

VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

AUGUST 2011

ISSUE 101

VILLAGE DIARY

- Tue 2 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Sat 6 **Farmers Market. 9.30 – 12.30**
Linton Village College
- Sun 7 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Tue 9 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 10 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sat 13 **GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW. See page 1 for details**
- Sun 14 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Tue 16 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Wed 17 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 21 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Tue 23 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 24 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 28 Family Service. 9.30, St Mary's Church
- Tue 30 **West Wratting WI. Talk on the Bayeux Tapestry by Ian Powys. 7.30pm, West Wratting Village Hall**
- Wed 31 Blue & green wheeled bin (day late) Collection
Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall

THE VILLAGE HALL

is available to hire at the rates below, it also offers the following equipment: Badminton, Short Tennis and 3 Table Tennis tables.

Village Hall rates (for Village use):

Sport Hire	day or evening £5.00 per hour.
Meeting Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £5.00 per hour. evening £7.00 per hour.
Main Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £7.00 per hour evening £10.00 per hour.
Complete Hall	day (9.00 – 19.00) £12.00 per hour evening £18.00 per hour
Children's party	£30.00 daytime £43.00 evening
Adult's party/disco	£60.00
Wedding reception	£150.00

To book the Village Hall contact Kathy Pelling
T: 01223 290505

Or visit their new website
www.westwickham.org

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

West Wickham & District Gardening Club will be holding its Annual Show in August. We hope you can be challenged into entering some exhibits or by coming and seeing how well your friends and neighbours have done. Inserted into this month's Village Voice is the show schedule, for additional copies of this or the entry form please contact me. There are a wide variety of classes we hope will interest you – vegetables & fruit, cut flowers & pot plants, flower arrangements, classes just for children, cooking & jam making and photography. There are prize money and cups to be won. Anyone can enter from West Wickham & Streetly End. Residents from adjoining villages without a show of their own can enter so why not encourage a friend to take part too.

SATURDAY 13TH AUGUST
WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL
OPENING AT 2.30pm

Exhibits can be brought to the hall between 9.30am and 11.30am. The prize giving will be at 3.45pm, followed by an auction of produce.

Andrew Morris, 21 High Street, West Wickham, T: 290863
Email: ANDREW.L.MORRIS@TALK21.COM

★WEST WICKHAM FETE AND CAR BOOT SALE★

SEPTEMBER 3rd at 1pm

BBQ lunch 1pm

Fun for all the family

Cakes, Tombola, Games and Races, Bouncy Castle, Go Karting

Bric-a Brac, Lucky Dip, Raffle, Secondhand Book stall

Plants, Produce & Preserves

Local children's author selling latest book

Beer Tent, Teas, Ice cream Parlour

And lots more

To book your car boot space phone 01223 290203

£5.00 a car – book early to avoid disappointment

★DONATIONS FOR THE FETE★

Please will you help in any way you can. We need you to have a clear out of all those presents you've been given that you never use that we can sell on the Bric a Brac stall. A Raffle Prize or a bottle for the Tombola, Books, Bric a Brac etc. I can collect on the afternoon of Saturday 20 August or please drop off at Manor Farm, (just inside the gate) or in the post box. Any queries please call Nicky Cornish T: 290203

★PLANTS, PRODUCE & PRESERVES★

Andrew & I are organising this and all contributions would be greatly welcomed. Produce is obviously better on the day but plants & preserves can be left with us or at Manor Farm anytime. If you need pots to plant something up in we may be able to help. Please label everything!

Janet Morris. 21 High Street. T: 290863
Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

The Village Voice is sponsored by West Wickham Parish Council and delivered free to all households in West Wickham and Streetly End. The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

★JOLLY JARS★

The Jolly Jar Stall was a real success at last years fete, so it is going to be back by popular demand! May I please ask for your help in making one up for me because it will only be successful if we have enough jars. All that is required is a clean jam jar filled with something fun which will appeal to children. This could be hair accessories, sweets, balloons, marbles, stickers, small toys, etc. Cover the top of your jam jar with some pretty material or wrapping paper so they look appealing. Please deliver to Lucy Cameron 34 Streetly End 01223 894362 any time from now. Thank you all so much for your support.

★CAKES PLEASE★

Just a reminder to all you generous and talented cooks. The fete is on Saturday 3 September and we really need your support. All contributions, home made or shop bought will be appreciated. Cakes, buns, biscuits, anything that you feel you can donate to us we will be glad to receive.

On the day, cakes can be left at April Cottage, High Street (Vivienne) or 13 Maypole Croft (Shirley) or taken directly to Manor Farm.

Vivienne Henderson. T: 290243

Shirley Hulyer. T: 290720

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

The Year 11 Ball at LVC is now a maturely developed tradition in the College and has been on the school calendar for sixteen years as the pinnacle celebration for students of their five years here. When the ball first began it was held in the school hall and although it was a really enjoyable experience, over time students decided that they wanted the venue to be more special and 'unschooly'. Year by year we held the ball at different outside venues, but for the last 3 we have returned to the site, but with a difference – a marquee appears on the front lawn which a team led by Amanda Clay now decorate according to a theme. This has a number of fantastic advantages: it helps us to keep costs down for the students, is convenient for the purposes of preparation, it doesn't feel like a 'school' building and it enables a piece of magic to occur: the grand arrivals, viewed by our local community: friends, parents, siblings and frankly anyone who enjoys a spectacle. In many ways the 'arrivals' is the most delightful part of the evening. This year the community came down to watch it in their hundreds and the atmosphere was lovely: the girls looked stunning in their dresses, the boys scrubbed up nicely in tuxedos and the parade of vehicles and carriages was a particular treat: we had vintage cars, sports cars, a horse, a tractor with trailer, a fleet of mods on Vespa scooters, a monster truck, a fire engine and perhaps most dramatically of all, a helicopter then landed on the field. All of this free entertainment was given a beautiful sound-track by Karen Sanderson's lovely singing to the music of Linton Jazz.

The behaviour of the young people was impeccable throughout the evening, and if you will excuse the cliché, a good time was had by all.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

WEST WRATTING W.I.

Ivy Deane and I attended the Cheveley Group meeting, in particular, to hear a report of the NFWI AGM. We enjoyed a very pleasant evening, hearing about a very exciting AGM where the resolution on libraries was passed almost unanimously but the resolution on factory farming was not voted on because there was unhappiness about the wording.

In June, despite the weather turning chilly and drizzly it cleared enough for us to enjoy a very pleasant evening in Alison's garden. We were pleased to welcome several husbands and old friends to the meeting and once again had a very interesting and enjoyable wine tasting courtesy of Gill Holah with help from Ann Greig. The food was extremely good as usual with a great variety. Sue Lewis kindly agreed to judge the competition for the Younghusband Cup which was won by Di Licence. Many thanks to Alison and Richard for their excellent hospitality.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 30 August at 7.30 pm with a talk given by Ian Powys on the **Bayeux Tapestry**. This is an open meeting so, once again, we invite members' friends, partners and others to join us in return for a small donation. The competition is for a piece of needlework (tapestry/embroidery).

We welcome members from any surrounding villages who do not have a WI of their own. For further information please contact or Gill Holah on 290378.

Linda Gorman. T: 290653

1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

The Brownies really enjoyed the District Campfire held at the end of May. It was really good to see all the sections – Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section – as well as all the adults enjoying a good sing-song. It was lovely to hear all the 'old songs' and to see all the adults joining in. It was all rounded off with a hot dog. Who could ask for more?

We have also been very busy this term, we carried out our annual litter pick up in Horseheath. The village is much cleaner than it was a few years ago. We collected two bags of recycling and only one of non-recyclable rubbish. Did you know that there are intelligent dogs in Horseheath? They are so intelligent that they manage to do their business in a bag, knot it and then put it under the hedge. It really is amazing what you can find when you do a litter pick up.

The unit attended the annual Linton District Strawberry Evening held at Dr Bertram's home in Linton. The wet weather managed to hold off and we raised money for unit funds as well as enjoying strawberries and ice cream with friends.

At the end of term we enrolled Freya and Imogen into the pack as well as welcoming Jessica who will be enrolled early next term. We also said 'goodbye' to Frayr how has moved up to Guides in Balsham, we hope that she makes lots of new friends and enjoys learning new skills as a Guide.

As our numbers are on the increase we need more adult volunteers to help in the unit. Do you have a skill that you could share with us or do you want to have a fun evening helping with Brownies? If you are interested or want more information on what we do, please get in touch.

Barney AKA Pauline. T: 01223 891086

DAISYCHAINS PRESCHOOL ANNUAL REVIEW

Well, here we are again at the end of another school year and saying Goodbye and Good Luck to eight children who are taking a big step up to primary school in September. We have had a busy year and have concentrated on the themes "Machines", "Numbers", "Journeys", "On the farm" and "People who help us".

Last autumn Nip Pearson drove his tractor down to preschool for us. He explained how the engine worked and what the tractor was for. The children were allowed to sit on the tractor to have their photograph taken.

Back in the depths of winter we all had the opportunity to go outside several times in the snow to build snowmen, and we even tried to build an igloo (not a great success). This Spring we have been allowed to visit Platt's Farm several times, to see chickens and baby sheep and subsequently to see the large litter of piglets that "Mrs Pig" had produced.

In the summer term we went on a trip to Cambridge Botanical Gardens, linking in with our acquisition of an allotment from the Parish Council. We also had a butterfly kit donated to us by a kind parent so were able to watch the life cycle of a butterfly and are pleased to announce that we released five healthy "Painted Ladies" into the countryside.

In order to maintain Daisychains we have to hold several fundraising events each year. We are always looking for new ideas to enable us to raise a bit more cash so please let us know if you have any ideas. Last term we held our first "Bingo Night" which was a new venture for us, and one we took on with some trepidation. However the evening was very successful – the hall was packed with bingo addicts, drink flowed freely and we raised approx £650. As it was such a great success we will be holding another Bingo Night on September 23rd 2011, so keep the evening free.

In addition to Bingo we also held our annual Christmas fair in November and a jumble sale in May (bringing in about £1000). These events bring in essential revenue to the preschool, without this money our preschool would not

survive so we would like to offer many, many thanks to all of you who supported us in any way over this year. We hope that you enjoy the events that we put on in the future and continue to support us, your community preschool.

Another project that we are starting soon is an allotment and to grow our own flowers, fruit and veg next year. This is a long term project that we hope will expand the children's knowledge and widen their understanding of the environment. We will be in need of any equipment help and expertise that you may have to offer with regards to preparing and maintaining our allotment. Initially we are particularly looking for some chain link fencing, metal fence posts and paving slabs and weed prevention fabric so if anybody has access to any of these items (or anything else that we can use in the garden) then please let us know as soon as possible so that we can start our venture when we return to preschool in September.

Looking to the future, next year looks quite busy for us already. We have sixteen children on our register for September so far, and two more starting later in the autumn term. We have spaces left for new starters on any day of the week, so if you have, or know of any child 2 – 5 years old who would like to join us then please contact me on 01223 290512 or 07943866294 (mornings only) or e-mail me at susan.harrow@tesco.net

We have a full programme of topics ready for next year covering "All about me", "Emergency 999" and "All Creatures Great & Small". We like to give our children as varied curriculum as possible so if you have any skills that you could share with us, or the children, we would be only too pleased to have you visit preschool to show us what you can do! (e.g. weaving, spinning, yoga, etc.)

Again we thank you all for supporting us in our efforts to keep Daisychains running and would like to wish you all a Happy & safe summer.

Sue, Claire & Nadine.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

There has been a request for confirmation and so I will be beginning some classes in September. These will be open to anyone who wants to explore faith. We will learn about the Bible, what and why we do the things we do in the Church of England, and there will be space for you to ask your own questions about God and prayer. Ring Rev Julie Norris 891350 for more information and to express an interest in coming along.

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

Our Queen celebrates her Diamond Jubilee in June 2012. To celebrate this great occasion we would like to have three days of events in West Wickham and Streetly End. This will be an event for the whole community, so we need your ideas please. The dates are Saturday 2nd June, Sunday 3rd and the new Bank Holiday Monday, June 4th.

We would like to gather together a group of enthusiastic people to organise this. We are asking people to get in touch with what they would like to see happening, offers of help and ideas. We want to make this a truly memorable weekend, come and join us.

Di Licence 290434 and Nicky & Marcus Cornish 290203

IF YOU ARE GOING ON HOLIDAY IN THE SIX WEEKS HOLIDAY, I CAN LOOK AFTER YOUR PETS.

Pets sometimes need walking, feeding, filling up their water, shutting them up at night, letting them out in the morning. I can collect chickens, ducks e.g. eggs. I can, if you want, just go over and check on your pets, if you go out for the day, and I can water your gardens.

If you need someone to do any one of those things then just call 07989751383 & if you can't get hold of me please leave a message. If you text me, please check I have received it. You can also come to the farm and speak to me,

Jack Pope, Platts Farm, High Street, West Wickham

NEXT MONTH'S VILLAGE VOICE

Regretfully we are not going to be able to produce an October issue so next months issue will be a combined issue for September & October. Please let us have items for the diary column for both months.

Sue & Andrew

NATURE NOTES – BUTTERFLY MONTH

Although the week of the 16th of July has been designated as the butterfly counting week, I fancy that the weather conditions at the beginning of the month were more conducive to this activity. The species that have caught my eye the most have been the Ringlet, with its smoky brown wings and numerous small eyespots, and of course the dreaded large white, against whom I'm trying to protect my brassicas. In that first week of July I noticed various other species, but mainly just as single butterflies. These included a few who visited our garden, including a Gatekeeper, a Comma, Red Admiral, Green-Veined White and Small Tortoiseshell. Add to that the Cinnabar and Magpie moths and you have quite an array. Although I only saw a lone Cinnabar in our garden, there must have been a fair bit of activity in the field opposite us as many of the ragwort plants have the stripy orange and black caterpillars feeding off them.

There has been some tree felling going on in Rands Wood in the last few days, and walking round the Gallop one morning while it was in process I guessed it may have temporarily disturbed a fox, who ran out in front of us and seemed to want to get back into the wood but thought better of it and ran down towards Yen Hall. I've noticed one or two piles of fox poo not too far away from the house, which is slightly alarming for those of us who keep chickens.

Those are some of my musings – here are Di's:

“On a recent stroll up the Roman Road in the early evening sunshine, not only were we treated to the magnificent metal birds flying over from Duxford, but also several young families of the feathered variety, on the wires. There were yellow hammers, corn buntings and linnets, and in the distance the mewing of a buzzard. The bees were out in force on the purple flower heads, but oddly, not on the many different yellow and white flowers. The yellow Lady's bedstraw, which years ago was used to stuff

mattresses for women during childbirth, as its delicate smell is supposed to have calming properties, and the white Hedge bedstraw were in abundance. The taller Meadowsweet with its faintly sickly smell has large creamy flower heads. (*Anyone wishing to see meadowsweet in profusion should take a walk round Pocket Park in Linton where there are swathes of it.*) We counted 15 other plants with white or yellow flowers, including St John's Wort, Yarrow, White and Bladder Campion, Burnet Saxifrage, Buttercup and Mignonette to name a few. We also saw four species of butterfly, the beautiful dark brown ringlet, meadow brown, gatekeeper and small skipper, all different combinations of browns and orange.

Several mornings whilst driving up Balsham hill, I have spotted perched on a dead tree, a buzzard, scanning for food. There seem to be many baby rabbits dead on the roads recently, so there is a lot of carrion around. There were two more youngsters at Webb's Lane, mewing for food. Dead trees are obviously good lookout posts, as the one on the bottom road next to Nip's barn usually has a kestrel on its topmost branches. On the verge near the tree are about 30 plants of black mullein... actually a pale yellow flowered tall spike of a flower, with dark green foliage.

I have spotted a little owl on several occasions near the church sitting on the top of a telegraph pole, and he swivels his head as I go slowly past...

Anne tells me that she has seen a leveret (young hare) on the footpath round the Gallop, and I saw one running along the road in the village recently.

We have had a family of longtailed tits squeaking in our trees, and I think they have nested nearby, as the parents have been around all summer. We have also got a young family of robins in the garden. Looking so like their parents, but with speckled breasts instead of red.”

Peter Grieve. T: 290503. Email: mail @petergrieve.co.uk

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMME

We are currently adding the finishing touches to our community education programme for September. As well as continuing with many of the excellent courses we had available last year we will be adding a variety of new ones including drawing workshops, portraiture, singing and Sugar Craft. The prospectus for September will be completed by the beginning of August ready for enrolments to begin on the 22nd. Should you wish to receive a copy electronically please email tracy.chafer@lvc.org and we will add you to our community education mailing list.

Sports Centre. We are currently putting together new fitness classes for August and September, apart from continuing with the usual Boxercise, circuits, cardio tone and spinning we will be introducing a running class and core stability sessions. We have also launched a children's party facility – should you be stuck for what to do to entertain your cherubs on their special day why not book a football party or one of our other activity based sessions.

Check our website at www.linton-sport-fitness.co.uk for updates on classes, children's parties and more or call us on 01223 890248.

Steven Austin. Community Business Manager

OIL SYNDICATE

I am proposing to place an order in August if there are enough households interested. Last month I said I would like to see the order total being a minimum of 5,000 litres, so if you would to place an order please contact me by 10th August with your details. If I do not get enough people interested, I will let those who have asked to place an order know

The Withersfield Syndicate (<http://theoilsyndicate.wordpress.com/>) will be next placing an order in early November.

Sue Thurston. T: 290503. Email: oil@suethurston.co.uk

DON'T FORGET THE FETE SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 1pm at Manor Farm

PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 16 August

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