

Jackdaw Chatter

Spring 2024



Jackdaw Chatter is produced by Quy Village Association four times a year and delivered free to every house in the village & Quy Waters.

Subscriptions for non-residents is £6.00 per year including postage, which can be arranged with Jane Keighley 01223 811172.

Jackdaw Chatter Committee: Anne Moore (Editor) Jane Keighley & Bill Watts.

Items for Publishing are welcome and should be put through Jane’s door at 1 Orchard Street or sent to jackdawchatter@gmail.com. Controversial articles may not be published.

Advertisements Details available from Bill Watts, 6 Orchard Street. C.811063

RAINFALL
November 23 – January 24



	2022	2023
NOVEMBER	103.75	63.00
DECEMBER	40.00	74.75
YEAR TOTAL	456.00	779.50
	2023	2024
JANUARY	38.25	52.00
TOTAL	38.25	52.00



Spring 2024 Editor's Notes

Welcome to the Spring Edition of the Jackdaw Chatter.

Once again, we have a rare mix of articles in this issue, so thank you to everyone who has contributed. Please keep these coming in, anyone can send something in, the closing date & email address are both below. Alternatively, please feel free to send this on paper and we can edit this for you.

It's great to see that the QVA is introducing new village events, many thanks to those that volunteer their time to organise these.

After a what seems to be a long-wet winter, let's hope we get to have a bright and fresh spring, to ease us into a warm summer.

Take care.

Closing date for the next edition is Monday 13th May 2024

jackdawchatter@gmail.com

Don't forget Quy on the internet:
www.stowcumquy.co.uk

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Dates for your Diary

March

17	Keyboard Concert	Village Hall	2.30pm
19	Parish Council Meeting	Hut	7.30pm
22	Bingo/Beetle Drive	Village Hall	6.30pm
29	Good Friday	Bank Holiday	
29	Church Service	Quy Church	10.30am
31	Easter Sunday		

April

1	Easter Monday	Bank Holiday	
7	Church Service	Village Hall	4.00pm
8	Church PCC Deadline		
14	Communion Service	Quy Church	
16	Parish Council AGM	Hut	7.30pm
17	PCC AGM	Hut	7.30pm
21	Keyboard Concert	Village Hall	2.30pm
26	Spring Walk	Orchard St	6.30pm

May

5	Church Service	Village Hall	4.00pm
6	May Day	Bank Holiday	
13	Jackdaw Chatter Deadline		
19	Keyboard Concert	Village Hall	2.30pm
25	Coffee Morning	Village Hall	10.30am
27	Whitsun	Bank Holiday	

June

2	Church Service	Village Hall	4.00pm
16	Keyboard Concert	Village Hall	2.30pm

Quy Parish Council

Hello, I hope you had a lovely Christmas and New Year and enjoyed the Christmas lights on the tree by the village sign - thanks to James for putting them up (and taking them down) and the house next door for electrifying them.

The first very good news to announce is that we've made the total required for the new playground equipment and so this has now been ordered. The new equipment includes a toddler climbing, tunnel and slide piece, a trampoline, a nest swing, a swingo (a seesaw the can turn as well), a spiral (small roundabout) and a cone climber (picture ropes in a cone shape that you can climb up). We hope the equipment will be in place around Easter - although this may be just after the Easter holidays - dependent on manufacturing and installation times. Once it is installed it can be used immediately but we will have a formal opening ceremony, details to be organised so stay tuned.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the people and organisations who gave money for the equipment and so our huge thanks to the Quy Estate, Thalia, the Childes Charity, Marshalls, the White Swan and all of you, the villagers, because we have also used money provided to the Parish Council. As you may be aware, the man behind the vision and who ran the fundraising was Ray, and so we really are indebted to him for this project.

I am very grateful to Ray for the new playground but also all of his work in the last 8 years on the Parish Council. He has taken a particular interest in the rec ground and pavilion and has spent countless hours on its care and maintenance, as well as being a thoughtful and experienced member of the Parish Council. He has now stepped down from this role and while we are very sorry to see him go, we wish him all the very best.

In other news, I hope you will have also seen the survey about the potential application for a 20MPH speed limit either on certain roads or throughout the village. The survey is due to close on 7 March, as we need to submit the application by 15 March to the Local Highways Initiative scheme and we will keep you posted as to the results of the application (and what the application has requested).

In addition, we will be trying to use the Parish Council Facebook page and our website more to post updates and news so if you would like, please follow us on either or both of those channels. We will try and share any posts from the Parish Council page on the village Facebook page too. We do also post updates on the noticeboards in the village, so do not fret if you are not a frequent internet user.

As always, if you have any comments or views about the village then please email the Clerk (clerk@stowcumquy.co.uk) or attend a Parish Council meeting, third Tuesday of every month at 7:30, usually in the Hut (top end) of the Village Hall.

Finally, I take this opportunity to welcome Mark Hughes to the Parish Council, he was co-opted at February's meeting. I'm grateful to Mark for taking on the role and look forward to working with him, as part of the team of councillors - myself, Matt, James, Remi, David, Jonathan and now Mark.

I hope you are all enjoying the slightly warmer, sunnier (sometimes) weather and looking forward to Spring.

Sarah
Chair of Parish Council

Living in a Village Community

We moved to Quy in 2006. The house suited our needs and we were attracted by the easy access both to Cambridge (albeit not in commuting hours!), and to the open countryside, which provides lots of opportunities for walking. What we didn't appreciate then, was that we were moving into a very active and friendly community. It is really nice when you go into the post office and are addressed by name, chat to people walking their dogs down the avenue or with other people on the allotments, have drinks with the neighbours or are invited to street parties.

There are only about 250 houses in Quy but, despite the very small size of the village, I can remember lots of events which have been arranged for the benefit of the residents and which provide lots of opportunities for people to join in, socialise with their neighbours and make new friends. Clearly not every event has been suited to every resident given the varying ages, health issues and family circumstances of people in the village, but over the years there has certainly been something for everyone.

Many of the events have been organised by either the Quy Village Association or the Church, though a special committee did come together to organise the very successful Jubilee Event. The QVA has offered quizzes, ceilidhs, moonlight walks, beetle and bingo drives, race nights, dances, carol singing and children's parties. The church, who always mark significant events in the church calendar with lots of free tea and cakes, have organised a harvest festival/produce how, a duck race, concerts, collections for the local food bank and the decorated trees at Christmas. They also host the annual Church fete followed by family games, which is very popular with all age groups and which often attracts people from outside the village. As well as the QVA and the church we should also be thankful to the Parish Council, who do their best to ensure the safety of the residents and to care for and improve our local environment with tree planting and the sowing of wildflower seeds.

In addition to the recognised organisations then there are a whole host of individuals whose actions enhance village life in lots of different ways. The Jackdaw Chatter and the village Facebook page are both essential features of the village so thanks to the editor and to the admin team. They both keep current and previous residents informed about what is happening in and

around the village and encourage residents to share photographs and stories of interest.

For a number of years older villagers have enjoyed the annual outings, lunches and coffee mornings that have been organised by the Jackdaw Club - while more recently the youngest village residents can join others at the organised play sessions on the Rec. Carpet Bowls, the monthly Book Club, snowdrop picking, coffee mornings at the pub, the advent windows at Christmas and the Quy History Facebook page, all promote welcome interaction and communication between Quy residents. (I apologise if I have missed other events, but the point is there have been many).

Numerous studies have shown that involvement in positive communities can enhance people's sense of well-being, their positive mental health and provide a sense of belonging, which is borne out by this quote by Mark Hyman.

“The power of community to create health, is far greater than any physician, clinic or hospital.”

Unfortunately, times are changing. Increasingly people are choosing to live more of their lives online, they commute longer distances and sometimes work longer hours - all of which have resulted in fewer people supporting village events. It would be a great shame if these events were to cease all together, but hopefully people will continue to support organised events and propose, or even organise, new ones. In this way the village will continue to be a friendly and welcoming place for everyone.

Viv Fleet

Editors Note: Thanks Viv, I think we sometimes forget how much goes on in our small village. The QVA, Village Hall, Jackdaw Club, Church & Book Club etc are all run independently of the Parish Council and all on a voluntary basis.

The collage of photographs on the back page, of this edition of the Chatter, show some of these community events.

Quy Village Association

Hello All.

Well, since I took on the role of chairman of the QVA it's been pretty full on. The Village Quiz last November was, as always, well supported. That was a bit of a shoe-in for me to be fair. This is a well-established event and always well anticipated. Then there was the children's party that was also a great success. 2023 ended with the carol singing at The White Swan and, again, a great turnout! So, a good run of events to start me off. Going straight into the Chairman role was a bit daunting for me really. I was never a committee member before that so I am, as the saying goes, dropping straight in at the deep end.

I make no secret that I am going to need support and guidance from some of the more experienced members of the community. Ray Jakes who has been a pivotal part of the QVA and, indeed, many other aspects of village life in Quy, is stepping back from his role in the QVA among others. He is going to be a tough act to follow, a real mover and shaker if ever there was one!

I have come into this role because I do believe I have something to offer and, hopefully some fresh ideas. First though, the next event is the beetle drive and bingo on 22nd March. This is another established event and one to look forward to. Next is my idea for a variety night (current working date 10th May) where anyone can do a "turn" and that could be whatever (within reason :-)) they want. Singing, dancing, comedy or just acting the fool. It has the potential to be a fun night whether you are performing or just coming along to be entertained (hopefully). There has been talk of a music festival but this may be on the back burner for now. That said, there is still some potential for some sort of event on the rec, perhaps early June. Again, watch this space. The White Swan pub are very keen to work alongside us for many of these events and that is something I welcome. Kate, Kevin and family at The Swan are great supporters of the village and have much to offer.

So, here's to a good year and I hope I can play my part in keeping Stow cum Quy entertained.

Thank you
Chris

QVA - Dates for your Diary

March 22nd
6.30pm

Beetle & Bingo Drive

Village Hall

April 26th
6.30pm

Spring Walk

The Avenue

Date to be Arranged - Quy's Got Talent

More details of these events will be advertised around the village, so please look out for the posters.

Coffee Morning

At



Quy Village Hall

Saturday 25th May 2024
10.30am



Tea, Coffee
Books, Bric a Brac, Cakes
Plants & More

All Welcome



Darwin Nurseries



With the excitement of Christmas now seeming long behind us, the new year has been a time to stay warm and dry, reflect on the past year and prepare for the next.

Fences are repaired, beds are mulched, and greenhouses cleaned. A group of eager volunteers from AstraZeneca came and gave us a very welcome hand to clear the encroaching brambles from our orchard... Phew!

Hopefully, we are now ready for spring.

Two staff members attended the RHS Peat free conference in London to discover how other growers are preparing for the transition to peat free growing. Our team are all striving to make this a success as we move forward into a more sustainable peat free practice.

As March approaches seeds are being sown and bedding plugs starting to arrive, keeping the co-workers busy in the greenhouse. The shop nursery is filling up nicely with perennials and shrubs as the last of the seed potatoes are being sold... be sure not to miss out! We will also soon be ready to take hanging basket orders.

The word of our newly refurbished café area has begun to spread and staff and co-workers have enjoyed filling the bellies of hungry families, muddy cyclists and workers passing through.

Do pop in for a visit, get some inspiration for spring planting, put your orders in for summer hanging baskets, grab a vegan sausage roll or a cake and say hello to the animals. They would love to see you x 😊

Anna Gawlinski
Horticultural Support Worker
Darwin Nurseries



The 100 Club in Aid of St. Mary's Quay

Thank you to all the people who joined the 100 Club last year and to the people who (at the time of writing this) have purchased 86 numbers this year.

Although the first draw in January has already been made, it is not too late to join in for the remaining monthly draws. Simply contact Viv Fleet to pay £1 for each remaining month of the year.

Unlike the national lottery, the odds of winning in the 100 club are very high indeed and even if you are not lucky enough to win, then your contribution will be helping to maintain the fabric of the little village church.

The table below shows all the winners from last year as well as the winners in January this year.

January 2023	Colin Crisp	Maureen Norden	Jo & Matt Eaton
February	Nick Schenker	Carol McCarthy	Julie Drinkwater Bell
March	Chris Mitchell	Meleena Welsh	Nick Schenker
April	Shirley Thorby	Victoria Edwards	Rose Chariot
May	Janette Taylor	Emily Mitchell	Rose Chariot
June	Lisa Nixon	Bill Watts	Lynda Whiterod
July	Diane Beckett	John Fleet	Ruth Lizeri
August	Freda Roff	Julie Homes	Vanessa Coley
September	Karen Keighley	Valerie Duffield	Emily Ledger
October	Lisa Nixon	Jean Watts	John Chater
Nov	James Chambers	Peter Chariot	Nick Schenker
Dec	James Garmory	Marilyn Roff	Praduman Zala
January 2024	Thomas Chambers	Xenia Niemiec	James Chambers

In 2023 89 numbers were sold, with several people buying more than one number. The cash prizes were won by 32 different people. 36 cash prizes were on offer but two individuals won twice, and one lucky person won three times!

The majority of the winners live here in Quay but the Church is very grateful to non-villagers from as far away as Chester, Burwell, Bottisham, Lode, Fulbourn, Royston and Fen Drayton who continue to support the 100 club. Perhaps these non-residents wish to continue supporting village life as they have happy memories from when they once lived in Quay.

QUY PROFILE

Name: Ed Payne

Birth Place: Kings Lynn

Age: 39



How long lived in Quay: 3 and a half years

Where would you most like to live: Across my life I have lived in 16 different places, across 5 countries, spending time in each place from 6 months to 8 years, including the Netherlands, Czechia, and Australia. I have also spent a significant amount of time in New York, USA. I loved living abroad, especially Australia where I moved to play rugby, felt like a lifetime of dreams and memories crammed into 6 months. So if I had to choose, then maybe Australia – though really I would live anywhere and enjoy it.

Pets: 1 tiny dog called Hattie. She is a Patterdale Terrier and very friendly (though she likes to make her presence known to all other dogs).

Job: Head of PE in a small private school and Personal trainer/sports therapist as a passion sideline (www.performandmove.com).

What job would you like? Any job where I am active and on my feet all day brings me great joy. It's even better when I get to help people feel great through exercise.

Favourite food and drink? A BBQ and all the fun that brings – friends, family and laughter. Drink? A Czech beer called Gambrinus.

Favourite way to spend an evening out? Hiking (yes, hiking at night); being at the gym; doing something challenging and unique.

Hobbies: Lifting weights, researching exercise science.

Favourite TV Programme? As a child it was 'Quantum Leap', then 'Scrubs', but my go to is always 'The Bushtucker man'! It's a 1980-1990s Australian programme on survival in the outback.

TV programme you always turn off? 99% of programmes I turn off.

Where did you spend your last holiday? Hiking in the Dolomites, Italy.

Where would you like to go on holiday? The Nordic countries or Appalachian Mountains and experience the wild.

If you could have one wish, what would it be? That we protect and care for the animals and our planet. Is that four wishes?

If you won a £1m what would you do with the money? Invest it in a gym for everyone. Donate to animal & wildlife charities.

If you ruled the country for a day, what changes would you make? Ban plastics, reduce costs of healthy foods, legalise but control all drugs, bring national service or something similar back so young people can have the opportunity to develop discipline and guidance for the future.

What do you like about Quy? Everyone is friendly, they look out for each other and their community. I think this concept is very important.

What improvements would you like to see in Quy? Slower main road.

Favourite group/band/singer? I ask Alexa to play the radio station 'Capital Chill' every morning – so anything that's like dance music or ambient.

Bill's Bit Spring 2024

Just to introduce you to Charlie, our cock pheasant, who has been around our garden all winter. He comes right up on the patio most mornings to clear up the bird seed that the Jackdaws have knocked out of the bird feeders. He must know that I am now too old and stiff to go brushing, so he comes along to try to cheer me up. How about all



This rain we're having then, eint that a different Spring to what we expected. There's water lay everywhere about the fields. I reckon James Heckford should be rearing ducks on Freydis' front meadow at Quy Waters instead of sheep. They tell me the riverbank is nearly over the top of the bank between Quy and Lode, Browns Park and the bottom of the park have been laying under water, but all the birds have been enjoying that flooded area on the left-hand side of the Avenue. I went down there one evening in January and counted over 40 ducks and teal on that water, and more were coming in or flying out all the time I was watching. Then another evening two weeks ago I looked over there from the Avenue and I could see three big old whitish birds wading around the edge of the water. I didn't know what they were, but they were a lot bigger than egrets and were strutting along the water edge like herons, not waddling like geese do. Then while I was watching another one of these grut white birds flew in and you could see by the big wide wingspan that was something different. I phoned Paul Currington when I got home, and he told me they were the three Cranes that have come back to Wilbraham Fen in the second week in February and have been seen several places on Quy estate since then. They have made friends with a wild white goose, so they all keep together. The three Cranes are a pair and last year's chick (which is a bit unusual normally the parents turf the chick out) so with a bit of luck the pair will breed again down the Wilbraham Fen.

Although we've had a lot of rain that eint been very cold since Christmas, has it? but have you ever seen so much plum blossom out in February! There's a big old tree down Station Road opposite Colin Lowe's that was out right early in February. Then going through Anglesey Abbey, trees that looked a picture all of them black thorn out in white blossom, as well as lots of other places all-round the village. I don't reckon we can argue about climate change now, but I don't see why we keep beating ourselves up reckoning that's our fault. I know

these experts can get out daft statistic about carbon Footprint etc, and 'Just stop oil vandals' just stop everyone else getting on with their business, but I reckon that's just one of the natural climate changes what have been happening for millions of years. They reckon we have had two ice ages, so I expect there's been two hot ages to go with them with the rest of the time sometimes getting hotter and sometimes getting colder. Anyway, they reckon all the effort mankind puts in for a year now to try to slow the change down will be wiped out in about ten minutes when there is a volcanic eruption somewhere, so let's enjoy the warmer weather while we can.

Back to Quy, I expect a lot of you have seen all the egrets on the Broadwater in front of Quy Hall. Well apparently, there was 17 of them at a count recently. I don't reckon we have ever had that many in Quy before. There are also about 200 Golden Plover living down Wilbraham Fen and you should see them when they fly about. The whole lot of them swoop and dive around like a murmur of Starlings, if you see them Plovers just stop and watch, that will really make your day. Back in Quy Paul tells me we now have a couple of Chinese Water deer about with the muntjacs. These deer have two small tusks instead of antlers and they are a bit bigger than the muntjacs. Of course, the Roe deer are still all over the place in quite large numbers. Let's hope we don't get coursed again like they have been other years. There's a whole lot of snipe darting and diving around where the Charities lay under water. There will be some good shooting there for a few weeks. There is an old saying that if you aim at them on the Zig, you'll hit them on the Zag. Talking of shooting Paul tells me that they had a real good season. A lot of birds, especially French Partridges, but they also left a lot at the end of the season. Some say these French Partridges wont breed. Paul tells me they do, but they are not good mothers. They rarely bring up more than about one chick, while we regularly see English Partridge bringing up coveys of ten or so, and there is a good few English Partridges still about as well. He has also watched a pair of Barn Owls hunting over Wilbraham way, and there are about four Marsh Harriers back in Wilbraham Fen, no doubt ready to start breeding again. They are lovely birds to watch but they do take so many small and young birds to feed their hungry chicks.

Just a small downer we have not seen or heard any small owls. Other years there have been a pair down the old railway line and in my Orchard, but not a sound or sight this year---yet. I always used to hear them about ten o'clock at night when I went down to see the sheep at lambing time, but now that I have

stopped lambing, I don't go down the field at night, so they may still be about.

We are very lucky with our church yard; it is kept cut all summer by donations so that it always looks OK. Not a lawn but short grass and loads of wildflowers. However, before Richard starts mowing again there are quite a few branches laying around the church yard which will be in the way of the mower. It would be lovely if some kind folk were to take a wheelbarrow up there and remove all of them branches to give a clear field for mowing. Any volunteers? We had a lovely showing of Snowdrops all over the place up there this year, and the daffodils have been good. Now the Primroses and violets are coming out. Linda's cherry tree in memory of Ant is out in blossom and almost all is well. Unfortunately, the evergreen tree which was growing on Colonel Francis grave died last winter and had to be removed. I am told that Blodwyn set it when the colonel died. It was a lovely tree, but like so many of the smaller trees, that succumbed to the frost last winter. Ellen has said that she may plant a few snowdrops from Quy Hall on the old Colonel's grave in the Spring. That will be good, and I am sure He'll look down and approve of that.

Shirley Thorby has lots of walks around the village, and she tells me that on one walk she saw eight swans, two were on the horse pond then two flew over her as she walked along the river to Lode, two more were on the river before she got to Lode and then two more flew over her down Allicky way. She tells me that there is water on the fields everywhere and she even saw Paul Clarke in the middle of one of his fields with a small digger digging trenches to let the water off. She tells me she is pleased to see swan guards fitted to the electric wires that run across Dog Kennel Close. Apparently two cygnets were found dead under these wires last year. She thinks Ellen may have had some part in getting these guards fitted. Shirley is also thrilled at the number of Roe deer and Muntjacs she sees around the village, and Linda Crisp said the one that keeps grazing along her garden fence just outside her kitchen window is Luuuuvly.

On a sad note, I am sorry to learn that Margaret Lowe has died after struggling for so long with her illness. Our heart goes out to Colin.

Must finish now to get this down to Anne, who is patiently waiting to get the Spring Jackdaw Chatter finished and off to the printers.

Cheers Bill Watts



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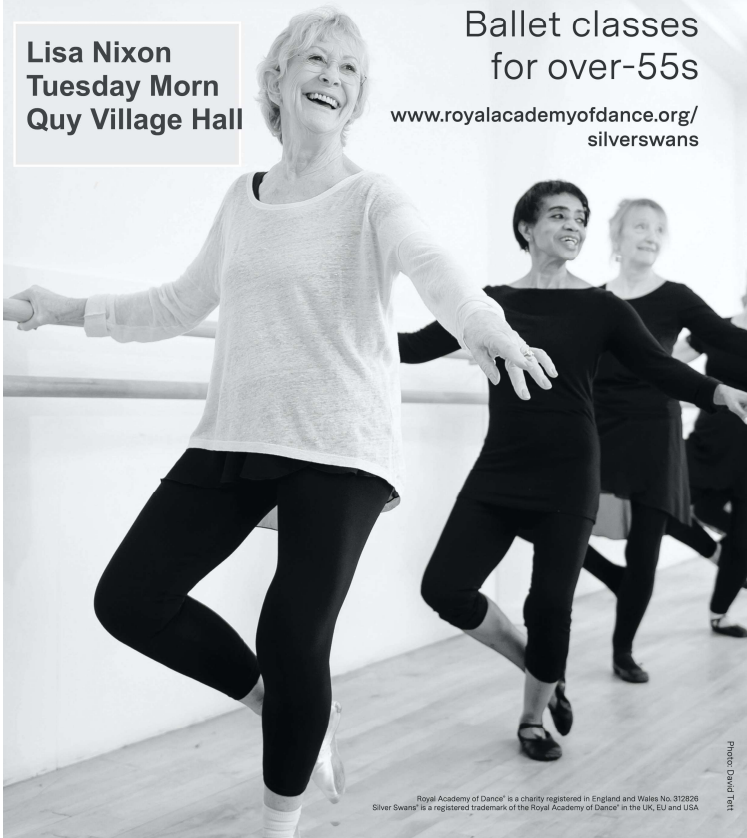


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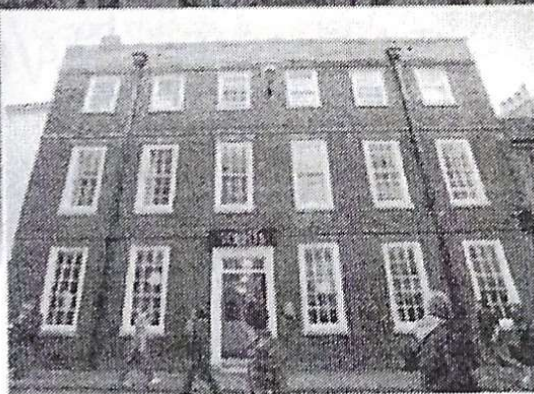
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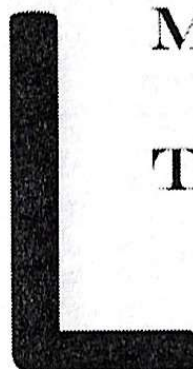
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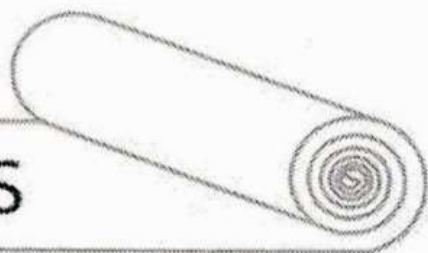
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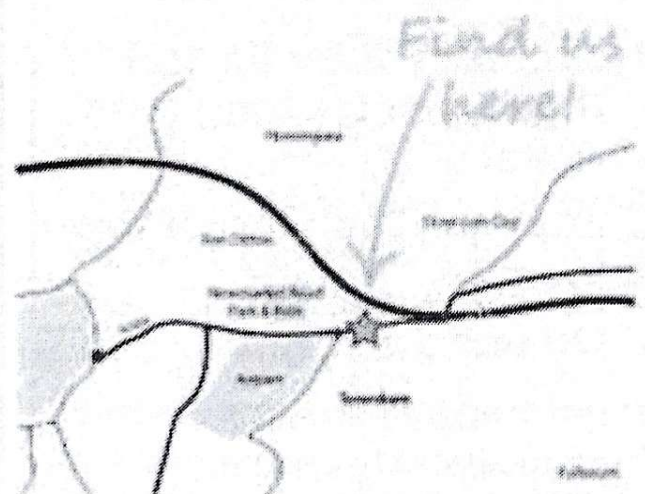
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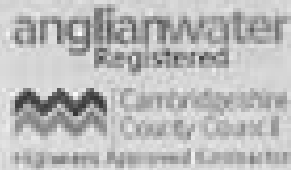




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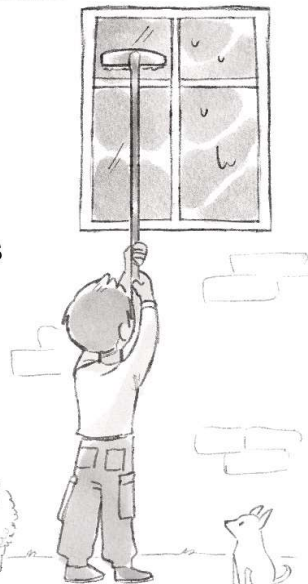
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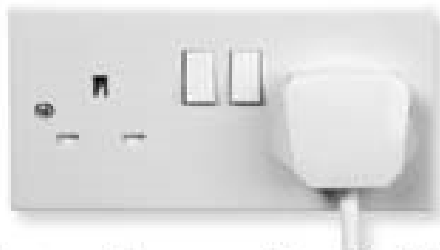
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Tuesday Coffee Morning

Everyone is welcome to attend The Tuesday morning coffee morning at the White Swan.

It is held every week from 10.00am to 12 noon.

£2.00 gets you a slice of superb cake and either a cup of tea or coffee

The atmosphere in the room is very pleasant with a log fire keeping us warm on the colder days, thank you Kevin.

There is a selection of toys to keep the young children happy and keep the rest entertained.



QUY PROFILE

Name: Mark Hughes

Birth Place: London

Age: 59 ½



How long lived in Quy: nearly three years and I have spent most of my life living with 15 miles of Cambridge.

Where would you most like to live: Quy.

Pets: Monty (yellow Labrador) Wilson (Cockapoo) Amy (roaming cat often seen around the village) Sam (ginger cat) rescue chickens incoming

Car: electric

Job: central government Civil Servant.

What job would you like? Professional cricketer.

Favourite food and drink? Liver and bacon, roast pheasant. Beer. Coca Cola.

Favourite way to spend an evening out? Theatre/music/comedy. Restaurant. Pub.

Hobbies: gardening, tidying, politics.

Likes: thoughtfulness, quiet, sweets.

Dislikes: getting old, mirrors, intolerance.

Favourite TV Programme? West Wing (USA 1999-2006) Green Wing (C4 2004)

TV programme you always turn off? Reality shows.

Who would you like to throw a custard pie at? Nigel Farage. Boris Johnson.

Where did you spend your last holiday? France.

Where would you like to go on holiday? Japan or, USA Route 66.

If you could have one wish, what would it be? A younger Joe Biden.

If you won a £1m what would you do with the money? Not tell anybody.

If you ruled the country for a day, what changes would you make? Fully fund health, education and policing.

What do you like about Quay? The community and the commitment to community.

What improvements would you like to see in Quay? Traffic calming.

Favourite group/band/singer? James, The Clash, Bowie, Mozart, Bellini, Tallis.

Memorable experiences in Quay? The sunrises, Summer fete, White Swan open mic Sunday afternoons and White Swan New Year's Eve 80s fancy dress and karaoke.

Church News Spring 2024

New Vicar We are pleased to announce that Revd Canon Malcolm (Max) Osborne has accepted the post of vicar of the Anglesey Group of Benefices. Parishes and churches of Bottisham, Lode, Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck and Prior. Max has been a vicar for several years. Due to much needed renovation the Bottisham Vicarage, has been sold, the funds from this sale being used to purchase the house in Beechwood Avenue, which is to be the new Anglesey Benefice vicarage. Max, his wife and family will move into their new home at Beechwood Avenue in August.

The Institution and Induction of Revd Max will take place at Bottisham Church on Friday April 19th at 7:00 pm. The Acting Bishop of Ely, Rt Revd Dr Dagmar Watson, will Institute Max into his new role, and he will be inducted by Revd Alex Hughes, the Archdeacon of Cambridge. Everyone is welcome to attend this service, but it will no doubt be a crowded church. After the service a gathering at Bottisham social club (previously British Legion) will provide some refreshments and opportunity to chat.

A few weeks after his induction Quy PCC are hoping to tempt Max and his family to a social gathering in Quy Village Hall, where he can meet the villagers of Quy. Watch out for posters of this event or for it to be advertised on Quy Face Book page. Everyone is welcome, and please remember that the vicar is there to help all the villagers, not just those who go to church. Please come along to welcome him to our village.

Good Friday March 29th Morning Prayer 10:30am. QUY. Weather permitting this service will be held in the churchyard, (Inside if wet) when Revd Bob Politt will preside over a story revolving around a Christmas Tree. This story will include readers from all churches in the benefice, as well as a variety of Hymns. Everyone is welcome to come along and join us as we remember the Easter story. Teas and biscuits after.

Church Vestry Meeting & Annual P.C.C. meeting. All those wishing to apply for the post of Church Warden for Quy should send in their particulars to the PCC secretary (Lynn Hatley 01223 812652 or lynn_hatley@yahoo.co.uk) by April 8th. Particulars should contain the candidate's proposer and

second. (There will also be a notice in the church porch on which you can apply with your particulars). Every eligible candidate will be considered at the Vestry meeting which will be held in the church on Sunday April 14th after the Communion Service. The winning candidate(s) will be elected at this meeting. On Wednesday April 17th the Annual PCC meeting will be held in the Hut at Quy Village Hall at 7:30pm. At this meeting the PCC committee for the coming year will be elected by all the Quy PCC members present, supervised by the already elected Church Warden(s).

Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting. If you are interested in being involved in the running of Quy Church please come along and enter your name on the Quy PCC Electoral Roll. Your church really does need some new members to help organise the programme for the coming year.

The Benefice Annual Meeting: will be held in Swaffham Prior Primary School on Thursday April 18th at 7:15 to which everyone is invited.

Food Bank Quy Church is still collecting any food items you can spare to help others less well off than ourselves. Any food items or similar can be left in the shop, or in Jean's front porch at 6 Orchard Street. Jean will then take all items to Newmarket Open door for distribution. There are many people in the area who are very grateful for your help, as the demand grows.

Quy Fete Sunday September 8th: This is the date that the PCC have chosen to hold the fete this year, unless other events require the date to be changed. Once again, we expect it to be held in Bill's Orchard just off the Avenue, and your help and attendance would be appreciated. No details yet but the first fete organising meeting will be held in early May.

I will try to make sure all last year's helpers know the date as soon as I know myself, and there will be a poster in the shop to encourage newcomers to the village to help with the tasks of running the event. We welcome all the help we can get, and you can be assured that any monies we raise will go towards the day to day running of our village church.

Book Club

Quy Book Club meets at The White Swan at 7 p.m. usually on the third Thursday each month.

In November we read *Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less* by Jeffrey Archer, published in 1976, which is about a North Sea oil swindle by a shady American businessman which leaves an Oxford don, a Harley Street doctor, an art dealer, and an English lord almost broke, so they work as a team to try to recover their money.

The group was divided between considering the book to be an absolute pot-boiler, written by a disreputable rogue, or an action-packed, page-turner with surprising plot twists. The former found the plot farfetched and unrealistic and could not connect with the story (as one said, “fact versus Hello! magazine”), but the latter felt that the writing made the plot credible, keeping the reader in anticipation of the outcome. We discussed the author’s reputation just as much as the book and were at polar opposites on both, which led to a very merry, high-spirited evening.

Secrets of a Christmas Elf by Ben Miller, published in 2022, was our December choice. Father Christmas was unwell, and the elves were concerned that not all the presents would be made in time for Christmas Eve. Inventing a robot to help seemed a marvellous plan, but things go seriously awry and there is a race against time to save Christmas Day.

Some of us found reading a children's book reconnected us with books we had read as children at Christmas time, but others wanted a bit more depth and plot complexity. We all agreed, however, that it was good to have a shorter read that month, as December is such a busy time of the year.

We met on the same night as Carols at the Swan, so many of us joined the singing outside around the tree, celebrating the season with other villagers. This made for a very special evening, so a big thank you from us to the team who organised the carol singing and to The Swan for their generous gesture of free mulled wine, tasty sausage rolls and mince pies, all of which added to the warmth of our gathering.

Our first book in 2024 was *Birdsong* by Sebastian Faulks, published in 1993, a story of love and loss during the horrors of World War I. The story spans pre-war romance, then the brutality of the trenches and tunnelling beneath the battlefields by the British to gain strategic advantage, along with an exploration of the conflict by the main character's granddaughter set in the 1970s – it was quite a read!

The author's vivid writing and thorough historical detail immersed many of us who felt it was a timeless work of literature, but others felt that not all sections of the book worked as well. It prompted a lot of discussion about supply lines to the British front, in particular the efficient mail system and how soldiers received mail from home within two to three days, which was so impressive considering that mailbags needed to cross the Channel, then be loaded onto trains or barges and carried by wagon to the British lines.

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus, published in 2022, was our February book. This is a story about a determined female chemist navigating sexism in the 1950s and 1960s. This was the author's debut novel at the age of 64, which was rejected by publishers 98 times before going on to be a best seller with more than four million copies sold. Overall, we enjoyed reading this even though some of the story did not feel believable and the ending was a little too neat. The prose was lively and zipped along without weighty description, which kept us engaged until the end.

Our book for March is *My Grandmother Sends Her Regards and Apologises* by Fredrik Backman.

As usual, our group would like to thank Kate, Kevin and family at The Swan for their continued support and for helping to make our meetings such fun.

Jo White



Bottisham Airfield Museum

This month I have information on this year's opening and events.

The Museum opens Easter Sunday 31st March and Wednesday 3rd April and then every Wednesday 10:30 to 16:00 and Sunday 10:30 to 16:00 (Café opening hours on Sundays 09:00 to 16:00) until November. Entry is £5 for adults, children under 16 are free.

There will be Classic Car Shows on 19th May, 11th August, and 6th October. There will be gunfire and loud bangs on our D-Day themed 'Bottisham at War Forties' weekend on the 6th & 7th July. There may be some limited gunfire on some weekdays when the museum hosts school WW2 education days. Dates will be advised when known.

Helicopter pleasure flights will resume on 10th April and take place every second Wednesday, weather and serviceability permitting. Discounted flights from Bottisham can be booked via the museum's website at www.bottishamairfieldmuseum.org.uk/helicopter-pleasure-flights/ selecting the "Book Now" option and using discount code 10JasonW799 at checkout. We will once again do all we can to mitigate the noise by using only smaller helicopters and ensuring the helicopters do not cross the village side of the A1303.

I finish with a bit of history. On 6th August 1942, Pilot Officer Andrew R.K. Anderson of No168 Squadron RAF, RNZAF returning to Bottisham flying a Tomahawk (see photo) from a training mission hit a tree and crashed near Thetford. He is buried in Bottisham Cemetery, we intend to lay a wreath at his grave on 6th August.

Charles Cook,
Museum Volunteer.



News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

Important Messages from the Practice: Reception staff have been receiving an unprecedented level of verbal abuse in recent weeks. This will not be tolerated.

GPs and their staff have a right to care for others without fear of being attacked or abused. To successfully provide general practice services a mutual respect between all the staff and patients has to be in place. All our staff aim to be polite, helpful, and sensitive to all patients' individual needs and circumstances.

We respectfully remind patients that very often staff could be confronted with a multitude of varying and sometimes difficult tasks and situations, all at the same time. The staff understand that ill patients do not always act in a reasonable manner and will take this into consideration when trying to deal with a misunderstanding or complaint.

However, aggressive behaviour, be it violent or abusive, will not be tolerated and may result in you being removed from the Practice list and, in extreme cases, the Police being contacted.

Patient demand outstrips capacity: Our contract from the NHS states we supply 90 appointments per 1000 practice population per week, that is 531 appointments per week. We supply between 700-800 appointments per week. 34% more than we are funded to do.

On Tuesday 6th February 2024 alone, we had 142 appointments available. We received 831 phone calls. 382 of these being before 9:30am.

We have a population of 5900. 1 in 7 of those wanted an appointment yesterday alone.

Last month 31 people did not attend a booked appointment. This is more than one patient a day.

The government has proposed an increase in funding of 1.9% for general

practice this year. All other areas of the NHS have had 5-6% to deal with inflationary pressures so effectively general practice has had a cut in funding but is expected to provide more every day.

The doctor is explaining this so next time you are cross there are no appointments it truly isn't our fault. All our staff work flat out to provide a high standard to care. We are not sitting here doing nothing, we are often here 12-13 hours a day. We care hugely about our patients and want to provide the best possible care we can, but we must do this safely.

How can you help?

Use 111 where you can. Use walk in centres where you can for minor injuries
Go to A&E if you have an emergency like chest pain - coming to us merely delays your treatment
Attend for check ups when you are asked. Cancel appointments you can't make

We understand your frustration when there isn't an appointment. This is not lack of appointments or lack of is working but simply that: **Demand outstrips capacity**

Health Advice from the Practice:

Please remember homely remedies as most coughs and colds do not require medical attention.

Please visit the 111 website <https://111.nhs.uk/> when you are unwell which directly takes you step by step through your symptoms and advises on the best course of action which may be a review at a local pharmacy, seeing your GP or attending A&E. If you use the 111 website out of hours it can even book you into a GP out of hours slot automatically!

We have physiotherapists available two days a week and you can book directly in to see them about any musculoskeletal problem.

Closure: The Surgery will be closed on 27 March from 1430 – 1830 for training. Please use 111 Service during this time.

New Year Tip: Walk more and drive less where possible. Better for health and the environment.

The Patient Participation Group: As usual we are inviting new members to join the committee; all patients of this Practice are eligible. Please contact our chairman as below to find out more information and how you can be involved.

Next Meetings: These will be at 6.30pm Thursday 28 March 2024 and the AGM at 6.30pm Thursday 18 April both in the Surgery waiting room. If you wish to join our meeting, please email our chairman s.j.gilson@btinternet.com.. Or speak to reception.

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The concerts are held in Stow-cum-Quy Village Hall (CB23 9AB) on Sunday afternoons at 2.30pm (doors open 2pm).

Entrance £8 on the door (including light refreshments)

Our Spring programme continues on:-

Sunday 17th March with Jon Smith

Sunday 21st April with Matthew Bason

Sunday 19th May (artist to be announced)

Sunday 16th June (artist to be announced)

Please come along and give us a try!

For further information contact Robin Worship

Tel: 01223 263304 /email: robin.worship7@gmail.com

Cambridgeshire Light Opera, (CLOG)

Formerly Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre, Cambridgeshire Light Opera is opening a new chapter as a friendly, amateur light opera group based in East Cambridgeshire. We perform to a high standard and are keen to involve all members of the community who share a love of or would like to learn more about light opera and operetta.

We perform regular charitable concerts and an annual staged production in the summer in a local venue. Rehearsals take place in and around the village of Swaffham Bulbeck, approximately 8 miles east of Cambridge.

Our aim is to support and develop light opera and operetta, particularly the works of Gilbert & Sullivan, through modern performances but grounded in the best traditions. We seek to further the appreciation of the wonderful funny, satirical, poignant and entertaining world of light opera in a way that is relatable and easily accessible to all.

Iolanthe - The Plot

Iolanthe, a fairy, commits the ultimate crime by marrying a mortal and is banished from fairyland. Twenty-five years later, and her illicit half-human, half-fairy son (a fairy from the waist upwards) now wishes to marry a mortal – but it's a crime against fairy law. Having fallen foul of this law herself - Iolanthe sets out to help her son; and obtain a pardon for herself from the Fairy Queen.

Strephon loves Phyllis, a ward of the Lord Chancellor who is not keen on the young lovers' proposed marriage. Chaos ensues - driven by misunderstanding; snobbery; misdirected jealousy; a bit of romance; and a healthy satirical dose of poking fun at the law, parliament and the establishment, including a fairy takeover of the House of Lords.

All ends happily, as always - with Lords and Fairies, Peers and Peris, united.

BIN COLLECTION DATES

Date	Black Bin	Green Bin	Blue Bin
06 March 2024	Y		
13 March 2024		Y	Y
20 March 2024	Y		
27 March 2024		Y	Y
03 April 2024	Y		
10 April 2024		Y	Y
17 April 2024	Y		
24 April 2024		Y	Y
01 May 2024	Y		
08 May 2024		Y	Y
15 May 2024	Y		
23 May 2024		Y	Y
29 May 2024	Y		
05 June 2024		Y	Y
12 June 2024	Y		
19 June 2024		Y	Y

OTHER INFORMATION

Mostly Cambridge Code 01223

Bottisham Medical Practice	810030
Monday to Friday 8:30am – 6:00pm	
East Barnwell Health Centre	728900
Monday to Friday 8:30am-1:00pm & 2:00pm – 6:00pm	
When surgery closed for medical help ring	111
Cambridgeshire Police Emergency	999
Non-emergency www.cambs.police.uk	101
Crime stoppers	0800 555 111
CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL	0345 045 5200
SOUTH CAMBS DISTRICT COUNCIL	01954 713000
District Councillor Graham Cone	07595 361285
Bottisham Village College	811250
Bottisham College Adult Learning.	811372
Bottisham Primary School	811235
Bottisham Community Library	811354
Nationwide rail times	08457 48 49 50
Travelline (local transport info)	0871 200 22 33
Stephensons Of Essex	01376 503050

EMERGENCY

GAS.....0800111999

Water.....0800 316 7676

Sewage.....08457 145145

Electricity.....0800 783 8838



Domestic & Sexual
Abuse helpline
0808 802 1414

(NO SERVICE ON SUNDAYS or PUBLIC HOLIDAYS)

Service 11 comes through the village,
with bus stops close to the crossroads and in front of the church.

Bus Number	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Cambridge Drummer St	650	750	850	950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1550	1715	1815	1915
Quy Crossroads	712	812	912	1012	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1737	1837	1937
Nwmkt Rookery Bay 1	802	902	1002	1102	1202	1302	1402	1502	1602	1702	1827	1927	2027
Bus Number	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11		
Newmarket Rookery	700	820	920	1020	1120	1220	1320	1420	1520	1620	1745		
Quy Crossroads	751	910	1012	1110	1212	1310	1412	1510	1610	1710	1835		
Cambridge Drummer St	816	934	1034	1134	1234	1334	1434	1534	1634	1734	1859		

Service 12 goes along the Newmarket Road
with bus stops behind the church near D'Engaynes Farm
Times for Quy Church are Approximate

	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Cambridge Drummer St	715	810	915	1018	1118	1218	1318	1418	1518	1618	1718	1820	
Quy Newmarket Rd	727	823	927	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1531	1631	1731	1832	
Bottisham High Street	735	834	935	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1542	1642	1742	1840	
Newmarket Rookery	752	852	952	1055	1155	1255	1355	1455	1600	1700	1800	1855	

	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Newmarket Rookery	630	720	825	930	1027	1127	1227	1327	1427	1527	1627	1730	
Bottisham High Street	647	737	842	947	1044	1144	1244	1344	1444	1544	1644	1747	
Quy Newmarket Rd	650	740	845	950	1047	1147	1247	1347	1447	1547	1647	1750	
Cambridge Drummer St	710	800	905	1010	1107	1207	1307	1407	1507	1607	1707	1810	

The Silver Line

Helpline for Older People

0800 4 70 80 90

Child line

0800 1111

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

2nd Wednesday of Month

Wheelwright Way 4:10 -4:35

Renewals/Enquiries 0345 045 5225

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/libraries

Quy Village Association:

Chair: Chris Wiseman
Secretary: Kevin Harris 813085 ksharris2@aol.com

Quy Church:

Vicar:
PCC Secretary: Lynn Hatley 812652 Lynn_hatley@yahoo.co.uk

Village Hall Management Committee:

Chairman: Geoff Hall 811330 ghall552@btinternet.com
Booking Secretary: Claire Jackson villagehall@stowcumquy.co.uk

Carpet Bowls:

Meet Thursday in Village Hall 7:30pm

Chairman: David Hurrell 811052 davidandshirley@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary: Joan Crisp 811543 colinjoancrisp@btinternet.com

Quy Art Group:

Meet Wednesday am in Village Hall

Chair: Carol Williams 811486 Cw2athome@gmail.com

Quy Jackdaw Club: For the older villagers. No regular meets but events throughout the year

Anne Moore 812560 anne.m.moore12@gmail.com

Quy Sports Club: Martin Livermore 01487 740453

Neighbourhood Watch: Viv Fleet 812394 vivskiviv@hotmail.com

Quy Parish Council:

Chairman: Sarah D'Ambrmenil
Parish Clerk: Sam Chambers-Turner 7369248998
clerk@stowcumquy.co.uk
Councillors: Sarah D'Ambrmenil; Matt Eaton; David Flynn; James Heckford; Mark Hughes; Jonathan Middleton; Remi White

Quy Fen Trustees: Brian Thorby; Bill Watts; James Heckford

Childes Charity Trustees: Gregg Foster; Brian Thorby; Jason Hall; Andy Rawlinson

Bottisham Charity Trustees: Ray Jakes; Richard Watts

