# Chassenge

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

The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

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# From the Vicarage

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the fundraising events over the summer. The Flower Festival at Weston Colville was once again a stunning

event. The summer fete at West Wratting was a wonderful day, which ended with an ecumenical Songs of Praise in St Andrew's, and before this article is printed there will also have been a clay shoot in support of funds at West Wratting. Thank you to those who put such energy into these events, which draw



together people from the villages and beyond. It is heartening to see that the village churches have a part to play in the whole community life of these villages.

This month, within the group of churches, we will be advertising and interviewing for a part-time Parish Nurse. The Parish Nurse needs to be a State Registered Nurse and willing to work with the churches and local village communities, and in partnership with the local GPs. The post is for three days per week. If you are interested, please contact Rev Julie Norris on 01223 890895 or

7churches.seven@gmail.com for the full advert, for more information and for application details. This project is an example of something that the church is doing, in collaboration with the GPs in Sawston and Linton, to make a difference to people in the villages irrespective of whether they go to church or not.

This month also sees the launch of the New Diocesan Strategy with a service in Ely Cathedral at 3 pm on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Tickets to this service can be

obtained from the office at Bishop Woodford House, Ely (01353 652700). A document called 'People Fully Alive: Ely 2025', setting out the strategy, can be downloaded from the diocese website or found at the back of the parish churches. The strategy aims to encourage small churches like ours by helping us to develop tools to engage with our local communities, by offering training and developing lay and ordained leaders. It encourages us to think of new ways to make the church buildings, our ancient and holy spaces, more widely used by the whole community. In the PCCs we will be welcoming wider conversations and ideas as we explore how the strategy will impact on us here.

You will be glad to know that the Diocese of Ely has donated funds to help us to start the Parish Nurse Project from their new Mission Fund. This reflects an appreciation by the diocese of the work we are trying to accomplish here in these parishes. There has been an anxiety expressed that the new strategy will somehow threaten small churches, but in this case, we are being supported. We are being encouraged to see that we have an important part to play, and we need to rise to the challenges.

Please join us for our Harvest Services. At St Andrews we will hold a traditional Harvest Eucharist at 10.45 am on 13<sup>th</sup> September, and on 18<sup>th</sup> October there will be a Harvest Songs of Praise at 4.30 pm in St Andrew's. The Weston Colville Harvest Service will be on 4<sup>th</sup> October at 11 am. We will once again be donating to the local foodbank.

Rev Julie Norris

# Seven Churches Administrator

The new administrator is Caroline (Cazzy) Walshe, who works at the rectory in Little Abington on Monday and Thursday mornings. Contact details are: 7churches.seven@gmail.com 01223 891350.



# Harvest Festival at St Andrew's

We will be celebrating the harvest at St Andrew's, West Wratting, with two services which we hope will meet a wide variety of preferences and spiritual needs.

# 13<sup>th</sup> September, 10.45 am Traditional Harvest Eucharist

18<sup>th</sup> October, 4.30 pm Harvest Songs of Praise

As in previous years it would be good if we could bring food to donate to the local foodbank.

John Fellows

# West Wratting Harvest Supper

This year's event will now take place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October (this is a change in date from last month's notice!), starting at 7 pm and finishing at midnight.

The format will be the same as previous years; we will be serving a simple supper of cheese and ham ploughman's, followed by apple pies/crumbles.

There will be a raffle, produce auction and bar.

Tickets: adults £10, children £5, available from myself, or The Chestnut Tree, or at the next village Saturday morning café (5<sup>th</sup> September).

As this is a community event I am looking for people to help with running the supper (before, during and after), as well as donations for the raffle and produce auction, and apple crumbles/pies. If you can help please email me, or telephone and leave a message.

Karen Baker (291229, karen@karenbakerdesign.co.uk)

# The Chestnut Tree West Wratting

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# St Andrew's Church – Maintenance

It may not hit one between the eyes, but some discreet and much needed repairing and painting has recently been carried out.

Pat Copeman has spent several weeks (in between juggling grandchildren and keeping her husband in the manner to which he has become accustomed) repairing and painting all the doors and windows on the north side of the church. Pat was ably helped by Mark Addley, who gave up a day of his holiday to sand down the vestry door and fill various gaps with lime. The small south door has had several coats of Cuprinol, while Hammerite has been applied to many of the grills and small external metal works, and inside the church the north door has been stained and the altar rail has been painted, as well as various pipes and radiators. The cost of labour was, of course, free (including Paul Stevenson easing the north door), and Sanneke Sole very kindly offered to pay for all the paint and other materials needed.

I think we would all agree that the church with its churchyard is one of the jewels in the West Wratting crown (along with our lovely pub, well-run village hall and successful football club).

In my wanderings I meet a constant trickle of people who are highly complimentary about the 'look' of the village, including many potential house buyers getting a feel for West Wratting.

There are many other people involved in keeping West Wratting the way it is and it is a pleasure to live here. In this particular instance I would like to thank Pat, Mark and Sanneke for the contributions to the upkeep of St Andrew's Church, but I am fully aware of all the others who keep 'the show on the road'.

Sisse McCall

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# Another Thank You!

Substantial work on the West Wratting Village Hall flat roof and belfry has now been completed, within budget, largely funded by a generous grant from the Wadlow Wind Farm Community Fund. I am very grateful to Nigel Heath for his insistence, right at the outset, that we should employ an architect. This excellent advice proved invaluable, but was rather daunting as we already faced the prospect of refurbishment costs well in excess of our normal resources. Huge thanks then to Phil and Sherry O'Donovan, who immediately stepped in with an undertaking to pay the architect's fees. Together these three helped kick-start a project that has gone well from beginning to end. During the past nine months it has been heart-warming to review the wide variety of worthwhile activities that take place under the roof of our hall, and it is so nice that we no longer need a bucket under a hole in the ceiling as an accompaniment. Thanks again to all concerned.

> Mike Rowland, Chairman WWVH Management Committee



# West Wratting Show

A huge thank you to everyone involved in the village show on 1st August: from the planning, programme, produce, dog show and venue teams through to the furniture movers, PA loans, BBQ and bar teams and caterers and people on the day, all delivering such a great day to the local community. It was a big success, and raised just under £2,300 profit. Many thanks particularly to Mark and Erin for the venue of the paddock, and to the eight or so people who helped



move tables, chairs, and tents from around the county to the churchyard; also to Mike Rowland and his team of intrepid teddy bear throwers, and to Tamara for organising that, too. We even managed to have a tug of war, thanks to the Johnston family.

The overall produce show cup was won by Caroline Wyke – many congratulations!

We have done a de-brief, and wonder whether we should in 2016 have a street party, with others across the country, perhaps on The Causeway, to celebrate the Queen's official birthday, say in mid June; what do you, as parishioners, think? If anyone is interested in this, or has any views about the future of the village show or a street party for 2016, please either put them in Challenge, perhaps, or contact Scilla Harvey or Jeanette Job, preferably by email:

thejobs@hotmail.co.uk or scilla-harvey@tiscali.co.uk

Very many thanks once again to everyone.

The West Wratting Show Committee

# Children's Summer Tennis Coaching

We were very lucky to have fair weather for this year's children's tennis coaching which was held at the d'Abo Tennis Club in West Wratting during the first week of August. Paul Harms and Rowan did a fantastic job of coaching over forty children, ranging in age from 2 to 15 years, over the course of four mornings. The children all appeared to have lots of fun as well as gaining some new tennis skills, and I would like to say a huge thank you to the West Wratting Saturday Café for their extremely generous sponsorship of this course.

Cally Wilson

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# EACH Music Bash

We had a lovely sunny day, with lots of people attending and supporting the event, which was very successful. The total raised, after all costs, was £5757.70!

Half, £2878.85, will go to EACH in memory of Chelsey Boreham, and the other half will go to the West Wratting Senior and Youth football teams and the Sports Pavilion.

We wish to thank Safebox UK who once again sponsored the event, and all the bands and singers who donated their time free of charge; very much appreciated. This was organised by Paul Santry and Dan Heath – again, many thanks. Thank you to all of the businesses and individuals who donated the many raffle prizes, and thank you also to the people who donated their time in the setting up for both days and their help on the days – very hard work, but for worthwhile causes. Thank you so much.

Blanche, Sports Pavilion Secretary



### autumn concert

at Holy Trinity Church, Balsham

Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015, 7:30 PM

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Michael and Linda Gorman 01223-290653 Jeanette Job 01223-290706



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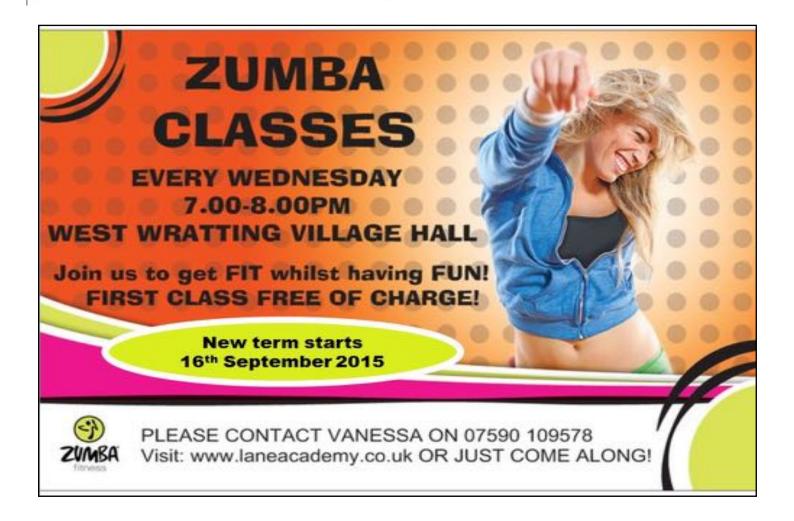
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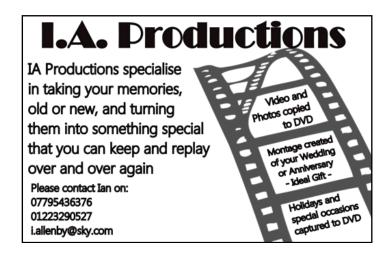
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# Weston Colville Cinema Club

'The Bicycle Thieves' Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30 pm

I am pleased to announce we appear to have sufficient support for the Weston Colville



Cinema Club idea to give it a try. A classic movie you may or may not know, on the first Wednesday of every month, with an introductory talk. October and November will be by donation – hopefully refreshments will be provided, but do feel free to bring your own (such as a bottle of good wine).

We are starting off with one of the greatest Italian Neo-realist films of all time: 'The Bicycle Thieves'. If you have never seen it you really should; for a long time it was hailed as one of the greatest films ever made, and received an Academy Oscar. Directed by Vittorio De Sica.

Laurence Staig (291212, Laurence.staig@onetel.net)



# www.westwratting.org.uk 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.

# Tea and Cakes, Weston Colville

Our next gathering will be on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 3.30 - 5 pm at the Reading Room.

Please come along to catch up with old friends and meet new ones, and of course for a cuppa and a generous helping of delicious cake, all made and donated by our helpers.

Also a plea for help. We are always glad of help, but as I am starting a full-time course in September we need help more than ever. So if you fancy helping to set up and make the teas from time to time, please let me know.

Melanie (291319)

# Saturday Morning Café, West Wratting

The Saturday morning café will run as usual on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September between 10.30 am and 12 in the village hall. The café is set up for the benefit of our local community and we are so pleased it is getting lots of support and proving a great way to catch up with so many people! The café works by different volunteers offering to serve and donate cakes every month (including at least one dairy- and glutenfree offering).

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

# West Wratting Over 60s

The club will meet in the village hall on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 2.30 pm, with a bring 'n' buy and raffle.

Many thanks to Janet and Mark for welcoming members to a garden meeting at Linton last month – a

# RICHARD KENYON MASTER THATCHER

of Bluntisham, Cambridgeshire



Home: 01487 843377 Mobile: 07873 549872

email: richardkenyon 1@hotmail.com

most enjoyable afternoon, with a couple of quizzes which definitely got the 'little grey cells' working overtime, and a scrumptious selection of cakes, also provided by Janet.

Next month's meeting will be held in the village hall on 7<sup>th</sup> October, when we will compete in a game of Scrabble.

Wendy Halls

# Weston Colville Circular Walk

Join us on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October on a guided walk – it'll be about 5 miles. We're meeting at the Reading Room in Weston Colville at 10 am and will have lunch inside on our return. All are welcome, and our guide will be local footpath expert Brian Cushion. If it proves popular, it could become an occasional Weston Colville event. More details to follow in October's Challenge, but this is an advance notice for your diary.

Jacqueline & Alastair Douglas (291475, jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com)



# Model Railway Club

Is there anyone interested in joining/forming a model railway club in Burrough Green?

There is a good sized heated room available for a large fixed layout/display, and a lot of track is already available along with a substantial amount of rolling stock. Age and experience are of no consequence!

If interested please contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Phil** (philip2605@btinternet.com, 01638 507084)

# Seeking House and Cat Sitter

I am seeking someone to live in my house in West Wratting and look after my friendly and affectionate tabby cat Hepzibah for three months between February and April 2016, while I am away in Washington DC on a library fellowship. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact me on 01223 291491 or amw23@cam.ac.uk. Terms to be negotiated.

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# West Wratting Oil Syndicate

# There will be a fillup this month, with the cutoff for orders being Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 6 pm.

Place your orders either by email to me at *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 WW 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 next fillup will be in October this year, then January 2016, with details in the relevant month's Chassenge.

The village website www.westwratting.org.uk has an explanatory page about how the oil syndicate works.

**Richard Holness** 

# Weston Colville Oil Co-operative

Deadline for ordering: noon Sunday 6th September

**Church End to the bottom of Mill Hill:** 

Alastair Douglas (291475 or salguoda@hotmail.co.uk)

**Chapel Road, Common Road, Horseshoe Lane:** 

Anne Vidler (290010, or anne.vidler@talk21.com)

# West Wratting Book Club

The next book club meeting will be on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September at The Chestnut Tree, 8 pm, when we will be reviewing 'The Sunrise' by Victoria Hislop, and 'H is for Hawk', a truly fascinating book by a local author and based around Cambridge and Barton.

Come along, have a chat, and suggest new books for us to read.

Some of us will also have read by then the new Harper Lee book, 'Go Set A Watchman', so views on that will be welcomed, too.

The aim of the evening is to have a glass of something in the pub, to support the pub, or a coffee, and a chat, and get to know others in the villages, as well as talking about books a bit. Try us, or at least read the

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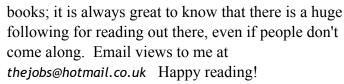
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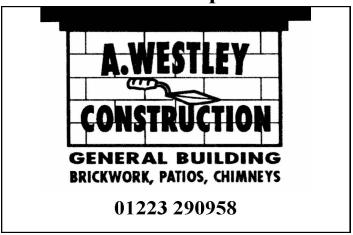
Jeanette Job

# Coppicing and Mammal Counting in Lower Wood

Lower Wood is looking rather overgrown at present, as the plant growth this summer has continued throughout August, with all the rainfall that we have had, but hopefully the paths will soon be cut. Coppicing work parties will commence again on the last Saturday of each month starting with September, so the dates will be 26<sup>th</sup> Sept, 31<sup>st</sup> Oct, 28<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan, 30<sup>th</sup> Jan, and 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. We will meet by the pond at 10 am on each occasion. Duncan will be driving into the wood from Weston Green to save carrying all the tools into the wood.

The Wildlife Trust mammals' group is coming back to Lower Wood on 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September. The plan is to survey the composition of the small mammal population at the end of summer. This should be the point at which the population is at its highest. Last year there were very good catches of bank voles, woodmice and yellow-necked mice together with water shrews and common shrews. It will be interesting to compare the composition this time. So if you want to help us set the traps or help recover the traps with the catches, then do join us.

We plan to set the traps with both casters and grain as food for both insectivores and herbivores. On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> we will set the traps with the food but leave the doors held open so that the rodents get used to the food we are providing. Then on Saturday we will set



the traps to 'catch' and recover these on Sunday morning. We will repeat the trapping on Sunday night with the rodents being released on Monday morning.

If parents would like their children to come along, can we ask that the parents or a responsible adult be present with each child. This is a requirement of the trust.

Further details will be available nearer the time, so please email me at *m\_stammers@btinternet.com* if you would like to come along and I will forward these details when I get them.

Melanie (on behalf of Duncan Mackay, Warden)

#### Accommodation Needed

I have just moved to England and am currently living with my son and daughter-in-law and working as a nanny for my two grandsons. I am interested in having my own living quarters, preferably in West Wratting or Weston Colville. I am a mature single lady, non-smoker, quiet, have a good income and would appreciate any offers of an unfurnished flat, semi-detached house, or bungalow to rent. I can be reached via <code>lee.haviland@gmail.com</code> or on 290969. Thank you very much.

Lee Haviland

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# The Chestnut Tree Charity Beer Festival

It is nearly time for our Beer Festival again, which will be from 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September. This year we will be raising funds for East Anglia Children's Hospices (EACH) and the RNLI.

There will be over twelve different beers, all from different brewers, and all festival ales will be only £3 a pint, with 50p from each pint going to charity. In addition four real ciders will be available.

As ever, we will kick off with Pete's popular quiz on the Thursday evening from 8 pm. Maximum of four people per team please, £1 to enter, with a cheque for £200 going to the winning team's nominated charity.

On Friday evening we welcome back the fun band Goat Patrol, who always go down a storm. On the Saturday we will start the evening with World Cup Rugby, showing the England vs Wales match, followed by live band The Dinosaurs.

Sunday will be family day with a bouncy castle, tractor rides, face paining and garden games for the children. Hopefully we will be lucky again with the weather, so that we can enjoy a BBQ in our lovely garden.

# ANNIE'S CLEANING SERVICES

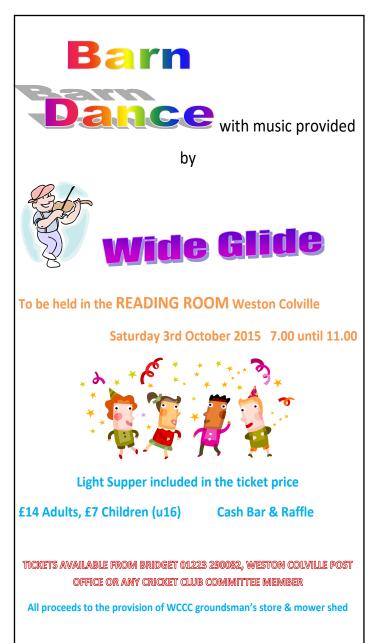
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Hope to see lots of you there and thank you for your continued support; we look forward to letting you know how much you have helped us raise!

Peter and Rachel



Norfolk Coast: Victorian Cottage to let 1<sup>1/2</sup> hour drive from West Wratting; 3 minute walk to Overstrand beaches, 1 mile from Royal Cromer Golf Club, and 15 miles from Norfolk Broads. 2 large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fabulous period interior, fully equipped. Sleeps 5. Garden and outhouses for surf boards and bicycles. For more details, tel 01223 290706. Photos and references available.

# Weston Colville Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

Neighbourhood Watch is a partnership between individuals, local communities and the police. In Weston Colville our aim is to protect ourselves, our homes and property, and reduce the fear of crime. We try to update everyone monthly by writing in Chassenge about any problems that affect our villages. Occasionally urgent information can be emailed or leastleted. NHW arranged the police security talk and discussion in the Reading Room. The police also visited every property in the village to offer personal advice, and provide shed alarms and smart water. These articles in Chassenge outline criminal activities in our part of South Cambs and pass on tips and current ideas from the police.

We can help each other simply by being aware, by caring, and by sharing information and watching out for suspicious activities. We can keep an eye on our neighbour's property when they are away, and give them our details in return. It makes a huge difference if neighbours, friends or family can contact you in an emergency. Leaving a key with someone really can help too.

There have been no reported problems this past month. However Balsham has experienced a car

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theft, a number plate theft and tools stolen from a van. A homeless man seems to have moved into the bandstand. The police tried to find him accommodation but he disappeared. Further away there have been burglaries, vehicle thefts and damage, stolen catalytic converters and number plate thefts. A valuable silver chalice was stolen from a church.

Fraud and scams continue to be a problem. Action Fraud reports a rental fraud aimed at students looking for accommodation. Adverts seem genuine, and students are persuaded to pay upfront fees to secure the property quickly without viewing it, only to discover that the 'landlord' does not own the property. Action Fraud suggests that an online search to check the property really exists. Then always view the property prior to paying any advance fees. A landlord will usually conduct due diligence on any successful applicant, so be wary of handing over cash without the landlord requesting employment or character references.

Both this fraud and the chalice theft leave particularly nasty feelings in the pit of my stomach. Please remain vigilant and report suspicious behaviour to the Police on 101, or 999 if immediate help is needed.

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





With only a few matches left to play, our two senior weekend teams find themselves at different ends of their respective league divisions. The 1st XI have had a rather mixed season, with a fair bit of bad luck but also a few lacklustre performances, and find themselves third from bottom of Division Two of the Tucker Gardner League. However, they are 30 points clear of the relegation places with four games to play. The 2nd XI are riding high in second place of Division 6 South of the CCA Junior League.

The first team have had some contrasting results in recent matches, with a tremendous effort in their last home match against Newborough on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Put in to bat, Newborough made a challenging 243 for 8, with only Matt Daniels (3 for 60) making any impression with the ball. In reply Weston attacked the visitors' bowling, with Andy Brightmore (33) and Edward Fairey (35) setting the tone for the first wicket. There followed some fine hitting from Alex Meddle (61) and Chris Scott (28) with captain Joe Robins finishing on 30 not out to seal a fine 6-wicket victory. At Abington the previous week, however, Weston's batting was poor as they only managed 109 in reply to the hosts' 159, losing by 50 runs.

There was another solid performance from the 1<sup>st</sup> XI at home to Blunham on 1<sup>st</sup> August. Weston put Blunham in and they reached a decent total of 192 in spite of a superb display of spin bowling from Carl Thompson (5 for 33). The reply was steady and considered with contributions from all the early batsmen. Opener Andy Brightmore made 28 and Chris Scott 54, then Joe Robins (36 no) and Pete Bragg (18 no) ensured an excellent 5-wicket victory.

Curiously, the previous two matches had seen some poor batting by Weston. Away at St Ives on 25<sup>th</sup> July, they were all out for 115 with only Adam Taylor (30) making runs, and at home to Sawston & Babraham on 18<sup>th</sup> July they were bowled out for just 132 (Trevor Westley 28, Adam Taylor 27). Both matches were lost, by 4 and 8 wickets respectively, although Matt Daniels took a decent 3 for 31 against St Ives.

Although the second team have not had a match for a few weeks, due partly to the withdrawal of Burrough Green 2 from the division and partly due to gaps in

the fixtures, they are strongly placed for promotion. They had two fine victories in July. Away at Longstowe on 11<sup>th</sup>, they won by 68 runs after posting a fine 200 with Craig Williams (49), Paul Mayfield (76) and Alex Thompson (41) making most of the runs. Weston then bowled well to dismiss Longstowe for 132 (Craig Williams 3 for 31, Sam Street 3 for 24).

Weston inflicted a crushing victory away to Cherry Hinton on the previous Saturday. Batting first again, they amassed a total of 285 for 3 with several batsmen pitching in with decent scores. Michael Franks was top scorer with 78, followed by Paul Mayfield (73), Craig Williams (54) and Alex Thompson (38). Cherry Hinton were bowled out for 166 with the best bowling figures from Joe Magrath (3 for 10) and Dan Wallage (2 for 26). The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI have three games left to play, two of them against the top side, Great Shelford, but are confident of maintaining their good form.

The mid-week team finished sixth in Division 4 of the Adams Harrison League; not a brilliant season but good experience for many of the younger players who make up this side. They are mostly playing against more experienced opponents so the results are not as meaningful as the taking part.

# **Senior Fixtures for September**

	1st XI	2nd XI
5th Sept	Fordham (A)	Gt Shelford (A)
12th Sept	Cambridge NCI (H)	

The Cricket Club's End-of Season Event will be held at the cricket ground on Sunday 20th September from 12.30 to 4 pm. This is for all junior and senior members of the club and their families. It is an opportunity for all club members to get together for a bit of fun and to present awards for the best performances over the season. We will be running a barbecue and a bar and there will be some kwikcricket games where parents and relatives can join the fun by playing with (or against!) their junior family members for all abilities. We would welcome nonmembers from the village to join us to celebrate another successful season and meet the players and committee. Please join us if you can; we look forward to seeing you.

For more information about Weston Colville Cricket Club, please visit www.westoncolvillecc.co.uk

John Garrod

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# Weston Colville Junior Cricket

2015 has yet again been a successful season for our juniors. Three teams played in the Cambridgeshire Youth League and one in the local Borders League.

For many in the under 12 team the step up to playing hard ball cricket was a big one, and although they finished in the lower half of the league, every player improved over the season. The under 13s had an excellent season and finished as league winners, and the under 15s finished third in their league. Several players from both squads also played for the club's senior teams.

The under 11s finished in third place in the Borders League and also reached the cup semi-final. This team is the starting point for many cricket careers and several players had their first taste of competition. Girls are getting more into cricket now and there have been four regulars at under 11 level, with one already involved in the county squad.

There were 68 registered players this year, aged 15 and under. For a club of our size this is a fantastic endorsement of what we are trying to do – to give young people the opportunity to experience and enjoy the game of cricket. Yes, it has been a bit hectic on



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Friday evenings at training, but we would rather have that than only a handful of attendees.

To deliver cricket across an age range from 7 to 15 the club needs a lot of support. Fortunately we have a total of ten qualified coaches and a loyal group of helpers who support Friday training and help with the organisation on match days.

On behalf of the coaches and helpers I would like to take this opportunity to thank the families who support what we do, and who also spread the word about the club within the local community.

Steve Potter, Chairman

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# West Wratting Parish Council

The following were items discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July:

**Opportunity for public statement:** one of the volunteers who helps cut the grass in the children's play area reported that certain areas around the equipment was mossy and slippy. The Chairman replied that RoSPA had also pointed this out and it would be dealt with.

Affordable Housing: Mr Toby Owen, the Estate Manager for Six Mile Bottom Estate, outlined what had previously been discussed regarding the possibility of some affordable housing on land owned by the Six Mile Bottom Estate, who were prepared to let it be used for such building. Hastoe, the company which builds affordable houses for SCDC, has now established that there was no other suitable land and agreed that the land, which is outside the village envelope, could be exempted and used for two/three affordable houses. The Council took a vote and agreed that this project should go ahead if Six Mile Bottom Estate ratifies its agreement.

#### Planning:

S/0793/15/FL – 4 The Causeway. Application had been withdrawn.

S/1015/15/FL - 42 High St. The amendment was approved.

#### Finance:

- a) Cheques were authorised as shown in the minutes.
- b) £60 had been received from d'Abo Tennis Club for maintenance.
- c) The internal audit already distributed to councillors was discussed. There were no issues and the audit was accepted.

# September 2015

d) Report on Budget meeting: the Chairman gave a précis of the report. It had been agreed that £1000 would be set aside each year for road safety.

### **Maintenance:**

- a) Boundary between residents of Six Mile Bottom Road and the recreation ground had been looked at. The deeds will be checked to see that the boundaries are correct and whether gates are allowed on to the field.
- b) Mike Rowland reported on the completion of the replacement village hall roof, which was excellent and would give improved insulation. Some tiling still had to be done.
- c) Bowls area possible uses of this area were discussed and it was suggested the parishioners be asked for ideas. So if anyone has a brilliant idea on how to use this space please let one of your councillors know.
- d) Football Club: Cllr Snow had attended a committee meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July. As yet no quote has been received for the electric shutters and no request for funding made to Wadlow Wind Farm Fund. The showers have not been repaired and



other work has yet to be done. The defibrillator has not yet been made available. Some hedge work is required and Cllr Snow will check who is responsible for paying for this.

Traffic issues: Cllr Nichols reported that the 30 mph rondels would be placed on the five entries into the village as a start towards better road safety. Jayshree Ramsurun is to take Louise Cook's place as a Speed Watch volunteer but there is still a need for more volunteers. There is a new Speed Watch kit available and Balsham wondered if West Wratting might be prepared to share the cost. Cllr Job will be asked if he could ask for a donation through his contacts at Camgrain and Thurlow Estate. Another issue was that the lorries on the A11 were not being directed by signage to use the A1307. The Chairman is dealing with this.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 8 pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. All are welcome.

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk

# Linton Health Centre - Flu Clinics

Flu jabs are recommended for everyone aged 65 and over and for those in clinical at-risk groups. Once again we will be running our Saturday morning clinics starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. We are taking bookings now. We have over 2,600 patients requiring immunisation, so please book a Saturday appointment if you possibly can. This will help to minimise the impact on our nurses' weekday appointments.

Children aged 2, 3 and 4 on 1<sup>st</sup> September, and those in at-risk groups aged 2 - 17, are eligible to receive the nasal spray flu vaccine. We have been informed that this vaccine will not be available at the start of the flu campaign, so we will book children into the clinics on 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October only.

The shingles vaccine is also available to people who are aged 70 and 78 on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015. This is a one-off vaccine that can be given at the same time as the flu jab. In addition, anyone who was eligible for immunisation in the first two years of the shingles programme but who has not yet been vaccinated remains eligible until their 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. This includes those aged 71, 72, and 79 on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

Phone 01223 892555 to book your appointment.

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# Kennel Open Day and Dog Show

The Thurlow Hunt Kennels are opening their doors and inviting the public in for a day of fun activities for adults and children, as well as tours around the kennels and Thurlow Estate, a family dog show, and a terrier and lurcher show.



# **OPEN DAY & DOG SHOW**

The Kennels Open Day will take place at Wadgells Farm, Sowley Green, Great Thurlow, CB9 7JR on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September. The gates will open at 2.00 pm and it's FREE to get in. For the kids we have pony rides, lots of games and a bouncy castle, in addition to tours of the kennels, driven tours around part of the Thurlow Estate Farm, a farriery demonstration, 'Have a go' fly casting, and lots more. Homemade cakes and tea will be available throughout the afternoon, along with ice creams and homemade produce to buy.

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# Domestic Help for You

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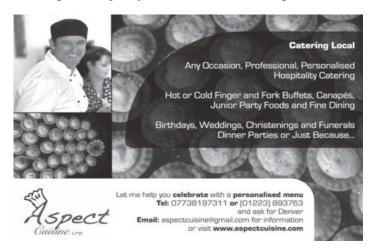
Dianne on 01223 290527 or 07878 226910

# The Meadow School

Another academic year has come to an end and once more we have a fantastic set of results throughout the whole school. The summer holidays are being used for school improvement – this year we are having all of the windows and doors replaced around the whole school and builders are making all of the infant's access points wheelchair-accessible. This is all because as an academy, we are now able to tap into grants that were not previously available to us to make these critical improvements to the school.

We also have a very active 'Helping Hands' group of parents who have been transforming the infant area into a fabulous outdoor area for the children to access throughout the year. Helping Hands started out as a group of parents who every couple of months would clean pathways, assemble equipment and repaint fences, and very quickly it became much more, with parents transforming areas of the school by building mud kitchens and sand pits, and creating staging and creative play areas.

The PTA has been incredible this year, raising thousands of pounds to enable all sorts of financial support, from providing school equipment through to funding the majority of a whole-school trip to





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Hunstanton. The school is also supported by Parent Voice, an open forum where parents can constructively discuss ways in which they can support the school and collaborate on issues such as road safety and well being, and discuss topics such as homework, the website, school photographs, mindfulness, and class friendship groups.

Then we have the Governing Body who validate school improvements and work closely with the school to ensure the progress of the pupils, their teaching and learning, and monitor finances. School improvements are scrutinised and validated using different sources of information (data review, third party validations, governor visits and school meetings). All of these are also validated with joint LVC and Meadow Committees at the Trust level.

I think it goes without saying how much the school benefits from all of the support that it receives from the community and the parents, many of whom don't join a group but give their time willingly through helping in the classroom, listening to children read, transforming the foyer of the school and creating amazing displays, running lunchtime clubs such as Code Club, Chess Club and Running Club, and sitting pool side to ensure the safety protocols are followed during swimming season, etc.

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And it's not just the parents ... Linton Village College's Science Department came to the school and ran 'Science Week' and also ran a science stall at the June Revels and invited the Year 6 children into LVC for science demonstrations. We also benefited throughout the academic year from teaching support from LVC for small targeted groups of pupils in Year 6, use of the LVC mini buses, and much more.

The school is going from strength to strength and we will be welcoming Ofsted over the next two terms to give us the opportunity to demonstrate how far we have come since the last inspection. A huge thank you goes to all members of the community and to the parents who have supported the school over the last two years.

Clare Gorman (Chair of Governors)

# Derbyshire Post

I haven't gone anywhere quite yet. Some very kind people have dropped in to see me to say goodbye, having heard half of a message. Yes, I have got a new job, but sorry, actually you've got to put up with me until January 2016 because that is when I take up the post at Saffron Walden County High School. We have, however, begun the task of showing prospective applicants around the school and I must say everyone has really been impressed so far ... in

say everyone has really been impressed so far ... in spite of the potholes in the drive and the last vestiges of restoration work being done to the listed building. The interviews for Executive Principal are in the middle of September, so you may know more by the time of October's Challenge. As for the potholes, they will disappear over the summer.

It is a matter of pleasure for me to hand over the building and site in a repaired and enhanced state; the

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hinges of all doors and windows in the 1937 building now work for the first time in over a decade and the metalwork really looks rather beautiful.

As I write this, we are getting ready to pack up for the summer. We have very few teacher leavers this year, but I ought to mention two. We say goodbye to Dan Carter, Lead Tutor of Redgrave House and the man responsible for the improvement in our PE results in recent years. He is going to lead PE across a group of schools in Harlow. I would also wish a warm farewell to Angela Cassidy, our lovely Assistant Principal, who is taking time out from her career to raise her young family. Angela was responsible for teaching, learning and training prior to our last Ofsted inspection and she leaves a great legacy in making such an important contribution to our Outstanding status. We will miss Dan and Angela both very much.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

# Found - Ladies Bicycle

A ladies bicycle was abandoned in West Wratting last month and I am trying to find the owner. If it is yours, please phone me on 290404 or email to *richardholness023@btinternet.com*, in order to identify the cycle by answering a couple of questions about it.

**Richard Holness** 

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# Balsham Horticultural Society

With summer well underway, local gardeners are no doubt enjoying, quite literally, the fruits of their labours. With this in mind, our thoughts now turn to the Autumn Show. This will take place at the Church Institute on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September between 2 and 4 pm, and details of the various sections can be found in the schedule, available from the Post Office in Balsham. Members of the society will put on their usual display of vegetables, fruit and flowers, as well as domestic produce, photography and floral art. Children from Meadow School are also encouraged to take part with a range of activities that can be an ideal boredombuster for a wet school holiday afternoon!

Looking further ahead, our first meeting of the new session will be at The Meadow School at 7.45 pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October, when Nigel Start will give a talk on pruning. We look forward to welcoming back members and would love to see new faces too.

Sue Lock

# West Wickham & District Gardening Club

Once again there was a wonderful display of vegetables, flowers, jam, chutney, liqueurs and cakes at West Wickham & District Gardening Club's Annual Show on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Everyone who entered should be proud of their effort, and it was great that the show attracted a number of new exhibitors and that there were new winners of several of the trophies.

The Bill Pearson Cup for the most points won in show was won by Simon Blackwell, with Jean Martin and Sue Kiddy runners up.

The RHS Banksian Medal was won by Simon Blackwell.



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I enjoyed it, and I know those who came to see the show were impressed by what they saw. Those who were not able to come missed a very good display, so don't miss next year's show.

Andrew Morris, Show Organiser

# **Forthcoming meetings:**

Monday 21st September AGM

Monday 19th October 'Apples – Diseases and Identification', a talk by Joanna Crosby from Trumpington Orchard Project

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



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Leanne Ehren (01480 444558, 07747 113255)

# The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

This year's **Summer Show** was very successful, despite the weather. Thanks to all who braved the rain.

**FitSteps** classes begin on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 9.30 am. These classes are loosely based on 'Strictly Come Dancing', an enjoyable way to keep fit to music but without a partner. Come along to the free taster session. To book contact Anne on *fitsteps.annec@gmail.com* 

Dance to the '6T's 'band at our sixties dance. Back by popular request on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Book early as we will cap numbers this time, leaving more room to dance! Tickets £8.

For a full list of classes and events visit our website.

www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk, 01638 508212,

office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk

# Ellesmere Devils Panto Society

The Ellesmere Devils Panto Society are already preparing for their next show, Robin Hood. If you would like to help out either on-stage or backstage helping with props, costumes, backdrops or front of house then please come along to the kick-off meeting



on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 8 pm at the Ellesmere Centre, to find out more.

Rehearsals will be held every Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon from November. Performances will take place Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January.

Robin Hood is a thigh-slapping family pantomime set to dazzle and delight. Featuring stunning sets, glittering costumes, fantastic tunes and outstanding performances from the whole cast, our production of Robin Hood has been lovingly 'ripped off' from the classic story and is guaranteed to delight the whole family, so escape with us to a medieval world of adventure, sparkling romance, slapstick and song!

Amy Metcalfe

# Les Misérables – The Play

St John's Players, Fulbourn, are excited to present Les Misérables – The Play, which will be at The Townley Memorial Hall, The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn, CB21 5BS from Wednesday 28th October until Saturday 31st October, at 7.30 pm. More details in October's Chassenge.

# BURROUGH GREEN PLAYGROUP

# FUN DAY & DOG SHOW

Sunday 27th September

11am - 2pm

Class Categories:

Most like owner, best small dog, best trick, shiniest coat, best child handler, best adult handler, best large dog,

waggiest tail & best cuddly toy.

Refreshment stalls, bouncy castle, cake stall, bric a brac, face painting.

Come and join us on the day - lots of great prizes and fun for all the family.

# 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

# September 2015

Wed 2 West Wratting Over 60s meeting, village hall

Fri 4 Tea and Cakes, Weston Colville First Friday bridge, West Wratting

Fri 4 - Mon 7 Mammal survey, Lower Wood

Sat 5 Farmers' Market, Linton Village College

Saturday Café, West Wratting

Sun 6 Balsham Boundary Walk

Order deadline, Weston Colville oil cooperative

Sun 7 Order deadline, West Wratting oil cooperative

Sat 12 Balsham Horticultural Society Annual Show

Mon 14 West Wratting Parish Council

Tues 15 West Wratting Book Club, The Chestnut Tree

Wed 16 Zumba classes restart, West Wratting

Thur 17 West Wratting Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree Ellesmere Devils panto initial meeting

Sun 20 End of season event, Cricket Club

Open Day & Dog Show, Thurlow Hunt kennels

Mon 21 West Wickham Gardening Club AGM

Fri 24 - Sun 27 Beer Festival, The Chestnut Tree

Sat 26 Coppicing work party, Lower Wood

#### October 2015

Fri 2 Tea and Cakes, Weston Colville

First Friday bridge, West Wratting

Sat 3 Farmers' Market, Linton Village College Saturday Café, West Wratting

West Wratting Harvest Supper

Barn dance, Weston Colville Reading Room

Tues 6 Balsham Horticultural Society meeting

Wed 7 Weston Colville Cinema Club, Reading Room West Wratting Over 60s

Sat 10 Autumn Concert, Balsham

Sat 10 - Sun 11 Autumn Craft & Gift Fair, Balsham

Sat 17 Circular walk, Weston Colville

Mon 19 West Wickham Gardening Club

Revd Dr Julie Norris, Priest-in-Charge tel: 891350; Balsham Church: 890895

(day off: Tues) email: revjulienorris@gmail.com

Revd Canon John Fellows, Assistant Parish Priest tel: 291265 email: j.fellows321@btinternet.com

Revd Kathy Bishop, Associate Priest

tel: 892288 email: revkathy@hotmail.co.uk

Very Revd Keith Johnson, Honorary Associate Priest

tel: 890835 email: jkeith1412@gmail.com

Mr Steven Wheeler, Licensed Lay Minister

tel: 290643 email: steven@juicyfruitsuk.com

Mrs Rosemary Mead, Authorised Lay Minister tel: 891718 email: leonardaymead@hotmail.com

Mr Keith Day, Authorised Lay Minister

tel: 891527 email: keithdday@btinternet.com

St Andrew's:	Flowers	Cleaning
6 <sup>th</sup> Sept 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Alex	Pauline
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	HARVEST (all available)	Jenny
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Louise	Sue
27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Louise	Maggie

St Mary's:	Flowers	Cleaning	
September	Jane	Philippa	
October	Perdita	Jenny	

**Black bins:** Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> September,

Tuesday 6th & 20th October

Green & blue bins: Wed 2<sup>nd</sup>, Tues 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> Sept,

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October

Mobile library: fourth Wednesdays (23<sup>rd</sup> Sept, 28<sup>th</sup> Oct)
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, 01223 290963

West Wratting – Jenny Richards,

jrichards007@talktalk.net, 01223 665260

# **Editor**: Anne Bragg (290550) or email: *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.

October issue's copy date: Sunday 20th September.