

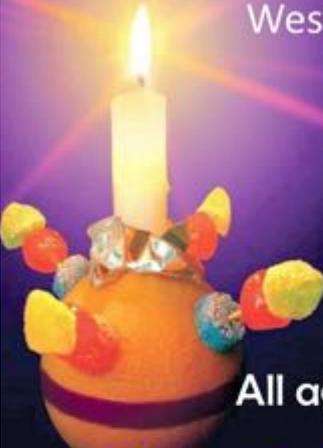


Challenge



The Parish Newsletter of Weston Colville and West Wrating
The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.
Printed by E & E Plumridge Ltd, Linton (Cambridge 891407)

West Wrating Church



All ages very welcome

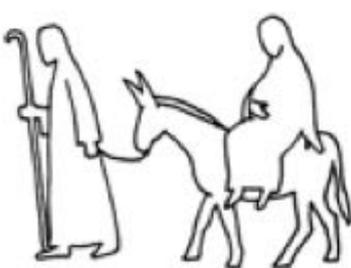
Christingle

Sunday 11th December 3-4 pm
Children - come at 2.45 to make your own Christingles

Bonfire
Mulled Wine Biscuits/Cake

**CAROL SERVICE WITH
CHRISTINGLE
BY CANDLELIGHT**

**ST MARY'S CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE 4PM**



All ages welcome. Festive refreshments afterwards.

Come and discover the meaning of Christ at Christmas time.

What is Christingle?

What a strange word! It's a special child-friendly way to prepare for Christmas, remembering the message of Jesus coming as the Light of the World.

Come and join our celebration with songs, oranges, candles and lanterns to lighten the church on a dark December afternoon. Children, come early to prepare your oranges. Everything provided.

Mulled wine, tea, cakes and a bonfire afterwards. All ages VERY welcome.

Scilla Harvey (290199)

R D Jaggard & Son
CHRISTMAS TREES



We will not be selling Christmas trees from the yard at Burrough Green this year. Instead we will be taking orders for delivery.

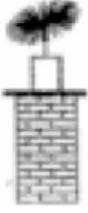
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Warm Welcome at the Reading Room

There's a warm welcome for anyone in the Reading Room, Weston Colville, each weekday 11.00 - 17.00. Free WiFi, refreshments, book exchange, newspapers, magazines, and a friendly environment are all provided. We have a 'Quieter Zone' for those who want to work or have some private time. (Tip: bring headphones/ear buds!). Come for an hour or stay all day.

Pilates and Tea & Cakes will continue as usual.

Many, many thanks to those who have already volunteered to assist. If you can help too, please contact me.

Bob Coates (07785 361345, cheviotbob@me.com)

West Wrattling Café

It's that time of year again!

We're looking forward to seeing you for our Christmas Café on Saturday 3rd December at West Wrattling village hall from 10.30 am until 12 noon. There will a Christmas craft stall supporting Granta School and festive cakes served with the usual coffee and tea. Hope you can make it.

Jan and Sherry (290070)

Tea and Cakes

There was a really good turnout in November – thank you for supporting us.



The last T&Cs of 2022 will be on Friday 16th December, 3.30 - 5 pm in the Reading Room, where all donations will be in aid of the 'Reach' charity, supporting families who are suffering from or struggling with the effects of financial crisis or hardship. Hope to see you there.

Val and the team

Merry Christmas from The Chestnut Tree

We're happy to report that we have lots of bookings for our Christmas Menu. We still have some availability, but it is very limited so please don't leave it too late if you would like to book.

We will be open during our usual hours throughout the festive season, apart from the following:

Christmas Day – 12 to 2.30 for drinks only

Boxing Day – 12 to 4.30 for drinks only

New Year's Day – 12 to 4.30 serving brunch instead of roasts.

On the above days the pub will not be open in the evening.

We are also looking forward to the return of Marc Salmon, who will be performing live on Christmas Eve. He went down a storm at our beer festival, so come along if you fancy a dance!

As ever, we will be seeing in the New Year with a party, so lots of great music and complimentary nibbles.

We hope you will be able to join us at some point and don't forget if you are out walking off that Christmas pudding you could always pop in and get a great takeaway coffee or hot chocolate.

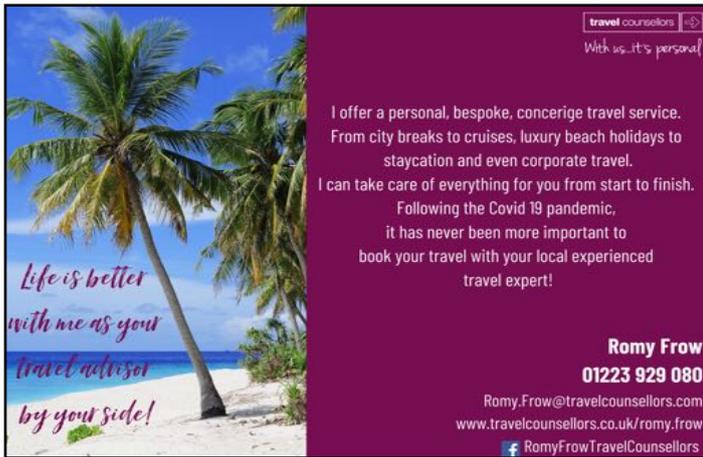
Happy Christmas everyone and thank you for your continued support . . . oh, and we will be showing the England World Cup games too!

Peter & Rachel

West Wrattling Book Club

Unfortunately we were unable to meet in November to discuss 'The Marriage Portrait' by Maggie O'Farrell. Instead, we will meet to discuss it on Wednesday 14th December at 7.30 pm at The Chestnut Tree.

Linda Gorman (290653)



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Weston Colville Oil Co-operative

Deadline for ordering: noon, **Sunday 4th December.**

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)

For further details see November's Challenge.

Anne Vidler

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.

Mike Rowland (290788), Diana Edwards (290616)

Weston Colville Circular Walk

The next walk-and-lunch will be our now-traditional one on New Year's Day. We'll meet at the Reading Room at 11 am to deal with those cobwebs. BYO lunch and maybe something to share back in the Reading Room afterwards; refreshments available. All welcome – come and join us? Enquiries: jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com, 291475.

Jacqueline Douglas

The Village Green Group

Want some advice on Christmas recycling? Come along to the Weston Colville Christmas Bazaar on 3rd December at St Mary's Church and chat to Jon from Cambridge County Council recycling. He'll be on the recycling stall.

(Rosemary (07787 500445, rosemarydavenport@yahoo.co.uk)

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

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From the Rectory

There is so much to look forward to in December in our parishes: Christmas Tree Festivals; Christmas concerts; carol singing, to name but a few!



Whilst I sometimes find myself rushing from one event to another, I really enjoy the festive atmosphere! It's as though there is a deep instinct that Christmas is a time for seeing the good in each other and the world; for celebrating gift, generosity and expressions of love. You don't need religion to understand these are some of the things which really matter in life.

Gift, joyful celebration, and an instinct for seeing the good, also point towards the deeper reality of the Christmas story. A familiar story, but one with strange beauty. A story which is a mix of uncertainty, hope, joy and new life. A child, born in humble circumstances, is the Christ child who is greeted, as Luke's gospel says, as "Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord". Good news conveyed by these simple words, which invite a lifetime's reflection: Jesus is "Emmanuel, which means, 'God is with us'".

In our Christmas services we hear the story of Jesus' birth anew and celebrate this good news with joyful thanksgiving. Christmas services in our churches will

be a mix of Communion services, Christingles and carols. Some carol services will be inside our churches and some outside, as they were over the last couple of years, when we wrapped up warm and sang by torchlight! There will be details of all of our services on our website: www.grantavale.org.uk, on our church notice boards and on the Christmas card you will find with this copy of *Challenge*.



Recently, in our youth group, we asked the children which Christmas food, decorations and carols they especially look forward to, which gave rise to a variety of interesting responses! A traditional Christmas carol I look forward to is 'O little town of Bethlehem', written in the mid-19th century but still very popular today. The last words of this carol also declare that, in Jesus and through his Spirit, "God is with us": 'O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel'. As we come together this Christmas, let us ponder anew this divine gift, and celebrate this joyful and life-changing good news.

Revd Iain McColl

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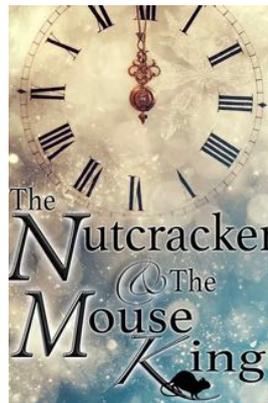
Book your tickets! The Christmas performance by 'This is My Theatre' will be

'The Nutcracker and the Mouse King'

at 7 pm on 10th December in St Mary's Church.

Christmas refreshments provided. Tickets are selling fast

– don't miss out! They are available from the website: www.thisismytheatre.com



Jane Pryor

Peter & Ruth Lloyd Trust Award 2023

We are now inviting applications for pupils starting university in September 2023. Normally one scholarship is awarded each year to the amount of £1,000.

Broadly speaking the degree course should be from one of the following: Architecture, Engineering, Geography, History, Law, Mathematics, Sciences, Education, Medicine, Nursing, or Veterinary Medicine.

The applicant should be living in one of the parishes bordering the old RAF Wrattling Common airfield – Great Thurlow, Little Thurlow, West Wickham, Carlton cum Willingham, West Wrattling, Weston Colville, and Withersfield.

The award is intended to be of assistance in the purchase of books, materials, equipment etc.

Final decision and award will be made immediately after 'A' Level/Baccalaureate results and university offers are known.

For further information about the trust and award please contact me, Jonathan Drury, on 01223 290968.

For an application form please apply via email to: peter.ruthlloydtrust@sky.com The application form and supporting documents must be received at the latest by 2nd April 2023.

Jonathan



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Weston Colville Parish Council

The following items were discussed at the meeting held on Monday 7th November. The full minutes can be found on www.westoncolville.org.uk

Resignation of Councillors – the resignations of Faye Parker and James Hubbard had been received. Both were thanked for their service to the village. An advert will be placed in *Challenge* for new councillors to join the council by co-option.

Flooding – a letter will be included in *Challenge*, as an insert, and added to the website.

Highways Update – the gulleys on Mill Hill had been cleared, all bar three that could not be cleared. Grip cutting requires a year's notice, which would affect the grips on Common Road. Brian Heffernan would chase up the drainage issues at Church End, as the Highways Officer responsible had left the County Council. The topic of objects being placed on verges was raised, to prevent vehicles going on them, and whether the PC could do anything about them. Cllr Ashbridge advised that it was a very grey area in legal terms, it was felt that the PC could not act, as it would be difficult to determine ownership of the verges and that Highways were not interested.

Traffic Calming – the SID (speed indicator device) was moved around when it was available. Cllr Ashbridge delivered the report that had been provided in autumn 2021, which was to apply for passive measures, gates/additional roundels. In Kentford and Whittlesford curbs had been built out to cause road narrowing, and street lighting was not needed. It was also suggested that the PC could apply for a MVAS (mobile vehicle activated sign). Following discussion of several options, it was proposed to defer applying for the current year, and to hold a meeting with parishioners and Highways.

GCP Making Connections Consultation –

Cllr Vidler will comment on behalf of the PC. The consultation had been added to the village WhatsApp and Facebook groups.

Emails – following an Internal Audit report, dedicated email addresses for councillors were discussed, to be in line with GDPR Regulations. The format will be cllrfirstname.surname@westoncolville.org.uk

Cllr Pagonis will look into whether the accounts could have charitable status, thus reducing the price.

ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) – the council will register with ICO as data controller at an annual cost of £35.

Reading Room Warm Hub – the council will support the Warm Hub for one month from the middle of November for £150, and review in January.

Poppy Wreath – £10 will be donated for the wreath which will be laid on behalf of Weston Colville PCC this year.

Risk Assessment/Health and Safety – the defibrillator was rescue-ready on 7th November.

Playground – Cllr Pagonis volunteered to take on the playgrounds following Cllr Hubbard's resignation.

Dates of Parish Council Meetings – 5th December (planning), Wednesday 11th January 2023, Monday 6th March, Monday 1st May.

Jess Ashbridge, Parish Clerk

Abandoned Car

Once again a car appears to have been abandoned in the Reading Room car park in Weston Colville. It is a small blue Vauxhall Minerva, registration LR09URA. It was taxed until the end of November, but the MoT ran out in June 2022. The car park is the property of the parish council, and is provided for use by those attending events in the Reading Room or the wider parish. It is not intended for long term storage of vehicles no longer roadworthy. If this car belongs to you, we would appreciate it being moved immediately. If you know who it belongs to, please contact the parish clerk and let them know. If the car is still there at the end of the year, the parish council will arrange for its removal, but work to identify the legal owner to recover the costs. Otherwise, the cost of the removal will have to be borne by parishioners.

Weston Colville Parish Council

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West Wrating Parish Council

The following items were some of the matters discussed at the parish council meeting held on 14th November. The full draft minutes will be posted on the noticeboards.

Councillors: it was agreed and confirmed that Tim Bonfield and Martin Davey would act as representatives for the council on the Village Hall Management Committee.

Planning*:

CCC/22/057/FUL *Gt Wilbraham Chalk Pit* – it was agreed no comments were necessary.

20/01564 *Planning Appeal Land South East of Burton End, West Wickham* – it was agreed to stand by comments formerly made against this planning application.

22/04689 *73 The Lamb Yard, High St* – it was agreed that the building needed to be demolished.

Finance: the second half of the precept had been received. Cllr Parsons agreed to become a bank signatory.

Maintenance:

Winter gritting – volunteers are needed to salt the road from the salt bins provided. This is not required often

as the roads are gritted by CCC. Please contact the parish clerk or a councillor for more details.

Parking spaces in Hayter Close – a sign has been placed in the Close for residential parking only.

Recreation Ground & Pavilion:

The parish clerk has received all the necessary certificates, risk assessments, etc for the Sports Pavilion required for the annual audit.

It was agreed that the *grass cutting contribution* paid annually by the parish council to the WWFC would be increased by 10% as from 2023.

Cllr Parsons said she would be willing to take on the task of checking the defibrillator regularly if Martin Davey did not wish to continue with this job.

Cones – the WWFC would only put out cones on the crossing. Anyone wishing to keep their entrances open would need to put their own cones out.

Traffic issues & Speed Restriction equipment: it is anticipated that the sign poles will be erected in December.

Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership

Consultation: Cllr Batchelor urged the parish council and residents to respond to this, particularly with regard to the proposed congestion charge which would include Addenbrookes Hospital.

Trees to Commemorate the Queen's Death: the parish council is happy to donate a grant for a tree to commemorate the reign of the Queen. Hayter Close was not considered an ideal site; possibly the recreation ground or Pocket Park.

Next Parish Council meeting: Monday 9th January 2023. All are welcome.

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk

*** Updates to Planning:**

22/00556/REFUSL | Mixed use of agricultural and solar farm | Land to the south east of Burton End, West Wickham.

22/04689/FUL | Demolition of existing buildings and structures and erection of nine dwelling houses and associated infrastructure and works | 73 The Lamb Yard, High Street, West Wrating.

If you would like to comment, please contact SCDC planning department.

Mira Nichols, Chair, West Wrating Parish Council



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District and County Councillor’s Report
City Access Consultation

A ‘Sustainable Travel Zone’ road user charge has been put forward by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (the body currently implementing the upgrades to the A1307) for private vehicles between 7 am and 7 pm on weekdays. The plans are part of a package to improve public transport, reduce congestion in the city, and help the environment through lower emissions.

A £5 congestion charge to drive into and around Cambridge is being considered as part of a ‘once in a generation’ plan to shake up how people travel during the working week.

These proposals are now being publicly consulted on and it is vitally important that as many people as possible respond to this consultation with their views. It will be one of the largest decisions that will affect the way that we travel in and out of Cambridge for generations to come. The consultation, plus all of the related documents, can be seen here at: <https://consultcambis.uk.engagementhq.com/making-connections-2022> There will also be pop-up events around the area, with one proposed in Linton; details to be confirmed..

A1307 Update

The majority of the work here is complete but the remaining schemes to be implemented are the new roundabout on the A1307 at the end of Bartlow Road, Linton, the remodelling of the highly dangerous Dean Road junction on the A1307, both due spring 2023, and the implementation of the ‘Greenway’, the non-motorised user route between Linton and Cambridge.

Electric Vehicle Charging Grant

It is expected that proposals will be approved by the end of November for a new grant scheme to parish councils and operators of community buildings, for grants of up to £5,000 to support installation of publicly accessible electric vehicle charge points in order to encourage electric vehicle uptake within the district.

SCDC: Geoff Harvey (geoff.harvey@gmail.com)

CCC: Henry Batchelor (henrybatchelor89@gmail.com)




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Weston Colville Parish Council

Weston Colville Parish Council has two vacancies for parish councillors to join the council by co-option.

Anyone eligible is invited to consider whether they feel able to take part in the work the council carries out for the benefit of the village, and in helping influence decisions taken at higher tiers of government to ensure that the views and opinions of the villagers of Weston Colville are taken into consideration.

Parish councillors strive to improve the quality of life within the parish. Examples of the tasks they undertake include commenting on local planning applications, maintenance of the playgrounds, speed indicator device data collecting and management, flooding working party, and being a point of contact for parishioners in relation to local matters.

If anyone feels able to put themselves forward in this way, please contact the clerk, Jess Ashbridge, on 07779 277647.

If you would like information as to what this voluntary role involves in more detail, and its impact on your 'spare time', do contact us so we may answer any questions.

Please note that candidates must be eligible to stand for the position, namely:

- be aged 18 years or over, be a qualifying British or Commonwealth citizen, and be on the electoral roll in the parish;
- or, during the whole of the twelve months before he/she is nominated as a candidate, have occupied land or other premises as owner or tenant in the parish;
- or, during the same period, have resided in that area or within three miles thereof;
- or, during the same period, had his/her principal or only place of work in that area.

We look forward to hearing from those interested.

Jess Ashbridge
 (Clerk, Weston Colville Parish Council)



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,
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Balsham Market Closure

After much consideration, and with great sadness, I have decided to close the Balsham Market. The last market will be on Saturday 10th December.

Visitor numbers to the market have fallen drastically during the past year, and with the lack of customers, my regular stall holders are finding it difficult to justify attending our market.

I understand there is a requirement for a butcher, baker, and fruit and vegetable stall, which I have been unable to secure on a regular basis. I have also considered running a morning monthly market; however, all of my stall holders are already busy attending weekend morning markets.

If you wish to continue to support our lovely stall holders, you can visit them at other markets, social media or (for most of them) online:

Borakis Greek Food – Linton, Orwell, Wilbraham, Ely, St Neots, Hauxton (Sunday)

Cambridge Artisan Cheese – Burwell, Isleham, Waterbeach (Sunday), Cheveley (Sunday)

CB21 Cheesecake Company – Orwell, Wilbraham, Hauxton (Sunday), Cheveley (Sunday)

Jane's Cupcakes – Fowlmere, Clare, Steeple Bumpstead

Nikki's Homemade – Burwell, Wyken Vineyard, Bungay, Cheveley (Sunday)

Macarons by Kiwi Debs – Orwell, Wilbraham, Hauxton (Sunday)

Studio 50 Glass Design – Hartest, Keddington (Sunday) Wilbraham, Steeple Bumpstead,

Turn and Burn – Burwell, Keddington, Waterbeach, Steeple Bumpstead

Thank you to all who have attended and supported the Balsham Market over the past six years. In that time, I have raised £2,500 for local charities and events: Balsham Parochial Charities, Balsham Ploughmen (Tommy statue near the cenotaph and Christmas tree lights), the food bank, the Parish Nurse, Balsham Christmas Tree Festival and the Balsham Feast.

Hope to see you on 10th December. Balsham Church Institute; doors open 2 pm to 4 pm.

Debbie Paton

PLUMBLINE

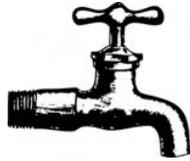
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Balsham Singers Christmas Concert

Musical Director – John Clenaghan

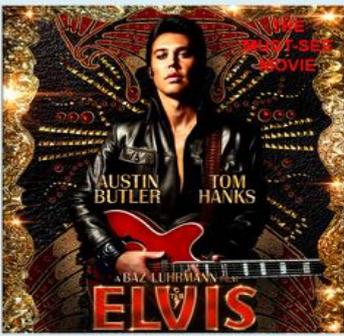
Saturday
17th December 2022
Holy Trinity Church, Balsham
7.30pm

Tickets £10 (under 16's free) available
from choir members, Balsham or Great
Abington Post Offices or online at
www.ticketsource.co.uk/balshamsingers

Balsham Picture House

On Saturday 3rd December in Balsham Church
Institute: **Elvis** (12), the 2022-released film exploring
the life and music of Elvis Presley.

Mulled wine and mince pies on the house!



**BALSHAM
PICTURE
HOUSE**

The film explores the life and music of Elvis Presley (Austin Butler), and his complicated relationship with his enigmatic manager, Colonel Tom Parker (Tom Hanks), spanning over 20 years, from Presley's rise to fame to his unprecedented stardom, against the backdrop of the evolving cultural landscape and loss of innocence in America. Central to that journey is one of the most significant and influential people in Elvis's life, Priscilla Presley (Olivia DeJonge)

Sat. 3rd Dec. 7 for 7.30

Advance notice for Saturday 7th January 2023: the recently released family film 'The Railway Children Return' (PG) starring Jenny Agutter and Sheridan Smith.

Dick Paden

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The Meadow, Balsham

The autumn term has flown by and the pupils at The Meadow School are currently preparing and practising to perform The Nativity (Key Stage 1) and the Christmas Carol Service (Key Stage 2).

Pupils have enjoyed their learning, as well as the additional opportunities they experience out of the classroom. Here are just a few of them:

* The Meadow Mile’s target of £1,000 was smashed as children dressed up, went on a sponsored walk and raised a fantastic £1,499.06 which will be spent on replenishing and buying new musical instruments. The dressing up theme was ‘Best of British’ and everyone looked amazing!

* Four Year 6 pupils represented The Meadow at Teversham Primary School as part of the Cambridgeshire English Challenge. They worked incredibly well as a team and answered a range of very challenging questions based on books, authors, grammar and punctuation and also had to memorise a poem. It certainly was challenging!

* Y3/4 trip to Kew Gardens: *“We went on an exciting trip to Kew Gardens. After a long journey, we arrived at Kew where we could begin our*



exploring. We had a fantastic time in the Children’s Garden consolidating our science knowledge from last term about the fundamentals for plant growth: water, air, soil, light and temperature/

warmth. Once we’d had a good bounce and run around the learning garden, we set off to explore the plants around Kew. We were fascinated by the ginormous leaves in the Palm House as well as the tropical plants it housed, and we used our scientific skills of observation and identification when exploring the Arboretum to find answers to our scavenger hunt. There was lots to see, explore and do, we had a fantastic time. Safe to say, we were all ready for a good sleep once we returned to Balsham!”

Nicky Butcher (Deputy Head at The Meadow)

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LINTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TUESDAY 20TH DECEMBER

7.30 pm



Life in the Fire Brigade

Our speakers will be Maurice Moore and Bryan Saddington (Linton Fire Station)

LINTON VILLAGE HALL, COLES LANE

Refreshments and Raffle

Visitors and new members always welcome

Marsh Mail

A core vision of our Trust, Anglian Learning, is to enable dynamic, empowered learners who thrive and lead in their communities: locally, nationally and globally. Over the course of November, students have been involved in a number of activities demonstrating their responsibility and care for others and for our environment.

Twenty-two students across Years 7 - 11 represented the college at Cambridgeshire schools' COP 27 conference at Sawston Village College on 16th November. The day involved a series of workshops focussing on how secondary schools can tackle climate change. Students were involved in debating international environmental proposals and in presenting their local green projects.

Our Eco Forum, led by the Geography department, will continue this work, developing a number of initiatives across the school to help to reduce energy



consumption and make improvements to the college environment.



It was great to see a number of students, past and present, with their exhibited artwork at the St Michaelhouse Café in Cambridge. The gallery showcased the artistic talent of LVC students

and included pieces from all Trust secondary schools in a range of media – a great celebration of the arts.



Another way in which LVC students have been creative in the community is through involvement in a Cards for Bravery initiative, making cards in the Henry Morris Centre at lunchtime. Recently featured on the One Show, including Mrs Garner, our Director of Inclusion, Cards for Bravery is a local voluntary organisation focussing on making positive homemade cards for hospitalised and seriously ill children.

Helena Marsh



Thanks and Seasonal Greetings

My usual thanks go to everybody involved with **Challenge**, especially those who distribute and deliver it throughout the year. If anyone would be able to join the delivery team, please contact me. Thanks also to the advertisers and parish councils whose support allows **Challenge** to be distributed free of charge to every household in both villages, and of course to everybody who sends articles, news, and reports. Thank you all.

Anne

GRANTA Medical Practices

This table gives details of when our surgeries will be open over the Christmas and New Year break, and when you will be able to collect your prescriptions, depending when your order is placed..

Date	Opening hours	Repeat prescriptions
Fri 23.12.2022	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up Fri 30.12.2022
Sat 24.12.2022 (Christmas Eve)	Open for pre-booked appointments only	Place order today, pick up Tues 03.01.2023
Sun 25.12.2022 (Christmas Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up Tues 03.01.2023
Mon 26.12.2022 (Boxing Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up Tues 03.01.2023
Tues 27.12.2022 (Bank Holiday)	Closed	Place order today, pick up Tues 03.01.2023
Wed 28.12.2022	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up Tues 03.01.2023
Thurs 29.12.2022	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up Wed 04.01.2023
Fri 30.12.2022	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up Thurs 05.01.2023
Sat 31.12.2022 (New Years' Eve)	Open for pre-booked appointments only	Place order today, pick up Fri 06.01.2023
Sun 01.01.2023 (New Years' Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up Fri 06.01.2023
Mon 02.01.2023 (Bank Holiday)	Closed	Place order today, pick up Fri 06.01.2023
Tues 03.01.2023	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up Fri 06.01.2023

Make sure that you order your repeat prescriptions in plenty of time to ensure that you do not run out of your medication over the holidays.

Don't forget, we now have the Prescription Collection Points at Sawston, Linton and Shelford. Sign up today to pick up your medication at your convenience, over the Christmas holidays.

Whilst we are closed, if you need urgent medical assistance please use the NHS 111 service. If you have an emergency that poses an immediate threat to life, please ring 999.

For further information on available healthcare services, please go to www.nhs.uk or our website www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services
(sandra.east@nhs.net)

The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

Free Festive Prize **Bingo** – join us on Wednesday 14th December – ‘Eyes Down’ at 11 am.

SL Sport & Education Christmas **Fun Activities Camp** – a perfect opportunity to fit in some last minute Christmas shopping, Friday 23rd December 8.30 am - 5.30 pm. Book online at slsportanded.co.uk

Live Music on Friday 13th January 2023, 8 pm until midnight. Jive and boogie away those Christmas Blues with the fantastic 60's Band ‘Back in Time’ £5 per person entry; raffle and licensed bar.



The Ellesmere Centre, www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk
(01638 508212, office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk)



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Holy Trinity Church - Balsham

Christmas Tree Festival

**Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th
December 2022**

Saturday 11.30am – 5.00pm
Sunday 12.30pm – 5.00pm
(Church service on Sunday 4th, 11.00am -12.00noon)

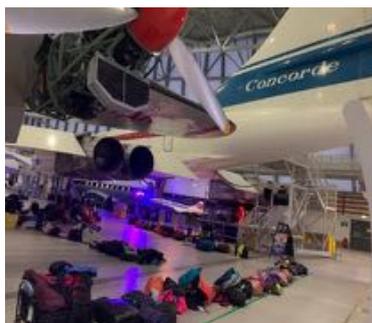
Entrance - Adults £ 2.00, Children under 18 free!

Christmas Craft stall
Christmas Raffle
Bring and buy 'recycled' Christmas Decorations
Tombola (Saturday only)
Mulled wine and mince pies
Children's Activity - 'making a Christingle craft'

1st Horseheath Brownies

The Brownies had a fantastic time trying to sleep 'under the wings' at IWM Duxford, with over 500 other Brownies and 100 leaders at the event. We were

lucky enough to be given the area under Concorde. After dinner on Sunday we had different activities, from learning how to make the perfect paper aeroplane to exploring Concorde and hearing



tales about famous female aviators through history. The evening ended with campfire singing and cocoa.

After a very warm and restless night, the lights came on at 6.30 am for a morning of aviation and space themed activities until 10 am when we could visit the other attractions at IWM Duxford when it opened to the public. It was a tiring 24 hours but an experience not to be missed.

Pauline and Katie (horseheathbrownies@gmail.com)

Balsham WI

Members enjoyed an evening of Christmas crafting at our November meeting. We made beaded snowflake decorations which will adorn our tree at the Christmas Tree Festival over the weekend of 3rd / 4th December in the church. Every snowflake made is unique, just like all our members, so do go along to the festival to see ours and all the other trees on display. We also had a craft stall at the meeting where members could buy and sell their homemade items. Local honey, jewellery, knitted items and needle felting were just some of the lovely goods on offer from our very crafty members.

Our final meeting of 2022 will be on Tuesday 13th December, when we will celebrate Christmas with our eagerly-anticipated 1920's themed Murder Mystery evening, which unfortunately had to be put on hold last year due to Covid. There will be drinks and nibbles and of course a Secret Santa.

We are a friendly bunch and new members are always welcome. Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion. Please get in touch if you would be interested in joining us – balshamwi@gmail.com, or send us a message on Facebook, @Balsham WI.

Sarah Evans (290802)



Revd Iain McColl

tel: 890693 email: mccoll.iain@gmail.com

Mr Steven Wheeler, Licensed Lay Minister

tel: 290396 email: steven@juicyfruitsuk.com

Churchwardens:

St Mary's – Ian Ashbridge (291344)

St Andrew's – Sebastian Bain (07736 198101)

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

Weston Colville Parish Clerk: Jess Ashbridge,
jess@agrarian.biz, 07779 277647

West Wrating Parish Clerk: Jenny Richards,
j.richards597@btinternet.com, 01223 665260

Community Warden: Lucy Cameron,
Lucy.Cameron@AgeUKCAP.org.uk, 07436 102865

DEC	9.30 am	11.00 am	Afternoon/Evening Services
4 th		United Service of Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Rev Iain McColl/ Rev Ben Brady</i>	
11 th	Holy Communion – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship – West Wickham, <i>Steven Wheeler</i>	Holy Communion – Hildersham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Christingle services – (3.00 pm) – West Wrating, <i>John & Scilla Harvey/Revd Iain McColl</i> (4.00 pm) – Balsham, <i>Hannah Threlfall</i>
18 th	Holy Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i> Morning Worship – Weston Colville, <i>Steven Wheeler</i>	Carol Service – West Wrating, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Carol Services – (3.00 pm) – Hildersham, <i>Alistair Collen</i> (4.00 pm, outdoors) – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> (6.00 pm) – Great Abington, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>
Sat 24 th		Christmas Eve Crib Service – (10.30am) – Little Abington, <i>Rosemary Mead</i>	Christmas Eve Carol Services (4.00 pm, outdoors) – West Wrating, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> (4.00 pm) – Weston Colville, <i>Steven Wheeler</i> (6.00 pm) West Wickham, <i>Hannah Threlfall</i> Midnight Mass (11.30 pm) – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Little Abington, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>
25 th	Christmas Day Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Hildersham, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>	Christmas Day Communion – West Wrating, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Christmas Day Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Hannah Threlfall</i> Great Abington, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>	
1 st Jan		United Service of Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Steven Wheeler</i>	

DIARY

December 2022

- Sat 3 West Wrating Café
- Weston Colville Christmas Bazaar
- Balsham Picture House, 'Elvis'
- Sat 3, Sun 4 Christmas Tree Festival, Balsham
- Sun 4 Weston Colville Oil Co-operative order deadline
- Sat 10 Balsham Christmas Market
- The Nutcracker & the Mouse King', St Mary's
- Sun 11 Christingle, St Andrew's West Wrating
- Mon 12 West Wrating Village Hall AGM
- Tues 13 Balsham WI
- Wed 14 West Wrating Book Club, The Chestnut Tree
- Thur 15 Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree
- Fri 16 Tea & Cakes, Weston Colville
- Sat 17 Balsham Singers Christmas Concert
- Tues 20 Linton & District Historical Society
- Sat 24 Carol Service with Christingle, St Mary's
- Sun 25 Christmas Day

January 2023

- Sun 1 Weston Colville Circular Walk
- Mon 9 West Wrating Parish Council meeting
- Wed 11 Weston Colville Parish Council meeting

Mobile Post Office: Thursdays, Reading Room car park,
Weston Colville, 12.30 - 1.30 pm

Mobile library: fourth Thursday: 22nd Dec, 26th Jan

High Street, West Wrating	10.20 - 11.00 am
Reading Room, Weston Green	11.10 - 11.45 am
Mill Hill, Weston Colville	11.50 - 12.15 pm

Black bins: Monday 12th & **Wed 28th** December,
Tuesday 10th & Monday 23rd January

Blue bins: Monday 5th & 19th December,
Wed 4th, Monday 16th & 30th January

Green bins: Monday 5th & 19th December,
Monday 16th January

Editor: Anne Bragg (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.

**Please note the earlier copy date for
January's issue: Sunday 11th December**