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Milton Village View

Issue No. 122 – April 2016

In This Issue...

- ▶ No More Village Website?
- ▶ New Milton History Group
- ▶ Parentalk Course
- ▶ New Colts Girls Teams

And much more!

Photo: Rebecca Ostler

Contact Us

Send us your news and photos:

vv@miltonvillage.org.uk

1 Knights Way, Milton, CB24 6DE

Deadlines for articles are:

12th January

12th March

12th May

1st September

1st November

Issues will be published approx.
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Online Archive

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(back to April 2011) on our website:

www.mvv.org.uk

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Publisher's Notice

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy the publisher accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions. Views and opinions expressed in the Village View are not necessarily those of the publisher or the editorial staff. The publisher does not accept any responsibility for claims made by advertisers.

Health & Wellbeing Fair: Call for Milton exhibitors

Saturday 18th June, 2pm to 4pm
Milton Community Centre Great Hall and Lounge

In our vibrant village of Milton, we have many groups and activities that benefit our mental and physical health at any age, whether it is dance, sport, board-games, crafts or Scrabble. We also have a range of businesses that can help with health, fitness and a good diet!

We would like to invite you to register for the Milton Health and Wellbeing Fair. The conditions?

- ✓ Your pitch or demonstration shows a benefit to the health & wellbeing of our village residents.
- ✓ £10 booking fee to cover costs.
- ✓ and a suggestion on how you can make this a lively, not-to-be-missed Milton Event for the whole family to visit!

Places are limited. So be imaginative, creative and fun!

Expressions of interest to either Jane or Chris Thomas, 440024,
chris@miltoncontact.com.

An idea from the Milton Surgery Patient Participation Group.



If you use our advertisers, please mention Village View. Thank you to our volunteer distributors.

April

- 2nd/3rd** Spring Fayre, Country Park, 10am-5pm, £5/U16s free (p.13)
- 4th/5th** Adventure Xperience, Country Park, 9.30am-4pm (p.13)
- Tues 9th** Tudor Fun Day, Landbeach Tithe Barn, 10.30am-1pm
- Tues 12th** Start of Parentalk course, All Saints', 7.45-9.30pm (p.4)



May

- Mon 2nd** Wintercomfort **Wookiee Walk**, Country Park, 10am (p.13)
- Mon 2nd** **May Day Craft Fair** with maypole dancing, Denny Abbey, 10.30am-4pm
- Tues 3rd** **Milton Local History Group**, Community Centre, 7.30pm (p.6)
- Sat 7th** **Lambing Open Day**, College of West Anglia, 10am-1pm (p.10)
- Sun 8th** **Messy Church**, All Saints', 3.30-5.30pm
- Thurs 5th** **Ascension Day** Holy Communion, All Saints', 8pm
- Mon 16th** **Annual Parish Meeting**, Bowls Pavilion, Coles Road, 7.30pm (p.15)

June

- Sun 5th** **Open Farm Sunday**, College of West Anglia, 10am-3pm (p.10)
- Sat 18th** **Milton Health & Wellbeing Fair**, Community Centre, 2-4pm (p.2)



See pp.18-19 for more events at the pubs.
 See www.milton.org.uk/diary.html for more event details.
 See www.miltoncountrypark.org for more park event details.

Community Café

Milton Community Café is now a thriving monthly event in the Community Centre. Come along for conversation, games and a craft table on the fourth Tuesday of every month, 2.30pm to 4.30pm. We are open to all in Milton who would like a friendly place to come to once a month. Run by volunteers from your village. If you need help getting there, let us know (contact details below). All you need is £2: we provide the venue, tea/coffee/squash and biscuits/cake.



An idea from the Milton Surgery Patient Participation Group.

Contacts:
 Chris Thomas T: 440024,
chris@miltoncontact.com
 Sue Nunn T: 861747

We also have a Facebook page: "Milton Community Café"



Parklife Stalls & Sponsors

Milton Country Park will be hosting its now annual "Parklife" family fun day on Saturday 17th July. Parklife allows visitors to explore a variety of ways to improve their health and wellbeing and the opportunity to try a range of sports for free.

Local traders & stallholders are also invited to pitch up and sell your wares. If you're interested in having a stall, please complete the booking form at www.scambs.gov.uk/parklife.



A course that covers essential topics for parenting children in the early and primary years (0-10s).

Tuesday evenings 7.45-9.30pm
12th, 19th, 26th April, 3rd, 10th, 17th May
at All Saints' Church

For more information and to book your place please contact Christian Osborne (children & families worker) on 441007 or email children@allsaintsmilton.org.uk

Cambridge TV

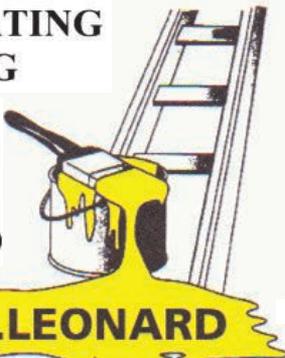
Did you know we have a local TV channel here in Cambridge? Launched in 2015, Cambridge TV is the new Ofcom-licensed channel for Cambridge, on Freeview channel 8, Virgin Media channel 159 and online.

Their aim is to "[create] television that makes you think, highlighting the best in Cambridge arts, science, business and culture for bright, curious viewers locally and around the world."

They are also linked to Cambridge TV School, which runs "learning by doing" courses in TV production.

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End of the Village Website — Can You Help?

As you may have heard by now, we (Paul & Beth Oldham) will soon be leaving Milton after living here for almost 20 years. Now this leaves an interesting situation in that I've been largely managing the content on the village web site, along with Milton News and milton-chat, for a very long time and I now need to either pass it on or let it die.

So are you interested in taking it on? There are two skills you will need, and these could well come from more than one person working together:

1. being editor of Milton News - a lot of content now comes to me via email, I don't have to go hunting for it, but I do also read RSS feeds and Twitter accounts plus I have regular diary tasks like going to the Blood Donors web site and getting the next dates.
2. looking after the technical side - the site is (currently) built on our own CMS and relies on our own mailing software to send out Milton News. The former is likely to continue longer than the latter so at some point you would need to be able to replace it and in the long term you might want to replace both. There's also issues like the screen scraper that works out when the next SCDC bin collects is. So key skills here are PHP and bash.

The other issue is the milton-chat mailing list. If you're a subscriber you'll know that it works, but only because I occasionally put down my moderatorial foot. It may be that milton-chat is a casualty of this move; now that we've got the Milton Community Facebook group I don't think its loss would be so bad as it once would have been, but it does serve a different set of people and it does have 100% reach, unlike the group (thanks Facebook).

If milton-chat is to continue it needs someone to moderate it and I would also like it to find a new home as I'm intending to turn off our list server eventually.

So that's the challenge. If no one steps up then the site will cease to operate on 30th April, so if you are interested in taking it on then let me know: webmaster@milton.org.uk.

Thanks. Paul Oldham



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Local History Group

Dear Miltonians,

If you are interested in coming along to the very first meeting of the Milton Local History Group, please do, all welcome!

Our first meeting is on Tuesday 3rd May, 7.30pm, in the Milton Community Centre Lounge.

Please bring £2 to help cover room hire. I'll bring tea/coffee & biscuits.

Chris Thomas

Contact: Chris Thomas, T: 440024,
chris@miltoncontact.com

Litter Picking Haul



Some of The Hauliers - Mike Harbour, John and Elaine Proctor, Anne and David Stirrups, Emma Harbour and Anna Bradnam.

Many thanks to the village volunteers who helped out with the Litter Pick on 13 February and to Anne and David who did an early 'pick' in the north of the village the previous day. Despite the chilly weather, we had sunshine for most of the afternoon and between us managed to collect around 25 bags of rubbish. We were shocked at how much litter had been dropped in the area around Tesco, and under the Jane Coston Bridge.

Hazel and her team gathered a huge amount, which had been dropped by those crossing the bridge. I collected two full bags of rubbish and my first Litter Pick bicycle (!) from the Tesco shrubbery. Peter made a clean sweep of Cambridge Road. Anne, David, Elaine and John collected eight bags of rubbish from the bund, while Emma and Mike cleared the slip road to the A14. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Anna Bradnam



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 Fri 10.30am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (LVH)

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 on classes and class venues

Wedding Venue in Milton!

Did you know that there is a licensed wedding venue in Milton? Or that you can be married there with all the trimmings and get change from £500? No? Here's a clue: it's in Church Lane!

All Saints' Church has been welcoming couples for their marriage service for hundreds of years, and is still gladly doing so today. You don't have to be a regular churchgoer to have your wedding at All Saints; anyone who lives in Milton, or who has a strong connection with the village, can (with certain rare exceptions) be married there. The church building, which seats up to 170, is warm and comfortable, and has modern facilities including loos, data projector and PA system.



David Chamberlin, Rector of Milton, writes: "Whether you want a Big Fat Milton Wedding, a Steampunk theme, the full Traditional English, or something low key and simple, we're really happy to chat through your ideas with you. While certain parts of the marriage service are required by law, and it is of course also a service of worship, you might be surprised at how much space there is for creativity and maybe doing something a bit different, so that your marriage service is truly personal to you. We would love to welcome you to All Saints for your wedding, whatever you've got in mind for your special day."

CBS Branch to Close

As part of a programme to reduce the number of high street branches from 18 to 13 as Cambridge Building Society does more business online, the Milton branch in the High Street will close at the end of June.

There will be no planned redundancies, as staff are to be deployed elsewhere.

Paul Oldham

To get in touch with All Saints' Church, visit: www.allsaintsmilton.org.uk, or call the church office on 01223 441007. For more information about getting married in church, visit: www.yourchurchwedding.org.

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Outstanding Activity Leader Nomination

Michelle Smith, who runs Creative Movements classes in Milton, has been nominated for an award for her work inspiring local children.

Michelle opened her Creative Movements franchise in Cambridge in 2013, offering dance, movement and story telling classes, and is currently running 8 weekly classes for ages 18 months to 8 years. Her holiday workshops are extremely popular and usually full to capacity.



Her classes are lively, educational and creative, encouraging children to harness their own creativity as a valuable resource to draw upon throughout their lives.

Voting for this award closes on 11 May. To vote for Michelle, please visit www.whatson4littleones.co.uk/award-voting.asp, under "Most Outstanding Activity Leader for the Under 5s - EAST". For more information about the classes, please visit www.creativemovements.co.uk.

Register to Vote by 18th April

On 5th May, voters in South Cambridgeshire will go to the polls to elect parish councillors, 19 district councillors and Cambridgeshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, but they must be registered by 18 April to be able to cast their vote. Registering now for the elections in May will also mean voters are registered in good time before the referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union on 23 June.

You will need your National Insurance number to register. It's easy to register online or by phone, and only takes a few minutes – just visit gov.uk/register-to-vote or call 03450 455 214.



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Animal Experience Days & Parties At CWA

Despite being a well-established land based further education college - offering courses in equine, animal management and veterinary nursing degrees - the CWA Cambridge Campus in Milton offers so much more than just an education.

Thinking of a quirky party idea for your little ones? Wondering how to spend the Easter holidays?

CWA Cambridge also offers children's party packages and animal experience days, giving you a chance to cuddle and feed a range of animals on our working farm.

These activities offer a chance to get up close with a range of farmyard and small animals including rabbits, goats, sheep, ferrets, tortoises, snakes, lizards, salamanders, millipedes, cockroaches, snails, chickens, ducks and much more!

Parties are fully supervised and comply with all relevant health and safety rules. The college can also offer room hire for party food (please provide your own catering).

Street Light Roadworks

Balfour Beatty will be working on street lights in Milton from Monday, 28th March and continuing for up to twenty days. The work will be on both sides of the road from the A10/A14 roundabout down into Milton, over the mini-roundabout and north past the both entrances into The Rowans and finishing just before the zebra crossing near the shops.

Traffic delays are inevitable, but the work is planned to be carried out between the hours of 09.30 and 15.30 each day.

You can find out more about the experience days and children's parties by visiting the campus' online store:

onlinestore.cwa.ac.uk

VirginMedia Speed Upgrade

The long awaited speed boost upgrade for VirginMedia is now available. For example if you currently have a 60Mbps connection it can now be increased to up to 150Mbps. Log in to my.virginmedia.com for details.



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Race Night School Fundraiser

The MSA (Milton School Association) and Governors would like to say a huge "Thank you!" to Sally and Lawrence Champion at the Lion and Lamb for hosting a Race Night as a village fundraiser for the school, raising over £300 to help upgrade the IT equipment used by the children, so that the infrastructure and equipment is up to date and in working order. This will help them in many different areas of their learning.

All those who attended had a great evening. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the local businesses who sponsored the races: Chris Peters Design, Cambridge News, Joe McWilliams Gardening Services, 80th Atom, AG First Aid Training, Carter Jonas Bradshaws and the Lion & Lamb themselves.

Michelle Peters

Farmer Tom's: Lambs Galore this May!

Meet and feed our farm animals, have a ride on the pedal tractors and enjoy colouring activities at the regular Farmer Tom's open mornings at the College of West Anglia. Lambing season is fast approaching – we have a special **lambing open day** on Saturday 7th May.

Don't miss our ever popular **Open Farm Sunday** event on Sunday 5th June, 2016. Come along and explore Woodside Farm, meet our animals and enjoy some farmyard fun, hopefully in the sun!

Regular Open Mornings: £1 per person in advance, £1.50 per person on the gate (under 3's go free.). 11am - 1pm, last entry 12.30pm.

Special Lambing Day: £2/£2.50. 10am - 1pm, last entry 12.30pm.

See the website for details and to book your visit: onlinestore.cwa.ac.uk

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From the Archives

10 Years Ago: Feb 2006

New youth building to rise from the ashes

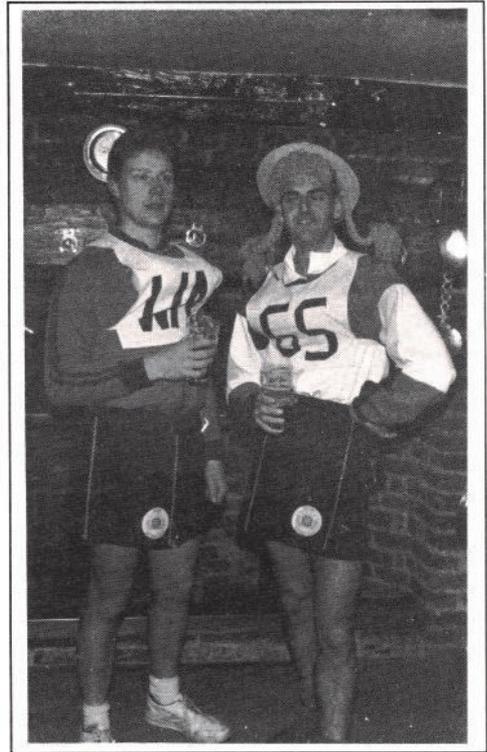
Milton will soon benefit from a brand new youth building following the heartbreak when a fire completely destroyed the old building. The new purpose built building will be on the site of the old building and it is hoped that work will start in June.

25 Years Ago: Mar 1991

MILTON NETBALL CLUB CHILDREN IN NEED APPEAL

Milton Netball Lads together with Milton Football Girls wish to thank the generous residents of the village for all their donations made to us on behalf of this appeal.

The takings were greatly increased by the Netball Lads being constantly encouraged to 'show a bit



Station Delayed

Network Rail have announced that the new railway station between Milton and Chesterton will not open until May 2017. The £44m north city station was originally due to open in December 2015, but was put back to May and then to December 2016.

"We prefer to work towards a date we know we can achieve, rather than a date we don't know we can achieve," said Rob Fairhead, the project's sponsor.

"It is regrettable, but it's better to have an opening date we're certain about, rather than trying to have an opening date we try and fail to meet."

Thanks for the Stamps!

"2015 proved to be another good year for The Leprosy Mission Stamps & Collectables with £136,153.34 raised towards helping those affected by leprosy. Our sincere thanks to you all."



... And thank you from me too! Please keep the stamps & collectables coming for T.L.M., and "shoebox" items (small, practical gifts, including haberdashery) for Mission to Europe all year round.

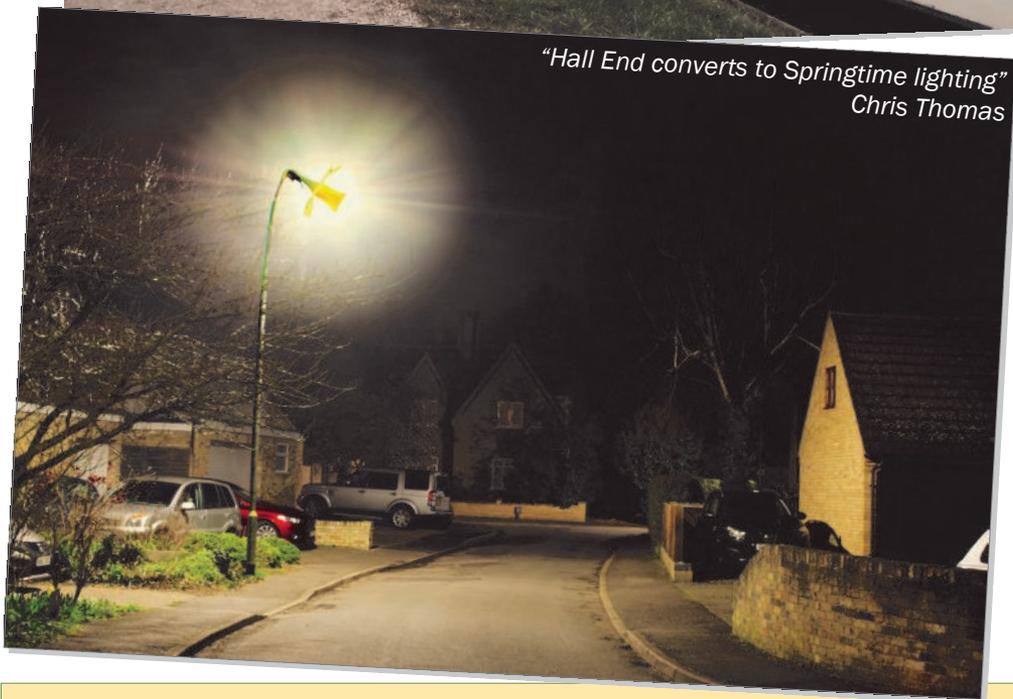
Please drop items off at the Post Office, Church or to 54B Fen Road, Milton, CB24 6AD. Tel: 440764

Paul Mutimer

Rebecca Ostler



"Hall End converts to Springtime lighting"
Chris Thomas



Your Photos Could Be Here!

Photos taken in and around Milton always welcome – of places, people, events or just something that strikes you as beautiful. No lower or upper age limit!

Send them to vv@miltonvillage.org.uk, and we'll include as many as we can.

Milton Country Park Update

Last autumn, we conducted a user survey and a needs analysis of our disabled visitors, to help us better understand how people use and feel about the park. It's been heartening to read the many positive comments, but more importantly it has helped us to highlight our most pressing issues and build on possible solutions.

As most of you will be aware, the park is managed by Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust, a registered charity, which is now entering its ninth year at the park. The Trust receives no regular funding and relies on the support of its users, through the car park, donations and facilities hire to cover costs. Visitor numbers grow year-on-year and the park is thriving in terms of footfall and activities. This is to be celebrated, but increased visitor numbers have an inevitable impact on the wear and tear of the park's surfaces and structures, many of which are original and date back to when the park was opened in 1993. Bridges and footpaths now require costly work to bring them to the standard we would like, and the surveys conducted last year have helped us put together a case for funding. We now have 2 applications in the final stages of consideration, which could have a significant impact on the work we can achieve.



Thank you to everyone who gave their feedback and offered support for our funding bids.

In the meantime, we are planning an exciting programme of events, starting with a **Spring Fayre** on the weekend of April 2nd and 3rd. The fayre is organised by Battenberg Events, who host the popular Frost Fair at Hatfield House, and will feature country activities, garden plants, furniture and accessories, crafts, gifts and fine foods. Tickets cost £5 for adults (children and parking are free) and can be bought on the door or in advance online at: www.miltoncountryparkspringfayre.co.uk

To keep the kids busy over the **Easter holidays**, we have two days of adventure on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th April. Perfect for **budding explorers** aged 5-12 who love the outdoors and want to learn bush craft and survival skills such as shelter building, tracking and making simple tools. A day session costs £10 and tickets can be booked through www.sports-xtra.com

Don't forget our annual **'Wookiee Walk'**, a popular Star Wars themed sponsored walk where you can help raise money for homeless people in Cambridge. Organised by Wintercomfort the walk takes place on Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May at 10am.

Save the date for these events coming later in the year: **Parklife** on Sunday 17th July and the **Autumn Festival** on Sunday 25th September.

Please see our events and regular activities pages at www.miltoncountrypark.org.uk and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sarah Harris

Milton WI

In January, Ellee Seymour gave us a fascinating insight into an exclusive 1950s department store in Cambridge called Heyworths, situated in its final years in Sidney Street. We learnt of the glamour and trade, as well as personal stories of some of the girls who worked there. In February, we were delighted to welcome Sophie, a cocker spaniel and a Hearing Dog for Deaf People. She came along with Pam Harper, who explained the work of the organisation and the dogs that give companionship and independence to deaf people.

Our MayB's and MightB's darts teams have had several matches against other local institutes thoroughly enjoying the competitive fun and friendship. Our monthly board games afternoons have increasing members attending, and again are being thoroughly enjoyed.

We have a varied programme for the forthcoming months, including hearing about the Work of Camsight, Sian Fox's Career as a Home Economist and Help the Heroes.

New WI members are always welcome, and anyone can come along for a taster. Contact our President Gill Offley (01223 293231) or Secretary Bridget Crow (01223 441755) for further details, or just come along. Meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Church Hall.

Anne Newman

Parish Councillors

Below is an updated list of your councillor contact details (for email addresses, please visit the website at miltonvillage.org.uk and click on 'Meet Your Parish Councillors');

Parish Councillors

Jane Coston (<i>Chair</i>)	861447*
David Burch	862485
Rob Farrington	860160
Gary Heaney	690317

Tom Leavens	441129
David Owen	861447*
David Stirrups	470355
Richard Summerfield	860715
* - c/o Parish Office	

Parish & District Councillors

Anna Bradnam	862364
Hazel Smith	860752

County Councillor

Maurice Leeke	441562
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Parish Clerk: clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk

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Parish Chairman Update

Parish Precept

We are pleased to say that we have not increased our precept requirements this year.

Allotments

At present we have 3 allotments for rent.

Cemetery

We have been clearing away items at the cemetery in an effort to keep it as pleasant as we can for all.

Play equipment

A working party is reviewing the provision of play equipment in the village and has started to plan to improve the play area next to the Community Centre as their first project. There will be a formal consultation with drawings once initial ideas have been costed.

Milton Interchange closure

We requested that whilst the road is closed for street light replacement that the road markings are redone at the same time to save having to have the interchange closed again in the future. We were disappointed to hear that this would not be possible as there was not enough time to co-ordinate this work.

Parking issues

We have been contacted by various people about inconsiderate parking throughout the village and in particular in the area of the school and at junctions.

We have contacted the local PCSO and asked for more to be done to deter people who are causing a nuisance and a danger to other people. We have also written to the Police Commissioner asking how priorities are agreed. We have been advised that residents should note the details of any cars that consistently park dangerously and pass these on to the police.

Annual Parish Meeting

You are warmly invited to attend our Annual Parish Meeting on the 16th May 2016 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion in Coles Road, Milton.

Would you like to volunteer?

We are still looking for more volunteers to join us on the parish council. If you would like to get involved please contact the clerk.

*Jane Coston,
Chairman of Milton Parish Council*



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Milton Mothers' Union

At the time of writing, the MU Lent lunches are in full swing. They have proved to be very successful, with excellent speakers that focus our thoughts upon those people who might have gathered at the foot of the cross on Good Friday. Attendance has been high, but somehow there is always enough food to go around, with the menu including nutritious soups and interesting salads. It's definitely been a worthwhile event to organise and afterwards we are hoping to send a sizeable amount of money to MU for the Lenten Appeal. I am confident that the lunches will continue for many years, so if you didn't make it this year do think seriously about coming along in 2017.



Forthcoming events include a service in the church hall to mark Lady Day on Monday 4th April at 7.30pm. This is a special day for all MU members as we remember the Annunciation and Mary learning that she was to give birth to Jesus. On Tuesday 3rd May we will be welcoming Maureen Haigh to our meeting. She will be speaking about "Action and Outreach" and the different projects that MU members undertake both locally and further afield to support family life in all its forms. On Tuesday 7th June Hilary Street, an MU member from Stapleford, will speak about the life and work of John and Charles Wesley. This year the Mothers' Union celebrates its 140th anniversary: it was founded in 1876 by Mary Sumner, who was inspired to start the movement after the birth of her first grandchild. Remembering her own difficulties when she was first a mother, she wanted to bring mothers of all social classes together through prayer, fellowship and teaching. She valued family life and believed that motherhood was a vocation. During the week of 20th June we will be holding several events to mark our special anniversary. More details of these will be available in the next copy of the *Village View*.

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Cygnets Milton Pre-school Needs You!

The Cygnets Milton Pre-School is seeking volunteer committee members (trustees) to join our team. Whilst the pre-school manager is in charge of the day-to-day running of Cygnets, the trustees are in charge of running the charity. The trustees are jointly responsible for both the effective running of the charity and act as the registered person for Ofsted, thus have a range of roles and responsibilities. We are now looking for help with the following roles:

Chair: overall management responsibility of committee; Ofsted contact; chair meetings

Secretary: take committee meeting minutes

Committee members: attending meetings; help out where required

The support you can provide as a trustee is extremely important to us and we value the contribution. Volunteering is a responsibility, but is also about community spirit, making friends, gaining new skills and making a difference.

If you are planning to send your child to Cygnets, your help is very important: without these roles, the Pre-school cannot open!

If you would like more information, please call 01223 712286 or email chair.cygnets@gmail.com

Milton Primary School Needs You!

Calling All Gardeners!!

Milton Primary School needs your help! Can you spare some time to help in our gardens? It could be every week or just a one-off visit; as long or as short as you like. Any help would be really appreciated: please call 01223 508783 or email office@milton.cambs.sch.uk



Allotment Greenhouse

We seem to have survived a series of hurricanes this year, but our allotment greenhouse has suffered in the winds and is in need of repair. Please could you bring in any washed litre plastic bottles so we can start our re-build? Please bring them to the office.

Book Donation Request

We are happy to take in non fiction and fiction books for our library. If you have any good quality books at home that you have finished with, please bring them to school and take them to the library.



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Around the Pubs

Jolly Brewers

Tel: 01223 863895

Sporting Events – including the Grand National (we will have a sweepstake in the pub), FA Cup Final, Rugby European Champions Cup, on Sky and BT Sports, accompanied by an aptly named ale or two, and with the better weather, the garden will be open for business!

4th June – Jolly Brewers 4th Birthday. Back by popular demand DJ Steve will be playing soul, disco and the best of the rest! (Late bar and buffet)

19th June - Father's Day – enjoy Sunday Lunch and get a free pint for Dad!

Accommodation – weekend break? Double/Twin room plus breakfast £90 per night.

We would like to thank Corina and Lee who have been manning the (ale) pumps, and cooking up a storm in the kitchen for the last year, they will be leaving in May for pastures new, and we would like to wish them well.

Call for all Restaurant and Accommodation Bookings and for food service times and menus check out the website or ask at the bar for details.

www.jollybrewersmilton.co.uk

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Lion & Lamb

Tel: 01223 860202

Ahoy matey! The patio and play area are now open daily from 10am. Enjoy breakfast on the patio or savour a fresh Barista coffee and relax while the children let their imaginations run wild in the fabulous Pirates Lagoon! The Bouncy Castle will be out at weekends and weekdays during school holidays – providing the weather is suitable of course!

Lion & Lamb 5th Annual BEER & CIDER Festival takes place on the Late Spring Bank Holiday - Thursday 26th to Bank Holiday Monday 30th May - with about 40 real ales and ciders available. Live bands on Saturday and more music on Sunday evening too! Hog Roast & BBQ over the weekend. We hope to see you in the beer tent!

PSYCHIC SUPPER on Wednesday 20th April and Wednesday 1st June.

SOUL NIGHT with Andy Stearn and Chris Brown – Friday 22nd April from 9pm

LADIES DINNER CLUB 17th May “Summer Cocktails”. 7th June “BBQ - fresh ideas!”.

Euro 2016 and Queens 90th Birthday celebrations – watch out for a host of events starting on the 10th June to celebrate these occasions

Saturday 18th June – QUIZ NIGHT - enjoy a great nights entertainment with quiz master Lawrence ... and help a great cause along the way... all money raised goes to Team Drummonds London Marathon, raising funds for Alzheimer’s Research UK.

Don’t forget to book... Father’s Day Lunch on Sunday 19th June – 12-7pm.

We look forward to welcoming you....

Lawrence & Sally www.lion-lamb.co.uk

White Horse

Tel: 01223 860327

The White Horse is a family and dog friendly pub. All six hand pumps serving real ale with a variety of good wines to enjoy with or without a meal. Our specials board for food is always new and different dishes are cooked by our chefs. We have a large car park and a lovely garden with a play area for children.

Every Thursday at 9pm is Quiz Night with a prize for the winners! We have karaoke the first Friday of every month, and have bands (keep an eye on the boards outside advertising them). We have a games room which includes pool, bar billiards, darts and a jukebox. Open all day Sunday for food from 12-8:30pm and we have all new furniture behind the fire. We are celebrating our 10th anniversary by holding a summer beer festival at the beginning of July so look out for the confirmed dates.

We are happy to cater for occasions such as weddings, christenings, birthdays and wakes, we also have Fathers Day coming up so don't forget to book your table. Next Special night for your diary will be a West Indian food night later in April. If you would like any other information please call us or message our Facebook page "The White Horse Milton".

Many thanks,

Ava, Alan, Adam and all the team



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Wildlife Notes

The cold February seems to have aided the blackthorn to stay in flower for well over a month, so it probably became seasonably correct after starting to flower at New Year. By early March the flowers were going over and leaves were starting to appear.

I've seen very few birds that I'd expect to see in Winter. Presumably with the mild weather up until about the end of January they just never needed to come this far south or west? Even though we've now had some very cold weather, it doesn't feel as if it's ever lasted long enough in one chunk to really bite. A short walk in the Country Park on 13th March showed that although there were still a few gadwall and tufted ducks around, it was more like a spring scene, with five great crested grebes looking magnificent in full breeding plumage. A pair of bullfinches were also pecking at buds.

The generally mild winter has meant that, with several different varieties of snowdrop and daffodil in my garden, I've had a near-constant display of flowers since Christmas. Real signs of spring are now evident. I thought I very faintly heard the yellowhammer, who is still hanging on out on Milton Fen, on 15th February. I heard him loud and clear on the 23rd. And on 6th March a bumblebee was feeding on some hellebore flowers - they've been in full flower since Christmas too. The great spotted woodpeckers in the Country Park are drumming and there's a real dawn chorus, although on a sunny day, the birds seem to sing all day. I won't complain about the song thrush at 5am as it's a privilege to hear one at all.

I'm now getting regular activity at my hedgehog feeding station - first sighting was 21st February. So every evening I make sure the food and water are topped up. I've also checked that the hedgehog entrances to the garden are clear so they can get at this important supplement to their diet. At this time of year, there may not be that much natural food around as it's still pretty chilly, and they can lose weight and end up in serious trouble quickly. A reminder that the more gardens hedgehogs can get into, the greater the chance there is of them finding plenty of natural food. A CD-sized hole at the bottom of a fence or gate is quite sufficient to allow this popular mammal to roam freely in your garden too, but please don't put down slug pellets which will poison them.

Heather Coleman



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Behind the Scenes: Ice Spikes

During the very cold February of 2012, when temperatures at night fell below -5°C , the birdbath in our garden froze, with two triangles of ice on the surface:



How did these "ice spikes" occur? A 'Weather Eye' article in *The Times* provided the answer. When ice freezes it expands by 8%. During the freezing of the surface of the water, ice forms inwards from the edge to leave small holes in the ice. Ice forming below these holes pushes up into hollow spikes of ice like a straw, which get bigger as more ice freezes onto them.

You could try making them yourself by placing an open shallow bowl of water in the freezer. A magnificent time-lapse footage of an ice spike forming in an ice-cube tray can be seen at bit.ly/1POjtLy

Derek Booth

Guerrilla Groundsman visits Milton!

The "Guerrilla Groundsman" has recently been spotted in Milton. His handiwork (best summarized by the man himself on his Twitter page as "Random acts of tidying") has been seen in The Rowans, High Street and Knights Way, as well as along Milton Road, Butt Lane and the A10.

You can follow Guerrilla Groundsman's work via Twitter: he regularly posts his tidying improvements, with before and after photographs, at twitter.com/guerrgroundsmen



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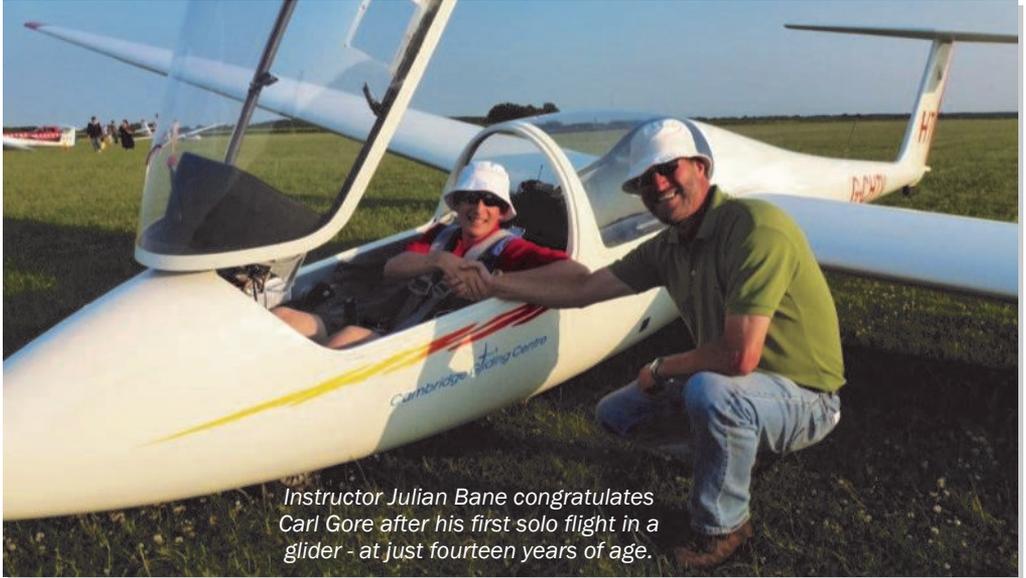
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Instructor Julian Bane congratulates Carl Gore after his first solo flight in a glider - at just fourteen years of age.

The airfield entrance is on the B1046 between Little Gransden and Longstowe, opposite Gransden Lodge Farm (enter SG19 3EB into your sat nav). More information online: at www.camgliding.uk or via Facebook at www.facebook.com/cgcopenday



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Milton Tennis Club

Our tennis season officially starts on 1st April 2016, with the first club night on Wednesday 6th April from 6pm. Friday club nights will be on the second and fourth Fridays of the month.



Tournament dates this year:

Dant Cup – Sunday 5th June

Barham Cup – Sunday 17th July

Nick Lock Cup – Sunday 4th September

Membership application forms, league matches, coaching and all other information can be found on our webpage www.miltontennisclub.co.uk

Sue Griffin, Secretary

New Milton Colts FC Girls Teams

Milton Colts FC are looking to start a new girls football team for KS2 (ages 8-11). There will be an open training session on Saturday 16th April, from 2pm at the Coles Road Recreation Ground.

If you are interested in helping out with this team, or your daughter is interested in playing, just turn up or contact Frank at butterfills24@btinternet.com or Andy at miltoncolts@gmail.com for any questions.

They are also in the process of setting up a new U16 girls team (current school years 9-11). Training will start on Thursday, 7th April, from 6:45-8:30pm at The Sycamores Recreation Ground. Just turn up or contact Ian at ianfreestone@icloud.com for any questions.

Birgit Meldal, Secretary

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