

# VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

MARCH 2023

ISSUE 238

## WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

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

**It is no longer necessary to book to attend any of Cambridgeshire's Household Recycling Centres.**

For details of locations & opening hours 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

5 March	11.00. Joint service of Holy Communion. Balsham Church
12 March	9.30. Morning worship at St. Mary's Church
19 March	9.30. Holy Communion at St. Mary's Church
26 March	9.30. Holy Communion at St. Mary's Church

For more information visit  
[www.grantavale.org.uk](http://www.grantavale.org.uk)

## FOR UPDATES & USEFUL INFORMATION GO TO <https://westwickham.org>

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

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

AgeUK Community Warden:  
Lucy Cameron. T: 07436102865  
email [Lucy.cameron@ageukcap.org.uk](mailto:Lucy.cameron@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.

## DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE Thursday 16 March

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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.**

## IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY!

Sue Thurston and I started the Village Voice 20 years ago, in March 2003. A huge THANK YOU must go to Sue who not only helped edit the Voice for 18 years but was also the village co-ordinator for the Venture, then the village magazine for both Horseheath and West Wickham. She stood down in February 2021 and in April that year I welcomed Anna Fairhead onto the team.

This has been quite a journey for us and the many people who have helped over the years. There have been too many contributors to mention individually but we thank them all because without their contributions there would not be a Village Voice. However, there is a small group of people to whom we would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the people who deliver it each month. Linda Adams and Sue & Pete have done this from the start. Diana & John Harrison, Janet Morris & Jane Scheuer also delivered in the early days and were later joined by Vic Terry from 2006, myself when I retired in 2009, Jon & Anita Debnan from 2009, Malcolm Mizon from 2017 and Jean & Kit Martin from 2018. Moira Ripsher and Caroline Mulley-Richards have helped when Linda was away

We would also like to thank Janet Morris who has proof read it every month and the Parish Council for sponsoring the Voice. This has meant we haven't had to find commercial advertising to fund the printing and means there is more space for articles and for advertising local events, unusual in a parish magazine but printing commercial ads requires more volunteer manpower and additional pages, which then costs more etc, etc. A "catch 22"!

For the first 6 years the Voice was photocopied where I worked but since 2009 has been printed by E & E Plumridge in Linton. We would like to thank Oliver Plumridge and his team for the excellent service they have given us.

Until 2003 West Wickham shared a joint magazine with Horseheath but The Venture was and still is published bi-monthly. The Parish Council had been considering producing a monthly magazine so people could be kept more "in touch" and to better promote events. Sue and I presented ideas to the Parish Council, these were agreed and the Village Voice was born. Why the name? We hoped it would be a "voice", a means of communicating news and information to you the residents and somewhere you could have a say in return. We hope you continue to enjoy what is being published and find the information useful. We would welcome regular contributions from village and local organisations which we don't hear from very often. We are still disappointed that there have been few "letters to the Editors", maybe there are few issues on which you want to express your views. **Please remember, the Voice is your voice. Please don't be reluctant to use it as just that.**

Andrew Morris

## THE CORONATION BIG LUNCH SUNDAY 7 MAY

Buckingham Palace has invited communities and neighbours across the United Kingdom to share food and fun together at the Coronation Big Lunches, in a nationwide act of celebration of King Charles III, and friendship.

Are you able and willing to help plan and arrange the Coronation celebrations in West Wickham and Streetly End to help our community mark this historic occasion? If so, please email me at [alex@schuilenburg.org](mailto:alex@schuilenburg.org), or call/WhatsApp/SMS me on 07811 364531. Any help would be appreciated.

Alex Schuilenburg, Chairman, West Wickham Parish Council

## VILLAGE EVENTS FOR YOU TO JOIN IN & ENJOY

### COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 9 March (See article)

### WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

**Monday 13 March.** *Annual General Meeting, plus bring along something to share from a collection you may have*

7.30pm, Village Hall

Further details from Janet Morris. T: 290863, Email: [jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com](mailto:jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com)

### WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

**Monday 20 March.** *Yours and my need for plants*

Talk by Robert Brett

7.30pm, Village Hall

Further details from: Sue Boase, T: 01440 762911  
Email: [sueboase@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sueboase@hotmail.co.uk)

### COFFEE MORNING IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Thanks to the generosity of everyone who came to February's Coffee Morning, we were able to make a donation to the Disasters Emergency Committee towards their Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal.

Our next Coffee Morning will be on Thursday 9 March from 10.30 to around midday. Coffees, teas and who knows what delicious selection of home-baked goods will be on offer so please do come along. If you are thinking of coming for the first time we can guarantee a warm welcome and lifts can be arranged to and from the Village Hall if needed. Please give me a ring or Di Licence on C. 290434.

Sue Thurston. T: 897811

### GRANTA MEDICAL PRACTICES UPDATE

Our Patient Participation Group (PPG) survey, mentioned last month, will go live on 1 March and remain open until 31 March. Please find below the web link and QR code to take part. For those of you that do not have access to a computer or mobile telephone, please call into any Granta surgery and pick up a paper copy.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KP86J9B>



We would like to thank all of you in advance for taking the time to complete this questionnaire, and thank you to our PPG committee who have worked tirelessly putting it together. Whilst we cannot guarantee to fix the NHS, we do really want to try and accommodate patient feedback where appropriate and possible.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Sandra East on [sandra.east@nhs.net](mailto:sandra.east@nhs.net)

## WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW – SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

We may still be experiencing heavy frosts outside and shivering in the cold February air but I find it very heartening to see the lovely snowdrops, daffodils and narcissi beginning to appear in our garden and roadside verges. It makes me think about what I can be doing in the garden this year to make it more attractive, more productive and more welcoming for wildlife. I wouldn't say I am organised enough to have a plan on how to achieve this, but I have hopes and dreams, some of which may bear fruit. One of these ambitions is to have a few flowers, fruit and vegetables at their peak at the time of the Show.

This year the Annual Show has been put back to early September when hopefully the weather may not be quite so hot as it was last August, which you will recall was a sweltering month.

An abbreviated Show Schedule can be found on the village website ([westwickham.org](http://westwickham.org)) but I thought I would highlight a few of the classes to whet your appetite. In the coming months I will be writing a few more persuasive pieces to try and nudge you into taking part in the Show, so be warned.

This year there will be just one class for the **Children** so they can concentrate all their energies into producing a cracker of an exhibit: A collage of their favourite animal using natural materials. As with last year, the winner will have a T shirt created for them showing their creation – a unique prize indeed.

The **fruit and vegetable** classes will feature the usual suspects – potatoes, beans, carrots, onions, tomatoes, top fruit, berries, etc. plus one which you can all aspire to – the rudest shaped vegetable. Tomatoes and carrots are usually the stars in this class, but use your imagination!

The **flower** classes include entries for roses, dahlias, a single “wow” flower stem and vases with a selection of stems displayed for various effects. There will be 2 classes for pot plants and we will repeat last year's Peoples' Vote whereby everyone has a chance to pick their favourite scented flower from those entered.

The **domestic** classes include the usual jams, jellies, marmalade and chutney classes and this year the baking classes feature savoury biscuits, chocolate brownies, a lemon tart, share'n'tear bread and a flower-themed decorated sponge cake.

The three **photography** classes have already been promoted in the Village Voice: *Fruits of my labour*, *After the rain* and *Contrast* and we will remind you of them again in future articles.

The Annual Show is one of the few events taking place in the Village Hall during the year that has the capacity to bring everyone in the Village together (plus it is also open to neighbouring villages without their own Club) so do make a note in your diary of 2 September and think about taking part, or at least coming along on the day. In a future article I will be attempting to dispel a few myths about the Show so please keep reading these pieces.

Sue Thurston, Show Coordinator.

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

### SNOW DROP FESTIVAL - OPEN GARDEN Clover Cottage, 50 Streetly End

Shirley Shadford will again be opening her garden for the National Garden Scheme (NGS) Snowdrop Festival on Sunday 5 March 2pm - 4pm. Snowdrops, hellebores, iris reticulate and daffodils will be on sale and teas available. Shirley would be delighted to see you all. Adults £3.50, children free. Proceeds go to the National Garden Scheme.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The following are some of the items discussed at the meeting on 21 January. The full draft Minutes are available to read on the Notice Boards.

Cllr Sargeant took the Chair as the Chairman was unable to attend.

*Correspondence:* A letter had been received from Keith Day regarding the Parish Nurse Project and telling the Council that a new Parish Nurse had not yet been recruited so no financial contribution was needed. (Ed. See page 5)

*Planning:* A full list of planning applications is shown in the draft minutes.

1. 22/0351/S73. Streetly Hall Farm. Creation of estate office & meeting room. Permission has been granted by SCDC.
2. 22/04866. 35 High Street. Erection of summer house. This is a reapplication that was previously supported so no new recommendation was made.

*Finance:* A list of authorised payments and monies received is shown in the draft Minutes.

1. Precept 2023/2024: Following discussion it was agreed that although there were reasonable reserves there would be a general increase in costs this year. A 5% increase was agreed, making the Precept £12,600, proposed by Cllr Sargeant, seconded by Cllr McNeillie.
2. Budget 2023/2024. A special Budget meeting will be held to set out plans for the short and medium term spending.

*Traffic & Parking issues:*

1. Speed indicator: Trevor Hall told Council that the cost of a Speed Indicator Device would be approx £4000. A Local Highways Initiative bid for a grant to help with this cost could be applied for but it is necessary to know which manufacturers are acceptable. The Parish Clerk will find out.
2. "Road Narrows" signs: Before making a decision about "narrow" signs, the width of the road should be taken and a check made to see whether the County Council Highways Dept would put signs up.
3. Single Track with Parking Places: It was agreed that Webbs Road needs to be re-designated as "not suitable for HGV traffic". Cllr Hazelhurst will raise this at the next Joint Parish Meeting.

*Maintenance:*

1. Footpath maintenance: Cllr Temple had completed an audit on the footpaths and produced a map showing where the posts are and their state; 18 are missing. Cllr Temple will ask the Footpaths Officer about to where to buy the stakes and a work party may be required to put them in place. The bridges are in good order.
2. Trees for the Queens Wood: These have all been planted and thanks were given to Cllr Temple and Di Licence for their help. It is hoped that a plaque will be put in place after agreement with Marcus Cornish about his and the wording.
3. Play area maintenance issues: Cllr Sargeant will follow up on various minor repairs before the RoSPA inspection. Robert Giles will go ahead with the hedge cutting round the rec.

*Village Hall & Recreation Ground:* Solar Panels: A single frame system would cost £35,000; possible funding might be £12000 awarded by Zero Carbon, £11,000 from the Village Hall and possibly Lottery funding of £10,000.

*Allotments:* The issue of payment for water has been settled after Trevor Hall negotiated with the water suppliers concerning the sewage standing charge, which has now been reduced. In future the allotment holders will pay their share per allotment on an annual basis as part of the rent.

*Report by County Cllr. Batchelor (reports shown on website)*

1. Congestion charges: 24,000 responses had been received during the consultation period.
2. Local Plan: There is a shortage of 8,000 houses due to the fast economic growth; therefore there is likely to be another new town or many small/medium sized developments.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on  
Monday 27 March.  
All are welcome.**

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk.

T: 01223665260; Email: parish.clerk@westwickham.org

## FROM THE VICARAGE

It is good to be back in the parishes after six months sabbatical when I was not allowed to take services! During my time off, I have reflected on the past and how I might go forward in the future. The realisation that my time needs to be used wisely was a frequent thought. In looking back I saw how God has worked through me in amazing ways to reach out to many different people. At the heart of this was showing God's love for each of us. Bishop Stephen recently spoke of 'time as love', whether to help someone or pause to be quiet, and know that whatever you do it is a gift.

This gift for me was coming back to the congregations within our benefice, knowing they were my family and realising how much I had missed them. Catching up with their stories, celebrating good news and mourning those we have lost. The future then for me will be finding the space to notice God's creation and pray for our fractured world.

Noticing the changes in the season is always a good thing to do. Spring is beginning to take shape with more daylight in the evenings and witnessing new life in the bulbs that are growing in our gardens. My favourites have always been snowdrops, with petals moving gently in the breeze.

As you enjoy our countryside maybe you will experience a very special moment, like R.S Thomas did. He was a Welsh priest and poet, who wrote the poem 'The Bright Field' to describe a shining of grace, beauty, inspiration and epiphany, where we fleetingly encounter the divine or feel a deep connection to the universe. Let us take time to notice. The following is a short extract from The Bright Field.

*Life is not hurrying  
on to a receding future, nor hankering after  
an imagined past. It is the turning  
aside like Moses to the miracle  
of the lit bush, to a brightness  
that seemed as transitory as your youth  
once, but is the eternity that awaits you.*

As you read this article we will have already moved into the period of Lent, but in the lead up to Easter Day may we be open to those special moments that are so fleeting but also very uplifting.

Rev. Kathy Bishop

## NEWS FROM THE PAST

Cambridge Independent Press 26 March 1842

**BURGLARY AT WICKHAM** – *Thomas Beeton (49)*, was charged with having broken into the house of the Rev Charles Wigglesworth Lamprell, at West Wickham, on 24<sup>th</sup> of February last, at one in the morning, and stolen a bottle of ketchup, and a bottle of vinegar, his property. MR NAYLOR prosecuted, but there was no Counsel for the prisoner. – The Rev Mr Lamprell is the clergyman at West Wickham. On the 24<sup>th</sup> February, on a Friday morning between one and two, his female servant awoke him and said some one was breaking into the house; he went down and proceeded into the kitchen garden, where he saw a man at the larder window, apparently abstracting something; desired him to stand still, or he would shoot him. He stood still, and told witness his name; he had worked for him to last October.... Witness called an opposite neighbour, and they found a bottle of vinegar on him, and under the window lay a bottle of ketchup.... The prisoner in his defence, said (he)...was going by Mr Lamprell's, and having left his knife near the pear tree, he went to fetch it, and found the bottles standing on the ground. He took one up, and was about to take the other, when he was stopped by Mr Lamprell. – His Lordship addressing the jury said, if a man broke open a house with intent to steal, even if he was disturbed before he stole anything, that would be a burglary. Verdict, *Guilty*. The prosecutor in answer to the Judge said, the prisoner had worked for him about a fortnight, as well as for the former incumbent, and he was then a constable of the parish; he had since left the parish .... His lordship, in sentencing the prisoner, said, a few years ago his crime was punishable by death; the law was now altered, but he could not suffer him to remain in this country, and the sentence was that he be transported for 10 years.

There are one or two things to be noted. There was not any sort of police force at this time. The Parish Constable had limited powers and could only operate within his own parish. He had no investigating role. The wrongdoer would be taken before a local magistrate by the accuser. In this case, Thomas would have been remanded to Cambridge Castle (the prison) to await his trial. It was up to the accuser to then make his case. Rev Lamprell had a lawyer to act for him; Thomas did not and had to defend himself. Thomas tried to say in his defence that he could have reached the items from the window so this was not a case of burglary (breaking and entry) because simple theft carried a lighter sentence. It seems neither the judge or jury accepted this. Just two weeks later, Thomas had already been transferred to a prison hulk at Portsmouth prior to being transported to Australia. Technically, he could have returned at the end of his sentence but practically this did not happen unless someone had the money to buy the boat ticket. It looks like his wife, Ann, was left destitute (their children had all died in infancy or early adulthood) as she subsequently died in the workhouse in Linton.

Do get in touch with your memories or with any questions about West Wickham in the past:

Janet Morris, West Wickham & District Local History Club  
Tel: 290863 Email: [jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com](mailto:jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com)

## HUB NIGHTS

It is hoped these will start again in April.

## WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

Following Graham Hopwood's reminiscences in last month's *Village Voice* and asking if anyone remembered plane crashes in the village, I've heard from both June Brazier and Pam Jolly. June moved into Rose Cottage (9 High Street) when she was 9 months old, with her parents and four siblings. She is now 80 years old and has lived in the village ever since. She remembers the plane which came down in the field at Hill Farm, watching it going down as it passed over the school. Pam, who is 92, has lived here all her life. She also remembers the plane going down and her mother trying to get to it to help the pilot. The men on the scene turned her back as the pilot had sadly lost his life. Pam recalls that there was a German plane which flew up the valley so low that men working on top of a stack could have touched it. This was later followed by the same plane or another, returning to drop bombs. The crater, which was formed by one dropping in the field by Blacklands Lane, filled up with water and the boys took the opportunity to use it for swimming. Their mothers were so worried they might drown that they asked farmer, Billy Pearson, to fill it in. Pam also remembers the plane going down on Balsham Hill. Two RAF planes collided in fog, wings tipping. One was able to return to its airbase but the other crashed. Luckily, the pilot was able to safely eject (so this must have been after the War) and managed to walk up the hill to the White Horse where I really hope he was given a stiff drink!

Thank you to June and Pam for these memories and I hope to bring you more of them in another issue.

### Do you remember the last Coronation in 1953?

If you let me have your memories, it doesn't matter whether it was in this village or not, I will make a compilation for the May *Village Voice*.

If you've got Coronation memories to share or if you want to know more about the history of the village do get in touch:

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

## BALSHAM OUTDOOR BOWLS CLUB

With a number of new, enthusiastic members we are looking forward to a stronger club in 2023 with plans to enter more teams, offering additional game opportunities for players, and possibly introducing an internal Club competition alongside our regular Monday roll up.

The season will kick-off once again with an Open Day at the end of April, date to be confirmed. Anyone interested in having a go will be welcome to come along and find out more about the Club and spend time with our coaches.

The Club has been a successful and an integral part of the village since it was founded in 1946. Now more than ever we want to welcome any new and existing residents in Balsham and the surrounding villages to contact us and give the game a go. If you are interested in playing, we will very much welcome you.

Please visit our website [www.balshambowlsclub.co.uk](http://www.balshambowlsclub.co.uk), or email [balshambowls@gmail.com](mailto:balshambowls@gmail.com) or call Christine on 07530649573.

Bob Stigwood

## NATURE NOTES

'February fill-dyke' used to be the characterisation of the second month of the year, when melting snow and rain would fill the ditches and watercourses, but the weather in the latter part of January and early February has been non-compliant. High pressure has produced dry and frosty conditions, with no measurable rainfall for February at the time of writing. One good thing about this, is that we have had a chance to see some lovely full moons in clear skies. First there was the Wolf Moon on 7 January and then the 'Snow Moon' on 5 February. The Wolf Moon is so-called as it coincides with wolves becoming more active and howling at night, while the Snow Moon, which is the smallest of the year is often accompanied by heavy snowfalls in North America. We haven't heard the sound of a wolf howling in Great Britain since they were hunted to extinction in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century but there has been some talk of them being re-introduced, so perhaps one day the Wolf Moon will live up to its name here again, but don't hold your breath.

Meanwhile we have to be content with the wild mammals that continue to make their home here and share their space with us. I was sent a lovely video of a fox nibbling seed from under the bird feeder in a Balsham garden until a muntjac approached from behind and gently sniffed the tip of his tail, whereupon the fox casually quitted the scene, leaving the muntjac to clear up. Perhaps this is a lesson to humanity that we should be more understanding and accommodating to each other's needs. Or maybe I'm over interpreting.

The Big Garden Birdwatch provided some interesting highlights for those of us who participated this year. Janet & Andrew were joined in their birdwatch by a sparrowhawk perching on the washing line, effectively deterring all the small birds from making an appearance until it flew off after a couple of minutes. Di was able to record a goldcrest – Europe's smallest bird, weighing just 6 grams - the same as a 20p coin. Trevor claimed a blackcap, which usually migrates to warmer climes in the winter, but sometimes remains here, gambling on surviving the winter so as to be well positioned to claim territory before the migrants arrive. We were visited by a female reed bunting. She must have told the male about the available food because he turned up the following day. Apart from the goldcrest, Di spotted two large brown rats and two mice eating the peanuts but these could not be recorded on the RSPB page.

Out in the fields for a couple of days there were 20 – 30 lapwings seen in one or two locations. No-one knew where they went after that, which is perhaps why they earned their collective name – 'a deceit of lapwings'. Never mind, it was great to be deceived for a couple of days. Fieldfares and redwings have also been out there seeking worms, starting to mass together before their return to northern Europe. Meanwhile a barn owl has been seen in daylight quartering the field next to the Old Vicarage, crossing the road several times and catching a small rodent in the process.

There are plenty of signs that spring is coming soon – snowdrops and aconites are in full bloom and plants like dogs mercury and cuckoo pint are showing through. In woodland near Woodditton recently I noticed the glossy green leaves of bluebells, the blackbirds and thrushes are singing, woodpeckers drumming and hares are out in the fields. It all makes you feel good.

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)

## CARE TOGETHER

This is a programme led by Cambridgeshire County Council. The aim is to help more older people to remain living independently and happily in their own home for longer. It will change the way care and support for older people in the community is commissioned and delivered. More information can be found at

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/care-together-a-proposed-2.9m-catalyst-for-a-fairer-and-more-caring-cambridgeshire](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/care-together-a-proposed-2.9m-catalyst-for-a-fairer-and-more-caring-cambridgeshire)

To ensure that it is helpful for you, we would like your participation in answering an online questionnaire [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/36MHL6/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/36MHL6/)

If you do not have access to the internet, please call 01954 286 002 or 07771 545 674 Monday – Friday between 9am – 2pm to request a paper copy or if you prefer to answer the questions over the telephone instead of on paper or online. Please leave a contact number if asked to do so. Outside of these hours paper copies can be requested via the email [care.together@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:care.together@cambridgeshire.gov.uk).

In some communities there will be central collection and return points for printed questionnaires, so please check with your local library or Parish Council office for this option.



You can scan the QR code above to access the questionnaire on a smartphone

## PARISH NURSING SERVICE

In 2015 the Granta Vale Churches launched this service for an initial three-year trial period. Eight years later and after three outstanding nurses, Teresa, Claire and Kim, I have to tell you that the service will be closing from the end of February 2023. Although of course I make this announcement with some sadness, I am also immensely proud of what it has been possible to achieve during the time the service has operated both in terms of providing support to individuals and their families but also in helping to support and develop caring communities within our villages.

As some of you will know, Kim our Parish Nurse is retiring and it has not been possible to recruit a suitable replacement. Accordingly the Parish Nurse Management Group and the Churches have decided to celebrate what has been achieved and end the service. We are however actively exploring other options by which we can continue to support our communities.

Kim has discussed with all existing patients arrangements for their future care; should you have any concerns regarding a health matter may I please encourage you to contact Granta Medical Practice. Should you wish to discuss a spiritual matter please feel free to contact any member of the Ministry Team.

May I, on behalf of the Management Group, please offer my sincere thanks to all who have supported the Parish Nursing Service in any way over the past eight years.

Keith Day

## A1307 UPDATE

The upgrades to the A1307 are moving forward at some pace now. The Greater Cambridge Partnership (the body implementing these schemes) are now in the final phases of making the changes to 'our' section of the road, between Haverhill and the A11. The next phases being constructed are:

1. Completing the improved footpath between Pilgrims (previously Dalehead Foods) and Hildersham. This work includes the removal of the eastbound layby as that is needed to accommodate the widened path. This work has started now and will take a few months to complete.
2. The installation of a new roundabout at the Bartlow Road, Linton junction of the A1307. This is a relatively major piece of infrastructure and will take at least 9 months to complete. There will be minimal disruption whilst the work is happening as the plan is to construct a temporary carriageway around the construction site so that the A1307 will very rarely need to fully close. There may be some road closures of Bartlow Road, Linton and Linton Road, Bartlow – but luckily the diversion routes for these closures are very short. The GCP are also planning on holding one, possibly two, public meetings in Linton in February and March to display the full detail of these plans to anyone that has an interest or concern.

District Councillor Geoff Harvey

Email: [geoff.harvey@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.harvey@gmail.com)

County Councillor Henry Batchelor

Email: [henrybatchelor89@gmail.com](mailto:henrybatchelor89@gmail.com)

## LINTON LIBRARY NEWS

We are pleased to welcome Melanie Symonds as the new Library Assistant to replace Lindsay. Do call in and say hello! You'll always find a warm and friendly welcome in your library. Drop in just to choose books, or stay to read, relax with a jigsaw puzzle or use our free WiFi or a library computer. If you are looking for advice on cost-of-living support, staff will be happy to signpost you to information.

We have the following social events in Linton Library this month. All are welcome:

- Our new monthly Read a Little Aloud session is on Friday 3 March, 11.15 – 12.15am (please note the new time). Relax and listen as library volunteers and staff read from a variety of stories, poetry and literature for adults. Join in if you like! It takes place every first Friday of the month.
- Knit and Natter will take place at 2pm on Tuesdays 7 and 21 March. Bring along your latest craft project.
- Rhyme and Storytime will be on Tuesdays 14 and 28 March at 10.30 – 11am.
- We will have a games afternoon (for adults) on Tuesday 14 March, 2 – 4pm. Try your hand at Rummikub or Five Crowns. Beginners welcome.
- Daylight Readers, our Book Club, meets on Friday 17 March. Ask at the library if you are interested in joining.

If you need help with a Bus Pass renewal our Digital Buddy is happy to help - appointments are available on Thursday afternoons from 2pm, please book at the library.

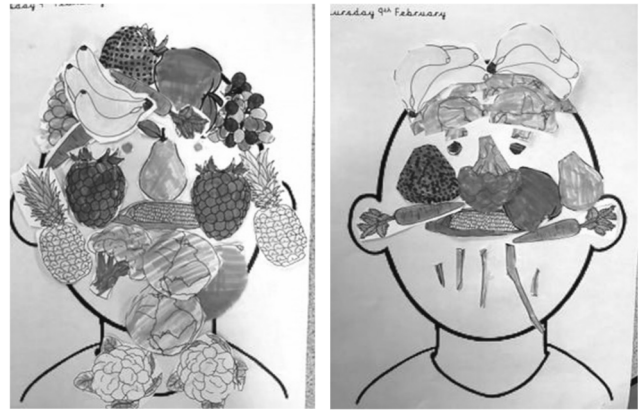
Ann King and Melanie Symonds, Community Library Assistants, Linton Library.

Opening hours: Tuesday 10am-5pm; Wednesday 4-7pm; Thursday 2-5pm; Friday 10am-5pm; Saturday 10am-1pm.  
Customer Services (regular office hours): 0345 045 522.  
[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library)

## MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

This may have been one of the shortest half terms so far, but we have fitted an awful lot into it! We are now more than half way through the academic year- time really is flying.

**Learning Themes:** Here is a selection of some of the work the children have produced so far in their new learning topics for the Spring Term. Year 1 designed their own portraits inspired by Giuseppe Arcimboldo, their artist of the month, famous for creating portraits from fruit and vegetables.



In Science, Year 3/4 have been looking at the impact of liquids on tooth enamel, by putting eggs in a variety of liquids and leaving them for the week. They then unveiled them to see what the liquids had done to the eggshell (similar to enamel on our teeth). What excellent findings!

In Gymnastics, Year 5/6, pupils have made superb progress in performing handstands.



**School Readers:** We are looking for volunteers to come in and hear children read. The children really benefit from and enjoy reading with adults in school. If you are able to spare a couple of hours a week, please email [nbutcher@meadowprimary.org](mailto:nbutcher@meadowprimary.org) or phone 01223 894400.

**Music:** On the last afternoon of the half term, we had a visit from Linton Village College's Proper Classical Orchestra at a special assembly for the Meadow. They played two movements from Handel's Water Music Suite No.1, and were preceded by our two talented violinists, both of whom played their own solo pieces commandingly and with great musical skill. They were directed by our visiting violin teacher, Mr Partridge, who also teaches at LVC.

Nicky Butcher. Deputy Head.