

WANTED.....WANTED.....WANTED -AGAIN!

YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU

Due to the imminent departure of Miranda, Michael and family to pastures new, this publication is again looking for some keen, public spirited people to take on the role of editors.

A normal sized edition takes one person about two working days to copy-type, proof-read, copy-write and assemble advertising and type-setter's schedules. It's not at all a daunting job and the reward is seeing the final product coming through your letter box, delivered by one of a team of volunteers, and the occasional compliment from people you may have never met before.

The January/February edition will be the last by the current editors. The new team would take over for the March/April offering, which will have a copy deadline of February 25th 1999.

So what is happening to Miranda and Michael? Well, they have been hoping for some time to find an opportunity to move to Ireland. It was a great surprise to them both when just such an opportunity arose a few weeks ago: a vacancy for a couple to run a large, walled, organic vegetable garden in County Wexford.

While they are sorry to have had

only a short spell as editors of the Newsletters, they are very much looking forward to their move in the New Year.

Issue Number 48

This is a bumper issue of the Newsletter. We are very grateful to everyone who has contributed to this edition, and to the advertisers, old and new, who make it possible to deliver the Newsletter to every house in Cottenham. We have just increased the circulation to 2,200 in order that we can deliver to new residents in the new housing developments.

Miranda and Michael

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VILLAGE DIARY

NOVEMBER

29th All Saints Grand Autumn Fayre. CVC. 11.00am - 4.00pm.
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.

9th Christmas Miscellany. W.I. Franklin Gardens, 7.30pm.

13th Christingle Service. All Saints Church. 6.30pm.
Salvation Army Corps Carol Service. 6.00pm.

20th Salvation Army Village Carol Service. CVC, 6.00pm.

22nd Quiet Communion Service in preparation for Christmas.
All Saints Church. 7.30pm.

24th Christmas Eve:
Blessing of the Crib. Christmas Service for children,
All Saints Church. 3.00pm.
Carols by Candlelight, All Saints Church. 5.00pm.
Midnight Mass, All Saints Church. 11.30pm.

25th Christmas Day:
Holy Communion, All Saints Church. 8.30am.
Christmas Day Eucharist, All Saints Church. 10.30am.

26th Holly Walk. All Saints Church, 10.30am.

29th Jazz Night in aid of Meningitis Research & the Meningitis Trust.
Sports & Social Club. (see article)

31st New year's Eve Party. Cottenham Village College.

1999

JANUARY

8th Village Society. Sue Oosterhuizen, "Cambridge from the Air."
Primary School. 7.45pm.

10th Christmas Tree Shredding. The Green or Broad Lane. 9am - 2pm.

13th W.I. Homeopathy. Franklin Gardens. 7.30pm.

29th Scottish Gardens. Mr. R. Grant. Gardener's Club. CVC. 7.30pm.



DIARY NOTES

Cottenham Toy Library -

Thursdays 2.30 - 4.00 - December 3rd & 17th; January 7th & 21st.

Refuse Collections - alterations for Christmas and New Year:

Christmas Day and New Years Day both fall on a Friday. The first collection after Friday December 18th will therefore be on Saturday January 2nd.

Normal collections resume on Friday January 8th.

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

SMALL ADS

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Telephone 01954 251204

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SMALL ADS

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

CHARITY CURRY EVENING

The Cambridgeshire Handicapped Children and Adults Group is to have a charity curry evening on Tuesday 24th November at the Tandoori Palace, 68 Histon Road, Cambridge. There will be a three course meal plus a glass of wine all for £9.50 per person. It is advisable to book on 01223 506055.

For more details contact Vic Pinner on Cottenham 250383.

THE RAMBLINGS OF A RABID RECYCLER

The top of a plastic bottle can be cut off and two holes punched to take a wire handle to hang the device on the tap of a rainwater butt. This helps to direct the flow when filling a watering can.



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- Little Ladybirds Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 2 years
- Baby, toddler, parent and carer group on Friday mornings (9-11.30 am)

Ladybirds pre-school is situated off Lambs Lane, next to the Primary School, behind the Sports and Social Club.

Please contact us for more details, or drop in to see our purpose-built facilities.

Supervisor: Rosemary Miller BA(Hons)
Registered Charity

OFSTED APPROVED

Chairperson: Jenny Bowles
Member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance

WHEELCHAIR BALANCE RECORD ATTEMPT

There is going to be an attempt at breaking the World record for wheelchair balancing at the Methodist Church on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of March 1999. The whole weekend is going to be dedicated to disability awareness.

The record is going to be attempted by local man Mr Nik Percival and his father Mr David Percival who has been in a wheelchair since breaking his back, aged 17, in a motorbike accident. He has participated in various events since being disabled, including 3 London Marathons, and previously held the record for wheelchair balancing by balancing for 33 hours. This record was broken by a friend of his from Holland: Burtus Brandhurst, who completed 36 hours.

While growing up Nik inevitably played in his father's wheelchair, and over the years learnt to balance it, although he has never attempted anything like this before. He and David aim to try balancing for 40 hours and are seeking sponsorship to enable us to upgrade the church to cater for all areas of disability including a hearing loop for the deaf and a ramp for the physically disabled.

As this is an official World record attempt it has to be timed and verified by independent witnesses to be allowed entry to the Guinness Book

of Records, so if you feel you would like to get involved, or you just want to know more, please contact me: Julie Percival, on 252647.

It is hoped there will be television and radio coverage so it should be a big event not only for the Methodist Church but for the village too.

COTTENHAM VILLAGE SOCIETY

The Cottenham Village Society Winter Session has begun. We meet in Lambs Lane School on the second Friday in the month at 7.45pm. The annual subscription is £3.00 but if you want to visit before you decide whether to join or not, you can come to any meeting. Besides our speaker meetings, social events and village walks, we do try to help in village life. We see the planning applications, help to monitor the footpaths and give an annual gift to the village. We have recorded the gravestones in both the Churchyard and the Dissenters Cemetery and these inscriptions are now in book form, one of the many books at present on display in the library, produced by the Society.

No one in Cottenham need be a couch potato. There is so much going on that we are spoiled for choice — but perhaps some of you may choose to give the Village Society a try. You would be very welcome.

THE REAL NAPPY GROUP

Calling all mums-to-be and parents with babies in nappies!

Did you know that every disposable nappy ever used is still rotting away in a landfill site? (It will take 200-500 years to decompose.) Or, that it takes a cup of crude oil to produce the plastic for one disposable nappy?

Environmental facts aside, the cost comparison speaks for itself: over a 2 year period (5020 nappy changes) you will spend £703 - £1104 on disposables as opposed to £250 - £280 on terries!

We are a small group of parents inviting others to join us in using and promoting the use of reusable, washable nappies. We aim to provide information, advice and encouragement, based on our own and others' experience of the choice and use of washable nappies.

Please contact Karin Fitch on 251700 for more information.

**TO ADVERTISE
IN THE NEWSLETTER
CONTACT
Peter Robertson
01954 200080**

G B Roofing

A few words from your Community Beat Officer

Welcome everybody, from your Community Beat Officer: Dave Sayward. I intend to place a regular article in the newsletter regarding any relevant crime issues. For my first input I would like to focus on "car crime". So, what can we do to deter car thieves?...

1. Lock doors, windows, boot and sun-roof every time you leave your vehicle, however briefly.
2. Take the ignition key out, even when the car is parked in your drive or garage.
3. Always use steering locks or any other security devices you have.
4. Don't leave valuables and other possessions on display. (Did you know that mobile phones account for 40% of car break-ins?).
5. Always remove the radio/cassette if you can.

Be vigilant, car crime does happen in your village. Good security acts as a deterrent.

On a lighter note, Neighbourhood Watch is well supported within the village. If anyone is interested in starting up a scheme please let me know.

PC 649 Dave Sayward.
Community Beat Officer. Telephone
no.(01223) 358966.

COTTENHAM SUPPORT GROUP

Are you lonely?

Do you feel isolated?

How do you manage to cope with those feelings?

Did you know that there is a group of people who feel similarly?

We meet once a fortnight on a Tuesday at The Hop Bind Public House in Cottenham for lunch and a chat.

We sometimes have speakers who visit the group.

We have all met new friends and for us it is an enjoyable time.

We would like to meet you!

If you are interested and think it might be just the thing for you please phone Anna Hawkins at Croylands in Ely on 01353 667974 for further details.

We look forward to meeting you

Please try to join us.

DAILY BREAD WHOLEFOOD CO-OPERATIVE

Are you interested/concerned about where our daily bread comes from; in wholefoods, organically grown and fairly traded products from Third World countries, as well as more locally produced?

Daily Bread is a wholefood co-operative that aims to combine social and spiritual objectives with Christian work.

They are based in the Kings Hedges area, trading and supplying a wide range of wholefoods; fresh organic fruit and veg; environmentally friendly cleaning/household products; and gifts, cards and wrapping paper from Oxfam,

Traidcraft and Shared Earth. They have a price list, and an option to buy in bulk or enough for one person.

If you are interested in taking the co-operative idea a step further, saving petrol and the environment, or perhaps you can't get there yourself, then maybe the concept of a buying group may solve some of these problems. Daily Bread can take orders by phone and prepare and pack them ready for collection. A buyers group could arrange a rota for collection and distribution of the order.

Interested? Contact Ros Keep on 01954 251850 for further information.

AGE CONCERN CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOW HAS A VILLAGE LINK IN YOUR AREA

Through contact with the Village Link, Age Concern is able to provide up to date information to older people. Topics such as benefits, legal issues, holidays, lifelines, insurance and ser-

vices we provide in the county are just some of the things we cover.

If you have a query or problem regarding any issue we may be able to help.

Your Age Concern Village is: Mrs. Rose Matin, Tel. Cottenham 252468 (9am-4pm). You can also contact Age Concern Cambridgeshire on 01354 696677

The Oakington Therapy Centre. 12 High Street, Oakington, Cambridge. CB4 5AG

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

THE OAKINGTON THERAPY CENTRE

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS *TOO*

Don't Miss out on Your Right to Vote

Voting is the most effective way to influence the policies of local and national government. But if you're not on the Register of Electors, you can't vote.

Most households in Cottenham will by now have returned their form to be included on the new register which comes in to force in February 1999. However, if you've missed out, don't worry. Just contact Helen Malkin (contact details below) and ask to be included.

If you can't get to the polling station yourself, you can arrange a POSTAL or PROXY vote. If you are ill long term, or disabled, this can be done by completing a form which will need to be countersigned by a doctor, nurse or warden of a sheltered housing scheme. If you work away or will be away for a particular election, the electoral registration office can supply you with an appropriate form to apply for a vote.

Students who are studying away from home can apply for a postal vote before any particular election but should do so in plenty of time. They can be on the Register of Electors both for their home community and for the place where they are studying and can vote in BOTH places in local government elections. All 17 and 18 year-olds

should be on the register - the former can vote as soon as they become 18.

For further information contact Helen Malkin, the Electoral Registration Assistant at South Cambs. Hall, 9-11 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1PB, Direct Dial 01223 443013.

During 1999 it is not expected that there will be any local government elections in Cottenham. However, there will be elections for the European Parliament on June 10th.

Dog Fouling

The law basically applies to all public places, including footpaths and verges, and the offence is now failure to clear up after your dog. The maximum fine is £1,000.

To avoid the risk of such a hefty fine and to help keep our village clean, please clear up after YOUR dog. If you want to report an incident where you have seen someone fail to comply with the law, contact Jackie Peyton, the Dog Warden, on 01223 443012. You will need to give details such as the time and place of the incident, a description of the dog and the owner's name and address if known.

A New City on our Doorstep?

Recently much publicity has been given to this possibility as well as to

proposals for a new town on Oakington Airfield. At present these are simply ideas being floated by particular agencies or would-be developers, but they will doubtless continue to be promoted by their backers.

South Cambs. District Council is opposed to this scale of development. Backed by support from a public survey last spring and from its own planning studies, the council is arguing for only minimal growth in South Cambridgeshire, and will be maintaining this stance when Planning guidance for the whole of the Eastern Region is considered at a consultation in public next February.

Make Your Views and Concerns Known

I am always happy to be contacted by residents, either at home (details on back page) or at my surgery at the Communal Room, Franklin Gardens from 5.30 - 6.30 pm on the 3rd Friday of the month.

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COTTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Your Parish Council, having noted the generous column inches afforded to their colleagues from the District Council in the last edition of the Newsletter, felt it was time that they got in on the act! We hope to be able to let you know what is going on at this, the first but most locally focused level of government, on a regular basis.

One of the reasons for using the opportunity offered by the Newsletter to contact the village is that we sometimes feel a bit cut off from the people who elected us. Parish Council meetings are open to the public, who although not allowed to participate in the business of the meetings, are welcome to listen to what goes on (and could always collar their chosen councillor afterwards!) In spite of this, it is most unusual for more than two or three members of the public to be present at a meeting. Even the annual Parish Meeting, at which residents can have their say, is poorly attended - only 12 people at the last one. Dates of meetings are posted on the Parish Notice Boards at the Post Office and near the Bus Stop near no 197 High Street.

A number of issues seem to particularly concern local residents. Of the comments made recently to councillors, a significant proportion have been about two issues, namely law and order and building developments.

At the last meeting we heard a report from PC Sayward, our local Constable, on the crime statistics for Cottenham and surrounding villages. These statistics show that while we are not snow white in Cottenham, we are certainly not suffering from a crime wave, and levels are by no means excessive for a large village like ours. In the village's

statistics, petty vehicle crime figures quite highly, and PC Sayward will be publishing some words of wisdom in the Newsletter on this subject.

On development, many people appear to be confused about the connection between the Parish Council and the Village Design Group. Very simply, there is none, at least in any formal sense, although individually some members of the Council are members of the Design Group and vice versa. The Parish Council has participated in the planning process for many years. Copies of applications and plans are sent to the Council from the Planning Department at South Cambs. District Council (who make the decisions!) on a regular basis, and comments from regularly held planning meetings go back to the District Council for inclusion in the decision making process. Councillors are bound by strict rules of interest and accountable through the ballot box. The Design Group was set up as the result of an initiative by the Department of the Environment and the Countryside Commission to involve local people in creating planning guidance for the villages in which they live. Membership is open to any resident. Their major task, jointly with the District Council, was the creation and publication of the Cottenham Village Design Statement. The group continues to make its views known to the District Council on planning and design matters. Although we don't always agree, we are totally in accord on one point - Cottenham cannot accommodate any more major developments!

Most people will be aware of the new Wimpey Homes development behind Beach Road and Denmark Road. Most

of the people who come to live there, however, will probably be oblivious to the local history just next door to them. Within living memory Cottenham was an important centre of the soft fruit trade, and Harry Gautrey one of the leading strawberry breeders in the country. The remains of his greenhouses can still be seen close to the site entrance in Beach Road. The Parish Council felt that this aspect of the village's recent past should be recognised in some way, and requested the developers to name their streets after some of the varieties which Harry and other breeders created. Accordingly we will now see "Brenda Gautrey" Way, "Leopold" Walk, "Sovereign" Way and "Paxton" Close. All were important varieties in their day, but now sadly both they and the local industry are almost extinct.

The Recreation Ground in Lambs Lane shares with the Village College the provision of sporting and recreational facilities for many village residents. Its maintenance is the responsibility of the Parish Council. The condition of the car park and access road has been cause for concern for some time, and at its last meeting the Council decided to completely resurface both of these areas. This work will hopefully be completed during the coming school half term.

We are patiently awaiting action from the County Council Highways Dept. on a number of outstanding projects including the relocation of the 30mph speed limit in Histon Road to Appletree Close, and parking restrictions at the Margett Street/High Street junction,

continued on next page

CAMBRIDGE
BUILDING SOCIETY

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FREE ESTIMATES

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Cottenham, Tel: 01954 200904

continued from previous page

both on safety grounds.

The Parish Council regularly receives requests for assistance from a variety of local charitable and other bodies, and tries to support as many as possible from its limited funds. At the last meeting, the Council made donations to the Cambridge Independent Advice Centre, the Cambridge Victim Support Group and a contribution to the costs of Cottenham's own Twinning Committee, who welcome our French "Twins" to the village on 7-8 November.

Finally, another date for your diaries. As winter approaches we look forward to one of the regular happenings on the village Green, the annual service around the Christmas Tree, which this year will be on the 22nd of December at 6.30 pm. The Cottenham Brass will be in attendance. And once Christmas is over, look out for the first signs of spring, from the 3000 crocuses planted on the Green this year.

FEN REEVES COMMUNITY WOODLAND

The Fen Reeves Woodland Group have organised their 4th Christmas Tree Shredding day. Arrangements have been made for trees to be collected at two points within the village: Cottenham Green and the junction of Broad Lane/High Street (the Pond). Trailers will be in place from 9am until 2pm for residents to bring their trees along. Shredded material is used as a mulch around the trees in the woodland, so your tree waste is put to good use.

The date for Christmas Tree Shredding will be Sunday 10th January 1999.

Offenders serving community sentences came to the woodland last March to spread the mulch around the trees. They also helped to fit tree guards.

Notes for your diaries

14th March 1999: Top up Tree Planting

day and the erecting of the new sign board. Help wanted. Please come along and show your support. We need as many people as possible to pop along, even for half an hour, to plant trees (many hands make light work).

If you feel you would like to find out more about the group, or want to take a more active role, please contact Andrew Snelson (Chairman) on 01954 200138, or Peter Coles, The Wake, 13 High Street, Wilburton, CB6 3RB.

We are seeking sponsorship for projects within the woodland. If you or your company would like to give financial help by sponsoring this environmental project, please contact the above. The Fen Reeves Woodland is owned by Cottenham Parish Council but relies on grants money only.

For those of you who have not visited the woodland for some time, I suggest during the Christmas break you pop along for a stroll just to see how well things are growing.

Peter Coles, Project Co-ordinator

Lights On - Lock Up

The clocks are going back. The nights are drawing in. Dark afternoons and evenings make it easier for the burglar. Now is the time to increase home security.

Six out of ten burglaries happen in the autumn and winter months. You can take a few simple precautions to make your property more secure:

- Don't leave your home in darkness**
- Leave a room light on when you are out**
- Shut and lock windows and doors**
- Draw curtains when lights are on**
- Don't leave valuables on open view**
- Mark your property with your postcode**
- Use external lights with sensors**
- Fit a strong, high side gate - and lock it**

CAMBRIDGE AREA CRIME PREVENTION PANEL
PROMOTING PREVENTIVE ACTION AND SUPPORTING CRIME REDUCTION INITIATIVES



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

CUP TUSSLE FOR COTTENHAM'S CRICKETERS

The final of the Cambridgeshire Cricket Association's Lower Junior Cup between Cottenham and Abbots Ripton (mentioned in the last Newsletter) took place at Abbots Ripton CC on Sunday September 20th. Luckily, after the earlier postponement for rain, it was a gloriously sunny day from start to finish.

Cottenham lost the toss and were put in to bat on a greenish wicket, but a fine opening partnership of 133 between Nigel and Dave Partridge settled everyone's nerves for the afternoon. Nigel played a brilliant innings of 91, containing 11 fours and 5 sixes and, after he was out, skipper Paul Ellsmore kept things ticking over with a brisk 43.

Cottenham's final total of 224 for six in 40 overs was more than satisfactory and a very daunting one for the home side to chase. They were quickly in trouble with both Chris Tuck (2 for 33) and Ben Lawrence (2 for 22) bowling fast, accurate opening spells and, by the twelfth over, Abbots Ripton had been reduced to 32 for 5, including a run-out after a superb piece of fielding by Jamie Taylor. From then on, it was just a matter of time before Cottenham finished things off, Paul Laston taking two late wickets to wrap things up at 125 all out.

The result more than made up for the disappointment of losing last year's final and everyone at the club is now looking forward to the 1999 season when we hope both the 1st and 2nd teams can continue the good progress they have made this year.

Just a reminder - don't forget that all cricketers, both young and old(er), should contact either Mick Dean (250037) or Keith Dalton (250896) for details of our winter nets and about signing on to play for the club next summer.

[The editors would very much welcome any other sports reports from Cottenham teams or individuals. A mid-season football report from Cottenham Utd FC perhaps?]

A BOOK A MONTH

Did you know that a new book club has been started at the Village College. So far we have enjoyed sharing our reactions to *The Shipping News*, *Captain Correlli's Mandolin* and *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 9th, 8.00pm at the Village College. We will be bringing along a well-loved book or poem to recommend to the group. We'll also be deciding on our next book for the meeting on January 13th. You are very welcome to join us.

For more information please contact Miranda at the Community Office, CVC. Tel. 288944.

MENINGITIS RESEARCH AND THE MENINGITIS TRUST

We would like to thank everyone who bought our Bedding Plants in the Spring, and supported our other fund-raising events which enabled us to send £1500 to the above charities.

Events to come include a raffle of 60 prizes to be drawn during the interval at C.T.W.'s Pantomime in the college at the beginning of

December, and also a Jazz Night to be held on Tuesday December 29th at the Sports and Social Club, Lambs Lane. Tickets £5.00. For details phone 201696.

Janet and Roger Byard, 51 Histon Road, Cottenham.

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FOXY RAMONE: DOIN' IT FOR THE KIDS...

Members of the Cottenham holiday playscheme are set to become pop stars following their appearance on a new compilation CD. The children, aged 5-11, sang backing vocals on a version of "I'm a Believer", the Monkees classic, given a punk-pop reworking for the '90s by inimitable local supergroup Foxy Ramone. The idea of incorporating "the Cottenham Kidz" on the track followed the ecstatic reception given to the band at recent performances at the primary school, and the finished song has its garage-y feel boosted by their enthusiasm, energy and high pitch crooning. The children were recorded on a portable 8 track recorder at the

Sports and Social Club in the Summer holidays, and their comments (as they removed their headphones) "that really hurt" form a fitting comment on the whole compilation.

The CD, released on R*E*P*E*A*T Records and available nation-wide through Backs Distribution from the end of October, is the brainchild of ex-Cottenham teacher Richard 'Badger' Rose. Featuring 7 other bands from around the country, it is called, appropriately enough, 'The Dustbin of Histon' and will also be free with initial copies of R*E*P*E*A*T Fanzine, available from Streetwise Records

(King Street) and gigs. A few copies of the previous release on the label, a vinyl 7" entitled "Straight Outta Cottenham", featuring Cottenham celebrities pictured on the front cover and a stirring early rendition of The Saffs' classic paean "Pamela Anderson", are still available.

BROWNIES IS BRILLIANT

Why don't you join Brownies? It's fun, it's wild and it's excellent, but most of all it's to make friends and learn what mums do. We go on a brownie camp very often and there we visit places, make things and have fun. When we're not at Brownie camp, we're at the Methodist Church, making things and sometimes we go to the green and collect conkers. And we go to Milton Country Park and more. In Brownies we have a promise and you have to obey that promise and help out around the house and everywhere. That promise is:

I promise that I will do my best
To love my God
To serve the Queen and my country
To help other people and
To keep the Brownie guide law.

There's six leaders, three main ones, the three other leaders are called Kim, Jo and Claire and the main three are called Wendy, Gill and Mary, but the Brownies call them Brown Owl, Tawny Owl and Barn Owl. Brownies starts at 6.15 and finishes at 7.45 on Thursday evenings. There are other Brownie packs as well.

Becky Hicks

Merry
Christmas

To all our read-

Pic 70%

R*E*P*E*A*T RECORDS Straight Outta Cottenham...

Home of

Out Now THE DUSTBIN OF HISTON 8 Track CD featuring Foxy Ramone and the Cottenham Kidz' version of "I'm A Believer" plus tracks by Freeboy, Return of Id, Alcopop etc. £2.50 inclusive*

Still Available from R*E*P*E*A*T Records

THE SAFFS : Supercharger 7" single - £2.50 inclusive*

STRAIGHT OUTTA COTTENHAM 4 track vinyl e.p. featuring The Saffs, Ex Boyfriends, Hinton and The Fridays, plus Cottenham kidz on the sleeve - £1.50 inclusive.

OH GRANCHESTER, SO MUCH TO ANSWER FOR 7" vinyl e.p. featuring Freeboy, Eden Park, Stripey and Autumn Stone - £1.50 inclusive.

Singles by ROLLERCO and RETURN OF ID also available for £2.50 inclusive.

Send cheques to J. Crane, 46 Wertheim Way, Stukely Meadows, Huntingdon, PE18 6OQ.

** Items asterixed are available nationwide in record shops through Backs Distribution*

R*E*P*E*A*T Gigs

November 26th at The Portland Arms with Spycatcher, Kaito and headliner to be confirmed...

December 6th at The Boat Race with Freeboy, Return of Id, Alcopop and Pala.

December 29th at The Boat Race with The Saffs, Rollerco, Dogboy and Foxy Ramone (tbc).

R*E*P*E*A*T Fanzine #12 available now from Streetwise Records, Portland Arms and Gigs

JASPER KAY'S BIRD REPORT

Watching birds is an all year round occupation. At this time of year butterflies disappear, flowers fade and some animals go into hibernation. Bird, however, are always with us, but they move around according to the weather and in search of food. So now in mid-October the summer birds have moved south, the winter birds are about to appear, but some birds use this area as a resting place on their way to their winter homes.

Among these birds I have recently seen Wheatears on open fields near Broad Lane. In the same area a Marsh Harrier was seen in September and also a Short-eared Owl. This is the only owl which hunts by day and they can sometimes be seen in small flocks. In early October I saw two Hen Harriers north of the village near the B1049. These

birds are all quite uncommon.

Bird-watching is full of surprises and one of the excitements is seeing birds in the wrong place. During the Summer a Redstart appeared in Rampton and a Wheatear was seen between Rampton and Oakington. Neither of them should have been here at that time! I also saw a Green Woodpecker on a telegraph pole, and an unexpected pair of Jays were near Cottenham Lode behind the High Street in early October.

I was invited to see a Sparrow Hawk which had killed itself flying into a window in Ivatt Street. It was a beautiful bird, soft to touch and with most delicate markings.

Who can explain the mysterious movement of swallows? After they had all disappeared in mid-September and

after a gap of three weeks, there were suddenly numbers of them in the village on the weekend of October 4th. And one evening I heard a Tawny Owl hooting near the centre of Cambridge!

FAREWELL TO SHAUN, KAAJAL AND FAMILY

Many of you will already know that Shaun and Kaajal Patel, their two daughters (and a baby due by the time you read this) are soon to leave Cottenham for an exciting new life in the United States. None of us know exactly where they are going to settle yet (not even Shaun or Kaajal): it could be Florida, or it could be California.

They have run the shop as a family business for eight years now. Shaun tells us that it will remain in the family, and continue to run as an independent shop.

Shaun says 'I would like to thank the people of Cottenham for your support over the years and hope that you will be happy that the shop will continue to provide the same service to which you are accustomed.'

On behalf of the village we would like to wish Shaun, Kaajal and family every success and much happiness in their new life in the States.

Miranda and Michael, Editors.

HOST FAMILIES FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS REQUIRED

For many years, families in Cottenham and other villages have been receiving students into their homes from other countries for short stay visits. We take care in providing for their needs, which are simply a bed and meals during their stay.

All of the families who take part in these programmes, which normally last for a few days on each visit, have reported back about the enjoyment and satisfaction they have had through taking part in the scheme. They have enjoyed the opportunity of showing youngsters from other countries the kind of home life we enjoy here in England, and in some cases there has been a holiday taken at the home of

some of the visitors due to the relationship that has developed between them and the parents of the youngsters following their excitement and explanations to their parents when they returned home from their stay in our country.

Early indications show that schools and organisations in many different countries that normally take their children on these short breaks, are wanting to visit England during 1999, and particularly Cambridge and nearby villages.

To allow this to happen successfully we need additional families to open their homes to these youngsters and

join the group of those who are currently involved. There are so many groups wanting to visit our area. I'm sure you would enjoy the experience.

If you have spare bedroom or two, and wish to know more, please phone Vic Pinner on Cottenham 250383.

B & C Motors

THE RECTOR OF COTTENHAM

Through the pages of the Cottenham Newsletter, may I please thank everyone who responded to our recent Gift Day for the new Church Hall. Well over £20,000 was added to the Rebuilding Fund on the one day through gifts or promises, with further money being received in the post from villagers on almost a daily basis since.

Many of the donations were unidentifiable, in fact some were given anonymously, so may I thank all concerned for their generosity. It is so pleasing to know that there is such support for the project in the village. I am sure it will please everyone to have such a fine new hall available for the community as well as church use.

If I may remind the readers of the Newsletter, donations can be sent to our

Treasurer, Mrs. Jean Gifford at Saddleback, 16b High Street, Landbeach, Cambridgeshire CB4 4DT, or left at The Rectory.

The Reverend Ian Friars.

[A PS from the editors - The Readathon, organised by Cottenham Churches together, was a great success. This sponsored event, aiming to read the whole of the New Testament, took place on 3rd October. The first reader kicked off at 6.00am, the last completed the task after midnight. £353 was raised for the victims of AIDS in Malawi.]

This year's Feast Day took place on 18th October. The collection, in aid of the Oncology Ward at Addenbrookes Hospital, raised £1,244.]

DECEMBER WILDLIFE

Christmas Robin

The Robin's association with Christmas is appropriate, for it is during winter that its colours are most marked, with its breast at its reddest and its back a rich brown. The Robin is quite a tame bird, often following gardeners and looking for insects and larvae as they dig up the ground.

The Robin is among a select group of birds that have an alarm call that other species recognise and respond to. Armstrong, in his influential study of bird songs, said "the woods became silent" when the Robin let out its penetrating 'tic-tic' distress song.

According to ancient historical records the Robin is mentioned as far back as A.D. 530. Saint Serf of Culross in Fife is believed to have kept one until it was killed in play by his pupils. Nevertheless it was miraculously brought back to life by the holiest of his students, Kentigern, who later became St Mungo.

Stuck for Christmas present ideas? Why not get a copy of David Lack's *Life of a Robin*. If you have an interest in local wildlife and want to help, then call The Wildlife Trust's membership Secretary, Jan Moore, on 01234 364213 for details on how you can make a difference. Membership would make a wonderful present too!

article in the next edition of Fen Edge News and come to the AGM.

Mike Herbert, Chairman, F.E.C.A.

FEN EDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Community Minibus

The minibus has been fitted with a powered tail lift which makes easy entry for the less able and wheelchair users.

The bus may be used by any group or individual providing they are members of the Community Association which ensures the necessary insurance cover. The driver must hold a Minibus Driving Permit issued by Cambs. County Council, this is arranged through the Community Office at the College.

Hire charges relate to usage in pence per kilometre; kilometres because the bus is fitted with a speedometer and tachograph which enables it to be used

on the continent. There are no other charges so it is easy to estimate the hire charge, providing you know where you are going!

Do not be put off if you do not have a driver as there may be one known to us who would be willing to help. Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Fen Edge Community Association
AGM

At the Annual General Meeting to be held in April next year there will be elections for the positions of Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. Please read the

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JAZZIN' AROUND!

Another session of 'Jazz in the Old Schoolroom' took place on Monday October 5th. It was our first anniversary and what better way to celebrate it than by playing host to The Dave Shepherd Quintet.

It was an amazing experience, for several reasons. Firstly, I'd never have dreamed that this would prove to be so popular. (In the early days the Memsahib was wont to pour not a little scorn on the whole idea and what my mental state must be to even consider it!) Secondly, once again the demand for tickets far exceeded the space available, it was sold out in a week! Apologies to all those who I had to disappoint. Thirdly, the musicians concerned put on a breathtaking show and it was a real pleasure to be able to enjoy such musical expertise, right here on our own doorstep!

We're well away now and sessions are booked right through to next Summer. By the time you read this, we'll nearly be ready to go off for our Christmas Party in the Training Restaurant at Cambridge Regional College, to savour New Orleans Cuisine and listen to the appropriate music. In February it's Digby Fairweather and Friends, in a tribute to the famous trumpet player, Nat Gonella, who died recently. In April we welcome the world famous Trombone player, Roy Williams, who started his career with Terry Lightfoot and then moved on to Alex Welsh. June sees the return of our old friend the pianist, Keith Nicholls, who this time appears with two other musicians as 'Keith Nicholls' Earthbound Spirits'! This will be Keith's fourth visit to

NEW SCOUT MEETING PLACE

Planning permission has been granted to build a new meeting place in Margett Street which will be a valuable village amenity for other groups to use besides Scouts and Guides. All the Scout (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts) and most of the Guide (Rainbow Guides, Brownies and Guides) groups meet at the Margett Street building. These groups provide popular activities for 6 - 15 year-olds that help to contribute towards village life.

Cottenham, but still, when you're probably the world's greatest stride pianist as well as being an expert on all forms of early jazz, not to mention a very entertaining Wit and Raconteur, you're bound to be popular.

If you want to be part of all this, make sure I have your name and address and you'll be mailed in good time. Ring me on Cottenham 250135 and I'll make sure you're included.

(What are we going to do when the hall is pulled down? Any suggestions?)

Tony Pearson

P.S. As all this has been so successful, I'm seriously considering starting a new venture: 'Classics in the Old Schoolroom'. These would run on alternate months to the Jazz and I could start in January, with some ex-Doyly Carte singers in an evening of Gilbert and Sullivan favourites. What do you think? I'd be interested to hear.

The existing asbestos building was built by parents over 20 years ago and, although it has done a magnificent job, a new, improved building is now required to cater for those groups that have expanded their adventurous activities to include canoeing, kayaking and climbing, in addition to the more traditional ones such as camping etc. The existing building is unlikely to last far in to the new millennium.

We are applying for grants and fund-raising locally. The total cost of our project is £49,000. Most of this is for building materials as much of the work will be undertaken by a team of parents and friends of the Scout Group.

We intend to lay the foundations and build a brick plinth for the stores, kitchen and toilet block by the end of 1998. Other work will then be undertaken as funds become available.

We have a separate account with the Cambridge Building Society for our Building Fund. We would be very pleased to receive any donations towards the new building. Please make any cheques payable to 2nd Cottenham Scout Group Building Account, and send c/o Mr. E. Smith (Treasurer), 34 Histon Road, Cottenham.

Ian Griffiths, Chairman, 2nd Cottenham Scouts.

R S MEMORIALS

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THE WATCHMAN COLUMN

Name that Housing Estate

Hats off to the parish council, or whoever it is that decides these things, for naming our latest housing development Cottenham Chase. It's an honest, non-nonsense name.

It would have been all too easy to call it The Brambles, in step with today's trend towards naming new estates after what was destroyed to make way for them. FoxHolme, Apple Trees, Lark Rise, Squirrels' Elm, Wheelwrights, The Warren, and all that cuddly bunny carry-on.

Perhaps the use of sentimental names betrays a subconscious collective guilt in displacing the natural order to make way for our housing requirements. Is Badgers' Drift really short for: Tough-on-you-Badgers-who-used-to-live-here-but-our-population-is-expanding-faster-than-yours-Drift?

Tenison Manor. Hmmm, a bit pretentious perhaps, but not cuddly. I guess they could have called it Sewage Treatment Works after the delightful installation which preceded the development. They certainly couldn't call it Battlements or somesuch, because the developer has been obliged to retain the mediaeval fortification on the site. And the rules of the game appear to be that you can only use a soppy name on the strict understanding that you destroy whatever it is you want to name the estate after.

Caution is also recommended. Do you remember a few years back when they built a new police station in St Ives, just up the way from here? It was nearly complete before somebody spotted that the new cop shop was being built in Pig Lane.

Hats off also to whoever got round to refurbishing Garside's Garage. It's good to see the building coming back to life - complete with those handsome diamond-shaped roof slates (not too sure about those new windows though).

For years we've been watching that building rot steadily. Everyone agreed it was a disgrace - and a highly visible disgrace at that, having such a commanding position in the High Street.

Perhaps we should reserve final judgement until the scaffolding and hoardings come down - but at the time of writing it's looking better.

The array of garden produce at this year's Autumn Show made the point once again: the event is unfairly tilted in favour of people who spend time working on their vegetable gardens.

What about us slothful gardeners who would rather do anything than go digging the patch? What is there for us at the Autumn Show?

We need some extra competition classes here, aimed at involving and encouraging us hopeless cases. The committee should call an extraordinary meeting at once to review the arrangements. I have a few ideas to get them started on the revised schedule of classes:

- Five diseased runner beans
- Five deceased runner beans
- A dozen terminally slug-damaged potatoes
- Most completely flavourless tomato
- Rudest-shaped parsnip
- Spray of pernicious weeds

And who will be the outstanding competitor to lift the trophy for 'Worst in Show' next Autumn?

WATCHMAN

[The editors wish to point out that this column, which threatens to be repeated, is none of our doing.]

SIGNING OF TWINNING CHARTER

On 7 November the parish councils of the four villages of Cottenham, Rampton, Landbeach and Waterbeach signed a twinning charter with Avrillé in the Loire valley in France. We hope that this will be the beginning of a long friendship, with many fruitful exchanges between the two communities.

As well as attending the formal twinning ceremony, which was very generously sponsored by Data Racks, our visitors were introduced to the delights of bonfire night - and were very impressed by our ability to stand for long periods in cold, muddy fields in November.

They also attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cottenham war memorial, and placed a wreath inscribed, "On this day, 8 November 1998, Avrillé joins Cottenham in honouring those who died during the two world wars"

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DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

Travellers

The situation at Smithy Fen had been allowed to get out of hand over the past few years, to the consternation not only of the settled population but also of those in the travelling fraternity with long-established connections in the vicinity, going back decades in many cases.

One of the main reasons for the delay was uncertainties in the law pending the outcome of the June Buckley case at the European Court of Human Rights. Action against illegal occupation of land could only resume with confidence when judgment was finally given in favour of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

No one should pretend that all the trouble caused in the village originates from transient residents. Youngsters throughout the village are prone to anti-social behaviour. That's what adolescence is about, after all! The difficulty posed by a high-profile minority, however, is the dangerous perception that there is one law for them and another law for the rest of us. By far the most effective way of minimising antagonism is to embrace all members of our community as equals. That means it doesn't matter who lives here as long as we all obey the same laws.

As a first step in regularising the position with regard to the travellers' encampments, discussions have been taking place with a view to bringing unauthorised developments under some form of planning control. This is a lengthy and delicate process, but the applicants and those dealing with them have all been willing to be flexible, and the outlook is optimistic for a mutually satisfactory settlement.

The Village Design Group

David Hussell, the Planning Director of South Cambridgeshire District Council, has been using his good offices in an attempt to marry the extensive knowledge of the village's history and geography, consultative status and electoral mandate of the Parish Council with the idealism, fluency and aesthetic sensitivity of the Village Design Group, to the end of hammering out a protocol for working together harmoniously in the future.

He has held separate meetings with both the Parish Council and the Village Design Group, but the Parish Council has declined to meet the Village Design Group face to face, even in the company of the District Council and the Countryside Commission. So what happens next?

Less Waste More Value

This is the government's National Waste Strategy. Its centrepiece is what is known as the waste hierarchy - reduce, re-use, recycle, dispose. Additionally the government's strategy promotes the "proximity principle" which means that waste should be dealt with as close to its source as possible. The aim is to make waste management processes more sustainable, in particular by moving away from landfill. The target is the one that provides the most benefits with the least ecological damage at an acceptable cost, in the long term as well as the short term.

The range of treatments includes materials recovery facilities, known as murphs, anaerobic digestion, large-scale composting, recycling, incineration with energy capture, and finally landfill.

Health

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council and Tim Wotherspoon recently met the managers of both general practices in Cottenham. Concern had been raised by some residents about delays in obtaining appointments, and fears that the problem might get worse as a result of the current growth of the population. Both practices stated that there was little or no delay if you wanted to see a doctor straight away, especially if it was an emergency. Should you wish to con-

sult a particular doctor, however, it would be necessary to wait until that particular doctor held a surgery. Both practices were aware of the developments at Broad Lane and Denmark Road, and the Parish Council will be writing to the Family Practitioners Committee to support requests for additional facilities to cope with higher caseloads.

Timothy Wotherspoon is available for consultation in the Communal Room at Franklin Gardens, 5.30 - 6.30 pm, on the first Friday of every month. Or you can contact him at home (contact details on back page).

MILLENNIUM AWARD - COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE SUCCESS

The Millennium Commission invited groups to apply for grants to help new, exciting projects get off the ground. A partnership grant with AGE CONCERN has been awarded to the Village College, to enable new initiatives to happen involving young people and over 60s.

So we hope that, with the £4,000 we have been awarded, we can bring some enjoyable events to our local villages - perhaps an outing planned by teenagers and senior citizens together, or a combined workshop for some particular interest (art, music, writing?); or, for those who are less mobile, some enrichment of life within your own four walls, again with help from young people.

Look out for more news of Millennium money over the next two years!

Jenny Kay, Cottenham Village College

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COUNTY MATTERS FROM PETER STROUDE

In touch with the people

Local authorities should give vision and direction to their communities. They have a vital role in improving the quality of people's lives. To address apathy about local government, with typically only a third of the electorate turning out to vote for councils, John Prescott wants to do away with the present committee system, whereby all but the least important decisions are taken by groups of councillors. Instead he wants councils to have clear leadership.

This should be embodied either by someone elected by the council or by a directly elected mayor. In both cases a cabinet of senior councillors would take key decisions. There could also be referendums on significant local issues, and voting may be made easier by taking advantage of new technology and ideas such as putting polling stations in supermarkets and other places which are already visited by lots of people during the day.

Best Value

Best Value means the highest quality and most efficient services that are possible at a price that people are willing to pay. Keeping costs down is important when the County Council is the largest single employer in Cambridgeshire. The four criteria on which Best Value is to be assessed are Challenge, Compare, Consult, Compete. This rote replaces Compulsory Competitive Tendering.

Cambridgeshire, however, already has one of the lowest spending county councils. It has the lowest total Standard Spending Assessment per head of any English Shire County. Cambridgeshire doesn't even receive the Area Cost Adjustment, a scheme to compensate south-eastern authorities for higher labour costs, which is awarded to neighbouring counties.

Education

A meeting of the Education Committee in October approved the significant enlargement of Cottenham County Primary School at Lambs Lane from 420 places in permanent accommodation to 570 places.

This follows almost unanimous agreement from parents, teachers, governors and the village in general that it would be preferable to extend the present site, even though it is far from ideal either in

shape or location, rather than risk dividing the village by building a second school somewhere else.

An eventual formal separation of infant and junior sectors within the one school might be appropriate. Alternatively the full primary age range may be managed more informally through upper and lower school managers within one set of premises. The desirability of maintaining all-through primary education on one site has been the overriding factor.

Design details have not yet been decided, but there is very strong feeling that the enlarged school should be equipped with a new hall big enough to hold the whole school at the same time. Representations have also been made about accesses other than from the front, to reduce the school-run congestion in Lambs Lane. Ajoining land in the possession of the County, District and Parish Councils could, with negotiation, be used to provide facilities or access.

The proposed enlargement is expected to be effective from September 2001. I am concerned, nevertheless, that construction at both big housing development sites in Cottenham is well under way. It would be preferable to have the buildings in place before the children arrive to fill them.

Monthly "surgery": County Councillor Peter Stroude is available for consultation in the Communal Room at Franklin Gardens, 5.30 - 6.30 pm, on the first

Friday of every month. Otherwise, you can contact him at home(details on back page).

NEWS FROM THE FEN EDGE PATCH

Most of our courses are now in full swing, but it is also possible to join them in the New Year, provided there are vacancies and the tutor can admit newcomers.

The Saturday Day Schools are just a one off event, so of course anyone can join in who would like to try out a new skill or develop one in which they already have some experience. The topics are very wide ranging, from Art and Crafts, such as Life Drawing, Painting, Batik, Porcelain; Family History and Antiques; Beginners Bridge; Cookery, and a foray into Hypnosis and Neuro-linguistic Programming.

There are also two language days, which are excellent ways of practising spoken German (January 16th) or Russian (January 30th).

Contact the Community Office at the Village College for further details: 288944.

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- developing footpath/bridleway and cycle routes
- organising volunteers to undertake conservation work in your area
- giving talks and leading guided walks
- countryside information and advice on grants. We have large displays on otters, willows, ponds and local walks
- habitat management for rare species.

There are a number of organisations

that have formed a partnership to provide the core funding: Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambs District Council, the Countryside Commission and the Wildlife Trust for Cambridgeshire.

If you have any ideas for projects or would like further information, please contact:

Sharon Hearle, Cambridge Green Belt Project, 3b Langford Arch, London Road, Sawston, CB2 4EE. Tel. 01223 712410, Fax. 01223 712412.

WHERE TO WALK IN COTTENHAM

If you are looking for some fresh air and exercise, and no longer potter about in your garden with the Summer jobs, you might like to explore the walks around Cottenham.

The Winter months are especially good for walking the footpaths, as the grass is low, and the views across the fens are often magnificent.

The Footpath Group recently published an attractive leaflet which shows all the Cottenham paths; short descriptions of local features are included, and some of the birds you can see are mentioned.

The leaflets are free. Help yourself to one from the library, the Post Office or the Village College.

COTTENHAM BOWLS CLUB

Another very successful season has recently ended on our Outdoor green on the Recreation Ground in Lambs Lane, with the annual presentation of trophies, buffet dance and social having been held in the Sports and Social Club.

The Bowls Club, with its own pavilion, provides plenty of games for members during the Summer season, since teams participate in the County Triples League, Cambridge and District League, and the Ely and District League. In addition there are many keenly fought Club Competitions and frequent barbecues.

Membership is open to Ladies and Gentlemen and in order to encourage more members to join our progressive club, an Open Day for those interested

in this very popular sport is to be held on 24th April next year. We hope to demonstrate that Bowls is a most enjoyable game and would welcome you to join us (further details later).

In the meantime, Tony Harding (tel. 252734) or Gerald Young (tel. 250172) will be only too happy to have informal chats regarding our club facilities.

AN INVITATION FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

The Fen Edge Community Association invites you to welcome in 1999 at the New Year's Eve Ceilidh at Cottenham Village College.

If you've been before you'll be familiar with what is on offer ... rousing

music from the Champion Band, less rousing but pleasurable music in the common room, and a range of entertainments for children and young people.

If you haven't come along before, you might like to give it some thought. It is a very enjoyable evening and while it caters well for those with young families, we aim to appeal to people of all ages.

Incidentally, for anyone who might wish to come unaccompanied, we can put you in touch with other unaccompanied people so that you can join a small, or not so small party.

Tickets will be on sale from Cottenham Village College in early November until December 18th.

Adults £7.00, Children/OAPs/concessions £3.50. Please book early.

For further information contact Miranda at the Community Office, CVC, Tel. 288944.

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ART IN THE DARK '98

An evening event and public workshops

Art in the Dark presented by South Cambridgeshire District Council returns to Milton Country Park after the success of the event in 1996 when over 2000 people visited the park within a 2 hour period.

The Event

As part of National Tree Week, Milton Country Park will be transformed into a magical arena of light, sound and sight featuring hand-crafted lights, songs around the brazier, shadow puppetry, tree stories and poems, tree dressing, sculpture and hot food and drinks.

The event is jointly promoted and organised by South Cambs. District Council Arts Unit with Cross Border Arts and will be held from 4.30 - 6.30pm on Saturday 28th November.

Entrance is free and the event is suitable for all ages.

See the work of local artists

Local Environmental artist, Jane Thewlis has been commissioned to create two sculptures especially for the

event, both of which will use natural materials, some found in the park itself. The sculptures - 'Heat Twister' and 'The Light Keeper', both created from leaves carefully stitched together, will involve an element of heat and light and will be an important feature of the event. The artist will be present during the event to talk about her work if required.

Community involvement

The event will be the spectacular culmination of a month's work by artists, local schools, out of school clubs, special needs groups and other community groups in the district in the celebration of trees.

Public workshops

There will also be an opportunity for the public to get involved in the preparation of the event by creating unusual tree decorations at a free workshop on Saturday 22nd November from 1 - 4pm at the visitors centre in Milton Country Park (no need to book). In addition associated activities such as tree planting and tree identification walks will be organised by the park Rangers on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th

November. For more details call the Rangers on: 01223 420060.

Everyone is welcome to Art in the Dark '98, so wrap up warm, (perhaps bring a torch) and come along and join us in this magical event.

For further information contact:

Emma Martin at South Cambs. District Council on 01223 443006

Thankyou

The Macmillan Cancer Relief coffee morning held at Franklin Gardens community centre raised £303.00. Many thanks to everyone for making this a great success.

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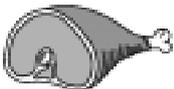
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HELP AVAILABLE FOR PLANTING TREES AND HEDGEROWS

Landowners who are thinking of planting trees or hedgerows this winter should contact the Countryside Management Team at Cambridgeshire County Council.

Planting trees and hedging has many benefits:

- restoring natural features which have been lost from our local countryside
- improving security
- providing somewhere for wildlife
- improving the Cambridgeshire landscape
- improving the health and well-being of local people
- encouraging people to use their local countryside for recreation.

We can help you with the following advice and grant aid:

- a free site visit to assess your planting site
- free advice on the practicalities of planting trees and hedging and selec-

tion of appropriate plants and materials - subsidised trees/shrubs and planting materials - free aftercare advice to ensure that your planting scheme is successful.

Are you Eligible for the Planting Scheme???

- If you have got space to plant 100 trees or 100 metres of hedging (minimum required for a grant scheme)
- If your planting site is on the edge of a village envelope or in the open countryside
- If your planting is visible to others from a road or public right of way
- If you can plant between the months of December and February.

Call the Countryside Management Team today on 01223 718404

This scheme is jointly funded by Cambridgeshire County Council and South Cambs. District Council.

HELP TO SAVE CAMBRIDGESHIRE'S PONDS

Over 11% of ponds in our county disappeared between 1985 and 1995. Securing a future for ponds in the Cambridgeshire countryside is now a priority.

Why should we care?

Most of Cambridgeshire's ponds are man-made features. They were once an integral part of rural life, providing water for people and livestock, fish ponds for the privileged, and places to soak cart wheels to keep the wooden joints tight in the days before motorised transport.

Today, ponds are more likely to be valued for their wildlife and beauty, and arguably for increasing the value of property associated with them.

Why are ponds disappearing?

Several factors have contributed to the decline of ponds in Cambridgeshire:

- Lack of management
- Drought
- Changing agriculture.

Help restore a pond in your local area The Countryside Management Team can provide free advice and grant aid to restore and manage old farmland ponds (garden ponds are not eligible for the

scheme).

If you own an old farm pond you could benefit from a generous 60% grant (up to a maximum of £1000 per pond) to help towards the costs of any tree surgery, excavation work or livestock fencing to restore old ponds to their former glory.

If you would like advice on pond restoration and to apply for grant aid, call the Countryside Management Team at the County Council on 01223 718404.

This grant scheme is supported by Cambridgeshire County Council and South Cambs. District Council. The grant funding available is limited and operated on a first come first served basis each year.



LETTERS to the Editors

Dear Editors

How much I agree with Mr. Adams' sentiments in his letter published in the last edition of the Newsletter. He highlights two serious problems in the world today: disrespect for our elders and betters, and disrespect for the Union Flag!

What I want to know (and the editors were very perceptive in asking this question themselves) is just what did happen to the War Memorial at Mr. Adams' old school? Was it too vandalised and destroyed when the school was demolished in 1945. What an ironic year for a war memorial to have disappeared, and at the hands of the very State that had been defended by those commemorated upon it!

Yours

*Elswick Bishop
Cottenham*

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.

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 Peter Robertson on
01954 200080**

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Police.....	Dave Sayward, Community Beat Officer.....	01223 358966
	Central Control.....	01480 456111
Doctors.....	Dr. Julie Gould, 188 High Street.....	250079
	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.....	Mr. Faber, Old Telephone Exchange, 40 Margett Street.....	251696
Chemist.....	R. Macbeth, 222 High Street.....	250556
Chiropodist.....	J.R. Kain, 13 Pelham Close.....	251143
Osteopath.....	R.J. Giddings, 12 High Street, Oakington.....	01223 237459
Veterinary Surgeon.....	R. Hughes-Parry, 66 High Street.....	252122
Schools.....	Cottenham Village College and Community Office.....	288944
	County Primary, Lambs Lane.....	250227
Pre-School.....	Lady birds Pre-School, Recreation Ground.....	250891
Out of School Club.....		201661
Council Offices.....	South Cambs. District Council.....	01223 443000
	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, Home Farm, Longstanton, CB4 5BT.....	01954 78000
British Red Cross.....	Cambridge Office.....	01223 354434
Citizens Advice.....	CAB, 72/74 Newmarket Road, Cambridge.....	01223 353875
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RSPCA.....	Area Number, Peterborough.....	01733 270046
Samaritans.....	Cambridge Centre.....	01223 364455
Railway Station.....	Cambridge, Passenger Enquiries.....	0345 484950
Taxi.....	Histon Cars.....	01223 515515
Library.....	Margett Street.....	273322
Library Doorstep Service.....	Hilary Firth.....	01223 718358
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Baptist Church.....	The Rev'd Paul Lane, The Manse, 3 Goode Close.....	252378
Methodist Church.....	The Rev'd Helen Gardner, Wesley House, 250 High Street.....	250242

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30 Lyles Road, Cottenham 200080

PRINTED BY:

TARGET LITHO, Unit A, 299 High Street, Cottenham T: 251189 F: 252080

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