ILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

AUGUST 2023

WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

Monday	7 August	Black
Monday	14 August	Blue & green
Monday	21 August	Black
Tuesday	29 August	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/wasteand-recycling/household-recycling-centres

CHURCH SERVICES

6 August	11.00. Joint service of Holy	
-	Communion at Balsham Church	
13 August	9.30. Holy Communion at	
-	St Mary's Church	
20 August	9.30. Morning worship at	
C	St Mary's Church	
27 August	9.30. Holy Communion at	
Ũ	St Mary's Church	
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For more details visit www.grantavale.org.uk



USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

West Wickham website: https://westwickham.org

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 Wednesday 16 August

Editors: Andrew Morris & Anna Fairhead 21 High Street, West Wickham Cambridge CB21 4RY T: 01223 290863

Email: editor wwwillagevoice@yahoo.co.uk

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.

ISSUE 243

Gardening with climate change what we can do!



West Wickham Village Hall, CB21 4SB 12 August 2023, 10.00 - 16.00

We welcome you to this unique and exciting opportunity to find out more about climate change, how it is affecting our gardens, and what we can do as gardeners to adapt, and mitigate the impacts.

Attendance is free of charge.

(This is a not-for-profit event, organised by gardening clubs in Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire.)

Morning session

Three expert and stimulating speakers, each tackling different aspects of gardening and climate change.

Afternoon session

A wide range of family friendly, exciting and informative demonstrations and activities, based around gardens and climate change, including:

Plant nurseries * seed suppliers * book shop * wildlife trust * wild ponds * water conservation information * advice from experts * peat-free compost advice * tree-planting * scything demonstration * pollinator counts * children's mask-making * bug hotel making * birdbox making * nature trail * and more.....

For full details, please go to: www.climatechangegardening.org

GARDENING WITH CLIMATE CHANGE FREE COMMUNITY EVENT **12 AUGUST**

We are expecting this to be a popular event. The Parish Council is kindly allowing us to use the playing field for car parking. The area will be very busy all day and there may be some congestion. There will plenty of stewards around to help minimise this and deal with problems but we ask for your patience and understanding. Please be aware the car parks will be in full use, the playing field will have some stalls as well as cars and the playground area is being used for childrens' activities. Access will be available at all times and of course we hope you will come along and discover ways in which we can all mitigate and help adapt to climate change.

Please note If weather conditions make the playing field unsuitable for cars parking will have to be on the street. We will try to ensure this is done sensibly and considerably but there may be problems for which we can only apologise in advance. Let's hope for fine weather!

West Wickham & District Gardening Club

SOLAR POWER FOR THE VILLAGE HALL

The Parish Council have adopted the proposal by the Village Hall Management Committee to install a Solar PV System on the south east facing roof of the Village Hall. This system consists of 22 solar panels as well as battery storage, an essential element as the Village Hall uses most of its electricity out of sunlight hours. This system will provide the Village Hall with green electricity and an estimated savings of between £2,000 to £2,300 per annum of electricity costs at today's prices. In addition, the batteries can be charged overnight on cheaper rate tariffs during the winter months when daylight hours are shorter, providing an even greater saving.

The capital cost of this work is about £25,000, of which £9,500 has already been received into an Appeal Fund from the National Lottery Community Fund, and an additional £4,000 from a South Cambridgeshire Zero Carbon Communities grant which the Village Hall Management Committee received last year. We have also raised just under £500 from public contributions, including profits from the Coronation Big Lunch, but need more funding from *you*, the community.

Please consider donating to the cost of this system and help us to contribute towards the reduction of climate change whilst also supporting a local community facility. Donations are accepted by cheques made payable to "West Wickham Parish Council" and posted to The Parish Clerk, West Lodge, 88 High Street, Balsham, CB21 4EP, as well as online.

include "PV Appeal Fund" on the rear of the cheque or as the reference for online banking. Should there be any excess, this will be donated to the running of the Village Hall.

Please

Alex Schuilenburg, Chair, West Wickham Parish Council

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

At the meeting of the Committee held on 26 June I advised that I would be standing down from my position as Chair at the Annual General meeting which will be held in the Village Hall in October.

There may be other vacancies on the Committee in the near future and we would like to encourage residents to consider joining us at the next committee meeting to see what is involved in the workings of the committee and then consider whether you would like to offer your support as committee members in future. The meeting will be held at 7:30pm on 21 August in the Village Hall.

Activity on the committee is entirely voluntary and involves becoming a Trustee of the Hall's registered charity.

I feel that this work is very rewarding and is vital to the continued working of the Hall in providing the valuable facilities it offers our community.

Trevor Hall



PROPOSED ANAEROBIC DIGESTER AT STREETLY HALL FARM

West Wickham, Horseheath and Balsham Parish Councils are aware of a proposal by the Streetly Hall Estate to construct an Anaerobic Digester facility at its farm site near Horseheath and Streetly End. The proposal was made to the West Wickham and Horseheath Parish Councils at their respective meetings but lacked detail and supporting credible information for them to consider. We will jointly monitor this proposal and keep you informed of substantive information if it becomes available.

Alex Schuilenburg, Chair, West Wickham Parish Council Dr John Howard, Chair, Horseheath Parish Council Gordon Fiddy, Chair, Balsham Parish Council



It was lovely to see so many at the coffee morning in July. Even the grounds maintenance crew, who'd been cutting the grass in the playing field, stopped by for coffee and cake and told me they'd timed their break on purpose so that they could join us.

There is no charge for the refreshments at the coffee mornings but if you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the drinks and cake then all proceeds will go to a charity of our choice, once the hire of the Hall has been paid for. This month I was able to make a donation of £65 (which included the proceeds from last month's event too) to Cambridge Women's Refuge, a charity which provides specialist services to women and children affected by domestic abuse in Cambridgeshire.

Next month's coffee morning will be on Thursday, 10 August. Hope to see you there.

Sue Thurston. T: 01223 897811

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW Saturday 2 September

Enclosed with this month's Village Voice you will find the full Schedule for this year's Annual Show, which includes the Rules and Entry Form. Please have a look through it and see if there are any Classes which appeal and which you fancy entering. If you would like a larger print version, please contact me. It can also be found on the village website.

I have heard various reasons over the years as to why people don't enter the Show, so I thought I would address a few of them here:

I can't enter – I don't garden and I'm too busy. Even if you don't grow fruit or vegetables there is a wide range of other classes you could enter. There may be flowers in your garden that could still fit one or more of the classes; you may have a pot plant or cactus lurking indoors. There are classes for baking, home preserves and photography. Entering some of these classes could take up very little of your time but you would still be involving yourself in a village activity.

I can't enter – I don't have anything good enough to show. Are you sure? Each class is judged using standard criteria, but more importantly, judges compare all the entries in each class against each other, taking into account, e.g. growing conditions, whether we have been suffering with drought or had a torrential downpour in recent days. If you can't find 5 perfect matching runner beans on the day or you don't think your chosen flower stem really says "Wow", just do the best you can. There have been quite a few examples in recent years of first-time entrants winning classes, much to their surprise and delight.

Why should I bother entering? The same people take part and the same people win every year. The Show is open to everyone living in the village (plus visiting children and grandchildren), to people in neighbouring villages without their own Club and to our own Gardening Club members so there are potentially hundreds of people who could take part. Last year just 32 did (31 the year before.) We would love it to be more.

It's true that a lot of the same names crop up regularly over the years but if you look at the Roll of Honour in the Village Hall which lists all the winners over the years – back to 1983 and our first Show – you will see that the same individuals do **not** win every year. None of the winners of the 7 cups last year won them the previous year.

Come along anyway. Taking part in the Show isn't just about entering exhibits and winning prizes. It's also about enjoying an hour or two at a village activity, coming to the Hall in the afternoon to see what's on show, enjoying a cup of tea and piece of cake, entering the raffle, guessing the weight of the cake or making a bid or two in the auction of produce at the end of the afternoon. It's great that the Village Hall hosts monthly hub nights and coffee mornings and the celebrations for the coronation this year were terrific, but there aren't that many other social activities going on in the village where you can meet your neighbours and catch up with others in the village so when there is something happening in the Village Hall, open to everyone, why not come along and check it out?

Sue Thurston, Show Co-ordinator. T: 01223.897811 Email: mail@suethurston.co.uk

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

West Wickham Parochial Church Council invites "Friends of St Mary's" to a Garden Party with drinks and nibbles at

Burton Grange on Friday 8 September at 6pm.

All are welcome to support the important work of maintaining our beautiful mediaeval church. If you have not had an invitation please let Marcus Cornish know that you will be attending.

T: 07836 213307 or Email: wmcorn@hotmail.com

MAKE IT SNAPPY!

Calling all photographers. Now's the time to head out with your phone or camera to take that winning shot for this year's photography competition. Our categories are designed to give everybody a chance to come up with something that inspires them, so interpret the titles however you wish!

- Fruits of my labour.
- After the Rain.
- Contrast.

We had a first-time winner in last year's show so maybe this year it's your turn.

You can enter two photographs in each category. Simply email them to sally@sallymoonpublishing.com by 5:00pm on **Friday 25 August**.

See the Show schedule in this month's issue for details of other ways to deliver and costs per entry. Good luck everybody, we look forward to seeing your fantastic images!

Sally Moon

1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

This term two Brownies have completed their Gold Award, the highest award a Brownie can get. Congratulations to Amelia and Martha for achieving this. Amelia has now moved up to 1st Linton Guides. We also have a few Brownies who have almost achieved their Silver Award but are short of a couple of interest badges. Hopefully after the holidays they will achieve this.

At the end of June we had an archery session at the Jarman Centre, led by Toni-Ann who runs Brinkley Guides. The girls all managed to hit the target (better than me) and there were a number of bullseyes too. The Brownies will also have finished their know myself skills builder "network"

By the time you read this we will have finished the term with our usual water games, which were particularly wet this year as it was also slightly raining too.

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 the please email me on horseheathbrownies@gmail.com 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. Email: horseheathbrownies@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE PAST

Cambridge Chronicle 31 August 1900

DEATH AT THE WASH TUB – The County Coroner (Mr A J Lyon) held an inquest at the Chequers Inn, Streetlyend, West Wickham, on Wednesday evening, concerning the death of Elizabeth Lester, aged 64, a single woman, of that place. Susan Prentice, of Streetly-end, West Wickham, identified the deceased as her sister, who she said lived with her. About ten o'clock on the morning of the 28th instant witness left deceased washing at the tub. About five minutes afterwards she heard something fall, and going back to see what had happened, she found the deceased lying on the bricks. Witness called Mrs Salmon, a neighbour, and she tried to raise her up, but deceased only gave one groan and then died. Deceased had not been attended by a doctor since last May, and then only for a stomach disorder. Sarah Jane Salmon, wife of Thomas Salmon, a farm labourer, of West Wickham, said that about ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, the last witness called to her house. She went and found the deceased lying on the floor insensible. Witness tried to raise her up but failed. The deceased gave three gasps and then died. She had just left a wash tub. Witness saw her five minutes before. Deceased had never complained to witness about pains in her body. Robert Head, physician and surgeon, of Balsham, deposed that he made a post-mortem examination, from which he found the death was due to fatty degeneration of the heart. The Jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony.

The post of Coroner is an old one dating back to at least the 12th century. A Coroner determines who the deceased was and how and why they came to their death if this is sudden and the cause is unknown, violent, or unnatural. They can hold an inquest to do this and up until fairly recently this would be near to the place of death with the Coroner travelling out from Cambridge. Until the provision of village halls, public houses were usually the only building with enough room to carry out an inquest and the ability to provide refreshments, stabling for a horse and even overnight accommodation for the Coroner. The Jury would have been assembled from local residents on a rather *ad hoc* basis.

Elizabeth (or Eliza) Lester and her sister, Susan Prentice, were relative newcomers to Streetly End. They had been living at Brickyard Cottages at the north east of the village (now called Manna Cottages and Stirling House). The 1891 census records them living with Susan's husband, John, an agricultural labourer and 20 year old daughter, Louisa, a general servant. Eliza's occupation was given as cook. It seems likely that Susan and Eliza moved to Streetly End after the death of John in 1894. Susan died in 1912 aged 86 at Linton workhouse – a common destination for the frail and elderly who could not be cared for by family. The Salmons were newcomers too. They had recently moved from Horseheath.

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



NATURE NOTES

Wildflowers in bloom in the summer months have special significance, not just for their beauty but because in these months many insects are at their most active and depend on the nectar produced by these plants for their energy. One such is the honeysuckle, which often decorates hedges and woodland and is also cultivated in many gardens. It is a haven for wildlife all the year round, giving shelter for birds in the winter, food for ladybird larvae in the spring and producing red berries for birds like the (now scarce) bullfinch. Apart from honeysuckle, some of the other flowers in bloom at present are meadowsweet, agrimony, scabious, knapweed, various vetches, restharrow and not forgetting the ever-present thistle – all of which attract bees, butterflies and other insects.

We said last month that we were about to enter the prime time for butterflies when many species take to the wing. That is why this time of year the Big Butterfly Count is held when everyone is invited to spend 15 minutes in their garden or out in the country counting the number of each species that they see in that time. This is a citizens' science project that contributes greatly to the information that allows us to judge how butterflies are faring at a time when the natural world as a whole is under pressure. To find out how to do it, see https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org . You need to do your count by 6 August. At the time of writing meadow browns, who favour long grass, have been abundant for a few weeks while the darker ringlets and the brighter, smaller gatekeepers (or hedge browns) have emerged more recently. In gardens you are more likely to see red admirals, small tortoiseshells and large and small whites whose caterpillars devour our brassicas. If you are lucky you may see the ragged winged but strikingly orange comma. Other butterflies that have been seen out and about in the village include the marbled white, an insect that seems to be expanding its range, and the silver-washed fritillary feeding on the bramble flowers alongside Hare Wood.

The butterfly count also invites people to include day-flying moths they might see, such as the cinnabar, burnet or hummingbird hawkmoths, another insect that is attracted to honeysuckle. My moth trap continues to be a source of pleasure – introducing me to many species active at night with delightful names such as chimney sweeper, heart and dart and nut-tree tussock. When I open it up in the morning most of the moths fly away fairly soon although the big hawk moths sometimes hang about nearly all day. I recently captured the dreaded box tree moth – a Japanese immigrant whose caterpillars can destroy box hedges. Its main predator is the Asian hornet – another unwelcome visitor which is an interesting situation. Which of these two insects are the most undesirable?

Foxes are still very active in the village – there have been more raids on chickens since my last nature notes, but (fingers crossed) our two birds remain untouched despite the fact that foxes regularly visit the water bowl in our copse, along with the badgers and the crows, which are making full use of it – including mixed bathing, feeding young and dunking bits of stale bread so that it goes down more easily. One visitor we don't have to our copse is the hare but they have been seen out and about – particularly the younger ones, one of whom was photographed by your Editor on a local footpath 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

GRANTA MEDICAL PRACTICES FLU CLINICS

Influenza (flu) vaccines protect against the influenza viruses. Most flu vaccines are given with a needle in the arm but there is also a nasal spray flu vaccine.

Flu vaccination is important because, whilst flu is unpleasant for most people, it can be dangerous and even life-threatening to others, particularly those with certain health conditions. The best times to have your flu vaccine is early autumn before flu starts spreading. However, you can get your vaccine later if necessary. We are holding our flu clinics on the following dates:

Saturday 23 September Linton Health Centre, **CB21 4IS** Saturday 23 September Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU Saturday 30 September Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY Saturday 7 October Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU Saturday 14 October Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS Saturday 21 October Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY Saturday 28 October Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS

All clinics start at 8:30am and finish at 4:15pm

Groups eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine from 1 September are:

- Those aged 65 years and over
- Those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups:
 - * Chronic respiratory disease
 - * Ischaemic heart disease and vascular disease
 - * Chronic kidney disease
 - * Chronic liver disease
 - * Chronic neurological disease
 - * Diabetes and adrenal insufficiency
 - * Immunosuppression and those who are in close contact with an immunosuppressed person
 - * Asplenia or dysfunction of the spleen
 - * Pregnant women
 - * Morbid obesity, BMI 40+
- Carers in receipt of a carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person
- Care home residents
- Pregnant women
- Children aged 2 or 3 years old, specifically at 31 August 2023.

Primary school children without underlying health conditions will be vaccinated in school. For over 50's with no underlying conditions private flu vaccinations will be widely available through high street pharmacies, etc.

Eligible patients will shortly receive a text with a link to book a flu jab, or you can call us on 0300 234 5555. Clinics will be available to book into from August. Whilst you are having your jab don't forget to ask about your eligibility for other vaccinations such as shingles, pneumonia or whooping cough.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services. E. cpicb.grantapatientservices@nhs.net

FROM THE VICARAGE

I was reminded recently I have been a curate in the Granta Vale Churches for almost a year. Indeed, last week was the second anniversary of my ordination as a deacon and first anniversary as a priest. A lot has changed in that time. Two house moves, lots of new names and new areas I have had to get to know pretty quickly!

Since moving I have enjoyed seeing the changing seasons of rural Cambridgeshire: snow in December; the vicarage garden come into bloom in spring; and now the vibrancy of summer, even though at times it has been a little bit too warm! Yet even in the midst of change, it's been helpful to be reminded that God's love and guidance remain the same.

Change is inevitable; sometimes it is exciting, sometimes it is daunting. When we follow Jesus, however, we need to be open for transformation and open to change our way of doing things. Jesus came to challenge the way it's always been. Much of his ministry brought about change. His disciples struggled to understand what all this change was about, and why it needed to happen. As they accompanied Jesus towards the cross, they gradually began to understand it. Their experience of the risen Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit further deepened their insight and courage. They were witnesses to an abundant life they hadn't known before. It needed change for that transformation to happen.

Faith in God can help us embrace change and be hopeful. For there is always hope and good news. God will always support us and sustain us. That it is why we need to continue to respond to God's presence and keep him at the heart of our worship.

One of my favourite worship songs is 'Seasons Change' by the Christian worship group *United Pursuit*. It reminds us that though the seasons change, God's love never changes and he remains faithful. When seasons have changed in my life, I am reminded of these words and that is my hope and prayer for you: that even though seasons change, you may know God's love is with you.

Revd Ben Brady



MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

The end of the school academic year has arrived and, as usual, we have had a very busy end to it!

The Y5/6 Production: We have been treated to the most fantastic production by Y5/6 in their end of year performance of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean'. We saw some amazing acting, dancing, singing and solos; real teamwork! The children all performed brilliantly and the staff and audience were incredibly impressed.



Move Up Days: We have had two fantastic move up days. The children have had a wonderful time in their new class getting to know their new classmates. We have seen some amazing artwork completed and some equally amazing teamwork. I enjoyed wandering around the classrooms, chatting to the children and finding out what has been their favourite thing they have experienced on these days. Along with learning, meeting new friends and lockers for Y3lunch has also featured!

Sports Day: Became sports days due to the British weather! We managed to get through Key Stage 2 sports in the morning but had to postpone Key Stage 1 to a week later. The children enjoyed competing against one another in running, egg and spoon and obstacle races, to name but a few, and then working together in teams to receive the most points and of course, most importantly, they all received an ice pop!



And finally. We are still looking for reading volunteers! If you have a couple of hours in the morning or afternoon to hear children read, we would love to hear from you! Please email me for further information:

Wishing you all a lovely Summer!

Nicky Butcher. Deputy Head. nbutcher@meadowprimary.org

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

Our annual Prom for our Year 11 leavers on 30 June was an amazing event. Parents and members of the school community joined us to welcome the Class of 2023's arrivals. Students looked very glamorous and it was lovely to see their eclectic methods of transport.



keeping with the Prom Committee's chosen theme of 'celestial' and looked really sparkly and special. Students



enjoyed the food trucks, DJ, mocktail and sweetie bars, photobooth and outdoor games throughout the evening. I'm grateful to all of the staff who were involved in organising the event and supervising, particularly Mrs Harris who arranged the whole evening. We look forward to welcoming our Year 11s back on 24 August to collect their GCSE results.

We also enjoyed the Year 6 transition in July, welcoming our newest cohort of Linton Learners to the College for two days of induction and a parent information evening. The Year 6s experienced a range of lessons, a dance performance from the current Year 7 students and a chance to tour the school and meet staff. Our fabulous team of 8M8s showed great student leadership in supporting our youngest students to settle in and be excited to be moving up to secondary school.

It's great that student numbers have increased this year with 180 in the year group and a waiting list for places at the College for Year 7.

Helena Marsh, Principal



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