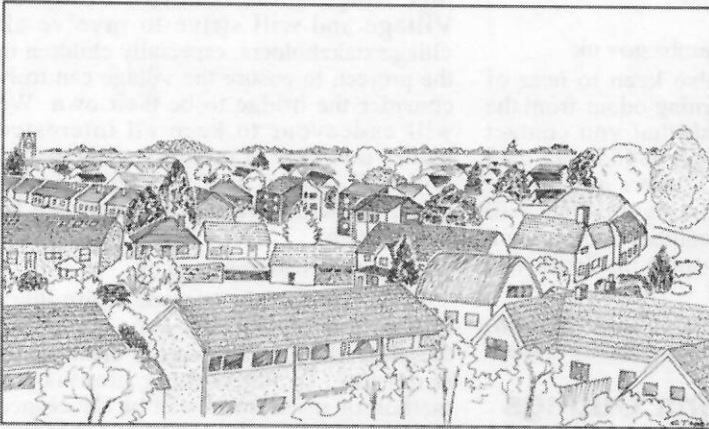


# Milton Village View

Established 1991

New Year Issue No 56 - February 2003



## Village News Sheet

Delivered Free Circulation 1,800

Whats On  
News in Brief  
Competition

Page 3  
Page 2  
Page 7

## Historians map out who lived where in Milton

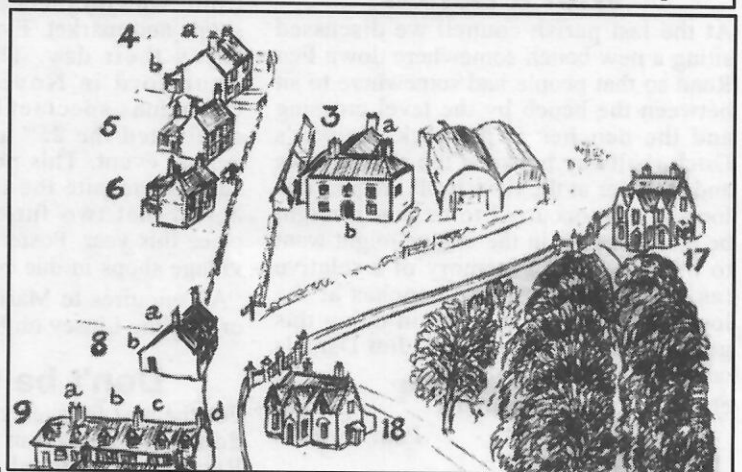


Graham Easy and Roger Day with some of the drawings of Milton streets and the listings of past occupants

Ken Humphries lived in a rambling old house in Butt Lane until he died in the early 1980s. Kens Way was built where the old house once stood.

Ken was a keen historian and in his time had been the Parish Clerk for Milton and District Councillor. He was well known for his interest in Milton village history. During his lifetime he recorded a great deal of information on the village and one project he started was compiling a list of homes in the old part of the village and listing those who had lived there. He involved Harold Easy in this project who in turn involved Graham Easy. Graham has now almost completed his research with the help of Roger Day in particular, and many local people. An example of his careful drawings of Milton homes can be seen above. Graham, over the years, has amassed a library of hundreds of Milton family trees all hand written, some with photographs. Milton Village View will be publishing shortly his complete work on village homes, and who lived there over the last century, (for final corrections before being used in the History of Milton Book, which we hope to produce at a later stage.) JC

A sample of a document carefully drawn by Graham Easy. Each house is numbered and can be cross referenced with a list of past occupants.



## New Skate Park proves popular with young people of Milton



New skate park on the Sycamores Recreation Ground

# Supported by



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## Next Issue

due out beginning  
of April

Items for inclusion in  
the Spring Issue should  
be with one of the  
Editors by the  
**12th of March**

## Send Us Your Stories

to 67 Coles Road or by e-mail to  
[vv@miltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:vv@miltonvillage.org.uk)  
We are also on the web at:  
<http://www.miltonvillage.org.uk/>

## Remembering Someone With a Bench

At the last parish council we discussed sitting a new bench somewhere down Fen Road so that people had somewhere to sit between the bench by the level crossing and the benches at the lock. Banker's Ditch (halfway between the railway line and river) or at the river itself are possible locations. It occurred to us that it might be that someone in the village might want to buy a bench in memory of a relative (as is the case with the benches at the lock). If you are interested in doing this get in touch with the clerk, Jim Daniels on 861447 or

[clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk)

*Paul Oldham*

## Dog Fouling

It is an offence not to clear up after your dog. The maximum fine for not clearing up is £1,000. We are disappointed to report that dog mess has been found in the cemetery on Landbeach Road.

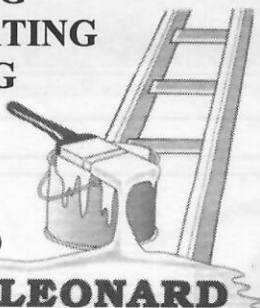
*Jim Daniels*

Clerk to Milton Parish Council

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**B.J. LEONARD**



## Cambridge Sewage Works

To assist the Local Liaison Committee gather evidence as to when the Sewage Works is causing a foul odour in Milton would you please log your complaint with The Environmental health department:-

Tel (01223) 443145

e-mail [env.health@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:env.health@scambs.gov.uk)

Anglian Water are also keen to hear of any complaints concerning odour from the Works and would ask that you contact their Emergency Line 08457 145 145 (Local rate call) for sewers and advise them of the odour complaint. They will give you a reference number and you will be contacted by someone from the Cambridge Works.

*John Wilson*

Environmental Health Officer

## Senior Citizens Outings

Two successful outings took place for Milton senior citizens during last year.

The first was an enjoyable coach trip to Great Yarmouth on the 12<sup>th</sup> June, which was blessed by a fine sunny day. Some people spent their time along the sea front, whilst others browsed round the shops and market. Everybody seemed to enjoy their day. The second trip to Thursford in November was to the Christmas spectacular concert which celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this annual event. This proved to be a huge success despite the cold weather. It is hoped that two further trips will take place this year. Posters will appear in the village shops in due course.

All enquires to Marie Davis on 520061 or Daphne Linsey on 862804.

## Don't be Conned

For the past few years I have received my domestic gas from a local supplier. Recently this local supplier has been taken over by a larger power company which is assuming, quite wrongly, that consumers will be begging to have their electricity supply transferred as well. If you receive a letter from your new gas supplier asking for a signature on a form please read it very carefully as you may be consenting to more than you bargained for!

*Paul Capitain*

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## A14 Bridge

Mowlem plc are pleased and excited to have been awarded the contract to build this landmark bridge. Mowlem plc are one of the largest UK construction groups and bring excellence and expertise to this project. We appreciate the importance of this bridge to the residents of Milton Village and will strive to involve all village stakeholders, especially children in the project, to ensure the village can truly consider the bridge to be their own. We will endeavour to keep all interested parties informed of progress of the works both off and on site and will shortly launch a dedicated website that can be linked from

[www.mowlemcontracts.co.uk](http://www.mowlemcontracts.co.uk).

Work has already started. Preliminary orders for steelwork have been placed and the production of fabrication drawings is underway. In the coming months the method of installation will be developed and approved by the Highways Agency. Fabrication of the bridge in Yorkshire will start around April this year with work on site planned to commence after Easter. Installation of the central span is planned to take place during a total closure of the A14 on the weekend of the 13/14th September.

*Andrew Kenyon*

Mowlem plc

## Third lane northbound to the Milton Interchange and Bus Lanes

Plans showing the proposals for the extra lane next to the Science Park and Milton Road Bus Lane will be on display at Milton Community Centre from the 17th February for at least a week, at Q-ton in the Cambridge Science Park on the 6th and 7th February from 11.30am - 6.30pm and at Cowley Road Park and Ride 8th, 10th, 11th February. A leaflet will be delivered showing the plans during February.

For more information contact:

Alistair Frost on 01223 717585

## Milton Pre-school Tesco

### Computers for Schools Vouchers

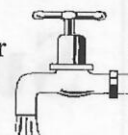
Milton Pre-school are in desperate need of a computer. If you can help by donating vouchers to this group please either drop them in at the Pre school or to 69 Coles Road, Milton.

*Vanessa Goodwin*

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## Impington Village College

Invite you to attend their 42nd painting exhibition from Saturday 15 Feb to Wednesday 19 Feb.

Opening times are as follows:

Sat 15 Feb	(Opening Evening)	7.30-9.00pm
Sun 16 Feb	2.30-6.00pm	
Mon 17 Feb	2.30-4.00pm	7.00-9.00pm
Tues 18 Feb	2.30-4.00pm	7.00-9.00pm
Wed 19 Feb	12.00-4.00pm	

Please come and look at over 300 paintings in various styles.

There is no charge for entry (except for the opening evening for a cheese and wine reception). There is a very helpful catalogue for a minimal charge.

Each artist pays a small fee to exhibit their work and the Friends of Impington Village College charge commission for each item sold.



**50th Cambridge  
(Milton & Landbeach)  
Scout Group**

## Jumble Sale

**15th March 2003**

Milton Community Centre, Coles Road, Milton.

Doors Open 2:30 pm

Admission 20p

THE CYGNETS, MILTON PRE-SCHOOL

## EASTER FAYRE

**SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
2003**

FROM 2.30pm – 4.30pm  
AT MILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
Admission 50p

Raffle, Face painting, Cake stall, Tombola, Lucky Dip, Easter Egg Wall and many other stalls.

Everyone welcome.

If there is anyone who would like a stall then contact: Emma Danes on 862308.

The Milton Branch RAF Association

**Present  
the Band of  
the Royal Air Force College  
in Concert**

at the Guildhall, Cambridge  
on Sunday 9th March 2003  
commencing at 7.30pm

Tickets £10

Contact H Bird, 32 Coles Road, Milton, Cambridge  
Tel. 01223 721369

MILTON W.I. PROGRAMME 2003

Meet at Milton Community Centre

18th Feb Prison Service by Ray & Wendy Collett  
18th Mar A.G.M. & Quiz

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## MILTON 2000 - MINUS A YEAR OR TWO

By Harry Missing - continued from October issue

I mentioned earlier, the workers on the Farm came mainly from Chesterton. I think all those who saw active service in the First World War returned safely. Two, I remember, the Smith brothers Sammy and Bill nearly always wore items of army clothing. Billy, a Greatcoat and Sammy, long Puttees. The Puttee, I believe, was first introduced by the Army as a safeguard for soldiers serving overseas, from Snake Bite. It was not, therefore inappropriate that Sammy should wear them on the farm, where I swear most of the snake population of the County were accommodated! You will gather from this that I hated them. It seemed, every time I went Black-berrying, but only after I had a full basket, one would cross my path. Up in the air would go my harvest of berries but before they reached the ground I would have already negotiated a couple of hedges and a three strand barbed wire fence on my way back to Mother. The darn things used even to come into the house - how I hated them, still do.

We, even as children, called all the men by their Christian names, except one who we respectfully referred to by his surname, Mr Mansfield. This respect stemmed from the fact that unlike the other men, he was always clean shaven and smartly dressed. He never seemed to get involved in the dirtier jobs on the farm, doing such things as thatching, of which he was well skilled, hedge cutting and hand hoeing. Later in life I was told by my brother that this 'upgrading' if you like, came from the fact that he owned his own house on the Milton Road, between King's Hedges and Arbury Road, a most unusual achievement for a farm labourer. Apparently when the Cambridge Building Society, of which you now have a Branch in the village, came into existence, the Society decided that the fairest way of distributing their then limited funds was by way of a raffle and, I was told, Mr Mansfield was the first winner.

Unless one specialised in a particular branch of farm work such as that of Bill Smith, who looked after the Pigs and breeding Cows, the men worked in pairs or larger groups. Father of course looked after the horses along with an assistant, Ernie Gauthrup, who cycled daily from his home in Girton. Between them they did all the ploughing, drilling, reaping etc., as by this time, 1927, Brother Ernie had already left the farm, set up a haulage business, married a Milton girl, of course and was living in Landbeach.

A little earlier, before his marriage, my brother had decided to purchase a Crystal Set. This magical box would allow you, with a little bit of good fortune in your tickling of the crystal, to hear sounds from as far away as London. Mother, of course, immediately objected to it, saying she was not going to have any of the Devils instruments in her house. By now Ernie had reached that age when bravery and rebellion combined and so the devil took up residence, showing to the outside world his presence by the aerial waving in the wind between the house and the Cowshed. Between us we spent many hours tickling that crystal, more in hope than expectation. Mother however, stuck to her guns and would not go near it. That is until one Sunday night when my brother managed to get the church service from St Martins in the Fields. "Listen to this mother", Ernie said. Mother listened and started to wave her arms in time with the hymn singing. The 'Old Devil' had won and we all had difficulty from then on to get our turn to tickle the crystal!

Soon after this, a switch was made in the Breed of horse used on the farm. Out went the heavy Shires to be replaced by Suffolk Punches. The replacement included three Stallions and as a result a breeding programme was set up. Besides home breeding, Father used to walk with an Entire as far as Burwell, calling at farms on the way at Quy and the Swaffhams. This meant he was away for several days at a time, staying at the various farms he visited. In August last year, 2001, I was invited to a Wedding in my present home village of Sproughton in Suffolk where I met a gentleman who was responsible for maintaining all registrations for the Suffolk Horse Society. We talked and he promised to look up his Stud Books and send me the results of his search. True to his word, a few days later I received extracts that showed the names of five mares all with names prefixed by the word 'Milton'. I realised these were all the foals my sister and I had been taken into the stables to see within an hour or so of their birth. The village, therefore, can perhaps take some pride in this association with such an esteemed Horse Society.

*To be continued*

Eric Pranklin

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## Whist Drives

For atmosphere and numbers I think it was the best Xmas whist drive ever. It made all the hard work worthwhile. It was only made possible by the efforts of very few people at the village fayre and the tombola. The table was full with about 60 prizes, so the money was well spent. The next whist drive is in the Community Centre on Tuesday January 28th at 7.30pm and then on every 4th Tuesday. Admission £1.50

*Mary Daniels*

## Lunch Club

At the Christmas lunch our tables were a sight to behold and the Prime Team were well satisfied with their efforts. We laid up for 64 guests and although it was very hard work and tiring, it was very rewarding. We all work very well together and with two gentlemen waiters it all added to the style to which we have become accustomed. Father Christmas came minus a beard but in a posh coat which belonged to Grandfather Christmas. Dinner is still £2.00 and we try to cater for most tastes as far as possible.

*The Prime Team*

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## Thank you Harry

Having lived in Milton for just over 40 years Harry Capitain has been well placed to have a finger on the pulse of the village.

As an editor of the Village View and previously the award-winning Village Voice, he has been associated with local affairs for many years. Indeed, Harry has been an active member of the community for most of his time in the village. He was a member of the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Management Committee back in the 1960s and has served on the Parish Council. Over the years Harry has served on both the football and cricket club committees including stints as chairman and president of the latter.

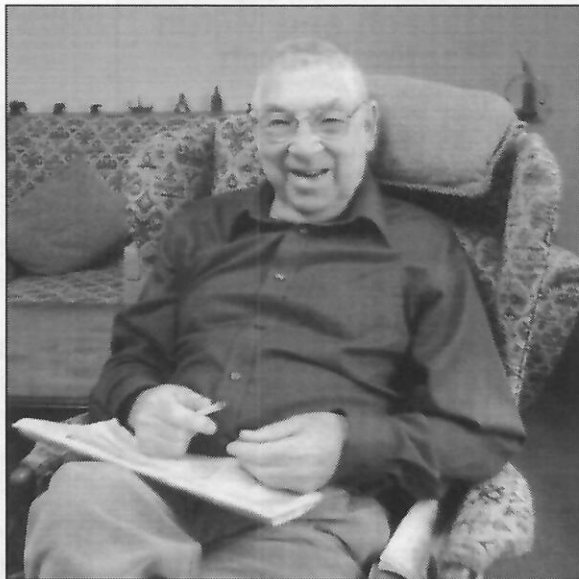
Sport has always been a major part of his life. As a young man he competed at the highest local amateur level playing football for Camden and cricket for Cambridge University Assistants and College Servants (now Grasshoppers). He also rowed for New Museums Boat Club.

Harry is very proud of his war service and, if you allow him, will talk for hours on his Siege of Malta experiences whilst serving in the Royal Navy.

The past few years have seen him gradually withdraw from formal village affairs as caring for his wife Doris took over his life. She is now happily established at a wonderful residential home in Bottisham and Harry can look forward to putting his feet up and having the occasional pint in the Lion and Lamb.

Thanks for all you've done over the years, Harry, and have a happy 'retirement'.

*Paul Capitain*



Harry Capitain

## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award in Milton??

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a programme which is "A balanced, non-competitive programme which encourages responsibility, self-reliance, personal discovery and perseverance". There are 4 sections to completing the Award: The first 3 are Service, Skill and Physical and participants are required to spend 3 months on each of these sections completing roughly an hour a week of voluntary activity.

The last section is the expedition section which is the main focus of meetings as we train up to do a weekend expedition where participants walk 15 miles over 2 days and camp out overnight.

I have been running the Bronze Award for the past year at Impington Village College. However if there is local interest it would be nice to start up a local group as part of our youth work in Milton. We are looking for young people who are aged 14 or over and we also will need some adult volunteers.

Volunteers would benefit from having some walking experience and scouting/guide experience is very useful too.

If you would like more information or are interested as a participant or volunteer please write to me at : Impington Village College, New Road, Impington, Cambridge CB4 9LX. or Telephone: (01223) 200407.

*Kate D'Arcy*

( Youth work Co-ordinator)

## Exposed by the Trowel

The Romans, like the prehistoric peoples before them, and others since, realized that the gravel terraces (fen edge) to the west of the River Cam at Milton, were above the flood plain and the climate generally was not extreme. This convinced the Romans that this was a conducive place to live as well as work with the help of course of some British slaves, let us take a look at the archaeological evidence for this.

First, we return to fields south of Butt Lane which in the last 5 years have been scoured out as an extension to the land fill site. In the mid 1990's before this encroachment of the landscape, rescue archaeological excavations revealed evidence for an active Romano-British farm estate on this site. Significant features were a timber barn, corn drier, smithy, oven and various ceramic and metal objects related to farming and domestic life between the 2nd and 4th Centuries. A notable find was a cemetery mound containing three 2nd Century cremations, one of which was in a box with two small wine flagons, each spoiled with a hole (ritual significance). Around these relics were nineteen skeletons dating to the 3rd and 4th Centuries.

Land to the northeast of the village on the gravel terrace within the proposed rowing course, was also occupied by Romano-British farmers between the 2nd and 4th Centuries. Evidence for industrial and domestic activity includes Horningsea ware pottery kilns and features reflecting cereal processing and animal husbandry; inhumation cemeteries have also been found. However, any of us could find an artefact of the Roman period away from the two areas mentioned. A Roman lead figurine of an emperor, beads and pottery sherds were found near the Old School Lane entrance to the Country Park, and a Roman knife beneath a calf's skull was found during gravel extraction in the northeast area of the present Country Park. What next is waiting to be found in our gravel! You might be the lucky one, but we want to know, contact Jim Daniels, Tel/Fax 861447 or E-mail: Clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk

Clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk

*Derek Booth*

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Web site:

<http://www.miltonvillage.org.uk/scouts/marquee/>

**Landbeach and Milton  
Baptist Church**

**Sunday Services**

10.30 am Family Service  
6.30 pm Evening worship

**Midweek Home group**

Landbeach every Wednesday Morning 10.00am

**Tuesday Children's Club**

last Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm  
All are welcome to our small but friendly  
fellowship.

Further details may be obtained from  
Malcolm and Jenny Franklin,

Tel 01223 513567.

**A New Year's Resolution  
to.... get involved?**

Wintercomfort for the homeless has got  
just the thing for you! We need  
volunteers to join our friendly team and  
help out in The Centre. Just a couple of  
hours a week of your time would make a  
huge difference.

You could help out in the kitchen,  
preparing and serving lunch for our  
clients - any day, 11.30am - 2pm. Or  
serve in the coffee bar - any day 10am -  
12pm; 12pm - 2pm; 2pm - 4pm. It's  
ultimately flexible and you can come as  
much (or as little) as suits you.

Office volunteers are also needed. You  
could organise and run flag day  
collections in Cambridge or help with  
landlord research in our Ely office.

Wintercomfort works to support the  
homeless and those at risk of  
homelessness. We run The Centre which  
not only provides the basics of shelter,  
food and warmth, but offers a range of  
training and support services to encourage  
clients to take 'the next step' and break  
the homelessness cycle.

Interested in getting involved? Please  
contact Helen Sams on (01223) 518140 or  
Email [helen@wintercomfort.org.uk](mailto:helen@wintercomfort.org.uk).

Wintercomfort for the homeless,  
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*Helen Sams*

**AS@7 All Saints at 7pm AS@7**

What do you think  
a church service is like?  
*Well this one probably isn't.*

**What is it?**

A contemporary style service,  
followed by coffee bar, open to all  
ages, but particularly relevant to 15-  
35s.

**When is it?**

Every Sunday at 7pm.

**Where is it?**

All Saints' Church, Milton. (Turn left  
at the Jolly Brewers.)

**When can I check it out?**

Any Sunday, but these particular  
dates might be a good starting point:  
16<sup>th</sup> February, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 20<sup>th</sup> April.

**Where can I find out more?**

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

**CRIME PREVENTION  
TIP THIS MONTH!**

If you sometimes drink in public places,  
why not make it your New Year's  
resolution to take good care of yourself by  
following the guidance shown below -  
and avoid having your drink spiked.

**Don't:**

Share or exchange drinks.

Go clubbing alone.

Leave your drink unattended.

Drink it - if it has been topped up, tastes  
funny or your glass has moved.

Accept drinks from people you don't trust.

**Do:**

Appoint a drink watcher

Plan your night out

Inform someone where you are going for  
the evening

**Remember:**

Soft drinks can also be spiked.

Men can be victims of this crime too.

*From Cambridgeshire Police*

**Notice**

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# PUZZLE CORNER



Decembers winner, Pat Froment receiving her turkey prize from quiz setter, Michael Spooner. The turkey was kindly donated by Eric Franklin of Petes Meats

The Christmas puzzle attracted many entries - all correct of course, and the winner of the turkey was Pat Froment of Bene't Close.

The two runners up prizes were awarded to Helen Speir of Cambridge Road and June Osbourne of The Oaks.

The correct answers were:

Just we two	by Ewan Mee
The disused church	by M T Pugh
Strong wind	by Gayle Force
Never give up	by Percy Veare
Bell ringing	by Paula Rowpe
Hit on the head	by I C Starrs
The Postscript	by Adeline Ekstra
The cows escape	by Gay Topen
Time for school	by R U Upjohn
The quick meal	by Tina Beans
Embarrassment	by Lucy Lastic
The Sweet Shop	by Annie Seedball
The Insomniac	by Eliza Wake
Doubts	by RU Sure
Round the mountain	by Sheila B Cummin

Thanks to all entrants - and better luck next year!

## True Bumper stickers

Consciousness: That annoying time between naps.

Out of my mind . . . back in five minutes.  
I used to have a handle on life, but it broke.

*Barry Jefferson*

The puzzle this month is based on DINGBATS.

For example, If you see WARDBUILTROBE - the answer would be Built in Wardrobe.

So exercise your minds on the following: - as usual there will be a prize for the entry with the most correct answers, plus a runner up prize.

1 <b>LAMAW</b>	2 <b>ELEP</b>	3 <b>N E V E S</b>
4 <b>KNEE LIGHTS</b>	5 <b>T O U C H</b>	6 <b>AMUous</b>
8 	7 <b>1T345</b>	10 <b>GROUND FEET FEET FEET FEET FEET</b>
11 <b>WEAR LONG</b>	9 <b>P G P G</b>	12 <b>ANKOOLGER</b>

Send your entries to Michael Spooner 43a Old School Lane, Milton, Cambridge CB4 6BS by 25th February 2003.

This time the prizes have kindly been donated by Benet Garage.

## Scrabble

Yes Christmas and New Year is over so we are back to normal. We have had plenty of time to polish up on new words. At the church Bazaar it was very noticeable how interested people were with their heads down trying to work out the best score, I wondered why they don't come to scrabble evenings, they all looked so keen. It is a very relaxed evening and although we are not playing for a row of houses and we're not too strict on the rules, we do try to play properly. After one game we have light refreshments. There are always a few little prizes. Scrabble Club meet in the Church Hall on the second Friday of the month. Entrance fee 50p.

*Margeline and Lis Yoga*

## Another Puzzler

From Milton Anorak Society

1) What am I?

As a whole, I am both safe and secure.  
Behead me, and I become a place of meeting.  
Behead me again, and I am the partner of ready.  
Restore me, and I become the domain of beasts.

2) What is it?

Who makes it, has no need of it.  
Who buys it, has no use for it.  
Who uses it can neither see nor feel it.

3) Which word?

I know a word of letters three.  
Add two, and fewer there will be.

4) What am I ?

When I am filled, I can point the way,  
When I am empty, nothing moves me,  
I have two skins, one without and one within.

ANSWERS IN NEXT ISSUE !!

<p>Do you need?</p> <p><b>Driving Lessons?</b> or <b>Window Cleaners?</b></p> <p>Ring Howard Howards Way Tel. 01223 862501 or 0589 218045</p>
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<p><b>KATHY PLATT</b> Dip.(Adl) Counselling</p> <p><b>QUALIFIED COUNSELLOR</b> dealing with depression, stress, bereavement, personal and relationship problems.</p> <p>For more information about how counselling could help you or to make an appointment, please contact me on:- <b>01223 861510</b> MILTON</p>
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<p><b>C H LUMB</b> (BUILDERS)</p> <p><b>DRAINAGE - GUTTERING</b> <b>UPVC FACIAS &amp; SOFFITS</b> <b>PATIOS &amp; FENCING</b> <b>ALTERATIONS</b></p> <p><b>01233 354402</b> <b>Mobile 07762026290</b></p>
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## Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer Panto Milton Community Centre



This year Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer visited the Community Centre and together with his friends delighted the

130 adults and 120 children with his antics. Baroness Bottomblast together with Alfie, Gertie Claws Santa and others proved great entertainment not only to the children but to the 130 adults!

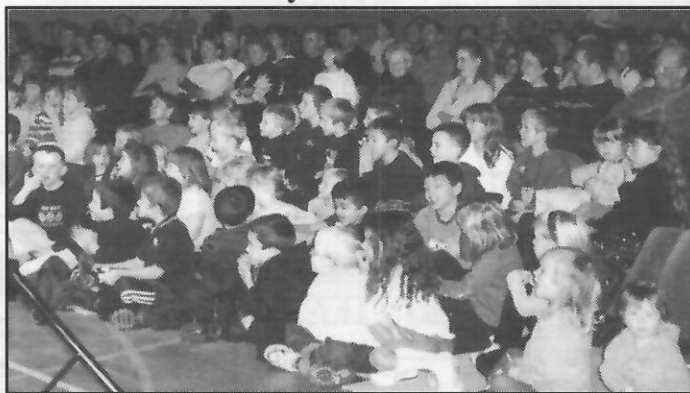
The production was just as exciting and noisy with lots of Booring to the Alien and laughing at Alfie and Gertie.

Milton Community Centre sponsors this event and it still proves to be one of the most popular in the Community Centre's calendar.

Thanks to all the helpers, particularly Father Christmas who came at such short notice!

The next big event is the Milton Summer Fayre and anyone who is interested in helping either before or after the event in a small way please contact

Julie at the Community Centre on 01223 862763 (mornings)



Crowd watching the Pantomime at the Community Centre

## Keep Fit at the Community Centre

We have now filled the vacancy at the Community Centre for an aerobic class. This is held each Monday 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. in the Main Hall. For further details please 'phone Diane Glynn on 870454

We continue to have one yoga class on a Wednesday morning at 10 o' clock and a keep fit class for the mature person Tuesday morning at 9.30 a.m.

If you would like further details please ring the Community Centre on 01223 862763 (mornings)

## Afternoon Tea Dances

Would you like to dance the afternoon away?

Tea dances are becoming very popular again and we have the chance to hold one at the Community Centre with an excellent organ player.

If you are interested in a "one off" dance which if successful could become a monthly event please get in touch with me at the Community Centre (01223 862763)

Julie Gray

Julie Gray

## Friends of Milton Country Park

How Did the Robin Get His Red Breast?  
Why Did the Princes Turn to Stone?

The answers to these questions were found at "Festive Woodland Magic" held upstairs in the Visitors Centre at Milton Country Park. The Magic session was held on Sundays Dec. 8 & 15th. The session, (£3) which consisted of some storytelling followed by card making with a little gift at the end and went down well with all the children. Unfortunately the 15th it was a cold and wet day so only a few children ventured out but those that did thoroughly enjoyed the tales of lost woodcutters, naughty princes and 'how the robin got its redbreast'. The stories were told by a woodland wizard (Malcolm Busby) with a fairy (Keely Squires), a badger and an owl listening as well as the children who turned up.

Other future Milton Country Park activities include the Watch/RSPB Wildlife Explorers Big Garden Birdwatch on Sunday January 26 at 2pm where you can help the RSPB record which birds use the park (50p members; £1 non-members). On Sunday February 16th you can make a bird box for just £5 (all materials will be provided) and on Sunday March 9th you will have another chance to work with the Watch/RSPB Wildlife Explorers - this time working in the wildlife garden, tidying and making homes for wildlife (50p members; £1 non-members). If you would like to become a member of 'The Friends of Milton Country Park' this is now free and membership packs can be obtained from the Visitors Centre. As a member you will receive their quarterly newsletter and qualify for discounts when taking part in park activities.

Theresa Feetenby

## BENET GARAGE MILTON

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