

DISCIPLES OF SCROOGE CELEBRATE AS NEWSLETTER IS SET TO FOLD

A small group of village residents have something extra to celebrate this New Year as it becomes increasingly clear that the Cottenham Newsletter is likely to fold after its latest issue.

Following the shock resignation of the new editorial team after only three issues, the vacancies were advertised in the November edition. Since no-one has come forward to take on this crucial position on the production team, an emergency meeting has been called to discuss the future of this village institution.

It is feared that local backers will withdraw their support imminently should the next issue, due out at the end of March, fail to appear.

The Newsletter has, for many local people, become an important source of information about local events, local services and the activities of the parish, district and county councils. Equally,

over the years, it has carried countless entertaining and informative articles. Many readers look forward to the numerous serial contributions, some of which have run for several years.

So why is this much valued, locally produced publication about to hit the wall? It takes two people a day to produce one issue. That's just one day's work every two months. Prior to the last change of editorship someone had kindly offered to do the copy typing which is a major part of the job. The typesetting is ably done by Neil Shaw, and the business management and distribution are secure in the hands of Peter Robertson supported by a band of faithful volunteer deliverers.

The editors just have to collate, copy-type and proof read the articles; produce schedules for the printer and business manager; and finally check the proofs before they go to print. Couldn't be easier!

So how about it?

If you are interested in joining the production team, please contact Peter Robertson: Tel. Cottenham 200080. The deadline for the next issue should be 25th February. We would urge all the regular and occasional contributors to submit articles to Peter, and ask our advertisers to please be patient; we are confident that the Newsletter has years of life in it yet.

So come on reader, don't wait for somebody else to step forward!

Miranda and Michael

And last, but not least, a warm and fond farewell to Cottenham from us. We have spent a very happy five years here and, although we are looking forward to our move, we are sorry to leave the village and all those of you who have made happier those years with your friendship and kindness.

COTTENHAM TYRE & AUTOCENTRE

210 HIGH STREET, COTTENHAM Telephone (01954) 250104
M.O.T. Work – Body & Paintwork – Welding – Engine Tuning

SERVICING – TYRES – EXHAUSTS

Batteries – Punctures – Wheel alignment – Autoparts shop
'LET YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS DO THE BUSINESS FOR YOU'

VILLAGE DIARY

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

16th Parish Council Meeting. CVC Library. 7.30pm.

24th The Impact of Development on Wildlife.' Cottenham Village Design Group, (plus AGM). CVC Library. 7.30pm.

SMALL ADS

COLOURFUL COCKERELS

Free to good homes
Contact Finn Johnson
Phone: 206080
Fax: 250009

SMALL ADS

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

THE RAMBLINGS OF A RABID RECYCLER

The canvas of an old fashioned crib makes a good 'humper-dumper' of garden rubbish if rope is threaded through the sides (where the rods were) and used as hand holds each end.



DIARY NOTES

Cottenham Toy Library -
Thursdays 2.30 - 4.00 - February 4th & 18th; March 4th & 18th.

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

COTTENHAM UNITED SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

The Social Behind The Sport!

DISCOUNT FOR MEMBERS

*"Hire The Hall
For Your Celebration"*

DISCO ON REQUEST
HELIUM BALLOONS AVAILABLE
FULLY STAFFED GREENE KING BAR
USE OF KITCHEN ON REQUEST

1995/96 - Refurbished Lounge Bar
1996/97 - New Stage, Redecorated Hall With New Lighting
Refurbished Gents!
NEW for 1997/98 - Refitted Kitchen And Maybe The Ladies!

Remember To Book Early!

CALL THE BOOKING SECRETARY TEL 01954 250884

SIVE

My baby sister is very well. She was born on Monday night [November 9th], she is very sweet. I love her very much, she is called Sive.

Maggie O'Bolguidhir

GIRLS BRIGADE

I go to Girls Brigade. It's fun. You play and have a break and some sweets at the end of Girls Brigade.

Maggie O'Bolguidhir

[Girls Brigade meet every Tuesday evening from 6.00 to 7.30pm in the Methodist Hall (opposite the Co-op)]



LADYBIRD PRE-SCHOOL COTTENHAM

HIGH QUALITY-LOW COST CHILDCARE

TELEPHONE (01954) 250891

We provide

- Separate "preparing for school" sessions for children starting school '99
- All day sessions (9 to 3) or lunch sessions from 3 years
- Morning/afternoon sessions from 2 years 9 months
- 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



NEW BRIDGE CLUB

Can you play bridge? Do you want to play more bridge? A new Bridge Club is being formed in Cottenham. It will be a friendly club, playing mostly rubber bridge with the occasional duplicate evening. Come on your own or bring a partner. All standards will be catered for, but you will need a basic knowledge of the game.

The Club will meet at the Conservative Club (upstairs) every second Thursday night from 7.30 to 9.30pm, cost £1.00 per person and you will need to bring a pack of cards.

The first meeting will be on Thursday 28th January. So why not join in for a rubber or two, and perhaps a beer? Please call Ian or Joanna Griffiths on 251798 for further information, otherwise just come along.

A REAL ALE EVENT IN COTTENHAM

Imagine the scene: a warm, sunny July afternoon, you are in a green, shady garden listening to live music and sipping real ale...

Interested?

If so, perhaps you and others would like to organise such an event to coincide with an Arts Fair in Cottenham on Sunday July 4th.

The Campaign for Real Ale may help out; they have a Cambridge contact.

The Community Association's planning committee would back up and help with the organisation of such an event, should a willing group step forward.

Please contact the Community Office on 288944.

MILLENNIUM MONEY

We have been lucky enough to be awarded a grant from the Millennium Commission, through Age Concern, for partnership projects between students at the Village College and our over 60s (not at all elderly nowadays). Young people will have the resources to work with older ones, to their mutual pleasure, in a variety of different ways. The most important element is to share experiences and skills.

We shall be celebrating 'words week' at the College in February; adults over 60 are invited to come to a workshop run by well known visiting writers, to share an enjoyment of words. We should be really pleased to hear from anyone in our village who would like to join in - transport provided. An exciting new idea. Please contact the Community Office on Cottenham 288944.

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

Ralph's Workshop

Unit 11, Watson's Yard
Cottenham

Tel: (01954) 250502

**MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICING
AND REPAIRS
M.O.T. WORK**

*Parker Decor
Painters and Paperhangers*

56 Wilkin Walk
Cottenham
Cambridge
CB4 4TS

*For free estimate
please ring*

Cottenham 251553

G B Roofing

COTTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

After the last "bumper" Newsletter, residents need not complain about a lack of information on local government issues! The Parish Council's offering, its first in the Newsletter, was intended as an overview of the Council's recent activities, and as such was fairly lengthy. This and future items will concentrate on current issues and hopefully occupy fewer column inches!

The car park and roadway resurfacing at the recreation ground mentioned in the last issue has been completed. Unfortunately the same can not be said for the outstanding jobs requiring attention from the County Council Highways Dept. We are now informed that the two projects mentioned in the last edition are the subject of "Consultation". This consultation process must be very complicated, as the speed limit changes in Histon Road were first requested by the Parish Council (and agreed in principle) 2 1/2 years ago!

On the subject of the Recreation Ground, Rex Collinson's comments on Dog Fouling in the last issue are particularly relevant. It has been reported that people have been walking on the rec. with their dogs and even standing with them on the touchline at football matches. Because of the obvious health risks to sports players and to children who use the play areas would all dog owners please note that their pets are unfortunately **NOT ALLOWED** on the recreation ground, **EVEN ON A LEAD**.

The practice of fly tipping, or illegal dumping, in the Long Drove and Smithey Fen areas seems to be on the increase again. To people who spend most of their time in the village itself this may seem somewhat irrelevant, but to the local farmers it is a real problem. Rubbish, ranging from builder's rubble and garden waste to scrap cables, metal and even (hopefully empty) gas cylinders, is simply dumped in field gateways and on verges - just to avoid the

cost of legitimate disposal. Amazingly, if in a gateway it is the farmer's responsibility to clear it away. Imagine having a pile of scrap appear in your drive and being told you must pay to have it removed! And there is the added possibility that toxic or dangerous waste is dumped. The County and District Councils claim to be unable to act, and the Police can not bring prosecutions without witnesses. If you do happen to see anyone engaged in this antisocial and potentially dangerous practice, please pass on their vehicle registration to the authorities.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday, February 16th 1999, at 7.30 p.m. in the Village College Library. If you have a matter you would like raised, please get in touch with a parish councillor or write to the Clerk.

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

**OSTEOPATHY • SPORTS INJURY & REHABILITATION • MASSAGE
ACUPUNCTURE & CHINESE HERBAL MEDICINE • HOMŒOPATHY**

Roger Giddings DO, MRO Richard Starmer-Jones DO, MRO Sally Beazleigh DO, MRO

Gillian Brady BSc Ost. (Hons), MRO Oliver Russell BSc Ost. (Hons), MRO Karen Prince DO, MRO

Joel Jaffey PCH, LCH Tony Sugden MBac.C Dr Jidong Wu Master Deg. Medicine Sue Bates ITEC David St. Laurent MIPTI ACE AIMLS

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

THE OAKINGTON THERAPY CENTRE

THE WATCHMAN COLUMN

A Crash course in Driving Cars and Supermarket Trolleys

Imagine that someone suggested you strap yourself into a half-ton box made of metal, glass and plastic and propel yourself at high speed directly at a stranger coming in the opposite direction. Nature's bungee artistes, sky divers and ski jumpers might take up the challenge, but I think most people would decline.

And yet this is what so many of us do every day. With barely a thought for our personal safety, we drive our cars almost directly at one another at accumulated speeds of up to 120 mph. And miss each other only by about four feet.

But the most truly courageous road users are those bold combatants who go unprotected - pedestrians, pram pushers, dog walkers, hitch hikers, road menders, joggers and the like. And let us not forget the two-wheeled heroes who travel on bicycles and motorbikes, or indeed, the three-wheeling elite who pilot the nation's Reliant Robins.

No wonder this continuous and

potentially deadly highway duel claims so many lives. If somebody invented the motor car now, it would never be allowed on the roads.

While we're on the subject of head-on collisions, have you tried pushing a supermarket trolley round the Cottenham Co-op? It's none too easy for two adults carrying wire baskets to pass one another without executing a nimble country dancing manoeuvre in those narrow gangways between the shelves. Two trolleys is grid-lock.

Since the reorganisation of the store's layout not long ago, customers have been wondering at the logic of the narrower aisles. Surely, they say, you might expect a supermarket interior designer to be able to get his or her head round the elementary geometry of trolley dimensions versus aisle width.

I grazed the shin of an elderly woman with my trolley in the Co-

op recently, so I feel acutely about this. I don't know why supermarket trolleys are designed to make a sudden lurch to one side every couple of metres. But the unfortunate lady was right in the line of lurch - in that confined space. I could do nothing but apologise. And she could do nothing but wince.

It's a fact that you can't hide from anyone in a supermarket, least of all from someone you've just injured. You always meet them again coming up the next bay. Even if you lie low among the tinned vegetables until you think the coast is clear, as soon as you emerge you will see your victim coming straight at you. Limping.

Perhaps there are plans afoot for another reorganisation, with two-lane facilities especially for supermarket charioteers. In the meantime I guess we shall just have to carry on dancing in the aisles.

WATCHMAN

Clements Hardware

136 High Street • Cottenham • Tel: 206356

For all your everyday needs;

Garden & Timber Products

Pet Foods

Fishing Tackle & Bait

Electrical Goods

Paint & D.I.Y.

Ironmongery & Tools

and much much more.....

Come in and see us, we'll be pleased to help you

JASPER KAY'S BIRD REPORT

The movement of birds is a fascinating mystery. At the beginning of November the Fieldfares - winter birds - were back with us. The mature hedges on Long Drove were full of them, and their noisy calls could be heard from far away. But during a warmer spell, later in November, they had all disappeared, and now (mid-December) they are back again. Where had they been, and are they always the same birds that return?

Most of the Blackbirds we see in Winter are male. We know that the females move south in search of warmer weather and more food, but no-one knows quite why. And the Blackbirds here now? Are they the same blackbirds which spent the Summer here, or have they come from further north?

Years ago, bird-watchers thought that Swallows and House-martins spent the Winter hibernating in caves and even in the mud at the bottom of ponds. We know now, of course, that they migrate to Africa.

As a change from looking at birds in the garden have you thought of going to Milton Country Park? In a short visit there in mid-December, I saw about thirty different birds within an hour. These included Sparrow-hawk, Bullfinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker and Green

Woodpecker; and on the lakes, Heron, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Gadwall and Great Crested Grebe.

I also went a bit further afield to Welney to see the birds being fed in the afternoon. This is a marvellous sight, whether you are interested in birds or not. You can sit in a heated hide and listen to the commentary by the expert as he or she feeds the birds. When I was there, there were over a thousand birds only a few yards away from us: three different species of swan, different geese, ducks and waders. Most of the ducks were male Pochard (the females having flown south). The wide expanse of water and sky, the sight and noise of all the birds make it an unforgettable experience.

JANUARY- WILDLIFE

Now that Christmas has passed it is time to look for tracks and signs of animal movement, especially deer. The deer of Cambridgeshire are becoming increasingly adventurous, some venturing to within shopping distance of the Grafton Centre. There are four species of deer that inhabit this region; the native Roe, the introduced Fallow (sometimes

travels under the pseudonym of Bambi), Muntjac and the Chinese Water deer.

It is believed that Fallow deer were introduced to Britain by wealthy Roman settlers some 1500 to 1800 years ago. It was quite usual for them to bring with them the amenities that they were accustomed to at home. They are the largest of the four species, growing up to three feet high and weighing 12 stone or more. Keep a look out for them feeding at either dawn or dusk.

Winter is the best time to look for trails and it can be an interesting experience following snow prints. You may be surprised at how far they go and at the abruptness with which they finish. Some deer have been known to leap off the track when alarmed leaving no visible sign. They have even retraced their footprints to avoid someone or something ahead of them.

If you enjoy learning about wildlife and want to preserve local reserves then consider joining The Wildlife Trust.

Call the Trust's membership Secretary, Jan Moore on 01234 364213.

CAMBRIDGE
BUILDING SOCIETY

VACUUM CLEANER SERVICE & REPAIR

Brian Honey, 44 Denny End Road
Waterbeach

Telephone: 01223 861708
evenings and week-ends

FREE ESTIMATES

Your Local Agent: Ruth Steventon, 24 Victory Way
Cottenham, Tel: 01954 200904

BABY MILK ACTION

This is a chance for you to make a difference without it costing you a penny.

Nestlé, the maker of Nescafé, promote artificial infant feeding around the world, breaking a World Health Organisation (WHO) code of marketing.

The WHO and the United Nations Children Fund say that reversing the decline in breast feeding could save 1.5 million lives every year.

A bottle-fed baby is up to 25 times more likely to die as a result of diarrhoea where water supplies are unsafe.

Baby Milk Action urge you to boycott Nescafé until Nestlé markets its baby foods ethically.

Please change what you buy, and let both the shop and Nestlé know why. Consumer pressure does count. Baby Milk Action urges you to listen to what is ACTUALLY happening in the developing world.

For further information please contact:

Baby Milk Action, 23 St. Andrews Street, Cambridge, CB2 3AX. Tel.(01223) 464420. <http://www.gn.apc.org/babymilk>

If you would like to write to Nestlé directly the address is Mr Peter Blackburn, Managing Director, The Nestlé Company, St George's House, Croydon, CR9 1NR.

Jenny Bowles

***ON THE PULSE* - News from Cambridge Community Health Council**

How should the Health Authority Spend our Money?

You will have read in the press that the Government is making extra money available for the NHS. This sounds great, but the money is spread over 2 or 3 years and has to cover inflation etc. and is often targeted to specific areas.

Each year Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Authority has to decide how to purchase health services on our behalf. It is no easy job to set priorities between such diverse areas as Mental Health, Cancer, Children, Ambulances or the vitally important Community Services to name just a few.

The Government has its views about some national priorities, but local people who rely on local services want to have an impact too.

Cambridge Community Health Council will be hosting four public meetings in the New Year for members of the public to hear about the plans.

Chairman, Valerie Leake says, 'we want you to have the opportunity to tell the Health Authority what you think is important.'

The Health Authority's proposals will be announced at the Board Meeting on Thursday 17th December. The formal consultation period begins on January 8th and lasts for a month.

The dates of our meetings are:

- Friday January 8th, 10.00am - 1.00pm (South Cambs)
- Tuesday January 12th 2.00 - 5.00pm (East Cambs)
- Tuesday January 19th 6.00 - 9.00pm (South Cambs)
- Monday January 25th 2.00 - 5.00pm (Cambridge City)

We would like you to tell us which are your top three concerns about local health services. Please complete and post the tear off slip below to:

**Cambridge Community Health Council
5 Wellington Court
Cambridge
CB1 1HZ**

These are my top three health concerns:

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....

ST. GREGORY FOUNDATION

You may remember reading about the St. Gregory Foundation in the Newsletter a year or so back. The charity provides direct support to those who are in need - the young, old, sick, poor and disabled. It was set up in 1991 in St Petersburg with the help of the Russian Orthodox Church and is a non-religious, non-restrictive charity. The response to our appeal for donations has been wonderful, particularly in Cottenham. We know from feedback that it is making a big difference to the lives of people hitherto helpless.

There are broadly speaking three main areas of need. First, there are workshops which help people to support themselves - sometimes in disused munitions factories, or in small groups at home where people either with disabilities or with disabled dependants who can, with an old sewing machine, materials, a supply of wool, knitting needles, toy or lace making equipment, support and feed her family. A disabled group can buy food on the proceeds of such home crafts. For these groups we need fabrics for dress-making and home furnishing - even small pieces left after cutting can be useful, and of course sewing and knitting machines. Also curtains, knitting wool, stuffing, embroidery

materials, interfacing, leather, haberdashery of all sorts - threads, pins, zips, scissors, tape measures, elastic, ribbons, bindings.

Next, first aid is supplied to psychiatric hospitals and other institutions, e.g. bed linen, towels, blankets etc. The third category includes good quality second hand clothing and shoes, which are distributed to the poor and often homeless of Peterborough, Moscow and remoter Russian regions.

Recently, there have been problems with Russian customs, whose bureaucrats practices can vary from month to month. This involves delays in distribution. Given that the needs are not restricted to St Petersburg the charity has adopted a flexible policy of sending aid to ports where it is more likely to get through. Other recipients include towns far to the North of St Petersburg which are remote from any tourist centre together with Moscow orphanages and childrens' homes. Recently an appeal was received from the Ukrainian Embassy concerning a severe ecological disaster in Transcarpathia. In November long and heavy rainfall caused extreme flooding in 120 towns and villages affecting a population of 400,000. Tens of thousands

of people have been left without food, water, clothing and other elementary necessities. Fortunately in Cottenham we had a large consignment of donated clothing waiting for collection and this will be on its way to Ukraine in the next few days.

If you are having a post-Christmas clear-out. please remember these needy people. If you have a donation please ring us on Cottenham 251667 to arrange delivery/collection. Our address is 102 High Street, Cottenham.

We are occasionally overwhelmed by responses in the Cambridge area and as the central warehouse in London fills up, shipments are dammed back to our limited Cottenham space. If you have, or know anyone who has, any dry storage space which could be made available for periods of up to six months, we would be grateful to hear from you. We had thought of moving into the garden shed but it seemed a bit drastic - CAN YOU HELP?

Liz Cook

R S MEMORIALS

**TO ADVERTISE IN
THE NEWSLETTER
CONTACT:**

**Peter Robertson
01954 200080**

LOOKING AFTER YOUR HOME BEAT THE BURGLAR

It's that time of the year: dark evenings. So what can we do to prevent burglaries. Most burglaries happen when a house is empty, so make sure the place looks lived-in:

1. Use timer switches to turn on lights, radios etc.
2. Good lighting and infrared sensors outside.
3. Lock your windows and doors (are they fitted with strong locks?)
4. Don't forget - 'Postcode your property' - marked property can deter burglars.

Finally, don't advertise your absence when you're on holiday, or even out at work. Get a friend or neighbour to look after your home, for example by collecting mail left in the letterbox and adjusting the curtain.

Be vigilant!

PC649 Dave Sayward

A WOODLAND ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Sites are needed to plant Millennium Woodlands throughout South Cambridgeshire. South Cambridgeshire District Council is marking the Millennium by helping to create up to ten community woodland areas throughout the district.

A small number of possible sites have already been identified, but if the scheme is to be successful, people are invited to come forward with more suggestions for land for woodland areas. Parish Councils are already actively looking for sites, but suggestions are welcome from other groups and individuals.

An ideal site would be:

- **between 5 and 20 acres**
- **located within about a mile of an existing village or town with access for the public by footpath or road**
- **not in close proximity to another woodland which is open to the public**

The scheme has the backing and expertise of the Woodland Trust and will use money from the Millennium Commission, and a contribution from the Council. An important element will be the involvement of local communities in designing and planting the woodland and local area fund-raising, to

ensure community ownership.

Councillor Alan Wyatt MBE, Chairman of the Council and the Millennium Working Party, which is the steering committee for this initiative, commented 'the aim is to create woodland areas throughout the District so that as many people as possible have a woodland within easy reach. If you think a suitable site might be available, which could be given or sold, we would be delighted to hear from you.'

If you think you might know of a suitable site for a woodland in South Cambridgeshire please call Paul Swift on 01223 443017.

B & C Motors

COTTENHAM BOWLS CLUB

Our Bowls Club prides itself with one of the better greens in the area, thanks to maintenance by dedicated and very skilled volunteers among our membership. Much work, such as top dressing etc. has been undertaken already and improvements to the watering system are in hand.

We have teams, which include ladies, in three leagues and there are friendly games together with many competitions for the numerous Club trophies. It follows that there are

plenty of games for members as well as afternoon roll-ups. In spite of ever-rising costs the Club has maintained a very reasonable annual fee for membership.

New members (male and female) will be welcomed for next season and a free introductory day for all wishing to enjoy bowls has been arranged for Saturday 24th April. First timers are especially welcome when they will be introduced to Bowls and invited to play on the

Green (bowls will be provided). Bowls is increasingly popular and you won't appreciate what an enjoyable game you are missing until you try this super summer game.

Why not have a go, free of charge and without obligation in your own village? If you are interested, please have an informal chat with Tony Harding, tel. 252734, or Gerald Young, tel. 250172, and make a booking for next April.

NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW THAT ...

When a naval ship of the late 18th Century anchored off a port few of the ship's company were given shore leave. Most of the sailors were 'pressed' men and could not, therefore, be expected to return after shore leave. The Admiralty, in their wisdom, allowed women to visit their husbands.

Those who did not have a wife found that there was a ready supply of females in most ports quite willing to visit the ship and be registered as a wife thus giving rise to the legend that 'a sailor has a wife in every port.'

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

CLOSED ALL DAY MONDAY

TEL 01954 250257

TOPS

**DRIVING
SCHOOL**



Your local driving school, specialising in one-to-one tuition for both the Theory and Practical tests.

Dual-control car • Competitive prices
Discount for pre-paid bookings
2-hour assessment lesson at reduced rate

TEL: Mike Bellars DOT. ADI 01954 252239

**Mobile 0410 480364
Freephone 0800 458 8300**

J.J & M Painters & Decorators

Internal & External

Free Quotations
& Advice
Tel: 01223 262431

INSERT
ROLLER

FAREWELL MOYRA

Hello again! I'm sorry you have not heard from me for ages. No, I have not gone away, I am still here. Though I do have a confession to make, a real one this time. I have decided that since my illness last year, I am unable to cope with taxi-driving any more. No one medical or governmental has told me that I can't taxi again. I have had to be honest with myself and admit that I just have not got that sort of energy now.

At this point I must say a very big thank you to everyone for your amazing loyalty, support and kindness throughout the whole (nearly) 14 years of my taxi service. Without you I could never have earned a living. I gained much more than a living from the taxi job I did. I met all sorts of people from all walks of life and enjoyed the many conversations we had. I was able to learn so much from people, and in fact the job made me grow up. I have visited places all over the country and enjoyed many a day exploring new places.

I am not going round considering myself to be an ill person in any

way, nor am I looking for sympathy. However, I realise every day how lucky I am to be alive and well and I also realise how valuable life is. Life can be short, very short; and life is more than just work. It is easy to slip into a situation where work becomes the be-all-and-end-all of our existence. I can see that work is important, but it is not everything.

Since mid-October I have worked every week. For four weeks I worked a full shift packing fax rolls all day. Not for me, but setting the alarm for five a.m. was a discipline in itself! I have just finished doing a Christmas job typing in post codes at the sorting office in Cambridge. No, that job is not for me either, for unprintable reasons! I am looking for an interesting job, which does not involve driving all day, depleting my energy. I need a job with set hours where I end the day's work, come home and then my time is my own.

I don't regret the time I spent taxi-driving. "Je ne regrette rien" as Edith Piaf used to sing. However, that life is over now. I feel like a different person since my head opera-

tion. My outlook on life has altered. I am happier and more contented as a person and yet a lot less tolerant if people treat me badly. I used to put up with quite a lot before; but now, especially if anyone lies to me, that is it. I can't put up with that. Somehow, I feel fifteen years older than last year and just a little wiser. So goodbye and thank you all again.

Moyra

[We feel sure that readers of the Newsletter will join us in wishing Moyra all the very best in whatever she does. Thank you, Moyra, for your entertaining and (more recently) reflective contributions. Eds.]

HIGHGATE FARM REDUCE EXISTING AD
REMOVE XMAS TURKEYS

Spot the difference

There are eight differences in the bottom picture. Can you see them?

THE TRAVELLERS REST

**HOME-COOKED LUNCHES & EVENING MEALS
FRESHLY PREPARED**

EVERY WEDNESDAY SPECIAL
3-COURSE 'PIE' MENU £8.50

TRADITIONAL SUNDAY LUNCH

MENUS AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS
BUSINESS LUNCHES
SMOKING & NON-SMOKING DINING AREAS

JANE & DAVID WELCOME YOU TO
THE TRAVELLERS REST
CHITTERING (A10 ELY-CAMBRIDGE) • RESERVATIONS (01223) 860751

DISCO FEVER HITS COTTENHAM

Friday 11th December 1998 saw the return of the Christmas Disco,
organised by the Ladybirds Pre-school, at the Sports and Social Club.

The night was a great success with plans already afoot for the sequel "DISCO 99" next year.
Many thanks to all who helped make it an enjoyable night, including our bouncers on the door,
Jo and Gavin, who set up, and Margaret and Deanna who helped clear up.

A big thank you too to our generous raffle prize donors -
Shaun's Newsagent, Wards Greengrocers, The Topiary Tree, Barkers the Bakers,
Clements Hardware, Framework, Gauthrop Butchers, Tesco (Milton)
and, of course, Ladybirds parents.

Lisa Calderbank

WHY NOT ENTER YOUR CHILD IN THE

BANNOLD CHILD PHOTOGRAPHY PHOTO COMPETITION

*IT'S FREE FOR ANY CHILD UNDER
3 YEARS OF AGE AND WE WILL
PHOTOGRAPH YOUR INFANT IN THE
FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS OF YOUR
OWN HOME.*

*FOR MORE DETAILS
PLEASE PHONE: 01223 862598
0410 988027*

Windmill Kennels reduce to fit

P A D S

Decorating Service

All aspects undertaken including
small repairs



Tel Cottenham 251366

Miller Associates

◆
J.W. ROGERS
◆

GENERAL WORK · GARDEN MAINTENANCE
ROTAVATING & FENCING

◆
TELEPHONE:
01223 232298
◆

**SENIOR
CITIZENS:
Tuesday &
Wednesday**

CLOSED Monday, LATE NIGHT Wednesday

**Sarah Jane
Hairdressing**

131 High St. Cottenham
Telephone **250170**

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

The Cottenham and Rampton Branch of the Royal British Legion has raised and paid over the sum of £3860-60 to the 1998 Poppy Appeal. This total included house-to-house collections, static boxes, Parish Church collection and the magnificent amount of £1200 raised and donated by the women's section.

The Branch is most grateful for the continued support from local residents and especially the help afforded by 30 house-to-house collectors and the 35 businesses, public houses etc. that so kindly permitted Poppies to be made available on their premises.

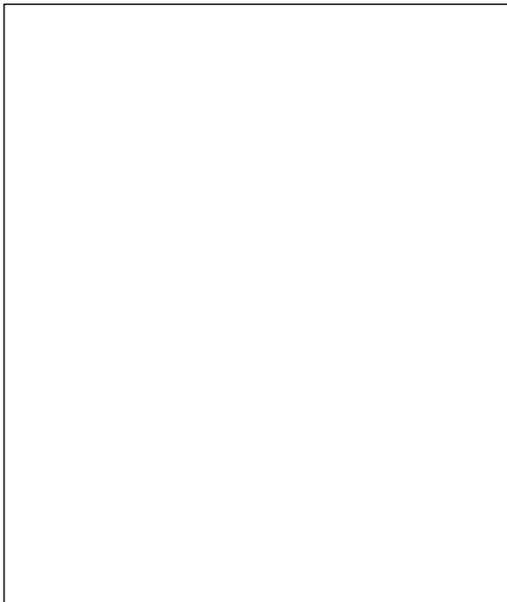
With the erection of many more houses and the consequential increasing population, more house-to-house collectors will be required to adequately cover the villages in 1999. Please seriously consider if you can spare a few hours to enable the Royal British Legion to continue its work of providing assistance and support for needy Ex-service personnel and their dependants.

If you are able and willing to give up a few hours just once a year at poppy time, I shall be most grateful if you would advise me as soon as possible.

Gerald Young
Poppy Appeal Organiser
Cottenham and Rampton Branch

Not just for Christmas. . .

The Tulip table in solid oak with a limed finish to match the oak dresser



- Gift ideas and decorations from original artwork to patchwork quilts, soft toys to hand-painted ceramics
- Traditional construction of our furniture means we give a lifetime guarantee
- Solid oak, ash, beech, maple, cherry and more
- Choice of finishes and colour matching service

or New Year. . .

- SALE ends 31st January
- Up to 50% discount
- Extensive own collection of furniture in large showrooms
- 0% finance subject to status, written details available on request
- Items made to order

. . . furniture for life

105 HIGH STREET, COTTENHAM, CAMBRIDGE CB4 8SD
TELEPHONE: 01954 250122
www.farmhousefurniture.uksw.com

FARMHOUSE FURNITURE
LOGO

LETTERS to the Editors

Dear Editors

I feel I must take issue with Councillor Wotherspoon's remark in the November/December Newsletter that 'youngsters throughout the village are prone to antisocial behaviour.'

Whilst, like all communities, we have problems from time to time involving a small minority of youngsters, I see no evidence of any widespread tendency to behave antisocially amongst the vast majority of Cottenham's young people.

Perhaps, as a parent of three teenagers, I may be accused of bias, but I have to say that I have been very impressed with the friendliness, maturity and responsibility of virtually all the young people I have met in the village - and I have met quite a number.

Visits to the primary school and the village college reinforce this view. You only have to look at the displays of work in both schools as

well as the numerous press cuttings about Cottenham youngsters to realise just how much they achieve and to what an extent they contribute to the community. Pupils at both schools are also involved in sporting, musical and drama events of outstanding quality, and each year nearly all our school leavers, having achieved excellent exam results, go on to training, employment or further and higher education. Outside school many of our young people are involved in youth and community groups and the uni-formed organisations.

All this, in my view, adds up to a pretty positive picture. I suspect that, compared with many communities, we're very lucky indeed in the young people we have - and that, of course, reflects on their parents, their teachers and the kind of community we are. Whilst we need to check and to guide the very few who do cause problems, let's celebrate the achievements and sheer niceness of the vast majority. Our young people need us to support them - not rubbish them!

Rex Collinson

THE YOUNGER GENERATION

Dear Editors

I am writing in support of the sentiments expressed by the two correspondents in the letter pages of issues 47 and 48.

I too have recently had a rather unpleasant experience with a member of the younger generation. I was taking some books back to the library in Margett Street the other day. I parked up on the pavement outside, as I and many other people do on such visits, when this insolent young woman with a pram accosted me in the street complaining that she would have to push her pram in the road since I was blocking the path. Just where did she expect me to park?

Of course I just ignored her. But her manner just illustrated once again the lack of respect that the younger generation have for their elders these days. I blame the education system. I bet she's never been to the library in her entire life!

Name and address supplied

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 FEBRUARY

ADVERTISING RATES

Current rates are:
Size A - £17.50
Size B - £30.00

(discount of 10% for six insertions prepaid)

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

Contact Peter Robertson on
01954 200080

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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
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
Library.....	Margett Street.....	273322
Library Doorstep Service.....	Hilary Firth.....	01223 718358
Parish Church.....	The Rev'd. Ian Friars, The Rectory, 6 High Street.....	250454
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

EDITORS:

BUSINESS MANAGER Peter Robertson

& DISTRIBUTION: 30 Lyles Road, Cottenham 200080

PRINTED BY: TARGET LITHO, Broad Lane, Cottenham, Tel: 251189 Fax: 252080

ROBIN HUGHES-PARRY & ASSOCIATES

Veterinary Surgeons

66 High Street, Cottenham, Cambridge

LOGO
15% enlarge

Full health care and advice for
PETS, EQUINE & FARM LIVESTOCK

Reception Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 8.30 - 12 noon
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 4.30 - 7.00 pm. Saturdays 8.30 - 11.00 am
(Consultations by appointment - Visits by arrangement)

Stockists of Hills Science Diets, Iams & Eukanuba Petfoods
Main Surgery: 34 High Street, Longstanton Tel: 01954 780027

01954
252122

**24 Hour
Emergency
Service**