

VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

OCTOBER 2023

ISSUE 245

WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

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



VILLAGE HALL NOTICES

Annual General Meeting
Monday 23 October, 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

As a number of the present Trustees will be standing down, the main item will be the election of new Trustees and appointment of the Chair, Treasurer and Social Secretary.

We encourage as many of you as possible to come along and hope some will volunteer to become members of the Management Committee and Trustees of the Village Hall charity. Please note that the Hall is run by constituted committee and if places on it are not filled the Hall **will cease to be open** and provide the facilities you have come to expect.

The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the Village noticeboards and on the Village website.

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR HALL
AND COME TO THE AGM**

Village Hall Rubbish Bins

On three recent occasions, one of the Hall's blue or green rubbish bins has not been emptied as their contents have contained non-acceptable waste - hard plastic items in the blue bin and plastic in the green bin. We would be grateful if you could make yourselves fully aware of what is acceptable in each bin and make sure that this is understood by any children who use the playing field or playground.


Lost Watch


A Timex watch with expanding strap was recently posted through the Hall's letterbox, presumably by someone who found it nearby. If you wish to claim it please contact me on 01223 290559

Trevor Hall

VILLAGE HALL PV APPEAL FUND UPDATE

Thank you to all those who have generously donated to the solar panel appeal fund for the Village Hall so far. The fund has received a total of £1,079.03 in donations from residents (and even a bit in interest), and the more observant will note that there are solar panels on the roof of the Village Hall. We still need donations as we still have a way to go to reach our funding target of £7,000.

Donations can be made by cheques payable to "West Wickham Parish Council" and posted to The Parish Clerk, West Lodge, 88 High Street, Balsham, CB21 4EP, as well as online. 

 Please 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.

Alex Schuilenburg, Chair, West Wickham Parish Council

CHURCH SERVICES

1 October 11.00. Joint service of Holy Communion at Balsham Church
8 October 9.30. Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
15 October 9.30. Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
22 October 9.30. Morning worship at St Marys Church
29 October 9.30. Holy Communion at St Mary's Church

★ HUB NIGHT! ★

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEXT DATE: **28.10.2023** 7PM-11PM



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

Monday 16 October

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Cambridge CB21 4RY

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Email: editor_wvillagevoice@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.

West Wickham Village Hall

COFFEE MORNING

From 10.30 on Thursday

12th October



*Selection of teas & coffee
(ground & instant)
Variety of homemade cakes*
LIFTS AVAILABLE
*Call Di Licence (290434) or
Sue Thurston (897811)*

FROM THE VICARAGE

At the time of writing, I am feeling grateful for the warmth and beauty of early Autumn and looking forward to a variety of celebrations in our parishes. I'm delighted we will be celebrating two weddings in early and mid-Autumn, and looking forward once more to Harvest festivals in our churches.

Harvest festivals in this country may be traced back to the 1840s when, in recognition of the many 'Harvest Home celebrations', the church began to include an annual Harvest thanksgiving service in early October. This was often accompanied by bringing to church gifts of fresh produce and other food, and became an important way of celebrating the season.

Our harvest festivals in church nowadays are usually celebrated sometime in early-mid Autumn and we will be doing this in each of our parishes. They are times when we give thanks for the many gifts of God and reflect on how we should 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 and reflecting on the daily importance of gratitude and of being cheerful givers. We hope to keep in mind the kind of generosity the Apostle Paul commended in his second letter to the church in Corinth, where he encouraged cheerful generosity and linked this to praise and thanksgiving.

The medieval Christian theologian and mystic, Meister Eckhart, reputedly said that 'if the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough'. Showing gratitude and praise is at the heart of the Christian faith and may transform a sense of ethical duty into the work of grateful hands and hearts. Harvest thanksgiving, then, can remind us that a daily practice of gratitude and praise may charge our lives with greater purpose, joy and wonder, as well as moving us to serve those in need.

Revd Iain McColl

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the Show in September, either by entering the classes or coming along in the afternoon to see what was on show, enjoy the refreshments, take part in the raffle guess the weight of the cake and bid for produce at the end of the day. We had 34 entrants this year - two more than last year, including some first timers and the Show made just under £350 before the costs of running it are taken into account. If you would like a more detailed breakdown, please ask me.

The winners of the cups this year are as follows:

The Children's Trophy: Persie Cornish

The West Wrating Cup - vegetable and fruit classes:

Jean Martin

The White Horse Trophy - cut flowers & pot plant classes:

Linda Upton

The Stan & Hilda Cox Cup - domestic classes:

Sue Thurston

The Ralph Westwood-Bate Cup - photography classes:

John Howard

The Bill Pearson Cup - overall winner: Peter Grieve

The RHS Banksian Medal, which is awarded to the person scoring the most points in the vegetable, fruit and flower classes, was also won by Peter Grieve.

I would also like to give massive thanks to the Show Committee (Janet Morris, Linda Upton, Ronnie Temple and Sally Collins) who worked so hard on the day and during the year. A lot of organisation and planning goes into this event.

We will be posting the photos entered into the photography classes on the village website (westwickham.org) for you to all enjoy together with some taken during the day, including Linda Upton's wonderful beetroot & chocolate cake baked and decorated for the Guess the Weight of the cake competition.

Sue Thurston, Show Coordinator.

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

The next Gardening Club meeting is on Monday 16 October:

Orchids: in general and how to grow the commoner types.

**Talk by Huw Richards
of the Cambridge Orchid Society.
7.30pm in the Village Hall**

1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

We hope you all had a good summer and didn't find the recent heatwave too overbearing. We have just returned to Brownies after the school holidays, and have had four new starters - Isobel, Evie, Emily and Charlotte. They have fitted in really well and are enjoying themselves. We have also said goodbye to Martha, Esme and Ellis after they returned for one last meeting. Martha received her Gold award at the end of last term, Esme received hers at the beginning of this term and Ellis received her Silver award.

We have lots of exciting activities planned this term. We will be working on the Make Change topic from the Take Action themed skills builder; which was the first skills builder we completed when the programme changed in 2018/2019. We will also be working the Brownies Go Explore challenge badge, as well as Harvest and Christmas crafts, and are also hoping to visit the panto again in December as an end of term treat.

Pauline, Katie and Gemma

Email: horseheathbrownies@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE PAST

Cambridge Chronicle 7 October 1887

WEST WICKHAM – HARVEST THANKSGIVING – A service for the purpose of returning thanks to God for the harvest was held in the parish church on Sunday last, at three o'clock in the afternoon. There was a large and attentive congregation. The interior was very tastefully decorated with flowers, fruit, corn etc. The service commenced with hymn 276, Ch. H. ("Come, ye thankful people, come"). The prayers were read by the Vicar (the Rev. C. Bokenham). The special psalms were the 65th and the 147th. The first lesson was taken from Deut. xxviii, 1; and the second from St. John iv, 44. The hymn after the third collect was 277, Ch. H. ("Holy is the seed time, when the buried grain"), and the hymn before the sermon was 282, Ch. H. ("We plough the fields, and scatter"). A sermon suitable for the occasion was preached by the Vicar. The collection, which amounted to £4 2s 1d., was divided between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. During the collection, hymn 316, Ch. H. ("Angel voices, ever singing") was sung. Master W. Davis presided at the organ in an able manner.

Although a successful harvest had long been celebrated in rural life, the type of church festival recorded above did not become popular until 1843 when it originated with the Rev Robert Walker in Morwenstow in Cornwall. After 1866, West Wickham did not have an incumbent of its own and until the 1970s the Parish was served by the Vicar of West Wrating. The Rev Clifton Bokenham was Vicar from 1880 to 1894. Psalm 65 ends with the wonderful words 'The folds shall be full of sheep: the valleys also shall stand so thick with corn, that they shall laugh and sing.' This must have sounded particularly apt and very comforting to those in a village where agricultural livelihoods were dependent on both sheep and corn.

West Wickham & District Local History Club restarts its programme of meetings this month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall:

Monday 9 October
One place, one time, one life:
Lord Fairhaven at Anglesey Abbey
A talk by Helen Ackroyd

New members and visitors are more than welcome to come along and join us.

For further details, please contact Janet Morris
T: 290863, Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

Why do our cars have to be road worthy
if the roads are not car worthy?

ALLOTMENT RENT COLLECTION

Saturday 7 October in the Village Hall from 11am to 12 noon. If you cannot make this date please let Jenny Richards (Parish Clerk) know.

T: 01223 665260, Email: j.richards597@btinternet.com

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

NEXT
DATE: **28.10.2023** 7PM-11PM



MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

With one final blast of summer sun, we start our new academic year. We are looking forward to the new term that is now upon us, bringing with it exciting opportunities, new faces, and a chance to build on the successes of the previous year.

Welcoming New Faces.

This September, we welcomed our youngest students, the Reception children, who are taking their first steps into the world of education. The start of the school year is always a special time, but there's something particularly heart warming about seeing the Reception children take those first steps through our school gates.



Out with the old.

One of the exciting changes this year is the revamp of our school's display boards. Out with the old and in with the new – the boards have been refreshed with hessian, creating a warm and rustic backdrop for showcasing the children's amazing artwork and achievements. This new look not only adds charm to our school but also provides a more tactile and eco-friendly surface for display.

In addition to the updated display boards, our dedicated teaching team has introduced fresh new themes of learning to engage and inspire our students. These themes are designed to ignite their imaginations and foster a love for learning from the very start. From exploring the wonders of nature to embarking on adventures through history and science, our children are in for an exciting and enriching educational journey.

Roles and Responsibilities.

Year 6 marks the final year before the transition to secondary school, and during this time, students are entrusted with various roles and responsibilities that contribute to their personal growth and the overall functioning of the school community. Our oldest members of our school have now been assigned as monitors and mentors as well as getting the opportunity to run for House Captain and Class Representatives. Here they will discuss school matters with teachers, advocate for student concerns, and participate in decision-making processes that affect the school community. Another element to their responsibilities is our buddy system, where our Year 6 students pair up with the Reception children to provide guidance, support, and friendship. This not only helps the younger ones settle into their new school but also fosters a sense of belonging and community within our student body.

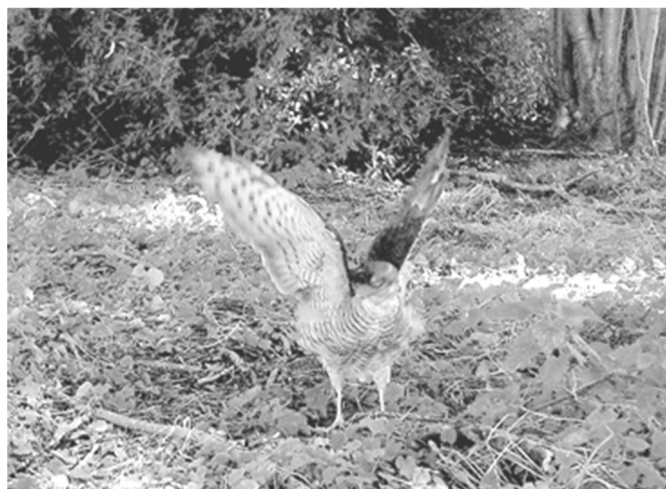
Here's to a fantastic new term filled with growth, achievements and cherished memories. Let's make it one to remember!

Faye Facer, Assistant Head Teacher

NATURE NOTES

Murder and mayhem are everyday occurrences in the natural world. You just have to examine the goings on in any pond, or contemplate a spider's web. The other evening we were enjoying a meal outside, while having our blood sucked by mosquitoes, when a couple of bats appeared like avenging angels to sweep up our tormentors out of the air and we were able to continue our meal without being bitten.

If you have a taste for this sort of thing, top billing for September goes to the hobby(s) who have been active in the area around Hill Farm. Ted Fairhead saw one taking a skylark, and I disturbed two, which gave off their characteristically over-energetic series of notes, probably annoyed because there were a number of dragonflies in the vicinity, which are their traditional prey. The birds are small falcons, roughly the size of a kestrel but with a bigger wingspan. Unlike a kestrel, hobbies never hover but resemble large swifts and are known to be able to catch swallows and house martins. They are long distance migrants, so we suspect they were on the way south to southern Africa but taking the opportunity to 'refuel' before making the long journey. The Latin name for the Hobby is *Falco Subbuteo*, which simply means a falcon smaller than a buzzard. People (mainly men) of a certain age may be familiar with Subbuteo which was once a very popular model football game. The inventor wanted to call his new game 'The Hobby' but was turned down and so reverted to the latin name of his favourite bird.



Continuing the theme, sparrowhawks have been quite active in Streetly End. One (pictured) obligingly posed in front of my trailcam but the more gruesome results of its activities have been evident recently, with two of us finding decapitated pigeons in our gardens. There is no definite proof that a sparrowhawk was the culprit, but it seems likely.

I have recently had some very endearing pictures of a badger rolling around, again right in front of the camera. The images made me feel as though I wanted to tickle his or her tummy. However my mood changed slightly when I discovered a possible reason for the badger's *joie de vivre*. It had tunnelled under the fence and flattened and eaten all my sweetcorn. Gardening with nature does have its challenges!

To finish on a more gentle note, the butterfly season is coming to an end in a flurry of white. I can't remember seeing so many small white butterflies so late in the year, but perhaps they have shown their appreciation of the very warm weather we have had at the beginning of September. The whites haven't had it all their own way however as



there have still been the occasional red admiral or peacock feeding on the buddleia and a good number of speckled woods. I received a lovely photo of a painted lady from Sally Moon – a butterfly that would have been on its way back to southern Europe after taking part in a generational relay on its migratory journey. The Jersey tiger moth, reported in last month's nature notes, has also been spotted by Carol Hall. Whereas I was only able to see the black and cream forewings, she had the pleasure of seeing the more colourful hindwings, which can be red, orange or yellow.

Please send your nature sightings to:

Peter Grieve. T: 01223 897811, E: mail@petergrieve.co.uk

Di Licence. T: 290434, E: dianarubyllicence@gmail.com

LINTON LIBRARY NEWS

Are you keen to make our planet cleaner and greener for future generations? Libraries lend and share: we have always been at the heart of the circular economy. We have a wide array of books and online resources to inform and inspire you on your green journey.

What's on:

- National Libraries Week, 2 – 6 October. With the theme being 'Green', there will be drop-in eco crafts all week.
- Mark my Words: October is Black History Month. Come and explore our display celebrating Black contributions to British life and literature.
- Saturday, Saturday 21 October. Cat puzzles, cat crafts, make a cat toy, and a representative from Woodgreen Animal Shelter will be here to answer your questions. Come along if you love cats.
- Storytime. Rhyme-time. Duplo-time at the new time of 10am every Tuesday (in term time). Stories, songs and Duplo play for 0-4-year olds.
- New: Games Afternoon for adults. Beginning Tuesday 10 October at 2pm, meet new people and try new games (bring your favourite if you like).
- Linton: Creative Mapping continues 4, 11 and 18 October, 10:30am-12:00pm. The free sessions are in collaboration with Arts and Minds (artsandminds.org.uk) and led by Clare Basel.
- Knit and Natter. Bring along your latest craft project, 2pm on Tuesday 3, 17 and 31 October.
- Daylight Readers. Our Book Groups meet on Friday 20 October at 10.30am and 2.30pm.
- Justine from Reach Community Projects will be here to offer advice and help 3 – 4.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month (5 and 19 October).

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