

# BLUNTISHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

MARCH/APRIL 2007



## Bluntisham Weather Station

Bluntisham Barograph/Temperature memorial at Block Hill.

This Grade 2 memorial is a focal point constructed with four oak posts supporting an oak shingle pyramidal roof surmounted by a road sign and weather vane. The Station commemorates the work done by C.P. Tebbutt and his wife for the benefit of the village. The Barograph chart and Thermograph charts are changed weekly and the ink in the recording pens refilled. The roof and road sign are due to be renewed shortly.



### **REFLECTIONS OF A PARISH COUNCILLOR by Joy James**

This year in May I will have served on the Parish Council for 23 years, and have decided to call it a day, so I will not be putting my name forward for re-election.

But, it has made me reflect on what has been achieved by the Parish Council during my time there. The biggest achievement has to be that we have at last built the Village Hall, which had been discussed for many years than most care to remember. We made one advance when the school gave us an old mobile classroom, which volunteers transported to the sports field, rebuilt it and we had a "village hall!". This has now been turned into a youth centre by those who will be using it!

One of the first advances I remember was the replacement of our street lights to bring us up to County Council standard. We did that by savings and loans. It was not without criticism, many felt we were spoiling the village with lighting more fitting for a town. But I think we now appreciate having well-lit streets, (though I wonder if we need them at 3 a.m.)

We were one of the first villages to join the Parish Paths scheme, and now have a network of well walked paths round the village which walkers with or without dogs appreciate. Mentioning dogs brings to mind a perennial complaint about soiling by dogs! Actually it is not as bad as it used to be. I can remember when I first used to gather up in a plastic bag that which my dog had done, I used to feel embarrassed, now I would feel embarrassed if I left it. One walk my dog and I enjoy is around the Meridian Wood, which was planted on un-used allotment land, which was given to the Woodland Trust by the Parish Council.

Inevitably we have seen a large number of new houses built in the last 23 years, but the Parish Council has always endeavoured to try to ensure that they blend in, we did not always feel that the District Council Planners had the same ideas as us, but we did our best. Through the development of Sumerling Way we were able to acquire extra land for the playing field to add to the land we had bought earlier, giving us a very large playing area for the size of the village.

I am sure other Parish Councillors could come up with their own list of achievements, but all of it happened because the Parish Council had a plan and worked towards it together.

There are still many things that we would like, such as a cycle path to Needingworth, a roundabout at Heath Road/Somersham Road crossroads, tennis courts, skateboard park, a list can go on, but not me. Now is the time for someone else to take up the challenge of being a Parish Councillor.

Unfortunately, it is too late to put in a nomination form, but if there is no election and there is a vacancy on the Parish Council, you can always write to the Parish Clerk with reasons you would like to be considered as a Parish Councillor. Believe me it is worthwhile.



### **From the Internet.**

There is a busy road for jams. It's called the A14,  
And if I come home late from work, you'll know that's where I've been!  
It is a major trunk road, carrying vehicles by the score,  
And when they get too close together, there are accidents galore!  
You drive along at 70, keeping to the legal speed,  
When someone drives right up your tail, to safety paying no heed!  
He needs his head examined, to see what he has up top.  
Doesn't he have a single thought, about how long he'll take to stop!  
When you can move over, he treats you with disdain,  
Then drives up to the next car and does the same again!  
You have a safety margin, enough space to the car ahead,  
Don't you know that you're too slow? So he overtakes on the inside instead!  
There are many of these drivers, almost like convoys,  
Often close to the one ahead, almost like racing boys!  
It only takes an instant, a moment's attention lost,  
He looks to the side and drives wide and maybe a life's the cost.  
There's then more twisted metal, and quite a long delay,  
While the police and fire service, mop up and clear the way!  
Some people never seem to learn, even after seeing an accident,  
They rubberneck, then what the heck, drive on with a murderous bent!

### **The Top Ten A14 anthems**

1. Chris Rea – Road to Hell
2. Louis Armstrong – We Have All The Time In The World
3. Talking Heads – Road to Nowhere
4. Animals -We've Got To Get Out Of This Place
5. Roy Orbison - I Drove All Night
6. Bob Marley – Jammin'
7. The Beatles – The Long And Winding Road
8. D Ream – Things Can Only Get Better
9. Dusty Springfield – What Have I Done To Deserve This
10. Shania Twain - That Don't Impress Me Much

### **Other ones deemed appropriate!**

Steelers Wheel -Stuck in the Middle; Catatonia -Road Rage,  
John Denver -Take me Home Country Roads; Roxette - Sleeping In My Car,  
Eddy Reader - Patience Of Angels; Fontella Bass -Rescue Me;  
Fine Young Cannibals - She Drives Me Crazy; Lionel Richie - Stuck On you;  
KC and The Sunshine Band – Give It Up.