

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

AUGUST 2018

ISSUE 183

## VILLAGE DIARY

Wed 1	Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
Sun 5	All ages praise. 9.15, St Mary's Church
Mon 6	Blue & green wheeled bin collection
Wed 8	Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
Sun 12	Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
Mon 13	Black wheeled bin collection
Wed 15	Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
Thur 16	<b>Deadline for items to go in the August edition of the Village Voice</b>
Sat 18	<b>GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW. See page 1 for details</b>
Sun 19	Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
Mon 20	Blue & green wheeled bin collection
Wed 22	Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
Sun 26	Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
Tue 28	Black wheeled bin (day late)collection
Wed 29	Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

#### CHURCH FETE

Manor Farm

1pm on Saturday 1 September

See page 2 for details

## 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.

Why don't you while away the long hours of the summer holiday by using the hall and this great sports equipment?

### Village Hall rates (for Village use):

Sport Hire	day or evening £8.00/hour
Meeting Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £5.00/hour. evening £7.00/hour.
Main Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £7.00/hour evening £10.00/hour.
Complete Hall	day (9.00 – 19.00) £12.00/hour evening £18.00/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 Louise Salter  
T: 01223 291226

Email: [bookings@westwickham.org](mailto:bookings@westwickham.org)  
or visit [www.westwickham.org](http://www.westwickham.org)

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.

## THE ANNUAL SHOW .... PART OF VILLAGE LIFE

West Wickham is lucky to still have its Annual Show; other villages have lost theirs for a number of reasons, including lack of support from villagers and fewer volunteers willing to help organise and run them. There was some discussion by the Committee about cancelling this year's show because of the prolonged dry spell, but wouldn't it be a shame if we had? The village has lost its shop and its pubs and so we need occasions when we can come together as a village. The Hub Nights have been a great opportunity to meet up, we have the fete in September and the Show, organised by the Gardening Club, is another chance to take part in village life. Enjoy the thrill of entering your vegetables, fruit, flowers, preserves, baking and showing off your photographs and admire the efforts of others. Encourage your children or grandchildren to enter and win a trophy. Their imaginative and fun entries are often some of the highlights of the afternoon. Enjoy tea and superb home-made cake, win a raffle prize and snap up some bargains in the auction of produce at the end of the afternoon.

If you've never entered before you can see all the classes and rules in the Schedule which accompanies this month's Village Voice. There is also guidance and lots of support from the Show Committee and Club members.

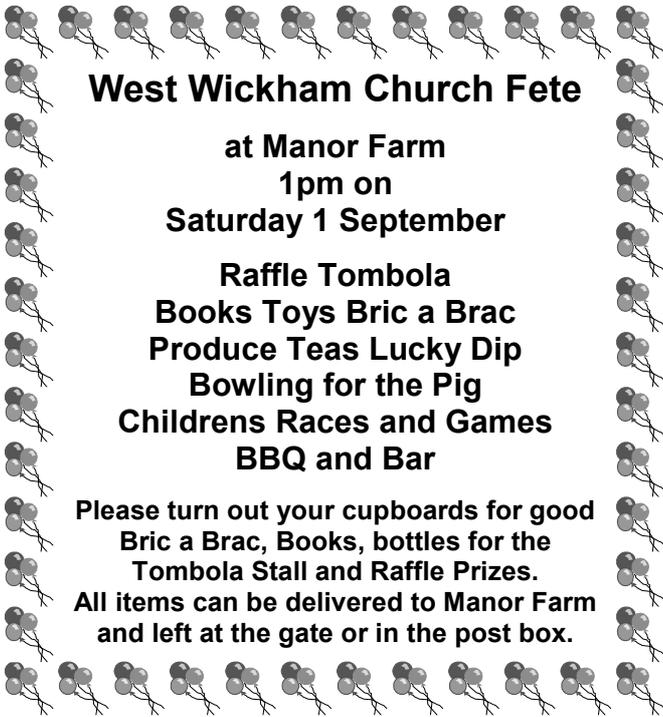
Exhibitors need to bring their exhibits to the Hall between 9.30 – 11.30 on the morning of 18 August, the Show is open to everyone from 2.30 with the Prize Giving at 3.30. This year we have reintroduced a Flower Arranging category with an arrangement to celebrate the centenary of the RAF. The winner of this will take home the West Wickham Rose Bowl. We have also brought back a Photography Section; you can enter up to two photos for each of the three classes and they will all be displayed in the Hall. Photos don't have to have been taken in the last year. Have a scroll through all the photos you have on your phone or camera or it's not too late to take photographs now for these classes – A local village scene, Colour in the garden and Flight. Anyone having difficulty printing their photos can contact the Show Organiser, Andrew Morris who can also provide extra copies of the Schedule and a copy of the brief guide to exhibiting. (Andrew is at 21 High Street, West Wickham, CB21 4RY. Phone 290863 or email [morrisandrew203@gmail.com](mailto:morrisandrew203@gmail.com)).

For me, it's not just about winning (good thing too as I rarely have) – it's about taking part, so between now and 18 August, have a look and see what you've got in the garden that you can enter, dust off that jar of marmalade that you made earlier in the year (or make another), try a spot of baking. Even if you don't consider yourself a gardener you may be surprised at what categories you may be able to enter – there is a class for a single rose, tomatoes, herbs, a cactus or succulent, a fruit liqueur, eggs and shortbread fingers, for example, so why not have a go?

Sue Thurston, Show Committee member

## ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE

There are two half-allotments now vacant, if anyone would like to rent one of these half-allotments at £5.00 per year please write to the Parish Clerk at 88, High Street, Balsham, CB21 4EP T:01223 665260, email: [j.richards597@btinternet.com](mailto:j.richards597@btinternet.com) or contact one of your Parish Councillors. Water is available subject to a separate fee to the Village Hall.



## West Wickham Church Fete

at Manor Farm  
1pm on  
Saturday 1 September

Raffle Tombola  
Books Toys Bric a Brac  
Produce Teas Lucky Dip  
Bowling for the Pig  
Childrens Races and Games  
BBQ and Bar

Please turn out your cupboards for good  
Bric a Brac, Books, bottles for the  
Tombola Stall and Raffle Prizes.  
All items can be delivered to Manor Farm  
and left at the gate or in the post box.

### CHURCH FETE CAKE SALE

The church will be holding its village fete on Saturday 1 September. This year, we have been asked to organise the cake stall so are appealing for your help.

In previous years, the cake stall has always been generously supported by contributions from many of the local residents so we are again asking for offers of edible donations: big cakes, cupcakes, breads, biscuits, scones, tarts, pies, pastries – anything goes. All offers gratefully received, whether bought or homemade.

It would be really useful for us to be able to have some idea of what contributions will be donated so that we can plan ahead. If you will be able to support this worthwhile event with a donation, please drop us an email to [davidjsargeant@googlemail.com](mailto:davidjsargeant@googlemail.com)

We would be available to collect baked goods on Friday 31 August if requested. On the day, donations can be dropped off at 17 Burton End before 12:00 or delivered to the fete at Manor Farm at 1:00pm.

Thank you for your support.

David and Amy Sargeant. T: 290048

### RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED FOR CHURCH FETE

Whilst this is an early request, in the run up to the Church Fete on Saturday 1 September we will all hopefully be enjoying the children's long summer holiday and trips out. Before we know it, the Fete will be upon us. Please will you consider donating something as a raffle prize, no matter how big or small? Perhaps you have something in the cupboard for which you have never found a special use but which would be just the ticket? If you are unable to drop it round to us, don't worry, just contact us and we will collect it! Many thanks in anticipation.

Godfrey and Jenny Dutton.  
Walnut Tree Cottage, 41a Streetly End. T: 01223 890536,  
E-Mail: [duttonmail@sky.com](mailto:duttonmail@sky.com)

### CHURCH FETE

#### PLANTS, PRODUCE & PRESERVES NEEDED

If you have any of the above that you can spare for our stall at the Fete we would be very grateful. It would be helpful if you could drop them in to us in advance but, of course, on the day will be fine.

Janet & Andrew Morris, 21 High Street T 290863

#### HUB NIGHT.

For those of you who didn't make the Midsummer Special HUB night, you missed a great evening. The BBQ was superb as usual, thanks guys, we had a new helper in the bar, thanks Ben and the music, Vic and the Vagues was fantastic. Thanks too to Ella and Isaac for designing the posters. It all ended with a rather splendid 'mackerel' sky sunset. Great fun.

West Wickham has been asked to contribute to the local Parish Nurse scheme, relevant to us all, so that was our chosen charity of June.

#### THERE WILL BE NO HUB NIGHT IN AUGUST.

Di Licence

#### DAISY CHAINS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Many, many thanks to everybody who attended our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary party at the Hall on 16 June. We had a wonderful time and were refreshed with tea and cakes (baked by marvellous Daisy Chain volunteers). The event culminated in the cutting of a celebratory cake by Jane Scheuer who was the instigator in setting up the original playgroup back in 1978.

On behalf of the Daisychains Committee I would also like to thank the Village Hall Committee for waiving the Hall rental fee as it was not a paying/fundraising event and was purely held for the benefit of the community.

We hope that you all enjoyed yourselves and are looking forward to the next forty years of the preschool!!!

Sue Harrow

Thank you to all the Pre-school staff who made the 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations such a lovely event. It was good to see old friends, eat cake and chat, but best of all to look at all the photograph albums and try to remember the names of previous staff and children. It was a lovely afternoon.

Di Licence

#### FAKE EMAILS ARE AFTER YOUR AMAZON LOGIN DETAILS

We've had an increased number of reports about these fake emails purporting to be from Amazon. The subject line and content of the emails vary, but they all contain links leading to phishing websites designed to steal your Amazon login details.

**Always question unsolicited requests for your personal or financial information in case it's a scam. Never automatically click on a link in an unexpected email or text.**

Action Fraud (Action Fraud, Administrator, National)

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

On Monday 21 May the Parish Council met and these are items which were discussed and decisions made.

**Parish Council Election:** As there were only six nominees the election was uncontested. David Sargeant was welcomed onto the Council as the sixth member. There is a vacancy for one Councillor; this has been advertised but so far no one has come forward.

*Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman:* Cllr. Charlton was elected as Chairman and Cllr. Cornish as Vice Chairman.

*Appointment of two councillors to represent the Parish Council on the VHMC:* Cllrs. Licence and Schuilenburg were happy to continue in this role.

**Matters arising:**

1. *Dean Road junction:* No further update as the County Council Highways Dept was not represented at the combined Parishes meeting. Cllr. Grieve complained about the large sign put up for the Point to Point which seriously obscured vision and requested this be mentioned at the next Combined Parishes meeting.
2. *Allotment vacancies:* These will be advertised on the website and in the Village Voice. (Ed. See page 1).
3. *Possible new room added to Village Hall:* Cllr. Cornish has received a quote of £150 per sq. ft., approx.. price £45,000. It was agreed that further investigations were needed to establish the demand for extra meeting space.

**Finance:** An Exemption form showing that the accounts receipts and expenditure was less than £25,000 for the year was signed. An internal audit is still required and the necessary Statement of Governance & Statement of Accounts were read out by the Chairman and agreed and signed by the Chairman and the Parish Clerk. Copies of these documents were available at the meeting.

**Authorised payments:** Please see the draft minutes on the website & notice board giving details. The £5,500 1<sup>st</sup> tranche of the Precept had been received.

**Parish Nurse Project:** It was agreed to contribute £250.00 towards this project, which works alongside the Mobile Warden Scheme. This will be reviewed annually. It was also agreed that the telephone number for the Parish Nurse

should go into the Village Voice and on the website on a regular basis.

**A1307** Georgina Magin reported that the Strategic report had been released which needed to be looked at and discussed. Suffolk County Council and the Chamber of Commerce had been asked through the Freedom of Information Act to give details of their plans for a new road. It was agreed that there needed to be more transparency regarding communications between Cambs County Council and Suffolk County Council and their wish to spend public money on another survey. Cllr. Batchelor said he would look into this. Cllrs. Schuilenburg & Charlton will attend the Transport Meeting on 6 June. (Ed. See separate article on page 4)

**Maintenance:**

1. *Footpaths* – No. 1 has been reinstated but there are complaints about the condition of No. 3 going down to Mill Lane. However Cllrs. Cornish and Charlton had walked this and found it satisfactory.
2. *Replacement noticeboards:* It was agreed to buy two new noticeboards, one to be erected in Streetly End and one below the Village Hall. Cllr. Cornish will organise this.

**Neighbourhood Plan:** The Chairman thanked Trevor Hall for the immense amount of work he had put into this project over the past two years and also thanked him for his invaluable work as a Councillor.

**Traffic issues:**

1. *Speed Watch:* It was reported by Simon Blackwell that on average 30% of cars are driven over 30mph in the village. (Ed. This seems to be contradicted by the figures in the chart below!)
2. *Speed Indicators:* There are now all in place and working well. Streetly End appears to be a bit of a “hot spot” re speeding.

**Reports by County Cllr. Batchelor & District Cllr. Harvey:** These reports can be found on the village website.

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk.

T: 01223 665260, Email: parish.clerk@westwickham.org

## SPEED SIGN RESULTS

The mobile vehicle activated sign was used in Streetly End and West Wickham High Street for the two weeks between 25 June and 5 July. A summary of the data recorded by the sign at the three locations is given below.

The main area of concern is Streetly End where excessive speed is seen to be common during morning and evening rush hours. Horseheath is experiencing something similar and it would appear to be traffic avoiding the A1307 between Haverhill and the A11. The full results in Excel spreadsheet format may be found on the Village website.

Trevor Hall

Period	Location	Total number of vehicles	Number exceeding 35 mph	Percentage speeding	Maximum Speed recorded	Number of vehicles per day
25/6 to 1/7	Streetly End Facing west	3505	477	13.6%	48 (7)	584
1/7 to 5/7	White Gables, High Street Facing West	1086	24	2.2%	43 (2)	271
5/7 to 7/7	Streetly End Facing east	1440	60	4.2%	43 (3)	645

## DUAL CARRIAGEWAY WORKING GROUP UP-DATE

This is an informal group set up following the village meeting in January to track the proposal for a new dual carriageway between Haverhill and the A11 that is being put forward by the A1307 Strategy Board.

The group has been meeting every 6-8 weeks to monitor developments and agree actions. We have written to local councils, environmental authorities and politicians to make our views known, and have been in touch with other interested groups such as Cambridge Connect, Smarter Cambridge Transport and Campaign for Better Transport.

Recently – and after some chasing - the report that proposes the two routes for a new road (called the Pre-strategic Outline Business Case) was finally published; it is available at the web address below. It contains many weaknesses and flaws, not least that it completely ignores the improvements to the current A1307 that seem likely to go ahead under the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) initiative. The Working Group has prepared a response highlighting the main weaknesses in the report, which will be sent to relevant organisations and individuals.

Despite these weaknesses, the A1307 Strategy Board is (we believe) trying to move ahead with the next stage in developing the road, which is producing an Options Appraisal Report. Suffolk County Council has committed £10,000 to this next stage, but we do not know if any other sources of funding have been secured. We have received assurances from Cambridgeshire County Council and the GCP that neither of them will be putting any funds into it, which is encouraging.

Lack of transparency of the A1307 Strategy Board remains a problem. This has been raised with our MP Lucy Fraser, and she has given assurances in a letter to our Parish Council Chair, Patrick Charlton, that the Strategy Board members will make greater effort to engage with the affected Parish Councils. However, there has not yet been any contact from the Strategy Board.

As you may be aware, the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) has published the results of the consultation on the measures it is proposing for the A1307 (available on the GCP website [www.greatercambridge.org.uk](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk) ). Meanwhile James Palmer, the Mayor of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, is pushing his vision for a public transport system between St Neots and Cambridge in the west and between Cambridge and Haverhill in the east, which would be “paid for” by 50,000 new houses in this east-west corridor. He has apparently already had meetings with several interested developers and says money is not a problem.

The dual carriageway threat was discussed with representatives from neighbouring parishes at a recent meeting of the Parishes Liason Forum, and all present expressed their opposition to the concept. The Working Group will continue to follow developments and challenge information as it is released, and to liaise with the Parish Council, who are also following this issue closely.

Pre-Strategic Outline Business Case report available at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/transport-planning/consultations-and-studies/](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/transport-planning/consultations-and-studies/)

If you have any questions or suggestions, please do get in touch.

Georgina Magin, Dual Carriageway Working Group  
E-mail: [newroad@westwickham.org](mailto:newroad@westwickham.org)

## RUNNING GOLD



Thomas Keen has had a brilliantly successful couple of months in athletics. In May, he had the fastest time in the world for U18 mens 3,000m this year (faster than Mo Farah ran at the same age!). Thomas then won the U17 British mile championship in London at the end of May, beating his closest rival by three seconds. In early July, Thomas travelled to Hungary with the GB team for the U18 European Championships, and took the gold medal in the 3,000m. Thomas topped this off by winning the English Schools U19 3,000m on 14 July. Thomas does much of his training on the local footpaths so you're quite likely to see him out pounding the trails around the village. Many congratulations Thomas for these truly fantastic achievements - keep up the hard work!

Georgina Magin

## 1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

We have now finished for the summer holidays and said goodbye to Katie, Sunny, Megan, Poppy, Ella and Emily who are all now 11 and will be too old for Brownies. I know that Megan will be moving up to Guides but the others have still to decide. We will hopefully have at least three new Brownies in September but we do have space for more.

We have been busy this term half-term. We finished off the Royal Wedding badge and received a reply from their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Sussex for the wedding card we sent them. We were very excited when I took the envelope to Brownies. We had a great time at the District Strawberry Evening and on our last meeting played water games. I think the Brownies liked making Laurene wet the best.

We are a small group of Brownies and would welcome any new girls joining our merry band so if you have a daughter who would be interested in joining us please register her at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/) or if you would like more information on what we do or would like to help us with a special skill you may have then please drop us an email.

Pauline, Katie, and Laurené. E: [brownies@horseheath.info](mailto:brownies@horseheath.info)

## LOST CAT

My long-haired blue/grey green eyed female cat, Tara has been missing from Thoresby, Weston Colville for several weeks and I am distraught. She is over 8 years old, very shy and may not be able to fend for herself. Please can anyone seeing her or knowing of her whereabouts please let me know.  
My thanks, Margaretha Galt 01223 290726

## FROM THE VICARAGE

What an amazing World Cup it's been. So many exciting and unexpected results and so much drama! We enjoyed a thrilling run by the England team, who were rewarded with an unexpected semi-final place. Then there was the entirely unforeseen transformation of the England manager, Gareth Southgate, into a fashion icon!

It's also been fascinating to hear the experiences of those who travelled to Russia during the tournament. With a background of international tension and prior clashes between English and Russian fans, many feared it would be a dangerous and inhospitable place. Fans and journalists alike, however, found their pre-conceptions dismantled, encountering a warm welcome from many and a rich and varied culture.

This tournament, then, has been enthralling partly because of its unpredictability; its power to surprise and amaze. Yet we can find ourselves, in other areas of our lives, trying to eliminate risk and unpredictability as much as possible. I'm sure I've often allowed my decisions to be shaped by fears or sought refuge in a settled viewpoint, perhaps because I feel more secure that way.

The Christian faith, however, has always said following Christ is a risky business; it is certain to take us out of our comfort zone. One of my first books on the Christian faith was called *God of Surprises* by a Jesuit priest, Gerard Hughes. It suggests we may often be formed by our fears and hold onto pre-conceived ideas about other people and God which aren't helpful. By deepening our prayer life and letting go of our fears, however, these false images and insecurities may gradually dissipate. This in turn draws us into a richer experience of life and of God's activity.

Most of us, at times, take refuge in our fixed ideas or are worried by uncertain futures. We can, however, find joy and richness in the unpredictable and surprising nature of life, and experience more of what the Gospel of John calls, 'life in all its fullness'. We may also trust that God will be our guide on this journey and lead us more deeply into his Kingdom.

Revd Iain McColl

### **VOLUNTEER PARISH NURSE VACANCY PART TIME**

Nursing in the community- connecting with the health needs of local people.

We are looking to employ a volunteer Registered Nurse to work with the Parish Nurse and our ministry team in partnership with the local NHS Medical Practice at Sawston and Linton. Providing a nursing service that integrates spiritual, physical, psychological, emotional and social health to the local community, regardless of their faith.

Hours to be agreed.

Applicants must be willing to undertake the Parish Nursing Ministry UK training 15-18 October in Birmingham.

For an application pack and full job description email [7churches.seven@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.seven@gmail.com).

Closing date for applications Friday 31 August. Interviews w/c 17 September. Appointment to commence 15 October.

## GARDENING CLUBS SUMMER OUTING

On 15 July members of Balsham Horticultural Society joined the West Wickham Gardening Club for a coach trip on a very hot & sunny Sunday for a day out.

Our first stop was 'The Place for Plants' at East Bergholt, a specialist plant centre & family run garden. Rupert & Sara Eley now run the garden, which was begun at the turn of the twentieth century by Rupert's great grandfather Charles Eley. Sara met us on the coach & gave a brief history. It has over 6000 plants, an arboretum with some unusual trees and a Victorian walled garden which currently houses the plant centre. We meandered through the shade of the woodland walk & saw the beautiful hydrangeas. The garden is open from the 1 March until the 30 September.

After much needed refreshments at the café we travelled on to the RHS gardens at Hyde Hall near Chelmsford, where we spent the afternoon. This is a wonderful garden with splendid panoramic views over the Essex countryside. The dry garden was performing well in the extreme heat and showed what can be achieved in these conditions. The Hill Top garden was a picture and the central lawn had obviously been well watered. The rose & lavender gardens were still blooming & the herbaceous borders were looking a treat. The area was complete with a pond with formal & informal landscaping. We were fortunate to see the gardens peppered with a large sculptural exhibition, which finishes at the end of July. There is a lot to see at these gardens and with a café & restaurant, plant centre and the delightful RHS shop, it makes for a good day out. We could not resist some purchases before hot & tired, we joined the comfort of the air-conditioned coach for our journey home.

Thank you to the West Wickham Gardening Club for organizing this outing.

Hazel Leeson. Balsham Horticultural Society

### **GRANTA MEDICAL PRACTICES CONTINUE TO GROW**

We are very pleased to announce that on 1 July Shelford Medical Practice merged with Granta Medical Practices. Once the computer systems merge (scheduled for the beginning of September), all Granta patients can take advantage of the benefits that come with the addition of another practice, including a wider choice of appointments and another choice of venue. This final merger makes Granta complete and now fit to become a Primary Care Home, with all the benefits we know this will bring to our patients.

We welcome the Shelford staff and patients and look forward to continually improving health care for all of our patients.

Thank you for your understanding and patience in this transitional period.

#### **Flu Clinics Update**

We are currently finalising the details of our flu clinics. The dates will be published in the next newsletter, and will be on our website shortly.

Sandra East, Granta Communications  
T: 01223 843661 / 01223 727555,  
Email: [Sandra.east@nhs.net](mailto:Sandra.east@nhs.net)

## NATURE NOTES

Two months without nature notes and two months without rain. Even if we have a downpour when this is published, I assure you that the two are not linked. Neither nature nor people can do anything about the weather and wildlife doesn't have access to watering cans or hoses so creatures and plants have to adapt or suffer.

Butterflies do need water but so far this summer seems to have suited them really well. The most common species - the meadow brown, the ringlet, the gatekeeper and all the whites seem to have been prolific, the brimstones have produced a second brood and the more colourful red admirals, small tortoiseshells, commas and peacocks have also made an appearance. I am now on the lookout for the blues and skippers, which should be emerging shortly. Chalkhill blues and marbled whites should be flying on the Devil's Dyke now. The Big Butterfly count takes place between 20 July and 12 August. Details can be found on the internet at <https://www.bigbutterflycount.org>.

Earlier in the year you may have noted on the hedgerow



alongside the Balsham to Linton road a large area of what looked like giant spiders' webs which appeared to have killed off the hedge. Andrew spotted it, took photographs of the small caterpillars and concluded that it was the work of the small ermine moth. The hedge is now recovering. I have seen this phenomenon before on the

Roman Road where this year Di and Steve counted six common species of butterfly feasting on the abundant wild flowers, which I'm sure were also appreciated by moths.

Other insects have also been enjoying the fine weather. Bees and wasps have been making nests but some have suffered disturbance - Di's wasp's nest the size of a golf ball hidden in her compost heap, containing fat, white wriggly grubs, and our bees' nest in a bag of compost, which happily has relocated to a nearby nest box. Another bees' nest was disturbed while trying to grub up some blackthorn, but this one remains in situ. It's always good to see dragonflies and Di had a four-spot chaser visit their conservatory. Unfortunately our pond has completely dried up, which is not good news for all the insects who use it.

## HOT WEATHER ADVICE FOR DOG OWNERS

The extraordinary heat of summer 2018 is set to continue, but we're offering words of advice to dog owners. As the temperature in the region is set to rise above 40 degrees, we have to think about how the heat is affecting our furry friends. A little-known fact about dogs is - they can't sweat. The few sweat glands that they do have are usually found on the pads of their paws. Those paws can easily be burned on hot concrete. The only way your dog can expel heat is by panting. For long haired dogs, the hot weather can be particularly dangerous.

Sgt Neil Lavender of the Beds, Cambs & Herts Police dog unit is offering some very important advice "Your dog will still need exercise and want to go out - but you should choose to do it early in the morning or in the late evening when the temperature has fallen. We are still observing dog walkers taking their best friends out in the midday sun. This

Di has been noting how the wildflowers have been responding to the weather. In early June she particularly noted a beautiful field of buttercups at Brinkley, another at Rosie Green wood and a combination of ox-eye daisies and buttercups at the crossroads. The hedges were displaying delicately perfumed dog rose, huge creamy heads of elder flowers and the more delicate guelder rose. However, by the end of the month the flower verges were suffering and the late summer flowers like knapweed, marjoram, toadflax and yarrow were all out and beginning to go over.

Di reports lots of mammal stories this month, including the hedgehogs in Sue's garden which she moves from back to front to protect them from the dogs but the hedgehogs keep returning. Always good to hear of live hedgehogs. John tells of two badgers regularly taking the food from his bird feeders, breaking them in the process. Lets hope the badgers don't find the hedgehogs. A male muntjac has been wandering around the wildlife area, unconcerned about Steve and Di cutting the grass.

July is known as the silent month for birds but one birdsong that outlasts the others is the yellowhammer. There seem to be many around this year but sadly I discovered two dead males lying beside my shed one morning, having probably flown into the window. Of course the fledging birds also tend to make a noise and Di, Connie, Sue and Teresa all report on the antics of young blue tits and various versions of successful fledging. A slight worry is that great tits seem to be down in number this year - certainly in comparison to the blue tits. Birds of prey also continue to make their presence felt with buzzards mewing as they drift around on the thermals. Mick reported seeing a sparrowhawk taking a dove which had been perching on the wire and I had to stop the car for a red kite that was collecting a roadkilled rat.

Finally Di reports on watching newly hatched gold baby spiders, which, having thrown out a thread to catch the wind and catch on to something, run along their silken tightrope. She finds it fascinating to watch, despite being an arachnophobe. There has been a recent report that two tarantulas are on the loose, but she and other phobics can be comforted by the fact that they are in Derbyshire. Although how fast can they travel?

If you have any news about nature please contact either [mail@petergrieve.co.uk](mailto:mail@petergrieve.co.uk) or [dianarubylicence@gmail.com](mailto:dianarubylicence@gmail.com)

is a dangerous thing to do and should be avoided. Being left in a car - even with the window open a bit - is a lethal situation for dogs and no responsible dog owner should ever do it. Please don't leave your dog in the car".

Officers continue to attend vehicles where dogs have been left unattended - and regardless of how long for - we won't hesitate to break a window to rescue an animal. Dogs rescued from cars will be handed into the care of the RSPCA and won't be returned to the owner until the question of prosecuting the owner for neglect of the animal, or animal cruelty, has been resolved.

**If you see a dog trapped in a car, do not hesitate to call us to save the animals life.** (Ed. No phone number was given but presumably this would be an emergency so phone 999!)

Lee Hurley PCSO, Cambridgeshire Police

## LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING

The new and exciting programme of Adult Education courses and Saturday workshops at Linton Village College is now available. From September 2018 there will be termly courses running on 4 days a week as well as Saturday workshops throughout the year. So whether you want to learn a new skill such as silver jewellery making, upholstery, pottery, floristry or cake decorating or if you wish to enhance your wellbeing through mindfulness and Tai Chi we have something to offer everyone. Our popular language courses will be continuing as well as a watercolours class and a new art & drawing (all mediums) class. If you love good food then why not try the Indian cookery course for authentic, home-cooked fare.

If you prefer a one-day course then choose from one of the many Saturday workshops, ranging from creative writing, working with mosaics to learning to play blues harmonica. A series of family workshops will allow parents and children to come together and try their hands at cake decorating, flower projects, drawing and pattern design as well as sculpture with a twist. Look out for the Teeth & Tusks: Depicting Danger! workshop.

For a full list of courses and workshops please go to [www.lintonvillagecollegeadultlearning.co.uk](http://www.lintonvillagecollegeadultlearning.co.uk) or call our office on 01223 891233 ext 317 or ext 303. We look forward to welcoming you in September.

## SAWSTON ADULT EDUCATION

We are delighted to be able to offer the local community a new exciting programme for 2018/19. There are many new subjects on offer this year, for example:

Willow Weaving	Flamenco
Drumming	Car Maintenance
Astronomy	Bollywood Dancing
Mandarin for beginners	Handmade chocolates

Plus various cake decorating techniques and craft courses

You will find details of all our courses on our website [www.sawstonadulted.org](http://www.sawstonadulted.org). We are sure you will find something of interest. Please remember to book early to avoid disappointment.

We have some taster sessions on Saturday 8 September 10.00 – 11.00 for which we charge £5 (this is refundable upon enrolment for the same course commencing September). Booking is essential to guarantee your place. Tasters can be booked online using our website. The subjects currently available to try are Creative Art, Mandarin Beginners (10.30-11.30), Spanish Beginners and Tai Chi.

If you wish to make a booking, you can book online using Wisepay via our website. Alternatively there is a booking form on the back of our brochure for completion and return, for either cheque or cash payments. Should you have any difficulties with our online booking system please contact this office on our return.

The Adult Learning team will be available Monday to Friday 9am – 1pm from Tuesday 28 August. Our contact details are 01223 712424 or email [community@sawstonvc.org](mailto:community@sawstonvc.org)

Sue King & Amanda Hoskins, The Adult Education Department

## SUMMER HOLIDAY QUIZ

For all you stay-cationists, here is a list of 10 holiday resorts in England and Wales, more or less cryptically described:

1. Eric (9)
2. German worker in truncated rock (10)
3. Good French is internally correct (8)
4. Dish out the cards (4)
5. Lecture note, reportedly (7)
6. Derby winner, 1969 (8)
7. Not the highest of treetop (9)
8. Has sharp pain inside (8)
9. All return north, Pete's partner on back (9)
10. Nothing uneven follows recycled crabs (10)

Answers by **16 August** to [mail@petergrieve.co.uk](mailto:mail@petergrieve.co.uk) or 29 Burton End.

Peter Grieve

## WESTON COLVILLE CIRCULAR WALK

This month's walk will be Saturday 18 August at 10am. Meet at the Reading Room, BYO lunch, and maybe something to share. Refreshments will be available and all are welcome.

Enquiries: [jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com](mailto:jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com), T: 291475

## BALSHAM CUBS SUMMER CAMP

In May, nine cubs from Balsham spent a weekend camping with the District at Bradfield Combust in Suffolk. Altogether over 350 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and leaders attended the camp, with different programmes planned for each section.

Excitement was mounting as we all arrived at Tattersalls where we boarded coaches to take us to the campsite. The tents had already been erected by leaders and so on arrival the cubs could go directly to find out where to make their bed for the night. Later that evening there was a traditional wide game and supper of Hot Dogs and Hot chocolate and then on to bed where amazingly they were all quiet relatively early. Followed by a nice 5 am start on Saturday morning.

During the day cubs took part in fire lighting and backwoods cooking, chariot making, shooting, and grid references. We started off in blazing sunshine which gradually gave way to the rain that had been forecast. Campfire was scheduled for an expected gap in the rain, but unfortunately, just after it started the rain also started again. A rather soggy experience although the cubs enjoyed all the songs and the fire was keeping us warm. It didn't stop raining all evening, just got worse and worse. A good reason to snuggle down in warm dry tents.

Sunday morning saw dry conditions return. Cubs took part in leather work and a nature walk whilst adults were taking down soggy tents. And then after lunch and a closing ceremony it was back on the coaches to return to Tattersalls.

Cubs is for children from 8 – 10 ½ years old. If you think your child would like to join the adventure please contact Debbie Mower to put them on our waiting list.

T: 01223 894498, orEmail: [debbie.mower@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.mower@gmail.com)

## MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

As this academic year draws to end, it is an opportune time to reflect on another busy, but fulfilling year.

We have much to be proud of again this year. July is always a tense time as we await Key Stage 2 SATS results to be published. We often question whether our philosophy of good quality teaching, alongside a wide, balanced and enriching curriculum, is enough to maintain the standards we have worked so hard for. However, once again, we are pleased to be able to say that results across all Key Stages are above National results, without the need to test the children continuously. Results from our youngest to our eldest children are worth sharing. 76% of our youngest children in Early Years achieved their 'good level of development' compared to 71% nationally. 95% of our Year 1 children passed their phonics screening, compared to 82% nationally and Key Stage 1 results for reading, writing and maths are 72%, compared to 65% nationally. The Year 6 children have once again excelled themselves, with 73% of children achieving the 'expected' standard in Reading, Writing and Maths, compared to 64% nationally. It is also well worth mentioning, that these results have been achieved despite the ever increasing standards set by the government, pressures on schools to achieve, budget cuts and moving goal posts. We are so proud of the maturity our children show, their love for learning and their constant hard work. We are also enormously thankful to our hard working teachers and teaching assistants, who enable this learning to happen and to our parent community who support us in this work.

The Year 5 and 6 production is always a good testament to the quality of our wider curriculum, and this year was no different. After weeks of hard work learning songs, memorising lines, erecting scenery and rehearsing dances, the Year 5 and 6 children delighted us all with 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies!' Their performance to the whole school had even the youngest children in fits of giggles with some of their jokes and the performances to their adult audiences went exceptionally well. It is certainly not an exaggeration to say that it was one of the best productions I can remember since being at the school. Tears of laughter and pride were seen in the audience as the children performed with confidence, humour and some exceptional acting and singing talent. We hope that many of these Year 6 will go on to further acting at Linton Village College.

The gorgeous weather this summer has been perfect for our sporting fixtures. Key Stage 2 have participated in Kwik Cricket tournaments, Tag Rugby and even Cross-country running. Each time a team from The Meadow has headed out to play, we have been confident that they will participate fully and with a great team spirit. It is always a pleasure to take young and enthusiastic sports boys and girls to tournaments; and this year has been no exception. We look forward to a new set of tournaments in the Autumn.

As we bid our Year 6 a fond farewell, we look forward to our new arrivals joining us in September. They have already spent time getting to know the school and their teachers and we are confident that the start to their formal education will be really positive. We don't promise that their time in school will be easy, but we do promise that they will be joining a school with a firm ethos of good quality teaching, an enriching curriculum and plenty of opportunities to grow to love learning.

Nicola Connor, Head Teacher.

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**Parish Nurse:** Claire Gillett, T:07498994205

email:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com

**Community Warden:** Karen Williams, T: 07717871832

## LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

At Linton Village College we have been busy preparing for the launch of a new House structure that comes into place at the start of the next academic year. The naming process has been led through students' suggestions with the most popular being linked to space exploration. The winning names are space shuttle craft and also relate to our Linton Learner values: Endeavour, Discovery, Pioneer and Voyager.

The group of Year 11 students currently trekking in Peru and completing volunteer work as part of a Camps International trip are an embodiment of these attributes. Successfully fundraising £4k each and preparing for this extensive month-long voyage away from home has certainly exemplified their independence and responsibility.

At LVC we also witnessed a great deal of student-led initiative at our first 'Live Lounge' event. Musicians performed a range of contemporary pieces in the Year 11 garden and showed a huge amount of skill in this venture. We have also ended the term by acknowledging the large number of students that have exhibited exemplary learning behaviours across the academic year through awarding Linton Blue badges and certificates: over a quarter of students across Years 7-10 were recognised.

It was also great to celebrate the achievements of members of the LVC school community at the Cambridge News Education Awards. Two members of staff and two students were short-listed: Miss Hill, Mrs Cooper, Will Humphrey and Charlotte White. Mrs Cooper was awarded Support Staff Member of the Year in recognition of her fabulous work in supporting vulnerable students and Will Humphrey Young Sports Personality of the Year for his commitment and successes in horse racing.

The end of the summer term also marks a sad time when we say goodbye to valued and respected colleagues that have contributed a significant amount to the school community. Five particular members of staff deserve special mention for their commitment to the College: Mrs Jebb, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Omand-Lewis, Mr Charlesworth and Ms Stamper. We wish them well for the future and thank them for the significant contribution that they have made to the College over almost eighty years between them.

Helena Marsh, Principal

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