VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

JUNE 2017 ISSUE 170

VILLAGE DIARY

- Sun 4 All ages praise. 9.30, St Mary's Church
- Mon 5 Black wheeled bin collection
- Thur 8 GENERAL ELECTION
 7am 10pm Village Hall
 DON'T FORGET TO VOTE
- Sun 11 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 12 Blue & green wheeled bin collections
 Gardening Club. Visit to Ashdon Hall.
 For details contact Rosemary Yallop.
 T: 01799 584262
- Fri 16 Deadline for items to go in the July edition of the Village Voice

We believe The Meadow School June Revels will be held today but have not received any details!

- Sun 18 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
 GARDENS OPEN. Clover Cottage,
 Streetly End & 25 High Street, West
 Wickham. 11am 5pm. Combined adm
 £4.50, children free. Light refreshments
 at Clover Cottage
- Mon 19 Black wheeled bin collection
- Sat 24 WEST WICKHAM FETE. 1pm, Manor Farm, see page 1
- Sun 25 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 26 Blue & green wheeled bin collections

Daisy Chains Pre-School meets Monday, Wednesday & Friday 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)

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/hou		
-	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

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.



CAKES PLEASE

This is another appeal for contributions to the Church Fete on 24 June. The Cake Ladies, Vivienne & Cynthia, are hoping that you will support us, as you have done so magnificently in the past. We have some really expert bakers in the village. The things you come up with are always a surprise and a delight. Big cakes, small cakes, buns, scones, biscuits, tray bakes, pastries whatever you like. We will be so grateful for anything you are willing to bake for us. To those of you who don't bake or have no time to do so, we assure you that it doesn't have to be home made. A shop bought cake will be equally welcome.

One more thing - we are not only appealing to the ladies. We know that there are gentlemen out there who make lovely cakes. We also know who you are!!

PLEASE SUPPORT US

Vivienne Henderson. T: 290243 & Cynthia Swadling. T: 290324

VILLAGE 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

There will NOT be a Hub Night in June. Instead come along and enjoy the beer tent at the Fete on Saturday 24 June at Manor Farm. The next Hub Night will be on Saturday 22 July.

FROM THE VICARAGE

I am pleased to say that the advert has gone out for a new person to be in charge of our 6 parishes with interviews planned for 19 June. We are hoping that this will bring the right candidate to lead us into the next phase of our journey together in these communities.

On 23 April we had the St. George's Day celebration service at Balsham. There is a new scout hut under construction (see below) and I hope before long to give it a blessing. There is also a new Beaver group which meets on Tuesday evenings which is very exciting. The reason I am saying this is because Radio 4 did a piece about the Scout movement saying that there are many children who would like to join but cannot because there is a lack of leaders. Those who do join benefit enormously from the experience of learning to adapt to our busy world with principles and fun together. Can you offer some time to support young people?

The roof at West Wratting church is virtually finished, with just the painting of the walls to complete the work.

There are many activities in the churches and villages planned for June so I hope to see you then.

Revd Kathy Bishop





The new Scout hut is up!!
But we need your help to finish it.

Local tradesmen wanted!

Partitions to build, doors to hang, WC and kitchen fit out!

Donations of time gratefully received.

If you think you can help come have a chat with us at the Scout hut on our...

Open Morning

24th of June 10 am - 12 pm

FREE bacon butties, tea and coffee available.

BROADBAND

Our local MP, Lucy Frazer, and the Minister of State for Digital and Culture, Matthew Hancock, met with me, Patrick Charlton and representatives of the village as well as surrounding villages at West Wickham Village Hall on Thursday 20 April. The meeting was to provide a Q&A forum regarding broadband and mobile phone coverage in the region, as well as mark the progress made in improving broadband connections in the region and to thank both Lucy Frazer and Connecting Cambridgeshire for their efforts.

This progress was celebrated with a good turnout of



residents for a community photograph alongside one of the new Superfast Broadband cabinets. Many thanks again to everyone who made it and for the support and encouragement from everyone over the last couple of years.

Alex Schuilenburg

1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

Thank you to everyone who has donated their Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers to the Brownies. So far we have collected just over 4,500 which is great. Sainsbury's have now stopped issuing the vouchers but we are still collecting them. If you still have any lurking in your purse or wallet, or even sitting on top of the fridge please get them to me ASAP but no later than 15 June so we can pass them on to our coordinator to be counted.

Our Toy Pet Show Red Nose fundraiser was a great success with nearly £50.00 raised. The toys ranged from Phoebe's much loved rabbit to the resplendent white tiger from Sophie which had to be paraded by four Guides.

This term we are working on our Friend to Animals badge and are finding new ways to communicate with each other. We have already tried finding the rest of our 'group' using animal noises, easy you might think not so when you are wearing a blindfold! We also have our annual District Campfire, Brownie Fun Day and Strawberry Evening to look forward to

If you have a daughter who would be interested in joining us please register her at

www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested

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

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

We are very pleased to welcome members of the Stark Raven Theatre Co of Bunbury, Western Australia who will be performing a dramatised version of the Australian diaries of John Ramsden Wollaston who left West Wickham with his family in 1840 for a pioneering life in Western Australia. They will be giving their services freely (as are the Village Hall Committee) and we have decided to donate all proceeds to St Mary's Repair Fund as being particularly appropriate.

Wollaston A Man and A Mission

Adapted by Norm Flynn from the Wollaston diaries With Tony Martin and Sigari Luckwell as John & Mary

Wollaston Saturday 12 August 2pm Village Hall

The performance lasts 80 minutes with no interval and refreshments will be available afterwards.

Tickets £12, concs £10, school age children £5 will be available soon.

For further details contact Janet Morris, 21 High Street T: 290863 Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

Some background details:

JOHN RAMSDEN WOLLASTON PART 1 'CURATE OF THIS PARISH FOR 20 YEARS'

John Ramsden Wollaston was born in 1791 at the Charterhouse in London where both his father, Edward, and maternal grandfather, William Ramsden, were masters. He was the fourth child and first son for Edward and his wife Elizabeth (Betsy). In 1804 Edward succeeded his father-in-law as rector of Balsham. While William had largely been an absentee rector, Edward and his family made Balsham Rectory their home.

John was educated at Charterhouse and then Christ's College, Cambridge. He was ordained in 1815 and in 1816 was appointed curate in Wrotham, Kent, where he met his future wife, Mary Amelia Gledstanes. Mary's life up until then sounds rather like that of a Jane Austin heroine - she was brought up by her step uncle and step aunt in rather genteel circumstances with servants, a carriage and stays in Bath. After their marriage in 1819, John & Mary moved in with his parents in Balsham and their first child (a son) was born while they were there. In 1821 John became curate to the Rev Maule of Horseheath. At this time, the Rev Maule was also being paid to provide services at West Wickham. As he was largely absent, John in effect acted as minister for both parishes. He and Mary moved to a house in Horseheath belonging to the Rev Maule where four more children were born.

The Rev Maule died in 1825 and Lord Hardwicke, patron of the living and major landowner in West Wickham, was asked to make better provision for the parishioners. He settled money from the rent of the farm at Yen Hall, supplemented by money from Queen Anne's Bounty (a fund to help low paid clergy), to establish a perpetual curacy at West Wickham. A perpetual curacy is one where the patron may appoint the minister but not get rid of him, that would be done by the Bishop, and where there is no

house (a vicarage or rectory). Therefore, when John became perpetual curate he and Mary bought the lease of two cottages in Burton End and with financial help from his father they extended it to accommodate their growing family (they had ten children altogether with three dying in infancy). This is the house now known as the Old Vicarage although it never actually belonged to the church.

John was a conscientious minister. It helped that he was resident – something which had not been common in the parish until then. As he said himself, he was not a 'bookish man' and liked to be out and about. The number of services doubled and the congregation increased dramatically. He raised money to build a schoolroom in the churchyard (on the right as you go through the gate) and he and Mary supervised a Sunday School of over 100 children – the only form of education that most would receive. He also organised the village festivities for Queen Victoria's coronation with a supper for 400 people followed by sports, dancing and fireworks.

There seem to be a number of reasons why in 1840, at the age of 50, John and Mary decided to emigrate with their family to the newly established colony of Western Australia. His stipend was low (£90 a year) and there seems to have been no prospect of a better paid living. He often despaired of his 'well-loved but careless parishioners' and the lack of support, as he saw it, of his patron and wanted the challenge of more missionary type work. Perhaps though and above all he was fearful for the future of their sons and concerned with providing them with greater opportunities. By the autumn he had resigned his living and had sold the lease of his house to Lord Hardwicke in the hope it would be used for his successors (it was only used spasmodically as such before the Vicar of West Wratting became responsible for the parish in 1866). Before he left the village his parishioners clubbed together to give him a silver salver as a testimonial and he had a gravestone erected to the north of the church to commemorate his and Mary's three infant daughters who were buried nearby. The family then moved to London to make the final preparations for their journey.

To be continued

Next month Part 2 'Local Saint and Hero'

Janet Morris

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

DIG4 15 & 16 July

We will be opening up test pits in Streetly End and Burton End in a continuation of our project to find out more about the medieval origins of the village. It's not too late to volunteer somewhere in either area for a test pit or to take part in some way – there are plenty of jobs for all ages and abilities from digging to sieving, pot washing to recording.

Please get in touch with me, Janet Morris, on 290863 or at jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com if you can help.

BUS TIMETABLE CHANGES

The times for the 19 bus service changed on 21 May. Regretfully we didn't receive the information until after the May edition of the Village Voice was published. The following are the new times, along with the connecting times for the Stagecoach 13A service to Cambridge. You can change to the 13A bus to go to Haverhill but the 19 bus goes all the way and is, surprisingly, a shorter journey.

To Ca	mbridge	Monda	v to	Friday

West Wickham, White Horse	07.52	09.09	11.39	13.39	16.09
Linton	08.08	09.23	11.53	13.53	16.23
13A. Linton to Cambridge	08.13* 08.18**	09.31	12.01	14.01	16.31
Addenbrookes Hospital	08.35* 08.45**	09.53	12.23	14.23	16.53
Cambridge Bus Stn bay 8	08.50* 09.05**	10.08	12.38	14.38	17.08

^{*:} during school holidays. **: When schools are open.

From Cambridge Monday to Friday

13A. Cambridge Bus Stn Bay 8	09.55 11.55	14.25 17.25*	17.25**	
Addenbrookes Hospital	10.10 12.10	14.40 17.45*	17.45**	
Linton	10.34 12.34	15.04 18.09*	18.14 **change to 19 bus	
19. Linton	10.47 12.47	15.17 18.22	18.22	
West Wickham, White Horse	10.59 12.59	15.29 Request that	it goes to West Wickham	
	*: during school holidays. **: When schools are open.			

To Haverhill Monday to Friday

West Wickham, White Horse	09.09	11.39	13.39	16.09
Linton	09.23	11.53	13.53	16.23
Sainsburys	09.43	12.13	14.13	16.43
Haverhill Bus Stn	09.48	12.18	14.18	16.48

From Haverhill Monday to Friday

Haverhill Bus Stn	10.20	12.20	14.50	17.55
Sainsburys	10.25	12.25	14.55	18.00
Linton	10.47	12.47	15.17	18.22

West Wickham, White Horse 10.59 12.59 15.29 Request that it goes to West Wickham

The 19 Bus service is now run by the Big Green Bus Company. You can contact them on 01440 712712. I would very much like to know if anyone experiences problems with this new service.

Andrew Morris. T: 290863, Email: morrisandrew203@gmail.com

THE PETER & RUTH LLOYD TRUST AWARD

Although later than previously, we are now inviting applications for pupils starting university in September 2017. A scholarship is awarded each year and the amount is approximately £800. Broadly speaking the degree course should be from one of the following: -

Architecture, Engineering, Geography, History, Law, Mathematics, Sciences, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

The applicant must be living in one of the following parishes, Great Thurlow, Little Thurlow, West Wickham, Carlton cum Willingham, West Wratting, Weston Colville and Withersfield.

The award is intended to be of assistance in the purchase of books, materials, equipment etc.

Final decision and award will be made immediately after 'A' Level/Baccalaureate results and University offer are known.

For an application form please apply via email to: peterandruthlloydtrust@yahoo.co.uk

The application form and supporting documents must be returned by 2 July. Candidate interviews will then follow on 19 August

For further information about the Trust and award please contact Jonathan Drury T: 290968.

WHAT'S ON IN WESTON COLVILLE

Pop-Up Charity Shop. We're taught 'ne'er cast clout til May is out' and to that end, next month we're hosting a 'pop up charity shop' in the Reading Room, Saturday 3 June, 10.00am-4.00pm. Bring winter clothes on their way to the back of the wardrobe, bring summer clothes that you don't want to bring to the front – maybe things are still in good condition, but that don't pass the 'have I worn it in the last year?' test. Then go home with a bargain. We'll have a little section for books, and one for toys, too. Drop items, with hangers, if you have any spare, into the Reading Room during Tea & Cakes the day before, or on the day from 9.00am, as you prefer.

In aid of local charities Little Miracles helping children with autism, and Our Special Friends, who help the less able keep their pets with them. All welcome, refreshments available.

Enquiries: jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com 291475

Circular Walk. Our next circular walk will be on Saturday, 8 July. All welcome - meet at the Reading Room at 10.00am, BYO lunch, and maybe something to share. You can put your lunch in the fridge before we set off, if you'd like, and refreshments will be available.

Jacqueline and Alastair Douglas Contact details above.

NATURE NOTES

Last month I promised news of wildlife pictures from Arthur's garden and I'm glad to say we were rewarded with this splendid fox who was obviously not camera shy. Since



then I haven't used the camera, because we were away first in Suffolk listening to nightingales and then in Norfolk with the marsh harriers. I'm hoping for more evidence of nocturnal activity next month. Meanwhile Di has been observing with the naked eye, with interesting results.

'Animal behaviour is always fascinating to watch, particularly when it includes homo sapiens. I love to watch the blue tits building nests, in and out of the box, with moss and spiders' webs, but the other day, having hung a wool cardigan on the line, I wasn't amused to see a blue tit sitting on it, tearing out beakfuls of fluffy fibres. There was more entertainment from the antics of a carrion crow at a local litter bin, pulling out milk cartons and paper bags, littering the ground until finding a nearly empty crisp packet. It flew with this to the ground and proceeded to shake it violently and repeatedly, eating crisp crumbs that fell out. Our nesting robins have now successfully hatched out chicks, and now the male, that used to spend all his days singing on the pergola, is sharing the feeding duties and fills his day to-ing and fro-ing with wiggly things for his

The first West Wickham cuckoo was heard at 5.50 a.m. on May 10th. Can anyone beat that? Several people have heard it since that date - mainly mornings and evenings up to the time of writing. The first cuckoo was traditionally marked by someone writing to The Times, so it's good to see that this tradition is being reproduced at a local level in the Village Voice. Those other harbingers of summer, the swallows, have had some problems reaching England because of the persistent North Easterly wind, although some were seen in April. Now the winds have changed we hope that more have been able to arrive. Two have recently appeared at Burton End and have been showing interest in our garage so we are leaving the door open at night. Swallows bred in there three years ago but not since. Unfortunately our cat is keeping an eye on their activity but hopefully they will be out of reach.

Jasper the cat from Maypole Croft has been concentrating on ground-based prey and brought in a large adult rat recently. Three days later Di's three-year old dog kept leaving presents throughout the morning, on the doormat, of young rats – six in all – possibly the offspring of the same adult. Other mammals spotted this month have been foxes,

muntjac and a group of hares which Andrew was watching when he also spotted a pair of wheatears. It would be nice to think that they might breed in West Wickham.

Finally, I have a conundrum to pose for either chicken or bird experts in the village. Our three hens have not been laying at all for some time but while we were away, Brian discovered a small brownish and slightly speckled egg in the laying box. We have had small eggs in the past, but never of that colour. Red-legged partridges, jackdaws, sparrows, blackbirds and robins have all been seen in the chicken enclosure from time to time but the egg doesn't quite fit any of these. Who is the culprit? We are keeping the egg for the time being so anyone who thinks they may be able to solve the mystery is welcome to inspect.

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

SPOTTED FLYCATCHERS

Do you have this increasingly rare bird breeding in your garden? Participate in our survey!

Last year many Cambridgeshire community parish newsletters, magazines and websites helped with a countywide survey of Spotted Flycatchers. These are attractive little migrant birds which are summer



visitors to village gardens and churchyards. Although they breed with us, they spend ten months of the year travelling between here and their wintering grounds in Southern Africa. This is an increasingly dangerous journey for them, and sadly they are in deep decline. Widespread losses amounted to a 50% decline during 1995-2010, continuing an 90% decline since 1970.

Only some fifty pairs remain breeding in Cambridgeshire, so it's now quite a rare bird, but most rural villages still have a pair or two. The Cambridgeshire Bird Club is again running a survey this year to find and monitor nesting pairs, and it's almost certain that there will be additional pairs in our villages of which we are not aware.

Do you have flycatchers in your garden? Please let the Bird Club know. Please email spofl@cambridgebirdclub.org.uk with any information you have, including records of single birds anytime between now and September. See also www.cambridgebirdclub.org.uk/spofl2017.html for details of the project and how to send in your records.

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Thank you to all who supported our Plant Sale. It was a great success and the money raised will go towards our programme of speakers on Monday evenings. We hope you will join us to enjoy these when our programme starts again in September.

Andrew Morris

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

We look forward to a range of celebratory events at Linton Village College over the coming months.

Having enjoyed Year 11 Leavers' Day at the end of May, including farewell messages and a BBQ, at the end of June we have another opportunity to celebrate with our Year 11 students: the Leavers' Ball. The Ball on Friday 30 June marks the end of the GCSE examination series and the finale of Year 11s time at Linton Village College. It is a great tradition that provides an opportunity for the year group to enjoy an evening together before embarking on the next stage of their lives.

The Ball has become a rite of passage, symbolising students' maturity and independence. This year's theme is Masquerade and promises to be a special and memorable event.

On the following evening, Saturday 1 July, the decorated school hall is the venue for the Friends of LVC's summer fundraising event: The Accelerants Unmasked - Band & Beerfest. It is a great community event involving live music and guest beers from Milton Brewery. We hope that this will be a very well-attended evening. Tickets can be purchased via the Friends' website: www.friendsoflvc.org. Another date for your diaries is 17 September - LVC's birthday celebrations to celebrate 80 years of learning since the College opened in 1937. Further information is available on the LVC80 Facebook page. It would be great if former students can attend; please do share the link with any LVC alumni that you are still in touch with. If anyone is willing to lend memorabilia (photos, records or items of uniform from previous times) we'd love to hear from them via Facebook or lvc80info@gmail.com.

Helena Marsh, Executive Principal

TRAVEL ADVICE

If you are planning to travel abroad please make sure you allow enough time for any vaccinations you may need. You can collect a Travel Risk Assessment Form from Reception or download one from our website (www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk). Fill it in fully and return it to us no later than 5 weeks before you travel.

Once you have completed and returned the form, we will contact you by phone within one week to let you know if you need to attend for an appointment which we would then advise you to book. At your appointment the recommended vaccines or medications will be given and follow-up injections planned. We regret that no traveler will be seen without a completed risk assessment form.

Before your appointment you are advised to go to: www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk Look up the destination you are travelling to, print off the information, read it and bring it with you when you attend your appointment. You can download our Basic Travel Advice Sheet or collect a copy from reception.

For additional information you can visit the following websites: www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk , www.nathnac.org, www.fco.gov.uk/travel

Don't leave it too late: Most vaccinations need to be administered at least 4 weeks before departure and for some risky areas you will need to have injections 3 months before you travel. Getting the risk assessment to us in plenty of time is vital.

Granta Medical Practice

MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

Time flies when you are having fun, and fun we are certainly having! The summer term always brings a mixture of emotions - excitement as the weather is usually better and we can make the most of playtimes and lunchtimes using the field, trepidation and nervousness as the Year 6 children take their SATs tests, sadness as we prepare to say good bye to those same children who in many cases have been with us for 7 years and finally happiness at welcoming all of our new children who are joining in September for their visit days.

A new term means new topics. The Infants are focusing on 'How does your garden grow?' They started their topic with a trip to South Angle Farm to see what life is like on a working farm. They had a great time bottle feeding lambs, holding chicks and tarantulas (Yes! Tarantulas on a farm). They are now busy growing their own flowers and crops back in school and have made a rather lovely scarecrow to help keep the birds away.

Year 3/4/5 have started, 'When in Rome'. They launched this with a trip to Colchester Castle where they learnt all about life as a Roman and also got to visit the Roman Vaults beneath the castle. To add to this they made shields and a marching chant and marched their way through the village and along the Roman Road.

Year 5/6 are working on 'Thrills and Spills'. They started the topic with a building afternoon where they worked together in teams using Knex kits to build a working rollercoaster, pirate ship, carousel and big wheel. They have been studying funfairs and the fairground over the past 200 years. They were genuinely surprised to see the difference in the types of rides and sideshows.

This month we have also welcomed a visit from Lucy Frazer. As Parliament has been dissolved in the run up to the general election Lucy was not an MP when she visited but that didn't stop her answering a range of very tricky questions about her job posed by the Year 6 children. Lucy was very impressed with the behaviour and learning attitudes of the whole school and with the complexity of the work they were doing. She has invited the whole of Year 6 to visit the House of Commons in July, which we are very excited about.

We share photos and news of everything that happens at The Meadow on our twitter page, @Meadow_Balsham. Take a peek!

Nichola Connor, Headteacher

BIG BALSHAM SALE

Garage and Table Top sale throughout Balsham - Sunday 4 June 10am-2pm. Refreshments and maps available from the Church Institute.

PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 16 June

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