

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

MAY 2011

ISSUE 98

## VILLAGE DIARY

- Sun 1 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church  
Wed 4 Black wheeled bin (day late) collection  
Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall  
Thur 5 **PARISH & DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS. 7am – 10pm, Village Hall DON'T FORGET TO VOTE**  
Sat 7 **Farmers Market. 9.30 – 12.30 Linton Village College**  
Sun 8 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church  
Tue 10 Blue & green wheeled bin collection  
Sun 15 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church  
Mon 16 **Annual Parish Council meeting (AGM). 7.30pm, Village Hall**  
Tue 17 Black wheeled bin collection  
Wed 18 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall  
Sat 21 **Gardening Club PLANT SALE 10.30 – 12.00, Village Hall**  
Sun 22 Family Service. 9.30, St Mary's Church  
Mon 23 **Annual Parish meeting. 7.30pm, Village Hall. This is a meeting of the parish electors, not a Parish Council meeting. YOU set the agenda. If there is anything you would like discussed please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Jenny Richards (T: 01223 894076) by 16 May.**  
Tue 24 Blue & green wheeled bin collection  
Wed 25 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall  
Sun 29 Rogation Sunday service. 10.45, Hildersham Church  
**RAF Wrattling Common Memorial Service. 12.00 at Weston Woods Farm**  
June  
Wed 1 Black wheeled bin (day late) collection  
**The Pre-School meets Monday to Friday 9.30 – 12.30 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 £5.00 per hour.
Meeting Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £5.00 per hour. evening £7.00 per hour.
Main Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £7.00 per hour evening £10.00 per hour.
Complete Hall	day (9.00 – 19.00) £12.00 per hour evening £18.00 per hour
Children's party	£30.00 daytime £43.00 evening
Adult's party/disco	£60.00
Wedding reception	£150.00

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

## MAY SERVICE AT RAF WRATTING COMMON

A short open air service will be held at 12 noon on Sunday the 29th May at RAF Wrattling Common Memorial to commemorate the opening of the airfield in 1943 and to remember all those who served at the airfield, especially the 260 who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. We look forward to seeing some of the Veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade. The Memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville and all are very welcome to attend the service.

## VILLAGE TIDY-UP

Thanks to all the adults and children who came along to the Village Tidy-up on Mothering Sunday. As in previous years everyone had a satisfying time accumulating all the cans, bottles and crisp papers, which were nestling in the roadside verges and underneath the hedges. The key areas were the playing field behind the Village Hall and the stretches of road just beyond the village, and between West Wickham and Streetly End. 18 bags of rubbish were taken away by South Cambs DC, who provided the grabbers and gloves. The highlights included: several unopened packets of crisps and part of a car's suspension. The recession has affected the usual battle for supremacy between Stella Artois and Fosters, with a new competitor – Sainsbury's Basic Lager, entering the fray. Alcohol didn't have it all its own way, however. High energy drink bottles and KFC takeaway packaging are also on the increase.

Sue Thurston

## STREETLY END SPEED LIMIT

You will see in the Parish Council News (see page 4) that the Parish Council, frustrated at the lack of progress on this issue, has formally complained to the County Council. This is the response from Brian Stinton, Area Manager (Traffic). Cambridge and South Cambs.

*Firstly, I must apologise for the long delay in progressing the speed limit order for Streetly End. Regrettably, limited resources to deal with traffic management issues in the South Cambridgeshire area has resulted in a backlog of work and progress has been slower than we would wish in delivering third party work.*

*I have now discussed a programme for implementing the reduced speed limit in Streetly End with David (Lines) who was aware of the need to progress this with some priority and I can confirm that the order will be advertised in the later part of May. This will enable any objections that may be received to be determined at the next meeting of the South Cambridgeshire Traffic Management area Joint Committee in July.*

*Dependent on whether objections are received, I would anticipate that the speed limit would be in operation in August/September.*

Progress at last, albeit slow progress!

Andrew Morris

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.

## THANK YOU

I would like on behalf of myself and my family to thank everyone for all the support you have shown us during this very sad time. Many thanks to all of you who came to Phillip's funeral service and for the flowers and messages of condolence. We have found great comfort in all your kind gestures.

Margaret Porter and Family

## FROM THE VICARAGE

We had some excellent speakers for the Lent series, 'Questions of Life.' We were also grateful for the two venues, Holy Trinity Church, Hildersham, and the Black Bull in Balsham which was opened especially for us on some of these Monday evenings.

One of the speakers was the international human rights lawyer, Robert McCorquodale. Robert set out for us the different kinds of human rights, civic and political, economic and social, individual and collective, and those which are about treating people with respect. He noted that the list of human rights in any given time or place changes with our awareness of what makes human life flourish. Although every country has signed up to at least one treaty on human rights, this does not mean that governments uphold them. It is the most vulnerable who are at greatest risk when human rights are ignored.

Another talk was about 'Where is God when it hurts?' by Jonathan Boroughs from Arthur Rank Hospice. These two talks captured many of the themes of Holy Week. They are also very relevant to those who will be planning and collecting for Christian Aid during the coming Month. We want people here, and in other countries to have the opportunities to flourish.

An illustration from Christian Aid this year focuses on a coffee farm in La Paz del Tuma in Nicaragua. Helped by a Christian Aid Partner, Soppexcca, this community is being transformed as they produce coffee for a world market. Clean water, education, and latrines are now a reality and not just a dream. There will be a Christian Aid service at Lt. Abington Church on 15<sup>th</sup> May at 4pm where you can hear more about this.

It is impossible to drive around the area without being aware of the surrounding fields of crops. This is a constant reminder of the work of those who labour to produce our food. On May 29th at 10.45 we will be holding a Rogation Sunday service united with all 7 churches, at Holy Trinity, Hildersham. The theme of this service will be, 'Ask and you shall receive.' Weather permitting, this will be held outside, so that we can be close to the natural world. It will be an opportunity for people to pray for all those who contribute to meeting our daily needs, as well as to ask God for help in those needs. It will be followed by a picnic. Instead of 'beating the bounds,' there will be a walk planned.

Finally, thank you to everyone who helped to make Service of Thanksgiving and Requiem Mass for John Cotgrove such a joyful celebration of his life. Thank you also to everyone who helped to make the Palm Sunday service with Bishop Stephen a memorable and enjoyable occasion.

Rev Julie Norris

## WEST WICKHAM CARPET BOWLS CLUB

### On a roll!

Yes, the pun is intended because we are feeling pretty pleased with ourselves at the moment. Not only have we had back to back wins at friendly matches (Grampian away & Helions Bumpstead at home) but Sheila Hayward and Peter Pearson won the Ashdon Open Pairs Competition and a team of Pete, Sue, Andrew & Janet retained their title as winners of the Withersfield Bowls Club Annual Quiz. So, that's two shields to show off!

The Club recently held its AGM and the existing officers were re-elected:

Chairman	Richard Barrett.	Secretary	Janet Morris
Treasurer	Mary Ellam	Captain	Eric Ellam
Deputy	John Short		

Andrew Morris audits the accounts and Pete Grieve remains as our Village Hall rep.

If you fancy a friendly evening out with a chance to develop a little skill, why not join us? The Club welcomes members male and female, of any age or ability. We do not play in a league (too serious) but play regular friendlies against other clubs in the area and there are opportunities for members to play in charity tournaments. We meet on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the Village Hall. Pop along or give me a ring if you want someone to go with.

Janet Morris 21 High Street, West Wickham

Tel: 290863 Email: [jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com](mailto:jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com)

## WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

The date for this year's show is Saturday 13 August. We will be distributing the schedule to all households nearer the date but a preview is available from me now for anyone keen to plan ahead. The photography classes are always very popular so we are publishing these well ahead of the show. They are:

A local scene (within 15 miles of West Wickham).

A plant portrait.

Reflections.

Weather.

You may also wish to start thinking about the Children's classes. These will be:

3 cupcakes iced & decorated.

A picture of wild flowers (your choice of materials but please don't use real wild flowers).

A creepy crawly made mainly from vegetables and/or fruit.

Andrew Morris, 21 High Street, West Wickham. T: 290863

## WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

### PLANT SALE

something for everyone  
FLOWERS, SHRUBS, VEGETABLES & HERBS  
friendly people and expert advice

SATURDAY 21st MAY  
10.30 - 12.00

at  
WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

## LIKE A DAY OUT?

There are still spare places on the Gardening Club's annual outing. This year we are going to **Myddelton House** in Enfield. This was the home of renowned plantsman, E A Bowles and has recently undergone much restoration. Here we will be having a guided tour. Then we are going on to nearby **Capel Manor Gardens**. Capel Manor is a horticultural training college and has 30 acres of gardens to explore with more than 60 small gardens and historic landscapes. Details are:

### Saturday 18 June

Leaving the Village Hall car park at 10am,  
leaving Capel Manor at 4.30pm.

Cost: Members £17 (£16 conc) Non-members £23 (£22 conc) – this includes coach, entry and guided tour.

Book your place with Janet Morris, 21 High Street  
Tel: 290863 Email: [jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com](mailto:jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com)

## OIL SYNDICATE UPDATE

For those interested in the price of oil, I thought you might like to hear how the first order of the newly re-formed oil syndicate went. On 11<sup>th</sup> April I rang the 6 suppliers listed in last month's edition together with Browns of Burwell which has also been suggested. 12 households wanted around 8000 litres in total and I got quotes ranging (exclusive of VAT) from 61.28p per litre to 57.94p per litre. The highest quote was, interestingly from Shelford Energy, who assured me that this was their best offer and the lowest from Pace Fuelcare with whom I placed the order. They delivered next day, which was very efficient but rather too short notice as far as contacting some people about access, etc.

Since writing my piece last month I discovered that there is in existence a local oil syndicate at Withersfield. It operates in essentially the same way as ours does now but with one significant difference – one of its objectives is to raise money through donations for good causes. Members are asked to make a minimum donation of 0.5p per litre to one of: EACH – East Anglia's Children's Hospices, the East Anglian Air Ambulance or St Mary's Church Withersfield for fabric upkeep, whichever you prefer, by way of a cheque to the organiser after each delivery, for him to sort and forward. Syndicate members can also nominate other good causes at the end of each year for the following 12 months, so if members from West Wickham joined, they could, for example, nominate our own church as a recipient of donations. The syndicate has an excellent website - <http://theoilsyndicate.wordpress.com/> - where you can find more information. Otherwise you can contact me or the organiser, Cliff Hall on 01440 708648 (in the evening or weekends) for more information.

I would like to hear from any of you already involved in our syndicate or thinking about joining whether you would be interested in joining the Withersfield syndicate instead of having a separate one for our village. The advantages, I suspect, would be that with a larger order an even better saving per litre can be achieved and you would put me out of a job (great!) I had proposed that I would next place an order on 11<sup>th</sup> June; the Withersfield syndicate's next order would be 19<sup>th</sup> June.

Sue Thurston. T: 290503

## NATURE NOTES

### The Bard, the Boxers and the Bees

Shakespeare rarely appears in this column, but his references to nature are many. The bank where Titania sometimes sleeps has "oxlips and the nodding violet". We too have banks (and ditches) like that, as Perry Morley has written to remind me. Particular places are at the edges of Leys and Hare Woods. She points out that our oxlips are the true oxlip – often confused with the false oxlip – a hybrid between the cowslip and primrose. The true one has paler flowers and shorter, fatter leaves. It does not have the five-pointed delicate red brush marks that both the primrose and the cowslip show and that Shakespeare described for Imogen's birthmark in *Cymbeline* as "cinque-spotted, like the crimson drops I' the bottom of a cowslip". Perry also mentions the pleasure in seeing the wood anemones, which I am sure are spreading more as the years go by. At the time of writing the stitchwort is in flower beside the roads and in the hedgerows, so spring is on the march.

My own observations take us slightly away from the confines of West Wickham and on to the Devil's Dyke near Stetchworth. It is a wooded section of the Dyke, consisting mainly of beech trees, and at this time of year every trunk is populated by dozens of snails many of whom have climbed to a considerable height. The beech trees have very smooth trunks, but the snails do not confine themselves to those. I am not sure of the explanation for this phenomenon, but suspect it may be something to do with sex, as most things are at this time of year. Whatever, it is a remarkable sight.

Di too has written with some of her spring observations – they include the mad March hares seen not only in West Wickham but also on the beach during a recent visit to Norfolk. Di comments "*the jury is still out as to whether it's the males boxing the females, or the females boxing each other*". She also mentions the emerging insects: brimstone and peacock butterflies, several queen wasps and a green shield bug which crawled out of her linen cupboard. That sounds like a nice warm place to over-winter. Di's favourite of the early insects is "*Bombylius major*", which Jan found in her conservatory. *These beautiful insects are called from the 'bee-fly' family, as they imitate bees. They have furry bodies, and a long stiff proboscis, and they hover like miniature humming birds. They like the nectar in the early spring flowers.*"

Seasonal noises that Di has been hearing include "*a loud cranking like a bicycle wheel with a broken spoke*" and "*deep rumbling and croaking*". Before your imaginations run away with you these noises came from an overflying heron and various pondside frogs. Beauty is in the ear of the listener as well as the eye of the beholder.

Final word as usual goes to the birds, and the summer arrivals. Last year was great for warblers and so far things are promising for a repeat. There are already plenty of chiffchaffs and blackcaps; I heard a couple of willow warblers on a recent walk near Streetly Hall and Yen Hall respectively and we should expect to see a whitethroat soon. Both Di and I have heard of people seeing a reed bunting in their back garden, and yes, I have seen a swallow – just one at Carlton on April 11<sup>th</sup>. It would be good to hear next time if anyone has a swallow or house martin nesting on their property.

Peter Grieve. T: 290503

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March the following items were discussed:

*Streetly End Speed Limit:* Due to the absence of County Cllr. Batchelor he was unable to report on David Line's unsatisfactory email. It was therefore agreed that a letter written by the Chairman would be sent to Richard Preston, with whom Clls. Cornish and Morris had met, to complain at the lack of progress.

*Hedge cutting:* The trimming of the hedge from the Village Hall down to the road had been satisfactorily carried out. CGM (grass contractors) needed to be consulted over the condition of the recreation ground following the short cutting for the football club.

*Football Club issues:* The Village Hall Management Committee is dealing with these problems, which are mainly due to the visiting players and supporters. However if these continue then they will not be allowed to use the playing field for their matches.

*Children's Play area:* The two swings have now had their chains replaced.

*Allotments:* There has been no interest in the two vacant allotments, which are gradually being cleared of rubbish and brambles and the hedges trimming back. The future maintenance of these allotments, should they not be let, will be discussed at the next meeting.

*Parish Council meetings.* It was agreed that the meetings would be held again on Mondays as formerly.

*Finance:*

- It was agreed that Jackie Dockerill of Running Total Bookkeeping would be appointed as the Internal Auditor for this year.
- The Parish Clerk's salary would now have to go through the PAYE system from 1 April by order of the Inland Revenue for all Parish Clerks.

*Planning:* Planning Permission had been granted by SCDC for two dwellings to be built at 39-47 High Street. There is now a policy that the developers of new building developments have to pay a sum towards the infrastructure of the area and payment towards community leisure. It was agreed we should express an interest to South Cambs DC in using the money from the two new builds in the village for the Play Area's new equipments.

*Road gritting & Pot holes:* Dene Road is being repaired and the pothole at the top of the High Street dealt with. The Salt bin is now residing behind the Bottle & Clothes Banks because it blows away if left standing alone. It will be fixed in place once the bottle bank has been removed.

*Written Report from County Cllr. Batchelor:*

- The budgets are still being discussed; £160,000,000 cuts from its budget over 4 years. They are looking at service delivery.
- List of cuts to be made – withdrawing bus subsidies leaving only No.13/13A available for this area along the A1307. Libraries under review, some will close, some will be run by volunteers and some run by trustees, a possible £1M has been allocated towards community transport schemes; Social services will inevitably be cut, Regarding the bus services, those in this area are safe at the moment. However they are likely to be cut next year as all subsidised services will no longer be funded. Community transport relies on volunteers and is available only between 9.30am and 4.30pm. on a "dial a pick up" system, so what is Cambridge County Council doing about people living in the

rural areas who rely on buses to get to work?

The question was asked if the Council do impact assessments and if so were they published?

It is understood that the Archive Dept. is being put in the hands of a Trust. Do we, as depositors and therefore trustholders, get consulted about this, as we should have a say in where our archived documents are going?

*Any Other Business:*

- Blue bin rubbish: Much paper rubbish had been left strewn around by the blue bin dustman. A complaint will be made to SCDC.
- Cuttings from hedges and bushes have been left where cut by the contractors of BT Open Reach. A letter of complaint will be sent.
- The Chairman reported on the Village Hall Management Committee meeting: a) the car park will be resurfaced with tarmac. The work will be done by Anglia Surfacing during the Pre-School Easter break; b) the hall fees have been reviewed and there will be a 20% increase in hiring from 1<sup>st</sup> April. c) Richard Grenville is now the Maintenance Officer.
- The Chairman thanked the two Councillors who are not standing again in the election, namely Councillors Pearson and Cameron. Councillor Pearson was particularly thanked for his many years of service both as Councillor and Chairman.

**The draft Minutes are posted on the Noticeboard.**

**The Annual Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm.**

**The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 23rd May at 7.30pm**

**All are welcome.**

Jennifer Richards. Parish Clerk. T: 01223 894076

### BALSHAM SINGERS SUMMER CONCERT

**Saturday 4 June 4' 7.30 pm at Balsham Parish Church  
Songs from the Shows & Choruses from the Operas.**

Come and joins us for a relaxing evening including refreshments in the interval

Tickets £7 and £6 concessions from Balsham Post Office or on the door.

### PLANTS FOR SALE

I shall be having a barrow out side of my cottage selling plants again as I did last year. All the plants are 50p each and I do put signs out on the green triangle in Streetly End. The barrow will be there for April, May & June. I live at Clover Cottage, next door to the old mill so parking is not a problem as I am not on the main road.

Shirley Shadford

### STREETLY END GARDENS OPEN

Clover Cottage & Chequer Cottage will be open on Sunday 5 June under the National Gardens Scheme.

12noon - 5pm. Combined admission £3.00

Homemade teas at Chequer Cottage

## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION — CANDIDATE PROFILES

### PATRICK CHARLTON



Sarah & I moved to West Wickham from Cambridge, in May 1998. We both grew up in Norfolk where our families have strong ties to farming, and we have always appreciated the countryside.

We have two children, Sam (12) and Rosie (8) who both attended Pre School in the village, Sarah was the Pre School Chairperson for 3 years and she is a Physiotherapist working at Addenbrookes Hospital; Sam is a mad keen sportsperson, whilst Rosie enjoys horse riding and the more artistic pursuits of drawing, singing and drama. We all enjoy walking our dog Minx in the surrounding countryside.

Most of my working life has been with Carphone Warehouse, prior to this, I was training to be a Chartered Accountant in Norwich. I have had numerous roles in Carphone Warehouse, starting on the shop floor and working my way up to fairly senior roles, predominantly managing teams of managers. This has given me, a very rounded experience, in dealing with many varied situations. I chair a Regional employee forum and I work on employment appeals within the Midlands's area.

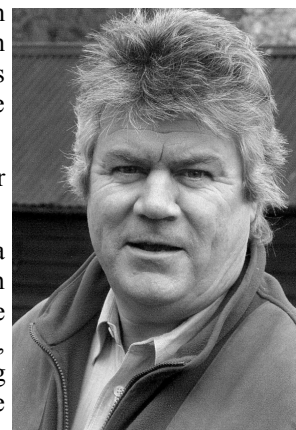
Outside work, my interests are varied. I enjoy most sport, and play a bit of golf. We enjoy living in West Wickham and appreciate what it has to offer us as a family. The reason for putting my name up for election is that having enjoyed 13 years in the village, I feel that I should be prepared to put something back. Hopefully my experience and good common sense approach could add value to the Parish Council if elected.

### MARCUS CORNISH

I moved from Horseheath to Manor Farm in 1975. So you could describe me as fairly local. I am the third generation of my family to have farmed in West Wickham. My wife Nicky has lived in the village since she was a child and we both feel passionate about keeping rural communities alive. We have brought up our children here and have enjoyed being part of this community; we now have grandchildren, which has given me an insight into the needs of young families.

As a farmer the environment is my place of work, it is dear to my heart. I care about our countryside with a practical hat on.

I have been on the Parish Council for many years and am currently the chairman. I am also a churchwarden. Fund raising for this village has been and continues to be, an important activity in which I am fully involved. We face challenging times of austerity, particularly as we are on the extreme edge of South Cambridgeshire. Rural districts are facing serious cost cutting exercises, whether it be libraries, buses, or highways. I would hope that my experience and long standing relationship with this village over the years puts me in a good position to use your vote effectively.



### PETER GRIEVE



Sue and I have lived in West Wickham for nearly 20 years and have always been very happy here. I've been a member of the Parish Council for 5 years. I'm on the Village Hall Management Committee, and in various clubs that use the Hall. I regularly walk local footpaths, accompanied by our dog, Dash.

I work at Newmarket College in the Special Educational Needs Department, having previously worked for Cambridgeshire County Council and the Police Authority.

Things are not easy in the higher tiers of local government at present and I am sure everyone is aware of all the cuts that have been made and are likely to be made in the future. This will make things difficult for Parish Councils too as we seek to minimise the adverse effects on us locally.

Most people know that I am very keen on wildlife and the natural environment, but I do recognise that there are sometimes compromises that have to be made. As a Parish Councillor I would aim to try and ensure that decisions taken benefit everyone in the village.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE FOR YOUR PARISH COUNCIL  
ON 5<sup>th</sup> MAY AT THE VILLAGE HALL 7.00am - 10.00pm**

## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION — CANDIDATE PROFILES

### TREVOR HALL



Carol, my wife, and I moved into the village from Little Abington in 1988 and spent the first few years converting our house and renovating the garden using local help and expertise. Both our children went to Linton Village College and then to Sixth Form Colleges in Cambridge.

We are particularly interested in the environment and have made our garden as natural as possible by planting many trees and providing a refuge for all the visiting wildlife we enjoy seeing in the area. This is something I would like to expand on as one of the village Tree Wardens

I was a merchant navy officer for 23 years and served as a ship's Master for 2 years before coming ashore to work as a superintendent and ship manager in Harlow. I retired in 2000 and set up my own company working from home. I still work part time but now find I have more time to devote to local matters.

I have been attending the Parish Council meetings regularly for the past 18 months as an observer in order to understand and support the activities of the Parish Council.

I am very concerned that small villages, such as West Wickham, should enjoy the same benefits as those in larger villages and suburban areas. I see the possible loss of local bus services and the continuing poor internet connectivity, which affects rural businesses, home workers and students as some things that an enlarged and active Parish Council will need to tackle in the next few years.

I hope to see that the benefits of living in a village are maintained and if possible, improved.

### DI LICENCE

I moved to West Wickham 30 years ago, pregnant with my second child and have been involved with the village community, making many friends on the way, ever since.

I was a Founder member of the children's playground, committee member at the local playgroup, volunteer at the local school in Balsham, and served on the village hall committee, ( both old and new ) for more years than I care to recall! I am an active member of St Mary's Church, and have been the secretary for the PCC for many years.

Community is very important to me, and being a country girl, so to is the natural environment. I love living in a small rural village, and would like to preserve this way of life for future generations. A good bus service, a decent pub, shop and post office and a safe environment to bring up the next generation is all worth fighting for. I think women on the Parish Council would bring a different perspective to everyday decisions about our village.



### TOM LICENCE



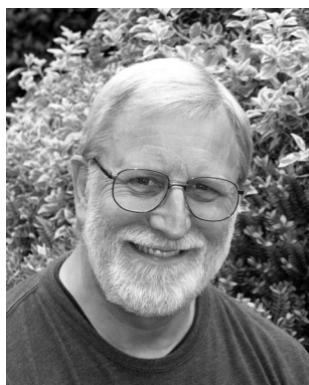
28 years of life in and around West Wickham and I have very much fallen for this quiet Cambridgeshire village. Being very much an outdoor guy, I love the rural feel and somewhat isolated location of our village, and strongly believe that communities of this kind should be kept as such. I have always had a keen interest in helping out within the village, having been involved in a youth club, village fetes and more recently with the renovation of the children's play area.

I have no strong motivation for wanting to take a position on the council, other than being more involved in the village and community and the issues that come with it. Having spent my younger years exploring the local woods and footpaths, and playing down at the play area I would like to see these opportunities kept available for future generations. I like to think my age and situation would bring a fresh viewpoint to the council.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE FOR YOUR PARISH COUNCIL  
ON 5<sup>th</sup> MAY AT THE VILLAGE HALL 7.00am - 10.00pm**

## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION — CANDIDATE PROFILES

### ANDREW MORRIS



I have been on the Parish Council for 12 years and currently I am the Council's Vice-Chairman. I am standing for re-election because I feel I have the relevant experience and proven commitment needed to work for both the enhancement & protection of our village community. I have recently coordinated the refurbishment of the playground and am a member of both the Speedwatch team and the village group of S Cambs Tree Warden Scheme. My involvement in various community activities and personal contact with many of you has made me aware of the importance of taking into account and representing your views.

I have lived in the village since 1977 and both my children were born here. As a family we feel a commitment to the community we live in - we are willing both to be involved and put something positive back in. Our children attended the village playgroup and local schools - all of which we have actively supported, believing that they are excellent assets to the community.

I am a founder member of the Gardening Club and currently Treasurer and Show Secretary. I am also Chairman of the Local History Club and a member of the Carpet Bowls Club. I am the co-founder and co-editor of the Village Voice and for many years I was a member of the Village Hall Management Committee. Now retired, I spend much time on my allotment and enjoy travelling, fell walking and bird watching.

### DENNY PEARSON

Having lived in West Wickham for almost 20 years, I've chosen to stand for the Parish Council to help maintain and support the community which I and my family so love being a part of.

Until three years ago, I was a secondary school teacher. After gaining a degree as a mature student, I taught business studies and before that I worked in the electricity industry. Retirement has allowed me to become more involved with the family farm, investigating modern ways of improving wildlife habitats and increasing the number of rare breed animals we have. In addition to passing on his involvement in farming, my husband Nip has also shared his experience of having served as a Parish Councillor for many years, so I'm fairly sure I know what the job would entail.

With six grandchildren living in the village, and my recent experience of life as a student and a teacher, I care deeply about support for children and young families living in outlying communities. Being a retired person, I also know that rural isolation has implications for the elderly too. So things like the play group, bus services and policing are very important to me.

As are wider concerns about planning and the environment, matters which have implications for everyone.

I'm not a politician, I simply believe in listening properly to those who live in the area in order to maintain what is good in our community and to innovate where it will benefit us all.



### JUSTIN PLUMB



My wife Debbie and I moved into West Wickham in 2002 and since then have been blessed with two daughters, Millie and Ella. I've had relatives in West Wickham for as long as I can remember, and some of my earliest memories are of my time at West Wickham Playgroup. Both of our girls have repeated history and enjoyed what is now Daisy Chains Preschool. I believe that the Preschool is a hugely important part of the village community and have actively supported it, along with Debbie who is a committee member, since 2008.

I worked in Waste Management for 8 years, involved in projects ranging from building recycling plants to restoration of farmland, construction of lakes and wildlife habitats. This experience has given me an appreciation of the conflict that can arise between local and wider regional issues, and how these need to be addressed. I now work in the family business at Plumb's Dairy in Balsham, and am enjoying being part of a local community again – rather than trekking up and down the M25!

I am always open and honest about what can be achieved and am also driven to improve things if I feel they could be better. I would be particularly keen to work with people in the community on the play area. I believe that my experiences from work, along with my family life in West Wickham have given me a well balanced view and feel that I have something to offer the Parish Council.

## YOU CAN VOTE FOR UP TO 7 OF THESE CANDIDATES



## NEWS FROM LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

The spring term, with Easter being so late this year, was a long one at LVC, but there were very many highlights.

Two events in particular were enjoyed by a large number of people in our community: the LVC X Factor and the Variety Show. What is always delightful about these kind of events is that we see a side to our students that we sometimes miss at school. Of course, we know about the academic profile of children, we see them involved in sporting endeavours and participating in school music, but there are still some talents that children have that remain hidden until they reveal them: who would know, for example, that an alarming number of Year 10 boys can juggle with fire or ride a unicycle? Who would have guessed that at home some of our youngsters practice stand-up comedy routines, are prolific song writers or take on the persona of Jake the Peg?

We also discover, particularly in the X Factor competition, boys who have terrific voices. As you will be aware from seeing the work of choirmaster Garth Malone on television, that teenage boys can be reluctant to sing at school, but each year that the X Factor comes around we discover that some Year 11 lad, who has not wished to sing in any other context, is very happy to belt out a pop song in front of all of his peers. It is almost always a complete revelation, greeted with screams and applause, and we all wish that they had done it lower down the school so that we could have heard the voice more often.

Events like this are a sell-out and it is little wonder: the standard of the items is as good as many of the things that you see on national television and you have to keep pinching yourself that the performers are only 11 – 16 year olds. What a wealth of talent we have in our area.

Caroline Derbyshire. Principal



**JUMBLE SALE**  
**West Wickham Village Hall**  
**Saturday 7th May**  
**2 - 4pm**  
**Clothes, Books, Toys, Bric-a-Brac Refreshments Cake Stall**  
 All proceeds to Daisy Chains Pre-School

Please drop off any jumble at West Wickham Village Hall between 10am and 12pm on the day. Please contact Jo Jackson 291258 or Jane Jackson 290854 to arrange collection of any jumble.

## WEST WRATTING W.I.

At our March meeting, Jennifer Hirsh gave us a fascinating insight into the Abington Land Settlements. We were lucky to have a visitor who had personal experience of growing up there while one can still see the remains of this interesting social experiment on the ground and in aerial photographs.

We will be holding our spring cake, plant, produce and book stall on Saturday 21 May at 10.00 a.m. There will also be the ever-popular tombola. Please give cakes, plants, books etc. to Gill or myself or bring to the stall on the day, ideally before 10.00 a.m. Prizes for the tombola should be given to Gill Holah by the Friday. For further information please contact Gill on 290378 or myself on 290653.

At our next meeting, on Tuesday 31 May at West Wrattling Village Hall at 7.30 p.m., we will be discussing and voting on the two WI Resolutions for this year. The result of this will then go to the NFWI AGM in June. The result of the vote at that meeting will then be passed to Government. There will be refreshments provided by the Committee. The Resolutions for 2011 are:

“This meeting urges HM Government to maintain support for local libraries as an essential local educational and information resource.”

“This meeting abhors the practice of factory farming particularly large animals such as pigs and cows and urges H.M. Government to ensure planning permission is not granted for such projects.”

Linda Gorman

## ARCHAEOLOGY FOR ALL

Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Department organises a programme of guided walks and other events during the summer months. Local events include:

Wed 1 June 7pm **Wandlebury** – a guided walk of the outstanding nature reserve and scheduled monument. Meet at the Education Centre at Wandlebury Country Park. Free entry.

Wed 15 June 7pm **Bartlow Hills** – guided walk at the impressive remains of Roman burial mounds or barrows. Meet at the entrance to Bartlow church. Free entry.

Wed 27 July 7pm **Roman Road** – guided walk along the Roman Road. Meet at Wandlebury car park (pay & display). Free entry.

For further details contact the Historic Environment Team on 01223 728564 or email [archaeology@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

The full programme can be seen at [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/archaeology](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/archaeology) or if you do not have internet access please contact me, Janet Morris (Tel: 290863) and I will happily print you a copy.

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Editors: Sue Thurston & Andrew Morris

Correspondence & News to:

21 High Street, West Wickham, Cambridge CB1 6RY  
 or contact Sue on:

T: 01223 290503. e-mail: [mail@suethurston.co.uk](mailto:mail@suethurston.co.uk)

contact Andrew on T: 01223 290863.

e-mail: [editor\\_wwwillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:editor_wwwillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk)