

VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

OCTOBER 2021

ISSUE 221

WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

Monday	4 October	Black
Monday	11 October	Blue & green
Monday	18 October	Black
Monday	25 October	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

CHURCH SERVICES

3 October	10.30. Joint service of Holy Communion at Balsham Church
10 October	9.00. Morning worship, St Mary's Church
17 October	9.00. Morning worship, St Mary's Church
24 October	9.00. Holy Communion, St Mary's Church
31 October.	9.00. Morning worship, St Mary's Church

Please look at church notice by gate for confirmation.

★ HUB NIGHT! ★

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEXT DATE: **23.10.21** 7PM-11PM



USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Nurse: Kim Cox. T: 07498994205
Email: 7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com
This is NOT a 24hr monitored service.

AgeUK Community Warden: Faye Parker.
T: 07436102865,
Email: 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.

PRESS DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: Saturday 16 October

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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 VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 4 October, 7:30 pm in the Village Hall

The Village Hall Management Committee invites residents of West Wickham to its Annual General Meeting. The meeting is required to discuss the legal obligations of running a charity, electing members and agreeing the financial statement.

More importantly for residents, we will be discussing the activities of the Hall over the previous year and will be looking at future usage following the closure of the Daisy Chains Pre-School, which means the Hall is available for other events during the week.

The Management Committee is also looking at the membership of the Committee, as there are several long serving members who would like to step down at some time in the future.

We invite residents to attend this AGM to see how the Committee works and to see if they would like to support the running of the Village Hall in future with a possible role on the Committee at some time. We now have a Social Committee in place with a programme of future events throughout the next year. We would like to see new uses developed for the Hall, particularly for younger members of the community who presently have little access to the Hall and its excellent facilities.

We would welcome input from the wider community to develop any possible new activities. We will be providing refreshments after the meeting to allow for some casual discussion on ideas for the future.

Trevor Hall, Chairman WWVHMC

THANK YOU

I would like to say a really big THANK YOU to all the helpers and organisers of the Fabulous Family Fun, Food & Frolics event; the Village Hall Social Committee for organising the day and evening; those that helped to set up and clear away; all those that helped run a stall, especially Ronnie who manned the raffle all day; Nicci and Ian for running a great bar and Rob, Jason and Alex for putting on a fantastic BBQ. Martin & his laido team also deserve a mention for their display.

Patrick Charlton

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

We're back!

We will be starting our programme of talks in October and all are welcome. We are grateful to the Village Hall Committee for allowing us to use the whole Hall so there will be plenty of room to space out. The Covid protocols require much extra work, so we will not be serving our usual refreshments after the meeting for the time being. Nevertheless, this is a great opportunity to find out more about the village and meet old and new friends, so do please come along and support us.

Monday 11 October, 7.30pm at the Village Hall

WEST WICKHAM 100 YEARS AGO:

THEN AND NOW

Janet Morris

Further details from Janet Morris, 21 High Street
Tel: 290863 Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

HUB NIGHTS ARE BACK

After a long break we are excited to share with everyone that we are planning to restart our Village Hub Nights, a community pub night in the Village Hall, normally on the 4th Saturday of every month. 7 - 11pm - everyone welcome.

From each Hub Night we donate £50 from the takings and donations to a local or nominated charity. Suggestions are always welcome.

- We have a very reasonably priced bar with a keg of Real Ale from our local, The Chestnut Tree.
- Locally sourced quality wines from Adnams available by the glass or bottle.
- A range of delicious soft drinks.
- You are also welcome to bring your own drinks and food and make a donation to our chosen charity.
- Electronic darts and a range of games.
- We now have a card machine to give you more options to pay.
- We keep an eye on the Covid regulations to keep everyone as safe as we can.

We are so excited to be able to see everyone. Let us know if you have any special requests.

Forthcoming Hub Dates

23 October / 27 November (Maybe Fish and Chips Night) / 18 December

Di and Nicci

Any questions? Please call Nicci on 07527879135 or 290886

PICTURES FROM THE PAST



View of the High Street from the junction. Early 1920s. The building on the left with the man standing in the doorway was the blacksmith's forge. The sign outside reads 'Car for Hire' - many village blacksmiths evolved into garages (although not this one). The houses in the middle distance were subsequently demolished. Note the unmade road surface - dusty in summer, sticky in winter - and the footway indicated by field stones.

To see more photographs of the village in this period why not come along to the talk on Monday 11 October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall (see separate advert on page 1).

Janet Morris

★ **HUB NIGHT!** ★
WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

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WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

THANK YOU

A big Thank You to everyone who took part in the Gardening Club's Annual Show in August. We were delighted that there were some new participants finding the time to enter (and doing well) in quite a few of the classes, and to see some new faces in the afternoon, admiring the entries, enjoying the refreshments and taking part in the auction of produce at the end.

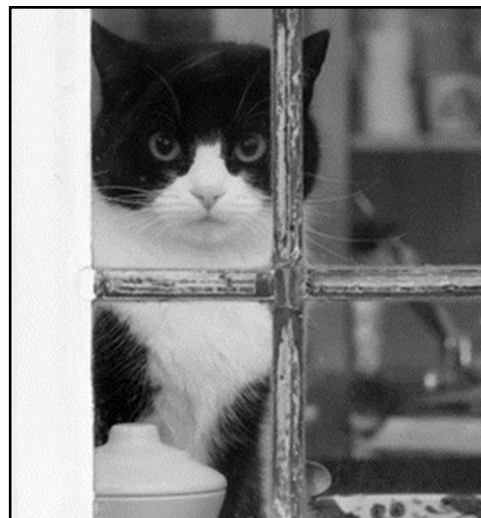
I would like to give particular thanks to the rest of the Show Committee and all the volunteers who helped to make the day a success. We were donated both plants and cakes which helped increase the profit that the Club made on the day which, before deduction of our expenses, was just over £250. We are clearly on an upward trajectory so expect an even better outcome next time.

The prize winners were:

The Children's Trophy Cressida Cornish
The West Wratting Cup (highest points winner in the fruit and vegetable classes) Sam Agnew
The White Horse Trophy (highest points winner in the cut flower & pot plant classes) Sam Agnew
The Stan & Hilda Cox Cup (highest points winner in the domestic classes) Ciarán McNally
The Ralph Westwood-Bate Cup (highest points winner in the photography classes) Lucy Cameron
The Bill Pearson Cup (highest points winner in all classes) Sam Agnew
The Royal Horticultural Society Banksian Medal (highest points winner in the vegetable, fruit & flower classes) Sam Agnew

One of the Club's regular members, Sam Agnew, did exceptionally well this year. He made a terrific effort, entering as many of the vegetable and cut flower classes as he could, and everyone was impressed by the high standard of his entries. Such hard work deserved the accolades he received.

We plan to upload the winning photographs onto the westwickham.org website soon but here is one of the winning entries, taken by our cup winner Lucy Cameron, in the "Through my Window" class.



The titles of the three Photographic Classes for the next Show will be soon be finalised and then publicised in the Village Voice so that you can have them in mind when using your camera or phone over the next year.

Sue Thurston, Show Co-ordinator, T: 897811

NATURE NOTES

Ants have been here since early cretaceous times (140 million years). They are virtually harmless to us and useful in the eco system as predators and as prey for other species. Yet many people have an antipathy (no pun intended) towards them, probably because they sometimes intrude into our houses, damage plants and lawns or undermine garden paths. Perhaps also we find their success as a social unit sub-consciously threatening to us as individuals.

There are 50 species of ant in England and I have been coming across many examples of one of them as I trim patches of long grass. This is the common yellow meadow ant, which has a habit of creating large mounds within the long grass where their colonies live. These soil mounds help to regulate temperature and humidity in the nest, which can extend by as much as a metre below the ground. Although nominally yellow, these creatures are more of an orangey brown colour and can sometimes be mistaken for red ants. We know that ants are a particular delicacy for green woodpeckers but are also used by some birds as cleaning agents, with the birds allowing the ants to crawl over them, spraying formic acid and keeping their plumage clean. The yellow meadow ants are also a friend of the chalkhill blue butterfly, protecting the larvae in return for a sugary substance they secrete.

Shortly after last month's nature notes went to press another special butterfly visited West Wickham. Carol Hall sent me a photograph of a silver-washed fritillary on her buddleia, which could be a first for West Wickham. Silver-washed fritillaries are more common further south and their normal habitat is woodland glades so it may seem surprising to see one in a Cambridgeshire garden but they have been spreading in recent years after a decline in the 20th century and this garden has plenty of trees.

Like ants, ivy does not always get a good press because it is so invasive but in a hedgerow it can be beautiful and productive. In this column we have sung its praises more than once as a source of food and protection in the winter. In a hedgerow on the Roman Road there is an expanse of ivy-covered blackthorn. The scent given off in the warm sunshine attracts bees, red admiral butterflies and other insects to collect the nectar from the ivy flowers. Elsewhere in the area it is good to see that many agricultural fields or field-edges have been planted with flowers that attract insects. We would like to know more about this relatively new phenomenon, such as the flower varieties, the desired outcome for nature, and whether or not the plants are native. It was good to hear that nationally most species of dragonfly have been increasing in numbers. As there are so many ponds in West Wickham it would be good to know of your dragonfly sightings.



The trail cam has been capturing photos of the nocturnal activities of our larger mammals such as a fox, muntjac and badgers, including this one who decided to sit down and have a good scratch of his belly. One mammal not caught on the camera yet is the hedgehog, but the good news, is that several people have said that

they have seen hedgehogs recently.

Please send your nature sightings to:
Peter Grieve. T: 01223 897811, E: mail@petergrieve.co.uk
Di Licence. T: 290434, E: dianarubylicence@gmail.com

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

FLAMES & FEATHERS A talk on tulip appreciation and obsession. By Andrew Morris

Monday 18 October, 7.30pm Village Hall

The extensively illustrated talk will cover the history of how the tulip was brought from its homeland in central Asia to become the national symbol of the Ottoman Empire, before being exported to Western Europe in the 17th century. Here people went wild about these beautiful flowers, resulting in Tulip Mania and huge sums of money being spent on a single bulb. Appreciation of tulips over the centuries has resulted in a considerable number of paintings and still features in art and culture. They are still much loved and enjoyed in our gardens.

1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

After a lovely summer break we have returned to the Hall for our weekly meetings. For this term we will be working on two challenge badges: one is to support our local Brownie holiday home in Newmarket, the Jarman Centre's *Wish You Were Here* challenge, and the other will help us explore the world of Girlguiding with international challenges. We've already made a trebuchet, or catapult if you prefer, and have plans to make Mexican Gods-eyes, follow some tracking signs (I hope we don't lose any Brownies) and hold a 'bring a friend to Brownies' evening in the hope of getting a few more new Brownies.

We are also attending some local village 'thanksgiving' days to advertise what we do but if you have a girl over the age of seven living in your house and think they would like to try Brownies, please do get in touch

If you would like to know more about Brownies or the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards please check out the Girlguiding website (www.girlguiding.org.uk) or drop us a message on horseheathbrownies@gmail.com. Brownies is where the girls have fun learning new skills and enjoy just being themselves. You can register at www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/

Pauline, Katie, and Laurené

GRANTA MEDICAL PRACTICES

Flu clinics. You may have seen in the news that some scheduled flu vaccine deliveries could be delayed. If your appointment is affected we will contact you to rearrange. If you do not hear from us then please assume that your existing appointment is going ahead.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services
Email: sandra.east@nhs.net / T: 300 234 5555

USED STAMPS AND POSTCARDS

For very many years, I have been asking you to save your used stamps and used or unused postcards. Unfortunately, both my outlets for these have closed down, all quite a surprise to me. One suggestion for used stamps is the Royal National Lifeboats Institution. Anyone interested in donating stamps to the RNIB should look at their website:

www.rnib.org.uk/donations-and-fundraising/fundraising-your-community/stamps-appeal

Joanna Sanders. sanderschimneys@uwclub.net

FROM THE VICARAGE

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to Harvest Festivals in our churches. Harvest Festivals in this country are usually traced back to the 1840s when the church responded to the many 'Harvest Home celebrations' by including an annual Harvest thanksgiving service on the first Sunday of October, often accompanied by bringing to church gifts of fresh produce and other foodstuffs.

Nowadays our Harvest Festivals in church are usually celebrated sometime in early-mid autumn and are times when we give thanks for the many gifts of God and seek to be generous in Christ's name. During our Harvest Festivals this year we will be asking for donations of non-perishable food towards the foodbank run by Reach in Haverhill, though this is something we can support throughout the year. Alongside this, we are mindful there are a number of current initiatives, in our communities and beyond, supporting refugees from Afghanistan and we hope to support these initiatives as well.

We have also been focusing on a theme of giving thanks in our children's and youth groups. In addition to the children's activities during our 10:30am Sunday services, we now have a youth group for school years 4 - 7 which meets once a month at 6:30pm on a Tuesday, as well as a Children's Church Council which meets once a month at 5pm on a Friday. Please let me know by emailing me at mccoll.iain@gmail.com if you would like to learn more about any of these groups or activities.

The writer Anne Lamott says her prayers may be summed up as 'Help, Thanks, Wow'! Showing gratitude and praise is central to the Christian faith and can help change us, let alone anybody else; it may also transform a sense of ethical duty into the work of grateful hands and hearts. Harvest thanksgiving, then, can be a reminder that a daily practice of gratitude and praise may charge our lives with greater meaning, joy and wonder, as well as moving us to serve those in need.

Revd Iain McColl

LINTON LIBRARY NEWS

We are holding a Fun Palace event on Saturday 2 October; do come along to meet people, learn a new skill or interest and have refreshments, 10am-12 noon.

October 4-10 is Libraries Week - the perfect time to visit your library, borrow a book and discover all the other services we offer. If you are not already a member, it is easy and free to join. Libraries have lots to offer online, too. Download library eBooks, eMagazines, eAudiobooks and more, and find fun and interest by joining our live online events.

Get Online Week is 18-24 October. Our IT room is a quiet working space with free WiFi, and with printing, scanning and photocopying facilities. You can access free Learn My Way courses, which are a great way for beginners to teach themselves digital skills.

Please note that from September 27 we have reintroduced late return charges, but only for adult loans - there are no late fees for children's books. Reservations remain at 50p and it now costs only £1 to borrow a DVD or audiobook for 3 weeks. Free services are available if you are housebound or visually impaired.

Opening hours: Tuesday 10am-5pm; Wednesday 4pm-7pm; Thursday 2-5pm; Friday 10am-5pm; Saturday 10am-1pm.

Website: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library
Customer Services (regular office hours): T: 0345 045 5225

Lindsay Healy and Ann King
Community Library Assistants, Linton Library

★ HUB NIGHT! ★
WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEXT
DATE:

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DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

Call for Sites. The District Council have now released their much awaited 'short-list' of parcels of land in South Cambridgeshire that they believe have planning merit and will be taken forward to the next stage of the process. This short-list was derived from a much longer list of sites put forward by potential developers and landowners earlier this year.

The outcome is that **NONE** of the parcels of land in our area are being taken forward by South Cambs. Their policy is to **PROTECT OUR VILLAGES** and concentrate the major development into existing and forthcoming settlements, such as Cambourne, Northstowe, Waterbeach, Bourn Airfield etc.

We anticipate that this news will largely be taken positively by those living here but appreciate that some housing needs to be permitted to allow for growth in the District. However, the overwhelming feedback that we have received is that this should be, as it has, concentrated into the towns in our area that have the infrastructure to better cope with the increase and keep our villages as villages.

Full site listings can be seen at
www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan

Geoff Harvey, District Councillor.
Email: geoff.harvey@gmail.com

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOX APPEAL

This is a Christian charity that sends shoeboxes filled with various items that children would love to receive. These boxes go to many parts of the world, and last year nearly 9 million were distributed. Thank you for your great response last year despite the difficulties.

This message is to encourage you to get involved and fill a shoebox. It is a way of showing God's love. Each box may be the only gift a child will receive, and so often items are treasured for years after and even into adulthood. Adding a photo or short message in the box means so much (no address or surname). **Collection week is 15 – 22 November.**

There are various ways to get involved: Fill a whole shoebox with the suggested items, OR donate one or more items, OR make a donation which can be used to buy items or for transport costs, OR pack an "on line box"- for £20 you can chose the gifts via the website

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/

Suggested items are stationary, toiletries (not toothpaste or liquids), toys, jewellery, hats, gloves, scarves, paper, balls, (there is a long list on the website).

Age groups: 2-4 yrs / 5-8 yrs / 9-14 yrs. Boys or Girls

Covered shoeboxes can be used or I have a limited number of preprinted flat pack boxes along with an information leaflet you can request from me. I can collect items or boxes

My name is Jane Furlow, I am a year round volunteer for OCC and live in Abington. I can be contacted on

T: 01223 893232 / 07745046921,

Email: jane.furlow@gmail.com