

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

NOVEMBER 2019

ISSUE 198

## VILLAGE DIARY

- Sun 3 United parishes service. 10.30, Balsham Church.
- Mon 4 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 6 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 10 Morning worship. 9.15, St Mary's Church  
**Wratting Common Memorial Remembrance Day service. 12.00**
- Mon 11 Blue & green wheeled bin collection  
**Local History Club. 1617 Balsham Map project. Talk by Seppe Cassettari. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Wed 13 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sat 16 **Deadline for items to be included in the December Village Voice**
- Sun 17 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 18 Black wheeled bin collection  
**Gardening Club. *Desert gardens as havens for biodiversity: what lessons can be learned from the Bedouin of South Sinai?* Talk by Olivia Norfolk. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Wed 20 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sat 23 **HUB NIGHT + FISH & CHIPS 7 – 11pm, Village Hall. See page 3**
- Sun 24 Morning worship. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 25 Blue & green wheeled bin collection  
**Parish Council meeting. 7.30pm, Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.**
- Wed 27 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sat 30 **Daisy Chains Pre-School Christmas Fair. 2 – 4pm, Village Hall. See page 2**
- 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 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](mailto:bookings@westwickham.org)  
visit [www.westwickham.org](http://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.

## RAF WRATTING COMMON

### Remembrance Sunday 10 November

There will be a short Service at the Memorial on Sunday 10 November at 12 noon. The Memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville, CB21 5NR. We hope to be joined by some of the veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Also, cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade. Wreaths will be laid in memory of all those who served here and throughout the world, especially those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. Attendees are invited to lay wreaths or crosses for those they wish to remember and anyone is welcome to attend. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

We are always pleased to hear from anyone interested in getting involved with the Airfield Memorial. With just two services per year to arrange, as well as year-round general maintenance, this is not an onerous project to assist with but is very rewarding. It is hoped that, with the continued support of people in the locality, this important memorial to our community's war effort will survive for many generations.

Dan Heath for Friends of Wratting Common

Email [rafwrattingcommon@gmail.com](mailto:rafwrattingcommon@gmail.com)

Tel. Mob: 07736 737 174; Home: 01440 730 192

## ST MARY'S CHURCH

You may have seen that work has started on repairs to the chancel. Scaffolding is up and Cambridge Stonecraft are getting on well with the project. It has been assumed that the buttresses are an addition not an original part of the structure and it has been decided to take down and rebuild the north buttress in its entirety. The south buttress will be partially dismantled, repaired and rebuilt. When this is done the coping on the east gable will be replaced largely with new stone.

Once this is done new drains will be put in and hopefully completion will be by mid November. The Friends of St Mary's this year have raised £2760, with previous years donations this has made a significant contribution to these repairs. The Parochial Church Council and Church Wardens are very grateful for your contributions.

Marcus Cornish

## UNDER 18'S FOOTBALL TEAM UPDATE

The Village Football season has started, and I am very pleased to say that my project to enter a team has been achieved. I have 17 local players signed up from West Wickham, Horseheath, The Camps, Balsham, Gt Bradley, Weston Colville and Abington. The team play in the Cambridgeshire FA Colts league. Matches are played on Sundays – usually 10.30am.

After encountering lots of statutory issues such as safeguarding, DBS, insurance and the search for a satisfactory pitch, I accepted the offer to play under the umbrella of Balsham Football Club. This required the name to change. So, my team plays as Balsham Colts Wickham U18s as opposed to the originally planned name West Wickham Wanderers. Home games are played on the Balsham rec.

Continued on page 2

### Under 18'S football team update continued

Many people have helped me along the way, and I organised the team as my Extended Project at Hills Road Sixth Form College. I am really grateful to our two generous kit sponsors: HOMEBRANDS (the furniture warehouse up on the Common), and HILL (who have built the houses at Farriers Yard in Balsham). Hopefully I will be able to send team photos next month!

Ben Drury

### THE GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW HAVE YOUR SAY

I wrote a piece in the Village Voice this year and last year encouraging villagers to take part or visit the Annual Plant and Produce Show held at the Village Hall in August. There are categories for vegetables, fruit, flowers, baking and preserves, photography, special classes for children, prize money and cups to be won. There is also a raffle, auction of produce and, of course, tea and cake.

Entries and visitors were again rather disappointing so now, being the new Chair of the Show Committee I thought it would be a good idea to ask you about the Show – if you took part or visited, what did you think of it? If you didn't, was there a particular reason why not? All of your comments are most welcome. Perhaps you think it's held at the wrong time of year, should have fewer, more or different categories, would be better combined with another event or not held at all. Do let me know.

Sue Thurston, T: 01223 897811,  
Email: [mail@suethurston.co.uk](mailto:mail@suethurston.co.uk)

**Daisy Chains**  
Pre School West Wickham

**Come & meet  
Santa at our  
Christmas Fair**  
West Wickham Village Hall  
**Saturday  
30th November  
2pm - 4pm**

face painting   handmade refreshments   Santa's grotto  
raffle   childrens craft activities   tombola  
cake stall   lucky dip

exciting gift ideas  
from our selection  
of craft stalls

All funds raised go to Daisy Chains Pre School  
Charity no: 1035276

### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the meeting held on Monday 23 September the following items are some of the matters discussed. The full draft minutes have been posted on the village notice boards.

#### *Matters arising:*

1. Football nets: Further information was requested but the PC has not yet received anything back.
2. A1307 verge cutting: It is hoped that when the alterations at the Dean Road junction are made the saplings currently obscuring sight lines will be cut back to give proper vision for drivers.

#### *Planning:*

1. S/2419/19/FL – Pond Meadow – 3 bay cart shed & annexe. PC Supported
2. S/2309/19/DC – 51 High St. – Discharge of conditions relating to external finishes, door & window details etc. PC Supported.
3. Proposed solar farm – Both West Wickham & West Wrattling PC's objected to this proposal at an informal meeting with a representative of the owner of the land. It was considered too small to be viable but if a larger solar farm was proposed it would be objected to on the grounds of road safety.

*Finance:* Details can be seen on the notice boards.

*Traffic & Parking issues:* The Local Highways Improvement Scheme application for 40mph buffer zones has been submitted and will be presented to the County Council on 15 January 2020.

*Neighbourhood Plan:* The consultation form regarding green spaces had been distributed and there appeared to be widespread support for protecting the existing green spaces. It is unlikely that the green space in Streetly End, owned by South Cambs District Council, will be included as it may be marked for future housing.

*Dist.Cllr. Harvey & County Cllr. Batchelor reports:* These are available on the village website [www.westwickham.org](http://www.westwickham.org).

1. The Greater Cambridge Partnership Consultation on better public transport is open until 4 November, visit [www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambridge\\_south\\_east/cset-consultation2019/](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambridge_south_east/cset-consultation2019/)
2. 144 new houses were bought by South Cambs District Council last month, the money to purchase them came from a "reward" from the government. The Councils' target is to acquire 70 new homes each year.

#### *Any other business:*

1. Cllr. Licence reported that the Village Hall has been granted a licence to sell alcohol.
2. Cllr. Schuilenburg said that wifi will be available in the Village Hall in the next six to eight months and Open Reach will provide this. It will be free for the first 3 years. There are still problems regarding the availability of superfast broadband to about 6 houses, mostly away from the village. If some joint funding could be found this could be remedied.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on  
Monday 25 November. All are welcome to attend.**

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk.

T: 01223 665260; Email: [parish.clerk@westwickham.org](mailto:parish.clerk@westwickham.org)

## FROM THE VICARAGE

### True riches

There is a story of a pickpocket thief who stole only the most exquisite gems. He would hang around the diamond district of Hatton Garden and observe the merchants as they came and went, so he could pick their pockets. One day the thief became very excited as he discovered a particular merchant had an extremely rare and expensive diamond. The thief followed the merchant onto a train and got into the same compartment. He spent the entire journey trying to pick the merchant's pocket, to steal the precious diamond. When the diamond merchant got off the train, the pickpocket followed. Frustrated as he was, he approached the merchant and asked how he had hidden the diamond from him. Well, I saw you watching me in the diamond district, and I suspected you were a pickpocket. So I hid the diamond where you would least likely find it – in your pocket; at which point the merchant reached into the thief's pocket and pulled it out.

The story speaks of the treasure we have hidden in our own hearts. We are for ever looking for it, and sometimes we discover that it's been in our pocket all along.

It is easy in our modern life to find our selves running around in circles trying to achieve our dreams and expectations. Sometimes we need to pause and consider a better way forward.

You may be thinking of ways of being still, allowing time to be calm, time to listen and reflect, time to appreciate the good things in life and to be thankful. It's not unusual to have a thankful heart, even a sense of God's love. It's not unusual to want to sit quietly somewhere, perhaps in a church, to be still and listen.

Over the past few months I have been taking a simple service of compline evening prayer. A growing number of people have come to enjoy this time of candle lit reflection and choral music. At the moment we meet at 7pm on the first Thursday of the month at St Mary's, Weston Colville and will meet twice a month from January. If you are nearer Hildersham church, there is a thirty minute meditation every Tuesday at 7pm followed by compline. At Gt. Abington church there will be a time of shared silence, 12 noon until 1pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month.

With such a growing need for reflective calm in our church settings, you may well discover that your true riches are closer to home than you realised.

Steven Wheeler

## GRANTA VALE COMMUNITY HUBS

*Friendship, Community and Care*

Thursday 7 November 2 - 4pm. Balsham Church Institute, Church Lane, Balsham.

Tuesday 19 November 2 - 4pm. Abington Institute, 66 High Street, Great Abington.

The Parish Nurse will be there as well as a representative from REACH and other services.

Steve Jordan, Community Worker, T: 07508 430057,  
Email: 7churches@community.gmail.com

COME AND JOIN US!

## ★ FISH & CHIPS ★ NIGHT!



SATURDAY

**23.11.19**

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL 7PM-11PM

**FISH / SCAMPI / CHICKEN /  
VEG BURGER + CHIPS**

£6 PER HEAD | PLEASE PRE-ORDER BY 18 NOVEMBER

Contact Nicci | Tel: 01223 290 886 | Email: nicci@innerlather.co.uk

**NEXT HUB NIGHT: 21.12.19**



## THE SNOW QUEEN

Hans Christian Anderson

COMING TO WESTON COLVILLE  
ST MARY'S CHURCH

SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
2PM

Brought to you by the professional touring company  
This is My Theatre.

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE FROM  
<https://www.thisismytheatre.com/the-snow-queen>

With live music, song and a great story with characters all ages will  
love, this beautiful adaptation will warm hearts this Christmas

Mulled wine and children's refreshments will be served during the  
interval

**THIS WILL BE VERY POPULAR SO PLEASE BOOK NOW!**

## NATURE NOTES

These are the final nature notes I will be writing from the Burton End end of the village. Next month we will have moved to Streetly End where, I am told, there is a completely different micro climate and ecosystem. Estate agents' blurb can be misleading. It will be interesting to find out, so watch this space.

Despite the difference in latitude, however, the seasons remain the same and in both places the leaves are changing colour and beginning to fall to the ground, along with seeds in whatever form. Those trees whose seeds are encased in nuts or fruit rely on birds and mammals to eat, transport or bury them so that the emerging seeds will germinate and the species perpetuated. I have often wondered about horse chestnut trees, and doubted whether the conkers they produce are a food source for any creature, but Di has seen grey squirrels collecting and burying them, hopefully resulting in plenty of horse chestnut seedlings appearing in the spring. Another tree which has grown successfully in my garden is the hornbeam. I am surprised that the hornbeam does not grow in West Wickham in greater numbers as it clearly has a liking for the soil. I believe that 2019 has been a particularly prolific year for their papery seeds (small nuts) which hang in tiered clusters. The seeds are eaten by finches, tits and small mammals, and I was once told that they were a particular favourite of the stunning hawfinch, which I don't think has ever been seen in West Wickham. Apparently hornbeam is also the food plant of a number of moth species, including the nut tree tussock.

As Di has commented, the few weeks covering late September and early October are rather quiet as the last of the summer migrants depart and we await the arrival of our autumn and winter visitors. At the time of writing a few of our regular visitors have been spotted or heard but have not yet arrived in any great numbers. Golden plover have been seen circling the fields near Hill Farm and I have heard their piping calls from my back garden in the field behind. Di saw a few fieldfares flying over the allotments but they seemed to be on their way elsewhere. Certainly when they and their redwing cousins do come to stay there will be a good harvest of berries in the hedgerows waiting for them.

In the meantime many of us hang a feeder in the garden and it is interesting to note that different gardens within the village are patronised by different bird species. Di's neighbour attracts great and blue tits and gold and green finches. We mainly have house sparrows and a few tits (I was pleased to see a coal tit the other day) with always a dunnoek or two hopping about underneath to pick up the small pieces dropped from above. We have one dunnoek who has a white circle round its eye - a rather unusual aberration which distinguishes this bird as an individual.

At this time of year it is also good to see the activities of some of our other bird species - rooks congregating in the fields, starlings performing their mini-murmurations, kites floating overhead and family groups of buzzards calling to each other. Mick told me that a buzzard was perched on the fence behind his house with a woodpigeon only a few feet away. They looked at each other for some time but has soon as the buzzard turned his head away the pigeon flew off.

Please send your nature sightings to:

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

Di Licence. T: 290434, E: [dianarubyllicence@gmail.com](mailto:dianarubyllicence@gmail.com)

## JUDY JOLLY 1931 – 2019



Those of you who remember Judy Jolly, our former neighbour, will be saddened to hear of her death. She had lived in the village since 1976, moving into 33 Burton End when the house was first built with her husband Bill. Encouraged by her family, she returned to her native Holland in 2013 and into a care home when declining health prevented her from living independently. We and many others in the village will remember this special person with great warmth.

Sue Thurston & Peter Grieve

## WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

At the first of our talks that take place from October to April we were pleased to welcome Melanie Collins from Mickfield Hostas in Stowmarket. Melanie was an enthusiastic speaker and covered all aspects of growing hostas. Originally from the Far East, Hostas have become a favourite among gardeners in the UK despite the difficulties in siting them and keeping off unwelcome visitors, snails in particular. Her advice was to stand the pots in metal trays of water since snails do not like metal and can't swim. There are more than 2000 cultivars stocked by nurseries but in Melanie's opinion those with pale leaves are not likely to stand the test of time since photosynthesis is hindered by a lack of chlorophyll. She has exhibited at all the large Shows and won awards for her stands.

Our next meeting, on Monday 18 November at 7:30 in the Village Hall, is touching on climate change but has a wider context. Our speaker, Olivia Norfolk has been carrying out research amongst the Bedouin in South Sinai and she will come to share with us her ideas on how desert gardens can be havens for biodiversity and what lessons we can learn from them. This promises to be a fascinating talk and you are welcome to join us.

Rosemary Yallop

## 1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

The Brownies in Horseheath are turning 50 at the end of October and they are having a small party to celebrate. This will be on Wednesday 6 November from 6 - 7pm at Horseheath Village Hall. If you were a Horseheath Brownie and would like to see what Brownies are doing now or if you have a daughter who would be interested joining Brownies we would very much like to see you. Please email Pauline on [HorseheathBrownies@gmail.com](mailto:HorseheathBrownies@gmail.com) to let her know you are coming so we have enough cake.

Pauline, Katie and Laurene, Horseheath Brownie Leaders

★ HUB NIGHT! ★  
WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEXT  
DATE:

**23.11.19** 7PM-11PM



## REMINISCENCES ON BUSES

On reading the September edition of the *Village Voice* I came across an article which jogged my mind back to the 50s and 60s when I was living in West Wickham. It was about bus services.

There were two bus companies then which operated services through the village – Premier Travel (blue and cream) and Eastern Counties (the red buses). Premier Travel buses went to Cambridge from Monday to Saturday, one to Cambridge in the morning and one back in the evening. The morning one we used to get to school in Cambridge. The bus came down from the top of the village picking us up opposite the White Horse at 8.10am. We used to stand by the communal tap. It then turned round at the road junction by the post box and went back up the village to Cambridge via West Wrating, Balsham, Fulbourn and Cherry Hinton. At Fulbourn the conductor would get off and get on a relief bus as in term time the normal service bus would be full. Before he got off the conductor would get one of the passengers who was going on to the terminus to operate the bell. This bus did not pick up any more passengers.

The bus back didn't leave Cambridge until after 5pm which was too late for us as we finished school at 3.30. We would catch an earlier bus as far as Balsham. In the early days there was only Wendy Pearson [Nip's sister], my sister Gillian and myself so Wendy's dad, Bill, would pick us up. Later the Education Authority paid for a taxi which was operated by the Deer brothers of Balsham.

The Eastern Counties bus only ran from Streetly End to Cambridge on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. The first bus was at 10am getting back to the West Wickham at lunchtime before it carried on to Streetly End where it had standing time before returning to Cambridge. It arrived back in West Wickham at about 5pm carrying on to Streetly End before returning to Cambridge. This was the service 113.

Premier Travel also operated a service to Haverhill on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday nights and was known as the 'picture bus' because it didn't leave Haverhill market place until after the pictures had turned out. West Wickham Salvation Army band would often catch the Saturday picture bus if they were on duty at Haverhill SA. Friday was market day in Haverhill so Premier Travel did a return trip in the morning and one in the afternoon. This departed from The Pightle, which was just round the corner from the old fire station in Swan Lane. The 'picture buses' were operated by a driver only and the market day buses by driver and conductor. As far as I remember there was no bus service to Newmarket.

Graham Hopwood

The buses were still run by Premier Travel and Eastern Counties when we moved to the village in 1977 but there weren't so many of them. Of course, both companies have now been subsumed by Stagecoach. Eastern Counties ran the early morning bus and two back in the evening. The 6<sup>th</sup> form students (by this time the Village College was comprehensive and children weren't divided by the 11+ exam) still caught the Premier Travel bus to Balsham where Mr Deer picked them up. There were no daytime buses to Cambridge – I walked to Balsham or Horseheath to pick one up. Premier Travel only ran the Friday buses to

Haverhill – still one in the morning and one in the afternoon. It was packed with people from other villages and very noisy with all the gossiping but quite an occasion. In the 80s we actually got an improved service with Premier Travel running a 10am service to Cambridge returning just in time to meet the school bus. The drivers, George and Jim, were fantastic (they also drove the Friday bus and the school buses) and the bus was actually a coach, so much more comfortable than the ones now. George and Jim knew all their passengers and would wait for you if they thought you would miss the return bus. We even diverted to the Clements estate on one occasion when it was raining to drop off a young mum and her baby visiting her mother. If for any reason the bus failed to turn up for the return journey from Cambridge, the Premier Travel inspector, always around in Drummer Street, would organize a car to take you home! We've had many changes to timetables and routes over the years which have certainly contributed to a drop in usage. After all how can you take on a job – full or part time – if the timetable is always changing? We are endlessly campaigning for a better service despite it being government and local policy to reduce car usage.

Janet Morris

## WHAT'S ON IN WESTON COLVILLE

**Cinema Club.** The November film will be a tie in with West Wrating Book Club. On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>, we'll be showing *The Go-Between* with Alan Bates and Julie Christie. On 4<sup>th</sup> December, we have the wonderful *Love Actually*, perfect for the run up to Christmas. Both films are at 7.30pm. All welcome, donations, introduction, refreshments available.

**Circular Walk c5 miles.** The next walk will be on Saturday 2 November, meeting in the Reading Room at 10am. BYO lunch and maybe something to share back in the Reading Room afterwards. All welcome, refreshments available.

**Folk Evening.** The Reading Room will host 'Camus' (pronounced 'car-mus') featuring our very own David Somerville fresh from Cambridge Folk Festival and en route to the festival in St Neots next June. He and his friends will entertain us on Saturday 7 December.

- David Somerville - Northumbrian small pipes, keyboard
- Greg Smith - fiddle, viola
- Andrew Burn - melodeon, Northumbrian small pipes

The three friends have been playing together in various folk bands for over 40 years and their music is an eclectic mix of material from the folk traditions of countries including England, Scotland, Ireland, USA and Spain. David says: 'if we like the tune we'll play it'. The music begins at 7.30pm, donations on the door, refreshments available, all welcome.

Enquiries: Email: [jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com](mailto:jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com)  
T: 291475.

Jacqueline Douglas.

**DON'T FORGET  
DAISY CHAINS PRE-SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS FAIR  
Saturday 30 November, 2—4pm, VILLAGE HALL**

## MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

The Autumn term has certainly flown by; it's hard to believe that we are in the middle of the Autumn term already. The Meadow has certainly been a hive of activity this last half term as the children settle into the full swing of their learning.

We continue with our journey to improve reading, particularly alongside our drive to improve vocabulary. The children have been involved in the first of our reading cafes; Year 5 and 6 parents were invited to participate in a guided reading activity observing the teaching of vocabulary within reading. We are always keen to welcome more adults into the classrooms to help hear children read, so if you can spare an hour a week, then please do come and speak to the school office.

Our Annual Meadow Mile fundraising event had a vocabulary theme this year. Everyone dressed up as Vocabulary Ninjas and displayed their favourite new word and definition. It was so good to see so many new words on display and hear children begin to use them as they walked.

We have also enjoyed our Harvest Festival this half term. Our chosen charity was Water Aid and it was really fantastic to be reminded of our plentiful harvest and ready access to clean water compared to other parts of the world. The Year 6 children read beautifully and the children sang all their favourite harvest songs with such enthusiasm! Thank you to Mrs Sarah Bassett who always gives her time so readily.

There have been lots of experiences in and out of school this half term as entry points to topics. Year 5/6 dressed up as Victorian servants on their visit to Burghley House. They thoroughly enjoyed their time in such a wonderful setting, learning about the jobs undertaken to keep the household running smoothly and handling Victorian artefacts. A particular highlight was a tour of the house; there was a lot of awe and wonder as the children saw the bedroom Queen Victoria stayed in and compared the life of a servant to the lavish lifestyle of the aristocracy.

Year 3/4/5 also had their entry point for Fantastic Mr Dahl. The performing arts company 'StageCoach Saffron Walden' came into school to run a brilliant workshop for the children, exploring the BFG through role play and drama. The children had already tasted snozzcumbers earlier in the week and having spent an hour immersed in the story, they were fully engaged in Big Friendly Giants!

The Infant classes also had a great day at Mountfichet Castle for the start of their history learning about the Normans. They thoroughly enjoyed exploring the Motte and Bailey Castle, learning about why the castle is there and exploring what living as a Norman would have been like. This was followed by an exciting re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings during the week!

The school also held their annual craft fair again. Despite the drizzle, plenty of visitors came to support our event. The crafts on displays were of the usual high standard and it was fantastic to see so many people supporting the school. Thank you to everyone who came to support us.

Please do continue to follow our news @Meadow\_Balsham.

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

**Granta Medical Practice/Linton Health Centre:**  
0300 234 5555 option 3

## LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

Our annual sponsored walk is a real highlight of the autumn term. It is great to see the College community come together to raise much-needed funds for The Friends of LVC and to enjoy a morning together engaging in exercise in the fresh air amongst our beautiful surroundings.

This tradition marks the end of the first half term and an important date in The Friends' fundraising calendar. Anyone wishing to support LVC and top up the sponsorship from the sponsored walk can do so via this link: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/linton-village-college40](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/linton-village-college40).

LVC is grateful for the support of a team of committed parents/carers and members of the community that give up their time freely to volunteer for The Friends of LVC.

Last year The Friends raised over £7000 for the College which was invested in improving catering facilities and purchasing new sports and IT equipment, amongst other things. Students at the College benefit hugely from the investment made to improve their learning environment and facilities. With significantly depleted financial resources for schools it has become even more crucial to have this important source of additional funding.

The next upcoming event is Linton Fireworks. The Friends contribute to the stewarding which raises money for the College. We'll also soon be advertising the Christmas raffle and activities for the spring term.

The Friends are always keen to recruit new members and expectations for involvement are not onerous. Being able to assist with an event or contribute to termly committee meetings is a great help. Supporting with activities such as quiz night, school productions and the Year 11 Ball also provide social opportunities for those involved. Anyone who is keen to contribute to supporting the College through The Friends can get in touch with the Chair, Nicola Tudge, by email [friends@lvc.org](mailto:friends@lvc.org) or leave a message with the College's reception team.

Helena Marsh, Principal

## PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 16 November

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