

VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

JUNE 2019

ISSUE 193

VILLAGE DIARY

- Sun 2 United parishes service. 10.30, Balsham Church
GARDENS OPEN. See ad
BIG BALSHAM SALE. 10am - 2pm, Table top and garage sales throughout the village. Parking and refreshments at the Church Institute. Raising money for Buttercups and Balsham Rainbows.
- Mon 3 Black wheeled bin collection
Parish Council meeting. 7.15pm, Village Hall.
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING. 8.15pm, Village Hall. See page 1
- Sun 9 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 10 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Sun 16 Holy Communion. 9.15, West Wrating Church. See page 2
Deadline for items for inclusion in the July edition of the Village Voice
- Mon 17 Black wheeled bin collection
- Sat 22 **HUB NIGHT 7 - 11pm, Village Hall**
- Sun 23 Morning worship. 9.15, St Mary's Church
Gardening Club. Day trip to West Acre Gardens & Nursery and Mannington Hall. If you are interested please book with Rosemary Yallop, T: 01799 584262
- Mon 24 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Sun 30 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
Daisy Chains Pre-School meets
Monday & Wednesday 9.30 - 12.30
Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 - 2.30 (includes lunch club) in the Village Hall
- The Carpet Bowls Club meets on**
Wednesdays, 7pm at the Village Hall
Come and try it

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

To book the Village Hall contact Georgina Magin
Email: bookings@westwickham.org
visit www.westwickham.org
or T: 01223 290972

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.

COME ALONG TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Monday 3 June at 8.15pm in the Village Hall

Your chance to find out what is happening in our village.

1. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting.
2. Matters arising
3. Chairman's Report
4. Correspondence related to the last Annual Parish Meeting
5. Reports on Village Hall
6. Reports of Societies, Groups and Associations available to view.
7. Finances
8. Any Other Business

There will also be an update on the Neighbourhood Plan

ALL ARE WELCOME
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE



NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Gardens Open For Charity

Streetly End & West Wickham Gardens

West Wickham CB21 4RP

25 High Street • Clover Cottage

Sunday 2 June
12 - 5pm

Combined entry £4.50

Children free

Light Refreshments



TEAS



PLANTS FOR SALE

More information at ngs.org.uk

FROM THE VICARAGE

In the calendar of the traditional Church of England there is one Sunday that causes the clergy more stress than any other. That Sunday (Trinity Sunday) this year falls on 16 June. The doctrine of the Holy Trinity, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit took nearly four centuries to be clarified. Four centuries of the early church, Bishops, Archbishops and theologians from all parts of the Roman Empire debated together.

This is neither the place nor the time for deep theological truths, but do spare a thought for all those who will be writing their sermons in the week beginning 10 June. In the meantime all you need to know is that God is us, and eternal and unchanging love; it is His love that forced us all into existence and gave each of us a guardian angel who watches over us day and night from our birth to the end of our life.

For the last few months, under the leadership of our new Rector, Iain McColl, we have held a United Service on the first Sunday of the month in Holy Trinity, Balsham our largest church for all our seven churches. It begins at 10.30am, There are separate programmes for the children in the Church Institute and we end with coffee in church, with a chance to talk to each other. On the other Sundays we hold services in all our seven churches, with times and other details appearing in the village magazines.

I recommend that you come to experience the United Service with our choir and our music group sharing the service with our organist.

Very Revd Keith Johnson

Sunday 16 June, 9.15am - Service of Holy Communion at St Andrew's church, West Wrattling.

This will be a joint service for West Wickham, Weston Colville and West Wrattling. Revd Iain McColl will be leading the service, and Alistair Collen will be preaching. There will be coffee after the service. Many of you will have met Alistair at the United service that takes place on the first Sunday of the month in Balsham and also at some of the West Wickham services. Alistair is a Licensed Lay Minister and recently retired Clinical Psychologist. He has a particular interest in contemplative prayer ... and taking up pottery as a hobby!

GRANTA VALE COMMUNITY HUB 1:30 – 4:00 THURSDAY 6 JUNE

All are welcome for a cream tea and chat at our monthly Community Hub in the Church Institute in Balsham. We also offer help and advice from the Parish Nurse Project, Reach Community Project and other local organisations.



★ HUB NIGHT! ★
WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEXT DATE: **22.06.19** 7PM-11PM



NATURE NOTES

Green in all its different shades is now the predominant colour in our landscape but as Di points out, ash trees are the exception, many standing out against the rest like skeletons because of their lack of leaves. Ash die-back is undoubtedly now with us, an invasive fungus that kills leaves and crowns of trees and in some cases the whole tree. The probable reason for its introduction to Britain is the purchase of ash saplings from abroad, and it will have a significant effect on many woodlands where the ash is very common. One possible reason to be hopeful in the long term is that ash trees are not clones of each other - they spread by seed - and some individual trees seem to be resistant to the fungus, so retaining the saplings seeded from these trees may be beneficial. In the meantime Di urges us to appreciate some of the other trees which are in flower, even if some like oak beech and maple are small and green in colour, so one doesn't easily notice them, unlike the mountain ash and whitebeam, both of which display strong smelling creamy white flowerheads

We are often reminded that we share our village with other creatures but it's also true that those creatures share with each other as well as us, albeit sometimes as predator and prey and sometimes as competitors. Pigeons and jackdaws seem ever more numerous so it's not surprising that both are nesting in Annabel's fir tree. Being noisy, they don't seem to get on as neighbours. Both take advantage of bird feeders but watching the jackdaws trying desperately to get at the fatballs as they swing on the feeder seems rather strange. In our garden it is the magpies who go for the fatballs and this may have given rise to an unusual sight - a rat chasing a magpie round the lawn, presumably over a bit of fatball that had fallen to the ground.

Swallows were seen at Hill Farm on 18 April but sadly very few seem to have followed them to West Wickham - we would be interested to hear of nesting swallows or house martins, whose arduous journey from southern Africa may have taken its toll. Fortunately the same cannot be said of the warblers (chiffchaff, blackcap, willow warbler and whitethroat) all of whom can be regularly heard around the village. Our resident birds have been getting on with breeding and Di reports watching a family of long tailed tits being fed by their parents. As always, we await news of the first cuckoo here, so please let us know.

Lyn Kimble alerted me to another potential clash and sent me a nice picture of a hornet which had taken to sitting in her santolina bush. She was concerned that the hornets would usurp the bees' normal residence in their wall.

On the predator front, foxes have been active recently. Our neighbours Mike and Ruth saw a big dog fox sauntering across the field opposite us and there are cubs in the bank beside Leys Wood near Hill Farm. Sue managed to take a picture of a cute little face peering out of a hole.

A welcome sight the other day was a patch of land near Yen Hall planted up with blue phacelia and red clover. I think the idea is to plough it in to help the soil regenerate, but in the meantime it is a good source of nectar for our pollinating insects. Meanwhile, on the verges and footpaths, *peggles* have given way to *keck*.* (*translation next month.)

Stop Press. Pete and Sue both heard a cuckoo on 21 May.

Please send us your nature sightings.

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

Di Licence. T: 290434, E: dianarubylicence@gmail.com



**PARISH NURSE PLUS
CARERS WEEK EVENT**
Abington Village Institute
Thursday 13 June, 2-4 pm



Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring. This year the theme is Connecting Carers; something we would very much like to do as part of Parish Nurse Plus Project. This event is open to everyone from the Abingtons, Hildersham, Balsham, West Wickham, Weston Colville, West Wrattling and includes people who care for friends and families who live outside our villages. Please come if you can.

It will be an informal event; an opportunity for carers to get together, to share their experiences and any issues that we might be able to help resolve.

Feel free to bring the people you are caring for:

- There will be a space with jigsaws and books for people who do not want to participate in discussions.
- Tea and cakes will be provided.
- If there are any special requirements, please let us know.
- If you would like help with transport, tell us and we will see if we can help.

For any further information, contact:
Diana Edwards, T: 01223 290616 or
E: dedwards594@btinternet.com

1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

This term we have been joined by Ruby-Mai Wells and Violet Bibby who have moved up from Rainbows and we said goodbye to Leah Banks who has moved up to 1st Linton Guides. Ruby and Violet have fitted in well and I know Leah is enjoying Guides.

We have now finished the skills builder "Make Change" from the 'Take Action' theme and the Brownies have been presented with their badges. The majority of them have also completed the 'Speaking Out' interest badge so they are two-thirds of the way to completing the Take Action theme. This term we have moved on to "Innovate" from the 'Express Myself' theme. We have so far invented new products ranging from the Peel 'n' Pip to a bath that recycles the water so you can use it again with the added feature of a bath bombe dispenser (where do they get their ideas). We have edible architecture, mime time, move & shake and made to measure to go.

Also this term we have already attended our annual District Campfire in Newmarket and have our annual Strawberry Evening in Linton and a litter pickup around the village to look forward to.

Our numbers are now up to 12 but we have space for more girls who would like to join, the only thing you need to be is free on a Wednesday and be 7 years old or older. If you are not sure if Brownies are for you why not make contact and pop along for a taster session then if they want to join all you need to do is register your daughter at www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/ and we can take it from there.

Pauline, Katie, and Laurené, brownies@horseheath.info

THE BENEFITS OF ONLINE ACCESS

Would you like to manage your GP appointments and prescriptions from home, and have access to your test results? You can do all of this and more by registering for SystemOnline, the patient online service available via our website. Once registered you can book, change and cancel your appointments, view your test results and have access to your coded medical records, as well as ordering your repeat medication and viewing your personal registered information.

Application forms are available on our website, in our new patient pack, or you can pick one up from any Granta reception. All you need to do is bring the completed form back, along with some photo ID. All applications will be processed within 48 working hours and confirmation of activation will be emailed / texted to you unless otherwise requested.

If you would like further information please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sandra East, Granta Medical Practice. sandra.east@nhs.net

HAVE YOU BOOKED A TRIP ABROAD OR PLANNING TO DO SO?

If you are seeking travel health advice, Granta Medical Practices offer a Travel Clinic Service.

The first step is to complete a Travel Risk Assessment form so we can assess your risk. This risk assessment form can be downloaded from our website www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk or collected from reception. Please fill it out fully and return it to us no later than 5 weeks before you travel.

Once you have completed and returned the form, we will contact you by phone within one week to let you know if you need to attend for an appointment which we would then advise you to book. At your appointment the recommended vaccines or medications will be given and follow up injections planned. Unfortunately we cannot see you if you have not completed a Travel Risk Assessment form.

Before your appointment you are advised to go to www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk. Look up the destination you are travelling to, print off the information, read it and bring it with you when you attend your appointment.

You can also download our General Travel Advice sheet from our website or collect a copy from reception. For additional information you can visit the following websites: www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk, www.nathnac.org, www.fco.gov.uk/travel.

Please note that some vaccinations are covered by the NHS and some will require payment. The clinician will make this clear when you make the appointment and you will be required to pay before your appointment.

Sandra East, Granta Medical Practice. sandra.east@nhs.net

★ **HUB NIGHT!** ★

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL



NEXT DATE: **22.06.19** 7PM-11PM

MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

This week year 6 children have been working hard completing their SATS. It is always a rather tricky week for the rest of the school, as they have to be flexible waiting for playtime to start & working quietly in class to enable Year 6 to concentrate. We cannot avoid the high stakes nature of the SATS, and although there is still much debate as to their benefit, they are statutory and ultimately schools are benchmarked against the results. We continue to balance the need to prepare children adequately for them, with the delivery of a high quality, broad, balanced curriculum. We are very proud of each one of them.

This term has already been full of visits by different year groups. Year 3 and 4 had a fantastic day at Stibbington, immersed in life as a Roman soldier. From the moment they arrived the children were in role, learning marching drills, Latin commands, preparing Roman foods and even taking part in a maths lesson! The children thoroughly enjoyed their day.

All the Infant classes have visited Wandlebury Country Park, linked to their Marvellous Maps topic. Everyone enjoyed learning the skills of orienteering by following a simple map to help with directions, pond dipping and studying woodland habitats. This has tied in so beautifully to the Geography and Science work for this term. Map reading has then continued back in Balsham with the children following a map looking for local landmarks and planning their Balsham based 'Little Red Riding Hood' stories.

The Summer term is always full of sports fixtures. Mrs Tinsley plus our wonderful parent helpers, Mrs Lock and Mrs Green, took 16 of the running club members to the St Neots Cross-Country race. The children ran in teams of 4 in a relay race, each running 1200m. There were over 300 teams participating, and competition was fierce. Our runners ran fantastically thanks to all the great training which has taken place over the year. A huge well done to the girls teams who came 46th and 91st and the boys teams who came 63rd and 64th, out of approximately 150 teams.

Mrs Bridgeman and another parent helper, Anita Stone, took the A Netball team to participate in the High 5 Netball Shield in Impington. The children played brilliantly. A huge congratulations to Oliver Morrow, awarded the 'Spirit of the Games' certificate for demonstrating the values of the competition as noticed by the organisers of the event.

After months of hard work, Miss Copare had news that the school has been awarded the Silver Arts Mark. Being an Arts Mark school demonstrates that "through offering a broad, balanced and creative curriculum, young people have the opportunity to develop character and talent and increase their knowledge, curiosity and skills". We are really proud of our success; a huge thank you to Miss Copare for all her hard work in promoting Arts in school and preparing the Arts Mark evidence.

Over the next few weeks, the Year 5 and Year 6 children will be preparing their end of year production. Over the past number of years, a volunteer has always helped paint the scenery for this, but sadly is no longer able to help. If you feel able to offer a few hours of time and creativity to paint some scenery, or help further our Arts Curriculum, then please do contact the school.

Nichola Connor, Head Teacher

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Nurse: Claire Gillett, T:07498994205
Mobile: 0749 899 4205
email:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday unless otherwise stated on her mobile phone. This is NOT a 24hr monitored service.
Community Warden: Shannon Cook, T: 07436102865
Helping Hands: 07399 263222

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

This time of year is filled with enrichment activities and celebrations in schools. It is also a challenging time for setting budgets and timetabling for the following academic year. In recent times this has become increasingly difficult due to financial pressures faced by schools. There has been significant press coverage of this issue in recent months, including action taken by young people and their families to challenge the impact that this issue has on their education and their future.

The march conducted on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, in April showed the strength of feeling shared by parent/carers and students about real-terms cuts to money received by schools. Linton Village College, like other schools across the County, continues to suffer the inequities of historic funding arrangements. In correspondence shared with the school community as part of the national Worth Less? campaign I have detailed specific issues that we face by not having sufficient funding and the impact that this has on school staffing.

In 2019/2020 LVC will be £174,000 worse off than the promised minimum funding for schools as set out in the National Funding Formula. We will be the equivalent of £360,000 worse off next year than we were in 2010 due to rising costs.

I am very grateful for the support from parents/carers in raising these issues with local MPs. I met the Secretary of State for Education, Damian Hinds, in May to raise my concerns directly on behalf of head teachers that are struggling to balance budgets.

I am also really appreciative of the great work done by the Friends of LVC to fundraise for much-needed improvements to College facilities and resources. This group is not limited to parents of children at the College. Nicola Tudge, Chair of the Friends, welcomes support from volunteers to run events that raise funds for LVC: Nicola.friends@lvc.org.

Education is a crucial investment in our children and their future. I hope our collective voices will help to provide the pressure that is needed to ensure all schools receive the funding they need and students deserve.

Helena Marsh, Principal

PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 16 June

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