



# Sawtry Eye

Distributed to Conington, Glatton,  
Upton & Sawtry

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

No. 78 February - March 2009

## JUMBLE SALE

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February**  
**At Sawtry Methodist Church**  
**Doors open 9.30am**

30p Admission

In aid of  
Sawtry Methodist Church Building Fund

For more information please call  
Freda on 01487 831249

## Bingo in Sawtry



### Sawtry WI

6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> February  
6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> March  
3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> April  
(See page 4)

### Sawtry Day Centre

27 February  
27 March  
(See page 6)

### Sawtry Pre-school Playgroup

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March  
(See page 7)

### Friends of Sawtry Community College

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
(See page 8)

### Sawtry Feast Supper

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
(See page 8)

### Sawtry Bowling Club

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
(See page 24)



## ALL SAINTS, SAWTRY INDOOR CAR BOOT SALE

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March**  
**10.00am - Noon**

In the Old School Hall, Green End Road, Sawtry.  
£6-00p per table

Refreshments will be available and  
a raffle will be held

Admission 40p to non-stallholders

To book a table please contact  
Pat Ayres on 01487 832503

*You can read the Sawtry Eye on the internet at [www.caresco.org.uk](http://www.caresco.org.uk)*

## SAWTRY COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP

**Open on Wednesdays 25<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> March**  
**9.00am - 11.30am**

**The Study, in the Old School Hall, Green End Road**

This is during Fairtrade Fortnight and has been kindly sponsored by the Sawtry Co-operative Store.  
It is hoped that this will become a regular weekly event but needs your support to make it work. It requires the help of individuals or groups to become involved in this community venture

If you would like to know more please contact  
Diane or Sally at the Parish Council Office, 37 Green End Road, Tel: 831771

If you are moving house, please can you leave a recent copy of Sawtry Eye for the new occupiers - Thank you



**COFFEE SHOP**

**Every Friday**

9 - 11.30am (Term Time)

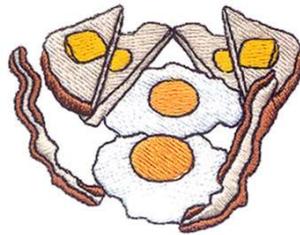
9.45am - 11.30am (During school holidays)

at the CARESCO Centre

***A warm welcome for coffee and a chat.***

It's the place to be

**Everyone Welcome**



**For issue No: 79**  
**Apr - May 09**

Advertisements by  
12 Noon on 13 March 09

News Items by  
12 Noon on 20 March 09

**Full Page: 17.5cm x 26cm**

1 Issue - £90

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1 Issue - £28

6 Issues - £140

**Eighth Page: 6.5cm x 8.5cm**

1 Issue - £16

6 Issues - £80

For more information call in or  
phone 9.00am - 12 Noon  
Monday - Friday

**01487 832105**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL MY FRIENDS WHO WERE BORN IN THE 1940's, 50's, 60's, 70's**

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they carried us and lived in houses made of asbestos. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese, raw egg products, loads of bacon and processed meat, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes or cervical cancer. Then after that trauma, our baby cots were covered with bright coloured lead-based paints. We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets or shoes, not to mention the risks we took hitchhiking. As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. We drank water from the garden hose and NOT from a bottle. Take-away food was limited to fish and chips, no pizza shops, McDonalds, KFC, Subway or Nandos. Even though all the shops closed at 6.00pm and didn't open on the weekends, somehow we didn't starve to death!

We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and NO ONE actually died from this. We could collect old drink bottles and cash them in at the corner store and buy Toffees, Gobstoppers, Bubble Gum and some bangers to blow up frogs with. We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank soft drinks with sugar in, but we weren't overweight because.....WE WERE ALWAYS OUTSIDE PLAYING!!

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day and we were O.K. We would spend hours building our go-carts out of old prams and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. We built tree houses and dens and played in river beds with matchbox cars. We did not have Playstations, Nintendo Wii, X-boxes, no video games at all, No 999 channels on SKY, no video/dvd films, no mobile phones, no personal computers, no Internet or Internet chat rooms.....WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!

We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents. Only girls had pierced ears! We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever. You could only buy Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns at Easter time. We were given air guns and catapults for our 10th birthdays. We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just yelled for them! Mum didn't have to go to work to help dad make ends meet!

RUGBY and CRICKET had trials and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!! Getting into the team was based on MERIT. Our teachers used to hit us with canes and gym shoes and bully's always ruled the playground at school. The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law! Our parents didn't invent stupid names for their kids like 'Kiora' and 'Blade' and 'Ridge' and 'Vanilla'.

We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned HOW TO DEAL WITH IT ALL! And if YOU are one of them! CONGRATULATIONS!



Sawtry Eye Magazine is Published by:  
**CARESCO (Sawtry & District Care & Resource Organisation)**

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 CARESCO Centre  
 Green End Road  
 Sawtry  
 Huntingdon  
 Cambs PE28 5UX

Telephone: 01487 832105

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

Articles & Letters can be emailed to CARESCO. Please put as subject "For Sawtry Eye" and enclose full name and postal address — Email: [caresco@sawtry.net](mailto:caresco@sawtry.net)

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

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**EDITORIAL POLICY SUMMARY**

- All items are included entirely at the discretion of the editors who reserve the right to edit or refuse to print any item submitted.
  - Views expressed in the Sawtry Eye are not necessarily those of the editors or CARESCO, they are included in the interests of free speech.
  - Anonymous items will only be considered where the author has submitted their full name & contact details to the editors with their contribution and have requested, with reason, that these are withheld.
  - Before printing a critical item the editors reserve the right to approach the criticised persons/group and offer an opportunity to comment, where possible, in the same issue. At their discretion the editors may delay the critical item to the following issue or publish without a reply.
  - The editors cannot accept any liability for omissions, errors or mistakes which occur in production.
  - The copies of Sawtry Eye delivered to the parish of Sawtry are accompanied by the Sawtry Parish Council Newsletter which is published by and the responsibility of Sawtry Parish Council.
- The full Editorial Policy is available from the CARESCO office during office hours.

**DISTRIBUTION OF SAWTRY EYE:**  
 If you know of anybody who does not receive a copy or would like to help deliver Sawtry Eye, telephone: 01487 832105 between 9am—12 noon Monday-Friday



**Welcome** We have a couple of hellos in this issue. Firstly to the newest member of our editorial team, Aila, who very conveniently waited to arrive until her mother Donna, who does the graphic design for the advert section, had finished working on the last issue! Congratulations to Donna & Richard. We would also like to welcome Steve West, the new head teacher at Sawtry Junior School, replacing David Smith who left the school last Easter to become a school inspector. Mr West introduces himself to you on page 9.

I hope you enjoy playing bingo, there does seem to be a lot of it about at the moment. We have put together all the dates on the front cover, but you can read the details under each organisation's section inside the Eye.

Don't forget you can now read this issue online at [www.caresco.org.uk](http://www.caresco.org.uk). Need to check a date while at work? Want your friends in Australia to be able to read an article? Just visit our website & follow the links.

As always we are grateful to our advertisers for their continuing support without which there wouldn't be a magazine. If you do respond to any of their adverts, please tell them you saw it in the Eye.

*Liz Coates*

Liz Coates - Co-Editor

*Sawtry Eye*  
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**SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR  
SAWTRY SCHOOLS**

**Spring Term 2009**

Start of Term - 6 January  
Half Term - 16 - 20 February  
End of Term - 3 April

**Summer Term 2009**

Start of Term - 20 April  
May Day 4 May  
Half Term - 25 May to 29 May  
End of Term - 20 July

**Autumn Term 2009**

Start of Term - 3 September  
Half Term - 26-30 October  
End of Term - 19 December

Schools have a number of training days available to take at their discretion. Please contact your local school for details. Or check the Cambridgeshire County Council website at <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/education>



Don't forget - during all weeks containing a bank holiday, collections will take place **ONE DAY LATE**

**HDC REFUSE COLLECTION**

Sawtry, Conington, Glatton & Upton have the same calendar for refuse collection, however the week day may vary.

To find out the exact dates for your property visit <http://applications.huntsdc.gov.uk/applications/refusecollection/> and enter your house number & postcode or call 01480 388388

**GREY (LANDFILL WASTE)**  
(Week Beginning)

9 & 23 February 2009  
9 & 23 March 2009

**COMPOST (GARDEN WASTE)  
& DRY RECYCLING**  
(Week Beginning)

2 & 16 February 2009  
2, 16 & 30 March 2009

For more information visit the Hunts District Council website at <http://www.huntsdc.gov.uk> and look for the **Refuse & Recycling** link on the left hand side of the page.



**Sawtry WI**

Sawtry WI meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the WI Hall, Gidding Road (Wheelchair Access)

**5 February 2009**

'My Work as a Magistrate' - *Brian Payne JP*

**5<sup>th</sup> March**

Growing Old Disgracefully - Rex Freeman

**2<sup>nd</sup> April**

History of RAF Wyton - Sqn Ldr Dalley (Rtd)

Visitors & New Members Welcome

Regular features include: Bring & Buy stall, raffle and refreshments

Secretary 01487 832925

**Registered Charity No. 229016**

**SAWTRY AND DISTRICT ASTRONOMY SOCIETY**

The Astronomy Society meets at Greenfields Sports Building, Sawtry Fen 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start. Everyone is welcome.

**27<sup>th</sup> February**

3 Realms of Astronomy - Pam Dow

**27<sup>th</sup> March**

TBA

If the sky is clear you can look through telescopes at the moon, planets, stars and other objects, even see the nearest galaxy to us.

For more information please contact: -

Bernard Dean 01487 832251

Dave Woodhams 01487 831921

**Sawtry WI**

**In Aid of the WI Hall**

**Bingo**

6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> February  
6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> March  
3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> April  
Eyes down 7.30

**Soup & Pud Lunch**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February  
12 noon - 2pm  
Tickets £4.00  
Raffle, Bring & Buy

**Coffee Morning**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March  
10.30am - 12 noon  
£1.00  
Raffle, Bring & Buy & Books

**Afternoon Tea**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
2.30 - 4pm  
£2.50  
Raffle, Bring & Buy & Books

Contact for events 01487 831793

2009	Group	Details	Contact No	Page No
13 February	Sawtry Bowling Club	Whist Drive	01487 830720	24
18 February	Churches Together	Frugal Lunch	01487 830089	6
25 February	Sawtry Parish Council	Sawtry Community Coffee Shop	01487 831771	Front Page
26 February	Sawtry WI	Soup & Pud Lunch	01487 831793	4
27 February	Sawtry Bowling Club	Beetle Drive	01487 830720	24
28 February	Sawtry Methodist Church	Jumble Sale	01487 831249	Front Page
28 February	Friends of SCC	Quiz Night	01733 243056	8
4 March	Sawtry Parish Council	Sawtry Community Coffee Shop	01487 831771	Front Page
6 March	Easter Bingo	Sawtry Pre-School Play Group	01487 832433	7
7 March	All Saints, Sawtry	Indoor Car Boot Sale	01487 830089	Front Page
7 March	Sawtry Bowling Club	Quiz Night	01487 830720	24
19 March	Sawtry WI	Coffee Morning	01487 831793	4
20 March	Sawtry Bowling Club	Whist Drive	01487 830720	24
25 March	Sawtry Infant School	Easter Egg Competition	01487 830678	7
28 March	St Nicholas, Glatton	Quiz Night	01487 831651	19
29 March	Friends of SCC	Easter Bingo	01733 243056	8
31 March	Sawtry Junior School Association	Easter Bingo	01487 830204	7
2 April	Sawtry Parish Council	Local Produce Market	01487 831771	6
2 April	Bingo	Sawtry Feast Supper	01487 830571	-
3 April	Sawtry Bowling Club	Easter Bingo	01487 830720	24
16 April	Sawtry WI	Afternoon Tea	01487 831793	4
30 April	Sawtry Infant School	Bingo	01487 830678	7
9 May	All Saints, Sawtry	Plant Sale	01487 830089	19
31 May – 6 June	Sawtry Parish Council	Feast Week	01487 831771	-
6 June	Sawtry Carnival Committee	Sawtry Carnival	01487 832410	11
13 June	All Saints, Sawtry	Summer Fete	01487 830089	-
12 September	Sawtry Show Committee	Sawtry Show	01487 831332	10

If you would like to have a date considered for inclusion please email the details along with a contact number to [caresco@sawtry.net](mailto:caresco@sawtry.net) with the subject 'Make a Date'. We cannot include regular meetings/classes as space will not allow, but we would love to know about the special events.

When your organisation fixes dates, do not forget to let us know. Don't wait for the next deadline. If you don't have access to email, then put it in writing and drop it into the CARESCO Centre or phone us on 01487 832105 (answer phone outside office hours). We reserve the right to decide which items to include.

CARESCO is not responsible for the accuracy of the above information. Please check with the individual group concerned.

## Farmers' Markets

Truly local food sold by the people who produce it.

### HUNTINGDON

Alternate Fridays from 8am to 2pm in Huntingdon Market Square

6 & 20 February 2009  
6 & 20 March 2009

### Special Attractions

#### Green your garden Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Help & advice on reducing waste, getting your garden ready for spring and attracting wildlife. With games & activities for children.

#### Go Bananas for Fairtrade Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

You don't usually see bananas at a certified farmers' market but this is for a special cause. Huntingdon Fairtrade Group celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight with an information stall at the Farmers' Market and Fairtrade produce for sale in All Saints' Church.

#### Cook your Mummy something yummy Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Great ideas for Mothering Sunday treats

Organised by Huntingdonshire District Council with the support of Huntingdon Town Centre Partnership.

For more information call 01480 388640 or email HuntsFarmersMkt@aol.com

### PETERBOROUGH

From 9am to 4pm in Cathedral Square

Thursdays 11 & 25 December 08  
Thursdays 8 & 22 January 2009

Organised by Peterborough City Council.

For more information call 01733 452217

or email citycentre.services@peterborough.gov.uk

Farmers' markets are different because the food sold there must be from the local area and sold by the people who grow or produce it. Bought-in produce is not allowed.

Buy fresh, high quality produce from the people who can tell you how it was grown or made.

Welcome to the

## Sawtry Camera Club

We are a like minded group of photographers who like to try and improve our hobby. We use film, digital and video formats.

All are welcome, young, old, male or female, novice or expert  
(We hope to learn from the experts)

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month

At the Methodist Church Hall in Green End Road  
Between 7.00pm and 9.30pm (no meeting in July due to holidays).

A free cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit will welcome you.

For more information phone 01487 830186, 830550 or 832251

## Congratulations

Donna & Richard Green  
On the birth of their baby daughter

*Aila Louise*

On 29<sup>th</sup> November 2008

Weighing 7lb 15oz

Love Mum, Dad & Sara

## LOCAL PRODUCE MARKET

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

8 am - 2 pm

Old School Hall, Green End Rd,  
SAWTRY

For more information please call

Diane or Sally  
in the Parish Office on  
01487 831771

## Prize Bingo

In aid of Sawtry Day Centre

27 February  
27 March

Starts 7.30pm

In the CARESCO Centre,  
Green End Road, Sawtry

Contact

Kath Allport on 01487 831123

## Frugal Lunch

Wednesday 18th February  
12noon - 1.30pm

At the Methodist Church, Green End Road, Sawtry

Tickets £2.50 minimum donation,  
children under 5 free  
Bring and Buy stall

In aid of Christian Aid.

Tickets from Shirley Sharp 01487  
830875 or Janet Gibson

## Sawtry Junior School Association

Come along to any of these events at the Junior School – we'd love to see you!

**School Book Fair** - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> until Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - open from 2.30 pm until 4 pm every day

**Café open at the Book Fair** - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March - enjoy browsing for books over cake and a cuppa!

**Easter Bingo** - Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 6.30 pm

For more information please call 01487 830204



## CHOCOLATE BINGO

Registered Charity No: 1029997

The Sawtry Preschool Playgroup Chocolate Bingo is being held on

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at the Old School Hall**  
**Doors open at 7pm**  
**Eyes Down at 7.30 pm**

Come along and enjoy the night and possibly win some yummy prizes.

Raffle and Refreshments. All very welcome.

All proceeds will go towards the pre-school.

For more information please contact  
 01487 832433

## Sawtry Infant School

Dates for the Diary

### Cake Stalls

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2.30 p.m.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2.30 p.m.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2.30 p.m.



### Easter Egg Competition

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Pre-School, Infant, Junior and Adult Classes  
 To be judged by Steve West Head of Junior School

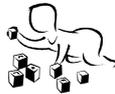
### Bingo

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April**

We look forward to seeing you at our Fund Raising Events during 2009 and take this opportunity of thanking everyone for their continued support.

For more information call 01487 830678

## playStop Playgroup



**Every Wednesday 9am – 11am**  
**(school terms only)**

At the Community youth centre, Green End Road, Sawtry

We are a community run toddler group that offers a safe play environment and a chance for a cuppa and chat so why not drop in.

### Dates for your diary

**4<sup>th</sup> February - Chinese new year**  
 Food, dragons and more.

**11<sup>th</sup> February – Valentines day**  
 I love you craft.

## TINY TOTS

Is under new management

**Tuesday 9.30 - 11.00 am**

Methodist Church  
 Green End Road, Sawtry

Toys for all ages up to 4 years  
 Activities/Crafts/Songs

**£1 per family**

Includes refreshments, First visit **FREE**

**Come along and make new friends**  
**New members welcome**

For more information call  
 Hannah - 01487 831120  
 Sara - 01733 248 222

## Lunch



Who wouldn't like to go out for lunch once or twice a week? If only it wasn't so **expensive**. Are you aware there is a **Luncheon Club** in Sawtry Village, where you can enjoy a freshly cooked two course meal which includes tea/coffee for the price of **£3.05** all prepared in a **4 star** food hygiene rated kitchen.

As the lunch club is in Sawtry Village, it's **not far** to drive or walk to.

The club meets on Mondays/Tuesdays at 10:30am-1:30pm. You would be welcome on either or both days. For more information contact **Lyn Wallis** at **CARESCO** on **01487 832105** or come along on either day for a cup of tea/coffee and have a chat.



## g3d Horticultural Services

Have you ever thought about improving your garden but weren't sure where to start? This course will help you prepare for, and achieve, a really successful gardening season.

### We are providing four seminars:

- Soil quality and improvement 3<sup>rd</sup> March
- Right plant, right place 10<sup>th</sup> March
- Plant health and maintenance 17<sup>th</sup> March
- Garden design basics 24<sup>th</sup> March

To be held at:  
The Old School Hall, Green End Rd, Sawtry at 8pm

£3 on the door, tea & biscuits included.  
For more information please email:  
sam@g3d.co.uk  
Or call 07723 999 187  
Samantha Brown BSc. (HONS) MSc. (Hort.)

## SAWTRY FEAST SUPPER PRIZE BINGO



Sawtry Ex-Servicemen's Club  
ON

**Thursday 2nd April**

EYES DOWN AT 7.30PM

You do not have to be a member  
of the club to attend.  
Everyone is very welcome.

Contact: 01487 830571

## Friends of Sawtry Community College Brings you...



**When:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009  
**What Time:** Doors open at 7.00 pm  
Quiz begins at 7.30 pm  
**Venue:** Sawtry CC Main Hall  
**Who:** Everyone (families are welcome)  
**How Much:** Only £6 a team (pay on night)  
Maximum of 6 members per team

Licensed Bar ~ Kids Tuck Shop ~ Raffle  
(Please feel free to bring your own snacks)



**When:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009  
**What Time:** Doors open 7.00pm  
Eyes down 7.30pm  
**Venue:** Sawtry Community College Main Hall

For more information please call  
01733 243056

**Everyone welcome**

\*\* All proceeds going towards stage lighting  
for the main school hall \*\*

## Letters ...

**Alan Vallance**  
15/07/47 – 17/12/08

Maureen and family would like to thank everyone who sent cards, letters, made donations to Macmillan Nurses and came to All Saints for the funeral service.

Special thanks to Dr Smith, District Nurses and the Macmillan Nurses for their wonderful care & support.

Thank you most sincerely,

**Maureen Vallance**  
**Abbey Close, Sawtry**



**Write to Sawtry Eye: 'Letters', CARESCO, Green End Road, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs PE28 5UX**



Or email [caresco@sawtry.net](mailto:caresco@sawtry.net) with subject 'Letter for Sawtry Eye'

PLEASE SEE STATEMENT FOR SUBMITTING LETTERS ON PAGE 3

## NEW JUNIOR HEADTEACHER

Hello,

I thought I would briefly introduce myself to you. My name is Steve West and I have just started work as the new Headteacher at Sawtry Junior School in January.

Time seems to be whizzing by already!

I was Deputy Headteacher at Peakirk cum Glington CE Primary School in Peterborough from 2004 to December 2008. The school is a small village primary school situated in the village of Glington, but serving the Parishes of Glington and Peakirk – hence the long name!

I gained a degree in Geography at Liverpool University in 1994 and qualified as a teacher the following year in 1995 at the College of Higher Education in Liverpool. I spent most of my childhood living in the north of England but I was actually born in Kent! Generally I call myself a Northerner!

My first teaching job was at Bacton Middle School in rural Suffolk, very different to inner city Liverpool! I met my wife in Suffolk and we have lived in Peterborough for about 10 years now. We have two children; Sophie aged 7 and Reuben who is two at the end of February. The children keep us very busy. Reuben now charges around and is into everything. Sophie has a hectic life and spends most evenings going to one club or another. We are already beginning to realise that we will be transporting her around for the next 10 or so years!

I am very excited about being Headteacher here at the Junior School. I love teaching, but being a Head is something I have wanted to do for a few years now. I keep forgetting names and am finding learning all the names of the children and the families at the school difficult, so please bear with me! I have told the parents at the school already that my office door is always open and I would like to take this opportunity to say that message is the same for the whole village community. As the new Headteacher I am keen to continue to develop links between the Junior School and the whole village community – parents, grandparents, ex pupils, the other schools, shops, businesses, you name it, everyone! I will try and keep you informed of any special events going on at the school or areas of the curriculum we would like to gain your support with. I look forward to meeting you all. Please don't hesitate to phone school on 830204 or email me at [head@sawtry-jun.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:head@sawtry-jun.cambs.sch.uk) to introduce yourself, share an idea or a problem. Looking forward to a great partnership together!

Best wishes,

**Steve West**

## Pink Disco

Salon 42

I would like to express my gratitude to all the lovely ladies (and men) who supported us at our recent charity event when we raised a fantastic £1352.00 which has been split and donated to breast and ovarian cancer charities.

A huge thank you to Tamar Sheridan who spent weeks helping me promote and organise this event and worked really hard to make it successful. A special thank you to Sam & David from Greystones for the use of the room and also for their very generous donation, to Joe, our DJ, who donated his time free of charge, to Stuart my husband, who fetched, carried, printed, built and dismantled (the list is endless).

A big thank you to all the businesses and individuals that gave us some fantastic prizes, and a great big thank you to my dear family and friends who helped and supported me and lastly the fabulous salon staff who worked (and danced) their socks off!!

We would like to make this an annual event. We realise there were a few hiccups on the night which is down to lack of experience and hope that everyone who attended enjoyed themselves. If you would like to give us some feedback on how we can improve and make this more successful next time, please leave us a comment on the Salon 42 Facebook page or email me on [debbi1b@btinternet.com](mailto:debbi1b@btinternet.com)

**Debbie Brown - 01487 833006**

### Santa helps the Huntingdon Grafham Water Lions

The Huntingdon Grafham Water Lions collected £1500 at the Lions Autumn Fair in Huntingdon in November and had pledged it to the Macmillan Cancer Support Charity and the charity Hearing Dogs for the Deaf won the shield awarded to the charity which collected the most money at the annual Lions Safari walk around Grafham Water. On Sunday 7th December Santa, who was at Frosts Garden Centre every weekend before Christmas, took a few minutes off from greeting children to help the Lions present a cheque for £1500 to Di Polley of the Macmillan Cancer Support Charity. He then helped again by presenting the shield to Fiona Davis-Poynter of Hearing Dogs for the Deaf who brought along Romeo, a one year old Labrador who has just started his training (pictured left).



If you would like to join a small group of ordinary people doing extraordinary things, there are only thirteen of us, why not phone Lion Bernard Dable on 01480 810704.

## UPTON GARDENING CLUB

We started 2009 with our usual guest speaker - Geoff Hodge, well known horticulturalist and Radio Cambridge broadcaster. - always a good night with him; this year's subject was 'Colour all the year round'. Next month is a new speaker to our club - Stuart Philips who will talk on 'Trees and shrubs for the small garden'. Stuart is a Horticultural Consultant and Lecturer from the Northampton area.

We meet at Upton Village Hall on the third Wednesday of every month, at 7.30pm - if further details required contact Ian Plum on 01832 293599.

**KIP - 01832 293599**

## TREE WARDEN REPORT

'Flu and freezing weather have delayed work on tree planting around the village.

Planting is planned mainly in hedgerows at the Fishing Lake, alongside the sports field also at Greenfield, and the small derelict hedgerow on Fen Lane opposite Chapel End, where removal of the old fence started mid January.

Local varieties of apple trees are on order to plant at both schools. Also we hope to have some more willow from Holt Island to establish a willow fence around a quiet area at the Infants. There is ongoing maintenance work on the bog at the Infants School, and the willow structures at the Day Nursery and Junior School. My thanks to all the volunteers.

Go out and enjoy trees this winter, visit Holme Fen for the stark white birches, and wildfowl on the lakes. Our local woods, Aversley and Archers are also well worth a visit.

**Janet Spencer - 01487 830527**

## SAWTRY SHOW

SATURDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER – SAWTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Although this is only the fifth Sawtry Show, the idea of a Village Show is steeped in history, and has become a tradition in many local villages. (Alconbury Show, for example, held a week before ours, is over one hundred years old).

The Show's purpose is not to give committee members a chance to swank and show off! In fact some of us would now prefer not to compete, and we only do so to make classes viable.

No, the idea is to encourage everyone to grow some fruit, vegetables, plants and flowers, or to do some baking, take up and practise arts, crafts or photography. There is a huge wealth of talent in this village, and 12<sup>th</sup> September will give an opportunity for you to compete and also to admire the efforts of others.

The full Show Schedule will be out soon and the committee hopes that the classes that have been chosen will once again, or for the first time, tempt Sawtry readers to enter.

**Babs Sullivan, Show Committee Chairman - Tel: 831332**

## SAWTRY ST JOHN AMBULANCE

Badgers - 5 yrs to 10 yrs - now taking on new members (Mondays 5.30 to 6.30pm)

Cadets - 10 yrs to 18 yrs - now taking on new members (Mondays 6.45 to 8.00pm)

### First Aid Courses:-

**"Basic First Aid"** - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 9.30 am to 2.30 pm

**"Emergency & Basic First Aid"** - the following Monday evenings from 8.15 to 9.30 pm - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> March 2009

All courses take place in the Youth & Community Centre, Green End Road. There is no charge for the current courses, although there is a £5 deposit for the books (refunded at end of course). These are both qualifications lasting for 3 years.

Courses open to 16 yrs and above. This is a real opportunity to learn and new and valuable skill. Please ring Maureen Denton on 01733 260969 to secure a place as there are only 18 places on each (including those who have already inquired please).



## SAWTRY VILLAGE CARNIVAL

Saturday 6th June 2009, 12 noon - 3pm

Carnival Grounds (behind the Old School Hall, Green End Rd, Sawtry)

**STOP PRESS !  
LOCAL CELEB WARWICK DAVIES (STAR WARS AND HARRY POTTER ACTOR)  
TO COMPERE SAWTRY CARNIVAL!**

### **FREE STALLS WHERE YOU CAN RAISE SOME SERIOUS MONEY FOR YOUR OWN COMMUNITY GROUP**

Calling all local community groups.... We are now taking bookings for pitches at this year's Sawtry Carnival 2009.

Stalls are free to local community groups and clubs, so why not book a pitch and raise some money for your group. It is also great place to recruit new members. There will be a 'kidzone' with stalls dedicated to kids this year so why not book a pitch there if appropriate. Hundreds of people flocked to the Carnival last year, so get your group together and think what you could do to raise some cash. Ring Gill to book a pitch ASAP!

### **STALLS now available for local businesses and crafts people only £10!**

Just think you could sell products or promote your business to hundreds of carnival goers on the day. If you would like a pitch, please ring the number below to book. Limited numbers available so book early! Talk to Gill.

### **Calling all local groups, clubs and local charities**

We would love ALL the local clubs, groups & charities in the village to take part in the Carnival fancy dress parade through the village this year (due to insurance purposes we cannot have private vehicles in the parade). The overall theme for Carnival this year is Movies and TV. We would like to invite each group to have their own theme or film or characters and their own homemade banner or flag, and there will be a prize for the best themed group that dresses up.

Anyone not belonging to a group, never fear. You can still dress up and follow the parade - the more the merrier!!!

Back by popular demand - the Peterborough Highland Marching band and Fletton Majorettes will be leading the parade.

**CLUBS/GROUPS** please ring 01487 832410 and we will put you in contact with Louise, the lady who has kindly volunteered to organise this year's parade. It's going to be the best yet!!! She can help with ideas to theme your group and will send out info.

### **SATURDAY 6th JUNE 2009.... COME ALONG... put it in your diary**

This year the committee of volunteers is working hard to make the Carnival a really great afternoon out for all the family, and we will be making it bigger and better with 2 arenas (one for performing arts, one for live music), there will be a bar, hot food, new attractions & rides, children's entertainer, kidzone, demonstrations & stalls.

The Carnival is run by volunteers, supported by the parish council. It does not set out to make a profit, all money raised from paying stallholders and Grand Draw tickets will be ploughed back into next year's Carnival to make that bigger and better, and cover the Carnival's running costs. Come to one of our monthly meetings for more details.

The Carnival takes place, so that local groups and local charities can make some money for their own group and of course so we can all have a great afternoon out, bringing all members of the village together in the spirit of the Carnival.

### **MORE MARSHALS AND VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR THE DAY**

We still need more volunteers to come forward to marshal and help set up and tidy up afterwards on Carnival day.

### **WE HAVE A GREAT SPONSORSHIP DEAL THIS YEAR WHERE YOU CAN PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS FOR A VERY REASONABLE FEE**

and we need more raffle prizes for the Grand Draw. If your business or any individuals can help please ring me and Sam, Mel or Barry would love to talk to you!

**Telephone Gill Tanner (2009 Carnival Secretary) on 01487 832410 or email  
gill.tanner@hotmail.co.uk** and I will book your stalls or put you in contact with the relevant member of the committee who would only be too happy to talk to you.

## W E L L S I D E   S U R G E R Y   N E W S

**Flu Vaccination:** If you fall into one of the following categories, the Doctors recommend that you receive the flu vaccination:

- Over the age of 65
- Chronic respiratory disease
- Asthma which has required hospital admission, or use of long term steroid inhalers or tablets.
- Chronic heart disease
- Chronic renal disease
- Chronic liver disease
- Chronic neurological disease
- Diabetes
- Immunosuppression
- Carers

If you fall into one of the groups above and still have not yet received your vaccination please call our reception team on 01487 830340 and make an appointment with one of our practice nurses.

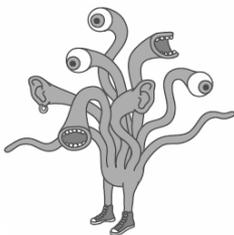
**Practice Training Afternoons:** So that we can continue to fulfil the training requirements of our team (many of which are mandatory), and in order to allow our doctors to attend meetings regarding the commissioning, development and improvement of local patient services, the practice will be offered the opportunity to close on up to 10 afternoon sessions throughout 2009. During these afternoons, emergency cover will be provided by Huntsdoc, our local out of hours provider which cover overnight and at weekends. Posters will be displayed in the surgery in advance of each closure to advertise these afternoon closures. Dates already confirmed, which you may wish to note, are as follows:

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
 Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March  
 Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May  
 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July  
 Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Dates for the months of April, June, September and November are still to be determined and will be communicated in due course.

With Best Regards,

**Mrs Claire Wright - Practice Manager, Wellside Surgery, Sawtry. Tel: 01487 830340**



### Going Green

I'm all for keeping things simple, but having fun on the way. We have recently signed up for newsletters from Green Thing ([www.dothegreenthing.com](http://www.dothegreenthing.com)) which are proving to be great fun & thought provoking. The videos in particular are very clever.

The website claims 'Green Thing is a not-for-profit public service that inspires people to lead a greener life. With the help of brilliant videos and inspiring stories etc. from creative people and community members around the world.'

The site is based on 'seven things you can do to lead a greener life' which are:

1. **Walk The Walk** – where possible we should use our own energy to get around by walking or cycling rather than driving. It saves money, helps keep us fit & doesn't produce CO<sub>2</sub>.
2. **Easy On The Meat** – meat may be delicious, but its production creates loads of CO<sub>2</sub> so we should all try to eat less in our daily diet.
3. **Stick With What You Got** – this encourages us not to replace stuff just for the sake of it. Wait until the old one doesn't work any more or even see if you can live without it. Both the production and disposal of consumer goods create more CO<sub>2</sub> so let's not over do it.
4. **Human Heat** – keep the central heating to a minimum and put on another layer of clothing or snuggle up with someone. You'll save a lot of money as well as CO<sub>2</sub>.
5. **All-Consuming** – everything we buy has an environmental impact so make sure things are used up before throwing them out. Be creative and waste nothing.
6. **Stay Grounded** – flying produces a disproportionate amount of CO<sub>2</sub> so stay on the ground & use a slower form of transport.
7. **Plug Out** – anything left plugged in uses precious energy that costs us money. So where possible, remove the plug, turn the light out, don't waste energy.

If you've access to the internet I'd recommend you have a look. Some of the videos are brilliant. It's informative as well as funny, and it does make you think. Lots of people from around the world submit their suggestions and experience for the rest of us to share.

**Eco Apprentice**

## NEWS FROM SAWTRY LIBRARY

Since Christmas, I've had quite a few conversations in the library with people talking about the books they have received as presents. Books still seem to be very welcome gifts; there's nothing quite like a brand new book! It's also much easier to pick up books for quite reasonable sums, too, and people also say they buy books through the year. Some of these find their way into the library and quite a few are very kindly donated to the library service - many thanks to all those who have done just this over the last year. Most of these donations are put into our stock here in Sawtry, or found a good home in one of the many other service points.

Perhaps one of the good things about having a library on your doorstep, is that you can join and borrow endless books without any cost - if you give us your e-mail address if you have one, we will send you a reminder 3 days before any items are due to help you miss out on any charges for late returns. If you have your **PIN (Personal Identification Number)**, you can renew your books yourself on-line - please ask for your PIN if you need one. Or, you can renew items by phone, either by speaking to the Call Centre, or using the automated telephone service.

So it is possible to use much of what the library has to offer without charge:

- All children's books and books on tape/CD are free to borrow, and requests for children's items are also free of charge.
- Children's Storytimes, held each month on the first Wednesday of the month, are free of charge.
- Our Reading Groups are able to request and borrow up to 10 items each month without charge.
- All adult books borrowed from Sawtry can be taken out without cost to you.
- For the over 60's books on tape/CD and language courses can be borrowed free of charge, too.
- The People's Network computers can be used for up to an hour each day, including e-mail, without any charges.
- Should you need help using computers, our IT Volunteer, Alan, offers free one hour sessions most Thursday evenings between 4 - 7.00pm. Please book in at the library if you'd like to use this service.

So, do come along and take advantage of all that's on offer - the bulk of it is **FREE!** Support your local library, starting this New Year, if you've never been before, and to our regular visitors, thank you for your continuing use of the library and to everyone, at this rather late stage in the New Year, do hope it's one that's kind to you!

Best Wishes from all of us,

**Sue (Supervisor) Manju, Liza, Debbie and Janet**

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**Library Opening Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday 4.00-7.00pm; Wednesday & Friday 2.00-5.00pm

**Tel :**0845 045 5225 (Call Centre-call any time 8.00am-8.00pm

Mon to Sat for renewals and enquiries)

**Library Website:** [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library)



### SAWTRY WINEMAKER'S SOCIETY

Sawtry Winemakers hold a monthly meeting at the Old School Hall every third Wednesday of each month. If you would like to join us but don't make any wine don't worry, bring your own plonk to enjoy a good evening and come and try home made wines that members have made. These are country wines made from ingredients you may have in your garden or can buy from the local shop.

All meetings held in the "Old School Hall" 7.30 p.m

Third Wednesday of every month unless otherwise stated - Contact 01487 830020 for information

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

**Valentines Dance at Glatton Village Hall**

**Talk on Burgundy Wine**

**Fair Trade Talk and Sales - (Presentation of Donations to Feast Supper and CARESCO organisations)**

**Social Evening and Meal at The Old School Hall**

## VOCAL ACADEMY'S CHRISTMAS SHOW

Sawtry, on 6<sup>th</sup> December, became the place for entertainment when the Vocal Academy & Friends put on a show, inviting everyone to enjoy Christmas as it used to be.

The chorus, directed by Graham Davies, was outstanding! A polished performance of new numbers and a few old ones had the audience on the edge of their seats. We were then introduced to Mac4; a female singing quartet based in Edinburgh, who sang a variety of songs from their repertoire ranging from Barbershop to Burns thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

Everyone tapped their feet to the Traditional and Mainstream Jazz classics played by the Misfits who finished off the first half of the evening's show as the Vocal Academy, Mac4 and Children prepared for the stunning second half.

The curtains opened to reveal a Dickensian setting full of singers and children in costume and a large snowman. We had an entertaining performance of seasonal songs and poems which were a delight and a great surprise when the snowman suddenly came to life.

The packed house was treated to an impressive evening of quality entertainment usually only seen in professional theatre.

Thank you to Vocal Academy, Mac4, The Misfits and the Children. Superb!

**Bob Bacon & Friends**



## Volunteer Drivers Needed

### What is Sawtry Village Car Scheme?

Sawtry Village Car Scheme provides door-to-door transport for people who do not have the use of a car and are unable to use conventional public transport. Journeys are arranged through Thrapston Volunteer Centre (TVC) and are provided by volunteers using their own cars.

### Drivers - We need you!

Do you like helping people? Have a few hours to spare? Hold a clean driving licence? Then you could be just who we are looking for! If you can help us provide this valuable service to local people, please call us on the number below. You would use your own car and receive a mileage allowance for expenses incurred. Additional insurance cover is provided (NB Criminal Records Bureau checks will be needed).

### Who can use the service?

People living in Sawtry and the immediate surrounding area who are unable to make essential journeys by any other means.

### What sort of journeys will you be asked to do?

Mainly essential journeys, including but not limited to: appointments at the surgery/hospital, opticians, dentist, picking up prescriptions or shopping. Also visiting friends and relatives in hospital. The scheme is particularly aimed at helping the elderly and disabled to get out and about.

### What expenses will I receive?

Passengers make a contribution of 40p per mile (minimum charge of £2.00) towards the cost of their journey. Mileage calculation begins from the driver's home; therefore the cost of a particular journey can vary depending on where the driver lives. Passengers pay their contribution to the driver on the day of travel, in cash.

There is also a £10.00 annual membership fee paid to TVC by the passengers to help cover admin costs and which entitles members to use the other services offered by TVC.

### How can I find out more?

Call TVC: **01832 733336** during office hours and ask for more details about the Sawtry Village Car Scheme or pick up a leaflet from the CARESCO Centre.

## **A FIELD DAY IN HUNTINGDON**

### ***A winter festival of the countryside, food and farming***

Huntingdon Field Day on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009 will be a family day out celebrating the countryside, food and farming.

Highlights of the day will include working Shire Horses, sheepdog demonstrations and the opportunity to meet Bacardi the Bull, from Huntingdonshire District Council's Highland Cattle herd. Also available will be rural craft stalls and a selection of local food stalls from Huntingdon's award-winning Farmers' Market. Hot food and drinks will be available.

The event will be held at Hinchingsbrooke Country Park from 10am to 3pm. Car parking is available and the Country Park is within walking distance of Huntingdon Railway Station.

Hinchingsbrooke Country Park is run by Huntingdonshire District Council's Countryside Services. Further information can be found by following the Leisure and Countryside links on the Council website [www.huntsdc.gov.uk](http://www.huntsdc.gov.uk)

## **MAKE IT HAPPEN. CHOOSE FAIRTRADE**

**Fairtrade Fortnight: 23 February – 8 March 2009**

**Retailers, licensees and commercial companies are gearing up for Fairtrade Fortnight (23 February – 8 March 2009), which looks set to be bigger and better than ever before, with hundreds of in-store activities planned around the country.**

The theme is Make it Happen. Choose Fairtrade. This urgent call is pertinent this year as the Fairtrade Foundation is one year into its ambitious five-year strategy, Tipping the Balance, which aims, by 2012, to enable twice as many producers to be benefiting from selling Fairtrade goods in the UK, while those already supplying the UK market should be able to double the proportion of the crop they sell through the Fairtrade system.

There are now more than 4,500 FAIRTRADE Mark products certified, over a wide range of product categories. This is expected to include olive oil and cosmetics in the coming year as the Tipping the Balance strategy aims to increase sales four-fold by 2012, partly through the introduction of new product categories.

Bananas continue to be a best-selling Fairtrade product and one in four bananas sold in the UK are now Fairtrade. Fairtrade Fortnight will culminate with Fairtrade campaigners up and down the country attempting to set a world record for eating Fairtrade bananas between midday on 6 March and midday on 7 March.

Harriet Lamb, Fairtrade Foundation's Chief Executive Officer says: 'Fairtrade enables companies to put value back into products and engage the public's interest in attributes beyond price. By nurturing sustainable supply chains, businesses can not only secure long-term quality relationships with their suppliers, but can also respond to consumer demand which shows people want to buy products carrying the FAIRTRADE Mark more regularly if they are available'.

People in developing countries, who typically spend over 50% of their income on food, are the most severely affected by rising global food costs. Many producers are also facing rising production costs as the price of fuel and other inputs soar.

Major commercial developments during 2008 include:

- Tate & Lyle's retail cane sugar range will be entirely Fairtrade by 2010 and small-scale growers in the Belize Sugar Cane Farmers' Association, will be the first to benefit from the Fairtrade premiums generated.
- Starbucks espresso-based coffees will all be Fairtrade certified by the end of 2009. The 100% Fairtrade Certified Espresso in the UK and Ireland forms part of a global plan that will mean Starbucks will become the largest purchaser of Fairtrade certified coffee in the world, doubling its global purchases to 40 million pounds (volume) in 2009.
- The Co-operative switched its entire own brand hot beverage category – worth over £16 million annually – to Fairtrade, including its 99Tea.
- Sainsbury's switched 95% of their own label tea to Fairtrade. Over the next three years, their entire range of roast and ground coffee will move to Fairtrade.

The value of UK Fairtrade sales has grown more than tenfold since 2001, reaching nearly £500 million in 2007 and now helps more than 7.5 million people – farmers, workers and their families – to have more security and control over their lives.

For more information visit [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk) or call the Fairtrade Foundation on 020 7405 5942

## SAWTRY'S OWN - VOCAL ACADEMY NEEDS YOU



**VOCAL ACADEMY ARE RECRUITING, CONTACT US SOON**

**Do you already sing, or are you keen to learn? Join us!**

**We are the chorus for you! Male voice a cappella singing - there is no sound quite like it!**

It does not matter whether you are an accomplished, fully trained singer, or new to singing. If you're over 15 years old give us a try, you will not be disappointed. We have proved that many people, with our training, have become very talented singers even though they cannot read music. We provide free CDs to learn from when away from rehearsals. If you can read music, that's a bonus, but is certainly not essential. We believe our hobby, singing in four part harmony, should be great fun and base the Vocal Academy around enjoying what we do.

We are very fortunate to be directed by one of the most qualified and respected directors in the UK (Graham Davies – he is also a Sawtry resident). He has directed choruses and quartets to Gold Medal standard who have then represented the UK in the world championships in the USA. He has directed the Vocal Academy to a top 10 chorus position in the UK and last year we came 8<sup>th</sup> out of 38 choruses at the annual British Association of Barbershop Singers (BABS) convention competition in Cheltenham. This is a consistent advancement towards the top and an outstanding achievement, as some of the contestants have been entering the competition for 20+ years and never got into the top 10.

**We are heading for the top. Be part of our success and help make it happen.**

Our members come from a wide area including Sawtry, Cambridge, Bedford, Harlow, King's Lynn and many other places. As Sawtry is close to the A1(M) (Junction 15), we are very easy to get to and, may I add, to get on with.

Come along! Hear us and join in! We meet from 8 to 10pm every Wednesday at Sawtry Junior School, Middlefield Road, Sawtry. You will be made very welcome and we will even take you for a drink of your choice and sandwiches after rehearsal in the local club.

Contacts for prospective members or just come along and give us a try.

**Ron Moore – (Recruitment) - 01733 208549**



### CATS PROTECTION St Neots & District Branch

#### **TINNED CAT FOOD URGENTLY REQUIRED**

We continue to feed nearly 200 feral, outdoor and needy cats this winter and our supplies are running low. Any donations of cat food particularly tins would be appreciated. Please take to our charity shop in Cross Keys Mall, St Neots. We also have many local drop off points within the community, contact us for your nearest.

#### **LOVING NEW HOMES REQUIRED**

We have many adult cats looking that extra special second chance. Also we have several older cats whose owner is losing her home. Please contact us if you are planning to adopt a cat. We do not place cats where there is a busy main road or in flats that are not on the ground floor. We will carry out a short home visit and make arrangements for you to meet the cats in our care.

#### **FREE/REDUCED COST NEUTERING**

If you are on benefits or tax credits, or are suffering financial hardship, we are able to help with the cost of neutering your cat. Last year, our branch neutered over 300 cats free of charge. Neutering prevents unwanted litters, spraying, fighting and the spread of infectious diseases. Contact us now.

#### **FERAL CATS/LARGE CAT COLONIES**

If you have feral cats or a cat colony that is getting out of control on your property, or you know of a property where there seem to be excessive numbers of cats. We offer assistance with the management, neutering and feeding of them. It is important that we start now before the kitten season is upon us.

TEL: 01480 391477, 01480 476696, OR 07966 282005

<http://stneots.cats.org.uk/>

## SAWTRY HISTORY SOCIETY .....and the SAWTRY COMMUNITY ARCHIVE

At our last 2008 meeting we were addressed by Master Thatcher Malcolm Dodson who, initially taught by his Military Medal holding father to make corn dollies, owns what was once the largest thatching business in the UK. This Kings Ripton company, with clients all over the world, and who have five times won the annual competition "Best Thatched House", prefer to use Norfolk reed. However, since its use is now restricted they either have to import reed or use the straw now favoured by conservationists, despite its much shorter lifespan. Whilst demonstrating ancient thatching tools Malcolm commented on how modern roofing practices have affected their trade – explaining that before the use of wire netting, which keeps out unwanted birds, they once found about 100 baby birds in a single thatched roof!

In our first 2009 meeting Audrey Cobley spoke about her life as a 6year old child on the George Cross island of Malta during WW2. Her introduction to the island's very chequered history included mention of 3000 year old catacombs, underground temples and palaces; of evocative names like Sulieman the Magnificent, Mustapha Pasha, Barbarosa (the pirate), the Knights of St John and Grand Master Jean Parisot de la Valette, and of crucified bodies being floated in Grand Harbour and Turks heads used as cannonballs!

But then Audrey's description of surviving the persistent bombing of Malta between 1939 and 1942 was even more alarming. Bombed out three times; trapped for hours 30ft below ground in ancient cellars; machine gunned and injured in the road by an enemy aircraft; present at the "Miracle of Mosta" when 300 worshipers survived a 500lb bomb falling through the dome, bouncing round the walls of the packed cathedral but failing to explode; helping her mother to treat injured airmen; always hungry after all of the animals had been killed and eaten and, with no milk available, watching her newborn baby sister being fed on liquidised potato and bread. Even the family's eventual evacuation, just before her 9<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1942, was eventful for the Sunderland flying boat, marked with red crosses as an air ambulance, was attacked by naval gunfire, killing one airman and severely damaging the wing and destroying one float.

However, probably one of her fondest memories is her later meeting with King George. After the investiture of her father with the Malta George Cross, and as the only child present at a private audience, the King asked her if she had been afraid in Malta. On hearing her reply "No", the King said, "I would have been, I would have hid-  
*den under the table!*"

December 2008 saw Tony Martin, secretary since 2002, handing over the quill and ink to Marilyn Gautreaux. Many thanks to Tony and best wishes to local Sawtry lass Marilyn.

Our next meeting, on **19<sup>th</sup> February**, will be a talk about "Old Huntingdonshire" and our **AGM and Quiz** will be held on **19<sup>th</sup> March**. As usual 7.30 at the Women's Institute Hall, Gidding Road, Sawtry. Everyone is welcome.

And a small smile to finish – Why did Columbus cross the ocean? – To get to the other tide!



## Wildlife Trust - Huntingdon Area Group

[www.wildlifetrust-huntsareagroup.org.uk/](http://www.wildlifetrust-huntsareagroup.org.uk/)

### Slugs and Snails

Slugs and Snails will be the focus of the February meeting of the Wildlife Trust, Huntingdon Area Group, on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Hall, Thrapston Road, Brampton.

Brian Eversham, who is the Conservation Director of the Wildlife Trust, will give our presentation. Brian will discuss the ecology and behaviour of molluscs in a wide range of habitats; why they are of interest to conservations and why they should be protected. He will also touch on molluscs and gardening!

### Farmland Birds

Farmland Birds will be the topic of the March meeting of the Wildlife Trust, Huntingdon Area Group, on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Hall, Thrapston Road, Brampton.

Our guest speaker will be Paul Bellamy, who is a local ecologist and ornithologist, working at Monks Wood from 1990 to 2009. During this time Paul has looked at the effects of change in land use on biodiversity. This has included looking at the effects of habitat fragmentation on woodland birds and comparing small farm woods with larger nature reserves.

Anyone interested in wildlife is most welcome to attend. Admission: £2.00 members; £2.50 non-members. Please visit the web site for more information [www.wildlifetrust-huntsareagroup.org.uk/](http://www.wildlifetrust-huntsareagroup.org.uk/) or contact George on 01480 450809.

Part of the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire and Peterborough.  
Registered Charity No: 1000412

## Sawtry Methodist Church

Green End Road, Sawtry, Tel 01480 819228

### Sunday Services

Morning Worship at 10.30am  
 Sunday School at 10.30am  
 Evening Communion at 6.00pm  
 (first Sunday of the month)

### Special Services

#### All Age Worship

22<sup>nd</sup> February  
 10.30pm  
 Led by the REST Team

#### Mothering Sunday

22<sup>nd</sup> March  
 10.30am  
 Led by Sue Roberts

#### United Service

29<sup>th</sup> March  
 10.30am  
 At All Saints Church

#### Women's World Day of Prayer

3<sup>rd</sup> March  
 2pm  
 At the Methodist Church

*All are welcome*

#### Lent Meetings

On Mondays at 7.30p.m.  
 From 2nd March  
 At 6, Middlefield Rd

#### Friday's

For school years 7 & above  
 Alcohol-free bar plus pool, music and games  
 Second & fourth Fridays of the month -  
 7.30 – 9.00 pm

#### Saturday Coffee Mornings

9.30 – 11 am  
 with Cakes, Traidcraft goods &  
 bric-a-brac on sale.

## All Saints' Parish Church

Church Causeway, Sawtry

### SUNDAY SERVICES

#### February

1 <sup>st</sup>	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Family Worship
8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Holy Communion
15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning Prayer
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30 am	Holy Communion

#### March

1 <sup>st</sup>	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Family Worship
8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Holy Communion
15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning Prayer
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30 am	Mothering Sunday Family Worship
29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	United Service

#### SAS SUNDAY CLUB

For all children aged 4 - 10. We meet on February 8, 15 and 22 and March 8, 15 and 29 at 10.15am at the Rectory.

#### SEEKERS CLUB

For Young People aged 10 plus, meets on February 6 and March 6 at 7.30 pm in Church.

#### BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUPS & LENT COURSE

Meet on Tuesdays at 7.45 pm on February 3 and 17 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 and Thursdays at 10.15am on February 5 and 19 and March 5, 12, 19 and 26 at the Rectory.

#### SATURDAY OPENING

The Church is open every Saturday from 2.00 to 4.00 pm. Do come along and see your Church and enjoy a cup of tea and a chat - a warm welcome awaits you!

*FOR FURTHER DETAILS RING THE  
 RECTOR: Canon Malcolm Griffith 830215*

*There is always a warm welcome  
 at All Saints'.*

*Do look at our websites:*

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

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

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH SAWTRY - FUNDRAISING NEWS

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 12.00-1.30pm, Frugal Lunch** at the Methodist Church Schoolroom. Proceeds go to Christian Aid. This event is jointly organised by both Methodist and Anglican churches. Admission is £2-50 (U 5s free). A bring and buy stall will be there to raise additional money for this excellent cause.

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> March 10.00am-noon, Indoor Car Boot Sale** in the Old School Hall. To book a table please contact Pat Ayres on 01487 832503. The charge per table is £6-00p. Refreshments will be available and a raffle will be held. Admission 40p to non-stallholders.

# St Nicholas Parish Church

Church Road, Glatton

## SUNDAY SERVICES

### FEBRUARY

1 <sup>st</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Holy Communion
15 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Holy Communion
22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.00 am	Holy Communion

### MARCH

1 <sup>st</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Holy Communion
15 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Holy Communion
22 <sup>nd</sup>	4.00 pm	Mothering Sunday Service
29 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Holy Communion

### GLATTON QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 7.00 pm

Do come along to this enjoyable event in Glatton Village Hall. Includes supper, bar and raffle. Tickets £8 from 01487 831651. All proceeds to the Church.

### GLATTON ADVENTURERS for 4 – 11s

Children are welcome to join this group which meets on February 1<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> at 10.30 am in Glatton Village Hall. More details from Shirley Dewar – 831651.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS RING THE RECTOR: Canon Malcolm Griffith

Tel: 01487 830215 Email: rev.griffith@tiscali.co.uk

## REMEMBRANCE

The Sawtry and District Branch of the Royal British Legion remember the fallen throughout the year. In December and January we particularly remember:

### FEBRUARY

Private Ernest HADMAN	17 February 1917	Glatton/Holme
Private Herbert WRIGHT	14 February 1942	Wood Walton
Driver Edward Harold DACK	9 February 1944	Sawtry

### MARCH

Private Victor John FURNELL	7 March 1916	Wood Walton
Private George Edward SAVAGE	15 March 1916	Glatton
Private William ROWELL	17 March 1917	Sawtry
Private William BARRETT	18 March 1918	Sawtry
Private George Frederick DEWBERRY	20 March 1918	Wood Walton
CQMS Henry James NICKERSON	23 March 1918	Sawtry
Private William Percival GLOVER	27 March 1918	Great Gidding
Sergeant Norman George Wood BOYCE	26 March 1942	Old Weston
Sergeant Robert Charles DOBIE	26 March 1942	Old Weston
Flight Sergeant Donald Cole LINDSEY	26 March 1942	Old Weston
Flight Sergeant Robert Joseph O'LEARY	26 March 1942	Old Weston
Private John Edward ANDREWS	23 March 1943	Sawtry

*They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them.*

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH SAWTRY - FUNDRAISING NEWS ....

**Competition** During March and early April there will be a **Spring Competition** with a chocolate theme! The competition sheets will be available from 8<sup>th</sup> March. Full details are on the sheets which will cost £1-00p. Yummy prizes will be awarded for the entrants with the two highest scores. The sheets will be available from All Saints Fund Raising and PCC members.

**Plant Sale** The traditional Plant Sale will be held at the WI Hall, Gidding Road during the morning of Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May. This is a very popular event when something for every garden style will be on sale. If you are able to contribute plants for sale (e.g. bedding plants, tomatoes, perennials, small shrubs or fruit bushes) please could you ring Peter or June to let them know so that appropriate space can be allocated to your donation. The event is very well supported and we want to make sure that anyone coming to buy (except late-comers) gets a very good view of what is available!

Further details on all events are available from Pete and June Davies, 01487 830089

## ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF SAINT LUKE'S

serving the Parish Church of Saint Luke's, Peterborough

26 Benyon Grove, Orton Malborne, Peterborough. PE2 5XS

St. Benedict's Community, Sawtry

(Women's Institute Hall, Gidding Road, Sawtry)

St Bartholomew's Community, Yaxley  
and the Hampton's

Parish Priest: Fr. John Warrington

14 Sellers Grange, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough, PE2 5XX

☎01733 370877; email: saintlukesparish@yahoo.co.uk; Website: www.saintlukesparish.org.uk

### Services and Events

Each Saturday: First Mass of Sunday 6pm at St Luke's Church

#### Each Sunday: Sunday Masses

9.15am at the Women's Institute Hall, Gidding Rd, Sawtry  
& 11am at St Luke's Church (inc special liturgy for Children)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: Morning Prayer at 9.40am at St Luke's Church

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: Mass at 10am at St Luke's Church

Tuesday: Mass at 7.30pm in Yaxley (for the Venue please phone 01733 370877)

Saturday: Mass at 9am at St Luke's Church

For further information and Parish News please visit our Parish Website: [www.saintlukesparish.org.uk](http://www.saintlukesparish.org.uk)

### SEASON OF LENT 2009

**Mass for Ash Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February** will be celebrated in St Lukes at 10am and at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to come along to celebrate the beginning of the Season of Lent

**Early Morning Mass for Lent - From Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February** and each Friday in Lent

There is Mass at 6.30am in St Luke's followed by breakfast

All are welcome to come along.

### OTHER EVENTS

Concert with Peterborough Young Singers & Choirs from St John Fisher Roman Catholic Secondary School & St Thomas More Roman Catholic Primary School in aid of HCPT the Pilgrimage Trust Group 2009 / annual pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter 2009

#### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009

7.30pm in St Lukes Church, Orton Malborne, Peterborough

Tickets available from Fr John Warrington 01733 370877 - £5 for adults – no charge for children

**Raffle and refreshments will be available**

## SCENT AND POLLINATION PART 8

### Rhododendrons

At the time of writing this article the autumn woods are full of colour, with all manner of reds, orange, yellows, mauves etc, fantastic. It not just about scent and flower but foliage hues as well. See for yourself and draw on the experience. When designing gardens this sort of experience is invaluable especially for landscape design and wild life gardens, which I think is the most natural form of gardening one can do. Obviously if one has the space and yenom.

Anyway back to Rhododendron (from Gk *rhodos*, rose, and *dendron*, tree.) family Ericaceae. This contains around 800 species of trees, shrubs, or low growing shrubs- sub-shrubs with some of them being very low growing indeed.

If you have the space these plants are a must have in the garden on a large scale planting design, even if space is limited there will be somewhere in the garden that you will find to grow one or two rhododendrons especially the scented varieties. Some of these are tender and will need protection, with others being very hardy. They range from very huge plants up to 30m/100ft trees to very small sub-shrubs of about 30 cm high.

Acid soil is essential, a PH of 4.5 to 5.5 is ok; and should be fertile and well-drained. Aspect should be open preferably but with protection – thus shelter from the wind if possible in temperate climates. Woodland sites are usually best for growing Rhododendrons.

Rhododendrons will succeed in the open but they really must have shelter and shade, although if they are grown in a sunny location they will succeed if the growing conditions are met.

## **SCENT AND POLLINATION PART 8 ...**

Do not let your plants stand in water or they will drown, try to use rain water if possible when watering your plants in containers. One of the most common causes of plant death in containers is over potting them so that the plant sits in soggy compost. Planting them too deep will cause the death of the plants as well. Plant in autumn while the ground is still warm then water in and mulch well afterwards. Feed as required.

The list of species is too long to go into here so I will just describe a few rhododendrons that I have grown which are nicely scented.

### **Rhododendron Species:**

R. auriculatum – A beautifully scented plant with white flowers which are exceptionally late in the season and can last until September.

FL. Pe. July- Sept, needs a protected aspect.

R. formosum – White striped pink, great scent.

FL. Pe. May-Jun, Protected suitable for cool greenhouse or Conservatory

And try these: - R. cressum; R. Johnstoneanum.

### **Hybrids:**

R. edgeworthi x leucaspis – nicely scented flowers white with dark stamens.

Fl. Pe Mar-May.

R. fragrantissimum – one of the most prized Rhododendrons for scent, large white flowers tinged pink. Great for the cool greenhouse or conservatory.

Fl. Pe Mar-May - Protected aspect is best to appreciate its scent.

And some others: - R. Lady Alice Fitzwilliam; R. Snow

All the best & good gardening

**Plantsman**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

All information has been taken from the Citizens Advice Bureaux website at <http://www.adviceguide.org.uk>.

### **Help For Struggling Homeowners**

There have been a number of recent announcements with the aim of helping homeowners who are at risk of being evicted because of mortgage arrears. This is called **repossession**.

In the pre-budget report, it was confirmed that some mortgage lenders will not start court action to repossess homeowners for at least three months. This is so that borrowers and lenders can have time to explore other alternatives. It has still not been confirmed which lenders have agreed to this or when it will take effect. However, since the pre-budget report, the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS), which also owns NatWest, and Northern Rock have both said that they will not begin repossession action until borrowers are six months or more in arrears.

The Government has also launched a new **Homeowner Mortgage Support Scheme**. It will allow borrowers who experience a significant and temporary loss of income as a result of the current economic climate to delay paying a proportion of the interest payments on their mortgage for up to two years.

Eight major lenders have agreed to support this new scheme. Full details of the scheme have yet to be published, but it is anticipated that it will be available to borrowers in the New Year. For more information about the new Homeowner Mortgage Support Scheme, go to the Directgov website at: [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk).

There will also be a new **mortgage rescue scheme** to help vulnerable homeowners to stay in their home. The scheme will not help you if you have taken out a second charge on your mortgage or if you are in negative equity and there will be other eligibility conditions too.

You can get more information from the Department for Communities and Local Government website at: [www.communities.org.uk](http://www.communities.org.uk). If you are interested in the scheme, contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau for more information about whether you qualify.

In the meantime, a new leaflet has been published about mortgage arrears. It's called 'Are you worried about your mortgage?' To see a copy, go to: [www.nhas.org.uk](http://www.nhas.org.uk).

### **Nuisance Calls**

**Stopping unsolicited phone calls and faxes** - All direct marketing companies are banned from making unsolicited phone calls to people who have registered with the Telephone Preference Service (TPS), who can be contacted on 0845 070 0707. You can find more information about TPS at [www.tpsonline.org.uk](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk). Direct marketing companies in the European Union are not allowed to send unsolicited faxes to anyone who has not given their consent to receive faxes from the company and this is the case whether or not they have registered with the Fax Preference Service. The telephone number of the Fax Preference Service (FPS) is 0845 070 0702. You can find more information about FPS at [www.fpsonline.org.uk](http://www.fpsonline.org.uk).

**GENERAL INFORMATION...**

**Harassing, obscene or malicious phone calls** - Making an obscene, harassing or malicious phone call may be a criminal offence. If you receive such a call, report it to the police. The police can, for example, authorise the phone service to trace malicious calls. If the person who is making the calls is prosecuted, you may have to give evidence in court.

The phone service provider may have procedures which deal with malicious, obscene or harassing phone calls. Check the phone service provider's Code of Practice. For example, BT has a special phone number to call - 0800 666700 for a 24 hour recorded message.

For more information please contact Huntingdon Citizens' Advice Bureaux on 01480 388900

**No Cold Calling Zones**

"No Cold Calling Zones" are an initiative of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Distraction Burglary and Rogue Trader Task Force which looked to discourage people knocking on doors selling goods and services in areas where older or vulnerable people live.

Of course not all traders who call uninvited ('cold call') are rogue traders. There are legitimate traders that sell at the door. There are many well-known national companies that sell through delivering brochures with their products to homes, who are welcomed by many and should not be considered the type of trader we are attempting to prevent calling. However, the majority of rogue trader incidents do involve cold calling, which is why the schemes were initiated. By tackling the issue of rogue traders we are working to protect not only the public, but also the wider reputation of legitimate trade.

Zones in Glatton, Sawtry and Upton

In the last few years Cambridgeshire County Council Trading Standards and Cambridgeshire Police have set up No Cold Calling Zones in particular streets in Glatton, Sawtry and Upton. Trading Standards officers are currently visiting these zones to check the signs are still visible and to deliver questionnaires to the residents seeking their opinions on the success of these zones. From the questionnaires which have already been returned from other zones in Cambridgeshire 93% of the residents said that there had been fewer cold callers since the zones were established and 91% said they felt safer in their homes due to living in the zone.

The signs in the zones ask traders not to cold call at the request of the residents. We are aware that some traders disregard these requests and at present they are not breaking any laws by doing this. However we still advise residents not to buy at the door and to report any suspicious callers to the Police.

General information for residents

If you receive traders knocking on your door or telephone calls from traders seeking to visit you at home, you might find it useful to be aware of your rights. You are entitled to a 7-day cancellation notice for most contracts made at home, even if you asked the trader to visit and provide you with a quote. If the trader fails to give you this they could be committing a criminal offence.

Examples of possible 'Rogue Trading' practices are

- \* Paying an exorbitant price for house repairs or garden maintenance
- \* Having to pay in cash
- \* The trader leaving without finishing the job
- \* The trader only provides a mobile phone number
- \* Being told that the price is a special price on that particular day
- \* Being told the trader is working up the road and has tarmac or shingle left over

If you or someone you know has experienced any incidents with cold callers or you would like a "We're not Buying it" sticker please contact Consumer Direct on telephone 08454 04 05 06.

## SAWTRY COLTS FC GIRLS

Girls' football at Sawtry Colts FC is going from strength to strength and one Sunday in early January was testament to this when the girls of the Football Development Centre participated in their first assessment.

The girls all visited the five assessment stations, which tested the range of skills they have been working on over the past 8 weeks.

Training sessions at the Development Centre are free because of generous sponsorship from Produce World in Yaxley.

In addition to the Development Centre, Sawtry Colts FC also have U10, U11, U12 and U13 girls teams in the S-Tech Cambridgeshire League this season and will also add U8 and U14 girls' teams and a mixed U7 team for next season.

This will allow Sawtry Colts to offer girls from 5-13 years old (school year 1-8), from the local area the possibility to take part in organised football for the 2009/2010 season.

The club would welcome any girls of 4-12 years old to come along to their training sessions to give football a try out. If you know any girls who would be interested in giving football a try you can contact Steve Purnell for more details on 07964 496259 or [steve.purnell@sawtrycolts.org](mailto:steve.purnell@sawtrycolts.org)

## SAWTRY LADIES HOCKEY CLUB

We are poised for nail biting end to the season after a crucial win, at the end of November, against our top of the table rivals Saffron Waldon. In an amazing match the team soaked up all kinds of pressure to end the game 3-0 winners. Karen Whatley performed heroically in goal, showing great athleticism time after time. Saffron Walden were awarded over 18 penalty corners during the game and would normally have expected to pick up a handful of goals but the fast running out of Lottie Paul left them frustrated as her speed left them unable to have a clear shot on goal. The Sawtry goals came from our very few forays into their half. It was a great performance.

Three more wins in our only three games since (the sub zero temperatures freeze the Astro turf and make the pitch unplayable) have left us top of Division One in the Cambridgeshire League. If we win all our remaining games including the away fixture at Saffron Walden we'll win the title – which has never been done before in the history of the club. We'll keep you posted.

Our success on the pitch this year is undoubtedly due to great coaching from Jo and our incredible team spirit. We fit our hockey around regular social events including waterskiing weekends, camping trips and quiz nights. We have a warm welcome for new players, so if you'd like to join us give Karen a ring on 07834 776815. We train on Thursday evenings from 8-9pm on the Astro pitch at Bushfield Sports Centre in Orton, Peterborough and we play our home games there at 11am on Saturdays.

## DIG FOR GOLD IN SAWTRY

Sawtry has excelled for the last four years. We gained a Silver Award in our first year, and a Silver Gilt Award for the last three years in the Small Town Category of Anglia in Bloom. We are up against the likes of Brampton, Godmanchester, Frinton-on-Sea and Oulton Broad, so any support you can give will be most welcome.

We would love to expand the village entry by involving as many people as possible. Okay, it's mainly flowers and gardens but it's much more than that. The judges look at the allotments, the cemetery, the schools and playgroups, and displays of things going on throughout the year, not just on judging day.

To that end, we invite all interested local residents, representatives from clubs, schools, businesses and organisations from around the village to attend a meeting in the Old School Hall on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February** at 7.30pm.

The meeting is to gather fresh ideas and discuss proposals for how to do even better in 2009.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

### Contacts;

**Mick Rayson Tel: 830720 / Janet Spencer Tel: 830527 / Sally or Diane Tel: 831771**

## SAWTRY & DISTRICT BOWLING CLUB

Happy New Year to all bowlers - we are past the midway point to the 2009 season and the evenings are getting longer; the new season actually starts on Saturday 18th April, 'Opening Day'. The Christmas lunch was another of Geoff's successes and it was great to see some new members, some of whom are returning from other clubs. Incidentally the next Sunday Lunch will be sometime in April/May - Keep in touch for confirmed date!!

In the meanwhile there is a regular social gathering on Friday nights at the Club for a beer and a chat.

Next season looks to be a promising one for the Club, with the Men's 'A' Team back in their proper place in Division 1 of the League, and a third 'Over 60's' Team in the Millicent Child's Leagues - as a point of interest, next season there will be trophies for the winners of all divisions of this league; the only slight disappointment is that there will still only be one Ladies Team, but I am sure that this will improve as time goes on. Something to look forward to!

Finally a few social dates for your diaries:-

Whist Drive	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Beetle Drive & Indoor Games Night	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Quiz Night	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> March
Whist Drive	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Easter Bingo	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April

For more information please call Mick Rayson on 01487 830720



## CHILDHOOD DAYS

In my childhood days of long ago,  
Were children playing in the snow,  
Hopscotch games and paper planes,  
Boys with marbles near the drains,  
Hide and seek, and games of Tiggy,  
Get a stick and let's play Piggy.

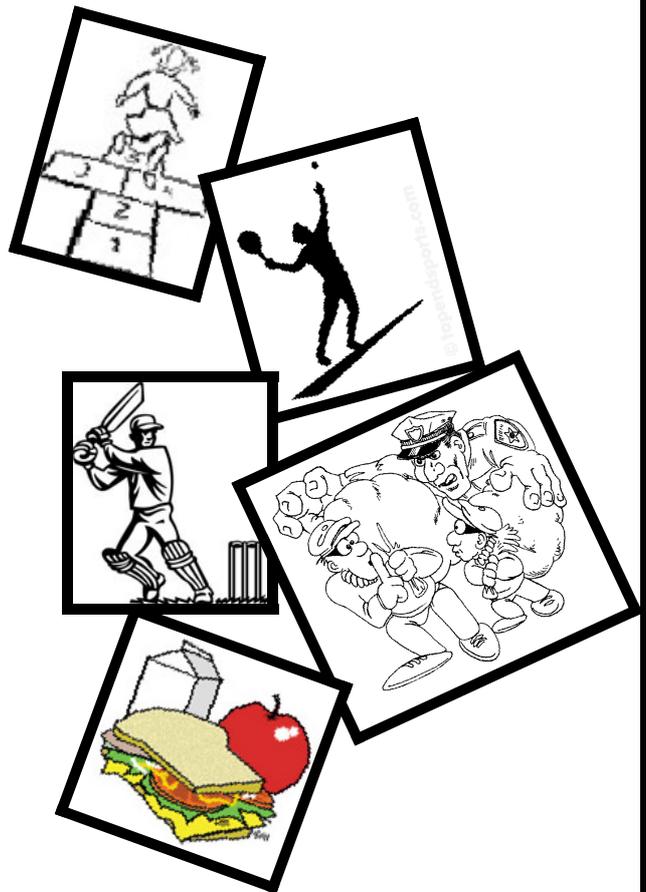
A tennis ball for games of cricket,  
Metal dustbin for a wicket,  
Cops and robbers, let's play trains,  
Bows and arrows made from canes,  
Five days a week we go to school,  
Play with friends and act the fool.

After school it's boyish capers,  
Then off you go delivering papers,  
Tea is ready, Mum is beckoning,  
Dad comes home, the time of reckoning,  
If you need taking down a peg,  
You get a slap across your leg.

Some kids today they seem so bitter,  
Swearing, smoking, dropping litter,  
To them our fun does not appeal,  
Some would find a car to steal,  
Violence seems to be their game,  
Could television be to blame?

### ***W Allan, Royal Marine Rtd, Deceased***

Submitted on behalf of Mrs Marjorie McCarthy and written by her late brother, who unfortunately passed away last year.





## Sawtry MotorCycle Club

Happy New Year and we hope you had a great time over the holidays. Anyway, that was last year and now moving swiftly on to look at the coming year. For the Sawtry Motorcycle Club it's

our tenth anniversary year! We have plans for absolutely loads of events and excursions for 2009 to regenerate the club and celebrate our first decade.

Straight into 2009 and the first event is at the end of January with a visit to the Excel Centre on Victoria Dock in London for the huge MCN bike show and event which will be subsidised for members naturally. That should get the year kicked off to a good start.

Speedway; we are so close to Peterborough and yet we have never been to a meeting. This year we'll change that and may even make it a regular event.

Santa Pod; It's only 30 miles from Sawtry along some decent roads. The Straightliners drag bike series (with many categories of machine) hold three or four meetings here each year and there are many "run-what-you-brung" events throughout the year. You can get up close to the action, wander around the garages and talk to the competitors or even compete! As a club we've never been there either!

Tuesday ride outs, once the clocks have gone forward so we have some light in the evenings, these will be around the local area (50 – 70 mile round trip) to a pub or café and will give the less well travelled a tour of the area's more scenic countryside.

At least one small party rally will be singled out for a weekend away, although some members will go to several and everyone is invited if they want to get away. These are normally less than £20 for a whole weekend of camping, live music, discos and silly games to either watch or join in with and all for charity too.

There will definitely be many Sunday trips out to one day bike shows. Cambridge NCC, Northants NCC, Meredith evening bike show (near Cambridge which is mid-week, not a Sunday at all!) Suffolk NCC, Peterborough Town Bridge Show, Great Offley Show (near Hitchin), Jesters MCC at Shillington (near Henlow, Beds) to name just a few.

Race meetings; these tend to be quite expensive, but a few members are not put off and go to a round or two of the British Super Bike series most years.

This year the Parish Council are organising the Sawtry Feast Week between May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup> which is probably covered elsewhere in the 'Eye' and this could be an opportunity for the club to host a one off event open to everyone. Although there will be much planning to do before even the tiniest of hints regarding format or venue can be revealed to the good people of Sawtry.

All this and we haven't even considered our main event yet. Probably not the TT at The Isle of Man again and we did the Nurburg ring last year and a couple of years ago we visited the Lake District so we've got some heavy thinking to do to get something interesting and challenging planned. One member is looking into visiting the huge international annual rally in Faro Portugal. That would be a challenging trip.

Of course, there will be the summer barbeque which is usually held in the Greystones' Beer Garden and no year can pass without the SMCC Christmas Do and I can tell you already it will be a themed event so people have plenty of time to put a stunning outfit together. Everyone usually makes a really good effort for the Christmas party at the Working Men's Club and the event has a reputation of being a Jolly Good Evening and attracts many non-members every year.

Last year we raised money for a Children's Hospice outside Cambridge and took part in a Charity Toy Run for Peterborough Hospital Children's Ward and yes, it was very cold but very worthwhile too. A few of the children from the ward were able to come out and see all the big shiny bikes and were encouraged to sit on fully dressed Harley Davidsons and play with the throttles and horns. When you are only three feet tall, a fully kitted out Wide-Glide must be an awe inspiring monster of a machine and their little smiles simply could not have been any wider.

For anyone who has been teetering on the edge of coming to see us at the Greystones on a Tuesday evening, this is what you could be doing in the coming year. The more members we have the more ideas we get and the more stuff that goes on. It's unusual for a village to have its own motorcycle club but here we are and we have no barriers to membership, you don't even need to live in Sawtry. Everyone is welcome whatever you ride or whatever sort of riding you do. Our goal is to get as many people as possible out on bikes, trying something new, enjoying riding and bike related events. If any of the above sounds like something you'd like to do then you know where to find us.

Looking forward, I can only hope we have better weather this year having had two wet summers in a row. This year, as a club, the idea is to grab any ray of sunshine and make the most of it, failing that, don the waterproofs and the events above will just go ahead anyway and we'll enjoy them regardless of the Great British Climate.

Soggy feet and stiff upper lip!

**Dun©**