

Village Voices March 2010



Village Voices is produced by the parish churches for the local community providing news and information for:
Guyhirn-Gorefield-Murrow-Parson Drove-Rings End-Tholomas Drove-Thorney Toll-Wisbech St Mary

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

*"When I survey the wondrous
Cross"*

Services for
Holy Week and Easter

Sun March 28 Palm Sunday.

Gorefield. 10.00: Holy Communion.

Parson Drove. 10.30: United service at St Mark's.

WSM & Guyhirn. 10.50: Procession in the village followed by Sung Eucharist at 11.00.

Mon March 29

Gorefield. 7.30: Holy Communion.

Tues March 30

WSM & Guyhirn. 7.30: Holy Communion.

Wed March 31

Parson Drove. 7.30: Holy Communion.

Thur April 1 Maundy Thursday.

WSM & Guyhirn. 6.45: Agape.

8.00: Eucharist

The Watch and at 11.45: Compline.

Fri April 2 GOOD FRIDAY

WSM & Guyhirn. 1.00-2.00: Walk of Witness.

Parson Drove. 2.15-3.00: Meditation. Father Matthew.

Gorefield. 2.15-3.00: Meditation. Brian Payne.

WSM & G. 2.15-3.00: Meditation. Lilian Brigden.

Sat April 3

WSM & Guyhirn. 8.00pm: Easter Vigil.

Sunday April 4. EASTER DAY

Parson Drove. 9.30: Holy Communion

Gorefield. 10.00: Holy Communion with Venerable David Fleming.

WSM & Guyhirn. 8.00am: Holy Comm
11.00: Sung Eucharist

*Jesus Christ is risen today.
Alleluia!*

Vicar's Verbals

Aconites and snowdrops are peeping through the soggy brown grass. Here and there crocuses are showing and the shoots of bulbs promise colour and delight to come. They all remind us that no matter how harsh and prolonged the winter, life really does go on. The light comes earlier and fades later as if to remind us that there is fresh work to be done and we are to rise earlier and stay later to see to it. February has been for Lilian and me a month of funerals. The late winter has taken a merciless toll of old friends, and some younger ones too. But as the spring comes we have baptisms to enjoy and weddings to plan, reminding us that the great circle of God's Creation always brings the new after the old and life after death. If you have lost a loved one this winter, take some time to search for new growth in your life, no matter how tentative. It may be hidden in a corner of your world, but seek it out and you will surely recognise it, as its tiny shoots push through the fallen leaves of your sadness. This is the Easter message – that love conquers death. **Matthew.**

NEW MORNING WORSHIP AT ST PAUL'S GOREFIELD

On the third Sunday of each month there is now Morning Worship at 10am, which replaces the 8am Holy Communion service.

The new service is aimed at newcomers as well as those who have been attending church for many years. Everyone is most welcome, and the vicar and churchwardens hope that new people will take the opportunity to join them.

POPULAR CHAPEL TEA SERVICES

Mrs Butcher is the speaker at the next Tea Service in Wisbech St Mary Methodist Church at 4.30pm on Wednesday February 24th. The guest speaker on March 31st will be Brian Payne, who will be looking at another aspect of the village's history.

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 Drove (700454)

Brian Payne in WSM (410755)

For advertising, e-mail

ads.villagevoices@btinternet.com

Or phone Terry Brigden on 450481.

Knowing God

is the title of The North Nene Group Ecumenical Fellowship's Lent Study 2010.

There will be five study groups entitled

***God is revealed**

***This is your God**

***God with us**

***God around us and in us**

***Three in one and one in three**

Daytime meetings will be held at St Mark's Church, Parson Drove, on five Tuesdays 2.30-4pm, starting Feb 23rd.

Evening meetings will be held at St Leonard's Church, Leverington, on five Thursdays 7-8.30pm, starting Feb 25th.

For further information, including help with transport, contact Revd Matthew Bradbury on 410814 or Revd Sandra Gardner on 581486

**Join us on this journey to find
fellowship and faith in action!**

The Register

We welcome into the Church family

Devon Dunham who was baptized in St Paul's Church, Gorefield, on Sunday February 14th.

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

Stanley Butwright, whose funeral service was in Wisbech St Mary Methodist Church, on Wednesday January 20th followed by burial in the cemetery.

Gladys Petch, whose funeral service was in Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove, on Friday January 22nd followed by cremation at Peterborough.

Baby Ellie Marie Balsler, whose funeral service was at St Paul's Church, Gorefield, on Friday January 22nd, followed by burial in the churchyard.

Shirley Plume, whose funeral service was at St Paul's Church, Gorefield, on Tuesday February 9th, followed by cremation at Mintlyn.

Rose Willis, whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Church on Wednesday February 10th, followed by burial in the cemetery.

Ken Bliss, whose cremation was at Mintlyn followed by a Thanksgiving Service in Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove, on Thursday February 11th.

Gwendaline Robinson, whose funeral service was at Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Church on Friday February 12th, followed by burial in the cemetery.

Steven John Cox, whose funeral service was held in St Paul's Church, Gorefield, on Monday February 15th followed by burial in the churchyard.

In memoriam

Canon Hugh Barker's Ashes were interred in Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Garden of Remembrance on Saturday January 23rd.

QUIET EXPLORATION OF FAITH AND PRAYER

The second Thursday in each month, from 1.45 to 3.00pm, is a time of quiet exploration of faith and prayer within an ecumenical meeting. You are welcome to listen to, or enter into, life meaning concerns. Its quiet and warm and extraordinary. It happens at "Whizzers", Station road, Wisbech St Mary.

For further details contact Barbara Barbour or Caroline Dobson 410342.

CHAPEL OF EASE BEATS THE WEATHER!

Although still a bit on the chilly side, Guyhirn's seventeenth century Chapel of Ease welcomed a goodly number to its postponed New Year service at the end of January. The service, which was cancelled because of the severe weather at the beginning of the month, was led by Brian Payne, assisted by Wendy Neale and Janet Dickinson, the President of the Friends of the Chapel. The guest preacher was Rev Janet Phillips, who delivered a moving sermon to celebrate Candlemas.

Several people in the village have come forward to suggest a pattern for future occasional services in the Chapel. The next service will probably be held at Eastertide.

GARDENS OF REMEMBRANCE

The Parochial Church Councils of the three churches would like to thank everyone for helping to keep each of the Gardens of Remembrance looking so clean and tidy.

Mothering Sunday is March 14th, and we would be grateful if all Christmas wreaths, etc., could be removed by that date, so that everything is ready for the beautiful Spring flowers at Easter.

The PCCs remind parishioners that only fresh flowers in authorised sized vases should be used, that no memorabilia articles are placed in the gardens, and that no sticks or stakes should be inserted in the membrane.

+ **Regular Services** +

<p>Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church: Every Sunday exc 1st :- 11am. SUNG EUCHARIST. 1st Sunday:- 8am Communion, 11am Family Service 3rd Sunday:- Evening Prayer: 6.00pm Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove: 1st Sunday in month:- 9.30am Family service. 2nd & 3rd Sundays:- 9.30am Communion. 5th Sunday:-9.30am Communion or Morning Prayer 4th Sunday:-United Service at St Mark's 10.30. March 7: Greeter: Pauline. Coffee: Sandra March 14: Greeter: Trevor Coffee: Liz. March 21: Greeter: Pam. Coffee: Bridget + Rupert. Flower Rota: March 14: Mrs J French. St Paul's Church, Gorefield: except 3rd Sunday. 10.00am: Holy Communion 3rd Sunday. 10.00am: Morning Worship</p>	<p>St Mark's Methodist Church, Parson Drove Feb 28: 10.30. United service. Rev P Dewdney. March 7: 10.30. Local arrangement. March 14: 9.30. United service in Parish Church. March 21: 10.30. Holy Comm. Rev N Hannah. March 28: 10.30. United Service. Mr T Simpson.</p> <p>Murrow Methodist Church Feb 28: 10.30. Mr L Ball. March 7: 10.30. Mr A Stapleton. March 14: 10.30. Holy Comm. Rev N Hannah. March 21: 10.30. Mr N Thompson. March 28: 10.30. United service. Rev P Dewdney.</p> <p>Shalom Feb 26: 7.30. St James's, Marshland.</p>
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WHAT HAVE I DONE ?

Bridget Selway.

He hung there for me,
For my liberty,
But what have I done
That it should be won
for me ?

He does not ask
that I should pass
a test or an exam.
He just holds out his hand
and says "Take it, you can!
Here, you have liberty!
I love you more
than one ever before,
just trust and come to me."

He paid the price
for all my vice
and yet he loves me still!
All I need to do
is love him too
and follow in his will.

THE SOUNDS OF THE SHADOWS COME TO GOREFIELD LADIES GROUP

The January meeting of the Gorefield Ladies Group was held on Wednesday 25th. Glenys welcomed everyone back after the Christmas break, and introduced Ali Newman, a local versatile Craft teacher. Marbling effect on card was demonstrated by Ali using coloured paints and shaving foam! Members then enjoyed experimenting with such materials to make bookmarks and decorated boxes.

Refreshments were served by Gillian Smith and Chris Ashton and a raffle was held. Celebrating her birthday in January was Leslie Thorpe. Glenys thanked Ali and reminded everyone that the next meeting was to be held on Wednesday 24th February 24th. There will be two forms of entertainment with Chris Burbage presenting an Enigma Crystal Jewellery Party, and music supplied by Ken and his guitar group with *Sounds of the Shadows*.

Anyone interested is welcome, as this is an open evening, just £2.00 charge to include refreshments.

Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday, sometimes known as Mother's Day, is held on the fourth Sunday of Lent. It is exactly three weeks before Easter Sunday and usually falls in the second half of March or the beginning of April. This year it is March 14th.

Mothering Sunday is now a celebration of motherhood. Mothering Sunday, is now a day to honour mothers and grandmothers, stepmothers and mothers-in-law. Many people make a special effort to visit their mother. They take cards and gifts to her, and may treat her to a meal in a restaurant or hotel. People who cannot visit their mother usually send gifts or cards to her. Common Mothering Sunday gifts are cakes, flowers and chocolates. Some people do not give a physical gift, but choose to treat their mother to a outing. In the days and weeks before Mothering Sunday, many schools and Sunday schools help their pupils to prepare a handmade card or gift for their mother. Mothering Sunday was originally a time when people returned to the church in which they were baptized or where they attended services when they were children. This meant that families were reunited as adults returned to the towns and villages where they grew up. In Victorian times it became customary for young people who were working as servants in large houses, to be given a holiday on Mothering Sunday. They could use this day to visit their own mother and often took a gift of food or hand-me-down clothing from their employers to her.

Christians observe a fast during Lent. Lent is the period from Ash Wednesday until Good Friday. During the Lent fast, people do not eat sweet, rich foods or meat. However, the fast was lifted slightly on Mothering Sunday and many people prepared a Simnel cake to eat with their family on this day. However, because of the Lent fast, most Simnel cakes are now kept to be eaten at Easter. A Simnel cake is a light fruit cake covered with a layer of marzipan and with a layer of marzipan baked into the middle of the cake. Traditionally, Simnel cakes are decorated with 11 or 12 balls of marzipan, representing the 11 disciples and Jesus Christ. One legend says that the cake was named after Lambert Simnel who worked in the kitchens of Henry VII of England sometime around the year 1500.

'I'll to thee a Simnell bring
'Gainst thou go'st a mothering,
So that, when she blesseth thee,
Half that blessing thou'lt give to me.' Robert Herrick 1648

MOTHERS' UNION DIARY DATES

Tuesday February 2nd was the first meeting in 2010 of WSM Mothers' Union when we looked at some dates for the year, starting with our Wave of Prayer on April 5th and Dedication in Ely Cathedral on April 17th. The Wisbech Deanery Mothers' Union Quiet Afternoon in WSM & Guyhirn church with Revd Matthew Bradbury, is from 2 to 4 on Wednesday April 21st.

The next meeting of our Mothers' Union is in Church House, WSM, on Tuesday March 2nd. Everyone very welcome.

Lilian Brigden.

SEE THE RUSTY RELICS

The Rusty Relics will give a performance in St Mark's Methodist Church, Parson Drove, on Saturday March 6th at 7.30pm.

Tickets £5, including a light supper. If you feel up to it bring your dancing shoes!

DUCKS, SWANS AND CREAM TEAS!

The entertainment at the February meeting of WSM Women's Fellowship was superb -- hundreds of Pochard ducks bobbing and weaving around seventy or eighty mute and Bewick's swans on the floodlit Welney Washes. The night was cold but we watched the feeding of these beautiful creatures from the heated 'hide' at the Wildfowl Reserve - and followed this with a cream tea in their cafe. As the coach went along the wash road we could see the waters stretching for miles either side.

The March meeting is on Thursday 11th at 7pm in the school hall; new members and visitors are always welcome.

Tickets will be on sale for our Spring Social in April, priced at £5.

Liz Hunt & Mary McClagish

JULIE'S PATCH

Pc Julie Coales, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

I am always saying to people that if they see something suspicious they should report it to the Police. If we don't get told about it we cannot deal with it. I hear some people saying that they don't want to get involved, or its nothing to do with them, or the Police won't do anything about it. I get frustrated when I am carrying out enquiries after a crime has been committed to be told that someone saw something but couldn't be bothered to report it. How would you feel if it was your home being broken into, or you car stolen and someone saw it happening but couldn't be bothered to report it?

Recently a member of the public saw a theft taking place and contacted the Police straight away. As a result the Police attended and three persons were arrested.

If you see something and it is life threatening or urgent phone 999.

If you want to report something and it is not urgent phone **0345 456 4564**

If you want to report something but not to the Police, report it to **Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111**

If you need to contact me: **0345 456 4564 x3799** or e-mail me at julie.coales@cambs.pnn.police.uk

FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE DESCRIBED AT WOMEN'S MEETING

The February meeting of Parson Drove Women's Institute was once again well attended. We began, as usual, by singing *Jerusalem* and the business followed. The main focus of the evening was an extremely interesting and informative talk about MAGPAS. It was given by Mark Clingo, who has had first-hand experience of the wonderful care and expertise of these dedicated people. His gratitude is shown by his promotion of their work, and to make us aware that they rely on public donations to fund their work.

Tea and biscuits followed, and then, as last month, we went out into the bitter night!

Ann Payne

TONY G: "THE VOICE OF ELVIS"

A nostalgic musical evening is planned for Friday March 5th in Gorefield Village Hall, when Tony G: the voice of Elvis, will be performing. Tickets for the event, which starts at 7.30pm, are £7.50 including supper, and are available from Joy Andrew, Janet Ward, Glenys Grimm, Roy Cott or Colin Tibbs. Bring your own drinks.

Proceeds for Gorefield Village Hall

COME ALONG AND HAVE YOUR SAY

The Annual Meeting of Parson Drove Amenities 95 will be held on Thursday March 25th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Nomination Forms to join the committee can be obtained in the Village Hall, Pavilion, Shop and Post Office.

All villagers are welcome. The Notice of the meeting reads "***It is your Village Hall, so please come along and have your say***"

VILLAGE AUCTION AT THE WOODMAN'S

The organisers of the Village Auction at the *Woodman's Cottage*, Gorefield, on Saturday March 27th are asking for saleable unwanted items for the sale. The items will be auctioned and a minimum of 10% of the proceeds will go to fund a free children's party in the garden at the *Woodman's* on Sunday March 28th. Any surplus profits will go to the parish church. The Mayor of Wisbech will attend the auction. Items may be delivered to the pub during opening hours, or to St Paul's church on Thursdays between 9.30am and 12 noon..

Bargain hunters come and bid. Who knows, someone's junk may be worth a fortune! There will also be a car boot and various stalls.

The children's party the following day will have a Punch & Judy, a magic show, balloon modeller and a disco
Details from Adam on 870669.

MURROW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A meeting is being held on Monday March 8th in Murrow Village Hall at 7 pm for anyone in the village who is interested in a local Neighbour Hood Watch scheme.

PC Julie Coales will be in attendance to give a talk about all that is involved.

Residents are invited to go along and find out how they can protect their homes.

LOCAL BOY'S SUCCESS IN KARTING

Aaron "Azzy" Charles, a 15 year old Thomas Clarkson schoolboy, who moved to Parson Drove just before Christmas from Basildon in Essex, had his first outing at the Kimbolton kart circuit on the weekend of February 13th and 14th.

Aaron, the Kimbolton 2008 Minimax Champion, has just moved up to the Senior class due to being too heavy for the Junior classes. In the freezing wet conditions, Aaron, the youngest driver on the grid, took the task in hand in his stride. Running fastest in Testing in the tricky conditions on Saturday, it was looking good for a top slot on Sunday. Race day started off wet and Aaron came in 5th after loosing two places when a kart spun in front of him. Heat 2 went well with Aaron moving into 1st place from 7th by lap 2, and was only demoted to 4th when his wet tyres let him down in the last couple of laps on the then drying track. For the Final he had won a 4th place start in the 15 strong grid and had a blistering start and jumped into 1st place on the first corner with a 10 kart lead. The 2nd place man then hunted Aaron down and got with him but could do nothing to get past him. Then the fun came; it started raining, with slick tyres and a wet track, Aaron was now enjoying his favourite wet conditions. He then went on in the next 7 laps to build a massive 5 second lead from the 2nd place kart.

Dad Mic said "Azzy has made us proud. We are low budget racers, and in his first ever Senior race he has beaten some very good names in the bigger teams with much bigger budgets. Azzy has done hundreds of laps wet testing, and it showed today with his faultless drive. We are now looking forward to a good year". Azzy added, "I would like to thank my team and say a big thankyou to Gary Munro of GFM Motorsport for his superb engines".

Mic Charles

THANK YOU 1

Gorefield Pre-School held a quiz evening on Friday January 22nd. It was a fun filled evening when a trophy was presented to the winning team and a wooden spoon to the losers! A hot supper was provided and the event raised £287. Thanks to all those that attended, and also to all the committee that helped make the evening such a success.

Liz Rowell, Fundraiser.

CASEY AND BARBARA'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

After being postponed because of the bad weather, the Christmas Party has been rescheduled for Saturday April 17th at 5.30 for 6.00pm in Parson Drove Village Hall.

All those originally invited are now re-invited and Casey and Barbara hope they will all be able to attend. Please phone Barbara on 700761 to confirm, so that any vacancies can be filled. Remember to bring the usual little present, and a glass each.

THANK YOU 2

Gorefield Pre-School are opening the doors to their new pre-school building after February half term (Monday 22nd February). There is still outside work to be completed which hopefully will be finished by May 2010, ready for a Grand Opening Day!

A lot of hard work and organisation has been carried out to make the building possible and special thanks should go to Lucy Turner (chairperson), Dawn Cornett (treasurer), Emma Bramley (Secretary) and Christine Kaye (pre-school leader). We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the pre-school staff and committee, and to the local community who have supported us in our fundraising events. Also special thanks to Gorefield village hall and Gorefield Bowls Club for the use of their premises whilst construction on our new pre-school building has been taking place. The Pre-School now looks forward to confirming details of our Opening Ceremony!

THANK YOU 3

The second Saturday in each month has been for over 15 years the Wisbech St Mary Mart, a social gathering and family exchange of food and goods in aid of the parish church. In just under an hour and a half over £60 is regularly raised to help keep the church open. Thank you for all your support.

The next Mart is on Saturday March 13th in Church House, WSM, from 8.45am to sell-out. All very welcome. There is coffee, biscuits, and time to catch up with all the news!

Caroline Dobson.

WARM AND FRIENDLY TOMBOLAS

There will be Tombola sessions in Gorefield Village Hall on February 26th, March 12th and 26th. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Everyone is most welcome, including young families, to a warm and friendly atmosphere. A Draw and refreshments will be available. Proceeds are for the Village Hall.

£40,000 FUNDING CONFIRMED FOR GOREFIELD PROJECT

Gorefield Parish Council has finally received a formal offer of funding for the Play Pathfinder project from Cambridgeshire County Council. Congratulations to Councillor Norman Carroll, Project Leader, for all his time and effort to achieve this. The funding had been deferred to allow changes to the project design to be implemented. When confirming this funding Ashley List of CCC stated that the grants panel were particularly impressed with

- Fresh outlook and effort given to natural play
- Very apparent effort and work put into consulting with children and young people, and responding to these results
- Play space being part of a phased development of the playing field in creating a new community space
- Consideration to boundaries and surfacing to be used

The new equipment will include a 25 metre long Ariel Cableway, a Swinging Step Climber, a Disc Spinner, a Globe Shelter and the Normandy Multiplay Unit. The Normandy Multiplay Unit is a three tower unit which features a climbing wall, steel slide, banister slide, cargo net, trapeze rings, fireman's pole, access steps and pull-up scramble. There will also be improvements made to the existing swings, rocking rocket and roundabout. These improvements will include new safer surfacing. Additional funding has been agreed by the Playing Field Association to replace the existing pedestrian access gate while the Parish Council will be funding the elements of natural play space within the scheme which will include a willow tunnel, sunken logs, boulders and areas of longer grass with wildflowers.

The Play Pathfinder funding is for children age 8 to 13 years so to compliment this, the Parish Council has now made another funding bid to provide equipment for both toddlers and adults. If successful this additional equipment will be incorporated in the same location on the field to complete the scheme. New seating and upgrades to the existing seating are included in the first phase.

Work will now begin in earnest on the new play area, for which this funding has been approved, as it has to be open for use by the 31st March 2010, although the official opening 'party' will be arranged at a later date.

TOMBOLA FOR HALL FUNDS

Murrow Village Hall is the venue for a Tombola on Thursday April 1st. starting at 7.30pm.

There are excellent prizes, and the proceeds will go towards the hall funds. Details: Maureen Woollard.

MURROW 200 CLUB WINNERS

J Edis - Guyhirn
N Court - Wisbech St Mary
S Laws - Guyhirn
J & F Skinner - Murrow
C Barnes - Murrow
M Northrop - Murrow
J Almey - Wisbech
M Cross - Parson Drove

HOT CROSS BUNS AT BINGO

Gorefield Playing Field Association are holding an Easter Bingo in the Village Hall on Wednesday March 31st. Doors will open at 6.30 and eyes down at 7.30pm.

There are excellent prizes, and refreshments, including Hot Cross Buns, will be available.

THE DOG PROBLEM AGAIN

"Village Voices" has received the following message concerning dog fouling. Whilst this concern refers to the village of Gorefield, our other villages and hamlets share the same problem.

"Since *Village Voices* was introduced to Gorefield there have been a good number of positive items placed on its pages, but this item may not be seen by some as one of them. As we enter hopefully the last phase of winter and look towards spring we see the hardy perennial dog fouling problem rearing its ugly presence once again. Areas of grass verge around the cross roads, the pocket park, and the churchyard all carry the evidence, as do Gote Lane, Green Lane, Chapel Lane and other areas on the edge of the village where people like to walk. There are a couple of ways to combat this anti-social practice; the draconian way when the authorities are expected to trace and prosecute the culprits, (and that would require neighbour to report neighbour which is as abhorrent to most of us as the fouling itself), or the polite way preferred by the majority that is this simple request.

**Please clean up
the mess your dog makes**

TEAMS REQUIRED FOR QUIZ NIGHT AT PARSON DROVE

Parson Drove Cricket Club will be holding a Quiz Night in the village hall on Friday April 23rd at 7pm. There will be teams of 4, and the charge of £5 per person includes a hot supper. Make a diary date. Contact Rob on 700202 for details.

CrimeBUSTer DATES

The Safer Fenland Partnership's CrimeBUSTer is coming to Guyhirn and Murrow. The refurbished bus provides a comfortable, visual and accessible information centre, delivering simple practical solutions to help people feel safer and reduce the fear of crime, by improving personal and community safety.

Guyhirn -Chapelfield / Gull Road 8:30 till 12:30 Wednesday March 17th
Murrow - Station Ave 8:30 till 12:30 Tuesday March 23rd.

SUNSHINE CLUB LOSES LONG-STANDING MEMBER

Murrow Sunshine Club has held meetings on January 27th and February 10th. At the last meeting a minute silence was observed in respect of the late Mrs M Hoddy, until recently a long-standing member of the Club.

Birthdays are being celebrated in February by Mrs Hilda Clark, Mrs Brown and Mrs Woodward. A committee meeting was held on February 15th to discuss this year's events and outings.

D.Ralf, Hon Secretary.

PRE-SCHOOL BINGO

Gorefield Pre-School are holding a Bingo evening on Friday March 19th at the Village Hall. Doors open at 6.45pm, eyes down at 7.30pm. There are lots of good value prizes to be won! All money raised will go towards funds for new equipment for the Pre-School. Contact: Liz Rowell on 07787917252.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Citizens Advice Bureau personnel will be in attendance at the Parson Drove Pavilion from 1.30pm to 3.30pm on Tuesday March 23rd.

GOREFIELD CAR BOOT DATES ANNOUNCED

The dates for the Gorefield Car Boot sales in the next few months have been announced. They are:-

March Saturday 13th & 27th

April Saturday 10th & 24th

May Saturday 8th & 22nd

June Saturday 5th & 26th

July Saturday 24th

August Saturday 7th & 21st

September Saturday 4th & 25th

October Saturday 9th

Please make a note in your diaries. All sales will be held on the Gorefield Sports Field, Wolf Lane. Toilets and refreshments will be available, Booters to arrive at 07.30am. Contact numbers 01945 870387 or 07918122217.

WSM LUNCHEON CLUB

Lunch will be served on March 2nd, 16th and 30th at 12 noon at the Bridge Inn, WSM. Please let Marjorie, 410511, or the Inn, (410555), know if you can't attend.

THORNEY TOLL DIARY DATES

A meeting of Thorney Toll Residents Association will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday March 18th.

Bingo sessions in the Hall are scheduled for March 22nd, April 26th, May 24th, June 21st, July 19th, August 9th, September 13th, October 11th, November 8th and December 6th, .

GUYHIRN LEGION TOMBOLA

A tombola will be held in Guyhirn Village Hall on Sat March 27th, beginning at 7.30. Many good prizes. Proceeds will support the Royal British Legion, Women's Section, in the village.

ACTIVITIES AT PARSON DROVE

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

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

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

The Fitness League meets Thursdays 9.15am to 10.15am at St Mark's. Contact Helen 01406 330565.

Line Dancing at the Village Hall on Tuesdays 1.30pm to 4pm, and Wednesdays 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Michelle 701239.

WSM POORS ALLOTMENT CHARITY

Due to the current financial position the Trustees regret that there are no funds available for grants. The Poores Allotment Charity is restricted to only spending the interest on capital, and due to the credit crunch there is very little available at this time.

Mrs C Jobson Clerk to the Charity 30 Les Baux Place, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 2SU Tel. No. 01945 474364

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.*

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE

The locations, stops and arrival times are:

Alternate Tuesdays:- March 9th and 23rd Murrow Station Ave 10.30 Murrow Front Rd Paddocks 10.55 Parson Drove The Bank 11.15 Parson Drove Newlands Corner 11.40 Parson Drove Henlow Farm 12.10 Enquiries: at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library	Alternate Wednesdays:- March 10th 24th Gorefield School 15.15 Post Office 15.40 Mill Height 15.55 or 0345 045 5225	Alternate Fridays:- March 5th and 19th Rings End March Road, 10.00 Guyhirn Selwyn Corner 10.25 Bunkers Hill Lay-bye 10.45 WSM Cannon Close 11.05 WSM Church Road 11.30 WSM Blundell Terr 11.55 Lev Common Pear Tree Cres 12.15 Guyhirn Chapelfield Av 15.20
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CHANGES TO BUS SERVICES

A number of changes to local bus services have been announced. Included among the revisions are the following:

Norfolk Green 46 (March - Wisbech - Kings Lynn)

The current service level is maintained, with the introduction of a new Monday to Saturday service from Murrow 9.30am, Bellamy's Bridge 9.35am, Wisbech St Mary 9.39am, Wisbech 9.49am, returning from Wisbech at 12.40pm. This new Monday to Saturday service replaces the current Wednesday only service 38 provided by Stagecoach.

Stagecoach Service 36 and 38 (Peterborough - Thorney - Wisbech)

The 7.10am journey from Wisbech (36) Monday to Saturday, will continue, as will the 3.45pm (36) back from Peterborough. The remaining services will all be withdrawn beyond Thorney, and a two-hourly off peak service will be maintained i.e. 9.35am, 11.35am, 1.35pm from Peterborough and 10.05am, 12.05pm, and 2.05pm from Thorney, Monday to Saturday. The Wednesday service via Murrow is partially replaced by an extended journey on Norfolk Green Service 46.

The Wednesday service from Wisbech to Peterborough via Murrow reverts to Service 390, and will be operated by W&M Travel. There will be no replacement for the Tuesday and Friday service as this is largely in Lincolnshire.

Stagecoach Service X9 (Cambridge - Ely - Chatteris - March - Wisbech)

Revised timetable to allow connections with the reduced Service 9 to/from Littleport at Ely. Withdrawn between Wisbech and March, but this section is being replaced by Norfolk Green as Service 56. The new 56 will be operated hourly between Wisbech, Elm, Friday Bridge, Coldham and March, with through tickets being sold and accepted to/from Stagecoach X9. All Monday to Saturday - 6.05am from Wisbech not replaced, the 7.05am from Wisbech will now be a 7am, plus an extra journey on schooldays at 8am from Wisbech direct to March and Neale-Wade Community College, with an extension of the 8.05am journey at March to Neale-Wade Community College. The 3.25pm from March is unchanged on Saturdays and school holidays, but on schooldays will start from Neale-Wade Community College at 3.35pm and operate to Elm only, with an extra bus 10 minutes behind all the way to Wisbech, plus a third bus at 3.35pm direct to Wisbech. The 4.30pm and 5.30pm from March is now 10 minutes later and the 6.35pm from March will not be replaced. This will increase the Norfolk Green service between Wisbech and March to half-hourly, when compared with the 46. Additional similar journeys are operated by Emblings Service 380.

Useful contacts

Churches	Schools	Health & Security
Revd Matthew Bradbury 410814	Gorefield School 870321	Parson Drove Surgery 700223
Lilian Brigden (Reader) 450481	Gorefield Pre-school 870439	North Cambs Hospital 585781
Revd Nigel Hannah [Methodist] 466426	Guyhirn School 450247	Queen Elizabeth Hospital 01553 613613
Village Halls (bookings)	Murrow School 700357	Social Services 481100
Gorefield 870829	Murrow Pre School 07754758332	P. Drove Surgery Car Service 07766534280
Guyhirn 450835	Payne School Parson Drove 700275	WSM Community Car Scheme 07592407283
Murrow 700212	Parson Drove Pre-School 07880 606450	Gorefield Social Car Scheme 01945 870539
Parson Drove 700729	WSM School 410312	Childline 0800 1111
Thorney Toll 07887754869 or 07961957878	WSM Play Group 07944 719586	Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
WSM Village Hall 410539	Post Offices	Dog control/Animal welfare 01354 622442
Parish Council Clerks	Parson Drove 700511	Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Gorefield 870454	Gorefield 870273	Fenland District Council 111101354654321
Parson Drove 700501	Wisbech St Mary 410288	Samaritans 08457909090
Wisbech St Mary 474191	Websites: www.guyhirn-online.org.uk	Victim supportline 08453030900
	www.gorefield.com	Police (non-emergency) 0345 456 4564
	www.wisbechstmary.org.uk	

WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL **February 2010 NEWSLETTER**

Wisbech St Mary is one of the largest parishes in Fenland District. It includes Murrow, Guyhirn, Thorney Toll, Tholomas Drove and Wisbech St Mary.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs C Jobson, 26 Les Baux Place, Wisbech, PE13 2SU. Tel: 01945 474364.

Councillors

Name	Address	Telephone Number
Mr C Allen	Halls Farm, Wisbech Road, Guyhirn, Wisbech, Cambs	01733 849300
Mr P Barnes	Westview, 38 Murrow Bank, Murrow, PE13 4HB	01945 700200
Mr B Britain	Fort Farm, Gull Drove, Guyhirn, Wisbech PE13 4HB	
Mr P Davies	Riverside, Selwyn Corner, Guyhirn, Wisbech PE13 4ED	01945 450234
Mr J Fish	17 Lindens Close, Thorney Toll, Wisbech PE13 4AR	07887754869
Mr T Fowler	Bramble Corner, Plash Drove, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4SP	01945 410425
Mr C Fryett	Llanberis, Gull Road, Guyhirn PE13 4ER	01945 450340
Mr J Parrin	Paradene, Church Road, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4RN	01945 410539
Mr B Payne	7 Churchfield Way, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4SY	01945 410755
Mrs D Thrower	Acquest, Front Road, Murrow PE13 4JQ	01945 700213

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council due to the resignation of Mr James Carney. To make sure all parishioners are aware of the procedure the Parish Council is obliged to follow the Clerk outlines the details.

The first step in the process is for the Parish Council to give notice of the vacancy, which should be displayed within the parish in prominent positions in order that as much publicity as possible is given. The Parish Council may wish to publicise details of the vacancy in the local press, but this is not a statutory requirement and is a matter for the Council to determine. If within 14 days of the notice being posted (disregarding weekends and any other days not computed for election purposes) ten local government electors for the Parish give notice to the Returning Officer at FDC for the vacancy to be filled by election, then an election must be held within 60 days. If a request is not received within the 14 days then the vacancy will be filled by the Parish Council, which they must do by co-opting a person to fill the vacancy. This must be carried out as soon as practicable after the expiry of the 14 days. FDC Electoral Services will let the Parish Council know either way after the expiry of the 14 days.

Future Parish Council Meetings

Monday, 29th March 2010 at Murrow Village Hall
 Monday, 26th April at The Chequers Tholomas Drove
 Monday, 24th May at Guyhirn Village Hall – Annual Assembly followed by the Annual General Meeting.
 Please note that we are again having our meetings in the Village Halls in order to try and make our meetings more accessible to all of the parishioners, who are invited to attend any of the Council meetings. Please do attend and voice your opinion on any subject relevant to the Parish during the Open Forum at the beginning of every meeting. The Parish Council is very pleased that many Parishioners attend their meetings on a regular

basis, together with the Police, District Councillors Bellamy and Scrimshaw, County Councillor J Tuck.

Precept

The Parish Council on the 12th October 2009 built a budget for the financial year 2010/2011 and has set the precept at £43732.00, no increase on last year. The members intend to continue with the grants to local clubs and associations as far as possible within financial constraints.

Highway Matters

The Parish Council was unsuccessful in their two bids for jointly funded minor highway improvements. The bids were for a footpath from Bunkers Hill to Bridge Inn, and a footpath from Church Road to High Road, Wisbech St Mary. We will, of course, reapply in the next bidding round in 2010/2011.

The Parish Council continues to identify areas that are in need of streetlights and if you know of an area where a streetlight is needed, please contact either one of the Councillors listed on the front of this newsletter or the clerk.

The Parish Council continues to identify roads and footpaths that are in need of repair and continue to lobby the Highways Department to ensure that this work is carried out as soon as possible.

In the current financial year we have undertaken maintenance work on all of the bus shelters. In addition we are trying to improve the disabled access to the bus shelter in Guyhirn.

Guyhirn

The Parish Council has purchased land from the Fenland District Council to increase the size of the Guyhirn Playing Field.

The Parish Council are in the process of purchasing additional dog bins and litter bins for Guyhirn.

Notices and Agendas of meetings together with Council minutes are displayed on all the parish notice boards, and the minutes on the Wisbech St Mary website at www.wisbechstmary.org.uk.