

# 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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## *From West Wrattling Vicarage*

One or two of us, I suspect, will be in need of a lie-down in a darkened room after the second weekend in May. It's going to be, well, interesting to say the least. For those of you who have been down a coal mine with a bucket over your heads just recently, I have to tell you that Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May is General Election day. Added to this, however, is the fact that Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May is the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the war in Europe (VE Day). Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May will be Celebration Day with a 'noise' time when church bells will ring, ships hooters sound, sirens wail and so on. On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May there will be a national Service of Thanksgiving in Westminster Abbey, attended by the Queen. All in all it's going to be quite a few days. Hence my opening remarks.

In many ways it is a fortunate coincidence that the General Election, when we vote for a Government, and VE Day should fall cheek by jowl, as at least one of the things that the Western allies were fighting for was the right to do just that, for the people freely and openly to choose their rulers. Only once in my adult life have I not voted, and that was because I hadn't organised a postal vote. And who do I normally vote for? Well, I was rather pleased when a referee once said that he had listened to my sermons for ten years and still hadn't a clue where my political allegiances lay. In fact I have voted for all three main parties over the years. Even that is not quite as varied as my churchwarden in Surrey, the Conservative Chairman of Surrey County Council, who told me that he had voted Communist in 1945, to get rid of the officer class!

Some of you, I know, are quite pleased that bishops in the House of Lords do not have a vote, such was your displeasure at the bishops' advice to voters. After a while, hearing many of you complain, I had honed a stock response: "Well, I didn't write it and I suspect

you haven't read it." In fact, if the bishops of the Church of England were serious about changing the way people voted, they wouldn't have given their advice in a 56-page document. Not what you would call snappy media-savvy electioneering. Whether or not you agree with what they wrote, they do have the right to express their views. You do not cease to be a Christian when you go into a polling booth. And perhaps we in comfortable South Cambridgeshire do need to be reminded that the austerity of the last few years, although its impact seems to have been relatively muted here, has bitten in other places very sharply. One of the Church of England's great strengths is that it is a truly national institution. There is supposed to be a report in the Kremlin saying that when the Communists took over they should get control of the Church of England, because it covered the whole country. Everyone had a parish priest. And so the bishops are sometimes aware of currents and feelings from elsewhere of which you and I are largely oblivious. Whether that will convince any of you to read the 56 pages before polling day is, I suspect, doubtful.

But it's still going to be quite a weekend.



17<sup>th</sup> May at St Andrew's, West Wrattling –  
Baptism of Charlotte Tubby at 10.45 am, and  
Songs of Praise at 4 pm.

31<sup>st</sup> May at Holy Trinity, Balsham –  
United Service, at 10 am. This service takes place fifty years after Rev Keith Johnson was ordained as a priest, and we have Canon Linda Church to preach for us. Linda trains people who will become the vicars and priests of tomorrow. Keith has been contributing to our worshipping life for many years, and we want to thank him and also reflect on what it means to be 'called' by God to do something.

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### Christian Aid Week, 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May

Watch out for the red envelopes for Christian Aid donations, either delivered to your house, or there are plenty in each church.

Any enquiries please to Joanna Sanders (893063, [sanderschimneys@uwclub.net](mailto:sanderschimneys@uwclub.net))

### Churchyard Lawn, West Wrattling

If anyone could spare a couple of hours over the summer to take a turn cutting our beautiful church lawn, it would be much appreciated. Mower and fuel provided.

*Ben (291307, [bwrwillcocks@gmail.com](mailto:bwrwillcocks@gmail.com))*

### Churchyard Clear Up, West Wrattling

A huge thank you to everyone who turned up for the Spring clean. About 21 man/woman/girl hours' work were achieved in the time we were down there, and everything is now under control and looking terrific. Particular thanks to Eloise who resisted the temptation of chocolate brownies in the village hall and did sterling work.

Many thanks again to everyone, and see you all in the autumn, if not before.

*Colin McCall*



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### Thanks!

In April we had a very frightening fire at our house. We are all safe.

May we please offer our most heartfelt thanks to our neighbours and fellow-villagers who were so caring and helpful and simply such good friends. From the bravery of trying to quench it with me before it got out of control, to the kindness of looking after the boys and us during the fire, to the support and offers of help gratefully received. We cried on a few shoulders and will never forget the way you all calmed and reassured us. Thank you, you wonderful people.

*David, Jayshree, Louis and Guy*

## St Andrew's, West Wrattling




### SONGS of PRAISE

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May**  
**4.00 pm**

Another of these very popular services, followed by refreshments. All welcome.

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**West Wrattling Over 60s**

We will have our annual visit to Scotsdale Garden Centre, to include lunch at 12.30 pm, on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Members will be picked up as arranged with their designated drivers.

Last month, thanks to Chippy's, eleven members enjoyed a fish'n'chip lunch, followed by an entertaining session of bingo. Thanks to our caller Janet and to Kath.

We look forward to holding our first garden meeting for this year at 2.30 pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> June at Hayter Close.

*Wendy Halls*

**Tea and Cakes Anniversary!**

Our gathering on Good Friday was very pleasant. We enjoyed the company of old friends who have left the village, and of new ones.

Our next gathering, on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May, will be the first anniversary of Tea and Cakes. It really doesn't seem like it's been a whole year since we started.

Thank you to everybody who has helped make it such a success.

I look forward to seeing you,

*Melanie*

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**Saturday Morning Café, West Wrattling**

Thank you to all who were able to join us for April's West Wrattling Saturday Café – it was great to catch up with so many people! The next café will be on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May between 10.30 am and 12 noon in the village hall. Come along for tea or coffee, home-made cakes, and a chat. There will also be an activity table for the kids. Everyone welcome, young and old! All proceeds will be used to organise future events as part of the café, such as arts & crafts, talks, and any suggestions you have.

We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Sherry (290070) or Catherine (291307).

**West Wrattling Clay Day**

This year this annual event, in aid of St Andrew's Restoration Fund, will take place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August at Wadlow Farm.

Please put the date in your diaries; further details will follow in due course.

*Simon Sampson (290461)*

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**Memorial Service, RAF Wrattling Common**

A short open-air service will be held at 12 noon on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May at the RAF Wrattling Common Memorial, to commemorate the opening of the airfield in 1943 and to remember all those who served at the airfield, especially the 260 who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. We look forward to seeing some of the veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade. The memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville, CB21 5NR and all are very welcome to attend the service.

**Dan Heath**

*Friends of Wrattling Common*

**Weston Colville Oil Co-operative**

Deadline for ordering: noon **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.**  
Church End to the bottom of Mill Hill: Anne Fairey (290326, or [anne@fairey.myzen.co.uk](mailto:anne@fairey.myzen.co.uk))  
Chapel Road, Common Road, Horseshoe Lane:  
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Orders will be collated and placed shortly after the order deadline, and deliveries may or may not begin the same week. If you are close to running out, tell your contact. The price will not be known until the order is placed and the supplier may ring for payment before delivery (failure to reply to this call may put your order in jeopardy), or bill you direct after delivery. Please be aware that most suppliers now add 2% to the invoice for credit card payment. Debit cards and cheques attract no surcharge.

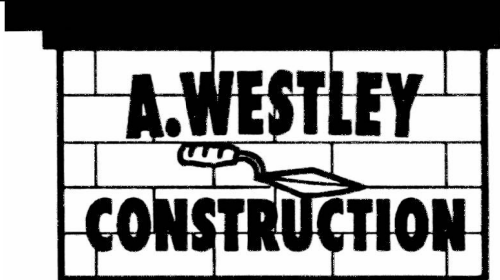
**Please ensure we have your correct address and postcode** because some deliveries have been delayed due to the lack of correct information.

*Anne & Anne*



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**West Wrattling Oil Syndicate**

There will be a fillup this month, with the cutoff for orders being Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 6 pm. Place your orders either by email to me at [richardholness023@btinternet.com](mailto:richardholness023@btinternet.com) or by phoning the pub during licensing hours (not too late, please) on 290384.

Details of the supplier, price and delivery dates will be placed on the West Wrattling website about three days after the order cutoff day.

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!

The village website [www.westwrattling.org.uk](http://www.westwrattling.org.uk) has an explanatory page about how the oil syndicate works.

**Richard Holness**

**Help Wanted**

After many years of acting as the Church End co-ordinator for Weston Colville Oil Co-operative, Anne Fairey will be moving on, and we need a new

person /people to take over from her. The co-operative tends to fill up four times a year, and someone is needed to take people's orders and inform participants of the delivery details when known. The role does not require negotiation with the oil companies.

If you would like more information about this role in the village please contact either Anne Fairey on 290326 or Anne Vidler on 290010.

**Weston Colville Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting for Weston Colville will take place in the Reading Room at 7 pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May. All parishioners are invited to attend.

At this meeting, there will be a presentation of results from the village survey carried out last autumn. The results have been incorporated into our community-led parish plan. Copies of the plan will be available prior to the meeting; those who provided an email address on their completed survey form will be sent one electronically. A number of printed copies will be available at the post office. Please take the opportunity to read it through, and come along to the meeting, as the plan will be put forward for adoption.

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for information on:

What's On	Directory	Parish Council
Parish History	Local Sports	Village Hall Events
Church News	Parish Matters	Village Calendar

**Please send us your contributions, events, notices, photos and comments.**

### **Church End Recreation Ground Appeal**

A huge thanks to everyone who joined us on 28<sup>th</sup> March for our Easter trail and helped us to raise in excess of £400! We would also like to say a big thank you to Wadlow Wind Farm who have awarded us a very generous grant, as well as to the National Lottery 'Awards for All' fund, Weston Colville Parish Council and the South Cambridgeshire County Council Community Chest, all of whom have supported our cause.

For anyone not aware of our campaign, we are planning to install some 'Trim Trail' type equipment in the Church End Recreation Ground. We hope it will prove a hit with children of all ages, but we're also keen that the equipment will function as a fitness aid for adults too.

We are delighted to announce that we are now within reach of our target. We hope to make a decision on the equipment by early May and are optimistic that we will have the equipment installed for use by the summer holidays. Watch this space for details of the Big Launch!

We hope the village will support the project and enjoy the equipment. If you would be willing to join our

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team (we will need volunteers to carry out a health and safety check on a regular basis) do please get in touch with either Jane or Kate.



Do please come and explore the Recreation Ground. It's a great, child-friendly space for the whole village.



LOTTERY FUNDED

**Kate Hiles (07710 745090)**  
**& Jane Jackson (07742 515551)**

### **Litter**

Business has been particularly brisk in the first quarter of 2015, and we have bagged at least 34 bin liners of litter on the Six Mile Bottom Road, Balsham Road and Withersfield Road alone so far. I am looking for reinforcements for the Six Mile Bottom Road from the sharp turn at Wadlow Farm to the turn-off to the A11 and Six Mile Bottom village. This is strictly within the Weston Colville boundary – but anyone can apply, and I will supply them with litter pickers and bin liners.

A big thank you to the teams in Weston Colville and West Wratting for doing such a good job. Remember that if there is any rubbish you are unable to pick up, I will get the council to take it away. Also remember that you can put full bin liners by your blue bin on collection days and they will be taken away by the council.

**Colin McCall (290036)**

### **The Music Bash**

The Music Bash (in memory of Chelsey Boreham): will take place on the evening of Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July (7 pm until 11 pm) and on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July (2 pm until 11 pm). Further details in due course.

**Blanche Miller**

**RICHARD KENYON  
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of Bluntisham, Cambridgeshire



Home: 01487 843377  
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email: richardkenyon\_1@hotmail.com

**West Wrattling Sports Pavilion Dates**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May: Youth Football Presentation,  
9.30 am until 9 pm.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May: Christening celebration,  
12.30 until 7 pm.

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May: Christening celebration,  
12.30 until 7 pm.

*Blanche Miller, Sports Pavilion Secretary*

**West Wrattling Book Club**

On 8<sup>th</sup> April we met to review 'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Harper Lee, her 'first' and, to date only, book.

Published in 1960, it is set in a small 'tired old town' in Alabama. All present thoroughly enjoyed it and felt it an excellent book which everyone should read. We were particularly struck by the words of wisdom and rules to live by that Atticus Finch gives to his children, and by his calm determination to do what was right and his best for Tom Robinson, in the face of animosity from certain sections of the community. We wondered if an eight-year-old would have had such mature thoughts, although it was pointed out that she was looking back on events as an adult. Other

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comments were "an amazing piece of writing", "so many interwoven themes", "well crafted", and "descriptions that brought to life a person, event or image in a few simple words or phrases". Scores were between 9 and 10.

It was felt that there is still relevance to attitudes prevalent today and to recent events in the USA.

We were inspired to read this because of the upcoming publication of what would have been Harper Lee's first book, a lost transcript, 'Go Get a Watchman', due to be published in July. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to read this book perhaps over the summer.

We will meet on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 8 pm at The Chestnut Tree to review 'The Garden of Evening Mists' by Tan Twan Eng, shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2012 and winner of the Man Asian Literary Prize 2012. It tells the story of a Malaysian woman who decides to create a garden in memory of her sister, killed at the hands of the Japanese during their occupation of Malaya in WWII.

Suggestions for June are 'Eleanor Marx: a Life' by Rachel Holmes, or 'Elizabeth is Missing' by Emma Healey.

*Linda Gorman*

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***West Wratting Parish Council***

***Parish Meeting:*** the Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30, prior to the Parish Council meeting. Melanie Murdoch from Age UK, who is the co-ordinator of the local mobile warden scheme, will be giving a short talk about the work they do and may be accompanied by Sue Buckingham, who is our warden. There will also be reports from the Chairman of the Parish Council, the Village Hall Management Committee, and other clubs and societies. Do please come and support it.

At the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March the following are some of the items discussed:

***Planning:*** S/2268/14/PO – Camgrain. Mr Philip Darke, managing director of Linton Camgrain, gave a presentation in order to open a dialogue with regard to the new approved application to remove restrictions on movement of grain lorries. There is a fuller report of this in the draft minutes on the noticeboards. The chairman felt this was a useful discussion and hoped it would lead to further dialogue, when other issues might arise.

***Maintenance:***

***Village Hall:*** Mike Rowland, Chairman of the VHMC, spoke about the condition of the village hall roof. An architect who had assessed the problem had suggested a polymer roof which should have a 30-year life. Three tenders had been received and a sum of £28,000 was required. A grant request of £20,000 had been submitted to the Wind Farm Trust, the Parish Council had promised £3,000 and the village hall funds of £5,000 should cover the cost if the grant is given.

***RoSPA:*** Cllr Holness expressed a wish to be present when RoSPA come and inspect the playing area, and the parish clerk will inform RoSPA.

***Road Signage etc:*** this was under discussion with the Highways Department.

***Meetings attended by Cllrs:***

***Sports Pavilion:*** at the last meeting attended by Cllr McCall it was agreed the following:-

1. Fixture lists and reports will be put in Challenge.
2. The oil tank protection is still under discussion.
3. Defibrillator is now in place and there will be training on its use.
4. Electric shutters – an Amey Cespa grant request would be suitable.

***A1307 meeting:*** attended by Cllr & Mr McCall; the following points were made:-

1. The speed watch equipment is now out of date and how it can be used has changed, so there is a need for some retraining etc.
2. 4,000 new houses are planned to be built in Haverhill, increasing road use. Possible solution to traffic problems would be to build a new road to bypass Linton. Another option would be to provide better public transport.

***Reports by Dist Cllrs Barrett & Fraser:***

1. Refuse collection at Christmas – had there been any complaints?
2. Community Chest grant has been increased to £1,500.
3. Consultation notice regarding public houses and their closure: this had been sent round in a correspondence folder to the councillors, but no response.

***Any other business:***

1. The bus shelter is in need of being cleaned and tidied up.
2. A request to have 30 mph stickers on the refuse bins was turned down as being too costly, and only in public view one day per two weeks.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at 8.30 pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May, following the Parish Meeting. All are welcome.

***Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk***



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*Jeremy Compton*  
**J P Compton Horsebox Services Ltd**

**Weston Colville Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)**

A recent request suggested that neighbourhood watch should do more. NHW tries to encourage us to do our best to improve our own security, and to involve family, neighbours, and friends to help, by telling each other when we will be away and watching out for each other's property at these times. NHW shares security advice and news about local crime. If at any time, you see something suspicious – strange vehicles or people in the village which make us suspicious – don't delay, call 101 and tell the police what you have seen. Please help by sharing with me any ideas you may have.

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**www.westwratting.org.uk/village-hall/**

This has been a quiet month for us, a huge improvement over recent times. However, areas around us have experienced vehicles being broken into at functions, and several caravans, a trailer and boat thefts have taken place, along with generators, power tools and heating oil thefts. On the positive side Smart Water has scored a victory, helping the police to recover a stolen quad bike and several other vehicles inside an HGV. As always: 'If you value it, protect it'. For example, use quality products to immobilise your caravan – see [www.sold.secure.com](http://www.sold.secure.com)

To avoid bogus Rugby World Cup 2015 tickets: Action Fraud (0300 123 2040) has provided advice on buying official tickets safely from a reliable source such as <https://tickets.rugbyworldcup.com>; for more information see 'eCops'.

Please don't become a victim of pension fraud. When it comes to your pension fund, some sources of advice are designed to trick you out of your retirement savings. 'Get Safe Online', a government advice site, is developing a section on pension safety ([www.getsafeonline.org/protecting-yourself/pension-fraud/](http://www.getsafeonline.org/protecting-yourself/pension-fraud/)).

If you do not have a computer, try the local library service or call the Citizens Advice Bureau.

The Police and Crime Commissioner, Sir Graham Bright, has sent out an advice letter covering a wide range of local policing matters across the region, which helps to make Cambridgeshire a safer place – please see <http://goo.gl/cfmFFm>.

If you know of anything that has happened in our village please email me or talk to Christine in the shop. She will tell me and we can share the information, BUT do call 101 first.

*Allen Scott (290837, allen.scott70@googlemail.com)*

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### The Meadow School

This academic year is literally whizzing by. The enjoyment, enthusiasm, knowledge and skills which the children have gained is a testament to the exciting and engaging topics all of the staff have worked so hard with this year, and the summer term is no different.

This half term the Infants will be studying 'New Life'. Already we have a tank of frogspawn and tadpoles in school, which are literally entrancing the children. The speed at which they change and develop day by day has reminded us of the importance of the changes and progress our own children make. The excitement levels are very high within the four classes at the minute, as we eagerly await the eggs which we hope will hatch out into our very own brood of chickens. Whether the excitement will remain as high once the children realise they are also in charge of cleaning them out daily – we will see!

The rest of the school are all embarking on topics that will last the term. Years 3/4 are focussing on 'From Field to Fork'. As so many children now seem to have limited appreciation of the origins of food and how it links to the land around us, we thought we

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would focus on plant reproduction, how and where crops are grown, where food travels from, and the impact of intensive farming on both animal and arable farming as well as animal welfare. The finale will be a day at Peterborough Showground for a 'Children's Food and Farming Day.'

Years 5/6 are very busy at the minute, with Year 6 revising hard for the end of Key Stage 2 tests. However, we are ensuring that all of our children still receive a broad and balanced curriculum, even when tests are happening. With this in mind, they too have started their final topic, 'Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat.' The children will be exploring the journey of Joseph and his family, identifying key geographical features, and considering wider geographical issues. ICT will be used to study the manipulation of effective video clips, presenting to specific audiences. The topic will finish in spectacular style, with a production of 'Joseph'. The songs are already being learned and yes, they are already stuck in my head!

In the week we broke up, Y3/4 put on a super production of 'A Glimp of Gold', linked to their 'Journey Down the Nile' topic. They all sang, danced and acted their hearts out. It was a great way to end the term.

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While this was going on, Year 5 were at Burwell House on their residential trip. For the first time ever, they all slept on the first night! The days of pond dipping, and playing games such as Burwell Fox and Burwell Challenge, all helped. They were real ambassadors for our school, and had a great time too!

It isn't just the children, though, who are willing to work hard. You may have spotted the skips in the car park if you have driven past of late. We are just finishing the last big clear out as we continue our 'out with the old and in with the new' journey. The school was open for one of our regular 'Helping Hands' days on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April, and my goodness the turnout was fantastic. With over 30 adults in attendance (and lots of children too) we achieved a great deal in our outdoor area. The Meadow is a school that has an amazing community spirit, which just grows all of the time.

As we move into May, the general election is upon us, and who knows by the time I next write who will be in power and what will be happening to education. All I can say is that I hope whoever it is allows schools like ours the opportunity to continue to plan topics that interest our pupils, work alongside our parents as

we do, and fund us fairly. I love working at The Meadow and we just manage with the finances we have, but imagine what else we could achieve if funding was fair across the country!

We share photos and news of everything that happens at The Meadow on our twitter page, @Meadow\_Balsham. Check it out!

*Nichola Connor, Headteacher*

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## Derbyshire Post

Anyone who drives past our College can see how lucky the children are in terms of the sporting facilities that



we have available. In the evenings and weekends these are heavily used by the local community sports clubs, but in the day the students have the run of the well-equipped fitness suite, two sports halls, astro turf, tennis courts, outdoor cricket nets and two large playing fields. I've never known a state-funded school with the array of goodies that we have available.

It is small wonder that so many of our children are keen on their sport and that we do so well in local sporting competitions. In recent months our Year 8 boys have been to the finals of the District Football, our Year 9 girls are District Champions in netball and basketball, four of our students (Lauren Murphy, Thomas Keen, Cameron Ackroyd and Dominic Brophy) represented the district in the National Cross-country Championships, and a large number of students are playing at county level in a range of sports, perhaps the most impressive of which is Harry Wendelken who represents Great Britain in his age category in tennis. On site we have a level 5 tennis coach in Paul Harms and an energetic, enthusiastic team of PE teachers who coach the young people through the week.

We have just been told that we are in the top 100 state-funded schools in the country for academic success at GCSE, but the amount of sport that our youngsters do at LVC provides an important and healthy balance in their lives.

*Caroline Derbyshire, Principal*



**20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR**

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**Netball at Linton**

Linton Netball Club are excited to announce the opening of a new youth section to their club, for girls of all abilities in school years 9 to 11.

This is a great opportunity for this age group to train together locally and to play matches in a league. Training will be led by a qualified level 2 netball coach.

Training will start on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May and will be each Monday (term time only), 6.30 to 7.30 pm on the outside courts at Linton Village College. The cost for the junior sessions will be £2.50 per week, paid termly.

If your daughter is interested in coming along for a free first session, or if you are interested in our adult club (also on Mondays, 7.30 to 8.30 pm) then please contact Bridget Savill on 07972 598668 or Angela Bridgeman on 07729 879300.

**Balsham Horticultural Society**



In a change of format, this month's meeting took the form of a Question Time. Members were invited to submit their gardening queries and these were discussed by three well-informed invited speakers. Members had obviously been thinking long and hard about the problems they encountered and this was reflected in the range of questions, and there were tips and suggestions not only from the panel but from other members. This all led to a relaxed and enjoyable time, and a successful evening that no doubt will become a regular event.

- Places are still available for the evening outing to Spencer's Garden in Great Yeldham on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Transport can be provided.

- Likewise, places are available for the trip to Capel Manor gardens in Enfield. This is a day trip on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July.

Please contact Lyn Bobrow on 890598 for more details.

As you start to think about stocking the garden for the summer, why not pop along to the Balsham bandstand between 10 and 12 on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May? Members will be selling cuttings etc for a fraction of the garden centre prices, with helpful information thrown in for free!

*Sue Lock*

**Harold's Gardening Notes for May**

By May, the sun is very powerful and the greenhouse will require shading, if this has not already been done. Trays or pots of plants that will be planted out at the end of the month will dry out quickly in an unshaded greenhouse. Watch out for an explosion in numbers of greenfly and other pests, both indoors and out. The tips of all young plants are vulnerable to attack and the appropriate action should be taken to deal with any pests. Late frosts are still possible, so have fleece on hand to protect potatoes and other tender crops on still, clear nights.

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***Linton Health Centre – an Update***

We have been running our **rapid access clinic** for six months now. The rapid access team, doctors and a nurse practitioner, work together to see all the urgent cases booked on the day, including visits and telephone enquiries/consultations.

How is it working?

Visits are being undertaken much earlier in the day. This is good for patients, especially for those who may need admission to hospital.

Telephone call-backs are usually dealt with quickly and, in some cases, save the patient a trip to the surgery. The feedback from patients in this respect has been very positive.

The access for those patients wanting an urgent, on-the-day, appointment is definitely much improved and appreciated by our patients. Inevitably, there are times when emergencies occur and the clinicians run behind, but our reception team try to keep everyone informed and the feedback from those using the rapid access clinic has been very positive.

Once again Sawston and Linton Practices submitted a joint bid to the **Prime Minister’s Challenge Fund** for funding to extend their opening hours, but once again we were unsuccessful.

‘**Relate Cambridge**’ will be delivering a counselling service from Linton Health Centre on Wednesday afternoons starting on 29<sup>th</sup> April. The relationship counsellor will work with individuals or couples. For more information, or to make an appointment, phone Relate Cambridge ([www.relatecambridge.org.uk](http://www.relatecambridge.org.uk)) on 01223 357424.

*Sheila Griffiths, Practice Manager and Partner*



**JUMBLE SALE**

**West Wickham Village Hall**  
**Sat 9 May**  
**2 - 4pm**

**Clothes, Books, Toys, Bric-a-Brac,  
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 Tombola**

Please drop in any jumble you would like to donate between 9.00 -12.30 on the 9th May. To drop off sooner, or for larger items please call Daisy Chains on 07943866294 Mon-Fri

All Proceeds go to Daisy Chains Pre-School, West Wickham  
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***The Ellesmere Centre***

The **Sixties Dance** was a great success, and raised £650 for the St Nicholas Hospice. This event was a sell out, so remember to book early for the similar event which is being planned for the end of November.



The next **Open Mic Night** is on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Call Rob if you would like to perform. £2 entrance (students £1). Refreshments available.

We will be holding our first **Medieval Banquet** on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June. The evening will consist of a banquet of meats, salads and pudding, with music by the Kitchen Choir and the Kitchenettes. More details to follow next month.



Yoga is starting on Friday mornings, 9.30-10.30 for all abilities. First class (free taster) Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May. Call Lisa on 07402 655556 for details.

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May 2015

## Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

### Take it to the tip – don't burn it.

Spring is here, and lots of households are clearing out, sprucing up the garden and carrying out DIY. The majority of Cambridgeshire's residents take extra rubbish, old furniture and garden waste to their local waste and recycling centre. However, our crews are still getting called to households and businesses that are choosing to have a bonfire instead. Please avoid burning waste, and instead dispose of it responsibly.



## Come along for a fun family afternoon of craft activities at



on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May  
2-4pm

@ Weston Colville  
Methodist Chapel

### Auditions for 'Les Misérables – the Play'

St John's Players, based at the Townley Memorial Hall, Fulbourn, will be holding auditions on Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>, Monday June 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday June 10<sup>th</sup>, all at 7.30 pm, for their production at the end of October.

We are looking for a LARGE cast, aged from teenagers to senior citizens, to fill the numerous parts (approximately 38). Singing ability is not required in this production, and casting will be made on acting ability; however, if you are able to sing, we shall try to utilise your talent where possible, with some rousing group songs.

For more information on the play, including plot and brief outlines of characters, please look on the 'Auditions' section of the St John's Players' website ([www.stjohnsplayers.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsplayers.co.uk)) or contact me on 01354 694782, 07758 598859, or [carole.ransom7@googlemail.com](mailto:carole.ransom7@googlemail.com)

**Carole Ransom, Producer**

### The Gondoliers

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre is proud to present Gilbert & Sullivan's 'The Gondoliers' in the wonderful 'Theatre in a Barn', Downing Farm, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridge CB25 0NW, on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 pm, and Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30 and 7.30 pm. Tickets and further information are available from [www.sbsummertheatre.com](http://www.sbsummertheatre.com) or Caille Peri (07541 554845) or on [sbst.tickets@gmail.com](mailto:sbst.tickets@gmail.com)



FOR YOUR DIARY:

St Mary's, Weston Colville  
27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> June

**Flower Festival**

and

**Classical Guitar Concert**

**Daniela Rossi**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June, evening concert**

We are very privileged to have classical guitarist **Daniela Rossi** coming to play at St Mary's during our Flower Festival.

Daniela Rossi studied guitar at the Conservatory of Bahia Blanca, Argentina, graduating in 2006. She has been winning prizes in international competitions since the age of 15. Daniela has performed in solo recitals, with small ensembles, and with orchestras in concerts across Latin America and Europe.

Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of June.

Further details in June issue of *Challenge*.

For more information please contact Jane Wheeler on [jane@janepryor.co.uk](mailto:jane@janepryor.co.uk)

## **St Mary's Church, Weston Colville**

Holy Communion each Sunday at 9.15 am  
(except on fifth Sunday of the month).

Contact Roger Whitehead (290524)

## **St Andrew's Church, West Wratting**

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

## **May 2015**

- Fri 1 Tea and Cakes, Weston Colville  
First Friday bridge, West Wratting
- Sat 2 Farmers' Market, Linton Village College  
Saturday Café, West Wratting
- Tues 5 West Wratting Book Club
- Wed 6 West Wratting Over 60s trip to Scotsdales
- Sat 9 Youth Football presentation, West Wratting  
Jumble sale, West Wickham  
Fun afternoon, Weston Colville Methodist Chapel
- Sun 10 Deadline for West Wratting Oil Co-op orders
- Mon 11 Annual Parish Meeting, Weston Colville  
Annual Parish Meeting, West Wratting
- Fri 15 Deadline for Weston Colville Oil Co-op orders
- Sat 16 Plant sale, West Wickham  
Balsham Singers concert
- Sun 17 Songs of Praise, West Wratting
- Thur 21 West Wratting Lunch Club
- Sat 23 Plant sale, Balsham Horticultural Society
- Sun 31 United service, Balsham  
Memorial service, RAF Wratting Common

## **June 2015**

- Wed 3 West Wratting Over 60s garden meeting
- Fri 5 Tea and Cakes, Weston Colville  
First Friday bridge, West Wratting
- Sat 6 Farmers' Market, Linton Village College  
Saturday Café, West Wratting
- Sun 7 Big Balsham Sale
- Sat 13 June Revels, Balsham
- Sat 27/Sun 28 Weston Colville Flower Festival
- Sat 27 Daniela Rossi guitar concert

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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)

<b>St Andrew's:</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Linda	Jenny
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Jenny	Pauline
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Jenny	Sue & Maggie
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Fanny	Jenny
31 <sup>st</sup> May	Fanny	Pauline

<b>St Mary's:</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>
May	Katie	Gay
June	Anne	Lucy & Gay

**Black bins:** **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>** & Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May,  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**Green & blue bins:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> & **Wed 27<sup>th</sup>** May,  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

**Mobile library:** fourth Wednesdays (27<sup>th</sup> May, 24<sup>th</sup> June)

High Street, West Wratting	12.10 - 12.55
Post Office, Weston Green	2.05 - 2.25
Mill Hill, Weston Colville	2.30 - 3.05

**Parish Council Clerks:**  
Weston Colville – Christine King,  
[wcpc@typo.demon.co.uk](mailto:wcpc@typo.demon.co.uk), 01223 290963  
West Wratting – Jenny Richards,  
[jrichards007@talktalk.net](mailto:jrichards007@talktalk.net), 01223 665260

**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.

**June issue's copy date:**  
**Wednesday 20th May.**

