

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

JANUARY 2012

ISSUE 105

## VILLAGE DIARY

- Sun 1 **HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Wed 4 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Thur 5 Blue & green wheeled bin (2 days late) collection
- Sat 7 **Farmers Market. 9.00 – 12.00**  
**Linton Village College. Note new time!**
- Sun 8 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 9 **Local History Club. Talk on Customs & folklore in South Cambridgeshire, part 1 by Janet Morris. 8pm, Village Hall**
- Wed 11 Black wheeled bin (day late) collection  
Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 15 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 16 **Gardening Club. Talk on Fences and boundaries by Helen Riches. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Tue 17 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Wed 18 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 22 Family Service. 9.30, St Mary's Church
- Mon 23 **Parish Council meeting. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Tue 24 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 25 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sat 28 **Jumble Sale. 2 – 4pm, Meadow School, Balsham**
- Sun 29 4 Parishes service. See Church noticeboard for details.
- Tue 31 Blue & green wheeled bin 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  
or visit [www.westwickham.org](http://www.westwickham.org)**

**The Village Voice is sponsored by West Wickham Parish Council and delivered free to all households in West Wickham and Streetly End. The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.**

## CHURCH KNEELERS

Would anyone like to do a commemorative kneeler for the jubilee? Everything is in the pack including wool, needle and simple instructions. If you would like to look at the selection on the internet it is [www.churchKneelers.com](http://www.churchKneelers.com) or phone Jacksons of Hebden Bridge 01422881100, or call me for further information.

Nicky Cornish. T: 290203

## PRE-SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Pre-School committee and staff would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fair this year. Once again, it proved to be a very successful fundraising event and we raised a fantastic £732.00 and as you are aware, we rely hugely on fundraising in order to sustain the running of our pre-school. A big thank you to all our stall holders, to everyone who donated towards the event with either prizes, their time or their fantastic baking skills. A big thank you to Father Christmas who managed to find the time to come and visit the local children from West Wickham and the surrounding villages!!

Once again a huge thank you to everyone and on behalf of the Pre-School staff and committee, we hope that you have had a Merry Christmas and we wish everyone a Happy New Year!!!!!!

Tina Daniels. Chairperson, Daisy Chain's Pre-school.

## LINTON WEA COURSE FOR THE SPRING 2012 TERM

We are all looking forward to welcoming a new but local speaker and expert Chloe Cockerill, next spring at Linton WEA. This term we are going to once again look back in time, but this time with a modern twist—as our subject title is *Helms, Hatchments and Hedgehogs - Heraldry: it's all around us* - an introduction to heraldry including local examples. At first look this might seem to be a bit of a dry subject, but literally heraldry is still all around us and new examples are being produced all the time. William and Kate had a new grant of arms after the Royal Wedding. This required a very interesting new coat of arms for Kate's family.

This course is a straightforward introduction to what is often dismissed as an esoteric subject. It will trace the history of heraldry from the 12th to the 21st centuries from chivalry, jousting and tournaments to the arms of a supermarket. Many examples from local churches, Cambridge schools and colleges will be included. For our course visit we hope to go to Windsor Castle and Chapel. See [www.lintonwea.org.uk/courses2.htm](http://www.lintonwea.org.uk/courses2.htm) for more details.

We start our ten week term at Linton Village Hall on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 10am. Each session lasts until 11.45 am, with a break for a cup of tea and a chance to catch up on the local news half way through. We are a very friendly group and you will be more than welcome to come and join our truly happy Tuesday mornings. The course fee for the 10 week course is just £45 and there is help for people on benefits and low family incomes. For ALL enquiries about the course please contact the branch secretary on 01223 290420

## FROM THE VICARAGE

There is an ancient discipline of daily prayer, often exercised in the evening, called Examen. The events and encounters of the past day are reflected on. The point is to see the things that were good and the things that did not go so well, and to reflect on the people encountered along the way, but also to seek out what was hidden, and the places where God was present, even if we did not see it at the time. This helps people not only to discern God's presence, but also to find new direction for their life in the day to come. As we end one year and begin another, it might be helpful to engage in a similar exercise for the whole year that has gone. What were the highlights, and what were the challenges? Whom did we meet on the way? Where did we see something profound or beautiful or good? Did we miss anything?

Here is a blessing for you in the New Year.

May light shine on you and all those you meet  
May love encircle you and all those you help  
May the goodness of God lead you everywhere you go  
And may God bless you.

Love from Rev Julie Norris

**Discussions on the book, 'Atheist Delusions' by David Hart.** The topics tackled in this book focus on areas where Christians and atheists disagree. Each discussion will look at a specific debate. It will not matter if you haven't been to the one before. Join us on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at Holy Trinity Hildersham at 7.30pm. There will be some further discussion in February.

## NOT A BAD YEAR!

Despite my prolonged ill health last year was not bad. It was amazingly good! Thanks entirely to the wonderful kindness of family, friends and neighbours.

While I was confined, other people: made me delicious meals; did my shopping; walked my dog; watered my garden; lent me delightful books; did my duties in church etc; sorted out my communications system; gave me lifts and unexpected gifts; came on cheery visits with children and dogs.

So, kindness, joy and fun totally eclipsed all the worry and discomfort of illness and the memory of kindness delights me again and again.

Is this, I wonder, the true message of Christmas: there's always more loving kindness around than we think or deserve?

Jane Scheuer

## OIL SYNDICATE UPDATE

I ordered around 10,000 litres of oil in December for 14 local residents. This time the cheapest provider was Goff who came in at 59p per litre + VAT. There was a greater variety of quotes this time with the most expensive being Pace Fuelcare, who have been the cheapest in the past, coming in at 66.95p per litre.

I plan to place another order on 11<sup>th</sup> February if there are enough of you interested. I'll put a reminder in February's edition but you can always contact me on 01223 290503 or oil@suehthurston.co.uk if you want to learn more.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Once again Christmas has been and gone but a very happy New Year to all readers.

The following are some items from the draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

a) *Land Registration:* The land on which the hall, allotments, recreation ground etc. stands on will now be registered with Land Registry now having established that the three houses built in front of the hall and a small piece of land the other side of the allotments were no longer shown as belonging to the Parish and were registered in their owners names.

b) *Allotments:* There are two vacant half plots and it is hoped that Daisy Chains Pre-School might be using one or part of one. They will be advertised once this is clarified.

c) *Streetly End:* There is now a 30mph speed limit but the council have requested that the rondels in the road are marked correctly.

d) *Village Questionnaire:* This is now ready to be printed and will be hand delivered to every household in the parish.

e) *Parish Map:* This would be a useful asset to have and to keep up-dated showing footpaths, boundaries, points of historical interest etc. Cllr. Hall is looking into this.

f) *Balsham Youth Club:* This is being closed at the end of April 2012 due to lack of funding.

g) *Steering Group for A1307:* A request for representatives to attend meetings concerning the safety aspects of the A1307 had been received. Cllrs. Hall and Morris volunteered.

h) *Dist.Cllr. Barrett:* Reported:

i) there will be on-line consultation to give residents a bigger say about e.g. bin collection, Council Tax etc.

ii) there are 5000 people on the waiting list for housing. Only 205 new council houses were built in 2010/11.

j) *County Cllr. Batchelor:* Reported:

i) A consultation is being carried out now on bus subsidies.

ii) An increase of 25% for councillors expenses had been put forward, however the recommendation came from a panel which was not properly constituted so was abandoned.

k) *Any other business:* The Diamond Jubilee Oak has been planted on the playing field and Council agreed that a plaque should be placed by the tree. Cllr. Hall will also put a barrier round this area.

The draft Minutes are on the noticeboard and the next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 23rd January, 2012. All are welcome.

Jennifer Richards, Parish Clerk. T: 01223 894076

## A REMINDER

The Post Office will be closed between 27th December and 4th January.

## PAPERBOY/GIRL WANTED

Pepperpot News has a vacancy for Monday - Saturday early morning delivery of papers to West Wickham.

Contact Perry Capon for further details on 07890 412028 or email him on perry.capon@btinternet.com

## WEST WRATTING W.I.

Our members' meeting in November was an extremely enjoyable occasion which began with making table decorations which were to be used for the Over 60s lunch, followed by some delicious nibbles provided by all the members, accompanied by Gill's famous fruit punch. The highlight of the evening was being taught the Cha-Cha-Cha by Graeme Hein-Jones of "Strictly Dance" with demonstrations of the former and the Jive. Many thanks to Sue Gladstone and Carol Denny for organizing the evening and helping so brilliantly to demonstrate the dances.

We are very grateful for the donations which helped to offset the cost of the Over 60s lunch.

We will be serving tea at the History of West Wrattling display on 28 January and there will also be a chance to find out more about our history and what the WI, both locally and nationally, can offer. To have any chance of carrying on for this year and beyond, we do need new members so please come and talk to us.

Our AGM will be in West Wrattling Village Hall on Tuesday 31 January 2012 at 7.30 pm. I look forward to seeing all current members and those who are considering joining at this meeting.

Wishing all a Happy New Year.

Linda Gorman, President. T: 290635

## WWWI - nearly 90!

West Wrattling WI will be marking a fantastic milestone a year from now in January 2013, when it celebrates 90 years! The WW WI was founded in 1923 and today attracts women of all ages from our village and surrounding parish. Next year we will be ramping up to celebrate in style and the committee is working on exciting talks and events building up to January. We're always welcoming new members, and with so many new people in the area our meetings are a great way to catch up and make friends new and old.

Membership is just £30 a year and as a member you will receive a magazine 12 times a year. You are invited to our monthly meetings (the last Tuesday of the month 7:30pm - 10pm in the village hall) where we have a speaker or demonstration and always serve refreshments and have a raffle.

- Enjoy talks, trips and activities (such as flower arranging, wine tasting, cake decorating, and trips to see Calendar Girls!)
- Attend our annual garden party where partners and friends join in for a night of drinks, nibbles and entertainment.
- Join in our end of year meeting where we serve a simple supper and pudding enjoying quizzes and a good ole chin wag!
- Participate with our over 60's Christmas party (a tradition we have been running for over 25 years)
- Bake cakes and produce for our bi annual fund raiser at the village pump
- And much, much more.

For more information contact Linda Gorman or Di Licence.

Come and join us and help make our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday a celebration to remember.

Alison Harris and Linda Gorman (T: 290653)

## NATURE NOTES - KITE ATTACKS AEROPLANE SHOCK

Of course it didn't happen in West Wickham but there is a local connection. Our former neighbour Sharon's nephew is a model aeroplane enthusiast. He was out with his plane flying it on what looked like a deserted former World War 2 airfield in Surrey, a remote control device in his hand and a camera fixed to the top of the plane. Suddenly the plane lost power and plummeted to the ground. After a long search he found the plane and fortunately for us the camera was intact. The resulting video and soundtrack was quite amazing, because after seeing the crash from the plane's point of view there was a short silence followed by sounds of the plane being pecked at by a bird. The bird then came round to face the camera, so we were able to see the menacing beak and eye, and the streaked chest of a Red Kite. We can only muse on the precise circumstances of the crash and the motivation of the bird but what we do know is that it certainly wasn't filmed in a zoo.

Compared to this incident November into December seems to have been rather a quiet time for wildlife in West Wickham, although there has been a report of a snipe being seen, and yesterday you'll be pleased to know that I had two more Barn Owl sightings – one at about 4.15 just this side of Carlton Green, and the other at 9.30 near the Roman Road. I'm not certain how far they stray from their territories, but hopefully these were two different owls.

Di's musings also reflect a quiet month. *"With the exception of rats and mice, mainly caught in the headlights, crossing the road, and the grey squirrels stealing my peanuts, I have seen no mammals this month, not even a rabbit! Where have all the deer, fox, badger and hares gone to? (Some of them may be found in the quiz on page 4 - PG) Has anyone had any sightings around the parish, apart from Nicky who saw a lone hare up at the crossroads?"*

*November has been a good month for sunrises and sunsets. We recently walked the footpath just past the barn on the bottom road which goes up to the Balsham water tower - the hedgerows are full of berries and we disturbed flocks of fieldfares as we walked. The sun was setting over the wood to our left, and we stood and watched as it descended in a blaze of gold and white shafts of light, peeking from behind a black night cloud, which covered the sun, backed by a stunningly blue sky.*

*November has also been a great month for sky watching - beautiful clear nights, perfect for watching the moon waxing and waning, from tiny crescent to full circle, and star gazing, waiting for 'Orion' to rise in his full glory, and everyone's favourite the Plough' and 'Cassiopeia' the W shaped group. It's been a good month for shooting stars too, you just need a lot of patience and some warm clothes."*

Peter Grieve. Email: [mail@petergrieve.co.uk](mailto:mail@petergrieve.co.uk)

## THE DIRECTORY

Regretfully I haven't had time to check everything before this month's issue of the Village Voice was published. It will come to you with next month's issue.

Sue Thurston

## LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE COMMUNITY UPDATE

January is upon us and we have just the thing here at Linton Community Sports Centre to help shift those festive pounds - our brand new fitness suite!! All of the latest equipment is housed in a spacious, friendly environment that we are sure our users will love. As a New Year incentive we are offering new members in January a free Body Stat fitness test and personalised programme worth £30. Unlike other more corporate sports centres we do not ask that you sign a contract, our motto is, 'No contracts, no hassle' - or pay as you go!! We also offer a variety of fitness classes, new for January is Belly Dancing on a Friday evening from 7pm so come along to get fit and have fun.

Visit our website at [www.linton-sport-fitness.co.uk](http://www.linton-sport-fitness.co.uk) for further details.

Alternatively give us a call on 01223 890 248. or email us at [lcsc@lvc.org](mailto:lcsc@lvc.org)

We are currently accepting enrolments for our adult education programme, whether you want to master the art of sugarcraft or learn basic computer skills we have something for you.

50 plus yoga sessions take place on a Thursday morning 10:30am - 11:30am. Ideal for anyone over 50 who has existing health problems or who just wants to get fitter in a relaxed and friendly environment.

For further information on these and other courses please email [adulthoodeducation@lvc.org](mailto:adulthoodeducation@lvc.org) or call us on 01223891233 and select option 4.

We hope to see you throughout 2012

Steven Austin

### MIDWINTER QUIZ

Sorry I missed the Christmas edition. This is to give you something to do over the New Year.

The following are all cryptic clues for British mammals. One of them has probably never been seen in the parish, but all the others almost certainly have. I have not given the number of letters as this would make it too easy, but have said where the answer is two words. You can conclude from this that none of the answers is "The Beast of Balsham"

1. Priest with Turk's head
2. Good man has grain
3. Grade B organisation
4. Sound of pain follows trip, love (2 words)
5. Fast starter with love and kiss
6. Place for money against matador's cry (2 words)
7. Fund, say, - take all for oneself
8. Practical joke for beginner
9. Warmer without her top on
10. Group of women curtailed
11. The French get Doctor first
12. It's confusing why Pym's green - two points deducted

Please have a go and send your answers to me by 8th January either at 29 Burton End or by email to [mail@petergrieve.co.uk](mailto:mail@petergrieve.co.uk). A suitable prize could be on its way to you

Peter Grieve

## JUMBLE SALE

The Meadow School  
Balsham

Saturday, 28th January  
2.00-4.00 p.m.



Admission: 50p  
(Primary School aged children FREE)

CLOTHES- Mens \* Ladies \* Childrens \* Babies \* Second-hand Uniform

Books \* Toys \* Puzzles \* Games \* Shoes-Boots-Wellies \* Bric-a-Brac

### LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

Happy New Year to everyone from the College! Have you heard that we have a brand new, state of the art fitness suite? If you haven't, you might like to pop down to Linton Community Sports Centre and take a look. (ED. See article on left)

We have been delighted to see the revival of the Friends of LVC group in recent months. First there was the summer sponsored walk and the third event they are running is a Burns Night on 27<sup>th</sup> January. Once more, this is an opportunity to meet up with friends in the community and enjoy an evening of fun together. Tickets for the event are available from the College reception at £17.50 each. The price of the ticket includes a three course meal and ceilidh.

On the very same day, we are holding the opening ceremony and plaque unveiling for our new building. Our guest for this auspicious occasion is Sir David Hemery. David was a gold medallist at the Mexico Olympics and in recent years he has been involved in a project with young people, linked to London 2012, called 'The Best You Can Be'. Our Year 7 students are completing the project this year. My memories of David are from my own childhood in the 1970's when he was a regular contestant on 'Superstars', one of my favourite shows. It is fitting that in an Olympic year that a great Olympian is our guest of honour. The opening is just one of the events at LVC in 2012 which will have an Olympic flavour.

Caroline Derbyshire. Principal

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