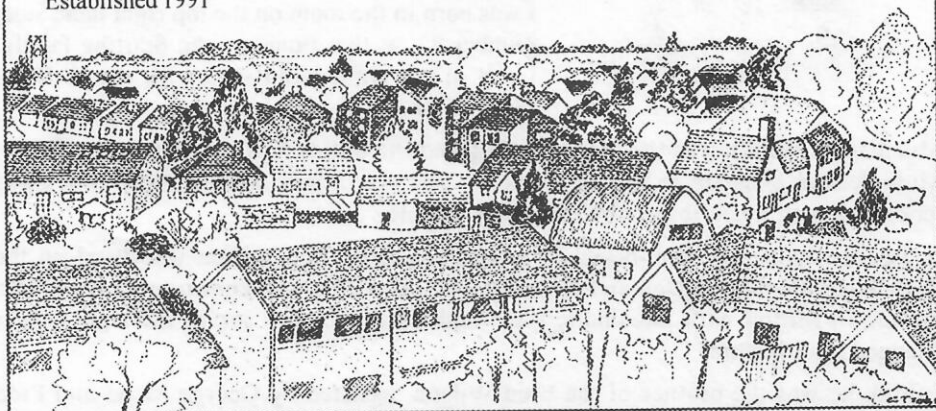


Milton Village View

Established 1991



Spring Issue - April 2002

Village News Sheet

Delivered Free
Circulation 1,800

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Issue 52

Save Our Village Fayre

Milton Village Family Disco Saturday 13 July 2002 and Village Fayre Sunday 14 July 2002

Do you enjoy the Summer Fayre at Milton which is held each July? The Milton Pre-school 'The Cygnets' have offered to run the Family Disco on Saturday but so far no-one has offered to help run the Summer Fayre. We need a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer and a small group of people to make this a successful day, otherwise there will not be a Summer Fayre.

Want to support your local youth and get your car cleaned at the same time?!

On Sunday 7th April a group of young people from Milton will be cleaning cars in order to raise money towards village plans for a skate ramp. The car wash will take place at the Youth Centre Car Park from 11am to 5pm. The minimum cost will be £2.50 per car and any further donations will be gratefully received.

The project for a skate ramp has been in the planning stage for the past few months and funding is now the major issue.

Grant applications have been made to many organisations and the young people are also very keen to raise as much money as they can, so your support at the car wash would be very much appreciated.

If you would like to know anything further about the car wash or the project itself then please contact either Linda Henderson (514430), Hazel Smith (860752) or Sue Lester, Cambridgeshire Associations of Youth Clubs (01763 260509).



The car cleaning team

This day is not only an enjoyable one for the people who attend, it is also a good way for groups to fundraise. There is not a great deal of work to be done as everyone runs their own stall but it is necessary to have a small group to finalise the smaller details such as advertising the event, collecting monies for stalls, booking bands, arena events, providing programmes and making sure that the finer details are covered.

I know that many people enjoy this event and if no one is willing to help run the Summer Fayre it will be missed by a lot of people.

If you are interested please ring me on 01223 862763.

Julie Gray

NO Jubilee Events Planned in Milton?

If you know better please let the Village View know!
See page 5 for more details

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Donations for the Red Cross Charity Shop

I would like to thank all Milton People who responded to my appeal last year for Donations for the Red Cross Charity Shop in Burleigh Street Cambridge. All were gratefully received and helped us to help people in need. Please keep up the good work, donations can be left at my house or arrangements can be made for me to collect them. My telephone number is 01223 861438. Thank you

Tina Barker

Beware

There are reports that there are people in the area selling concrete 'left over' from a job on the Science Park.

All Saints Easter Services 2002

All Saints accidentally sent us the dates for Easter 2000 which were printed in the last edition of the Village View. We do hope you received the corrected list of dates.



Spot the House - Response

In response to the "spot the house" in Issue No.51, I would like to add a few comments on the house, also some memories of Fen Road.

I was born in the room on the top right hand side, number 23, at that time we, the Starling family, lived in the right hand side with the Wilkins family living in the left hand side.

Mrs Vashta Wilkin was the lady who fulfilled the duties now carried out by Nurse, Midwife and assistant to the undertakers. She was a lady who in those times was looked on with much respect by the village people.

It was originally two semi-detached houses owned by Reg Wilson who lived on the High Street by the Waggon and Horses public house. He was known to have the first bicycle in Milton with pneumatic tyres and if my memory serves me right, never changed it all his life.

I think he was the brother of the Fred Wilson, assisted by George Mead and Fred (Joey) Starling, who ran the local farm supplies which stood in the High Street next to the White Horse public house which at that time was run by the Clarke family. To come back to Fen Road, there were five dairy farms in the road between what is now Hall End and the railway crossing. One owned by Wilkins, next came Don Pearson whose father owned the farm near the subway and which is now an industrial estate. By the way, he had an old Ford A van which he used everywhere. The next farm belonged to Ephraim Hall which now forms part of the Country Park lakes, opposite side of the road was the Gooding farm with I remember John Baxter and the other one which was owned by George Pearson.

G. H. Starling

Daffodil Planting

Do you enjoy the daffodils that are planted around the village?

Would you be willing to spend a couple of hours with a spade planting another area in the village this Autumn?

Any ideas for an area to be planted next are very welcome.

Call Jane Coston on 861655



23 Fen Road

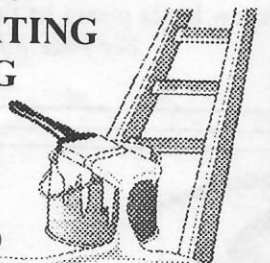
Anyone who went to Milton School between 1836 and 1958 should recognise this house. It was not the School House as some people think, that was on the opposite side of the road. It was originally two houses.

A family of Starlings lived one side and Vashti Wilkin the other. She was a lady that all villages seemed to have, who would help out when a new baby arrived. She did in fact help deliver my brother and sister on December 31st 1922. When she died about 25 years later the baby she delivered in 1922 laid her out. The Starlings vacated the nest, Mr & Mrs Smith moved in and Mr and Mrs Archibald moved into Vashti's house and on their departure a family of Peacocks took up residence. I hope this is taken in the humorous mood it is meant to be.

An old Miltonian - Mary Daniels

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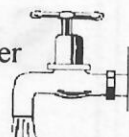
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Saturday 27th April 2002

10.30am - 12.00 noon
Admission 50p
75% to seller
25% to Pre-School

All sellers must register before Wednesday 24th April 2002
To register please contact Carol Hanson on 01223 527083 or
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Milton W.I. Programme 2002

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Making inlaid porcelain by M/S A McArthur
Competition - Bring very small ornament
21st May
Demonstration 'Encaustic Art'
Competition - Best Picture by WI on night
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Saturday 20th April 2002 at 11.00 am

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MILTON RESIDENT

MILTON 2000 - MINUS A YEAR OR TWO

BY HARRY MISSING - *continued from February issue*

In these early days of the now 20th Century, it was common practice for those living in the isolation of villages to marry someone, either from within the village or, at least seldom living further away than the next village or town. My parents wedding in 1903 was not the first in the family on father's side. His elder sister, Emma, had already been married for some time to Fred Matthews, who, would you believe it, came from, of all places, distant Landbeach. Now that's a contradiction of my earlier statement and I have often wondered how these two people could possibly have stumbled over each other. Perhaps it was Stourbridge, Midsummer Fairs or such similar event which had, no doubt, as on many occasions in the past, served towards improving the stock of the Cambridgeshire population.

Whatever it was, Aunt Emma joined Uncle Fred, who was employed as Shepherd for a Mr Green and farmed at Trinity Farm, Milton. They lived in one of a terrace of four farm workers cottages, then the only houses in King's Hedges Road, next to the Histon Railway Line. Uncle Fred needed to cross the Railway each day to reach the Trinity Farmland next to the line on the other side.

Having established a family link with Trinity Farm the next step had to be the arrival at the farm of the Missing family. By this time the calendar was showing the year of 1906. Thanks to Uncle Fred my father had learned of the vacancy for a Horse Keeper and eventually was successful in obtaining the job along with tenancy of the Farmhouse. The family needed the extra accommodation it provided as my elder brother had been born some twelve months earlier.

Mr Green turned out to be a 'man of means' and a fair and reasonable employer. Although he only rented Trinity Farm from Trinity College he also owned a Dairy Farm in Scotland Road, Chesterton. Perhaps at this point I had better explain where Trinity Farm was situated. The easiest way of doing this is to say it encompassed the area now occupied by the Cambridge Science Park. The only remaining landmark, showing the actual site of the Farmhouse and buildings, can be located if you look over the top of the Napp Offices/Laboratories where the tops of several large Oaks remain to be seen.

A horse and trolley, generously provided by father's new employer, became the means by which the family and all its worldly goods were transported from Fulbourn. Quite a walk! No slipping up the A14 to Quy those days. I'm not sure which route they took but the most likely would, I think, have been over Stourbridge Common and using the Horse Ferry over the river to Chesterton. Father told me they did have one exciting incident on the way when they were passed by one of those new fangled automobiles. Fortunately it was going in the opposite direction to them, if it hadn't, father felt quite certain from the much alarmed state of the horse, it would more than likely have caught up and overtaken the contraption.

The next few years up to the outbreak of hostilities in August 1914 can perhaps best be described as the quiet years, a time for meeting new neighbours and making new friends. The Farm was pretty much isolated, standing back in the fields and approached by a dirt track some quarter of a mile in length.

The nearest neighbours were those occupying the houses at the Corporation Sewage Farm situated on the opposite side of the main Cambridge to Ely Road. A Mr Godfrey occupied the detached house, he was the Manager, whilst the semi-detached were occupied by farm workers, a Mr Holmes and a Mr Pettit. Both these latter two gentlemen were staunch 'Chapel people' and I imagine it was probably through them the family was persuaded to attend the Baptist Chapel in the village. This of course led, particularly for Mother and her growing son, Ernie, to involvement in other activities in the village. Brother Ernie started formal education at the Village School which had been built in Fen Road in 1836. My mother held very strict Victorian views and my brother, at a very early age was required to attend the Chapel's Sunday School. This entailed a long walk alone for such a young chap of about a mile in each direction. Some years later he told me how he became very frightened when on his return journey, he was met regularly half-way along the farm road by one of the farm's Cockerels that refused to let him pass. Father, of course, always went to the rescue.

This is a perfectly true story and repeated to me by my Father. Nevertheless, if you pause to think about it, one can only wonder how the bird first knew it to be Sunday and then to get the timing so precise! Incredible, but then, I'm told, incredible things are still happening on that piece of land today. I always blamed it on his old catapult, as on a Sunday, Mother would have made sure he was completely unarmed when going to Sunday School. The Cockerel, well, clever as he was, wouldn't have seen another Christmas!

To be continued

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Harold Easy - A Man to Remember

My first meeting with Harold came about quite by chance. I was a member of the newly formed Milton Netball Club and during the winter we trained at Waterbeach. The club was asked if they would be willing to enter a float at the Waterbeach Feast, we were all very keen to do this but we had no vehicle. Now who in their right mind would let a load of women loose with a lorry? One of our members suggested that we should ask the local farmer Harold Easy if he could help. He was farming the land where Tesco and The Rowans now stands, and much to my amazement he said yes straight away. This was to be the first of many times he came to our aid.

Harold would always help anyone in the village, Milton folk knew they only had to ask and if it was at all possible he would assist. The lorry was seen every Saturday Morning loaded up with Cubs, Scouts, and willing parents collecting newspapers around the village to help to raise funds.

On a more personal note, I remember the Christmas he got up really early in the morning with his Granddaughter, to go to the field to groom a pony and trim it up with tinsel, so we could give our daughter a surprise present. This was after he had spent weeks with us going round various places to find a suitable pony, and then letting us use his field to stable it.

The Sponsored Horse Ride in aid of the Children's Hospice was yet another project in which Harold became involved. We spent many weeks together working out routes, meeting with Landowners and Farmers in order to have a really safe course for the riders. We spent days in the rain and wind, sometimes bogged down in fields, sometimes lost in the fens! We were out all weathers building the jumps, but Harold would not leave a jump until he was absolutely sure that it was up to standard and safe for the riders. This took many hours, but each hour was a pleasure, not only did I learn an awful lot, but I heard so many wonderful tales of days gone by. The Hospice was helped by many thousands of pounds raised by the riders' sponsorship in those early days.

When you enjoy all the wonderful daffodils that brighten up our village in the Spring, please remember Harold. He was the one that went off to Swafham Market and brought the bulbs back by the sackful. A group of volunteers would then set about planting them all around the village. We will be able to enjoy them for many years to come.

Harold will be greatly missed by so many people in the village. He regularly took people out and about in his car and he loved to stop and have a chat. He had such a store of information all about the local farming communities and endless stories to tell about Milton Village and all of the surrounding villages.

Harold was a true gentleman, and I feel that it was a great privilege to be able to call him my FRIEND

Mrs Tina Barker

Harold was a very special and kind man who will be very much missed by all those who knew him. *Jane Coston*

NO Jubilee Events Planned in Milton?

Continued from page 1

As far as the Parish Council are aware there are no Golden Jubilee events planned in Milton. If you are planning an event the Village View would like to know so we can come and record the event.

The Parish Council will be discussing the Jubilee on Monday 8th April. They have resolved that they wish to commemorate the Jubilee with something lasting e.g. a seat. If you have any suggestions please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council. Tel. 861447



Silver Jubilee Committee of 1977

Standing

Albert Cowell, Harold Easy, Tony Carter, Frank Burling

Seated

Rob Farrington, Wendy Stanley, Mick Gray, Muriel Jones, 'Dickie' Bird

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Mary Daniels with husband Charlie
and two sons Jim and Ray

Those were the days

Mary Burling (that was) - now Daniels

Continued from the February Issue

I often think of my early working days and wonder how different my life would have been if I had an easier job, perhaps I should say a different job. It has been said I am a 'workaholic', which must be due to my early working days so perhaps it didn't do me any harm!

Working for the village doctor gave me a feeling of great satisfaction that I was one of the first to know that a baby had arrived, but I was also the first to know that somebody had died.

During my time at Lode House I can remember three gardeners; the first was Archie Corn whose wife Ethel was the 'daily help' then came Jack Durrant, but I can't remember whether he got married and left or retired. The third was Mr. Dickinson who

was landlord of the Railway Tavern, and whose daughter Joyce still lives in the village. When he retired I took over the 'Doctor's Club' from him.

Reading 'Remember the Rainbows' by Sid High brings back many memories of my days at Waterbeach, and all the people mentioned. Continuing the story of the Doctor's Club - this was a club you could join before the days of the N.H.S., but only if your income was not more than £3 a week; the so called better-off were sent a bill for services rendered. When Mr. Dickinson retired from running the club, somehow or other I found myself taking over. The first Monday of every month was collecting day, and the first time I was involved in this was one February.

You had to start in Fen Ditton and Horningsea; these places were foreign lands to me, and the weather didn't help as it was freezing cold with hard-packed snow and ice, and of course, my only means of transport was a bike.

It was like being thrown in at the deep end, but it had to be done, so I struggled on. One elderly lady at Fen Ditton didn't believe that I was collecting the Doctor's Club money because "a gentleman used to come." It was two or three months before she paid up, but she eventually asked me in and offered me a cup of milk. I can see it now; her fire had been smoking and there was a deposit of soot floating on the milk. I managed to swallow it, but don't ask me how!

A few more thoughts from the Doctor's Club days. It was a job I dreaded really but it got me away from the usual housemaid jobs. One lady at Horningsea used to say "call in on your way back dear, and you can have a bit of pudding" I can't remember whether I ever did or not. Some people could never find their purse and used to ask me to "call on your way back" - you can guess the result of that!

One collection day 'out in the wilds' of Fen Ditton there was an air raid and I saw some bombs dropping, luckily with no damage. I just carried on with the job but got into trouble for not letting anyone know that I was all right! I got used to collecting, my employer being the Doctor's wife was involved in most things especially envelopes, which of course 'yours truly' had to do.

The collections taught me a lot about people and I eventually knew where I would get the best response. It seems that collecting has been my lot ever since.

My life at the Doctors went on in the same humdrum way for ten-and-a-half years and my social life was almost non-existent. I was a Cinderella, but instead of having to be back by midnight, it was nine o'clock! Eventually I got married but how on earth I met a man in those circumstances is still a mystery to me but that story will have to wait for another time. - To be continued

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PUZZLE CORNER

The puzzle in the February issue proved to be a bit difficult! I received only a few entries and no one succeeded in getting all 10 answers. These were

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Backward somersault | 2. No two ways about it |
| 3. Out on a limb | 4. Down on the farm |
| 5. A break in transmission | 6. Put two and two together |
| 7. Run back and forth | 8. Bad back |
| 9. Twist of fate | 10. A big fuss over nothing |

So congratulations to our two prizewinners, who were nearly there - Debbie Harvey of Lander Close and Ruth Henderson of Hall End.

Prizes are on the way.

At Christmas time, my 12 year old granddaughter, Ellie, gave me a few posers. I didn't get on very well with them, so see how you manage. Here are 5 teasers!

1. A man from Texas goes on his horse to stay with his brother. He leaves on Monday and stays for three days and returns home on Monday. How does he do this?
2. A man is pushing his car along. When he gets to his destination, he will have to pay a fine and he will be bankrupt. What is going on here and why will he be bankrupt?
3. You are now a detective and you need to solve this case. Georgia is dead. She was found in a room and the only things in the room were some glass, her body and some water. But there wasn't enough water to drown in. How did she die?
4. A lady is lost in the Alps. Suddenly she sees a hut in the distance. She makes her way towards it and inside she finds a cooker, a candle and a small fire. But she only has one match. Which does she light first?
5. There is a man dressed completely in black - black suit and shoes, black gloves and black balaclava. A lady driving a car does not have her headlights on. The man crossed the road in front of the car and he does not have a torch. How does the lady driver see him?

Send in your answers to: Michael Spooner 43a Old School Lane Milton CB4 6BS by 7 May. The first prize has once again been generously donated by Eric Franklin of **Petes Meats** - a £10 voucher for Petes Meats and there is a runner up prize of £5.

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Whist

There were lots of us missing at the February Whist Drive due to two Carpet Bowls league matches being played but there were 6 tables in play and they all had a good time apparently. It was all left in very good hands.

Mary Daniels

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9 JUNE 2002

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'Exposed by the trowel'

Following on from my last article in December (Issue 50), our Iron Age Celtic ancestors (the Catuvellauni tribe) in South Cambridgeshire were soon to be subjected to the influence of Rome. By 70 AD, a Roman military camp, Duroliponte (substantial bridge) had been established on the site of an earlier Iron Age settlement on Castle Hill, Cambridge. The impact of Rome on Cambridgeshire was considerable and many archaeological features indicate that the Milton area was a significant Roman 'hot spot'.

As the Roman camp at Castle Hill developed into the 2nd Century AD, the Romans constructed our first local transport infrastructure of roads and canals to transport home grown crops and pottery (the subject of future articles). Duroliponte was at the crossroads of two main Roman roads. The road running from Castle Hill to the Fens beyond Ely, is our local Roman road the Mere Way or Akeman Street. This road left the Roman camp near St Luke's church, passed through Arbury and King's Hedges and is now visible as a walkway at the western boundary of our parish as it crosses Butt Lane north towards Landbeach and beyond where it becomes partly covered by the A10. It is an interesting possibility that Akeman Street may have been connected to a wharf on the River Cam by a minor road running along Butt Lane in a straight line next to the White Horse, under Coles Road, Hall End to Fen Road; our earlier local historian Ken Humphries thought this, a view I support. Such a road would probably have been sand and gravel, not like the more substantial 10 m wide Akeman Street with its side ditches. Anyone living along the straight line from Butt Lane to Fen Road (use a ruler and a local map), would make a significant contribution to our local archaeology if they found the 'Milton Way' Roman road in their garden! If you do, contact Jim Daniels, Tel/Fax 861447 or E-mail: clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk

Derek Booth

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Wildlife Snippet

Busy Bees

The bumblebee's droning buzz is universally associated with balmy summer days in the garden. However, with spring arriving early in Milton this year it won't be long before they begin emerging from their winter slumbers. There are 19 species in Britain, the most common being the garden bumblebee (*Bombus hortorum*).

Unlike honeybees, bumblebee colonies do not survive the winter, species survival being dependent on overwintering queens. These busy themselves in spring looking for nest sites which may be a burrow in a hedgerow bank or an abandoned mouse nest.

The first eggs to hatch are all workers who defend the nest and collect food for the second brood which develops into fertile males and young queens. These new queens will overwinter and continue the cycle the following year.

Although cold-blooded, bumblebees are able to maintain a body temperature of 30 degrees centigrade, even in cool weather. Conversely, they can overheat in summer and may rest during the hottest part of the day.

Britain also has six species of Cuckoo bee (*Psithyrus sp.*) which closely resemble bumblebees. As their name suggests they lay their eggs in bumblebee nests and may even kill the host queen. The resident workers then accept the Cuckoo bee queen and help raise her young.

Growing plants like Delphinium and Foxglove in your garden will encourage bumblebees by providing the large flowers necessary to support their size and weight.

Let's hope the 'plight of the bumblebee' will be a happy one in Milton this year!

If you would like to read an extended version of 'Busy Bees' and other locally-based wildlife articles please visit my Wildlife Website at

<http://mysite.freemove.com/camwaywildlife>

Paul Capitain.

Carpet Bowls

Another successful league season draws to a close. Milton 1 under the captaincy of Spencer Maltby has won the division 1 for the third successive year. This is a particularly satisfying achievement since two members of last year's team decided to take a sabbatical and new recruits had to be drafted in. It took a while for the revamped team to settle in and after three matches and three defeats the team was almost bottom of the league. From that point however a surging run of 11 consecutive victories has taken the team to the championship.

Milton 2 has had an enjoyable season in division 1 flirting with relegation while Milton 3 is in the top four of division 2.

Three players from the Milton Club continue to play for the the successful county team.

Two thriving sessions of carpet bowls take place every Monday and Thursday at the Community Centre from 2.30 - 4.30pm. All are welcome. The Thursday evening sessions from 7 - 10pm tend to be less well attended although many of the Thursday evenings are taken up with league bowls.

If you want to give the game a try please turn up at one of the sessions or phone Jim Daniels 502194 for further details.

Scrabble

Those of us who go to scrabble really enjoy the game and the highlight of the evening is getting a seven letter word, another highlight is turning the cards over to see who has won a fabulous prize, and if you are bottom there is a consolation prize.

Rianny Damsel

Calling All Tennis Players

Milton Tennis Club begins the 2002 season on 1st April. If you want to keep fit and have fun, look no further! For £16 a year adult membership (£32 for a family and £7 for a Junior) this is great value for money. Benefits include club nights, subsidised coaching, tournaments, friendly matches with local clubs and social evenings. Contact Sue Griffin 562878 or Roger Barham 860068 for more information and an application form.

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Printed by Cambridge Evening News, Winship Road, Milton, Cambridge, CB4 6PP
Produced and delivered by volunteers. Designed and published by Jane Coston, 67 Coles Road Milton Tel. 861655
Editors - Michael Spooner, Kate Marshall, Harry Capitain.