

VILLAGE VOICE

NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END

NOVEMBER 2023

ISSUE 246

WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

Wednesday	1 November	Black
Wednesday	8 November	Blue & green
Wednesday	15 November	Black
Wednesday	22 November	Blue & green
Wednesday	29 November	Black

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

CHURCH SERVICES

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

For more details visit www.grantavale.org.uk

★ HUB NIGHT! ★

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEXT DATE: **25.11.2023** 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 Thursday 16 November

Editors: Andrew Morris & Anna Fairhead
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Cambridge CB21 4RY
T: 01223 290863

Email: editor_wwwvillagevoice@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.

SPEEDWATCH RETURNS AND SPEED INDICATOR SIGN

New volunteers are needed for the Community Speedwatch for West Wickham and Streetly End to help tackle the problem of speeding traffic through our parish. This program was instrumental in helping the Parish Council to have the speed limit in Streetly End reduced from 40 to 30mph and installation of the "Village Gates". A number of years have passed since the changes and offending drivers have become familiar with the route so the problem has returned, particularly in Streetly End.

Unfortunately, most of the speedwatch volunteers have retired. Volunteers will be trained in the use of the Speedwatch equipment by Cambridgeshire Police, who will also approve the location of the Speedwatch sites as well as the date and time of Speedwatch sessions. If you are interested in joining the group, please email speedwatch.team@westwickham.org with your contact details.

What is involved? During a Speedwatch session, details of vehicles travelling in excess of the speed limit are recorded and forwarded to the police. Sessions usually last an hour, and preferably held once a week at various locations when traffic is heaviest. The police use this information to notify the owner by letter that their vehicle has been identified as exceeding the speed limit, and the information is kept on record to identify persistent offenders.

Speed Indicator Sign: Currently the Speedwatch equipment is shared, but the Parish Council will be applying for its own equipment (under a Local Highways Initiative grant) which also doubles as a speed advisory like the present speed indicator sign. This should allow our Speedwatch Team to operate effectively, with greater flexibility and frequency, to provide the further evidence required to help us introduce additional speed reduction measures if warranted.

Alex Schuilenburg & Trevor Hall

JOIN THE "WEST WICKHAM" WHATSAPP COMMUNITY

You can join by scanning the QR code or following this link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GThes6XtRiy4L9OZVDFcLS>

to receive immediate, important and non-trivial information such as road and school closures, roadworks, changes to services and so on. On joining and becoming a member, you will be added to the "Announcements" group in which only volunteer members of the community and Parish Council can make announcements.

(Note: This link and code will only be valid until 16th November 2023).

Once a member, you can optionally join the "Village Shouts/Asks/Wants" group through which residents regularly share, request or offer information, items, help, etc. This group was set up initially by a couple of residents to bolster community spirit at the start of the Covid lockdown and has been incredibly successful before morphing into its current form and its inclusion into the West Wickham community.

As a member of the community, your mobile phone details will remain

Continued on page 2



WEST WICKHAM WHATSAPP GROUP continued

hidden from other members unlike normal WhatsApp groups. You can also join and leave open groups within the community without requiring an administrator, and your mobile phone details will remain private **until you post into a group**. You will also be able to add other members of your family and friends to the West Wickham community also allowing them to receive announcements and choose which groups within the community they wish to join. You may also create groups within the community (subject to approval by a moderator).

Why another WhatsApp group? A WhatsApp Community addresses the privacy and content concerns of the Parish Council as well as many residents. It provides greater control over content and security, helping prevent hijacking of groups for nefarious and other purposes, and allows for community groups to be established and advertised. You don't have to be a member of any group to be a member of the community other than the "Announcements" group, and if you leave "Announcements" you will automatically leave the community and all the groups within the community (your departure will *not* be announced). Finally, this allows the "Village Shouts/Asks/Wants" group to remain on-topic by moving official "Announcements" into its own group, allowing residents to determine which messages they wish to receive alerts for or receive.

Disclaimer: The Parish Council are not responsible for any content posted on any groups within the community other than within the "Announcements" group.

SOLAR PANELS ON THE VILLAGE HALL

The solar panels and battery installation was completed on 15 September and in the month since installation have generated 714 kWh of electricity with 503 kWh exported to the grid. We are still waiting for nPower to agree to our request for accepting our exported electricity for credit to our account.

Thanks to the continued fine weather the panels have generally kept our battery fully charged at the end of the day and provided power for all activities which have been held in the Hall over the last month. Import of electricity from the grid has been minimal.

As the efficiency of the panels drops off during the winter months we have arranged for the battery to be charged from the grid between midnight and 7am on the night time low tariff. This should enable the usual evening activities in the Hall to be powered from the battery.

It remains to be seen whether there will be sufficient battery capacity to run the infra-red heating system but we will be able to monitor this on the app which has been provided with the installation.

Profits from November's Bingo and HUB event will contribute to the ongoing PV Appeal Fund organised by the Parish Council.

Trevor Hall

ALLOTMENT AVAILABLE

A half-allotment is vacant. If anyone would like to rent it at £7.50 per year please write to the Parish Clerk, 88, High Street, Balsham, CB21 4EP. T: 01223 665260) or email j.richards597@btinternet.com or contact one of your Parish Councillors.

Jennifer Richards, Clerk to West Wickham Parish Council

PETER VALLIS

I would like to thank everyone who sent condolence cards or offered help after the sudden death of Peter on 28 September and for the respect shown to the funeral cars'

Sue Vallis

R.A.F. WRATTING COMMON Remembrance Sunday, 12 November

There will be a short service at the Memorial at 12 noon.

The Memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville, CB21 5NR. We hope to be joined by some of the Veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Also, Cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade. Wreaths will be laid in memory of all those who served here and throughout the world, especially those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. Attendees are invited to lay wreaths or crosses for those they wish to remember, and everyone is welcome to attend.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Dan Heath for Friends of Wratting Common.
Tel. Mob: 07736 737 174, Home: 01440 730 192
Email rafwrattingcommon@gmail.com

We are always pleased to hear from anyone interested in getting involved with the Airfield Memorial. With just two services per year to arrange, as well as year-round general maintenance, this is not an onerous project to assist with but is very rewarding. It is hoped that, with the continued support of people in the locality, this important memorial to our community's war effort will survive for many generations.

POPPIES FOR REMEMBRANCETIDE

Poppies will be available locally at Balsham Post Office, Coffee Shop, the Bell Inn, the Black Bull and at Church Services in Balsham, also at The Chestnut Tree Pub in West Wratting, from 27/28 October until Remembrance Sunday, 12 November. My grateful thanks to all of them and to those who are helping me distribute poppies. With changing circumstances, there will not be a local house-to-house collection.

For those of us who no longer use cash there is now an easy way to make a donation for your poppy. There is a **QR code** specific to our area, ECF03, on collecting tins - just scan and donate, cashless and anonymous. I will only receive the total sum of donations made in this way, not even tin specific. Cash is of course most acceptable in the collecting tins, or cheques in envelopes labelled POPPY APPEAL handed in at Balsham Post Office, where there are also Gift Aid forms with envelopes, upon request (this increases your donation by 25% at no cost to you). Wooden crosses will also be available in Balsham Post Office, Coffee Shop and the Chestnut Tree PH, plus reflective poppies etc, but 2023 enamel pins are not been available owing to supply difficulties - supermarkets will have these. A few non-dated pins may be available locally. Totally recyclable, plastic free Poppies have been developed, but for use only when the others have been used up, to avoid unnecessary waste.

Please give generously to help the Royal British Legion support our ex-service men and women.

Thank you. Margaret Johnson (Poppy Appeal Organiser)



NEWS FROM THE PAST

Cambridge Independent Press
12 October 1917



WEST WICKHAM

Mr C Bradnam, of West Wickham, has received official news that his son, Corporal B. Bradnam, was killed by a shell on the 13th September last. Corporal Bradnam, with his brother, volunteered on September 29, 1914 and both men were wounded in the big advance in July, 1916. Pte. A. Bradnam died of his wounds on July 30th, 1916, while Corporal Bradnam, after recovering from his wounds, returned to France in September 1916. The following letter was received from his officer: "It is with the deepest sympathy that I write to inform you of the death of your son, Corporal B Bradnam, who was killed in action by a shell on the night of the 13th September. He was a fine lad, always willing to do anything that was asked of him in the most cheerful way and I can assure you that I am most grieved to lose such a valuable NCO. Everybody loved him in the platoon, and I am sure all join me in sending you our heartfelt sympathy in the sad loss of your dear son. He was buried by our clergyman in the British cemetery just behind the British lines. All his personal property will be forwarded to you as soon as possible. If there is anything further I can tell you concerning your son I shall only be too pleased to do so if possible."

Bennett Bradnam was born in 1890 and he and his brother, Albert, born in 1895, were the youngest sons of Charles and Mary Bradnam. The family lived in a now-demolished cottage between 23 and 25 High Street. The brothers enlisted together in Linton and joined the newly formed 11th Battalion (Cambridgeshire) Suffolk Regiment familiarly known as the 'Cambs Kitcheners'. Both brothers, along with two other West Wickham men in the Battalion, were injured on 1 July 1916 at what is now known as the Battle of the Somme. Albert was treated for his wounds in Chorlton upon Medlock (Lancashire) but died on 30 July. While Bennett was buried in France, Albert was buried in the churchyard in West Wickham. You will find his grave with military headstone to the right of the gate.

To find out more about the men commemorated on the war memorial see the West Wickham & District Local History Club booklet *West Wickham War Memorial: The Men Who Gave Their Lives in the First World War 1914-1918*. There is a copy in the church (please don't remove it) or you can borrow a copy from me – contact details below.

**Our next meeting will be on: Monday 13 November
7.30pm in the Village Hall**

When **Gabrielle Cliff Hodges** will talk about
Sedley Taylor: Education, philanthropy, friendship and family

Sedley Taylor, a Cambridge academic, was one of the co-founders in 1885 of Weston Colville Reading Room along with his friend and local landowner, W H Hall.

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

WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Monday 20 November

The science of pollination

**Talk by Hamish Symington of Cambridge University
7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US AT OUR
★ **HUB NIGHT!** ★

COMMUNITY PUB



BINGO

**SATURDAY
25.11.23**

WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL 7PM-11PM

BONKERS BINGO NIGHT!

Bingo Books £5 for 6 games (6 cards per game)

CASH PRIZES | KIDS PRIZES | MUSIC | SNACKS

West Wickham Hub Nights will happen the fourth Saturday of every month.

NEXT HUB NIGHT: 23.12.23

BALSHAM SINGERS

The Singers will present their Christmas Concert on Saturday 16 December at 4pm

For the very first time we are holding the concert in the afternoon. Held in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham it will be a joyous occasion. The music a delightful mix of traditional carols and modern Yuletide music with all the expected Bells, Pipes and Shepherds and Angels.

Tickets will be available from the Post Offices of Balsham and Abington, and online from ticket source and will cost £12 - 16 and under free. Go to www.ticketsource.co.uk/balshamsingers

Do you love to sing? Why not come along and see what we do? The choir sing music from many genre; classical, traditional, pop and musical theatre, and are often treated to an arrangement from our talented MD John Clenaghan. We are always open to new members in all voice parts but especially tenor and basses, there are no auditions, you don't have to read music but you must love to sing. Give us a go.

Jo Stinton

FREE ELECTRIC BLANKETS

South Cambs District Council are offering a free electric blanket to those most in need, in the run up to the winter months. Those that qualify for these will need to be claiming Council Tax Support and also one of the following criteria:

- Attendance allowance
- Personal independence Payment
- Disability Living Allowance

Full detail of the scheme can be found here

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/free-electric-blankets-will-help-residents-most-in-need-this-winter/>

Geoff Harvey, District Councillor.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The following were some of the items discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on 25 September. The full draft minutes are displayed on the noticeboards.

Correspondence: Parish Nurse Project: Due to the Parish Nurse Project no longer existing the Charity Commission requested that any money donated last year be returned to the donors but gave the option of the money being put towards some other Charity. This includes the 2022 donation made by the Parish Council. The Parish Clerk will enquire about this before a decision is made.

Planning: Devona Centre for Environment Recovery: There are aspects of their plan which would not be acceptable, e.g. restricted access for dogs in the area.

Finance: Full details of payments made and monies received are shown in the draft Minutes.

Traffic & Parking issues: The Chairman hopes to put in an LHI (Local Highways Initiative) application for speed and "road narrow" signs for Webb's Road and the entry into West Wickham from Streetly End. County Cllr Batchelor said he would support this but would also put in a request for a "Road Narrow" sign from the County Council Highways Dept as a priority. The Highways Dept have inspected Webb's Road and it been patched up.

Maintenance:

- Footpath posts have now all been put in place and some waymark discs. Not all farms have reinstated their footpaths but Cllr Temple will check up on this.
- Village Sign has now been repaired and is in place again.
- Wild Flower area and hedges: Rob Giles will shortly be doing this job and the hedges have now been cutback.
- The MUGA (Multi User Games Area). Cllr Sargeant reported that a sign is still missing but he would deal with it. The tension on the zip wire needs tightening up. He and the Chairman will carry this out.

Village Hall & Recreation Ground:

- Solar Panel Project has now been completed and is in operation. It is a very efficient system.
- The Play Area repairs have been carried out but the fence posts are not yet protected with a guard sleeve.

Allotments: Cllr Mulley-Richards reported that the gate had been purchased but not yet been erected.

Reports by District Cllr Harvey and County Cllr Batchelor: These are published on the website.

Any Other Business: WhatsApp Group. There have been concerns about some of the content on this site. A Community Group is being set up which will only be for announcements (e.g. road closures etc.).

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on
Monday 27 November at 7.30pm
All are welcome to attend**

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk. T: 01223665260; Email: parish.clerk@westwickham.org

JIGSAW PUZZLES GALORE!

By the time you read this it will be dark around 5ish and you might want to be doing a jigsaw. Plenty of choice for puzzles of 1000 and 500 pieces, all in the garage at Nine Chimney House, Balsham. Do come and have a look and take away those you want to do. As it is a library (of jigsaws) there is no charge.

Joanna Sanders, Email: sanderschimneys@uwclub.net

NATURE NOTES

My Yorkshire friends always refer to autumn as the 'back end'. A time when the year is beginning to die away as winter approaches. And Emily Bronte, also a Yorkshire lass, in her poem *Fall, Leaves, Fall* paints a similar picture but takes some pleasure from the decay and darkness which approaches – hardly surprising from the author of *Wuthering Heights*. The last two lines of the poem:

*'I shall sing when night's decay
Ushers in a drearier day'*

seem to be saying that despite the grim and dark landscape that surrounds her she is going to keep her chin up and remain defiant.

In the more benign environs of West Wickham we still have much to interest us in the natural world and although leaves are turning colour now there are still plenty on most trees. And if you look closely at the oak trees, there are more than just the leaves. Oaks, particularly the native species *quercus robur*, are host to over 70 species of gall wasp which develop inside distinctive galls. Oak gall wasps have complex life cycles, with alternating generations which are either sexual, with males and females, or asexual with females only. In some species the generations alternate between native and non-native species of the tree. Two particular galls which you may notice at this time of year are the knopper gall and the marble gall. In the former case the wasp lays its egg in the developing acorn which converts into a ridged woody structure in which the larva develops. The marble gall wasp causes hard, woody spherical galls on the twigs which can persist for a number of years. Both these species transfer their attention to Turkey Oak (*quercus cerris*) for the next generation. Oak gall wasps are part of the biodiversity that a healthy oak tree supports, so attempts to control them are undesirable. The oak trees themselves do not seem to have produced many acorns this year, possibly because we did not have a warm spring and a hot dry summer. Beech trees, however, seemed to have produced a good quantity of beech nuts.

On the subject of gall wasps, this is also the time of year when you may notice robin's pincushions, which are also galls, formed on dog rose. This gall has a hard centre but produces a reddish fibrous growth on the outside. Other insects penetrate galls and either feed off it or parasitise the larva inside so there can be quite a lot of life within one gall. Another feature of autumn is the shield bugs which we can often see in the hedgerows, or in my case on the raspberries. Di has been keeping a watch on the alder trees on Maypole Croft where a shield bug has laid many eggs. The baby bugs are increasing in size every day, at least 50 being huddled together on just one leaf.

Insects in general are active where there are flowers blooming – notably ivy, which as Sandra Bebbington pointed out was absolutely buzzing with hornets, bumble bees, honey bees, all sorts of flies and butterflies. Several people have experienced large incursions of harlequin ladybirds.

As far as the birds are concerned, we await the arrival of the winter thrushes and northern blackbirds. Di reports from a recent trip to Scotland that they were seen flying overhead, along with several skeins of geese, so they are on their way south. Meanwhile the resident mistle thrush has been eating as many berries as possible from the whitebeam and rowan trees before the migrants arrive. Di has also been visited by marsh tits – a species that is in decline, so this is good news.

Please send your nature sightings to:

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

1ST BALSHAM CUBS

Balsham Cubs is for children from the age of 8 to 10.5 and takes place on Wednesday evenings from 6.30 – 8pm. We do many varied activities (according to the weather conditions).

This year we have been camping, been on a hike, lit fires and cooked on them, as well as played games too numerous to mention – a particular favourite of the Cubs are Wide Games which are played outside. We like to be outside whenever the weather allows. Cubs also enjoy cooking activities and crafty makes from time to time and also cover traditional scouting skills such as knots. Whilst doing all this, the Cubs are working towards achieving their silver challenge badge which is a major achievement and recognition of a high level of commitment. Several Cubs have been awarded this recently before moving on to Scouts.

At the current time we have spaces available – an unusual occurrence! If you are interested in your child joining us when they are 8, please let us have their name and contact details for our waiting list.

Contact. Debbie.mower@balshamscouts.org.uk

LINTON LIBRARY NEWS

We were pleased to welcome Brian the Lion to help present the Summer Reading Challenge certificates and medals. Well done to everyone who took part in the challenge over the summer. Brilliant reading everyone! As the nights draw in and the weather cools, find a warm welcome at your Library. Stop by to find out what's new, browse the shelves, sit and read, help with the jigsaw or use our free wifi. Did you know that you can download thousands of books, audiobooks, newspapers and magazines in digital form from the library for free?



Come visit Linton library this November for...

- **Storytime. Rhyme-time. Duplo-time** 10am – 11am, every Tuesday (in term time). Stories, songs and Duplo play for 0-4-year olds.
- **Games Afternoon for adults.** Tuesday 7 and 21 at 2pm – 4pm, meet new people and try new games (you can even bring your favourite with you for us all to try).
- **Knit and Natter.** Bring along **any** craft project you're working on, 2pm – 3pm on Tuesday 14 and 28.
- **Daylight Readers.** Our Book Groups meet on Friday 17, one at 10.30am and the other at 2.30pm, and always welcome new members!
- **Justine from Reach Community Projects** will be here to offer advice and help with debt/ budgeting or applications and more between 3pm – 4.30pm on Thursday 2 and 16. Drop in if you have any concerns or worries.

If you have any spare indoor pot plants, we'd be grateful for them to help make the library a greener space.

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 5225
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

COFFEE MORNING Thursday, 9 November

Our next coffee morning in the Village Hall will be on Thursday, 9 November from 10.30. As usual there will be a variety of coffee & teas available together with a selection of delicious home-made cakes and who-knows-what donated by our generous bakers in the village. It being November, this month all money raised from the donations towards the refreshments will go to the British Legion, Poppy Appeal once we have paid for the hire of the hall. Last month we were supporting the Arthur Rank Hospice in Cambridge and made a donation of £35.

It's always a pleasure to see familiar faces returning each month and we have been delighted to see some new visitors recently. Please keep coming; you are all very welcome. Lifts can be arranged if needed – just phone me or Di Licence (290434).

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

FROM THE VICARAGE

In Church, November always feels something of a 'transitional' month, waiting for the season of Advent, which in turn heralds Christmas. However, a significant fixture in November is Remembrance Day and so also, Remembrance Sunday.

I always have problems with Remembrance Sunday and its place in our national life. For as a younger man, it seemed obvious (and easy) as a Christian to hold a pacifist position. The appalling, mutual brutality of War was a gross affront to what God wanted for the world.

Christians should take no part in it, nor collude with what could appear to be a celebration of military victory. In the end there were no victors, only deep and prolonged damage to both sides. And always seeds sown for further bitter enmity.

Yet the war in Ukraine, particularly, has pushed me further into a corner of doubt. Surely the stance of listening to the needs of both sides, compromise and appeasement, in the face of an authoritarian and duplicitous aggressor, isn't good enough. When we pray for Ukraine and the people of Russia we're not simply asking that they start being nice to each other. Yes, we pray for peace, but also for justice. And we support Ukraine in their desperate fight to preserve the freedoms of a liberal democracy as we fought, rightly, in two World Wars, to preserve *our* values and freedoms.

Our democratic nation state, with its institutions and balances against tyranny, isn't perfect. But its relative stability and fairness alone foster future peace and prosperity. Moreover, in a world facing the rising threats of global warming and the rapidly evolving technologies of Artificial Intelligence and biological sciences, surely the only chance for their containment, and use for the benefit of all, are the regulatory frameworks that only stable, honest and cooperating nation states can provide?

Thus, remembering with gratitude the sacrifices of our forebears in facing down the evils of tyranny seems more important than ever.

So what, if anything, does the Christian gospel have to add to this? Perhaps we need to raise our sights above a too cosy and complacent proclamation of God's love for us, to embrace more faithfully our trust in the dreadful, but life-giving paradox of the Cross: God sharing in the profound conflicts in our lives, to bring us *all* home safely ... together.'

Alistair Collen, Lay Minister

MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS

October has cast a spell of autumnal charm over The Meadow Primary School. As the leaves outside begin their colourful dance to the ground, the students and staff within the hallowed halls of our school are settled, content and ready to see what this transformative month has in store.

The Meadow Mile: A Whimsical Walk for Funds and Fun! The spirit of generosity and creativity was on full display as students from Meadow came together for an annual event, 'The Meadow Mile,' to raise funds for new books for the school's library and classrooms. Clad in imaginative and colourful fancy dress costumes, the children's imagination knew no bounds. The sight of tiny astronauts walking alongside fairy-tale princesses and swashbuckling pirates brought a sense of joy and unity to the event. This important event aims to enhance the reading and learning experience for all children, fostering a love for literature and knowledge, something which we are deeply passionate about as a school community.

Pedalling Towards Safety with Bikability. As part of The Meadow's commitment to holistic education, Year 5 students also participated in the Bikeability program, which promotes safe and confident cycling. Under the guidance of certified instructors, students honed their cycling skills and learned essential road safety rules. Bikeability not only encourages physical activity but also instils valuable life skills related to traffic awareness and sustainable transportation. The program equips students with the confidence and knowledge needed to navigate roads safely, promoting a culture of active and eco-conscious commuting.

Exciting Educational Adventures. Something we are passionate about at The Meadow is ensuring children have opportunities to enhance their learning through exciting experiences that will capture their interest and foster curiosity. This half term the children in our older years have had the opportunity to explore history at West Stow and connect with the outdoors at Wandlebury. Years 4, 5 and 6 were able to delve into the world of Anglo-Saxon history. West Stow's reconstructed village provided a captivating glimpse into the life and times of the early medieval period, allowing students to step back in time and experience history firsthand.

Our years 3 and 4 embarked on an unforgettable educational journey during their school trip to Wandlebury. With curiosity in their hearts and a thirst for knowledge, these young adventurers delved into the past, learning to winnow grain using a quern and crafting delicious bread over an open fire. They

honed their skills with slingshots, mirroring the tools used by ancient hunters. The tour of the Iron Age hillfort immersed them in history, while their hands-on experience in creating a mini fence/wall with wattle and daub showcased their creativity. This enriching day at Wandlebury was not just a field trip; it was a voyage through time, bringing history to life for these eager learners.



This enriching day at Wandlebury was not just a field trip; it was a voyage through time, bringing history to life for these eager learners.

Faye Facer, Assistant Head Teacher

★ HUB NIGHT! ★ WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL

NEXT DATE: **25.11.2023** 7PM-11PM



GRANTA MEDICAL PRACTICES UPDATE

Flu vaccines: If you are eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine but have not yet had it please call us today on 0300 234 5555 to book your appointment – it's not too late! If you are eligible for shingles and pneumo vaccines you can get these at the same time.

Covid vaccines: We are vaccinating our housebound patients and care home residents. For anyone else eligible, vaccines are available at various walk-in centres and vaccination sites. For further information please go to <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/covid-19-services/covid-19-vaccination-services/>

Accurx Patient Triage: Our online consultation tool is now live. Accurx replaces our email service, is easy to use and is a secure way of liaising with us. Accurx is PC-based – you do not need to download an app and you don't need to create an account. Accurx can also be used for administrative queries, such as insurance forms, etc. Simply go to our website and click on the link to start. If you don't use online services you can still ring or pop in to see us.

Repeat prescriptions: Now is the time to start thinking about your repeat medication stocks over the Christmas period. When is your repeat due? Does it work around your Christmas plans? Avoid the last minute rush and plan ahead now!

Sandra East, Granta Patient Services,
Email: www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk

Buttercups Pre School Christmas Fair

Come and find the perfect Christmas gift from a variety of craft stalls or treat yourself to some delicious treats from the food stalls. All of which are local and small businesses.

Refreshments **Sunday 3rd December 2023**
Tombola **11-3pm**
Children's craft activities **Church Institute, Balsham**
Raffle **CB21 4DS**

More to be announced!
 In support of Buttercups Preschool
 Charity no: 1194906