

Challenge

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

The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

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Flooding at Weston Colville

Did you suffer damage during the recent floods?

If you did, you may be interested in attending the next Weston Colville Parish Council Meeting, to be held on Monday 5th September, at 7.30 pm in the Reading Room.

We will have the Senior Flood Risk Officer from Cambridge County Council, Brian Heffernan, visiting. He will bring questionnaires for you to complete at your discretion, and some information in respect of property level protection. He will also give an update in respect of the powers available to the county council

Weston Colville Parish Council



The Reading Room junction



The ford, Horseshoe Lane



Chapel Road

Interregnum

Seven years ago, I wrote a letter in *Challenge* explaining what happens when a Parish Priest leaves. Canon Woolley had left the Balsham Rectory and the four parishes he had been serving were left in an interregnum or vacancy. Until the Revd Dr Julie Norris was appointed to succeed him we had a period of waiting.

Seven years later it is all happening again! Julie has been encouraged by both of our Diocesan bishops to take an eighteen month sabbatical to write a book which our national church needs urgently. Julie's doctorate was on the topic of the ethics linked to advances in medical research, and she is being asked to go to the next stage and write a book on the same subject. New medical procedures are being announced on a regular basis, and there is a need for careful study about their use. Will they be used in a way that is acceptable? There will be a whole range of similar questions that need much thought and careful answers.

Meanwhile we are beginning a new interregnum, and our churchwardens will be composing a profile of our seven churches group, outlining the needs which the new Priest-in-charge will have to fulfil. They will do this with the guidance of the Archdeacon of Cambridge, and then the search will begin for Julie's replacement. The ministry team which has been led by Julie includes the Revd Kathy Bishop, Mr Steven Wheeler, Mrs Rosemary Mead, Mr Keith Day, and myself, with the assistance of the Revd Dr Carrie Pemberton Ford and the Revd John Pinder. We also have the invaluable ministry of our Parish Nurse, Mrs Teresa Letimier, who joined our team in January.

Julie's legacy includes spearheading the project to appoint a Parish Nurse, and the adoption of the policy of Ely Diocese to make every parish church open and equipped for the use of the surrounding community. Under Julie's leadership three of our seven churches, Hildersham, West Wickham, and (to be completed in October) Great Abington have already been converted for use in this way, with toilets and kitchen facilities. The plans for Balsham include constructing a Parish Room at the west end with toilets, and the funding for this is also almost complete. Weston Colville church has had a new nave floor, opening the church up for community use, and a new heating system for the chancel. In April

West Wrattling suffered a theft of lead from its roof and the PCC are doing everything they can to complete repairs before the winter weather.

As I wrote seven years ago, what we can all do is to support with our prayers all those involved in taking our services in the coming vacancy. It is vitally important that the right person is called to serve as our new Priest-in-charge, and so your prayers matter probably far more than you can ever realise.

Keith Johnson

From the Vicarage

(for the last time from Rev Julie Norris as Priest in Charge of the seven churches)

It was really moving to be part of last Sunday's service with so many of my colleagues taking their part. Before the service began, at the back of the church I listened to the bell ringers welcoming us to worship, and then the Seven Churches Choir sang one of my favourite pieces of music, words by Lancelot Andrews set to music by Rutter. It has been such a privilege to work with Very Rev Keith Johnson, Rev Kathy Bishop, Mr Steven Wheeler, Mr Keith Day, Mrs Rosemary Mead and Parish Nurse Mrs Teresa Letimier, along with Mrs Cathy Myer and Mrs Gill Parry Brown who, along with Andrew Westwood-Bate, have started training for leadership roles in the future. New people who have also recently joined the team – Rev Dr Carrie Pemberton Ford has begun to take services in the group and her ministry is already appreciated. As I leave, I know that you are in good hands with this delightful team who will not just keep things going, but continue to make their own mark.

I was also moved by the generosity of words, gifts and cards which were extended to me. What beautiful and lovely gifts. I take these away to trigger the many

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rich memories of conversations, activities, events and services that we have shared together. I feel that I have been very blessed to have been here with you at this time. Thank you.

All this came after a lovely garden party on Saturday. The weather was perfect, the numbers who came were better than ever, and it was all made possible by the remarkable effort of so many people who gave time and energy not just to setting up, and running the stalls, but also to clearing up and finding new homes for the car boots full of books and children's toys which have accumulated each year in the vicarage garage. And more than £800 was raised.

Now as we turn our energy to sorting, packing and moving, I will hold on to my memories of you and your encouragement, which will be a great help on any day when I feel that the book is hard to write.

Rev Dr Julie Norris

What Next for St Andrew's Church Roof?

St Andrew's PCC wants to update everyone with what is happening about the church roof, following the theft of a large portion of lead in April.

A group of brilliant volunteers has put a temporary roof on, but we need to make this cover good and complete before the winter weather hits (although whilst writing this in the summer heat that time feels a long way off!). Behind the scenes, at the beginning of August Sebastian and the clergy team secured consents from South Cambs and the Diocese to replace the missing lead, and also the remaining lead, with steel. This was the result of a lot of hard work from the West Wrattling team and our thanks go to them for that.

This means we can now move to get prices and then schedule work for the repair and renewal of the roof, and then eventually redecoration of the church to deal with the spring water damage.

Some funds have been allocated over the years for fabric repairs, and some events are already planned to raise more funds, as we think the total costs are likely to be in the region of £80,000, plus the redecoration. We can cover about half of this at present through current church funds, so we think we need to raise about another £40,000. We need to get this money confirmed or in the bank before we hire the contractors, and as we hope we would be able to get

the work done before our traditionally bad weather starting in January this is clearly a tight timeframe.

We have to raise this money ourselves, as the Diocese does not have provision. If we don't keep the church in good condition there is a very real risk the building will be closed.



So, what next? Well, we have a plan of action, part of which is to apply for grants (some done, some to do), and part of which is to capitalise on existing fundraisers such as the June Balsham Singers concert, the August clay shoot (on Saturday 27th August), the October concert (on Saturday 8th October), and any other events people can organise or suggest to raise funds. We are also appealing to local landowners, businesses and people in the village to help in any way they possibly can.

If everyone could think about how to help, and then do it, that would be great, such as raising more money from coffee mornings, darts matches/sponsored runs/cycles/dancing – really anything, please. Together we will make a HUGE difference.

The church building is there for everyone to enjoy, and it is not simply a religious building; it is there for anyone to sit in, meet in, drop in and make a cup of coffee/drink of squash, and to use for anything, such as exhibitions, which we have seen in the past, of village history and war memories, through to pantomimes, concerts, displays on bell ringing, and anything else.

It is possibly the oldest building in the village, and needs our help to stay open and alive for generations to come. For more details, or to make donations or suggestions for fund raising, please ring Jeanette Job (01223 290706) or Linda Gorman (01223 290653). For anonymous donations, please use the 'hole in the wall' inside the church, near the main door. Cheques can be made payable to 'WWPCC'.

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Call the Parish Nurse

Six months ago I was given this privileged position to be your parish nurse – a special gift, a divine calling, one that has brought great joy, feeding my inner desire and commitment to love God and to love our neighbour. I can truly say this has been the most humbling experience and one that I remain passionate and determined to fulfil. I feel energised by God's unconditional love to promote the principles of compassion, respect and dignity.

My engagement confirms our fear, and has even exceeded our expectations, of the incidence of unmet healthcare needs and hidden suffering. Before sharing the reality, I must commend all those in these parishes who had the wisdom to design and support this project, the church being proactive, and most importantly, for all of you who have trusted me during your times of need and vulnerability. I am deeply touched and this brings with it great strength to continue this so needed work.

Sharing some precious encounters will hopefully enlighten and empower us, in a true compassionate spirit, to tackle the problems people are facing.

An individual; housebound, lonely and isolated; no family or visitors except the professional carers.

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Alone, feeling of no worth or value, the person said to me "I'm a burden to society, I wish I would die" and then sat and wept. It is heartbreaking holding a hand, listening, having some time together. She looked at me, I took her hand, placed a small wooden cross in it, and she smiled. I struggle to come to terms with such happenings in today's world and yet it is real.

For those nearing the end of life my involvement has varied; supporting them to live life to the full to the very end, encouraging them to do meaningful activities, to make memories for those they leave behind, as well as alleviating worries about their death and dying.

One contact was to support the carer and to respect the wishes of a cherished love one so that they could die at home in a dignified and peaceful manner. I was able to offer daily respite, a listening ear and a quiet presence. Then I coordinated and working collaboratively with professionals to ensure comfort, dignity and a peaceful end.

A lot of my work is supporting carers, with little or no respite offered to them from other professionals. As a devoted loving carer it is a huge responsibility and extremely tiring, caring twenty four hours each day, seven days a week. So many are so inspiring with

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their devotion to care for another, but I'm also saddened as they themselves and their needs are often forgotten. There are many times when they need to attend appointments as an advocate, support or translator of medical terminology, so needed when facing possible life changing news, diagnoses, treatments and medications. This much forgotten problem deserves attention.

In contrast, I attended the preschool to talk with children about nursing. They asked their questions and listened and then they enthusiastically bandaged teddy and themselves.

These are a few of my encounters, but each of my days is so different, full and unpredictable. Each visit so unique, working compassionately to honour the worth of each individual, to address their needs as a whole person.

I know many of you too are caring with compassion, quietly behind closed doors; for this I am so thankful. I cannot stress enough how vast this work is and I don't say this for myself but for all to understand the real needs out there in the community.

My work continues with passion and enthusiasm, working together in sustaining our compassionate community. A compassionate community is one where people are not isolated, not forgotten, but a good place to be born, to live, to grow old and to be able to die with dignity. And where there is a helping hand to be found. This will only work with the support and commitment to be there for another. God's guidance, support and unconditional love for us prevails, it is pivotal and paramount as this project comes into fruition. I would value anyone's contributions or thoughts and thank you for those who have given valuable feedback in regards to this.

Teresa Letimier, Parish Nurse



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'We Don't Talk about this Sort of Thing'

On Monday 3rd October, 7.00 pm (talk starts at 7.30 pm) at the Meadow School, Balsham, there will be a discussion between broadcaster Libby Purves, Rev Prof Alasdair Coles, and the Bishop of Huntingdon, engaging in a conversation about the spiritual issues around end of life, care of the dying, and support of the bereaved.

This is a health awareness event, as part of our Parish Nurse project, and is open to everybody, and free to attend.

West Wrattling Over 60s

The club will meet next on Wednesday 7th September in the village hall at 2.30 pm, with bring and buy and raffle. Thanks to Janet and Kath for their input in making last month's bingo session a success.

Next month we will meet in the village hall at 2.30 on Wednesday 5th October.

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West Wrattling Ukulele Evening

Sadly this has had to be cancelled due to lack of support. The band, who live in the Huntingdon area, would have donated their fee to MAGPAS. I was also hoping to raise funds for our village hall flooring. This, together with organising the provision of food and drink and selling tickets, is too much of a challenge for me! Sorry.

Sherry

First Friday Bridge

This very informal bridge club will return to the West Wrattling village hall from 2nd September. We meet on the first Friday of each month at 7.30 pm. Come without a partner if you wish – I do! We play Chicago Bridge and take a break for tea / coffee / wine at around 9 pm. £1.50 each on the evening covers hall hire. For more information, please contact me.

Sherry O'Donovan (sherry.odonovan@gmail.com)

Saturday Morning Café, West Wrattling

The Saturday morning café will run as usual on Saturday 3rd September between 10.30 am and 12 noon in the village hall. 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 to our amazing cake bakers. Our 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.

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

Sherry (290070) and Catherine (291307)



Weston Colville Tea and Cakes

By all accounts our August gathering was a more exclusive affair as those of us with children were away on our holidays. Many thanks to everyone who helped out, and of course those who went along.

Our next gathering is on Friday 2nd September, same time (3.30 - 5 pm), same place (the Reading Room). Please come along and keep us company over a cup of tea and a piece of cake. Everyone welcome.

Melanie

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West Wratting Harvest Supper

This year's event is planned to take place on Saturday 1st October, starting at 7 pm and finishing at midnight.

The format will be the same as in previous years, with a simple supper of cheese and ham ploughman's followed by apple pies/crumbles (kindly donated by residents of the village).

There will be a raffle, produce auction, bar, and soft drinks bar run by the children.

Tickets (available in advance): adults £10, children £5, from me at 291229 or karen@karenbakerdesign.co.uk

Help Needed for Harvest Supper

Due to my current work/study commitments I have very little free time to organise this year's Harvest Supper, but I do wish it to continue, as it has been a highlight in the village's social calendar. As I am not around much to ask people personally if they can help with the following tasks, I have decided to publish them here.

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To enable this year's Harvest Supper to happen I need the following support; please let me know if you can help with the following:

- volunteers to make apple pies and crumbles
- donations for the raffle and auction
- setting up the hall during the afternoon (Saturday 1st October), and/or help preparing the supper
- during the event – selling raffle tickets, a caller for the raffle (normally an attending child), an auctioneer, someone to record the auction bids during the auction, and servers for the food
- after the event – volunteers are needed for washing up and clearing away.

If you can help with one or more of these tasks please let me know, as this will be very much appreciated.

Please email me on karen@karenbakerdesign.co.uk or call on 291229 and leave a message.

Karen Baker

Autumn Concert

This year's concert will take place at Holy Trinity Church, Balsham, on Saturday 8th October at 7.30 pm, with the usual mix of choral and instrumental music.

This is one of the main fund raising events for St Andrew's Church, West Wratting and, after the theft of the roof lead, is even more vital to help pay for the replacement and ongoing repairs.

Tickets: £12.00 including interval refreshments (the first increase in 6 years), children free; available from the Balsham shop/post office, Weston Colville post office, or Linda and Michael Gorman (290653).

We will also need help as usual with setting up, refreshments (providing and serving), selling/taking concert tickets, and raffle tickets. If you can help with any of these things please let us know.

Linda Gorman



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Barbara Moulton – Thank You, Barb!

During their years in West Wrattling Les and Barb Moulton contributed much to the lives of our residents, as well as those of neighbouring villages. With the passing of Les, and Barb's departure, we have lost two great friends and companions.

Barbara finally sold her house in mid-June and, totally unexpectedly, but somehow unsurprisingly, chose to mark her departure with a number of very generous gifts to the village – £1,000 to the church, £1,000 to the village hall, and £1,000 to the football club. Characteristically these had no strings attached, no acknowledgement required. She felt strongly that the village had been good to her and Les, and she wanted to 'put something back'.

Barbara is now living in Chatteris along with Rosie, her beautiful bitzer, and will shortly be moving in with her daughter Karen and son-in-law Miles.

Thank you very much, dear Barb; your gifts are much appreciated and will be put to good use. You are an absolute star. We all miss you and Les terribly.

Colin McCall and Mike Rowland

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Music Bash

We had a very lovely day, enjoyed by all, even though there were three other events on the same day which did affect us. We still had a good turn out, and the weather was lovely, thankfully.

Many thanks to Dan and Paul Santry for organising the bands, and to them for excellent music and for giving their very much appreciated free time. Thank you to HomeShred for their sponsorship. Thank you again to the companies and individuals who donated excellent prizes for the raffle, and also to all the volunteers who worked very hard to make this day successful.

We raised in the region of £4,000 which will be divided between EACH (in memory of dear Chelsey Boreham), The Brain Tumour Charity, and the West Wrattling Senior and Youth Football Teams.

Special thanks to you all for coming along and enjoying and supporting the day.

Blanche Miller

West Wrattling Book Club

Just a reminder that we will meet on Wednesday 14th September at 8 pm in The Chestnut Tree to review 'The Lake House' by Kate Morton, which is a mystery set around a country house and the Edevane family in 1933 and 2003, and/or Bill Bryson's 'The Road to Little Dribbling', an update of his 'Notes From a Small Island'.

The book for October is 'The Essex Serpent' by Sarah Perry, to be discussed at the meeting on Wednesday 12th October.

Linda Gorman

September 2016

Events at the Reading Room, Weston Colville

Enquiries and further information on/about the poetry day, 'pub' quiz, and talk by Roger Whitehead, from Jacqueline Douglas (291475, jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com)

National Poetry Day

We'd like to bring National Poetry Day to Weston Colville and hold an evening celebration in the Reading Room. It's on Thursday, 6th October at 8 pm, and you're invited to come along with a favourite poem to share, and to listen to your neighbours' choices. All welcome, no tickets necessary, refreshments provided.

Weston Colville 'Pub' Quiz

We're holding a 'Pub' Quiz in the Reading Room on Wednesday, 21st September at 8 pm. If you would like to enter, it's up to four per team, with a prize for the winners, entry £2 per person. Bar includes wine, lager, cider and draft ale. All welcome.

Talk by Roger Whitehead

I'm really pleased to say that our very own Roger Whitehead has agreed to give a talk in the Reading Room. Of the many things I'm sure he could entertain us with, he's chosen 'My life-long link with Uganda'. Not to be missed! It's on Wednesday, 28th September at 7.30 pm, all welcome, no tickets necessary, and refreshments will be available.

Weston Colville Cinema Club

After a summer break, the cinema club returns on Wednesday, 5th October, at 7.30 pm, with 'El Baño del Papa', a heartwarming and comic tale from South America. It was a hit at the London Film Festival, where Jacqueline enjoyed it, and is about how a little community tries to squeeze the most out of a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence: on his way to the next city on his tour, the Pope's coming through the village. Beautifully shot in rural landscape, it's been described by turns as a nutty farce and one of the sweetest films you're likely to see.

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



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Weston Colville Circular Walk

Many thanks to everyone who joined us on the walk in July, including Henry the labrador and two guests from West Wickham. We enjoyed a sortie to Carlton and back, with cow parsley taller than the tallest of us.



Our next circular walk will be on Saturday, 1st October; 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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News from The Chestnut Tree

Our Charity Beer Festival will be taking place from Thursday 22nd to Sunday 25th September, and we very much hope that we will be blessed with the lovely weather we have enjoyed on previous years.

We will have twelve different ales from twelve different brewers for you to sample, and they will all be brews that you will not have seen on our pumps before. A full line up of the beers and ciders will be on our Facebook page nearer the time.

On the Thursday evening there will be a charity quiz from 8 pm. Teams of no more than four please, with the winning team being rewarded with £200 for their nominated charity. If you would like to join us please call to reserve a table, as there is usually a full house.

On the Friday evening there will be live music, and on the Saturday we will be hosting a race night, so please come along, sup some lovely beers, and enjoy a flutter (all proceeds from your bets will be going straight to this year's charity).

Sunday will be family day when there will be garden games, face painting and a bouncy castle to keep the children entertained, whilst a BBQ will be available from 12.30 until 5 pm. We will then be rounding things off with a pool and darts knockout.

Domestic Help for You

I have over 30 years of experience in domestic, personal and child care. If you need help with any of the following, please give me a call:

- House Keeping
- Light Gardening
- Shopping
- School Runs
- Pet Care/Dog Walking
- Personal Care

My rates are very competitive and I can provide excellent references from previous employers.

Dianne on **01223 290527** or **07878 226910**

This year we are raising funds for The Meadow Primary School 'Save Our Pool' Campaign, a cause close to our hearts, as I am sure it will be for many of you, so please come along. All festival ales will be only £3 a pint, 50p of which will be going straight to help fund this important facility for local children.

On other news, we are happy to report that we have, yet again, been awarded five stars for Food Hygiene by the local authority. Again we are featured in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide, and we were voted 'LocALE Rural Pub of the Year' in recognition of our commitment to serving local beers.

We are also now listed as an Asset of Community Value, thereby offering the pub additional protections in recognition of the importance of The Chestnut Tree to the villages we serve. We remain as committed as ever to providing a real community local, with as broad an appeal as we can, to meet local needs.

However, it is worth noting that we can only do this with your patronage. The future of your pub is as much in your hands as it is in ours and we are confident that, with your support, The Chestnut Tree will continue to thrive.

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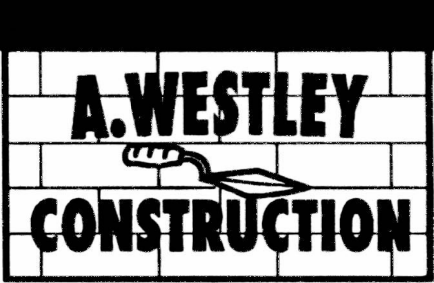
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for information on:

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

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

Weston Colville Oil Co-operative

Deadline for ordering: **noon, Sunday 18th September**

Church End to the bottom of Mill Hill:

Alastair Douglas (291475, 07981 640475, 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.

West Wratting Oil Syndicate

There will be a fill up this month, with the cutoff for orders being Wednesday September 7th 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 West Wratting 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 at least a couple of weeks from the cutoff date for the orders to be received, collated, brokered and delivered. However, if you take the minimum of 500 litres every time there's a fill up, you'll always buy at the best possible price and improve your cashflow to boot!

The **next fill up** will be in October, with a delivery cutoff time and date of 6 pm Monday 10th October. Please don't place your orders before 1st October as they may get written on pieces of scrap paper and then lost in the usual chaos that reigns at Holness Towers. A reminder will be in the October *Challenge*, if I remember to put it in.

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

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

Richard Holness

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Les Moulton, 'Vegetable Gardener of the Year' Vase

On Friday 5th August Barbara Moulton returned to West Wrating to judge garden vegetable plots in the village and to award the 'Vegetable Gardener of the Year' vase in memory of Les and on behalf of the Parish Council. The winners were the Tempest family in the High Street, and the West Wrating Parish Council would like to congratulate them, as well as thanking everybody else who entered. Barbara hopes the tradition of growing vegetables in West Wrating gardens will be maintained, and looks forward to judging even more plots next year. Those of you who know her will not be surprised to hear that her views are cut-and-dried and her decisions fast!

Richard Holness, West Wrating Parish Council

Defibrillator

We can finally announce that the defibrillator is now fully working, after trying a couple of locks for the cabinet.

At present the key holders are West Wrating Sports Pavilion, and Rachel and Peter from The Chestnut Tree. The next issue of *Challenge* will give any additional names of those who can be approached by all in an emergency.

Blanche Miller, Sports Pavilion Secretary

Message from the Parish Nurse

A few of my voicemail messages are not always being received for some days. We are looking into the problem, but in the meantime please remember that you can contact me via your GP practice. Thank you for your patience.

Teresa Letimier

Community Transport

Currently, West Wrating residents have access to the Balsham-based Helping Hands Scheme (a local volunteer drivers scheme) if they need transport for health care appointments in Addenbrooke's, Linton or elsewhere. Charge to passengers is 30p per mile. Drivers get 15p per mile from Cambridgeshire County Council, who also cover insurance.

Currently, Weston Colville residents are reliant on the 3 Counties Scheme.

If wished, Helping Hands might extend their service to include Weston Colville but would then need to recruit more drivers from Weston Colville or West Wrating.

Will anyone willing to help please get in touch with either Sara Himsworth (sarahimsworth@aol.com, 893975) or Suan Rowland (suanrowland@btinternet.com, 290788). Thank you.

Suan Rowland

West Wrating Parish Path Partnership

We had a relatively early first cut along our footpaths this year, and after a wet summer the grass is getting long again. The council will start cutting the paths again at the end of August. It takes approximately six weeks to do all the paths, so our paths will be cut anytime up to the end of September.

Many thanks to Lee Tubby for keeping the cross-field paths walkable, Raymond Maskell for his work around and in Scarletts Wood, Phil Johnston for strimming the path by Scarletts Farm, and Simon 'Toro' Anderson for keeping our village perimeter paths in croquet lawn condition.

Colin McCall (290036)

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*Weston Colville
Cricket Club*



1st XI – it has been a tough year for the first team and now, with a handful of games to go, relegation is inevitable as they sit at the bottom of the table, around 100 points adrift from the team just above the drop zone. The damage was done in the first half of the season when it was a struggle to get eleven players out, let alone compete against teams featuring overseas players. The second half of the season has seen selection become marginally easier but results have not been forthcoming and the team has remained rooted at the bottom of the table. Even when Weston's score topped 300 thanks to a magnificent 136 from Ade Westley the opposition still managed to win the game. But each match is an individual event and we hope that they can finish the season with a few wins.

Opponents	Opponents Score	Weston Score	Notes
Sawston	258-8	257-9	Ade Westley 62 Andy Brightmore 59 Jack Squire 3-24
St Ives	289-8	66 all out	Will Garrad 31 Joe Robins 3-40
Huntingdon	155-5	154 all out	Ed Fairey 52
Fordham	303-7	302-9	Ade Westley 136 Jack Squire 4-56
Warboys	75-2	74 all out	

2nd XI – it has not been an easy ride for the 2nd XI either, as they feel the effect of unavailability in the

1st XI. Several times they have taken the field with ten players (and on one occasion only eight). Results have been mixed and with three teams due to be relegated from Junior 5 South, getting wins from their remaining games is now becoming a matter of some urgency. There have been some good performances recently, including an exciting tie with Comberton.

Opponents	Opponents Score	Weston Score	Notes
Mill Green	268-9	131 all out	Euan Mayfield 3-24 Paul Mayfield 71
Buntingford	129-2	124 all out	Mick Franks 46 Paul Mayfield 35
Comberton	166-3	166 all out	Paul Mayfield 43 Scott Bishop 32
Gt.Shelford	61-3	59 all out	Only 8 players
Foxton III	158	160-3	Paul Mayfield 78no Carl Thompson 4-50

Senior Cricket Matches in September

	1st XI	2nd XI
Sat 3 rd September	Saffron Walden II (H)	Camkerala (A)
Sat 10 th September	Granta II (A)	

Juniors – the junior season got off to a bad start with the withdrawal of the U15s before a game had been played. From the core of eight players expected to form the backbone of the team, five announced that they were not playing cricket this year. With an U14 team already in place it would have been too much to expect them to play at U15 as well. The demise of the U15s highlights how difficult it is for village teams to have any form of succession with juniors moving into adult cricket. Overall the U13s and U14s had good seasons, both finishing third in their leagues. The U11s showed great improvement as the season progressed and finished runners up to Haverhill in both the league and cup. Friday night coaching continues to attract large numbers, many of whom are seeing cricket for the first time. These are the next generation of players so we hope they will take to the game and progress up to the adult teams in a few years' time.

Steven Potter

**RICHARD KENYON
MASTER THATCHER**
of Bluntisham, Cambridgeshire



Home: 01487 843377
Mobile: 07873 549872
email: richardkenyon_1@hotmail.com

***Thought for the Month – Please Clear Up
After your Dog!***

Our village litter pickers have reported that they are finding increasing amounts of dog poo around the village, so please help to keep the village pavement and pathways clear of your dog mess by taking it home and putting it in the black bin. Thank you for your help.

West Wrattling Parish Council

Weston Colville Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

Last week there was concern about a white van parking in driveways and leaving small piles of rubble. About the same time there were two burglaries. In Balsham a garage was broken into and the house was entered through the internal connecting door. A neighbour heard the noise, investigated and the intruder fled. Then there was a burglary in West Wickham, where jewellery was stolen. If your suspicions are aroused, contact the police.

In Linton, Sawston, Shelford and Whittlesford, there have been thefts from vans, sheds, and garages. Scaffolding was stolen and a safe was ripped out of a wall. Some antiques were stolen, and also number plates, plus quantities of power tools and garden equipment. Thefts from five vans were reported, so if you usually leave work tools in your van, do please think about your security.

Conmen and doorstep selling: one firm, apparently from Nottingham, is knocking on doors and selling security equipment. Please do not buy, but obtain quotes from a trusted source before you make any decision. If you have trouble with any trader who refuses to leave, just contact the police immediately and make a note of the time of the request and the time the trader leaves.

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Try this short quiz. It's simple, revealing, and educational: www.qzr.com/c/quiz/248588/know-the-difference-cambridgeshire To check, insert 'stopping distances' in Google.

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

Small Animal Run

Free to a good home – Savic branded small animal run (for rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils), formed from interlocking metal wired panels: 6 no. at 610mm high x 640mm wide, 5 no. at 610mm high x 780mm wide, and 16 no. at 920mm high x 620mm wide, total length 17.6m; all still in good condition. Contact Richard Golding on 07767 644450.

Sponsored Ride, Drive and Stride

Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust is holding a sponsored event on Saturday 10th September, from 10 am to 6 pm. Cycle, drive or walk around Cambridgeshire's churches or chapels to raise money for the church or chapel of your choice.

Contact Linda Gorman on 290653 or see www.camhct.uk for more information.

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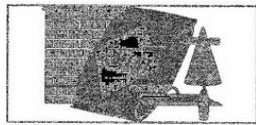
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www.westwrattling.org.uk/village-hall/

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Created by *Strictly Come Dancing* stars Natalie Lowe and Ian Waite, this is an up-beat

dance fitness class that combines the grace of Ballroom with Latin rhythms. Work your cardiovascular system with the Quickstep, tone your legs with the Tango, and trim your waist with the Salsa. You'll be having so much fun you won't realise how hard you're working.

Dance has been proven to be the best exercise for helping to slow down the ageing process, and this low-impact, low intensity class is ideal if you know you should be more active but find gyms daunting and other dance-based classes too frenetic. Gently-paced and wonderful for improving your posture, poise, flexibility and confidence. A small friendly class, focused on fun and wellbeing.



Wednesdays 9.30 am: Ellesmere Centre
Thursdays 7.30 pm: Balsham Institute
Saturdays 9.15 am: West Wrattling Village Hall

Thursdays 11.15 am: Ellesmere Centre

Classes also in Whittlesford and Sawston

contact Anne, your local instructor: email: fitsteps.annec@gmail.com 07799 644053

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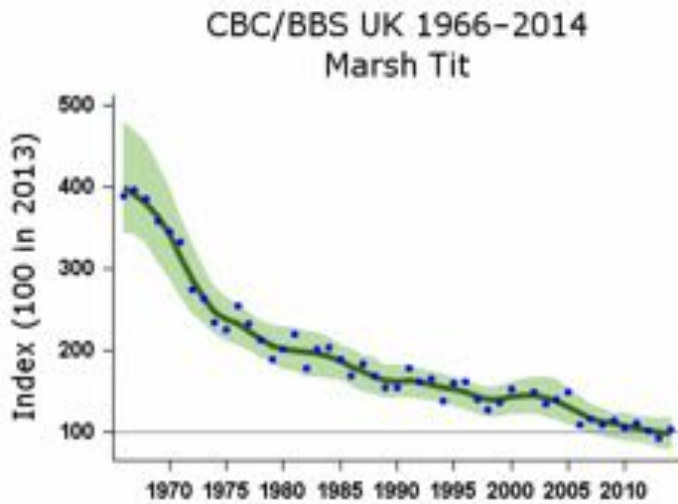
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Marsh Tit Update

Firstly, a sobering national graph. This is why Marsh Tits are Red-Listed in the UK, yet Marsh Tits seem to be doing well around Weston Colville.



© British Trust for Ornithology 2015

It might be your woods. There has been a general Marsh Tit decline in woodland across the UK, except deciduous woods. You can find more information at <http://app.bto.org/birdtrends/species.jsp?s=marti&year=2015>.

Our BTO licensed colour-ringing project is proceeding apace, to find the answers if we can. We're averaging one newly colour-ringed bird per week. Resightings are critical for us. We can't be there all the time, so the more pairs of eyes, the better for the Marsh Tits.

I'm pleased to say that we've had our first resighting of a colour-ringed bird in mid-July – the cheeky youngster S320010, 'Blue over Red (on left leg)'. The lower Red ring shows that he/she was ringed in Great Coven's Wood, and was found in Lower Wood, sneaking around the offered peanuts and fat balls in the territory of an adult pair, who are not his parents! He likes to live life on the edge, does Blue over Red.

It's gone quiet at the moment, as the adults of many bird species are moulting off the feathers worn out by the hectic breeding season, and the youngsters are losing their baby feathers. This means they're not able to fly perfectly – and they look UGLY – so they hide in the bushes and vegetation until their plumage has fully regrown. However, July produced two other young birds, S320047 'Blue over Green (left leg)' and

S320053 'Yellow over Green (left leg)'. The lower Green ring shows they were ringed in Lower Wood.

This is very good news, as it proves that Marsh Tits have bred around Weston Colville this year. We expect to find more juveniles in Great Coven's and Lower Wood.

Intriguingly, we have several Marsh Tits which have only been seen once, like the adult female D779544 (not colour-ringed), who appeared in a Mill Hill garden on 30th April and has not been seen since. They might have been caught by a predator, or died of old age, but that's unlikely to have happened to all of them at the same time.

This makes us suspect that there is another 'reservoir' of Marsh Tits around Weston Colville. Being a mostly woodland species, it's likely to be another wood. So we're keen to have a look in Hill Croft Wood, but I don't know who to ask for permission (I'm from Hertfordshire, so essentially a foreigner in these parts). If the landowner is willing, I'd appreciate a chat! Please contact me at cambsmarti@gmail.com, or Mel Stammers on Mill Hill, or Duncan MacKay our Lower Wood Warden, at the Cambridgeshire Wildlife Trust.

Alex Inzani, for the BTO



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New or used postcards, stamped or unstamped (please leave stamps on) are urgently needed to sell at postcard fairs in order to raise money for the church in South Sudan and Sudan, where life is very tough with renewed fighting. If you have any postcards you can part with please contact me. Thank you .

Joanna Sanders (893063, sanderschimneys@uwclub.net)

Pants to Poverty

The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth, has kindly placed a collection box in the foyer for the charity ‘Smalls for All’. This charity collects preloved bras still in good condition and packs of NEW pants. They are currently in particular need of pants. These are then distributed to schools in Africa, enabling many girls to attend school regularly with dignity.

This simple and direct solution was the idea of Maria McNamara. As this young home-based charity grows, it is also now able to support girls through long term education. Please contribute if you can, and check out the work at www.smallsforall.org.

Julie Bampton

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 291229 or
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Balsham Gardening Club



The next meeting of the Club will be a visit to Dullingham House gardens on Tuesday 6th September. The visit will be from 6 pm until 8 pm, and travel will be in members’ cars, leaving Balsham at approx 5.45 pm. The cost of this visit is £7.50, to include a glass of wine. If anyone wishes to attend but has not yet booked please contact Lyn Bobrow (890598).

The October meeting will be held at the Meadow School on Tuesday 4th October, at 7.15 for 7.30 pm, when Wendy Foster will be giving a talk on Beth Chatto. As always, visitors and new members are welcome.

Jennie Tipler

Weston Colville Reading Room



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The Marsh Mail (news from Linton Village College)

Having spent the end of the summer holidays celebrating the achievements of our outgoing Year 11 students, we start the new academic year by welcoming a new cohort of students into Year 7. What both groups will appreciate, from experiencing significant examination periods in the summer term, is that the process of being tested is also a test of character; it examines resolve, focus, discipline, resilience and work ethic.



Academic success doesn't rely on genetic ability and very few students are able to excel in terminal assessments without the help of effective preparation through revision and, more importantly, the acquisition of understanding and positive learning habits through their school careers.

We are proud of this summer's GCSE results at LVC. However, we are even prouder of the people behind this percentage: the students who not only achieved excellent added value in terms of their progress scores, but developed strong values and character during their time with us.

While qualifications are important, colleges and employers do not simply appoint applicants on the basis of grades; candidates' attitudes are just as important as their aptitudes. Communication, team work, initiative and flexibility feature highly in employability surveys. Furthermore, success, happiness and fulfilment in life depend on much more than test outcomes.

In consultation with students, parents and governors, the Junior Leadership Team at LVC are in the process of formally launching The Linton Learner, a new code of conduct for students that recognises the behaviours that we value, teach, endorse and reward at Linton Village College. The learning attributes listed below are the key characteristics that we seek to promote to help students to develop into successful learners and well-rounded young people:

- Caring * Curious * Reflective
- Responsible * Ambitious * Independent

While it is crucial that students leave school with great academic outcomes representing excellent achievement and progress, it is even more important that they develop character traits that will equip them with the ability to adapt, thrive and succeed in life.

Helena Marsh, Executive Principal

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Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

Harvest is upon us and we're calling on local residents to help our fight against straw stack arson. Stack fires can quickly spread and not only endanger people and livestock, but also life-long work on farms. Stacks burn very slowly, meaning crews are committed for long periods of time, making them unavailable for other emergencies. Don't forget, many firefighters attending incidents like these in rural parts of our county are on-call personnel and their retention at a stack fire impacts directly upon business and services in their community.

We're urging residents and those passing through rural areas to keep a careful watch. Do you see someone acting suspiciously around stores of hay or straw? Is there an unusual vehicle near farm buildings? Become a community member of Arson Watch and keep an eye on stacks in your area. Report suspicious activity to police on 101 and dial 999 if you see a stack fire.

(01480 444500, www.cambsfire.gov.uk)

Granta Medical Practice – Flu Clinics

Flu jabs are recommended for everyone age 65 and over, and for those in clinical at-risk groups. Once again we will be running flu clinics on three Saturday mornings starting on 8th October. We are taking bookings now.

Children aged 2, 3 and 4 on 1st September, and those in the at-risk group, are eligible to receive the nasal spray vaccine.

The shingles vaccine is also available to people who will be aged 70 - 73 and 78 - 79 on 1st September 2016. This is a one-off vaccine that can be given at the same time as the flu jab; we cannot give this to anyone over 80 years.

Meningitis ACWY vaccine can be given to anyone under 25 years of age who will actually start university this year, or who were born between 1/9/1997 and 31/8/1998. Please make an appointment in a routine nurse's weekday clinic.

Carol Thexton, Granta Medical Practices



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St Mary's, Weston Colville (at 9.15 am)			
		FLOWERS	CLEANING
4 th Sept	Holy Communion	Canon John Pinder	Philippa
11 th Sept	Morning Prayer	Mr Steven Wheeler	
18 th Sept	Holy Communion	Rev Kathy Bishop	
25 th Sept	Holy Communion	Rev Kathy Bishop	

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.

St Andrew's, West Wrating (at 10.45 am)				
		SET UP	FLOWERS	CLEANING
4 th Sept	Holy Communion	Canon John Pinder	Alex	Alex Pauline
11 th Sept	Holy Communion	Very Rev Keith Johnson	Ben	Jenny Maggie
18 th Sept	Holy Communion	Rev Kathy Bishop	Fanny	Linda Sue
25 th Sept	Holy Communion	Very Rev Keith Johnson	Sisse	Linda Jenny

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)

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

Churchwardens:

St Mary's – Roger Whitehead (290524),
Philippa Coates (290842)
St Andrew's – Sebastian Bain (403415)

Parish Council Clerks:

Weston Colville – Christine King,
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Administrator: Caroline (Cazzy) Walshe,
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Parish Nurse: Teresa Letimier,
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Black bins: Tuesday 6th & 20th September,
Tuesday 4th & 18th October

Blue & green bins: Tuesday 13th & 27th September,
Tuesday 11th & 25th October

Mobile library: fourth Wednesdays (28th Sept, 26th Oct)
High Street, West Wrating 12.10 - 12.55
Post Office, Weston Green 2.05 - 2.25
Mill Hill, Weston Colville 2.30 - 3.05

DIARY

September 2016

Fri 2 First Friday Bridge, West Wrating village hall
Tea & Cakes, Weston Colville
Sat 3 Farmers' Market, Linton village hall
Saturday Morning Café, West Wrating
Mon 5 Weston Colville Parish Council meeting
(with CCC Flood Risk Officer)
Tues 6 Balsham Gardening Club visit to Dullingham
Wed 7 West Wrating Over 60s
West Wrating oil syndicate cutoff for orders
Sat 10 CHCT Ride, Drive, & Stride
Sun 11 Thurlow Hunt Kennel Open Day & Dog Show
Mon 12 West Wrating Parish Council
Wed 14 West Wrating Book Club
Thur 15 Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree
Sun 18 Order deadline, Weston Colville oil cooperative
Wed 21 'Pub' Quiz, Weston Colville Reading Room
Thur 22 - Sun 25 Beer Festival, The Chestnut Tree
Wed 28 Talk by Roger Whitehead, Reading Room

October 2016

Sat 1 Farmers' Market, Linton village hall
Circular Walk, from Weston Colville
Harvest Supper, West Wrating
Mon 3 'We Don't Talk About . . .' discussion, Balsham
Wed 5 West Wrating Over 60s
Fri 7 First Friday Bridge, West Wrating village hall
Tues 4 Balsham Gardening Club meeting
Wed 5 Weston Colville Cinema Club, Reading Room
Thur 6 Poetry, Weston Colville Reading Room
Sat 8 Autumn Concert, Balsham
Wed 12 West Wrating Book Club
Thur 20 Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree

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.

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