

# Challenge

The Parish Newsletter of St Mary's, Weston Colville and St Andrew's, West Wrattling  
The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.  
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## St Mary's Church, Weston Colville FLOWER FESTIVAL AND TEAS



**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 1 - 6 pm**  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 10 - 6 pm**

If you would like to help with flowers and/or teas please contact Gay Redman (290807) or Christine King (290963). We would be grateful for any contributions of flowers, to be left in the church from Wednesday afternoon onwards.

There will also be a classical music concert featuring the Temple Ensemble on the evening of Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June; further details on page 2.



## Songs of Praise

celebrating the new roof

West Wrattling Church

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June

4 to 4.45 pm

Child friendly songs

Followed by BBQ in church  
grounds for all the village



### *Morris Dancing at The Chestnut Tree*

The Devil's Dyke Morris Men will be performing here again on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June from 8 pm.

This is always an enjoyable evening, so please come along and give them your support. You can also join in and have a go yourself, so hankies at the ready, whack whack!

*Peter & Rachel*

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St Mary's, Weston Colville  
Flower Festival

## **Temple Ensemble**

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30 pm

**Classical Music Concert**  
including Brahms Clarinet Quintet



**Tickets from:**

Jane Wheeler: jane@janepryor.co.uk,  
tel 01223 290643

Also for sale at  
Weston Colville Post Office

**Tickets £10, under 16s free**

Ticket includes Pimms in the interval

**West Wrattling**  
**TEDDY BEAR**  
**PARACHUTE JUMP**  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June, 5 pm**  
**St Andrew's Church**



**Bring your teddy bear and home-made parachute to jump off the new church roof!**

**FREE TO PARTICIPATE**

**Leave bear in blue bucket in church main entrance by 5 pm to ensure your bear can jump**

(Please note this will be weather permitting, as it would not be safe for bears to jump in wind or rain. All bears jump at their own risk)

**This event is after the Songs of Praise service and before the village BBQ**

Need info? Email: [tamara.keith@gmail.com](mailto:tamara.keith@gmail.com)

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***Saturday Morning Café, West Wrattling***

We enjoyed another wonderful gathering at the cafe on 6<sup>th</sup> May, and raised £106-70. Eloise and Lois raised £20 on the bookstall that has been donated to the SUDC Foundation, a charity dedicated to increasing the awareness of sudden unexpected deaths in childhood, and funding crucial research to better understand and prevent these tragedies. Buttercups and Oliver de Ferrars Green were also fundraising. This month, the cafe has donated £100 to Granta School and £100 to Izzy's girl guiding trip to Switzerland in August.

The Saturday morning café will run on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June between 10.30 am and 12 noon in the village hall.

Granta School will be running a fundraising stall and Oliver de Ferrars Green will be selling CDs and DVDs in order to raise funds for his Camps International charitable trip to Peru in summer 2018.

Please come and support Granta School and Oliver, and also join us for a catch up over tea / coffee and delicious cake!

*Sherry (290070) and Catherine (291307)*

***Tea and Cakes, Weston Colville***

The sun shone on our May gathering, so the children were able to race around outside, popping in to refuel on cake every now and then.

I really enjoy catching up with everyone at Tea and Cakes, and I hope you do too. Unfortunately/ fortunately, I have a full time job starting 1<sup>st</sup> June, so I will no longer be able to attend regularly, but I will still be able to help in the background. However, this means we really would appreciate more help. Perhaps you have been meaning to come along, but not quite had the courage to walk into a hall full of people? I find helping out gives me a purpose so I don't feel under pressure if there's no one I know to talk to. You don't have to help with the whole session, perhaps just set up or clear away, or serve the tea, coffee and squash.



Our next gathering will be on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 3.30 - 5 pm at the Reading Room. Please do come along for a cuppa, a slice of cake and a chat. As ever, we all look forward to seeing you.

*Melanie (291319)*

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**West Wrating Over 60s**

Last month, thanks to The Chestnut Tree, members enjoyed a lovely lunch followed by a short quiz. On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June we will be holding our first garden meeting at Ann's garden in Hayter Close, at 2.30 pm, including a bring'n'buy and raffle. The meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July will be held at 12.30 pm at The Chestnut Tree, and will include lunch.

*Wendy Halls*

**Girl Guide Trip**

I would like to thank everyone at the Saturday Café for their very kind donations towards my Guide trip to Switzerland. The cafe's generous contribution has meant that I've reached my fundraising target and am now very much looking forward to the experience the trip to Switzerland in August will offer me.

*Izzy Wilson*

**Thanks from Save the Children**

Weston Colville's house to house collection came to £217.69, West Wrating's to £100.

Thank you from Save the Children for your contribution to the fund.

*Jenny Knowledon*



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**West Wrating Summer Barbecue: 18<sup>th</sup> June**

On 18<sup>th</sup> June, there will be a barbecue in St Andrew's churchyard, starting at 5 pm. This immediately follows the Songs of Praise service (see page 1 in this month's *Challenge*), to which all are welcome. But people should also feel free to come just for the barbecue, which is intended to be a summer event for the whole village as there will be no fete in August this year. It will also be an opportunity to celebrate the completion of the church roof repair following the theft of the lead last April. There will also be a teddy bear parachute drop from the tower.

We shall arrange barbecues and provide assistance with cooking. Bread rolls, and strawberries and cream for dessert, will be supplied. Please bring your own meat and drink, as well as picnic rugs and garden chairs to sit on. We hope that people will be willing to bring a salad or something else to share with others.

We look forward to seeing many of you there, with your friends and family. Offers of help of any kind would be greatly appreciated.

*Scilla Harvey* ([scilla.harvey@btinternet.com](mailto:scilla.harvey@btinternet.com)),  
*Sherry O'Donovan* ([sherry.odonovan@gmail.com](mailto:sherry.odonovan@gmail.com)),  
*Alex Walsham* ([amw23@cam.ac.uk](mailto:amw23@cam.ac.uk)),  
*Catherine Willcocks* ([catherinewillcocks@gmail.com](mailto:catherinewillcocks@gmail.com))

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**St Mary's Churchyard**

Have you seen our churchyard? Great improvements have taken place during the last months. It is now looking as smart as it has done in many a year!

We have purchased a sit-on mower with the help of the Wadlow wind farm bursary. This has enabled us to cut more of the churchyard grass to make areas accessible. Even long lost items have come to light after many years!

Our extension to the churchyard is now complete and we await the Bishop to visit and consecrate the ground. We offer many thanks to the Coppen family who with their tractor have spent many hours levelling and weeding the new area and laying new turf around some graves.

So: have you seen our churchyard? Do come and walk round and even pop into the church for a 'help yourself' cup of coffee!

*Philippa Coates*

**Les Moulton West Wrating 'Vegetable Gardener Of The Year' Vase**

In memory of Les Moulton, the West Wrating parish council will again be awarding the West Wrating

'Vegetable Gardener of the Year' Vase to the gardener who, in the opinion of the judges, has maintained the Moulton tradition of growing vegetables in the parish of West Wrating. Last year we were lucky enough to have Barbara Moulton judging the gardens and she awarded the Vase to the Tempest family who live in the High Street. This year the parish council will be awarding the Vase in late July or early August (depending on the weather) and is asking parishioners to nominate themselves or their neighbours for the trophy, by contacting Richard Holness ([richardholness023@btinternet.com](mailto:richardholness023@btinternet.com), 290404).

**Brief rules:**

- The competition is open to all parishioners of West Wrating.
- West Wrating parish councillors cannot enter the competition.
- The winner of the trophy holds it for one year and is not allowed to compete the following year.
- Entries are to be judged by a panel of the previous winner, a parish councillor and Barbara Moulton.
- West Wrating parish council reserves the right to vary these rules.

*Richard Holness*



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### Weston Colville Circular Walk

In May, half a dozen of us walked through the bluebells and healthy crops of rape and beans, albeit with cracked earth underfoot due to lack of rain in recent weeks. A couple moving from Brinkley to Church End joined us, and happily the route we'd chosen had them walking past what they hope will be their new home.

Unhappily, we saw quite a few 'gifts' not picked up by dog walkers, and would make a plea on behalf of all who enjoy our public paths that those little bags are carried and used by owners.

Our next circular walk will be on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> July. All welcome – meet at the Reading Room at 10 am, BYO lunch, and maybe something to share. You can put your lunch in the fridge before we set off, if you'd like, and refreshments will be available.

*Jacqueline and Alastair Douglas*  
(291475, [jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com](mailto:jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com))

### Pop-Up Charity Shop

We're taught "ne'er cast clout til May is out" and to that end, next month we're hosting a 'pop up charity shop' in the Reading Room, on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 10 am - 4 pm. Bring winter clothes on their way to the back of the wardrobe, bring summer clothes that you don't want to bring to the front – maybe things are still in good condition, but don't pass the "have I worn it in the last year?" test. Then go home with a bargain. We'll have a little section for books, and one for toys, too. Drop items, with hangers if you have any spare, into the Reading Room during Tea & Cakes the day before, or on the day from 9 am, as you prefer. In aid of local charities: Little Miracles

(helping children with autism), and Our Special Friends (who help the less able keep their pets with them). All welcome, refreshments available.

*[jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com](mailto:jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com), 291475*

### West Wrating Book Club

Our book for May was 'The Dinner' by Herman Koch, which centred on a family coming together for a meal in a very exclusive, expensive and pretentious restaurant. The two adult male protagonists are brothers and it gradually becomes clear that they have come together to discuss their sons. The background to this event is gradually revealed by the perhaps unreliable narrator, Paul, who is one of the brothers.

Most people enjoyed reading it, although at least one person thought the subject matter too dark, and found it difficult to understand the references to it being funny, while one person hated it. All agreed that it was gripping, interesting psychologically, with a lot of moral dilemmas, the central one being how far you would go to protect your children.

It was felt that the reader is left to make a lot of assumptions, and to wonder why certain events did not have a different outcome.

The score varied between 8 and 8.5, and we would recommend it.

We will meet on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June to talk about 'Hillbilly Elegy' by J D Vance. We will then take a break for July and August, returning in September (suggested date: 13<sup>th</sup>) to discuss 'A Street Cat Named Bob' by James Bowen, plus one other to be chosen – suggestions welcome.

*Linda Gorman*

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### West Wrating Oil Syndicate

Well! Although I barely managed to beat the Boilerjuice 'Bulk' price in March, the May fill up result was much better.

Twenty houses in West Wrating participated in the order placed on 10<sup>th</sup> May with Conquest Oil (who seem to be undercutting the other suppliers at the moment) and deliveries were completed on 17<sup>th</sup> May. Conquest Oil won the West Wrating order with a price of 35.10p per litre, which was a huge saving of 3.38p against my benchmark Boilerjuice 'Bulk' (for 2000+ litres) price of 38.48p. All prices + VAT.

For interest, prices in the last twelve months have been: 2016 May 27.00p, July 31.60p, September 32.00p, October 37.20p and 2017 January 44.25p, March 40.95p, so prices are heading back down.

The next fill up will be in July, cut off date Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 6 pm. Please don't order before 1<sup>st</sup> July.

*Richard Holness*

### Help Needed

I am looking for a carer/sitter for my husband who suffers with Alzheimer's. Time required: mornings, 8 - 10 am, every other day. Please contact me for further details.

*Eirwen Orchard (290874)*

### Michael Sergent

Many of us will remember Michael Sergent, who with his wife Carol delivered newspapers to West Wrating and Weston Colville, and surrounding villages, for over thirty years.

Sadly, Michael died on 6<sup>th</sup> May after a brief illness and I am sure that all of our thoughts will be with Carol and her family for their sad loss.

### West Wrating Driven Clay Shoot

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August

We are again organising our annual driven clay day, to raise money for the restoration of the village church in West Wrating. For those that have done nothing like this before, it is the closest thing to proper driven shooting, only with thousands of targets – it is nothing like 'normal' clay shooting with someone keeping score! You would be likely to shoot around 250 - 350 rounds so light loads will be needed.

We are charging £180 per head; for those with youngsters who want to share a gun, the price can be split – just pay for an extra breakfast and lunch. Any extra food per extra person (additional son/daughter / friend, etc) has a nominal cost of £10.

The morning will consist of meeting for bacon butty at The Green Man at about 9 am, and then a buffet lunch afterwards. All food and clays are included, but not bar drinks or cartridges (fibre wad cartridges please). The shooting is the morning, and then stay on at the pub for as long as you want afterwards.

We hope you can join us. If you know anyone else who is interested please let me know. We can manage up to about 28 guns.

Please contact me, on [simon.sampson@btinternet.com](mailto:simon.sampson@btinternet.com).

*Simon Sampson*

### Lost Necklace

I have lost a necklace (silver with a small heart pendant), possibly while out walking the dog around the village or maybe at the last village hall café. It was a gift from friends so has a great deal of sentimental value. If anyone finds it please call me. Thank you.

*Becky Gilley (07983 632099)*

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### Ministry News

I am pleased to say that the advert has gone out for a new person to be in charge of our six parishes, with interviews planned for 19<sup>th</sup> June. We hope that this will bring the right candidate to lead us into the next phase of our journey together in these communities.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April we had the St. George's Day celebration service at Balsham. There is a new scout hut under construction in Balsham and I hope before long to give it a blessing. There is also a new Beaver group which meets on Tuesday evenings which is very exciting. The reason I am saying this is because Radio 4 broadcast a piece about the Scout movement saying that there are many children who would like to join but cannot because there is a lack of leaders. Those who do join benefit enormously from the experience of learning to adapt to our busy world with principles and fun together. Can you offer some time to support young people?

Work on the roof at West Wrating church is virtually finished, with just the painting of the walls to complete.

Many activities in the churches and villages are planned for June so I hope to see you then.

*Revd Kathy Bishop*

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### Claire Gillett, your Parish Nurse

Hello! I have been working in a temporary position as your parish nurse since October last year, but am now thrilled to be appointed as the permanent parish nurse, being part of the team caring for your pastoral needs.

I have been nursing for forty years (with a break for children duties!) and doing parish nursing since 2011, working as the parish nurse for St Mary's Ely and combining that with working with the national body of parish nursing, developing more services within East Anglia.

As your parish nurse I work for the seven churches, covering West Wickham, Weston Colville, West Wrating, Balsham, Hildersham and Great and Little Abington. I work three days a week: Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays, and Thursdays. I am not an emergency service or a replacement for the services already available to you through your GP, but I do hold an honorary contract with Granta Medical Practice and have access to the surgery.

I am available to assess your health needs and encourage your wellbeing, whether that is in your body, mind, or spirit, and whether as a patient or as a carer. I can support you through any health difficulties you may have and help you access services you may be unaware of.

I am able to spend time talking through issues you may have concerns about, in your own home or on the phone. These conversations are confidential at all times, however I can contact other health professionals if you so wish. I also attend some groups in the area, so you can catch me there. If you would like me to come to any group you are involved with please contact me.

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As a Christian as well as a nurse, I can come alongside you in prayer if you wish, however the Parish Nurse service is open to all faiths and none.

We have been running a series of parish nurse events, which gives you the opportunity to meet both myself and other members of the parish nurse management group. Please do come along, they are informative and enjoyable evenings and there is no charge for attending.

If you would like to support the service financially, or with your time, or if you are interested in becoming a volunteer in any capacity (for which a DBS check would be obligatory) we would welcome your input. Please contact Mrs Cazzy Walshe, Parish Administrator, for further details (01223 891443, [7churches.seven@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.seven@gmail.com)). To find out more about parish nursing visit [www.parishnursing.co.uk](http://www.parishnursing.co.uk).

I look forward to sharing your journey!  
*Claire Gillett, Parish Nurse*  
(07498 994205, [7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com))

### **Weston Colville Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)**

We have been visited by another ‘knocker’, someone who knocks on a door or doors for personal gain. In this case the knocker was abusive, difficult and wanted money. He gained nothing and has not been reported anywhere else. He had a rucksack on his back and was dressed like the young men who visit to sell items. These events can be frightening. Calling 101 is a good idea so that the police know what has happened.

There have been several crimes in Balsham, including theft of red diesel and cash, and damage to property. Garden sheds and outbuildings have been in focus, with a wide range of items stolen. We are advised to think about the items kept in sheds, and how secure

they are. Also try not to leave anything of value in your car overnight, and make sure it is locked.

The police have launched a website where you can register complaints about parking in our villages. There are some rules in the highway code which are 'must not' rules. Only these can be legally enforced. Please use the website to report your concerns, if parking is a problem in your road. The link is: <http://tinyurl.com/SouthCams-Parking>

My credit card account has been raided to the tune of £2,330. Fortunately the card company seems to believe that I had nothing to do with this. It just goes to show that things can go wrong even when you take care – it really is worth being careful.

Well, can anyone tell me if summer is about to burst forth? Rain is good for the garden but I would like to look forward to a pleasant peaceful summer – perhaps just when each one of us is on holiday!  
*Allen Scott (290837, [allen.scott70@googlemail.com](mailto:allen.scott70@googlemail.com))*

### **Big Balsham Sale**

Garage and Table Top Sale throughout Balsham – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June, 10 am - 2 pm. Refreshments and maps available from the Church Institute.

*Louise Webb*



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The applicant must be living in one of the following parishes: Great Thurlow, Little Thurlow, West Wickham, Carlton cum Willingham, West Wrattling, Weston Colville, and Withersfield.

The award is intended to be of assistance in the purchase of books, materials, equipment etc.

Final decision and award will be made immediately after 'A' Level/Baccalaureate results and University offers are known.

**For an application form please apply via email to: [peterandruthlloydtrust@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:peterandruthlloydtrust@yahoo.co.uk)**

The application form and supporting documents must be returned by 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Candidate interviews will then follow on 19<sup>th</sup> August.

For further information about the trust and award please contact Jonathan Drury (01223 290968).

***Background** – Peter Lloyd, who was born in North Wales, served as a Wireless Operator with No 105 Squadron at RAF Wrattling Common during 1944 and 1945. He flew 25 missions over Germany and was with the first crew that dropped food to the starving Dutch, who were still controlled by the German military forces.*

*Ruth Lloyd, who was born in Broughty Ferry near Dundee, joined the ATS and eventually ended up at RAF Wrattling Common as a Radar Plotter for the anti aircraft guns as well as Bombing Trials at the end of World War II.*

*Peter and Ruth met at RAF Wrattling Common and were married in 1946. After being demobbed from the armed services they lived in Hull and London until retirement, upon which they moved to Peter's home town of Ruabon, near Wrexham.*

*They both had fond memories of the Wrattling area and returned many times over the years. During these return visits they made many friends among the locals and regarded the area as their second home. They were both involved with the reunions and twice yearly services which are held at the airfield memorial.*

*Unfortunately, Ruth passed away in 2001 and Peter in July 2008. Due to their love of the area, their surviving children decided to set up an Educational Trust in their name with the aim of helping deserving young people to start university life.*

## Minutes of the West Wrattling Annual Parish Meeting

The West Wrattling annual parish meeting was held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** none
2. **Chairman's Opening Remarks and Signing of Last Year's Minutes:** the Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked the council for their work during the previous year. The minutes dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were signed as correct.
3. **Chairman's Report:** see page 11.
4. **Financial Report:** copies of the accounts for the year, which will be resolved at the parish council meeting, were available for anyone wishing to study them.
5. **Parish Lands & Properties:** as listed on agenda.
6. **Reports:** reports had been received from:
  - Tennis Club
  - Village Hall Management (read by M Rowland)
  - Bridge Club
  - Footpaths (P3 co-ordinator)
  - Over 60s Club
  - Football Club
  - Saturday Morning Café

7. **Matters Arising from Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016:**  
Cllr Holness reported on the Les Moulton Trophy awarded for the first time last year to Philip Tempest and his family. Cllr Holness will put something in *Challenge* about the award again this year for 'Vegetable Grower of the Year', and judging will be in July.
8. **Any questions:** regarding Parish Land and Properties, the Chairman said that grid ref 6070,5120-5140 will be removed from the list as it is not worth registering. Ref 55855345 will also be removed as this land has been in the possession of Dungate Farm for many years.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm

### ***Chairman's Report***

Since the last annual parish meeting there have been several changes in the membership of the council. Rupert Snow stepped down from the council and we have a new councillor this year, Tim Bonfield.

The parish council holds a large number of properties and lands in the village, some of them small (two noticeboards, benches etc) and some of them very large, including the sports pavilion and village hall.

Over the last year the parish council has taken the step again of increasing the precept by the cost of inflation. It is important to note that it is recommended that the council hold at least a year to a year and a half's full precept in reserve. As can be seen from the accounts we are close to 80% of this higher reserve figure.

Over the past year a number of emergency tree works have been required which, as many of you who have had to have this type of work done in their properties know, can prove costly. Works have also been required on the children's playpark and it is therefore essential that the amount available for such emergency or crucial work is available.

To continue our works on improving the safety of pedestrians and other residents in the village the parish council has again been successful with a bid to the Highways local improvement fund. Together with the promise of generous contributions from local residents and the parish council we are working up a plan to introduce 40 mph limits further out from the existing 30 mph village speed limits to improve road safety.

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Cllr Holness is providing valuable liaison with the sports pavilion committee, just as Cllrs Okenhaug and Nichols provide on the village hall committee. Cllr Causton has also secured funding for improvements to the children's play park, which ensured we did not have to dig too deeply into the parish reserves.

I would also like to thank Simon Anderson for continuing to cut the grass and Colin McCall for his tireless efforts as footpath officer and litter picking crew warden.

It is the view of myself as chairman and also the membership of the parish council that by engaging positively on a one-to-one basis with all groups active in village life we can greatly improve the lives of everyone living in West Wrattling.

The parish is known in wider district circles as 'one that gets things done'. I hope that we can as a group continue to make this so over the next twelve months.

***Campbell Ross-Bain, Parish Council Chairman***

### ***Reports submitted to the Annual Parish Meeting by West Wrattling Clubs & Activities***

#### **Village Hall**

Overall we have had another good year, and a less exciting one than the last!

Our village hall continues to be well used. Our regular activities, including Keep Fit, T'ai Chi, FitSteps, and the Saturday Café, are thriving. In addition, Friday Bridge and Over 60s have continued to support us in their use of the hall. Elections and Cycle Club events make welcome and important contributions to our income. Our finances remain healthy, helped by a private donation of £1,000 from Mrs Barbara Moulton. We are very grateful to her for this very generous and totally unexpected leaving present!

Last year saw the completion of the major refurbishment of the toilet block. Next on our list is redecoration and refurbishment in the committee room and kitchen. The lighting in the committee room has been upgraded. Painting the walls, ceiling and woodwork, initially by committee members, was completed by a contractor. We are seeking quotes to replace the floor covering in both rooms, and also to replace the three remaining single-glazed windows on the north facing aspect with double-glazed units.

We are fortunate in having an active and diligent committee. It is because of their efforts that much of the general maintenance, external as well as internal, is being achieved at minimum cost. My thanks to all concerned.

*Mike Rowland, Chairman, West Wrattling Village Hall Management Committee*

### **Over 60s Club**

The club currently has nine members, of whom five reside outside the village. Five meetings were held in the village hall, there were two garden meetings, and two lunches were held at The Chestnut Tree, one of them being Christmas lunch.

It was decided, due to our reduced membership and increasing infirmity among members, that future meetings of the club, apart from our garden meetings, would be held at The Chestnut Tree, incorporating lunch.

*Wendy Hall*

### **West Wrattling d'Abo Tennis Club**

The club continues to thrive, with the court being used on a regular basis by a strong family membership. There is also a popular summer kids' tennis coaching week in July/August. The club's finances are strong, with a reserve being built up to pay for a new court in the future. The court surface is in good condition but will be cleaned again this year to ensure that it continues to play well.

New members are always welcome. Further information for prospective members is available on our website: <http://www.westwrattlingtennis.co.uk/>

### **Saturday Morning Café**

This takes place in the village hall on the first Saturday of every month, 10.30 - 12 noon. The café is set up for the benefit of our local community and

we are pleased to have received so much support throughout the past year.

The café works by different volunteers helping to serve / donate cake each month. There is usually a play corner, a charity bookstall and table tennis available. Sometimes we have additional crafts or stalls. Payment is by donation for coffee and cake.

We have used the funds raised in the community for: sponsoring children's tennis week; the street party to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday; Buttercups Pre-School in Balsham; the Granta school in Linton; the Brownies; Oliver de Ferrars Green's charity trip; Izzy Wilson's charity trip; and a contribution to the village hall for re-flooring in the committee room.

On average the café has 40 - 50 people per session. Please join us on the first Saturday of any month!

*Catherine and Sherry*

### **West Wrattling Bridge Club**

First Friday Bridge in West Wrattling continues to be held from 7.30 pm until 10 or 11 pm. Ours is a very informal bridge club. We play Chicago and change partners throughout the evening. It is not necessary to come with a partner as we accommodate any number of players. We break for refreshments at 9 pm. A small prize is awarded at the end of each evening. A very relaxed evening of play. We welcome new players. Many come from other villages. £1.50 covers our hall hire cost.

Non-regular players should check that the session is running – we sometimes cancel during the summer months.

*Sherry (290070, sherry.odonovan@gmail.com)*

### **West Wrattling Football Club**

**Seniors report** – the **first team** is now being managed by ex-Cambridge United player Michael Shinn, and have had a steady season, ending with a top six finish. The highlight was definitely winning the prestigious Cliff Bullen challenge cup 3-2 against Fulbourn. Michael hopes that with one or two new faces we can push on next season and contest the league.

It's not been a great year for the **reserve team**. The previous season's experienced management team decided to retire, and the new managers struggled to come to terms with the competitiveness of the

division. Ex manager Gary Ward came in hoping to steady the ship, but unfortunately didn't fare any better.

Strangely we finished the season in a far stronger position, after appointing James Shinn and Rob Butler as the new management team. Although the reserves had already been relegated, the final few weeks' performances were very good, and as we look to 2017/2018 we hope to put in a strong challenge to win the 1A division.

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April we held a speaker night at the pavilion with Tony Gale and Tony Cottee, two former West Ham players who appear on Sky Sports; this was an excellent evening, enjoyed by all, and very entertaining.

**Youth report** – currently the *youth teams* are u12s, u10s, and u9s. The u9s and u10s play non-competitive football, where results are not recorded and a table is not kept.

The u9s had a successful cup run, beating three teams in the A League 5-0, 5-0 and 5-1, and only losing in the quarterfinal to another A League side on a penalty shoot out.

The u11s finished fourth in their league (2<sup>nd</sup> Division), two points behind third place and a further two behind second place.

The u12s are sitting third in the league.

The u6s are training at the moment and will start in the u7s in September.

We are aiming to have our presentation on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, which we are proposing will include a 'family fun day'.

We would like to have an event to encourage a new group of boys to start a new u6s team – date TBC.

### **Redundant Bowls Green**

We saw the waste ground as a potential training area for the u6s 'little kickers' team who are too young to join the league, allowing us to build a team ready for when they turn six years old.

Also we see the potential for including the area when hiring the pavilion, as a safe area for kids' parties or football parties.

So far we have only had funds to cut down the overgrown area, and by regular cutting and rolling, it is being used by an u6's team for training, as an area

for children to practice their football and play whilst the adult games are being played. This keeps the children safe from being hit by stray balls coming off the pitch, and prevents their balls rolling onto the pitch whilst a game is being played.

We see great potential for this area for the whole community and are aiming to tidy and erect a safe fenced off area and provide a slabbed patio with tables and chairs for the parents and supporters.

*Richard Cole*

### **Parish Paths Partnership**

We had our usual two cuts of the paths during the year, and all paths were reasonably passable throughout (apart from the mud).

Many thanks to Lee Tubby for keeping the cross field paths navigable, and particular thanks to Simon Anderson for cutting the paths near the Grove and also the paths to the south of West Wrattling, including the brambles near Scarletts Farm – a fantastic job. Many thanks to Raymond Maskell for keeping the entrances to Scarletts Wood and beyond towards Balsham passable.

Hopefully we will get two cuts by the County Council again this year, and if there are any problems please contact me on 290036. Meanwhile I hope everyone has great walking within our parish boundaries.

*Colin McCall*

### **West Wrattling Parish Council**

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May, after the annual parish meeting:

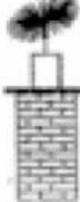
Those present were: Chairman Ross Bain, Cllrs. Bonfield, Causton, Holness, Nichols, Okkenhaug and Roberts, County Cllr Batchelor, District Cllrs Fraser and Turner, and the parish clerk.

1. **Apologies:** none.
2. **Election of chairman & vice chairman for 2017/18:** Cllr Holness proposed Cllr Ross-Bain for chairman, seconded by Cllr Causton. Cllr Ross-Bain was happy to continue as chairman and accepted following agreement by the full council. Cllr Roberts proposed Cllr Nichols for vice chairman, seconded by Cllr Holness, and was accepted by Cllr Nichols following agreement by

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the full council. They both then signed the necessary Declaration of Acceptance forms.

3. **Declaration of interest:** Cllrs Ross-Bain and Holness declared an interest under item 7b (Finance).
4. **Minutes of the parish council meeting** held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March were signed as correct.
5. **Opportunity for public statement:** none
6. **Affordable housing:** Ulricka Machiarello was unable to attend this meeting and will be present at the next to discuss developments regarding affordable housing.
7. **Planning:**

S/0103/17/FL	Dr L Kemp	69 High St	Single storey side ext prior appl S/1711/16/FL	Approved
7 Mill Road	7 Mill Road	7 Mill Road	Install 3 air source heat pumps	Approved
S/0565/17/FL	S Robinson	42 High St	Replacement garage	Approved
S/3599/16/FL	G Drake	21 High St	Amendment to elevation	Refused
S/1231/17/FL	Mrs J Greer	1 Hayter Close	Two storey side ext to two storey prop	Approved

8. Cllr Causton raised the issue of 42 High St, regarding the boundary between 42 and 40. The owner of 42 would like to make his new garage wall as the boundary between his property and her listed property and she is against this idea. A letter written to Julie Baird of Housing on 13<sup>th</sup> March had received no acknowledgement and it was agreed to chase this up as there were various issues, one being that the hedge in the original plan has been replaced with a wall. Dist Cllr Fraser said he would look into this.
9. **Finance:** account spreadsheet for 2016/17 distributed to councillors.

10. a) **Signing**, following agreement of final accounts for 2016/17 ready for audit, and signing the annual statement for external auditors. These documents had been distributed to the councillors and were signed following agreement by council.
- b) **Authorised payments:**
  - £370.50 Mrs J Richards – April/May salary
  - £200.00 Age UK Cambs – Village Warden Scheme
  - £202.68 CPALC Affiliation fee
  - £132.00 Pellys – Land Registration
  - £127.92 CGM Inv 204731
  - £120.00 Mark Grimwood – pocket park tidy-up
  - £40.51 STP – printer inks & staplers
  - £36.00 CPRE annual subscription
  - £20.00 Running Total (Jackie Dockerill) – monitoring PAYE
  - £15.73 B&Q – security lock for pocket park
  - £92.40 RoSPA – playground inspection fee
  - £2260.42 (3 yr contract) AON UK Insurance
  - £57.00 C Ross-Bain – weedkiller for footpaths.

Before signing the cheque for insurance there was discussion regarding taking up their offer of a three year contract at a lower price but still paying annually. This was agreed.



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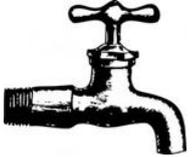
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c) **Monies received:** £5,575.00 being first tranche of precept.

d) **Revised pay scales for parish clerk:** it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

11. **Maintenance:**

a) **Trees in Hayter Close:** Mike Rowland is going to replace the two diseased trees which had been removed, the stumps taken out and soil replaced. He will choose trees which will not be affected by Honey Fungus. Scilla Harvey has also asked to plant two trees by the pound, having written to the residents of Hayter Close for their comment, and the Parish Council will wait to hear the result of this before approving or not, and will also check with the Tree Officer whether it is suitable.

b) **Grass cutting tenders:** two tenders had been received, one from CGM at a cost of £135.68 + VAT for verge cutting and £23.00 + VAT for the occasional cutting of the pocket park. Mark Grimwood of Weston Colville had quoted £55.00 per cut and £25 for the pocket park, with no VAT. Cllr Holness proposed that the quote from Mark Grimwood should be accepted and this was agreed. He does considerable grass work in the village so

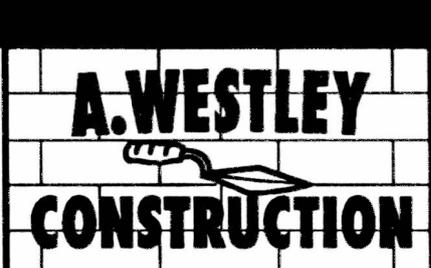
will cut the verges when necessary. Cllr Holness said he would ask the owners of Pear Tree Cottage if they could cut the grass round the village sign, and if Mark Grimwood would cut the playground on a regular basis.

12. **Correspondence:** none

13. **Football club & sports pavilion:** Cllr Holness reported that they are still trying to rent more land to increase their number of pitches. Security was again raised at the last joint meeting re a floodlight at the end of the car park and one on the end of the pavilion. They thought this a good idea provided the parish council paid for it. Cllr Holness will look into the cost of floodlights or solar lighting. The fact that the football club had put up a notice one weekend when there was a lot going on in the village saying that the rec car park was for football club members only is possible cause for concern. However it was felt that this was a one-off thing and unlikely to happen again.

14. **Traffic issues & speed restrictions:**

a) **Minor Highways Improvement Scheme:** the chairman was pleased that an award had been granted and they are working on the project.

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b) **Speed indicator:** Cllr Nichols said that comparative prices were discussed at the last meeting and the ‘smiley’ one was likely to be the choice. Three parishes will share its use so each parish would have it for a month at a time, in total four months in the year. Discussions to be held to work out share of cost and maintenance. Insurance costs need to be shared to cover the six parishes involved in this project. It was agreed the parish council should continue to be involved.

c) **Parking issues:** there have been complaints about parking outside the village hall hampering buses stopping at the bus stop. It was pointed out that Highways should mark it up as it is a bus stop. The chairman said he would have a word with David Lines about a sign.

15. **Transparency compliancy:** this has now been put in place with information eg agendas, minutes, accounts, list of parish councillors, and dates of meetings being put on the website. The parish clerk will send this to Mike Rowland, or a councillor could take on this job.

16. **Land Registration:** this has now been completed after investigating the two small pieces of land as shown on the parish meeting agenda, which are of no worth, one being a piece of verge

and the other found to now be owned by Dungate Farm.

17. **Report by Camb County Cllr Henry**

**Batchelor:** recently elected.

- a) City Deal of £39m for improving the A1307.
- b) Devolution – a Mayor has now been elected.
- c) Police website is available for problems like car parking.
- d) Library catalogue available now online giving titles of books available.

18. **Report by Dist Council Cllr Fraser:**

- a) **Local Plan** is still not in place but meetings are being held to resolve this problem. Probably next year when it will be agreed.
- b) **Housing** – 5,500 houses are now owned by SCDC and income is being generated by purchasing houses and doing them up, giving an extra income of £60,000 this year.
- c) **Community Chest** available from 1<sup>st</sup> April of £1,000 per bid. Three bids can be made in one year.
- d) The **Forum** meetings seem to be a success, with officers from SCDC attending and explaining issues with parish councillors.
- e) Cllr Fraser was asked if he could look into the **lack of poo bins** being delivered as they were ordered six months ago and sites were given.

19. **Any other business:**

a) RoSPA report shows that there is some repair work needed on the play equipment, most of it minor. The chairman said he would let Cllr Causton have his copy of the report as she is happy to look at it and draw up a list of requirements.

b) Section 215 Town & Country Planning re derelict buildings – put it on the next agenda.

The next parish council meeting will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 8 pm. All are welcome to attend.

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### ***Weston Colville Annual Parish Meeting***

The annual parish meeting was held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May in the Reading Room, Weston Colville.

#### **Chairman's Report**

The last year has again seen the council pursue many activities, mainly in support of the community-led parish plan adopted two years ago. Good progress has been made with most of the plan actions, with several now complete.

**Mobile Phone Signal:** there is now a good mobile phone signal in all parts of the village.

**Broadband Speed:** this action is as complete as can be influenced by the parish council, with BT providing fast broadband to all houses that require it, with fibre links provided to the individual houses at Church End.

**Maintenance of Roads and Verges:** the parish council implemented its usual verge cutting program this year and continues to provide street lighting in the village. Extensive work has also been done by the County Council at the parish council's request to clear gullies and drains in the village, although more work is required at Church End.

**Speeding through the village:** the local Speedwatch group has ceased operating due to lack of an organiser. The parish council plans to place a last notice in *Challenge* asking for a new volunteer to lead the Speedwatch volunteers and keep it operational.

The parish council succeeded in obtaining a grant to create a 40 mph buffer zone on all entrances to the village outside the existing 30 mph zones, which would not have been possible without the speed information provided by the now defunct Speedwatch group. The work is now largely complete.

A request has also been made to ask the council to look at the cost of installing speed 'chicanes' to slow down the grain store lorries which speed through the village. There is real concern that this will lead to a serious accident soon.

**Social Events:** the council has again been happy to offer support to the film nights in the Reading Room, which now has a PSVL licence which will allow a greater selection of films to be shown, and also the Friday Tea and Cakes and the parish walks. Regular 'pub' quizzes and specific interest talks and events have also been held to widen the social scene in the village. The Reading Room committee has ensured that events are published monthly in *Challenge*.

The 'pop up' pub for the Reading Room has also progressed, with a provider identified, and hopefully it will soon become a reality.

**Rural Nature of the Village:** it has been decided that there was no need to put copies of all village planning applications on both the parish council notice boards, as those affected are notified by the council, and appropriate signs are also put up. Due to the number of documents now included with planning applications the only real way to view them is on the council website. The parish council has again committed to carry out its programme of hedge trimming and grass cutting at the war memorial and the play areas at The Green and Church End .

**Church End Playing Field:** this is now complete and seen as a great success for the village. The new play equipment is well used. The parish council has provided two picnic bench seats for this area and a goal post net. This action is now closed.

**Public transport:** the Balsham 'Helping Hands' group has now extended its service for getting people to medical appointments to include Weston Colville. The parish plan group is still looking for a volunteer to coordinate a car share scheme for the village. The council has agreed to place a last notice in *Challenge* to see if anyone is prepared to volunteer. If this fails Councillor Pagonis agreed to provide a list of existing car sharing apps to anyone interested.

**Housing:** the group recognises that there is still a need for affordable housing in the village and agreed to support any proposals. Unfortunately, there are currently no plans of proposals to provide this and the parish council will keep a watching brief for any scheme that is put forward.

**Footpaths:** the proposal to provide a footpath between Church End and The Green has proven not to be viable as the specification for the path required by the County Council Highways department makes it cost prohibitive (over £100k). An alternative suggestion was made to look at rolling the trimmed verge and a quote is to be obtained.

**Assets of Community Value (ACV):** it was agreed that the parish council would look at applying for ACV status for Church End Playing Field, the Reading Room and the Recreation Ground.

I thank all my fellow councillors for their work, and I look forward to another successful year for the village.

### *Weston Colville Parish Council*

A summary of the parish council meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May, after the annual parish meeting:

**1. County and District Councillor Reports:** Henry Bachelor has secured the seat of County Councillor and will oversee thirteen local parishes over the next four years, and looks forward to working with Weston Colville Parish Council. He is also a District Councillor for Linton.

**2. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman:** Ray Vidler has been re-elected chairman, and Bridget Durham has been elected as vice chairman. Constantine Pagonis has been elected as Responsible Financial Officer.

**3. Appointment of New Parish Clerk:** a change of clerk from Christine King to Melanie Laing was proposed by Allen Scott and seconded by Matt Jackson.

**4. Change of Planning Procedure:** the clerk advised that new planning procedure be drawn up to incorporate latest transparency legislation. All present agreed that a draft procedure should be drawn up by the clerk and circulated along with a suggested planning letter for neighbours. Draft procedure to be read before next meeting and added to agenda with a view of adopting procedure at 17<sup>th</sup> July meeting.

**5. Speed Indicator Device (SID):** Matt Jackson reported that the local parishes were willing to split the costs of an SID as a proportionate percentage with smaller parishes. At present the following has been suggested by Trevor Hall, Councillor for West Wickham: “following the Combined Parish Forum when it was proposed that Carlton and Weston Colville would like to participate in the SID Scheme as a lower use member, I have looked at how it could be achieved. I propose that the total cost for two units could be split into twenty shares; each of the six original parishes could take three shares and Carlton and Weston Colville take one share each. Usage of the equipment would be similarly shared. Thus there would be two groups each consisting of three fully participating parishes and one parish with reduced access, each sharing one SID. This would mean you would have access to a SID for a period of one week in every ten weeks, with the other parishes having access for three weeks in every ten weeks. I attach the pricing for each of the different SIDs available,

and the spreadsheet contains a page for the costs for your two parishes and also the other six parishes. Please note that the costs can be reduced by limiting the number of locations where you wish to deploy the instrument. This is particularly the case with Thermotor products.”

**6. Highway Maintenance** (John Garrod): Speed signs have been completed; blocked and suspected collapsed drain outside 30 Mill Hill; blocked drain between 14 & 15 Church End – to be reported; collapsed drain outside Lane Cottage – to be reported; pot hole between Church End and Bull Lane, West Wrattling – to be reported.

**7. Speed Chicanes to Slow Down Lorries:** main problem route is Common Road into Weston Green. Highways will be consulted to see if this idea is possible along this stretch of road and find out costs. A Local Highways Initiative scheme could potentially support this project.

**8. Grass Cutting:** all agreed to keep the depth of verge cutting to 1 m. Some spring bulbs will be cut in this area but it was felt that road safety issues were more of a concern.

**9. Assets of Community Value:** in England, an asset of community value (ACV) is land or property of importance to a local community which is subject to additional protection from development under the Localism Act 2011. Suggested areas to look at were Church End Play Area, the pond, the Reading Room, the Recreational Ground and Covey Wood. A report is to be prepared for the next meeting.

**10. Financial Matters:** move current account from Lloyds to Unity Trust Bank online. All agreed in favour.

Payments since last meeting: Simon Ratford, grass cutting, £375.00.

Proposed payments: Age UK, Community Warden Scheme, £200.00. All agreed the Age UK invoice should be paid from the Briggs Gift Fund.

Balance to date: Lloyds £18533.17.

An extraordinary meeting will be held to approve the Annual Return when ready for submission.

Asset register needs updating to include defibrillator and benches at the Church End playing field.

**11. Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

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**Hay Fever**

At this time of year many people suffer from hay fever, caused by an allergy to grass or hay pollens. Grass pollen is the most common and tends to affect people every year in the grass pollen season from about May to July. However the term 'hay fever' is often used when allergies are caused by other pollens such as tree pollens. Tree pollens tend to affect people from March to May. Weed pollens (eg nettles and dock) tend to pollinate from early spring to early autumn.

Symptoms are due to your immune system reacting to the pollen. Hay fever is also called 'seasonal allergic rhinitis' because symptoms tend to occur at the same time or in the same season each year.

Hay fever is very common and affects about two in ten people in the UK. You are also more likely to develop hay fever if you already have asthma or eczema. Asthma, eczema and hay fever are collectively known as atopic conditions, or atopy. A tendency to atopy can run in families.

Common symptoms are:

- Runny or blocked nose
- Itchy nose and or throat
- Sneezing
- Itchy and watery red eyes.

Less common symptoms include:

- Loss of smell
- Face pain
- Sweats
- Headache.

Asthma symptoms, such as wheeze or breathlessness, may get worse if you already have asthma. Some people have asthma symptoms only during the hay fever season.

Your doctor can usually diagnose hay fever from your typical symptoms that occur during the hay fever season. Commonly used treatments are antihistamine nasal sprays, antihistamine tablets, steroid nasal sprays and eye drops. If your hay fever symptoms are not controlled on the medication you are taking after two to four weeks you should discuss this with your doctor as you may need to try a different treatment.

If you develop asthma symptoms during the hay fever season you may be prescribed an inhaler. If you already have asthma, your asthma may become worse in the hay fever season, which may require a change in the dose of your usual inhalers.

**Granta Medical Practices**  
([www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk](http://www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk))

**Burrough Green Playgroup**



Burrough Green Playgroup is now enrolling for September 2017.

The playgroup provides an outstanding pre-school education for children between two and a half years and five years old, and is set in the beautifully restored 17<sup>th</sup> century schoolhouse in the grounds of Burrough Green Primary School. There is a warm, friendly atmosphere with very experienced staff, and strong links to Burrough Green School, providing the children with a wonderful start to their education.

We are open Monday - Friday, 8.45 am - 3.15 pm, with morning, afternoon and full day sessions. Please feel free to join us for our open morning on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30 - 11.00 am.

**Burrough Green Playgroup**  
**Bradley Road, Burrough Green CB8 9NH**  
**01638 506003, [burroughgreenplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:burroughgreenplaygroup@gmail.com) ,**  
**<http://burroughgreenplaygroup.weebly.com>**

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### *Weston Colville Marsh Tit Study*

The Marsh Tits have finally headed for the woods. The amount of natural food is blossoming, they have young and territory to defend, so they don't use our garden feeders so much. Even so, we still get regular reports of Marsh Tits chobbling away at seeds and peanuts in Weston gardens.

This is a crucial time to keep putting food out. The chicks' rate of growth is phenomenal. Blue and Marsh Tit eggs are slightly smaller than a Smartie chocolate button. Fledglings weigh at least 10 grammes. Hatching to fledging takes a mere 19 days. If they don't eat frequently, they die. If it's cold and wet, the parents can't find wild food, and then your feeders are all that stand between death and survival for their brood.

Incidentally, if you want to stop squirrels and rats helping themselves to your costly bird food, mix it with the hottest chilli powder you can find. You can roll fat balls in it. Birds can't taste the heat of chilli (it's why the latter are also called 'bird peppers') but our fellow mammals certainly can! To learn more about this, try here: [www.researchgate.net/post/How\\_did\\_birds\\_adapt\\_to\\_eat\\_hot\\_peppers](http://www.researchgate.net/post/How_did_birds_adapt_to_eat_hot_peppers) In a simple garden test in Weston, we saw a drop in the amount of chilli-treated seed taken per day, but untreated peanuts were taken at the same rate until they were also treated. We also tried offering treated and untreated peanuts together in the same feeder. There was no discernible difference in visitations by Blue or Great Tits, but I didn't spend a lot of time watching. All the nuts disappeared in two days, as usual. I do feel slightly sorry for the portly local squirrel, who looks at us rather balefully now. Tough luck, my furry friend! I hope he sees it as his healthy new diet plan.

Regulars of this column will recall me waxing lyrical about the sedentary nature of Tits. They're homebodies who don't like to travel. In the journals, the term is philopatric (site faithful). Now for the surprise.

Blue Tit Y291400 is an adult ringed in Great Coven's Wood on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2016, well over a year ago. This bird decided to move near Thetford in Suffolk, 47 km away, where it was re-encountered by Thetford Ringing Group on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017. That's 30 miles in old money. (To put this in perspective, my previous re-encountered Blue Tit had travelled from Colney Heath to St Albans, a whopping 3 km, less than 2 miles). Longer distance dispersal is essential to maintain healthy genetic diversity within a species, but is rarely demonstrated in Tits.

We're hoping to catch Marsh Tits doing this too, and their first port of call could be West Wrattling or Balsham. So please, dear Wrattling readers and Balsham birders, keep your eyes peeled for little, black-headed Tits sporting coloured leg rings . . . Alternatively, I'm looking for gardens with feeders in West Wrattling and Balsham whose owners would be happy to host a ringing session for the occasional morning at weekends. You will get to meet your local Robin and Dunnock, face to face. Once you've done that, you'll look at your garden friends in a whole new light, next time they show up on your windowsill. Get in touch at [cambsmarti@gmail.com](mailto:cambsmarti@gmail.com).

As ever, please report your sightings to Mel Stammers ([m\\_stammers@btinternet.com](mailto:m_stammers@btinternet.com)) or myself ([cambsmarti@gmail.com](mailto:cambsmarti@gmail.com)). Have a great month and keep ring-watching.

*Alex Inzani and the Weston ringing team,  
for the BTO National Ringing Scheme*

### *The Meadow School*

Time flies when you are having fun, and fun we are certainly having! The summer term always brings a mixture of emotions: excitement as the weather is usually better and we can make the most of playtimes and lunchtimes using the field, trepidation and nervousness as the Year 6 children take their SATs tests, sadness as we prepare to say good bye to those same children who in many cases have been with us for seven years, and finally happiness at welcoming all of the new children who are joining in September for their visit days. One thing that never changes: the arrival of the summer term means there is an awful lot to fit in before we break up.

May saw our Y6 children take six tests in four days. The content as always was incredibly taxing and the length of each paper and the time allowed to complete it always astounds me. Our Y6 children were fantastic throughout the whole week. They arrived early each day to have a breakfast cooked for them by some of our amazing Teaching Assistants. After they had munched through numerous bacon sandwiches, bowls of cereal and several round of toast each morning they were ready for anything. They showed real resilience, perseverance and compassion to one another. Just another reason to feel very proud of our children!

The summer term also means new topics and new learning. The Infants are focusing on 'How does your garden grow?' They started their topic with a trip to South Angle Farm to see what life is like on a



working farm. They had a great time bottle feeding lambs, holding chicks and tarantulas (Yes! Tarantulas on a farm). They are now busy growing their own flowers and crops back in school, and have made a rather lovely scarecrow to help keep the birds away.

Year 3/4/5 have started, 'When in Rome', launched with a trip to Colchester Castle where they learnt all about life as a Roman and also got to visit the Roman vaults beneath the castle. They also made shields and a marching chant and marched their way through the village and along the



Roman Road. Ninety children marching and chanting was quite a sight. Apologies to anyone in the village we may have scared on the way!

Year 5/6 are working on 'Thrills and Spills', and worked together in teams using Knex kits to build a working rollercoaster, pirate ship, carousel and big wheel. They have been studying funfairs and the fairground over the past 200 years, and were genuinely surprised to see the difference in the types of rides and sideshows. They will be able to experience a modern day fairground for themselves when we go on our whole school trip to the beach later this term and Year 5/6 get to explore the funfair. I for one have learnt my lesson and will not be going on the dodgems this year. Crash into the headteacher appeared to be a very popular game!

This month we have also welcomed Lucy Frazer on a visit. As Parliament has been dissolved in the run up to the general election, Lucy was not an MP when she visited but that didn't stop her answering a range of very tricky questions about her job posed by the Year 6 children. These ranged from "what are you and your party doing to address funding for education?" to "which party would you be a member of if you couldn't be a Conservative?" Lucy was very impressed with the behaviour and learning attitudes of the whole school, and the complexity of the work they were doing. She has invited the whole of Year 6 to visit the House of Commons in July.

As June arrives and the end of term draws even closer, I look forward to sharing news from the Y6 residential trip, summer production, sports day and June Revels to name but a few!

*Nichola Connor, Headteacher*

THE MEADOW SCHOOL PTA  
PRESENTS

*The*  
**Balsham  
Ball**

**CHILFORD HALL**  
**JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>**

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Thanks in advance to village residents for your patience with unusual modes of transport on local roads and any noise or inconvenience caused on the evening of 30<sup>th</sup> June.

On the following evening, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July, the decorated school hall is the venue for the Friends of LVC's summer fundraising event: The Accelerants Unmasked – Band & Beerfest. It is a great community event involving live music and guest beers from Milton Brewery. We hope that this will be a very well-attended evening. Tickets can be purchased via the Friends' website:

[www.friendsoflvc.org](http://www.friendsoflvc.org).

Another date for your diaries is 17<sup>th</sup> September – LVC's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations to celebrate 80 years of learning since the college opened in 1937. Further information is available on the LVC80 Facebook page. It would be great if former students can attend; please do share the link with any LVC alumni that you are still in touch with. If anyone is willing to lend memorabilia (photos, records or items of uniform from previous times) we'd love to hear from them via Facebook or [lvc80info@gmail.com](mailto:lvc80info@gmail.com).

*Helena Marsh, Executive Principal*

### *The Marsh Mail (news from Linton Village College)*

We look forward to a range of celebratory events at Linton Village College over the coming months.

Having enjoyed Year 11 Leavers' Day at the end of May, including farewell messages and a BBQ, at the end of June we have another opportunity to celebrate with our Year 11 students: the Leavers' Ball.

The ball on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June marks the end of the GCSE examination series and the finale of Year 11s' time at Linton Village College. It is a great tradition that provides an opportunity for the year group to enjoy an evening together before embarking on the next stage of their education and future at different educational establishments.

The Leavers' Ball has become a rite of passage, symbolising students' maturity and independence as they depart from secondary school. This year's theme is 'Masquerade' and promises to be a special and memorable event. I know that students past and present often join staff and students' families to welcome their arrival and the spectacle is somewhat of a community custom.

### *1<sup>st</sup> Horseheath Brownies*

Thank you to everyone who donated their Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers. So far we have collected just over 4,500, which is great. If you still have any lurking in your purse or wallet, or even sitting on top of the fridge, please get them to me ASAP (but no later than 15<sup>th</sup> June) so we can pass them on to our coordinator to be counted.

Our Toy Pet Show Red Nose fundraiser was a great success, raising nearly £50. The toys ranged from Phoebe's much loved rabbit, to Sophie's resplendent white tiger which had to be paraded by four Guides.

This term we are working on our Friend to Animals badge and are finding new ways to communicate with each other. We have already tried finding the rest of our 'group' using animal noises – not so easy when you are wearing a blindfold! We still have our District Campfire, Brownie Fun Day and Strawberry Evening to look forward to this term.

*Pauline, Katie, and Laurené*  
([brownies@horseheath.info](mailto:brownies@horseheath.info))

**Balsham Gardening Club**

The plant sale held on 20<sup>th</sup> May was a great success, raising a total of £388. Thanks go to everyone who donated plants and to the committee members who set up and manned the sale and, of course, all those who came and bought plants.



The next event is the spring outing to Dullingham House on 6<sup>th</sup> June, from 6 - 8 pm, costing £10 a head. Please contact Lyn Bobrow on 890598 or [lgb21@cam.ac.uk](mailto:lgb21@cam.ac.uk) if you are interested. We will travel in members' cars (please let Lyn know if you require a lift). We visited this beautiful garden in September last year and this will be an opportunity to see it in a very different season.

Giant Pumpkin Competition: fourteen pumpkin plants of the variety Dills Atlantic Giant were sold at the plant sale. A cash prize will be awarded to the grower of the heaviest pumpkin exhibited at the Annual Show on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

*Jennie Tipler*

**WEST WICKHAM FETE**

**Manor Farm, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June at 1 pm**

Fun for all the family

BBQ lunch 1pm

Cakes, Tombola, Games, Races Teas, Beer Tent, Bric-a Brac, Lucky Dip, Raffle, Secondhand Books, Plants, Produce & Preserves Teas, Ice Cream Parlour and lots more

Proceeds to Church repair fund

If you have any good bric-a-brac, bottles, cakes, raffle prizes you would like to donate please leave at Manor Farm gates or ring Nicky Cornish on 290203

**The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth**

The **Summer Show** this year will be even better than usual, so keep Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July in your diary and come and join us from 12 noon. There will be live music throughout the afternoon, and a fully licensed bar, barbecue, afternoon tea and cakes, produce, tombola and of course the 'Garden & Produce Show'.



[www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk](http://www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk), 01638 508212,  
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For enquiries, please phone: 01354 694782 (please leave message with number)

Tickets: £11, £9.50, £8, £6  
Suitable for children

Cod, Chicken, or Veggieburger & Chips + Kids' Meals  
Optional Dessert (£1): Raspberry Pavlova or Black Forest Gateau

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# The Accelerants

## UNMASKED



**BAND & BEERFEST**  
Wine & soft drinks also available at the BAR  
When: Saturday, 1st July 2017  
from 7.30pm  
Where: LVC Main Hall

There WILL be Dad dancing. There WILL be MUM dancing. There WILL be great MUSIC and guest beers.

For more information:  
Email: [friends@lvc.org](mailto:friends@lvc.org)  
[www.friendsoflvc.org](http://www.friendsoflvc.org)

**TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH:**

**Eventbrite**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-accelerants-unmasked-tickets-34176182883>  
£9 includes 1 FREE DRINK  
(+ £1 Eventbrite administrative charge)

Summer nights are made for dancing: invite your friends, invite your neighbours. Join us for the last Friends of LVC event of the school year.  
Guest beers from local Cambridgeshire brewery, MILTON BREWERY.




This is a very popular event. Buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

St Andrew's, West Wrattling (10.45 am, unless noted otherwise)			SET UP	FLOWERS	CLEANING
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Holy Communion	Canon John Pinder	Alex	Louise	Maggie
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Holy Communion	Rev Dr Carrie Pemberton Ford	Fanny	Louise	Sue
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Songs of Praise	Very Rev Keith Johnson, John and Scilla Harvey	n/a	Alex	Pauline
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Holy Communion	Canon John Pinder	Jenny	Linda	Jenny

St Mary's, Weston Colville (9.15 am)		
	FLOWERS	CLEANING
June	Gay and Lucy	Emily
July	Charlotte	Christine and Carolyn

## Roman Catholic Mass

Every Saturday at 5.30 pm, Sundays at 10 am and noon, at St Philip Howard Church, Cherry Hinton. Every Saturday at 6.30 pm, Sundays at 10 am, Haverhill (St Felix Roman Catholic Church)

## DIARY

### June 2017

- Fri 2 Tea & Cakes, Reading Room  
First Friday bridge, West Wrattling
- Sat 3 Saturday Morning Cafè, West Wrattling  
Pop-up charity shop, Reading Room  
Farmers' Market, Linton
- Sun 4 Big Balsham Sale
- Wed 7 West Wrattling Over 60s
- Thur 15 West Wrattling Lunch Club
- Sun 18 Songs of Praise, St Andrew's, then BBQ
- Wed 21 West Wrattling Book Club
- Thur 22 Morris Dancing, The Chestnut Tree
- Sat 24 Temple Ensemble concert, St Mary's  
West Wickham Fete  
Llamadrama murder mystery evening, Fulbourn
- Sat 24, Sun 25 St Mary's Flower Festival

### July 2017

- Sat 1 Band & Beerfest, Linton Village College
- Sun 2 Cutoff, Peter & Ruth Lloyd Trust applications
- Wed 5 West Wrattling Over 60s
- Sat 8 Circular walk, from Reading Room  
Balsham Ball, Chilford Hall
- Mon 10 Cutoff for West Wrattling oil syndicate orders  
West Wrattling Parish Council meeting
- Sun 16 Summer Show, Ellesmere Centre
- Mon 17 Weston Colville Parish Council

## Sawston Open Gardens

Six Sawston gardens will open on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 1 - 6 pm, as part of the National Gardens Scheme. Entrance at £5 per adult (children free) covers all six gardens. Tickets and village maps from any of the gardens. Cream teas, cakes and drinks at Sweet Tea café, 1 - 5 pm in the High Street.

**Mike and Ann Redshaw (01223 834511)**

Revd Kathy Bishop, Associate Priest  
tel: 892288 email: [revkathy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revkathy@hotmail.co.uk)

Very Revd Keith Johnson, Honorary Associate Priest  
tel: 890835 email: [jkeith1412@gmail.com](mailto:jkeith1412@gmail.com)

Mr Steven Wheeler, Licensed Lay Minister  
tel: 290643 email: [steven@juicyfruitsuk.com](mailto:steven@juicyfruitsuk.com)

Mrs Rosemary Mead, Authorised Lay Minister  
tel: 891718 email: [leonardavmead@hotmail.com](mailto:leonardavmead@hotmail.com)

Mr Keith Day, Authorised Lay Minister  
tel: 891527 email: [keithdday@btinternet.com](mailto:keithdday@btinternet.com)

### Churchwardens:

St Mary's – Ian Ashbridge (291344)  
Philippa Coates (290842)

St Andrew's – Sebastian Bain (403415),  
Alex Walsham (291491)

### Parish Council Clerks:

Weston Colville – Melanie Laing,  
[westoncolvilleparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:westoncolvilleparishclerk@gmail.com), 01799 584428

West Wrattling – Jenny Richards,  
[j.richards597@btinternet.com](mailto:j.richards597@btinternet.com), 01223 665260

**Church Administrator:** Caroline (Cazzy) Walshe,  
[7churches.seven@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.seven@gmail.com), 01223 891443

**Parish Nurse:** Claire Gillett,  
[7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com](mailto:7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com), 07498 994205

**Black bins:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> June,  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> July

**Blue & green bins:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> June  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> July

**Mobile library:** first Tuesday of each month  
(6<sup>th</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup> July)

High Street, West Wrattling 12.15 - 12.45  
Post Office, Weston Green 1.50 - 2.15  
Mill Hill, Weston Colville 2.20 - 2.50

**Editor:** Anne Bragg (290550) or email:  
[editor@challengemag.co.uk](mailto:editor@challengemag.co.uk)

Thank you for all your articles, news, etc. If these are sent by email, they are always acknowledged; if you don't get a reply, your items haven't been received. Contributions can also be left at Weston Colville Post Office. Some may have to be edited, to fit the space available, and are published at the discretion of the editor.

**July issue's copy date: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June**