

Challenge

The Parish Newsletter of Weston Colville and West Wrattling

The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

Printed by E & E Plumridge Ltd, Linton (Cambridge 891407)

Get ready for . . .



West Wrattling Harvest Supper

Saturday 12th October
from 7 pm

West Wrattling Village Hall

in aid of the fabric of St Andrew's Church
and the Village Hall

Tickets: Doug Clarke
dougatgalewood@hotmail.com

£20 incl drink on arrival
£5 children

Produce Auction and Raffle

Pre-booked tables of 8 available

Sherry O'Donovan and Jan Davey

Tea & Cakes

We had a lovely sunny afternoon in September for Tea & Cakes, and it was so nice to see everyone again. As we move into autumn our next afternoon session will be on Friday 18th October in the Reading Room, 3.30 pm - 5.00 pm as usual.

Everyone is welcome: it is a lovely place to meet up with friends – and make new ones as well – over a cuppa and a slice of delicious homemade cake.

Val and the Team



West Wrattling Café

The next café will be on Saturday 5th October, 10.30 am until 12 noon in the village hall.

What a wonderful turn out for our September café – everyone stayed and chatted right to the end. It was lovely to be so busy.

In October we welcome Kate once again. She will have her usual beautiful cards, block print designs and other treats. Do come along and enjoy delicious homemade cakes, fresh coffee and teas, and of course good company.

Dates for your diary:

Sat 2nd November – normal café + Kate's crafts +
Jeanette's table top sale

Sat 30th November – **Café Christmas**: lots of
Christmassy gifts etc.

Sherry and Jan

IT Clinic

Simon, from Camputer, has kindly agreed to run another IT Clinic on 9th October, 11 am until 3 pm (either side of the soup lunch) in the Reading Room. Bring your tech issues or your phone problems along for advice and guidance, and see if he can help.

Bob Coates

Parish Paths Partnership (P3)

The farming community has completed the harvest and is mid-way through ploughing and drilling.

At this time there will be some disruption to the cross-field paths. By the end of November all work should be completed and the cross-field paths should be reinstated (depending on the weather).

If you have any problems on any paths, please give me a call.

Cobby (290046)



Harvest Praise

..... for all the Family

West Wrattling Church
Sunday 13th October 4-5 pm

Lots of child-friendly songs
All ages very welcome

Followed by
**Tea Cakes bonfire and
 sausage sizzle in the
 church grounds**



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poverty and suffering of the northern workers and the conditions in the south are well drawn. Some of the themes still seem familiar today: the split between north and south, concern over changes in the countryside – some for the good, others not – and new religious ideas. Margaret acts as a means of bringing those from the different classes and parts of the country together in the hope of gaining a better understanding of each other. She has some prejudices to start with, particularly against those in trade (eg the Gormans, who are coach builders) but her better character, compassion and concern for others comes to the fore. Despite some reservations we all enjoyed it. Scores were between 7 and 9 out of 10.

We will next meet at The Chestnut Tree at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 16th October to read 'Lessons in Chemistry' by Bonnie Garmus.

Linda Gorman (290653)

West Wrattling Book Club

We read two books during our summer break: 'Pharmacopoeia' by Derek Jarman and 'North and South' by Elizabeth Gaskell.

'Pharmacopoeia' is a collection of the author's writings about nature, the building of his garden, the plants about which he was so knowledgeable, and his experience and feelings as his illness progresses. Those of us who read it thought the writing beautiful, with the descriptions very evocative and inspiring to those who know the area. There is also sadness and a directness about what was ahead of him, with a sense of meditation about the writing. It made us all want to (re)visit the area and his cottage at Dungeness. The score was an average of 8 out of 10.

'North and South' was written in the mid-19th century at a time of great social change and industrialisation. It is a mixture of a romance and social comment. It first appeared as a serial in Dickens' weekly journal and it was possibly at his request that Gaskell wrote it. Some thought that the plot was clumsy in parts with some unbelievable plot devices. However, the descriptions of the seeming contrast between the

Macmillan Coffee Morning

The Macmillan Coffee Morning held on 13th September in Balsham Pavilion was very well attended, and thanks to the generosity of those present, £1,040 was raised.

Joanna Sanders



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Calling West Wrating Wildlife Lovers!

Please get in touch if you want to create and care for a community wildlife area in Lamb's Yard, next to the village hall.

As part of the new Lamb's Yard development there will be a wildlife area with a pond. Your parish council has been offered ownership of this wildlife area for use as a village asset and community resource.



This can only happen if we find a group of enthusiastic wildlife lovers who are prepared to look after the area. If you would like to be involved in this project please send an email to westwratingparishcouncil@gmail.com, or phone me on 07762 232882.

Simon Chandler

Weston Colville Folk Evening with Camus

Camus return to the Reading Room on Friday 22nd November – their visits are becoming something of an annual fixture! Some who joined us last year wrote: “We all thoroughly enjoyed the whole event” and “they are brilliant”. The band has recently been joined by champion piper Edric Ellis, and they’ve been working on some new songs and tune sets. They’ve played at the Cambridge, Ely and Sidmouth Folk Festivals, but this is the gig they enjoy the most, so they’re really looking forward to returning to the Reading Room with their new line-up:



David Somerville – Northumbrian smallpipes, keyboard
Greg Smith – fiddle, viola, vocals
Edric Ellis – Northumbrian smallpipes, border pipes
Andrew Burn – melodeon, Northumbrian smallpipes, vocals
Brian Clearv – guitar, bouzouki, vocals

- * £5 a ticket (proceeds to Jimmy’s Night Shelter)
- * book your seat in advance
(jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com or 291475)
then pay on the door
- * refreshments available 7.30 pm, music starts 8.00 pm.

Jacqueline

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.

**West Wratting Village Hall
INVITATION
to a Wine Tasting Evening
hosted by
Corney and Barrow
of Newmarket
Saturday 2nd November at 7.00 pm**

There will be tastings of at least six wines.
Additional wines can be purchased for the evening or ordered for delivery.

Tickets: £15 including a drink on arrival and 'nibbles'

**Contact: Doug Clarke,
Dougatgalewood@hotmail.com**

Evening in support of our Village Hall
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Parish Matters

In their articles last month both Iain and Hannah reminded us to be thankful for the many blessings we receive in this life. This month I would like to continue that theme with, perhaps unsurprisingly for me, an emphasis on health.



October 18th is the festival of Luke the Evangelist, author of not only the Gospel that bears his name but also of the Acts of the Apostles. Luke was a doctor (Luke the beloved Physician) and his gospel reflects his interest both in the medical aspects of Christ's ministry but also in the compassion our Lord showed to the suffering. Luke gives us a fascinating insight into the availability of healthcare in his account of the healing of the woman suffering from haemorrhages when we hear that, before touching the hem of Jesus' garment, she had been 12 years without cure and, as we hear elsewhere, had spent all her money on doctors.

October also sees the commemorations of both Elizabeth Fry and Edith Cavell. Elizabeth Fry is best known as a prison reformer, her work for the sick, particularly in the training of nurses being overlooked. Fry established a School of Nursing at Guy's Hospital in 1840 in advance of Florence Nightingale at St Thomas's and it was a group of 'Fry Nurses' that Florence took to the Crimea. Perhaps better known is Cavell who selflessly cared for German and British Troops in World War I and in 1915 died in that cause.

These three people, in their different ways, demonstrated the love and care our Lord had for the sick and suffering in times when care was scarce or simply not available. Today we here are privileged to have access, largely free of charge, to healthcare provided by dedicated and highly skilled front-line professionals working tirelessly day and night in sometimes impossible circumstances. Our NHS most certainly does need fixing and I hope and pray that our politicians and leaders have the courage and resolve to do what is needed but, in the meantime, let us be thankful for all those who day by day are following the example set by St Luke, Elizabeth Fry and Edith Cavell.

Keith Day

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Operation Christmas Child

This Christian organisation sends filled shoeboxes to needy disadvantaged children in many parts of the world. The idea is to pack a box with lots of fun things, but also some practical items. These boxes are then distributed to children who may never have had a gift before, or had new things for themselves.



In 2023 Operation Christmas Child sent 252,000 boxes from the UK. It would be great if this number grew even more. The boxes tend to go to Eastern European countries, Central Asia and Africa.

It is never too early to knit (hats, gloves, soft toys), buy, or make items. Look on the website for ideas and keep a look out for items such as stationery, soap, toothbrushes, small toys, balls, and games (only new or in very good condition).

There are 3 age groups: 2 - 4, 5 - 9, 10 - 14, either boy or girl.

Get a shoebox, (not small child's or boot box please), cover it with nice paper, and away you go. I have a limited source of preprinted boxes.

Collection week this year is 11th to 18th November. Boxes can be dropped off at my house (20, West Field, Lt Abington).

Coffee and Scone Day – Wednesday 23rd October, 10 am - 4 pm, when you can drop in for a cuppa, and browse items that can be bought for the boxes.

On Sat 16th November, 10 am - 1 pm, there will be a Shoebox Filling Party at Gt Shelford Free Church, along with a cake sale. Donations of cakes gratefully received, but also come along (with your children if you have them) to help pack the boxes. It is great fun.

Jane Furlow (07745 046921, www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child)

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Weston Colville Parish Council

Abridged minutes of the Weston Colville Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd September. For the full minutes please go to www.westoncolville.org.uk

Flooding – the last occasion of flooding on Common Road was at 3 am on a Saturday in July. Riparian letters had been delivered, and actions had been taken on Common Road. However it was felt that the culvert under the road was insufficient. The ditch had been cleared of undergrowth behind the houses on The Green/Horseshoe Lane. There was frustration from home owners about the flooding, as the frequency had increased, however ultimately the responsibility lay with Highways. The PC would continue to chase them. The update from the Reading Room re the neighbouring ditch and the ditch by the cricket field will be chased.

MVAS – Cllr Vidler shared the data from the MVAS. On Mill Hill 98% vehicles were within the speed limit (highest recorded speed 58 mph). Brinkley Road had the lowest compliance with 93% within the speed limit, however the highest recorded speed was 75 mph.

BT Digital Voice – it was understood that the roll out had been postponed. It is possible to request keeping a standard phone line from BT, rather than having a digital line.

New Laptop for Clerk – the Council will contribute up to £350 for the first year, including device and all subscriptions. Little Abington PC had already committed the same figure, and it was hoped Horseheath PC would do similar. Following discussion, it was felt that going for a MacBook would be the best option considering the longevity of the device, creating the best value for money.

Grass Cutting Tenders, March 2025 – November 2028 – the tender letter will be circulated to councillors for discussion and approval in November.

Risk Assessment/Health and Safety – the defibrillator was rescue-ready. The playground inspection report was discussed, and it was determined to seek quotes to bury the concrete below the slide at Church End.

Playground – an update for the playground rejuvenation was received. The funding had been promised, and the contractor – Setter Play – could be instructed to complete the works within the fenced area. It was suggested asking the Reading Room to pay the deposit from the Rural Prosperity Grant. Once the deposit was received Setter Play hoped to install the new equipment approximately 6 weeks later.

Next Parish Council Meeting – 4th November.

Jess Ashbridge, Parish Clerk

West Wickham & District Gardening Club

The club's first Summer Gardening Fair on Saturday 31st August was a success, with an impressive array of plants, fruit, vegetables and preserves, books and tools, greetings cards, cakes, and a well-stocked raffle. Most of all though, the event was a warm and inviting social event where members and visitors took time to chat as well as to enjoy the photography competition entries.

The next meeting, on Monday 21st October, will be a talk by Simon White of Beales Roses on 'Climbing Roses for every Situation', in West Wickham Village Hall, starting at 7.30 pm. Further details from Sue Boase (01440 762911).

Sally Collins (wwdgc@westwickham.org)

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Wildly Preserved Launched

As many of you know I have been producing preserved and fermented food for some time now, but over the summer I registered Wildly Preserved as a food business, was inspected by our local Environmental Health Officer, and was awarded 5 stars for food hygiene, so now the preserves and ferments are officially for sale.

I try to use organic and or very locally grown ingredients, and use variously sized recycled glass jars. At present the rate is £1.10/100g.

Examples of preserves are: various types of marmalade; plum and sweet cicely jam; cabbage and celeriac kimchi; fermented tomato ketchup; sauerkraut with fennel; and the aptly named fermented 'cheery tomato bombs'. No week is exactly the same, so I let people know what's available on a Sunday and then deliver their order generally by the following Wednesday.

If you are interested in knowing more please contact me either via the Weston Colville Whatsapp Group, email Wildlypreserved@yahoo.com or phone/text 07984 655116. Happy guts to you all!

Jackie Brearley

Balsham Singers

The Balsham Singers Christmas Concert will be on Saturday 14th December at 4 pm in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham.

Rehearsals are held in the sports pavilion near the church every Thursday at 7.30 pm. New members are always welcome, we do not audition, so if you love to sing, come along. We are particularly keen to encourage new tenors and basses. Any queries, please contact our MD, John Clenaghan, at john.clenaghan@sky.com.

Last Christmas our concert was a sell-out. Tickets are already available online (www.ticketsource.co.uk/balshamsingers) and will be on sale locally in November – further details next month.

Jo Stinton

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In need of a trustworthy housesitter? Look no further!

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Balsham Picture House



On Saturday 5th October we will screen *THE BOOK THIEF* (12), a film made in 2013 starring Geoffrey Rush and based on the best selling book. A girl, Liesel, transforms the lives of those around her in WW2 in Germany. Adopted but illiterate she is taught to read and befriends Max, a Jew

who was also adopted, and eventually they escape from the horrors around them.

Our November film, made in 2023, will be the terrifying mystery *A HAUNTING IN VENICE* (12). Hercule Poirot (Kenneth Branagh), now retired and living in Venice, reluctantly attends a seance where a murdered guest thrusts the detective into a sinister shadowy world.



Normal start times for both films: Balsham Church

Institute doors open at 7 pm and films at 7.30 pm.

Dave's bar will be open as usual before the films for refreshments.

Dick Paden

Balsham WI

Our September meeting featured the inspirational Miles from Morgans Butchery as our speaker. Miles explained to us how having a stroke had impacted on him and his career, and how he had had to adapt to his limitations. He was unable to continue in the job he had pre-stroke but was desperately keen to work. So, he went back



to his first job as a butcher, but started his own business. After a rocky start, and with the help and support of his family, this has been a success, and he greatly enjoys being able to do it.

He then proceeded to show us how to joint a chicken (making it look so easy), and how many different dishes you can make from a large chicken rather than just roasting it. Several members vowed to make the trip to Baythorne Hall to visit his shop.

Our next meeting will take place on 8th October. Our speaker will be Dr Gwenda Kyd, with her talk entitled 'Incredible Edible (and Drinkable) Plants'.

Visitors are always welcome – why not come and try us out? Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion, Balsham. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining us – balshamwi@gmail.com, or send a message on Facebook, @Balsham WI.

Debbie Mower (balshamwi@gmail.com)

Linton & District Historical Society

At our first meeting of the season we welcomed Margaret Woodley, who gave us a well documented talk featuring the life of this amazing woman, Eglantyne Jebb (1876 - 1928), 'the woman who saved children'. Eglantyne was one of six children, who despite her father's belief that educating women was a waste of time, accomplished great success, studying and working hard throughout her life. She travelled far and wide and rubbed shoulders with 'the good and the great' enabling her to raise money for starving children, who in most cases, were the innocent victims of war. This left a huge legacy which continues to be relevant today, known as 'Save the Children'.

Towards the end of the evening, a gentleman in the audience announced that his great uncle was the brother of Eglantyne, so there began more discussion from a delighted speaker!

Please join us on Tuesday 15th October when Susan Grossey will enlighten us with 'Financial Crime in Regency London and Cambridge'. We'll meet at Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, starting at 7.30 pm; refreshments and raffle.

Margaret Creek
(ldhscams@gmail.com, 893915 or 678835)



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Village Agents



Did you know that Cambridgeshire ACRE has Village Agents, dedicated to supporting you and your community, working in Weston Colville? Whether it's guidance, connections to community resources, or just a friendly chat, our village agents are ready to help. You can meet us at Tea & Cakes on the third Friday of each month, 3.30 pm - 5 pm in the Reading Room, and occasionally at the Wednesday soup lunches. We offer a confidential and completely free service, with a focus on assisting you with identifying entitled benefits, completing forms, submitting blue badge applications, understanding confusing paperwork, and connecting you with local groups and other organisations that can provide additional help and advice.

You can trust our village agents, as they are all Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked and maintain strict confidentiality.

If you wish to learn more about village agents and Cambridgeshire ACRE's community wellbeing work, please contact Rachel Mason (01353 865025 or rachel.mason@cambsacre.org.uk).

Bob Coates

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Community Warden for Age UK

My name is Lucy Cameron, and I am the community warden for Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The villages I support are Balsham, Horseheath, West Wrattling, Shudy Camps, Castle Camps, Weston Colville and West Wickham.



You may see me dashing from village to village supporting my service users each day, Monday to Friday. My working hours are 9 am until 1 pm, and the support available is flexible to meet the needs of each person.

I start the day by making a phone call to all the people using my service. This lets me know they are all OK and allows me to plan what is needed for the day. No two days are ever the same.

I then start my visits, which could include picking up a small amount of shopping needed by a service user, or collecting a prescription to deliver to someone.

I can support people with lots of other tasks – perhaps making a doctor's appointment or booking hospital transport; there might be a letter they need supporting with, or a telephone call that needs making.

Sometimes it's just nice to spend time with an older person and listen to the wonderful tales of years gone by. This can reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness.

We are currently able to offer four weeks' free trial of the warden service, so if you are interested or know



an older person who might like to join the service, please do contact me.

Lucy Cameron

(07436 102865, lucy.cameron@ageukcap.org.uk)

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Phone: Lucy Talbot 07910 158463, Sheena Brusell 07415 074434

CHAOS STRING QUARTET

BBC New Generation Artists



Beethoven opus 131 - Mozart KV159 - Haydn Op 33/3 The Bird

Holy Trinity Church, Hildersham CB2 6BZ

Monday 21st October at 7.30pm

Tickets at £15 available from

www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom-cambridge/chaos-string-quartet/
or at the door

Telephone: 07850 714544

E-mail: huntcam2015@gmail.com



Chaos String Quartet

The Chaos String Quartet have been playing together for around five years, and have been selected for a place with the BBC New Generation Artists Scheme, which aims to promote and support young musicians, launching them on their national and international careers. The idea of inviting the quartet to play in Hildersham came about through a friendship with the second violinist, Eszter Kruchio, and her Hungarian family.

This concert will be the first in a series of events at Hildersham Church to raise money for the church. Next on the calendar, in December, will be a concert of baroque music performed by graduate students from the Royal College of Music, London. In the new year we hope to invite the choral quartet 'Sonare', professional singers based in Ely. There will also be a series of lectures starting with the gardener Barry Gayton, known to many for his regular appearances on the Radio Cambridge gardening programme. And for the un-musical or the non-gardener, how about an evening of cheese tasting?

Athene Hunt (huntcam2015@gmail.com)

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GRANTA Medical Practices

Vaccinations Update

As we approach the colder months, a number of vaccines can help protect you against serious illness, including:

The **RSV vaccine**, new for 2024, helps protect against Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) that can make babies and older adults seriously ill. This is offered all year round and is recommended if:

- you are pregnant (from 28 weeks onwards) to help protect your baby after they are born
- you are aged 75 to 79 (if you turn 80 on or after 1st September 2024 you're eligible for the RSV vaccine until 31 August 2025. You are not eligible for the RSV vaccine if you turned 80 before 1st September 2024).

The **flu vaccine** helps protect against flu, which can be a serious or life-threatening illness. It's offered on the NHS every year in autumn or early winter to people at higher risk of getting seriously ill from flu. You can get the vaccine if you are:

- aged 65 or over
- have certain long-term health conditions
- are pregnant
- live in a care home
- are the main carer for an older or disabled person
- receive a carer's allowance
- live with someone who has a weakened immune system.

The **shingles vaccine** is offered all year round. Shingles is a common condition that causes a painful rash. It can sometimes lead to serious problems such

as long-lasting pain, hearing loss or blindness. You're more likely to get shingles, and it is more likely to cause serious problems, as you get older or if you have a severely weakened immune system. The vaccine is recommended for:

- people who turn 65 on or after 1st September
- people aged 70 to 79
- people aged 50 and over with a severely weakened immune system.

The **pneumococcal vaccine** is offered all year round. It helps protect against serious illnesses like pneumonia and meningitis and is recommended for:

- babies
- people aged 65 and over
- children and adults at higher risk of getting seriously ill.

Please speak to any member of our reception team to check if you are eligible for any of the above vaccines and to book into a vaccine clinic.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services
 (cpich.grantapatientervices@nhs.net)

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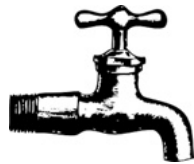
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The Meadow Primary School

Welcome to the new term at The Meadow Primary School! It is a pleasure to see both new and old faces among our students, and the sight of so many happy, smiling faces fills us with excitement as we embark on another exciting chapter of their learning journeys. We're delighted to share that our long-awaited school fete was a roaring success! After being postponed last year due to weather conditions, this year's event was well worth the wait. The children had an absolute blast, enjoying a range of activities and entertainment. A huge thank you to our dedicated PTA, whose hard work and organisation led to an impressive fundraising effort. The funds raised will go directly towards enriching activities and resources for our students, enhancing their educational experience even further.

If your child is set to start Reception next year, we would love to welcome you to The Meadow Primary School for a tour. We're hosting a series of tours to give you a chance to explore our facilities, meet our staff, and get a feel for our vibrant school community. For more details and to schedule a visit, please contact our school office at 01223 894400. We look forward to showing you around and answering any questions you might have.

We're gearing up for a packed autumn term with many exciting events and activities planned. One of the highlights will be a special Status Quo workshop for our Key Stage 2 pupils, featuring the talented Jeff Rich. This unique opportunity will allow our students to learn about music and rhythm from an industry professional, enriching their musical education and sparking their creativity.

Faye Facer, Assistant Headteacher

Marsh Mail

Last month saw us say our final goodbyes to our Year 11 Class of '24. Students came to collect their GCSE



results during the holidays and there were many exceptional GCSE performances at Linton Village College.

At LVC we pride ourselves on the wealth of enrichment opportunities we can offer our students to support their personal development. This year every department in the school is offering a club or group for students to attend. It is our hope that every student in Year 7 will attend at least one club, meaning that they can access fully an all-round education.



We are also very proud of the achievements of LVC students outside school. Josh Smith in Year 10 is amongst a number of students who compete at a high level in their sport, and he recently managed to get to the final round of the British Kart Championships after numerous qualifying rounds. Karting is where the likes of



Lewis Hamilton started their racing careers, which is an ambition of Josh's in the future. Josh competes around the UK and trains in races once a month at the Kimbolton track near Huntingdon. Josh has his own kart and says that the skills needed to compete are stamina, strategy and quick thinking, as he frequently reaches speeds of 70 - 80 miles per hour.

Helena Marsh

Linton Library

The first week of October is Libraries Week, with the theme ‘Every Library a Green Library’. We will have a Nearly New book sale. We also have a wide range of books to borrow on climate change, energy and the environment.

Lego Club in Half Term: Tuesday 29th 10 am - 12 noon. Open to all children; make and create with Lego and Duplo. We have lots of bricks, so come along and enjoy being creative.

Duplo Clubs, weekly in term time: Tuesdays 10 - 11 am and Fridays 11 - 12 noon. Come along and entertain your 0 - 4 year old while chatting to others. This free event is in the children’s section of the library.

Knit and Natter, every Tuesday, 2 - 3 pm. Bring along any craft project you’re working on.

Daylight Readers: our book groups meet on Friday 18th, one at 10.30 am and the other at 2.30 pm.

Need help with IT? Come along on a Wednesday, 5 - 7 pm, to benefit from the **IT Club**. Need help with Bus Passes? Pop into the library to make an appointment.

Do you know someone who uses a walking aid? As autumn draws in and paths become slippery, please spread the word that the library can supply free ferrules (rubber feet) for walking aids to keep them in safe condition. Just ask library staff.

Ann King & Melanie Symonds (0345 045 5225, www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library)

Opening hours:	Tuesday	10 am - 5 pm
	Wednesday	4 - 7 pm
	Thursday	2 - 5 pm
	Friday	10 am - 5 pm
	Saturday	10 am - 1 pm

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The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

Baby Group, Mondays 9 am - 11 am. Tots of fun—come along with your little non-walking bundles of joy to play with other babies.

Football Mania with Prestige Sports. 4 – 11-year-olds, Wednesdays 5 - 6 pm. Book online at www.prestigesportsdevelopment.com

Acting Classes – every Tuesday, 5 - 6 pm for ages 8 - 11, 6 - 7 pm for ages 12 - 16. Contact Hope at hopetamududley@gmail.com or 07990 981176.

Halloween Roller Disco, 30th October, 3 - 5 pm. 5 - 11 years. Come along in fancy dress for some spooktacular fun; hot dogs and snacks for sale. £2 to skate, £1 to hire skates. Please book with the office.

This year’s **Christmas Market** will be on Sunday 17th November. If you would like a stall please contact the office.

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

1st Horseheath Brownies

Plans already in the mix for this year are a visit to a trampoline park in Norwich; a pyjama party sleepover with Rainbows and Guides to celebrate World Thinking in February; hopefully a trip to the pantomime in December; plus we have Christmas, Hallowe’en and Harvest to look forward to as well.

We are finalising our plans for our ‘want to know about Brownies’ evening, for anyone interested in finding out more about Brownies or to see if you wish to volunteer with Girlguiding.

This term we will also be working on our First Aid skills building, Katie and I think you’re never too young to learning the basics of first aid.

Pauline & Katie (horseheathbrownies@gmail.com)

Oct	9.30 am	11.00 am	6.00 pm
6 th		United Service with Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl/Revd Hannah Threlfall</i>	
13 th	Holy Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Morning Worship – Great Abington, <i>Steven Wheeler</i> Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Alistair Collen</i> Café Church – Hildersham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Taizé service – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i> Harvest Songs of Praise (4.00 pm) – West Wrating, <i>John & Scilla Harvey</i>
20 th	Holy Communion – West Wrating, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship – West Wickham, <i>Alistair Collen</i>	Holy Communion – Little Abington, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i>	Evening Prayer – Hildersham, <i>Alistair Collen</i>
27 th	Holy Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Holy Communion – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Creative Church (10.00 am) – Abington Institute, <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Revd Hannah Threlfall</i>	Holy Communion (11.15 am) – Balsham, <i>Revd Michael Wilcockson</i> Holy Communion – Hildersham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	Evening Prayer (4.00 pm) – Little Abington, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i>

DIARY

OCTOBER 2024

- Sat 5 West Wrating Café
Balsham Picture House, 'The Book Thief'
- Wed 9 IT Clinic, Reading Room
- Tues 8 Balsham WI
- Fri 11 Baroque Music Concert, Burrough Green
- Sat 12 West Wrating Harvest Supper
- Sun 13 Harvest Praice, St Andrew's Church
- Tue 15 Linton & District Historical Society
- Wed 16 West Wrating Book Club
- Thur 17 Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree
- Fri 18 Weston Colville Tea & Cakes, Reading Room
- Mon 21 Chaos String Quartet, Hildersham
West Wickham & District Gardening Club

NOVEMBER 2024

- Sat 2 West Wrating Café
Wine Tasting Evening, West Wrating
- Mon 4 Weston Colville Parish Council
- Sun 17 Christmas Market, Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworh
- Fri 22 Folk Evening, Weston Colville

Collection for Ukraine

I would like to convey our sincerest thanks to all who gave so generously at our collection for displaced Ukrainians in late August, our fourth held at Abington School. The amount of essential food, household and personal hygiene items collected completely filled one large van and over £1,000 in monetary donations was received. That means with Gift Aid, over £1,200 will go to help with buying food and transport costs.

Tony Collett (tony.collett@talktalk.net, 893447)

Churchwardens:

St Mary's – Ian Ashbridge (01223 291344)
Bob Coates (07785 361345)
St Andrew's – Sebastian Bain (07736 198101)
Church Administrator: Caroline (Cazzy) Walshe,
7churches.seven@gmail.com, 01223 891443
Weston Colville Parish Clerk: Jess Ashbridge,
clerk@westoncolville.org.uk, 07779 277647
West Wrating Parish Clerk: Cameron Biggs,
clerk.westwratingparishcouncil@gmail.com
Community Warden: Lucy Cameron,
Lucy.Cameron@AgeUKCAP.org.uk, 07436 102865

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

Mobile library: fourth Thursday: 24th Oct, 28th Nov
High Street, West Wrating 11.10 - 11.50 am
Reading Room, Weston Green 12.00 - 12.35 am
Mill Hill, Weston Colville 12.40 - 1.05 pm

Black bins: Wednesday 2nd, 16th & 30th October,
Wednesday 13th & 27th November

Blue & green bins: Wednesday 9th & 23rd October,
Wednesday 6th & 20th November

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.

Copy date for November issue:

Sunday 20th October