

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

AUGUST 2013

ISSUE 124

## VILLAGE DIARY

- Sat 3 **Farmers Market. 9.00 - 12.00**  
**Linton Village College**
- Sun 4 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Tue 6 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 7 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sat 10 **GARDENING CLUB 30th ANNUAL SHOW. See page 1 for details**
- Sun 11 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Tue 13 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Wed 14 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 18 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Tue 20 Black wheeled bin collection
- Sun 25 Family service. 9.30, St Mary's Church
- Wed 28 Blue & green wheeled bin (day late) collection  
Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall

### A date for your diary

**SEPTEMBER 14th**  
**WEST WICKHAM FETE**  
**& CAR BOOT SALE**  
**MANOR FARM**

See page 3 for details

To book your car boot space phone  
**01223 290203**

**£10.00 a car – book early to avoid disappointment**

## 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 Louise Salter  
T: 01223 291226

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.

## PLAYGROUND

As you might have noticed the new playground installation is now complete. There was of course the usual hiccup that you expect when doing any building work. Some of the equipment arrived late, but thanks to the brilliant Wicksteed team working all weekend, they were all finished just 3 days late. I must also say a massive thanks to Simon Gibson of Fence & Fix, who kindly agreed to reduce his quote by £800 in order that we could afford it. He's done a great job too, and also put in some very long days in the sweltering heat! Thanks also to the mini team who turned up to move all that play bark (again!) and cut the grass at very short notice so as not to hold the contractors up!

So, wonderful news. However, at the time of writing (19 July), the 'closed' sign is still up and the park is still not officially open. The reason behind this is that we have had a lot of new soil added to the park to make interesting features for the children to run along, hide behind, whatever takes their fancy! We have seeded these areas and we desperately need the grass to start growing on them before the soil gets trampled down and the seed disappears. Please please could you bear with us for just a bit longer until the grass has established, so that the park can be the best it possibly can be? And if you could do a tiny rain dance (just night time rainfall would be fine!) that would be great too!

But well done West Wickham. It's taken a while, but we are almost there. And just how much this village has pulled together to achieve this, has really blown me away. There are so many people to thank that I couldn't possibly put them all here, but there will be an official opening ceremony (it's part of the grant conditions) and I will make sure they get a proper thank you there. Don't suppose anyone fancies organising that.....?!

Justin Plumb

Ed. We understand plans are afoot for a celebration picnic on Sunday 11 August. Watch out for posters.

## WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

West Wickham & District Gardening Club will be holding its Annual Show in August. Anyone can enter from West Wickham & Streetly End, as can visiting children or grandchildren. Residents from adjoining villages without a show of their own can enter, so why not encourage a friend to take part too. We hope you can be challenged into entering some exhibits or by coming and seeing how well your friends and neighbours have done. The show schedule is inserted into this month's Village Voice. For additional copies of this or the entry form please contact me. There are a wide variety of classes we hope will interest you – vegetables & fruit, cut flowers & pot plants, flower arrangements, classes just for children, cooking & jam making and photography. There are prize money and cups to be won.

**SATURDAY 10 AUGUST**

**WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL**  
**OPENING AT 2.00pm**

Exhibits can be brought to the hall between 9.30 and 11.30. The prize giving will be at 3.00pm, followed by an auction of produce.

Andrew Morris, 21 High Street, West Wickham, T: 290863  
Email: ANDREW.L.MORRIS@TALK21.COM

## BIG VILLAGE DIG - What a fantastic weekend!

There was a real buzz of excitement from the moment when everyone arrived at the Village Hall on Saturday morning for the briefing by Cambridge University archaeologist, Carenza Lewis (excitement in itself for fans of Carenza from her days on Time Team), to the taking of a group photograph on Sunday afternoon. 96 people actually registered to take part but we know that more family members, friends and neighbours joined them over the weekend. We were able to open 18 1m sq test pits across the village from the Mill House in Streetly End to 49 Burton End at the other extreme. Carenza and her team of Alex Pryor and Britt Baillie-Warren seemed to be everywhere rushing about on their bikes to help, advise and encourage. Homegrown archaeologist, Mathew, took a 'busman's holiday' (he is currently supervising further excavation on the Greyfriars site where Richard III was found in Leicester) to help as well.

It was lovely to see such interest in and enthusiasm for discovering something about the origins of the village. All ages were involved and many families had three generations working together – it seemed like one big party. On Sunday afternoon finds were brought back to the Village Hall where they were spread out for everyone to see before being bagged up and taken back to the University for expert identification. Tea and cakes were enjoyed by all before we had a summing up session when, without any warning, Carenza asked someone from each pit to stand up and share their experiences. It was great to hear them all so confidently talk about 'context' and 'hitting natural'!



Peter Grieve & Brian Upton in Burton End

What did we find? The oldest item was probably a Neolithic flint core left over from where small blades had been taken (a textbook example according to Carenza) from Jane's garden, the largest was what may be a stone hearthstone from Laura's garden in Streetly End, Stephen & Karen seemed to be working their way through a Victorian rubbish dump (their finds included a bottle with a feather in it – any ideas anyone), 300 flint stones came from Vivienne's pit and Keith and Anita found a human toe bone (they were in the field next to the church). There were lots of brick, tile, old nails and glass in the other pits along with the all in important pieces of pottery that will really provide our dating evidence for medieval or possibly even earlier settlement.

So what's the next step? We have to wait for the finds to be identified and analysed and when we receive the final report sometime in the autumn we will be inviting you all to

another get-together to tell you all about it. In the meantime do have a look on our page at [westwickham.org](http://westwickham.org) and post your comments on Facebook.



Carenza Lewis & the Cameron Family in Streetly End

On behalf of West Wickham & District Local History Club I would like to say a big thank you to all who took part in the Big Village Dig in whatever shape or form - those who offered their gardens, diggers, sievers, pot washers & recorders; tea makers & cake bakers, washer uppers and those who set out and put away chairs; Rosemarie Parks for visiting every test pit taking photographs; those who lent items like seed trays, or printed maps or donated paper plates & serviettes; Mathew whose recent 'fame' we shamelessly used for publicity purposes; the Village Hall Committee for being so helpful about hiring the Hall and allowing us to use the website and the Parish Council for allowing use of maps. Finally, a big thank you to the archaeologists, Carenza, Alex and Britt – we could not have done it without them and Britt in particular has been our allocated researcher and supported us all the way through. The support from you all has been wonderful and is very much appreciated. Perhaps we should do it all again!

Janet Morris, 21 High Street

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

**Finds identification** - Britt has sent me pdfs of the Pottery Identification Guide and of a Guide to the identification of man made flint & tool types. Let me know if you would like me to send you a copy or you are very welcome to borrow our laminated copies.

**Alex's sunglasses** – archaeologist Alex put his sunglasses down in the Village Hall and we think someone must have picked them up in mistake for their own. If you find you have 2 pairs please drop one in to me, Janet, or to Britt at Old Farm Cottage, 51 High Street, as Alex would very much like them back.

**Looking to follow up** – why not make a visit to Cambridge University's recently re-furbished Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology in Downing Street. Local archaeology is on the ground floor, world archaeology on the second and in between are the anthropological collections of objects from round the world showing art and material culture. Summer opening hours are Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5 and the museum (as are all the University's museums) is free.

## DAISY CHAINS PRESCHOOL

are delighted to announce that we were recently graded by OFSTED as OUTSTANDING in all areas of our childcare.

We were inspected, unannounced on 7 June and subsequently awarded an official grading by letter 10 days later. You cannot imagine how difficult it was to keep our grading secret until we had been notified in writing and could then announce it to the whole world ! We are so proud at the report that the preschool has received. Here are some of the findings from the report :-

- Children have access to high quality continuous provisions, and, as a result they have extensive opportunities to develop their own ideas about play.
- Safeguarding and Child Protection are given the highest priority.
- Practitioners demonstrate a consistently outstanding knowledge and understanding of how young children learn and develop. They work very hard to deliver educational programmes which meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (Sept 2012).
- Parents that were spoken to praise the preschool highly for its dynamic approach to building partnerships with them and the progress that their children whilst there.
- Through the motivated, professional practitioners and comprehensive policies the preschool offers children a superb learning and welfare experience.
- The preschool demonstrates a relentless drive to produce the best possible care and early education for its children'

and so on. To see a copy of the full report please go to [www.OFSTED.gov.uk](http://www.OFSTED.gov.uk).

The staff at Daisy Chains would like to thank everybody who has supported us in any way since our last inspection in January 2009 when we were awarded only a 'Satisfactory' grading.

Daisy Chains is a friendly, community based preschool that gives children 2 - 5 years old a happy and stimulating environment in which to discover and play. It is situated in a large, airy village hall with ample off road parking and a secure outdoor play area. We will soon have the benefit of a brand new outdoor adventure play area in which to have fun and expel some energy. We take all children 2-5 years old and we are a feeder preschool for The Meadow Primary School at Balsham.

If you would like your child to come to Daisy Chains then please ring Sue Harrow, Preschool Leader on 01223290512 to arrange a visit to the setting, or contact us on [daisychains.westwickham@gmail.com](mailto:daisychains.westwickham@gmail.com)

We would love to see you.

Sue Harrow

Ed. Sue has been far too modest in her article and fails to mention the report comments on her inspirational leadership. Well done Sue and congratulations to you, all the helpers and the Pre School committee.

## DIRECTORY UPDATE

The telephone contact number for the Small Villages Community Warden has changed to 01354 696650 This is a temporary number and we will update you in due course with the new permanent number.

## WEST WICKHAM FETE & CAR BOOT SALE

MANOR FARM  
SEPTEMBER 14th at 1pm

Fun for all the family  
**BBQ lunch 1pm**  
Cakes, Tombola, Games and Races  
Bouncy Castle, Go Karting  
Teas, Beer Tent,  
Bric-a Brac, Lucky Dip  
Raffle, Secondhand Book stall  
Plants, Produce & Preserves  
Teas, Ice cream Parlour  
And lots more

To book your car boot space phone 01223 290203  
£10.00 a car – book early to avoid disappointment

## DONATIONS FOR THE FETE

Please will you help in any way you can. We need you to have a clear out of all those presents you've been given that you never use that we can sell on the Bric a Brac stall. A Raffle Prize or a bottle for the Tombola, Books, Bric a Brac etc. I can collect on the afternoon of Saturday 20 August or please drop off at Manor Farm, (just inside the gate) or in the post box.

Any queries please call Nicky Cornish T: 290203

## CAKES.....PLEASE.....!!!!!!

It does not seem possible that it is 2 years since I was last appealing to you all for support. But it is and so, PLEASE will you be as generous as you have been in the past? Will you bake a cake for us for our stall at the Church Fete on Saturday 14 September?

There are so many talented cooks in the village and always a demand for home made cakes, buns or biscuits. Since our last Fete we have had a lot of new people living in West Wickham and it would be lovely if some of you would come forward to help. If you are not into baking, would you give us a bought cake? All contributions will be gratefully accepted.

On the day, cakes can be left at Manor Farm or delivered to us, Vivienne at April Cottage, 111 High Street or Shirley at 13 Maypole Croft. If you have a problem, we can arrange to collect. It would be helpful to know in advance if you can contribute. Our contact numbers are:

Vivienne Henderson. T: 290243  
Email: [viviennehenderson@btinternet.com](mailto:viviennehenderson@btinternet.com)  
Shirley Hulyer. T: 290720

## PLANTS, PRODUCE & PRESERVES

Andrew and I will again be running this stall at the fete so please spare us a thought if you are dealing with that glut or digging up or propagating plants.

Janet Morris

## FRANCIS WOOLLEY

£555.20 was collected at the Thanksgiving service for Canon Francis Woolley. At the wish of his family this will be forwarded to Cancer Research UK.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

We have now had our last meeting of this school year and we said goodbye to Caitlin and Olivia. Caitlin is moving onto Guides and Olivia is moving out of the area, we wish them both luck with their new units.

During the term we have been finishing off the Anglia 13 and Jarman Centre 25th Birthday Challenges. We have also completed our Craft badge by making jewellery, Fathers' Day cards and gifts, making decorations for a church flower display in August, etc.

Twelve Brownies had a great time on the Brownie Sunflower Safari at Scotsdales Garden Centre at the beginning of June. They completed a treasure hunt around the store and made a miniature garden and wildflower caterpillar which they have had to look after, they also went home with their Gardener badge.

The order has now gone into Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers, many thanks to all of you who donated your vouchers to us. We collected just over 5,600 which isn't bad for a small Brownie unit in a rural village.

We return to Brownies on Wednesday 11 September, same time and same place. We hope you all have a good summer break.

If you would like to put your daughter on our waiting list you will need to register at

[www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

but if you would like more information on what we do then please drop Sophie and I an email.

PAULINE and SOPHIE. E: [brownies@horseheath.info](mailto:brownies@horseheath.info)

## SAWSTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

### Adult Learning

Our new 2013 - 2104 Course Programme will shortly be arriving through your door.

We hope we have included something for everyone this year. However, if you are a group of friends or colleagues who share the same interests, please let us know and we will do our best to organise a short course designed especially for you.

Check out our website [www.sawstonadulted.org](http://www.sawstonadulted.org) for all courses available.

We are running various taster sessions on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September and the new term starts week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Please see our website for further information.

### BOOKING ESSENTIAL

The office will be open from Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August. Telephone 01223 712424 between 9.00am - 1.00pm. Postal enrolments can be sent at any time and will be processed from the 20<sup>th</sup> August onwards.

**PLEASE ENROL EARLY TO AVOID  
DISAPPOINTMENT.**

## BUSES

The County Council has now analysed the results of the recent bus questionnaire and has gone to tender with the hope of introducing the new service on 28 October. For the Monday - Friday 19 service there was an overwhelming majority for option 1. This is the service we have at the moment - to Linton to connect to the Stagecoach 13 bus and then through to Haverhill. The new service will give West Wickham many more buses, 6 out of the village, about every 2 hours from 8.08 am to 5.14pm and 5 request return journeys arriving back every 2 hours from 10.30am to 6.30pm. The 16A Monday to Friday service will not change.

For the Saturday 16A service there was a majority in favour of changing to a later journey into Cambridge. This will be at 10.47am, rather than the current time of 7.27am. The thinking is that will better suit shoppers and leisure users than Saturday workers but with a return journey of 5.40pm from Cambridge I have my doubts whether this bus will be well used.

Thank you to all the households that returned the questionnaire. Janet and I will continue with the fight for a better public transport service for this village and your support has been invaluable.

Andrew Morris

## HELPING YOU FIND BENEFICIAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

As we get older we all need a little bit of support with things that we begin to find more difficult. There are lots of good groups, services, and support available in the area but not everyone knows what is out there or how to access it. Your local Community Navigator can help.

Community Navigators are friendly, local people who guide people to activities or services which they would enjoy or find useful. A Navigator could, for example, help you find:

- a local door-to-door transport scheme to get you to appointments
- services to help you get shopping or hot meals
- equipment to help you remain independent at home like 'Lifeline' alarms or grab rails
- a club, group, or course to meet new people or learn new skills

**A local Community Navigator will be available at Linton Health Centre 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month.** The service is free, and there is no need to make an appointment, so please pop in and have an informal chat with your new Community Navigator. There may be more available to you than you think. If you would like more information please contact the team on 01954 212100 or email:

[southcambsnavigators@care-network.org.uk](mailto:southcambsnavigators@care-network.org.uk)

## GARAGE SALE

**of framed prints, mounted prints and spare frames**

in most standard sizes (50% off all prices!)

24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> August

between 9 am and 5 pm daily at

Cherry Tree Cottage

Mill Hill, Weston Colville

## NATURE NOTES

In last month's Nature Notes, I said I was hoping for a butterfly summer with calm and warm conditions. Some may say be careful what you wish for, but the weather arrived and sure enough the butterflies are out in numbers. Ringlets seem to be the most numerous, but there have also been plenty of meadow browns, speckled woods and small tortoiseshells, which have been making a comeback this year after a near-disastrous decline, and I'm very pleased to say there have been Skippers at the roadside, down Blacklands Lane and even in our gardens here in Burton End. Skippers are quite difficult to distinguish but I rather think these are Essex Skippers with their liking for purple flowers and (if you can get close enough to see them) inky black tips to their antennae. We mustn't forget the whites – large, small and green-veined, laying their eggs on our brassicas, and I even saw a Brimstone recently, presumably a second brood. For butterfly watchers, I can recommend walking along the riverside running parallel with the old railway line at Haverhill, or Pocket Park at Linton where I saw numerous bright orange Commas, recently emerged from their chrysalis.

Di draws our attention to the roadside verges *“jammed with wildflowers and grasses and the beautiful butterflies. The wild flowers seem to me to be in two colour schemes, the purples consisting of knapweed, field scabious, tufted vetch and mallow, and also the pink willow herbs are now in flower. The other colour scheme is yellow through to white, bright yellow buttercups and St. John's Wort, together with the creamy meadowsweet and white hogweed. There is a HUGE giant hogweed opposite the turning to Chapel Road in West Wrating, which must be over six feet tall, with flower heads the size of a dinner plates. Poppies and if you are lucky bee orchids can also been seen hidden within the other flowers. I also found a patch of smooth tare*

*in the field, a member of the pea family with the tiniest of pink flowers. The grasses are many and equally beautiful.”* Can I also put a word in for a beautiful display of the pale blue chicory on the field margin next to Leys Wood? But get there before the evening because the flowers shut down for the night.

Di also comments on an early Red Admiral seen on her neighbour's wall, and Blues on the recreation ground. I shall be taking a stroll down the Devil's Dyke in the near future to see if there are any Chalkhill Blues this year, and I must tell you of a recent trip on the trail of the Purple Emperor. On arrival at the wood near the Suffolk Coast we came upon a man with a small cage. He had rescued Purple Emperor caterpillars which were on a willow branch about to fall victim to the farmer's flail and had kept them in his shed over the winter. Our timing was perfect as he took out the newly emerged Imperial Majesty and released her to fly up into the trees where she sat and would be waiting for a male to arrive. It was a magic moment.

We mustn't forget the birds, which Di pointed out are singing again – quite late in the year to my mind. She mentions in particular, a thrush which has been singing from a tree behind Ann's house. I can certainly add to that with one which sings at 5.30 a.m. onwards outside our bedroom. Uplifting in every sense of the word. She also mentions Little Owl sightings at the bottom of Arthur's garden and two others near the church. They haven't been calling though.

Di's final comment: *“I've just got home and Steve has informed me that he watched a pair of tree creepers refreshing themselves in the bird bath this morning; the first in the garden for several years.”*

Peter Grieve. T: 290503. Email: [mail@petergrieve.co.uk](mailto:mail@petergrieve.co.uk)

## BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT

You have until 11 August to count the butterflies and day flying moths you see in a 15 minute period – in your garden, on a walk – as many places and times as you like. Download an ID chart and report your results on [www.bigbutterflycount.org](http://www.bigbutterflycount.org).

## TO ALL BUDDING BABYSITTERS

Are there any responsible teenagers or adults looking to make a little extra cash? Louise Salter, Nikki Cornish and the West Wickham Village website are looking to establish a resource of would-be babysitters in the village where visitors to the website can make a request for a babysitter for a particular day and time, and the opportunity would be offered via email to all of them. If you would be available and interested in the opportunity, you need simply respond to both the email and the enquirer and the rest is up to you. This booking service is provided free through the West Wickham Village Website, and it will be up to you to set your rates and agree conditions with the enquirer. Your email address and contact details will remain confidential, until you disclose them to the enquirer. If you wish, you could also have your own [@westwickham.org](mailto:@westwickham.org) email address forwarded to your normal email address. For additional details or to notify us of your interest, please email [babysitters@westwickham.org](mailto:babysitters@westwickham.org)



The Meadow School PTA

# Craft & Gift Fair

**Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th October 2013**

**10.30am to 4pm**

At The Meadow Primary School  
High Street, Balsham, CB21 4DJ

Entrance: Adults £1; Children/Concessions 50p; Under 5s Free  
Free Parking

* Handmade Crafts	* Gifts	* Tombola
* Toys	* Sweets	* Cakes
* Plus much more....		

**Come along... grab yourself a bargain for Christmas**

More information can be found on our website or telephone 01223 894 400  
The Meadow Primary School is a registered charity: 1148295  
[www.themeadowbalsham.co.uk](http://www.themeadowbalsham.co.uk) [pta@meadow.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:pta@meadow.cambs.sch.uk)

## FROM THE VICARAGE

Napoleon famously said that above all he required his generals to have luck. I am not sure whether winning a crate of beer in the Balsham Flower Festival raffle would qualify as having good luck. I certainly failed to scoop the £50 prize in the Weston Colville raffle. On the other hand in the annus mirabilis of 2009 at Compton Fete (Compton being a previous parish, in case you didn't know) not only did I correctly guess the weight of the British Legion cake, I also won at Ferret Roulette, a game of enormous skill involving a ferret and a set of drainpipes. Don't ask. Had Napoleon been observing, he would doubtless have signed me up for La Grande Armee there and then.

Of course, particularly in small rural parishes, raffles and fetes and flower festivals, to say nothing of ferret roulette, are all ways of raising money-and necessary ones. And now is as good an opportunity as any to say thank you to all those who work so hard to make such occasions the success they are. But what I have been spending quite a bit of time doing recently is trying to persuade members of congregations that regular giving, by standing orders, is a more reliable and less chancy means of ensuring a steady and assured income for the local church. "Oh, the church is always going on about money" some of you will say. Actually it makes a change from being told that the church is always going on about sex. In any event which voluntary organisation doesn't go on about money? Nobody moans about the British Legion raising money. Why complain about the church? In fact I don't think we go on about money enough. As far as I can tell, it has been ages since there was any realistic discussion about giving in Weston Colville and West Wrating. As a result very few people had any idea how much it costs per week to keep the church going; few had any idea what a realistic level of giving might be; and few had any idea where the money went. I know other parishes within the wider benefice have had or will have similar campaigns so we should all be better informed and I hope more realistic and generous in our giving. And not just to the Church.

I well remember a sermon in Westminster Abbey by Rowan Williams on the occasion of the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Queen Anne's Bounty, the fore runner of the Church Commissioners. He said how rarely did preachers, himself included, talk about the ethics of money, of the importance in Christian discipleship of a right use of money and possessions. It isn't the Church which is always going on about money. It's Jesus. Just read the gospels. Which is a line I suspect that the new Archbishop may take. Archbishop Welby has worked in the oil industry (hence Private Eye's nickname, Justin Oilwelsby- geddit?) and knows a thing or two about making money. He serves on the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards and by all accounts has been quite an informed and effective inquisitor. At the same time Pope Francis has adopted a much more austere lifestyle than any of his immediate predecessors and is clearly concerned about issues to do with wealth and possessions, what the Church does and what individual Christians do.

So watch this space. We might all be in for some surprises.

John Fellows

## LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

Every year we say that the second half of the summer term at the College is very busy, but I think this year may break all previous records, because so much has been going on and it's all magical stuff! Tony Kelly produces a LVC newsletter once a month for us and it is usually a light combination of photographs and descriptions. This month, the two sides of A4 were covered in pictures of events with few words required and we could have easily produced a booklet.

The summer events kicked off with a feast of music: our summer soiree presented the community with the highest overall standard of playing and singing that I have heard in the 8 summers I have been here. Our Windband, who recently toured Tuscany, make a polished, tight sound, but it is the 50 person choir that stands out for me. Years 9 and 10 in particular, have a strong number of gifted singers in them and we still have another year to go to enjoy the way their young voices blend together in four part harmony.

We have also enjoyed a festival of sport. Inspired by the Olympics, our athletes performed well once more at the Jubilee Cup competition. Our middle distance runners are especially talented at the moment, as are our girl cricketers who were recently encouraged by a visit to the school by the England Captain, Charlotte Edwards and her team mates, Lydia Greenway and Beth Morgan.

The novelist Joseph Delaney visited the school in late June to encourage our young writers and was quickly followed by a visit from our South African link school, Boepathutse Secondary, near to Pretoria. Seven learners and two educators stayed with students and teachers here and a group from LVC will make the return trip next summer. The link has now lasted 12 years and this is the fourth time that we have hosted the South Africans in my time and I believe it is the best exchange so far: the young people bonded with their hosts from the moment they met and there were many tears when they left us. It was great to hear that the feeding shelter that our fundraising has provided for the Aids Orphans has now been built.

And then there was the Year 11 Ball, Sports Day, Mandela Day, Enrichment Week, I could go on and on. It has been a golden time.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

## HELP RAISE FUNDS

Postcards of any age, new or used - if used please do not take off the stamp! Every single postcard is worth money and the money raised goes to the Anglican church in Sudan and South Sudan where it is very much needed and appreciated. Any enquires (or deliveries) to Joanna Sanders, Nine Chimney House, Balsham. T:893063. Thanks in advance!

### PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 16 August

Editors: Sue Thurston & Andrew Morris  
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or contact Sue on:  
T: 01223 290503. e-mail: mail@suethurston.co.uk  
contact Andrew on T: 01223 290863.  
e-mail: editor\_wwwvillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk