

VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

SEPTEMBER 2018

ISSUE 184

VILLAGE DIARY

- Sat 1 **CHURCH FETE. 1pm onwards at Manor Farm.**
- Sun 2 United parishes' service. 10.45, Balsham Church. See page 2.
- Mon 3 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Sat 8 Balsham Community Market. 2 – 4pm, Prince Memorial Stand. See page 2
- Sun 9 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 10 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 12 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Fri 14 **Deadline for items for inclusion in the October edition of the Village Voice**
- Sun 16 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 17 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
Gardening Club AGM. 7.30pm, Village Hall
- Wed 19 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sat 22 **HUB NIGHT. 7 – 11pm, Village Hall**
- Sun 23 Morning worship. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 24 Black wheeled bin collection
Parish Council meeting. 7.30pm, Village Hall. All are welcome to attend
- Sun 30 Harvest Festival service. 9.15, St Mary's Church

Daisy Chains Pre-School meets

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30 – 12.30

Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 – 2.30 (includes lunch club) in the Village Hall

THE VILLAGE HALL

is available to hire at the rates below, it also offers the following equipment: Badminton, Short Tennis and 3 Table Tennis tables.

Village Hall rates (for Village use):

Sport Hire	day or evening £8.00/hour
Meeting Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £5.00/hour. evening £7.00/hour.
Main Room	day (9.00 – 19.00) £7.00/hour evening £10.00/hour.
Complete Hall	day (9.00 – 19.00) £12.00/hour evening £18.00/hour
Children's party	£30.00 daytime £43.00 evening
Adult's party/disco	£60.00
Wedding reception	£150.00

To book the Village Hall contact Louise Salter
T: 01223 291226

Email: bookings@westwickham.org
or visit 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.



West Wickham Church Fete at Manor Farm 1pm on Saturday 1 September

**Raffle Tombola
Books Toys Bric a Brac
Produce Teas Lucky Dip
Bowling for the Pig
Childrens Races and Games
BBQ and Bar**

Please turn out your cupboards for good Bric a Brac, Books, bottles for the Tombola Stall and Raffle Prizes.

All items can be delivered to Manor Farm and left at the gate or in the post box.

HEDGING OVERHANGING PAVEMENTS

Please would those homeowners whose hedges run alongside the pavements in West Wickham and Streetly End check that they are not impeding pedestrians and if necessary cut them back. If an overgrown hedge is left uncut the Parish Council could get someone to do this job and pass the cost on to the owners.

Jenny Richards (Parish Clerk)

PARISH COUNCIL OF WEST WICKHAM VACANCY FOR A COUNCILLOR

There is a vacancy on the above Council caused by insufficient nominees for 2018 local election. A bye-election to fill the vacancy will be held within 14 days (not counting Saturday and Sundays) from the date below if ten electors of the parish give notice in writing claiming such an election to the Returning Officer.

The address of the Returning Officer is:

The Returning Officer, South Cambs. District Council, Cambourne, CB23 6EA

If no such notice is given the Parish Council will fill the vacancy by co-option

Dated: 1 September 2018

Jennifer Richards, Parish Clerk: 88 High St., Balsham, CB21 4EP

Email: parish.clerk@westwickham.org / T: 01223 665260

FROM THE VICARAGE

Six months ago Claire Gillett, our Parish Nurse, wrote a letter in the magazine introducing the new newsletter about her work in our Granta Vale Group of churches. As she explained, Claire works three days a week, on Mondays, Tuesday or Wednesday, and Thursday. She is now supported by a volunteer, Sue Buckingham, who has worked locally for Age UK. Claire has an honorary contract with our local Granta Medical Practice, with access to Linton Health Centre

Claire is in a similar position to the Chaplaincy Volunteers who work in the Chaplaincy at Addenbrookes Hospital alongside the Hospital Chaplains. She is a member of our Ministry Team, regularly meeting with us at our Monday morning prayers and our staff meetings. She makes it clear to the patients she visits that she is ready to pray with them if they ask.

Parish Nurses were first established in 1986 in the USA, and have now spread to twenty-three countries around the world. They first began here in the UK twelve years ago in 2006. The newly appointed Bishop of London, the Rt. Revd Sarah Mullally who was, before her consecration the Head Nurse of the NHS, has been a supporter of the new movement.

If you would like to learn more about Parish Nursing, please visit the website parishnursing.org.uk.

There are two events in September, one at the beginning and one at the end. On Saturday 1 September the West Wickham Church Fete will be held at Manor Farm, West Wickham. The Holy Trinity Flower Festival will be on Saturday 29 September and Sunday 30 September. It will be a celebration of the harvest, called 'For the beauty of the Earth.'

Keith Johnson

Change to services. On the first Sunday of each month, from 2 September onwards, we will be having a united service at Balsham church, bringing together the churches from Balsham, West Wickham, Weston Colville, West Wrattling, Hildersham and Great and Little Abington. These services will include activities for children in the Church Institute or elsewhere and refreshments for all after the service. This service will also be supported by our seven churches choir and music group. For any further information about this please contact Revd Iain McColl on 01223 890693

TREASURER NEEDED FOR DAISY CHAINS PRE-SCHOOL

Daisy Chains Pre-School in West Wickham is looking for a new treasurer to start ASAP with hand over from the current treasurer. This is a voluntary position and there is no need to have children currently associated with the preschool. Duties include funding issues and registration, invoicing, charity commission issues, general preschool monies e.g. expenses, paying bills, float for fundraisers etc, and compiling accounts for our committee meetings and yearly reports. We employ a payroll company for staff wages. The committee meets every other month. If this is a role that interests you please get in touch on 01223291344 / 07779277647 or at jess@agrarian.biz.

Jess Ashbridge, Chair of Daisy Chains Pre-School

THE ANNUAL SHOW

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Gardening Club's Annual show this year - all the exhibitors, the judges, those who came along to admire the produce on show, take part in the raffle and auction and enjoy tea and cake and of course the hardworking Committee and Club members working to make the day a success. It was a good day.

The number of entries was the same as in 2015 but considerably down from the last show in 2016. It was encouraging to see some first-time exhibitors taking part and I hope they have been inspired to have another go next time. Considering the "difficult" growing conditions the vegetable and flower classes were better than expected and somewhat surprisingly the categories with the fewest entries were not those that would necessarily have been affected by the weather: the domestic classes and the children's classes. Disappointingly there were no entries in the flower arranging class. Happily the photography classes which were reintroduced this year produced a healthy number of entries which kept the judge busy.

If you have any suggestions as to how to make the Show more appealing to both exhibitors and spectators, the Committee would be very interested to hear from you. The date of the Show has moved over the years in an attempt to find the best time when exhibitors have the most produce to show and the village is not all away on holiday. The 3rd Saturday in August has, in the past, seemed to produce the best results.

Sue Thurston

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL TRUST AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Trust is to be held on Monday, 1 October at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. The meeting is open to all Village residents, so please come along and have your say on the use, management and maintenance of your Village Hall.

* Eat Well * Live Well * Celebrate Community



**Balsham
Community Market**
Bringing Food & Friends Together
Outdoor Market
Saturday 8th September
2pm to 4pm
**Prince Memorial
Stand**

The perfect opportunity to pick up seasonal,
local fresh produce on your door step!
balshammarket@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the meeting held on 23 July 2018 the following items were discussed.

Matters arising:

1. *Recreation ground upkeep:* Quotes from contractors will be sought but because of the considerable cost of grass cutting other options are being looked into.
2. *Streetly End telephone box:* It was agreed to ask Lucy Cameron from Streetly End if she was still interested in heading a project to re-use the box to everyone's benefit.
3. *Allotment vacancy:* At the time of the meeting there was a vacancy but this has since been filled. One allotment is not in a good condition and the holders have been asked to clear the weeds. This may possibly become available.

Planning:

S/3130/17/F. A Champ, 15 Burton End. Amendment to plan. Supported (Permission granted)

S/0507/18/PL. M Cornish, Land west of 13 Burton End. Outline planning permission for the erection of 5 dwellings. Supported (Permission granted)

S/2248/18/VC. T Getacre. Hanger 1, Skippers Lane. Variation of condition 2. Supported.

S/1215/17/OL. W Stone. The Meadow, Streetly End. Outline planning permission for a replacement dwelling. Not supported (Permission refused).

Cllr. Harvey was thanked for the work he put into getting permission granted on S/0507/18/PL.

Finance: A full list of authorised payments is shown in the minutes posted on the notice board. It was agreed that a 2.3% increase in salary should be awarded to the Parish Clerk.

Transport – A1307 proposed dualling “Northern Option” action group update: Georgina Magin reported on this. Cambridgeshire County Council have not clarified their position regarding the proposed dual carriageway but are supporting the Strategy Board who support the other A1307 proposed changes but not the dual carriageway.

Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr. Sargeant told the Council that the layout of the Character Assessment would be carried out by “Red Graphics”, a design company in Sawston. Trevor

Hall had already received the first draft and the Working Group would be discussing this at their July meeting. The Chairman stressed that the Parish Council must be kept informed and also approve as they are funding this.

Maintenance:

1. *Speed Indicators (SPIDS) and Speed Watch reports:* As half the cars going through Streetly End are speeding the SPIDS have been set up there and data collected so that the Police can set up a speed trap. (Ed. To clarify the reports in last months Village Voice. The Speedwatch sessions are only an hour long, whereas the speed indicators operate for a much longer period. Therefore the data collected cannot be compared, so there is a much higher figure recorded for drivers speeding in the period monitored by Speedwatch, usually at “rush hour”).
2. *Damaged road signs:* These are gradually being repaired or replaced
3. *Plot opposite Maypole Croft owned by the Potter family:* No work has been done to clear this land and a reminder will be sent to SCDC concerning the S215 enforcement notice.

Reports by County Cllr. Batchelor and District Cllr Harvey: These are available on the website and in the Minutes.

Any other Business:

1. Overhanging hedging onto pavements – **See separate notice about this.**
2. Footpath 3 needs reinstating and also the diagonal path No.14. The footpath alongside the Village Hall rear car park needs pruning.
3. Co-option – there is still one vacancy – **See separate notice about this.**

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on
Monday 24 September at 7.30pm.**

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk. T: 01223 665260,
Email: parish.clerk@westwickham.org

NEW TO THE VILLAGE?

Or even a long-time resident and want to meet your neighbours and make new friends? There is a variety of enjoyable clubs to join which meet regularly in the Village Hall and are ideal.

The **Carpet Bowls Club** meets every Wednesday at 7pm. Carpet bowls is easy to pick up, not too strenuous and is suitable for all ages and abilities. It is a very sociable sport and there are regular opportunities to play friendly matches against other clubs in the area.

The **West Wickham & District Local History Club** meets at 7.30pm on the 2nd Monday of the month from October to April for a programme of talks on the local area. There are usually summer evening visits to places of interest and phase 1 of a community archaeology project has recently been completed.

The first talk is on 8 October when Barry Young will be giving an illustrated talk on *Haverhill through Time*.

The **West Wickham & District Gardening Club** meets at 7.30pm on the 3rd Monday of the month from September to

April for talks on all aspects of gardens and gardening. There are evening visits to local gardens in the summer and a day trip farther afield. The Club also organises a renowned plant sale in May and an annual show (open to all) in August.

The programme starts with the AGM on 17 September (a good chance to chat and review the successes and failures of the year) and the first talk is on 15 October when David Hack will be talking on *Wildlife in your Garden*.

For further details of any of these (or if you want a friendly face to take you along) please contact Janet Morri.

T: 290863 Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

or there is more information under Clubs on the village website westwickham.org

★ **HUB NIGHT!** ★

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEXT DATE: **22.09.2018** 7PM-11PM



NATURE NOTES

Many people have remarked this year on the fluctuating fortunes of the wasp family. The contrast between last summer, when barely a buzz was heard, and this, when our stripy friends have been relatively abundant, is striking. We should welcome this comparative resurgence as a force for good, even though they sometimes sting us, eat our fruit and dive into our beer. They are also pollinators and consumers of waste. We have hosted two nests in our garden and one on the roof, with only minor inconvenience to us. Meanwhile the bigger cousin of the wasp, the hornet, continues to visit Di's rotten log, scraping off the soft fibres of the wood and flying off, rather than actually building a nest in the log. Further up the road, Shirley and Derek do have a hornet's nest under their eaves - possibly a bit too close for comfort. Our pond dried up in the drought so we took the opportunity to put down a new liner. While filling it, many a wasp came to sip at the water's edge, while at the same time a microscopic insect did the same at a droplet of water on the surface of the liner. It certainly brought home the huge divergence of scale among living things.

If anyone has taken part in the Big Butterfly Count, it would be interesting to know your results, so perhaps we could start to compile some figures for West Wickham, and possibly make comparisons in future years. In my case, the results have been mixed. There have been plenty of small and large whites desperately trying to lay their eggs on my purple sprouting broccoli, and good numbers of gatekeepers, but a paucity of small tortoiseshells and peacocks. The garden has been visited by a holly blue, speckled wood, comma, small skipper, brimstone and red admiral but only the brimstone was present during my count. There have also been a couple of sightings of painted ladies in the village.

While the butterflies have been enjoying the sunshine, Di has noticed that that flowers and trees have been fast-forwarding to Autumn, despite it only being August. Several of the bigger tree species have been shedding their leaves early, and the smaller hedgerow trees are in full fruit. The mountain ash at the Village Hall look stunning with their branches laden, and it looks as though there will be a decent crop of blackberries despite the dry summer. As for the wildflowers, many have gone over but there are still some stragglers of knapweed and scabious along the footpaths. Some flowers have recovered, and Pam has a patch of pale yellow toadflax on her path.

As far as the song birds are concerned, most of them are quiet although a family of buzzards has been based in the tree in the middle of the field between us and Trevor and Carol. The young have been very noisily demanding food for several weeks even though they have left the nest. We have heard tawny and little owl noises on a few occasions recently, while Sue spotted a barn owl up by the airfield the other evening. Di mentions that blue, great and coal tits have been making use of their bird bath as a watering hole during the dry period.

The dreaded motor car continues to wreak a heavy toll of wildlife. The rain has brought out some of the frogs who had been lying low during the drought and I found one squashed, while Di found a dead mole on the road. There was also a report of a dead polecat, a slightly bigger version of the domestic ferret, found in Dean Road.

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

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Nurse: Claire Gillett, T:07498994205
email:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com
Community Warden: Karen Williams, T: 07717871832

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

DAISY CHAINS PRE-SCHOOL BINGO NIGHT

Saturday 6 October, 7.30pm in the Village Hall

AUTUMN CONCERT - ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, WEST WRATTING

Saturday 6 October -7.00 pm

We will be holding a concert on Saturday 6th October 2018 at 7.00 pm in aid of St. Andrew's. We are delighted that we will have a choir from King's School, Ely performing for us as well as other local musicians. On this occasion we are delighted to be holding it in St. Andrew's Church itself. Tickets £10.00 including interval refreshments, children free, raffle.

Contact Linda or Michael Gorman 01223 290653

BALSHAM CRAFT, GIFT & FOOD FAIR

Meadow School

13 & 14 October 10:30am - 4pm

Christmas will soon be upon us. Why not pop along & see what handmade crafts, gifts & food there is to offer for yourselves, friends & family.

Familiar faces plus a few new ones attending this year. Crafts, tombola, sweets, lucky dip & face painting for the children.

Our café with tasty treats & beautiful cakes.

Hope to see you there.

WHAT'S ON IN WESTON COLVILLE

'Pub' Quiz. Five teams competed for the cash prize in April, and we're holding another quiz on Wednesday, 19 September, 8pm at the Reading Room. Up to 4 per team, entry £2 per person. Bar includes wine, cider and draft ale. All welcome, enquiries: jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com, 291475

The Lost Words. On Saturday 15 September, there'll be an event to share Robert Macfarlane's poems with Jackie Morris's exquisite paintings. Come to the Reading Room in Weston Colville at 4pm, all welcome, refreshments available. Enquiries: jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com, 291475

Cinema Club. We're back at the beginning of next month with a Coen brothers' crime comedy, *O Brother Where Art Thou?* starring George Clooney and with an award-winning bluegrass soundtrack. Reading Room, Wednesday, 3 October 7.30pm, all welcome, refreshments available.

Enquiries: jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com or T: 291475

PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 14 September

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