

Press cuttings and snippets

– general

- **Press cuttings**

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CEN – Cambridge Evening News; CIP – Cambridge Independent Press; Ind - Cambridge Independent Press; HE – Haverhill Echo

- **Press snippets**

By courtesy of Garth Collard, 2008

'Cambridge Chronicle' - March 30th 1805

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

TO BE SOLD by PRIVATE CONTRACT
Or LET, and entered upon immediately :

A small DWELLING-HOUSE with a garden and orchard thereto adjoining, with the stables, barns and other outhouses standing thereon, in good repair, situate in the parish of Horseheath, in then said county, late in the occupation of Mr. Robert Fitch, who will shew the premises.

Horseheath is situate in the pleasantest part of Cambridgeshire, 52 miles from London, 12 from Cambridge and Newmarket and 3 from Linton and coaches go through the village every day to and from the above places.

Note - The above is well calculated for a sportsman or a small family.

For particulars apply Mr. Maule, solicitor, Huntingdon.

CAMBS. DIAMOND WEDDING

Horseheath Couple's Happy Celebrations



[Photo]

[Press and News]

MR. AND MRS. STINTON WITH THEIR DIAMOND WEDDING CAKE.

Sixty years of married happiness were celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. William Stinton and friends at Horseheath on Wednesday.

The marriage took place on April 23rd, 1870, and the diamond wedding was held at the village and house where they have resided ever since.

They are both 83 years of age, and are a remarkable couple. Mr. Stinton does a large amount of reading, all without the aid of glasses, and particularly likes the newspaper or a novel. Although slightly deaf, he can follow a conversation with ease. His wife, Mrs. Selina Stinton, although she wears glasses, has perfect hearing, and often sits down to her needlework.

They have had 11 children, nine of whom are living. Two are single and live at home, while two are married and live in the village. There are 15 grandchildren.

They have received a beautiful cake from Mrs. Parsons and Miss Catharine Parsons, of the Manor Farm, Horseheath, where Mr. Stinton worked for many years and was farm bailiff.

When a "Cambridge Daily News" representative called he found both in good health and very jovial. They laughingly agreed to their photograph being taken, and were especially proud of the cake. The cottage behind is the thatched white house in which they have lived all their married life. It has been in the Stinton family for many years.

Mr. Stinton is a native of Horseheath, while his wife hails from West Wickham. The marriage took place at West Wickham Church and was celebrated at Streetly End. Before she was married, Mrs. Stinton was in service at Streetly Hall—the scene of the fire last week.

Both know what it is to work very hard. Mr. Stinton started at the age of seven, when he earned 1s. per week, bird scaring, and getting a rise of 3d. per year. He has been retired only about ten years, and was at work on Armistice Day. He said that better times began to come along when he got married, and he is better off now than he has ever been.

Mr. Stinton has some interesting things to say about the wedding. He walked from Horseheath to the church. Just before the ceremony it was discovered that the clergyman was not present. It was found that he had forgotten about it, and had to be fetched.

He is extremely fond of company, likes a joke, and has a glass of beer every day, besides smoking a pipe, and shaving himself with an ordinary razor.

His views on the present day are interesting. Questioned about the motor car, he said: "I'd rather have a horse and cart. I like to sit and hold the reins."

"BEER NOT SO GOOD"

The next question was: What do you think of present-day beer? The reply came: "I think it is not as good as it used to be."

Referring to the ladies' skirts, he said: "I don't care so much about these short ones, and he does not like bobbed hair."

Mr. Stinton was in the church choir for 60 years, and when married was earning 12s. per week. He remembers the "cage" near the school where wrong-doers were shut up for the night.

The couple's interest in present-day affairs is shown by the fact that they both voted at the last election.

ROYAL CONGRATULATIONS

On Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. Stinton received the following telegram from the King and Queen:—

"I am commanded to convey to you the hearty congratulations of the King and Queen on the occasion of your diamond wedding."

"Their Majesties trust that you are both in good health, and will spend an enjoyable day with your family and friends, and may be spared to one another for many more happy years.—(Signed), Private Secretary."

The telegram was handed in at Windsor at 11.5 a.m.

1952



Photo: C. W. Davey
Horseheath Bride.—The wedding took place at All Saints' Church, Horseheath, on Saturday, of Mr. Maxwell William Notley, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Notley, of the "Rising Sun," Little Wrating, and Miss Peggy Jane Dockerill, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Dockerill, of 12, Abington Terrace, Horseheath. The Rev. L. Smale officiated and the hymns, "Lead us, Heavenly Father," and "Love Divine," were sung, with Mrs. Blandon at the organ. Given away by her father, the bride wore a white lace over satin dress, with veil and headdress of orange blossom, and carried a bouquet of blue irises, white freesias, and heather. Attending the bride were Mrs. D. Cottage (friend of the bride), as matron of honour, who wore a dress of turquoise taffeta, with white net headdress, and a bouquet of tulips, and Miss C. Notley (sister of the groom), who wore a dress of champagne taffeta, with white net headdress and carried a bouquet of tulips. Also in attendance were Misses M. Free (cousin) and D. Shepherd (friend), who wore white net dresses, with blue headdresses and carried posies of anemones. Mr. D. Notley (brother of bridegroom) was best man. A reception was held in the Horseheath School where about 70 guests were entertained. Among the presents was an electric fire from the bride's employers; Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cornish, of Horseheath Park.

VILLAGE WITH EXTENSIVE LEGACY OF WITCHCRAFT STORIES

Horseheath—A Friendly Community

WHATEVER the village of Horseheath lacks in the way of amenity, of thriving activity and of local attractions, it can at least claim to be the highest in the county, commanding the surrounding area of South Cambridgeshire from Linton in one direction, to Haverhill in Suffolk in the other.

To-day its community of about 350 people is accommodated roughly on a T-shaped plan, in houses of little architectural or historical note, perhaps the finest being the Lodge, home of the well-known Marshall family. Development is not particularly marked, only about four or five new Council houses having been built within the last five years, and the rest, many years before this.

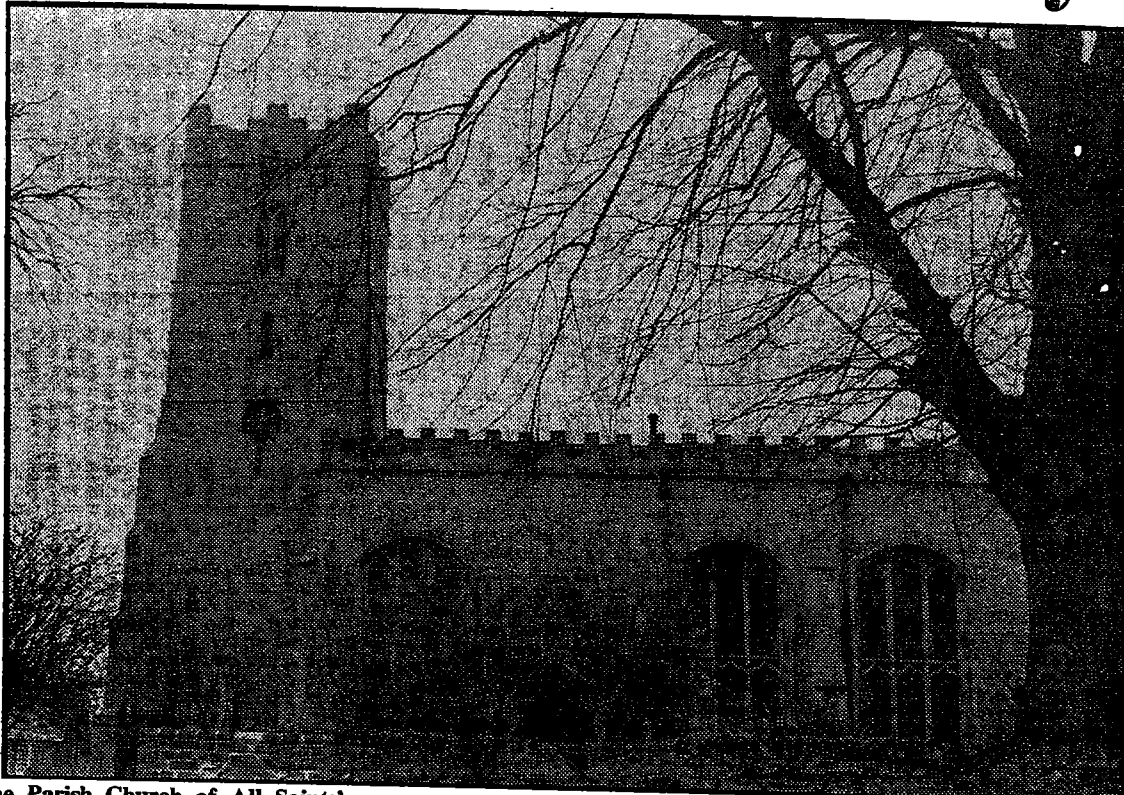
For until quite recently, there has been nothing for which people might make their homes at Horseheath; transport to and from the village has been difficult, and other than agriculture, there has been no alternative source of employment for the working population. But with a number of new factories growing up

The 61st in our series of articles on Cambridgeshire villages.

centre for Horseheath, West Wrating and Shudy Camps.

Amenities are much the same as they are in any other Cambridgeshire village of like size; there is no gas, but there is electricity, water and street lighting. The villagers are hoping that main sewerage will be introduced for all of them before long. The bus service is described as "adequate but inconvenient."

To lend some support to the lone village store which also acts as a Post Office, there are the usual delivery services. Most of the villagers go to Linton or Haverhill for further necessities which they cannot get at Horseheath. A very welcome service has been that of the petrol station and motor mechanics' business which is run adjacent to the Montford Cafe on the site which is alleged to have been visited at one time by Simon de Montfort himself. In this connection



The Parish Church of All Saints.

George V visited Horseheath in 1912 to watch a parade and certain Army activities. It states:—

"George V R.I. our King, in mellow autumn tide, Here viewed a bloodless fray; May duty, love and peace abide. To bless him day by day. Army Manoeuvres, September 18th, 1912."

The name of Horseheath is easy enough to explain and it is thought to be of Saxon origin. Many remains from the Roman era have been discovered during excavations carried out this century.

As previously stated, no residences of any great interest remain; however, the home of a famous British family, the Alingtons, was made at Horseheath Hall during the Tudor period. This was rebuilt in 1665, enlarged in 1688 and finally pulled down in 1777. The wrought iron gates belonging to it went to St. John's and Trinity Colleges in Cambridge and to the Rectory at Cheveley. The bricks were used in the erection of the Lodge, a few years later. It was from this residence that Plenipotentiary, the Derby winner of 1834, was trained, while the Lodge used also to be the starting place for a round-the-village horse race.

Many of the old customs are no longer in evidence. At the beginning of this century, though, the somewhat amusing custom of beating the Parish Bounds was carried out, the Rector being lifted bodily and "bumped" against the several posts marking the boundary of Horseheath.

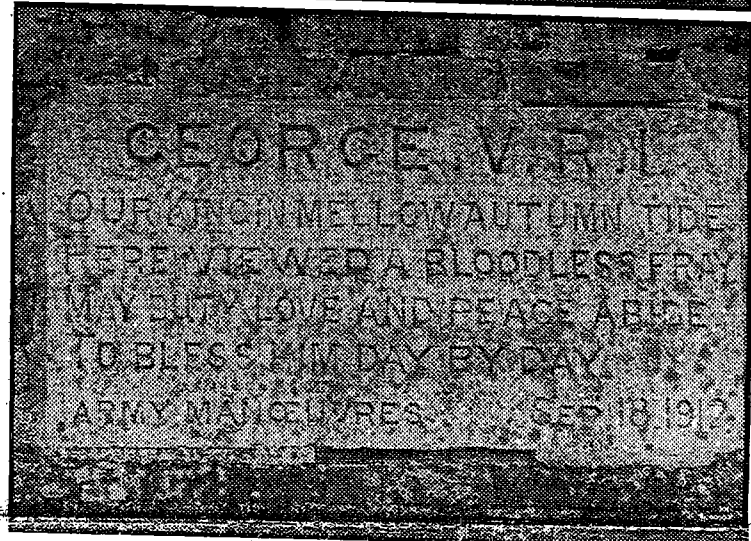
Ghosts, Witches and Imps

Something which used to be very common at Horseheath and which has been made the subject of one of the community's late inhabitant's publications, is Witchcraft.

Miss Catherine E. Parsons states that the village used to have some very real ghosts, many superstitions, witches, folklore and cures for almost every illness.

The devil usually appeared in the shape of an animal such as a rat, a mouse or a toad, and so if one of these creatures was ever found inside a house it immediately had to be burnt on the fire in order to protect the inhabitants from bad luck.

The Horseheath Imps have also aroused some curiosity in past



The inscription on the Church wall, recalling the 1912 Army manoeuvres.



Mr. Fred Bowers, who at 85, is the oldest male inhabitant, occupied in his garden.

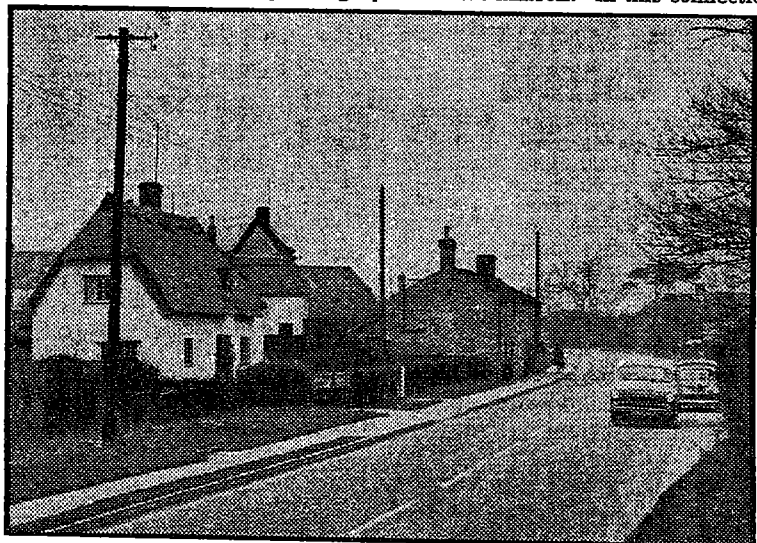
years; it is alleged that they were taken to the village in a box upon which their owner sat throughout the journey. Although it was securely corded no one was allowed to touch it for fear of letting them escape. They were called Bonnie, Blue Cap, Red Cap, Jupiter and Venus and had the appearance of something like white mice.

The earliest witch at Horseheath went by the name of Daddy Witch. She was an ancient bony creature, so it is said, half-clothed in rags. When she died her body was buried in the middle of the road which leads from Horseheath to Horseheath Green, her grave being marked by the dryness of the road, said to have been caused by the heat of her body.

One method of calling up a witch at Horseheath is rather interesting, although, of course, no one within living memory would admit to a belief in witchcraft. This was to fill a pint and a half glass bottle with water, and put in a lock of hair from the noddle of the neck, also an ounce

of new pins—heads downwards—some rusty nails from an old shoe and some parings of finger and toe nails. The bottle then had to be corked and put on a fire at midnight when the witch caller was completely alone. If he did not speak when the bottle burst the witch would come screaming to the house suffering from the same trouble that had affected the bewitched person! In spite of a very extensive legacy of witchcraft stories alleged to have occurred within the village many years ago, there is now nothing whatsoever to remind one of these. Indeed, a village with an atmosphere less seeming to mystery is hard to imagine. For everything at Horseheath is very down-to-earth, very straightforward and altogether typical of rural Cambridgeshire.

[Next week: FOXTON]



The main Cambridge - Haverhill road through the village.

in the expanding township of nearby Haverhill, this has been an incentive to certain skilled workers, and many people from Horseheath now do, in fact, leave the village each morning to go to work at Haverhill.

Others are employed on the land attached to the several large farms in the district, or else they travel in the opposite direction, to Ely, Linton, or, still further, to Cambridge.

After leaving the village Church of England aided school, at the age of 11 years, the 30 to 40 children have a similar choice as that confronting their parents; they can go to Linton Village College, to Haverhill, or to Cambridge, depending on the type of education for which they are fitted. Before this present school was erected, there had already been two others, one being situated in the Churchyard itself.

Recreation Ground Sought

The activities at Horseheath are considerably limited. The Women's Institute became so ineffective a few years ago that it was disbanded and in its place a Women's Fellowship, also incorporating a Mothers' Union, has been started. At present it is proving to be quite a success. One other club that has been formed only within the last year, but which is rapidly progressing, is the Youth Club. Members of it have completely redecorated and furnished the Village Guildhall, backed financially by the villagers themselves. A recreation ground is being sought with the purpose of opening tennis, football and other facilities for members of the club and for the rest of the village population in general. In addition to these two societies, there is a cricket club, and a British Legion branch, which acts as the

it is also rumoured that a number of secret underground rooms and passages lie beneath the buildings. The cafe, of course, takes its name from the Baron Montforts, of Horseheath, a title which became extinct in 1857.

There are two publichouses, the Red Lion, from which a fine view over the surrounding country can be gained, and the Batson Arms.

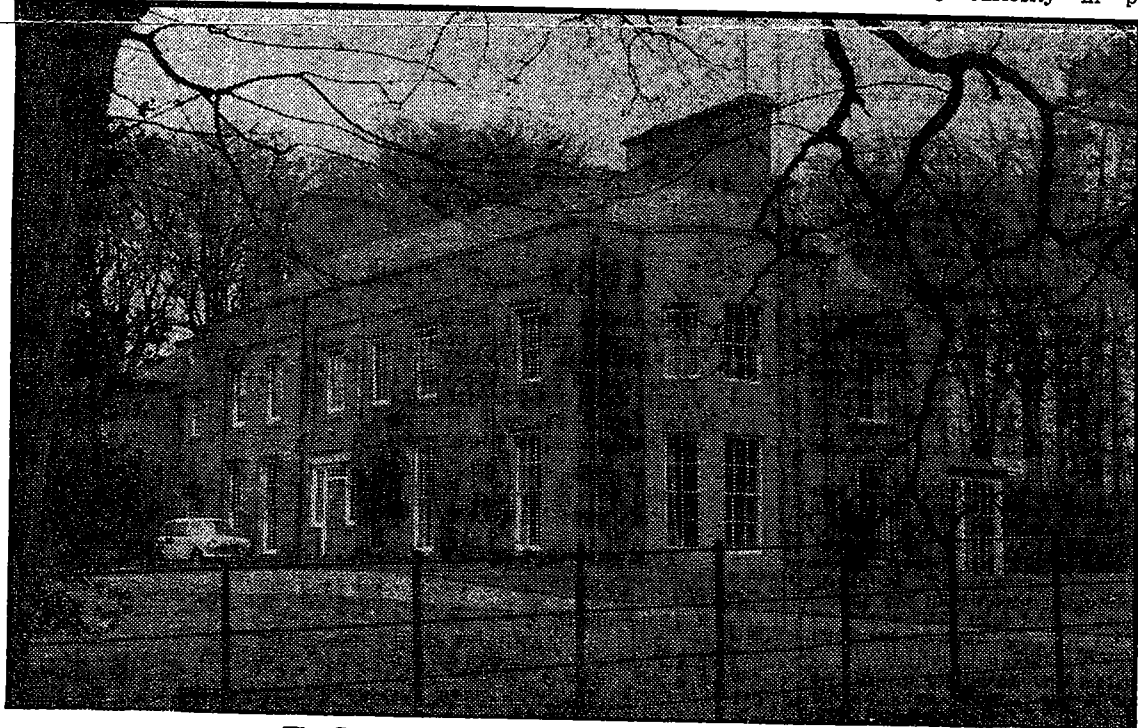
Friendliness

Friendliness is one attribute which has been noted among the villagers, in spite of the fact that some of them feel Horseheath to be a little "dead." One sphere in which this amicable existence is very much to the fore is in the relationship between the Methodist Chapel and the Church of All Saints, the congregations of both supporting each other's activities.

The Church stands on a site inhabited, according to the many specimens that have been unearthed nearby, from the Neolithic ages. It is a flint and rubble building of the Gothic style and parts of it go back to the 13th century. Since then, though, it has seen much restoration work, in both the 19th and 20th centuries.

The Register of Rectors is absolutely complete from 1234, and the brasses and monuments within the church are particularly fine. In the graveyard, Owen Webb, the well known Cambridgeshire farmer, after whom the headquarters of the N.F.U. have been named, lies buried, he and other members of his family having regularly attended All Saints' Church.

An interesting inscription in the church wall contains evidence that



The Lodge, the home of the Marshall family.

April 16th 1962 news
Saffron Walden Weekly

THEY HAD TICKETS FOR THE TITANIC'S RETURN VOYAGE



A couple who had tickets to return from New York on the Titanic which was sunk on her maiden voyage 50 years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Henry Ashfield of Sherwood, Horseheath, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Monday.

The couple were married in New York where Mr. Ashfield, son of a Norfolk coachman met his bride, Miss Stina Andersen, a Norwegian. He had emigrated to the United States a few years earlier. Because of the Titanic disaster, their return to this country was delayed until they could find berths on another ship.

In 1913 they arrived at Horseheath where they kept the general stores and post office for 42 years, retiring five years ago.

For 17 years Mr. Ashfield was a member of the Cambridgeshire Special Constabulary, finishing with the rank of Inspector.

Their two sons were killed in action during the last war and they have one daughter, Mrs. Frances Moss, who arrived from Virginia, U.S.A. at the week-end for her parents' anniversary. Mrs. Moss left as a G.I. bride in 1946 and has a 16 years old son. She was a teacher at Haverhill and Saffron Walden and now teaches in America.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashfield also have three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

HORSEHEATH

IND 18/4/49.

Four-year delay in sewerage scheme

Extreme disappointment was expressed at Horseheath's annual parish meeting when it was stated that a letter had been received from South Cambridgeshire Rural Council that the proposed sewerage scheme for the village would have to be delayed for at least four years.

The need for a proper system has been felt for some years and this serious delay might not only cause increased danger to health but must inevitably prevent the in-filling of vacant plots of land in the village which should provide for both private and public housing needs.

Those responsible for the parish room which is on land owned by the Diocesan Board of Finance,

have closed the room in consequence of an adverse surveyor's report. A letter from the rector was read to the meeting and, after some discussion, it was decided to hold a public meeting on the subject of a parish room.

Concern was expressed at the recommendation of Nuthampstead as the third London airport. It was thought the use of this site must adversely affect the village.

The chairman (Mr. R. E. Dowse) referred, in opening the meeting, to the recent death of Mr. Ashfield who had served on Horseheath Parish Council from 1934 to 1966. The meeting stood as a tribute to his memory.

In a brief review of the work of the council during the past year it was mentioned that two bus shelters had been erected at the site of the lay-bys by the main road. It was thought these would be appreciated, particularly during the winter months.

Two additional street lights had been installed and an agreement come to with the Eastern Electricity Board to provide light from a half hour after sunset to a half-hour before dawn each night.

It was hoped that a further light might be provided in the coming year.

The council had been very concerned at the flooding of the village street on two occasions during the year. It was hoped the authorities would take the necessary steps to prevent flooding in future. The council were in touch with the road authorities and a deputation had met the surveyor.

Horseheath course takes shape

POINT-TO-POINT RIDERS

WILL FOLLOW THE TRACK

OF A DERBY WINNER

Named Horseheath, near Haverhill, will recapture part of its glory next year when the point-to-point course opens. Part of the new course follows the line of an old race-
C.F.N. 16.6.1971
track which had its hey-day in the last century.

The old course ran from Horseheath Lodge, across the main road (now the A604) and up into the field on Manor Farm where the new course is being prepared.

The manager of Manor Farm, Mr. George Ruse, remembers dung being put across the road for the old course to be used as a training run as recently as 1920, but back in the old days Horseheath was a busy equestrian community. It is believed that a 19th century Derby winner, Plenipotentiary, was trained on the old course.

The new point-to-point facilities were initiated by Mr. Edmund Vestey who offered some of his land to accommodate the Puckeridge and Thurlow Hunt. Previously, two separate hunts, the Newmarket and Thurlow, and the Puckeridge Hunts, they both lost their former courses at Maltor and Wickham Hall, Bishops Stortford.

Optimistic

They hope to hold their first meeting next April, and will probably share the course with the Cambridgeshire Hunt who have had to leave Hemingford Abbots where the course is to become a gravel pit.

Mr. Vestey's agent, Mr. J. S. Beach, is highly optimistic about the future of point-to-point at Horseheath.



Mr. Ruse (left) and Mr. Beach

inspect the point-to-point course

at Horseheath.

"The course is well-situated to serve a wide area," he said. "It is within easy reach of Cambridge Haverhill, Newmarket and the north London commuter territory. The whole course can be seen from the car parks, so it is better than some from a spectator point of view, and I think it is very interesting from the racing point of view."

The course occupies about 13 acres of arable land, and the car park area about 40 acres, but Mr. Beach points out that this land will not be lost for farming use. There will be two meetings a year and this will allow the land to be used for crops most of the time.

Fences

The wide track of newly-sown short grass, covering a 3½-mile circuit, now awaits its fences. Mr. Vestey himself rode the course to help position the 18 jumps.

The fencing materials have been supplied from the old courses at Moulton and Wickham Hall by arrangement with Mr. E. F. Saltmarsh and Mr. Frank Harvey, who were responsible for them. Fence building will start in the autumn.

Footnote: It seems that Horseheath does not owe its name to horses at all, nor was it called after any heath. Records suggest that the village adopted the family name of the owners of Horseth Hall, which stood in the area centuries ago.

Regulars have to travel for their pint ^{CIP} 24/6/71

The Red Lion at Horseheath represents the revolution which is sweeping through English village pubs, says its licensee. But it is the only pub in the village . . . and many residents prefer to drink elsewhere.

A few months ago the Red Lion, which had been the only village local since the Batson Arms closed down, underwent a transformation.

Out when the public bar, in came the dining room. The dart board was replaced by bull-fighting posters and plastic onions and fruit were suspended from the ceiling. The centre of activity shifted from pints of mild and bitter to meals and bottles of wine.

Mr. David Bradshaw, the licensee who has been responsible for the change claims that the traditional village local is no longer a commercial proposition.

"No landlord can make a living solely out of a village pub these days," he said. "You will find that most village landlords have some other job during the day."

So the Red Lion, towards the end of last year, took on a new role as El Flamenco Grill—"cock-tails and wine by the glass," "Sorry, no lorries or trailers; coaches by appointment only."

Mr. Bradshaw sees this as the "village pub of the future."

"I have made a modern pub which provides food and atmosphere. People can get a comfortable, clean seat instead of an old bench in a tap room," he said.

"There is a revolution in the village pub. It will be made a fit place for women, who are not content to sit on an old bench and spit on the floor, it will appeal to young couples, and to families not just to the men of the village."

But though Mr. Bradshaw is making a success of his new approach to the village pub role, some of the farmworkers who used to be regulars at the pre-hispanic Red Lion have gone elsewhere for their beer.

"There's no public bar, that's the trouble," said one farmworker, a man who lives at Shudy Camps where there is no pub at all.

So the beer-drinkers—who apparently are not many in Horseheath, which explains why the Batson Arms was forced to close—travel the one and a half miles to the hamlet of Streetly End, to the Chequers.

A 25-year-old Horseheath farmworker who spent most of his drinking life at the Red Lion until about two years ago, related the exodus from the Red Lion to the Chequers to the fate of the darts team.

It fell on hard times at the Red Lion, and interest eventually waned. When custom dwindled, Mr. Bradshaw began to put his new ideas in to practice and catered for a wider area. The villagers went to the Chequers.

Mrs. June Darnell, the wife of The Chequers licensee, sees a village pub as more of a community centre, but agrees that it is not a full-time living. Mr. Darnell also has another job for the daytime.

"I don't do any cooking here but I will provide sandwiches. I like to hear about village life and meet the village characters. I love them, they are genuine people," said Mrs.

The Chequers serves Streetly End Horseheath and part of West Wickham, providing a centre for the cricket club. It was also used as a base by the production team of Marlon Brando's latest film, "The Nightcomers" which filmed on location in Cambridgeshire recently.

Both Mrs. Darnell and Mr. Bradshaw claim that their respective pubs appeal to a particular section of the community. One caters for the traditional village way of life, the other for a more mobile, more sophisticated public, which means that in Horseheath, at least, there is a contrasting choice between piped music and an immaculate claret or an out-of-tune piano and draught bitter.

Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council

CEN 22 12 71
TOWN AND COUNTRY
PLANNING ACT 1962

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 15

APPLICATION No. SC1 71 756

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT
ORCHARD GROUND ADJACENT
OLD RECTORY HORSEHEATH,
SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application is being made to the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council by R. Holmes (Holmes Brothers) for planning permission in respect of Two Detached Private Houses.

A copy of the application and of the plans and other documents submitted with it may be inspected at all reasonable hours at Planning Office, Shire Hall, Cambridge during the period of 21 days beginning with the date of publication of this notice.

Any person who wishes to make representations to the above-mentioned Council about the application should make them in writing within that period to the Clerk of the Council at Shire Hall, Cambridge.

R. HOLMES,

On behalf of Holmes Brothers.
Dated 17th December 1971.

Sooner or later someone is going to die on our road'

ANGRY DEMANDS FOR CUT IN SPEED LIMIT AT HORSEHEATH

ANGRY RESIDENTS at Horseheath are demanding a reduction in the speed limit through the village after a collision last week at Mallard's corner in which a 53-seater coach was badly damaged. *Haverhill Echo 30/5/74*

The accident happened on Thursday afternoon when a coach, full of anglers from Grantham, collided with an articulated lorry which jack-knifed during the heavy rain on the busy A604.

All but two of the people on the coach escaped uninjured. The driver, Mr Idris McKiernon of Grantham, and a passenger, Mr Derek Bowes, both received minor injuries.

The lorry driver, Mr Carl Smith of South Wigston, Leicestershire, was unhurt.

The anglers were on their way to Denmark for a fishing trip. They continued to Harwich in a relief coach from Burtons of Haverhill.

Coach badly damaged in crash

"Horseheath is the only village between Haverhill and Cambridge which does not have a by-pass. I am beginning to wonder how many accidents we must have before the district council do something about it.

"You can almost hear them say 'give us a couple of deaths and we will give you a 30 mph speed limit'. One day somebody will die and it will be too late.

Demands

Traffic was reduced to single file while police and helpers cleared the road.

The crash brought demands for a speed limit reduction through the village.

One resident, Mr David Crabb, of "The House", said: "We have repeatedly asked for a reduction in the speed limit through the village from 40 mph to 30 mph.

"Sooner or later someone is going to die and the chances are it will be somebody from this village. I have written to the South Cambridgeshire District Council on several occasions about the speed limit, but they have done nothing.

"Our rates went up by between 30 and 40 per cent at the last increase, but the situation on this stretch of road is worsening.

"The volume and noise of the traffic is terrible, but what is really worrying is the narrowness of the road and the pavement. At some places the road is only 21 feet and nine inches wide. I know, I have measured it.

Organising

"I am organising a common letter from all the residents to the South Cambridgeshire District Council saying that the road is not wide enough for the volume of traffic and that despite the appalling rate increases there has been no improvement in the situation at all.

"The volume of noise from traffic is so bad that when I moved to Horseheath four years ago I had to put double glazing in to hear the television", he said.

According to Mr Crabb there has been an enormous number of accidents in the village over the last few years and feeling is running high against the South Cambridgeshire District Council.

V. Horselach

Planners' No to mother in village playgroup bid



Three years old Sean Wright is one of several in Horseheath who plays by himself and may never go to a playschool: the only pre-school playgroup in his village has recently been refused permission to expand and can take only five youngsters at a time. Pictured alongside is Mrs. Marina Knowles, of The Old Forge, Horseheath, who runs the pre-school playgroup.

CEN 10.5.1973

A Horseheath mother who wants to open the village's first regular playgroup in her own house has been told by South Cambridgeshire rural planners that the road outside her home is too dangerous.

They have twice refused permission for a playgroup to Mrs. Marina Knowles, who lives at the Old Forge, Horseheath, which is off the main A604 road.

The planners say that parents bringing their children by car would create a hazard on the road, which could endanger other roadusers and the children at the playgroup.

But Mrs. Knowles, who has the backing of the county social services department, thinks South Cambridgeshire Rural Council are depriving the village of an important facility.

Disappointed

She told the "News" yesterday: "I am very disappointed with them, but I am at the point now where I just laugh because it so silly."

Mrs. Knowles runs a limited playgroup on three mornings a week, but she is allowed to take only up to six children.

RISK OF ROAD HAZARD THEY SAY

children she needs to get planning permission to use the premises at playrooms.

She said: "I've told the planners that no-one comes by car at the moment. There are about three or four children already on my waiting list, and I don't think any of them would be brought by car either."

"That is the whole point of my trying to open a bigger playgroup. There is no transport anywhere else."

The nearest playgroups were in Haverhill and Linton, both about five miles away.

Mrs. Knowles added: "Even if any children came by car we could ask their parents to stop round the corner in the side road and walk to the house."

But officials at South Cambridgeshire Rural Council offices were sceptical. The deputy clerk, Mr. D. E. Roberts, said the Planning Committee were not confident that motorists would do that sort of thing.

they had no way in which they could impose such a condition. They have no aversion to playgroups as such, but they felt they could not agree to it in this case. Traffic was the main problem."

Mrs. Knowles said the traffic situation was no different from a few months ago when part of the house was used for a hairdressing business. Cars had been coming and going all day long then.

And if the local authorities were so concerned about the traffic situation in the village they would have it policed more often and would cut the 40 m.p.h. limit to 30 m.p.h., she said.

No hall

Horseheath has no public hall or other large rooms which could be used for a playgroup, and the village and unlikely to have a state nursery school for many years, said Mrs. Knowles.

She said: "I know I haven't a big waiting list, but in a small village like this it matters very much if only one or two children are left out of a playgroup because of planning regulations."

"The council's decision seems to go against all the modern thinking on playgroups. I don't know what it must take to convince them."

V Horsheath

Playgroup plan to be reconsidered

Young children in Horsheath, near Haverhill, may get a chance to join a full-size pre-school playgroup in the village. Following letters of protest from mothers in the village, South Cambridgeshire Rural Council have offered to reconsider their decision to refuse permission for the extension of an existing playgroup.

They have asked Mrs. Marina Knowles, who runs the small group at her home, The Old Forge, to re-submit her application to extend the group. She needs planning permission to use the premises as playrooms for more than six children.

The previous application was turned down because the planners thought the scheme could create parking problems on the main road as parents came to collect their children, but Mrs. Knowles and the mothers pointed out that most of the children would come on foot.

HORSEHEATH

Former clerk to parish council dies at 85

Mrs. Kathleen Maude Cole, who has died, aged 85 years, was the clerk to Horseheath Parish Council for a number of years.

She was born at Stanstead, Suffolk, one of a family of seven of the late Edward and Maria Hanchett. In 1902 her family moved to Horseheath, and in 1907 she married Mr. Jamie Cole but remained in Horseheath where her husband ran the family butchery business.

For many years Mrs. Cole taught at the village primary school where she was always respected and well liked by both her fellow teachers and pupils. She had always taken an active and leading interest in many of the village activities, but it was after the death of her husband in 1945 as her family were growing up and needed less of her attention that she became very deeply

involved in the life of Horseheath.

Mrs. Cole was for a number of years clerk to the parish council, secretary of the parochial church council and for some 20 years a member of Linton Evergreen Club. In spite of all these interests she loved gardening, she grew her own vegetables and her garden always looked pretty and well cared for.

She was a most regular worshipper at the parish church for many years and was able to attend the services up to a week before she was admitted to hospital after being found in a collapsed state in her home, 16 Audley Way a few days before her death. She leaves a family of three sons, six grandchildren, one sister and one brother.

The high esteem in which Mrs. Cole was held by her many friends and acquaintances and the deep respect which so many villagers had for her was apparent by the large congregation which gathered for the funeral service.

The funeral service, at Horseheath Parish Church, was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. P. Wills who paid tribute during the service to Mrs. Cole's devotion and loyalty over many years to the church. Mrs. Blanden was organist for the hymn "Jesu Lover of my Soul" and the 23rd Psalm to the setting of Crimond. Interment then followed in the family grave in the churchyard.

The family mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. S. Cole, Mr. and Mrs. E. Cole, Mr. and Mrs. J. Cole (sons and daughters-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. G. Ling (brother-in-law and sister), Mr. C. R. Hanchett (brother), Miss C. Cole, Mr. and Mrs. G. Cole, Miss F. Cole, Mrs. H. Davenport and Miss S. Cole (grandchildren), Mrs. I. Dallery, Mr. and Mrs. E. Buckle (nephew and nieces), Mr. Eric Buckle (great nephew).

Those unable to attend were: Mr. and Mrs. R. Ling, Mr. and Mrs. R. Hanchett (nephews and nieces), Mr. and Mrs. J. Punt (grandchildren).

Representatives of Horseheath Parochial Church Council, Linton Evergreen Club and Horseheath Parish Council. Flowers were received from the family, friends and neighbours in addition to floral tributes from the many organisations and committees with which Mrs. Cole was connected.

HORSEHEATH

Villagers form group to fight rate battle

Ratepayers at Horseheath who are campaigning for a cut in their rates because of the dangers of the A604 are to form an action group.

Mr. David Crabb, who has organised a protest petition signed by all the householders at Horseheath who live alongside the main road, is arranging a meeting of interested ratepayers in the village.

The rates protest petition has been backed by the parish council who have sought improvements to the road and a by-pass for many years.

A Horseheath deputation will also be attending the Linton rates protest meeting on Thursday.

Local South Cambridgeshire rates increased 50 per cent this year from 38p in the £ to 58p.

Mr. Crabb, of the House, Horseheath, said on Monday: "We are forming an action group to co-ordinate all the complaints in the village into a spearhead attack on the rates."

"We have had a tremendous response to the petition with all the ratepayers along the road signing about 60 in all and many individuals are appealing against their rates to the rate valuation officer."

The parish council chairman, Mr. Tony Davies said: "The parish council has protested about the rates and the road and has protested on behalf of all the villagers."

"We have got people in council houses in this village who are paying extra for connection to mains sewerage when they still have Eisan toilets."

The rates protest petition has been sent by Mr. Crabb to the

local Rate Valuation Officer, Cambridgeshire MP, Mr. Francis Pym, The Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment and the South Cambridgeshire District Council.

It calls for a rates cut on the grounds: the A604 is increasingly busy with east-bound juggernauts and at Horseheath is only 21ft 6in wide when the county standard for A roads is 35ft wide; the narrowest sections through the village are well below this standard and pavements are narrow 3ft 7in at one point; this means residents on this road are continually in peril; kerbs are low offering pedestrians no protection; the speed limit of 40m.p.h. is too high and should be reduced to 30m.p.h. with 40m.p.h. approaches to the village; lighting on the road is inadequate.

Sewer under gardens—but 24 families use bucket lavs

There are 24 council house tenants at Horseheath, near Haverhill, still using tin bucket lavatories at the end of their gardens 18 months after a new £170,000 sewer connection was laid across their back gardens.

Last night, Horseheath Parish Council chairman, Mr. Tony Davies, said it was "unbelievable that people can still live in these primitive conditions."

He related to the parish council a history of delays and broken promises from the South Cambridgeshire District Council and the former authority for modernisation of the homes.

The parish council agreed to "go over their heads" to

the Secretary of State for the Department of the Environment if there were any further delays.

Mr. Davies, who runs the village stores, said the new sewer was completed in April 1973 and the former South Cambridgeshire council announced an £80,000 programme for providing the houses at Allington Terrace, Bakersfield Cottages and Meadow Cottages with modern toilets and bathrooms.

At present they use a chemical bucket toilet at the end of the garden and a tin bath in front of the fire, he said.

The parish council had been informed the two-year programme of work would not start until next March and there might be a problem about starting then.

The district council had

promised a start on the work this year, he claimed.

"These houses contain young couples with children and pensioners. They have been left bewildered by the council's promises. They have been told all sorts of stories," said Mr. Davies.

"Back in the summer they were told not to buy coal for the old kitchen ranges because the improvements would take away these.

"They were told not to decorate. But still nothing happens. What are these people to do?"

Parish councillor, Mr. Fred Barker, said: "It is going to be 1977 before this is finished if it gets started in March."

"I propose something should be done about it and that we go above their heads and write to the Minister."

Council declines to explain sewer delay

A council spokesman yesterday declined to say why there was a delay in connecting 24 houses in Horseheath to the sewer.

The delay has angered tenants in 24 council houses who are having to put up with bucket lavatories because the £170,000 sewer passes right by their front gates.

The South Cambridgeshire District Council architect, Mr. W. R. Hazelwood, said that they had been trying to get a contractor for the modernisation work and it would be up to him to decide. He refused to explain the cause of the delays.

In the meantime tenants are reduced to using bucket toilets in the garden and travel half a mile to friends or relatives for baths because of delays and broken promises of modern bathrooms.

No hot water

They claim council officials have told them almost monthly that work would start soon. They have been advised not to stock up with coal because open fires and old kitchen ranges were to be replaced.

All the houses—14 at Allington Terrace, four at Bakersfield Cottages and six at Meadow Cottages—have outside chemical toilets. The waste is buried in the garden.

None have hot water supplies, most have a tin bath and some no bath at all.

The parish council have heard work may start next March, although there may be difficulties with the contractor.

At 16 Allington Terrace, Terry and Angela Wright have no bath and only a cold water supply. They take their two children Sean (5) and Sarah (3) half a mile to Terry's mother to bath.

Mrs. Wright will not let the children use the outside bucket toilet because she considers it a health hazard. They use pots which she empties.

Fed up

"We have lived in these primitive conditions for seven years," said Mrs. Wright. "The council told us when we moved in that modernisation would take place. That's why they put the sewer through."

"Every time you ring up you get a different promise. First work was going to start last October, then this March, then September now next March. We're getting fed up. We have to go half a mile

to the mother-in-law's to bath the children and ourselves. I won't let the children use the outside toilet, it's not that clean," she said.

Mrs. Phyllis Dockerill has lived at 3 Bakersfield for 30 years. She has no bathroom and along with her two sons, Alan and Keith, and brother, Mr. Fred Reader, she has only the kitchen sink to wash in.

"I go to a friend's house for a bath and the boys go to my sister's house about 200 yards down the road."

"They said the modernisation would start after they put the sewer through two years ago. They have been charging us 15p a week for sewerage since then. They had promised it would be done by last Christmas."

"We have got an old Elsan outside the back door which we empty into the soakaway at the bottom of the garden and that stinks."

Caroline's winning ways

YOUNG PEOPLE

THIS pretty blonde 14-year-old swept the board at the Horseheath Flower Show and Fete.

Caroline Andrews beat the adult competition with her flower arranging, miniature gardens and wild flower collections. Her Victoria sponge cake was judged the best from more than a dozen entries by women her mother's age.

Caroline has had no formal training in any of the crafts that took four first prizes, three seconds and two thirds, to win the Horseheath Flower Show village cup for the villager with the most points in the show—and neither had her 16-year-old sister Patricia, who won the cup last year.

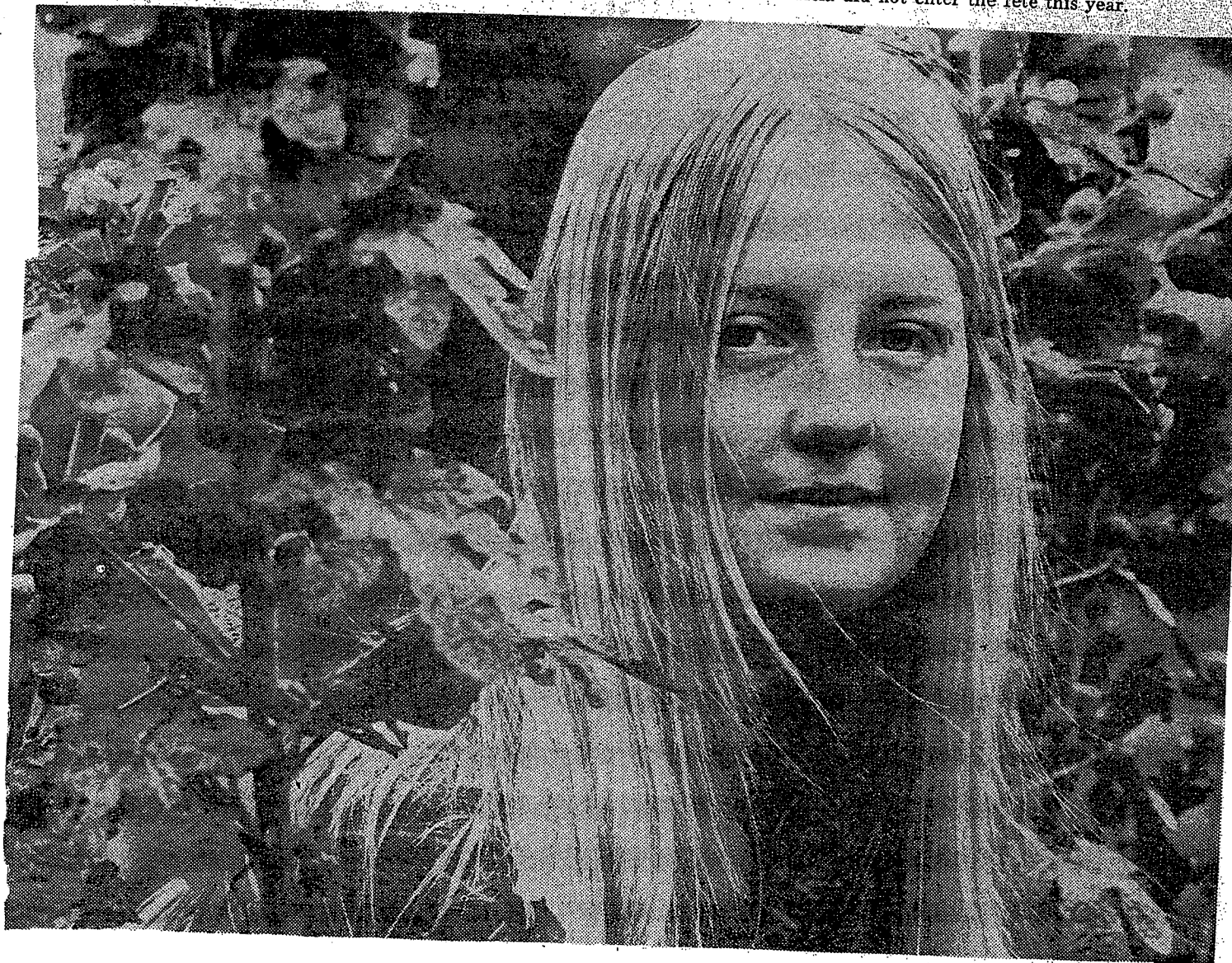
Their parents, Ron and Joan Andrews, of the Retreat, Horseheath, have just encouraged the girls to enter competitions and given them a free run of the kitchen and garden—all the flowers

in the arrangements were home produced.

Caroline has entered the show every year since she was five and has never failed to take a prize but has never won a cup before.

"I was ever so pleased," she said. "I have had no training apart from cooking classes at school. I just put the flowers in in the way I think looks the best."

Both sisters have attended the Cambridge Grammar School for Girls. Patricia did not enter the fete this year.



24 families still waiting after 18 months

HORSEHEATH DRAIN DELAY

Haverhill Echo 19/12/74

IT'S GOING to be an old-fashioned Christmas without the luxury of modern drainage again for 24 families in council homes at Horseheath, where anger is mounting because they are being forced to live in the dark ages while a £170,000 new sewer connection runs at the bottom of their gardens.

South Cambridgeshire District Council have blamed contractual delays for the hold-ups in giving the families main drainage but villagers have this week threatened to go over the council's head to the Department of the Environment.

It is 18 months since the village's modern drainage scheme was laid, but residents in Allington Terrace, Bakersfield Cottages and Meadow Cottages in different parts of Horseheath say they are still living in primitive conditions with bucket lavatories and tin baths.

Horseheath Parish Council are demanding action on behalf of the 24 families. Chairman Mr Tony Davies, who keeps the village post office, said since the drainage scheme was completed in April 1973 by the former South Cambs Rural Council there had been plenty of promises but no results on a proposed £80,000 scheme for providing the homes with modern bathrooms and toilets.

Mr Davies said: "We feel now we have given them enough time. We have been patient and the residents have been patient. Our next step will be to take the matter up with the Department of the Environment, to ensure that it is given top priority. It does not seem to have been given the priority that it should have in this day and age."

Young families

Many of the homes are housing families with young children, who have to visit relatives and friends to get a decent bath.

"People living in these homes have been told not to decorate their kitchens, not to buy coal, as the improvements would be starting, but still nothing has happened. It is bewildering for these people to have so many broken promises from the council," Mr Davies said.

All the properties have chemical toilets and the waste is buried in the garden. None have hot water supplies.

One of the residents who feels disgusted with her living conditions is Mrs Rosa Buller of 2 Meadow Cottages. Her husband took up a gardening job locally two years ago when they moved to Horseheath.

"I hesitated about moving into the house, but the council said improvements would be started soon. I have written to them regularly and they tell me not to start decorating. I came from a decent home. In 27 years I was never without hot water. We have a bath, but we have to boil water to fill it up. It's more bother than it's worth."

Mrs Phyllis Dockerill of 3 Bakersfield Cottages has no bathroom and there is only a sink to wash in for the family of three men and herself. She said she goes to a friend's house for a bath. They have an old

Haverhill Echo 19.12.1974

NOT EVERYONE has reached the twentieth century when it comes to modern bathrooms and toilet facilities, and parts of Horseheath seem doomed to stay in the dark ages. The plight of Horseheath families who will be spending another Christmas this year without bathrooms or flush toilets, has been highlighted this week.

Since April 1973, the twenty-four Horseheath families have been given dates when work would start, none of which have materialised and they are now waiting until March 1975 to see if anything will happen then.

Council officials advise them not to decorate inside their homes because the improvements will be starting, but many of them have lost all faith in such promises. To those residents who have spent as much as 20 years in their present homes it must seem that the improvement scheme will never become a reality.

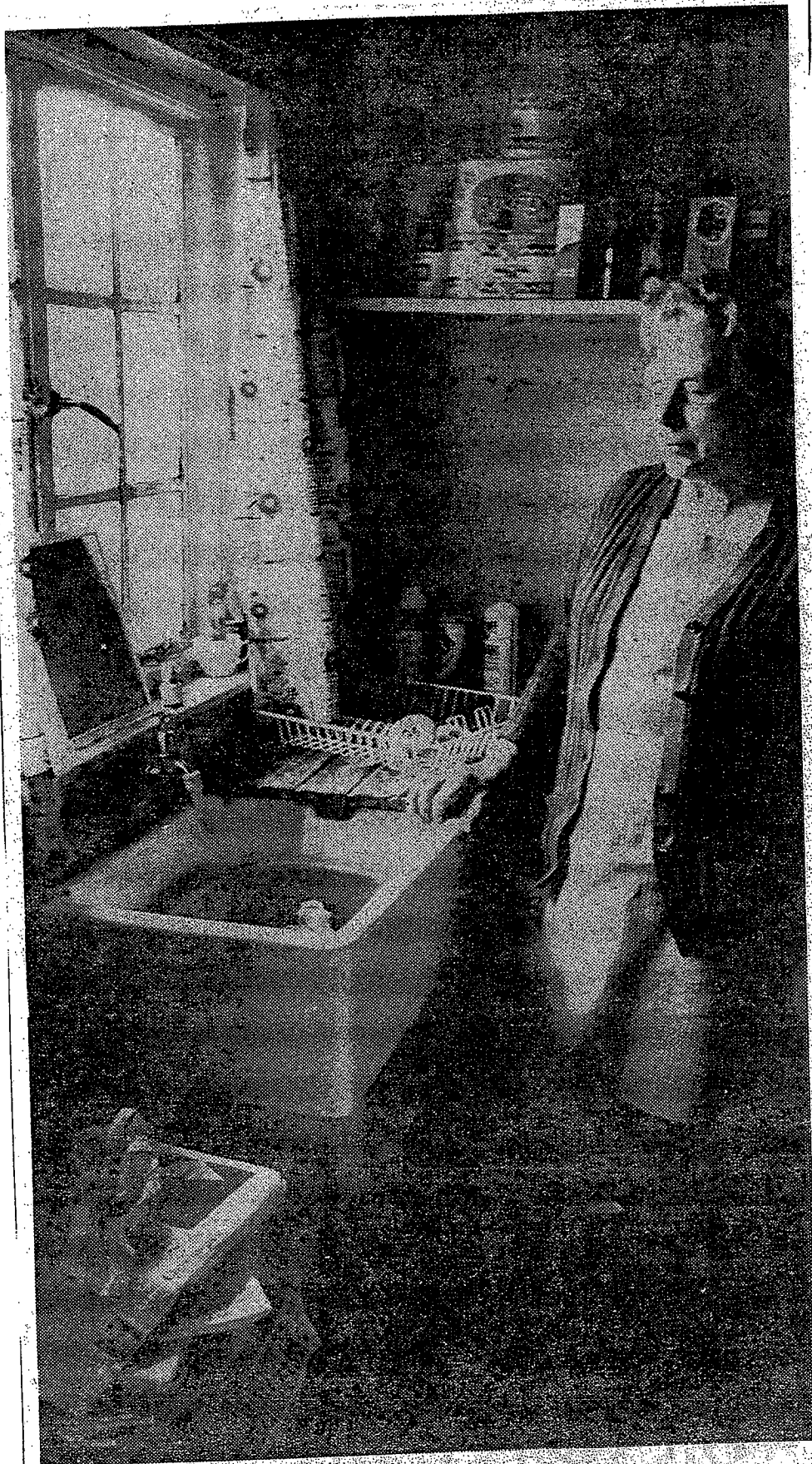
Roger Stourbridge

chemical toilet outside the back door which they had to empty into a soakaway in the garden.

Chief executive for South Cambridgeshire District Council, Mr Samuel Flint, said: "Our difficulty has been in fixing a starting date with the contractor. After accepting a tender for the work on November 12, 1974, we received a letter from the contractor

saying that owing to their present work load they would be unable to start until March 1, 1975.

"We have asked them to enter into the contract to start on that date, but the contract has not yet been signed. We are waiting for the contractors to consult their board of directors, but I am still hoping that they will start on March 1."



Mrs. Phyllis Dockerill has only the kitchen sink for a bath.

It's good news for Horseheath

How Echo 10.4.1975
IMPROVEMENT work on Horseheath council houses will start this year, providing South Cambridgeshire District Council reach agreement with their contractors.

South Cambridgeshire Chief Executive, Mr James Flint, told the ECHO: "We have got approval for the Horseheath scheme, but no increased allocation. We can manage to do Horseheath from our original allocation, but West Wickham and Castle Camps will not be possible, unfortunately."

"I am obviously disappointed that we were not allowed more money, but the letter from the department said they have received a number of other representations and decided it was not possible to allow any more money. However, we shall continue to do our best and all being well, we shall start work at Horseheath some time

in June." Chairman of Horseheath Parish Council, Mr Tony Davies, said after receiving the news: "We are very relieved there will not be any further delay in providing these people with basic amenities. We are glad someone somewhere has got his priorities right."

house sale

How Echo 10.4.1975
IT IS to the credit of both Horseheath Parish Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, that home improvements to council houses will be started this year.

Unless any unforeseen delays arise the work is to start in June this year, despite the fact that the Department of the Environment did not allow any extra allocation for the scheme. To patient Horseheath tenants that must have seemed like a death blow to their hopes of getting the modern sanitation they have waited for so long.

The district council's decision to go ahead with the work cannot have been an easy one, with ever increasing costs and fears of further government cutbacks. It was both humane and justifiable to decide that this work must be done whatever the cost, rather than to fob the people of Horseheath off with yet more promises.

Roger Stourbridge

Horseheath contract signed

How Echo 5.6.1975
A £93,000 contract for improvement work to 24 Horseheath council houses was signed on Monday. Contractors George Webb, of Willingham, are due to complete the job for South Cambridgeshire District Council a year later — on June 2, 1976.

Tenants of Allington Terrace, Meadow Cottage and Bakersfield Cottages have been waiting for toilet and bathroom facilities to be installed in their homes since a £170,000 sewer was laid two years ago. The scheme has been hit by several setbacks since the first tender was accepted in November 1974.

Work was due to begin in March 1975, but the contractor withdrew and the work was put out to tender again. Government cutbacks on council house improvements earlier this year threatened the scheme, but although South Cambs were not given any additional grant, they were able to meet the cost of the Horseheath scheme.

At a meeting of Horseheath Parish Council last week, it was agreed to ask the architect's department for a copy of the contractors' plan of work.

Chairman of the parish council, Mr Tony Davies said: "My main thought is that we get in touch with the architect and ask how we can liaise with the tenants."

It was agreed that the council should ask for the builders' work programme so that tenants could be given advance warning and the council could keep check of progress.

Pitch saved from by-pass

How Echo 28.4.1975
THE cricket pitch at Horseheath will be saved from the proposed A604 by-pass which is planned for the village sometime in the future.

Two alternative routes were proposed by Cambridgeshire County Council. One of them would have cut into the cricket field and left the De Montford Arms pub and garage on the line of the main road. The other circuits the cricket field but would leave the pub just off the new main road.

Horseheath Parish Council, faced with a dilemma, sent out an open letter to all the vil-

lagers asking for their views and came up with the answer — leave the cricket pitch alone!

Now South Cambridgeshire Council has gone along with the same view on the grounds of lesser noise and visual disturbance and the preservation of the recreational ground.

The Council at its meeting today is also being recommended that the road should be so designed as to preserve the important line of trees and hedge that forms the southern boundary of the recreation ground.

x 1425. 2. 6 27.3.1975

The first round is won in tip fight

VILLAGERS at Horsehead and Shudy Camps have won the first round of their fight against Cambridgeshire County Council's proposal to use a 20-foot deep railway cutting as a refuse tip.

Unofficial notice was given to the Horsehead parish council that South Cambridgeshire District Council will be passing the application back to the county as not being a satisfactory site for a tip.

The cutting, which is at Cardinals Green halfway between the two villages, is a local beauty spot and housing applications have been refused in the past on the grounds of its landscape value.

It was proposed to use the 400-yard long tip for dumping household and commercial refuse and residents protested on the grounds of unsuitable access, pollution, litter and vermin, as well as the loss of an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Objections were made to the county council, after a public meeting was held at Horsehead last October, and further complaints of fly-tipping have been made since.

Chairman of the parish council Mr Tony Davies said at last week's parish council meeting "This is the first battle over, we will have to wait and see if the council decides to over-ride South Cambridgeshire."

12 a. Echo 30.9.

at scene 2

FATHER AND SON KILLED IN CRASH

A CRASH on the A604 between Horseheath and Linton struck a double blow at a Horseheath family when a father and his son were killed.

Their deaths while motor cycling from their work came within two months of a Haverhill motorist being killed on the same stretch of road. Both collisions involved jack-knifing lorries and occurred within 200 yards of each other.

Now two parish councils are making urgent calls for action to reduce the risk of more loss of life.

Horseheath Parish Council want a speed limit and possibly traffic lights until the major road improvement scheme has been completed.

Linton Parish Council are demanding Government action to enforce compulsory fitting of anti-jack-knife devices to all articulated lorries.

Rain was falling heavily last Wednesday evening when Mr Albert Vale (43) a building worker employed by Pettitt's of Linton, was riding pillion passenger on the back of a 400cc Honda driven by his 19-year-old son Ken, who worked for Cathodeon Crystals, Linton.

Councils call for action to save lives—

Diversion

They had almost reached the sharp bend near the Bartlow road crossroads, where improvements are taking place, when their machine was in collision with a jack-knifed tanker travelling from Haverhill.

They are believed to have died immediately. The tanker driver, Henry Wilkinson of Park End Estate, Middlesborough, had to be treated for shock, but suffered no injury.

Cambridgeshire police set up a two-hour traffic diversion until the road had been cleared.

Mrs Elsie Vale is left with a son John (17) and a daughter Carol (15). She said both her husband and son had motor cycles and took them both to work last Wednesday.

"Something must have gone wrong with my husband's machine and he evidently went to Ken for a lift back. Normally they never travelled together."

An inquest on the father and son was opened on Tuesday at Cambridge and adjourned to a later date. Both riders, who wore crash helmets, died from severe multiple head and body injuries. The funeral took

HORSEHEATH NEWS

Nov. 6. 21.5.1976
*** MR TONY Davies** was unanimously re-elected as parish chairman.

Mr Davies who moved to Horseheath five years ago has been on the council for four years three of them as chairman.

He welcomed Mr Clive Knibbs to the council who he said they knew would be a useful acquisition whilst thanking Mr Christopher Dockerell who had done a lot of work in the last three years. Mr Knibbs is chairman of the Friends of the School in Horseheath and Mr Davies said this should be a great help in their campaign against the closing of the school.

THE council's balance sheet to the end of the last financial year showed a balance of £84.12. Mrs Joan Johnson, clerk, said that, with the precept of £80, they had just over £160 to play with in the next year.

Mr Tony Davies, chairman of the parish council, said the figure reflected

Nov. 6. 3.6.1976
 credit on Mrs Johnson. He commented that she was "grossly underpaid" but she always refused any increase in her salary. At the moment Mrs Johnson gets £25 a year.

"She insists that she does it because she enjoys and likes doing it," said Mr Davies. "It shows that not everyone does things for monetary benefit."

Mr Davies asked that she record the council's grateful thanks for her work in the minutes.

THE council will not make any moves yet on a press report that the by-pass plan for the village would be put back because of the economic situation.

At their annual parish meeting last week Mr Tony Davies, chairman, said he considered it should be given the utmost priority. However he added that they should wait until they get an official answer to our letter. If that is the official reaction we should get our little wooden spoons out," he said.

POLLING CARD PROTEST

Nov. 6. 21.5.1976
HORSEHEATH Parish Council chairman Mr Tony Davies strongly criticised South Cambridgeshire District Council at the annual parish meeting last week for not sending out polling cards for the public in the recent parish council elections.

"I would like to inquire and get a satisfactory explanation as to why polling cards were not sent out in connection with the parish council elections," he said.

None of the parish council members could remember if polling cards were sent out for the elections three years ago. However, prior to the meeting Mrs Joan Johnson, the clerk, had been in contact with the district council to find out why they had not been sent out this time.

They had told her they did not bother for the parish council elections. "I'm a bit upset about this," Mr Davies said.

Now the parish council will be writing to the district council returning officer asking to be treated in the same way as at other elections. They want a satisfactory explanation as to why no polling cards were sent out.

"If we don't receive a satisfactory explanation we will take the matter further," said Mr Davies.

The poll for the election in Horseheath was 117 out of a total of 317 on the electoral roll which was very low compared to three years ago.

Mr Davies said a lot of people had only found out about the elections when their children came home from school and said they did not have to go to school the next day because there were elections.

"On our type of parish council there are no party politics, which is as it should be, and I think it is up to the authorities to inform people of the election," he said.

He added: "If they send them out for the district, county and general elections they should send them out for parish council elections." Mr Davies said he was fighting against the attitude that parish councils were insignificant.

Polling cards ROW

Nov. 6. 21.5.1976
HORSEHEATH Parish Council are to seek the help of district councillor Mr D. Mynott after a request for official polling cards at parish council elections was refused.

The request was made because at a recent election in the village where no cards were sent, many people were unaware of the election. A reply from South Cambridgeshire District Council said it had been decided not to send official cards and suggested the parish council publicise elections themselves.

Chairman of the council Mr Tony Davies said the whole point of asking for official polling cards was that they were sent by an impartial body, not the parish council themselves.

Dr. Steve Jones said he was concerned about the ethics if the parish council publicised the election themselves.

The council agreed they did not consider the publicity could be done impartially on a parish level.

Nov. 6. 22.1.1976
THE SITUATION which has arisen at Horseheath, where the parish council have been told they cannot have official polling cards for their elections, may appear a rather trivial matter.

It is true that many people will not vote at such elections whether they receive a polling card or not, while others are always sufficiently interested to find out election dates.

However, the more serious issue underlying the question of polling cards is the general lack of importance attached to parish councils and their elections in some quarters. Surely the election of a local councillor in one's own village, concerned with grass-roots issues, is if anything more important to electors than the district representative.

The district authority are probably to some extent justified in quoting finance as a reason for withholding polling cards for parish elections, but they could also consider it a worthwhile investment in return for the work done in the parishes.

1977

Haverhill Eds

Dedicated followers



David and Norma Bradshaw, staunch fans.

THE NAME of Dorothy Squires is revered at Horseheath Red Lion. Pictures of the singer, her records and her racehorses adorn the walls and landlord David Bradshaw and his wife Norma number among her keenest fans.

The Red Lion, in fact, is the headquarters of the international Dorothy Squires fan club with 15,000 members and will be featured in her book "Rain, Rain, Go Away", which is due to be published very soon.

Letters from all over the world arrive at Horseheath from fan club members. Mr Bradshaw said: "The book publishers want a picture of us because it is unusual for such a widespread club to have its centre in a remote country pub."

The Bradshaws have been Dorothy Squires "addicts" for many years, possess every one of the 100 or more

records she has made, and are in constant touch with her.

David said: "She has been to the Red Lion once or twice and we have made several visits to her home beside the Thames, near Windsor."

He is not the fan club secretary but is one of a group of six committee members who organise trips to the singer's concerts. Last week they were in Wales. Three years ago the fan club chartered three Boeing 707 jets to take them to Carnegie Hall and plans were now afoot, said Mr Bradshaw, for a similar trip to Las Vegas.

Background music at the Red Lion is liberally spiced with Dorothy Squires numbers, but Mr Bradshaw says it is not overdone unless they get visits from some of her other fans who want to talk about her and hear her music.

"She is one of the highest paid singers and a top box office attraction, and a person of some character," said Mr Bradshaw.

Horseheath
Guildhall is
demolished

8
Haw. Echo 3.2.1977
ANOTHER familiar old landmark has hit the dust ... this time at Horseheath where the 80-year-old Guildhall is in the hands of demolition men.

Built by the parish at the end of the last century by public subscription, the Guildhall has a varied history. It was first the centre for village activity meetings, socials, parties. Homecoming receptions for service men and women were held at the end of the last war.

And many remember when it was used as a dentist's surgery.

Because it has got into a derelict state in recent years and constituted a bit of danger to playing children it is being pulled down.

The site belongs to the church. According to the rector, the Rev Percy Wills, nobody seemed to be able to determine the ownership of the Guildhall. But the parish council has raised no objection to it being pulled down.

Beetson's, a firm of Balsham builders, are demolishing the building. Some of the slates will be used for renovating the Castle Camps Church roof.



Horseheath Echo 3.2.1977

Garage man gives up after fight for bungalow



How. Echo 24.3.97.
HORSEHEATH'S De Montford Arms service station is up for sale now owner Mr Terry Fordham has lost his fight to be allowed to build a bungalow behind the garage.

Mr Fordham, who has been at the De Montford for 15 years, put the garage on the market after his appeal against planning refusal by South Cambridgeshire District Council was turned down by the Department of the Environment.

He has been given six months by the council to remove the caravan in which he currently lives on the site. He plans to build a two-bedroom bungalow, so that Mr Fordham could live on the premises, has always been supported by the Horseheath Parish Council.

Their chairman Mr Tony Davies said he would continue to support Mr Fordham in any further action and said the refusal by the planners reflected a narrow outlook.

Although he has contacted Cambridgeshire MP Mr Francis Pym, Mr Fordham is not hopeful that anything can be done to save his business. His planning application was turned down because the garage is just outside the village boundary and it was not considered to be eligible for a special agricultural consent.

Agricultural repairs are carried out in the workshop and the garage operates a breakdown service for the police and the AA. The council had suggested to Mr Fordham that he could live in the village, but he feels it is not

practical to run the business unless he can live on the premises.

"Nothing makes any sense. As I pointed out to the inspector we are not out for financial gain; it is to support an established business.

Horseheath must wait for its bypass

Villagers complain over road dangers

Harwell Echo 23/12/76

THE building of a lay-by on the Linton side of Horseheath on the A.604 could be "highly dangerous", says Horseheath Parish Council.

The danger would come from westbound traffic crossing the road to the lay-by and the council also feel that the lay-by is too close to the village.

They added in a letter to Cambridgeshire County Council: "In any case when the by-pass is built this lay-by would no longer be necessary. The council suggests that a far better and permanent lay-by could be in a position at the top of the hill."

But the county council told the parish council in a letter the choice of position on that side of the improved road was governed by cost.

Not agree

"Advantage has been taken of a short section of the existing road which will not be incorporated in the improvement for use as a lay-by," said the county.

They added they could not agree it was too near the village. "There is always a hazard when traffic tries to use a lay-by on the opposite

side of the road to which it is travelling. Lay-bys are intended to be used by traffic on the same side."

The county council also said they had considered putting the lay-by at the top of the hill, but it was decided this was unsatisfactory particularly because of the problem of visibility there.

The parish council agreed to write to the county council asking if they intend to build a new lay-by when the by-pass is eventually completed as they feel the one now being built will not be much used then.

'Pathetic'

They are also to write asking why the road cannot have a temporary speed limit and "no overtaking" signs because the surface is so dangerous.

Chippings have been put on the road but councillors felt these had not solved the danger. Chairman Mr Tony Davies said he thought what had been done was "quite pathetic".

He added: "They did this road surfacing to make the road surfacing rougher but quite honestly in places they have made it smoother."

"I just don't understand why a speed limit cannot be

put there."

The council also agreed to enrol the support of their local county councillor by writing to him as well on all the points they raised at their meeting last week, which also included the bus stop in the village.

DESPITE a plea from Horseheath Parish Council that a bypass for the village was "top priority", the council have been told they will have to wait their turn in the queue.

The council had told Cambridgeshire County Council that bearing in mind a recent disastrous accident in Westoning, Bedfordshire, which could have happened in their village, the need for a bypass was absolutely essential.

And they pointed out that the speed limit in that village was 30mph while in Horseheath it was 40mph.

But the county council have told them in a letter: "Horseheath is currently in the preferred five-year programme in the top priority programme. Top priority has already been given to other bypasses and I am afraid that Horseheath will have to wait its turn in the queue for funds."

But, said council chairman Mr Tony Davies: "In these days of economy why spend money on widening a road which in the near future will probably not be a very busy road."

Full support

Great Yeldham Parish Council have the full support of Braintree District Council's road user panel in the Halstead area in the fight to prevent the A604 being designated as an official lorry route.

At a meeting earlier this

year a Yeldham councillor described the plans as "lunacy" and the parish council have objected to the plans, adding their support to Essex County Council.

The county council's highways committee intend opposing the Department of the Environment's proposals at the very highest level.

Essex planners have for a long time been saying the road should be downgraded and heavy traffic from the Midlands to East Coast ports should be routed along the A11 and A120 to Harwich.

Yeldham council had expressed great concern and strongly objected to the present use and future designation of the road as a lorry route.

They said the road was not wide enough to take such traffic, not only through Great Yeldham, but in many sections including Halstead.

The road panel supported Great Yeldham and the matter was due to be raised at Braintree District Council's accident prevention sub-committee meeting this week.

ONE in seven voters at Horseheath spoiled their ballot papers with the words "By-pass now" in the recent county council elections.

It was revealed at last week's annual parish meeting that out of 163 people who voted, 25 papers were spoiled.

The parish council chairman, Mr Tony Davies, attacked the "irresponsible campaign" and said it was no help to the parish council in their continuous campaign for a village by-pass.

"It does not help the parish council for campaigns such as this to be carried on. The voice of this village is the parish council and if you do not consider that the parish council is doing all that it ought to be doing, at the parish council polls put in the people who you think will do it," he said.

Information

By-pass protesters at the meeting denied that the ballot papers had been intended to be a reflection on the parish council and said they had intended to show that they were behind the parish council.

Mr David Crabb, of High Street, Horseheath,

commented that Horseheath was the only village on the A604 in Cambridgeshire that did not have a by-pass.

After correspondence with the local authority he had been told that the village did not have a high enough rate of fatal or injury accidents to justify this.

Dr Steve Jones commented that it was not surprising that this was so as many accidents were not reported to the police and so the figures were not representative.

Mr Crabb said a lorry carrying iron girders had struck its load in the centre of the village. "The village school children walk up and down that road and if

those girders had come off at ten to four in the afternoon I hate to think what would have happened. The village could become a blood bath," he said.

Wind force

"It would only take one lorry or tanker with an inflammable load to turn over to wipe the village off the map then there would be no need for a by-pass," Mr Davies added.

Mr Brian Read said he could not understand why road improvements to the A604 had been done on either side of the village before Horseheath had a by-pass.

Mr A. Clarke said she

feared that children could be sucked under by the wind force of lorries passing by. "I just stand and cringe as the lorries pass by," she said.

It was suggested that as the county surveyor had given no hope for a 30 mph speed limit through the village, the existing 40 mph signs should be moved further out to give earlier warning. It was also felt that a closer check should be kept on speeding.

Mr Ron Knowles said the question of whether the speed limit should be 30 or 40 mph was only of value if the restriction was enforced.

"We should make Horseheath a notorious village for speeders. A place where people say: 'For God's sake don't go a mile over the limit through Horseheath or you will be nabbed.' If we get that kind of notoriety for the village it will be worth it until we get the by-pass," he said.

Mr Davies said the village would continue to apply pressure to the county council for the by-pass to be given the highest priority.

Newly elected county councillor Brig Alan Breitmeyer said he appreciated the depth of feeling in the village and would represent the views expressed.

Anger brews in parish council by-pass battle

Haverhill Echo 2/6

Boy saves young playmate's life

HORSEHEATH school-boy Stephen Read jumped into a village pond on Sunday, to save the life of a young playmate who had fallen in and disappeared under the water.

Stephen, aged 10, was watching Stephen Haines (5) and his three-year-old brother Peter playing at the edge of a pond on private land off Haverhill Road on the outskirts of the village.

He saw Peter fall over on the slope and fall backwards into the pond, which is about 3ft deep in places. Stephen jumped into the water, which reached his waist, and waded out holding Peter by the hand.

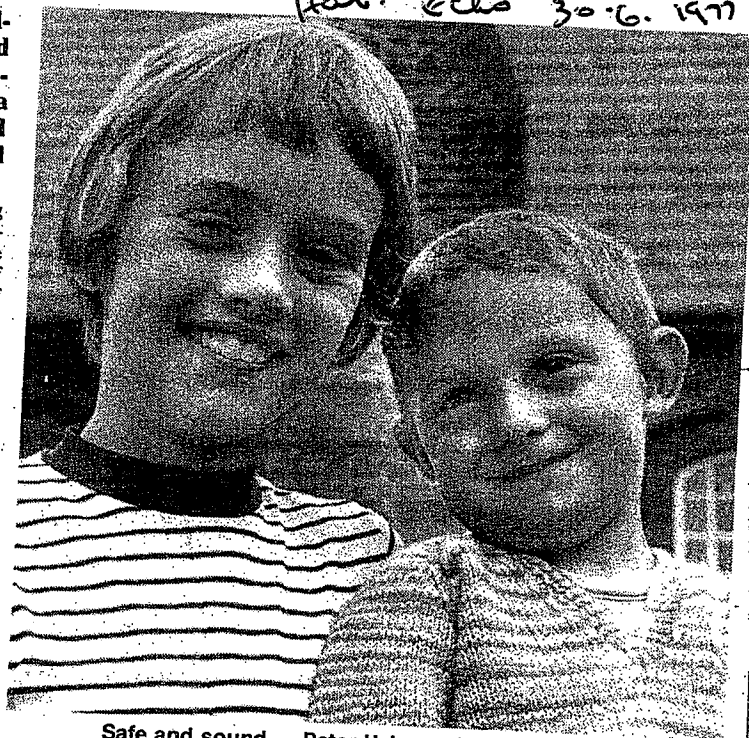
Certificate

"He went right under so I jumped in after him and pulled him out by the arm. He was coughing so I patted him on the back. He was a bit shocked, but all right," said Stephen.

Stephen, who lives at Calcariana, Haverhill Road, Horseheath, learned to swim at Horseheath Primary School and received his certificate for 2½ lengths of the school pool last year.

He had not done any lifesaving at school, but said he did not feel frightened when he jumped in to help Peter as he knew he could swim quite well.

Young Peter, who lives at 6 Audley Way, Horseheath, escaped from the incident unharmed and was taken home by neighbours.



Safe and sound — Peter Haines with his rescuer.

His mother, Mrs Margaret Haines, said she was told he had fallen into the pond, but did not realise the full extent of what had happened until later.

Headmistress

She said it was the first time she had allowed Peter out with his brother to play with friends. Both

her sons will attend the village school, where Mrs Haines hopes they will soon learn to swim.

Headmistress of Horseheath Primary School, Mrs N. Armfield, said the incident was a good example of the value of children learning to swim. Most of the school's 37 pupils can swim already and all have regular swimming lessons in the summer months.

Bypass) Compulsory Purchase Order 1980 under the Highways Acts 1959 to 1971. They are about to submit this Order to the Minister of Transport for confirmation, and if confirmed, the Order will authorise them to purchase compulsorily the land described below for the purposes of

(a) the construction of a highway to by-pass the village of Horseheath in the District of South Cambridgeshire in the County of Cambridgeshire and

(b) the improvement of the A604 and of Howards Lane in the village of Horseheath in pursuance of the County Council of Cambridgeshire (Horseheath Bypass Classified Road) (Side Roads) Order 1980

A copy of the Order and of the accompanying map may be seen at all reasonable hours at Horseheath Post Office and at Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 0AP.

Any objection to the Order must be made in writing to the Minister of Transport, Heron House, 49-51 Goldington Road, Bedford, MK40 3LL before 29th September 1980 and should state the title of the Order and the grounds of objection.

DESCRIPTION OF LAND

Number on map (1)	Extent, description, and situation of the land (2)	Owners or reputed owners (3)	Lessees or reputed lessees (4)	Occupiers (other than tenants for a month or less) (5)
	In the Parish of Horseheath in the District of South Cambridgeshire:			
1	130 square metres garden land and ditch west of the 'Red Lion' public house. (Part of OS Enclosure No. 9020 on OS sheet TL 6047, 1959 edition)	Ind Coope Ltd. The Brewery North Street Bishop's Stortford Herts.		D. J. Bradshaw The Red Lion Horseheath Cambs.
2	18,700 square metres arable land, farm yard, access tracks, footpath No. 11 (Horseheath) and ditches to the south of the A604 and Manor Farm (Part of OS Enclosures Nos. 0004, 0008, 0807, 7616 and 8211 on OS sheets TL 6047 and TL 6147, 1959 edition)	Mrs. A. M. Vestey Waltons Ashdon Saffron Walden Essex J. R. Baddeley Waltham House Great Waltham Essex J. G. Payne Rickling Hall Quendon Saffron Walden Essex D. C. Watney 19 St. Loo Court London, SW3 5TJ (as Trustees of E. H. Vestey's Marriage Settlement Trust)		E. H. Vestey Manor Farm Horseheath Cambs.
3	2,915 square metres arable land and ditch west of Howards Lane at Mount Farm together with a half width of the adjacent highway Howards Lane (Part of OS Enclosures Nos. 78 and 153 Cambs OS sheets LV16, 1903 edition and LVI.13, 1926 edition)	W. W. Blandon Mount Farm Horseheath Cambs. Mrs. H. B. Blandon Mount Farm Horseheath Cambs. J. W. Blandon Mount Farm Horseheath Cambs.		E. H. Vestey Manor Farm Horseheath Cambs.

9,185 square metres pasture land, ditch and footpaths Nos. 14 and 15 (Horseheath) east of Howards Lane at Mount Farm together with a half width of the adjacent highway Howards Lane (Part of OS Enclosures Nos. 137, 158 and 160 on Cambs. OS sheet LVI.13, 1926 edition)

W. W. Blandon
Mount Farm
Horseheath
Cambs.

Mrs. H. B. Blandon
Mount Farm
Horseheath
Cambs.

J. W. Blandon
Mount Farm
Horseheath
Cambs.

(as joint owners)

Owner

3,250 square metres arable land and ditch south of the A604 and opposite the 'De Montford' service station. (Part of OS Enclosures Nos. 151 and 152 on Cambs. sheet LVI.13, 1926 edition)

A. J. Brown
1 Haverhill Road
Horseheath
Cambs

Owner

2,300 square metres arable land and ditches south of the A604. (Part of OS Enclosure No. 161 on Cambs. OS sheet LVI.13, 1926 edition)

Mrs. A. M. Vestey
Waltons
Ashdon
Saffron Walden
Essex

A. H. Notcley
Surridges Farm
Hanchett End
Withersfield
Cambs.

J. R. Baddeley
Waltham House
Great Waltham
Essex

J. G. Payne
Rickling Hall
Quendon
Saffron Walden
Essex

D. C. Watney
19 St. Loo Court
London,
SW3 5TJ
(as Trustees of E. H. Vestey's Marriage Settlement Trust)

The right to construct and maintain a 750 mm dia culvert 15 metres long, outfall and widening of existing ditch in 200 square metres of arable land to the west of the 'De Montford' service station (Part of OS Enclosure No. 6800 on Cambs. sheet TL 6047, 1959 edition)

Mrs. C. M. Cornish
Horseheath Park
Horseheath
Cambridge
(as Trustees of the W. A. and C. M. Cornish Trust)

W. A. Cornish
Ltd.
Park Farm
Horseheath
Cambs.

Dated 5th September, 1980.

A. P. JOHNSON,
County Secretary

CEN 5.9.1980

CEN 5.9.1980



New Years Day brought a new arrival for a Horseheath couple, Mr and Mrs Ron Knowles, when their son Christian Tyler was born at 3 am in the morning. Mrs Marina Knowles gave birth to her son who weighed 7lb 4oz, at Mill Road Maternity hospital, Cambridge.

The couple, who live at the Old Forge, Horseheath, also have three sons and a daughter. Mr Knowles is editor of "The Journalist" the newspaper of the National Union of Journalists.

475-79

'Brothers' change sex



Joseph (right) played by Toby Darby and Jacob (left) played by Simon Wilton with the Pharaoh, played by Jeffrey Harvey.

47528120

There were a few female "brothers" in Horseheath Primary School's production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.

The headmaster and co-producer, Mr Peter Scull, explained that the resources of the school were rather stretched with only 25 children, all of whom took part before an audience of more than 40 parents.

"We also had to borrow a lot of equipment — lighting from Linton Village College and a stage from Castle Camps Primary School, which we set up in a classroom because we do not have a hall," said Mr Scull.

He thanked everybody who had helped in the production and in particular his co-producer, Mrs Lynella Furby.

Silence is golden for Horseheath villagers

CEN 21/12/1982
VILLAGERS at Horseheath, near Haverhill, will have the quietest Christmas for many years, thanks to the new village by-pass which has opened four months ahead of schedule.

The by-pass will divert thousands of cars and heavy lorries which previously thundered through the narrow, winding main street along the A604.

The half-mile long by-pass starts just before the Red Lion pub and emerges again near the Welcome Inn.

Already only a fraction of the previous amount of traffic is using the village and people are getting used to the silence.

Mrs Nell Clarke, who had been campaigning for the by-pass for years, said: "I didn't think I would live to see it. It used to worry me when my kids went to school. I managed to get the speed limit imposed. Lorries used to drive through here at 70 mph.

"It's so quiet now, especially at nights.

It's almost as though it's snowing. It's also nice to walk through the village without getting spattered with mud," she said.

Mr Ernest Sayer said when he moved into Horseheath 15 years ago he had been told by an estate agent that a by-pass was to be built, but he had not expected to wait so long to see it.

"I am sure everybody along the main street will be much happier. We used to get woken at five o'clock in the morning by the lorries. I am hoping we can sleep longer now," he said.

Mrs Marilyn Clutton, who runs Horseheath Garden Supplies, was also in favour, even though it could affect her business.

"We are bound to lose some passing trade, but on the whole I think it's a very good thing for the village. We hope by now we are well established enough for it not to affect us too much," she said.

The by-pass, which cost £750,000, will take an estimated 7,000 vehicles a day out of Horseheath.

By-pass

scheme

CEN 27.3.1980

faces

three big

hurdles

Plans to by-pass the village of Horseheath face three important hurdles next month.

The by-pass, currently due to be finished by 1983, is the last section of the A604 to be improved in South Cambridgeshire.

Next month the scheme's fate will be affected by the Government's White Paper on roads, and the closing dates for two sets of objections—to the purchase order for land and the closing up of side roads.

"I've heard that one or two people may be going to object," said Mr Tom Blackmore, chairman of the parish council. "But in general everybody is very pleased."

The new road will run to the south of the village, clipping the grounds of the Red Lion public house on the Cambridge side and rejoining the main road near the De Montford Arms service station on the Haverhill side.

Stopped up

The road will cut through the acreage of Manor Farm, one of the properties belonging to the Vestey estate, and it will also end the direct link for motor traffic between Horseheath and the hamlet of Cardinal's Green to the south.

If the plan goes ahead only cyclists and pedestrians will be able to cross the by-pass and go up Howard's Lane into Horseheath; the lane will be stopped up for all other traffic.

The closing date for objections to the scheme is April 4 for the purchase order and April 30 for the side roads order.

If all goes well, construction work is scheduled in Cambridgeshire's roads budget for 1981-82 and 1982-83. The current cost is around £500,000.

The county council expect to receive 70 per cent of the cost from the Department of the Environment, but this grant could be held up by decisions contained in the next roads White Paper, expected immediately after Easter.

Cottages fell down

CEN 2.4.1981

during renovation

Work on renovating a couple of old farm cottages at Horseheath ended up with all the walls falling down and only a chimney standing.

Yesterday South Cambridgeshire's Development Control Sub-committee had to decide whether or not to allow the rebuilding work to continue in an area where it would not normally be entertained. Some members were doubtful the demolition had been accidental. But they agreed they were in favour of rebuilding the cottages at Cardinals Green. However they disallowed extensions proposed by the owners Mr R. Read and Mrs S. Welsh.

Works starts on

CEN 2.3.1982

village by-pass

Work started yesterday on the Horseheath by-pass, bringing the welcome prospect to villagers of relief by the end of the year of the daily thunder of heavy lorries.

Villagers have been calling for a by-pass on the A604 for many years but with little success. Although plans were drawn up about 12 years ago, cash shortages prevented anything being done until now.

The cost of building the half-mile long by-pass will be about £579,000.

Cambridgeshire County Council's Assistant Director of Design, Mr Glyn Evans, said the contractors were talking of completing the project by the end of the year, though the contract allows them to take longer.

About 8,000 vehicles pass through Horseheath's winding main street every day. About 2,000 of them are heavy lorries.

Horseheath

PARISH COUNCIL — Mr J. Johnson was elected chairman at Horseheath parish council's annual meeting in the school. Present were: J. Loftus, F. Walters, F. Grubb, J. Harwood, J. Johnson and the clerk. The next parish council meeting was fixed for June 11, at 7.30 p.m.

This was followed by the annual parish meeting, which was attended by ten members of the public and two representatives from Linton police, Sgt Saich and Pc Smart.

It was felt that a recreation ground was needed in the village for the use of young people and the suggestion was made that the cricket field might possibly be used for football matches, etc.

Three members of the farming community, Mrs Dawson, Mr N. Cornish and Mr J. Fairhead, explained the situation regarding the use of gas gun bird scarers. They said that pigeons fed early in the morning and early in the evening. The gas guns were difficult to synchronise and were activated by daylight.

It was suggested by a member of the parish council that a public relations exercise should be carried out whereby the problem could be explained to those inconvenienced by the noise. Another member of the public asked why it was necessary to place the gas guns so near the edge of public footpaths. It was agreed by the farmers that this was unintentional on their part.

It was brought to the notice of the parish council that the village public telephone box has had the glass broken and that users were having difficulty in inserting money in the coin box. Also that the kiosk was in a dirty state.

The complainant had been

told that contractors were responsible for keeping it clean. Regarding the coin box, the clerk had reported the matter to the telephone engineers, and she understood that this had been rectified. She promised to take the matter up again.

On the subject of the recent outbreaks of vandalism in the village, the police reported that after a relatively quiet period this was flaring up again and they asked for villagers' co-operation in reporting any trouble promptly.

When asked whether Horseheath suffered more than most villages in this respect, the sergeant replied that for its size the vandalism in Horseheath was of far greater magnitude than other villages.

Pc Smart reported that he had been unsuccessful in procuring a suitable piece of land for the use of motorcycles, to prevent them causing a nuisance to the community. Motor cycle licences were being checked by the police, as some riders were believed to be under age.

A notice will be inserted in the parish magazine notifying the villagers that street names would remain as before and street name signs would be erected as soon as possible by the county council.

There was no likelihood of any further street lighting being installed, therefore the present speed limit through the village cannot be reduced as the existing street lights are not of the required distance apart.

How Echo, 17-5-68

Horseheath farmers explain bird scarers

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Horseheath complaints about bird scarers

Itzv. Wik 5.4.84

A MEETING of Horseheath Parish Council discussed the subject of bird scarers, which have been causing annoyance to residents, particularly at night.

A letter from Mr Hutchings, Environmental Health Officer, stated that South Cambridgeshire District Council had received several complaints from residents in Horseheath and West Wickham about noise generated at night from automatic bird-scaring devices.

He said that councillors should be aware that it was illegal for these devices to operate during the hours of darkness and asked to be informed if this occurred.

Mr Hutchings also sent a letter to the farmers concerned, informing them of these facts, and to the local branch of the National Farmers' Union.

It was decided that, after in-

creasing vandalism in the village and damage to many properties, a letter would be circulated, together with the appropriate telephone numbers, to every household advising that in the event of any further trouble they should contact the police immediately.

The annual parish council meeting will be held at the village school on Thursday, May 3, at 7 pm, followed by the annual parish meeting.

Bored gang ran amok

CEN 18.4.1984

BORED youths ran riot in a Horseheath graveyard.

They overturned headstones, broke crosses and scrawled "Antichrist" and other slogans on the cemetery walls.

Timothy Mackley, 17, of Acre Road, Carlton, and Peter Wilson, 18, of Audley Way, Horseheath, admitted damaging two gravestones at All Saints' Church in Horseheath.

Mackley, who was in breach of a conditional discharge, also admitted damaging the church wall by inscribing "Antichrist" on it with a screwdriver.

A third youth, Rodney King, 17, of Bakersfield Cottages, Horseheath, who appeared with the defendants, admitted squirting tyre weld through a letter box of a house in Horseheath causing criminal damage.

Cambridge magistrates fined Wilson £75 with £29 compensation, Mackley £100 with £41 compensation, and King £50 with £100 compensation.

The chairman of the magistrates, Mr John Cook, told Mackley and Wilson that they were fortunate to only be fined for their activities in the graveyard.

"You are old enough to know better, and we would have thought the shame of the

village and your family would have been sufficient to prevent this stupid behaviour," he said.

Rowdy

Mr Sam Wilson, prosecuting, said the youths had been part of a gang which had made a nuisance of itself in the village of Horseheath.

They had irritated local people by ringing on doorbells, putting a dead sparrow through a letterbox, leaving pornographic magazines on doorsteps, and behaving rowdily.

Mr Wilson said that King had been encouraged by the other youths to squirt tyre weld through a letter box which had ruined the stair carpet of the house.

He told the court that the gang had gone to the church. "The youths damaged stone crosses and headstones, removing one cross from a graveyard and putting it in the church porch, and Mackley had used a screwdriver to write slogans on the church walls."

All the youths apologised for their behaviour which they realised had been "stupid."

They gave the magistrates assurances that they would keep away from the village, and Wilson said that he was now working for the Vicar of All Saints' Church during the day in atonement for the offences.

Film record of four villages

Haverhill 11.10.1984

THE sum of £60.20 was raised for Horseheath Church Restoration Fund when an audio-visual presentation by Mr Cliff Jones was shown as part of harvest festival celebrations.

About 70 people attended the presentation, shown in Horseheath Church, which had been beautifully decorated for the harvest festival service the following evening.

The audio-visual show, made during 1982-83, was entitled "The Venture" and concerned the four villages covered by the parish magazine of the same title (Shudy Camps, Castle Camps, Horseheath and West Wickham).

The churches, a focal point in these villages, are all of great historic interest, some greatly in need of

repair as at Castle and Shudy Camps. A brief history of each church was outlined and objects of interest such as benches, stained glass windows and interior monuments, both imposing or modest, were pictured, plus other more unusual and often unnoticed features such as some fine examples of medieval graffiti in Horseheath Church.

Other religious denominations were also featured heading into an interesting study of the members of the band of the Salvation Army at West Wickham. The need for pleasing modern architectural designs to blend with the surrounding area and the importance of sympathetic restoration of old buildings in keeping with their age was emphasised. "Before and after" photographs showed clearly that, for the most part, his-

torically important houses which had been neglected and scheduled for demolition had been rescued from the brink of destruction and beautifully restored, now justifiably taking pride of place in their village. Church Farm was an excellent example.

Village life was portrayed with its many and varied aspects; leisure pursuits such as cricket and point-to-point racing at Horseheath, community gatherings including fetes and annual garden shows and the rural crafts, still happily carried on in the old tradition, such as thatching and the blacksmith's forge at Castle Camps, not forgetting the importance of the village pub.

The photographs of Horseheath School and its children are already an historical record as this year it closed despite a concerted effort by parents to save it. The need to protect these

rural schools was stressed as without them the life of the village may be threatened.

The post office in each of the four villages is still largely unaffected and continues to thrive with the support of loyal customers. Also serving the community are various businesses such as the butcher's shop at Castle Camps and the garden centre and antique furniture restoration at Horseheath.

Farming has obviously long been part of life in the villages, with fields providing wheat, barley, oilseed rape and sugar beet in abundance but the wisdom of prairie-type farming was questioned, particularly as this destroyed hedges which in turn jeopardised wildlife survival. There were very few places one could walk without being labelled a trespasser.

The important part which the airfields at West Wickham and Castle Camps played during the last war brought home as a finale the need to preserve and protect life in these small villages which is often taken for granted and can too easily slip away unnoticed. Music for the presentation

had been provided by the inhabitants of the four villages; the organ music by Canon V. C. Ryder, priest-in-charge at Horseheath, the band of the Salvation Army of West Wickham and the children of Castle Camps Village School, who sang "O Jesu, I have promised," written by the Rev Ernest Bode, who is buried in Castle Camps churchyard.

The narration was by Richard Eastham, a former West End theatrical producer and actor.

The evening finished at Horseheath Rectory with wine and food provided by Peggy Ryder, Christine Newman, Jane Ruse and Joan Johnson.

Mr Jones, a professional photographer, who lives at Horseheath, is now working on an audio-visual presentation about Haverhill.

11.10.1984
Haverhill
Weekly
News



Derelict farmhouse kitchen at Horseheath. Its occupants may have feared the witch's curse.

minutes, the witch came screaming to her door, making the most terrible noises for the pain caused by the pins in the burning duck had entered the witch — in the morning the rest of the ducks were cured.

"You can get a pint and a half glass bottle, half fill it with water, put in a lock of hair from the noddle of your neck, also an ounce of new pins, heads downwards, some rusty nails from an old shoe and some parings of your finger and toe nails. Then cork the bottle and put it on the fire at midnight when you're quite alone and boil it until that bursts — but you must not speak whatever happens. The witch will come outside screaming and ranting — and sometimes you just can't keep quiet; soon as you make a

sound before the bottle bursts that ain't no good," said Catherine Parsons.

Work

To make a contract with a witch the devil usually appeared to the person in the shape of an animal such as a rat, mouse or toad — "Perhaps this is why if either a toad or newt is found in a house at Horseheath, the creature must at once be put upon the fire, or the inmates of the house will have bad luck."

Once recruited, the witch became possessed of imps or spirits which live upon her body and assist her — unless they were given plenty of work to do they became a terrible torment to their owner.

The Horseheath witch had five to find work for — their

names Bonnie, Blue Cap, Red Cap, Jupiter and Venus. One woman spotted one on top of a box in the chimney corner — "it looked something like a mouse with very large eyes and a tail only two inches long — as soon as it was spotted it scrambled away up the chimney to report what it had seen to the witch — you cannot keep anything secret from her and her imps."

Sometimes they tried to burn the imps — that happened at West Wickham: "They put them in a well-heated brick oven but they screamed so loud that they had to be taken out and were returned to the witch — and she was covered with burns but the imps weren't marked — eventually they were put in her coffin and buried with her."

Horseheath

Feb 13 ~ 20 1984

A MEETING of Horseheath Parish Council was held in the village school.

Present: Mr J. Johnson, Miss J. Harwood, Mr F. Grubb, Mr J. Loftus, Mr R. Daynes, Canon V.C. Ryder and Mrs J. Johnson (clerk). The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and signed.

Civil defence: Two volunteers have been named to train as community advisers in civil defence. They are Mrs Sue Wilton and Mr Terry Newman.

Survey of landscape change: Miss Jane Harwood was elected to be responsible for a landscape survey in the Horseheath and Cardinal's green area.

Parish tree planting: Fifteen trees have been ordered from the Community Council Association. Three trees are to be planted in the churchyard and the remainder around the lay-by near the Welcome Inn (subject to county council agreement).

Footpaths: It was reported that some footpaths in the Cardinal's Green area were difficult to negotiate owing to overhanging hedges. This is now dealt with.

1985

1985 HAYERHILL WEEKLY NEWS

Waymarking plan by council Hav. W.N 16.5.1985

A MEETING of the Parish Council was held in Horseheath Village Hall followed by the Annual Parish Meeting.

Present were Mr J. Johnson (Chairman), Canon V. C. Ryder, Mr F. Walters, Mr R. Daines, Miss J. Harwood and Mrs J. Johnson (clerk). An apology was received from Mr F. Grubb. Also present were Dr and Mrs Bear, the newly elected county councillor and his wife.

It was agreed that the clerk's salary be raised by 10 per cent to £200 per annum.

No change would be made regarding the Parish Council's insurance.

The Parish Council is now a member of the Ramblers Association and it was decided that the cost of materials needed for waymarking the footpaths of Horseheath and Cardinal's Green would be met.

This would amount to £20.25. The chairman and

the clerk would act as liaison officers to be consulted if the need arose but permission for this project would be the responsibility of the association who will consult the owners of the land involved.

Mr J. Johnson was re-elected as a Trustee of the Horseheath Charities with Canon V. C. Ryder as Chairman. In the event of Mr J. Loftus being unable to continue as the second Trustee, Miss J. Harwood agreed to carry on his duties. The Charity accounts were read and agreed.

Barrier

The matter of the barrier on the Horseheath by-pass was discussed. The County Council had informed the Parish Council that this was a footway and not a bridle path and if it was altered to a bridle path the application would have to go through the proper channels.

A complaint had been received regarding the difficulty of trying to persuade horses to pass

through the barrier, so running the risk of a possible accident.

It was also difficult but not impossible to get prams through.

The clerk will write to the persons concerned explaining the situation. It was again stressed that all requests and complaints to the Parish Council must be made in writing and signed.

An account of Parish Council meetings would in future be sent to the Parish magazine, it was decided.

A discussion took place concerning the 40 mph speed limit through the village. It was pointed out that West Wickham and West Wrating both have 30 mph speed limits yet circumstances regarding street lighting are similar to those at Horseheath. A letter will be sent to the County Council asking for an explanation.

Only one member of the public attended the annual parish meeting. Apologies were received from Dr and Mrs J. Flanagan who passed

on their thanks on behalf of the Village Hall Committee for the help of the Parish Council in purchasing the school for use as a village hall.

Dr Bear asked whether the Parish Council had received any complaints about the condition of the Roman road from Horseheath to Withersfield. So far no complaints have been received and Dr Bear will deal with this himself.

to £200 per annum. No change would be made regarding the parish council's insurance.

The parish council is now a member of the Ramblers' Association and it was decided that the cost of materials needed for waymarking the footpaths in Horseheath and Cardinal's Green would be met. This would amount to £20.25. The chairman and the clerk would act as liaison officers to be consulted if the need arose, but permission for this project would be the responsibility of the Association, who will consult the owners of the land involved.

Mr J. Johnson was re-elected as a trustee of the Horseheath Charities with Mr Ryder as chairman. In the event of Mr J. Loftus being unable to carry on as the second trustee, Miss Harwood agreed to take over his duties. The charity accounts were read and agreed.

The matter of the barriers on the Horseheath bypass was discussed. The county council had informed the parish council that this was a footway not a bridle path and if it was altered to a bridle path this would have to go through the proper channels.

A complaint had been received regarding the difficulty of trying to persuade horses to pass through the barriers, thereby running the risk of a possible accident. It was also difficult but not impossible to get prams through. The clerk will write to the persons concerned explaining the situation.

It was again stressed that all requests and complaints to the parish council must be made in writing and signed.

An account of parish council meetings would in future be sent to the parish magazine.

A discussion took place concerning the speed limit through the village which is 40 mph. It was pointed out that West Wickham and West Wrattling both have 30 mph speed limits whereas circumstances regarding street lighting are similar to those in Horseheath. A letter will be sent to the county council asking for an explanation.

Only one member of the public attended the annual parish meeting. Dr and Mrs J. Flanagan sent apologies and passed on their thanks on behalf of the village hall committee for the help of the parish council in purchasing the school as a village hall.

There followed a discussion regarding an article about Horseheath in the Cambridge Evening News. This was seen to represent the village in a very poor light, particularly as the photograph of the site of Oakley soils was not felt to be indicative of the character of the village as a whole. Mr Daines agreed to write to the editor rectifying the situation and Mr Ryder would bring the matter up at the next chapter meeting where a member of the newspaper's staff would be present.

Horseheath

PARISH COUNCIL — A meeting of the parish council was held in Horseheath village hall on May 7, followed by the annual parish meeting.

Present were Mr J. Johnson (chairman), Canon Vivian Ryder, Mr F. Walters, Mr R. Daines, Miss J. Harwood and Mrs J. Johnson (clerk). Also present were Dr and Mrs Bear, the newly-elected county councillor and his wife.

It was agreed that the clerk's salary be raised by 10 per cent

Farmer's company fills gaps in brands

DIRECT Farm Feeds, a company set up a year ago by Horseheath farmer Mr John Chapman, is expanding.

The company was set up to produce special rations to complement farmers' own feeds, which use by-products from other crops and processes.

Mr Chapman has been supplying farms for a radius of 25 miles of his base at Grange Farm, Mill Green, Horseheath.

He said: "I have been trying to fill the gaps between the big brands."

The business has been successful enough for Mr Chapman to improve buildings and roadways, and to install machinery for milling, mixing, handling and bagging.

Mr Chapman graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1969 with a degree in agriculture, and has since been farming at Horseheath.

He specialised for a time in pig production.

Horseheath loses fight to stop housing plan

VILLAGERS at Horseheath look to have lost the fight to stop a council housing project on an acre of ground next to the village hall they want for a recreation area.

South Cambridgeshire District Council's planning committee were yesterday being recommended to give 'deemed consent' for the development of land off Cornish Close.

The scheme is opposed by the parish council and the community association. Recently villagers have been clearing the over-

grown area next to the former village school for recreational use.

A report to the planning committee said the intention was to build small units, half for rent and half for sale on an equity-sharing scheme for first-time buyers.

The Horseheath catchment area, comprising villages within a five-mile radius, has 100 applicants.

The plan was considered a suitable special case for building on a site where it might otherwise be not permitted.

Horseheath arable x CEN 37.7.1989 farm offered at £2m

A LARGE arable farm near Horseheath is on the market with a £2 million price tag.

Horseheath Park Farm, covering 862 acres and currently farmed by the Cornish family, includes a five-bedroom Victorian farmhouse and a lily pond stocked with fish and oysters.

The land lies in two blocks on either side of the A604 Cambridge to Haverhill road.

Richard Wilson of chartered surveyors Bidwells, which is handling the sale, said it was extremely rare for such a farm to come on the market in the area.

"We are anticipating considerable interest," he said.

Plans to convert CEN 10.4.1990 barn are rejected

PLANS to convert an historic barn at Cardinals Farmstead in Horseheath into two four-bedroom homes have been thrown out by South Cambridgeshire councillors.

Cardinals Farmstead is a collection of 16th century to modern-day barns and out-buildings on a moated site of archaeological interest.

Several attempts have been made to secure planning permission to convert the barns into homes, but all have been refused.

Horseheath Parish Council raised strong objections to the latest plan. They said there is no need for the development, which is outside the building area of the village as shown on the Structure Plan.

Character

And Cambridge Preservation Society considers the character of the barns tends to be lost from the conversion to residential use because of the number of windows.

Officers told members that the latest proposal did not differ in principle from the earlier refusals.

They also said that there was insufficient information to demonstrate that the barn can no longer be capable of satisfying an agricultural use.

● Four new homes are to be built adjacent to the Round Moat at Fowlmere.

The plans, submitted by the Fowlmere United Reformed Church, were given the go-ahead by members of South Cambridgeshire District Council's Planning Committee.

Scheduled

The Round Moat is a scheduled ancient monument. One of the development conditions is that it should relate well to the adjoining site.

Permission was granted despite strong objections from Fowlmere Parish Council which claims the density is too high and will not be in keeping with the spacious layout of existing houses.

But officers told members that the site is of sufficient size to accommodate four houses without affecting the ancient monument.

Access to the new homes will be from a shared private drive off Ryecroft Lane, Fowlmere.

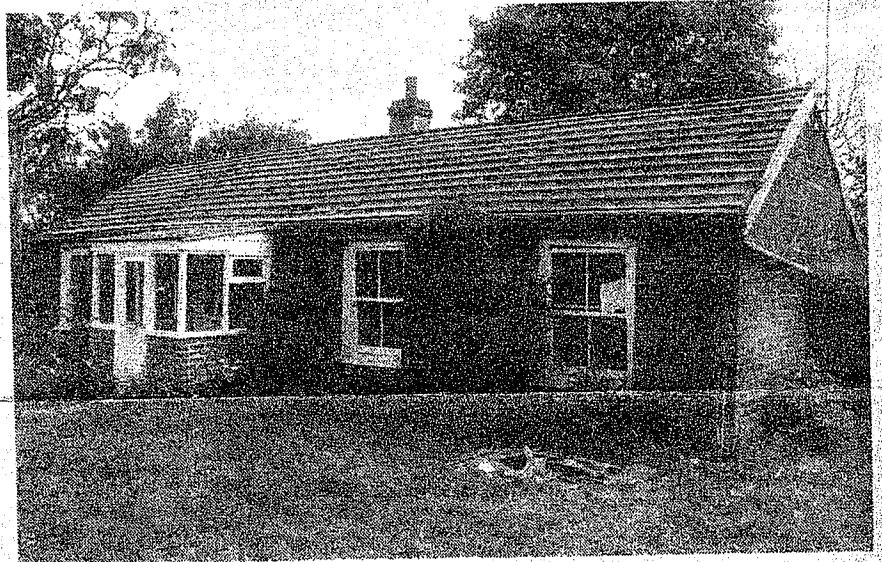
Bit of history will be lost with the Shant

CLOSED pubs are a sad sight anywhere and Castle Camps has the misfortune of being in line for two of them at the moment, but just down the road between Camps and Cardinal's Green is a third one, which is being pulled down.

But you wouldn't recognise it as such, because it is just a derelict bungalow now. There is an extra bit of history about it, too, because it is the only remaining example in this area of a beerhouse erected for the navvies who built the railways.

It stands above what was the deepest cutting on the Haverhill to Cambridge railway line, and its history is interesting enough to have attracted an article in the Haverhill Historian, the journal of Haverhill History Group, back in 1987.

Now the planners have given consent for the building to be pulled down and replaced with a new bungalow. Here are some extracts from the article about The Shant, as the building was called, written by Patrick Crouch and Jane Harwood, and showing why the history group objected to the building being demolished.



DURING the construction of Haverhill's two railway lines, a lot of buildings of an insubstantial nature would have been run up. These were for the occupation of the thousands of navvies who were needed to dig out the cuttings, make the embankments and construct the bridges and stations on the lines.

Virtually all have gone. But one that does remain is a small bungalow beside the remains of the railway at Horseheath. This was built as a beerhouse where the navvies who were digging the deepest cutting on the line could slake their thirst.

Originally it was a four-room structure built with a timber frame with the studs wide apart and the spaces filled with brick. Later an extra skin of brick

appears to have been constructed around the outside.

The land it stands on was part of a parcel of land that was allotted to Samuel Webb of West Wickham 'as his fourth part or share', which sounds like the enclosure of common land.

By 1831 it had passed to his son, also Samuel, who sold it for ten shillings to his son Jonas, who died in 1862, just at the time the railway was being built.

Half the parcel of land was wanted by the Great Eastern Railway Company, but this left a small area which Jonas's executors sold to John Paxton for £45. He is described as a beerhousekeeper, of Horseheath, so he may already have erected the building.

He no doubt did well while the cutting was being dug, but by

1865 the line was finished and on June 24, 1867, he sold the beerhouse for £100 to John Price, of Kedington, who added it to the pubs belonging to his Kedington Brewery.

In the 1871 and 1881 censuses it is referred to as the Shant, presumably a derivation from shanty, meaning poor, mean - a small timber hut or shed.

In 1883 the Kedington Brewery and its pubs were put up for auction and were bought by a South London brewer, Thomas Jenner.

In the sales particulars the Shant is described as 'an off-licensed beer house, brick-built and tiled containing three rooms and a cellar.'

Jenner had great plans for the brewery and started to instal modern machinery but within

four years he had sold all the pubs to Greene King.

The brewery was auctioned off in October 1887 as a freehold factory, with a covenant that it was not to be used for brewing. This building was to become the Eastern Counties Bacon factory, and little now survives.

Greene King kept the Shant as one of their pubs until 1899 when they sold it to William Pannal of Haverhill, baker, for £25. It was sold as a private house and Pannal had to agree to a covenant forbidding him to sell intoxicating liquor.

After various ownerships, the property became known as the Bungalow by 1921, and Major Burles, late of the Burma Army, bought the Bungalow in 1946 and was living there at the time this article was written (1986).



Sunny spot ... Hartford House boasts three main reception rooms which are all south-facing.

Elegant Queen Ann home sports a pool and tennis court

B.W. 1.11.1990

AN ATTRACTIVE village house at Horseheath - eight miles from Saffron Walden - is on the market.

Hartford House has reception hall, drawing, dining and sitting rooms, four main bedrooms, three secondary bedrooms and three bathrooms among the accommodation.

The agent, Savills, is inviting offers for the property of more than £475,000.

The Queen Anne home also has a listed stable block, garage block, swimming pool and a hard tennis court.

There are also attractive, mature gardens spanning approximately 1.75 acres.

Columned porch

The Queen Anne house is believed to date from 1700 with a later Victorian wing.

The property is situated next to the church in the quiet village. It is set back from the road and is approached by a gravel driveway.

It has an columned porch leading to a wider reception hall which the current owners use as a second sitting room.

There are many fine features. The main reception rooms have wide 12-pane, hung sash windows with shutters.

There are also attractive, open fireplaces and decorative cornice work in the drawing room. All three reception rooms face south.

On the first floor, the main bedroom is supplemented by an adjoining dressing area and ensuite bathroom. Planning permission is being sought for the stable block to convert it into a self-contained annexe.

1.11.1990



Prince Charles ...
dropping in.
CEN 31.12.1990

Prince's visit to restored rectory

PRINCE Charles made a private visit to admire the work of a local architect after a high-tech trip to Cambridge, it has been revealed.

The prince — who is a keen critic and sponsor of architecture — made a special detour to see the Old Rectory, in Horseheath, after an official tour of the St John's Innovation Centre, in Cambridge Road.

The house has recently been carefully restored by Saffron Walden architect, Stephen Mattick.

Villagers knew nothing about their Royal visitor until the Prince of Wales's limousine and entourage swept into West Wickham Road.

He pulled up at the house and inspected the front and back without going inside. The owners of the house were not present.

Buckingham Palace said they were unable to comment on the trip to Horseheath because it was a private visit.

"But, obviously the prince is most interested in architecture and does make private visits of this kind," a spokesman added.



Partly rethatched ... the cottage at Horseheath.

Cottage two centuries old

CEN 22.10.92

AN early 18th century thatched cottage is on the market at Horseheath near Cambridge.

The grade two listed building was extended in the early 1970s to provide additional accommodation. Improvements made by the present owners include re-ridging and partially rethatching the roof, and wiring.

A point of interest is the timber front door with 17th century pagan motifs thought to be of Spanish origin.

Accommodation includes an entrance hall, dining room, drawing room, bathroom, kitchen and study or bedroom. Upstairs there are two further bedrooms and a bathroom.

There are wood block floors in the entrance hall and in the dining room, while in the latter there are also exposed beams and an exposed brick chimney breast.

The drawing room has a part vaulted ceiling to one side and an extensive range of beams and studwork. There is also a bay window with a fitted window seat overlooking the garden and an open brick fireplace with fitted wood burning stove.

An extensive range of solid pine units is fitted in the kitchen, and a wide window overlooks the rear garden, which is reached through a stable door.

The upstairs bedrooms have fitted

Pagan motifs on front door



Beamed ... in the sitting room.

wardrobes and one has exposed timbers and studwork.

There are lawned areas, divided by a trellis arch, to front and rear, all set within mature mixed hedges. The garden has numerous trees in

cluding weeping willow and fruit varieties.

To one side of the cottage is a brick out-house with power and light laid on.

Savills, which is asking £197,500, will give more information on Cambridge 329655

Charles makes a surprise visit

PRINCE Charles made a private visit to admire the work of a local architect, after his trip to Cambridge.

The prince — who is a keen critic and sponsor of architecture — made a special detour to see the Old Rectory in Horseheath after an official tour of the St John's Innovation Centre at Cambridge.

The house has recently been carefully restored by Saffron Walden architect Stephen Mattick.

He pulled up at the house and inspected the front and back without going inside. The owners of the house were not present.

One neighbour said the prince spent about half an hour looking at the restoration work.

Whisked in

"He was whisked in and whisked out — he didn't come into contact with local people. We saw him drive past but only realised who it was because of his car," she said.

Buckingham Palace said they were unable to comment on the trip to Horseheath because it was a private visit.

"But obviously the Prince is most interested in architecture and does make private visits of this kind," a spokeswoman added.

Thatched life in a quiet place

* CEN 7.12.1996

ALTHOUGH there is plenty of headroom, Lyndale Cottage on the Haverhill Road at Horseheath is now proving a little cramped.

For David and Stephanie Thompson have found that when their three large sons have their friends round, they could do with still more space.

They have already extended since they moved into the property in 1981 to add a new kitchen and bathroom.

But Stephanie says it was previously a good deal smaller. "We discovered a second door which indicated that the property, which probably dates back to 1680, had formerly been two separate dwellings.

"There had already been an extension back in Victorian times and we decided to build out as we were very anxious not to spoil the original character ... That's the main reason we opted for thatching it, to blend in and we employed the highly respected Mizon brothers to come and do it for us. They came and overhauled it and put on a new ridge two years ago and it is very reassuring to know that we have thatching experts close by," she said.

Due to the fact that they extended at the rear, the Thompsons had to re-landscape the garden, which they had excavated and returned.

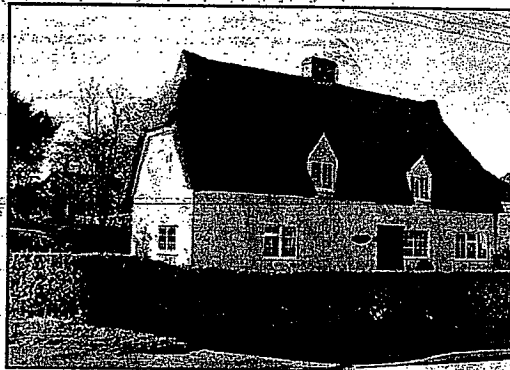
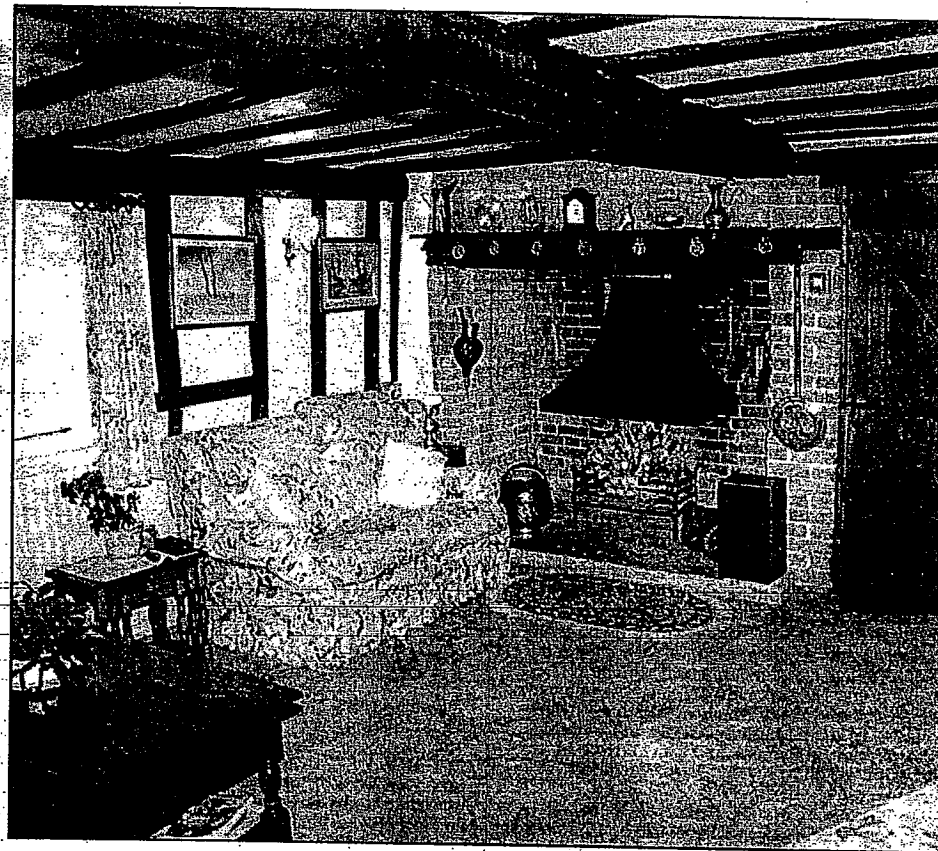
"It was just like starting from scratch really," said Stephanie, who works as a part-time teacher at Castle Camps, while David commutes in the television industry.

There is a mature box hedge forming the front boundary and the back garden has a high bank, paved terrace and mature hedging.

There are three bedrooms and a landing area which could easily be used as a fourth. Described as being of architectural or historic interest by South Cambridgeshire District Council, which dates it back to the late 17th century, it has a timber frame and is rendered under a long straw thatched roof. In addition to the inglenook fireplace in the sitting room, there is another open Victorian fireplace in the dining room.

Bidwells of Cambridge are asking for offers around £165,000. Their telephone number is (01223) 841842.

The
inglenook
fireplace
is a focal
feature in
the
lounge.



A leading firm was brought in to rethatch the roof of Lyndale Cottage.

CEN 7.12.1996

CEN 28-5-1997 Year in the parish

■ **HORSEHEATH:** The annual parish meeting, held to assess the last 12 months, was attended by six councillors, the clerk, county councillor Terry Bear and eight parishioners.

The main items of expenditure over the last year were a street lamp and speed signs at Cardinal's Green, and a bus shelter by the cricket field.

The clerk reported that the income from the Jim Johnson Memorial Fund was distributed to Linton Village College to buy books. The chairman recorded his thanks to various people and groups for their help during the year.

Stuart Miller was re-elected chairman.

The parish council is awaiting the response from the safety group of the county council, which is looking at providing Beware of Deer road signs on the main road near Park Farm.

The council is still receiving complaints about large lorries which travel through the village, rather than using the recommended route opposite the Bartlow turn. The council has contacted the main hauliers and understands they have instructed their drivers to use the recommended route.

The chairman thanked parishioners who took names and numbers of lorries; the council will report these to the owners. The council will also write to the county council, to ask if they can place a weight restriction on our village roads.

Several people had reported their concern that county council contractors cut the verges before the wild flowers had had a chance to seed. Sam Agnew, district and parish councillor, said disturbance had been caused by a loud bird scarer on the east of the village.

While understanding that birds get up earlier than most of us, the parish council will contact the farmer to see if some shortening of the noisy hours can be arranged. The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 14, at 7.45pm in the village hall.

The A604 Club's monthly whist drive was held in the village hall, with 13 tables in play. MC was Fred Morgans. The winning ladies were H Dockerill, B Wade, V Lambert, W Watts, and A Webb. The winning men were N Carlton, P Walsh, D Smith, F Morgans and W Carlton.

■ Terry Newman is correspondent for Horseheath. Contact him at Ranmoor, Horseheath, Cambridge CB1 6QR. Tel: (01223) 891086.

Annual meetings

■ **HORSEHEATH:** The annual parish meeting was held in the village hall, followed by the annual meeting of the parish council. CEN 12-6-1998

Stuart Miller, the chairman, and the outgoing clerk, Ralph Warner, presented the financial highlights to the annual parish meeting, showing that the spending for last year was within budget. The income consisted of a precept, which is part of the Council Tax, plus approximately £50 from the recycling bins. The budget for 1998-99 had been set at £3,800.

The chairman said the council controlled three special funds — the Burial Ground Access Fund, which stood at more than £2,000, and was increased by £500 per year; the Village Sign Fund, which stood at £3,500; and the Jim Johnson Memorial Fund, for village children attending Linton Village College — £30 was distributed in the last year, with £30 to be paid out this year.

Invested stock of £350 was expected to provide at least £30 a year.

The council had appointed three people. Paddy Hill agreed to be the Horseheath governor of the Castle Camps School. Christine Newman and Tom Harrison continue as parish council representatives on the Horseheath Charities Trust.

The chairman thanked Mr Warner, the 1st Horseheath Brownies for a litter pick-up, John Mayes for taking on the maintenance of the pond at Cardinals Green, Bill Goodwin for cutting grass, the Village Hall Community Association for free use of the hall for parish council meetings, and the parish councillors for their unpaid work.

At the annual meeting of the parish council Mr Miller was re-elected chairman and John Greenwood vice-chairman.

The chairman welcomed Bernard Yallop, who lives in Mill Green, to the post of parish clerk.

The village sign has now been restored and replaced.

The parish council has been reminded that parishioners should put rubbish bags out for collection early on the correct day, and that garden waste will no longer be collected. Recycling bins for paper and bottles are situated at the roadside at the Old Red Lion pub in Linton Road. The proceeds go to parish council funds.

The next parish council meeting will be on Monday, July 13, at 7.45pm, in the village hall.

■ Terry Newman is correspondent for Horseheath. Contact him at Ranmoor, Horseheath, Cambridge CB1 6QR. Tel: (01223) 891086.

Gas threat as crews fight blaze

CEN 22.2.1999

HORSEHEATH: Firefighters had to risk an explosion and retrieve a number of cylinders before they could tackle a fire in an industrial workshop.

Six fire appliances from Cambridge, Essex and Suffolk were called to the fire at the Sasex premises in Old Haverhill Road, at about 2.25pm on Saturday.

Eight gas cylinders stored inside the workshop had to be removed and cooled down to prevent an explosion.

No-one was hurt.

Police had to close the Old Haverhill Road to traffic while the fire crews were in action.

The cause of the fire has not yet been established.



Fighting the blaze . . . firefighters in action in Horseheath. Picture: Daniel Jones.

Horseheath

Words by: Sara Nathan Pictures by: Gareth Fuller, Richard Patterson, Matthew Power and Keith Jones



All Saints' Church.

6057M-27.

A haven of tranquillity

HORSEHEATH lies tucked away off the road to Haverhill, small, leafy and quiet. It is, in fact, difficult to hear the passing traffic zooming by on the bypass which lies outside the village.

There are two pubs and one post office and villagers usually do their weekly shop in Haverhill, but but most residents think their comparative isolation is a small price to pay for their slice of rural Cambridgeshire.

The name of Horseheath is thought to be of Saxon origin and there is still a strong link today to the village's equestrian past.

In 1834, Derby winner Plenipotentiary was trained in the village at The Lodge, home to the Marshall family, which was also used as the starting place for a round-the-village horse race.

And there remains a point-to-point course for cross-country racing just outside the village.

But Horseheath also carries a ghoulish and mystical past.

It is said the village used to have some very real ghosts, as well as many superstitions, witches, folklore and cures for almost every illness.

Residents believed the devil appeared in the shape of an animal such as a rat, mouse or toad – and if any of these creatures were ever found inside a house they were immediately set on the fire in order to protect the inhabitants from bad luck.

The Horseheath Imps have also aroused some curiosity in past years. Rumour has it they were taken to the village in a box upon

which their owner sat throughout the journey.

And although the box was securely fastened, no-one was allowed to touch it for fear of letting the imps escape.

The earliest Horseheath witch went by the name of Daddy Witch. She was an ancient bony creature half-clothed in rags.

When she died, her body was buried in the middle of the road which leads from Horseheath to Horseheath Green, her grave marked by the dryness of the road, said to have been caused by the heat of her body.

But today, there is no sign of the extensive legacy of witchcraft left in the village, which has one church – the Church of All Saints



Some of Horseheath's residents pose under the village sign.

5973M-13.

village & community



The village post office.

5033M-27.

'Dream' of a workshop



Father and son Roy and Bernard Polley in the workshop they share with John Short.

6056M-21.

SET in the village is a workshop, the dream of an antique furniture restorer who fulfilled his wish of working in the countryside.

And it is thanks to John Short that Horseheath is not short of talented craftsmen. John, 62, from Haverhill, converted The Stables from a builder's yard in 1972 to set up his own business.

He said: "I had been working for a firm for 16 years and I decided it was time I started on my own. I work with antique furniture, which is great, because you know you've resurrected it."

"I like it here because you are in the countryside, I open the door and there are birds singing."

And it was not long before John had a

partner, Roy Polley, a furniture upholsterer who came to share the premises.

Roy, 62, who lives in the village, said: "I had known John for a while. We had worked together in Haverhill. I needed a workshop and I just decided to join him and it's gone very well."

The duo turned into a trio when Roy's son Bernard brought his skill of cabinet-making to the workshop.

Bernard, 42, from Haverhill, specialises in making furniture out of reclaimed timber, like pine.

He said: "I am very busy here, but the good thing is that I am out in the country."

Immersed in village life



Pauline and Christine Newman.

5973M-3.



Terry and Christine Newman.

6055M-25.

IT'S a real family affair for the Newman clan – who all seem to be involved in various Horseheath clubs, groups and activities.

Terry, his wife Christine, and their daughter Pauline, all play a big role in the community.

Terry, 62, and Christine, moved to Horseheath to start married life 34 years ago and have lived in the same house for all

that time.

The couple threw themselves into village life and Terry is now the vice-chairman of the parish council, as well as our News village correspondent.

Christine is the trustee of Parochial Charities, as well as Brown Owl of 1st Horseheath Brownies. And their daughter Pauline, 32, is the editor of the village's Venture magazine, as

well as the District Commissioner of Linton District Guides.

Terry said: "We like living here. When we first came here there were acres of land surrounding our home – that was before the by-pass was built."

"The only thing is that we don't have a store and have to go shopping in Haverhill."

Terry has also helped to organise the one summer event

villagers most look forward to – The Horseheath Hey Day, which is made up of stalls with home-made fruit, jam, cakes and bread as well as children's entertainment.

Christine said: "We just like helping out and gradually over the years, we've become involved in more and more groups and events. We like being part of a community."

Thriving club for over-50s



Members of the thriving A604 Club.

5671M-12.

IN a small village, residents know they have to make their own entertainment – and a group for the over-50s is one of the most popular ways to spend an afternoon.

The A604 Club was set up 14 years ago and is flourishing in Horseheath.

Bingo, talks and bring and buy sales are all on the menu at the club which meets once a fortnight on Wednesdays at the village hall.

Mary Buckle, 65, club chairman, said: "It is a good way for people to come and meet friends. People really look forward to our

meetings.

The club even has two 90-year-old members, Gladys Brown and Tom Tarbit, who come to most meetings.

There is a summer outing planned to Yarmouth in August and a mystery tour is planned for October.



The new village sign showing Plenipotentiary and royal crowns.

6057M-31.

Accolades for Sir Arthur

ONE of Horseheath's best known residents is Sir Arthur Marshall, 95-year-old life president of Marshall of Cambridge.

Sir Arthur's father David, founded what was originally a garage company in 1909, and after taking an engineering degree at Jesus College, Sir Arthur set up an associated aircraft company in 1929.

Since then, Marshall's has become one of the city's largest employers, with interests in vehicle construction, aero-engineering and car distribution.

Sir Arthur retired in 1990. In the past years, the accolades have heaped upon Sir Arthur, whose family have lived at Horseheath Lodge for more than 52 years.

In 1996, he was awarded an honorary degree at Cambridge University.

And in 1998, the man who confessed to a passion for flying, was presented with a prestigious award for his services to aviation – the Masfield Gold Medal.

The Marshall family were responsible for a new village sign, which was erected in 1997 and is expected to last for more than 1,000 years.

Sir Arthur officiated at the re-dedication ceremony for the sign, which replaced the original one erected in 1989 in memory of his wife Lady Rosemary Marshall, who died in 1988.

The second sign features Plenipotentiary, the famous Derby winner of 1834, who was bred and trained at Horseheath Lodge.

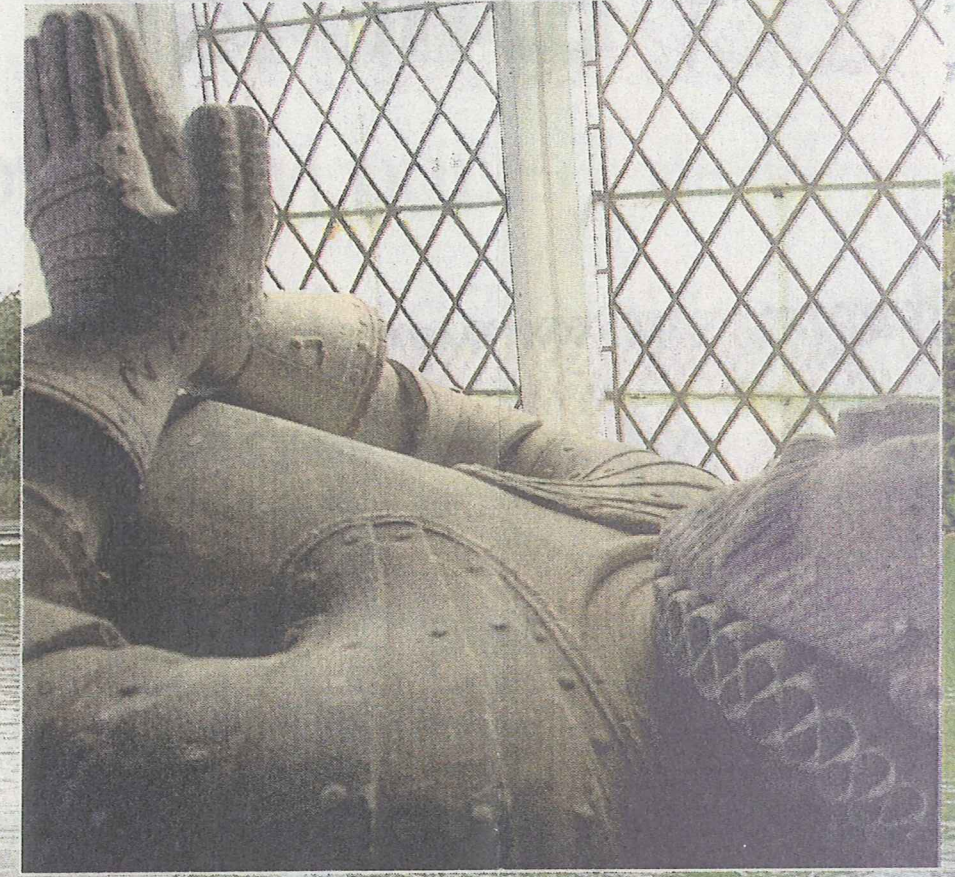
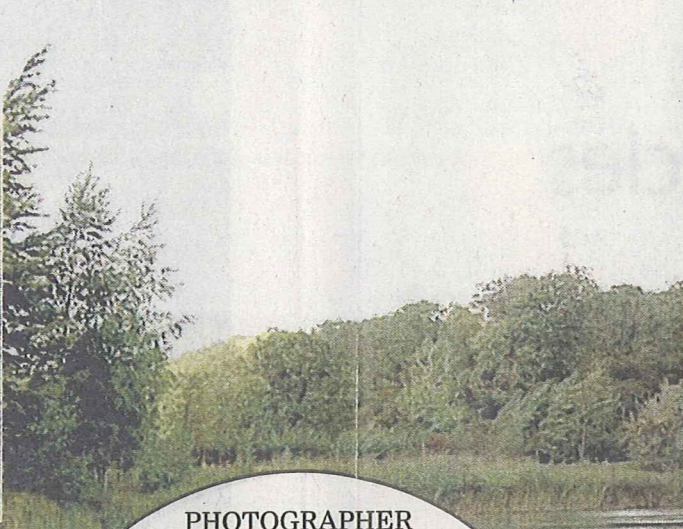
It also features the crowns of two royal visitors to the village, Queen Elizabeth I and King George IV. And Sir Arthur remembers the King coming to review his troops in army manoeuvres in 1912 before the First World War.



Sir Arthur Marshall.

45176999.

A postcard from Horseheath



PHOTOGRAPHER
Ben Carmichael turned his lens towards Horseheath this week to capture it in all its glory.

Earlier this month villagers celebrated the history of Horseheath with an afternoon of memories in which old artefacts, photographs and stories were seen and talked about by around 300 people who made the trip to the village hall.

Horseheath has a few old houses remaining to keep company with its 600-year-old church, which Ben has particularly focused on.

The church has a fine 15th century nave and a 15th century oak chancel screen that still has traces of painting in its panels.

There is a 16th century sundial, a 500-year-old font and treasured brasses and monuments of lords and ladies of its greater days.

And recently, Horseheath Lodge, the former home of aviation legend Sir Arthur Marshall, was on the market for £4.75 million.

The home for sale was on a private estate of more than 200 acres.



WEEKLY NEWS

Thursday, June 21, 2007

30p where purchased

Tests may lead to cut in A1307 speed limit

SPEED restrictions could be imposed on what has been dubbed a "road of death" after four fatalities in the past 12 months, if new tests show they are needed.

Campaigners have welcomed news that tests are due to start next week on the stretch of the A1307 between Haverhill and Linton.

Action group Access 1307 – which has called for a 50mph speed limit on the entire stretch of road – has described as "promising" the news this week from Cambridgeshire County Council that the road has been selected as one of two to test out new speed limit assessment criteria.

The A1307 connects Cambridge to Haverhill and last year three people died in three separate accidents on the road, with 15-year-old Imogen Barker of Shudy Camps, the latest victim earlier this year. A total of 20 people have died in the last 10 years and local residents are desperate for improvements, with a recent survey by Jim Paice MP showing 75 per cent supported a reduced speed limit.

But Richard Sims, father of Stevie-Jay Sims, who died aged 17 last August when she was a passenger in a car driven by a man under the influence of drink and drugs, said he believed it was the drivers, not the road, at fault.

Mr Sims, of Ovington Place, Haverhill, said: "Idiots are still going to drive like idiots what ever you do. I don't think it is the road, it is the drivers that are the problem. I have lived here all my

BY Jo Deeks

Email: editorial@haverhillweeklynews.co.uk

life and driven up and down that road thousands of times without a problem."

Mark Kemp, director of Highways and Access for Cambridgeshire County Council, said tests on the road were just about to start, but the council's cabinet would not decide until late July or early August whether to adopt the new assessment policy. Once they had seen what the tests revealed about the road and any measures that were needed, the cost implications would be considered.

"The tests involve a more detailed examination of the road environment, looking at bendiness etc. and whether a 50mph speed limit would be appropriate. A 60mph speed limit would be less costly than a 50mph one and if a change to the speed limit was needed work might also be needed to the road itself, rather than just putting up signs."

South Cambridgeshire district councillor Vicky Ford said all 57 members of her council had supported her appeal for more urgent action on the road. She said: "We were initially told that engineers wouldn't be able to start looking at the speed limits until later this year – that was just too late for local people. The engineers are now going to start the review next week. This is great news."

Jim Paice, who has been campaigning for safety improvements to the A1307, said: "The decision to conduct a speed limit assessment on the A1307 raises the prospect of a reduction in the limit, which I welcome, along with the majority of my constituents."

■ Turn to Page 2.

"Doing nothing on such a dangerous stretch of road is simply not an option and I hope that new speed limits and measures to enforce them can be implemented quickly."

Improvements are also being considered at the Allington Terrace junction in Horseheath where 15-year-old Imogen Barker died after trying to cross the road after getting off a bus. Local residents, parish, district and county councillors recently met highways experts to discuss improvements.

The county council has promised to look at ways of making the bus stop more visible as well as replacing cats eyes in the area, and there is a safety scheme bidding for funding for a right turning lane at Horseheath.

Esther Cornell, spokesperson for Access 1307, said "We were very pleased to get the update from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding developments on the A1307 and pleased that progress is being made. Many accidents are caused by drivers and pedestrians trying to use junctions with high traffic flows and speeds. Traffic has increased and so has the number of accidents, but because there are so many junctions they do not always happen in the same place."

"These accidents usually need high cost solutions. We will continue to fight for improvements but know we also need to help find the money. However, we all need to continue to work together to improve the safety record on the A1307 and stop the tragic loss of life."

Press Snippets

- 1727 *Quarter Sessions QSO 4* – Appeal by Horseheath against the removal from Lynton of Thomas Purcas and his wife Mary and three children, namely Mary, Elizabeth and Latitia. Lynton won the appeal.
- March 12th, 1748 *Advertisement* - To be let and entered upon at Michaelmas next. A farm belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Montfort of Horseheath now in the tenure of Mr. John Fuller at a yearly rental of about £190. Particulars from George Saville at Horseheath Hall.
- December 17th, 1748 *Advertisement* - Lost or stolen on November 7th out of the stable of Golding Bullock of Horseheath – a black riding mare about 14 hands high aged 10 years. A blaze on her face, a white heel and a white underlip. Reward of half a guinea plus reasonable charges.
- January 13th, 1750 *Flying Post* – Last Tuesday a wagon was overturned and fell into a chalk pit in the parish of Horseheath. By which accident one Daniel Colson, who was asleep in the said wagon, was unfortunately killed on the spot.
- January 12th, 1754 – Last week Robert Rush was committed to the castle by the Rt. Hon. Lord Montfort of Horseheath on a strong suspicion of breaking into the house of Mr. Carback of Haverhill on October 28th last.
- October 8th, 1762 *Quarter Sessions QSO 6* – James Tapper, a vagabond was sent to the House of Correction for wandering and begging in Horseheath, and greatly misbehaving by breaking the windows of the House of the Rt. Hon. Lord Montfort, and threatening to blow up the house. To be publicly whipped in the Market Cross in Cambridge and then sent to his place of last abode.
- April 13th, 1810 *Cambridge Chronicle* - To be sold at auction by Mr. Pitt of Linton on Wednesday 18th April, 1810 at 2 pm at the Montfort Arms in Horseheath near Linton. Some 607 oak, 2 walnut trees and underwood. The timber at Horseheath will be sold with the lops, tops and bark. The underwood is cut. All can be viewed by applying to Mr. John Kemp of Horseheath, or from Mr. Pitt, or from Messrs. G. and J. Smallpiece of Guildford in Surrey.
- March 27th, 1825 *Barnabas Webb Diaries* - Death of Samuel Swan of Horseheath (b1744) aged 81 years (another source says 78 years of age). He lived with his wife of 53 years and during that period the distressing hand of death never visited his happy mansion. He was buried with great pomp in Linton Meeting House. Horseheath Parish Register shows his marriage in Horseheath in 1772 to Anna Bullock from Foxearth. She died in Horseheath in 1838 aged 71 years. Samuel was called a yeoman and was a trustee of the Chapel in 1786.
- April 16th, 1835 *Quarter Sessions QSO 17* – Israel Hymus a Horseheath victualler fined 30/6d plus 9/6d costs for keeping a licensed house open on Sunday April 2nd called the Sign of the Red Lion. He opened in the hours of the afternoon divine service. A first offence so was treated leniently.
- October 18th, 1839 *Quarter Sessions QSO 18* – Conviction of William Cracknell of Horseheath, who was fined £4-4-6d plus 15/6d costs for assaulting Sarah King of Horseheath.
- December, 1887 - The Rev. John Charles Longe became vicar, an ex Jesus College man. April 28th, 1897 he married Constance Sullivan the daughter of Colonel George Filmer Sullivan, who had died on April 18th, 1896. Colonel Sullivan retired in June, 1860. He joined the 2nd Dragoons Scots Guards in July, 1836 as a cornet, and was later the 2nd in command of the Scots Guards from 1854 to 1856 in the Crimea. He was present at the

battles of Balaclava, Inkermann and the fall of Sebastopol. He was promoted to Lieut. Colonel with three clasps and received the Legion of Honour and the Turkish Medal. Colonel Sullivan came to Horseheath Lodge in 1860, then moved to Shudy Camps Park, and finally to Bartlow House in October, 1897. His 2nd wife died in Paris in 1914.

- February, 1892 *Parish Magazine* – Choirboys again treated by Colonel and Mrs. Sullivan at Horseheath Lodge. Mr. Camping lent his horse and drove them over in Mr. Holtum's van. All in high spirits. Given a framed copy of a photograph taken by Major Sullivan, who also gave each boy a strong useful knife. Three hearty cheers were given to the hosts before they left.
- August 17th, 1912 *S.W. Suffolk Echo* – serious accident at Horseheath last Tuesday to Leonard Colville whilst riding on a farm cart. He fell to the ground and fractured his leg. He was taken to Addenbrookes.
- February 27th, 1920 *Linton Licensing Sessions* – The Montford Arms. Licensee Frederick Wilsher applied to renew the licence. The pub was mortgaged to Edward Kales. Fully licensed but no liquor sold there since December, 1917. Now wanted a licence and the case was referred. It was 249 yards from any dwelling house.
- September 25th, 1936 - Accident to George William Andrews of Horseheath, an ice cream salesman in charge of a motor cycle combination. He was stationary at Bardford End Green when a car approached at 30 mph and hit his stationary motorcycle. A witness who had just bought an ice cream saw the defendant hit the sidecar. Fined £1 plus 11/6d expenses.
- June 29th, 1957 *S.W. Suffolk Echo* - At Fairview in Linton on Monday the 17th June William Shore died aged 63 years. He was a native of Linton and was born at the Rivey in 1894, one of a family of four boys and one girl. His father later became the head gamekeeper at the Horseheath Lodge Estate. William Shore served in WW1 with the North Staffs Regt. And was wounded in the arm. He was unable to work until 1923. He secured a job as the local agent for the Pearl Assurance Company in Cambs, Essex and Suffolk. He was the scorer for Horseheath cricket club, an excellent shot and gamekeeper before he served in WW1 and a popular snooker player at the Linton Literary Institute. He left a widow, a son and a daughter. Funeral at Linton Congregational Church and arrangements by Paintins.
- September, 2008 *Advertisement* - For sale of Horseheath Lodge late the residence of Sir Arthur Marshall, deceased. Guide price was £2.225 million. Floor area was 8560 square feet and there were 81.81 acres of land. There were three reception room, eight bedrooms, three bathrooms, a large annexe and no public rights of ways