

DOUBLE COTTENHAM THE BIG CHEESE

I suppose it was a casualty of either dairy consolidation, the advent of the Milk Marketing Board or the 'big is beautiful' movement. We know from Michael Taylor's articles that the vicinity around Cottenham was rich with fruit fields and even dairy herds. It seems that Britain has lost such a rich diversity of local produce over the last fifty years. Until recently, I was not aware that Cottenham was once renowned for its cheese production. I've since heard that even Stilton cheese may have originated in Cottenham, only for the recipe to be stolen and exploited elsewhere. My interest was aroused by an enquiry from one of our more distant readers and a former resident of Cottenham, namely a Dr Hill from London. Dr Hill asked where he could buy some 'Double Cottenham' cheese? Now being a bit of

a cheese fan, I would have liked to try some myself. But my enquiries at local cheese shops came to nothing. Double Cottenham was apparently very popular about fifty years ago and was easy to obtain from shops in the Cambridge area. Can anyone let us know who made Double Cottenham, what it tasted like and when was it last available? Who knows, if the recipe and method can be found, Double Cottenham could be resurrected for us all to enjoy again.

It's Hello From Her....

We would like to welcome Emily Hooton to the Editorial Board of the Cottenham Newsletter. Emily is a native of the village and will be able to present a fresh perspective on the

course of the newsletter's development.

....And It's Goodbye From Him

Just when we thought an Editorial Board was becoming a reality, James will have to leave Cottenham; at least for a few years. James is transferring to his company's office in Oslo, Norway - and at short notice too! We would like to thank James for his contribution to the newsletter over the past year and wish both him and his family an enjoyable stay in Oslo. Perhaps some regular snow reports from the frozen north may start to appear in these columns.....

Please send articles for the next edition of the newsletter to either Eddie or Emily. Last submission date is October the 25th.

B & C Motors

VILLAGE DIARY

September

- 20th Cottenham Methodist Church Harvest Supper 7:00pm
 24th Cottenham Gardening Club. Containers, raised beds and troughs
 - a talk by P. Lewis
 24th Bus Pass Refunds, Coolidge Gardens Community Room,
 4.00pm - 6.00pm
 24th Cottenham Seniors Club - Wild flowers in the countryside,
 2.30pm, Cottenham Village College Common Room.

October

- 3rd Wildlife Trust. Work party at Doghouse Grove, Wilburton.
 Meet by reserve entrance in the Green lane at 10:00am
 3rd The Great Mill - Aldreth Road, Haddenham.
 Open day 2:00pm to 6:00pm
 5th Cambridge Osteoporosis Support Group. A talk by Rosemary
 Fitzgerald - member of the Acupuncture Council.
 Dry Drayton Village Hall 2:00pm to 4:00pm
 8th Cottenham Seniors Club - Bring and Buy Sale, 2.30pm,
 Cottenham Village College Common Room.
 12th Parish Council Meeting. Cottenham Village College 7:30pm
 13th Cottenham WI: Franklin Gardens 7:30pm - Sugarcraft,
 Demonstration by Eileen Godfrey.
 15th Illustrated talk on Whale Watching. 7:45 pm at
 Cottenham Village College
 16th Cottenham Salvation Army. Jumble Sale And Coffee Morning
 10:00am to 11:30 am
 22nd Cottenham Seniors Club - Memories of an Agricultural Advisor,
 2.30pm, Cottenham Village College Common Room.
 29th Cottenham Gardening Club. Club meeting

November

- 5th Cottenham Seniors Club - Slides of Old Cottenham -
 Part 1, 2.30pm, Cottenham Village College Common Room.
 7th Wildlife Trust. Work party at Doghouse Grove, Wilburton.
 Meet by reserve entrance in the Green lane at 10:00am
 10th Cottenham WI: Franklin Gardens 7:30pm - Member's Night
 13th FEALD Coffee Morning, Methodist Church Hall,
 10.00am - 12 noon.
 13th Cottenham W.I. fund raising lunch and stalls at the
 Cottenham Salvation Army Barn, 11am for 12 o'clock lunch.
 16th Parish Council Meeting. Cottenham Village College 7:30pm
 19th Cottenham Seniors Club - Slides of Old Cottenham -
 Part 2, 2.30pm, Cottenham Village College Common Room.
 19th Illustrated talk on Fascinating Fungi. 7:45pm at
 Cottenham Village College
 26th Cottenham Gardening Club. Christmas party and members'
 garden problems
 27th Christmas Bazaar at the Village College. 2.00pm until 4.30pm.

SMALL ADS

P/T OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR WANTED. Approximately 24 hours a week at £6 p.h. A small Cottenham-based publisher, research and training consultancy is looking for a confident, literate, numerate person with good computing skills, and pleasant telephone manner. Might suit a parent of school-age children wishing to return to work. For more information please telephone **01954-250600**.

'Prime Brass in Concert'

From Gabrieli to Gershwin
 16th October at 7.30pm
 at the Parish Church
 Tickets £5.00 from the Rectory or on the door.
 Proceeds to the new Church Hall.

SMALL ADS

Why not advertise in the Newsletter!
Items for sale, announcement of family events.....
5p per word, with all proceeds going to charity. Send advertisements and payment to the editors.
Cheques should be made payable to 'Cottenham Newsletter'

DIARY NOTES

Cottenham Toy Library -
 Thursdays 2.30 - 4.00 - October 7th &
 21st; November 4th & 18th

British Summer Time ends
October 31st

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



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

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

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HURRY HURRY HURRY...

...there are only a few places left for your 2, 3 or 4 year old to join in the exciting programme of learning through play that we offer at Ladybird Pre-school starting in September. Ofsted praised the happy, busy atmosphere in our purpose-built buildings and besides separate sessions for two year olds and pre-schoolers we also offer a baby and toddler group. We also run special events for older children such as Craft Days. Additional sessions are planned after September half-term, so do come and discuss your needs with us soon.

For further details please contact Ladybird Pre-school on (01954) 250891

MILLENNIUM SURVEY

During late September and October of this year, members of the Parish Council will be carrying out a house to house survey. The purpose of this survey is to ascertain the number of children within the village who will be eleven years of age or under on 1st January 2000. Those children may be eligible to receive a gift to commemorate the millennium.

Those Parish Councillors carrying out the survey will carry a form of identity with a photograph. A contact telephone number will also be shown for those residents wishing to clarify the caller's identity and purpose.

Cottenham Parish Council August 1999

MS WHEELCHAIR CHALLENGE

Following the appeal in a recent Cottenham Newsletter for sponsorship, I am thrilled to say that I raised £570. Thank you so much to everybody who contributed so generously.

The event certainly was a challenge with a capital C. I met my team of carriers on a sunny morning in Snowdonia, although there had been about an inch of rain the night before. My wheelchair was tied into a metal frame and I was carried off on the seven mile course. This was quite gentle for the first quarter of a mile, just involving a hilly path, a wooden bridge, a stile, around a dry ski slope, and then off uphill through the woods. Then it started to get difficult. The slope must have been about 60 degrees, the ground was covered in loose shale and the vegetation was hanging over the narrow path. After a great deal of prolonged puffing, panting and grunting the team put me down on a grassy plateau, covered in foxgloves, so that they could get their breath back and I could admire the wonderful view of the lake, trees and mountains.

Suddenly another team appeared from the woods. They were spattered with black mud from their knees downwards and looked very dishevelled. With cries of "just you wait" they crashed off into the woods again.

Our route then deteriorated from bad to worse to unbelievable! The team had to negotiate my wheelchair through

forests where the trees were planted very close together, their trunks had sharp 'daggers' all around them and the ground was extremely muddy. Often the people at the front shouted "Lift" and I was raised over the top of a jagged tree trunk or large boulder. There were sudden six foot drops to negotiate and the mud was everywhere. The ultimate, however, was a large peat bog with a layer of black slimy mud on top. There was no other way round. My carriers slopped up to their knees - and then one slipped in up to his waist. For a split second my past life flashed before my eyes as I thought I was going to be thrown into the black mire. Somehow, we all managed to get out all right and I only had a few specks of mud on my trousers - which is more than could be said for the rest of my team!

After that, the rest of the journey seemed to flash by. We had to make three river crossings, and there were numerous gates and stiles and fences where my wheelchair was six feet above the ground. It took them four hours and ten minutes to complete the course. In total, we raised over £4000 for the MS Therapy Centre - and they all want to do it again next year!

Barbara Ashton-Reader

G B Roofing

WATCHING BRIEF

Out with a bang

So how are we going to commemorate the millennium in Cottenham? Surely we need something more long-lasting than a street party or a concert. What's required here is some grand gesture, the creation of a permanent feature to mark the dawn of the next millennium, or at least something that will change our landscape or our lives for the better.

For example, why don't we dynamite the road bridge at Twentypence? Consider how our environment would be improved without the ceaseless procession of glum-faced commuters morning and evening. How much more pleasant and safe our lives would be without the lorries which abuse our High Street as a rat run between the A14 and all points north of Wilburton.

We could make useful topographical alterations to the Rampton Road too. Taking out the bridge over the lode at Giant's Hill might not be a very chummy gesture towards our Fen Edge Patch neighbours at Rampton and Willingham, but it wouldn't half ease the traffic problem in Cottenham.

Or we could commemorate the year 2000 by removing the ludicrous 'traffic calming measures' which blight our High Street. It appears that we are now permanently lumbered with this failed 'experiment', designed by someone daft enough to imagine that people will drive more slowly if you make the road narrower.

We valiant die-hards are gradually managing to wear away those pathetic little roundabouts by driving over them. But what can we do about the 'nibs' — those ugly bits of pavement which stick out into the road to make cycling hazardous and parking impossible? Perhaps we shall have some explosives left over from the Twentypence and Giant's Hill missions.

But time is short. We must resolve this question of a commemorative gesture soon. Surely, at the very least, we could celebrate the millennium by widening the aisles at the Cottenham Co-op so that people pushing supermarket trolleys can pass one another without serious injury.

If you have other suggestions for things we might build, restore, reorganise or blow up to mark the event, send your ideas to Watchman, c/o Cottenham Newsletter, 22 Margett Street.

Let's hear it for Les

Now let's muse for a moment upon how lucky we are to have Les Ward's excellent vegetable shop in our village. Manager Terry and his staff are always so cheery and helpful. In addition to a good selection of standard produce, there's always a fine array of interesting fruits and veg from distant lands. And hurrah for a greengrocer who can offer avocado pears at their peak of readiness — and without spelling it 'advocado'.

Yesterday we enjoyed mangoes, ripe to the point of perfection. We've also been feasting on the finest cherries. On other occasions we've tried all sorts of foreign fruits that Watchman can't even spell. And last week, when there wasn't a broad bean or a pea-in-the-pod to be had at Tesco, you could fill your hat as well as your basket at Les Ward's.

Cherish this lovely shop, folks.

Lest we forget

They shall not grow old
As we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them
Nor the years condemn
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning
We will remember them

It's reassuring that here in Cottenham we do still remember them. Somebody — presumably the parish council — has had our war memorial cleaned and the result is startling.

It would be so easy to let this monument crumble away under years of grime and bird droppings and for the lichen to obscure the names inscribed on it. It would be so easy to say: oh, that was all such a long time ago.

But Watchman believes that the cleaning of our war memorial is a timely and inspired action. Not only has it rightly reaffirmed our gratitude to those who died. The stark, bright stone also serves to remind us how diligently we should care for the peace we are fortunate to enjoy — especially with the darkness of Kosovo so close at hand. On reflection, perhaps Cottenham has already made a fitting gesture to mark the millennium.

Watchman

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THE OAKINGTON THERAPY CENTRE

COTTENHAM FEAST

Cottenham Feast has been celebrated throughout this century and always takes place on the Sunday following 11th October. Customs have changed over the years, especially since the war. Feast Sunday was an occasion for large Family Parties, a chance for those in service and others who had left the village to return. A typical Feast tea would include quince tart and pear pie.

For many of the villagers this was the highlight of the year, remembering that they hardly ever left the village. Cottages were whitewashed and fires would not be lit in the parlours or front rooms until the Feast. The parade started out from the Parish Church and proceeded down the street to the green. Once there, all attention was focussed on the service. The service was organised by the Salvation Army between the war and 1970. Then it was taken over by the Churches Together, which continues today.

The collection was for Addenbrookes Hospital, bearing in mind that this was in the days before the National Health Service. The amount raised in 1912 was twenty pounds and ten shillings. The first float carried the nurses in a cart, followed by the banners of the Benefit Societies, Bright-Harbinger, Odd Fellows, Princess Alexandra Odd Fellows, Excelsior Foresters, City of Refuge Shepherds, United Patriots National Benefit Society, Noah's Ark Shepherdeses, and, after the war the VAD nurses joined in.

At 5.00pm the fair, which had come from Willingham and had been waiting in Rampton Road, was allowed on the

green. All the children would be there to see them 'draw on'.

In the evening, after another family party, everyone went to the fair. There were dodgems and flying horses all powered by fairground engines. There were side-shows and Mrs. Nightingale's nougat and rock stall all lit by oil lamps. Today the fair still arrives on the green on Feast Sunday but may not open until the following Wednesday.

Another custom took place on Feast Tuesday. This was a holiday for everyone. The men always dug their potatoes in the morning and in the afternoon there was a football match. For several years a local man who was in the Metropolitan Police brought a team up to play the locals. There was fancy dress for all the children at 'The Limes' where all were given a bag of sweets.

Currently the Feast Parade attracts up to thirty floats from a wide variety of village organisations with the collections still going to charity.

This year's Feast parade will take place on Sunday October 17. We aim to make the last Feast parade of the century a very special one and we would encourage groups to walk in the parade as well as organise floats. We are also introducing a theme this year: 'Noah's Arc'. This can be open to many different interpretations and can be as simple as a single group representing a single colour from the rainbow.

We realise that insurance for floats can be a problem for some groups. If the length of the parade is too much for

walking then it is possible for groups to join the parade at the end of Lamb's Lane, or at the monument.

We look forward to everyone joining in this special Feast celebration on October 17th, with a special welcome to the many newcomers to the village. All enquiries to 01954-252571.

Marian Bicheno and friends

CAMMS hot meal delivery service.

Many of you will be aware that Cambridgeshire County Council no longer provides hot meals - 'Meals on Wheels'. However, there is an obvious need for a hot meal delivery service and Cambridge Meals Service (CAMMS) has been set up to provide this. They deliver hot, nutritious meals to your door at a cost of £2.50 for a dinner and pudding.

If you have difficulty preparing your own meals, or are convalescing after a spell in hospital, or would benefit from a daily weekday visit, then please do phone. You can choose to have a hot meal delivered daily or just one or two days a week, depending on your requirements. You do not need to be assessed by social services.

For further information telephone 01223 - 314288.

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LIFESPAN HEALTHCARE - ARTHUR RANK HOUSE

We are looking for volunteers to work for our Family Support Team offering emotional care and support for individuals and relatives pre- and post-bereavement. No previous counselling experience is necessary and we welcome people from all walks of life, ethnic background and age.

The service is based at Arthur Rank House Hospice, though you would work mainly in the community. The Hospice is a 16-bed unit, providing high quality, specialist palliative care, primarily to cancer patients, their families and others with life threatening ill-

nesses.

Members of the Family Support Team form part of the Medical Counselling Service. Applicants need to be able to empathise and demonstrate good communication and listening skills. Training, support and supervision are offered on an ongoing basis.

We require a four hour a week time commitment, preferably for a minimum of two years.

If you are interested please contact: Annette Landy, Arthur Rank House, 351 Mill Road, Cambridge CB1 3DF or telephone 01223-723118

HEALTHWATCH

by David Bradley

Pumping up the volume could leave you deaf.

The tinny beats coming from your personal stereo might put you in the groove while you're out shopping, but according to research from France, if the beat goes on and is too loud you could end up deaf. The examiners tested the hearing of a thousand new army recruits aged 18- 24 years. They found that one in five of the sprogs who played their stereos loud had hearing problems. Those who had suffered a lot of ear infections as children were the worst affected. The team, reporting in the medical journal The Lancet, reckon using a personal stereo for more than an hour a day - just a couple of CDs in other words - could lead to permanent hearing damage. So stop annoying

other passengers on the bus and save your ears. For information about deafness contact the British Deaf Association on 0171 588 3520

Sweet little things are good for you.

A little of what you fancy does you good, at least when it comes to chocolate and sweets! American scientists have found that people who eat sweets live much longer than those who don't. But, don't rush for the snack bars just yet, any more than a couple of treats a month boosts other health risks such as heart disease and tooth decay so the benefits are cancelled out. The scientists point out they did not distinguish between sugar confectionery and chocolate, but reckon that chocolate might have 'antioxidant' properties, just

Harvest of Industry - at Cottenham Parish Church

Saturday, 25th September 10.00am
until 6.00pm

Sunday, 26th September 12.00 noon
until 6.00pm

Displays and products made by some of the wide variety of firms in Cottenham at the end of this millennium, including:

**Dataracks,
Farmhouse Furniture,
Framework,
Eastern Landscape Service,
Frank Bird Photography,
Cambridge Traditional Products,
Rocking Rabbit Trading
Company,
Scientific Glassblowing,
Sanderson's Fuchias**

Everyone welcome Refreshments.

Harvest Services:

8.30am Holy Communion (said)
10.30am Harvest Festival Family
Communion
6.30pm Harvest of Industry Service

like fresh fruit and vegetables. This could explain its health-boosting effects. So, eat up your greens, and once a fortnight you can treat yourself to a bar of chocolate or two.

David Bradley is a freelance science and medical writer and can be contacted through his Elemental Discoveries web site at www.sciencebase.com

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OLD COTTENHAM - BOYHOOD MEMORIES

Mr Fred Badcock's farmhouse was in New Road. Here then, as a young lad, I discovered the very essence of a 1930's farmyard. Through those double gates on the right hand side of the house and into the yard, Mrs Badcock's brick dairy was on the same side. A large shed stood opposite, which contained a brick chimney breast, fire opening with a brick copper alongside. Coal, logs etc were also stored here. Further along on the left was a stable for a horse named 'Tom', who pulled the Spring Cart. Beyond this, the 'Chaffus', 'guarded' by a little spaniel dog with a blind eye named Lucy. If I

turned my back on her for a moment I'd receive a sharp nip on the back of the leg. On the right of the yard was an open fronted shed containing the carts, and beyond that was a large stable where the mares Blossom and Daisy stayed. Continuing along the left of the yard were pig sties and after these was a thatch-roofed cowshed with its white washed interior walls. Opposite stood the store containing animal feeds and a hand turned "Wozzle" grinder. There were feeds of Pollad, Bran, cow cake, Hay, Chaff, Maize flakes, chipped "Wozzles" and pig "taters" gently simmering in that old brick copper.

The yard widened out and here stood the wheat stacks awaiting threshing. Beyond them, more pig stys and mangers, and in the very bottom left hand corner the family kept the 'Old Bull'. In the summer, Mr Badcock's cows were out to grass deep in Long Drove. Past Poplar Tree Drove and Church Lane and beyond Mr "Will" Hewitt's homestead, the only house in the drove in those days, except for the farm dwelling at the bottom known locally as the 'Blue Donkey' from earlier inn keeping days.

In those days, Long Drove was no more than a dirt farm track. The Badcocks', therefore, used the Spring Cart for the milking journey, hauled by the horse named Tom, and escorted by the two dogs of the greyhound-lurcher breed, Jim and Peter. I would often accompany them, especially during school holidays, but only with Mr Badcock's permission. He was a white haired man with a grey moustache and a kindly smile. Unfortunately, he could be equally fierce as well. Upon my request to go milking, I was either given a reassuring "yes Michael" or a curt "no you bloody well can't boy, you'll get in the way"! Nevertheless, on many occasions I was made welcome in the farmyard, and I spent some happy times with that farming family.

Michael Taylor

FEN EDGE ASSOCIATION FOR THE LEARNING DISABLED

The Fen Edge Association for the Learning Disabled (FEALD) is a very small registered charity based in Cottenham. It was set up 13 years ago, under another name, to raise funds for people with learning disabilities who lived in small residential homes in the area. Two of these homes are in Cottenham, and the others are in the local Fen Edge area. Money raised goes to help with the cost of holidays, outings, social events and hobbies for the people the charity supports. Although the government, via Health and Social Services meets the cost of care, there is little money available for the extras in life.

This year, FEALD will have given £3,700 towards holidays, as well as helping with the cost of other activities. The money is all raised by a small band of helpers, and we are always looking for new ways to swell our funds. To this end, we have our annual Coffee Morning in the Methodist Church Hall, which this year will be on Saturday November 13th between 10.00am and 12 noon. As well as the usual gifts, produce, cake stalls etc, we also sell Mencap Christmas Cards on behalf of Cambridge Mencap.

For further information, please contact Mrs L.J. Mowlabocus on 01954 - 250024

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

NEWS FROM THE FEN EDGE PATCH

TUESDAY DROP In.....

The Village College brochure is full of ideas for how you can spend your winter evenings, as classes and clubs start up again with new enthusiasm, with old favourites repeated and new courses introduced.

Our Saturday Day Schools (of which there are many) offer an opportunity to taste a skill which you may have considered, but never tried before, or to extend the skills you already have. Day Schools are always good value for money, especially as they include an excellent home-made lunch.

There are many classes for children too, both after school and at weekends. If you have not received a brochure through your letterbox, please call in at the College to collect one, or ring us and we will put one in the post for you.

Our plans for a special Arts Programme for 2000 are advancing well. In the New Year, we shall hold a number of events, combining art and creative writing, centred around the celebratory visit of the Poet Laureate, Andrew Motion, on Friday March the 3rd. Then in the Spring, we shall use the current exhibition at Kettles' Yard of the work of the late David Kindersley, internationally renowned

lettering artist, to offer visits to Kettles' Yard gallery, followed by workshops and visiting lecturers at Cottenham Village College. Please contact us if you would like to go on our Arts mailing list.

*Community Education Office,
Cottenham Village College. Tel: 01954 - 288944*

World's Biggest Coffee Morning - for the Macmillan Nurses

To be held at Franklin Gardens
Community Centre on Friday 1st
of October between 9.30am and
12.00 noon.

With Raffle and Cake Stall.

Contact Mr and Mrs R. Eke for
more details, tel: 01954 - 251293

A tea shop in Cottenham ?.... No, not quite, BUT a place to go for a cup of tea or coffee, and a chat, in an atmosphere as near to a tea shop as we can get.

Who is it for ?.... Anyone who wants to drop in (a box of toys will be available to keep pre-schoolers happy, please keep a close eye on your children).

When will it be ?.... We will serve refreshments from 10 until 12 on Tuesday mornings (except during Christmas and Summer school holidays) please drop in any time during that period.

Where will it be ?.... The Tuesday drop in will be held in the room at the back of the Baptist Church. The entrance is down the alleyway on the left side of the church.

Will it be friendly ?.... We certainly intend it to be! Please come and try us out !

How much will it cost ?.... Nothing, but if you wish to make a donation towards cost you can. This is not a fund-raising project !!

*For more information, please contact
Cilla Oldfield on 01954 - 252464*

HIGHGATE FARM EXISTING AD

Poetry Corner

A Poem of Thanks

Cottenham Guide Association's done it
We've filled all the places we wanted
Two new leaders for Brownies came
forward
Full of enthusiasm, not at all daunted.

They've put together a programme
To the brim with ideas, full of verve.
And to think at the beginning of July
They thought they'd not have the
nerve!

Well, we waited and waited for ages,
To see if some more 'angels' appeared,
And YES two more leaders approached
me
The Rainbows are not doomed as we
feared.

As the millennium draws nearer
Guiding is growing ever stronger
So Rainbows, Brownies and Guides
Will 'Be Prepared' for even longer.

If it wasn't for all the helpers
And all who support our needs
The Village itself would suffer
With a lot fewer guiding 'good deeds'.

A 'Thank you' goes out to all
The ladies who give up their time
To run all the Units' adventures
With no pay, but to them, that's just
fine!

*Vivien Lampard - Cottenham District
Guides*

God saw a corner in the world
That Wanted Filling
No angel With bright Wings
Unfurled Though Ne'er So Willing
Could Fill That Spot
For It Was Meant For Me
My Little Corner So I Am Here You
See
He Gave Me Strength To Do Brave
Work With Head And Hands
And If Sometimes I Sadly Shirk
He Understands How Hard I Find It To
Be Good
And Helps His Child To Do The
Things She Should

Submitted by Mrs J. Jarram.

Short Stories & Poetry

Readers are invited to send in
either original poetry or short stories
for inclusion in the Cottenham
Newsletter. Short stories should be
no longer than 600 words. The
objective should be to entertain the
general readership - go on, have a
go!

ARTICLES, DATES AND ADVERTISEMENTS.

E-mail, PC floppy disk and paper
submissions are all welcome. PC
floppy discs will be returned to contributors.....eventually! Please contact me if you have any questions. Dates of events to be advertised in the next issue (No. 5) should span the last week of November, and the months of December 1999 and January 2000.

COTTENHAM SENIORS CLUB

Cottenham Seniors Club welcomes the over 55's to its fortnightly meetings in the Common Room of the Cottenham Village College. We meet at 2.30pm and would be particularly delighted to get to know people who have just come to live in the village. Come to any of our gatherings as a member or as a helper, you will be equally welcome. Details of forthcoming meetings are in the Village Diary section of this newsletter.

For further details, please contact Ray Lawton on 01954 - 250744

RAINFOREST ROADSHOW

On Monday, October 18th, we shall have a very special visitor to Cottenham Village College, who comes to help us explore the beautiful, but fragile environment of the South American Rainforest. Her fascinating display will be followed by a creative workshop. This is funded by our Millennium Award from Age Concern and anyone is welcome to share a half-day with students at the College - anyone, that is, who is special enough to be over 60 ! The sessions will be from 9.30am - 12 noon or 1.00pm - 3.30pm. A super opportunity !

Please contact Jenny Kay to book a place, tel: 01954 - 288944

JOHN BURRELL GARDENING SERVICES, COPY SUPPLIED

A MILLENIUM WOOD FOR WATERBEACH

Many of you will have, at some time or another, walked through a wood, in spring or summer, autumn or winter, and have reveled in the beauty and peace of it. Cambridgeshire is renowned for its lack of woodland and recently there have been a number of moves to rectify this. 'Woods on your Doorstep' is a national project being run by the Woodland Trust, a leading woodland charity, to provide easily accessible woodland to be used by the whole community. Waterbeach has been selected as one of two hundred sites where a new wood could be planted. The site allocated lies between the railway station and the river behind the station car park.

The project is funded by the Millennium Commission with National Lottery money and other grants but local support will be needed to raise the

remainder of the money. We hope that as many local people as possible will want to feel that they have contributed to something which could still be here at the start of the next millennium and the includes people in villages close to Waterbeach. Until it is certain that enough money has been raised we are asking for no more than a pledge for any sum, no matter how small. The money will be collected at a later date. At the start of the appeal the money needed was over £50,000 but a considerable proportion of this has now been found. It is hoped that the names of everyone who has contributed will be recorded in a book which can be kept as a record, through the twenty first century, of people who played a part in this project.

How can you pledge?

There are three ways:

* Telephone Sarah Abraham, the Clerk to Waterbeach Parish Council on 01223 440018

* Pick up a pledge form from Waterbeach post office and return it to the box there or post it to the address given on the form.

Telephone Andrea Miles, The Woodland Trust Regional Fund-raiser, on 01892 513733

Please consider supporting this project, you will be making a lasting contribution to the local environment and providing a source of pleasure to a great many people.

*Jane Williamson, Chairman
Waterbeach Community Association*

JASPER KAY'S BIRD REPORT August 1999.

Late summer is a quiet time in the bird world, and some birds are more conspicuous for their absence than their presence. The cuckoo left several weeks ago (In July away I fly, in August away I must!) and swifts had left the area by the middle of August.

As I write, in late August, birds have already begun to flock together. Lapwings, starlings and sparrows can all be seen in large groups now that the breeding season is over. However, there is still much evidence of young birds. House martins are still feeding young in the nests at the Village College. Young moorhens can be seen

running over the water plants in the Village College pond, and the garden has young robins, thrushes and blackbirds, some perhaps the result of a second brood.

The mysterious bird seen in the Foundry Close, which I mentioned in my last article, has been identified. Photographs produced prove it to be a green woodpecker. They have become much more common in this area during the past 10 years, and several people have reported seeing them in their gardens. Observers are often surprised to find the bird feeding on the lawn, but this is quite normal, as they love eating

ants. As children, we used to call the bird a Yaffle after its loud laughing call.

In July, I found a rare bird hopping around among my cabbages. The experts were called in, and it was identified as..... a canary! It was very tame and I photographed it from three feet away. I don't suppose it lasted long with so many cats about.

Just outside our area, a pair of golden orioles have been nesting, and I was lucky enough to see one of them on a short visit. Life is full of surprises!

Jasper Kay

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MARKING THE MILLENNIUM

Cycling through the village as I often do, I am aware how much pleasure those houses give me that have hanging baskets or window boxes bright with colour during the summer months. And I much appreciate the plants that change with the seasons

round the Village Sign and the War Memorial, cheering up what might otherwise be quite drab areas.

I wish that I had window boxes or baskets outside our house, but I never seem to get round to it.

How about a Millennium celebration effort, on behalf of all those who dilly-dally like myself, to make a real splash for next summer? Could the Parish Council encourage this, possibly even with some "seed" money?

Maybe we could all aim to have our plants outside by a certain date, which would also be the day on which we could have an Open Gardens event. I am a very nosy person and I always enjoy a chance to admire someone else's garden, giving me great pleasure at the time, as well as ideas for my own garden for the future. A small charge could be made - maybe that could be used towards the "seed" money. Gardens would not have to be on the scale or standard of Wisley; I enjoy ordinary gardens just as much, if not more!

Jenny Kay

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£35,000 LOTTERY WIN FOR COTTENHAM!

The 2nd Cottenham Scout Group has been given a grant of £35,607 by the National Lottery Charities Board (NLCB) to build a new Scout hut to be used by Scouts, Cubs, Guides, Brownies, Beavers and other village groups. We are all delighted with this support - we now know we can realise our vision without running out of energy and enthusiasm!

The money will cover the cost of demolishing the existing asbestos hut and replacing it with a smart brick-built building with resin-screeded floor. However, the NLCB will not fund projects already started. The completion of the new kitchen, toilets and stores block that is already underway must therefore continue to depend on other support.

WE STILL NEED TO RAISE £8,000. We have a team of volunteers who have already given time, muscle-power and fund-raising energy who have agreed to continue to help with the building work, but EXTRA HELP IS STILL REQUIRED. There is some urgency as we will lose the grant if the work is not completed within 12 months.

If you or your children were or are members of Scouts or Guides groups (or any other interested party!) and you feel that you would like to do something to help future generations, please contact Ian Griffiths on 251798 to volunteer with either the building work or perhaps the decorating. We have the opportunity to build facilities for this village that will last for many years to come, providing we get enough help.

The progress we have made so far allowed us to demonstrate to the NLCB what we can do if funded. We are very grateful to the Parish Council for a grant of £5,000, to Geoffrey Scott who drew the plans for the buildings and to Mr and Mrs Sanderson for their most generous support by donating proceeds from their annual Fuchsia show. Money raised by our fund-raising committee and donations from others in the village has all been vital in helping us get started. We would like to thank all in the village who have supported this project. With a little more assistance we will have a wonderful facility that will last well into the new millennium.

*Ian Griffiths, Chairman, 2nd
Cottenham Scout Group*

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COTTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parking at the Co-op corner and in the entrance roadway continues to be a problem. Visitors to the shop persist in parking in front of the adjacent cottages, sometimes completely blocking their entrances. Since appeals to observe the parking restrictions seem to be ignored by some drivers, the Highways Authority intend to erect bollards along the front of the cottage to keep vehicles off the path. The Co-op management have also installed gates across the entrance which are designed to remain closed other than to admit delivery vehicles.

Still on traffic management, it seems that our attempts to secure a reduction of the speed limit in Histon Road remain unsuccessful. We were invited by the County Council to submit this scheme for funding from the "Joint Funding Scheme", but have now been advised that we have been unsuccessful. The saga continues. At least the

parking restrictions at the Margett Street/ High Street junction have been implemented.

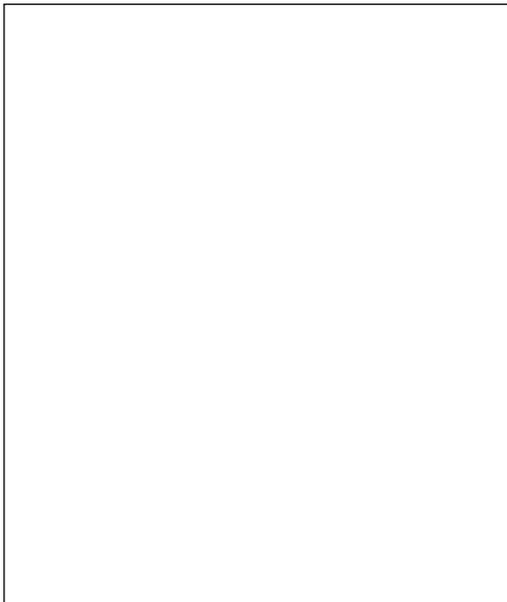
The future of the Village Pound is another ongoing issue. Some residents may not be aware of what and where the Village Pound actually is, and for those who don't, it is the small square plot, enclosed by a tatty wall, opposite Shaun's News in the High Street. Village Pounds were used to "impound" stray or seized cattle until redeemed. There are not many of those today, and the area is now used as a casual car park and occasional dumping ground. The land is owned jointly by the District Council and the Parish, and lies within the conservation area. These factors, combined with its position at a busy junction, limit what we can do with it, but there is no doubt that some tidying up is needed. Any bright ideas for its future use will be welcomed!

The Council is responsible for the Play Area at the recreation ground. New European Standards have been issued regarding the safety of play equipment, and to ensure that these are met, the Council commissioned a full safety inspection and Risk Assessment to be carried out by RoSPA. We are pleased to report that this revealed only minor problems on any of the equipment, none of which were recommended for immediate attention. Nevertheless over £1000 has been spent at the Play Area in attending to these small defects.

Finally, to the Millennium. As you will be aware, the Council does not feel that support exists for the expenditure of Parish funds on a major celebration event. Nevertheless it is intended to mark the event, and your attention is drawn to the item elsewhere in this Newsletter from Peter Sanderson, the Clerk to the Council.

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THE NEW CHURCH HALL

Anyone passing the Parish Church will have noticed the progress of the new hall. Using all 18,000 bricks reclaimed from the previous building and most of the original slates, the hall is now at a stage where the general layout can be seen and the accommodation to be provided appreciated.

The cost of erecting the shell (some £80,000) has already been raised through the generosity of church members and village residents for which we are extremely grateful. This project has not cost the church itself anything.

It is hoped that in the first phase we shall be able to provide most of the facilities downstairs including the main hall, toilets and kitchen together

with all the "wet" work upstairs. Local firms have been generous in supplying materials such as Travis-Perkins (materials at cost), Ridgeons of Cambridge (sanitary fittings), Wimpey Homes (kitchen units), Dickerson's (sand), Warren Insulation (insulation materials at cost), and Norwich and Peterborough Building Society (kitchen crockery and urn). Donations have also been received from Cambridge solicitors Taylor Vintners, AgrEvo and Heffers. The Church Council also appreciates the assistance of our architect, Bill Miller and many other firms in the locality.

At some stage, we will have to stop work unless the remainder of the cost can be found in the near future. But, to reach this far would not have been possible without the generosity of

time and expertise being given by Ed Gifford and Tony Smith.

It is planned for the Bishop of Huntingdon to lay a commemorative stone in the new entrance at the beginning of January. Behind this will be a time capsule containing items suggested by members of the congregation to reflect the Parish and village at the beginning of the third millennium.

One interesting find is a brick inscribed with the name John Peck. Presumably, he was employed at the brick field in Ivatt Street or Brickle Lane as it was then, at the time the original hall was built in the 1850's. Or was he one of the builders?

If you would like to be associated with the hall and are able to assist in the completion of this exciting project that will serve both church and community for years to come, donations can be sent to "Cottenham PCC" care of "Saddleback", 16b High Street, Landbeach, Cambridge, CB4 4DT, or left at the Rectory.

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**COTTENHAM
PARISH CHURCH**

As we near the end of this millennium, a service for anyone who has been bereaved, whether recently or in years long gone, will take place at 4.00pm on Sunday, 7th November.

All are welcome to attend with their families and friends.

LETTERS to the Editors

Millennium.

Dear Editors

The most appropriate permanent commemoration of the millennium in our village would be a statue of Christ. It is, after all, the 2000 year anniversary of the birth of Christ and this is a broadly Christian community with several Christian churches. Even those of us who are not religious, try to conduct our lives by the principles which Christ taught.

The corner by the Conservative Club would be a fine location and a traditional statue of Christ in long robes, with his palms facing forward, would be most suitable.

Yours sincerely
Tom Callaghan
7 Stevens Close
Cottenham CB4 8TT

'Meningitis Research Foundation' and 'The National Meningitis Trust'

We would like to thank everyone who either bought our bedding plants or who supported our other fund-raising events. This year, we were able to send £1600 to the above charities.

The Christmas raffle will be drawn during the intervals of CTW's pantomime held in the Village College at the beginning of December. A dishwasher is the largest of the sixty prizes to be won.

Janet, Roger and Wayne Byard

BUS PASS REFUNDS

Bus pass refunds can be obtained at
Coolidge Gardens Community
Room on Friday 24th of September
between 4.00 - 6.00pm

Pat Robertson

NAVAL TRIVIA

Body lice, known as 'Crabs' to sailors, were treated with a light-blue greasy ointment, which was commonly known as Crabfat. When the Royal Air Force came into being in 1918, the uniform colour was a similar light-blue. They were immediately known to the Senior Service as 'Crabfats', now more usually abbreviated to 'Crabs'.

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Letters for publication may be sent to the Editors, and should include the name and address of the sender, although this may be omitted from publication if requested. Please keep correspondence short and topical. Please note that the Editors may use their discretion regarding publication, and their decision is final. The views expressed by correspondents and other contributors are their own and are not necessarily shared by the Editors.

Deadline

FOR NEXT ISSUE 25th OCTOBER

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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..... | 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 780008 |
| British Red Cross..... | Cambridge Office..... | 01223 354434 |
| Citizens Advice..... | CAB, 72/74 Newmarket Road, Cambridge..... | 01223 353875 |
| Social Services..... | Histon Team..... | 01223 264466 |
| NSPCC..... | Cottenham Area Team, Peterborough..... | 01733 558245 |
| RSPCA..... | Area Number, Peterborough..... | 0990 555999 |
| Samaritans..... | Cambridge Centre..... | 01223 364455 |
| Railway Station..... | Cambridge, Passenger Enquiries..... | 0345 484950 |
| Taxi..... | Milton Cars..... | 01223 441616 |
| 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 |

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