

Challenge

The Parish Newsletter of St Mary's, Weston Colville and St Andrew's, West Wrating

The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

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From West Wrating Vicarage

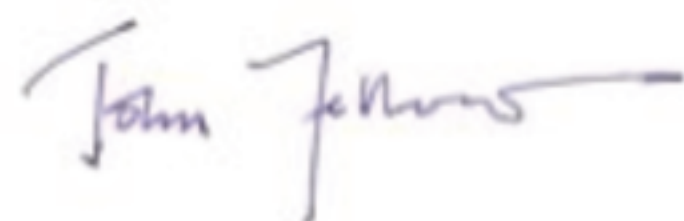
*"Though it has touches of *Bride and Prejudice* and *Downton Abbey*, it is utterly novel, for unlike them, it is actually real."* So says the blurb to 'The Girl With the Widow's Peak', the memoirs of Lady Ursula d'Abo, a snip at £12.50 and a page turner of a read as well. Obviously there is a chapter about her time at West Wrating Park, and in it Lady Ursula refers to the then vicar, who had urged her to come to church more often, because numbers were getting unsustainably small. She says that she was foolish not to have done so because the congregation got so small that West Wrating lost its own vicar.

I read this soon after a conversation with my brother in law. A life long Baptist, he has recently joined the Church of England and was saying how shocked he was at the variable nature of the congregation at his parish church. In the Baptist church you would meet most of the congregation within a couple of Sundays at the most. In the Church of England you could go many weeks before you met all the regular congregation, so comparatively erratic and apparently uncommitted was Anglican churchgoing. I once asked the vicar of a very popular local church why he did so well in terms of numbers. He said that it was a matter of priorities. Either churchgoing, the worship of God on a Sunday, was important to people or it wasn't. Either their religion was at the centre of their life or it wasn't. Commitment attracted other commitment. Why should anyone consider joining any sort of club, especially one claiming to deal in ultimate truths, when the existing members rated it so little they didn't always bother to turn up? Well, you might think that is a little extreme, but it has more than a grain of truth in it.

When I first went to my last parish, we regularly had Matins at 11.15 am. The congregation got older and smaller, the singing more feeble. There were a

number of people who would turn up occasionally, say wasn't it wonderful that we still had Matins, quite their favourite service – and then we wouldn't see them for a couple of months. They were outraged when we dropped Matins, but I said we couldn't, with enormous difficulty, keep it going just on the off chance that they might turn up. What was true of Matins in particular can easily become true of Sunday worship in general in village churches. A sign of a failing church is a regular congregation in single figures, and failing churches will close. The Church of England is no longer in a position to keep such churches going. Both clergy and organists are in short supply. If they are not wanted here, they are elsewhere. It is as simple as that.

Now if you are away, if school events are taking place, if grandchildren need looking after, if a whole host of things are the case, then you can't be in church. And all these things do take an enormous toll of numbers. All the more reason that on those Sundays when we are not so occupied, churchgoing becomes an absolute priority. 'Use it or lose it' applies to our village churches as well as other institutions under threat. It is wonderful that week by week worship is offered in our village churches, but don't take that worship for granted. To those of you who think churchgoing is irrelevant, boring or pernicious, I won't argue with you. Your position is plain. To those of you who are faithful Sunday after Sunday, well, you are the backbone of the village church and thank you for that. But if you fall somewhere in between, perhaps a simple change in priorities and perception is needed. You might turn up one Sunday ("I thought it would be nice to go to church today") and find the church closed. And, like Lady Ursula, you will think how foolish you were.



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Weston Colville Christmas Fair

It's almost that time again! Time to start planning Weston Colville's Christmas Fair. Last year we had a great team making gifts, cards and decorations – we need your help again!

Please join in this year if you enjoy making things. All sorts of skills are needed including sewing, sticking, baking, drawing ... the making sessions are fun and sociable, with lots of tea and cakes.

So ... come to a meeting, to share ideas and find out more, on Thursday 25th September, 7.30 pm, at Cheviot House, Church End. Look forward to seeing you there! Please contact Philippa on cheviotpfc@aol.com or Jane on jane@janepryor.co.uk, 290643.

Art Exhibition

There will be an exhibition of the work of local artists on Saturday 11th/Sunday 12th October in West Wrating Village Hall. If anyone would like to lend a hand or would be interested in showing their artwork, please call me.

Colin McCall (290036)

Richard Kenyon Master Thatcher



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Ruby Wedding Celebrations, and a Reflection on the Great War Exhibition

My eightysix year old aunt, Mary Ogden, saw the Great War Exhibition at St Mary's when she came to our Ruby wedding celebrations, and was moved to include this with her last letter:

"When some childish misdemeanour was about to be discovered, I would take myself to the 'Big Bedroom', climb into my father's wardrobe and envelop myself in the folds of his First World War greatcoat. This coat had gone through the whole of the 1914-18 war and to me embodied all that I needed in a time of trouble. The family always knew where to find me and I was always forgiven!

It was many years after this when I came to know another 'hiding place' and another loving father - one who cared, counselled and checked my rebellious spirit. In Psalm 32 I have indeed found another 'hiding place' and, for more than sixty five years, no storms or sorrows have been able to shatter my peace and protection - a 'hiding place' from the storm indeed."

Thank you to Weston Colville for making our fortieth wedding anniversary celebrations and renewal of vows at St Mary's, on Sunday 3rd August, so

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wonderful. The extraordinary and moving church service was followed by a lovely party atmosphere, both in church and in the churchyard, and we were surrounded by friends, neighbours, and family, which with the good weather made the day perfect!

Particular thanks to all our friends who helped to make it happen by giving their time, efforts and skills with such love and kindness - you know who you are!

PS Thanks, and sincere apologies, to the two kind people who each gave us celebratory bottles of fizz at the church - we would love to thank you personally but don't know who you are!

Alan and Jan Ogden

West Wratting Over 60s Club

The Club will meet in the Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd September at 2.30 pm, with bring 'n' buy and raffle.

Many thanks to Janet and Mark for inviting the Club to a garden meeting last month. It was a most nostalgic afternoon, when we reminisced about many personal memories, and Janet provided us all with a lovely tea and a departing mystery gift.

The October meeting will be in the Village Hall on 1st October.

Wendy

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Apples on Offer



I have an indifferent crop of apples, ie not as good as some years, but they will make good cider. On the plus side, they are the ultimate in organic fruit.

Search me out if you

need directing to the trees. Otherwise, Challenge readers are most welcome to find and pick the fruit.

Jackie Romanis

Naika (the bottom of Mill Hill, Weston Colville)

Tea and Cakes

Once again, there was a lovely turn out for our August get-together. I think children might even have outnumbered the grown-ups! I was afraid that we might for once run out of cake as Melanie and her cakes were missing, but I need not have worried! Thanks to all the cake bakers and helpers and also for your generous donations that cover the rent for the Reading Room.

We were delighted to welcome another new person to the village and also a visiting group of friends from an ante-natal group. There was interest too in Mary's information on support for people with thyroid conditions. You may not have spotted it but there is a suggestion book on display near the refreshment area and it would be great to have your ideas on what you would like from the group or any other feedback.

The next Tea and Cakes will take place on Friday 5th September, 3.30 till 5 pm – as always, the first Friday of the month.

Finally, I'd like to say good-bye to you all. Some of you know that I unexpectedly moved out of the village in late April just as we were about to have our first meeting. I wanted to continue to be involved for a while at least and have been so pleased to see how well Tea and Cakes has been supported. It just confirmed what I always knew – that Weston Colville is a great village to live in. I am sad to have left it but now need to start putting down roots in my new village which is Great (not West!) Wrating.

Best wishes to you all.

Susan

Gardening handyman



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Autumn Nights

Do you feel that there should be more activities in our village?

Many activities can take place in our village hall (the Reading Room) – it's warm and comfortable, hot drinks are readily available, and there's even a music system.

Activities could include social evenings (or afternoons), talks, film shows, dancing, clubs, group meetings, parties for your family or the village, or whatever you feel would be a good idea.

The Tea and Cakes meetings are clearly very popular and cover all age groups; other activities include Bumblebees for mothers and children, Pilates for exercise, art and painting – all work well, but some age groups and interests may feel left out? Firstly ideas are needed, then, with enthusiasm and sufficient support, most can be achieved.

Any comments will be appreciated, and we can have a meeting to talk ideas over. Please let me have your comments. Email will work best for me, at

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Allen, Secretary, The Reading Room

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West Wrattling Harvest Supper

This year's Harvest Supper will be on Friday 17th October at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. We will be following in the traditional format of previous years – a simple supper of cheese and ham ploughman's, followed by homemade apple pies and crumbles. We will once again have a raffle and a produce auction, and any contributions for either or both will be most welcome.

Tickets are available from me, at £3 for adults and £4 for children (please advise of any dietary requirements when booking).

Karen Baker (291229)



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West Wrattling Village Show

It was a fabulous day and, thanks to a lot of hard work from the committee and helpers, it was a great success. We had record numbers on the day, and some amazing new events. I think we will all be talking about the ferret roulette, donkey rides and teddy bear parachute jump for a few months to come! The setting of the village church with the villagers around it was perfect. And without the use of the paddock for the dogs we would not have been able to hold the event in the way we did. A HUGE thank you to everyone.

Congratulations to the Maskell's dog George who won the top prize at the dog show, and to Sherry for winning the Show Cup. We raised just under £2,230 profit, which is more than double from last year. And it reflects the commitment of the whole team. I would like to thank everyone who helped in so many ways, in particular Claire and Paul Anderson for being so amazing at such professional preparation and delivering all the new ideas as well as organising the teas and cakes and all the craft stalls; Sherry O'Donovan for her mammoth efforts on the stalls and everything; Mira and John Nichols for the produce shows and also the programme adverts; Scilla and John Harvey with Bev for the church singing, and also

the calmness around the bouncy castle; Catherine and Ben Wilcox for the banners, BBQ, and much more; Tamara with Rob and Mike Rowland and Mike Lock for the teddy bear parachute drop; Linda Gorman for the very successful raffle as well as side shows and church flowers; Pauline and Richard Holness for support, and classic cars; Di and Tony Edwards for the produce show, golfing and tidying up, as well as Di leading on the planning already for next year's show; the brilliant Chestnut Tree pub for the bar; Suzanne and Brian Langford for the Great War exhibition in the church; and Melinda Job and Louise Cook for the dog show.

Plus everyone else who gave time, support, and money to make the show a wonderful family event.

And the most enormous thank you to all my family and friends for putting up with me on all levels (!) in the preparation and execution of the show.

Jeanette Job, on behalf of the Show Committee

PS We are planning next year's show already, and look forward to more new ideas and faces joining us.

The Chestnut Tree Beer Festival

We will be holding a Charity Beer Festival from 25th to 28th September, raising funds for Retinopathy of Prematurity at The Rosie, Addenbrooke's. This will be the first pilot of its kind in the UK, and will help save the sight of premature babies throughout East Anglia. The Rosie has a special place in our hearts, as it was where our Rebecca was born, and we expect that many of you will also have personal experience of this wonderful maternity unit.

On the Thursday evening (25th) we will be holding a quiz, with the winning team receiving a cheque for their chosen charity. Starting at 8 pm, £2 per team member and a maximum of four on each team please.



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(Come along if you enjoy a challenge; Peter nearly got lynched last year for his 'easy' questions! – Rachel) On the Friday and Saturday evenings there will be live music and on the Sunday there will be a BBQ and a bouncy castle for the children.

We will be featuring some of our most popular brewers, including Champion Beer of Britain winner Church End. However, as this is a Beer Festival, all of the ales featured will be ones which we haven't served here before and they will all be only £3 a pint!

We hope that you will be able to join us for what should be a great weekend, and we thank you all for your continued support.

Peter & Rachel

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Missing Pets



Have you seen this cat? Barney is a rescue cat and does not know this area or how to get home. He is a friendly, small to medium sized cat, marmalade coloured with white socks. If

you see him, please call me, and perhaps try to entice him into a shed or similar if you can, then call me to collect him. Also, please can anyone seeing my missing guinea-fowl be kind enough to telephone and let me know where he is. Many thanks.

Margaretha (290726)

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**Please ensure we have your correct address and
postcode** because some deliveries have been delayed
due to the lack of correct information.

West Wrattling Oil Syndicate

I'm obviously losing my oil mojo, as this year I filled
up in May ready for winter (at Holness Towers, like
my primary school in the 50s, the heating doesn't go
on till 1st October and goes off on 31st March, sharp)
and I didn't get the year's best price, as you can read
below. Accordingly, economies have been made and
I've had to cut back on the present Mrs Holness' rum
allowance.

Anyway, as regular readers will know, before placing
the collated order for the West Wrattling Oil Syndicate,
I benchmark the price against the standard delivery
price from the Boilerjuice website. For the fillup on
11th August the Boilerjuice benchmark was 51.7p

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and the West Wrating Syndicate price was 49.06p from Shelford Energy, with twentyone households participating. This price was better than the May fillup, which surprises me considering how unstable the Middle East is at the moment.

The next fillup will be in October, with a cutoff on Sunday 12th at 6.00 pm. Usual rules apply. from October 1st onwards, email me on

richardholness023@btinternet.com or phone the pub during licensing hours (not too late, please) on 290384. Price and delivery will be on the West Wrating website once the orders have been placed.

Just a point, don't treat the Syndicate like a normal oil supplier as it takes a couple of weeks for the orders to be received, collated and brokered. However, if you take the minimum of 500 litres every time there's a fillup, you'll always buy at the best possible price and improve your cashflow to boot!

Future information: after October, the next WW Syndicate fillup will be in January 2015.

Richard Holness

Cambridgeshire Celebrates Age in West Wrating and Local Villages

A free afternoon of entertainment has been arranged by Age UK Cambridgeshire as part of Cambridgeshire Celebrates Age.



This event for older people will be held at West Wrating Village

Hall on Tuesday 7th October from 2.30 - 4 pm. Easy listening musical entertainment will be followed by afternoon tea. Please do come along to support this fun afternoon. Free transport to the event can be arranged.

For more information about the afternoon or to book a place at the event, please call Age UK Cambridgeshire on 01354 696650.

Private Functions at West Wrating Pavilion

There will be private functions at the pavilion on Saturday 30th August and Saturday 6th September, both from 7.30 pm until 11.45 pm.

Blanche Miller, West Wrating Sports Secretary

www.westwrating.org.uk

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West Wrattling Book Club

The first meeting after the summer break will be in The Chestnut Tree at 8 pm on 16th September, so please bring new ideas and suggestions for reading. One suggestion has been Lady Ursula's memoirs, published by d'Abo publishing. I read the John Crace book 'Harvest', which was very thought-provoking, during the summer months.

New faces are very welcome, we are informal and fun, so come along. Ring me on 290706 if you want more details.

Jeanette Job

November Fair

We are planning an autumn St Andrews Fair on Saturday 29th November, as the final fundraising event for the year. This will be a family event; more details in the next Challenge, but please save the date in the meantime. If you want to have a stall, a great way to clear out unwanted books and toys, it will cost £10.

Jeanette (290706)

Weston Colville Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

The peace of a quiet summer has been rudely interrupted by the theft of 1200 baby partridges, known as poults, from the Church End area and about a week later the theft of ten gallons of red diesel from Carlton. Also, during the morning of 18th August at The Green, Weston Colville, intruders forced the padlock at the top of the tank, broke another cap, and stole approximately 300 litres of heating oil.

If you saw anything even possibly connected with this theft of oil from The Green, or happen to have seen 1200 poults or two grey five gallon containers marked

'Thurlow Nunns Standen' please call 101 and pass on whatever you can to the police.

Autumn approaches and oil tanks are being filled before the weather cools down; please remember that a hidden tank is a tank that attracts less attention and is less likely to suffer theft. Please use Challenge to exchange ideas about oil security.

To contact me, email allen@scott70@googlemail.com or telephone 290837.

Allen Scott

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Weston Colville
Cricket Club



The end of season event is on Sunday 21st September;
for details see website westoncolvillecc.co.uk

Fixtures for September

SEPTEMBER	FIXTURES, 1 st XI
Saturday 6 th	Bhinham (A)
Saturday 13 th	Saffron Walden II (H)

Come and Sing

I am organising a 'Come and Sing' in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham, on 18th October. It will be an all day event starting at around 10 am and rehearsing through to 4 pm, with a break for lunch, ready for the performance at around 4.15 pm.

If you love to sing and would like to give your voice an outing, and you enjoy choral music, I am sure you would enjoy this.

Ralph Woodward, well known Musical Director of The Fairhaven Singers from Cambridge, is joined by John Clenaghan, the director of Balsham Singers, to coach a collection of voices to perform three pieces after only a few hours' rehearsal.

The pieces we will be singing are:

- Antonio Vivaldi – Gloria
- Emily Crocker – Gloria Festiva
- Morten Lauridsen – O Magnum Mysterium

The ticket price for the day, to include music for all three pieces, and tea and coffee to lubricate the vocal chords, is £15.

Of course we would love a good audience to sing to; just turn up and enjoy listening to our achievement. There will be no fixed entry fee, but there will be collection buckets at the door.

All profits are for the Community Room Fund.

Booking form or more information from me, Jo Stinton, at jostintonsings@gmail.com or 290772.

Jo Stinton

The 25th Meadow School Craft and Gift Fair will be held in Balsham on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th October.



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The Meadow School – Governance

Since the school started the process of becoming an academy, two of the members of The Meadow governing body were invited to join a working party to determine the structure of future governance of the Chilford Hundred Education Trust. During this time, governance at each school had the opportunity to put forward opinions about what works well, and the challenges that could be supported by a clear structure and a clearly defined role for all governing bodies that join the trust.

From 1st April, The Meadow School adopted the Trust's governance recommendations, policy and structure. We have twelve governors; two of these must be parent governors who are voted in by parents, two must be representatives of the staff at the school, one must be the headteacher, and seven can be community governors. Community governors can be any volunteer with skills that would support the school and they don't have to have a connection with the school. Currently, all of the non-teaching governors happen to be parents of children at The Meadow.

The full governing body meets twice a term to discuss with the head the status of teaching and learning,

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pupil progress, behaviour and leadership. The governors act as a 'critical friend' to seek evidence of the school's performance, and discuss resources to support issues. Our role is strictly strategic and not operational. We do not get involved with the running of the school unless we are specifically requested to by the school's leadership. Governors make four 'validation' visits to the school each term to report how the practice discussed at meetings is having the required impact.

There are two subcommittees: Standards, and Resources. These subcommittees are much smaller than the full governing body, and meet once a term to discuss the school's standards and resources in more detail. The minutes of these meetings are circulated to all governors and they are also discussed at Trust Resources and Standards committee meetings (a mix of Linton Village College and Meadow School governors to discuss the standards and resources information and issues across the Trust). Both LVC and Meadow governing bodies report finances and performance to the Trust on a termly basis.

Even though the role of a governor is a voluntary role, there are high expectations when it comes to the commitment and support expected from the governance by the school.

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Currently, the Meadow governors are: Clare Gorman (Chair), Christine de Ferrars Green (Vice Chair), Sapna Trivedi (Chair of Standards), Ben Green (Chair of Resources), Richard Mannion, Shahla Matarazzo, Rob Loe, Justin Plumb, Steve Morris, Alison Weir, Caroline Murphy, and Nichola Connor. Gill Clarke is the Clerk to the Governors and attends and reports on all meetings.

We are extremely fortunate that we have parents and community members who are keen to support the school by becoming a governor. If you have any questions about the governance, please do not hesitate to contact me, Clare Gorman, at

chair@meadow.cambs.sch.uk.



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Derbyshire Post

As the College year comes to a close we reflect on the events that have passed, and I think the conclusion we must come to is that it has been a great one.



It was not without its sad moments, however. In December we took our time to mark the passing of Nelson Mandela in school assemblies and to take stock of what the great man had meant to us. LVC's link with South Africa began some fourteen years ago when exchanges of teachers between the College and **Boepathutse Junior Secondary School** in Gauteng province began. The school was in the middle of Soshanguve Township, twenty miles from Pretoria and a poor area of corrugated metal shacks, a few brick buildings and dust roads. Children who attended the school were poor, some were infected with HIV and the facilities were underdeveloped. Fourteen years on and many changes have been witnessed: the Mandela and post-Mandela years brought more funding and initiatives to the township, shack owners became landowners, converting their temporary properties to brick homes, opportunities grew and some families in the district became

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prosperous. With our help and support the facilities at the school improved and Principal Sarah Seroka, inspired by what she had seen at LVC, introduced many changes to the school day. In the past twelve years, five groups of Linton young people have visited the school and gone to stay in the township. Our visit in 2008 was particularly special because it coincided with Mandela's 90th birthday and we were invited to a Government birthday party by the District Commissioner. The link remains important to the College: one of our student houses is named Mandela and we have a Mandela Wing in the listed building. This summer a group of teachers and students have travelled across to be hosted by Soshanguve families once more. We very much look forward to hearing about their travels when they return. Long may the link and the legacy of Nelson Mandela continue.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

2nd Balsham Brownies

Once again we are having a busy time at Balsham Brownies. We have welcomed new Brownies Rebecca and Emma-Louise to our unit and sadly said goodbye to Izzy who has moved to Linton Guides.

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The girls have been to Hogwarts (Pack Holiday) where they learnt new skills in broomstick flying (trampolines), potion making (bath bombs), wand making, and how to read tea leaves! A lot of fun was had and the weather was kind.

The following week we were once again busy as the girls got together with all the other Brownies from the Linton District for Brownie Revels. The girls enjoyed such activities as making fake wounds, constructing an insect hotel, woodland art, and cooking over a campfire. They finished the day with a very noisy campfire and were rewarded with a badge to add to their vast collections.

In July we went to the big birthday fun day 'Starquest' in Cambridge with hundreds of other brownies from our division, and enjoyed such activities as zorbing, climbing, mazes, bouncy castles, and many more. We also took part in the annual Strawberry Fayre in Linton with our friends at Guides and Rainbows.

Tawny Owl

Linton Health Centre News

Dr Susie Beattie – we must say a fond farewell to Dr Susie Beattie who is leaving general practice to join the Chaplaincy Team at Addenbrooke's. Dr Beattie has contributed greatly to the work of the practice in her seven years with us and she is going to be missed by us all. However, it is an exciting time for Susie and we all wish her well in her new caring role at Addenbrooke's.

New appointments system – in the autumn we plan to trial a new appointments system. Details can be found in a newsletter available from reception or on our website www.linton.gpsurgery.net (the 'News' tab).



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Text messaging – we plan to introduce text messaging, starting with appointment reminders. If you use the on-line service to book appointments or order repeat prescriptions, click on 'change contact details' to check whether we have your mobile number AND tick the box 'allow SMS notifications'. Update forms will be available in reception for those who do not use the on-line service.

Flu vaccination – recommended for over 65's annually and for children aged 2, 3 and 4 on 1st September 2014, plus patients of any age in at-risk groups.

Pneumococcal vaccination – recommended as a one-off vaccination for over 65's and those in at-risk groups.

Shingles vaccination – available only to those aged 70 on 1st September 2014 and those aged 78 and 79, ie dates of birth 2/9/1943 – 1/9/1944 and 2/9/1934 – 1/9/36. The vaccine is supplied to us by the DoH and we are unable to vaccinate patients outside those specific age groups.

We are taking bookings NOW for the four Saturday flu clinics in October.

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Balsham Horticultural Society



We welcome the rain, following the recent hot dry spell, as our gardens were looking tired and in need of refreshing.

With summer drawing to a close we look forward to the autumn offerings, both in the garden and with the gardening club.

We start with an outing on Tuesday 9th September to the South Cambs recycling centre. This will be a daytime visit, travelling in shared cars. Please contact Lyn Bobrow on 01223 890598 if you would like to attend.

Our first meeting will be on Tuesday 7th October, at the Meadow School at 7.30 for 7.45 pm. The speaker, Ian Seager, will talk to us about 'The History and Development of Roses.' He will discuss species, shrub and old roses.

Our AGM will be on Tuesday 4th November, with wine and nibbles. We will be discussing this year's show and future shows, so please come with your ideas and suggestions. More details will be in October's Challenge. Visitors are most welcome to the meetings.

Hazel Leeson



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Harold's Gardening Tips

Flowers: dead-head dahlias and trap earwigs. Plant prepared hyacinths, paper whites and soleil d'or narcissi for Christmas flowering. Order spring flowering bulbs. House tender plants that have stood outside for the summer.

Vegetables: sow and/or plant overwintering onions for an early crop next summer. Sow cabbages for cutting in May. Lift main crop potatoes. Order 'Aquadulce' broad beans for sowing in October.

General Maintenance: sow new lawns from seed this month. Clean greenhouses after summer crops have been cleared, and remove greenhouse shading.

West Wickham & District Gardening Club Annual Show

It has been a difficult growing year, with the hot dry spring, cool summer and monsoon like rain in the days leading up to the show. Despite this exhibitors were not put off and by the time the judges arrived, an excellent display filled the Village Hall. The children's exhibits all deserved prizes and made the task of deciding the winners an extremely hard (and unenviable) one! The quality of the vegetables was very high and it was so encouraging to see so many beans, carrots, tomatoes etc and some magnificent bowls brim full of salad vegetables. The colourful display of flowers was especially pleasing. The exhibits of jams, chutneys and fruit liqueurs were excellent. This year we had our very own Star Baker competition and the tray bakes, wholemeal loaves and chocolate cakes made my mouth water and certainly impressed the Judge. Well done, everyone who entered should be proud of their effort. It was also great to find that there were several new trophy winners.

The cup and trophy winners were:

The Children's Trophy: Noah MacNamara

The West Wratting Cup for Vegetables & Fruit:

Andrew Morris

The White Horse Trophy for Flowers & Pot Plants:

Jane Scheuer

The Stan & Hilda Cox Cup for Domestic classes:

Sue Kiddy

The West Wickham Star Baker: Val Scott.

The Ralph Westwood-Bate Photography Cup:

Rosemary Yallop

The Bill Pearson Cup for the most points won in

show: Rosemary Yallop, with Andrew Morris and Simon Blackwell as runners up.

The RHS Banksian Medal: Andrew Morris.

I enjoyed it, I know those who attended were impressed by what they saw, those of you who were not able to come missed a great display, and so don't miss out on next year's show.

Andrew Morris, Show Organiser

Autumn 2014 Programme

- Mon 15th Sept Annual General Meeting
- Mon 20th Oct The Humble Spud (and other related plants), a talk by John Walker
- Mon 17th Nov Waterlilies and Monet, a talk by Caroline Holmes
- Mon 15th Dec Christmas Quiz

All meetings will be held in West Wickham Village Hall, starting at 7.30 pm. Further details from Rosemary Yallop (01799 584262).

WEA Great Bradley

Great Bradley WEA meets each Wednesday morning in the autumn and winter. The aim of our group is to provide friendly, informal and enjoyable courses with expert tutors. There is no need to have prior knowledge of the course subject, nor do you need to have any academic qualifications. In fact most people come to explore new ideas and topics and to enjoy a sociable morning with friends old and new.

This autumn term we will be having a series of talks on 'Royal Gardens: Kew, Hampton Court, Sandringham, Windsor and Buckingham Palace', and Andrew Sankey will be the tutor. The term starts on Wednesday 17th September in Great Bradley Village

Hall, where we gather at 10 am for a 10.15 start, with the session finishing at about noon. Halfway through there is a break for tea or coffee and biscuits. The first week is available as a free taster to see if you like it, and from then the term's cost will be £49.

For more information, contact Peter Smith (01440 783278) or Gill Parry Brown (01223 893012).

News from the Ellesmere Centre

Yoga Classes will be starting on

Wednesday 3rd September from 6 - 7pm

with Mark Careless. Please come along

and stay fit, stretch out, de-stress and have

fun – all abilities welcome. Visit Mark's website

www.markcareless.com to find out more about him.



Dog Training Classes will be starting on Wednesday

evenings: Beginners 6.15 - 7 pm, Novice 7 - 8 pm,

Graduate 8 - 9 pm. To book contact Lucy on 01440

821043 / 07881 933547 or email

lucy@baybrook.co.uk

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Open Mic Night, Saturday 6th September. Anyone

wishing to perform, please contact Rob on 01638

507997. If you would like to come along and enjoy a

great night's music for just £2 entry fee then please

join us from 7.30 pm onwards.

Devil's Dyke Cross Country Run on Sunday

21st September at 2 pm, with Children's Fun Runs

from 1.15 pm: 3 miles (£8, 13 yrs+) or 9 kilometres

(£11, 15 yrs+), and u13 on the playing field (half

kilometre £2, one and a half kilometres £3). A

commemorative medal for all finishers; bar and BBQ.

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Contact Roger Whitehead (290524)

St Andrew's Church, West Wrating

Holy Communion at 10.45 am each Sunday (except on fifth Sunday of the month).

Contact Sebastian Bain (882960)

There will be a celebration of Holy Communion in **Balsham Church** at 10.30 am on the first Wednesday of each month, and at 9.15 am on subsequent Mondays.

Methodist Chapel, Weston Colville

Minister: Rev Nigel Bishop (01440 702422)

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

September 2014

- Wed 3 West Wrating Over 60s, Village Hall
- Fri 5 First Friday Bridge, West Wrating Village Hall
Tea & cakes, Weston Colville Reading Room
- Sat 6 Farmers' Market, LVC
Open Mic Night, Ellesmere Centre
- Tues 9 Balsham Horticultural Society outing
- Sun 14 Weston Colville Oil Syndicate deadline
- Mon 15 West Wickham Gardening Club AGM
- Tues 16 West Wrating Book Club
- Wed 17 WEA Great Bradley term begins
- Thur 18 West Wrating Lunch Club
- Sun 21 Weston Colville Cricket Club Event
Devil's Dyke Cross Country Run
Richard Michael Concert, Balsham
- Thur 25 Weston Colville Christmas Fair meeting
- Thur 25/Sun 28 The Chestnut Tree Beer Festival
- Fri 26 Bingo, West Wickham

October 2014

- Wed 1 West Wrating Over 60s, Village Hall
- Fri 3 First Friday Bridge, West Wrating Village Hall
- Sat 4 Farmers' Market, LVC
St Andrew's Autumn Concert, Balsham
- Tues 7 Cambridgeshire Celebrates Age, West Wrating
Balsham Horticultural Society meeting
- Sat 11/Sun 12 Art Exhibition, West Wrating
- Sun 12 West Wrating Oil Syndicate order deadline
- Thur 16 West Wrating Lunch Club
- Fri 17 West Wrating Harvest Supper
- Sat 18 'Come and Sing', Balsham
- Mon 20 West Wickham Gardening Club meeting

Black bins: Tuesday 2nd, 16th & 30th September,
Tuesday 14th & 28th October

Green & blue bins: Tuesday 9th & 23rd September,
Tuesday 7th & 21st October

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Mr Keith Day, Authorised Lay Minister

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St Andrew's:

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Cleaning

7th Sept

Jenny

Jenny

14th Sept

Jenny

Sue & Maggie

21st Sept

Suzanne

Pauline

28th Sept

Suzanne

Jenny

St Mary's:

Flowers

Cleaning

September

Phillipa

Jane

October

Jenny

Perdita

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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.

October issue's copy date:

Saturday 20th September