ILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

ISSUE 241 JUNE 2023

WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

Monday 5 June Blue & green Monday 12 June Black Monday 19 June Blue & green Monday 26 June Black

CHURCH SERVICES

4 June 11.00. Joint service of Holy Communion at Balsham Church

9.30. Morning worship at 11 June

St Mary's Church

9.30. Holy Communion at 18 June

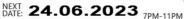
St Mary's Church

25 June 9.30. Holy Communion at

St Mary's Church 11.00. Outdoor church at

Balsham Church

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





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

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 Saturday 17 June

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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.

CORONATION BIG LUNCH

It was fantastic to see so many people come and celebrate the Coronation together at the 'Big Lunch'. Everyone's generosity ensured a superb selection of food was shared and enjoyed. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and it was wonderful that so many residents and visitors of all ages could meet, have fun and even enjoy the unexpected sunshine.

These events take a considerable amount of preparation and hard work. A massive 'Thank You' to all the volunteers running the BBQ, bar, music and children's entertainment as well as those who gave up much of their weekend to prepare the Hall and clean up afterwards. We are very lucky to have such dedicated people helping to make these events possible.





There is a selection of photographs taken at the event to be found on the Village website. These were taken by Richard Adams & Katie Keen. Go to https://westwickham.org/gallery/coronation-big-lunch-2023/

Dave Sargeant, Vice-Chair, West Wickham Parish Council

AGE UK SMALL VILLAGES WARDEN SCHEME RAFFLE RAISED £460.00!!!!

A HUGE thank you to all of you who so kindly donated prizes and bought raffle tickets at the Coronation lunch. The beautiful hand crafted bird table made by Dave Sills was a real crowd puller! A fantastic result for a very worthwhile cause.

Liz Gold



FROM THE VICARAGE

Summer is here! For many, despite the variable British climate, that means more time outside, enjoying hopefully warmer weather and the beauty of the countryside which surrounds us. I especially enjoy walks between our villages and bike rides with my family at this time of year, when we often try and bring some snacks with us or stop at a local pub for refreshment! If you find yourself on a walk or ride through our villages, do remember that our church buildings are always open during the day for any passer-by.

There is something about being outdoors and appreciating the wonder of creation which may naturally lead to praise and thanksgiving. This is echoed in the Bible in *psalm 19*: 'The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands' and in these words of the prophet Isaiah: 'the whole earth is full of his glory'. These inspiring words remind us that, as the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins put it: 'the world is charged with the grandeur of God'. They may also give us a deeper sense of the sublime, and help us to cherish the world around us.

With this in mind, this summer we plan to have an outdoor service once a month within our group of churches. Indeed, there are now an increasing number of churches around the country that do something similar. In some places it's called *Forest Church* or *Walking Church*; we have settled on calling it *Outdoor Church*! There will be the opportunity to walk, talk, listen to a reading, and be attentive to the beauty of the world around us, as well as giving thanks for the gift of creation. All are welcome to come along and please feel free to contact me if you'd like to find out more.

As we look forward to the beauty of summer and the great outdoors then, let's also find times to be attentive; to recognise the wonder and mystery of places, people and things. This in turn may help us to feel more fully human; to be grateful for simply being alive; and to share this joy with others

Revd Iain McColl

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB Annual Show Saturday 2 September

Seeing so many people enjoying themselves at the Big Lunch had me pondering what could be done to encourage more of you to come along and support other events that take place in the Village Hall during the year. All ideas welcome.

My particular interests, of course, are the monthly Coffee Mornings held on the second Thursday of each month and the Annual Show, held this year on Saturday 2 September. For those of you who think it is a niche event just for members of the Gardening Club, please think again. You only have to walk or drive through the village to see that lots of you are gardeners, taking the time to create some lovely displays and colourful arrangements of plants or allowing what you might have inherited to flourish and spread. Who knows what are in your back gardens? Don't feel you can only enter flowers into the Show which you have grown yourself; some of my best plants are those that were in the garden when I moved here.

If you have a wander around your garden on the morning of the Show, or the night before, I bet you could find a flower or a selection of them which you could cut to enter into one or more of the Classes this year:

- 1 Not more than 3 stems of one variety of rose.
- 2 4 stems of dahlias, mixed or same variety.
- 3 A single flower stem with "WOW" effect.
- 4 A vase containing 5 10 stems of at least 2 different kinds of flowering plants, displayed for effect.
- A vase of flowers of more than I variety in shades of a single colour without additional foliage, displayed for effect.
- 6 6 stems of one variety of flower not in the schedule
- A posy of garden flowers in a small container.
- 8 A cactus or succulent in a pot.
- 9 Any other pot plant.

This year we are repeating the best SCENTED flower Class which was introduced last year and is judged by everyone who comes along and has a sniff. We had a small but very fragrant selection last year, with a predominance of rose entries, but who knows what you might find in your garden on the day to enter?

There are also Classes for Vegetables and Fruit, Domestic, Photography and this year just one Children's Class (for children aged 11 and under) which is a collage of your favourite animal using natural materials, no larger than A4 size. The winner, like last year, will have a T-shirt created for them using their creation.

And even if you don't feel you have anything in your garden to enter or had the time to take photos or do any cooking then please come along in the afternoon to see what others have entered, have a go on the raffle, enjoy the refreshments and take part in the auction of produce at the end of the day.

Sue Thurston, Show Coordinator.

T: 897811, Email: mail@suethurston.co.uk



NEWS FROM THE PAST

The Cambridge Chronicle 11 June 1870

WEST WICKHAM VICARAGE

....SALE BY AUCTION, upon the Premises of the Vicarage, on THURSDAY, the 23rd of June, 1870, an assortment of very excellent and useful

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising a very handsome DRAWING ROOM SUITE in Walnut, covered in Crimson Damask, Brussels and Kidderminster Carpets, Axminster and other Rugs, Mahogany Arabian Four-post and Tent Bedsteads with Damask and Chintz Furniture, Wardrobe Bookcase, Washstands, Chests of Drawers, Seven Feather Beds and Bedding, and the usual BED ROOM APPENDAGES; also a fine-tuned COTTAGE PIANOFORTE, in Walnut Case, and Maple Stool; some ENGRAVINGS mounted in Gilt Frames; several Sets of Window Curtains in Leno and Moreen, Poles and fixings complete; also a well-built

Double-seated Basket Carriage,

Brown MARE, quiet to drive,

Set of Harness with Plated Furniture, a few Lots of Saddlery, and a large variety of Domestic Requisites, Garden Items, and Miscellaneous Effects.

This is a wonderful insight into what the inside of a 19thc middle class home in West Wickham would have looked like but the problem is we don't know exactly who was selling this furniture. The house now known as the Old Vicarage has never been a vicarage in the sense that it was owned by the church as a residence for the minister. There simply was no house and when the Rev Wollaston was appointed as perpetual curate in 1825 he had to buy the copyhold lease of two cottages (copyhold meant that the property was actually owned by the Lord of the Manor, the Earl of Hardwick). With financial help from his father, the Rector of Balsham, he was able to add an extension thus creating a more suitable home for a clergyman and his family. When he emigrated to Western Australia in 1840 he sold the lease back to the Earl, who was also patron of the living, in the hope it would be used by future ministers. It was lived in by his successor, the Rev Lamprell, for a while but he preferred to live in Linton and it would seem to have been rented out. From 1865 to 1868, it was the home of the temperance lecturer, John de Fraine, and his wife, Ursula, before they moved to Whitehall (now Cobwebs). Rev Lamprell died in 1866 and the parish became the responsibility of the Vicar of West Wratting when the Old Vicarage may have occasionally been used for a curate but the ownership of all this furniture must remain a mystery for the time being.

(NB Leno was a sheer gauze type material – the equivalent of a net curtain maybe – and Moreen was a heavier wool or wool and cotton mix.)

If you want to know more about West Wickham in the past please do get in touch:

Janet Morris, West Wickham & District Local History Club Tel: 290863 Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

JIGSAWS GALORE IN NINE CHIMNEY HOUSE GARAGE, BALSHAM

Please come and have a look and perhaps take some away to do. Mainly 1000 or 500 pieces.

Joanna Sanders. Email: sanderschimneys@uwclub.net

CORONATION QUIZ

All the answers are two words, one of which is either king or queen. Some clues are cryptic, others more or less straightforward. Some will give you the whole answer, some just the 'other' word. The number of letters is indicated only for the other word.

- 1. She claimed to believe six impossible things before breakfast (3)
- 2. Shellfish with uncooked middle (5)
- 3. Former PM for a month (3)
- 4. Real tragedy (4)
- 5. Thwarted by sea level rising (6)
- 6. Cleaner the French come after (7)
- 7. Carrie author (7)
- 8. Surrounded by drones (3)
- 9. ...only seventeen according to Abba (7)
- 10. Raincoat upside down is less healthy by the sound of it (7)
- 11. Not late after Peterhead (6) (K or Q)
- 12. Killjoy offers no glamour initially (4)
- 13. Station (8)
- 14. Theatrical event (5)
- 15. Writing implement with half a stout (7)

Send your answers to mail@petergrieve.co.uk or drop it in at 41 Streetly End by **21 June**. First out of the hat with most correct answers will have a prize not fit for a king or queen.

Peter Grieve

1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

What did you do for the Coronation? Well, Horseheath Brownies made a congratulations card for King Charles and Queen Camilla and posted it off to them with a lovely letter. We have yet to receive a reply but we have high hopes that we will so it can be added to the collection of other royal replies we have received. We also made crowns and held a party where we wore them with our best red, white and blue. We played party games and ate cake which is important when you're celebrating. We were joined by a few Rainbows who wanted to know what Brownies is like; they have now been added to our waiting list

We have started on our last topic of skills builders – network which is from know myself theme (blue). We will also be clocking up minutes from unit meeting activities. A couple of Brownies are having a taster session at Guides, which is part of their Gold Award, and hopefully they will enjoy the visit and want to start after they have finished Brownies.

We have been joined by a new helper Gemma, who lives in the village. Gemma is bringing some fresh ideas to the unit and is also having fun too; you should see her crown, it was very regal.

If you have been intrigued by what you have read about the Brownies and you have a 7-year old girl, or older, living in your home and think she might like to join us then please email me or register her on www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter and I'll get in touch. Also if you have a daughter who is 5 years old she could be a Rainbow or if she is over 10 years old then she could be a Guide. We have units in Linton that have spaces that they could join. Email me for more details.

Pauline, Katie and Gemma. Emailhorseheathbrownies@gmail.com

NATURE NOTES

We have had to endure a cool, wet May but it has had its upside. The bluebells in the woods have remained in flower for longer than usual so, during muddy walks alongside Hare Wood, Leys Wood or through Lower Wood in Weston Colville all the slipping, sliding and squelching has been worthwhile. The sight of bluebells lifts our spirits, so if it can last for just a little longer, we are the better for it. The cowslips have also been even more abundant than in the past in the ditches and field edges and I even found some oxlips still in flower on the edge of Hare Wood, so they have lasted longer too.

We are now in the buttercup season and last year we wrote about an unusual buttercup, re-discovered in Carlton churchyard which was also known to grow in West Wickham churchyard. It is known as the goldilocks buttercup and a few weeks ago we met the botanist Alan Leslie, the author of 'Flora of Cambridgeshire' who studied this buttercup for his PhD years ago. He is now retired but was good enough to come over and show us where he remembered it growing. Sure enough, there it was and we also found it in other locations in the churchyard. It is distinguished from the more common meadow and creeping buttercups by its leaf pattern and its habit of not forming a full quota of petals and sometimes none at all. It is a plant that is found in ancient woodlands, which is why, in churchyards it prefers to be in the shade of the lime trees. Goldilocks is also known as wood crowfoot and flowers somewhat earlier than the other buttercups.

On the drive back up the High Street Alan also spotted a fumitory, which unlike the common pink one, was white with dark edges to the flowers. It was an interesting morning all round and a reminder of how much there is to learn about the natural world. Fumitory is also known as earth smoke because its grey-green leaves have a slightly smoky appearance.

There has been rather a lot of fox activity in recent weeks, to the detriment of several people in the village who have poultry. At this time of the year there will be fox cubs to be fed so parents are more often out in daylight hours when chickens are more likely to be vulnerable. Foxes have been caught on camera in a number of gardens including Cobwebs, where a dark and streaky coloured vulpine was sauntering across the lawn, living proof that us humans do not have 'dominion over every living thing'.

After the dry start to the year I noticed that there was an absence of song thrush song in comparison to the last couple of years but since the wet weather arrived the thrushes have perked up no end. My theory is that the worms, slugs and snails that have become much more available in the damp conditions have led to the thrushes feeling more confident about establishing territories and raising a brood. This theory is unscientific but based on perception and some sort of logic.

When it comes to cuckoos, logic goes out of the window. Hearing the first cuckoo of the year is always an uplifting moment for all but the birds that end up hosting their offspring. Locally these would most likely be dunnock or whitethroat. Has anybody heard a cuckoo in West Wickham this year? I thought I heard one but it was very distant and possibly wishful thinking.

Please send your nature sightings to:

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

GREETINGS CARDS FOR SALE Proceeds to benefit the Gardening Club

Following on from the success of the Christmas cards which the Club produced using two of the photographs entered into last year's Show, we have used six further entries to the Show to produce a set of blank greetings cards with, once again, all profits going to benefit the Club. The images can be seen on the Village website: https://westwickham.org/2023/05/greetings-cards-for-sale-in-aid-of-the-gardening-club/ and cost £1 each or £5 for one of each of the six images. They are A5 size with a gloss finish and look great, even if I say so myself. This should act as another inducement to enter one or more of your photos into the Show this year – it could be turned into a card, admired by all and sundry!



Please contact me on C.897811 or mail@suethurston.co.uk if you'd like to buy any.

Sue Thurston



A11 BABRAHAM TO SIX MILE BOTTOM RESURFACING

Work is being carried out on the A11 between Babraham and Six Mile Bottom. This will include resurfacing, barrier replacement, and sign renewal and will ensure that the A11 remains safe and serviceable for years to come. Work began on 6 March, and is planned to be complete by February 2024.

Closures and diversions

To carry out the work safely, there is a need to close parts of the A11, one direction at a time. The current phase started on 11 May on the A11 northbound from Fourwentways to Six Mile Bottom, and is expected to finish by 16 August. There will be overnight closures on weeknights only from 8pm to 6am. While the A11 is closed, a strategic diversion will be in place, via the M11 and A14.

Further information about closures and diversion routes can be found on the following website https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/east/all-babraham-to-six-mile-bottom-resurfacing/

POTHOLES

This winter has seen a rise in the number of potholes and surface defects across the road network. Whilst the demand has been increasing, the County Council has been recording and fixing potholes as fast as they can. They have put in additional repair gangs and currently have 8 patching gangs and 2 Dragon Patchers working full time. They are aiming to fix most of them permanently first time. However, they have to do temporary repairs where the road is very poor condition and when they are working in rain and wet weather. These temporary fixes are recorded, and they will be going back to do a permanent repair.

Hopefully, there will be a fall in pothole numbers over the coming months as the roads dry out. The Council repairs all those they know about. The additional Dragon Patcher is now with us for the summer and will be working across the County. £3.6million additional funding for road defect repairs from Government will be used to bring in additional Dragon Patchers to work proactively on a find, record and fix regime.

(Ed. If you wonder what a Dragon Patcher is, go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=7V4_a85Je3Y and watch one in action.)

Henry Batchelor, County Councillor. Email: henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

NEW PHONE APP TO HELP ADDENBROOKE'S AND ROSIE PATIENTS NAVIGATE HOSPITAL

Patients have led the way in a project to make it easier to find your way around Addenbrooke's and the Rosie hospitals.

The new CUH Directions app was developed by patients for patients and was the idea of hospital volunteer Mike, a member of the hospital's Outpatient Experience Group, who led on the project with hospital staff.

The app maps out your route from your start to end point in a series of images and words, showing you the shortest route through the hospitals.

Visit the App Store or Google Play Store and download to your mobile device. Find out more at: www.cuh.nhs.uk/news/new-cuh-directions-phone-app-helps-patients-find-the-way/

GRANTA MEDICAL PRACTICES UPDATE

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about where our surgeries are and the telephone options:

Granta Sawston, 0300 234 5555: option 2 Granta Linton, 0300 234 5555: option 3 Granta Barley, 0300 234 5555: option 4 Granta Royston Market Hill, 0300 234 5555: option 5 Granta Shelford, 0300 234 5555: option 6 Granta Royston Health Centre, 0300 234 5555: option 7

You can continue to go to your usual surgery and request to see your usual clinician, but you are also very welcome to go to any other Granta surgery if you wish.

We know that some of you struggle to get through on the 'phone to us and / or get an appointment. As we all know, there is no easy fix. However, there are small ways you can help, which in turn helps us.

Self-care: You can treat many minor illnesses such as colds and coughs, sore throats and upset stomachs at home. Make sure you are stocked up with healthcare essentials such as pain relief (e.g. Paracetamol), cough and sore throat remedies, upset stomach treatment, rehydration treatment, heartburn / indigestion treatments and a first aid kit.

Use the NHS UK Symptom Checker www.nhs.uk: This helpful tool can guide you through your symptoms and direct you to the most appropriate health service for your needs.

Use your local pharmacy: As qualified health professionals, pharmacists can offer you advice and guidance on your symptoms and on the best treatment for you – no appointment required. Pharmacists are available on every high street and in supermarkets, with many being open in the evenings and at weekends. If your symptoms suggest something serious, pharmacists have the right training to make sure you get the help you need.

Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS): This service enables patients to have a same day appointment with their community pharmacist for minor illnesses or an urgent supply of a regular medicine. Should you need to be escalated or referred to an alternative service, the pharmacist can arrange this. Please speak to a member of our reception team to be referred into this service.

Ring NHS 111, Option 2: If you are experiencing a mental health crisis this First Response Service puts your mental health first. There are a team of specialist mental health clinicians on hand 24-hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, to offer advice and support and signpost you as appropriate.

Non-urgent appointments: Before ringing us, check availability of appointments online. You can do this if you have online access via SystmOnline, the Airmid app, or the NHS app.

Medication: If you need to order your repeat medication, please do this online via SystmOnline, the NHS app, or the Airmid app. Details of how to do this can be found on our website www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk. If you do not have internet or mobile telephone access, you can send in your repeat medication slip or write in with your repeat request.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services

MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

Well, it has been a busy Summer Term at the Meadow and we cannot believe that we are nearly at the end of this academic year!

Swimming: Summer Term means swimming term! All children are taught by our swimming instructor weekly in our own school pool. We are so fortunate to still have this facility and parents who very kindly donated towards the very expensive running costs of the pool. The children love these sessions and it is such an important life skill to learn from an early age.



Standard Assessment Tests: Year 6 have completed their End of Key Stage 2 Tests that all 11 year old pupils have to do. Our Y6 children have been amazing! They have had to persevere and show real resilience in completing these tests in English (Reading comprehension; Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation), Maths (Arithmetic and 2 Reasoning papers) and Writing (which will be assessed by teachers). Whatever the results from these tests, we know how hard the children have worked and we also know that the tests do not reflect their character, personality, achievements and the amazing children they are. Our Teaching Assistants came to school early and cooked a banquet each morning: cereal, toast, fruit and bacon rolls, for all of the Year 6 children. We were amazed at the amount of food our children consumed but this definitely set them up for the day and the tests ahead of them!

The Coronation: We celebrated the King's Coronation

dressed in red, white and blue and of course wearing our regal headwear. The children participated in different activities which culminated in a whole school recital of God Save the King and a picnic lunch. The weather was not as kind to us as we hoped and we had to cancel our outdoor lunch plans. Instead we decorated the hall and years 1-6 went in there together to eat. Reception and Y6



buddies picnicked in the Early Years classrooms. We had a

Nicky Butcher. Deputy Head

great day!

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

Village Colleges are a unique feature of Cambridgeshire schools. Our heritage influences our values and our connection with the local community.

We were really pleased to be the venue once again for the Linton Children's Book Festival. It was a fantastic weekend of literary talks and workshops for children of all ages, including amazing visiting authors and illustrators. Many LVC students took part as volunteers and also benefited from sessions before the Festival during the school day. It was lovely to see so many families enjoying the great variety of activities on offer, include a petting zoo in our Drama Studio!

As a Village College LVC students also have access to the Henry Morris Memorial Trust, a local charity that makes cash awards to young people aged 13-19 in Cambridgeshire. The fund was established to support individuals or groups of students to engage with travel or home-based projects. Many LVC students have benefited from enriching and educational experiences as a result of this opportunity. This year, Kuba Chatkowski in Year 9 was amongst the students that were successful in achieving a financial grant from the Trust. He made use of this to independently initiate a visit to meet the Prime Minister of Romania over the Easter holidays at Victoria Palace in Bucharest. Kuba's interview was recorded and photographed and he received a state medal from the Prime Minister in recognition of his initiative. I am really proud of Kuba for the Linton Learner qualities that he demonstrated.

Helena Marsh, Principal

LINTON LIBRARY NEWS

Did you know that Cambridgeshire Libraries offer a Library at Home service to readers who find it difficult to get to the library? A local volunteer can visit monthly at a mutually convenient time, bringing library books and audiobooks. It's a free service. For more information about becoming a Library at Home customer or volunteer, please ask in the library, email volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or visit the library website below.

The library is a great place to meet up with people and try something new. Here's what's happening this month:

- In HiVIS Fortnight (1 14 June) we highlight library services for people with a vision impairment. We want everyone to enjoy books, even if reading print is a challenge. We offer books in a range of formats including Large Print, audio and electronic.
- For 0-4 years, there's Story, Rhyme and Duplo time at 10.30 - 11.30am on Tuesdays 6 and 20 June, plus, our new Duplo time drop-in 10.30 - 11.30am 13 and 27
- Knit and Natter, 2pm on Tuesday 13 and 27 June. Bring along your latest craft project.
- Daylight Readers, our Book Club, meets on Friday 16 June at 10.30am and 2.30pm. Let us know if you would like to join.
- Justine from Reach Community Projects (who offer much more than the food bank) will be in the library to offer advice and help 3 – 4.30pm on Thursday 15 and 29
- Calling all teenagers (12+)! If you would like to volunteer to help out with the Summer Reading Challenge, please contact the library.

Ann King and Melanie Symonds. Community Library Assistants, Linton Library. www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library