

Challenge

The Parish Newsletter of Weston Colville and West Wratting

The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

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

West Wratting Café

Everyone is welcome to join us on Saturday 3rd May, 10.30 / noon in the village hall. We serve delicious homemade cakes, freshly brewed coffee and tea.

Jackie of 'Wildly Preserved' will once again be joining us with her array of delicious sweet and savoury preserves and ferments.

A great opportunity to meet and have a catch up.

Sherry & Jan

Tea & Cakes

We hope you weren't confused by the change of date for tea and cakes last month.



This month we will be back to normal (the third Friday), meeting on 16th May in the Reading Room, 3.30 pm - 5.00 pm.

We look forward to meeting everyone again to catch up over a cup of tea and delicious homemade cake.

Val and the Team

Wednesday Afternoon Natter

As the Wednesday soup lunches are having a break until September, there appears to be an appetite (sorry) for some sort of Wednesday gathering in the Reading Room over the summer. I am happy to open up the Reading Room on Wednesday afternoons starting from 7th May between 3 and 4.30 pm for anyone who wants to drop in for a cup of tea, coffee or squash and have a chat about nothing or the state of the world. Jigsaws will be provided (as in the puzzle not the carpentry tool).

Jackie Brearley

West Wratting Village Hall

We held a very successful Race Night in March with a near capacity attendance. A great night out with lots of fun and laughter. Our compère, thank you Nigel, added to the evening with an enthusiastic auction of a special bottle of wine kindly donated by Cobby and Sisse.

Do join us for **May events**:

Wildly Preserved Presentation, Thurs 8th May, p 7.

Fun Bingo Night, Saturday 17th May – see page 2.

Saturday Café, 3rd May – see pages 1 & 3.

Martin Davey, Chair



RAF Wratting Common

A short open-air memorial service will be held at 12 noon on **Sunday 25th May** at the RAF Wratting Common Memorial, to commemorate the anniversary of the commissioning of the airfield in 1943, on the last Sunday in May. All are very welcome to attend.

The memorial is dedicated to those who served at the airfield, especially the 260 who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. We look forward to seeing some relatives of the veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade.

We are always pleased to hear from anyone interested in getting involved with the memorial. With just two services per year to arrange, as well as year-round general maintenance, this is not an onerous project to assist with but is very rewarding. It is hoped that, with the continued support of people in the locality, this important memorial to our community's war effort will survive for many generations.

Dan Heath (rafwrattingcommon@gmail.com)
Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville, CB21 5NR



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Chapel Road, Common Road, The Green, Horseshoe Lane:

Anne Vidler (290010 or anne.vidler@talk21.com)

West Wratting

Peter Harris (07879 444126 or sowesticom@gmail.com)

Any orders left by email will be acknowledged; if you do not get a reply, we haven't received your order. There is a minimum order of 500 litres. We can no longer order fill ups, due to pre-payment requirements. Please don't phone before 8 am or after 10 pm. If you are close to running out, please tell us so we mark you as urgent.

The price will not be known until the order is placed. Once placed we will give you the number to ring to make your payment prior to delivery.

Weston Colville Reading Room – 'Pub' Quiz

We're holding our next quiz on Wednesday 14th May at 8 pm. Could you take home the coveted trophy? Come as a fully-formed team, or join one when you arrive. Up to five per team, entry £2 per person. Bar includes wine, cider and draft ale. All welcome.

jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com, 291475

Prescriptions

As The Chestnut Tree is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, medicines will be collected from Linton and delivered to the pub on Wednesdays and Fridays only.

Suan Rowland

West Wratting Village Hall

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



West Wratting Village Hall

**BINGO Event May 17th Doors open
7.00pm for 7.30 start**

An Exceptional Evening of BINGO, hosted by a surprise caller from within the Village?

Entrance £5 to include snacks and nibbles. A bar will be available

Bingo books for sale on the night, enter for a chance to win prizes

Please support your Village Hall by attending the BINGO evening

Look out for details in Challenge/Facebook

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West Wratting Book Club

At our April meeting we reviewed the book we had read for March, the Booker Prize short-listed book 'The Safe Keep' by Dutch writer, Yael van der Wouden. This was a suggestion from our Dutch member and he gave us some very interesting information relating to the symbolism of the hare (haas) in Dutch sayings and a particular popular song which throw light on its use in the story. The following is an example:

Het hazenpad kiezen (literally: to choose the hare's path/trail) - to run away from, to flee, to be off like a shot; to escape responsibility.

He also showed us the location of the town of Zwolle (hill) built on an incline in the landscape between the four rivers surrounding the city: IJssel, Vecht, Aa and Zwarte Water, in the northeast of the country, where the story is mainly set. It opens in 1961 but looks back to World War II and just afterwards.

In many ways, this is the story of the main character Isabel's self-awakening, a recognition and acceptance of what has happened in the past, in particular, the treatment of those few Jews who returned from the extermination camps as well as what happened to the property that had been taken from them, and her sexuality. Unlike her brother, Hendrik, this is something she refuses to recognise and accept. The behaviour of the uncle raises moral questions. The other main protagonist, Eva, is the complete opposite to Isabel: a free spirit, sexually liberated, perhaps, a forerunner of the youth culture to come. The house itself is also an important character.

Among the criticisms were that the letters written by the younger Isabel were not believable as coming from an 11-year-old; excerpts from a diary later in the book are perhaps something of a deus ex machina; the

wine and outings are too lavish for the time; dialogue is sometimes hard to follow (a lot unsaid?). Also, the use of Dutch versus English is not consistent. On the other hand, everyone is living their own truth with use of dramatic irony a case in point. Most agreed that the sex was too explicit and detracted from the central message and premise of the story, which was interesting and enlightening. Two of our number said they failed to be persuaded to care about any of the characters.

Despite problems with the writing which is a first novel, it was felt that the author could develop into a better writer with experience. Scores were mostly 6 and 7 out of 10, with one 5.

Our next book is 'Prophet Song' by Paul Lynch, meeting at The Chestnut Tree on Wednesday 14th May at 7.30 pm.

Linda Gorman (290653)



West Wratting Village Hall Lottery

Support our village hall & try your luck!

Join our brand-new Village Hall Lottery a fun and easy way to help raise funds while giving yourself the chance to win! We'd love for you to be part of this exciting fundraising venture.

How It Works
Just £4 per month to enter, you will receive your membership number with your registration pack

How to Join
Pick up a registration pack at the Village Hall Café:
Sat 5th April | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Sat 3rd May | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Prefer to register directly? Contact us:
Jan Davey – jan.davey5@btinternet.com | 07808 725495
Doug Clarke – dougatgalewood@hotmail.com | 07818 400723

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The Village Hall lottery promoters will be in attendance at the Saturday Café to hand out more membership packs. For those wishing to join on the day please bring your bank details with you. For those who have already received a pack, please return your form either at the café or post it in the village hall letterbox as soon as possible.

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Kingsway Solar Community Action

On 7th April, KSCA held its very first AGM in Balsham. The meeting saw a good turnout from the local community, with a real sense of shared purpose and determination to protect our villages. During the meeting, our committee was officially appointed, with just one role – fundraising – still open. If you have experience or enthusiasm in this area, we'd love to hear from you!

During the AGM, we shared a presentation highlighting everything KSCA has achieved so far, our plans for the coming months, and – most importantly – how you can help. Our message was clear: we can only stand up to the proposed Kingsway development if we stand together.

If you haven't yet signed up to become a KSCA member, now is the perfect time. To become a member, please complete our quick membership application form online—just click the 'Get Involved' button on our homepage.

We're also looking for enthusiastic people to join our subgroups: Research; Local Communications; Fundraising; Lobbying. If any of these areas interest you, please get in touch.

Step into Nature: May's Call to Action – Wildflowers!

A huge thank you to everyone who has taken part in our Step into Nature campaign so far. In March, we asked you to keep an eye out for hares, and in April, we tuned in to skylarks.

We'd love for you to continue recording hares and skylarks, but this month, we're turning our attention to wildflowers. As you walk through our local field margins and hedgerows, keep an eye out for

interesting flowers to help build a bigger picture of the biodiversity we're working to protect.

You can log your sightings on iRecord, which helps us collect important data from within a 2 km radius of the proposed solar farm site. Not sure what you've found? Try using the PlantNet app to help identify the wildflowers you see. Just take a screenshot of the result and upload it alongside your record on iRecord.

On Sunday 8th June at 10.00 am, KSCA plans to take part in the National Community Walk. We'll walk the local footpaths threatened by the Kingsway Solar development, to raise awareness of the potential impact on our landscapes, communities, wildlife, heritage and public rights of way. More details to follow.



If you've signed up as a KSCA member – thank you! As part of our community, you'll receive key updates about our work and campaign progress through our WhatsApp announcements chat. It's the quickest way to stay in the loop. You can also keep up with the latest news and developments by visiting our website: kingswayaction.org And don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for real-time updates, event info, and ways to get involved.

Ellen Collier

Parish Matters

When the promise of spring seems only to unfurl ever more abundantly, who can deny that May is the most glorious of months! We are so lucky living in the countryside – well, more or less – and stepping out each morning this month into the exuberance of nature.

However, writing this column a month in advance – and trying to make it relevant – is always a bit of a risk. For we notice too, the creeping uncertainty about our weather patterns. Will May ‘deliver’ this year . . . and perpetually? And also, there’s more uncertainty in a world of such fast-moving political events, and ongoing, heartbreaking, bloody conflict. So where will it end?

Last month in church, at the annual climax of our story of God's self-sacrificing love, we celebrated the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus: this seeding of joy and hope in the future, whatever the worst we throw at God, and at the created world, and at each other. And early in June, on Pentecost Sunday, we will celebrate with thanks that the Spirit of Jesus has



broken out into the whole world as a living, reconciling presence.

Yet, notwithstanding our joyful Christian celebrations, most of us at times must wonder if the hard evidence for all our extravagant hopes and claims really looks that good! Perhaps it's too easy, especially if this May does come up trumps with the weather, to have our optimism buoyed up, to make our plans for the future, and count our blessings in this pleasant corner of England. And to stop watching the news.

I guess, though, that we would then also be turning our backs on all that can stand as a resistance to an increasingly self-serving and violent world. Merely trying to defend our good life here in Granta Vale will always threaten to draw us into, and in small ways help perpetuate, the conflicts of the world. Instead, our hope for the future is made real and living as we meet the challenge of being a people of honesty, justice and compassion, whatever the cost to ourselves . . . our lives kept safe within the life of the One who calls us into our full humanity.

Alistair Colleen



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Weston Colville New Playground Ribbon Cutting

and

VE Day Village Picnic

Sunday 11th May

12-3pm



Come along to the new playground on
The Green and join in with a Village
Picnic to celebrate the opening of the
new play area and commemorate VE
Day.

Fun Dog Show

Silly Races

Tea and cakes

Music

Candyfloss

Painting stones to decorate around the
playground

Bar

Bring a picnic and
join in the fun!



Weston Colville Reading Room AGM

(Charity1162032)

The Annual General Meeting of the Weston Colville Reading Room will be held on Monday 12th May, 7 pm. to 7.30 pm, in the Reading Room.

This is an open meeting; all are welcome.

Come and find out more about the Reading Room.

Jan Ogden, Secretary

Talk and Taste – Fermented Foods

Dr Jackie Brearley of 'Wildly Preserved' will be giving a presentation and tasting session on fermented foods in West Wrating Village Hall on Thursday 8th May, 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

Jackie Brearley

Tennis in West Wrating

New season begins **1st May**.

The d'Abo Tennis Club is open to existing, returning and new members from across the local area. Great value local tennis club membership for all the family. New members always welcome! Our full-size, all-weather macadam court is located in a peaceful corner of the village recreation ground.

For more information, to sign up and to make court bookings, visit: www.WestWratingTennis.co.uk or contact secretary@westwrattingtennis.co.uk.

Cally Wilson

The Ellesmere Centre

Jonno's Three Piece Blues Quartet, Saturday 24th May, 7.30 pm. Absolutely raw, unadulterated, footstomping blues with live musicians Jonno, Johnny & Dr Lee.

Clubs & Classes – for a full list please visit our website.

Karate on Wednesday evenings, 5 - 6 pm (beginners) and 6 - 7 pm (intermediate) – 07958 118189.

Walking Netball on Tuesday mornings would welcome new members. All abilities.

Tots of Fun for preschoolers on Thursdays, 9.30 - 11.30 am; the more the merrier.

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

David Parr House

We are an independent charity founded in 2014 to care for and preserve 186 Gwydir Street in Cambridge, a house previously owned by a working-class Victorian artist, David Parr. The house is a unique survival of Arts and Crafts workmanship layered with 20th-century social history, and was lived in by the same family for over 125 years.

The house is now open to visitors, and we host events, workshops and exhibitions. Alongside our artistic programme and work to care for the house, we also undertake important research into David Parr and the decorating company he worked for, F R Leach & Sons. The company was renowned for creating Arts & Crafts interiors for churches and grand buildings nationally and around Cambridge city and the surrounding villages. We are still learning much about the company from our visitors, and about the creative industries in Cambridge from people whose parents and grandparents worked in them.

We asked to be included in the parish magazine to draw people's attention to the many ways to get involved with the project, including visiting, volunteering, donating, attending events and spreading the word.

You can find more about us on our website: <https://davidparrhouse.org/>

Holly O'Brien, Digital & Events Producer,
(07988 615666)

Baroque Concert

Thursday 19th June, 7.30 pm, Hildersham Church
JS Bach and his Sons

Ashley Solomon – Baroque Flute. Ashley is a Fellow of both the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music, London. He has a successful international career as a soloist and is director of the baroque ensemble Florilegium.

Steven Devine – Harpsichord. Steven enjoys an international career as a soloist as well as conducting and directing many baroque groups including the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.

Tickets: £ 20, from: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1322767305619?aff=oddtcreator>

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Athene Hunt: (huntcam2015@gmail.com)

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Julian Group

This group continues to meet monthly at Nine Chimney House, Balsham at 7.15 for approximately an hour. We have a reading from Mother Julian's booklet 'Enfolded in Love' and then half an hour of quiet time, finishing with a rereading of the extract and the Grace.

If anyone would like to join us they would be very welcome. Please contact Joanna.

[0893063](tel:0893063), sanderschimneys@uwclub.net

Save the Date . . .

The wonderful troupe 'This is My Theatre' are visiting us again on 21st August with their take on 'Pride and Prejudice', celebrating Jane Austen's 250th anniversary year.

This is a stunning one-act adaptation packed with rivalries, regrets and romance!

You can book tickets now at [https://](https://www.tickettailor.com/events/cuemarketing/1528720)

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Balsham Singers Spring Concert

The first concert in Balsham Singers' 30th anniversary year takes place on 17th May at 7.30 pm in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham. The programme is varied and revisits concerts gone by with music ancient and modern.

Tickets are available from Balsham and Great Abington Post Offices and online at:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/balshamsingers Tickets £12 (under 16s £1).

Would you like to join us? We are holding five **singing for fun** sessions starting on Thursday 22nd May, 7.30 pm in Balsham Sports Pavilion. Just turn up and try us out – no booking, no commitment – cost £5 a session, or all five for £20.

Joanne Stinton

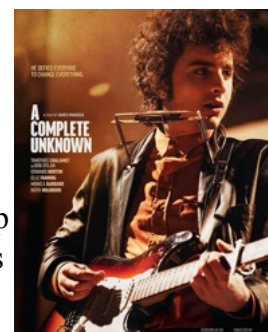
Balsham Picture House

The film for Saturday 3rd May will be A COMPLETE UNKNOWN (15), the story of Bob Dylan's arrival on the music scene in the early 60s.

Set in the influential New York City music scene of the early 1960s, the film follows 19-year-old Minnesota musician Bob Dylan's meteoric rise as a folk singer to concert halls and the top of the charts, as his songs and his mystique become a worldwide sensation culminating in his groundbreaking electric rock-and-roll performance at the Newport Folk Festival in 1965.

Normal start time of doors open at 7 pm and film at 7.30 in the Balsham Church Institute. Dave's bar will be open as usual before the film for refreshments,

Dick Paden



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for information on:

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

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

Can You Help?

Balsham Scout Group are looking for new committee members, in particular for the role of treasurer.

The role involves overseeing the general financial management, planning and keeping track of budgets within the group, collecting, depositing and keeping track of funds, and providing financial reports to fellow committee members.

Without a treasurer, the group will be in danger of closing, so if you feel you can help us please contact our chair, David Weir (chair@balshamscouts.org.uk) for more information.

Juliet Bevan, Balsham Cubs

1st Horseheath Brownies

The Brownies have been completing crafts for Mother's Day and Easter, and making dragon eyes. They have all started their painting interest badge.

We will also be getting ready for our Brownie holiday to the Jarman Centre with 1st Linton Brownies at the end of June.

Pauline, Katie & Esther
(horseheathbrownies@gmail.com)

Balsham WI

Our April meeting looked at the 1950s, looking at changes in the village since then, some of the WI members, and their legacy. Some of our older members could remember some of the members featured, and we all benefit from their campaigning for a footpath along West Wickham Road which did not exist at the time. We had a raffle with prizes that would have featured during a 1950s meeting, as well as competitions that took place at that time, although not the one to count the number of prickles on a hedgehog!

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th May, 7.30 pm at the Pavilion in Balsham. The theme for this meeting will be the 1960s.

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, 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



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The Meadow Primary School, Balsham

One of the highlights of the term was without a doubt the spectacular production of 'Mystery at Magpie Manor' performed by our talented Year 3 and 4 pupils. Audiences were treated to a lively, whodunnit-style performance filled with fantastic acting, toe-tapping songs, and plenty of suspense. The children truly rose to the occasion, delivering confident performances that left everyone in the audience thoroughly entertained.

A huge thank you goes to the dedicated team of teachers and support staff who went above and beyond to make the production such a success. From sourcing props and creating dazzling costumes, to supporting rehearsals and stage management, their hard work made it all possible, and the results were truly impressive.

On the final day of term, we gathered as a school community for a beautiful Easter service at Balsham Church. Year 6 pupils took on speaking parts with confidence and clarity, helping to lead the service in a reflective and respectful way. All classes came together to sing a selection of Easter songs, filling the church with warmth and joy. It was a lovely way to mark the end of term and celebrate the meaning of Easter together.

Our KS1 children had the opportunity to enjoy an outdoor adventure day as part of a joint trip with Wimbish Primary School. This collaborative experience was packed full of forest-school-inspired learning, including orienteering challenges, den building, and nature-themed art. The children loved exploring the outdoors, learning new skills, and working alongside their peers from another school. It was a day of fresh air, creativity, and discovery!

Back at school, the PTA hosted another hugely popular fundraising event – Chocolate Bingo! Families filled the hall, and the excitement was palpable as chocolate prizes were won in abundance. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and enthusiastic bingo players, both young and old. A big thank you to everyone who helped organise and run the event, with a special shoutout to our headteacher, Nichola Pickford, who proved to be a superb and spirited bingo caller.

As always, it's the energy and support of our whole school community – children, staff, families and friends – that makes The Meadow such a special place to be. We look forward to an equally exciting summer term ahead.

Faye Facer, Assistant Headteacher

Marsh Mail

The arts are fundamental to our curriculum offer at Linton Village College. We are fortunate to have a thriving Dance department led by Helen Frost. During the spring term, we welcomed Oddey, a professional dancer from Flawless, a British street dance troupe, to lead our boys' day of dance, in which twenty-five Year 8 boys participated. Oddey choreographed highly energetic Hip Hop pieces and gave an inspirational careers talk. The boys recently performed one of their dances in the Year 8 Celebration assembly.





We also hosted a twilight event for local education leaders to celebrate International Women's Day. LVC students choreographed an

insightful and thought-provoking dance based on this year's IWD theme: Accelerate Action.

Our annual Dance Show took place in March with the theme 'Through the Decades'. It was a vibrant exploration of how dance has been shaped by the changing tides of music, fashion, and societal changes. Over a hundred students from all year groups performed in the show. Our technical team of students worked alongside Blueshed Technical Company to programme and operate the lighting and sound.



GCSE and BTEC Dance pupils from across Anglian Learning came together recently to participate in a highly innovative workshop with the renowned dance company 'James Cousins Company'. The pupils worked collaboratively on a variety of choreography and performance techniques.

LVC has recently been named as an Arts Award Champion Centre by Trinity College in recognition of our commitment to delivering the nationally recognised Arts Award qualifications.

Laura Heard



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Saturday 17 May
10:30-12:00

West Wickham
Village Hall

flowers shrubs vegetables herbs

FRIENDLY EXPERT ADVICE



ALL WELCOME



West Wickham & District Gardening Club

Members and non-members are all welcome to our most popular event of the year: the Plant Sale on 17th May at 10.30 am to 12 noon at West Wickham Village Hall. Anyone generous enough to bring seedlings and plants for sale (or cakes for the tea stall), please bring your (labelled) pots between 9.00 and 10.00 am or deliver plants to Janet Morris at 21 High Street from Monday 12th. If anyone would like plant labels or pots, again, Janet can help you! As always, there will be tea and cakes available for visitors to enjoy and this year we are accepting card payments.



This year's summer garden visits are to Buster's Cottage, Duxford on 16th June at 6.30 pm (£10) and to Farm Lodge, Hildersham on 21st July at 6.30 pm (£7.50); both fees include refreshments. We are collecting members' names for these events now.

PLUS we will be attending a number of summer fetes in the area so look out for us there. From 17th May membership (to renew in September) is only £5 so if you're itching to join us now might be the time!

We are looking forward to seeing new and familiar faces at the Plant Fair and thank everybody in advance for your fantastic support.

Please contact:

Plant sale: Janet Morris (01223 290863,
jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com)

Summer visits: Indi Liepa (01223 291320;
ifliepa@gmail.com)

Club information: Sue Boase (07716 401646,
wwdgc@westwickham.org)

Sally Collins, Vice-chair (wwdgc@westwickham.org)



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Linton & District Historical Society

Our April meeting involved 'a poor start in life – the tale of two brothers' and encapsulated the rules, regulations and conditions of the workhouse, and the generosity of wealthy families who were determined to help those most in need. Charmian Thompson from the Haverhill History Group gave us a well-researched talk surrounding two brothers (born out of wedlock) to Sarah Willis, a resident in the Kedington Workhouse – Christopher born 1857 and Frank (Francis) born 1859. The 1861 census shows both boys were orphans as Sarah had died that same year. The 1871 census shows they were pauper scholars.

The Gurteen family, wealthy factory owners appalled by such poverty, provided food, gifts and entertainment for residents during the festive season. Their family-run factory provided 'jobs for life' for many residents in the Haverhill area, including our two brothers.

Charmian had a fine example of a 'drabbet' a smock-type garment, over 100 years old, from the Chauntry Mills, owned by the Gurteen family – just one of their numerous fibre-based products. A 'drabbet' was a simple pattern cut out in squares and put together, front and back alike, so it could be worn either way! We were also shown workhouse food (modern day equivalent) which enabled us to gauge the portions of bread and cheese and the recipe for gruel, a mainstay in all workhouses.

Obviously the Linton Workhouse was discussed along with a visit to Linton by Constance Andrews in her Votes for Woman campaign. So much was packed into the evening, whilst keeping track of Christopher and Frank Willis. After marriage both 'boys' and their families turned out to be good citizens. A truly

fascinating story coupled with excellent documents, photos and newspaper extracts made for an excellent evening out.

For our final meeting of this season, on Tuesday 20th May, we welcome Bill Wilsden talking on the history of Ashdon Windmill.

For further details of the LDHS please email ldhscamb@gmail.com or phone 893915 or 678835.

Margaret Creek

LINTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY TUESDAY 20th MAY 2025



HISTORY OF ASHDON WINDMILL Presented by Bill Wilsden

LINTON VILLAGE HALL
COLES LANE - 7.30 p.m.

Refreshments and Raffle

Visitors and new members always welcome

MAY	9.30 am	11.00 am	6.00 pm
4 th		United Service with Holy Communion –Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	
11 th	Holy Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship – West Wrating, <i>Steven Wheeler</i>	Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Alistair Collen</i> Holy Communion – Great Abington, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop/Steven Wheeler</i> Café Church – Hildersham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Taizé service (6.00 pm) – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i>
18 th	Holy Communion – West Wrating, <i>Revd Iain McColl/Alastair France</i> Morning Worship – Weston Wickham, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i>	Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i> Holy Communion – Little Abington, <i>Revd Iain McColl/Alastair France</i>	Evening Prayer – Hildersham, <i>Keith Day</i>
25 th	Holy Communion – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Morning Worship – West Wickham, <i>Revd Alistair Collen</i> Creative Church (10.00 am) – Abington Hub, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall/Rosemary Mead</i>	Holy Communion (BCP) – Hildersham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Holy Communion –(11.15 am) Balsham, <i>Revd Michael Wilcockson</i>	Evening Prayer – Great Abington, <i>Alistair Collen</i>
Thursday 29 th May			Ascension Day Service (7.00 pm) - Balsham

Details of all our services can also be found on the website: www.grantavale.org.uk

DIARY

MAY 2025

- Sat 3 West Wrating Café
Balsham Picture House, 'A Complete Unknown'
- Wed 7 Wednesday Afternoon Natter, Reading Room
Weston Colville Parish Council, Annual Meeting
- Thur 8 Talk & Taste Fermented Foods, West Wrating
- Sun 11 Ordering deadline, Oil Co-operative
- Mon 12 West Wrating Parish Council, Parish Meeting
- Tues 13 Balsham WI
- Wed 14 'Pub Quiz', Weston Colville Reading Room
West Wrating Book Club, The Chestnut Tree
- Thur 15 Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree
- Fri 16 Tea & Cakes, Reading Room
- Sat 17 Bingo, West Wrating Village Hall
Plant Sale, West Wickham
Balsham Singers Spring Concert
- Tues 20 Linton & District Historical Society
- Sun 25 Memorial Service, RAF Wrating Common



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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

Black bins:

Wednesday 14th & 28th May,

Wednesday 11th & 25th June

Green & blue bins:

Wednesday 7th & 21st May,

Wednesday 4th & 18th June

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

Mobile library: fourth Thursday:

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

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 June issue:

Tuesday 20th May