding the streets of Cottenham and the surrounding area. In all probability, that runner has been Mark Seymour, of 34 Lyles Road, who is in training for this year's New York City Marathon.

Mark, who has lived in Cottenham for 12 years, is running in the race on 1st November to raise money for BLISS (Baby Life Support Systems). This charity funds lifesaving equipment for neonatal units, sponsors specialist nurse training and offers support to parents of special care babies. They receive requests for urgently needed equipment from hospitals all over the country: the latest list contains more than 200 items, totalling over £2 million. These are prioritised to ensure that money is spent in the most effective manner possible.

*continued on page 2*

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# VILLAGE DIARY

## OCTOBER

- 2nd Macmillan Nurses Coffee Morning, Franklin Gardens, 10.00 - 12.30.  
 3rd Readathon (reading of the whole of the New Testament) at the Baptist Church. Commencing 6.00am!  
 4th Cottenham Methodist Harvest Festival - and all age service at 10.45am.  
 5th Cottenham Methodist Harvest Supper and Sale at 7.00pm.  
 Tickets £3.50. All proceeds to the TEARFUND. Contact Jenny on 01954 200670.  
 9th Village Society. Bruce Frost: "The Icknield Way". Primary School. 7.45pm.  
 14th Royal British Legion, Women's Section: Coffee morning in aid of the Poppy Appeal. 10.00am - 12.00.  
 "Costumes in the 50s". W.I. Franklin Gardens. 7.30pm  
 18th Feast Sunday - Collection in aid of the Oncology Ward at Addenbrookes Hospital.  
 21st "Flower Essences Therapy". Library, 7.30pm. £1.50.  
 22nd Feast of Sound. Cottenham Village College, 7.00 - 10.00pm  
 23rd "History of the NCCPG". Gardener's Club. CVC, 7.30pm  
 24th Bumper Jumble Sale in Aid of Cambs Handicapped Group  
 "Minibus Appeal". CVC, 2.00pm.  
 25th Cottenham Methodist Chapel anniversary. All age service at 10.45am.  
 31st Salvation Army Autumn Bazaar. 10.00am - 1.00pm.  
 Royal British Legion: Bazaar in aid of the Poppy Appeal. 2.30pm.  
 Grand Draw and Bingo in aid of the Poppy Appeal. British Legion Hall, 7.00pm.

## NOVEMBER

- 13th Village Society. Reverend Bracewell: "Life on Northern Baffin Island". Primary school, 7.45pm.  
 18th Sugarcraft: Christmas pieces for Cakes. Library, 7.30pm. £1.50.  
 29th Members' Gardening Problems. Gardener's Club. CVC, 7.30pm.

## DECEMBER

- 6th Cottenham Methodist Toy Service in support of Cambridge Women's Aid. 10.45am.  
 Salvation Army Toy Service. 3.00pm.  
 12th Village Society Christmas Party. The Old Rectory, 7.30pm.  
 13th Salvation Army Corps Carol Service. 6.00pm.  
 9th Christmas Miscellany. W.I. Franklin Gardens, 7.30pm.  
 20th Salvation Army Village Carol Service. CVC, 6.00pm.  
 26th Holly Walk. All Saints Church, 10.30am.  
 31st New year's Eve Party. Cottenham Village College.

## SMALL ADS

### GOING ON HOLIDAY?

### NEED YOUR DOG WALKING?

Just call Louise. She will look after your pet(s) and/or walk your dog for a small fee :

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Rates negotiable.

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ANY ANIMAL, ANY TIME!

### SMALL ADS

**5p per word, maximum 50 words, all proceeds to THE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE AT MILTON**

*continued from front page*

Mark is pledged to raise at least £1,500, but is hoping to raise much more. Local businesses are being approached for their support, but the bulk of the money will probably come from the generosity of individuals. If you feel able to make a contribution, please contact Mark on **COTTENHAM 200011**. All donations will be gratefully received, and will be put to very good use.

*Thank you.*



## DIARY NOTES

**Cottenham Library** is running monthly events (see above)  
 Tickets in advance from the Library.

### Cottenham Toy Library -

Thursdays, 2.30 - 4.00pm - October 1st and 15th; November 5th and 19th

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DIARY DATES -  
 THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR ENTRIES IN THIS SECTION -  
 CHARITY AND CHURCH EVENTS ESPECIALLY WELCOME.

**SENIOR  
 CITIZENS:  
 Tuesday &  
 Wednesday**

CLOSED Monday, LATE NIGHT Wednesday

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 SARAH back with us from  
 September.*

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 new clients at our salon, where we  
 always aim for friendly service with  
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# JASPER KAY'S BIRD REPORT

During a recent holiday in the Austrian Alps I recorded forty different species of birds over two weeks. This may seem a lot, but it is easy to record more than this number during a single weekend in East Anglia. Sometimes we forget that we have a rich bird-life around us. But where are all the birds?

In the last issue I wrote about local areas of water. The Long drove "lagoon" is low in water at present, but still full of birds. To the earlier list we can add common sandpiper, greenshank and oyster catcher, and I have no doubt that other species have also been seen.

Another good source of bird life is a church yard. The Church of All Saints is particularly good. There are green and spotted woodpeckers in the nearby trees and jackdaws on the church tower. The mature trees on the North

side of the church provide shelter and nesting places for countless birds - thrushes, blackbirds, tits, finches, and recently I have seen gold crests there. The graveyard itself is popular with spotted fly-catchers and during the summer I have seen them on almost every visit. They perch on grave-stones and use them as a base for their short sallies after food. They are present, too in Rampton churchyard, which also provides a quiet haven for birds. But by the time you read this, the fly-catchers will have flown to warmer countries.

After a lean year for bullfinches we were sad to find one dead, caught in the netting on our raspberries.

On a more positive note, we are glad to report kestrels nesting again on Fen Reeve, sparrowhawks nesting at the end of Foundry Close and long-eared owls producing young near the

Twenty Pence Road north of the village.

Migration has begun. Most of the swifts have left and other birds are beginning to gather together in preparation for their annual flight.

## NEWS FROM THE FEN EDGE PATCH

Most of the regular weekly courses at the Village College will just have started by the time you receive this newsletter. There are, however, many opportunities for late entrants to our classes, so if there is something which attracts you, do enquire about a vacancy. New topics for adults include daytime sewing, senior circuits, bell ringing and the book club. For children they include T-shirt printing and junior sports leadership.

There's still plenty of time to choose from our wide range of Saturday Day Schools, an ideal way of sampling a new interest, or building on skills you already have, without committing yourself to a weekly class: there's arts and craft, word processing, aromatherapy, hypnosis, languages, antiques and family history, dream therapy, positive thinking and wine appreciation. What a varied list ... so look carefully at our programme, or ring the Community Office on Cottenham 288944, where someone will be pleased to help you.

## FEN EDGE FRENCH TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The weekend of 7th November 1998 marks a very special occasion for The Fen Edge Twinning Association.

A group of 20 French including the Mayor of Avrillé, are visiting us to sign the twinning charter between the villages of Avrillé in the Loire Valley, and our villages in the Fen Edge Patch. This will mark the final stage of what we hope will be many

years of friendship, visits, cultural and sporting exchanges.

For more information please contact :

John and Deborah Loveluck on 01954 252267 or Chris Couchman on 01954 200824.

G B Roofing

# COTTENHAM DENTAL SURGERY

By the time you read this, the Cottenham Dental Surgery will have changed hands. Mr. Cook retired on September 1st and Mr. Hein Faber (pronounced "Farber") and his colleagues will have taken over. Mr. Faber has lived in Cottenham for the past seven years and his children attend local schools. He has a practice in March and he and his associates will divide their time between the two surgeries.

The telephone number is unchanged. The hours of practice will be extended to include Mondays as well as regular Saturday mornings. As before the practice will have a strong NHS commitment and is still accepting new patients.

Richard Cook writes:

"I would like to thank the many patients who have supported the practice (incidentally giving me a living) during the twelve years of its existence in Cottenham, for their loyalty and friendliness. It has been a joy to serve the community in a village where community feeling plays so strong a role. My wife, Liz, and I will remember the experience with warmth and pleasure. We are happy to leave you in the hands of Mr. Faber and his colleagues who I know work to a high degree of dental skill, and whose commitment to NHS practice is strong.

There will be familiar faces after the transfer. Barbara Grimshaw will continue as receptionist and Liz will

stay on for a few months to ease the transition. We hope you will continue to support this village institution."

*The Editors feel sure that we speak on behalf of the community in thanking Richard and Liz and their staff for their years of service to Cottenham. We wish you well in your retirement. Good luck and good health to you both.*

*Miranda and Michael*

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## OXFAM'S FAST - 13th NOVEMBER 1998 GET SPONSORED - UNPEEL THE BANANA TRADE

Oxfam would like to thank all the local people who took part in the sponsored Walk last May. The day was a fantastic success with over 1400 walkers who stepped out in support of Oxfam's Cut Conflict Campaign. So far, the total raised is £39,000 with sponsor money still coming in.

The next event is the Fast, a national annual event when thousands of people across the country pledge to give up something for the day and get sponsored.

The theme of this year's Fast is Fair Trade, drawing particular attention to the plight of the banana farmers of the Windward Isles who are finding it harder and harder to compete with the powerful transnational companies who run huge banana plantations around the world.

To help these farmers, we need to create a Fair Trade banana that farmers could sell direct to us for a fair price. By taking part in Oxfam's Fast, you could help to bring Britain's first Fair Trade banana to the Supermarket

shelf. Join us in supporting Fair Trade by taking part in Oxfam's Fast.

We also need volunteers to help, such as speakers to give talks to groups and schools and volunteers to promote the Fast at freshers fairs, other stalls and in the workplace. Training and support will be provided.

For more information and a sponsor pack, call Jo Dimitri on 01223 301317.

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**THE OAKINGTON THERAPY CENTRE**

# 'WE SAY "NO" TO ILLEGAL SALES' GOOD PRACTICE AWARD

**It is illegal for retailers to sell cigarettes to anyone under the age of 16 years of age. Yet a survey carried out in Cambridge in 1993 showed that a quarter of under sixteens had obtained their last cigarette from a corner shop. Also, less than half of them had been refused cigarettes by shopkeepers in the past. Based on this evidence a scheme to help say "No" to customers who are unable to prove their age was established.**

The local alliance 'We Say "No" to Illegal Sales' was formed in November 1993, being the first of its kind in England. The alliance is made up of representatives from the county, district and city councils, the police, Forbuoys PLC, and the Local Education and Health Authorities. The alliance employs a project worker to administer the 'Good Practice Award'.

There are approximately 420 tobacco retailers, including petrol stations and supermarkets, in the Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Authority area. To date nearly 400 retailers have been recruited to the 'Good Practice Award' scheme, and so far 310 have been given awards. This represents roughly 75% of local retailers. When each retailer is contacted by the project worker they are given a pack containing information, stickers and a counter pad to discourage young customers. The pack also includes a register for the shopkeepers to record their refusals of cigarette sales and a summary of regulations for staff, some of whom are not fully aware of the fines of up to £2,500 for breaking the law.

Although retailers are worried about massive fines, it can be difficult to ask someone their age. Would be pur-

chasers can sometimes get unpleasant when staff say 'no' but with the back-up of the sticker and the counter pads, customers realise that it is a legal issue, not a personal one.

There is now a confidential Trading Standards Hotline. The Hotline is to encourage members of the public to report under-age tobacco sales. The Number to call is 01223-712712.

For further details about the 'We Say "NO" to Illegal Sales' scheme, please contact:

Sue Walker, CHHA, Hillview, Fulbourn Hospital, Cambridge, CB1 5EF. Tel: 01223-475127.

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## CYCLING IN THE FEN EDGE PATCH - A SURVEY

20 people have so far responded to the cycling survey in the Fen Edge news from all the villages from Waterbeach to Willingham. So its not just Cottenham folk being contrary over their cycle paths, it's a general dissatisfaction which even extends to disagreement over whether or not there are cycle paths in some of the villages! Only 25% think it is safe to cycle in the villages but 90% do so anyway, and just 16% think it safe to cycle to Cambridge though again 90% travel in by bike at least sometimes.

The problem is seen to be in the main the speed of the other road users followed by the volume of traffic and the attitude of drivers. Lorries trail the narrowness of roads and the lack of facilities for cyclists at road junctions.

60% see cycle paths as the solution with 45% wanting speed limits and there is even a 5% vote for a blanket lorry ban. With cycle bridges being proposed for the A10 at the Slap-Up and the A14 at Milton, we don't seem to be unreasonable to ask for a decent segregated cycle path to Histon as the first

part of a proper path into Cambridge. However to improve the "cyclability" of the village a mobile speed camera, several sites and a 20mph speed limit would be a lot cheaper.

Do I hear drivers objecting? Of course not!

If you wish to participate in this survey (cyclist or not) you will find the questionnaire about two thirds of the way through the Autumn edition of the Fen Edge Newsletter.

*Randall Foggie*  
3 September 1998

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# JAZZIN' AROUND!

As threatened, on the evening of Monday August 3rd, the great and the good (although not necessarily in that order!) gathered in the Old Schoolroom to enjoy another evening of what has been described as 'The Devil's Music'! The fact that this was in the presence of the Rector and in aid of the rebuilding fund for the hall in which we all gather, which is of course owned by the Church, adds a touch of irony!

It was with some trepidation that I attended this function, as, because the whole idea of a fund-raiser is to have as few expenses as possible, the performers were some of my own band, Simply Swing, who even on a good day have difficulty in giving away their services! I wondered how we would be received, compared with the fabulous bands we have had down there, but I needn't

have worried, the capacity audience gave us the same warm reception as they do our more distinguished brothers (*and sisters? ed.*), and the whole evening was a great success.

During the first set we played some of our favourite tunes and during the second, those requested by members of the audience. These were accompanied by all manner of wit and wisdom on the request slips that accompanied the lists of tunes and ranged from one person (who shall remain nameless!) who had a double request because she was 'choosing for two', to one of our regulars, well advanced in years, who requested 'Night Train', probably the raunchiest number we do, dedicated to her husband, of a similar vintage, with the message 'lie back and enjoy it'!

When it was time to present the

Rector with the proceeds, a note was passed to me to the effect that we had raised £455 and some odd pence. I flippantly said that this was a messy figure and we really needed a nought on the end. Imagine my delight when an impromptu 'whip round' produced over £35! The grand total was then £491!

I should like to personally thank all those who attended and gave so generously and also the musicians who gave their services: Jean on Vocals, Martin Kemp on Reeds, Dave Warham on Piano and Robin on Drums. It was a pleasure for me to play Bass with them. I mustn't forget my daughter Abi, who was on the door and ran the raffle.

Planning permission has now been obtained for rebuilding the hall and I'm sure the Rector will be grateful for any other offers of help in raising money.

By the time you read this, it will be nearly time for the DAVE SHEPHERD QUINTET on Monday October 5th, and then its the CHRISTMAS PARTY on Thursday December 3rd. This is in a restaurant in Cambridge and consists of an evening of NEW ORLEANS FOOD with appropriate musical accompaniment. At only £12.50 a head it is bound to be popular and a really great way to start the festive season.

*Tony Pearson*

## C.R. ELECTRICAL

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# COTTENHAM METHODIST CHURCH

May we begin the Methodist New Year with an invitation for Cottenham residents to join with us in our worship each Sunday at 10.45 am.

We are in the centre of the village opposite the Co-operative store. Our style of worship is in the Christian mainstream tradition - combining fellowship, reverence and informality. In the 'Free Church' tradition, our services are led by different, though familiar, preachers from week to week, providing fresh reflections and challenges.

Each service has a special, often fun, element of integration with our Junior Church.

Crèche facilities are provided; and Fair Trade coffee and tea is served at the close of each service.

The Methodist Church is defined as Christian in faith - in its words and actions. We have a commitment to the Gospel of Jesus, and a serious awareness and concern for social issues. Among the groups we regularly support are NCH - Action for Children, and Cambridge Women's Aid.

Our Junior Church meets at 10.30 am for ages 4 - 16. Presently, we are very keen to recruit children at pre-school, infant and junior age. Please call Nick Parker for our programme to November on 01954 251553. Or just come along, see what we do, and have some fun!

If you are without a Church or have not attended one for a while please feel free to join us as we build a caring, relevant and helpful Church for the Millennium.

Why not be a part of this project?

For Church details please contact Julie Percival on 01954 252647.

## AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE MEANING OF LIFE

What is the point of life? What happens when we die? What relevance does Jesus have for our lives today? How do we deal with guilt? If you want to explore any of these questions, then come to an Alpha course.

An Alpha course consists of a series of discussions looking at topics such as "Who is Jesus?" and "Why and how do I pray?". It starts with a meal, followed by a video, after which we divide into smaller groups and discuss any questions raised. Similar courses are being run up and down the country as part of the National Alpha Campaign, thinking about the Christian faith.

A course will be starting on the evening of Monday 28th September, at Cottenham Baptist Church. To register, or for further information, phone 01954 252378.

What is Alpha?

- Anyone interested in finding out more about the Christian faith.
- Learning and laughter. It is possible to learn about the Christian faith and have fun at the same time.
- Pasta & pudding. Eating a meal together gives people an opportunity to get to know each other.
- Helping one another. The small groups give you a chance to discuss issues raised in the talks.
- Ask anything. Alpha is a place where no question is regarded as too simple or too hostile.

### Cottenham Methodist Sunday School

(opposite the CO-OP)

Drama, Arts, Crafts, Puzzles, Games

Sharing and Learning Together

**Each Sunday at 10.30 am**

We extend a special invitation to pre-school, infant and junior children

For programme details or to arrange a visit ring Nick 01954 251553

## *The White Horse* Cottenham

- Carvery lunchtime Tuesday to Friday (Saturday Lunch, Bar Food only)
  - Carvery every Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening (also a la Carte Menu)
    - Tuesday evening - alternate Steak & Kidney Pudding or Curry £4.95
    - Wednesday evening - Fish & Chips £3.95
  - SENIORS' LUNCH Tuesday to Friday (Carvery Ice-Cream and Coffee £4.50)
  - SUNDAY LUNCH 3-Courses £9.95 • 2-Course £8.45 • Carvery only £6.95
- CHRISTMAS MENU £13.95 (December 1st to 23rd)

**CLOSED ALL DAY MONDAY**

**TEL 01954 250257**

# DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

## Planning

The process of reviewing the Local Plan which guides policies in the District is continuing. During the consultation on the draft of the Plan, a number of proposals were put forward by individuals and developers for additional development in Cottenham. However, these have been rejected by the Planning Committee and the Plan's proposals for Cottenham are basically that no significant extra development should take place over and above that which is already being undertaken. Early in the New Year there will be a six week period when the plan's proposals can be inspected by the public and further objections can be put forward. These objections will then be considered by an Inspector appointed by the Government at a public inquiry.

A recent District-wide village capacity study commissioned the District Council has concluded that Cottenham has only limited capacity for further development.

## Cottenham Church Hall

Planning permission has been given for the demolition of the Church Hall and the building of a new one. The permission was granted after extensive investigations established that any attempted restoration of the present building would involve extensive rebuilding. Planning officers will continue to work closely with the architect to ensure that the new design is appropriate to this important part of the Conservation Area.

## Garden Waste

Since April the council has been refusing to collect garden waste in the normal weekly refuse collection. However, the council has recognised the problems which this policy presents for elderly or infirm residents. Such residents can now apply for direct 'back door' collections of garden waste. If you feel that you qualify, you should write, stating your reasons, to:

Paul Quigley, Client Services Officer,  
Environmental Health Department,  
South Cambs. District Council,  
9-11 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 1PB.

Advice on composting can be obtained from:

Sheryl French, Recycling Officer at  
South Cambs. Hall. Direct dial 01223  
443135.

## Council 'Surgeries'

Councillor Rex Collinson will be resuming monthly 'surgeries' from September as follows:

First Friday of the month at Rampton  
Village Hall. 6.00 - 6.30pm.

Third Friday of the month at the  
Community Room, Franklin Gardens.  
5.30 - 6.30pm.

Or you can contact Rex Collinson at  
home: 20 Rampton Road. Tel: 251377.

R.J. CARPENTER, M.I.M.I.

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# LADYBIRD PRE-SCHOOL OFSTED INSPECTION

**At the end of the Summer Term a Government Inspector spent a day at the Lady Pre-school. Her written report was positive, constructive, and glowing! She pointed out, however, that not all parents seemed aware of the range of our educational provision.**

We have detailed long term, medium term and short term plans to cover the Curriculum, available for consultation at the pre-school. A newsletter is printed once or twice termly with information about topics, and a Parent Pack is available in the Pre-school office. An updated leaflet covering areas of learning will be available soon.

Printed below is an extract from the Inspector's report covering teaching and assessment:

## **"The Strengths and Weaknesses of Teaching and Assessment**

The teaching and assessment is generally very good.

The staff interact well with the children. They treat them with respect and are calm and kind. They explain clearly, providing the children with

appropriate support and encouragement during activities ...

They are providing a pleasant atmosphere for children to feel happy and secure. They work well together as a team and have spent significant amounts of time cementing their knowledge of the current requirements and the desirable outcomes.

An extensive range of activities helps to develop the children's knowledge, understanding and skills. Staff achieve a balance between child initiated activities and adult directed activities, helping to successfully influence the programmes for personal and social development. Ground rules are clearly set for children's behaviour, resulting in a well behaved and controlled group. Stimulating activities in language and literacy mean that the children are developing a good standard of work. The teaching of mathematics is satisfactory.

The staff have recently introduced a very detailed system of assessment covering all six areas of learning. They find this very useful in accurately identifying children's

achievements. As they begin to use this new system more regularly, they are aware that they should be able to use it to reflect on planning.

An excellent staff training programme is in place. Most of the staff attended a course on 'open questioning', as a result of the last inspection. The supervisor attended an early Years Training Programme conference. A new staff appraisal scheme is now set up. Monitoring the programme and the teaching is on a more formal basis, although informal observation of what is happening in the group continues to take place."

The Ladybird Pre-school opens for the Autumn Term on September 8th. Visitors are always welcome. Tel: Cottenham 250891

*Rosemary Miller, Pre-school Supervisor*



## LADYBIRD PRE-SCHOOL COTTENHAM (OFSTED Approved)



As a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance we provide high quality Child Care at competitive rates

### **For Children aged 2-2 yrs 9 mths-**

Little Ladybirds

Tuesday 9.00am - 11.00am

Thursday 9.00am - 11.00am

Baby Toddler, Parent & Carers Group

Fridays 9.00am - 11.30am

### **For Children aged 2 yrs 9 mths to School age:-**

Tuesday 9.00am - 12.00pm

Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00pm

Thursday 9.00am - 12.00pm

Friday 9.00am - 12.00pm

### **Additional Pre-school sessions**

(for Children Starting School Sept. '98)

Monday 9.00am - 12.00pm

Tuesday 12.30pm - 3.00pm

Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00pm

Thursday 12.30pm - 3.00pm

An optional lunch hour from 12.00 noon - 1.00pm operates every day

Newly registered for day care from 9.00am - 3.00pm inclusive for children 3 years and older

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

Registered Charity

**Tel: 01954 250891**

# COTTENHAM VILLAGE DESIGN GROUP - UPDATE

If you saw the piece in the last issue on the above, you may like to know that the group is looking for new members, particularly committee members. Recent changes in personnel have left the committee with vacancies including the post of Chair.

The group is active on issues connected with design and development within the village, and has been working hard to bring these issues to the fore.

As mentioned we have had recent well attended meetings summarised as:

- The new housing developments in Cottenham. (Very large)
- Refurbishment of the Cambridge Arts Theatre. (Very expensive)

- The Conservation Officer's View. (Very nicely detailed)
- The Planning Officer's View. (Very legal)

- Mac Dowdy on Houses, (Very witty).
- Cycling meeting. (Nice folding bikes in evidence).

Current topics on the agenda include:

- A visit to Poundbury, HRH Prince of Wales new Village in Dorset.
- Further consideration of cycling issues within and around Cottenham.
- An evening acquiring skills for reading and understanding builders' site and layout plans, including metric measurements.

- A talk by politicians on the repercussions of even more growth in Cottenham.

We are particularly looking for someone who has the political skills to work toward better relations with the Parish Council, and the ability to identify what this Village Group's role and parameters should be with respect to the Planning Application Comments which the group makes to the District Council.

If you have an interest in the Village, and its development, and you think you can help please contact Michael Cuthbert (acting secretary), at 36 Corbett Street, to register your interest.

*Mike Smith, for the Design Group Committee.*

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## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN COTTENHAM

### **READATHON**

*(Reading the whole of the New Testament)*

OCTOBER 3rd 1998

**BAPTIST CHURCH, COTTENHAM  
COMMENCING 6.00 AM**

**SUPPORTING PROJECT 98**  
*Passing on "The Word of Life"  
to the victims of Aids in Malawi*

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN COTTENHAM

### **FEAST SUNDAY**

OCTOBER 18th 1998

Collection in Aid of Oncology Ward at  
Addenbrookes Hospital

**FLOATS LEAVE BROOKFIELD AT 2.15 PM  
UNITED SERVICE ON THE GREEN AT 3.00PM**

B & C Motors

# THE COTTENHAM EXTRAVAGANZA, Saturday 11th July 1998

On behalf of the Gala Day Committee, I would like to express our thanks to everyone who came and supported the above event. With the weather like it's been this year we were a bit nervous about how many people would come along, but we needn't have worried, as you came not in your hundreds, but in your thousands!!

A special thanks to the 40 mad people who leapt from a 150 foot crane/bungee jump for fun! With every event from bungee jumping to face painting we were hoping to raise a good amount of money for

three causes (MAGPAS, Friends of Arthur Rank House and the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust). When all the sponsorship money is collected we will have raised approximately L3500. So once again thank you! if you or your company helped or supported us, many many thanks. If, however, you missed this fun packed afternoon, fear not, as I believe plans are already afoot for the COTTENHAM EXTRAVAGANZA II which will be held in the year 2000!! This already promises to be bigger than this year's event.

*C. Impey (publicity Officer)*

## EIGHTH ART FUND EXHIBITION Cottenham Village College

Once again the exhibition will be held during half term. This means that this very successful and popular exhibition can open on five consecutive days. Anyone wishing to attend should be able to find a time convenient for them.

Dates:

**Friday October 23rd** - Opening Evening, with guest Professor Sir Roy Calne

**Saturday October 24th** - 11am - 5pm

**Sunday October 25** - 11am - 5pm

**Monday October 26th** - 2pm - 5pm & 7pm - 9pm

**Tuesday October 27th** - 2pm - 5pm

Proceeds from the previous two years have provided enough money to replace all the upholstered furniture in the common room - frequently used for community purposes. As in previous years the vast majority of funds raised will be used in the interests of the local community.

Professor Sir Roy Calne, the distinguished Addenbrookes consultant, has been invited to choose a picture for permanent display at the college. Paintings on show are priced to suit every pocket. do come along - to browse or to buy.

### Cambridgeshire Handicapped Children & Adults Group

## BUMPER JUMBLE SALE

IN AID OF  
CAMBS HANDICAPPED GROUP  
"MINIBUS APPEAL"

**COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE**

**SATURDAY, 24TH OCTOBER DOORS OPEN 2.00 PM**

*LOTS OF GOOD JUMBLE, NEARLY NEW, BOOKS, BRIC-A-BRAC, ETC*

**REFRESHMENTS**

**ADMISSION 20p**

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# DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS TOO

## Crimestoppers

It's too easy to blame the police for the rise in crime. In a civic society we must all do our bit to contribute towards keeping the peace.

The Home Office has set as a top priority for chief constables 'to deal speedily and effectively with young offenders and to work with other agencies to reduce re-offending'.

The second objective is 'to target and reduce local problems of crime and disorder in partnership with local authorities, other local agencies and the public'.

South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire Constabulary have teamed together with Crimestoppers, a registered charity, to target offenders and bring them to justice.

If you know of anyone committing any crime, especially violence or theft, call freephone 0800 555 111. You do not have to give your name.

## Schools

New buildings are being provided at the Village College to accommodate more pupils as we welcome new neighbours at Denmark Road and Broad Lane. the expansion of primary school provision, however, has not

been so straightforward. The County Council will be taking account of the views of parents and other occupants of Cottenham and Rampton, aired at a public meeting at Lambs Lane on the evening of Tuesday 15th September.

## Refuse

At a lengthy debate in the middle of July the District Council resolved against arranging special collections of garden waste. This suggestion had been prompted by reactions to the decision to discontinue accepting grass cuttings.

All vegetable material can be composted, and you'll be hearing more and more about how this can be done (even if you don't have a garden of your own!). More than a quarter of household waste comes into this category.

There are facilities for recycling paper, glass - and even the corks out of the bottles - not so far away, though for plastics not so near. While there are arguments over the environmental effects of recycling, one benefit is that the District Council pays L21.06 for every tonne that is not tipped at the Milton landfill site.

## Council Tax and Services

People tell opinion polls that they would be willing to pay higher taxes

for better services, but is this really true? (It's not certain anyway that public spending of more of your money brings any improvement.) The District Council is flirting with the notion of doing more - a lot more - than providing the statutory services that the government requires. Would you be prepared to dig deeper into your pocket? We'd like to know.

## Monthly Surgery

District Councillor Timothy Wotherspoon and County Councillor Peter Stroude will be available in the Communal Room at Franklin Gardens from 5.30 - 6.30 pm on the first Friday of every month. Otherwise they can be contacted as follows:

Peter Stroude, Home Farm, 97 High Street, Longstanton, Cambridge, CB4 5BT. Tel. 780008. peterstroude@camcnty.gov.uk

Tim Wotherspoon, The Three Horse Shoes, High Street, Cottenham, CB4 4SD. Tel. 252108 timwothers@aol.com

R S MEMORIALS

## **Macmillan Nurses' Coffee Morning**

Franklin Gardens

2nd October  
10.00 to 12.30 pm

# COTTENHAM AND RAMPTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

We would like to once again remind all the ladies of the village that a warm and cordial welcome awaits you if you are interested in a very caring organisation that meets every fourth Monday of the month at 7.30 pm in the British Legion Hall, High Street, Cottenham.

The Legion's women's Section was founded in 1921 in order to safeguard the interests of widows and families of ex-servicemen and women. We raise money in order that The Legion can carry out its benevolent work. It is estimated that in the UK alone there are 16 million people eligible for support from The Legion which gives charitable help to ex-servicewomen, and wives/wid-

ows of ex-servicemen and their children.

Help can come in a variety of forms including weekly allowances in cases of hardship; convalescence care; bedsit accommodation in Lancashire; children's welfare and other schemes.

Our affiliation fees are just £3.00 per annum. So ladies, how about coming to join us and find out about what we really do?

We run weekly whist drives starting at 7.30 pm on Thursdays and a monthly whist drive every first Saturday starting at 2.30 pm. On the first Monday of the

month we have a bingo session at 8.00 pm. And of course, for both the whist and the bingo gentlemen are also welcome.

We work well with the men's section and once a month hold a Saturday evening's entertainment. So please watch out for notices about these events.

*Brenda Leach, Honorary Secretary  
J. Yaxley, Chairman  
D. Croxton, President*

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## COTTENHAM CRICKET CLUB ON THE UP!

Following their successful run at the end of last Summer when the first team narrowly missed out on promotion and also reached the final of the Lower Junior Cup, Cottenham's cricketers have continued their good form into the current season. The first team has won all its matches so far and, with just one league match to play, is top of its league and assured of promotion to Division 3N. In addition, the team has again reached the final of the LJ Cup, defeat-

ing on the way the strong AgrEvo team who beat them in last year's final.

Also at the time of writing, the second team is lying in third place in its division and, with two games to go, has a good chance of promotion as well. Were this to be achieved, it would round off a brilliant season for the club as a whole, all the more encouraging because the vast majority of our players are Cottenham based. We are, however,

still keen to attract new players because the club needs to increase its strength in depth if the teams are to climb the leagues to positions more appropriate for a village of Cottenham's size.

A very important factor in the club's future must be the involvement of young players from in and around the village. In recent years, for all sorts of reasons, too many local youngsters have ended up playing their cricket elsewhere. We are very keen to reverse this trend and intend to enter teams in the midweek Colts league next season if numbers are sufficient. We will also be running indoor nets in the run up to the season for both junior and senior players and we hope as many young cricketers as possible will take advantage of this.

So would any interested cricketers, senior or junior, please get in touch with either Mick Dean (Club Secretary) on 250037, or Keith Dalton (Club Chairman) on 250896 for more information on all our plans leading up to the next season.

*David Partridge*

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*Remember To Book Early!*

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# JOYS OF COTTENHAM PAST

Who would argue that Cottenham isn't a pleasant place to live? Why else has the village grown with successive waves of incoming townies? But was it always so attractive in the heroic age of rural bliss? Below, for the first time in full and direct from the manuscript, is a description of a visit to Cottenham in 1763 by Elizabeth Harris, wife of James Harris [who he? ed.] author and M.P. (a prig and a bad prig' according to Dr. Johnson [oh]), which she included in a letter to her son then newly gone up to Oxford. After describing Cambridge she continues:

'As to the Country about, 'tis the most disagreeable I ever saw. Your Father and I both agreed we would not spend a Summer at Cottenham to have the Dean's parsonage [i.e. the Rectory, Dr. Thomas Greene being both Rector and Dean of

Salisbury]. It is surrounded with Fens and you are teaz'd beyond expression with Gnats. We gott there about nine Saturday. The Dean's buttler came to your Father with a pair of leather stockings to draw on to protect his Legs, which is dreadful in Hott weather. And [as] to the Beds, there is a Machine cover'd with a Silk Net which lets down after you are in Bed to Cover one all over or there could be no Sleeping; and notwithstanding all these precautions we were most miserably stung. There are 1400 Cows kept in the Parish of Cottenham which feed on the Fens in the Summer; the water is in this dry season up to their Bellies. The natives dry the cow dung for Firing in the Winter so 'tis kept in heaps about the fields as is all the Dung of their yards so when you walk the stink is inconceivable everywhere. Mr. Harris took a ride to survey

these fens, and he says nothing can be so detestable. He talk'd with the Natives who told him that all Winter the water was constantly in their Houses above their ancles. the Dean's House and all belonging to Him is better than one could expect in such a Country but dull and flatt to a degree. All this among ourselves for I ought not to speak ill of a Country where we were so well received.'

We are grateful to the writer's and recipient's descendant, Lord Malmesbury, for permission to publish this extract from the original letter in Hampshire Record Office.

*Alex and Philip Saunders.*

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## LETTERS to the Editors

*Dear Editors*

As a newcomer to the village I feel hesitant about writing to you.

My subject is the Village War Memorial. First, because it is a very fine memorial; secondly, because it reminds me of my school memorial - it is almost a replica; thirdly, although it is well-tended, people in the village often discard their drinks cans and take-away litter on the flower beds, having trampled over

the flowers as well. One day I saw a group kicking a ball at the memorial: they ran off as I approached.

This attitude shows that, despite two schools in the village, their sense of village and national history is non-existent. They are unaware that those men whose lives are commemorated on the memorial were greater heroes than, for instance, any footballer, however famous. They gave their lives - and who can give more?

At my school, in the twenties and thirties the whole school assembled in front of the school war memorial on Armistice Day, and the moving

sadness and solemnity of that brief remembrance service has remained with me ever since. Many of my school friends names would have been added to the memorial except for the school being closed and demolished in 1945. [*was the memorial demolished as well? eds.*]

It is time for us to tell our children and grandchildren that for over 500 years the British were the greatest nation on earth.

*Walter Adams  
Rampton Road*

## CAMSIGHT THANK YOU COTTENHAM

CAMSIGHT (The Society for Blind and Partially Sighted) would like to thank the residents of Cottenham for their generosity and , in particular, the kind people who collected on our behalf 28th February - 7th March this year. The village raised £431.05 (£50.08 more than last year!!) towards helping blind and partially sighted people in the county. We are most grateful for this wonderful result.

*Mrs. Vicki Russell  
House-to-house collections co-ordinator*

*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. The views expressed by correspondents and other contributors are their own and are not necessarily shared by the Editors.*

*Deadline*

**FOR NEXT ISSUE  
25th OCTOBER**

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**Contact Peter Robertson on  
01954 200080**

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	Dr. M. Grande, 42 Telegraph Street.....	251180
Community Nurses.....	Answerphone or between 1.00 - 2.00 pm.....	251071
Cottenham CareCar.....	Co-ordinator, 9.00 am - 6.00 pm.....	251837
Cottenham Day Centre.....	Mrs. M. Gilbey, 45 Victory Way.....	251802
Cottenham Helpline.....	Co-ordinator, Monday/Friday (12.00 - 2.00 pm).....	201590
	Wednesdays (12.00 - 2.00 pm).....	250937
Salvation Army.....	Major Colin Hobson, 15 Pelham Close.....	250524
Dentist.....	R.J. Cook, Old Telephone Exchange, 40 Margett Street.....	251696
Chemist.....	R. Macbeth, 222 High Street.....	250556
Chiropodist.....	J.R. Kain, 13 Pelham Close.....	251143
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Schools.....	Cottenham Village College and Community Office.....	288944
	County Primary, Lambs Lane.....	250227
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Out of School Club.....		201661
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	Cambridgeshire County Council.....	01223 717111
Parish Council.....	Clerk - P.J. Sanderson, 37 Broad Lane.....	250836
District Councillor.....	Rex Collinson, 20 Rampton Road.....	251377
	Tim Wotherspoon, 135 High Street.....	252108
County Councillor.....	Peter Stroude, Shire Hall.....	01954 780008/782560
British Red Cross.....	Cambridge Office.....	01223 354434
Citizens Advice.....	CAB, 72/74 Newmarket Road, Cambridge.....	01223 353875
Social Services.....	Etheldred House, Histon.....	01223 235105
NSPCC.....	Cottenham Area Team, Peterborough.....	01733 558245
RSPCA.....	Area Number, Peterborough.....	01733 270046
Samaritans.....	Cambridge Centre.....	01223 364455
Railway Station.....	Cambridge, Passenger Enquiries.....	0345 484950
Taxi.....	Histon Cars.....	01223 515515
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