NEWS.

Learn to be a juggler!

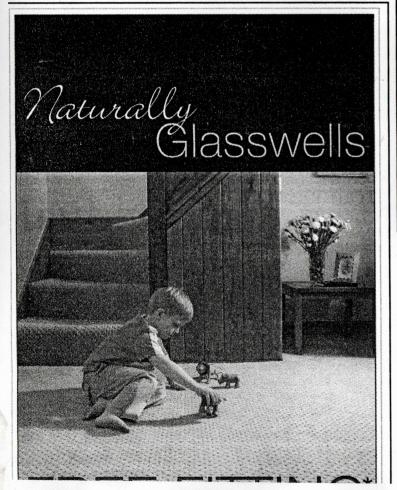
A JUGGLING club is starting in Saffron Walden tonight (Thursday).

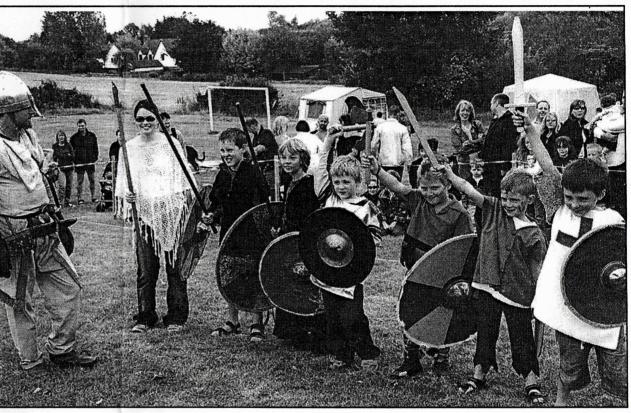
Simon Carter and his wife Chloë have been involved with the Cambridge Community Circus since 1994. They have now moved to Saffron Walden and want to set up a similar juggling club.

Simon said: "We've been teaching and performing juggling, acrobatics and trapeze for more than 10 years and have worked all over the country, from Glastonbury to the Edinburgh Festival."

Sessions run from 6.30-8pm and will cost £3.

For more information contact Simon on 07789 544520 or e-mail simon.carter@juggler.net





Fayre way to raise funds

A RECORD amount of money has been raised at a medieval fayre to fund repairs to an historic church.

Visitors to the bi-annual Arkesden Medieval Fayre swelled the coffers of the Friends of Arkesden Church organisation to £4,400.

The cash will be used to pay for ongoing repairs to the church's fabric and since the fayre was started 20 years ago, £100,000 has been raised to buy a new roof, replace the electrics and carry out repairs to the nave and chancel

Revellers at the fayre got to witness a re-enactment of a medieval battle between a group of Saxons called Gesitha from Royston, and Vikings from London, who displayed archery and medieval fighting techniques.

During the battle, some of the Saxons grabbed a group of women from the crowd to sell off as 'slaves', which raised a further £40.

Following this, the Saxon group showed off its crafts and needlework and some of the wheat-based foods the ancient warriors used to eat.

A crowd of more than 600 was on hand to see a host of other events, including music from the Walden Buskers.

Friends' chairman John Palmer said: "It was the highest ever amount raised and I think we had the highest attendance as well.

"Even though the day looked like it was going to be bad, we got away with it with just a few spots of rain. We were lucky really."

Picture: DICK HARDING