

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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Café Church Remembrance Sunday - The Dilemma of War for a Christian

November 11th 4-5 pm
West Wrattling Church

**Speaker: Gwyn
Davies-Scourfield**
former Army officer



RAF Wrattling Common Remembrance Sunday, 11th November

There will be a short service at the memorial on Sunday 11th November at 12 noon.

This year is particularly special as it marks both 100 years since the end of the First World War, and also 100 years of the RAF.



The memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville, CB21 5NR. We hope to be joined by some of the veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Also, 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. Attendees are invited to lay wreaths or crosses for those they wish to remember, and everyone is welcome to attend.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

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

St Mary's, Weston Colville

Pet Service



Sunday 25th November,
9.15 am



Bring your pet to church – no matter how large or small, furry or feathered, noisy or quiet.

Chicken in a basket or dog on a lead, all are welcome!



An informal service for families to give thanks for life all around us.

There will be refreshments after the service.

Tea and Cakes, Weston Colville



At our October gathering we raised £140 for MacMillan Cancer Care. Many thanks to everyone who baked, helped out on the day, helped advertise, and turned up to support the event.

In November we meet on Friday 2nd, 3.30 - 5 pm at the Reading Room. We look forward to seeing you for a cuppa, a chat and a piece of cake. All welcome.

Melanie (291319)

St Andrew's Churchyard Clear-up

The autumn tidy-up of St Andrew's churchyard will be on Saturday 17th November, 10 am till 12 noon. Everyone welcome, and coffee and doughnuts will, as ever, be provided.

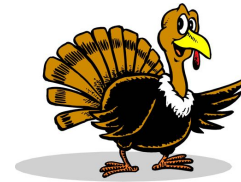
Colin McCall (290036)

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Saturday Morning Café, West Wrattling

Huge thanks to everyone for another buzzing café with lots of new faces at the beginning of October! It was lovely to see so many young children enjoying the arts, crafts and play area.

The Saturday morning café will run as usual on Saturday 3rd November between 10.30 am and 12 noon in the village hall. Back by popular demand, Buttercups Pre-School will be running an arts and crafts table and selling a selection of goods to raise money for the charity. Granta School will also be selling a selection of arts and crafts to raise funds for the school. Please come and support them!

Please come and join us for a catch up over tea / coffee and delicious cake! The money raised continues to be donated to local community projects. This year, all proceeds from the bookstall will go to Granta School.

On Saturday 10th November, the café is organising another little movers' dance morning and lunch for preschoolers in the area. Please let us know if you'd like to join us for Little Movers!

Sherry (290070) and Catherine (291307)

From the Vicarage

It's the time of year when leaves are turning russet brown and falling, conkers appear on paths and playgrounds and there is a medley of fireworks and early Christmas craft fairs! Amidst all of these activities and before we look ahead to Christmas, there is also the opportunity to engage with another ancient festival.

All Hallows' or All Saints' Day is celebrated in many places at the beginning of November and is a tradition with a rich history. Paul the apostle referred to all communities of Christians as 'saints' – people called to love God and their neighbour and to seek fullness of life by following Christ. Gradually, a feast day emerged on which the Church gave thanks for the lives and deaths of the 'saints' including those famous and obscure.

All Saints' Day is like a family reunion day for the church, when the old family photograph albums are pulled out and we remember where we came from. Stories are swapped of relatives in the faith, saints old and new, and we pray for God's continued guidance.

It's also a time when we can reflect on an unsung saint in our neighbourhood, whose faithful acts of kindness and generosity inspire us and perhaps portray a richer, deeper experience of life with all its sorrows and joys.

Most people can think of their own example of an unsung saint – perhaps someone who acted as a mentor in our childhood or inspired us later in life. By remembering and being grateful for such people, we also recall our own responsibility to support and inspire others in similar ways. In doing so, we may point towards a life of faith, hope and love, the fullness of life which All Saints' Day reminds us of.

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West Wrattling Over 60s

The club will meet at The Chestnut Tree (to include lunch) on Wednesday 7th November at 12.30 pm.

The last meeting of the club for 2018 will be a Christmas lunch, also at The Chestnut Tree, on TUESDAY 4th December (please note this change of day), with our usual Christmas raffle.

Wendy Halls

West Wrattling Charity Bingo Night

Huge thanks to everyone for supporting our first West Wrattling charity bingo evening. We raised over £750 for the St Andrew's Church Restoration Fund.

*Catherine (291307), Claire (290638),
Sarah (291906), Anne (290967)*

What a great idea – fun and competition for all. Sincere thanks to Catherine, Claire, Sarah and Anne, and all who helped on the night – a great turnout, and we are sure everyone enjoyed the evening. A magnificent amount was raised for the restoration fund; our sincerest thanks for organising a great village social gathering, and adding to the fund.

On behalf of St Andrew's restoration, many thanks.

Alex and Sebastian

West Wrattling Village Hall AGM

The AGM of the Village Hall Management Committee is scheduled for Monday 10th 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)

St Andrew's Annual Autumn Concert

The Autumn Concert was held for the first time in our church, organised by Michael and Linda Gorman – our sincere thanks go to them.

The music was beautiful. We are grateful to Kings Ely for sending a cello ensemble which very much made the evening. The return of Emma Brown to play the flute for us was very much appreciated, and Will Cleary played some beautiful and intricate music on his classical guitar. All in all it was a lovely evening, raising a very valuable contribution of £443.

On behalf of St Andrew's restoration team, many thanks.

Alex and Sebastian

We would like to add our thanks to everyone who supported the concert, either as members of the audience, by the giving of donations or raffle prizes, or helping in any way before or on the day and, not least, those who took part. Also, thanks for all the kind comments we have received from those who attended.

We hope to repeat this event next year.

Linda and Michael Gorman

Seniors

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th November at 2.30 pm in the Reading Room.

We open with information about our plans and ideas, then John Rogers will tell us about Jupiter, and Charlotte will conclude the afternoon with Chair Yoga.

New seniors are always welcome. If any of our activities interest you, please come along.

Allen (290837)



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Thanks from Friends of Granta School

Friends of Granta School, the staff and children would like to thank all concerned for the very generous donation of the collection from the United Service at Holy Trinity Church, Balsham on 7th October.



This wonderful gesture will go towards our Arts & Activities Week project for Spring 2019. Every second year Granta aims to provide an experience week where our very special children can explore and join in with activities they wouldn't ordinarily have access to. This donation will be truly appreciated.

Thank you to Sherry O'Donovan, Catherine Wilcox and Becky Gilley for very generously offering the proceeds of the bookstall in the West Wrattling Village Café to the Friends of Granta School for this academic year.

This wonderful donation will go directly towards a new book(s) each month, which will be shared with our very special children throughout the school.

Amanda Reynolds, Chair, FOGS

Gift Day for St Andrew's Church

So many thanks for all who contributed to the Gift Day we held on 13th October. We are pleased to report that we raised £805, and with Gift Aid this will increase to £1,006. We also have a generous new covenant of £1,000 per annum. It was a lovely morning and it was good to catch up with those who dropped by, and supplied wonderful cups of coffee.

Again, sincere thanks to you all, on behalf of the PCC.

Alex and Sebastian

Bumble Bees



The Bumble Bees Baby and Toddler Group is held every Tuesday (term time only) from 10 am to 12 noon in The Reading Room, Weston Colville.

There are many different toys suitable for 0 - 5 year olds, a different craft activity each week, a garden with outside play equipment, songs, stories and a drink and snack for both adults and children. Come along and join in the fun! £2.50 per session (with an additional 50p for every additional sibling.)

Term dates and planned craft activities are as follows:

30 th October	Halloween Spiders
6 th November	Bonfire Night Collages
13 th November	Poppies
20 th November	Sponge Painting
27 th November	Loo Roll Animals
4 th December	Christmas Craft
11 th December	Christmas Craft
18 th December	Christmas Party

*(advanced booking required;
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Weston Colville Cinema Club



This month, on Wednesday 7th November, the Cinema Club will show 'L'Atalante', a 1930s French classic, hailed as one of the greatest films of all time. We join newlyweds on their barge as they travel



to Paris to deliver cargo, enjoying a makeshift honeymoon en route.

Next month's film, on Wednesday, 5th December, will be Frank Capra's comedy drama 'It's a Wonderful Life', to get us all ready for Christmas.



Both films will be in the Reading Room at 7.30 pm; donations; refreshments available; all welcome. Enquiries: jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com, 291475.

Pamper Day

We'll be holding a Pamper Day in the Reading Room on Saturday, 8th December, with Andrea giving treatments including manicure and facial (full details and appointments 07715 059040) and Emma offering massage and Hopi ear candling (07581 156302). See also website for full details and prices: www.thereadingroom.org.uk

Weston Colville Circular Walk

In October, we had a sunny walk with new guests from West Wrating and then lunch al fresco.



Our next walk will be on New Year's Day, meeting in the Reading Room at 11 am, to give you a little lie in. As always, BYO lunch and maybe something to share back in the Reading Room afterwards. All welcome, refreshments available.

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Weston Colville Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

There have been no reported incidents for Weston Colville or West Wrating this month, though Balsham has experienced several problems. A house was entered and the owners frightened the intruder away; someone entered a site to steal batteries, and £500 of diesel was stolen from a lorry. Six Mile Bottom and Wilbraham both border our parishes and have experienced vehicle problems, theft of tools and damage to a cab.

For parents: Fortnite is a computer game which attracts our children. It has a PEGI rating of 12 due to scenes of animated violence (for more on PEGI ratings see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_Uvf8sq7PU). It is suggested that parents play the game with their children to see why it is so attractive, and why it is causing concern.

The police advise us to improve our home security by visiting their website on www.cambs.police.uk/A-Z/Burglary. Look after your security to reduce any problems that may come our way.

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

New Dual Purpose Litter & Dog Poo Bins

Residents, dog walkers and visitors to West Wrating will have noticed our four shiny new green bins.

Councillor Louise Chandler took up the 18-month long fight for West Wrating Parish Council to get them from South Cambs District Council, and not only succeeded, but managed to obtain them free of charge! Grateful thanks to her for this.

Dog walkers, please note that these bins can be used for dog poo as well as litter.

Richard Holness

Chairman, West Wrating Parish Council

Christine Mary Lynn

I want to say a little bit about the burial of ashes of Christine Mary Lynn, known as Chrissie or 'Mop'

She lived at High Street Farm, West Wrating, then moved to Carlton Green and then to Menorca, where she died just two weeks short of her 70th birthday.

Chrissie was very involved in village life; she contributed to the WI and made costumes for the old people's entertainment group when they put on sketches.

She was a very good cook and did the flowers in the church. She is fondly remembered by her many friends.

All are welcome to the burial of ashes which will take place on Saturday 24th November at 12 noon. It will be a very short ceremony, but a chance to say goodbye.

Revd Kathy Bishop

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West Wrating Oil Syndicate

– nearly 16p more per litre than last year!

Goff Petroleum won the West Wrating Oil Syndicate order again (the last syndicate order this year), with 22 houses having oil delivered at a price of 53.95p. Boilerjuice quoted a ‘special price’ of 54.18p, which was better than their ‘bulk price’ of 55.69p, but still not good enough to get the West Wrating order. All of the other companies were not interested in being competitive, so the build up to the pre-Christmas order rush has already started – if you missed the syndicate order, I suggest that you place your own order soon!

There will not be a West Wrating syndicate fill up this month as we don’t get a worthwhile price reduction in the run up to Christmas, so the next will be in January 2019.

Richard Holness

If anyone does need oil before the syndicates place another order, BoilerJuice is offering a £5 discount to residents of West Wrating and Weston Colville – see advert below.



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West Wrating Book Club

For our October meeting we read ‘Silk’ by Alessandro Baricco. This was a short book written in an unusual style, the story of the lengths that one man went to in order to obtain valuable silk worm eggs when disease hit European sources, travelling to Japan from France at a time when the former was more or less closed to the Western World. The first reaction of one or two of us was ‘weird’ but in the end the general feeling was that we all loved it. It was beautifully written and very

gentle, with the occasional event that ‘sliced through it like a knife’. It gradually turns from a story simply about the production of silkworm eggs, and the need to obtain them at any cost, to a love story.

It was suggested that the repetition used to relate certain aspects reinforced them, in particular the journey Hervé Joncour had to make to and from Japan. No one saw the end coming, which revealed one of the main characters in a different light. It was also interesting in that it gave insights into certain historical events and sericulture (silk production). Some research on the web by one of our number revealed that the town in Japan which was Joncour’s ultimate destination had indeed been a centre for silk production which is currently being resurrected, and that other events which formed the basis of the story, were historically correct. The part that Louis Pasteur played in the industry was interesting.

It was well translated by Ann Goldstein, who it was felt had been able to capture the style and spirit of the story, a difficult thing to achieve. Our final verdict was it was a charming book which we would recommend, with a score of 9 out of 10.

Our next book, to be reviewed on Wednesday 14th November at 8 pm, is ‘The Running Hare: The Secret Life of Farmland’ by John Lewis-Stempel, winner of the Thwaites Wainwright Prize 2015.

Our December meeting, on Wednesday 19th December, will be our pre-Christmas meal at 7.30 for 8 pm (partners welcome). Rather than reviewing a book you are invited to bring a favourite Christmas/winter poem or short reading. Please let me know at the November meeting or, at the latest, by 12th December, if you wish to come to this.

Linda Gorman (290653)

Quiz Night

WHAT: Quiz, Raffle, Food, Bar
WHEN: 24th November
WHERE: West Wrating Village Hall
WHY: Fundraiser to travel to Kenya in the summer 2019 to support local communities, climb Mt. Kenya and learn about a totally different culture

6-8 people per team
Ticket: £10 per person
Start: 7:30pm
Buffet supper and bar

Contact: Cally or Izzy Wilson at 07946 638630 or
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West Wratting Football

Michael Bavester, 1st Team Manager, reported that after a shaky start because of the loss of a lot of players from the league-winning side, things have settled down. The 1st Team has been on a five game unbeaten run, narrowly losing to Ely in a seven goal thriller, despite being down to bare bones due to injuries and players away on holiday. However, things seem to be moving in the right direction. The Reserves have started the season very well.

(All games start 14.00)	1st Team		Reserves	
Sat 3 rd Nov	Brampton	H	Royston Town A	A
Sat 10 th Nov	Eaton Socon	A	Wisbech St Mary	H
Sat 17 th Nov	Linton	H	NO GAME	
Sat 24 th Nov	City Reserves	A	March Town Res	A
Sat 1 st Dec	NO GAME		Thaxted	A
Sat 8 th Dec	Brampton	A	Royston Town A	H
Sat 15 th Dec	Eynesbury Town Reserves	H	St Ives Rangers	A
Sat 22 nd Dec	NO GAME		Sawston Rovers	H
Sat 29 th Dec	Fulbourn	A	NO GAME	
Sat 5 th Jan	NO GAME		Bluntisham	A
Sat 12 th Jan	Bar Hill	A	Sreat Chishill	H

Richard Cole, Youth Chairman, reported that as the youth teams are in a non-competitive league, no results can be displayed.

They are three games into the season, and the four age groups (u8, u10, u11, and u12) are playing some great football and look promising for the future.

The under 11s have progressed to the next round of the Cup, after they got all the way to the semi finals.

Anyone wishing to come and watch the Seniors or the Youths would be more than welcome. We have a lovely club house with refreshments, and a bar on Senior football match days.

Blanche Miller, Sports Pavilion Secretary

West Wratting Progressive Supper (evening of Saturday 19th January 2019)

January 2018 saw a lot of newcomers to the Progressive Supper, which was wonderful, and we hope 19/01/19 will be no exception. It is a fun way to meet fellow villagers on a cold dark January evening!

If you would like to know more about the supper, please contact Tamara or me. We would like to make it accessible to as many people as possible.

It is open to all adult West Wratting residents. You will be asked to provide a course (Starter, Main or Dessert) for 6 - 8 people including yourselves. Couples, trios, singles are all welcome to participate. This does not need to be gourmet cooking, a simple meal to share with friends is all that is required. Cost is £5 per person. This serves as a commitment to take part and provides a kitty for a final drink at The Chestnut Tree.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you wish to participate, by email or by posting an envelope with your name, postal and email address and phone number through my door: 74 High Street, West Wratting.

We need to have definite numbers and commitment money by Monday 10th December.

Thank you for your participation,

Sherry O'Donovan

(sherry.odonovan@gmail.com / 290070)

Tamara Dimond (tamara.keith@gmail.com / 290721)

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Weston Colville Marsh Tit Study

November is a good month to spot young Marsh Tits on your garden feeders, if you can see the individual trees in a deciduous or mixed wood from your house.

We now have over 30 colour-ringed Marsh Tits, from 'King Charles the First' through to 'Useless Eustace' and 'Godzilla' (poor little birds!), but there seem to be plenty of unringed birds about. We'd love to hear about your sightings . . . cambsmarti@gmail.com, m_stammers@btinternet.com or *Challenge*.

Hopefully, we'll soon be starting a research project with the University of Cambridge on the effect of gut bacteria on cognition in wild Tits, to complement our ongoing RAS study. This will involve DNA sequencing of bird poo and matching it to the behaviour of the bird that produced it in simple, voluntary, visual puzzles placed outdoors (but more on that in upcoming issues of *Challenge*, mostly because I enjoy a good cliffhanger – don't you?).

In other news, we have discovered that Emma Kaye is in fact a secret Nuthatch Whisperer. Yes, really! I enclose photographic proof, taken in late September. This young male Nuthatch flew onto Emma's arm after she released it and wouldn't leave her for a good 20 seconds, allowing me to catch this very rare scene.

I had visions of Snow White singing to the bluebirds in the charming Disney film, but realised that made me one of the Dwarves. . . probably Dopey.

We now have an official birdringing group, The South Cambridgeshire Ringing Group, with the blessing of the BTO. It's a momentous step for our friendly little team, as we now have to elect Executive Officers, have formal meetings and written policies, but it also means we can get grants to support our work. I'm very pleased to say that the Wadlow Wind Farm Community Fund will be our very first sponsor, who are contributing towards badly-needed equipment.



As the days draw in, in order to start lengthening again in a few short weeks, spare a thought for your young birds, who are going into their first winter and their first experience of cold, damp, dark days and nights. They won't have the knowledge yet to find food when it's scarce, and many will perish without your help. Put out some sunflower hearts, please? It could be the difference between life and death for them, and you can find this food online for around 99p per kilogram, including postage. On the youngsters' behalf, thank you!

*Alex Inzani and your friendly, neighbourhood
 South Cambs Ringing Group*

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Buttercups Community Pre-school, Balsham

Buttercups are holding a fundraising Pamper Evening on Friday 7th December at Balsham Church Institute, to raise money to fund an entertainer for the children's Christmas Party. There will be make-up demonstrations, massage, Christmas stocking fillers, drinks and nibbles. Please reserve the date; more information next month.



Kaye Morris

We have started the new academic year with lots of new children joining us, and our topic has been traditional tales and fairy stories. The children have really settled well and enjoyed learning about the enormous turnip, the gingerbread man, Jack and the Beanstalk etc. A real highlight for the children was making gingerbread men and sparkly cinnamon playdough. We've also had lots of natural autumnal play with conkers, leaves, acorns and pumpkins, as well as taking advantage of the lovely weather and playing outside in the mud kitchen and on the playground.

Help Needed – we are looking for someone to come in at lunch time (from 12 to 1 pm) on a couple of days a week, just to help us keep an eye on the children whilst they have their lunch. This would be paid. If anyone is interested please email us at buttercupspreschool@yahoo.com or telephone 01223 894608 and ask for Kirsty.

Are you looking to grow your own?

We have some vacant allotments here in Balsham.

Limited availability.

Contact: Debbie Paton for further information.
balshamallotments@gmail.com

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Providing a nursing service that integrates spiritual, physical, psychological, emotional and social health to the local community, regardless of their faith.

Applicants must be willing to undertake the Parish Nursing Ministry UK training in Birmingham, **25th - 28th March 2019.**

If you would like to know more about this role please contact the Parish Nurse, Claire Gillett 7churches.parishnurse@gmail.com

For an application pack and full job description, email 7churches.seven@gmail.com

Closing date for applications:
Friday 14th December 2018.

Interviews - mid January 2019

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**Saturday
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2pm - 4pm**

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**exciting gift ideas
from our selection
of craft stalls**

All funds raised go to Daisy Chains Pre School

Daisy Chains Christmas Fair

We are also appealing for soft toys for a teddy bear tombola – if people are having a pre-Christmas clear out, please can they donate teddies and soft toys to us? They can contact me on jess@agrarian.biz for collection/delivery, or deliver to Daisy Chains.

Jess Ashbridge

Postcards (New or Used) and Stamps

I am still collecting postcards (every card is worth money) to raise funds for the Sudan Church Association. PLEASE leave stamps on the cards.

I have also found an outlet via Little St Mary's Church in Cambridge for any sort of stamp, so with Christmas approaching please could you save your stamps, other than those on postcards. Profits go to Embracing the Middle East (formerly Biblelands).

I can collect cards or stamps. Please contact me at Nine Chimney House, Balsham, on 01223 893063 or sanderschimneys@uwclub.net

If anyone wishes to buy mint stamps in aid of the Sudan Church Association, please contact me or scastamps@gmail.com for more information.

Joanna Sanders



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West Wickham & District Gardening Club

On Monday 15th October, David Hack gave us the first of our monthly talks, entitled ‘Make your Garden Count with BTO Garden Birdwatch’. David is British Trust for Ornithology ambassador for Suffolk, and as well as explaining the work of the Trust we were shown photographs taken in his own garden of many garden birds along with their songs. We had advice on feeding birds, and how to make your garden more welcoming to wildlife. We were delighted to see so many members and guests on a wet and windy night, which only goes to show that we gardeners enjoy all aspects of the countryside, not just plants.

Next month on 19th November Sean Reid, the head gardener at Ickworth, will come to talk on its gardens, so if you would like to find out more about the Stumpery, the walled garden and the Italianate garden please come along.

Our series of monthly talks runs from October to April on the third Monday in the month at West Wickham Village Hall, starting at 7.30. The club subscriptions are £7 single or £12 family. If you would like to know more about the club and its activities, please ring me on 01799 584262.

Rosemary Yallop

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Balsham Gardening Club



The October meeting was entertained and informed by Nigel Start, a show judge, who shared his tips for successful ‘Growing for Show’. The main tips were to know when your show will be held, to make sure that the produce is at its peak at the right time. Also, watering is key to producing uniform vegetables. Water stress results in size and shape variation, which is undesirable on the show bench. Size does not matter as much as uniformity. Finally, presentation can be the difference between your entry and others. Where the judge has to choose between two or more excellent entries, the one that is best presented will get the first prize. In 2019 the Balsham Gardening Club show will be in September so hopefully we will get lots of entries.

The next meeting will be at 19.15 on 6th November when Claire Matthews will give a talk on ‘The History of Easton Lodge – the Countess and her Gardens’. The venue is the Meadow School Hall, and the talk will start at 19.30 prompt and be followed by the AGM. As always, new members are welcome.

Harold’s Tips:

- Sow broad beans in well drained ground
- Plant bulbs for the spring display – ensuring that they are planted deep enough
- Plant autumn planting onion sets and shallots
- Clean the greenhouse and make sure it is storm proof and the heater, if used, is working properly
- Collect leaves for making leaf mould
- Clean out water butts in readiness for autumn rain
- Dig in compost or manure where hungry crops are to be grown next season
- Hope for better growing weather next year!

Jennie Tipler, Balsham Gardening Club

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The Meadow School

You may well have seen in the news that OFSTED are going to be changing the shift in their focus of inspections away from exam results, in order to make sure that schools are providing a broad and balanced curriculum. This is something we have always considered to be very important.

This year we are putting an emphasis on the 'Arts', with music, drama and art all being celebrated. The Infants began their topic with 'You've been Framed',



run by the music and drama company 'Stage Coach'. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring famous works of art by 'jumping' into the picture and taking an imaginative journey through

role play. It was so lovely to see how even the youngest children were able to engage with the art work through the form of drama. Their day also included time with a local art teacher, helping the children learn to draw self-portraits. The results were really outstanding.

If you were out and about in Balsham, you may well have seen our 'Art' theme continuing to our annual

'Meadow Mile' PTA sponsored event. All the children dressed in 'Art' fancy dress, including a range of famous artists and art work. The money raised will be used to purchase new outdoor musical instruments to be installed on our playground. We are really looking forward to hearing the creative compositions from the children each lunch time!



Year 2 have also enjoyed taking part in a local music festival. They spent time learning two songs which were then performed with children from other local schools. Singing is an important skill to teach the children and is such an inclusive way of introducing children to music. We have been reminded how much we miss our school choir, which used to run weekly during a lunch time. We would love to hear from anyone in the local community who may be interested in running a school choir again.

Harvest Festival always provides the school with a great opportunity to spend time singing some well-loved songs. This year was no exception, with the children signing beautifully in the church. As always, we collected produce for Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge. It is very humbling to think how a few packets and tins can make such a difference to people during our cold autumn and winter.

Harvest Festival was quickly followed by our annual Craft and Gift Fair. This event is always a prominent feature of our calendar, and once again proved to be a great success thanks to a wonderful set of volunteers baking cakes, running stalls and helping set up. Many thanks to the parents and members of the local community for coming along to support this event.

Helen Loe, Assistant Headteacher



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Marsh Mail

LVC students have achieved phenomenal sporting successes over the past month, with significant wins at county-level football and hockey fixtures. Students are fortunate to benefit from brilliant facilities on which to practise. Having a sports centre available to the school community which invests into LVC's amenities is a real, tangible benefit of the Village College model.

In recent years, students have profited greatly from the state of the art 4G AstroTurf pitch and access to a high specification fitness studio, and are soon to be able to use the resurfaced tennis courts. We are appreciative of the growing numbers of Sports Centre users who directly support LVC's students through their membership. More information about how to join and details about new clubs on offer, including Shimmy Fit, Clubbercise and walking football, are available at: www.lintoncommunitysportscentre.co.uk.

Students also benefit from the support of the many volunteers who give their time and expertise freely to enhance education at LVC. Our annual sponsored walk and its significant amount of fundraising for school facilities is only possible with the work of volunteer stewards and the organisation by the Friends of LVC. We are grateful for the large number of parents/carers who commit to running events.

I've had the privilege of observing our community language mentors in action this month, helping our students to learn through the Languages Futures programme. Our Year 9 students are fortunate to be able to engage in authentic conversation in Turkish, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Greek, amongst other languages, because of community volunteers.

Another significant task force of volunteers is our Governing Body. We currently have vacancies for community governors. Appointments are on a skills basis to ensure that the team has the requisite spread of knowledge. We would be particularly interested to hear from potential governors who have expertise in law, estates and procurement, but we are essentially keen to recruit committed individuals who are keen to contribute to the strategic leadership of the College. If you are interested in finding out more about the role of a governor please contact the Clerk to the Governing Body, Tracy Coston (tracy.coston@lvc.org).

Helena Marsh, Principal



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Sunday 4 th November	United Service, Balsham	Rev Iain McColl	n/a	Louise	Jenny
Sunday 11 th November	Remembrance Day service	Steven Wheeler	Alex	Linda	n/a
Sunday 11 th November (4 pm)	Café Church	John & Scilla Harvey,			
Sunday 18 th November	Holy Communion	Very Revd Keith Johnson	Sisse	Linda	Maggie
Sunday 25 th November	Holy Communion	Rev Iain McColl	Fanny	Alex	n/a

St Mary's, Weston Colville (9.15 am unless otherwise stated)		
Sunday 4 th November (10.45 am)	United Service, Balsham	Rev Iain McColl
Sunday 11 th November	Remembrance Day service at Balsham	
Sunday 18 th November	Holy Communion	Rev Dr Carrie Pemberton Ford
Sunday 25 th November	Pet service	Rev Iain McColl & Steven Wheeler
Flowers, Cleaning	Ruth, 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 2018

- Fri 2 Tea & Cakes, Weston Colville Reading Room
First Friday Bridge, West Wratting
- Sat 3 Saturday Morning Café, West Wratting
- Tue 6 Balsham Gardening Club
- Wed 7 West Wratting Over 60s
Weston Colville Cinema Club, Reading Room
- Thur 8 'Dissecting Dementia' discussion, Gt Abington
- Sun 11 Remembrance Day
- Mon 12 Weston Colville Parish Council meeting
West Wratting Parish Council meeting
- Tue 13 Seniors, Reading Room, Weston Colville
- Wed 14 West Wratting Book Club
- Thur 15 Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree
- Sat 17 St Andrew's Churchyard clear-up, West Wratting
- Mon 19 West Wickham & District Gardening Club
- Sat 24 Quiz Night, West Wratting
Christmas Fair, West Wickham
- Sun 25 Pet service, St Mary's, Weston Colville

www.westwratting.org.uk

for information on:

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

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

Revd Iain McColl
tel: 890693 email: mccoll.iain@gmail.com

Revd Kathy Bishop, Associate Priest
tel: 892288 email: revkathy@hotmail.co.uk

Very Revd Keith Johnson, Honorary Associate Priest
tel: 890835 email: jkeith1412@gmail.com

Mr Steven Wheeler, Licensed Lay Minister
tel: 290396 email: steven@juicyfruitsuk.com

Mr Alistair Collen, Licensed Lay Minister
tel: 894230 email: alistair.collen@hotmail.co.uk

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 – Ian Ashbridge (291344)
Philippa Coates (290842)

St Andrew's – Sebastian Bain (403415)
Alex Walsham (291491)

Parish Council Contacts:

Weston Colville Parish Clerk – Jess Ashbridge,
jess@agrarian.biz

West Wratting Parish Clerk – 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: Monday 5th & 19th November,
Monday 3rd, 17th & 31st December

Blue & green bins: Monday 12th & 26th November,
Monday 10th & 24th December
(but **no green bin** collection on 24th December)

Mobile library: first Tuesday of month (6th Nov, 4th Dec)

High Street, West Wratting	12.15 - 12.45
Post Office, Weston Green	1.50 - 2.15
Mill Hill, Weston Colville	2.20 - 2.50

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, so please resend. Some contributions may have to be edited, to fit the space available, and are published at the discretion of the editor.

**December issue's copy date:
Tuesday 20th November.**