

FUNDRAISING BEGINS FOR ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HALL PROJECT

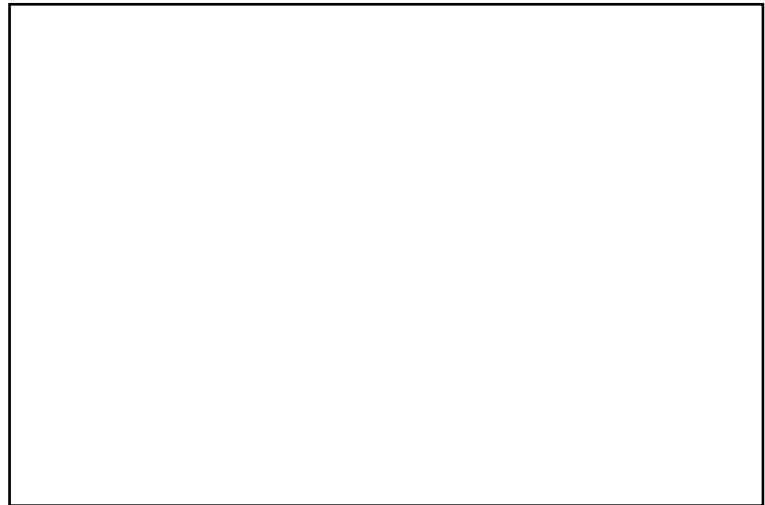
The Parish Church of Cottenham is famous for its unusual tower, but before this was built there was a steeple. This fell during a severe storm in 1617 demolishing a schoolroom which stood to the north side of the church. In 1699 another schoolroom was built beside the church for teaching local boys, paid for by Mrs. Katherine Pepys, a relation of the famous Samuel Pepys. How long this stood, we are not sure. What we do know is that in 1852 the then new Rector of Cottenham, The Rev'd Samuel Banks, paid for a large schoolroom to be built next to the stables in the Rectory grounds. His wife and daughter taught local girls here.

However, for most of its existence this 'room' has been used as the hall for All Saints' Church. It is the building that still stands today on the opposite side of the road to the church. After almost one hundred and fifty years of service to the church and community, the building has sadly reached the end of its long

life. This was confirmed by two alarming structural survey reports. Anyone who has used the building of late will know what a poor state it is in.

Over recent years there has been much discussion and thought given to its future and the ever increasing needs of the church and parish.

More than fifty children are now members of the Sunday Club, but as well as church groups, the hall is used regularly by Cottenham Brass, the Clog Dancers, and for concerts, sales and many other activities. The facilities, however, are very limited. The rotten windows, sagging roof, bulging walls, rising damp, rotting floor joists and subsidence all add to the general air of decay.



continued on page 3

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VILLAGE DIARY

NOVEMBER

- 22 Parish Church Christmas Bazaar at the Primary School, 10.00 am
 29 Children's Craft Day at Ladybird Pre-School
 30 Advent Carol Service at the Parish Church. 6.30

DECEMBER

- 4 "Behind the Scenes" -Village Design Group, CVC 8.00
 5 70's Disco (Rocking Horse Raffle Draw)
 Ladybird Pre-School
 6 Grand Methodist Christmas Fair, 9.30 - 2.00pm
 7 Annual Methodist Toy Service, 10.45am
 7 Christingle Service at the Parish Church, 4.00pm
 10 Women's Institute Christmas Miscellany
 10-13 "Humpty Dumpty", Theatre Workshop at CVC
 16 Father Christmas on the Green, Carols etc. 6.30pm
 24 Carol Service by Candlelight, Parish Church, 5.00 pm
 24 Midnight Mass, Parish Church, with carols at 11.00pm
 25 8.30 Holy Communion, 10.30 Family Communion, Parish Church
 25 Morning Fellowship, Methodist Church 10.00am
 26 Holly Walk, from Cottenham Church, 10.30 am
 31 New Year's Eve at Cottenham Village College

JANUARY

- 4 All age Parade and Family Service, Methodist Church 10.45am
 11 Christmas Tree Shredding Day, 9.00 am - 2.00 pm
 14 "Forensic Medicine" talk, Women's Institute, 7.30
 30 "The Unheated Greenhouse", Gardeners Club, CVC 7.45

FEBRUARY

- 11 "Glass Blowing" demonstration, Women's Institute, 7.30
 27 Gardeners Club AGM and Plant Auction, CVC 7.45

SMALL ADS

LEARN TO PLAY. Piano lessons with experienced teacher. Children and adults, beginners and advanced. Tel. 01954 251099

DIG YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS TREE (Bring your own spade) Large trees 5 ft & above. 50p per foot of tree. Small trees 3 - 5 ft £1 per foot of tree. **SELECT YOUR TREE EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT** Tel 01954 251892

SMALL ADS:

5p per word, maximum 50 words, all proceeds to THE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

As from October 1997, the proceeds from the Cottenham Newsletter Small Ads. column will be sent to the The Children's Hospice at Milton. We have supported MAGPAS for the past eight years and have sent them over £50 in this time, all amounting from 5p a word on page 2, but we now feel it is time for a change of charity. Please keep the Small Ads.coming - every little helps,



DIARY NOTES

Cottenham Library is running monthly events for the winter season. Tickets in advance from the Library.

Refuse Collections over the Christmas period:
 no collection on Friday 26th December (Boxing Day) or
 Friday 2nd January, double collection on Saturday 3rd January



LADYBIRD PRE-SCHOOL COTTENHAM

(OFSTED Approved)



As a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance we provide high quality Child Care at competitive rates

For Children aged 2-3 years:-

Little Ladybirds Monday 1pm - 3pm
 Little Ladybirds Tuesday 9.00am - 11.00am
 Little Ladybirds Thursday 9.00am - 11.00am

For Children aged 3 years to School age:-

Monday 9.00am - 12.00pm
 Tuesday 9.00am - 12.00pm
 Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00pm
 Thursday 9.00am - 12.00pm
 Friday 12.30pm - 3.00pm

Additional Pre-school sessions (for Children Starting School Sept. '98)

Monday 9.00am - 12.00pm
 Tuesday 12.30pm - 3.00pm
 Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00pm
 Thursday 12.30pm - 3.00pm

Mother and Toddler Group meets Friday mornings 9.00am - 11.30am

Supervisor: Rosemary Miller BA(Hons) Chairperson: Barbara Johnson

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continued from front page

Serious consideration was given to restoration of this much loved building, but the structure is in such a poor state, it was agreed unanimously by the Church Council to seek permission to rebuild. The Bishop of Ely, as Patron of All Saints' Church, backs our proposals. Meetings have been held with the Conservation and Planning Officers for the area who assisted greatly by informing us what would and would not be allowed in this sensitive conservation area of the village. Members of the congregation who regularly used the hall had already been asked for their requirements and eventually a specification was prepared. Local architects were invited to present plans and after much deliberation the Hall Committee recommended to the PCC the acceptance of a design by William Miller Associates.

I am pleased to say that we now have an exciting design for a building that is in keeping with the Conservation Area yet offering much more flexible and usable accommodation than now. The design follows the lines of the existing building and includes a reminder of the Old Rectory stables that stood where the modern extension now stands. The plans include

using as much material from the original building as is salvageable. Our plans are obviously subject to planning permission being granted, but I hope you will agree that this new hall will be a valuable asset for church and village alike and in keeping with the history of our church, where, over the last few centuries, the appropriate facilities have always been built to meet the needs of the time. **NOW WE HAVE TO RAISE THE FUNDS!**

The exact cost is unknown at present, but is likely to be in the region of £180,000, a huge figure to have to find.

The target may seem unattainable, but if we could find out of our population of five thousand people just one hundred and fifty who would donate under Covenant or Gift Aid the sum of £250 each year for four years, we should know that we could proceed. Let me assure you that every gift, however small, will be appreciated, and there will be plenty of opportunities to help with fund raising.

We have already received a generous bequest, but we need to raise the rest of the money. Donations can be sent to The Hall Appeal Treasurer, Mrs. Jean Gifford, 16B High Street, Landbeach, Cambridge CB4 4DT,

with cheques payable to Cottenham P.C.C. If you would like details of how you can assist, please contact me at the Rectory.

Ian Friars, All Saints' Rectory, 6 High Street, Cottenham, Cambridge CB4 4SA, tel. 01954 250454

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A FOOTPATH FOR THE MILLENNIUM?

It's not so much those who can use the dual use cycle and footpath from here to Histon as those who would like to, but daren't, such as wheelchair users/pushers, young cyclists, those with big prams that I feel sorry for. Even on the fine days of this summer, very few of these used the path; it's too narrow and too close to the motor traffic.

However, our Parish Council met on 2 September and agreed it was inadequate, and are writing to the District and County Councils about it. Now that it is "officially" inadequate, our letters of concern to Mr. D. Hussell, Director of Planning at South Cambs. District Council and/or Mr. B. Smith, Director of Environment and Transport at

Cambridgeshire County Council, will add weight to the case for getting something done.

Though it is good for the cyclists that they have got the support of the Parish Council, not all of them deserve it. There are those who are not only riding on the pavement (tut,tut) but also riding in a rather aggressive manner that has scared some of the older residents.

But I still think we are concentrating too much on the cyclists; radical improvement to the present way will be expensive because of the ditch on the other side, so for a little more we could possibly have a proper path through the fields, which would make a walk to Histon and back a pleasant recreation for a

sunny afternoon. After all, it is the Millennium soon. Have we yet got a better "project" with which to celebrate? *Randall Foggie*

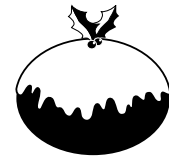
.....
The Parish Council has also sent us a note regarding footpaths and cyclists - they have received a number of complaints regarding various incidents regarding adults and older children riding on the village footways. Members of the Parish Council felt that a warning should be issued locally of the dangers of this illegal use of footpaths and pavements, while stressing the fact that they are of course aware that the current road situation does encourage and sometimes force cyclists on to the footways in the village.

THEATRICAL SPEAKER FOR DESIGN GROUP

December 4th, Cottenham Village College, 8.00pm. After the packed house for Mac Dowdy's fascinating talk last winter, the Village Design Group's December event offers another behind the scenes view of buildings. Our speaker is Barry Brown, of Cambridge firm Brown, Bland and Cole, architects of the renovation of the Cambridge Arts Theatre.

Barry Brown is an architect with a

strong belief in buildings which discreetly fit their context. In his illustrated talk he will show how he met the challenges of the Arts Theatre and other building projects where contemporary design and functions have been accommodated within the constraints of historic settings. Barry Brown's experience of the Arts Theatre goes back to his days in Footlights, so expect a lively evening.



SCHOOL MEDAL RETURNED TO OWNER

Readers of our last Newsletter will be pleased to learn that the owner of the Education Medal 1915 has been traced. Several helpful readers called us to give news of Cyril Peck, some recalled schooldays and others knew his current whereabouts. We are delighted to say that the medal has been returned to Mr. Peck by Jean Wilson, who visits him regularly at the home in Littleport where he now lives. Jean reports that he remembers getting the medal, although he never knew where he lost it! He was seven years old at the time, and is extremely pleased to have it back after 82 years.

Unfortunately we were unable to trace Pte. Thurlbourn's family, the other quest reported in the September issue, although we are still open to suggestions on this one.

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MOYRA RIDES AGAIN!

Hello again! Sorry about the interruption, I just had to go into Addenbrooke's to have a clamp glued to my sub-arachnoid haemorrhage (PS. No jokes about brain surgery any more, no asking the Good Lord for just ONE evening at home, or for a week in hospital for a rest, which I had done the night before!). Hasn't life changed in the past six months. Sadly, three days after I came out of hospital, my cat Teaser had to be put to sleep. He was 15, but what a blow for me at such a time and I do still miss him terribly.

You may have seen me out driving again, yes, in my dear old taxi but with the taxi sign covered up. Well, this is to give the sign a rest too!. I have just been allowed to drive myself again, after on four months 'on the buses' and walking. However, I shall have to wait until the Spring before I am well enough to start work. I know, I'm sorry, I know it's inconvenient for you all, but just think how brilliant it will be for you to be able to just ring me again (250305, by the way).

Before I ramble on, I just want to tell you about something I remember. It was a few Christmases ago and I was frantically busy. Everything was a mad crazy rush and in fact I was at my wit's end dashing down to Gatwick to meet someone. I arrived at the South Terminal only to see that the plane I was meeting was delayed. Phew, I could relax for an hour or so. I looked around me, though, and the building was packed with people tearing around with their luggage, skis, etc. Christmas was only a few days away and everyone was in a hurry. I rounded the corner and reached the arrivals hall.

There, beneath the arrivals board, was a small band of about 6 or 7 accordionists. All were dressed in suits and they had a conductor. They only came from a small village near Gatwick. Suddenly the conductor lifted his baton and the band struck up. The atmosphere in the arrivals hall changed immediately and several people gathered to watch. I kept my eye on the arrivals board as it flickered above their heads. Flights were

arriving from all over the world, including one from Vienna.

It's interesting when standing in an arrivals hall to try to match the people with the countries they are flying from. Suddenly I heard the band strike up The Blue Danube. One of the passengers walking through the barrier was a sprightly small chap dressed in a tweed suit. On his head he wore a traditional Tyrolean cap, complete with feather. The lady who met him rushed towards him, he downed his luggage and they started to waltz. As they swept up and down, magically a large area was free for them to dance and a crowd gathered around to watch. When the music ended, the Austrian picked up his luggage and they both walked off into the crowds. Ah well, a very Happy Christmas to you and a Happier New Year 1998. Tirrah! *Moyra Borg, temporarily retired.*

(The Editors would like to remind readers of the alternative number listed under Taxi on the back page of this Newsletter until Moyra is taking passengers again).

Merry
Christmas

The Oakington Therapy Centre. 12 High Street, Oakington, Cambridge. CB4 5AG

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We may be able to help you ! Ring and ask on Cambridge (01223) 237459

THE OAKINGTON THERAPY CENTRE

JASPER KAY'S BIRD REPORT - OCTOBER

Most of us when we are out and about quite rightly look where we are going. We keep our eyes firmly on the path, the pavement or the road. But for a bird watcher it is often worthwhile to stop and look up. In late September I saw a peregrine falcon high above the Village College and watched it make its spectacular dive. A few days later another observer saw it (or another one) above Long Drove. At the same time two buzzards were seen circling above the High Street.

Some house martins were still looking after their young in early October. Birds nesting in Telegraph Street suddenly disappeared - did the whole family leave together or did the parents abandon their young?

Many birds flock together at this time of year. Crows, jackdaws and

starlings are all feeding, roosting and flying around near to the centre of the village. Further out there are flocks of noisy mistle thrushes in trees and hedges, the fields have flocks of lapwings and there are mixed groups of finches and buntings in the stubble. These could be greenfinches, chaffinches, linnets, reed buntings, yellowhammers, corn buntings and sparrows.

No sooner had the last house martins and swallows disappeared but the winter birds began to arrive. I saw fieldfares in Church Lane on October 17th and on Long Drove two days later.

Our Birdwatch 97 project is now into its final two months. So far we have recorded 113 different species in the area, and this does not include the peacock which has made its home on Rampton Green!

COTTENHAM VILLAGE SOCIETY

The Village Society was formed in 1970, when its objectives were - and still are - "to encourage high standards of architecture and village planning, to stimulate public interest in the history, beauty and character of the area and to encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general amenity or historical interest".

Over the past 27 years, the Society has undertaken many projects, including bulbs planted on the Village Green, the old pump and horse trough re-sited on the Green, a bird bath and sundial presented to the Community Garden, a seat presented to the Methodist Church, ten publications on the history of Cottenham (still available, contact Francis Garrett on 01223 355747) and donations to the Parish Council for the upkeep of the Village Sign and to the Library for a subscription to the Cambridgeshire Journal (this is now instead of the annual Diary).

The Society is now looking for new members to join them for their regular programme of events throughout the year, with monthly meetings from September to April and a number of summer events. Annual subscription is only £3.00 a year, and all are welcome to join. Contact the Chairman, Martin Hudson (tel.Cottenham 251204), the Secretary, John Daniels (Cott.252275) or the Treasurer, Anne Wright, 39 Lambs Lane, Cottenham.

The Holly Walk

leaves from Cottenham Church
at 10.30 am on Boxing Day,
following the usual route -
up the Cut to Twenty Pence and back
(5 miles).

Shorter legs can do a shorter distance
(wellies are usually best).

PADS

Miller Associates

FEN REEVES COMMUNITY WOODLAND UPDATE

Although there does not seem to be much action these days from the Fen Reeves Woodland group, we are still active in ensuring that the woodland is available as an amenity to our village. For those who have visited the woodland over the past few months, you will have seen how well the trees have been growing with some now 7-8ft. tall. The pond at the Lode end of the woodland was planted up with a variety of pond plants and the water lilies have flowered well in their first year.

We suffered very much in the early part of 1997 from vandals who seemed hellbent on causing as much damage as possible, and from some who found hare and rabbit coursing a good excuse to

pull down the netting around the boundary. Again, money has had to be spent on providing rabbit guards to individual trees rather than improving the woodland for the public benefit.

CHRISTMAS TREE SHREDDING DAY

11th January 1998

We are arranging to have 2 trailers for collection of Christmas trees, one at Cottenham Green and one at Broad Lane, between 9am and 2pm, for you to come along and dispose of your old trees. Please bring your trees along, as we do use the mulch to put around the trees in the woodland. We have chosen this date as Twelfth Night falls in the week - please do not dispose of

your tree with the dustbin collection, as that goes to landfill. Trees only please, no rubbish or rubbish bags.

Many thanks to Robert Clarke for supplying the trailers and tractor for the past three years and a belated thanks to Ken Hewitt at Eastern Landscapes for shredding the trees up. We are very grateful to both of you for carrying out these tasks.

We are always on the lookout for anyone interested in joining the group., If you would like more information or feel you would like to help, please contact Andy Snelson, Chairman, on 01954 200138. *Peter Coles, Project Co-ordinator.*

B & C Motors advert reduce to fit

Christopher Davis

Let The Dream Begin

Losing weight becomes a reality with *Slimming* **WORLDS** Sin-A-Day Eating Plans. Why not come along to your local class at the **Community Room Coolidge Gdns** (off Beach Road) Every **THURSDAY at 5-30pm and 7-00pm** (New Members included with the 7-00pm Class) **Contact Georgina on 01354 688197**

WEIGHT LOSS CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY CONTROL OF
ENERGY INTAKE AND EXPENDITURE

COTTENHAM CRICKET CLUB

At the end of the 1996 summer, Cottenham cricket was at its lowest ebb with a lack of players, the 1st team relegated and the 2nd team just avoiding relegation. A decision was made at the AGM to go for youth with a dash of experience. All our younger players now play in the first XI and our second team is a mixture of experienced players and 16-18 year olds. To continue this theme, we are getting together with the Village College, assisted by PE teacher Steve Halkyard, to form a link between school and adult league cricket competition.

We would like to form an Under-14 and/or Under-15 team to play

midweek during May, June and July. For this we obviously need your help, so please contact us if your children are interested. We will hold coaching sessions indoors during the winter months (January - March) in preparation for the May start.

We are also in negotiation with the England Cricket Board with regard to lottery grants to provide outdoor net facilities and an all-weather playing surface, either at the College or at Lambs Lane Recreation ground. This is the one way forward for a village of this size to encourage teenagers to channel their energies into something

they can enjoy for many years.

The results of this year's endeavour were our 1st XI just missing promotion but reaching the Lower Junior Cup Final, and the 2nd XI holding their own comfortably in their league whilst bleeding more young players. However, without those transitional teams at 14-15 and decent facilities to practise, it is very difficult to go forward. Any cricketers interested in helping the club in their efforts to progress further should contact either the Secretary, Mick Dean (01954 250037) or the Chairman, Keith Dalton (01954 250896).



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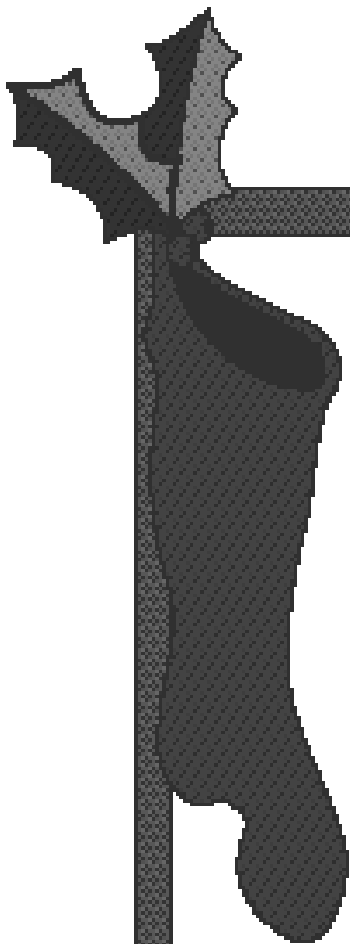
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COTTENHAM THEATRE WORKSHOP CHRISTMAS SHOW

December 10 - 13

The Theatre Workshop proudly presents their 1997 panto Humpty Dumpty on Wednesday 10th to Saturday 13th December, nightly at 7.30 pm plus a Saturday matinee at 3.30 pm.

The show, directed by Clive Borrow, features all the magic ingredients of a traditional family pantomime: great songs, glamorous costumes, terrible jokes and heaps of audience participation!

Tickets (£4.50 and £4.00, concessions £4.00 and £3.50) are available from the Box Office, 111 Rooks Street, Cottenham, tel. 01954 201702.

Book early to avoid disappointment!



FATHER CHRISTMAS COMES TO COTTENHAM

Meet him on the Green
Tuesday 16th December

6.30 pm onwards

Carols around the Christmas Tree

The singing will be led by Cottenham Primary School Choir
accompanied by Cottenham Brass Band

Barbecue

Young children especially welcome

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

If you are new to the village, do not attend a church or just fancy a change, you are warmly invited to our times of fellowship each Sunday at 10.45 am. Junior church is at 10.30 and creche facilities are available. To contact us, ring Julie on 252647 or Nick on 251553.

Our Christmas Fair is on Saturday 6th December, 9.30 - 2.00pm, with

lunches from 12 noon. On Sunday 7th December at 10.45 am we have the Annual Toy Service supporting Cambridge Women's Refuge, with refreshments afterwards. Two Sundays, December 14 and 21, Morning Fellowship is "Preparing for Christmas", and on Christmas Day at 10.00 we have a special service supporting NCH Action for Children.



SITUATIONS VACANT

CAMBRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS distributors are needed in the Church End area of the village, between Broad Lane and Twenty Pence Road. Contact Judy Moir, Weekly News Supervisor, on 01223 434377 if you are interested in this paid work (£5.60 per week plus extra for leaflets).

CAMSIGHT are again looking for house-to-house collectors in the village for the week 28th February - 7th March. Contact Vicki Russell, tel 01223 420033/01954 202877

WELCOME HOME FROM HOSPITAL is just what it says - a hospital discharge service managed

by Care Network, operating within a ten-mile radius of Addenbrooke's. Mostly for people living alone with no immediate help, the service provides volunteers to go in for a few days to help ease transition from hospital to home. Duties are simple, making hot drinks or light meals, warming the house, perhaps a bit of shopping, just making sure the person is all right and has what he or she needs, and probably only taking about an hour each day. Contact Paul Seekings, Welcome Home from Hospital, Box 195 Addenbrooke's Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2QQ, or telephone Paul direct on 01223 217532.



CAR SHARE TO WORK CAN YOU HELP?

Further to an idea put forward in the July/August issue:

Lift required into central Cambridge for 9.00am. Please contact: Simone Navon 35b Rooks Street, Cottenham, Tel 01954 252675

If you can offer/require a lift, please get in touch if you would like to use the Newsletter for this.



Dear Editor

We would like to thank our friends in Cottenham for all the flowers, cards, comforting words and prayers that have come to us over the last weeks. It is at these times that Cottenham proves to be a good place to live. Thank you for your kindness. *Maud Lambert and Family, 29 Lyles Road, Cottenham*

Letters for publication may be sent to either of the Editors, and should include the name and address of the sender, although this may be omitted from publication if requested. Please keep correspondence short and topical; please note that the Editors may use their discretion regarding publication, and their decision is final.



ADVERTISING RATES

Current rates are:

Size A - £17.50

Size B - £30.00

(discount of 10% for six insertions prepaid)

Artwork, if required, is charged separately, minimum £5.00, depending on the amount of work involved. Quotations are available on request.

**Contact Ruth Rogers on
01954 200020**

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police.....	Central Control.....	01480 456111
Doctors.....	Dr. Julie Gould, 188 High Street.....	250079
	Dr. M. Grande, 42 Telegraph Street.....	251180
Community Nurses.....	Answerphone or between 1.00 - 2.00 pm.....	251071
Cottenham CareCar.....	Co-ordinator, 9.00 am - 6.00 pm.....	251837
Cottenham Helpline.....	Co-ordinator, Monday/Friday (12.00 - 2.00 pm).....	201590
	Wednesdays (12.00 - 2.00 pm).....	250937
Salvation Army.....	Major Colin Hobson, 15 Pelham Close.....	250524
Dentist.....	R.J. Cook, Old Telephone Exchange, 40 Margett Street.....	251696
Chemist.....	R. Macbeth, 222 High Street.....	250556
Chiropodist.....	J.R. Kain, 13 Pelham Close.....	251143
Osteopath.....	R.J. Giddings, 12 High Street, Oakington.....	01223 237459
Veterinary Surgeon.....	R. Hughes-Parry, 66 High Street.....	252122
Schools.....	Cottenham Village College.....	288944
	County Primary, Lambs Lane.....	250227
Pre-School.....	Lady birds Pre-School, Recreation Ground.....	250891
Out of School Club.....		201661
Community Off. CVC.....	Jenny Kay, Geoff Redhead.....	288944
Council Offices.....	South Cambs. District Council.....	01223 351795
	Cambridgeshire County Council.....	01223 717111
Parish Council.....	Clerk - P.J. Sanderson, 37 Broad Lane.....	250836
District Councillor.....	Rex Collinson, 20 Rampton Road.....	251377
	Tony Nicholas, 77 Pelham Way.....	201314
County Councillor.....	Peter Stroude, Shire Hall.....	0800 243916
Social Services.....	Cambs. County Council.....	01223 317500
British Red Cross.....	Cambridge Office.....	01223 354434
Citizens Advice.....	CAB, 72/74 Newmarket Road, Cambridge.....	01223 353875
Social Services.....	Etheldred House, Histon.....	01223 235105
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