

Village Voices

November 2012



Village Voices is produced by the parish churches for the local community providing news and information for 2,800 homes in
**Gorefield- Guyhirn-Harold Bridge Murrow-Parson Drove-Rings End-Tholomas Drove-Thorney Toll
Wisbech St Mary**

A warm welcome to all newcomers and visitors to our villages!

*"They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old"*

SERVICES FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11 2012

St Paul's, Gorefield: 10.00am

Emmanuel, Parson Drove:
10.45am

WSM & Guyhirn church: 10.55am

Murrow War Memorial: 12 noon
Laying of wreaths

Guyhirn War Memorial: 12.30pm
Laying of wreaths

All residents, particularly ex-service men and women, are invited to join the congregations at these services. Whilst mindful of past sacrifices, we will remember our armed forces currently engaged in conflict in Afghanistan and elsewhere, and the sacrifices they have made.

*"At the going down of the sun, and in
the morning,
We will remember them"*



The Soldier

If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is forever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made
aware,
Gave once her flowers to love, her ways to
roam,
A body of England's, breathing England's
air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of
home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by
England given,
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her
day;
And laughter, learnt of friends; and
gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English
heaven.

Rupert Brooke
1887 - 1915

All Souls Services

The annual All Souls Service will be
held in

**Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn
Parish Church on Saturday
November 3rd at 6.00pm.**

The service is a time when we remember in prayer and meditation departed loved ones, those who have died recently, and those who passed away in former years. The service lasts about 40 minutes, is quiet and undemanding, and is suitable for those who do not attend church very often, as well as for regular worshippers.

A similar service will be held earlier in the quiet atmosphere of
**Guyhirn Chapel of Ease on
Saturday November 3rd at
2.30pm.**

If you have lost someone dear and would like to remember them with us, then please join us at one of these services. If you are unable to attend and would like a person remembered, please contact the vicar or a member of the Ministry Team.

A MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

At 7.20 am on 1st July 1916 a huge mine was detonated under the German trenches at the Hawthorn Ridge Redoubt. Ten minutes later whistles blew and the First Battle of the Somme began as thousands of men climbed out of their trenches into a blizzard of machine gun bullets and shrapnel. By the end of the day nearly 20,000 British Soldiers were dead and 35,000 were injured. After five months of carnage, when the campaign concluded, the allies had gained (at the most) 7 miles of no-mans' land. British and Commonwealth casualties numbered 420,000; French 202,000 and German 465,000. If like me you have visited any of the war cemeteries in Flanders you will doubtless have been overcome with a wave of emotion - sorrow; incredulity, pride, anger. Visit one of the larger ones, such as at Tyne Cot (which contains the fallen from the battle of Passchendaele in 1917) and you will probably see groups of secondary school children, some of them weeping, as they walk among the lines and lines of graves, reading the names of the soldiers who died. How like those children the youngest soldiers must have been. The men who fought and the women who nursed, who came back from Flanders in 1918 called it 'the War to end all Wars' and sought some comfort in the forlorn hope that it would never happen again. When on 11th November, in churches and at memorials, we honour them, and so many others who have died in the subsequent and current wars, we will also pray for peace in their name; in all of their names. Peace starts at home and in our neighbourhood. Home is a good place to start - so many people died for it.

Matthew

Rev M L Bradbury, , The Vicarage, Church Road, Wisbech St Mary, Cambs. PE13 4RN. 01945 410814

GUYHIRN SCHOOL'S ENTOMOLOGIST

The eminent entomologist Professor Richard Hartland-Rowe has died in Canada aged 85 years. A lifelong interest in insects found him working in many countries but chiefly in Africa. He was also a gifted musician, playing the piano and cello. Richard and his wife Marian retired in 1993 and came to live in Wisbech, and during that period he was a much respected governor of Guyhirn School where he took a practical interest in the school's work particularly with mathematics.

ST. MARY'S TEA SERVICE

The next Afternoon Tea Service will be held in Wisbech St Mary parish church on Wednesday October 31st at 4 o'clock.

The guest speaker is Vicci Davidson, who will speak about her call to Methodist ministry, and will illustrate her talk with music and song.

VILLAGE SIGN IS ALIVE AND WELL!

Contrary to the impression given in a local newspaper recently, the Wisbech St Mary village sign is neither "lost" or "missing". Wisbech St Mary Parish Council, who owns the sign, originally accepted an invitation from HMP Whitemoor to repaint it. This took far longer than anticipated, and the parish council decided to bring the sign back and have the restoration carried out locally. The sign will shortly be re-instated at the High Road site. The Parish Council has taken the opportunity to write to Mrs Shirley Knight to thank her for looking after the garden around the sign in recent years.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

For a few years now the band of flower arrangers or providers at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church has gradually diminished and there is now an urgent need for new volunteers.

Those wishing to help with flower arrangements would be included on a rota so that each Sunday during the year, with the exception of Advent and Lent, the church would look bright and welcoming with fresh seasonal flowers.

Alternately families may wish to donate flowers in memory of loved ones, or for special occasions.

Please contact Anne Wallis on 450466 or Lilian Brigden on 450481 for more information.

ARE YOU SITTING COMFORTABLY ?

A number of seat runners have been fitted in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church to provide more comfortable seating for the congregation. The runners have been generously donated by the Bridge Inn Charity Committee and Else's Carpet Warehouse, Leverington Common.

The Parochial Church Council extends its warmest thanks to the donors for this opportunity to enhance the ambiance of the church.

My Prayer

Lord, give me strength to
bear my cross

As you once did for me,
Help me to endure all the
pain

And depart with dignity.

Don't let me be a burden
To those I hold most dear,
I worry for the future
My death holds little fear.

Please let me keep my
faculties

My sense of humour too,
Just so I know what's going
on

And share a joke or two.

And let me be remembered
If only for a while,
As that little chap from
Morrow
Who loved to see folk smile.

*"My last poem for the village
magazine".*

Colin Gedney 1935 - 2012

The Register

We welcome into the church family

Jessica Archer and Rillie Dowd, who were baptised in St Paul's church, Gorefield, on Sunday September 23rd.

Harriet Xanthe Oselton, who was baptised in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Sunday September 30th.

We wish every happiness to

Barrie Irons and Donna Smith who were married in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Saturday September 22nd.

Robert Colwell and Crystal Eaton who were married in Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, on Saturday September 29th.

Andrew Parrin and Terri Mace who were married in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Saturday September 29th.

Andrew Worley and Sarah Lovegrove who were married in Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, on Saturday September 29th.

We say farewell to our friends and send love to their families

Dorothy Milner, whose funeral was at Peterborough Crematorium on Monday September 24th.

Alice Bainbridge, whose funeral was at Fenland Crematorium on Tuesday October 9th.

Colin Gedney, whose funeral was at Peterborough Crematorium on Thursday October 11th.

Marjorie Crowson, whose funeral service was at Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, on Friday October 14th.

Rhoda Neve, whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church on Monday October 15th.

In memoriam

Pearl Bliss, whose ashes were interred in Guyhirn Churchyard on Sunday September 23rd.

William (Will) Wallis, whose ashes were interred in Guyhirn Churchyard on Saturday September 29th.

Shoe Box Appeal 2012

Hi, my name is Ella and I am part of the school council at Alderman Payne Primary School where every year we take part in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal.

If you would like to help with our appeal this year, then we would be very grateful for donations of any of the following items, which you can take to our school office:-

Toys - teddy, finger puppets, yo-yos, dolls, balls, cars and small building blocks

Educational Supplies - pencils, pens, rubbers, sharpeners, felt pens, paper, colouring books, notepads, chalk, crayons and stickers

Hygiene items - soap, flannel, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, and brush (no bottles containing liquids)

Other items - hat, scarf and gloves, sunglasses, necklaces and sweets (non-chocolate sweets only)

If you would like to donate a filled shoebox, you will need to wrap a shoebox (please wrap the lid separately) in Christmas paper and fill it with any of the above items. Put a sticker on the lid of the box marked with either 'girl' or 'boy' and the age group the items would be suitable for (2-4 yrs, 5-9 yrs and 10-14 yrs). The boxes and any other donated items need to be returned to the school office with £2.50 (to cover transport costs) no later than **Monday 12 November**.

If you need any further information, please look at www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk

Ella Ogden (age 9), Water Class
Alderman Payne Primary School

YOUNGSTERS PACK BAGS AT MORRISONS

Six young people from Youth Clubs in Murrow and Parson Drove collected £179 by packing customers' bags at Morrisons Supermarket in Wisbech.

Youth club staff, volunteers and members of the community have formed the Murrow and Parson Drove Action for Youth committee to support the young people of those villages. Laura Burgess and Laura Shreeve, lead youth workers for the club, said "The community involvement is much appreciated".

COMPUTERISED KNITTING AT GOREFIELD LADIES GROUP

Gorefield Ladies Group's first autumn meeting was well attended despite the very wet evening, and three new members were welcomed, by Group Leader, Glenys Grimm. Details of the New Diary Dates for 2013 were discussed, and names for the Christmas meal will be taken at the next meeting in October.

Speaker Hilary Turner was welcomed and she presented her marvellous display of patterns, samples and yarns, to give us an excellent idea of her work as an electric knitting machinist. Hilary began her knitting 35 years ago when she had a young family of 4 to keep her very busy and clothed in woollies. Hilary now operates a machine which is computerised and versatile. For several years Hilary was a craft teacher at the Isle College, in Wisbech and now shares her hobby with friends at the Wisbech Knitting Club. A demonstration was given and members were invited to use the machine to create their own samples.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th October, in Gorefield Village Hall at 7.30pm, when Keith Aplin will entertain with light hearted stories of music and his family. New members welcome.

-----Useful contacts-----

Churches

Revd M Bradbury	410814
Revd Ryk Parkinson	465818
Lilian Brigden (Reader)	450481
Revd Nigel Hannah	466426

Village Halls

Gorefield	870829
Guyhirn	450835
Murrow	700673
Parson Drove	700212
Thorney Toll	700729
WSM Com Centre	07501206298
	01945410473

Parish Council Clerks

Gorefield	870454
Parson Drove	700501
Wisbech St Mary	474191

Police (non-emergency) 101
PCSO Dave Russ 07921094813

Schools

Gorefield School	870321
Gorefield Pre-school	871042
Guyhirn School	450247
Murrow School	700357
Murrow Pre School	701090
Alderman Payne Sch	700275
P Dr Pre-School	07503165432
WSM School	410312
WSM Play Group	411864
WSM Little St's	410503
Toddlers	
Murrow Children's Cen	701237.

Post Offices

Parson Drove	700511
Gorefield	870273
Wisbech St Mary	410288

Websites:

www.gorefield.com
www.guyhirn-online.org.uk
www.wisbechstmary.org.uk

Health & Security

Home-Start	582552
P Dr Surgery	700223
P Dr Pharmacy	701778
North Cambs Hospital	585781
Queen Elizabeth Hosp	01553613613
Social Services	481100
PD Surgery Car	07766534280
WSM Com Car	07592407283
Gorefield Com. Car	07500479444
Childline	0800 1111
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Dog control	01354622442
Drugs Helpline	0800 776600
Fenland D C	01354654321
CCC Highways	03450455212
Samaritans	08457909090
Victim supportline	08453030900

Whist Drive at The Woodmans.

Throughout the winter months there will be regular whist drives at the Woodman's Cottage in aid of Gorefield Playing field. Young and old are welcome, with or without a partner. November's whist drives will be on Fridays 2nd and 9th. 7.45pm for an 8pm start.

ANOTHER FLOWER ARRANGING SPECTACULAR AT GUYHIRN

Well-known local auctioneer Nick Grounds is returning to Guyhirn Village Hall for another evening of flower arranging on December 18th at 7pm. Tickets are £6 in advance and can be purchased by phoning either Jan on 450835 or Marie on 450355, or £6.50 on the door. Proceeds are for Village Hall funds, and the Hall committee is hoping for a full house to see the master in action once again.

MACMILLAN COFFEE AT WSM

A Coffee Morning held in Wisbech St Mary Church House in aid of Macmillan Nurses has so far raised £262. Donations are still arriving, and further contributions will be gratefully received by Lilian Brigden.

REVISED LOCAL BUS TIMETABLES

As from 1st October 2012 Parson Drove will only have two bus services a week, W & M Travel on Wednesday to Peterborough, and Fowlers on Thursday which will terminate at Wisbech.

Gorefield will now be served by Norfolk Green (service 51) with two services during the week and three on Saturday to Wisbech.

Details of bus timetables can be found on the Fenland District Council website at:

<http://www.fenland.gov.uk/article/2179/Public-and-Community-Transport>

Parson Drove, Gorefield, Guyhirn and Leverington are all served by FACT Dial a Ride (three times a day six days a week). Membership is required to use FACT. Once a member, bus pass holders can travel free of charge. To become a member please call FACT on 01354 661234.

CITIZENS ADVICE AT PARSON DROVE

The Citizens Advice Bureau will be at Parson Drove pavilion on November 27th at 1.30pm. Anyone wishing to arrange a consultation should telephone 01945 474926 not later than November 22nd.

Advice can also be obtained by calling 01945 464367, Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 1.00pm.

Notice

LEVERINGTON CHARITY FEOFFES

(Charity Number 232526)

CHARLTONS DOLE
(Help for those in the Parishes of
Leverington & Gorefield
who are in need, hardship or distress)

The Trustees of the **Leverington Charity Feoffes** invite applications from senior citizens, widows and widowers who have been resident in the Parishes for the last 4 years.

Application forms can be collected from the Post Offices at Leverington and Gorefield or by sending a stamped addressed envelope to **The Clerk, Mrs R J Gagen, 78 High Road, Gorefield, Wisbech, Cambs, PE13 4NB.**

All completed application forms must be returned to the clerk by
19th November 2012

EMMANUEL CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year's Christmas Fair for Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove, will take place on Saturday, 24th November, from 2.00pm to 4.00pm, in the Village Hall.

Father Christmas will be attending giving out presents, and visitors can leisurely browse around the many stalls, which will include cakes, bottles, toys, jewellery, crafts, books, plants, raffle and much, much more. Take time out for a chat, cup of tea and cake at the refreshments stand.

HARVEST FUN AT ST PAUL'S

Is it just me, or does the Harvest Supper at Gorefield just get better each year? Once again Joy Andrew pulled her huge team together, arranging a wonderful supper and auction evening which raised £581 for church funds.

This year we were treated to two auctioneers – first up was Bruce Gotting, and despite his humorous confusion over apples and tomatoes, he enthusiastically auctioned off the produce. On our table, tension mounted as his wife, Jean, (I assume tongue in cheek) firmly overruled his culinary suggestions on how to cook and use the various fruit and veg. For the second half, David Pope entertained us by continually duping us into thinking "*this is the last one*". However, his bidding skills really came to the fore, with his line, "*who's in trouble?*" as he forced up the bidding on the floral displays to helpless men present.

58 of us enjoyed a splendid supper of chicken & broccoli bake, followed by a score of apple crumbles donated by various helpers. **Linda Dexter**

MART AND CHURCH OPEN FOR BUSINESS AT ST MARY'S

Saturday November 10th is the day when the popular Mart will be open at WSM Church House, and the church will be open for residents and visitors to call in.

The Mart, which this month is to be hosted by the Mothers' Union members, opens at 8.45am and closes at sell-out, usually about 10am. There will be a delicious choice of home-baking, marmalade, honey, jam, and perhaps some plants. Stay and have a cup of coffee or tea before carrying on with your busy Saturday morning. You don't have to be church members to go to the Mart!

Church open for residents. Across the road from the Mart, the Parish Church will be open from 10am to Noon for anyone to drop in for a quiet moment or two, to meet friends, listen to quiet organ music, or perhaps to talk to a member of the Ministry Team.

BRAVE FIREMEN VISIT WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP!

Two fire-fighters from Wisbech Fire Station 'entertained' us at our last meeting with a presentation on 'Safety in the Home'.

November's meeting on Thursday the 8th is a demonstration by Jessica Coombes of "The Body Shop". She will also have a number of products for sale which would make lovely gifts for the festive season - so don't forget your money!

Our meetings usually take place in WSM school hall on the second Thursday of the month and new members are always welcome. Our annual subscription is only £2, and the evening fee £1:50 per session for those you attend - if you miss a meeting - you don't have to pay for it.

Liz Hunt and Mary McClagish

THANK YOU

The committee of Parson Drove Amenities 95 would like to express their thanks to Roger Reader and the Car & Bike Show committee for the generous donation to our funds, presented to us at the Swan Inn from the proceeds of the Show held in July. It is greatly appreciated.

Alan Killingworth, Chairman.

ANOTHER OUTSTANDING EVENT AT THE BELL

£1500 for Air Ambulance

Dawn and Andy would like to thank all those that made the charity Harvest Festival at The Bell Inn, Murrow, such a great success. Thanks also to the Rusty Relics for their support, and to Henry Ward, "Fenlands Auctioneer". The auction raised an amazing £814.65. A donation of £500 was received from Qualitex Hygiene Service Ltd, and £185.35 from the Bell Inn Charity foundation, making a total of £1,500 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance,

ANNUAL SAUSAGE SUPPER AND AUCTION

The annual sausage supper and auction will take place in Parson Drove Village Hall on Saturday November 17th at 7.00pm.

Vegetarians can be catered for, but please give advance notice.

Tickets: £8 each, now available from Jos Markillie on 700373, who will be pleased to accept auction items. Proceeds are for the Village Sports Facilities.

COMMUNITY OIL SCHEME COMES TO PARSON DROVE

Following last month's article in "Village Voices", Cambridgeshire ACRE have announced that Parson Drove residents John and Jackie Craythorne have agreed to become the village's co-ordinators. John and Jackie can be contacted via email parsondroveoil@hotmail.com or on 701038 for membership forms and details of the scheme.

LUNCHEON CLUB

The Luncheon Club meets at the Butcher's Arms alternate Thursdays at midday. Details from M Shelley 700729

ACTIVITIES AT PARSON DROVE SHORT MAT BOWLS

Short Mat Bowls Club meets on Wednesdays & Fridays, 2pm to 4.30pm, in the Village Hall. Session £2.

LINE DANCING

Village Hall: Tues 1.30-4.00, Wed 7.30-9.30
Contact: Michelle 701239

WHIST DRIVES

Whist Drives are held on the third Tuesday of each month at St Mark's Methodist Church. Everyone welcome.

WSM MOTHERS' UNION

At our meeting on October 2nd we looked at our entries for the Book of Inspiration, and we will assemble them on Thursday 18th.

On Tuesday October 23rd we have our Deanery Tea in St Augustine's Hall, and our next monthly meeting is on Tuesday November 6th.
Lilian Bridgen

+ Regular Services +

Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church

Every Sunday exc 1st :- 11am. SUNG EUCHARIST.

1st Sunday: 8am Communion, 11am Family Service

3rd Sunday:- Evening Prayer: 4.00pm

5th Sunday:- joint benefice service tba

St Paul's Church, Gorefield

except 3rd Sunday. 10.00am: Holy Communion

3rd Sunday: 10.00am: Morning Worship

5th Sunday:- joint benefice service tba

Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove

1st Sunday in month:- 9.30am Family service.

2nd & 3rd Sundays:- 9.30am Holy Communion.

4th Sunday:-United Service at St Mark's 10.30.

5th Sunday:- joint benefice service tba

Nov 4th. Greeters:Diane&Pauline. Coffee:Sheelagh.

Nov 11th. Greeter: Trevor

Nov 18th. Greeters: Sue & Jenny. Coffee: Sandra.

Nov 25th. United Breakfast Service, St Mark's.

Flowers for November: Mrs P Williams.

St Mark's Methodist Church, Parson Drove

Nov 4th 10.30: Revd G Quarm.

Nov 11th 10.45:Remembrance Day Service, Parish Church.

Nov 18th 10.30:Holy Communion. Rev N Hannah.

Nov 25th 9.30: United Breakfast Service, St Mark's.

Murrow Methodist Church, 10.30am.

Nov 4th: Holy Communion. Rev N Hannah.

Nov 11th: Mr G Beeken.

Nov 18th: Mrs V Davidson.

Nov 25th: Local arrangement.

F.R.O.G.S. FUNDRAISING EVENT

F.R.O.G.S (Friends of Guyhirn School) are holding a 'Millionaires Night' at the *Oliver Twist* in Guyhirn, on Friday November 9th at 7.30pm This will be an evening of fun to help raise funds for the school.

Tickets £5, including food, can be purchased on the night.

INSTITUTE MEMBERS HEAR ABOUT THE WHITTLESEY STRAW BEAR

Parson Drove Women's Institute met on October 9th at St Mark's church when their speaker was Brian Kell, who spoke eloquently about the annual Whittlesey Straw Bear celebrations. (We heard that other countries have similar celebrations). The talk was accompanied by a power-point presentation, and two songs performed by the speaker. We learned a great deal during the evening and asked a number of questions which increased our knowledge of the event.

Ann Payne

PARSON DROVE OVER 60's FRIENDSHIP CLUB

I was recently requested to take the chair for the process of electing Club Officers for the coming year. For me, this proved to be a most enjoyable experience. The friendly atmosphere between all members was very obvious such that I stayed the course, and became engrossed in the Bingo, followed by Dominoes, whilst others played Card Games. Before departure, I signed up for the £5 membership which looks good value and I look forward to the next fortnightly meeting. Arrangements may be available to suit would-be members who suffer mobility limitations. So I say to the older generation of Parson Drove, - "Give it a try"! - A warm welcome awaits.

Vic Hopkins

**At the AGM, after a fish and chip lunch, satisfactory reports were received from Dorothy Hopkins, Linda Brodigan and Michael Shelley. The officers elected were Chairman Dorothy Hopkins; Vice-chairman David Pearce; Secretary Michael Shelley; Treasurer Linda Brodigan.

The Club meets in St Mark's church on Thursday afternoons fortnightly, 2.00 to 4.00pm. New members very welcome. Contact Mike on 700729, or Dorothy on 700350.

BRITISH LEGION BINGO

The Parson Drove branch of the Royal British Legion is holding Bingo Sessions in the Village Hall on Thursdays November 8th and 22nd. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Good prizes, everyone welcome.

GOREFIELD MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

On Friday 28th September people gathered in Gorefield Village Hall to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. There was a selection of lovely home made cakes and a number of competitions. There was also a Memory Board available for people to write the names of loved ones affected by or lost to cancer.

The morning raised a total of £117.91 and Ellen, Susan, Jan and Jack are grateful for the support of everyone who took the time to come and support them in raising money for this very worthy cause. We look forward to repeating this next year and hope to see lots more people having a good time for a good cause.

If you would like to see a coffee morning become a regular event in the village, other than the Macmillan, please contact Ellen on 871469 with your ideas.

CHRISTMAS BONANZA!

WSM Community Centre is the venue for a Christmas Bonanza on Sunday December 2nd from 1.00 to 4.00pm.

Gifts on offer include Cupcakes, Homeware, Baby items, Craft items, Sweets, Body Shop at Home, Jamie at Home, Jams & Chutneys, Cards, etc. And Santa will be in his Grotto! All proceeds for the WSM Playgroup.

Anyone interested in having a stall should contact Sally on 411864, or sallyraven.wsmplygroup@hotmail.co.uk

RAINBOWS AND BROWNIES COFFEE MORNING

Murrow Rainbows and Brownies will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 24th November in Murrow Village Hall from 10.00am to 12 noon to raise funds for the units. There will be tea, coffee, squash and biscuits; a cake stall, bric-a-brac, side shows and a raffle. If anyone would like to donate items of bric-a-brac or raffle prizes they would be gratefully received by Mary Lane on 701776, who can arrange collection.

NOVEMBER LUNCH DATES AT WSM

WSM Lunch Club meets on Tuesdays November 6th and 20th at midday at the Bridge Inn. Members are asked to contact Marjorie (410511) or the Bridge (410555) if they cannot attend.

GOREFIELD LUNCH CLUB

I received nothing but praise for the Pasta Bake and Liver and Onions served at our October lunch. The menu for November is Stew and Dumpling or Sweet and Sour Chicken. We had three high scoring winners to the quiz, I think Eddie and Julie are mellowing. We have had ideas of a new activity that members might be interested in for the new year. For further information please ring 01945 870387.

Norman Carroll

Advance notice of Change of Date

Alderman Payne School Parent Council are inviting local crafts people and food producers to take part in their Winter Wonderland Fayre. The Fayre will be at Parson Drove Village Hall on the 8th December 2012 **not** the first weekend of December as previously published. Tables will be £10 and the Fayre will run from 10am to 4pm. To book a table, or for any further information please contact Karen Fevyer on 701518 or email secretaryparentcouncil@yahoo.com

£700 RAISED FOR VILLAGE HALL

The Thorney Toll Village Hall committee wish to thank everyone for the generous donations that were received at the Harvest Auction which was held in September. The excellent response from those attending meant that over £700 was raised which will go towards the upkeep of the Village Hall.

**The next meeting of the Thorney Toll Residents' Association will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday November 15th starting at 7.30pm.

**A Chinese/Poker Night is scheduled for Saturday December 8th at 8pm in the Hall.

BINGO FOR PLAYGROUP FUNDS

A Bingo evening is to be held in Wisbech St Mary Community Centre on Friday November 16th. Open 6.30pm. Eyes down at 7.30pm. A lot of prizes are on offer including Days Out, Cinema tickets, Beauty products, Bowling, Vouchers, etc., together with a raffle for a new Hotpoint washing machine. Proceeds in aid of Wisbech St Mary Playgroup. Details: Sally on 411864.

THANK YOU

The Alzheimer's Society has written to acknowledge a donation of £230 which was raised at a luncheon in Parson Drove recently. *"Thank you so much for your donation of £230. Your generous gift will be put to work immediately to fund quality research into dementia. Please pass on our thanks to Mrs Barbara Wright and Mrs Carolyn Bates for hosting the event. Thanks to donations like yours Alzheimer's Society has funded over 100 research projects across the UK which has led to exciting developments and progress being made in the fight against dementia.*

Arrangements are being made to hold another Drop-In event in Parson Drove on Friday November 23rd at St Mark's church. Please see local notices for confirmation. Contact AS on 580460 or fenland@alzheimers.org.uk

Mobile Library Stops

1st Thursday: 1st November	Arr	Dep
Murrow School	10:00	10:40
Murrow Station Ave	10:45	11:00
Murrow Front Rd Paddocks	11:05	11:20
Parson Drove The Bank	11:30	12:00
Parson Drove Newlands Corner	12:10	12:25
Parson Drove Henlow Farm	12:30	12:45
3rd Thursday: 15th November	Arr	Dep
Murrow School	10:00	10:40
Murrow Station Ave	10:45	11:00
Murrow Front Rd Paddocks	11:05	11:20
Parson Drove School	11:30	12:45
3rd Wednesday: 21st November	Arr	Dep
Gorefield School	15:00	15:40
Gorefield Post Office	15:45	16:00
Gorefield Mill Height	16:05	16:25
4th Thursday: 22nd November	Arr	Dep
Wisbech St Mary Blundell Terr	10:00	10:15
2nd + 4th Friday: 9th + 23rd Nov	Arr	Dep
Rings End, March Rd	09:45	10:05
Bunkers Hill Lay-by	10:15	10:35
Wisbech St Mary Church Rd	10:55	11:25
Wisbech St Mary Cannon Close	14:40	15:30
Guyhirn Chapelfield	15:45	16:05

Notice

WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

After many years of careful stewardship of its finances, Wisbech St Mary Parish Council has built up a substantial amount of money in excess of its annual requirements. At a recent meeting, councillors agreed that the money should now be made available to support projects in the parish. This task becomes difficult as the parish council, one of the largest in the area, covers three villages and two hamlets, each with their own ambitions.

The councillors will meet in December to take this proposal forward. Residents of the parish are therefore invited to submit suggestions for projects in their own localities, whether planned or proposed. These should be forwarded in writing, or by email, to the chairman or clerk of the parish council, preferably by the end of November. In the meantime, parish councillors would be pleased to discuss any suggestions with individual residents or local organisations.

Chairman: Brian Payne, 7 Churchfield Way, WSM, PE13 4SY.
paynewsm@btinternet.com

Clerk: Mrs C Jobson, 30 Les Baux Place, Wisbech, PE13 2SU.
carolyn.jobson@bopenworld.com

Mowbray's Messages

An occasional dip into the writings of Canon Mowbray Smith MA, sometime vicar of Wisbech Saint Mary, and Chaplain to the Bishops of Ely.

October 1915:

So we have reached October. The days are drawing in, the leaves are coming down, and the fields are bare. "All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin". What a change it all is from the long warm days of summer, when the fields were full of splendid fruit of one kind or another, and the busy pickers were to be seen everywhere. Now, for the most part, the fields are deserted; it is a change!

There are the other changes also. Michaelmas has come, and Michaelmas changes are taking place, and one constantly at this time meets the wagons crowded with household goods. It means that a family is changing, the old home is being changed for a new home. It is indeed a time of change---change from summer to winter, change from one home to another. *[Agricultural labourers were hired at Michaelmas, which often required them to move to another cottage in or beyond the parish]*

Changes are generally a little bit sad, and yet it seems they are good for us, and teach us that in this life there is nothing lasting. It is dreadfully easy to "settle down", to jog along from day to day with never a thought of the great change ahead, to become so settled, so comfortable, so pleased with ourselves and with this life that we forget entirely the life ahead. We become, in fact, just like the man the Bible tells us about who was so comfortable, and was doing so well, that he said to himself "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry". [Luke xii 19]. Hundreds of folk make exactly the same mistake as this man made. The good God showers His blessings upon them, they enjoy good health, good food, comfortable home, they marry and are quite respectable and do quite nicely and "settle down". They feel they have so many years of life ahead and that no thoughts of a future life need bother them, and then gradually, ever so gradually, prayers, worship and Holy Communion are given up, and all thoughts of God and the future life grow dim. Perhaps the illness comes, or the accident, or a dear one dies, and they begin to think seriously just for a little, but the effect soon passes off, and the soul settles down to sleep once again. And so the years slip by, and the precious life passes. Then, of a sudden, the hour comes as it did to the man in the story; the soul is called, the last illness sharp and short. The summons to a new life which all must obey, unready and unprepared. The soul goes to meet its God. May we, dear people, be preserved from such a life and from such an end as this. So we learn our lesson from October, the time of change. Every flitting *[removal]* that we see teaches us the lesson that nothing here in this life is lasting. Our homes here won't last, our lives here won't last, and here we have no continuing city. It is all change and decay sooner or later, as the grass withereth and the flower fadeth. But how sweet and cheering it is to look forward brightly and happily across these changes "to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away". [St Peter]

Taken from the Wisbech Deanery Magazine which Canon Mowbray regularly used to send messages to his parishioners.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CABARET AT PARSON DROVE

Parson Drove Amenities 95 are hosting their annual Christmas Cabaret in the Village Hall on Saturday December 1st.

Entertainment will be provided by *The Business* and *Comedian A.J*

Tickets cost £23 per person, with a four-course meal included.

For tickets and details contact Louise on 701312 or 07587179082

SEASONAL EVENTS AT THE RSPCA CENTRE Hallowe'en

Join in the Hallowe'en fun at the RSPCA Animal Centre in Block Fen Drove, Wimblington, on October 27th and 28th from 11.00am to 3.30pm each day.

Games to play, cakes to eat, coffee shop open!

Christmas

Come and see Santa in his Grotto for children and pets. There will be carol singing, craft and gift stalls, home-made cakes in the coffee shop, and a prize raffle. The Centre will be open for the Christmas event on December 1st and 2nd from 11.00 to 3.30pm daily. Stallholders invited, ring 0300 123 0726 for details. All monies raised at these events go to help improve the welfare of the animals in the Centre's care.

PARSON DROVE BINGO SESSIONS

****Parson Drove Preschool** are hosting a Bingo on Thursday 29th November at Parson Drove Village Hall. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

****A Bingo Session** to raise money for **Alderman Payne Primary School** will be held on Thursday 6th December at Parson Drove Village Hall. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

MAGPAS CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE

The last Magpas Craft Fayre of this year will be held in Parson Drove Village Hall on Sunday November 25th from 10.00 to 2.00. There is free entry, and anyone wishing to bring craft items, or have a stall, should contact Carol on 700791. All proceeds are for the Magpas Emergency Medical Charity.

GOREFIELD PLAYING FIELD ASSOC CHRISTMAS BINGO.

This popular and enjoyable event will be held on Friday November 30th in Gorefield Village Hall. The doors will be open at 6.30pm for eyes down at 7.30pm. There will be excellent prizes and as usual refreshments will be available. During the evening the final draw for the 200 Club will take place.

MURROW 200 CLUB

Mrs Southwood - Murrow

Mrs Northrop

J Markillie - Parson Drove

P James - Murrow

T Jarvis - Murrow

J Barnes - Murrow

Mrs Sargeant - Murrow

B Coates - Parson Drove

The copy deadline for 'Village Voices' is the 15th of each month.

Please email news, etc. to

paynewsm@btinternet.com

or on paper to:

Anne Wallis in Guyhirn (450466)

Elaine Harvey in Gorefield (870558)

David Pearce in Parson Dr (700454)

Brian Payne in WSM (410755)

PLEASE COULD YOU HELP TO DELIVER "VILLAGE VOICES"?

One or two volunteers have because of ill-health reluctantly given up delivering "Village Voices". We send our warmest thanks and best wishes to them for the future.

If you can help in the Murrow area, please call Julia on 700212. If you can help in Wisbech St Mary village, please ring Brian on 410755, or if you could deliver in Rings End, please ring Richard on 450255.

CHRISTMAS PARTY DATE

Casey and Barbara's Christmas Party will be held on December 14th in Parson Drove Village Hall at 5.00pm. It is open to over-60s resident within Parson Drove boundaries. There is limited space so early booking by December 7th is advised. Details from Barbara 700761 or Casey 700276.

BREAKFAST AT THE "WOODMANS"

Gentlemen! Come and partake of an excellent breakfast with stimulating discussion over the eggs and bacon! Or just have a chat over the sausages! Whatever you decide you are invited to join the Men's Breakfast at the "Woodman's Cottage", Gorefield at 8.30am on Saturday November 17th. See you there!

THORNEY TOLL VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Thorney Toll Village Hall will be held on November 28th at 7.30pm. All residents are invited to attend to elect the officers and committee for the year ahead.

ROLL UP FOR THE BONFIRE & FIREWORK SPECTACULAR!

November would not be complete without the annual Fireworks Spectacular at Wisbech St Mary Church of England Primary School. Now in its twenty-fourth year, the event takes place on Saturday 10th November.

The school has again employed the services of 1605 Fireworks, a professional pyrotechnic company, who will be using some new, awe-inspiring fireworks as part of their display to make the event one to remember. The gates will open at 5.15pm, with the bonfire being lit at 5.30pm and there will be two dazzling displays - the first at 6.15pm and the second one at 7.30pm, with time in-between to partake of the goodies on offer at the food stalls.

Ticket prices are £4.00 for adults & £3.00 for children up to 12 years old.

In addition to the fireworks and the bonfire there will also be a variety of side stalls including tombola's, hook-a-duck, Hoopla, roundabouts, and amazing prizes to be won on the raffle stall. To keep the cold at bay there will be traditional food available including a hog roast, burgers, pizza, fish and chips, hot dogs, doughnuts, sweets, mushy peas, jacket potatoes and hot and cold drinks.

All the money raised is used to provide extras for the children of the school, and has been used in the past to purchase items including computers, educational videos and books, and to pay for treats including Xmas parties and fantastic new playground equipment.

St John's Ambulance will be in attendance.

Some of the areas will be coned by the police and any cars which park illegally will be given a parking ticket on the night and will incur a fine.

HISTORY AND BUFFET AT THE WI

In September, Wisbech St. Mary Women's Institute celebrated their first year with an evening party at the Community Centre. It has been a good start with many visitors and good speakers which we will continue during our next year. A substantial evening buffet was supplied by members. Our Speaker was Brian Payne who is our local historian and his very interesting and informative talk was about the beginnings and history of WSM and the surrounding villages.

We meet on the third Monday of each month at 7.30pm. in the Sidings room (straight through the Bar). Visitors are very welcome with no obligation for the first three visits, you will be made most welcome. Forget the Jam and Jerusalem image we try to be more relevant to the 21st century.
Alma Walsh, President.

FENLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Fenland Family History Society enjoyed another successful Family History Day, we were supported by many family history societies in East Anglia all offering free help and advice to those attending. On offer on the various stands were books and stationary plus transcriptions of historic information. Our own Book Stall offered over 20 CD's of Memorial Inscriptions collected from the graves in many churchyards in the area.

Our November meeting will be on Thursday 22nd November in St Peter's Church Hall Wisbech from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. As this meeting is the last of the year we enjoy a festive meeting. Members provide plates of festive finger food for the buffet. We enjoy competitions and a quiz, with a special display of mystery objects from the past to be identified. Members are invited to bring their items along to challenge us. Our Computer Research Session in Wisbech Library from 10 – 12 noon will be on Tuesday 6th Nov and 4th Dec. where help is offered by experienced researchers. Depending on demand we are considering holding our research sessions on a Saturday. Further details: 01945 587723.
Bridget Hunter

FENLAND FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Fenland Friendship Club is organising a Race Night at the Swan Inn, Parson Drove, on Friday November 23rd. The first race is 8.00pm.

Cash prizes, Raffle, Whisky Draw, and much more.

NEW SPEED RESTRICTIONS IN GUYHIRN

On October 22nd new speed limits will come into force in Guyhirn. Gull Road will be subject to a 40mph speed limit, and High Road will become a 30mph zone through the village.

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Disclaimers.1. The editors of "Village Voices" rely on news from parishioners or organisations being factually correct, and therefore can accept no liability for any late changes in the details of any event

2. Persons conducting business with those who advertise in this magazine do so at their own risk and the editors and management committee of Village Voices can accept no liability for any losses that customers may sustain by responding to adverts published in these pages.

WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Affordable Rural Housing: how you can help.

There is no blanket definition, but the aim of affordable housing is to provide homes for people on modest incomes, who can't afford to buy or rent a home on the open market. The term includes rented and low cost home ownership properties. New affordable homes help sustain communities by offering local families, couples and single people the chance to stay living in the place where they have strong connections.

Sustainable rural communities need a diverse housing stock to support their population. Many villages attract significant levels of in-migration as people seek the rural idyll and the perceived quality of life on offer. As a result, rural house prices have outpaced many other areas and have become unaffordable for local people tied into the local job market. The wages on offer in the rural economy have fallen behind the income needed to compete in the rural housing market. Young people in particular are being forced to move away in search of an affordable place to live. This has damaging ramifications for local communities and their services.

Affordable housing is housing made available for either rent or shared ownership, based on the evidence of need, to those unable to afford market prices. Cambridgeshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) works with partners to increase the availability of affordable housing in rural communities. In particular, they seek to develop rural exception sites. The advantage of rural exception sites is that the planning permission always has a section 106 agreement ensuring that the affordable housing remains as such in perpetuity and that people with a local connection to the village have priority in the lettings process.

Cambridgeshire ACRE undertakes local Housing Needs Surveys to establish need and works with partners to identify and bring forward sites for development. If you would like to discuss how your community could benefit from a small development of affordable homes or have a site that you think may be suitable for such a development please contact the Chairman, Clerk, or any member of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council.