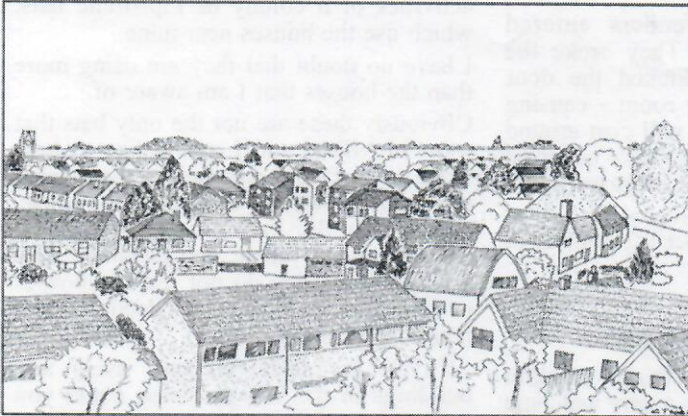


Milton Village View

Established 1991



Spring Issue No 57 - April 2003

Village News Sheet

Delivered Free Circulation 1,800

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Do You Know Whose Dog This Is?



Last year this dog was often seen running round the streets of Milton and then for a while it seemed to disappear. Recently it has returned and has been found in gardens, searching through bins and generally out after dark. Several residents have tried to catch it and it has now been reported to the Dog Warden who is endeavouring to catch it. If you know whose dog this is we would be pleased to hear from you and will pass the information on to the Dog Warden. It is wearing a collar with possibly an identification number or telephone number on a tag. *Tel. Jane on 861655*



Tom Gillmore with some of the staff and pupils at Milton Primary School

Milton Primary A Very Good School With Outstanding Leadership

Milton CE Primary School has been described as a very good school which provides a very good quality of education for all its pupils.

An inspection team from OFSTED – the Office for Standards in Education – said: “The outstanding leadership of the headteacher and the very strong commitment and high expectations of all the staff, together with very good support from the governing body and the parents, contribute to the school’s success.”

It particularly praised the use of interactive smartboards, which inspectors said supported high quality teaching and enhanced pupils’ learning.

Pupils in turn were praised for their positive attitudes and good behaviour.

Headteacher Tom Gillmore said, “We are delighted with this report, which is a tribute to the hard work of all the staff and children. I am particularly pleased that the report has praised the high quality of teaching and very good attitudes and behaviour of the pupils.”

Annual Parish Meeting

**April 28th at 8pm
Community Centre
Coles Road Gecreation Ground**

There will be an interesting presentation by Mowlem on the construction of the **Milton Cycle Bridge** which is due to be completed later this year.

This will be the last meeting of the present Parish Council.

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Next Issue

due out beginning
of June

Items for inclusion in
the Summer Issue
should be with one of
the Editors by the
12th of May

Send Us Your Stories

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

Friends of Milton Country Park

On Sunday 16th February the Friends helped children make a bird box, as part of the national annual bird-box day. You could either make a box for the small birds in your garden at a cost of just £5.00 a box or pay nothing but have the satisfaction that you helped make a box for the park's use. The event was a success with nearly 20 children enjoying knocking the nails into the wood and seeing the boxes coming together.

Future events include an Easter Treasure Hunt on April 20th, Easter Holiday Children's Events days during April and a Dawn Chorus Walk on Sunday May 4th. Please contact the park on 01223 420060 for details.

On a totally different subject, we are looking for an auditor for the Friends' accounts. We do not need a formal audit for legal reasons, just an independent review of the years accounts for the Friends' own piece of mind. Can you help? We estimate it would be a day or two's work. If so, please contact the Friends care of the Country Park.

Theresa Feetenby

Crime

Milton Youth Centre's portakabin at the side of the Sycamores pavilion has been broken into and vandalised on numerous occasions - this is very disappointing as the portakabin was placed there to benefit the village's youths.

During half term, offenders entered Milton Primary School. They broke the swimming pool fence, kicked the door and ransacked the boiler room - causing extensive damage which will cost around £2,000 to repair. This may have occurred around lunchtime on 18th February.

If you have information regarding any of these crimes please contact PC Shulver at Histon Police Station.

Plant Thieves

Milton residents Eric & Diane Franklin took a holiday in January, a very welcome break after a busy Christmas. Upon return after about 12 days they noticed that two bay trees had been stolen from the drive outside their house. They reported it to the police but to no avail.

Should any person have any ideas of where they may now be a reward will be donated to a charity for the return of the two trees and prosecution. The trees were approx. 6'6" high in terracotta pots, value about £200 - £250 - if you think you may know something please contact Cambridgeshire Police.

Trolleys

The Tesco manager has apologised for the problem of trolleys left round the village, which have not recently been collected up. Tesco will try to get to grips with the problem by collecting trolleys round the village every Monday. If you see a trolley that needs picking up, please phone Customer Services at the store on 548400 during the weekend or early on Monday, and they will try to collect the reported trolleys.

Big survey about Internet Access in Milton

The winner is Mr Mike Cheek of The Sycamores

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey on Internet access in Milton and to those business owners who allowed me to put up my posters and my yellow boxes. It has been a great help with my dissertation for my Master's degree.

Liz Baker

Have you got Bats in your Belfry?

Well maybe not in the belfry, but perhaps in your roof?

As a member of the Cambridgeshire Bat Group I have watched with interest the activities of a colony of Pipistrelle bats, which use the houses near mine.

I have no doubt that they are using more than the houses that I am aware of.

Obviously these are not the only bats that roost in Milton and I would like to hear from anyone who is aware of bats using either their own, or a neighbours house. Often people are not aware of it themselves, so please don't assume they will tell me. They do not use old houses or churches exclusively; indeed modern houses have a lot to offer.

If you are aware of bats using any buildings in the village please could you let me know. It is not my intention to disturb them in any way, simply to monitor what they are and their movements. I would like to know roughly the date when they arrive, and when they leave. I will probably also do some counts of emerging bats during the summer, so if you see me staring up at a roof, please don't send for the police. I'm not a peeping Tom, honest.

I can be contacted on 01223 515750 or email: soozown@ntlworld.com

Many thanks *Sue Siggs*.

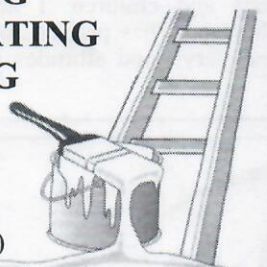
Mobile Warden Scheme

The Community Care Mobile Warden Scheme is run by Milton Parish Council and enables people who are elderly and/or disabled to live independent lives in their own homes. The mobile warden makes contact with her clients each day Monday to Friday - usually in person - sometimes by telephone.

If you wish to become part of this scheme please contact Jim Daniels, Clerk to the Council, telephone 861447.

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MILTON SUMMER FAYRE 2003

AT COLES ROAD RECREATION GROUND
SUNDAY 13 JULY 1 P.M. - 5 P.M.

DANCE AFTERNOON



WEDNESDAY 23 April 2003

Milton Community Centre

2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Tickets available in the Community Centre Office
(01223 862763) (mornings only)

£3 each person

LEE MURFET SINGS AND PLAYS THE ORGAN

Come along and dance or just listen and watch

Landbeach Busy Tots & Playgroup

NEARLY NEW SALE

Saturday 17th May 2003

from 2 - 4 p.m.

at Landbeach Village Hall

entrance 50p per family

Adult and children's clothing, toys and nursery equipment,
household items, all in excellent condition.

If you have items to sell contact Vicki 862362.

Proceeds will be going to Landbeach Busy Tots & Playgroup, registered charity No 1050117.

Milton Outdoor Bowls Club JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 26th April

In The Bowls Pavilion - Coles Road

Doors open 11 a.m.

OPEN DAY

Bowls Green, Coles Road

Saturday 10th May 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Come and try you hand at this sport for all ages, only
requirement - flat shoes with no heels

R.A.F. ASSOCIATION

Milton Branch

Spring Dance

Landbeach Village Hall

Saturday 17th May 2003 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.

Dancing to "Brian East"

Tickets including buffet £8.00 each

Contact Cambridge 721369

Police & County Councillor Local Surgery

Thursday 10th April from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

In the Mobile Police Station which will be parked on
Coles Road Recreation Ground Car Park

Come and chat/raise your concerns with your

Local Police Officer Pc. Shulver

and/or your County Councillor Jane Coston

MILTON W.I. PROGRAMME 2003

15th Apr

Churches in retirement Chloe Cockerill

20th May

Fuchsias and Pelargoniums

by John Green

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MILTON RESIDENT

SUMMER FAYRE 2003 AT COLES ROAD RECREATION GROUND
SUNDAY 13 JULY 1 P.M. - 5 P.M.

You are invited as a member of Milton community to participate in the Village Fayre. You may wish to advertise your group or club by having a display stand, or you may like to take the opportunity of running a stall, organising a game or activity to raise funds. Each pitch costs £5. A standard pitch is 4 metres wide. If you require more than a standard pitch please state your requirements and we will try to accommodate you. Sorry, no commercial stalls.

To assist us in clearing up after the Fayre please: Return any tables (cleaned) to the side double doors of the Main Hall. Tidy up your area. A bin bag will be provided and please take any rubbish straight to the skip provided by the garage.

Any queries please contact the Community Centre office on 862763

Please return this booking form to Milton Community Centre, Coles Road, Milton, Cambridge CB4 6BL. Cheques payable to Milton Village Fayre.

Please book the following on behalf of

No. of pitches required @ £5 - 4m frontage each stall

Type of stall/activity

Do you require a trestle table? (Please provide your own chairs)

Signed Name in caps

Address

E-mail address Telephone No:

Name of Volunteer for cleaning the ground after Fayre

Name of person willing to sell programmes on their stall

..... Phone no:

If this Fayre is to go ahead as planned we will need a few people to help on the day. If you can help in one of the following ways please contact me.

- ♦ Treasurer: The main part of this is done by me but we need someone on the day to collect monies from any stalls and to pay any of the arena events
- ♦ To put bin bags on each stall
- ♦ To help put up tables on the recreation ground
- ♦ Arrange for early unlock of gates (we have someone to do this)
- ♦ To put out Police cones on the day on Coles Road
- ♦ Find sponsors for the Fayre (i.e. Local Pubs etc.)
- ♦ To sell programmes before the event
- ♦ To sell programmes at the Fayre
- ♦ To organise posters and flyers and advertising in the Cambridge Evening News/television/Town Crier etc.
- ♦ Setting out a plan on the Saturday. There is a plan of last year but markings need to be put out for stalls
- ♦ Putting up bunting and taking it down after the Fayre (we have two wonderful people who put up the bunting but they could always do with a hand)
- ♦ Organising the electricity for any stalls (we have a person who has done this for many years and we are hoping he will volunteer again).

Most of the work is done by the Community Centre Office but we really do need help on the day because most of the people involved have their own stalls to run.

If you feel you could do any of the above please ring me on 01223 862763. This fayre is run for the village and has proved to be a very successful event with hundreds of people attending but we do not seem to have any volunteers that will help.

Julie Gray Co-ordinator

Snow Brings Chaos

Army set up soup kitchen in Milton for stranded A14 travellers

On January 30th it snowed.... What happened next could not have been predicted. By late afternoon all major routes were jammed the roads were covered in thick ice, cars were slipping off the road and into each other and lorries were jackknifing, many had parked up. On leaving Lensfield Road in Cambridge at 5.15pm a resident of Milton took 4 hours to reach home. Another was stranded on the A14 for 6 hours arriving home at 11pm and many others were trapped on the roads overnight and well into the next day. The army were called in to feed stranded travellers and a soup kitchen was set up on Tesco's Car Park. On Friday 31st January many people stayed at home unable to travel to work. Whole families were out building snowmen, having snowball fights and visiting Tesco's and neighbours. It was an odd day, a bit like Sundays used to be.

JC

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Whist Drives of Old

Years ago in Milton there were three Whist Drives per week, one on Wednesdays for over 60's was held in a room in what is now Ambassador Lodge, one on a Friday in the British Legion, and one on Saturday in the Men's Institution which has long gone. Then they seemed to go out of fashion, now there is only one a month, but that is well attended and enjoyed. It is organised for the Community Centre. We shall be organising our usual tombola in July at the Village Fayre to raise funds for the Christmas Drive. Drives are held on the fourth Tuesday in the Community Centre at 7.30pm, admission £1.50.

Mary Daniels

Lunch Club Raising Funds for Dishwasher

We the PRIME Team have decided it is high time we acquired a dishwasher, so that means there will be some fund-raising with coffee mornings etc.etc. We have nearly reached saturation point with numbers, but we try to accommodate everybody. If you are living on your own and sometimes feel it is too much to cook a meal why not give me a ring on 420532.

The Prime Team

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PICTURES FROM AN EXHIBITION



Impington Village College's 42nd annual art exhibition took place from the 15th to the 19th of February. As in previous years, the exhibition contained over 400 works by local artists in a wide variety of materials and styles, and the opening evening offered patrons the opportunity to view them in a relaxed atmosphere over a glass of wine.

The event, which is a regular feature of the spring half-term, was organised by the Friends of IVC, a local charity which raises money for the college. Over £3,000 worth of paintings were sold during the five days of the exhibition and the commission on the sales will be used to support the work of the college.

Each year the Friends of IVC invite a prominent member of the local community to select one of the exhibits for the college's art collection. This year they invited Christine Bondi, who has had a long and distinguished career as a mathematician, a teacher and as a campaigner for excellence in state schools. She is also an active member of the Save the Children Fund, being the former chairman and current treasurer of the Cambridge branch. Christine is a graduate of Newnham College and returned to Cambridge in the 1980s when her husband, Sir Herman Bondi, was elected master of Churchill College. After Sir Herman's retirement they moved to Impington, where they still live.

IVC has benefited from Christine Bondi's experience and advice for many years as one of its governors and she continues to support the college as treasurer of the John Brackenbury trust – a fund set up to commemorate one of the college's longest serving wardens by offering grants that help college students to undertake projects that will broaden their experience beyond what the college can offer in its formal curriculum.

The picture that Christine chose for the college was a watercolour by Barbara Booth entitled 'Wild Flowers of East Anglia'. It will join a collection that includes original works by such distinguished artists as the sculptor Henry Moore and the painter Graham Sutherland.

Barbara Booth, who lives in Gorton, has contributed to the IVC exhibition since 1982 and her works have attracted many buyers over the years. A member of the Cambridge Drawing Society, she says that she has no formal training in art, but started painting watercolours of wildlife and wild flowers after her family grew up. When choosing the painting for IVC, Christine Bondi remarked on the fine detail that Barbara had captured in each of the flowers.

Rubbish

I listened with interest to the news that the government are considering introducing a charge for removing our rubbish. This move would probably result in people dumping their rubbish at the road verges. A more worrying effect would be increased pressure for the building of an incinerator at Milton Tip.

Creating less rubbish is one solution. If each household uses just 4 pints of milk a week and there are say 1000 houses in Milton we would consume 200,000 pints per annum. If this milk was purchased at Tesco in plastic throw away containers we would produce a waste heap of approximately 100 cu metres. Add to this Landbeach, Histon, Impington, Waterbeach and in ten years time we would convert this heap into a mountain.

If each household in Milton had their milk delivered the empty bottles would be returned to the milkman. A years bottle tops, the only waste, would hardly fill a jam jar and are recyclable

Robert Tonks

This is an old article we forgot to put in - sorry

Why not become a Master Composter

Cambridgeshire Master Composter Programme is recruiting more volunteers this year! Volunteers are required to provide a network of local, friendly advice and support to people who already compost and those who want to start.

Becoming a Master Composter is a great way to meet new people, learn valuable skills, provide leadership and benefit from being part of a team that makes a difference. Anyone over the age of 18 can become a Master Composter; you **don't** need to be an expert composter (or be composting at all) or have any volunteer or community group experience.

As a volunteer you will receive training in home composting and related environmental issues (provided by HDRA – the organic organisation), a Master Composter resource pack and several day trips; including visits to a composting site and one of HDRA's organic gardens. All training expenses will be paid for; you only need to provide your time. Training will hopefully begin in May 2003. Once the training has been completed, you will be expected to spend 30 hours over the following year promoting home composting. These activities will be tailored to your individual skills and could be anything from giving a demonstration to your next-door neighbours to giving a presentation to a class of school children or helping promote further compost bin sales. Upon completion of the training and 30 volunteer hours you will be awarded the title Master Composter and be invited to receive your certificate at an award ceremony.

If you are interested in becoming a Master Composter please contact Penny Holmes, HDRA Consultants, Ryton Organic Gardens, Coventry, CV8 3LG, email: pholmes@hdra.org.uk, telephone 024 7630 8202 or fax 024 7630 8225.

The Master Composter Programme is a partnership between HDRA Consultants and local councils and has been funded by WREN using WRG plc Landfill Tax.

Harry Missing Story

Due to lack of space in this issue we will be continuing the story in the next issue.

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Tuesday Children's Club

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Further details may be obtained from Malcolm and Jenny Franklin,

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

Parish Council

Anonymous Letters

Occasionally the Parish Council receives anonymous letters. In fact one has just been received in February. It is the policy of the Council not to take any action following receipt of such letters. We do respond to correspondents and follow up all complaints. If you wish to remain anonymous please indicate in your letter. We always respect the confidentiality and anonymity of residents and would not divulge your name if requested.

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

Milton Parish Council

Notice

Milton Village View is unable to check or verify the warranties, authenticity of or representations made by their advertisers and must therefore exclude liability howsoever arising from any advertisements in this newspaper. Nor do any statements necessarily accord with the opinions or beliefs of the Editors, Milton Parish Council or Milton Village View.

Exposed by the Trowel

The date for the end of the Roman Empire in Britain is 410 AD. At this time, invading tribes from northern Germany began to arrive on our shores and this heralded the Anglo-Saxon period lasting until 1066 when William Duke of Normandy beat King Harold at the Battle of Hastings.

Unfortunately for us in Milton, there is a lack of archaeological material worthy of comment during this 500 year period 410-1066 until our village is recorded as Middeltuna, 'the middle farm' and building of the present church began in the 11-12th centuries. However, over the border in the parish of Waterbeach, significant archaeological evidence has been found for Anglo-Saxon settlements near the Roman Car Dyke. Distinctive features were sunken huts 'grubenhauser', decorated pottery, coloured glass beads and other jewellery. Assuming there was also an Anglo-Saxon settlement at Milton as its early name suggests, then somewhere there is likely to be a cemetery for this period waiting to be discovered in the village which remains a challenge for archaeology.

Another challenge for archaeology, not in Milton but in Fulbourn, is the opportunity in August to become involved in a training excavation on two manor sites in this village. The excavation is for a broad age range, it is good fun and will be supervised by the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit which incidentally is based at Fulbourn, and you will get a certificate for each week attended. There is a chance that with your experience gained on the course, you might be the first to discover more secrets of Milton's past including the Anglo-Saxon period. The course lasts for 4 weeks and you can choose any number of weeks, depending to some extent on the size of your purse. Further details are available from Aileen Connor, Tel. 576201, and for a range of events in archaeology in Cambridgeshire, see the notice board at the Community Centre. Remember if you make any finds, contact Jim Daniels, Tel/Fax 861447 or E-mail: Clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk

Derek Booth

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. Every Sunday at 7pm.

When is it?

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

Where is it?

When can I check it out?

Any Sunday, but these particular dates might be a good starting point: 18th May, 15th June.

Any special events?

Open Air Event - June 29th

Where can I find out more?

www.allsaintsmilton.org.uk

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PUZZLE CORNER

Another Puzzler from Milton Anorak Society In a Previous Career !!!!

(5 GOSPEL and 5 PORKIES).

The Dingbats Puzzle in the February issue attracted a record number of entries. The answers were:

1. Ma in law (or Mother in law)
2. Mixed peel
3. Seven up
4. Neon lights
5. Touch down
6. Ambiguous
7. Tea for two
8. Spot the ball
9. Ping pong
10. Six feet underground
11. Long underwear
12. Look back in anger

The first prize was won by Mary Daniels of Bene't Close and the second prize was won by Cathie Martindale of The Rowans. The prizes were generously donated by Bene't Garage.

The puzzle for this issue is to find some words!

You have to complete the dashes to make English words. See how many you can solve.

1. - KYJ - - -
2. - - Z Z S - -
3. - - - P E V - - -
4. - - - - E Z V - - -
5. - - A D Q - - - - - -
6. - - L T D - - -
7. - - G N P - - -
8. - - X G L - - -

Just 8 words to find! Send your answers to Michael Spooner, 43a Old School Lane, MILTON, Cambridge CB4 6BS by 4 May.

As usual there will be prizes awarded to two winners which this month have been generously donated by **R P Kent, Painters & Decorators.**

M Spooner

- 1). John Prescott was a Ships Steward.
- 2). Whoopi Goldberg was a Mortuary Beautician.
- 3). Burt Lancaster was a Circus Acrobat.
- 4). Clint Eastwood was a Swimming Instructor.
- 5). Greg Dyke(B.B.C.) was a Wisbech Winkle Seller.
- 6). Anthony Hopkins was a Coal Miner.
- 7). Bruce Willis was a Ladies Hair Stylist.
- 8). Julian Clarey was an Army Cadet.
- 9). Bernard Manning was in the Salvation Army.
- 10). Jo Brand was a Quality Controller at Cadburys Chocolate.

Answers in next issue.

Answers to Last Issues Puzzle

- 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.

ANSWER: STABLE.

- 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.

ANSWER: A COFFIN.

- 3) Which word? I know a word of letters three. Add two, and fewer there will be.

ANSWER: FEW.

- 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.

ANSWER: A GLOVE.

'Crazy for You'

Mumford Theatre, Cambridge, June 10th-14th

To commemorate their 50th production, the NODA award-winning Festival Players of Cambridge are giving away two free tickets to the opening night of their forthcoming production of Gershwin's 'Crazy For You' (June 10th-14th)! This is the Cambridge debut of the hilarious musical comedy, which is bursting with many of Gershwin's greatest numbers, including 'I Got Rhythm', 'Embraceable You', 'Someone To Watch Over Me', and 'They Can't Take That Away From Me'. Tickets are available from the Mumford Theatre box office (01223 352932).

To enter the competition, simply answer the following question: In which American city was the recent film musical starring Richard Gere based?

For more information, visit www.festivalplayers.org

Matt Gregory

Send your answers to Jane Coston, 67 Coles Road, Milton by 30th April 2003.

Appeal to East Anglian Water Company

Come to Milton Village

Come and have a lark

Enjoy the great amenities

Like Tesco's or the Park

Milton has charisma

Much character and charm

Many want to live here

But there's one cause for alarm

If you dare to breathe too deeply

Or enter from the town

A horrid smell assaults you

It really gets you down

The stench each day can vary

From the nauseous to the quaint

It de-values all our houses

And makes us feel quite faint

Don't phone the local sewer

They'll act oh so surprised

"It can't be that bad can it?"

Hey - it brings tears to our eyes!

Some residents work locally

At nearby Cowley Road

The noxious fumes drift over there

And cause stench overload

Come on East Anglian Water

You make so much damn profit

Can't raise the needed money?

Oh really, now, come off it!!

If you had to fill some offices

Or try to make some gain

I somehow think you'd find the cash

And end the grief and pain

I know it would cost money

To stop the smell pollution

But Milton's served a long long time

PLEASE grant us absolution

N Hawksley

One of many

long suffering residents

Scrabble

I quite often get phone calls from people asking particulars about the scrabble club. They always sound very interested and say they will come. Do I frighten them because they never come? We are not playing for a row of houses, and we are all quite friendly, the admission is 50p. There are two games with refreshments in between. If you have a scrabble board bring it.

A DREAMY GINGER NAILS O

KATHY PLATT

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Milton Carpet Bowlers win County Championship



*Spencer Maltby & Jim Daniels
County Bowls Champions*

Jim Daniels won the Cambridgeshire Carpet Bowls Singles Championship held at Milton on Sunday 9 March. Spencer Maltby and Jim Daniels together won the Pairs held also on 9 March and will be Cambridgeshire's representatives at the National Championships to be held in Yorkshire and the Eastern Counties Championships to be held in Norfolk.

Milton Outdoor Bowls Club

The bowls green at Coles Road recreation ground will re-open for play from Saturday 26th April. The club is once again looking for new members of all ages and welcomes players at all levels including complete beginners.

We are a very friendly club which can provide plenty of opportunity to play bowls and also has an active social side.

If you think you might be interested and have not played before please come along to our open day on Saturday 10th May from 2.00p.m.-4.00p.m. when we can explain the game and you can try your hand. We will provide the bowls just bring a pair of flat shoes (no heels), trainers would be OK. Anyone wishing to join the club before the start of the season please contact the Secretary, Godfrey Sheen - Tel. 861765 or myself on 860829.

Colin Nunn

Controlling Cormorants, The Big Question



You either love them or hate them, it seems, but cormorants are certainly a big talking point at the moment. In British angling and conservation circles feathers had not been ruffled by these large sea birds until a few years ago when they began moving inland.

Historically, in continental Europe, this is not a new phenomenon as cormorants have always bred and overwintered at inland sites. However, in this country, inland colonies are on the increase, possibly due to the proliferation of gravel pit workings since the 1960s.

The vast majority of readers will be wondering what exactly all the fuss is about. Well it's all down to the ravenous appetites of these birds and their effect on freshwater fish stocks. Fishery owners and anglers would love to see them controlled but there is an equal and opposite argument that these feathered fish feeders should be left alone to do what comes naturally. Conservationists argue that the licenced shooting of nuisance birds is not really an option as up to 60,000 would need to be culled annually across Europe to make any significant difference.

Recently, the Moran Committee, which represents major fisheries and angling organisations in England and Wales, has joined forces with conservation bodies to produce guidelines for fishery managers. The result is a booklet entitled 'Protecting your fishery from cormorants' which tries to accommodate all possible interests and points of view. It is hoped that this will go some way towards calming the troubled waters of many inland

fisheries, many of which are big business these days.

Locally, a recent stroll around Milton Country Park revealed ten birds, huddled together on one of the floating islands. Just a handful of years ago it was very rare to see any at all. In an attempt to give the cormorants a mild hint to move on the floating islands have been towed nearer the bank in order to increase disturbance from bankside footpaths. So far the piscatorial predators appear totally unperturbed.

Further afield, Paxton Pits Nature Reserve near St Neots has a large population of about 200 birds. Spokesmen for both the Reserve and the RSPB were not unduly worried about the numbers or the potential damage to trees which the roosting birds can inflict. However, serious tree damage has occurred in other parts of the country and on the continent.

One theory for the large population at Paxton Pits and increasing numbers elsewhere in the region is the close proximity of Grafham Water with its huge fish stocks. It is thought that this large body of water could have initially attracted the birds and they have been 'spreading their wings' ever since. Whatever the reason, it is a fact that inland numbers are increasing. Let's hope that all parties continue to talk and work together to solve this problem for the benefit of all concerned.

Paul Capitain

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Out of school club

Kids R Us has run a club in the MCC Annexe for about 7 years, providing childcare after school and in the holidays for children from 4 years old upwards. They would like to expand by opening a club for older children (10-14 years) in the Youth Centre.

10. Are there members of your household who might use these facilities? Immediately ☐ In the future ☐
Not at all ☐

11. How many young people (10-14 years) might you need places for? ☐

Proposals for facilities for Sport and Young People

12. Would you support the idea of extending the Pavilion? Yes ☐ No ☐

13. Would you support the proposal to build a permanent Youth Centre beside the pavilion to replace the portacabin? Yes ☐ No ☐

We would be pleased to hear from anyone who would be prepared to help our 'Pavilion Extension Group' who are developing this project. If you feel you could help us in any way, please contact our chairman Linda on 514430.

14. To get a feel for the pattern of responses, please could you tell us which road you live in?

15. You don't have to give us your name, but if you would like further information, please add your name and phone number here.

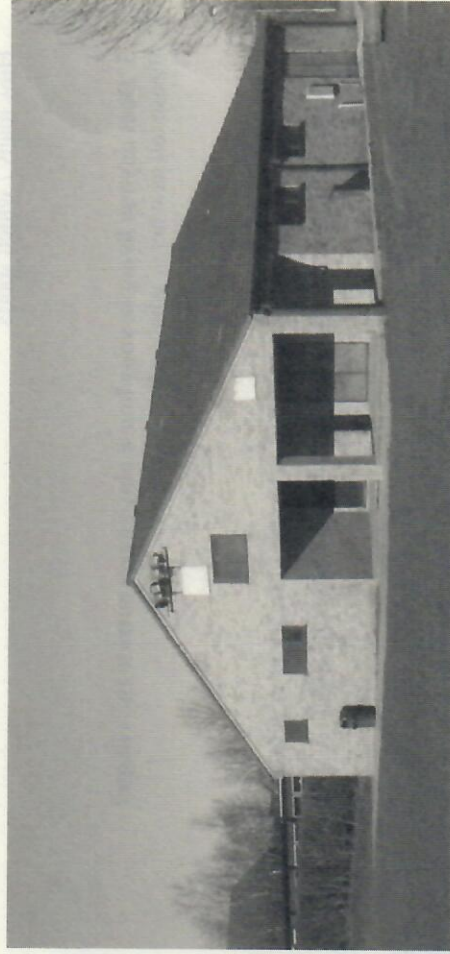
16. Anything you would like to add?

Thank you very much for completing this questionnaire.

Collection boxes for these sheets will be at the Post Office, Milton School, All Saints' Church, One-Stop and the Community Centre until mid-May (or post at 7 Hall End).

MILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE Charity Number 1071503

Questionnaire about facilities for Sport and for Young People



You may have heard that we are thinking of trying to raise enough money in donations, grants and lottery bids to extend the Sycamores Pavilion. We hope to build a larger social area for the sports clubs, with a bar, to encourage and maintain the development of the Football and Cricket teams in the village, including the Colts teams. We will improve the changing rooms for use by women and girls and improve facilities for disabled people and referees/umpires.

We also want to build a permanent Youth Centre to replace the old portacabin, primarily for use by groups working with 10 to 19 year olds, which will include an out of school club for older children. Please could you spend a short time completing this questionnaire, which will help us when we ask for public funds towards the developments.

The current plans are available to view on the internet at www.miltonvillage.org.uk/pavilion.

1. How many people including children normally live in your household? ☐

Please enter the number of people in your household in each age group:

Age 0-4 ☐ 5-10 ☐ 11-16 ☐ 17-18 ☐ 19-24 ☐
25-44 ☐ 45-59 ☐ 60-69 ☐ 70+ ☐

Sports

2. Do any of the people living in your house play sports with village clubs?

How many / which sports

3. Does anyone living in your house play sports outside the village?

Please tell us where / what / why

4. Would you be interested in joining a club for a sport new to the village (eg table tennis, fencing), which could use the new facility? Yes ☐ No ☐
Which sport?

5. Tick facilities which, if added to the Pavilion, would encourage you to use The Sycamores Recreation Ground in Milton for Football or Cricket. If more than once a week put in the average number of sessions a week.

Disabled access, changing rooms and toilets?	Separate female changing, showers and toilets?	A more extensive social area?	A more extensive social area with a licensed bar?	Any other facility (Suggestions eg SkySports, dartboard?)
To watch and support the Milton Senior teams				
To watch and support the Milton Colts teams				
For you to start playing sport regularly in Milton				
For you or your children to coach or play for the Colts teams in Milton				
For you or a group you represent to use the pavilion for other sports related activities, specify the sport here:				
For you or a group you represent to use the pavilion for other non-sports related activities, specify activity here:				
Would NOT want to have any of these facilities added to the current pavilion?				

Youth provision

6. Which, if any, of the following organisations or groups in Milton does anyone in your household belong to?

Uniformed (e.g. Scouts and Guides) ☐ Church youth groups ☐
Youth club ☐ Sports clubs ☐

7. How many young people in your household have used the Youth Centre in the portacabin? ☐

8. If we provided an internet room in the new Youth Centre, where anyone could use computers during the day and some evenings for a small charge, would anyone in your household use it? Yes ☐ No ☐

9. Question for young people in your household: What other facilities would you would like to have available at the Youth Centre (e.g. games, jobseekers club)?