

Issue No. 90 - December 2009

Milton Village View

Established 1991

Village News Sheet

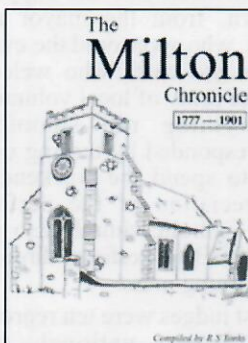
**Delivered Free
Circulation 1,850**

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Milton Chronicle

The Cambridge Chronicle and University Journal was a weekly newspaper published in Cambridge from 1762 to 1934. Its village news was mainly supplied by a local correspondent from each village, possibly the vicar or parish clerk, or as was often the case in Milton, an eminent farmer or landowner. To some extent therefore, these news items represent eye witness accounts of village happenings and provide a fascinating glimpse of everyday life in the village. The book contains news items related to Milton for the period 1777 to 1901 and includes some original pictures of the village together with early maps.

The book is A5 in format and extends to 100 pages and anyone interested in the history of Milton village will find this book a very interesting read. To order a copy please contact Bob Tonks. Tel. 861020 or email robert.tonks@gmail.com



New Essex Bluegrass Band success



Greg Smith from Hall End Milton with band players in La Roche sur Foron in the French Alps

Milton's own Greg Smith, a well-known fiddler, plays in several groups. One, the New Essex Bluegrass Band, recently took second place in the Best European Band contest at the European World of Bluegrass Festival in La Roche sur Foron in the French Alps.

Bluegrass music originates from the mountains of the north-eastern states of America, where it became a recognisable form in the 1940s, based upon primarily Scottish, English and Irish traditional music, but mixed with blues and Baptist church harmony singing. It has long since spread all around the world, but remains a minority music, although occasionally there is a surge of interest due to being featured in popular films, eg Bonnie & Clyde, Deliverance and Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?

Continued on page 2

Milton Neighbourhood Watch



Ian Jones chairing the the first meeting

The first Milton Neighbourhood Watch meeting took place in November. The meeting proved very popular. The highlight of the meeting was the official launch of the Milton NHW web site. For those who are interested in being part of the Milton NHW we recommend you visit this site which will provide all the necessary information. For those who don't have Web access you can contact Ian Jones directly on 0780 162 5458. The NHW team

are looking for more street coordinators and are hoping to hold a meeting specifically for street coordinators in December '09. The next NHW meeting will be in February. Meetings will be quarterly and meeting dates will be advertised in future Village View newsletters, on the Milton village web site and on the new Milton NHW web site...www.milton-neighbourhood-watch.org.uk



Some of the attendees at the meeting on November 13th

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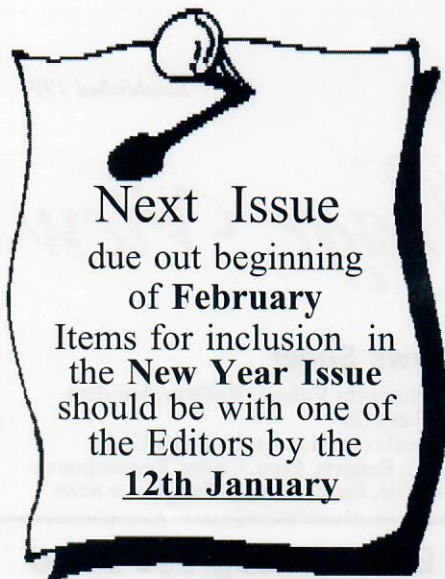
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Village View Publication Dates

February Issue - due out beginning of February

Closing date for articles - 12th January

April Issue - due out beginning of April

Closing date for articles - 12th March

June Issue - due out beginning of June

Closing date for articles - 12th May

October Issue - due out beginning of October

Closing date for articles - 12th September

December Issue - due out beginning of Dec

Closing date for articles - 12th November

Send us your news

Please help us keep the village informed by sending us your photographs and news. We are looking for articles that are about 50 to 100 words with a maximum of 200 words. For articles longer than 200 words please contact one of the editors.

The best way to contact us is via email: vv@miltonvillage.org.uk otherwise send your articles to Jane Coston, 67 Coles Road, Milton CB24 6BL Tel. 01223 563539 or contact one of the editors.

Email version available

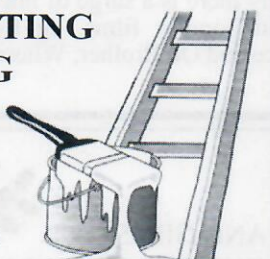
For an email copy email vv@miltonvillage.org.uk and ask to be added to the mailing list.

Notice

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(local resident)



B.J. LEONARD

New Essex Bluegrass Band success

Continued from page 1

There are now over a dozen Bluegrass festivals in the UK, and scores more throughout Europe. The music's popularity in Eastern European countries is claimed to be due in part to the authorities' disapproval of western influences prior to the fall of the communist regimes, which added to its attraction.

The French festival has been held just over the Swiss border from Geneva for four years, after relocating from Prague where it had been staged for the previous five years. Sixty bands from all over Europe were pared down to thirty to appear over four days. Twelve of these were selected to be in the band contest.

The festival itself had the support of the entire town, from the mayor and local businesses, who sponsored the event, to the many bars and cafes who welcomed the visitors. An army of local volunteers made sure everything ran smoothly. The residents responded by turning out in their hundreds to spend the weekend showing their appreciation of the performances. The local Catholic church also joined in, inviting NEBB to perform throughout the Sunday morning mass.

The contest judges were ten representatives from different national bluegrass associations, who announced the results on Sunday afternoon. The band was thrilled to be awarded second place, just ahead of the Czech band who they were convinced would win easily. After the awards and a reprise performance there was a chance to relax and enjoy the guest American bands who closed the festival. Then a few last hours playing informally with other musicians late into the night, before taking a few hours rest and the long journey home. The band returned to Europe at the end of November to perform at the Vilnius Bluegrass Festival in Lithuania.

A CD of the New Essex Bluegrass Band is available from Greg via the band's website www.NewEssexBluegrass.homecall.co.uk which contains sample tracks.

Accident on Railway

On November 23rd a train hit a tractor on a farm crossing at Milton. The train only clipped the tractor and no-one was hurt in the incident. The incident happened at approximately 11am and the railway remained closed until 1.30pm.

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Retirement Village

The Section 106 Agreement for the development of a retirement village at the former EDF Depot and Training Centre on Ely Road has been signed, which will trigger the release of the outline planning permission. This will allow the submission of a reserved matters planning application which deals with the detail of the development, for example the elevational treatment, materials, landscaping, etc. This application will be submitted before the end of November. The Parish Council and residents living near the site will be consulted as part of the application process.

Work has already commenced on site by way of asbestos removal, random drilling and cable re-routing. The intention from here on in is to demolish all the existing buildings in February and to clear the site ready for starting the development in early summer. The first units will be going on sale towards the end of 2010.

All sales enquiries should be directed to Iwan Jones of Urban Renaissance Villages (Tel 0208 781 6111) or email iwanjones@urv.uk.com alternatively you may direct your interest through the Parish Council office.

Iwan Jones

Land & Planning Director
Urban Renaissance Villages

Milton Day Centre

Many thanks to everyone who came and supported our Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy at Barnabas Court on Friday 13th November. Despite the wet morning we had a good attendance, raising a very useful £275 towards Day Centre funds. There were lots of goodies on the homemade cakes and preserves stall, with assorted donated items on the Bring and Buy table. The Christmas raffle proved very popular with prizes for over 20 lucky winners. We hope to see you all at the same time next year.

Pauline Waters

Red Arrows over Milton

The 20th of September provided a feast for plane spotters as Marshalls put on a private display to celebrate their centenary. Besides the Lancaster, Hurricane, and Spitfire that flew directly over Milton, there was a fantastic display by the Red Arrows. This included the configurations of the arrow through the heart and what appeared to be fireworks with the different coloured smoke streams.

Angela Steele

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Milton Country Park

Tree O'Clock - tree planting
Saturday 5th December 11am-12 noon.
Part of the BBC Breathing Places campaign.
Suggested donation of £4 per tree.

Milton Primary School

Humphries Way, Milton
Will be hosting its annual

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Thursday, 3rd December 2009

6pm to 8pm

attractions include:

Craft Stalls Santa's Grotto Carol Singers
Christmas Café Grand Raffle
Entrance: Adults 50p; under 16's FREE

Xmas Whist Drive

Tuesday December 15th

7.30pm

Milton Community Centre
Hopefully a prize for everybody

Mary Daniels

Milton Tennis Club Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held at 7.30pm
on Wednesday 3rd March 2010
in the committee room

at Milton Community Centre, Coles Road.
Everyone is welcome.

For information on the tennis club see our
website: www.miltontennisclub.co.uk which is
updated each season.

Sue Griffin, Secretary

ADVENT CONCERT

conducted by Peter Britton

Friday 11 and Saturday 12 December at 8.00pm at
the Histon Baptist Church, where Choir 2000 is
presenting a festive programme for all to enjoy.

Admission is by Programme @ £10.00 (concessions
£8.00) including seasonal refreshments, available
from Jane's Frames and OEC Beauty Studio in
Histon, from members of Choir 2000 or on the
night. Under 16s are admitted free of charge.

Carol Singing

You are invited to join us singing
Christmas carols around the village.
Accompanied children welcome.
If you can play an instrument please
bring it along.

Please meet church hall of All Saints,
Milton parish church, Church Lane,
at 6.45 pm Monday 7th December
(singing at Barnabas Court)
or at 6.30pm on Friday 11th
December - travelling between the
four pubs in the following order:
Jolly Brewers; Waggon and Horses;
The Lion and Lamb and finally
The White Horse for refreshments

Angela Steele

Barnabas Court

Open Morning

Wednesday 27th January
10.30 - 12 noon

Come and view

Barnabas Court

and find out what sheltered
housing is and what we do
There will be an opportunity
to view a flat and join in the
coffee morning

No need to book just turn up

Deborah Driver

Scheme Manager

East Anglia's Children's Hospices

Family Christmas Carol Service

Milton's residents are being warmly invited to attend a family
Christmas Carol service hosted by East Anglia's Children's Hospices.
The service, which will include traditional carols, readings and modern
Christmas songs, will take place at All Saints Church in Milton on

Monday December 14, at 7pm

The Milton hospice carol service has traditionally been held at Great St
Mary's Church in Cambridge; but the relocation to All Saints Church
in Milton this year will make the service feel even more special as it is
hosted in a local village setting.

The Milton Road Primary school choir return this year to perform at
the service and Jeremy Sallis, the BBC Radio Cambridgeshire
presenter, will also do a reading.

EACH aim to maximise the quality of life for children with life-threatening
conditions and complex healthcare needs, and to support their families.

For more information about EACH, including forthcoming events and
how you can help raise funds, visit www.each.org.uk or call 205180.

Milton Colts Cricket Club Indoor Nets

Milton Colts are having indoor nets at Impington Sports Centre,
starting in January 2010

Dates are as follows Jan 23rd & 30th, Feb 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th, Mar
6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

The net sessions are from 12pm to 1pm

For more information call Stephen Dye 01223 240928 or

Andrew Drain 01223 720147

Dates for your Diary

Milton Summer Fayre - Saturday 10th July 2010

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Members of Milton Day Centre being entertained

Milton Day Centre

There are vacancies for new members at Milton Day Centre.

Would you like to join us, or do you know of a friend or relative that may be interested.

The Day Centre meets every Friday, except school holidays, in Barnabas Court, Milton. The object of the Centre is to promote the welfare of elderly residents of Milton Village.

The Centre provides transport to and from Barnabas Court. The day starts at 11am with coffee/tea/biscuits and daily newspapers. This gives members the opportunity to chat with their friends and the volunteers who run the Centre. A two course hot lunch is produced by two professional cooks, served at 12.30pm. After lunch there is entertainment ranging from, quizzes, speakers, music and twice a term Milton

Junior School's senior classes come to play bingo with the members. The day ends at 2.45pm with transport home. Cost £4 each day.

If you would like to know more about the Centre, please contact either Margaret Nunn (Chairman) on 860829 or Pauline Waters (Secretary) on 860620 for information.

Milton Parish Council

Parish Office Opening Hours
10am -12 Mon, Fri, Sat
5.30pm-7.30pm Wednesdays

If you wish to come to the Parish Office outside these opening hours, please contact us. Tel. 861447

or e-mail: clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk

From the Desk of the Parish Council Chairman

Your parish council has been very active during the past few months dealing with a whole range of issues which affect our village. We are in the final stage of concluding an agreement with the developers of the proposed retirement village on the former EDF site, who are obliged to provide much-needed recreation space for the parish. We have negotiated terms for the onsite construction and long-term lease of playing fields, as well as a sports pavilion and car park.

More information for the proposed rowing lake has also been received and we are looking into a host of issues, including drainage and flood risk, which could have a significant impact on the village. We are keen to facilitate dialogue between the various agencies

involved, making them aware of our concerns while also providing them with local knowledge of the area.

Parish councillors joined with your district councillors to attend the appeal for the proposed construction of a hotel on the field between the A14 and Tesco. We lobbied for the Planning Inspector to uphold the refusal decision on the grounds that this area of Green Belt land was the last natural boundary separating Milton from the city of Cambridge. The appeal decision is due to be announced later this month.

The widening of the A14 is another issue we are monitoring. Our concern here is for the impact of increased noise on areas of the village, including the Country Park. We have set up an Ad Hoc group of councillors, residents and representatives from the Country Park and the Cam Conservators to lobby both the Highways Agency and our local MP James Paice to provide sound barriers along the Milton stretch of the A14.

We are also keeping an eye on any developments with the Milton to Impington cycleway. A large number of residents attended our September parish council meeting to voice their concern over this issue. Although there are obvious benefits for having such a cycle route, there are two main concerns. The first is that the current proposal is not adequate as it fails to address key safety issues such as the state of the footbridge across the A10. The second is that a likely knock-on effect would be the removal of the free bus service to Impington Village College. This service is used by a large number of Milton young people.

Managers at Milton Country Park as well as local business owners are very concerned about parking problems along the entrance road to the Country Park. The parish council voted to support the installation of double yellow lines along the road (which will be funded by both the Country Park and local businesses).

Unfortunately, crime has been on the increase in the village during the past few months with incidents of vandalism and graffiti spraying. As a result, Milton has become a high priority area for police and increased patrols have succeeded in defusing the situation. Also, members of the Parish Plan have launched a new Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and I encourage all residents interested in joining to contact the scheme leader Ian Jones (Tel. 0780 162 5458; email: ian.jd1@tesco.net).

In addition to dealing with these issues, a number of councillors have also taken part in training, which was organised by our parish clerk Jim Daniels, to learn more about the functions and powers of parish councils. I believe it is important to keep abreast of the latest government guidelines and information in order to ensure that we are serving the parish as best we can.

Rob Chapman

Chairman Milton Parish Council

For more information about your parish council visit www.miltonvillage.org.uk

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Residents and school pupils gather round the war memorial

Remembrance

Milton residents and children from the school gathered at the war memorial on the 11th November at 11am to remember all those who have served their country.

Mark Ellwood as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council laid a wreath on behalf of the village. Ron Driver spoke the words of the exhortation. Other wreaths were also laid at a ceremony on remembrance Sunday.

Rangers

Rangers is girl-guiding for girls aged 14 – 18. We have a small group meeting in Waterbeach on Mondays, and welcome any girls from Milton, Landbeach and surrounding villages who would like to join us. If you're still a guide, or a young leader, you can come to Rangers too if you want to, and if you're not quite 14 but want to find out about Rangers, get in touch, and come and meet us.

We are a new group – but so far, we have games outdoors, learned to light camp fires, had a trip to the theatre in London, made puppets, and discussed lots of interesting issues. We undertook a project to learn about girls' education in Africa, and raised money for the charity CamFed. Some of us are working towards DoE awards – both Bronze and Gold.

For the rest of this term we have planned reflexology, tie-dyeing, and an ice skating trip. We are currently booking places to go to a guiding music and arts festival next summer, and thinking about a weekend camp.

There are loads of different things we can do – and it's up to us to decide what. The leaders can help to organise things – but we choose which activities we want to do. This year is the centenary of girlguiding, which means there are loads of organised events, camps, etc we can go to if we want to – and some of them count towards other awards like DoE.

We are only a small group, and some of the things we want to do would be more fun if there were more of us to do them together. Would you like to get involved? Why don't you email rangers.seniorsection@googlemail.com to find out more? Or contact Ranger leader Suzanne on 01223 441823.

Community Centre

Milton Community Centre is a Registered Charity, run by a voluntary Committee, employing one full time member of staff who is responsible for the day to day management and a number of part time employees, who carry out various maintenance, cleaning and keyholder duties. The facilities are available Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 10.30pm, with a few groups using the amenities on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday nights are used for social functions such as parties, wedding receptions etc.

The Community Centre held its Annual General Meeting in October and although this was generally well attended, there was a concern at the lack of 'new blood' prepared to participate on the Committee. We are actively seeking new volunteers, so if you feel this may be of interest or would like to know more about what's involved, please contact Andy, details as below.

The Community Centre, Annexe, Youth Building, 5-a-side court and netball courts are all available to hire. For all enquiries, please ring Andy on 862763 or email, mcc@miltonvillage.org.uk

Andy Gray

Community Centre Manager

Equine Therapy Centre Opens



On November 18th Olympic bronze medallist Sharon Hunt and her horse Tankers Town helped with the official opening of a new Equine Therapy Centre at The College of West Anglia in Milton.

Sharon performed the official ribbon cutting while Tankers Town demonstrated the benefits of some of the new equipment.

Milton W.I.

We all took our "antiques" along to the September meeting for Barrie Stevenson to either tell us it was something wonderful or that it was a 'bit of old junk'. He was a very interesting speaker who certainly has a lot of knowledge of antiques. We could have still been listening to him now. He certainly kept us well entertained and was a very lively speaker.

In October we had the privilege of travelling from Kings Cross to Ashwell, just could not make it to Cambridge as our time ran out. A fascinating insight into the history of the railway from its beginnings and understanding why different stations are named what they are. Bill Wittering gave us a wonderful slide show and talk taking us back to the 19th century when it all began. There were pictures of how the area around Kings Cross and St. Pancras looked before the railways arrived and how they look today and giving us a detailed history of that area and all the places of interest along the route to Cambridge. We shall have to have him back again to finish the journey.

Our speaker for December is Mary Ellis on 'Sheets and Sausages' all about life running a B&B. There must be many tales to tell.

January we are having Dr Carrie Herbert talking on the 'Red Balloon Learner Centre' and February will be Rodney Tibbs on Patio Gardening.

All sound very interesting and you are welcome to come and visit us.

Events being organised by the County include 'Christmas words and music' at Girton Church on December 3rd, an outing to Waddesdon Manor for their Christmas event on December 11.

Also next year we are hoping to be one of the WIs who will be making Scarecrows to be exhibited at Wimpole Hall during May 2010. Our secretary has virtually got one made. It should be fun.

This year we have gained quite a few new members who are all very lively and friendly. I am sure they and the rest of us would love to see some more new members come along to join us.

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday in the month (except December when it is the 2nd Tuesday). So give us a thought and come along as a visitor to see if you think you would like to join us. Our President is Veronica Hinchliffe on 01223 441464.

If you are interested in going on any of the county events (some are open to non-members) then ring Jan on 560813.

Jan Chessum

Pilates

Mondays

Milton Community Centre

9.30 am - 10.30 am Mat - improvers

10.30 am - 11.30 am Mat - beginners

Tuesdays

Milton Primary School

6.40 pm - 7.40 pm Ball - mixed ability

7.50 pm - 8.50 pm Mat - mixed ability

Contact: Liz Dolman (01353) 749611 or (07768) 155278 for further details

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Carols by Candlelight

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Sunday 20th December 7pm

Crib Service

A special service for younger children and their families.

Christmas Eve 3 – 4pm

Christmas Eve Holy Communion

11.30pm

Christmas Day Worship

For all ages. 10.30 – 11.15am

Followed by a short Holy Communion

Worship Service Time Details:

Holy Communion

Sundays 8-8.45am

Traditional Communion service

Morning Worship with children's groups for 0 – teens

Sundays 10.30-11.45am followed by refreshments

Friendly service for all ages with a mix of modern worship songs & traditional hymns

Evening Celebration

Sundays 7-8.30pm

Refreshments from 6.30pm & afterwards

Informal service with modern worship band and teaching relevant to daily life

www.allsaintsmilton.org.uk

For more information on any of the above please call the church office on 441007 or email office@allsaintsmilton.org.uk

All Saints Church Building is situated on Church Lane past the Jolly Brewers pub and next door to the children's hospice.

The College of West Anglia



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We offer an excellent package including a generous annual leave allowance (pro rata for part-time), plus 5 College closure days, fee waivers on College courses, and a final salary pension scheme

For an application pack, please contact Carolyn Johnson on 01553 815272 or email cjohnson@col-westanglia.ac.uk or visit www.col-westanglia.ac.uk.

Closing date: 12 noon, 18 December 2009

Help a Helpline!

In Milton there is a chance to help people who frequently say they feel their lives have been devastated by the imprisonment of a close relative or partner.

The Prisoners' Families Helpline is a national helpline that operates from an office in Milton. We are a small friendly team of staff and volunteers who offer support and information for the families and friends of prisoners.

Often our callers are shocked, upset, overwhelmed and confused by the whole ordeal. Although it is not their offence many callers say they feel they are the ones doing the sentence and it has a profound impact on the children and family life.

There is also research that shows that if families stay in contact there is less likelihood of prisoners reoffending.

We now need more volunteers to help us deliver our service.

If you are able to offer 3 hours a week on a regular basis, have basic IT skills, and are patient and non-judgemental, we would love to hear from you.

We offer support and training, prison visits and regular meetings with all the team. Volunteers always work with a trained member of staff.

If you are interested please phone 01223 418008 or email us at:

pfhelpline.orm@btconnect.com.

For more information see our website at www.prisonersfamilieshelpline.org.uk

We look forward to hearing from you!

Barnabas Court

Another flat at Barnabas Court is now available. It is on the ground floor, 2 beds, small garden and shower. Flat 13 is also still available. If you are interested, please contact Debbie Driver on 578632 or apply through Home-Link.

Calling South Cambridgeshire District Council tenants

South Cambridgeshire District Council needs you to help them shape your housing service.

If you live in a village with a small number of council properties, as a council tenant we are asking you to come forward and take control over shaping the service South Cambridgeshire District Council provides.

If you think you would be interested you could become the point of contact with the council for your village – A "village voice."

South Cambridgeshire District Council will provide you with support and advice on how to get started and put you in touch with the network of other village voices.

You can make a difference to your community.

Interested?

Phone Teresa Lucey on 01954 713 227 with any queries or questions, or for an informal chat and information on how to get started.

Calling Milton Musicians

The Fen Edge Orchestra is a community orchestra based in Cottenham that plays for fun and the occasional concert for family and friends.

The music the orchestra plays is grade 5 standard but enthusiasm is more important than certificates. We welcome adult learners, those who haven't played in years and anyone who would like to play in an orchestra without auditioning.

Rehearsals are from 7.30pm until 9.30pm during term times at Cottenham Village College. If you would like to play in Cottenham's own orchestra please call Mary Prechner on 01223 426811 or visit www.FenEdgeOrchestra.org.uk



Recycling any used postage stamps

Why throw away British and Foreign used postage stamps when they can be reclaimed by certain Christian Charities to raise money for Mission work?

Tear stamps off with the corner of the envelope and place in free bags.

Ring for collection or drop them off any time at Milton Post Office.

Thank you for your help.

Enquiries: Paul on 01223 440674.

Landbeach and Milton Baptist Church

Sunday Services

10.30 am	Family Service
6.30 pm	Evening worship

Midweek Home groups

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Puzzle Corner

No problems with the grid in the last issue - the statement coiled in the grid was "A picture is worth ten thousand words".

Many correct answers were received and the names to be drawn out of the hat were Sonya Moran of Ballard Close, Peter Howard of Butcher Close and Sheila Wall of Old School Lane. Congratulations to our prize-winners and commiserations to everyone who sent in correct answers but missed out on the prizes.

The puzzle this month is a word search with a Christmas theme. The first prize will be a turkey kindly donated by **Rectory Farm**. There will also be three prizes for runners-up. There are 11 words with a Christmas association hidden in the square below and your entry should say what these 11 words are.

Y	X	S	Q	S	D	R	A	C
E	Z	A	H	G	I	E	L	S
K	O	N	W	Y	T	V	K	J
R	S	T	O	C	K	I	N	G
U	H	A	E	Y	Y	Z	U	O
T	M	L	B	L	C	D	T	O
S	N	E	L	O	T	P	S	S
E	G	O	O	R	C	S	G	E
K	H	N	Y	Q	X	J	I	I
S	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	M

Please send you entries to Michael Spooner 43a Old School Lane MILTON CB24 6BS or if you prefer to use email, then send to mjmsilton@tesco.net

The closing date is Saturday 19th December and we will distribute the prizes shortly afterwards.

Scrabble for Charity

Held on Friday November 13th

We had 14 players attend including this years winners. Winner for the year 2009 was Michael English with an average score of 396; runner up was Michael Spooner with an average score of 376; charity winner was Pat Froment of Milton with a score of 710 for 2 games and her chosen charity was The British Legion Poppy Appeal. All winners received SOLID GOLD medals. The evening concluded with a small buffet and some prizes for fun. Thanks to all for your help and attendance over the year.

"A MEND IS A RAIN OR LEGGY"

Milton Cricket Club Report - 2009 Season

In 2009 Milton Cricket Club fielded 3 senior and 2 junior (Colts) teams.

For the seniors, the First XI played in Cambridge Cricket Association's Senior League 2. We played 16 games with 7 wins, 1 draw and we lost 8. We finished 4th in the league which was a good result considering player availability and we were promoted last year.

This season produced several very good performances, with all players contributing to the results. 8 different batsman scored 50 or more, and Liam Dye scored his 1st hundred at Linton where he "top-scored" with 101. There were 6 batsman who totalled more than 200 runs over the season, with Jez Major topping the scoring with 311 and Liam Dye coring 292 in his 1st season in senior league cricket.

With the ball there were 8 different bowlers who took 8 wickets or more. Mark Barton (Captain) was the leading wicket taker with 20 wickets. The fielding this year was again very good with all players having very high standards in the field. However, there is still room for some improvement at the start of next season.

This season's bowler of the year was Tom Defreston. He took 17 wickets at an average of 21 in 10 games. The season's batsman of the year was Tom Scotter who scored 254 runs in 9 innings and averaged 42 runs. This seasons 1st team player of the year was Simon Coston who performed well with the bat and the ball. He took 13 wickets at an average of 22.6 with his off spin. He also averaged 29 with the bat, despite his 12 over duck at Yelling!!

The Second XI had a tough and ultimately disappointing year, getting relegated from CCA Junior Division 1 after promotion last year. They struggled due to inconsistent player availability together with playing in one of the toughest leagues in Cambridgeshire. Highlights this year included some of the younger players' performances including those of the ever improving Kiran Sakamuri.

The Third XI played in Junior League 4B and managed to complete all 14 games without losing any to the weather. They ended the season in sixth place which meant they stayed up. They struggled for players and this resulted in having to play two games with only ten players. Nevertheless the season was enjoyable and they were nearly always competitive with most games being reasonably close. A total of 36 different players were used ranging in age from 12 to 60. Generally over the season the third team did not have many youngsters playing, with most of the regular players being older than previous years. However it was good to see many younger players progressing to higher teams.

The Third XI managed to win five games during the year. The most convincing was the first game, away at Cambourne 2nds when we scored 191 -1 to win by nine wickets. Our highest score of the season was our last win at home (at Bottisham) when we beat Elsworth 2nds by four wickets in the last over with a total of 193-6. We also won away at Granta V, Elsworth and at home to Weston Colville. Our lowest score of the season was 111 and we actually averaged 157 over all our games which was respectable.

A total of six players averaged over 15 with the bat, but as a team we struggled for consistent runs. The highest run scorer was Phil Coulson (352 averaging 32) followed by Ian Coston (200 averaging 20) and Ali Crawford (194 averaging 15). Useful contributions were also made at other times by Andrew Drain, Andy Thorne, Piraba and Dan Handley.

Five main bowlers were used during the season with wickets taken as follows; Martin Coston 22, Stephen Dye 17, Lester Allen 15, Phil Coulson 14 and Bobby Welton 6 (who deserved more!). Stephen actually had the best average, whilst Lester Allen the best individual figures of 5 for 32 from 10 overs v Dullingham. During the season James Drummond also showed good promise for the future.

The annual awards for the third team were as follows;

Best Batsman - Phil Coulson, Best Bowler - Martin Coston,

Best Fielder - Andy Thorne (wicket keeper), Player of the Year- Phil Coulson

In the Colts leagues, Milton fielded both Under 14 and Under 12 teams.

The Under 14s, though capably lead by manager Stephen Dye, had a disappointing season and finished equal bottom of their league. It was very encouraging however to see that some of the younger players are now capable of moving up to the senior teams.

At one stage it looked like the Under 12s would not have a team, starting the practices with only 5 or 6 players. However, they started the season with 11 players for the first game against Isleham. The U12s beat them thanks to a strong team bowling performance -

continued on page 8



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Softly, softly

Users of the towpath beside the River Cam have probably noticed that the Conservators of the River Cam have been undertaking 'soft' riverbank repair works between Milton and Clayhithe. The riverbanks are suffering from erosion through the combined actions of weather (wetting and drying, causing the soil peds to break off in chunks) and micro-wave wash from wind and passing boat traffic. The rate of loss is of concern; in some places the erosion is uncomfortably close to the County Council's cycleway-cum-footpath.

The repairs will reclaim the bank width to its original line, improve safety for towpath users, provide amenity space for anglers and vegetative shelter for river creatures. The method used - which harks back to the traditional form of wooden bank protection - involves driving wooden stakes into the bed of the river. The Conservators' workboat, 'Berky', is used to back-fill the piling line with local river bed materials (silt, peat and clay). To the rear of these stakes, 3-metre long pre-planted coir-filled rolls have been laid in a row and secured to the stakes. The plants will set down their roots as they grow and over the

course of time provide natural stabilisation of the riverbank. The plant mixture includes sedges and perennial wetland plants, including yellow iris and purple loosestrife. These will hopefully provide a super display of colour along the riverbanks next summer. Local ducks, coots and moorhens have already given their approval to the newly reclaimed areas, hauling out and preening themselves there. The muddy areas of backfill are to be sown with native wetland grass seed mix.

The works are a partnership between the Conservators, Cambridgeshire County Council, and the Environment Agency. Funds are being sought to continue more works in 2010/11.

Dr Philippa Noon - River Manager

Cricket Club Report - continued from page 7

this was to be the story of our season (very strong bowling and struggling with our batting). Next the U12s beat a very weak Coton side very easily but then came down to earth with a sound beating by Hardwick. We recovered to beat a strong Over side with our best team showing of the season and to go top of the league. Heady days! However it did not last, losing our last two games to a young Bottisham side and a one man Histon team. We learnt good lessons in these games :- don't assume that because the opposition is younger they are easy to beat and when playing against a class player hold your catches. But, in summary, it was a very enjoyable season during which we picked up 2 very good new players.

The cricket club finished off the season with the senior club's award ceremony held at The Menzies Hotel in Bar Hill. Thanks to those who organised a very successful event. Thanks also to the club's new sponsors this year; The Lion and Lamb Pub in Milton and Cambridge News.

Next season, Milton will be fielding Under 13, Under 15, First, Second and Third Teams. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved, from playing to getting involved with the organisation of the club. We are especially interested in hearing from people who can help redesign the club's web site. Please email Jon Amphlett (jon.amphlett@hotmail.com) or see the club web site (www.miltoncricket.org.uk) for more details.

Jon Amphlett

Milton Country Park

Over the next few months, visitors to Milton Country Park will witness the gradual transformation of the Visitor Centre. Work on the much needed refurbishment is well under way and is expected to be complete by Easter 2010. The project will open out the existing spaces, creating a much larger seating and meeting space downstairs for park visitors and Café Diem. The existing office space will move into a new extension and the upstairs meeting area will be completely refurbished making it the perfect space for meetings, events and classes.

Plans are on display in the Visitor Centre and Cambridge Sport Lakes staff would be more than happy to talk you through the refurbishment and answer any questions.

The 20th November saw the launch of Milton Country Park's Parkforce scheme. The scheme aims to encourage regular park users to report anti-social, criminal or suspicious behaviour to park staff or the Police. The event, which was attended by our two local PCSO's and run by Cambridge Sport Lakes Staff gave volunteers guidance on being the "eyes and ears" of the park and training on the type of incidents we need information on and whom to report them to. If you would like further information on Parkforce, please contact the park on 01223 420060.

Our Country Park events calendar for 2010 will be out early in the New Year.

Aimée Mason

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