

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

**DECEMBER 2018**

**ISSUE 187**

## VILLAGE DIARY

- Sun 2 United parishes service. 10.45, Balsham Church
- Mon 3 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 5 Carpet Bowls Club
- Sat 8 **Balsham Christmas Market. 2 - 4pm. See page 3**
- Sun 9 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 10 Blue & green wheeled bin collection  
**Local History Club Christmas Social. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Wed 12 Deadline for items to be included in the January Village Voice**  
Carpet Bowls Club
- Sat 15 Balsham Singers Christmas concert. 7.30pm, Balsham Church. See page 1
- Sun 16 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 17 Black wheeled bin collection  
**Gardening Club. Christmas decorations & traditions on a Hungarian theme. Demonstration by Zsuzsanna Serer of Spicotic Plants, Newport. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Wed 19 **CAROL SINGING, see page 1**
- Sat 22 **HUB NIGHT. 7 - 11pm, Village Hall**
- Sun 23 Candlelit service of 9 lessons & carols. 3pm, Hildersham Church
- Mon 24 Blue wheeled bin only collection  
**Carol Service. 6pm, St Mary's Church**
- Tue 25 **HAPPY CHRISTMAS**  
Holy Communion & carols. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Sun 30 Holy Communion. 10.45, Balsham Church
- Mon 31 Black wheeled bin collection

**Daisy Chains Pre-School meets Monday & Wednesday 9.30 - 12.30**

**Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 - 2.30 (includes lunch club) in the 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 £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 Georgina Magin**  
Email: [bookings@westwickham.org](mailto:bookings@westwickham.org)  
visit [www.westwickham.org](http://www.westwickham.org)

## CALLING ALL CAROL SINGERS!

Please come out carol singing around the village on **Wednesday 19 December, meeting at Manor Farm at 6.00pm.** Everyone is very welcome, it's great fun and an excellent way to get in the Christmas spirit. As usual we will be collecting for Age UK, which funds the Community Warden, who provides invaluable support to several members of the village.



If anyone would consider providing a very brief refreshment stop for the carol singers, that would be really wonderful – it's a long way through the village on a cold evening and a short break is always very much appreciated. Please call me on 290972 if you might be able to offer this.

Look forward to seeing lots of you on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Georgina Magin

## BALSHAM SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This is on Saturday 15 December at 7.30. in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham. The programme is a mix of seasonal and secular music with something for everyone to enjoy. What better way to start Christmas? Tickets costing £10 can be purchased from Balsham and Abington Post Offices and from members of the choir. For more information contact me on 01223 891141.

Lesley Crisp.

## HARE COURsing

There have been several reports of hare coursing recently in this area, in Balsham, West Wrattling and in the fields between this village and Balsham. Please report anything suspicious you see to the Cambridgeshire Police Rural Crime Team (RCAT), Police Force Headquarters, Huntingdon. Email: [RCAT@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:RCAT@cambs.pnn.police.uk) or phone 101 or 999 if you see it happening.

## NEXT MONTH'S VILLAGE VOICE

Please note; to help us get the January edition printed before our printers close for the Christmas / New Year break we need to have the items you wish to be included a few days early. **The deadline is WEDNESDAY 12 DECEMBER.**

Sue & Andrew

**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.**

## FROM THE VICARAGE

As December sweeps in with a fanfare of Christmas cards, carols, mince pies and mulled wine, diaries may be swiftly filled with festive occasions. As I look at my calendar I see a multitude of Christmas activities for our children, christingles and carol services in abundance, and carefully planned gatherings of friends and family. It suggests a whirligig of busy activity.

Yet, as calendars on walls, wreaths on doors and candles in homes and churches might remind us, December is also the time of Advent, an ancient season focused on waiting for Christmas. In an age of instant messaging, four weeks dedicated to waiting may seem incongruous. Yet perhaps this underlines its importance. Rather than rushing ahead to begin Christmas early, it encourages us to savour this time and prepare ourselves well to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Advent, then, may challenge an often frenetic pace in life. It seems to say: pause; notice; give thanks. It suggests, as R. S. Thomas put it in his famous poem '*Kneeling*', that: 'the meaning is in the waiting', and prompts us to live with attentive gratitude in the present, not always striving for the next goal.

Advent is also a time when we are encouraged to recognise signs of God in our midst. When we are invited to recall that Jesus showed us God who is deeply involved with our world: creating, liberating, healing, raising from the dead and saving. In re-encountering the story of the birth of Jesus, we may be attentive to the presence of the risen Christ in our lives today.

As we then light candles, re-visit favourite carols, and share festive occasions, we also have the opportunity to pause and wait; to notice all that is good and sacred in our lives, and practice living with prayerful thanksgiving. For Advent beckons us into the depths of life and points towards the presence of the one who is *Emmanuel*, God with us.

Revd Iain McColl

## NEW BOOKING SECRETARY FOR VILLAGE HALL

The Committee are delighted that Georgina Magin has agreed to become the new Booking Secretary for the Village Hall. The Committee would like to thank Louise Salter for her years of hard work and dedication to the role.

To book the Village Hall:

email [bookings@westwickham.org](mailto:bookings@westwickham.org) or visit [www.westwickham.org](http://www.westwickham.org) or if you're not on line contact Georgina directly on 01223 290972.

The Village Hall Committee

## END OF YEAR UPDATE FROM LUCY FRAZER MP

As Christmas approaches and we near the end of another year, I wanted to reflect on the last 12 months which seem to have flown by once again.

Working with partners across the constituency, from local campaign groups to councillors and the Mayor and Government, I am delighted that projects which I have championed are now reaching fruition. The Ely Bypass, which I helped obtain Government funding for, has now been finalised. After regular meetings with BT and Connecting Cambridgeshire, open meetings with residents and regular phone exchanges, 95% of premises in our constituency now have access to superfast broadband (although I continue to press for full rollout in some of the outstanding 'not-spots'). Also, a free to use, Government backed teacher recruitment website, which I've actively pursued for 3 years, is now being rolled out nationally, having been piloted in Cambridgeshire.

I am proud to have supported a number of successful campaigns; such as helping local commuters regain a pre 9am off peak train service to Cambridge after timetable changes made it 'peak'. At every available opportunity I continue to make representations on behalf of local residents to the A1307 Strategy Board and the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) about concerns relating to the A1307. In the short term, I am keen to see essential safety improvements, proposed as part of the GCP's work stream, delivered as soon as possible. I am also focused on engaging with the A1307 Strategy Board to highlight to them the significant reservations about a new dual carriage way between Haverhill and Cambridge which I know concerns many residents – I will do my utmost to continue to make sure these concerns are heard.

Also ongoing is my commitment to local schools. £6m extra funding over 3 years, owing to the 'Opportunity Areas' status I helped secure for schools in East Cambridgeshire, is now being made available in the form of grants. My parliamentary inter-School debating competition, which encourages students to develop their debating skills, is now in its fifth year. In the last 3 months I have met with all the pupils taking part and this year's final is being judged by Sir Brian Leveson.

I always enjoy meeting constituents, whether welcoming you to Westminster or seeing you at an event, group gathering or surgery. If you would like to arrange a tour of the House of Commons for yourself or a group you belong to, please do send me an email. I am always happy to arrange this and wherever possible I will try to be around to say hello and answer any questions you have.

I am extremely grateful for your ongoing support and will continue to work hard on your behalf in the coming year. If you have anything you wish to raise with me personally or would like to be added to my email newsletter distribution list please email me at [lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk).

To keep up with everything I'm doing on a more frequent basis you can also follow me on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FrazerLucy/or> visit my web page [www.lucyfrazer.org.uk](http://www.lucyfrazer.org.uk)

Wishing you a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Lucy Frazer MP

**COME & JOIN US AT THE**  
**CHRISTMAS**

★ **HUB NIGHT!** ★  
**WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL**

NEXT DATE: **22.12.18** 7PM-11PM



## NATURE NOTES

The seasons are a constant reference point for our nature notes. Depending on the time of year, we know what to expect from the weather, the vegetation and the movements and changing habits of living creatures. We talk about the spectacles of autumn, but 2018 should be remembered as one of the most colourful. The mild temperatures and gentle winds which have followed our warm, dry summer have produced a spectacularly golden autumn to keep our spirits high as winter approaches. Trees and hedges have been clothed in glorious yellows and fiery rust, perfectly captured by the low sunlight.

Di tells me that on a recent walk along the Roman Road from Marks Grave towards the Balsham turn off, there was a magnificent display of berries. Orange spindle berries in their bright pink cases, intense red hips and duller hawthorn berries; blue/black sloes with their greyish tinge and shiny black berries of the buckthorn bush. So there is more to autumn colour than the leaves, and the berries are a welcome food source for the winter thrushes who come to gorge on this feast. Fieldfares and redwings are back now, flying out of the hedges in numbers, like falling leaves, chuckling and chortling.

Something we perhaps don't expect to see this late in the year is the continued flowering of mallow, yarrow and hogweed, all visible on the verges, and to see ox-eye daisies flowering in November is amazing.

Another unexpected autumn sighting, for both Di and me, has been bats flying as late as mid-October. We were both surprised to see them but apparently they can remain active until November provided the night temperature is above the minimum they need, when the insects they feed on are also likely to be flying. Insects, as we know, have declined markedly (when was the last time you needed to clean all those dead bodies off your car windscreen?), but at the end of October many people noticed that lots of ladybirds were coming into their houses. Ladybirds have bred well in the summer and are now seeking somewhere warm to hide out. Unfortunately many of them were the non-native harlequin ladybird which seems to be a threat to our native seven-spots. The question is, do bats eat ladybirds?

Last month I mentioned the BTO tawny owl survey. Di did her own mini owl survey at the Hub Night last month and was told by Joe that he often sees a barn owl when driving to work or out running, and Tom has seen one quartering the field opposite our house. Unfortunately we haven't, but we do hear the occasional little owl and tawny owl. Although we associate the tawny owl with the tu-whit-tu-whoo call, that sound pattern is formed from a contact call: 'ke-wick', answered by a second owl with a 'whoo-oo-oo'. Shakespeare may be partly to blame for the misconception (Love's Labour's Lost), but he does remind us that owls call out on winter nights.

Everyone is seeing red kites now - I had three over my head in the back garden the other day, one of which floated right down so we made eye contact. They have been seen flying very low over Maypole Croft and feeding on road kill near Bottle Hall. I was reminded that in the 1800s, before persecution started, they were a common sight even in London, so their recent revival is a return to how things ought to be - perhaps an optimistic sign among other less encouraging trends.

Peter Grieve, T: 290503, E: [mail@petergrieve.co.uk](mailto:mail@petergrieve.co.uk)  
Di Licence, T: 290434, E: [dianarbylicence@gmail.com](mailto:dianarbylicence@gmail.com)

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - PROGRESS

The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group has been meeting on a monthly basis and making progress on the development of the Plan.

The Character Assessment will soon be going to the printers with the text, maps and photographs agreed upon.

A request for a grant was submitted by West Wickham Parish Council to Locality in October to fund the first of stage activities in developing the Neighbourhood Plan and to cover the cost of the printing the Character Assessment. We received confirmation that a grant of £3991.00 was approved on 8 November.

The grant will allow us to employ Cambridgeshire ACRE to provide guidance on developing the Plan structure. It will also cover costs for printing information boards for a presentation of possible options for policies. These will address residents' proposals obtained in an earlier survey. The presentation will be in the Village Hall and will be used to get feedback for developing the final Plan.

The Grant, to fund the first stage of developing the Plan, will be available until 31 March 2019. It will be necessary for us to apply for a further grant in the next financial year to allow us to write the Plan and submit it for final scrutiny by residents before it goes to South Cambridgeshire District Council and an independent assessor for approval.

The approved Plan will then be subjected to a referendum of residents. If the referendum accepts the Neighbourhood Plan it will become an official planning document supporting the District's Local Plan. Possession of a Neighbourhood Plan will allow the Parish Council access to greater infrastructure funding for the Parish.

Trevor Hall



Saturday 8th December  
2pm to 4pm  
Prince Memorial

**Balsham**  
**Christmas Market**

Unique food and beverage stalls,  
Christmas gifts and decorations,  
Tombola, mulled wine and  
Mince pies



## SPEED SIGN RESULTS

The mobile vehicle activated sign was used in Streetly End and West Wickham High Street for the two weeks between 2 and 14 October. 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.

Trevor Hall

Period	Location	Total number of vehicles	Number exceeding 35 mph	Percentage speeding	Maximum Speed recorded	Number of vehicles per day
2/10 to 7/10	WW Church Facing South	3162	13	0.4%	43 (1)	632
7/10 to 14/10	Streetly End Facing East	4310	211	4.9%	48 (1)	615

### GRANTA MEDICAL SERVICES

**New Telephone Number.** Great News! We've got a new FREEPHONE telephone number 0300 234 5555. You can contact the Linton, Sawston, Barley, Market Hill and Shelford surgeries via this one number and it's free to call from mobile phones and landlines. The individual surgery numbers will continue to work for the next few months.

**Holiday Season Opening Times.** Granta Medical Practices will be open at the following times over the holiday season:

Friday 21 December	open 8am - 6pm
Monday 24 December	open 8am - 6pm
Thursday 27 December	open 8am - 6pm
Friday 28 December	open 8am - 6pm
Monday 31 December	open 8am - 6pm
Wednesday 2 January	open 8am - 6pm

Please go to [www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk](http://www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk) for opening times for our pharmacies, dispensaries and for details about our extended hours.

**Alternative Services.** When your local surgery is closed, there are GP's on call at the Urgent Care Centre based at Addenbrookes Hospital. If you need to be seen by a doctor or nurse, or need advice while your surgery is closed, please call 111. This service operates between 6pm and 8am on weekdays and 24 hours at weekends and on Bank Holidays. It is free to call from mobile phones and landlines. Your condition will be assessed over the phone and if they think you need to be seen by a health professional, they will refer you to the out-of-hours GP service.

**Home Help.** You can treat many minor winter illnesses such as colds and coughs, sore throats, and upset stomachs easily at home. Make sure you are stocked up with winter health essentials such as pain relief (paracetamol), cough and sore throat remedies, a first aid kit, upset stomach treatment, rehydration treatment, and indigestion treatment. Having these winter essentials at hand will save you time and help you to feel better quicker. Our local pharmacist can also offer you advice and guidance on the best treatment for you – and no appointment is needed. Pharmacists are available on most High Streets and in supermarkets with many open evenings and weekends.

**Repeat Prescriptions.** Please ensure you have enough medication to cover the holiday period. Ordering what you need in good time is the most stress-free approach for all, allowing 2 CLEAR working days from making your request to collecting the prescriptions.

Sandra East, Granta Communications Officer

### WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

At our meeting on Monday 19 November we were given a talk by Sean Reid who is the manager of all the gardens and land at National Trust Ickworth. I'm not sure of his exact title but he is responsible for keeping the gardens in their original Italianate style. This is not exactly a copy of those formal Italian gardens that would have been included on a Grand Tour in the 18th and 19th Centuries with their fountains and statuary but a more loose planting of clipped bushes and the occasional splash of colour.

Sean took us through the history of the estate from the early 1700s, from the walled garden and medieval church and the building of the house with its Rotunda up to the present day. At any time of the year you will be able to appreciate the planting; in spring swathes of narcissus, primroses, snowdrops and bluebells; in summer the herbaceous borders and wildflower meadows and on a winter's day the clipped yews and box, possibly covered in frost or snow. For anyone with children there is a magical, cool and dark area called the stumpery with upturned tree roots creating a weird and wonderful garden complete with its own dragon.

Our next meeting is on Monday December 17 when Zsuzanna Serer will tell us about the customs and traditions of a Hungarian Christmas and we will have wine, nibbles and a raffle for 2 Beeches Nursery gift tokens, one for £25 and one for £15. Please come and join us at 7:30 in the Village Hall.

Rosemary Yallop

#### 2019 Spring/Summer Programme

**Monday 21 January.** The art of composting. Talk by Chris Field of Field Compost.

**Monday 18 February.** Groundcover. Talk by Tim Fuller of Plantsman's Preference Nursery, Diss

**Monday 18 March.** Unusual plants. Talk by Colin Ward of Swines Meadow Farm, Nursery, Market Deeping.

**Monday 15 April.** Bulbs galore - spring planting for summer colour. Talk by Matthew Long of Riverside Bulbs, Monks Eleigh.

**Saturday 18 May** **Plant Sale**

**Sunday 23 June.** Coach trip to West Acre Gardens & Nursery and Mannington Hall.

**July** Monday evening visit to a local garden. Details to be confirmed.

**Saturday 24 August.** **Annual Show.** Monday evening talks take place at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

## **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**  
Hours to be agreed.

To work with 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.

Applicants must be willing to undertake the Parish Nursing Ministry UK training 25 – 28 March 2019 in Birmingham.

If you would like to know more about this role please contact the Parish Nurse, Claire Gillett  
7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com

**For an application pack and full job description email**  
7churches.seven@gmail.com

**Closing date for applications Friday 14 December.**

**Interviews - mid January 2019**

**Appointment to commence Monday 1 April 2019**

## **1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES**

We end this term with a Christmas party for the Brownies after enrolling Isla, Niamh and Charlotte into the unit. We have also had fun completing the Jarman Centre 30th Birthday challenge badge.

As well as our Christmas party we have been making Christmas cards, calendars plus tree decorations for the URC church in Castle Camps and All Saints in Horseheath. Our campfire with the Guides was very good if a bit cold but we all enjoyed our S'mores. We also had a great time at the Teddy Bears Picnic Rainbow and Brownie Funday. All the girls decorated a biscuit like a teddy bear, made marshmallow teddy bears and other bear related items. Thank you to Julie and her team in Balsham for organising the afternoon.

We have decided to start the new Programme for all sections in January so over the Christmas break we will be putting our heads together to figure what we need to do. More on this next time.

We will have space for more girls who would like to join, the only thing you need to be is free on a Wednesday and be 7 years old or older. If you are interested please register your daughter 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  
Email: [brownies@horseheath.info](mailto:brownies@horseheath.info)

## **A604 CLUB**

Hello to all, we will be having a Christmas lunch on 5 December. I will be contacting the usual people to see if they are coming. Anyone else who is interested, please call me on 07817633191, to get details. We will be having a bring and share lunch on 16 January and our AGM will be on Wednesday the 6 February.

Denny Pearson

## **GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENTS ON YOUR DOORSTEP**

**Adult Learning at Linton Village College**

Looking for Inspiration for Christmas presents? Want to give your family and friends something different this year? Look no further than Linton Village College where you can buy a place on one of the many Saturday Workshops which will be running on Saturday 9 March at LVC from 10am – 4pm. Cost of each workshop is £40 (some may carry a small additional materials cost).

For the creative we are offering artists' sketchbook (focussing on Spring growth) and felt pictures workshops. For the musical, you can learn how to play blues harmonica (no previous experience required) and for those who enjoy a project we have an upholstery workshop. If you know someone getting married then they will enjoy the wedding flowers workshop.

For those of you wanting to buy something different for the children, why not buy them an experience on a Family Art Workshop on Saturday 9 February 2019. 9.30am – 12.30 – Pattern: how to become a designer. This workshop will explore pattern making and design and will include lots of printing and making ceramic tiles. Bring your apron as it will be inky!

1pm – 4pm – Teeth & Tusks : depicting danger! This workshop will take you on an exploration of dangerous creatures in drawing, printing and clay. Please bring an apron.

To book a workshop or for more inform please email [adult.education@lvc.org](mailto:adult.education@lvc.org) or telephone 01223 891223 Ext 303 or 317. Visit our new website at [www.lintonvillagecollegeadultlearning.co.uk](http://www.lintonvillagecollegeadultlearning.co.uk)

## **WHAT'S ON IN WESTON COLVILLE**

**Cinema Club.** On Wednesday 5 December, the club will show Frank Capra's comedy drama *It's a Wonderful Life*, to get us all ready for Christmas. Then in case you're ready to hear about the New Year, on Wednesday 2 January our film will be *Il Postino*, a gentle heart-warming tale for a winter's evening, set on an island in the Gulf of Naples. Both films will be in the Reading Room 7.30pm. All welcome. Donations. Refreshments available.

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

**Circular Walk** (c5 miles). Our next walk will be on New Year's Day, meeting in the Reading Room at 11am, to give you a little lie in. As always, BYO lunch and maybe something to share back in the Reading Room afterwards. All welcome, refreshments available. Enquiries 291475 [jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com](mailto:jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com)

**Pamper Day.** You're invited to our Pamper Day on Saturday 8 December. Andrea and Emma will be in the Reading Room and are taking bookings for appointments for these treatments from 10am 1pm.

Appointments with Andrea phone 07715 059040. Manicure £28.00 for 30 minutes. Pamper facial £30.00 for 30 minutes. Indian head massage £30.00 for 30 minutes.

Appointments with Emma phone 07581 156302. Head/shoulder/face/hand massage £15.00 for 20 minutes. Hopi ear candling £15.00 for 20 minutes. 10% discount for combined treatments

All treatments will be behind a screen, complementary prosecco with each treatment. All welcome. General Enquiries: 291475 [jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com](mailto:jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com)

## MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

The autumn term has flown by and the Meadow has been a hive of activity. The pace of school life is certainly not slowing down as we approach the festive season.

It is a well-known fact amongst children and staff, that we are not allowed to mention the 'C' word until 1 December. This is rather challenging as we design Christmas cards at the end of October and the Infants start to rehearse for their production from mid-November! The school is greatly anticipating the Christmas nativity 'Lights, Camera, Action'; a take on Strictly Come dancing, complete with judges, dancers and hosts, alongside the usual Christmas historical figures! Although some children will no doubt forget their lines, costumes may malfunction and children will be ill, we just know that parents, teachers and the school community will be very proud of our youngest performers.

This term we have enjoyed a special focus on reading. Mrs Butcher and the teachers have held a reading café for parents. The aim of these has been to help parents understand the importance of reading with their children, equip them with strategies and questions they can ask, and highlight the enjoyment reading for pleasure can bring. Parents enjoyed coming into school to watch a reading lesson, complete a reading activity and enjoy spending time reading with their children. It is always a good reminder to learn of the impact reading can make on a child's life. Statistics show that a child who reads for 20 minutes a day is likely to be in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile, and that reading to a child every day puts them a year ahead of their peers who are not read to. We are very grateful to the parents and members of the community who come in to hear our children read. However, we can always use more help! If you feel like you could spare an hour to come and support this vital work, then please do get in touch via the school office. We have no requirements other than enthusiasm for reading!

Reading with children is not the only way you can serve our school community. The school governing body is currently looking for a governor with some finance background. This is a vital role in helping support the school in its improvement. If you feel that you can spare the odd hour for a meeting, and become involved in working alongside our existing governing body, then please do get in touch.

Back in November, we took time to remember the centenary of World War One. Our outdoor assembly took time to reflect on the meaning of Remembrance and holding one minute silence as the clock struck 11am. The children are always remarkably respectful during this time, wearing their poppies proudly and thinking of how fortunate we are to live in a time of peace.

A week later it was 'Children in Need', coinciding with Anti-Bullying Week. The school marked this with a collection for 'Children in Need' as well as the wearing of odd socks to recognise the importance of diversity amongst our school community. As a school, we take time regularly to discuss friendships, positive relationships and how we deal with conflict amongst us. However, it is important to take dedicated time to discuss what bullying is, and the need for children in our school to appreciate each other's uniqueness, in the hope that this will prevent bullying in later life.

Helen Loe, Assistant Head Teacher

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**Parish Nurse:** Claire Gillett, T:07498994205  
Mobile: 0749 899 4205  
email:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com  
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday unless otherwise stated on her mobile phone. This is NOT a 24hr monitored service.  
**Community Warden:** Karen Williams, T: 07717871832  
**Helping Hands:** 07399 263222

## LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

November marked an important anniversary of remembrance. The playing of The Last Post from the College roof was a poignant moment and two LVC students contributed to the Armistice church service at Linton.

The month has also marked other events in which to focus on being reflective and caring with Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need fundraising. Students wore odd socks and Pudsey ears to support charitable causes and raise awareness of children's welfare and wellbeing.

It's also a time when we invite past members of the College back for a presentation evening to celebrate their time at LVC, awarding GCSE certificates and prizes to recognise their achievements. Aside from catching up with past students, it's a lovely opportunity to listen to their tutors speaking fondly about their memories and highlights of their form group, reflecting on time spent together and relationships built. A school reunion for LVC alumni also took place in the school hall – it is great to see past students booking the College for important events.

Bottisham Village College, another one of the early examples of Henry Morris' vision for community education, recently celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Their students visiting LVC for their commemorative 'Project 80'. They explored the similarities in our Art Deco architecture as well as the more modern buildings as they formally opened their new Morris Wing. We featured in the video screened at their anniversary event.

What happens inside school buildings is more important than the buildings themselves. However, Henry Morris believed in the importance of schools' architecture to inspire and support learning. We are fortunate to benefit from some beautiful spaces at LVC. We are also keen to bid for funds to make improvements to dilapidated parts, including ageing mobile classrooms. We are bidding for capital improvement monies from the government to enable us to update and improve our facilities, but need to invest ourselves. If any community members would be able to support with philanthropic financial donations or fundraising to support with this venture then please do get in touch with Mr Darby, Deputy Principal.

Helena Marsh, Principal

## PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 12 December

Editors: Sue Thurston & Andrew Morris  
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