

VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

MARCH 2010

ISSUE 84

VILLAGE DIARY

- Tue 2 **Green wheeled bin, recycling & plastic bottle collection**
- Wed 3 Carpet Bowls Club. 7.00pm, Village Hall
- Sat 6 **FARMERS MARKET. 9.30 – 12.30**
Linton Village College
- Sun 7 Holy Communion. 9.30, St Mary's Church
VILLAGE CLEAN UP. Meet at 11.00 at the Village Hall car park
- Mon 8 **Local History Club Annual General Meeting. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Tue 9 **Black wheeled bin collection**
- Wed 10 Carpet Bowls Club. 7.00pm, Village Hall
- Sat 13 Quiz in aid of Balsham Church. 7.00pm for 7.30pm start in the Church Institute, Balsham. See ad on page 2
- Sun 14 **Mothering Sunday Family Communion. 9.30, St Mary's Church**
- Mon 15 **Gardening Club. Mary Delany and her flower collages. Talk by Sylvia Norton. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Tue 16 **Green wheeled bin, recycling & plastic bottle collection**
- Wed 17 Carpet Bowls Club. 7.00pm, Village Hall
- Sun 21 Holy Communion. 9.30, St Mary's Church
- Tue 23 **Black wheeled bin collection**
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
7.30pm, VILLAGE HALL
- Wed 24 Carpet Bowls Club. 7.00pm, Village Hall
- Sun 28 Family Service. 9.30, St Mary's Church
- Tue 30 **Green wheeled bin, recycling & plastic bottle collection**
- Wed 31 Carpet Bowls Club. 7.00pm, Village Hall
- The Pre-School meets Monday to Friday**
9.30 – 12 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 £4.00 per hour.
Meeting Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £4.00 per hour. evening £6.00 per hour.
Main Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £6.00 per hour evening £9.00 per hour.
Complete Hall	day (9.00 – 19.00) £10.00 per hour evening £15.00 per hour
Children's party	£25.00 daytime £36.00 evening
Adult's party/disco	£50.00
Wedding reception	£120.00

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

VILLAGE CLEAN UP

If you would like to help clear up some of the drink cans, plastic bottles, packaging and other unwanted detritus lying on our roadsides, there is to be a village clean up on Sunday 7th March. **Meet at the Village Hall car park at 11 o'clock.** Equipment (gloves, bags and grabbers) is provided by South Cambs DC. The more the merrier, and the bigger the area we can cover. We hope it doesn't snow like last time.

Peter Grieve

NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR MALCOLM CAMERON

I am completely new to local politics and have arrived as a co-opted member of the Parish Council to represent Streetly End. My interest was stimulated by the need to change the speed limit in Streetly End from 40 to 30mph for the benefit of all people but especially the children who have to cross the road to catch the school bus or simply cross to use the footpath. That said, my remit now is much wider and I don't intend to be a "single issue" campaigner!

We have lived here since 2006 when a job change took me to Addenbrooke's. This move represented a return to the area for my wife Lucy who went to school in Clare, so I had a good advisor with "insider knowledge" about south Cambridgeshire and Suffolk. Our three children are all at school locally; the younger two at the Meadow and our oldest at Linton Village College, where they are all very happy.

I do not have any political affiliations, but instead believe common sense and fair play are far more relevant to local issues. I have a strong environmental streak and I'm a firm believer in recycling; I dislike waste and litter of any kind. When it comes to local buildings, I very much enjoy the traditional styles but acknowledge the need and style of new design when it comes to development even in a small parish such as our own. Renovating and adding to properties typically adds value, however, this should not be at the expense of the countryside around us or the many splendid older buildings.

At the weekends, I'm usually found in my garden with our chickens or bees or just pottering about (my wife thinks I live in the compost area!) This is doubtlessly the best time to catch me.

(Ed. Malcolm can be contacted on 01223 894362.)



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.

CHURCH NEWS

Charity giving.

1. Every year we give our Christmas Eve collection to 2 charities. This year we did not decide before Christmas, so our recent PCC meeting was free to choose 2 charitable needs we might not have thought of. We decided to give half to Haiti and half to Headstart4babies in memory of Leo Hughes.

2. We will be making an extra collection for Haiti on Mothering Sunday 14 March at our Family Communion Service at 9.30. If you want to make a donation but can't be there do give it to me, Nicky Cornish or Liz Gold.

3. Nicky Cornish, Liz Gold, Vivienne Henderson and I are also hoping to receive donations, especially of toys, games etc but also cakes for the Deanery Fair on 6 March, 10 – 12.00 at the Memorial Hall in Great Shelford. Please help; we need to raise funds for us.

Business

26 April, 7.30pm in the Church.

- a. Election of Church Wardens.
- b. AGM of the Parochial Church Council.

Anyone on the national register of voters in West Wickham can vote at both meetings and is entitled to vote for (or against) any church warden. I would like to stand down. Any nominees?

Jane Scheuer. Church Warden

ORGANIST WANTED

Not every Sunday and not necessarily every family service either. Any offers would be fun and welcome. Our recently restored organ would itself welcome being played. A pianist with a spirit of adventure might like to have a go! For access and church key please contact Jane Scheuer.

T: 290338

THE 4 PARISHES

HOLY WEEK and EASTER SERVICES

29 MARCH - 4 APRIL 2010

Monday. Balsham. 7.30 pm	Eucharist
Tuesday. West Wrating. 7.30 pm	Eucharist
Wednesday. Weston Collville. 7.30 pm.	Eucharist
Maundy Thursday. West Wickham. 7.30pm.	Eucharist

Good Friday

10.00. Balsham. Reading of the Passion

2.00 - 3.00 pm. West Wrating. The Last Hour

Easter Day

9.30. West Wickham.	Family Eucharist
9.30. Weston Collville.	Family Eucharist
10.30. Balsham	Family Eucharist
10.30. West Wrating.	Family Eucharist.

QUIZ in aid of Balsham Church

Saturday 13 March 2010

in the Church Institute

7.00 pm for 7.30 prompt start

£7.50 to include Raffle

ploughman's supper and glass of wine. Further drinks available

Tickets from Balsham Post Office
or Ruth Ringer. T: 01223 893923

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US

Believe it or not, the Village Voice is now 7 years old. We hope you have continued to enjoy it and found the information useful. However, the Voice would not exist without the contributions from many people and once again we would like to give them all a BIG THANK YOU.

Firstly and very importantly, to the people who devote time & effort to deliver the Voice to your door: Linda Adams, Anita & Jon Debnam, Janet Morris, Jane Scheuer, and Sue Thurston. Secondly, to the many regular contributors – Caroline Derbyshire, Peter Grieve, Jean Martin, Janet Morris, Pauline Newman, Jane Scheuer, Jenny Richards, Rosemary Yallop and Linda Wain. We would welcome regular contributions from other Village & local organisations such as the Village Hall Committee, the Pre-School & the PTAs of the Meadow School and Linton Village College. Maybe these would generate greater interest and involvement in those organisations' activities! Lastly, we must of course not forget the Parish Council who is paying for you to get the Voice free of charge.

We would very much welcome suggestions on how to improve the Voice – is there anything you would like to see included or left out? Regarding the Diary, please don't assume that we will "pick up" information from posters or adverts elsewhere. If you don't give us details of your event or activity we will not be able to include it. We are still disappointed that there have been few "Letters to the Editors". Maybe there aren't any contentious issues you want to express your views on but **don't forget - the Voice is your voice, please don't be reluctant to use it as just that.**

Sue & Andrew

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

West Wickham & District Gardening Club met on Monday 15 February where they enjoyed short talks by four of their members on the subjects:- island beds, polytunnels, raised beds and from bramble patch to garden. We hope that we will hear from more of our members on their gardening experiences, something that gives an informal and friendly atmosphere to the meetings.

Our next talk will be by Sylvia Norton on Mary Delany and her collages on March 15 at 7:30 pm at West Wickham Village Hall. Mrs Delany was a lady recognised during the 18th Century for her many talents, botany and art in particular. I'm sure it will be a most interesting evening non-members will be given a warm welcome - just turn up at 7:15 pm. We hope to see you there.

Rosemary Yallop. Speakers Secretary

ADULT EDUCATION

Linton and Sawston Village Colleges already offer a vibrant range of courses and are looking to expand their programme for 2010/2011. If you would like us to offer anything in particular then please let us know. We would also like to hear from experienced tutors with evening or daytime capacity and anyone who has a specialism they would like to offer to others.

For further details please contact:

Adult Education Office. Sawston Village College.

T: 01223 712424. Email: sking@sawstonvc.org

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The venue for the meeting, held on 26 January, was changed to the church, where the temperature was bracing. Understandably, attendance by people living in the village was low. Hopefully there will be more next time when we will be meeting in a somewhat warmer village hall.

Parish Council vacancy. Three people had expressed interest in being co-opted to the Parish Council. The council felt it was very important that Streetly End was represented and decided to co-opt Malcolm Cameron. As Cllr Cameron is unable to attend meetings on Monday evenings it was agreed to move future meetings to Tuesday evenings.

Streetly End Speed Limit. A meeting had been held with a senior officer of the County Council. Whilst the CC has accepted that the speed limit could be reduced they have not yet consulted the Police. Before they do so a further speed survey will have to be done. The CC has informed the PC that if the Police do not support the reduction then the CC will withdraw its support for it. They have also confirmed they are unable to fund the changes but were still unable to provide a detailed breakdown of the costings. This has left the PC with a difficult decision. £3000 had been raised through the council tax and from reserves in 2009 and a probable further £3000 would be needed. See item on the PC budget. The CC has also informed the PC that any works like this, funded by the PC will have to become an PC responsibility for the funding of future maintenance!

Recycling. A clothes bank will shortly be placed next to the bottle bank in front of the Village Hall.

Children's Playground. Tom Licence has finished the new swings and nearly finished making 2 new "springy" toys. A quote was still awaited for Ecoscape recycled rubber mulch, to be used instead of the bark used before. This is expected to cost less than play bark, need little or no maintenance and not attract animal waste.

Village Hall Car Park. South Cambridgeshire District Council has advised that planning permission may be required for resurfacing with tarmac as this is a non permeable surface. They would also need details of what drainage will be put in place. This information has been passed to the Village Hall Management Committee but it was not known if they had been able to take this forward yet.

Parish Council 2010-2011 Budget. Whilst most budget headings will only be increased by a small amount it was agreed to raise a further £1000 towards the playground and to raise the extra £3000 possibly required for the Streetly End speed limit reductions. Printing the Village Voice has become more expensive (£300 to £450 per annum) now that

Andrew Morris is no longer able to photocopy it. It was also agreed to increase the grass cutting grant to the Parochial Church Council for the churchyard from £200 to £300. It was agreed to increase allotment rents from October 2010 to £8.00 for a full allotment, £4.00 for a half allotment & £2.00 for a quarter allotment. It was also agreed to offer a 25% discount to the 2 people who have rented multiple allotments for many years. The council agreed to increase the budget from £7100 to £9500, an increase of 33.8% resulting in a likely charge per household of £59.00.

Finance. It was noted that expenditure in 2009-2010 was in line with the approved budget with the exception of playground & playing field grass cutting. 12 instead of 11 cuts had been done resulting in an overspend of £125. The contractors would be reminded that only 11 cuts are required for 2010. The Parish Clerk announced the good news that she had been successful in claiming back £247.86 income tax that should not have been paid on the PC's bank accounts.

Pavement resurfacing and re-curb. County Councillor John Batchellor reported that a capital bid had been successful and West Wickham High Street would have new curbs and be resurfaced in February 2011 from the junction near the Church to 25/26 High Street. This news was met with some dismay as the PC had jointly identified with the County Council areas that were particularly in need of attention. These are the whole of Streetly End and the High Street from the old Chapel to the Village Hall and then in places through to Maypole Croft. Cllr Andrew Morris agreed to try and persuade the CC to re-schedule the work to the more needy areas but has since found that as this is a capital bid it is not possible to do so!

The full minutes of the meeting will be displayed on the Parish Council notice board near the Post Office, once Jenny Richards, the Parish Clerk, has returned from holiday.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 23 March, 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All are Welcome.

The Annual Parish Council meeting (AGM) and the Annual Parish meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 May. The latter gives all of you the opportunity to show an interest in the village you live in and have a say about what is or isn't going on or what you are concerned about and might like to see changed!

Andrew Morris. Vice Chairman, West Wickham Parish Council

POTHoles

Concerned that the County Council has not yet filled in the pothole you are worried about? It could be this is because they don't know about it! They need your help to find the location of potholes in your area. There is an online form that can be used to report road defects, such as roads or footpaths needing repair, damaged road signs, overhanging trees or bushes, flooding or standing water, broken roadside gulleys, mud on roads etc. This can be found at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/

You can also report these problems by phone to 0345 045 5212.

Alternatively, you can report a wide range of problems through the website www.fixmystreet.com. This allows you to pinpoint faults on a map. The fault is then reported to the relevant authority and there is also feedback about whether it has been rectified.

NATURE NOTES

We are told that the benefit of suffering a long, cold and generally grotty winter is that, when Spring finally does burst upon us, we will be treated to a spectacular few weeks when everything that has been held back by the cold rushes into colourful life. So during next month, when this phenomenon occurs, I'm hoping for lots of information about things you have seen and heard in the wild world of West Wickham. March is an exciting month for migrants arriving early or stopping off en route, so let me know when you hear the first chiffchaff or see a group of golden plovers stopping off to refuel on the journey north.

The most interesting piece of news this month is the reported sighting (by Mary Stone) of a white stork on a roof in Streetly End. Her description of the bird (black and white with a red bill), more or less eliminates all other possibilities. On checking the internet for stork sightings in Britain, there have been a surprising number – mainly in North East England before Christmas, but there has been a recent sighting in London (at the wetland centre on 3rd February) and another last year in Hertfordshire. Apparently some of these are possible escapees from wildlife parks but others may be stray migrants.

Most of the normal garden birds have been struggling in this weather and seem to be very grateful for all the bird food we put out. In this garden the tit family seems to hold sway (blue, great, coal and long tailed). We haven't had any gold or greenfinches but others tell me they have plenty. Beyond the garden (but only just), buzzards are more and more in evidence, as they are in most parts of the Country now. I'm not sure why, but they are definitely doing well.

Please keep your observations coming – they don't have to be amazingly unusual. Anything about plants, insects, birds, reptiles, amphibians or mammals is interesting.

Peter Grieve

HAVERHILL ARTS CENTRE

Films for March

Wed	3	Nowhere Boy. 15	7.45
Fri	5	Avatar 2d. 12A	6.30
Mon	8	The First Day of the Rest of your Life. 15	7.45
Tue	9	Nine. 12A	7.45
Sat	13	Sherlock Holmes. 12A	2.30
Sat	13	The Boys are Back. 12A	7.45
Mon	22	The Hurt Locker. 15	7.45
Tue	23	The Road. 15	7.45
Fri	26	Up In The Air. 15	7.45
Mon	29	Up In The Air. 15	1.30
Mon	29	Up In The Air. 15	7.45

Box Office: 01440 714140

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

ANNUAL PLANT SALE

SATURDAY 15 MAY

10.30 - 12.00 at

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEWS FROM LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

We have had a very quiet few months at the College. Of course our students have been their usual lively and enthusiastic selves and teaching and learning has continued as normal, but visitors to the site will have been able to hear, for the first time in many months, the blackbirds singing on the walnut tree in the Henry Morris garden and the rooks croaking overhead. This is because they have not been competing with the sound of delivery lorries, diggers and drills. However, the peace and tranquillity we've been enjoying will not last long.

In March, builders return to the campus to move our mobiles and refurbish them to become a temporary staffroom, learning support area and library.

Then during the Easter holiday, the hoardings go up around the old Vic Hallam building (the grotty one made of wood) and then, joy of joys, demolition starts. The Vic Hallam was meant to last 10 years at most. It has served 40+ and seeing it being dismantled will give me great pleasure.

The demolition phase will last a month and then once the site has been cleared, the archaeologists return. They will work throughout May and June and we await their findings with bated breath. When the old Horsa building came down they found significant Roman dwelling and Neolithic remains, so we are hoping for similar treasures.

In August, archaeology permitting, we begin a 58 week long construction phase. This building work will radically alter the appearance of the College – visitors will enter the College through a new reception, positioned more centrally on the site and new offices will spring up. The students will also benefit from the new social areas and the split level school library that comes with the build. We will take possession of phase 2, it is anticipated, in September 2011.

So lots to look forward to at the end of a rather noisy tunnel.

Caroline Derbyshire. Principal

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE NEWS

The Linton Neighbourhood Team has been working with the Meadow School in Balsham to complete a newsletter to parents regarding the problems with parking outside the school at drop off and pick up times. A letter has been drafted and agreed, and will hopefully be sent out to parents before half term. The school and Balsham Parish Council have confirmed that there is sufficient space in the car park off Church Lane, next to the church, and have approved the use of the car park for parents collecting their children. There is a path that leads through the churchyard to the rear gate of the school, so the safe and sensible option is to park there.

PC Rebecca Parkin. Linton Neighbourhood Team

PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 16th March

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