

# Village Voices December 2010



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

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

*O come let us adore  
Him,  
Christ the Lord!*

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

### **Sunday December 12**

WSM Methodist church: United  
Carol Service 3pm.

### **Thursday December 16<sup>th</sup>**

WSM & Guyhirn church:  
'*ANTEDOTE to XMAS*'. 7pm. A  
quiet meditation before  
Christmas.

### **Friday December 17<sup>th</sup>**

WSM & Guyhirn church:  
Wisbech St Mary and Guyhirn  
Schools Christmas visit.

### **Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup>**

St Paul's church, Gorefield:  
Annual Carol Service 6.30pm.

### **Christmas Eve**

WSM & Guyhirn church:  
MIDNIGHT MASS 11.30pm.  
Emmanuel, Parson Drove:  
MIDNIGHT MASS 11.30pm.

### **Christmas Day**

St Paul's, Gorefield: Holy  
Communion 9am. (Please note  
change of time)

Emmanuel, Parson Drove: Holy  
Communion 9.30am.

WSM & Guyhirn church: Family  
Communion 11am.

### **Sunday December 26**

WSM & Guyhirn church: United  
Evensong 4pm.

**All residents and visitors  
are most welcome to any  
or all of these services.**

*Glory to the  
new-born King!*

## *Vicar's Verbals'*

I have custody of a little wooden trailer which a friend hasn't room to store. It is very useful for taking rubbish to the tip and generally running bulky items (like our oil-drum barbeque) around the parish, but unfortunately it has to stand outside all year so I have just 'winterized' it (what a horrible expression) by covering it in thick plastic sheeting, firmly fastened on with nylon washing line. And not a moment too soon, for the first winter gale has just arrived. Gloomy forecasts about the likely impact of cuts, increases in VAT, reductions in some benefits and additional expenses for folks with youngsters in further education feel rather like storm warnings of a more serious kind. We may be lucky enough to have a secure job, or pension, or to have our own education, or that of our children, safely behind us with the fruits of our labours 'lashed down and under cover' so to speak, but I suspect we will all feel the gusty wind of hard times one way or another. In the meanwhile we all have responsibility for those around us who are less fortunate, especially those who do not have the resources to make themselves storm-proof in the coming seasons. If you know someone who is struggling then please keep an eye out for them and try to find an opportunity to lend a helping hand. *Matthew.*

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

## **GUYHIRN CHURCH FOR SALE**

St Mary Magdalene Church, Guyhirn, is to be sold. The 132-year-old Victorian church, together with its grounds, will be converted into two dwellings, subject to planning and listed building consent, but will keep all the distinctive features of the Grade II listed building. Offers in the region of £300,000 are invited by the agents, Jolliffe Daking, of Peterborough. Included in the sale is an adjoining residential development site which has planning consent for a terrace of five dwellings.

This is the latest chapter in the life of the church which was built in 1878 to a design by the renowned architect Sir George Gilbert Scott. Up to the 1950s it had a thriving congregation and boasted a choir of 30. In 2006 it was declared redundant, and discussions commenced as to its future role in the village.

The village war memorial will remain in its present position and is not, of course, included in the sale.

## **REMEMBRANCE SERVICES WELL ATTENDED**

Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church was filled on Remembrance Sunday when the congregations of the parish church and the Methodist church joined to commemorate those from the parishes who gave their lives in the two World Wars, and those from the United Kingdom who died more recently in Afghanistan. Father Matthew Bradbury conducted the service.

Members of the Royal British Legion, WSM Parish Councillors, The Scout and Guide Associations and members of the congregation placed wreaths and crosses at the base of the great east window of the church which is the village war memorial.

At midday a wreath-laying ceremony, led by Brian Payne, was held at the Guyhirn war memorial.

At Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, the Remembrance service was conducted by Lilian Brigden, who afterwards presided at a wreath-laying service at Murrow war memorial. Lilian said, "How wonderful to see so many friends at our services. As I looked round and saw all the poppies that were worn, I thanked God for everyone who remembered, for the music that set the scene, and for those who stood to pay their respects. We will remember them".



## *REGISTER*

### We welcome into the church's family

**Georgina Oselton**, who was baptised in WSM & Guyhirn church on Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Peter Langford**, whose funeral service was in WSM & Guyhirn church followed by burial in WSM cemetery on Monday October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Agnes Constable**, whose service was at Peterborough Crematorium on Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Dorothy Jones**, whose funeral service was in Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, followed by burial in the churchyard on Friday October 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Janet Rowell**, whose funeral service was in Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, followed by burial in the churchyard on Monday November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Pearl Richardson**, whose funeral service was in WSM & Guyhirn church followed by burial in WSM cemetery on Tuesday November 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Martin Rimner**, whose funeral service was in St Paul's church, Gorefield, followed by burial in the churchyard, on Tuesday November 16<sup>th</sup>.

### In memoriam

**Ann Margaret Rose Bell**, whose ashes were laid in Gorefield Garden of Remembrance on Tuesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### CHRISTINGLE SERVICES

Christingle services will be held in Emmanuel church, Parson Drove, at 9.30am, St Paul's, Gorefield at 10am and Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn church at 11am, on Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup>. Bring your decorated orange to church and hear the story of the Christingle.

### £700 BIRTHDAY COLLECTION FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

Donations made at Caroline Dobson's Birthday Party in WSM Community Centre last month totalled £700. The money has been forwarded to Christian Aid to help victims of the devastating Pakistan floods. Caroline sends her thanks to all who contributed and made her birthday celebration such a success.

### TOGETHERNESS

by Colin Barnes

A very special greeting,  
for a special time of year.  
When we tend to feel an extra  
warmth,  
for all those we hold dear.

With our family all around us,  
what more could we desire.  
As we recall those good old times  
around an open fire?

It's a time for saying "Thank you",  
and for giving presents too,  
and for telling someone special  
that they mean the world to you.

### WSM MOTHERS UNION

Thanks so much to Marjorie for inviting us to her home to see a DVD on "Times Gone By", and for us to catch up on the report from the Autumn Council.

Our last meeting for 2010 is on Tuesday December 7<sup>th</sup> when we meet in the Church House for our Christmas Treat as we welcome Brian Payne. We wish you all a Blessed Christmas.

**Lilian Brigden**

### GOREFIELD'S CAROL SERVICE

The annual Carol Service in St Paul's church, Gorefield, will take place on Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 pm. There will be the usual lessons and popular carols followed by sherry and mince pies. **All are welcome.**

### + Regular Services +

#### Emmanuel Church, Parson Drove:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in month:- 9.30am Family service.  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays:- 9.30am Communion.  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday:-9.30am Communion or Morning Prayer  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday:-United Service at St Mark's 10.30.  
Dec 5<sup>th</sup>. Greeters: Pauline & Diane. Coffee:Sandra.  
Dec 12<sup>th</sup>. Greeter: Trevor. Coffee: Liz.  
Dec 19.th Greeters: Sue & Jenny. Coffee: Trevor.  
Dec 24<sup>th</sup>. Greeter: Trevor. 25<sup>th</sup>. Greeter: Pam.  
Dec 26<sup>th</sup>. United Evensong, at WSM Church 4pm.  
Flower Rota. All help for Christmas Day.

#### Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church:

Every Sunday exc 1<sup>st</sup> :- 11am. sung eucharist.

#### St Mark's Methodist Church

Dec 5: 10.30. Rev P Dewdney  
Dec 12: 9.30. United service, Parish Church.  
Dec 19: 10.30. Carol Service, Mr N Thompson.  
Dec 25: No service.

#### Murrow Methodist Church

Dec 5: 10.30. Mrs G Dewdney.  
Dec 12: 10.30. Rev N Hannah.  
Dec 19: 10.30. Carol Service. Rev J Goddard.  
Dec 25: No service.

#### St Paul's Church, Gorefield:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday:- 8am Communion, 11am Family Service  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday:- Evening Prayer: 6.00pm

except 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. 10.00am: Holy Communion  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. 10.00am: Morning Worship

## GUYHIRN CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Guyhirn Village Hall Committee would like to invite everyone in Guyhirn and the surrounding villages to

### 'Carols by Candlelight',

a free Christmas concert in the village hall on  
**Sunday December 19th at 2.30pm.**

Last year's concert was a wonderful success with a great turnout in spite of the snow. In this year's concert there will be local music talent, poems and readings as well as classic carols for everyone to sing, followed by refreshments.

## ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS MART

The Christmas Mart will be held on Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup> in the Church House, Wisbech St Mary, from 8.45am to sell-out time (usually 10am). There will be tempting seasonal fare along with all our usual favourites. A cup of refreshment is offered before you leave. The Mart teams send their Christmas Wishes to all their customers who have supported them so loyally throughout the year.

## CHRISTMAS FAIRS AT EMMANUEL AND ST MARKS

Emmanuel and St Mark's churches in Parson Drove are holding Christmas Fairs. There will be the usual stalls and attractions, and a visit by Santa Claus. Contributions of cakes, bottles and quality bric-a-brac will be gratefully received.

**Emmanuel's fair** is on Saturday December 4th from 2 to 4pm in the Village Hall.

**St Mark's** follows on Saturday December 11th from 10am to 1pm at St Mark's.

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE LADIES ENJOY SAUSAGE SUPPER

Parson Drove Women's Institute's annual meeting began traditionally with a sausage supper prepared and served by the committee. It was followed by the business of the evening, and the re-election of the committee, plus one new member.

As with all organisations, money is harder to accumulate than to spend, and some time was spent discussing our financial position.

The evening was deemed a success, and everyone left for home looking forward to the new year. **Ann Payne**

## MURROW PRE-SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Murrow Pre-school are hoping that everyone will support their Christmas Fayre, which is to be held in their wooden building behind the school, on

**Friday November 26<sup>th</sup>**  
from 5pm to 7pm.

There will be stalls, raffle, Christmas gifts, cakes & much more.

Please go along and support the local pre-school

**Tell all your friends and family  
All welcome**

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE AT PIGEONS FARM

The Thorney Society are holding a Christmas Fayre at Pigeons Farm, Thorney, on Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> from 12noon to 4pm.

Cakes, paintings, jewellery, mirrors, plants, Xmas trees, mistletoe and more will be available. There is a log fire and hot food and a Bar. Children's activities will include face painting and games. There is a Nativity Barn with live animals.

From 4pm there will be carol singing around the Christmas tree with mulled wine and mincepies available.

\*\*The Christmas Tree Festival in Thorney Abbey begins on Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup>.

## GOREFIELD PRE-SCHOOL XMAS FAYRE

There will be a Xmas Fayre on  
**Saturday 27th November**  
at Gorefield Village Hall

There will be a variety of stalls selling homemade Jewellery, cards, jams, decorations etc and plenty of stalls for the children to enjoy too!

The Fayre starts at 10am and finishes at 1pm.

The proceeds of the fayre are in aid of Gorefield Pre-School and will go towards the childrens Christmas Party.

**We look forward to seeing you  
there!!**

## FAMILY FUN RACE NIGHT AT MURROW

GB Autos and JB Bikes are presenting a family fun race night on Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Murrow village hall. Tickets are £3.00 adult and £1.50 child and are available from GB Autos, Murrow, or JB Bikes, Wisbech. Tickets numbers are limited so purchase early to avoid disappointment. Nibbles/picky bits will be provided on all tables, and there will be a licensed bar. For further information please contact Donna Barnes on 07917765881 or 700084.

## JOHN PECK SOCIETY COMMEMORATES JOHN'S PARENTS

The John Peck Society has installed a plaque in Newton Parish Church to commemorate John Peck's parents who are buried in the churchyard. The plaque was unveiled by a descendant of John Peck in the presence of the Society's president Dr Francis Pryor. The Revd Sandra Gardner dedicated the plaque during Evensong. John Peck later moved to Parson Drove where he farmed and played an

## BETTERWARES "OLD BILL"

would like to thank his family of customers for many years of warm "pension support". Father Time forces retirement at 80!

## WELL DONE FRANCES!

A Buffet Dance was held at the Wisbech St. Mary Community Centre on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The event was organised by Mrs. Frances Hotson with dancing to Leigh Murfet. 96 people attended and £290 was raised towards the purchase of crockery for the Centre. The Centre would like to

All proceeds are being donated to the village hall.

important role in the life of that parish. To join the John Peck Society, please contact Helen on 700442.

thank Frances and everyone who supported the event.

### A GENEALOGIST AT GOREFIELD

Gorefield Ladies group met for their October meeting in Gorefield Village Hall. Glenys Grimm welcomed members and friends to the very well attended meeting. Suggestions were discussed for the outing in June 2011, and numbers for the Christmas meal in December were taken, which replaces the usual monthly meeting.

The guest speaker, Les Warren, gave a talk on his hobby of genealogy. His interest in it was from his childhood and early married life in London. He was then transferred, as a Minister to Wisbech, and later discovered that several of his, and also his wife's, family came from East Anglia. He explained the process he used in working out a Family Tree, and sample reference sheets were distributed. Glenys thanked Les. The raffle was held, and refreshments were served by Marion Fisher and Barbara Mitchell. Celebrating October birthdays, were Audrey Jolly and Marion Fisher.

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall, on November 24th. "Making your own, Christmas Crackers" with Ali Newman. Please come early.

### THANK YOU 1

The parents and children of Gorefield Primary School would like to say a huge thank-you to the volunteers involved in the Street Pride Scheme for making the journey to and from school a much safer one by removing the leaves and overhanging branches from the pathway adjacent to school.

### THANK YOU 2

I would like to say a very big thank you to all those who gave so generously to Mari Curie Cancer Care in the recent door to door collection on High Road Wisbech St Mary. A total of £178 was collected. It is very heartening to know that in these times of general belt tightening people are so willing to help others. **Rachel Adams**

### WISBECH ST MARY C of E SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Friday December 10<sup>th</sup> 2pm - 4pm.

Come and join in the festive fun. Sample the delights of our home-made cakes and the chocolate fountain stall. Start your Christmas shopping at our craft stalls.

Come and guess the weight of the Christmas cake, and try to win one of the great raffle prizes. There are other festive games, face painting and light refreshments.

If you would like to book a stall at the Fayre, please contact Sharon on 410729 (public liability insurance required)

### MAGPAS AT THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

At our last meeting Mark Clingo told us of the history and work of MAGPAS and how the dedicated doctors and nurses work - unpaid - to save the lives of those in serious accidents around Cambridgeshire. His talk was followed by a Bring & Buy sale which, with a donation from funds, raised £120 for MAGPAS.

Members please note:

December's meeting is on the first Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, when Kay Brown from Boccasions will be demonstrating Christmas flower table decorations.

Don't forget to bring your Xmas gift of approx £2.

The menu for the New Year meal will be there for you to choose - the blackboard menu from *the Chequers* at Tholomas Drove. All meals will need to be selected by Friday January 7th.

**New members are always welcome.**

**We meet in WSM school hall at 7pm.**

**Liz Hunt & Mary McClagish**

### SUNSHINE CLUB IS READY FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER!

Murrow Sunshine Club held meetings in October and November, when birthdays were celebrated by Mrs Glew, Mr Barnes, Mrs Neve, Mrs V Smith, and Mr and Mrs Pike.

Preparations have started for the Christmas Dinner on December 15<sup>th</sup> at Murrow Village Hall. Attendances have improved at the last two meetings, and the club hopes this will continue.

### BINGO AT PARSON DROVE

There will be a Bingo session in Parson Drove Village Hall on Thursday December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Doors open at 6.30pm for 7.30pm start. Proceeds for Senior Citizens' Christmas Party.

### STREET PRIDE VOLUNTEERS PLANT THE BULBS AND DRINK THE TEA!

Gorefield Street Pride Group met for the second time on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November and was attended by 18 very enthusiastic volunteers.

Jeanette Milner, Street Pride coordinator, organised the volunteers into 4 groups the first of which went litter picking around areas of Gorefield not covered previously, while another group cut back the trees which had overgrown the footpath between the School and Chapel Lane. That particular group had an additional volunteer join them during the morning when Lucy Turner came over with a tray full of very welcome mugs of tea. A third group tidied up the area around the Pocket Park on Cattle Dyke, while the final group was busy planting spring bulbs.

The two 25kg nets of bulbs which were planted all around the village were kindly obtained, and delivered in person,

by local grower Mr Dean Bowd of Holbeach. While Dean was unable to supply them from stock Mr Johnny Walker of Taylors Bulbs, also of Holbeach, was happy to help and we are very grateful to them both.

The purpose of the Street Pride project is to build community pride and ownership through improving the local environment and making Fenland a cleaner, greener and safer place to live, work and visit. It is a great way to meet like-minded people, is good exercise and very rewarding.

If you are interested in joining the Gorefield Street Pride group please contact Jeanette Milner on 01354 654321, or by email [jmilner@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:jmilner@fenland.gov.uk)

The "Village Voices" management team is grateful to those who support this newsletter by taking advertising space, and hopes that residents will in turn support these businesses.

## A MESSAGE FOR MURROW RESIDENTS

The landlord of *The Bell*, Murrow writes:

"Many of my customers have said that it is a shame we do not have a shop of any kind in the village. So I am planning to set up a small shop within this pub supplying necessities that are currently not available within the locality. I have approached an organisation called 'Pub Is the Hub', [www.pubisthehub.org.uk](http://www.pubisthehub.org.uk), set up by HRH Prince Charles, to assist pubs in rural locations like ours. I would also appreciate any support, thoughts and/or ideas regarding the above proposal, which can be submitted via email, phone, in writing or simply by popping into the pub to see us. Once again thank you all for the support you have given us in the past.  
**Andy and Dawn**".

### GUYHIRN VILLAGE HALL FORTHCOMING EVENTS

November 26<sup>th</sup> 7pm. ANOTHER EVENING WITH  
MARGARET GEORGE  
December 4<sup>th</sup> 7pm: THE SINGING FARMER  
December 19<sup>th</sup> 3pm: CHRISTMAS CONCERT.

The repairs to the hall floor have now been completed and the Village Hall is now available for personal or organisational hire. Please contact Marie on 450835. The Village Hall committee is seeking new members and/or volunteers to help at the above events. Please phone Terry on 450814 if you would like to help maintain this important part of the village community.

### PRIZE BINGO AT WISBECH ST MARY

Wisbech St Mary Playgroup are organising a Prize Bingo night in the Main Hall of the Community Centre on Friday December 10<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 7.30pm and Eyes Down at 8pm. There are a lot of excellent prizes to be won, and it promises to be an enjoyable evening for everyone.

### RAISING FUNDS FOR THE PRINCE'S TRUST

A Race Night with a raffle and auction will be held in Wisbech St Mary Community Centre on **Friday December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, starting at 7pm.

There are lots of prizes to be won. All proceeds will go to the Prince's Trust. Admission free.

### VILLAGE HALL GOREFIELD

Gorefield Village Hall is organising a series of **Bingo** sessions in aid of Hall funds. The dates are December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup>  
Eyes down 7.30pm.

Refreshments available during the interval.  
Gorefield Village Hall Bingo

### WSM SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

## MURROW AND DISTRICT CHILDREN'S CENTRE

The Children's Centre has been opened for 18 months now and it seems that there may be some air of mystery around what we do here.

We are based in the log building behind Murrow Primary School and are funded by Cambridgeshire County Council and work closely with Fenland District Council, Ormiston Play Rangers, Speech and Language Team and Rose Wilson on the Traveller Team. Our aim is to support families with children 0-5 years in Murrow and the surrounding areas. We put on regular sessions that encourage interaction between parents and their children based on play, speech and movement incorporating the Early Years Foundation Stage, including Messy Mondays, Stay n Play, Bumps 2 Babes and Baby Massage. These sessions are all free and most importantly fun. Some of the sessions are held at The Centre and others are held in surrounding villages including Leverington, Wisbech St Mary, Gorefield and Parson Drove.

Murrow Pre-school is also based here and on Friday November 26<sup>th</sup> they will be holding a Christmas Fayre and this would be a good opportunity for the community to come and have a look around the centre and see for yourselves what we have to offer.

We are a friendly team of five and welcome any enquires. For more information contact Christina Irons on 01945 701237 or email [christina.ironis@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:christina.ironis@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
We also have a web site

[www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk](http://www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk)

**Christina Irons**

### CABARET NIGHT

Parson Drove Amenities 95 committee are holding a Cabaret Night in the Village Hall on Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup>. Entertainment will be provided by singing duo Cutting Edge, and the hilarious Perry Winkle. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets £22, to include a 4-course meal, available from Louise 701312 or Jules 7012324.

### FASHION SHOW

A fashion show was held at Gorefield Village Hall on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010 in which £65 was raised for Gorefield Pre-school. It was a enjoyable evening, there was lots of nice quality clothes at very reasonable prices. Thank you to all those who attended, also to Julie and Anna for their modelling and as always to all the committee for their help on the night!  
**Liz Rowell - Fundraiser**

### FOOTBALL CLUB CHRISTMAS BINGO

Murrow Bell Football Club are holding a Christmas Prize Bingo on Friday December 10<sup>th</sup> in Murrow Village Hall with a good selection of prizes to be won. There will be a raffle and refreshments. Doors open at 6.30 for eyes-down at 7.30pm. The club hopes everyone will support Murrow's local team.

### WSM LUNCHEON CLUB

The club meets in the Community Centre each Monday evening 7pm to 9-30pm. New members are very welcome. Contact 410452 for details.

The date for December is Tuesday December 7th at the Bridge Inn at noon.

**Happy Christmas to all members.**

### **JULIE'S PATCH**

**Pc Julie Coales, Cambridgeshire Constabulary**

The shops are stocking up their shelves with extra goodies, and the television is advertising toys and games for children, so Christmas must be just around the corner. In the lead up to Christmas we are often busy thinking about what presents we are going to buy, or what food and drink we are going to get in, and we get a bit lax when it comes to security. The presents you have just bought get left on display in the car for all to see. As you are loading the car up you leave the keys in the ignition. Don't leave property on view in your car. Always close windows and lock all doors. Never leave keys in the ignition.

When you get the shopping home keep presents and valuables out of sight. Dispose of packaging carefully. Keep doors locked. . Father Christmas can usually manage to deliver his presents without your help but sometimes you are over helpful. You leave ladders out for him, or the backdoor unlocked, or the window open. Don't leave anything about that can assist the opportune thief. Keep doors and windows locked and keep tools and ladders locked away.

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

You can contact me by phone 0345 456 4564 x3799 or e-mail me julie.coales@cambs.pnn.police.uk

### **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.

### **"THE STORY OF THE ENGLISH PARISH"**

The W.E.A. Wisbech branch, (Learning for Life), spring course 2011 will be a series of talks on 'The Story of the English Parish'.

The tutor, David Bond, will give an overview history of a parish, including its origins and functions, its place in the local landscape, its role in local government and the people of the parish. The venue is St. John Ambulance Hall, William Road, Wisbech. Wednesdays 10.30 to 12 noon. There will be 10 meetings starting on January 12<sup>th</sup>. The fee is £44.

For more information contact 464860 or come along to the first meeting.

### **CITIZENS ADVICE AT PARSON DROVE**

The Citizens Advice Bureau will be at Parson Drove pavilion on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 1.30pm. Anyone wishing to arrange a consultation should telephone 01945 474926 not later than Friday December 17<sup>th</sup>..

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

### **MURROW 200 CLUB WINNERS**

D Harrison - Murrow	D Godfrey - Wisbech
D Johnson - Peterborough	M Hunter - Wisbech
J Rose - Parson Drove	M Humphrey - Gorefield
P Northrop - Murrow	C White - Wisbech

### **A JUBILEE OAK FALLS AT PARSON DROVE**

The appearance of Parson Drove village green, near the Cage, has been significantly changed following the loss of a large oak tree outside the *Swan Inn*. During the night of October 2nd/3<sup>rd</sup> a very large branch of the tree fell, and a subsequent inspection found that the tree was rotten, and it had to be felled.

The tree, an English Oak, was planted to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign in 1887. It was always treated with respect by the village, and there was an understanding that during various activities on the Green nothing would be done to harm the tree. The oak tree close by is a Red, or Canadian, Oak and was planted to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. The main difference between the two trees could be seen in the appearance of their acorns. A few older residents may remember that this tree was surrounded by iron railings with a commemorative plaque

The copy deadline for *Village Voices* is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Please email news, etc. to [paynews@btinternet.com](mailto:paynews@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)

### *WOODMANS COTTAGE*

*90 High Road, GOREFIELD  
Tel No: 01945 870669*

Alison & Phil arrived on the 15<sup>th</sup> October and 2010 and would like to introduce a friendly and warm atmosphere in this lovely Village Pub.

We are a couple that would like to bring this pub back to the Hub of the Village , We are looking for pub teams such as Darts (Ladies & Gents), Dominoes, Crib, Whist Drives. We would like to help and support our local football team, and introduce a Fishing Club for all you budding fishermen, and for those budding Golfers, perhaps a Golf society?

We are looking to start a quiz evening and keep the live music going.

We serve meals between:

12pm – 2pm & 6pm – 8.30pm Tues – Sat

12pm – 4pm Sunday (Roast Only)

**25% off Meals for Senior Citizens on Tuesdays & Thursdays**

Our Opening hours are: Mon 6pm – 11pm, Tues – Thurs 12noon – 3pm & 6pm – 11.30pm Fri 12pm – 3pm & 6pm – Midnight, Sat 12pm – Midnight . Sun 12noon – 11.30pm

## HELPING YOU TO BETTER HEALTH

Are you thinking about making some lifestyle changes but not sure where to start. Sometimes a little extra advice and guidance can be a big help. Now The Surgery at Parson Drove has a Personal Health Trainer on hand to do exactly that.

A Personal Health Trainer is on hand to offer expert advice and support you to reach targets that you set and want to achieve. They will support you to ensure the goals you set are realistic and achievable.

A Personal Health Trainer is trained to support you to achieve a variety of health goals; whether it is to stop smoking, increase the amount of activity you are doing, reduce your alcohol intake or even make healthier food choices.

Glenda, Personal Health Trainer at The Surgery is looking forward to helping you lead a healthier life. "Most of us know we should eat five portions of fruit and vegetables a day, do a bit more exercise and reduce the amount of alcohol we drink," said Glenda "However it's really not that easy when many of us have busy lifestyles, trying to balance family life with work and so on. For many, day-to-day life is a challenge in itself and it may be difficult to get motivated. A Personal Health Trainer can help you with that. All you have to do is take that first step and come in and see me"

Fiona Poignand, Community Development worker for the Health Trainers in North Fenland said "We're really pleased to have Glenda based at the surgery. The benefits of a healthier lifestyle are massive and have a real impact on patients' quality of life. Personal Health Trainers can work with patient's for anything up to six sessions during a timeframe to suit the individual. This **free** service means that our patients are much more likely to succeed and reach their goals with the on-going support from a Personal Health Trainer.

If you are a patient at The Surgery in Parson Drove and thinking about making some positive changes to your lifestyle speak to reception for more information.

For Personal Health Trainer Information, please visit our website [www.personalhealthtrainer.org.uk](http://www.personalhealthtrainer.org.uk)

## **TELEVISION SWITCHOVER HELP SCHEME**

Cambridgeshire ACRE is supporting the local **Switchover Help Scheme** which aims to help people to understand the changes to how our television signal will be received from the end of March 2011 onwards. The analogue signal will be switched off and replaced with a digital signal that you will need special equipment to receive.

ACRE is looking for local volunteers to help raise awareness and make sure no one misses out on the help that is available to make the necessary changes. They are looking for people who are willing to make use of their local connections and knowledge to spread the word. If you think you could help the message reach some of the most vulnerable people in our communities please contact ACRE immediately.

**Cambridgeshire ACRE** 32 Main St Littleport Cambridgeshire CB6 1PJ.  
[Edward.aniskowicz@camsacre.co.uk](mailto:Edward.aniskowicz@camsacre.co.uk) Tel: 01353 860850

## *Voices Past*

### The Death of the Revd Frederic Jackson

The Reverend Frederic Jackson, the venerable vicar of Parson Drove, died on October 12<sup>th</sup> 1904 in his 87<sup>th</sup> year. He had held the living since January 1844. He was the son of the Rev Jeremiah Jackson, [former] vicar of Elm, Wisbech, and was the last survivor of a family of eighteen. He graduated at St John's College, Cambridge, where he and his brothers were considerable athletes in their day. A keen sportsman, he made horse exercise his favourite occupation, practised until late in life. When obliged to give up he rarely missed his daily drive. It was to plenty of fresh air, he has repeatedly assured the writer, that he attributed his great vitality.

A typical Fenman of the past generation, he took great interest in drainage which has revolutionized the landscape within his memory. The Fens are no longer a panorama of bogs and marshes, the home or birthplace of Will o' the Wisp, agues, malarial fevers, the devils that long ago tormented Crowland's patron saint. The Fens have changed too since Pepys visited his cousins at Parson Drove in 1663. It was thirty years later in 1692 that Henri Pujolas, an evicted Huguenot, became vicar. He died at the ripe age of 98 years after holding his cure 57 years. He was succeeded in turn by John Dickinson, vicar for 41 years, Richard Pollard for 49 years, and Frederic Jackson 60 years (during 43 of which he claimed never to have missed a Sunday service). The old sexton, Michael Sargison; "Mike the gravedigger" he was usually called, which rather pleased the old man, claimed to have opened the church door when Mr Jackson first entered, and he dug his grave.

That the late vicar and his three predecessors, none of whom were fenmen born and inured to the climate, covered a period of not less than 212 years, speaks well of the district.

Samuel Egar.

*"Fenland Notes and Queries" 1905.*

## ANOTHER EVENING WITH MARGARET GEORGE

A further selection of the photographs  
of the Guyhirn vicar's daughter  
**GUYHIRN VILLAGE HALL**  
**Friday November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**  
Admission £4 including light refreshments

**An evening of nostalgia for all ages**

### NEW WEBSITE GIVES POWER TO RESIDENTS

It's now really easy to report a problem on your street with the launch of [www.shapeyourplace.org](http://www.shapeyourplace.org). The ground breaking website lets local people in Wisbech and the surrounding villages communicate directly with local services and each other.

You don't even have to worry about reporting a problem to the right organisation - whether its problems with street lighting, anti social behaviour, traffic road problems or broken local facilities. The Rosmini Centre, who is running [shapeyourplace.org](http://shapeyourplace.org), will make sure your issue reaches the right individual in the right organisations. These include Cambridgeshire County Council, Fenland District Council, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue who will provide a response about how the problem will be resolved. (NOTE: for emergencies, the 999 service should still be used). Local people can also blog about the latest things going on in their community, tell their story and hold conversations with one another. [Shapeyourplace.org](http://Shapeyourplace.org) wants to provide a real flavour of what its like to live in and around Wisbech whether you're young, old, native or from outside the area. 'So why not take a look and have a go at reporting an issue, write a blog about where you live or join in a conversation? [Shapeyourplace.org](http://Shapeyourplace.org) is also looking for local people to volunteer as local news hounds, writing blogs about the latest buzz where they live, helping local people report issues and shooting video. If you would like volunteer, contact the Rosmini Centre on 01945 474422 or email [rcw\\_manager@btconnect.com](mailto:rcw_manager@btconnect.com).

#### Advertisement

### JOHN BEND'S CHARITY PARSON DROVE

Applications are invited for the Annual Grant from persons over 65 and have lived in the parish for 5 years or longer. These grants are for anyone who suffer hardship, or in need, according to the Will of John Bend. Application forms can be obtained from the Clerk, but claimants already in receipt of the benefit need not apply.

Claims must be made by **December 31<sup>st</sup> 2010**.

Mrs T Jarvis, 5 Swan Bridge Farm, Fen Road,  
Parson Drove, PE13 4JP.

**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.*

### Useful contacts

Churches		Schools		Health & Security	
Revd Matthew Bradbury	410814	Gorefield School	870321	Home-Start	582552
Lilian Brigden (Reader)	450481	Gorefield Pre-school	871042	Parson Drove Surgery	700223
Revd Nigel Hannah [Methodist]	466426	Guyhirn School	450247	Parson Drove Pharmacy	701778
<b>Village Halls</b> (bookings)		Murrow School	700357	North Cambs Hospital	585781
Gorefield	870829	Murrow Pre School	07754758332	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	01553 613613
Guyhirn	450835	Payne School Parson Drove	700275	Social Services	481100
Murrow	700212/700200	Parson Drove Pre-School	07503165432	P. Drove Surgery Car Service	07766534280
Parson Drove	700729	WSM School	410312	WSM Community Car Scheme	07592407283
Thorney Toll	07887754869 or 07961957878	WSM Play Group	411864	Gorefield Com. Car Scheme	07500479444
WSM Community Centre	01945410473	WSM Little Saint's Toddlers	410503	Childline	0800 1111
<b>Parish Council Clerks</b>		Murrow Children's Centre	701237.	Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Gorefield	870454	<b>Post Offices</b>		Dog control/Animal welfare	01354 622442
Parson Drove	700501	Parson Drove	700511	Drugs Helpline	0800 776600
Wisbech St Mary	474191	Gorefield	870273	Fenland District Council	01354654321
		Wisbech St Mary	410288	CCC Highways Maintenance	03450455212
		<b>Police (non-emergency) 0345 456 4564</b>		Samaritans	08457909090
		<a href="http://www.guyhirn-online.org.uk">www.guyhirn-online.org.uk</a>		Victim supportline	08453030900
<b>Websites:</b> <a href="http://www.gorefield.com">www.gorefield.com</a> <a href="http://www.wisbechstmary.org.uk">www.wisbechstmary.org.uk</a>					

<b>Mobile Library Stops</b>					
<b>1<sup>st</sup> +3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday: Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> + 16<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Arr</b>	<b>Dep</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> +4<sup>th</sup> Friday: Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> + 24<sup>th</sup> *</b>	
Murrow School		10:00	10:40	Rings End, March Rd	09:45 10:05
Murrow Station Ave		10:45	11:00	Bunkers Hill Lay-by	10:15 10:35
Murrow Front Rd Paddocks		11:05	11:20	Wisbech St Mary Church Rd	10:55 11:25
Parson Drove The Bank		11:30	12:00	Wisbech St Mary Cannon Close	14:40 15:30
Parson Drove Newlands Corner		12:10	12:25	Guyhirn Chapelfield	15:45 16:05
Parson Drove Henlow Farm		12:30	12:45		
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Thursday: Dec 23<sup>rd</sup></b>		<b>Arr</b>	<b>Dep</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday: December 15<sup>th</sup></b>	
Wisbech St Mary Blundell Terr		10:00	10:15	Gorefield School	15:00
				Gorefield Post Office	15:45
				Gorefield Mill Height	16:05

\* At the time of going to press Cambridgeshire Libraries could not confirm that the mobile library would be running on Christmas Eve.

## **WISBECH ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **NOVEMBER 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.**

Councillor	Address	Telephone
Mr C Allen	Halls Farm, Wisbech Road, Guyhirn, Wisbech	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	01733 849262
Mr P Davies	Riverside, Selwyn Corner, Guyhirn, PE13 4ED	01945 450234
Mr J Fish	17 Lindens Close, Thorney Toll, Wisbech PE13 4AR	07887 754869
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
Mrs J Hall	Last Penny, Sand Bank, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4SE	01945 410315
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

The next Parish Council meetings are Monday December 6th at WSM Community Centre,  
Monday January 10th 2011 at Murrow Village Hall.

Both meetings commence at 7pm. Parishioners are invited to attend any of the above meetings. Please do attend and voice your opinion on any subject relevant to the Parish during the Open Forum at the beginning of each meeting. The Parish Council is very pleased that at least four parishioners are attending the Parish Council meetings on a regular basis, together with a representative from the Police, District Coun Robert Scrimshaw, County Coun Mrs Jill Tuck and Fenland District Council Neighbourhood Community Development Officer.

The Neighbourhood Community Development Officer is working with parish councils to update the Village Plans to try and gain grants to enable as much as possible from each of the Village Actions Plans to be brought to fruition.

#### **Precept**

The Parish Council on November 8th 2010 built a budget for the financial year 2011/2012 and has set the precept at £43732.00, **no increase on last year's precept**. Councillors felt in these difficult times that they were unable to justify any increase. They intend to continue with the grants to local clubs and organisations as far as possible within financial constraints,

#### **Highway Matters**

The Parish Council again put forward two bids for jointly funded minor highway improvements. As you may remember these bids were for a footpath at Bunkers Hill from Rat Row to Bridge Inn and a footpath in Station Road, Wisbech St Mary. To date we have not been informed as to whether we have been successful.

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 above or the clerk.

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

We continue to carry out maintenance work on all bus shelters owned by the Parish Council.

### **Action Group**

The Action Group set up in Guyhirn to renovate the village pond, which is owned by the Parish Council, continue to carry out work to improve this area. At the moment the Action Group, with the authority of the Parish Council, are trying to reduce the size of the pond to make a larger bank area on which to install seats, etc, to make it more accessible and therefore, enabling the people of Guyhirn to enjoy the wildlife and plants.

Notices and Agendas of meetings, together with the Council minutes, are displayed on all the parish notice boards, and the minutes on the Wisbech St Mary website at [www.wisbechstmarv.org.uk](http://www.wisbechstmarv.org.uk).

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