

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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Parish Nurse

Since her appointment in December 2015, and commissioning by Bishop David in January, Parish Nurse Teresa Letimier has been constantly active both in getting to know people in our villages and in meeting a hitherto unmet need by receiving an average of eight contacts each working day.

Teresa has seen clients of all ages from under one year old to over 95. Some clients have required only one visit while others have needed up to 28 face to face contacts; referrals have been from potential clients themselves, professionals and members of the village communities. Reasons for referral have been wide and varied, including: people home from hospital, people feeling anxious, people facing operations, people needing help regarding caring – nothing is too trivial if it is a cause of real concern.

The range of tasks undertaken by Teresa is as wide as the reasons for referral and include; medicines management, advocacy with other services, help with forms, reassurance, help with care packages and, most important of all, listening..

The huge success of the project thus far is very much due to the commitment, care, determination and love shown by Teresa, who has played a huge part in turning our dream into reality, and it is hard for me to find words adequate to describe our admiration and gratitude for what she has been able to achieve in such a short time. Sadly, and with considerable regret on the part of all, personal circumstances have made it necessary for Teresa to leave us but she has left a legacy we shall value for a very long time.

The parish nurse service continues as normal and we are delighted to welcome Claire Gillett who has taken up the role. Claire is an experienced parish nurse and looks forward to meeting you all and, of course, receiving referrals. Contact details remain as before: 07498 994205; 7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com



If you would like to support the Parish Nurse Project please get in touch with me, Keith Day.

Keith Day (891527, keithdday@btinternet.com)

Remembrance Sunday, 13th November

RAF Wrattling Common

There will be a short service at the memorial at Weston Woods Farm at 12 noon on Sunday 13th November. A few of the veterans will be attending, and cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade. Wreaths will be laid in memory of all those who served here and throughout the world, especially those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom.



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

All are welcome to attend.

Dan Heath, for Friends of Wrattling Common
(07736 737174, 01440 730192,
rafwrattlingcommon@outlook.com)

Churchyard Clear-up, West Wratting

The autumn clear-up of St Andrew's churchyard will be on Saturday 12th November, from 10 am until 12 noon. The usual doughnuts, coffee and tea will be available.

Everyone is welcome.

Colin McCall (290036)

Interregnum

In my letter in September, I explained the procedure for finding a new priest to serve in our group of seven village churches. That procedure is underway, and my request for people's prayers to find the right candidate is still important.

In June the Archbishops' Council issued a report on the Church of England clergy numbers, showing that the numbers of clergy 'in post' were falling, although slowly. At the same time the number of retired priests is rising!

At first sight the task of serving seven churches might seem a challenging one, until you add up the population figures for the villages to find that the total population of the group of seven is about 4,500, while a typical Cambridge city parish would be about four times larger, with a greater number of people to serve. There are seven ancient buildings to care for, of course, but the good news is that many people are willing to help with caring for the churchyards, cutting the grass in summer, and cleaning and decorating the buildings with flowers week by week. As I explained in September, Julie Norris led us into a series of improvement schemes which have been completed in three of our churches, with plans underway for a fourth.

Sadly we still have to complete the repairs to the roof of St Andrew's, West Wratting, after the theft of lead in April. Fund-raising has been going well with some very generous contributions and grants from charities. The Church Council has set up a website for contributions:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/events/roof/363752>

The hope is that repairs can be made before the winter.

Remembrance Sunday this year will be on Sunday, 13th November, and we shall have the regular annual services in our churches, with a short midday open-air

service at the RAF Memorial on Wratting Common, held for many years in memory of the Bomber Command aircrews and airfield personnel who served there until 1946.

Finally, I would like to add to Keith Day's item about our Parish Nurse scheme. Pat and I have been really helped by Teresa Letimier after Pat's operation in the spring. We are going to miss her, and we know how much her work has been valued during her time with us. We wish her God's blessing. We are also so grateful to Claire for stepping in to continue the work while a new nurse is recruited.

Keith Johnson

St Andrew's, West Wratting, Roof Fund and Plans for the Future

The campaign to raise funds to repair the roof of St Andrew's church before the worst of the winter weather sets in is gaining momentum, but there is still a significant shortfall. We are very grateful for the grants we have so far received from the A S Charitable Trust and the Wadlow Wind Farm, and other applications for support from various funds are under consideration and in progress. We have received generous donations from a number of villagers and also from anonymous donors outside West Wratting who have seen coverage of the theft of the roof lead in the Haverhill News, on the Cambridge News website, and on ITV Anglia news. The PCC wishes to express its sincere gratitude to those who have responded to the campaign so far. We are indebted to Diana Edwards, Catherine Willcocks and Phil O'Donovan who have provided such wonderful and tireless support in helping us to prepare the funding applications. We have also set up a webpage through which donations can be made: <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/roof/363752>. Donations made through this site will also benefit from gift aid.

This is also a reminder that there will be an open tea and cake event in the church on Sunday 6th November, 4 - 5 pm. This is a social gathering (with no service) to find out people's ideas about how to make the church more of a hub and centre for the whole community in West Wratting, and to discuss plans for the future. All are welcome.

***Alex Walsham, Churchwarden
(291491; amw23@cam.ac.uk)***

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West Wrating Village Hall AGM

The AGM of the Village Hall Management Committee is scheduled for Monday 12th December at 7.30 pm, when the report and accounts for the last financial year will be presented. All interested residents of our village are welcome to attend. New committee members must be elected at the AGM. If you might like to join the VHMC we would like to hear from you in advance of the meeting.

Mike Rowland (290788), Anne Catchpole (290967)

Autumn Concert

On behalf of the West Wrating PCC, we would like to thank everyone who supported our 6th Autumn Concert at Holy Trinity Church, Balsham, in aid of St Andrew's Church, West Wrating, either as

members of the audience, by the giving of donations or raffle prizes, or by helping in any way before or on the day.

Once again, it seems to have been an artistic success as well as raising the useful sum of £550 towards the St Andrew's Restoration Fund, in particular the roof replacement.

As ever, we would personally like to thank our helpers as well as those who attended, and the Holy Trinity PCC for allowing us once again to take advantage of their facilities and, particularly the churchwarden, Gill Parry-Brown, for all her assistance, support and patience.

Linda and Michael Gorman

Progressive Supper, West Wrating

Saturday 21st January

Please let me know if you would like to take part as soon as possible. The sooner I know numbers, the better for the planning. I need to receive your £10 per person before Christmas. All proceeds to the church roof fund. Thank you.

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

West Wrating Over 60s

The club will next meet in the village hall at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 2nd November, with bring, buy and raffle.

The last meeting of the club for 2016 will be for a Christmas lunch at The Chestnut Tree on Tuesday 6th December.

Wendy Halls

British Thyroid Foundation Cambridge Support Group Meeting

Weston Colville Reading Room, Chapel Rd,
Weston Colville, Cambridge CB21 5NX

Saturday 12th November 10 am - 1 pm

Meet for a coffee and informal discussions
on living with thyroid disease.

BTF information will be available.

Coffee etc served from 10 am.

Group discussions start at 10.30 am

Suggested minimum donation: £4 to cover
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For more information go to www.btf-thyroid.org

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Saturday Morning Café, West Wratting

The Saturday morning café will run as usual on Saturday 5th November and then on Saturday 3rd December, between 10.30 am and 12 noon in the village hall. There will be a stall at the November café with hand knitted goods, and the December café will be Christmas themed, with mince pies, mulled wine, and a Christmas crafts table for the children.

The proceeds from the November and December cafés will be donated to the village hall for the new floor.

The café works by different volunteers offering to serve and donate cakes every month (including at least one dairy and gluten-free offering). There is always a play corner set up for kids, a bookstall with second hand books, and table tennis for those fancying a game.

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered at our café to help serve teas and coffees, set up and clear away, and also our amazing cake bakers.

Please come and join us for a catch up over tea / coffee and delicious cake.

Sherry (290070) and Catherine (291307)

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Tea and Cakes, Weston Colville

October's Tea and Cakes saw the celebration of an 83rd birthday and the unveiling of the table tennis table. We also raised £124 for Macmillan. Thank you to everyone for their generous donations and to all who helped out and made cakes.



Tea and Cakes is for people of all ages in our community to come together and enjoy each other's company. Our next gathering will be on Friday 4th November, 3.30 - 5 pm at the Reading Room. Please do come along for a cup of tea, a piece of cake and a chat, and if you're feeling energetic a game of table tennis. Meet up with old friends and make new ones. We look forward to seeing you.

Melanie

Tearfund Appeal for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

Thank you to everyone who generously contributed to the collection at the West Wratting Harvest Service on Sunday 9th October towards Syrian refugees living in camps in Lebanon.

£200 was sent off to Tearfund.

Scilla & John Harvey

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NARP National Association of Registered Pet Sitters

Weston Colville Cinema Club

Our November film, on Wednesday 2nd, will be 'Don't Look Now', a 1973 film directed by Nicolas Roeg, adapted from Daphne du Maurier's supernatural thriller, and starring Donald Sutherland and Julie Christie. Filmed mainly in Venice, it sets a riveting but disturbing tale of psychological turmoil against the serene and beautiful backdrop of 'La Serenissima'.



In December, on Wednesday 7th, we'll show 'Miracle on 34th Street', a classic feelgood, seasonal comedy, starring Maureen O'Hara, Natalie Wood and Edmund Gwenn. Made in 1947, multi-Oscar-winning and hailed by many as the best Christmas movie ever, it tells the story of a department store Santa Claus who claims to be the real Santa.



Both films are in the Reading Room at 7.30 pm, with refreshments available, all welcome.

Jacqueline Douglas
(291475, jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com)
and **Jeremy Newton** (newtonjed@gmail.com)

First Friday Fun Bridge

First Friday Fun Bridge is like Kitchen Table Bridge for a larger group.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 2nd December.

We welcome players of all levels of play and experience. We meet in West Wratting Village Hall at

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7.30 pm and draw for partners for the first four hands. After three rounds of four hands (at approximately 9 pm) we break for refreshment – wine, tea, coffee. At the end of the evening there is a prize for the highest (or lowest!) score.

£1.50 each covers hall hire.

Just turn up for a 7.30 pm start (doors open from 7.20 pm). No partner necessary. It is helpful but not essential for me to know numbers.

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

Weston Colville Circular Walk

October was a five-dog walk, and we ventured in a new direction, towards Burrough Green and back via Carlton.

Our next circular walk will be on Saturday 19th November; meet at the Reading Room at 10 o'clock, BYO lunch, and maybe something to share. You can put your lunch in the fridge before we set off, if you'd like, and refreshments will be available.

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

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West Wrating Book Club

Our book for October was ‘The Essex Serpent’ by Sarah Perry. This book held particular interest for two of our readers who come from Essex, one of whom had spent a lot of time in the Blackwater area, the main setting for the story, while another had special memories of family holidays in the area. A couple of us also commented that we had difficulty placing the era at first. Other comments from one person were that the book stayed with her and she regretted having to finish it.

There are several intertwining themes: the clash between science (particularly new medical discoveries) and religion, religion and superstition, and spiritual and physical needs. Another major theme is the increasing awareness of the conditions of the poor in the London slums, and the social changes taking place. The point was made that concerns about high rents and poor conditions are coming back. This is a time of great social upheaval, of Marx and Darwin. There are several references to the work of Eleanor Marx, whose biography some of us had read previously. Eleanor worked closely with her father and her concern for social matters grew out of this. There were also suggestions of the Freudian sexual theories to come. Fear of the serpent is, perhaps,

representative of societal changes and the fear of the dark unknown. The way in which this fear causes the return of the belief in the Essex Serpent, with everything bad that happens ascribed to this monster, is reminiscent of earlier witch hunts. There is also the association between the imagined monster and recent discoveries of dinosaur remains.

Cora’s son, Frances, is probably autistic although some of his behaviour may relate to what happened between his parents. Finding what he thinks is a fellow feeling in Stella’s obsession with things blue (the condition known as *spes pthisica*, associated with tuberculosis, as are other effects on the mind) eventually leads to a sort of resolution of some of his behaviour and a closer relationship with his mother.

It was agreed that the writing was very good and we especially liked the use of the letters which were used to reveal the inner thoughts and feelings of the various protagonists interspersed with the narrative. It carried you through the book, if not quite acting as a page turner, and there was a good ending with a helpful roundup of the characters. We would all recommend it, and scores ranged from 8 to 9 out of 10.

For November (Thursday 17th) we are reading an older classic, ‘Tender is the Night’, by F Scott Fitzgerald. The meeting will be on 17th November at The Chestnut Tree at 8 pm. Please note: there are said to be many versions of this book, but the original 1934 version was told in flashbacks; another version was re-ordered chronologically after Fitzgerald's death by friend and critic Malcolm Cowley.

The next meeting will be our pre-Christmas meal on 14th December at 7.30 for 8 pm, when we will review ‘The Girl on the Train’ by Paula Hawkins. If you wish to attend please let me know how many you will be.

Linda Gorman



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West Wrating Oil Syndicate

October fill up results: 21 houses in West Wrating participated in the order placed on 11th October, with deliveries being made by 18th October.

Goff Petroleum won the syndicate order, with a price of 37.20p per litre, which was a saving of 1.32p against my benchmark Boilerjuice 'Bulk' price of 33.65p. All prices + VAT.

For interest, prices in the last twelve months have been: September (2015) 31.65p, October 30.30p, and January (2016) 24.75p, March 28.10p, May 27.00p, July 31.60p, and September 32.00p.

Please also note that, because we are never offered a significant reduction in the run up to Christmas, this fill up was the last one in 2016 and the next will be in January 2017.

Richard Holness

Weston Colville Oil Co-operative

Deadline for ordering: **noon, Sunday 27th November.**

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)

Any orders left by email will always be acknowledged; if you do not get a reply, we haven't received your order. Please don't phone before 8 am or after 10 pm (leave a message during the day).

We keep a note of any special requirements, such as needing a phone call the day before delivery to arrange access; please let us know if you wish to change these. The minimum delivery is 500 litres; this is a Trading Standards ruling because of the

accuracy of lorry gauges. To get the minimum ask for 500 litres; do not ask for a 'top up' because you might get a 'fill up'.

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 POST CODE because some deliveries have been delayed due to the lack of correct information.

Thomas Arthur Newman

Thank you to the residents of Great Abington for giving us news of a former resident of West Wrating, who built St Saviour's Church, Kuranda, North Queensland, Australia.

In the parish records I found Thomas Arthur Newman was baptised in St Andrew's Church, West Wrating, on 14th January 1866.

In the 1881 census Thomas Arthur Newman, who was 15 years old and an agricultural labourer, was living at Manor Well, West Wrating with his parents Harriet and Samuel, a shepherd, and his older brother Charles (aged 21) and his younger sister Elizabeth (aged 4).

Harriet was born in Balsham.

Suzanne Langford

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Weston Colville Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

There were no police reports relating to our area this past month. However local information did identify some criminal activity in West Wrattling, which shows that sharing our local information is of benefit to us all. At the same time please do dial 101 or 999 if you have a problem – the police really can and do help. Linton, Abington and the FourWentWays areas have experienced vehicle thefts and thefts of items from vehicles, including work and gardening tools. Linton has experienced a house burglary. This report took my eye – in Great Shelford a secured bike had its seat, front forks, handlebars and front wheel stolen.

Chris Wiseman, who has been our local PCSO for some time, has been reorganised, which means he is still part of the police team which supply our cover but the local area which includes us will be covered by PCSO Julie Hajredini.

The police have been running crime prevention operations like Operation Hunter. There is also a knife amnesty at present. You can deposit any knife without question at any South Cambridge police station for disposal. The police wish to prevent knife crime.

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

Thought for the Month

Please don't park on the pavement!

The Parish Council continues to receive complaints about parked cars blocking pavements in the village. Please will all residents make sure that they park on the road, not on the pavement and ask their visitors to do the same. Thank you for your help.

West Wrattling Parish Council

01223 852 872
squeakymouse.com
support@squeakymouse.com
Offices in West Wrattling and Stow-cum-Quy

Save the Children
Linton & District Branch
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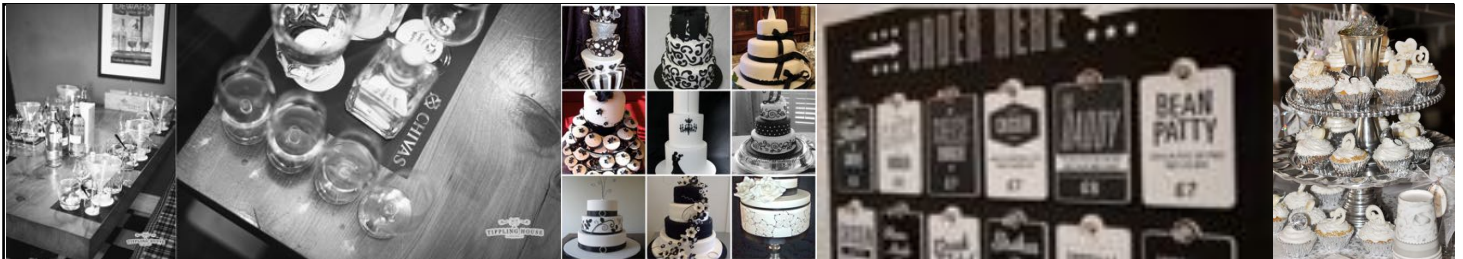
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Marsh Tits Update

October was a good month for us.

The Tits are starting to come to garden feeders more often, as the colder weather bites. They look their best now, just after the post-breeding moult, when they discarded plumage worn out by a hectic summer of chick-rearing for a whole brand-new wardrobe.

A handsome Marsh Tit 'Grey over Blue (on left leg)' was seen by Ben and Len Eeles, chomping away on their sunflower hearts and peanuts on 11th and 12th October. There's a picture of him below, taken by Ben Eeles.



(© Ben Eeles 2016)

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To show again how special Weston is for Marsh Tits, 'Grey over Blue on Left' weighs 10.7 grammes, which is just under the record weight for these birds in the UK. His head is glossy enough to look like it's been polished. With a wing length of 65 mm, he's probably male.

He was accompanied by at least one unknown bird, so we think there are undiscovered populations of Marsh Tits in Hill Croft and Springs Wood, which don't seem to mix with the birds in Lower Wood and Great Coven's Wood, at least in the warmer months.

Please keep your eyes open for birds on your feeders; we really need to know what these birds are doing. Photographs like Ben's are perfect!

Elsewhere in East Anglia, over half the Marsh Tits die in their first year. We need to know if the situation is different here, as we suspect, because of access to your woods with tall shrubs and your well-stocked garden feeders.

Please let Mel (m_stammers@btinternet.com) or me (cambsmarti@gmail.com) know of any Marsh Tits you see, ringed or not.

Marsh Tits are worth saving, and Weston could lead the way.

If anyone would like to come along and see birdringing in action, seeing what we do and meeting your local birds face-to-face, you are most welcome. We can't promise Marsh Tits – they are rare – but all wild birds are chirpy characters, and surprisingly trusting and tolerant of us.

Alex Inzani, BTO National Ringing Scheme

Lower Wood Work Parties

Over the winter Duncan Mackay, the volunteer warden, organises coppicing work parties in Lower wood. We meet once a month, on a Saturday morning, at 10 am. If you are interested in helping out or just having a chat and finding out what we do, please come along or give me a call. You will find us somewhere along the main ride through the wood. There are usually hot drinks and biscuits on offer too. The dates for the coppicing are:

26th November, 31st December 2016;

28th January, 25th February 2017.

Melanie (291319)

Traidcraft

Fair Trade Coffee Morning

Saturday 12th November, 10.30 am to 12.30

The Old Post Office, Bradley Road,
Burrough Green CB8 9NH

An opportunity to enjoy refreshments while browsing fair trade foods and gifts ... Christmas cards, fair trade chocolate advent calendars, dried fruits for your last minute Christmas cakes, etc.

Traidcraft is a Christian based organisation, committed to working with people of all faiths and none. Its aim is not just to promote fair trade products but to campaign for a more just trading system so that trade can be made to work for the poor. Their products are available to purchase online: www.traidcraft.co.uk

Enquiries: Rachel Lewis (01638 507836 / 07765 304013; rlewis@burroughgreen.com)

Thank You

Thanks and congratulations to everyone who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning function hosted by Bena and Helen at Fourwinds, Carlton.

A special thank you to Ian Wylie for his generous donation of a Christmas turkey for a raffle .

The fantastic sum of £635 was raised.

Bena and Helen

TABLE TOP SALE

Sunday 6th November, 11 am - 2 pm
Burrough Green Reading Room

Entrance: Adults £1, kids free All welcome

If you are interested in running a stall please contact Lynda on 07803 034629, or email burroughgreenplaygroup@gmail.com

£8 donation per table. Limited availability, so book early! Or you can donate your stuff to the playgroup selling table.

In aid of Burrough Green Playgroup
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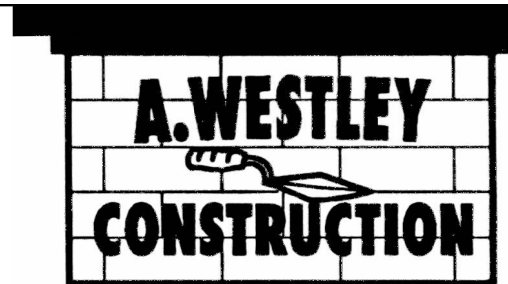
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Meadow School

The other week our school hosted ‘We don’t talk about this sort of thing’, an event run by the Parish Nurse. A lovely gentleman popped into my office to tell me how he loved my ‘enthusiastic’ updates in the parish magazines each month and looked forward to reading them. It was so lovely to hear that our news really does interest the local community and that we are so well supported.

My plea in the last edition, for any people with a spare hour to come in and hear readers, resulted in three willing volunteers signing up, and the teachers are literally fighting over them and their generous time. However, we still have room for a lot more! We are particularly looking for someone (or a few people) who could help with a gardening club and a chess club one lunchtime a week. If you have some time to spare and would like to fill it in an incredibly worthwhile way, please do get in touch with the school office.

This year our welcome meetings had a twist on our traditional format. After the ‘meet the teacher and see the classroom’ opportunity, the parents were invited back to the hall to listen to a talk on the importance of

reading aloud and reading together with Ruth Keys, librarian from our partner academy school, LVC. While the parents were meeting Ruth, the children returned to their classrooms dressed in their pyjamas, and were read their bedtime story whilst drinking hot chocolate and eating marshmallows. The event was a



huge success and clearly had impact, as many of our children’s older siblings have been visiting the library at LVC on the hunt for titles Ruth talked about, and read extracts from, during our evening. A great example of collaborative learning between two schools keen to promote reading for pleasure.

Our Year 6 team won their heat at the Year 6 English Challenge, and now go to the grand finals at Ely Cathedral in December. We are very proud of the team, who faced some exceptionally challenging questions, and I know they are very excited about being in the finals.

We achieved Silver in the School Games awards. This is the first year we have entered and submitted supporting evidence, and were delighted that our sporting efforts were recognised. Next year we are going for gold!

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We were also successful in our bid for just over £3,000 to make our dream of a Forest School area a reality. Thank you to the Cambridge Community Foundation and Wadlow Windfarm. The wellie racks have been ordered, the fire pit is about to go in, and already the children have been having a great time exploring the area. We may be on the lookout for some long sticks/branches to make dens with; if you have any spare, please get in touch.

October was also a very busy month with our annual events. The first was the Meadow Mile, a sponsored event which sees the children walk a mile around the recreation ground to raise money for school funds, which helps pay for things like their enrichment programme and whole school trips. This year our dress up theme linked to our current whole school topic – ‘books’. We had Harry Potters, princesses, Winnie the Witch, a few Willy Wonkas and even an



Oompa Loompa! It was quite a sight to see over 220 dressed up people



wandering around the village. The staff also got into the spirit, with Mister Tom, Mathilda, Pirates and yes – I dressed up as Where’s Wally – although one of our new Reception children did ask why I was dressed as Santa Claus!

The second event was the Craft Fair, which was organised so brilliantly by Mrs Debbie Paton. It was Debbie’s final year organising the fair and she certainly made it the best ever! We had more stalls and variety than ever before and we certainly served more tea and cake than we imagined possible. We are still waiting for the final expenses and invoices to come in, but the grand total raised for school looks to be between £7,000-8,000. A huge thank you to everyone who came and visited over the weekend and

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helped us to be so successful. We hope to see you all again next year!

Another annual event, although not one of ours, was the annual beer festival organised by The Chestnut Tree pub in West Wrattling. This year The Meadow was their chosen charity. They raised over £1,500 for the swimming pool fund with the help of their very generous (and thirsty!) locals. Thank you so much.

We really do rely upon our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) to help provide an enriching curriculum and plenty of exciting opportunities throughout the year. Both of these events will also help to pay off a significant portion of the cost of the new interactive screens we had installed in each classroom last year, which have made such a huge difference.

We have many things to look forward to in the second half of the term, such as the Christmas Carol concert in the church, the Infant Christmas production, and all of the festivities that go with being in a school at Christmas. I look forward to sharing all of our exciting news ‘enthusiastically’ with you in December.

Nichola Connor, Headteacher



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The Marsh Mail (news from LVC)

I wholeheartedly believe in comprehensive education, in all senses of the word. In my recent conversations with prospective parents I have made a strong point of emphasising that, at LVC, we are committed to offering a broad and balanced education, one that is comprehensive in its scope and influence.

A comprehensive curriculum goes beyond subject specifications; it teaches wider, formative lessons. In addition to knowledge and skills, it enables children to develop relationships, tolerance and respect for those similar to, as well as different from, themselves.

I was fortunate to sit alongside our MP, Lucy Frazer, recently to judge LVC's debating team. The children had been given the topic of 'grammar schools' as part



of a regional debating competition. I was impressed by the quality of the arguments and rebuttals posed eloquently; quite ironically, given the number of students that probably would not have passed the 11 plus test.

The very thing that we hold dear at Linton Village College, as a fundamental facet of equitable education, is at risk of being undermined. I am proud of our comprehensive intake and of our excellent standards of education for all.

'Comprehensive' isn't just a title that replaces 'secondary modern', it represents an ethical standpoint and a philosophy about the importance of a diverse and rich education. It is a concept that I hold dear and will fight to preserve and celebrate.

Helena Marsh, Executive Principal

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|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 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.

Balsham Community Market

The market will run from 2 pm till 5 pm on Saturday 12th November in the Balsham Church Institute.

Entry is free; come and shop at the twelve food stalls.

We have CamCattle; CamLamb; The Radwinter Wild Game Company; Parkins Farm Butchers; The Wild Flour Kitchen; Borakis Greek Foods; Nikki Booth Homemade Preserves; CB21 Cheesecake Co; Chocs Away; Big Sky Cakes; Plumbs Dairy; and Spoonstruck. Su Wright will be running a small café selling cream teas and other delectable delights with tea, hot chocolate, and freshly made coffee.

Do come along and support your new community market and help reduce food miles, get to know where your food comes from, meet the people who make and grow the food, and best and more importantly of all, buy fresh, tasty, local, seasonal produce.

Do you have any surplus vegetables, fruit, honey, eggs? Please get in touch as there is an allotment/produce table where we can sell on your behalf.

Debbie Paton (balshammarket@gmail.com)
www.facebook.com/balshammarket
<https://balshammarket.wordpress.com>

Balsham Gardening Club



There was a good turnout for the October meeting, when the subject of the talk by Jim Forrest was ‘Gardens of North West Scotland’. With the assistance of his colleague, Roger, and maps and diagrams, Jim showed how North Atlantic Drift, by bringing warm currents from the tropics, accounts for the UK as a whole having a mild climate for its latitude, while areas on the west coast are particularly favoured, including the north west of Scotland. Three gardens run by National Trust for Scotland (NTS) were featured.

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The next meeting will be the AGM on 1st November, followed by a talk from Stephen Poyser on ‘Beekeeping and the Garden’. The meeting will start at 7.15 pm, and drinks and nibbles will be provided.

The Christmas party will be on 6th December, with a talk by Dr John Walters of the English Spirit Distillery. Tickets, at £6 each, will be on sale at the November meeting and thereafter at the Post Office until 26th November. Menu choices will need to be recorded by 28th November.

Annual fees are now payable at £10 per year, or come along as a visitor for £3.50 per meeting.

Jennie Tipler

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Candlelit Service of Carols and Readings

**Sunday 11th December at 6 pm
St Augustine's, Burrough Green**

Do join us for this service of Carols and Readings by Candlelight. All are welcome to stay afterwards for mulled wine and mince pies. We'd love to hear from you if you are happy to read a lesson or if there's a carol you would particularly like - do let us know in good time and we will endeavour to include it. We look forward to seeing you there!

Contact: Lucy Talbot 01638 507060
peterandlucyt@btinternet.com

West Wickham and District Gardening Club

At the first meeting of the club for 2016/17 we were pleased to welcome Aubrey Barker from Hopley's Nursery at Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, who gave us a wonderfully entertaining talk on 'Bark and Berries'. He had brought with him a large box of branches bearing beautiful berries of all description that he passed around for us to try to identify. A most enjoyable evening, and if you were lucky you had the chance of buying some of these shrubs half price.

Next month, on 21st November, John Walker will tell us about 'Plants, Man and History' which will be a very instructive talk; he has been to talk to us before and is a most accomplished speaker. Anyone wishing to join us will be very welcome, and can find out more from me.

Rosemary Yallop (01799 584262)

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The stamps can be ordered by email (scastamps@gmail.com) or post (Helen and Barney Donnellan, 17 Ashleigh Drive, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8QX) and will cost the face value, plus a small amount to cover post and packing.

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Joanna Sanders

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

Fireworks and bonfires can be plenty of fun for all the family to enjoy. The fire service highly recommends going to an organised firework display instead of holding one at home. However, if you do use fireworks or light a bonfire at home, we would ask residents to take on board our safety advice to ensure it is just their fireworks that go off with a bang:

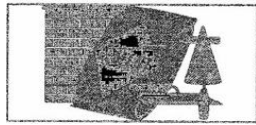
- Keep fireworks in a closed box and always follow the instructions.
- Light them at arms length using a taper and stand well back.
- Never go back to a lit firework.
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them.
- Don't light bonfires in unsuitable weather, particularly in windy conditions.
- Don't leave bonfires unattended.
- Build bonfires well clear of buildings, fences and hedges.
- Never use flammable liquids to start the fire, and never burn dangerous rubbish such as aerosols, paint, foam furniture, rubber tyres, and batteries.
- Before you light the bonfire, check that children and animals are not hiding inside and are a safe distance away.

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The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

Centre Burglaries – the centre was broken into on two consecutive nights in September, causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. We are holding the following fundraising event so please come along and support us. Any raffle donations would also be greatly appreciated.

‘Now Wash Your Hands’, a local band, will play a wide variety of music on Saturday 3rd December. This will be a great evening, and will help us raise much needed funds to upgrade security following the break ins. Tickets are £7. Hot food will be available to purchase and there will be a fully licensed bar.

Cricket Nets – the centre now has the facility of new indoor cricket nets (two lanes), at £20/hour/team (or £10/hour for youth groups), including use of nets and matting. Groups of four or less at a reduced rate.

Astro Turf – there are still a few slots available, at £20/hour, which includes floodlights when needed.

Open Mic – the next session will be on Saturday 26th November, featuring ‘The Inside Out Trio’ along with many other talented performers. Refreshments will be available. Starts at 7.30 pm, admission £2.

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13 th Nov	Remembrance Day	Canon John Pinder	Jenny	Linda	Fanny
20 th Nov	Holy Communion	Rev Kathy Bishop	Sisse	Jenny	Maggie
27 th Nov	Holy Communion	Rev Dr Carrie Pemberton Ford	Alex	Jenny	Jenny

St Mary's, Weston Colville (at 9.15 am)		
	FLOWERS	CLEANING
November	Gay	Ruth
December	Stephen & Jane	Gay

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

November 2016

- Tues 1 Balsham Gardening Club AGM
- Wed 2 West Wratting Over 60s
Weston Colville Cinema Club, Reading Room
- Fri 4 Tea & Cakes, Weston Colville
- Sat 5 Saturday Morning Café, West Wratting
Farmers' Market, Linton village hall
- Sun 6 Table top sale, Burrough Green
Social gathering, St Andrew's, West Wratting
- Mon 7 Weston Colville Parish Council meeting
- Fri 11 Save the Children coffee morning, Balsham
- Sat 12 St Andrew's churchyard clearup
Fair Trade coffee morning, Burrough Green
Balsham Community Market
Thyroid support group meeting, Reading Room
- Sun 13 Remembrance Day service, Wratting Common
- Thur 17 West Wratting Book Club
West Wratting Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree
- Sat 19 Circular walk from Weston Colville
- Mon 21 West Wickham & District Gardening Club
- Sat 26 Coppicing work party in Lower Wood
- Sun 27 Deadline for Weston Colville oil co-op orders

December 2016

- Fri 2 First Friday Fun Bridge, West Wratting
- Sat 3 Saturday Morning Café, West Wratting
Festive Food Fayre, Weston Colville
- Tues 6 West Wratting Over 60s Christmas lunch
- Wed 7 Weston Colville Cinema Club, Reading Room
- Mon 12 West Wratting village hall management AGM
- Wed 14 West Wratting Book Club meal

Mobile library: fourth Wednesdays (23 rd November)	
High Street, West Wratting	12.10 - 12.55
Post Office, Weston Green	2.05 - 2.25
Mill Hill, Weston Colville	2.30 - 3.05

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Mrs Rosemary Mead, Authorised Lay Minister
tel: 891718 email: leonardavmead@hotmail.com
Mr Keith Day, Authorised Lay Minister
tel: 891527 email: keithdday@btinternet.com

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Philippa Coates (290842)
St Andrew's – Sebastian Bain (403415),
Alex Walsham (291491)

Parish Council Clerks:

Weston Colville – Christine King,
wpcp@typo.demon.co.uk, 01223 290963
West Wratting – Jenny Richards,
j.richards597@btinternet.com, 01223 665260

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

Parish Nurse: Claire Gillett,
7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com, 07498 994205

Black bins: Tuesday 1st, 15th & 29th November,

Blue & green bins: Tuesday 8th & 22nd November,
Tuesday 6th December

December dates not yet available; they'll be in the winter edition of the South Cambs magazine, delivered end November/beginning December.

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.

December issue's copy date: Sun 20th November

