

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

SEPTEMBER 2021

ISSUE 220

## WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

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

Household Recycling Centres are open on an appointment system. For details visit:  
[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-centres](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-centres)

## CHURCH SERVICES

At the time of this edition being sent to the printer the details of the September services had not been received.

Please see the noticeboard in the church porch and by the gate for further information.

## 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:** Kim Cox. T: 07498994205  
Email: [7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com)  
This is NOT a 24hr monitored service.

**AgeUK Community Warden:** Faye Parker.  
T: 07436102865,  
Email: [Faye.Parker@ageukcap.org.uk](mailto:Faye.Parker@ageukcap.org.uk)

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

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

**Electricity & powercut helpline:** 105

**British Telecom helpline:** 0800 800150

**Cambridge Water Company:** 01223 706050

## DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: Tuesday 14 September

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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.



**WEST WICKHAM**

**FABULOUS FAMILY FUN, FOOD AND FROLICS**

**04.09.21**

Join us at the Village Hall for a fabulous day full of entertainment

**Family Games**  
3 pm – 5 pm

**Bar & BBQ**  
5 pm – 7 pm

**Live Band • Melodybeats**  
7 pm – 10.30 pm

This is a free entry event.  
West Wickham Village Hall, High Street, West Wickham, Cambs, CB21 4SB

For more information please contact Diane:  
[dianehazlehurst45@gmail.com](mailto:dianehazlehurst45@gmail.com)

## CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

The Parish Council would like to remind everyone that dogs are not allowed inside the children's playground. Please leave them outside the fenced area. The reason for this is that should they foul the grass, children and adults may tread in the 'poo', which is neither healthy nor safe. (Ed. See also separate article on back page).

The back fence has been broken by a young man jumping onto it (this was caught on camera). Please use the gate, don't damage the fence or equipment. This is a community area, it belongs to all of us and is for everyone to use and enjoy. (Ed. And one we all pay for!)

**DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER EDITION**  
Please note that we have had to bring this forward to  
**TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER**

## SHIRLEY WILKINSON

Many in West Wickham will remember Shirley, who died in Symonds House in Linton on 2 August. She lived here nearly all her life and was quite a complex character. She loved to talk to people, cook, do jigsaws and of course read Mills and Boons. She also wrote poetry, some of which she would read at the Carol service on Christmas Eve. Her funeral service will be held in the church at 11.00 on Friday 3 September. All those who remember her are welcome to attend

Nicky Cornish & Di Licence

## PICTURES FROM THE PAST



Cavalry soldiers on the road between Streetly End and West Wickham during Army Manoeuvres 16 - 19 September 1912. This was the largest military exercise before the First World War. The 'invading' Red Army headed from Norfolk towards London to meet the 'defending' Blue Army. The Roman Road became the front line with much of the final 'fighting' taking place around Horseheath. The King, George V, came to watch from a ditch behind Streetly Hall (his visit is commemorated on a plaque on the churchyard wall at Horseheath). The West Wickham schoolchildren were given a day off, ostensibly to see the King but with all the excitement there was little likelihood of them attending anyway. Many of the boys watched the action from the scaffolding of the new Streetly Hall, which was then in the process of being built.

Photo from West Wickham & District Local History Club Photo Archive

Janet Morris, 21 High Street  
Tel: 290863 Email: [jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com](mailto:jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com)

## WEST WICKHAM CARPET BOWLS CLUB

The Carpet Bowls Club is up and running again after our enforced break. We would very much welcome new members. So why not give it a go (there's no obligation to join if you find it's not for you)? It's easy to learn, suitable for all abilities and fun. We meet on Wednesday evenings in the Village Hall - 6.45 for a 7pm start. Just come along or contact the Secretary, Janet Morris Tel: 290863 Email: [jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com](mailto:jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com)

## SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY

The Parish Council is considering how we might use social media to better communicate with parishioners and promote sharing information online. To help us understand which platforms would reach the most people, the following survey is available for all residents to complete: [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GWVWCWD](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GWVWCWD)

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the meeting held on 26 July the following are some of the matters discussed. The full draft Minutes are available on the two noticeboards.

### Planning:

1. 21/0225/FUL. B. Pope, Platts Farm. New Dwellings. Unsupported and since withdrawn.
2. 21/3086/FLB. A Covey. Streetly Hall. Extension & conversion of a cart lodge into office. Supported.

*Finance:* The audit has been carried out satisfactorily.

*Traffic & Parking issues:* Trevor Hall has agreed to replace Simon Blackwell as the Speed Watch Co-ordinator. The speed indicator in Streetly End has been resited because it was being set off by the high grass.

### Maintenance:

1. Defibrillator: Cllr Schuilenburg has received two quotes, which both require fund raising by the village. The Parish Council are happy to pay for the equipment and are enquiring if there is a way this can be done.
2. Replacement bench: One replacement and a new one have been purchased and are now in place.

### Recreation ground:

1. Climbing wall: This has now been demolished and the ground reseeded with grass.
2. Damage to fence: See separate article.

*Village Hall heating system:* The Parish Council agreed to donate £1000 towards the proposed new heating system. Grants are also being applied for.

### Parish Communication:

1. West Wickham Website picture: The Facebook page for West Wickham, Bromley, is no longer using an image of our Village sign following representations from Cllr Schuilenburg.
2. Setting up a Facebook site: Cllr Hazelhurst was happy to set this up if the Parish Council were in favour. The vote was inconclusive so Cllr Sargeant said he would set up an online survey to see what media platforms are used by parishioners. See separate article.

*Neighbourhood Plan:* Cllr Sargeant reported that the Regulation 14 consultation ended at the end of June. 67 residents had responded of which 97% were supportive of the Plan. It was noted that the standard required for the Plan to pass examination has been raised since the early plans were approved and thus our Plan is longer and more complex than some of the examples first looked at.

*Allotments:* The VHM wish to put a meter on the water supply used by allotment holders as there is a sewage charge on all water through the Hall pipes. A vote was taken and all agreed.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 27 September at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.**

Jenny Richards (Parish Clerk)  
T: 01223 665260, E: [clerk@westwickham.org](mailto:clerk@westwickham.org)

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Regulation 14 consultation on our draft Neighbourhood Plan.

The Working Group are now carefully reviewing all the responses received and updating the draft where appropriate. This process will be published in our Consultation Statement.

It is anticipated the revised Plan will be submitted to South Cambridgeshire District Council for the next stage, the Regulation 16 consultation later this year.

David Sargeant

## NATURE NOTES

I'm sure everyone has noticed that 2021 has been a good year for slugs and snails. The big orange slugs (limax) are responsible for decimating Di's garden, eating their way through sunflower stems and clematis stalks. Slugs have also done some damage to Andrew's strawberries and carrots, although help was at hand in the form of a large frog which was sitting in his strawberry bed. Slugs' natural diet consists mainly of decaying vegetation but we gardeners keep providing them with tasty alternatives. The wet weather we have had this year suits them well.

Slug and snail predators include song thrushes, hedgehogs, frogs and toads, all of which need to be encouraged. The amphibians hide away in dark, cool places at this time of year. We lifted a log that had been lying in the grass recently and revealed two toads. I reminded them that there was a good selection of slugs in the garden but, there being no response, we replaced the log and allowed them to continue their reverie. Toads and their tadpoles contain toxins in their skin which make them taste unpleasant and protects them from predators.

As I began writing this piece, a heron landed in our garden and briefly inspected the pond. Herons include both frogs and toads in their diet but fortunately our two toads would have been quite safe under their log and the heron flew off. Herons are normally solitary at this time of year but two have recently been spotted flying together between ponds.

The landscape changes rapidly at this time of year with crops harvested and fields ploughed, changing the dominant colour from gold to brown. Quick to react to this change are groups of gulls, alive to the opportunity of worms and other creatures being exposed. Their uncanny ability to know when and where ploughing is taking place is something of a mystery. It sometimes seems to us that they appear from nowhere. Red kites are also plentiful, showing interest in newly ploughed fields which may also contain the corpses of unfortunate creatures caught up in the machinery. The gulls find the kites a little disturbing, especially when groups of kites are floating around. There were 8 - 10 in the air the other morning near Streetly Hall farm.

We've seen plenty of butterflies during August. Highlights for us have been visits to the Devil's Dyke near Newmarket where the chalkhill blues seemed like confetti. The plant on which they lay their eggs, horseshoe vetch, grows there but they are attracted to the nectar of the knapweed, harebell and scabious which are also plentiful. Another highlight



was the photo of the death's head hawkmoth sent to me by Lyn Kimble, resting on the bust beside the front door to Cobwebs. I hope some of you submitted your big butterfly counts. A good position to take up might have been beside a bramble patch where the flowers attract the likes of comma, hedge brown (gatekeeper) and red admiral. Ironically some of these more colourful

butterflies seem to have become more numerous since the count was over. There have been a few painted ladies around, possibly on their way back down south, like the swallows that have been lining up on the telegraph wires

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)

## NOMINATE YOUR COVID COMMUNITY CHAMPION

People across our local area have gone above and beyond to help others during the pandemic, and to recognise their fantastic efforts I have launched a COVID Community Champions award. From collecting medication and groceries, to looking out for elderly neighbours, or volunteering or supporting the NHS - there are many stories of support that have taken place across our local communities during the pandemic.

I am keen to highlight the significant efforts of those who have made a contribution during this tough time for our area and country.

If you would like to nominate a local individual to thank them for the work they have done across Cambridgeshire then please email me on [lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk) with:

- Your name
- Your address
- Your email
- Name and contact email of the individual you are nominating for the COVID Community Champion Award
- One/two sentences on why you are nominating them

The closing date for nominations is 30 September. I will be announcing the winners in the autumn, and holding a special event in Parliament to recognise their hard work. I look forward to sharing their stories with you.

Lucy Frazer MP

## GRANTA Medical Practices

**Flu Clinics.** Are you eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine? If yes, but haven't yet booked one, don't delay - ring 0300 234 5555 to arrange your appointment. We are holding clinics on the following dates:

**Saturday 11 September:** Granta Sawston, Granta Linton, Granta Shelford

**Sunday 12 September:** Granta Market Hill

**Saturday 9 October:** Granta Sawston, Granta Linton, Granta Barley

**Saturday 23 October:** Granta Shelford

As a Granta patient, you have a choice of which venue you attend, on a day most convenient for you. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact us on the number above or email me on [sandra.east@nhs.net](mailto:sandra.east@nhs.net)

**Charity Event.** Granta Medical Practices are proud to support EastFest21, a charity music festival being held on Saturday 18 September, raising awareness of mental health and suicide. Set in the grounds of The Coach House Hotel at Flint Cross (CB22 7PN), there will be live music, a beer festival, food and side stalls, with B&B rooms and camping available. All proceeds are going to the Zero Suicide Alliance, a charity dedicated to raising awareness of suicide by offering free online training for everyone and bringing NHS trusts and organisations together with the joint aim of reducing suicide nationwide. For further information about EastFest21 and to order tickets go to [www.eastfest.live](http://www.eastfest.live)

For further information about the Zero Suicide Alliance and to access free online training go to [www.zerosuicidealliance.com](http://www.zerosuicidealliance.com). Remember that whatever you are going through, a Samaritan will face it with you. They are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Call free on 116 123.

Sandra East

## FROM THE VICARAGE

The summer is racing past and once again we are aware of our rural communities as farmers work late into the night, often driving their tractors up the high street when it is dark.

I have been struck by the resulting freedom families are experiencing now they are able to meet more freely as a result of the pandemic easing. Here are a few thoughts about the importance of the families supporting each other.

The summer has been full of sport: football, Olympics and cricket to name but a few. I was struck by how each player has had to be dedicated to practice their skills in order to achieve the goals they strive for, a medal or a trophy that their team have won. In order to excel each player has had the support of a member of the family prepared to ferry their child here, there and everywhere; building up confidence as well as skill. It takes time, and that sacrifice has its rewards, but this is a long-term commitment. Good foundations are important at this early stage, and in this pandemic all competitors have been tested to keep their eye on the prize of success and to do the best that they can with the help and support of family and friends.

As I write this article the exam results are being published, and many have had success in their studies. Students recognise the role of support they have received from their parents, with one student acknowledging that she was more resilient as a result of the pandemic. She had had to struggle but in the end was successful. This quality of resilience will stand students in good stead for the challenges ahead in life.

Continuing the theme of families, I have been privileged to conduct several baptisms since the lockdown has eased. To watch family and friends meet up after a long period of time has been a great joy and in church as well! We give thanks with a grateful heart for those we rely on and those we support in the months and years ahead.

Every Blessing Rev. Kathy Bishop

## DOG FOULING

Keep Britain Tidy reports that dog fouling is the issue the UK public are most concerned about, and West Wickham is certainly no exception. I counted 13 separate "deposits" along a 150 yard stretch of footpath 5 (Ed. This is the path from the church to the playing field) a couple of days ago from medium-large sized dogs, two of which already had been trodden in by unfortunate walkers, only to arrive home and find another two on the pavement outside my house. I have also received a number of complaints by residents concerned by the rise in dog fouling.

Please could dog owners pick up their dog's mess and take it home with them. Can pet parents also please remind everyone in their household walking their pooches to do the same?

Doggy Doo is an extremely unacceptable and offensive type of litter, as well as being a health hazard. It takes on average nine weeks to biodegrade when left out in the open. Dog Poo bags on trees and bushes are also an unsightly issue - biodegradable bags take up to a year to break down in these conditions. The "Clean Neighbourhood & Environment Act of 2005" places a legal duty on dog owners to clean up every time after their dog messes in a public place, and this is reinforced by the "Criminal and Anti-Social Behaviour Act of 2014" which also designates this a health hazard. Spot fines may be issued with magistrate fines up to £1000.

So please bag it and take home to bin it.

Alex Schuilenburg, West Wickham Parish Council



**WESTON COLVILLE 'PUB' QUIZ.** After a two-year break, the quiz is back! We are holding one at the Reading Room on Wednesday 22 September at 8pm. Up to 4 per team, entry £2 per person. Bar includes wine, cider and draft ale. All welcome.

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

## DO YOU HAVE ANY WRENS IN YOUR FAMILY?

We are not referring to the tiny, feathered variety in the garden but the indomitable ladies who joined the Women's Royal Naval Service. Specifically, ladies who joined up between 1946 and 1981 and did their basic training at Training Depot Burghfield/HMTE Burghfield/HMTE Dauntless/HMS Dauntless/Reading. Dauntless Divisional Photos is a nationwide project, in collaboration with the Association of Wrens, to gather divisional photographs and memories from those training days but also to reunite ladies with old friends, share anecdotes and relive exciting moments.

So if you, your mum, granny, aunt, godmother or even next door neighbour donned a blue suit and headed for a life near the ocean wave, please get in touch on either [ddpwrens@gmail.com](mailto:ddpwrens@gmail.com) or 07765 435295/0771 990 9844.

Mandy Powell & Janette Crisp, Project Coordinators

## COUNTY COUNCIL ITEMS

**Flooding.** The downpour at the end of July caused significant flooding in many of our villages. There are examples in some areas where this was particularly bad and caused some serious damage. The Highways department has responsibility for making sure that the highway drains that take surface water away from the highway are clear. Jetting of some of the system has been ordered in some parishes to try to remedy this, but if there are any particular drains in your area that could benefit from being cleared out, do let me know.

**Grass Verges.** Councils nationally have been under pressure to cut verges less and have more wild flowers in response to collapsing bee populations and concern for the natural habitat generally. A change in policy was announced in March. This can be seen at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/wildflowers-bees-and-plant-species-to-thrive-in-cambridgeshire-after-changes-to-roadside-verges>

Verges should have been cut back around junctions and blind corners, but if there are any locations of particular safety concern, please let me know.

Henry Batchelor – [henrybatchelor89@gmail.com](mailto:henrybatchelor89@gmail.com)