



GLENSIDE NEWS



Volume XXIV Issue 10

March 2003

Help!! The one drawback that I find with editing the Glenside is that occasionally it becomes a tie. Being retired, there are obviously other things that we want to do, not least going to see our grandchildren. Now, generally, I can arrange to avoid the time between 14th and 20th of the month when the copy should come in, is made ready and sent to the printers. The tie is later in the month when the magazines come back and have to be counted and passed on to the distributors.

I am looking for a volunteer to take this on, on a permanent basis. It is not too onerous. All that is required is to receive them back from the printer, count them and pass them onto the ten or so distributors. Takes half a day maximum each month and if one month it is inconvenient, then I am sure I'll be able to stand in. So how about it, feel like volunteering?

In May the Parish Council elections are to be held. Last time there were sixteen candidates for the nine seats at Castle Bytham but not enough candidates at Little Bytham to require a vote.

Now I am sure that many of you can find things to criticise about the Parish Councils, so why not stand and do better or, if you think that your Council is OK, why not stand to

join them and make them better still.

By next month we should know the date of the election and the date by which nominations close - but please think about it now. The Parish Councils may not have much power but they are part of our democratic process. Without them we would have more centralisation and less local authority. If the Parish Councils die, will the District Councils be next with all decisions being taken at Westminster or by Quangos?

For any of you who are a mug like me, building castles in the air, you may be interested to know that it is now possible to buy Lottery Tickets at 'Savemore' in South Witham. My experience

o v e r
m a n y
y e a r s,
h o w -
e v e r, i s
t h a t i f
y o u
w a n t
t o p r o f i t
f r o m
t h e
L o t t e r y
o r t h e
F o o t b a l l
P o o l s a n d
b e c o m e
a m i l l i o n a i r e,
k e e p p u t t i n g
y o u r s t a k e
m o n e y i n
N a t i o n a l
S a v i n g s - a n d
y o u c a n d o
t h a t a t
o u r P o s t O f f i c e!



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

Editor - Peter Cox, Green Bank Cottage, High Street, Castle Bytham. NG33 4RZ Tel 410457 (E-Mail: petercox29@tiscali.co.uk)

Representatives - Careby (with Aunby & Holywell) - Maxine Ellington, Careby Garage, Stamford Rd., Careby Tel: 410703 Castle Bytham - Diana Hill, 6, Regal Gardens, Castle Bytham

Creeton (with Couthorpe) - Anne Garbutt, 2, Brownlow Farm Cottages, Creeton. Tel: 410563

Little Bytham - Sheila Jones, Hill View, Station Road, Little Bytham Tel 410232

Hon. Treasurer - Morris Felton 10^A Cumberland Gardens, Castle Bytham. Tel: 411048

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The views expressed by the individual contributors to the magazine are not necessarily those of the editor or the magazine. Similarly, we cannot accept responsibility for goods or services obtained through these advertisements

Copy Deadlines

New advertisements or amendments by 13th day of the month.

COPY

- Typed or handwritten by 14th day of the month
- By e-mail or on disc by 15th day of the month.

POLICE

Our community beat officer, Constable Ian Hender can be contacted through Stamford Police Station (01780 752222) and ask for voice mail 0847

Tel: 01780 410166

Dear Friends,

"Sorry Bryan, but you're too old", said the voice down the telephone line, and I felt a mixture of sadness and relief. "It's a young man's game" my friend went on, "you and I wouldn't last ten minutes". At the time of this conversation I had been out of the Army seven years, was still on the reserve list and was asking the Chaplain General if he planned to call me up. I must confess to being glad that he didn't, only a fool enjoys being involved in a war. So, after chatting over old times for a bit we both hung up and my contribution to the first Gulf War was to remember those who went in my prayers and in the prayers in church, particularly the chaplains, many of whom I knew personally. And now here we are again, twelve years on and perhaps doing it all again, of course there has been no phone call this time I've been off the reserve for eight years, neither do I personally know those involved, but that won't prevent me again remembering them before God.

Prayer is a very personal thing and not something most people find easy to partake of. I remember at the time of the last Gulf War a vivid picture on the front page of a newspaper. It showed a soldier kneeling at prayer in the sand of the desert, putting himself right with his God prior to the day of battle. And I say HIS God deliberately because during 35 years in this profession I have come to believe God appears in a different guise to each and every one of us. I knew very well, during my time in the Army, that a soldier's concept of God was very different from mine, but that never worried me, after all, I also was convinced that there was only one God. The difference of course is that each of us approaches him differently, some no doubt less sure of his existence than others, it's very fortunate that his ability to respond lies in his nature and is not dependent upon the depth of our faith or knowledge. I'm even tempted to suggest that He will hear the soldiers plea more clearly than mine, his doubtless being simple and straight from the heart, mine being qualified by the theological strings and baggage I attach to it! This is what Jesus probably had in mind when he told us to approach God as a child would its father, for a child in need doesn't come with all the answers ready to hand as we often do, it come with simple trust. That, said Jesus, is how we should communicate with God.

Good men are supposed to be thrown up in a crisis, and that applies to churchmen as well as generals, but I must confess no one has really stood out this time as far as the Church is concerned. Most of the speakers I've heard seem to have simply been saying, let's hope it won't happen and indeed, let's hope it doesn't. But what if it does? Have the Church leaders nothing to say? At the time of the last crisis the one who came to the fore was Dr John Habgood the Archbishop of York, a great scholar and in the eyes of many what we call a cold fish. Yet he was the man who bridged the gap to ordinary men and women. He said on the radio for those wanting to pray for their loved ones, what I've been trying to say, that God's ability to understand and act is not reliant upon our ability to communicate with him. He said that even words were not necessary if we find them difficult, for God, if he exists, surely knows the thoughts of our hearts. He showed a gentle common touch I greatly admired.

He also spoke about the war itself, ' Truth' he said is not pragmatic, if its right at the beginning it continues to be right, disasters and the wind of public opinion don't change it. The moral and political justifications for going to war aren't changed by such occurrences, for they belong to the very nature of war itself. And he concluded that once you choose this course of action you must see it through or you give an open invitation to future aggressors. What you must do is ensure your motives are true and pure before you start, and that advice, relevant to the last war, also applies now.

CHURCH INFORMATION

SERVICES IN MARCH				
	CASTLE BYTHAM	LITTLE BYTHAM	CAREBY	CREETON
2nd. March 7 before Easter		9am Holy Communion	11am Family Service	6pm Compline
9th. March Lent 1	9am Holy Communion			11am Morning Service
16th. March Lent 2		6pm DEANERY EVENSONG	9am Holy Communion	
23rd. March Lent 3	11am Morning Service			9am Holy Communion
30th. March Lent 4	10 am GROUP HOLY COMMUNION AT LITTLE BYTHAM			

LENT MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION

As in previous years there will be a weekly mid-week Communion in Lent. All are at 7pm except Ash Wednesday.

5th March	Ash Wednesday 10am	Castle Bytham,
12th March	Wednesday 7pm	Little Bytham,
18th March	Tuesday 7pm	Careby
25th March	Tuesday 7pm	Creeton
3rd April	Thursday 7pm	Castle Bytham,
8th April	Tuesday 7pm	Little Bytham,
17th April	Maundy Thursday 7pm	Careby

CHURCH AGMs

Little Bytham, - 12th March - following the Holy Communion.

Careby - 18th March - following the Holy Communion.

DEANERY EVENSONGS

These are at 6pm on the Sundays of Lent. Everyone is most welcome.

9th March	Ropsley	(Preacher Bishop of Lincoln)
16th March	LITTLE BYTHAM	(Please support this if you can)
23rd March	Colsterworth	
30th March	South Witham.	

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERAL SERVICES

Janet Evelyn Bradley (aged 82) on 13th January at Castle Bytham.

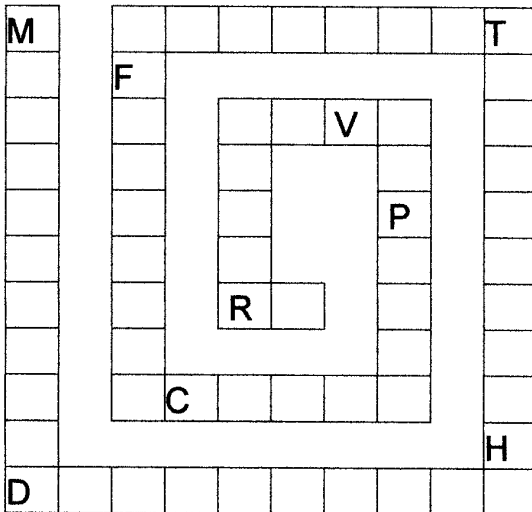
Alan Richard Gilbert Bull (aged 67) on 14th January at Careby

Marjorie Cecil Bailey (aged 88) on 28th January at Little Bytham.

PUZZLE PAGE

In-Words

Starting at the top left-hand corner, work your way to the centre of the grid. All the words overlap by 1 or 2 letters – and a few letters have already been entered, to start you off...

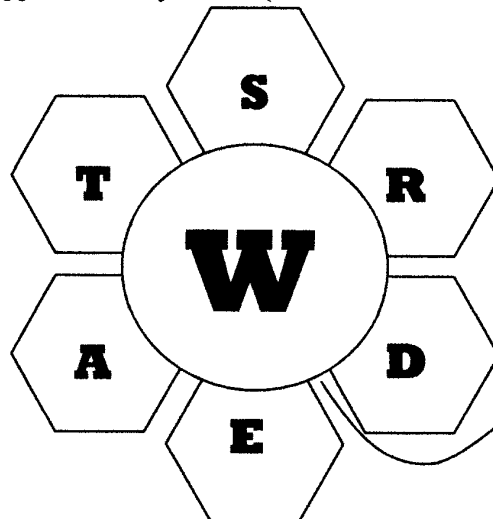


Clues

1. Liquid, dampness (8)
2. Draw back (6)
3. Ten-sided shape (7)
4. An attack or beginning (5)
5. Heavenly, spirit-like (8)
6. Restrict (5)
7. Causing irritation (7)
8. Laugh loudly (6)
9. Overwhelmed, humbled (9)
10. The seed of a nut (6)
11. Pass, expire (6)
12. More than one (7)
13. Sharp, watchful (5)

Word Finder

How many words can you make using the letters on the flower's petals? The central letter must appear in every word. (There are at least 36 possible words!)



Wet
Dew
Water
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?



In-Words answers: Moisture, recede, decagon, onset, ethereal, limit, itching, gulfaw, awestruck, kernel, elapse, several, alert

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
Chess Monday evenings in Fox & Hounds
Bowls – Every Tuesday in CBVH 7.30 pm)
Water Colour Classes Every Wednesday (during term time) in LBVH 10 am to 1pm.
Rainbow Guides – Every Wednesday 5 pm to 6 pm in LBVH followed by-
Brownies Every Wednesday from 6.15. to 7.45pm
Keep Fit Classes Every Wednesday (except first in month) in CBVH at 7 pm. Details from Vicky in Castle Bytham Stores
Coffee Morning – 1st. & 3rd Thursday every month in LBVH—10.30am to noon
Parent and Toddlers – Every Friday 10.30 am to noon in CBVH – ring Alison 410480
Youth Club – Every Friday in CBVH at 7.30pm
Bourne Waste Recycling Mays Road - Pinfold Industrial Estate Saturdays & Sundays 8.00 am to 4.00 pm (page 10)

WEATHER REPORT - JANUARY

RAINFALL (T.R.R.)

	m.m.	inches
1st - 7th.	11.9	0.47
8th. - 14th.	3.6	0.15
15th. - 21st.	27.3	1.07
22nd. - 28th.	8.0	0.31
29th - 30th	3.3	0.13
Total for Month	54.1	2.13
<i>Total for January '02</i>	<i>52.5</i>	<i>2.07</i>

TEMPERATURES (H.G.B.)

Night-time

Lowest minimum: -8° on the 11th.
 Highest minimum: 7° on the 27th.

Daytime

Lowest maximum: -1° on the 7th.
 Highest maximum: 11° on the 26th. & 27th.

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

(*and cleaning rota)

MARCH EVENTS

Sunday 2nd Tree planting at the Brickyard Spinney 2 - 4 pm. (Please bring a spade.)
 Sunday 2nd Quiz in Fox & Hounds, Castle Bytham (see below)
 Saturday 8th Open day at Railway Children's Nursery
 Thursday 12th. Castle Bytham Parish Council meeting
 Saturday 15th Jumble Sale in CBVH (see page 7)
 Saturday 29th Bingo in CBVH (see page 7)

	CAREBY*	CASTLE BYTHAM	CREETON	LITTLE BYTHAM
March 2nd	Mrs M. Creasey	Mrs Hopkins	Mrs M. Combridge	Mrs D. Harris
March 9th	Mrs M. Bradshaw	LENT		
March 16th.	Mrs M. Bradshaw			
March 23rd	Mrs M. Bradshaw			
March 30th.	Mrs J. Machin			

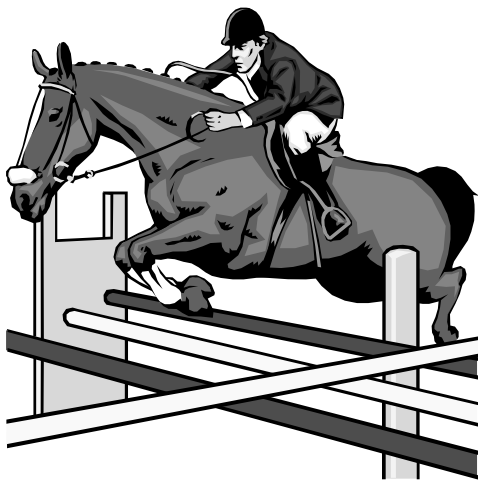
FORTHCOMING EVENTS

April 5th Walk around Hunter Trial course (see page)
 April 15th: Careby with Aunby and Holywell Parish Meeting A.G.M. 8 pm at The Willoughby Arms.
 April 26th Rubbish Freighter in LB
May 4th HUNTER TRIALS (see page)

SPONSORSHIP

Remember last month there was an invitation to sponsor Lou Truss on her cycle ride in Ecuador in aid of Asthma Research? There is to be a quiz in the Fox & Hounds, Castle Bytham on Sunday 2nd March to raise funds for this. Why not come along?

HELP!



We need your help to plan and run the Hunter Trials at Grimsthorpe on 4th May this year. Please consider becoming a member of our small, informal Committee. To learn more about what is involved, contact the following:

Rosemary Player. 01780 410 251

Penny Payne. 01780 410 468

Morris Felton. 01780 411 048

Hunter Trials Committee

Course Walk 5th April at 2pm—Come along and enjoy a walk in the countryside. Dogs on leads welcome. Enter the estate by the Little Bytham Gate

HERE AND THERE

Little Bytham Village Hall 100 Club

Winners of the 100 Club draw for January were Mrs E Jones (£30) and Mr J Clarke (£18). For February the winners were Mr Boyd (£30) and Mr A Edinburgh (£18). Congratulations to them all.

Castle Bytham P.C.C. '100 Club'

February Draw Winners:
42 Mr & Mrs Lewis
24 Mr & Mrs Hix
82 Mrs Wiggins
71 Mrs Wale

CASTLE BYTHAM CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTIES

FIRST EVENT

Jumble Sale in Castle Bytham village hall on Saturday, 15th March. Doors open at 1.30 pm. If you have any donations of clothes, bric à brac or toys, please bring them to the hall on Friday 14th between 7.30 and 10 pm. or on the morning of the sale. Alternatively, contact Di Hill, Eve Hyland or Ann Burrows (410537)

SECOND EVENT

Prize Bingo in aid of the above parties will take place on Saturday March 29th in Castle Bytham Village hall at 7.30pm, everyone welcome. If you would like to donate a prize you can contact Angela on 01780 410629 or 410153

Remember community parties like these are what village life and neighbourliness is all about. So please support these fund raising efforts — and my Christmas Dinner!

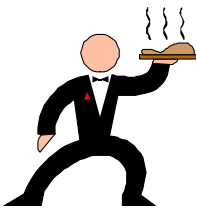
the late Alan Bull

At the funeral of the late Alan Bull on 14th. January in Careby Church a retiring collection was taken. This amounted to £292.45.

At the family's request, £200 has been given to the Glenside Practice and the balance to the church.

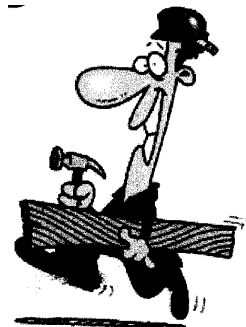
Village Pubs

We had lunch in the Castle Inn on Sunday (and the previous Sunday) and thought how nice it was that it had re-opened after the long gap after Gary and Gill left. It was quite full, so trade must be getting back to normal. We are fortunate in these villages to have three pubs all of which serve good food and have convivial atmospheres



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Vehicle Available



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01780 410 217
(mobile: 07973 410 946)

Burns Night celebration in Castle Bytham Village Hall on Saturday evening 25th January.

Success!! Demand for the 100 tickets was such that the event was sold out two weeks beforehand!

Guests arrived at the Hall to be greeted by the bagpipes outside, and by a glass of mulled wine inside.

The main event started with the parade of the Haggis led by the piper, Robert Love, who also gave the formal Address to the Haggis. Jacqui Wade gave the Selkirk Grace while Geoff Rushworth proposed the Loyal Toast. The speeches followed which were much enjoyed. Deirdre Pawsey proposed a toast to the Immortal Memory of Robbie Burns, Doctor Alan Bateman toasted Tam o Shanter and Robert Brownlow 'The Lassies' to which Jane Bateman replied. The toasts were interspersed by a Bagpipe medley

Everyone then enjoyed the Haggis (specially sent down from Scotland) plus Lincolnshire sausages with neeps and tatties followed by a selection of puddings and cheese. A local 7 piece Band - Charlies Ant - played throughout the meal.

Entertainment followed with recitations from Deidre Pawsey and Rose Bakker, and haunting music played by Jonathan Aughton on flute and Steve Taggart on accordion. The evening concluded with

Scottish country dancing to Charlies Ant.

The event was supported by Castle Bytham stores, Grasmere Pork Products, Moat House Hotels and Belton Rentals. Thanks to their generosity, to the people who gave raffle prizes and puddings, to those who worked so hard on the evening and principally to those attending, the magnificent sum of £950, was raised for Village Hall Funds.



This result was also greatly helped by Jacqui Wade who organised the main raffle prize of two nights for two people at a Moat House Hotel of their choice. She then won the prize herself, donated it back to be auctioned and it raised £150.

The Committee is to organise a Race Night in the Hall on 4th. October and we look forward to seeing you there.
Robert. Brownlow

A Tartan Nicht Oot in Lincolnshire

Aye, ye should ha bin here last year, Jock
A richt auld do, and frisky
Wi' a bashed neep in the tatties too
An' the water flowed like whisky

O' kilts we had at least a score
O' tam - o - shanters traces
Wi' Hamish wearing Granny's rug
Hield up wi' belt and braces

The piper cwam wi'oot his pipes
(His mem'ry. comes in batches)
But borrit twa o' Wendy's cats
He's cured noo o' the scratches

Oor Nancy Poosie didna' fit
Wee frock we'd hirit fer her
We worrit that she wouldna last
Sin' midwife cwam and saw her

The poor wee timourous beast got in
An' cwam ter join oor feastie
He danced one reel, then left the ha'
An' panic in lasses' breastie

"Ye canna bring yon haggis in!"
But Wully wou'dna listen
Nothing was safe in a' the ha'
Frae that sma' creatures' pissen

Noo, tho we'er fur frae oor hameland
Oor Burns Nicht Toast we heighten
By draining yet moor drams foreby
To

ROBBIE BURNS and
CASTLE BYTHAM

RB 1/03
with apologies

Report on Little Bytham Parish Council Meeting held on 9^h. January, 2003

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Powergen Bill. A final electricity bill for the Brownie Hut for £51.87 had been received, but included additional standing charges. The Clerk had raised the issue with Powergen and a further bill will be sent.

Brownie Hut. A working party was still needed to clean out the Brownie Hut. It was agreed that the task be deferred until early in the Spring

Deeds to Village Hall. The Clerk advised that an extensive search was required to find the Deeds to the Village Hall. One avenue would be through local solicitors. Mr Sharpe volunteered to speak to Mr Turner, a Parish Councillor at the time of the transfer of the Hall from Mrs Fane. He would also speak to Mr Peter Fane, a nephew, to find out which solicitors had been instructed.

Planning Applications. The application from Spires Developers - (Residential Development, Old Station Yard) was still ongoing with SKDC:

Finances.

Precept. The Clerk stated that approximately £1000 was required for expenses and running costs in the financial year 2003/2004. It was proposed by Mr Sharp and seconded by Mr Richards that a bid for £1100 is made, as last year.

Audit Revue - Moore Stephens in Leicester had completed the audit and a notice had been displayed for the required 14 days. A cheque for £58.75 was signed.

General Items.

Highways. The Clerk had reported the blocked drain opposite Chestnut Farm and been advised that additional work was required to the gully. The Clerk would check on progress.

Civic Amenity Freighter. A freighter had been booked for 26 April 2003. The route in the village was amended.

Correspondence. The following correspondence was discussed:

Minibus Service; Local access forums in Lincolnshire.; District/Parish Liaison Meeting - 20 Jan 03; Nene

Letters to the Editor

From Harry Bakker, Castle Bytham

There were many compliments about the new St George's flag atop the church. Yes, when I first saw it, one sunny Sunday morning back in November I thought how nice it looked, that red and white flag against the background of a clear blue sky! But ... it has been up there day and night ever since. It is the national flag of England. National flags should be raised at 08:00 and taken down at sunset. Flying them during the hours of darkness is considered disrespectful. My father, a master mariner, said: "During the day you fly the flag for the country; if you leave it up after dark it is flown for the harlots".

Also the combination of rain and high winds will fray the flag and it may keep on fraying until there's only six inches left - as big an error as flying it in the dark.

Wouldn't it be more interesting to raise the flag only on certain special days: St George's Day, Midsummer Fair Day and others? Then seeing that flag up there will be something special.

The decision of the Church Council to fly the flag continuously was perhaps thought patriotic, but patriots should know the etiquette of their national emblem.

There are a number of retired and serving military officers living in this area who may be as concerned as I am.

Housing Society Annual Report;

Lincs Flood Action Partnership - Mrs Salisbury to pass details to local school; New Electoral Register; Facilities for young children; Elected Regional Assemblies.

AOB. A donation to the Glenside News was discussed but it was not possible to determine the previous sum donated some 2 years ago. Mr Sharpe volunteered to speak to the editor.

It was reported that the section of Church Lane between the Ford and Station road was extremely muddy. The Clerk was to pass the details to the appropriate authorities.

The date of the next meeting - Thursday 6 February 2003 at 1930 in the Little Bytham Village Hall.

(Copies of the minutes may be seen by application to the parish Clerk)

As I compose these notes (11th. February) the World Cup - officially designated in South Africa - is in a right old state. New Zealand have refused to play their first game (I believe scheduled to take place in Kenya) and England are not going to play their opener in Zimbabwe. How the dickens do we get to play in countries that are not connected to South Africa?

I reckon it is all to do with political correctness. The International Cricket Conference (overall controllers of world cricket) want to show everyone how non-discriminatory their game is. A load of 'Old Bull' I say! If the World Cup is scheduled for South Africa, lets play the blessed thing in that country - goodness knows, it is big enough.

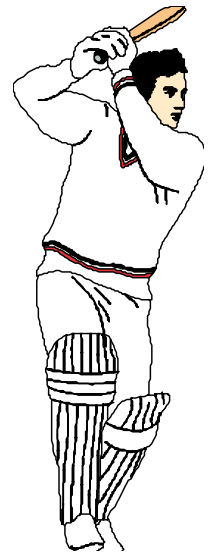
There have been, over the years, many other things that have stopped or interrupted play without involving modern day curses such as politics. In 1983 West Indies were playing a one-day match against India at Queens Park Oval, Trinidad. As Armarnath of India was running in to bowl to Viv Richards, a strong earth tremor shook the entire ground, stopping play for five minutes. No player was hurt, just a shock to their concentration, but many spectators jumped out of the stands fearing they were collapsing and sustained a variety of injuries. There was a crowd of 30,000.

In an undated report an occasion is noted as involving 'flying fish'. A two foot long fish plummeted out of the sky and just missed the umpire. The fish had been dropped by a sea eagle that was being harried by flock of crows. This was at Trincomalee in Sri Lanka.

The longest lunch interval is reported as occurring in a match between Coolatin and Halverstown (wherever they are - it isn't stated in my information source!) in the month of October. The first ball was bowled at 12.45 pm and Halverstown were all out by 1.30 pm for just 17 runs. Lunch? was taken in a local hotel and lasted 4½ hours. By this time dusk was falling and neither side were at their most accurate. Coolatin lost eight wickets as they recorded a win in near pitch dark conditions.

How about this for a record? A family of Robinsons of Backwell House, Gloucester fielded a team every year from 1878 to 1957 with interruptions permitted only during the two World wars. They played a total of 144 matches and every member of the sides was named Robinson.

More next month



"Lord, I have a problem."

"What's the problem, Eve?"

"I know that you created me and provided this beautiful garden and all of these wonderful animals, as well as that hilarious comedic snake, but I'm just not happy."

"And why is that Eve?"

"Lord, I am lonely, and I'm sick to death of apples."

"Well, Eve, in that case, I have a solution. I shall create a man for you."

"Man? What is that Lord?"

"A flawed creature, with many bad traits. He'll lie, cheat and be vain; all in all, he'll give you a hard time. But he'll be bigger, faster and will like to hunt and kill things. He will look silly when he is aroused, but since you've been complaining, I'll create him in such a way that he will satisfy your physical needs. He will be witless and will revel in childish things like fighting and kicking a ball about. He won't be too smart, so he will also need your advice to think properly."

"Sounds great," says Eve, with ironically raised eyebrows, "but what's the catch Lord?"

"Well.....you can have him on one condition."

"And what's that Lord?"

"As I said, he'll be proud, arrogant and self-admiringso you'll have to let him believe that I made him first. And it will have to be our little secret. You know. woman to woman."

Who'd Have'em!

By Elaine Margiotta

Who'd believe daughters could have been such a pain in the neck to their mother! We three were!

Only now, as a mother myself do I realise the agonies mum must have gone through bringing us teenagers up. Late nights, lie-ins, boyfriends, girlfriends you name it, our mother, both an angel and a brick, got not a minute's peace.

Saturdays alone must have driven her crazy. Market day, we'd be down at the Jewish man's stall as soon as he'd opened up, choosing material for an outfit we'd want to wear that same night. Treadle machine at full pelt, three of us champing at the bit by her side, my mother,, from the minute we arrived home with the material designed, cut out, tacked and tailored till the garments met our satisfaction. Fussy? Dresses had to be lined, neatly fitting on the hips, not an inch too long or too short. All mum got in return was a sandwich for lunch, a cup of tea and her shopping done for her if she was lucky. Putting her feet up with a sigh when we'd gone, all she had to look forward to was the disturbance of our late arrival home .

No wonder mum'd be out in the early hours, coat over her pyjamas, looking for us. How well I understand the anxiety of lying in your bed not knowing where your girls have got to. With no husband to make the rules, her responsibility doubled, it's a wonder she didn't call on the law. Whether boys expected it then, I don't know, but the embarrassment of excusing yourself from a last minute clinch as your mum arrived on the scene was acute. It did the trick, in that not many of them came back for more!

Three girls meant treble the number of knocks on the door! Having made our dates, we'd be giggling around bobbing up and down at the kitchen window to peep and jibe at whoever's should turn up first. When the ring on the bell came, having had time to rethink and change our minds, mum, still busily doing the last bit of hemming would at least be relieved of making such excuses as 'Sorry she's washing her hair' amongst others! She must have been worried to death at the sheer variety of male species who plucked up the courage to appear at the door.

At mum's expense, we adopted people. We'd wheedle a bed, single and separate from ours I might add with mum's policing, food and company for several lost souls. Enrico, an Italian immigrant who talked

non-stop was one such wanderer. Though he took only the advantage of overstaying his welcome and devouring packet upon packet of Mcvites chocolate digestives, with his bright eyes, square jaw and generous nature, he returned the favour handsomely, lighting mum's bonfires, pruning her trees, doing DIY Italian fashion, giving us all a spattering of his native language, so becoming a family friend.

Patience? Constantly undoing or picking up dropped stitches of three separate pieces of knitting, so soothing the tantrums of ineptitude, Mum had oodles of the virtue. Having had the good grace to teach us to knit she then had the expense of buying the wool to enable us to impress our latest admirer by knitting him a sweater!

Our music though innocent compared with the lyrics of today caused mum to suffer our latest fads loudly and repeatedly. Repeatedly, because at that time one could only afford a limited number of LP's to play on the record player with it's worn-out needle. No opportunity for Whispering Grass, the Inkspots, her favourites. No doubt we three are responsible for her slight deafness in later years.

Feed the five thousand? Oh yes mum regularly performed that feat and with little more than five loaves and two fishes to go round either. Home from work finding school friends spread on working tops, table and chairs, all hungry as lions, she fed the lot. Did we help with the washing up? I can't quite remember that!

Intent on beauty treatments and keeping clean, we insisted on the fire being lit with newspaper fire lighters without fail keeping the water on the boil via the back burner so we could bath at a whim and constantly shampoo our long hair, choosing to ignore the advice that nits don't infest greasy hair!

Not only did we stretch mum's bank balance and test her practical skills to the limit but for a girl who left school at the age of fourteen she showed remarkable academic ability in the field of geometry, algebra and Latin conjugation when doing our homework!

So mum , as I buy your Sunday Express and you complete it's major crossword before the church bells start to ring, I hope at last you consider yourself entitled to actually sit over a cup of coffee and take some leisure. I hope too that the pain you suffer in your neck is not a tell-tale of the days when we three never considered that you might have appreciated a moment to rest your head in your hands'!

CASTLE BYTHAM & DISTRICT W.I. *By Marian Foers*

President Victoria Wilson welcomed a very full gathering of members, husbands, friends and members from other W.Is - including Colsterworth, Deepings, Carlby, Nubourne and Dyke - to our February meeting. Information letters were distributed to members and business was brief before our speaker for the evening was introduced.

Jean Turner is no stranger to W.Is and lectures widely, bringing history alive to enthusiastic audiences. Her subject for the evening was 'The House of Windsor', a colourful insight into its foundation, the Royals and characters involved. The regimes' scandals and stories provided a fascinating illustrated presentation.

Why did the Victorian Royal House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha change its name to Windsor? When Queen Victoria died in 1901, she left three generations of heirs who, it was expected, would reign as monarchs of the House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. In fact, that dynasty, or rather its name, lasted only sixteen years. In 1917 King George V announced to a war weary nation that even this nominal link with Germany was to be severed. Henceforth, the House of Windsor would reign and the anti-German feeling in the British public was quietened.

Recent T.V. coverage of the Windsors and the public appetite to gain more knowledge of a hitherto secretive royal

family seems to have produced an era of discovery of the Royals. Their life is so different, so complex in regime, custom and expectation.

Jean Turner's access to royal records and archives provides her with much personal information into the characters, which she relates with much enthusiasm and knowledge.. She was warmly thanked for a colourful and fascination evening and then joined her audience for excellent refreshments.

If you would like more information about our meetings, please ring 410354. The next meeting on Wednesday, March 5th is our Annual Meeting to elect committee and review the past year. This will be followed by a talk by member Jean King on her experiences as a teacher in H.M. Prison Service—an inside view!

Why not come and join us?



Safari *by Elaine Margiotta*

Home,, kitchen sink,, oppression!

Safari was sunlight, shimmering muscles,
sexy shorts in the jeep.

Laughter, temptation,, tomfoolery!

Suddenly blood, screaming, tom flesh in a
cloud of dust. A slinking beast. Silence of
the dead!

Over,, before it began!

Kitchen sink heartache,, eye of the tiger
reflected in every bubble.

Subpostmasters up to Christmas fruit cake

1 cup water
1 cup sugar
4 large eggs
1 bottle whisky
2 cups dried fruit
1 tsp salt
1 tsp baking soda
1 cup brown sugar
8 oz nuts
Juice of 1 lemon
1 cup butter
Sample the whisky to test for quality.

Take one large bowl. Check the whisky again. To be sure of highest quality, pour one level cup and drink. Repeat.

Turn on the electric mixer, beat one cup of butter in a fluffy bowl. Add one teaspoon of sugar and beat again. Make sure the whisky has not gone off. Try another cup. Turn off the mixer. Break two eggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the dried fruit. Mix on the turner. If the fried fruit gets stuck in the beaters, pry it loose with a drowscriver.

Sample the whisky to check for consistency.

Next sift two cups of salt. Or something. Who cares? Check the whisky.

Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table. Spoon. Of sugar or something. Whatever you can find. Grease the oven. Turn the cake tin to 350° C.

Do not forget to beat off the turner. Throw the bowl out of the window, check the whisky again and go to bed.

Try this with tongue in cheek
and cocoa - in hand . . .

OLD IS WHEN

...

Old is when ... you are cautioned to slow down by your doctor rather than the police.

Old is when ... going bra-less pulls all the wrinkles out of your face.

Old is when...."getting a little action today" means you don't need to eat your bran flakes.

Old is when"getting lucky" means you find your car in the car park.

Old is when....you do not care where your

spouse goes as long as you don't have to go.

Old is when.... your friends compliment you on your alligator shoes and you are barefoot.

Old is when ... your loved one says: "Let's go upstairs and make love" and you reply that you can't do both.

Old is when a lovely girl catches your eye and your pacemaker opens the garage door.

Old is when an "all nighter" means not getting up to go to the loo.

If you can think of any more, send them to the Editor and we will give ginormous prizes for the best..

FOR US COMPUTER BUFFS - OR ANYONE EQUALLY UNTILLIGENT.

Haiku: Japanese Humour

In Japan, they have replaced the impersonal and unhelpful Microsoft error messages with Haiku poetry messages. Haiku poetry has strict construction rules - each poem has only 17 syllables; 5 syllables in the first, 7 in the second, 5 in the third. • They are used to communicate a timeless message, often achieving a wistful, yearning and powerful insight through extreme brevity. Here are 16 actual error messages from Japan.

The Web site you seek
Cannot be located, but
Countless more exist.

Chaos reigns within.
Reflect, repent, and reboot
Order shall return.

Program aborting:
Close all that you have worked on.
You ask far too much.

Windows NT crashed.
I am the Blue Screen of Death.
No one hears your screams.

Yesterday it worked.
Today it is not working.
Windows is like that.

Your file was so big.
It might be very useful.
But now it is gone.

Stay the patient course.
Of little worth is your ire.
The network is down.

A crash reduces
Your expensive computer
To a simple stone.

Three things are certain:
Death, taxes and lost data.
Guess which has occurred.

You step in the stream,
But the water has moved on.
This page is not here.

Out of memory.
We wish to hold the whole sky,
But we never will.

Having been erased,
The document you're seeking
Must now be retyped.

Serious error.
All shortcuts have disappeared.
Screen. Mind. Both are blank.

Isn't that better than "your computer has performed an illegal operation"?

