

VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

FEBRUARY 2020

ISSUE 201

VILLAGE DIARY

- Sun 2 United parishes service. 10.30, Balsham Church
- Mon 3 Blue & green wheeled bin collection
- Wed 5 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 9 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Mon 10 Black wheeled bin collection
- Local History Club. Romans in Balsham: An Iron Age & Roman Settlement at Linton Road. Talk by Tom Revell, Pre-Construct Archaeology**
- Wed 12 Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- Sun 16 Holy Communion. 9.15, St Mary's Church
- Sun 16 **Deadline for items to be included in the March edition of the Village Voice**
- Mon 17 Blue wheeled bin only collection
- Gardening Club. Succulents of the northern cape of South Africa. Talk by Alex Summers. 7.30pm, Village Hall**
- Sun 23 Holy Communion. Joint service with West Wratting & Weston Colville. 10.45, West Wratting Church
- Mon 24 Black wheeled bin collection
- Wed 26 Ash Wednesday Holy Communion. 9.30, Balsham Church
- Carpet Bowls Club. 7pm, Village Hall
- 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
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 Georgina Magin
Email: bookings@westwickham.org
visit www.westwickham.org
or T: 01223 290972

A MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING THE LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

You will see below that South Cambridgeshire District Council wants to hear your views on planning and development as they start work on their next Local Plan. This document will set the rules for development in the District up to 2040. It has the potential to dramatically change the planning policies for villages like ours by relaxing the current rules that stop the village growing into the countryside (the Development Framework) and limit the number of houses built on a site.

The Parish Council will make a submission using the feedback gathered during the development of our Neighbourhood Plan. We would also suggest parishioners submit their views by following the 'How to comment' link at www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/greater-cambridge-local-plan

Greater Cambridge Local Plan: the First Conversation.

Ever walked past a building and wondered how it got planning permission? Worried about climate change and how we are going to adapt? Trying to buy a house and finding it really difficult? The District Council's Local Plan is the document that shapes this area's future and answers these big questions. It covers the key themes of climate change, biodiversity and green spaces, wellbeing and social inclusion, and great places. It will affect what kind of new homes get built, where businesses can grow and how buildings, streets and spaces should be designed. As a result, the Local Plan affects all of you – yet most people have never even heard of it.

But things are changing and the District Council wants you to be a part of it. For the first time ever South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council are preparing a joint Local Plan for the Greater Cambridge area: and this time they want to do better than ever before at working with you all to make it happen.

They have starting a big conversation with the community, with many different ways to get involved, online and offline Please look at the information on the website www.greatercambridgeplanning.org or call the Local Plan team on 01954 713183 and they will assist. Let's help shape your future together!

(Ed. There will also be a number of road shows to explain the plan and gain your views. Regretfully, there are none being held to the south east of Cambridge. We have taken this up with the District Council but from their very unhelpful response it looks like we are now the "forgotten quarter"! Please express your concern about this to your District Councillor Geoff Harvey, T: 07482 429729, Email: cllr.harvey@scambs.gov.uk)

CAROL SINGING 2019

On a wet evening just before Christmas, a small but committed group went door-to-door carol singing, raising money for Age UK, who runs the Small Villages Warden Scheme that provides a warden to visit elderly people in the community. Despite the poor weather, we collected £165.55 for this very worthwhile cause. Very many thanks for those who gave so generously to our collection, and to Marcus and Nicky, Katie and Simon,

continued on page 2

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.

Carol singing continued

and Loraine and Ronnie for providing delicious and much needed refreshments en route.

The numbers of people coming out carol singing has dwindled over the past few years. If anyone has any suggestions on how to boost numbers or alternative ideas that might appeal to more people, do please get in touch - all ideas most welcome! Please call 290972. or email georginamagin@btinternet.com.

Georgina Magin

GUESS WHERE & WHEN?

This is the first of a new series featuring photographs of our village from West Wickham & District Local History Club Photo Archive.



The answer is on page 4

LOOKING FOR A BREAK FROM THE STRESSES OF EVERYDAY LIFE?

Why not try carpet bowls? It's an easy game to learn, suitable for all abilities, the company is great and you can try it out FOR FREE with West Wickham Carpet Bowls Club. We meet every Wednesday 7pm-9.30pm in the Village Hall. Members come from a number of villages and we play the occasional friendly match against other local clubs so there are plenty of opportunities to meet new people. If you decide to join us (and we very much hope you will) it costs just £5 a year and £2.50 each evening you play. We don't play in a league, simply for enjoyment.

If you would like to give it a go or want further details contact Janet Morris

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

GRANTA VALE COMMUNITY HUBS

Friendship, Community and Care

Balsham, Church Institute - Thursday 6 February
2.00pm - 4.00pm

Abington Institute - Tuesday 25 February
2.00pm - 4.00pm

The Parish Nurse will be there as well as a representative from REACH. Free tea, coffee and cake and the opportunity to meet others.

THE PETER & RUTH LLOYD TRUST AWARD

We are now inviting applications for pupils starting university in September 2020. Normally one scholarship is awarded each year and the amount has kindly been increased to £1000. Broadly speaking the degree course should be from one of the following:

Architecture, Engineering, Geography, History, Law, Mathematics, Sciences, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

The applicant should be living in one of the parishes bordering the old RAF Wrattling Common airfield including West Wickham. The award is intended to be of assistance in the purchase of books, materials, equipment etc. Final decision and award will be made immediately after 'A' Level/Baccalaureate results and University offer are known.

For further information about the Trust and Award please contact: Jonathan Drury T: 290968

For an application form please apply via email to: peter.ruthlloydtrust@sky.com

The application form and supporting documents must be received at the latest by 31 March 2020.

POPPY APPEAL 2019

The Poppy Appeal in November was excellent. All previous collection totals for the four villages of Balsham, West Wickham, West Wrattling, and Weston Colville have been topped. Even though it is no longer possible to do house to house collections in West Wickham collections were made in the Church and Village Hall. All types of poppies were available at Balsham Post Office and the Coffee Shop and The Chestnut Tree PH, plus some poppies in The Bell PH and the Black Bull PH.

Thank you to all those people and places and of course, everyone who has donated, plus the Meadow School, the four Parish Councils and Parochial Church Councils. The end total will be £2,620.71. Thank you for all donations received from West Wickham which amounted to £98.10.

Margaret Johnson, Hon Organiser

THE MAMMOTH MACMILLAN QUIZ

This will again be held in the Church Institute in Balsham on Friday 28 February at 7.30. Entry £5.00

This quiz is held each year on the last Friday in February, and in places all over Britain, and even as far away as Hong Kong, with the aim of raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Everywhere the quiz starts at the same time, using the same set of questions provided by Macmillan, and it has been recognised by the Guinness Book of Records as the world's biggest simultaneous quiz. All are welcome to join us, either as teams of up to eight people, or to join with others to make up a team when you arrive. There are no prizes; this is a money raising event. Bring your own drinks, there will be a few nibbles, bring your own if you want more! There will be a raffle, extra prizes welcome.

Do come to join us for what has been a fun evening each year. It would help if you could let me know if you plan to come, so we know how many tables to put out, (but this is not essential).

Gill Parry-Brown. T: 01223 893012, or
Email: gillbrown25@yahoo.co.uk,

MEET THE NEIGHBOURS

The first of an occasional series, we ask people living in West Wickham to answer a set of questions about themselves and their life in West Wickham.

This month who better to kick off the series than Andrew Morris, joint editor of the *Village Voice* and Janet Morris. Between them they must have been involved in most of the village activities over the years. Janet is currently Secretary of both the Local History Club and Carpet Bowls Club. Andrew is Chair of the Local History Club and recently stepped down as Chair of the Gardening Club Show Committee, having held the post since 2002, though he remains the Club's Treasurer. Janet was Clerk to the Parish Council for fourteen years and served a similar number of years as a Governor at the Meadow School. Andrew was a Parish Councillor for sixteen years and has just re-joined the Village Hall Committee for a second stint. Currently, both are on the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

How long have you lived in the village? We moved in on New Years Day 1977 in the snow. (The photograph was taken in Spring 1977).



What brought you here? We were looking to move out of London and we saw an advert for the cottage in *Exchange & Mart* ((it's a long story). We liked what we saw, it was affordable (it was cheaper to buy than rent back then) and Janet had relations in the area.

Do you know anything of the history of your house? The oldest part of the house is probably 17thc. It is timber-framed and would have originally been thatched. It has a Victorian extension and a new kitchen and bathroom was added just before we moved in. The house was divided into two cottages until after the Second World War. The front was a one up, one down cottage and the back was two up, two down.

(If you would like to know about your own house please get in touch with Janet as the Local History Club has much

information and a photographic archive.)

How has the village changed since you've lived here?

More houses, more traffic and less people who were born and/or worked in the village. There were two pubs (the White Horse and The Chequers), two shops and PO. The Village Hall was a fairly small, pre-fabricated ex office building heated with gas heaters (very cold in winter).

What do you like best about living in West Wickham? It's in lovely countryside, it's peaceful and we've met some lovely people.

..... and like least? Compared to other villages, it is very hard getting people to take part in, organise things and generally be part of a community.

Is there anything missing from the village that you'd like to see? A pub again would be nice! The Hub nights are good though.

Do you have any special plans for 2020? Village wise, we'd love to do some more community archaeology and maybe a local history exhibition. The house needs a lot of decorating and we have a holiday booked to the Shetland Islands (and that's without mentioning the garden and our allotment).

Thank you.

Sue Thurston.

If you would like to take part or would like to suggest someone for the editors to ask, please get in touch.



NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Garden Open For Charity

Clover Cottage

50 Streetly End, West Wickham,
CB21 4RP

Snowdrop Festival
Every Sunday 16
February to 1 March
2 - 4pm

Adults £2.50 Children free

Light Refreshments

Free hot drinks in the summerhouse.



TEAS



PLANTS FOR SALE

More information at ngs.org.uk

NATURE NOTES

At this time of year some of us begin to compile an annual list of the birds we see in our gardens. The psychology at the heart of this rather nerdy practice is interesting to contemplate but I have to admit to possessing a series of index cards with birds and butterflies I spotted in our old garden at Burton End, so the excitement of beginning a new list for 2020 is doubled by starting one in Streetly End. The environment is slightly different so I am expecting some interesting contrasts. Janet contacted me to say that her list was already totalling 16 after just a few days of the New Year, which aroused my competitive instinct and after a quick count-up we are running neck and neck. We would be glad to hear of other list compilers.

Specific garden birds that have attracted attention include Europe's smallest, a goldcrest that visited Simon's garden in Burton End. These delightful birds are very active but seemingly untroubled by close observation. We don't often see them in West Wickham because they tend to prefer coniferous woodland and usually remain high up in the trees. Blackbirds are a more common sight, particularly at this time of year when many migrate from further north. Di has had a blackbird take up residence in a hydrangea just outside her back door, not yet producing its lovely melody, but emitting what she describes as a musical growl. The bird is unmoved by human activity and tolerates other birds feeding around him, while making occasional sorties to eat rotting crab apples. Meanwhile the migratory cousins of the blackbird, fieldfares and redwings, have not been seen this winter as much as in the past. The explanation for this apparent reduction is not obvious. Benign conditions in Scandinavia are one possibility. Does anyone else have an idea?

Our former near neighbour Ruth told me that she had seen moorhens in her garden for the first time. This surprised me, as when we lived at Number 29, the moorhens, who occupied the pond at Number 27, frequently came to share the chickens' food. Perhaps now the chickens have gone they are extending their range somewhat.

Away from our gardens, there have been small flocks of skylarks on the fields and yellowhammers in the hedges near Bottle Hall, while meadow pipits have been seen in the field next to the Old Vicarage. Sue has been out for some early morning runs recently and has been rewarded with two owl sightings in Webb's Lane - a little owl and a barn owl. Di also reports seeing two nuthatches in Blacklands Lane. I have heard them in Leys Wood but have not been lucky enough to see one recently, unlike Ted whose bird table is regularly visited by them in the winter.

Much further afield, we hope everyone was able to see the full moon on 12 January, which appeared to be abnormally large as it came over the horizon. This is called a 'wolf' moon because in the past wolves were often heard at this time of year. I sometimes read of the possibility of re-introducing the wolf to Scotland, or even to Thetford Forest, partly to predate on the ever-increasing deer population, but I suspect that the sheep and cattle farmers will be voicing their objections.

Birds seem to have dominated the notes this month - next time it would be good to hear about hare sightings as their 'madness' approaches.

Please send your nature sightings to:

Peter Grieve. T: 01223 897811, E: mail@petergrieve.co.uk
Di Licence. T: 290434, E: dianarubylicence@gmail.com

GRANTA MEDICAL PRACTICES

We are pleased to announce new extended access services for our patients, including:-

- Pre-bookable and online appointments from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday at various Granta sites
- Pre-bookable and online appointments on Saturdays at various Granta sites
- Pre-bookable telephone consultations on Sundays and Bank holidays.

Please speak to a member of our Reception team if you would like further information.

Are you registered for online access? Online services can help with the management of your health care requirements. You can book, amend and cancel appointments, request medication, and see your medical records, including test results. To register, download a form from our website www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk or call in to one of our branches to pick up a SystemOnline Access application form. Once you have registered for online access you can then also register for the NHS App. With this app you can:-

- Check your symptoms
- Find out what to do if you need help urgently
- Register to be an organ donor
- Choose how the NHS uses your data

Further information about the NHS App can be found at www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/the-nhs-app/.

Sandra East, Granta Communications
Email: sandra.east@nhs.net

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING

We have a selection of workshops available on Saturday 14 March. All workshops cost £45.00 and run from 10.00am until 4.00pm. Some have an additional materials cost.

Upholstery: re-upholster a small item like a small chair using the correct methods.

Writing life stories: learn the skills required and various ways of tackling a project.

Mother's Day vase & flowers in handmade felt: make a beautiful picture.

Functional maths & excel: improve your skills.

Family workshop. Hand tied posy for Mum. Saturday morning only 9.30am-12.30pm. £10 per adult and £3 for children.

To book a place on a workshop please email adult.education@lvc.org or telephone 01223 891223 Ext 303 or 317 or take a look at our website www.lintonvillagecollegeadultlearning.co.uk where you will find further information about our courses.

GUESS WHERE & WHEN? ANSWER

The Mill House, Streetly End, taken from the top of the mill, 1940s. The brick built house behind the Mill House was built of materials from the 17th Horseheath Hall demolished in the 1790s. The Red House, or Streetly End House as it was also known, was itself demolished in the 1950s.

For further details of these buildings (or information/memories of them) or of the Photo Archive contact Janet Morris:

Tel: 290863, Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

WHAT'S ON IN WESTON COLVILLE

Cinema Club. Our next film will be on Wednesday 5 February. Following the reception of the Jack Lemmon comedy *In the autumn*, we're showing *Some Like It Hot* with Tony Curtis & Marilyn Munroe. The comedy starts at 7.30pm in the Reading Room. All welcome, donations, introduction, refreshments available.

Circular Walk c5 miles. The weather was on our side for our New Year walk via Willingham Green and Carlton. Our next walk will be on Saturday 28 March, meeting in the Reading Room at 10am. BYO lunch and maybe something to share back in the Reading Room afterwards. Come and join us - all welcome, refreshments available.

All enquiries to Jacqueline Douglas.

T: 291475, Email: jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com



Serenata Female Voices
Musical Director Kate Wishart
Present
**SONGS
FROM THE
MOVIES**
Featuring music written by Berlin, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Arden, Bernstein, Sherman Brothers, Legrand, Barry, Williams, and Menken
Saturday 15th February 4pm
Holy Trinity Church Balsham
CB21 4DS
Tickets £12.00 (Under 18s £4.00)
Doors open 3.30pm Refreshments available
www.serenatafemalevoices.co.uk or call 01223 892001

STAMP APPEAL

Many thanks to those of you who saved your stamps over Christmas and delivered them to Nine Chimney House - much appreciated. I was able to take a good wodge to Little St Mary's Church, Cambridge. Their onward journey was overseen by two members of their congregation

I am pleased to confirm that all of the stamps we receive are either posted or taken to Embrace the Middle East, a Christian charity based in Amersham. They are then carefully sorted by their Stamp Fellowship and sold on to dealers to raise money for the Helen Keller School in Jerusalem. The Helen Keller School is the only one of Embrace's many small-scale quality projects to receive funding from the sale of stamps.

Best wishes to you all. Joanna Saunders

MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

It is hard to believe we have entered a new decade once again, with most of our children born within the last decade. We always take this opportunity to help children stop and reflect on the past year and engage them in looking forward to new beginnings. This year, we are going to be focusing on the 10 'Keys to Happier Living' which can help to make life more fulfilling. It seems like there is a great need for our young people to engage with this, so we are hoping to introduce a new 'key' each month to the children. This month has been 'giving', and we have challenged the children to sign up to a kindness pledge to coincide with World Kindness Challenge.

The start of a year always means the start of new topics and learning within school. This year we have remapped our learning to focus more heavily on both the skills and knowledge aspects of individual subjects. Each topic now has a tight history or geography focus, which is progressive across the school.

January was full of exciting entry points for topics, including a trip out of school. When we talk with the children about what they enjoy most about their learning, trips which enrich their learning is always top of the list. The Infants have a geography topic this term, focusing on hot and cold regions of



the world. They loved exploring the clues for the topic, frozen within an iceberg! Year 5 and 6 also have a geography topic, which is North America. The children will be learning about the key geographical features, specifically mountain ranges. Across the year, each year group is taken on at least one trip outside school. Unfortunately, some places are less accessible, especially desert and polar regions and North America!



looking at punishment across the ages, exploring how forensic scientists work and taking part in a mock trial. It was a really inspiring day and they returned to school thoroughly excited.

If you feel that you can spare some time to help in any of our learning this term, then please do contact the school office. Don't forget that you can keep up-to-date with all the events and learning within school by visiting our twitter page @Meadow_Balsham.

Nichola Connor (Headteacher)

FROM THE VICARAGE

In Bristol, where I used to live, there is a place in the heart of one of its shopping quarters called the New Room. It's the oldest Methodist building in the world and the site of a chapel which John Wesley built in 1739. It has now expanded with a museum, cafe and adjacent garden but the chapel is still used for worship. Many visitors to the New Room remark on how Charles Wesley's music has inspired them throughout their lives and hymns such as '*O for a thousand tongues to sing*' and '*And can it be that I should gain*' may be heard regularly in the chapel.

It's another reminder of the vital place of music in Christian worship and indeed in Old Testament times; singing and music appear throughout the Old Testament as a way in which people praised God. Psalm 98 reflects this by saying: "make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises". For many, an awareness of God's presence led naturally to worshipping with songs of praise.

There is also a vibrant variety of music within Christian worship today, where ancient hymns rub shoulders with contemporary worship songs, and music from other traditions such as the Iona and Taize communities is embraced. When I stayed with the ecumenical Christian community in Taize, in eastern France, we sang Taize chants as part of our daily worship and this contemplative music has become a formative influence for many people.

Our church choir, drawn from many villages, continues to be inspired by such a rich repertoire of music and would welcome anyone who is interested in joining over the coming months. The choir practices regularly on Monday evenings in Hildersham Church, but if you would like to take part in a 'one-off' service and were able to come along to perhaps two or three Monday evenings in advance or would simply like to try it out, you would also be very welcome. If you are interested, please do contact our music director, Keith Day, on: keithdday@btinternet.com.

Rev'd Iain McColl

DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

A very happy new year from both of your local Councillors, Geoff Harvey and Henry Bachelor. We hope 2020 is prosperous for everybody in our local area.

A1307. As everyone will have seen, the upgrades to the road are moving forward. The eastbound bus lane and speed limit changes are now implemented, along with the upgraded footpath. Next note - the beginning of February sees the start of work on the traffic lights and changed pedestrian crossing at the junction at the top of Linton High Street.

Marriages and Civil Partnerships. The County Council has upgraded the booking section of their website that allows you to see availability and book a marriage or civil ceremony at a County Council venue. So if one of your new years' resolutions is to make a positive change, you can do so here – www.cambridgeshireceremonies.co.uk

(Ed. A lot of the report has been deleted because it was either out of date or covered in other articles)

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Nurse: Claire Gillett, T:07498994205
Mobile: 0749 899 4205
email: 7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com
Tuesday & 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

The spring term is always a key turning point in the year. There are the obvious physical signs; the days are very slowly getting lighter and buds are beginning to appear. The spring term is also a key time for our Year 11s. Students have sat their mock exams and have now completed their post 16 applications. Students' focus is now on finishing their courses and starting revision. It can be a bewildering and confusing time. At times like this I am always impressed by the care and dedication of the teachers and support staff in working with the students. When I have conversations with staff about students at this time of year it is so clear that teaching is a vocation for them as well as a profession. The concern of the staff for the students is genuinely touching to witness.

Anticipating the future is also crucial in preparing younger students for life after LVC. The College tries to start this process well in advance. In January over 130 Year 9s participated in the 'Eyes on the Prize' event at Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge where they explored post 16 education and career routes. This event, combined with the Year 9 core exams at the end of January, feeds into students and parents/carers discussing GCSE choices later in the term. It is interesting how the penny starts dropping for students that life after LVC is only a couple of years away.

On a lighter note, the College hosted a wonderful musical 'Jazz and Sparkle' get together on a mid-January, Saturday evening. The College main hall was packed as the audience enjoyed great performances by students, Linton Jazz and the Belles Choir. All money raised went towards 'REACH' and the LVC Music Department. We are very grateful to the parents/carers for organising the event. It was another wonderful example of the Henry Morris ethos of the Village College being at the heart of the community.

Finally, I have received a few questions about my reference to Austria's favourite pensioner in the January newsletter. My apologies for any confusion, I was referring to Arnold Schwarzenegger and his famous 'I will be back' quote. I will endeavour to make my popular culture references less obscure and not quite so dated in the future!

Doug Brechin. Associate Principal

PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 16 February

Editors: Sue Thurston & Andrew Morris
Correspondence & News to:
21 High Street, West Wickham, Cambridge CB21 4RY
T: 01223 290863
e-mail: editor_wwwvillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk
or contact Sue on:
T: 01223 897811. e-mail: mail@suethurston.co.uk