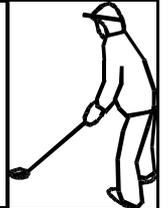




GLENSIDE NEWS



Volume XXIII Issue 1

May 2001

For the parishes of Careby, with Aunby & Holywell,
Castle Bytham, Creeton with Counthorpe and Little Bytham.

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This month is the first month of the new Children's Page editorship. We have had several 'volunteers' to compile the page including the Bythams School, the Guides and one or two individuals. Hopefully there will be enough of them so that it remains a joy and does not become an onerous chore.

Last month's issue contained a letter appealing for funds for those affected by the Foot & Mouth catastrophe. In addition to this, the collection at the April Family Service at Careby Church, was given to the appeal. This service was a 'Celebration of the Talents' and there is a letter from Maureen Hale, who took the service, later in the magazine. This highlights its success but, sufficient to say, there were almost 100 people present and the collection came to £326.

Altogether, including this collection, nearly £1500 has been raised. This also excludes the donations from those of us who intend to give something but have not yet got round to it. So, please, send your cheque **NOW !!** (*Details are on page 8*)

Apart from the new editorship of the Children's Page, there are two other innovations this month. One of them is courtesy of the Cottesmore parish magazine. Their editor is now Tony Collison, who, as most of you know, with his wife, Sheila, used to run the shop and Post Office in Castle Bytham.

Now retired, he has taken on the 'fun' of editing their parish magazine (must be a masochist). They have a monthly quiz - no prize - just for fun and we are reproducing it in Glenside.

The other change is the introduction of a 'Village Idiot of the Month' competition. One rule - you can only nominate yourself although, if you wish it, your name will not be divulged.

This month's successful nominee is a man, of course - no lady would ever qualify for this award. Retired now some 14 years, he bought himself a new Volvo estate with his commuted pension in 1989 and has been driving it happily - well fairly happily - since then. The only problem has been a very minor one, the driving position has seemed a little low and he wondered whether this had always been so or had just happened because of the 227,000 miles the car had done with, as his garage was happy to point out, a fair bit of weight on that seat. The sagging seat was evidenced by the bits of foam that littered the floor with all the other detritus of twelve years.

What to do? The cost of a new seat would probably be more than the car was worth. But help was at hand! His recently acquired brother-in-law was not only a car mechanic but also had a spare seat from a previous Volvo of his. The seat was not any better but he did suggest, "If your seat is a bit low, why not raise it?" It took him thirty seconds to do this and me twelve years to learn that you could! Idiot, me. My wife thinks so.

COPY FOR JUNE ISSUE BY TUESDAY 15TH. MAY

Tel: 01780 410166

Dear Friends,

It's not very often I get the opportunity to comment on Easter in this edition, and by the time the next one comes out it's old news. The reason I am able to is because I forgot all about the magazine in the run up to Easter and this has been prepared a little late. I was actually reminded of my error when I happened to sit next to Peter Cox at the Easter Sunday 'Songs of Praise' service. This doesn't mean Peter has suddenly been called to higher things, it was at Corby Glen this year and so Margaret Barton took it. It was nice, for once, to just sit in the congregation. Peter was very nice about it, he said he would call off the 'heavies' if I got it to him within 24 hours which, having seen the Godfather I was careful to do. Incidentally, Peter has always told me he has the worse singing voice imaginable, and I always used to accuse him of undue modesty. Well, now I've sat next to him through a service!

My approach to Easter this year was a little different. In previous years I had always followed a policy of not using one of our churches, thus allowing two reasonable length services with hymns and address, plus a Songs of Praise in the evening. Now I know that whatever the vicar does is never right, having a moan is a national pleasure and pastime, but I heard so many times that people like to use their own church at Easter that this year I decided to change things. So instead we had four Communion services on Easter Morning beginning at 8am at Castle and ending at 1130 at Creeton. I allowed an hour for each, except the 9am service at Little Bytham which had an hour and a half to allow for hymns and address. Those who wanted this were free to go there, those who didn't, or wanted to go to their own churches were equally free. I expected to have cries of 'What, no hymns!', but I didn't, everyone seemed to appreciate the time factor made that impossible. I arrived home at 1230 very hoarse, having left home at 7.30, but it seems to have been worth it. So, unless I get unexpected reaction from PCCs I shall do the same next year, but start at Little Bytham instead of Castle so the longer service moves on to Careby.

It was very good to see so many people in church over Easter and it was especially good to see Lucy Barclay in Careby Church for the service. Lucy was home for the weekend and we look forward to the time when she is home with us for good. We will continue to remember her in the prayers every Sunday until that day comes. Communicant numbers were up this year in the four churches, there were 80 communicants plus several people who didn't take Communion and many children. It would seem to indicate the right option was taken regarding services. A very enjoyable Songs of Praise was organised by Margaret at Corby Glen, with the congregation containing people from all seven churches.

The loss of the Hunter Trials was a serious blow to our four churches, the money it normally brings in very much helps to balance the books. A thousand pounds takes a lot of making up in small village churches. The Foot and mouth epidemic is affecting more people than the Government realise. What the situation will be regarding events like Little Bytham Garden Fete and Careby Barbeque I simply don't know. We will simply have to continue to pray the situation will soon be under control, not only of course for ourselves but for everyone who is suffering in whatever way.

CHURCH INFORMATION

SERVICES IN MAY				
	CASTLE BYTHAM	LITTLE BYTHAM	CAREBY	CREETON
6th May Easter 3		9am Holy Communion	11am Family Service	11.15am Morning Service
13th May Easter 4	9am Holy Communion			6pm Compline
20th May Easter 5		6pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	
27th May Sunday after Ascension	11am Morning Service			9am Holy Communion

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

Samuel David John and Helen Michaela May
Children of David and Maureen Ward
Sunday 8th April at Little Bytham

PCC MEETINGS IN MAY

Castle Bytham - 7.30pm on Tuesday 8th May at Mrs Graysons
Little Bytham - 7.30pm on Wednesday 23rd May at Mrs Hills

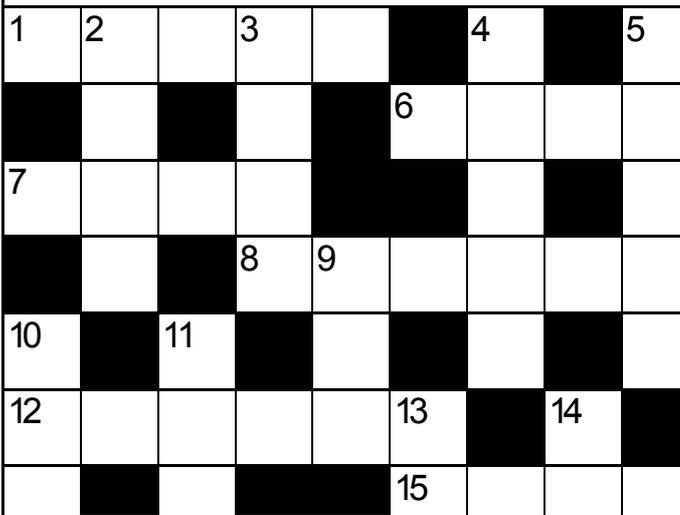
ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION FOR CHURCHWARDENS

This years visitation for newly elected Churchwardens is at **Bourne Abbey** on Thursday 10th May. Would all Churchwardens please make every attempt to be present. The service will follow the new shorter format adopted last year. Refreshments will be available from 7.30pm and the service will begin at 8pm. It is planned to end by 9pm. Any wardens preparing parish returns are asked to return then to the Rector by Friday 4th May.

SPECTACLES FOR THE THIRD WORLD

These are still needed and may be left at the Rectory, the Village Stores, or any of our churches. Many have been given already for which I would like to express my thanks. Please clear out those old drawers, old glasses aren't much use to you but could be of great value to someone else.

Quick Crossword



Clues

Across

- 1. Clan or family (5)
- 6. Let go of (4)
- 7. Movie (4)
- 8. Dam building animal (6)
- 12. Procession (6)
- 15. Operatic song (4)
- 16. Idle (4)
- 17. Open space in wood (5)

Down

- 2. Shower (4)
- 3. Explosive device (4)
- 4. Tomb (5)
- 5. Separate (5)
- 9. Terminate (3)
- 10. Upset (5)
- 11. Award (5)
- 13. Nobleman (4)
- 14. Knotted (4)

Crossword answers on page 11

Why should you never tell secrets in a greengrocers?
Because potatoes have eyes and beanstalk!

What does an octopus wear?
A coat of arms!

How do sheep know the price of their groceries?
They use the baa code!

What happened to the frog's car when it broke down?
It got toad away!

What is black and white and skims across the water at 90 miles per hour?
A penguin on a jet ski!

What is the difference between a wet day and a lion with toothache?
One is pouring with rain and the other is roaring with pain!

What's green, has four legs and if it falls out of a tree it will knock you out?
A snooker table!

What creatures worry about their weight?
Fish: they never go anywhere without their scales!

What goes cluck cluck cluck bang?
A chicken in a minefield!

What did the parrot say to the spaniel?
I'm a Cocker too!

SPORT WORDSEARCH

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

Can you find the following words in the grid?

- ATHLETICS
- BADMINTON
- BASKETBALL
- CRICKET
- DANCE
- FOOTBALL
- GYMNASTICS
- HOCKEY
- NETBALL
- ROUNDERS
- RUGBY
- TABLETENNIS
- TENNIS
- VOLLEYBALL

What do you call a fly with no wings?
A walk!

What happened at the badly organised milking contest?
There was udder chaos!

WEATHER REPORT - MARCH

RAINFALL (T.R.R.)

	m.m.	inches
1st. - 7th.	13.6	0.54
8th. - 14th.	11.7	0.46
15th. - 21st.	30.0	1.18
22nd. - 28th.	13.6	0.54
29th. - 31st	1.1	0.04
Total for Month	70.0	2.76
<i>Total for March 2000</i>	<i>14.3</i>	<i>0.56</i>

TEMPERATURES (H.G.B.)

Night-time

Lowest minimum: -10° on the 5th.
Highest minimum: 8° on the 10th.

Daytime

Lowest maximum: 2° on the 2nd. & 3rd.
Highest maximum: 16° on the 31st...

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

	Castle Bytham	Little Bytham	Careby	Creeton
May 6th.	Mrs D. Porter	Mrs W. Murphy	Mrs J. Machin	Mrs M. King
May 13th.	Mrs D. Porter	Mrs W. Murphy	Mrs J. Machin	Mrs O. King
May 20th.	Mrs M. Walton	Mrs J. Turner	Mrs J. Machin	Mrs O. King
May 27th.	Mrs M. Walton	Mrs J. Turner	Mrs K. Sanders	Mrs M. Combridge

REGULAR DIARY

(CBVH = CASTLE BYTHAM VILLAGE HALL)
(LBVH = LITTLE BYTHAM VILLAGE HALL)

Women's Institute – First Wednesday in CBVH @ 7.30pm

Badminton – Monday evenings in CBVH– Details 410345

Guides Meeting – Every Monday 7 – 8.30pm LBVH

Bowls – Every Tuesday in CBVH 7.30pm

Rainbow Guides – Every Wednesday 5pm to 6pm in LBVH followed by-

Brownies Every Wednesday from 6.15. to 7.45pm

Keep Fit Classes Every Wednesday in CBVH at 7pm. Details from Vicky in Castle Bytham Stores

Coffee Morning – Every Thursday in LBVH 10.30am to noon

Parent and Toddlers – Every Friday 10.30am to noon in CBVH – ring Alison 410480 (CB) or Penny 410565 (LB).

Youth Club – Every Friday in CBVH at 7pm

Colts Football – Saturday afternoon at the Football Pitch commencing 2.30pm

MAY EVENTS

Sunday 6th. Car Boot Sale in aid of CBVH (see page 17)

Wednesday 9th. Castle Bytham P.C. meeting (see page 11)

Sunday 20th Table Top Sale in Little Bytham Village

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

June 24th. Castle Bytham Midsummer Fair

July 6th. Careby Church Annual barn dance at Quarry Farm, Holywell

December 1st Bingo in aid of Multiple Sclerosis

Turn those unwanted items into cash.

Table top Sale

in

Little Bytham Village Hall

on

Sunday 20th May, 10am - 2pm

Table hire £3.00

Telephone 410740 for more information and to book your table.

Light refreshments will be on sale.

No arrivals or departures this month? Please remember to let me know if someone moves in or leaves next door—but please check that they don't mind it going into the magazine.

Railway Children's Day Nursery

*Registered facility providing
Day care for 0 - 5 years,
Out of school care for 4 - 8 years.*

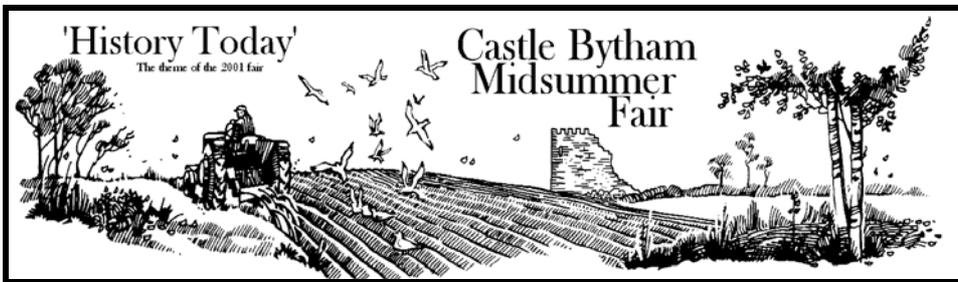
*Railway children's day nursery offers a happy,
caring, homely environment. Situated in a
countryside location from which our qualified
and experienced team can help your child develop
through play and structured activities.*

*Railway Children's Day Nursery is open to all
families who are looking for quality
Care and Education.*

*We are in the village of Creeton, our building is
situated ½ a mile from the
'The Bythams School'
Look out for the Red Train !!*

*If you would like to view our facilities, you and
your child are most welcome. Opening hours:
08.00 -18.00 hrs Monday - Friday inclusive.*

For further details telephone: 01780 410055



by Peter Hinton

First many thanks to all those that made the Quiz Night in March such a great success, especially to our Quiz Mistress, Sheila Robinson who posed the questions and kept the peace when any one wanted to debate the accuracy of the answers. The Village Hall was so crowded that we started to run out of wine and beer! Together with the Bingo Night we held in February we should have enough money in the kitty to pay for the costs the Fair always brings and hopefully improve on last years profit, all of which goes to local charities and worthy causes.

Which brings on me on to the next point. The spectre of Foot & Mouth disease is hanging over the countryside like a dark cloud. The debate over movement in rural areas and access to the countryside seems to swing from total closure to completely open access depending on which Government Minister is on TV. The only thing that is certain is that no one really knows how or when the epidemic will be under control. For that reason the committee has decided to press on with its plans and hope that we will not be too handicapped by the progress of events dealing with Foot & Mouth. We may have to change the usual location of some events but hope we can go ahead this year.

One series of Fair events is already in hand and you can already buy Raffle tickets, Ducks for the Duck race and Balloons for the Balloon race. Watch out for your friendly sales people and get your purses and wallets out! Looking at the state of the River Glen this week we might be in for the fastest finishing time yet during the Duck race, in fact we might even be able to start the race half way down Water Lane judging by the number of springs that are running with water there. Lets hope there is some let up in the wet weather before Jun 24, although one wag on the committee did remark that perhaps the picture competition should be confined to "water" colours only!

You may remember my plea in an earlier article for as many people as possible to do something special in the way of presenting or decorating their front gardens for the Fair weekend. Along side that request we would also be immensely grateful if those of you who live in the village centre would assist us in keeping it a car free area on the day. Last year, despite the numerous no parking signs a handful of cars along the High St caused serious problems with the only through route we have to keep open through the village. Obviously if there are no cars there to begin with, visitors are less likely to flout the no parking signs. We will be contacting many of you later to offer alternative parking.

CASTLE BYTHAM AND DISTRICT WI - APRIL

President Victoria Wilson welcomed members, who were joined by visitors from Ryhall and Nubourne WI's. Business was kept to a minimum with the distribution of newsletters and brief notices.

The speaker for the evening was Blue Badge guide Jill Collinge, who gave an illustrated presentation entitled "Affairs of the Heart", concerning amusing stories from some of the grand houses in Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. This included the tale of the engaged Victorian couple who went to London with a longstanding male friend to do some last minute shopping the day before their wedding. The bride-to-be went into a shop and did not come out to meet her fiancé - neither did their mutual friend!

The connection of Edward and Mrs Simpson with the Brownlows of Belton was also related, together with their connection with the Melton Mowbray area. Life, generally, was far from dull and Jill related many colourful anecdotes which were enjoyed. Excellent refreshments rounded off another enjoyable evening.

Next month's meeting deals with the yearly resolutions, followed by a make and taste session - favourite recipes brought to sample. Member Sylvia Dighton will also give a report on her course at Denman College. If you care to join us - Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30pm in Castle Bytham Village Hall, or ring 410523 or 410354.

CELEBRATION OF TALENTS

(St. Stephen's Church, Careby 1st April, 2001)

Celebration of Talents indeed! No one setting foot in Careby church on this gloriously sunny spring morning could have imagined the feast of talents, for eyes and ears, that awaited them. The church was filled with superb art & craft exhibits and the music & readings which followed from the young and not so young alike were exceptional.

All gifts come from God and on this day we offered them back to Him in praise and thanksgiving. The church was full and the feeling of close community, harmony and fellowship was commented on time & time again. Why can't we have this involvement at every service?

Thanks must go to Caroline Dove, whose inspiration brought about the event, and Judith & Charles Smith, without whose organisation it would not have taken place. Thanks also to Margaret Creasey, Peggy Greaves and their team who provided refreshments afterwards and especially to the musicians and readers who shared their time, talents and enthusiasm with us.

My thanks for all your support. God Bless,
Maureen Hale.

As you will note from the first page, the collection at this service, which amounted to £326, is being given to the FMD appeal. Individual donation can still be made, as suggested in the letter despatched with last month's Glenside. For those who have yet to make a donation and cannot find their copy of that letter, it is reprinted below. Ed,

The Foot and Mouth crisis – A message to all readers of the Glenside News

Although I am writing this in mid-March, when the further course of this crisis is unknown, its severity is already becoming apparent and I am therefore writing to appeal for your help.

The degree of distress amongst livestock farmers, particularly in areas where the disease is concentrated, has been on our screens and in our newspapers every day. Many have had to endure real isolation, cut off from the outside world by quarantine precautions. The livestock losses, either as a direct result of the disease or for precautionary reasons, have been truly horrendous. Stock farming is not just a job, but a lifetime of caring for animals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Beyond this vivid picture, however, there are equally distressing developments in rural communities as a whole. Casual workers living in the countryside who rely on the seasonal tourist industry for a living, people running the smallest bed and breakfast operations, small hoteliers who are usually looking forward to welcoming visitors, will all be hit by this crisis. The overall impact is surely greater than many of us have experienced in recent times.

It is for this reason that the four Glenside parishes have decided to make an appeal to help relieve the distress caused by this crisis. Having thought carefully about which charities should benefit, we have decided to add our support to those that were originally chosen by the Prince of Wales: The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, the Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution, the ARC-Addington Fund, The Rural Stress Network, the Farm Crisis Network and the Samaritans.

Please use the form below to send your donation to: Christopher Samler, The Old Rectory, Creeton, Grantham, NG33 4QB. Alternatively you may hand donations to me or to the PCC treasurers; David Smith, Susie Hill or Margaret Creasey. **Please make cheques payable to Creeton & Couthorpe PCC.**

Thank you for your support
Bryan Bennett
The Rectory, Castle Bytham

FMD Crisis Appeal

AMOUNT ENCLOSED £.....

Signed.....Name.....

Address.....

Tel.No.....

If you are a UK taxpayer, the Government's Gift Aid scheme means we can reclaim the tax you have already paid on your gift. This means that your gift can increase in value by almost one third at no extra cost to you.

If you would like us to reclaim the tax on your gift please tick here:.....

Letter to the Editor

From Rose Bakker, Castle Bytham

Your recent printings of the dangers of translation have reminded me of this.

While I was sailing with my husband in the early days of our marriage, we went to Antwerp where he, of course, had to work on the ship and I went to explore the city. I looked for a coffee shop and found one which had a huge notice in the window stating 'Strange languages spoken here'. So, of course, I just had to try their coffee.

The shop looked more like a florists - it was newly opened and friends had all sent flowers for the opening. The husband and wife team who served me were from Holland, spoke in French together and their English was, indeed, strange! But their coffee (and welcome) couldn't be faulted.

COMPETITION TIME *(answers page 11)*

1. Who was the 1924 Olympic mens 100m champion?
2. In which English county are the Clee Hills?
3. Which is larger, the Sudan or Chile?
4. Which playing card is known as the Curse of Scotland?
5. Which Jules Verne character is associated with submarine 'Nautilus'?
6. Who starred as Gandhi in a 1982 film?
7. In which year was Joan of Arc burnt at the stake?
8. Who wrote the novel Smiley's People?
9. Who was the companion of Don Quixote?
10. What is the name of the private eye in the novel 'The Maltese Falcon'?
11. In Australia, what sort of animal is a brumby?
12. Who did Bonnie Langford play in the 1970's T.V. show Just William?
13. Who was the 1996 US Masters golf champion?
14. In which sport is the Henry Leaf Cup played for?
15. In anatomy, what is the dorsum better knwn as?
16. The Curragh is an Irish racecourse. What is a curragh?
17. Who wrote the play 'The Night of the Iguana'?
18. On which sea does the town of Morecambe stand?
19. Who was the England cricket captain in the 1986/7 Ashes series?
20. How much did it cost to post a standard first class letter in 1977?
21. Which Poet is associated with Dove Cottage in Grasmere?
22. Abbotsford was the home of which Scottish author?
23. Who was the Roman god of wine?
24. Which comedian starred in the 1963 film 'Call Me Bwana'?

**CASTLE BYTHAM CRICKET CLUB May
'01**

By Pete Kiely

The new season is upon us. When you read this we should have already played two matches BUT one will take place for sure. On April 28th. we should play host to Newage from Stamford but, with the restrictions imposed because of the dreaded Foot & Mouth disease, we are not allowed on our ground.

Our first match should take place – away to Grantham Sunday XI – on an artificial wicket. Who mentioned the weather? This, hopefully, will be on Sunday 22nd. April.

Luckily (or unluckily!) we are not the only team to suffer as a result of this terrible disease. Several teams are in similar positions to us regarding the actual playing of games. I think, however, that we are the only club unable to work on the ground – most affected clubs have gained limited access to get pitches ready for lift off – whenever that might be!

Talking about not being allowed on a cricket ground, how about the picturesque little ground just outside Christchurch in New Zealand? It is called 'The Valley of Peace'. Not, apparently, because of its naturally beautiful surroundings but only because no female has ever been allowed to set foot on it!

In the Daily Express of September 27th. 1972 there was a headline "£20.00 all out". It stated that a women's cricket club at Dunstone Bassett in Leicestershire, which had gone 25 years without a fixture had been wound up. It was founded in 1937 and played other women's teams regularly for 10 years until members suddenly lost interest. The funds (£20) were handed to an old people's organisation.

Mowing machines were first used at Lords cricket ground between 1850 and 1855, replacing the sheep that used to graze there in order to keep the grass short. It is reported that the Hon. Robert Grimstone did not take kindly to this change and when he saw the new-fangled contraptions working, he offered a group of navvies a handful of



Barn Owls.

Many thanks to those who responded to request in last month's issue for information on the sighting of Barn Owls in this area. In fact, I had four reports covering Cumberland Gardens, the footpath which goes near the old barn south of Clipsham Road, one on the road between Little Bytham and Witham-on-the-Hill and one behind the bungalows in Glen Road, Castle Bytham.

This was duly passed onto the World Owl Trust who were most grateful. Apparently this is not one of the areas covered so they were very interested. As is usual when you start doing something the job expands, the Trust have said that they aren't averse to information on other species of owl and they quoted an project that they are doing on Little Owls.

So sightings of any species of owls, please. Ed.

HOME FIXTURES—MAY

(Subject to lifting of F & M restrictions)

Sunday 6th. Rotherby & Hoby (League)

Sunday 13th. Ashton Wold (Friendly)

Sunday 20th. Great Dalby (League)

sovereigns to interrupt the work and smash the mowers with pickaxes. My source of information does not give further details of the consequences – pity.

How about this for versatility? In the 1870s, the village of Chipstead (Wiltshire) used the church hymn board, loaned by the vicar, as a score board. It also used the vestry as a pavilion. Presumably, the ground was attached to the church grounds.

Just to show that not all educated people play cricket, George Bernard Shaw was once told that England had "won the Australian Tests." He replied by asking, "What have they been testing?"

Hopefully next month I will have some cricket to tell you about.

NATURE NOTES *By Alf Cousins*

By the time you are reading this the countryside should be in full bloom. But today (13th April) I really felt that spring had arrived at last to cheer me on.

Because of the current foot and mouth epidemic, most of my usual haunts are out of bounds so on this fine spring day I walked some of the roads for a change and was not disappointed with what mother nature had to show, Celandines, Violets, and Primroses radiated a beautiful glow from the roadside verge and hedgerows making me feel for a while that all was well with the world. I found a robin's nest containing four warm eggs just to top my day.

Another bonus was in store for me that day as I neared home, a stoat was hunting in the hedge bottom and had not noticed my approach. What a magnificent creature, I thought, as it proceeded to check each rabbit hole for prey. I stood still and marvelled at this determined little predator

and it occurred to me what a grand job the stoat does in controlling the rabbit population for us. But some folk still try to eradicate it from our countryside. They must be mad, I thought as here was one of nature's predator's working for us and causing no harm to at all!

The stoat spotted me eventually, though, and for just a second stared me full in the eyes with such intensity I thought I am glad I am not rabbit size! It then disappeared leaving me to ponder if stoats are still as common as when I was a boy, I don't think so.

Another predator we have been observing is the barn owl, on it's almost ghostly flight around Lawn Barn and Lawn Wood, yet another of nature's creatures working for us, catching rats and mice. Did you know that there are more barn owls in captivity than in the wild?

Swayfield Sunday Treasure Hunt

"Seek out the secrets of Swayfield"

Sunday 3rd June

Pick up your village guide & quiz sheets at the church entrance from 3.00-3.30p.m.

★Liquid refreshments available en route

★Childrens competition

★Prizes for the most correct answers

Refreshments & Prize giving in the marquee at Overgate House Swayfield commencing at 5 p.m.

Tickets £3.50 or £10.00 family

Inc Buffet & Wine

In the event of wet weather meet at marquee 4.00p.m. for quiz

Tickets ring Alistair 550342 or Mervyn 550441

Proceeds towards renovation work required for church

Competition Answers

1) Harold Abrahams, 2) Shropshire, 3) Sudan, 4) Nine of Diamonds, 5) Captain Nemo, 6) Ben Kingsley, 7) 1431, 8) John Le Carre, 9) Sancho Panza, 10) Sam Spade, 11) A Wild Horse, 12) Violet Elizabeth Bott, 13) Nick Faldo, 14) Real Tennis, 15) The Back, 16) A Coracle, 17) Tennessee Williams, 18) Irish Sea, 19) Mike Gatting, 20) 9p, 21) William Wordsworth, 22) Sir William Scott, 23) Bacchus, 24) Bob Hope.

Crossword Answers

Across: 1. Tribe, 6. Drop, 7. Film, 8. Beaver, 12. Parade,

15. Aria, 16. Lazy, 17. Glade.

Down: 2. Rain, 3. Bomb, 4. Grave, 5. Apart, 9. End,

10. Spill, 11. Prize, 13. Earl, 14. Tied.

BEES

by F.P.

I have an automatic distaste for wasps; they can be aggressive and unpredictable. Hornets look and sound frightening but it is easy to take avoiding action as they arrive on the scene accompanied by the noise of a single engined aircraft. Bees of course are really useful and on the whole are too busy about their business to annoy but bumble bees are just totally lovable. I can while away my time watching them busying themselves amongst the summer flowers and what better place than the lavender hedge .

I believe that there are over three hundred species in the world of which about a score or so can be found in our islands. Early in the spring we can easily spot one of the species as the very large queen leaves her winter quarters and takes to the air. I remember the first weekend in April when the sun shone, the temperature rose and there were the queens emerging from their winter sleep perhaps for the very first time . It is amazing that this huge bee with such tiny wings manages to take off all.

She has over-wintered alone in a dry spot, perhaps in a stone wall or indeed in a hole in the ground. She would have mated the previous autumn but now she is busily foraging in order to gain strength for the task ahead. When she is ready she will investigate holes in banks or on the woodland floor for a suitable nesting site. One will be chosen and her first job will be to store up pollen so that when her eggs hatch the larvae will have food enough to live on. The larvae will pupate for two weeks and finally become fully fledged unfertile female workers. They will assist their queen in the nest and forage for food for their hatching siblings. Towards the end of the nesting season the eggs will cease being workers and will develop into males and queens.

The males will fertilise the young queens and with their work done leave the nest and that is when we can spot them in the early morning clinging to the underside of a flower having spent the night out.

We can try and attract bumble bees to our gardens and one of the ways of doing this is to bury, almost totally to it's top, an upturned flower pot in a dry place such as a sunny south facing bank. Adding some material from an old mouse nest might help the queen to feel at home. I haven't tried it but I am going to.

The following article, which seems to connect well with the above, appeared in the RSPB magazine

"BUMBLEBEES form annual colonies and only mated queens survive the winter. They emerge during the first sunny days of early spring and find a place to nest, often an old mouse den. Cuckoo bees, closely related to bumblebees, emerge later. They wait until the bumblebees start nesting so they can pursue their cuckoo-like lifestyle. They lay eggs in cells which bumblebees have prepared. They enter the nests just as worker bumblebees are emerging and lurk unobtrusively until the cells are made. The cuckoo bee kills the queen bumblebee and lays her eggs, then the worker bumblebees continue to work for the cuckoo bee, tending her young. There are six species of cuckoo bee in Britain, each bearing a striking resemblance to the species of bee it parasitises. Cuckoo bees are less densely covered in bristles so the shiny black abdomen can be seen underneath the stripes."

MID-SUMMER FAIR (CATERING)

I have had a small response to my request for volunteers to help with preparation and serving the food in the village hall. Help is needed between about 8.30am and 5pm. No need to stay all day, an hour or so would be much appreciated. Donations of cakes, pies, etc gratefully received. All profits go into the Fair total. Remember that I am also a volunteer, with enough help I will also be able to enjoy the attractions.

NEWSPAPERS—MAGAZINES
DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR
MONDAY TO SATURDAY
IN

CAREBY, CASTLE BYTHAM, LITTLE
BYTHAM, COUNTHORPE AND
CREETON

*Ring Martin Bailey
On 01778 590174*

60 & 70's evening

This took place on the 24th Feb and turned out to be a very successful evening raising approx £250 towards the Castle Bytham Christmas Parties' funds. The support was great, there were even a few who managed to dress to match the era. When the end came we were asked "do it again", so that's what we will be doing. Double Dee will be back on the 6th Oct in the village hall. Watch the Glenside News and the posters for more information.

Prize Bingo

At the bingo which took place on 17th March in Castle Bytham village hall, the raffle, which had been sold beforehand and raised £90, was drawn. The following people won:-

- 1st. prize: China Doll, Gina Brown
- 2nd. prize: Wine, Jane Field
- 3rd. prize: Easter Egg, Lorna Green

Along with the raffle we raised a total of £420. Thanks to everyone who donated prizes, turned up to play and helped on the evening.

1st RYHALL, ESSENDINE AND BELMESTHORPE BEAVERS

We have had a successful start of the year with almost a full quota of Beavers. Several are approaching eight years of age and will soon be "swimming up" to Cubs. This means we have room for more boys of 6-8, if you are interested please contact 01780 410092 (Allan and Tricia Robins).

During the next term we will be making a garden from scratch. We have been allowed a piece of overgrown waste ground at Essendine village hall. I hope we manage to grow something!

1st LITTLE BYTHAM BROWNIES

The Brownies have had an equally successful term, there is a list of girls waiting to join. During the Easter holidays some of the girls will have been canoeing. In May there is to be a district Revels where the girls will have the chance to have fun with Brownies from other villages.

CONGRATULATIONS

To the Castle Inn, Castle Bytham which has been mentioned in Lincolnshire Life as one of the Gold Citation Winners of Best Pub Meal (George Adams) Award.

Extracts from Letters to the Welfare Hoard - (a freudian slip?)

1. I am forwarding my marriage certificate and six children. I have seven but one died which was baptised on half a sheet of paper.
2. I am writing to the Welfare Department to say that my baby boy was born two years old. When do I get my money?
3. Mrs Jones has not had any clothes for a year and has been visited regularly by the clergy.
4. My husband got his project cut off two weeks ago and I haven't had any relief since.
5. I cannot get sick pay. I have six children. Can you tell me why?
6. This is my eighth child. what are you going to do about it?
7. Please find for certain if my husband is dead. The man I am now living with can't eat or do anything until he knows.
8. I am very much annoyed to find you have branded my son illiterate. This is a dirty lie as I was married a week before he was born.
9. In answer to your letter I have given birth to a boy weighing 10lbs. I hope this is satisfactory.
10. I am forwarding my marriage certificate and three children one of which is a mistake as you can see.
11. Unless I get my husband's money pretty soon I will be forced to live on immortal life.
12. You nave changed my little boy to a girl. Will this make a difference?
13. In accordance with your instructions I have given birth to twins in the enclosed envelope.
14. I want my money as quick as I can get it. I have been in bed with the doctor for two weeks and he doesn't do me any good. If things don't improve I will have to send for another doctor.

Editor's Note

In last month's issue I explained that I had run to the end of my 'fill-ins' and appealed for some contributions. Unfortunately, but not surprisingly, I only received copy from your usual contributors. Hence I finshed up with two pages too many or, to put it another way, two pages short. As a result the reports of both Parish Council meetings on the 5th. April have had to be omitted. Hopefully, we can include them next month - with a load of new contributions?