

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

JULY 2020

ISSUE 206

## WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

Monday 6 July	Blue
Monday 13 July	Black
Monday 20 July	Blue & green
Monday 27 July	Black

The green bin collection has been reinstated but with only one collection per month guaranteed, shown above. They may collect green waste on other blue bin collection days, but might not!

For further information please visit [www.scams.gov.uk](http://www.scams.gov.uk) or [www.westwickham.org](http://www.westwickham.org)

Household Recycling Centres have reopened visit the South Cambs website.

## FOR UPDATES & USEFUL INFORMATION GO TO

[www.westwickham.org](http://www.westwickham.org)

If you aren't online the Editors are more than happy to help.

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**Parish Nurse:** Claire Gillett.

T: 07498994205, Mobile: 0749 899 4205.

Email: [7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com)

Tuesday & Thursday unless otherwise stated on her mobile phone. This is NOT a 24hr monitored service.

**Community Warden:** Carol Poll.

T: 07436102865

**Granta Medical Practice / Linton Health Centre:**

T: 0300 234 5555 option 3, followed by option 1 for appointments, option 2 for the Pharmacy.

## PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

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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.

## TIME TO SAY THANK YOU

Now seems a good time to say a big thank you to all those local businesses that have done so much to keep the village supplied in the last few months. Please keep (or start) supporting them as they are the lifeblood of the community, have gone out of their way to be helpful and are very much appreciated. We have compiled a list but are sure there are some we don't know about so will happily put them in next time if you send us details.

Plumbs Dairy: (milk deliveries and just about anything else)

The Red Lion, Horseheath :(deliveries of meat and veg boxes)

Balsham PO: (for their usual service and for delivering prescriptions)

Sweet Talk News, Linton: (delivery of newspapers to the church)

Cambridge News: home delivery

Field Compost, Wrattling Common: (deliveries of compost)

Beeches Nursery, Ashdon: (deliveries and collect service for plants)

Sturmer Nursery: (deliveries and collect service for plants)

Not strictly businesses but we would also like to thank the Royal Mail postmen and the Council waste collection crew for continuing these essential services.

And a special thanks from us to Oliver Plumridge who has opened up especially to print off local village magazines by himself, including the *Village Voice*, so we can continue to let you know what is happening.

The Editors

## CHURCHES OPEN FOR THE PUBLIC

It's very welcome news that our churches are now open for individual visits: for prayer, reflection and moments of peace. Whilst we do need to apply all the necessary precautions and rules including social distancing and the use of hand sanitizers on entering and leaving, I hope they may once more become places of welcome for all, places where we acknowledge that, in the words of T S Eliot, 'prayer has been valid'.

Sunday services at 10am - usually around 30 to 40 minutes - will continue via Zoom. For information about how to join these please contact Cazzy Walshe, our Parish Administrator, Email: [7churches.seven@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.seven@gmail.com)

Revd Iain McColl

## THE CHURCH ORGAN

St. Mary's has a historic pipe organ dating back to the early 19th Century. As with all pipe organs, over the course of time it has become worn and dirty and is now in need of a fairly major overhaul and cleaning.

Following advice from the Diocesan Organs Adviser a specification for the work has been drawn up and quotes obtained. The Parochial Church Council have agreed to proceed with the necessary work but the Church of England has a formal legal process (Faculty Petition) which has to be followed in order that it may proceed.

Part of this process involves the display of public notices at the church giving details of the petition and how to comment or object to the proposals if desired. However, since public worship in churches is currently suspended alternative arrangements have to be made for the public notice to be displayed on village websites where they exist. To see the official notice please visit [westwickham.org](http://westwickham.org)

Keith Day. Lay minister in the Granta Vale Group of Churches with responsibility for music.

## FROM THE VICARAGE

What a change the world has undergone in a matter of months. Restrictions imposed on us by the government to only go for a walk each day, and stay at home the rest of the time, and with all unnecessary travel prohibited; it is the small things we take for granted that suddenly are important. Simple things like a hair cut or meeting friends at the pub.

Many have faced big challenges with their jobs, illness and loneliness. Many have sacrificed their time to help others especially supporting the NHS. Thank you to all those who have helped in any way at all at a very vulnerable time for those living in our villages. Friendships have been forged and old friendships renewed with more time on our hands.

It has not all been negative because what we have received is, in the words of Gerard Manley Hopkins, "*the world charged with the grandeur of God*". We enjoyed good weather, which has been so warm and dry, and with the lack of traffic on the roads and aeroplane traffic in the sky, nature emerged in full swing for us to hear varied birdsong. Flowers and butterflies drew our attention to what we have missed in years gone by, such a great joy. Best of all are moments to appreciate the bigger picture of life. Time to take stock of who we are and what we are. Do we want to go back to how we were or do we want to take with us the blessings of living in the moment and not rushing on to the next task? We all will benefit from this.

And now change is happening again as we emerge out of lockdown with our churches opening for private prayer, giving us the chance to visit as we walk in the villages. A sanctuary and a chance to be still. Although we can pray anywhere at home or in the garden, our church buildings have been the physical space where we can connect to God. The Eucharist was presided and the word of God proclaimed and remembering the saints offers a depth to prayer. Added to this, our memories of special events enables our spirit to soar to a new level with hope restored. We come back to life ready for the next challenge; coming back to life to "go and experience the grandeur of God".

So whilst we might want to have our haircut, or have a pint today, hopefully in the near future that it will happen.

Blessings, Revd Kathy Bishop.

## LIBRARY AT HOME

Cambridgeshire Libraries can now accept new referrals to the revised Library@Home Service. This service is open to Cambridgeshire residents who fit a set criteria:

The service is for anyone who usually relies heavily on reading books or listening to audiobooks and who is shielding or isolating due to age or health conditions under the current Covid-19 Government guidelines.

People accepted for this service will be contacted by a member of the Library@Home Team who will arrange a doorstep delivery of specially chosen books/audiobooks. Deliveries will be monthly (by prior arrangement) and previously loaned books/audiobooks will be picked up when new ones are delivered.

To enquire about the revised Library@Home Service you can contact us:

By email - [volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

By phone – 07442 022 926 (Magda) or 07342 700308 (Fay)

A member of Library@Home team will respond to the referral.

## FOUND

On the footpath near Hill Farm on Tuesday, 16 June, a black baseball cap featuring an embroidered horse. Contact Ronnie on C.290412 if it's yours.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council held a "zoom" video meeting Monday 1 June. The following are some of the items discussed.

**Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman:** Patrick Charlton was re-elected as Chairman and Marcus Cornish as Vice Chairman.

**Appointments of two councillors to represent the Parish Council on the Village Hall Management Committee:** Alex Schuilenburg and Di Licence agreed to continue in this role.

**Covid-19 Community Support Group:** Cllr Licence and Nicky Cornish who had organised this group reported that there were no cases of the virus in West Wickham. The group was being monitored by South Cambs D C, receiving updates and guidance on procedures. Those who are vulnerable are being well looked after by their neighbours. The Chairman thanked them both and all those who volunteered to help.

**Finance:** The end of year accounts were agreed and ready for audit. The letter of Exemption to opt out of an external audit and the Statement of Governance & Statement of Account was agreed.

Details of the authorised payments and monies received are shown in the draft minutes posted on the noticeboards.

### Maintenance:

1. RoSPA Inspection: This had been carried out. The playground was satisfactory with nothing needing immediate attention. It was agreed that some of the wood installations, when replaced, should be renewed in plastic.
2. Flooding on Wickham/Streetly End road: The work will be carried out in the next 12 weeks together with repairing the blocked drain outside the Village Hall.
3. Pavements are being repaired.

**Village Hall & Playing Field:** Daisy Chains Pre-school have requested to reopen in the Village Hall. A thorough risk assessment had been carried out and all safety aspects had been attended to. It was also requested that the children could be allowed to use part of the play area with the play equipment roped off so it could not be used by anyone else. This was agreed.

### Planning:

1. 20/01639/Ful. W Potter. Two new dwellings on land in Burton End. SCDC had refused permission.
2. 20/01223/Ful. J Powell. 47 Streetly End. It was agreed not to support this application due to concerns over loss of privacy affecting the neighbours.

### Any other Business:

1. The wooden gate to the allotments is rotten and needs replacing. Cllr Licence said she had a quote for £200 plus £150 to erect the gate. It was put to the vote that the Parish Council would purchase a new one, agreed 6-1 in favour. The Chairman said he would look into the responsibilities of the Parish Council towards their allotments.
2. It was agreed that a football net should be purchased at a cost of approx. £30 - 40.
3. A proposal had been received for a mobile Post Office to visit the village once a week. This was thought a good idea but care needs to be taken on the choice of day and time.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 27 July**

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk.

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

## WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

### Cancellation of the Annual Show

The Show Committee has concluded that this year's Annual Show should be cancelled. It is so disappointing to have come to this decision but there is still a lot of uncertainty around what will be permitted by mid-August and everyone has their own views on the level of risk they are prepared to take when going out. Next year we will make an extra effort to try to ensure that the Show is as big, as lively and as inclusive as it can be.

There is no reason however that the Photography Classes cannot go ahead and the Ralph Westwood-Bate Cup awarded. Articles promoting these Classes appeared in last month's Village Voice and in the April edition but once again, the three classes are:

- Off the beaten track.
- Portrait of a single vegetable, growing or arranged.
- Life in the garden.

The Rules for submitting entries are as follows:

- Each exhibitor may put in up to two entries per class.
- Photographs must have been taken during or after August 2019.
- Entries can be submitted either by email to [sally@sallymoonpublishing.com](mailto:sally@sallymoonpublishing.com) or in person - by prior arrangement - on a memory stick to Sally Moon at Half Moon House, 30 Streetly End or me at 41 Streetly End. If you do not have a digital image Sally will scan your photo if you let her or me have your prints (no larger than A5 (21 x 14.8cm) please). The deadline for entries will be Saturday, 15 August.

It would be lovely if we could have some new exhibitors from the Village and from the Club this year to show support for the Show. Usually there is a fee for each class entered, which goes towards the cost of staging the show, but not this year. We are hoping that both the entries and winners' photos can appear on the village website and the winning photos in the Village Voice. In due course, once the Village Hall is in full use again we are intending to display the winning entries in there. Members of the Club and all exhibitors will also receive an emailed copy of all the entries and winning shots.

Sue Thurston. Show Committee Co-ordinator.  
[mail@suethurston.co.uk](mailto:mail@suethurston.co.uk)

### GUESS WHERE AND WHEN?



**Answer on page 4.** From West Wickham & District Local History Club Photo Archive

## A LOT OF BIG THANK YOU'S FROM DAISY CHAINS

You may have noticed that there has been activity at the Village Hall recently. This is because Daisy Chains Preschool has been allowed to start again following government directives. Thank you to all of the parents that have had trust in us to allow their children back into our preschool at such a weird time in all our lives.

We would like to thank both the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council for allowing us to use the Hall and part of the outdoor playground. Without their support, we would not have been able to open.

Special thanks go out to Diana Licence for going out of her way to ensure that we would have access to the outdoor play area and to Trevor Hall who has helped me with all the risk assessments that were necessary and ensuring that the Hall was clean and fit for purpose. Also, thanks to a villager who came over to the outside area and said "it's lovely to hear the children playing out here again". These words made all the work that it took to get Daisy Chains running again worthwhile!

Last, but by no means least, thanks to Marcus for sourcing the safety netting and stakes for us so quickly, so we could have a safe and secure outdoor play area for the children to play in. (Good job he is having a house built just down the road !!!)

Sue Harrow, Daisy Chains Preschool Leader.

(From the Editors – and a massive thank you to Sue, Lucy & Sally for all their hard work in getting Daisy Chains up and running again.)

## LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

While still officially closed, the College is increasingly busy as we accommodate growing numbers of students on site. We continue to provide childcare for key workers and vulnerable children. We have also welcomed back groups of Year 10 students to benefit from face to face time in school before the summer holidays.

There is still a great deal of uncertainty about what schooling will look like in September. We are awaiting guidance from the government but are anticipating that we may not be able to fully re-open for all students next term.

In the meantime, our staff, students and their families are doing a great job at adjusting to online learning. We are increasingly making use of technology such as the video tool, Loom, and Microsoft Teams platform to enable our students to benefit from dynamic, engaging and interactive teaching content.

The Cambs Youth Panel has been helping our families with access to IT, such as loans of laptops and Chromebooks to students without technology devices at home. They have also constructed low-cost Raspberry Pi devices for families to purchase ([www.cambsyouthpanel.co.uk](http://www.cambsyouthpanel.co.uk)). A total of 420 devices have been issued across the County, with more than 20 LVC students benefiting from this scheme so far. We have also been able to provide other families with refurbished devices that have been kindly donated by members of the LVC community.

If you have a laptop or other personal device that you no longer need but is still in working order that you would like to donate, please contact Mr Darby, Deputy Principal at LVC ([tim.darby@lvc.org](mailto:tim.darby@lvc.org)). This will be gratefully received by students who could make use of this technology to support with their remote learning over the coming weeks.

Helena Marsh, Principal

## NATURE NOTES

Butterfly experts sometimes refer to 'the June gap' when most of those butterflies who fly in the spring have died off, while the summer breeds tend not to appear until July. This year has been different. Orange tips were still flying as May ended and a possibly second brood of brimstones have been seen by more than one of us, while the meadow browns have come much earlier than normal, and in large numbers. Throughout the period I have seen many small heath butterflies who inhabit grassland and are easily overlooked. Calling in at Andrew and Janet's garden the other day I was greeted by a lovely holly blue. The year is shaping up to be an even better butterfly year than 2019, although bad weather in July and August could change things. I think things must also be quite good for moths, judging by those that fly up whenever I walk through the grass at the top of our garden. Lyn sent me a photograph of a caterpillar tent on the new hedge near the playing field. As we said last month, these protective webs are used by quite a few moth species.

There are plenty of interesting insects around both on the ground and in the air. Laura told me that she had discovered a potter wasp in her garden. They create a vase-shaped nest from clay, fill it with small caterpillars and lay an egg. The wasp grub then emerges and eats the caterpillars.

Ponds in gardens attract plenty of insects but also other sorts of wildlife - even more so during a long dry spell such as we have experienced lately. Our neighbours Jenny and



Godfrey reported the appearance of eleven mallard ducklings on their pond, which is a heart-warming picture but a hazardous one. Let's hope they manage to ward off the dangers posed by numerous predators, including the heron who is a regular visitor. Meanwhile Trevor sent me some footage of a badger drinking from his pond and a rather unusual fox passing along the water's edge. The fox had a truncated tail (maybe bitten off by one of his siblings when a cub) but a notably muscular body. The moorhens that have nested on the pond will need to beware, but were busily going in and out of the reeds on the video, presumably feeding chicks. Just down the road, Deborah also had a moorhens' nest with eggs which may have hatched although any young were hidden away at the time of writing.

A spotted flycatcher has come back to the churchyard this year. It is one of my favourite birds and has declined substantially in recent decades. Di and Steve have seen the bird a few times but I have not so far, despite my daily visit to collect the paper. The bird is robin-sized but with a more upright posture when perching. Its 'signature' activity is to fly from a perch, such as a branch or gravestone, catch an insect and return to base. Spotted flycatchers are usually late arrivals to this country, having made the journey from south of the equator. Other summer visitors, swallows, house martins and swifts have all been seen around the parish. We would like to know if any of them are nesting

here, and if so where?

Di has been watching the great tits that have fledged in their garden still demanding food from their parents with plenty of loud chirping, while Sue was able to witness blue tits fledging from her nest box, one by one tumbling out of the entrance hole at 3 o'clock one afternoon. Di's blackbirds have produced a second brood which has fledged and are starting a third on the same nest in her honeysuckle, having made minimal running repairs with a few beakfuls of dried moss.

The verges have been full of summer flowers, especially the lovely oxeye daisies but also the humble hogweed, which the bees seem to love, and common mallow. We are having mixed reports of orchids. Ann spotted eleven bee orchids at the entrance to Manna Cottages. Unfortunately these seem to have been mown down but as I delivered last month's Voice, I noticed one half way up the drive which must have escaped the blades. Trevor reports a good crop of various varieties in his garden but elsewhere they may have taken a knock due to the dry weather. Common spotted and southern marsh are other varieties currently in flower but some have not emerged in the places we normally see them.

Apart from Trevor's fox and badger, other mammals have been getting in on the act, and not always in a good way. Deborah's strawberries have been undermined by a mole while rabbits have discovered her carrots. So far I have managed to keep them away from my veg patch but the troops are massing on the border. The best news however was the appearance of a hedgehog in Maypole Croft. Acting on information Di crept round with a torch at around 10 p.m. and discovered it snuffling around the bird feeder on her neighbour's lawn. Annabel said that she had seen it safely across the road on a number of occasions so does she have an alternative career as a hedgehog lollipop lady? Lyn sent me a picture of a muntjac, clearly pregnant, standing in the middle of the garden at Cobwebs. Lyn tells me that in the past a muntjac has given birth in their vegetable patch (witnessed by Ali next door). The fawn was pounced on by a siamese cat but the mother fought it off. For those of you who remember Bill Jolly, he said that muntjac always gave birth in this spot, so perhaps the one in the picture will do the same.



Please send your nature sightings to:

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

### GUESS WHERE AND WHEN? ANSWER

Burton End before 1933. Vicarage Cottage (then 2 cottages) on the left and the Old Vicarage on the right. The bungalow in the centre has long since been demolished with 3 houses on the site - 19, 19a and 21 Burton End. Note the unmade road.

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](mailto:jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com)