

Challenge

The Parish Newsletter of Weston Colville and West Wrating

The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

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Saturday Café, West Wrating

Do join us for our community café on 7th February, 10.30 until noon in the village hall.

Kate will be joining us, representing Granta School, showcasing handmade valentine gifts; also Jackie from 'Wildly Preserved' who always has a wonderful selection of preserves and ferments.

Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy delicious homemade cakes and freshly brewed coffee and tea. We also hold the lottery draw. Should anyone wish to join our fundraising enterprise for the village hall, ask for Jan ((07808 625495, Jan.davey5@btinternet.com). Last month's winning numbers were: 16, 22 and 15. Try your luck.

Sherry and Jan

Tea & Cakes

Thank you everyone – we raised £170 for the Arthur Rank Hospice in December, which hopefully will be added to with Gift Aid. I am so grateful to the extra people who came to my rescue as we were short of helpers last time.

We are a friendly group, so do come along and enjoy a slice of delicious homemade cake and a chat with friends.

Our next session will be on Friday 20th February in the Reading Room, 3.30 - 5.00 pm.

Val and the Team

West Wrating Book Club

As several people could not attend, we were unable to hold our meeting in January. We will therefore review 'The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe' by C S Lewis and 'The Corner that Held Them' by Sylvia Townsend Warner at our February meeting at The Chestnut Tree on Wednesday 11th February at 7.30 pm.

Linda Gorman (290653)

A Brief History of Weston Colville, its Church and People

There will be a talk by Tim Cockerill at 6.30 pm until 7.30 pm on Saturday, February 28th, in St Mary's Church, Weston Colville.

This talk by Tim (a longstanding resident of Weston Colville and a keen researcher into its history over many years) will be interspersed with clips from a recently-recorded film of an interview with him in the church. There will also be an illustrated booklet (in return for a small donation) to take away and read at your leisure if you wish. The event will otherwise be free. There will be refreshments and time for informal questions afterwards.

Gabrielle Cliff Hedges (07979 554758)

Candlemas – Sunday, 1st February, 6 pm

We will be celebrating Candlemas at St Mary's Church, Weston Colville, with Revd Iain McColl on Sunday 1st February at 6 pm. In the darker moments of winter, it's great to bring joy and light into the world!

Join us for a short informal service followed by refreshments. It's a great service for children too.

Light a candle and take it home!

Bob Coates (07785 361345)

Lent Quiet Afternoon

Rosemary Mead from Abington will be leading an afternoon of quiet devotion and preparation for Lent. Using thoughtful music, readings and some images, she will carve a couple of hours' peace and tranquillity out of our busy lives.

Please join us at St Mary's Church, Weston Colville, at 2.30 pm on Saturday 21st February for a gently reflective and contemplative afternoon.

Bob Coates (07785 361345)

Oil Co-operative

Ordering deadline: noon, **Sunday 8th February**.

Church End to the bottom of Mill Hill:

Alastair Douglas (291475 or salguoda@hotmail.co.uk)

Chapel Road, Common Road, The Green,

Horseshoe Lane:

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

West Wrating

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.

St Andrews Churchyard Clear-up

The spring clear-up will take place on Easter Saturday 4th April, from 10 am until noon.

As usual coffee, tea and hot cross buns will be served, and everyone is welcome.

Cobby (290046)

Litter – Volunteers Needed

For various reasons, and after 15 years, I have recently not been able to collect litter, and will only be able to hit our roads on a much-reduced basis for about six months. At the same time, Charlie Hodson and Owen McColl, Duke of Edinburgh volunteers, have been tied up clearing undergrowth in the churchyard.

Volunteers are urgently needed to litter pick on a regular basis, otherwise we will regrettably be inundated.

If you feel like a good walk along our roads, please get in touch. I have all the kit here (pickers, bin liners, high-vis jackets etc) and would be delighted to point you in the right direction. You will find it surprisingly Zen!

Cobby (290046)



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Strength and Balance

Martin Davey has been working with Forever Active to start a strength and balance class in West Wrating. The trainer they have identified is available on Friday mornings but not until end February/early March.

The description of the class as provided by Forever Active is as follows:

A Strength and Balance class using a resistance band is a low-impact exercise session designed to improve muscle strength, stability, posture, and coordination, while reducing the risk of falls and injury. It is commonly used for older adults, beginners or anyone seeking a safe and structured approach to whole body exercise.

This type of class also directly assists with daily activities by strengthening the muscles and balance skills needed for everyday movement. Improved leg strength and balance help with walking, climbing stairs, standing up from a chair, and getting in and out of bed. Upper body exercises make tasks such as carrying shopping bags, reaching overhead, opening doors, and maintaining good posture while sitting or standing easier and safer. By enhancing strength, coordination and stability, the class supports greater independence, confidence, and ease in performing daily living activities.

If you have fallen recently and needed attention, they might have to do a falls assessment before including you.

There will be an opportunity to try and see if the class suits you.

If you are interested at all, please let me know. As always I am happy to answer any questions if I can.

Suan Rowland (suanrowland@gmail.com, 290788)



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Parish Matters

February: Light, Dust, and the Journey Ahead

February often feels like a turning point. Winter still clings on, yet the days are unmistakably lengthening. Snowdrops push through the cold ground, if they haven't already. Lambing season begins, and there is a sense – however fragile – that spring is on its way.

In the Church, February holds that same sense of transition and invitation.

Early in the month we celebrate Candlemas, marking the presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple. It is a festival of light. Candles are lit to remind us that light has come into the world – quietly, vulnerably, and with hope. Candlemas asks us where we see light today: in kindness offered, in community strengthened, in perseverance through difficult times. Holding on to the fact and knowing that even the smallest flame can make a difference in dark places.

Later in the month comes Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It is a very different kind of moment – quieter, more reflective. Palm leaf ashes are used to mark the sign of the cross on foreheads, accompanied by words that remind us of our humanity and our need for God. It may sound stark, but it is deeply honest – with Lent, inviting us to pause, to reflect, and to ask what really matters within our lives.

Lent can often be misunderstood, seen as a season of gloomy self-denial. In fact, it is about making space – letting go of what distracts or drains us so that something new can grow. Some people give something up; others take something on: more rest



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time, more prayer, more generosity, more care for neighbours and the environment. At its heart, Lent is a journey towards renewal.

Across our villages, February is a month of quiet faithfulness: schools, shops, cafés, farms, community groups, volunteers, and neighbours simply getting on with caring for one another. The Church's seasons mirror this rhythm of everyday life – light offered, honesty faced and hope nurtured.

As we move through February and into Lent, may we each find moments of light, courage for reflection, and signs of new life already stirring among us.

Revd Hannah Threlfall

Beetle Drive

Saturday 7th March, 4 - 6 pm, in West Wrattling Village Hall. Fun for all the family!

£10 per table (four per table);
 refreshments and prizes.

Please join us – book a table or join us on the day.

Sherry (Sherry.odonovan@gmail.com)



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West Wratting Parish Council

The parish council met on Monday 12th January.

Public Forum & Footpaths – the Paths Officer reported that recent ploughing may have narrowed some local footpaths. This has been raised with the relevant farmer and will continue to be monitored.

Council Business & Finance – the council agreed to delay co-opting a new councillor, instead arranging an informal ‘meet and greet’ event ahead of the March meeting.

Budget planning for 2026/27 was discussed, with councillors approving:

- An earmarked reserve of £10,000 for Kingsway Solar Farm related matters (in addition to donations already received)
- A precept of £14,729, representing a 3% increase

The new lease for the d’Abo Tennis Club was approved and signed, and an update was received on a potential provision of an additional defibrillator in the phone box.

Planning – updates were received on current planning matters and tree works in the village. No new planning applications had been submitted since the previous meeting.

Kingsway Solar Farm – the chair reported that the Kingsway Solar Community Action legal steering group will be meeting with Pippa Heylings MP in mid-January.

Village Facilities & Events – the Sports Pavilion Management Committee reported progress on exploring a new structure for the club, including the possibility of forming a Community Interest Company (CIC).

Highways, Road Safety & Assets – the council agreed to end its contribution to the shared Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) scheme, noting that it is no longer required.

Paediatric defibrillator pads have been replaced as scheduled, and repairs are being planned to address peeling paint on the village pump shelter.

Next Meeting – the next meeting will be held on Monday 9th March at 7.30 pm; all are welcome.

Cameron Biggs, Parish Clerk

Weston Colville Parish Council

Extracts from minutes for the Weston Colville parish council meeting on Monday 12th January; full minutes and meeting documents available at <https://www.westoncolville-pc.gov.uk>

Parishioners raised issues relating to the Kingsway Solar development and noted the recent ‘Targeted Consultation’ that would run from 7th January to 4th February. Concern was expressed about the use of minimal land for the project which was not reflected in the consultation document. Further concerns were about enhanced flooding, particularly in the area of the ford at the bottom of Horseshoe Lane, due to the particularly large size of the panels; about noise and vibration caused by such a large scale development; and about the construction of a haul road alongside the existing byway (Brook Lane) for access to the most eastern part of the development. These and other issues would be taken into consideration for the parish council’s response to the targeted consultation.

The salt/grit bin by the Reading Room has been sorted out and the contents are now accessible.

Cllr Batchelor was asked to look into two planning issues in the village relating to traffic movements and planning notifications.

Flooding – Cllr Garrod had met with District Cllr Harvey to inspect the stream behind the houses on Horseshoe Lane and the bank of the stream behind the new house being built at the bottom of Horseshoe Lane by the ford. Action was being taken by the District Council to address these two issues, both related to keeping the stream clear to allow water to flow freely.

Footpaths – it was questioned as to whether the temporary closure of footpath 16 at the bottom of

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Horseshoe Lane for 6 months had been formally extended and, if so, for how long.

MVAS – Cllr Russell reported that although there were some indications that traffic was slowing down as a result of the speed indicator signs, some particular situations were a cause for concern. The devices indicate speed in both directions and some records showed vehicles leaving the village at up to 78 mph. It was suggested that recent records could be sent to the police to indicate the problem and to see if they might take further action to curtail speeding through the village.

Kingsway Solar – the Terms of Reference for the Kingsway Area Parish Council Alliance had been agreed by the PC at their last meeting.

The Targeted Consultation document was discussed. It was agreed that members of the parish council would submit contributions for the response to the targeted consultation as they had for the stage 2 statutory consultation held during September and October last year. The chairman would draft a combined response for submission by 4th February.

Highways – Capital Funded Highways

Maintenance Scheme – three items had been submitted to be considered under the scheme:

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resurfacing the pavement along the green from No 1 to No 63; clearing all the drains on Mill Hill to include new drains where needed; and resurfacing the Common Road from the top of Chapel Road into West Wrating just before The Chestnut Tree.

SCDC Local Plan – councillors will look at the consultation on the Grange Farm development proposal and send comments to the chairman, who would then co-ordinate a response.

Election 2026 – a note will be placed in **Challenge** about the upcoming elections in May.

Biodiversity – a free field maple tree had been received from the District Council and would be planted near the pond when the weather improved.

The District Council were now offering a commemorative blossom tree and plaque to honour community volunteers and remember those affected by the Covid 19 pandemic. The parish council was pleased to accept the offer.

Finance – it was agreed to increase the precept by 1% to £15,150, due to probable costs associated with the Kingsway development.

A decision on any financial contribution towards legal spending associated with the Kingsway development was deferred until the meeting in May. The council was not electorally competent at the moment due to the number of co-opted councillors. It was expected that this situation will change after the May elections.

Dates of meetings in 2026 – 2nd March, Wednesday 13th May, 6th July, 7th September, 2nd November.

Jess Ashbridge, Parish Clerk

Parish Council Elections

Parish council elections are taking place in May this year. If you are interested in helping your village, please consider putting yourself forwards as a councillor. The council meets bi-monthly so it is not an arduous task. Further information can be found at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/elections/elections-2026> and <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/elections/be-a-councillor> or talk to one of the current councillors, or contact the clerk.

Election papers need to be submitted in person to South Cambridgeshire District Council Offices between 30th March and 8th April. Papers will be available at the next meeting on 2nd March.

Jess Ashbridge (clerk@westoncolville-pc.gov.uk)

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Kingsway Solar Community Action

Just when we thought we could have a break, many of you will have received a leaflet from Kingsway Solar about a Targeted Consultation on six changes and one clarification to its solar farm proposal. This is not a full re-consultation and is not primarily about incorporating feedback from the statutory consultation. It runs from 7th January to 4th February 2026. Most of the changes result from larger battery storage and substations being required, after these were under-provided in the original design. This has forced changes to solar panel layouts across Areas A, B and C. While no extra land is proposed, the impacts on farmland, wildlife, public rights of way and open space are being shifted into new areas, not removed.

Please make your voices heard. If you haven't yet responded to the Targeted Consultation, you have until 4th February to contact Kingsway Solar by email at enquiries@kingswaysolar.co.uk or by post to FREEPOST DOWNING KINGSWAY (no stamp required). If emailing, please copy KSCA at hello@kingswayaction.org.

This update follows an important decision by the National Energy System Operator for Great Britain (NESO).

There is intense competition for grid capacity, with far more solar and battery projects proposed than the network can accommodate. In its December 2025 review of projects seeking 2030 connections, NESO confirmed that while Kingsway Solar has passed Gate 1, it has not secured a confirmed grid connection at Gate 2. As a result, access to the national grid is not guaranteed and battery storage now appears less likely.

Despite this uncertainty, Kingsway Solar has said it still intends to submit a Development Consent Order (DCO) application in spring 2026. Without a confirmed grid connection, this raises reasonable questions about whether continuing through the NSIP (Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project) process is a good use of resources, given that the potential local and environmental impacts remain unchanged.

We will be holding our AGM on Wednesday 11th February, 7 – 8 pm at the Reading Room in Weston Colville. Please come along to hear the latest updates on our community and legal campaigns. We have some committee vacancies, so do consider putting yourself forward if you would like to get involved.

We are also planning a further walk-and-talk in March, timed to coincide with the lead-up to the DCO application. We will again be asking for donations to the KSCA community fund. We have a new target of £55,000 by the end of March for the Parish Council Alliance legal fund, which will allow us to continue our work and ensure expert support is available to provide evidence for our concerns.

Useful links:

- Join KSCA: kingswaysolarcommunityaction.co.uk/how-to-join-us
- Request a sticker: hello@kingswayaction.org
- Support our community campaign fund: gofund.me/no-to-kingsway-solar-farm
- Contribute to legal funds: crowdjustice.com/case/kingswaysolarcommunitylegalaction
- Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: [#kingswaysolaraction](https://www.instagram.com/kingswaysolaraction/)

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Balsham WI

Our first meeting of the year featured a visit from Charli Bitten to talk to us about Tropic Skincare and give us a chance to try out the products and order from her. We heard about the history of Tropic, their zero carbon footprint policy, and the charity initiatives they are involved with. One lucky member had a mini facial done and was left with much-hydrated skin, and we had a very amusing game of bitchy bingo with three bags of samples up for prizes.

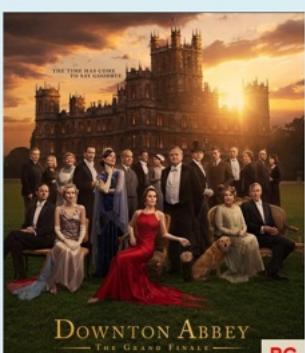
Our next meeting will be on 10th February when our speaker will be Rev Hannah Threllfall with a talk about her journey to the Ministry.

We are a friendly group, 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 (_balshamwi@gmail.com)

Balsham Picture House

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DOWNTON ABBEY

THE GRAND FINALE

Julian Fellowes

Cinematic return of the Crawley family as they enter the 1930s
When Mary (Michelle Dockery) finds herself the centre of a public scandal and the family faces financial trouble, the entire household grapples with the threat of social disgrace. The Crawleys must embrace change with the next generation leading Downton Abbey into the future.

Stars include Hugh Bonneville, Jim Carter, Michelle Dockery

Sat. Feb. 7th Doors open 7pm

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Buttercups Community Pre-school

We would like to thank everyone who supported our Christmas Fair in December – from the yummy cake contributions through to the stall holders with their variety of wares, to the community who came out in the awful weather to spend money, and not forgetting the generous contributions of local businesses for our raffle.



We managed to raise approximately £1,000 of much-needed funds for the running of Buttercups Pre-School.

A special thank you goes out to our wonderful Post Office who yet again have come up trumps with promoting our magical Santa's Grotto.

The Buttercups Team & Parent Committee

Handel and the Italian Connection

A concert of baroque music will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Hildersham, CB21 6BZ, on Tuesday 24th February at 7.30 pm.

This will be a very special evening where baroque flautist Professor Ashley Solomon performs together with a group of his graduate students from The Royal College of Music Historical Performance Faculty in a selection of baroque concertos and sonatas (Handel, Scarlatti, Corelli, Castello, Vivaldi).



Tickets £15 from [eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk) or at the door; refreshments included.

Athene Hunt (huntcam2015@gmail.com)
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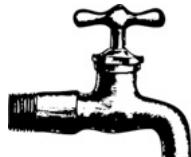
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Balsham Singers

We enjoyed a highly successful and packed-out concert on 13th December, with not a seat to spare. The raffle was well supported and resulted in £400 being sent to Royal Papworth Charities.

Our members have started tuning up for their next concert on 16th May. Rehearsals are held at Balsham Sports Pavilion on Thursday evenings at 7.30 until 9.30.

We are always happy to welcome new voices. We do not audition and it is not necessary to read music but just to be keen to sing and to learn. We are particularly hoping to encourage some new members in the lower voices – tenors and basses – so please don't be shy.

Any questions can be addressed to our Musical Director, John, at john.clenaghan@sky.com

Jo Stinton

Allotments in Balsham

Have you ever considered having an allotment? We have a number of allotments available. People living outside Balsham pay £15 for a half plot and £30 for a full plot. A £50 deposit is returnable if the allotment

is left in good order when it is relinquished. The charge for water, where available, is £10 a year.

We have a competition for the most improved allotment and are planning to have a picnic get-together in the autumn. There is a wealth of experience out there to guide you if you need advice.

So, if you want to improve your diet, your fitness and your wellbeing, now is the time to apply by sending your name, address and phone number by email to balshamallotments@balsham.net so we can arrange to view the available plots.

Jennie Tipler



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West Wickham & District Gardening Club



To whet our appetites for the months ahead, February's talk is about growing your own fruit and veg, whether that's in a container or on an allotment – the satisfaction is just the same.

Expert and enthusiast *Nigel Start* will be telling us how to achieve '**Self-sufficiency from your garden**'.

Nigel has been growing most of his fruit and veg in his garden in South Cambridge for over 15 years and will share his knowledge of how to get the best from our harvest.

Members (free entry) and non-members (£2) are equally welcome. The talk is at 7.30 pm on Monday 16th February at West Wickham Village Hall, with tea and coffee served afterwards.

We are now members of Plant Heritage: <https://www.plantheritage.org.uk/groups/cambridgeshire/>
Sally Collins (wwdgc@westwickham.org)



The Meadow Primary School, Balsham

Being an active part of our local community is incredibly important to us. We are always keen to build meaningful connections and to welcome new ideas, skills and experiences into school life. If there is anything you feel you could offer our school – whether that's your time, knowledge, experiences or expertise – we would love to hear from you.

We are continually looking for ways to enhance our links with the community and to broaden our children's experiences and outlooks, helping them to better understand the world around them.

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As a non-denominational school, we aim to give our children knowledge and understanding of a wide range of faiths, religions and beliefs. We believe these experiences are vital in promoting curiosity, respect and open-mindedness.

This month, we are pleased to be welcoming a Humanist to facilitate discussion with our children, followed a few weeks later by a member of the Sikh community who will be sharing their religion and experiences. These visits offer invaluable opportunities for learning and dialogue, and we would love to continue providing more throughout the year.

If you are, or know someone who might be, interested in supporting us by sharing their faith, beliefs or life experiences with our children, please do get in touch. You can contact our Religious Education Leader, Mrs Anderson, via the school office on 01223 894400 or by email at kanderson@meadowprimary.org

The start of the year certainly brought with it some unexpected challenges, as cold weather and frozen pipes caused problems. As a result, our teachers, children, and parents were forced to embrace the creativity we have been practising by moving to learning online from home.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone for how well they coped with this unpredictable situation. With practically full classes joining us where possible and nearly all children taking part in learning from home, it was a real testament to our strong school community. It was also a wonderful opportunity for children to explore, play and enjoy the snow!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support – we can't wait to see what this year brings.

Faye Facer, Assistant Headteacher

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Linton Village College

Linton Village College is proud to be recognised as a Trinity Champion Centre for 2025/26, celebrating our successful delivery of Arts Award qualifications.

Trinity College London is an international exam board and education charity specialising in music, drama, combined arts and English language. At LVC, the Arts Award is embedded in our curriculum, with all Year 7 students completing the Bronze Award. Beyond Bronze, students can progress to Silver and Gold through extra-curricular opportunities led by trained staff. The Gold Award, usually offered by post-16 providers, carries 16 UCAS points, a fantastic way for us to stretch and challenge learners.

www.westwratting.org.uk

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Church News	Parish Matters	Village Calendar

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



Arts Awards encourage students to explore their creativity in areas such as dance, music and art. They also develop leadership skills by planning and running an arts-based activity for a chosen audience, building confidence in communication, organisation, and problem-solving.

Continuing the celebration of the arts, we are thrilled to share the success of Mia in Year 11. On

18th December, Mia conducted 'O Come All Ye Faithful' at Anna Lapwood's Christmas Concert at the Royal Albert Hall.

Performing in front of 6,000 people with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Mia rose to the challenge and was even gifted the conductor's baton, an unforgettable experience.

At LVC, we are always committed to nurturing creativity and ambition, ensuring every student has the opportunity to explore the arts and develop leadership skills that open doors to exciting future pathways.

Laura Heard

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Linton & District Historical Society

Following stories from Borley Rectory in January, we welcome Duncan Bickley to share his 'Helicopter Adventures' at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 17th February at Linton Village Hall.

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

Auction of Promises



Please save the date – Saturday

4th July, for supper in a country garden followed by an auction of promises, in aid of the fabric of St Mary's Church, West Wrating.

Auction lots include:

- Holiday cottage rentals around Norfolk
- Bespoke art by renowned local artists
- Gardening and car-cleaning services
- Meals and experiences at popular locations.

If you are able to offer additional similar prizes for the auction please contact Simon (simon@thorley.co).

The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

Why not start the year with a new exercise class, play a sport or maybe join a club to meet new people?

We have: Pilates, Yoga, FitSteps, Tai Chi, Chair-based Exercise, Chair-based Yoga, Walking Netball, Carpet Bowls, Squash, Badminton, Football, Tennis, Table Tennis (over 55's), Dog Training, Garden Club, Kitchen Choir, Healthy Walks, or WI.

For children: Roller Skating, Irish Dancing, Ballet, Acro, Judo, Kick Boxing, Karate.

Preschool: Tots of Fun, Moo Music, Ballet.

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

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Ideal for weddings, family functions, children's parties, meetings, exercise classes, fundraising events & performances

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07772 993190 / 01223 290190

vhwbookings@gmail.com

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

LINTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TUESDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2026



Tonight we welcome Duncan Bickley who will give us a talk on his life of flying, his presentation is titled 'Adventures of Helicopters'

LINTON VILLAGE HALL COLES LANE - 7.30 p.m.

Refreshments and Raffle

Visitors and new members always welcome



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FEB	9.30 am	11.00 am	6.00 pm
1 st		United Service with Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Candlemas Service – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>
8 th	Holy Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Holy Communion – West Wrating, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Holy Communion – Great Abington, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i> Café Church – Hildersham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Taizé service – Weston Colville, <i>Steven Wheeler</i>
15 th	Holy Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Holy Communion – West Wrating, <i>Revd Jane Butler</i>	Morning Worship and Baptism – Balsham, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i> Holy Communion – Little Abington, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	Taizé service – Hildersham, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i>
Wed 18 th	Ash Wednesday Communion Service – Balsham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>		Ash Wednesday Communion Service (7.30 pm) – Hildersham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>
22 nd	Holy Communion – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Iain McColl / Steven Wheeler</i> Morning Worship – West Wickham, <i>Alistair Collen</i> Creative Church – Abington Hub, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall / Rosemary Mead</i>	Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Alistair Collen</i> Holy Communion (BCP) – Hildersham, <i>Revd Iain McColl / Steven Wheeler</i>	Evening Prayer (4.00 pm) – Little Abington, <i>Revd Hannah Threlfall</i>

Regular Midweek Services –

Every Tuesday at Hildersham, 7.00 pm,
Silent Space followed by **Compline**
Every Thursday at Balsham, 9.30 am,
Holy Communion (said service)
Every Friday at Weston Colville, 8.45 am,
Morning Prayer

Revd Iain McColl, 01223 890693,
mccoll.iain@gmail.com

Revd Michael Wilcockson, Rural Dean
associate.priest@stmaryslinton.org.uk

Revd Hannah Threlfall, Community Minister
01223 481090, *RevThrelfall24@outlook.com*

Mr Steven Wheeler, Licensed Lay Minister
01223 290396, *stevenwheeler406@gmail.com*

DIARY

FEBRUARY 2026

Sun 1 Candlemas, St Mary's, Weston Colville
 Sat 7 Saturday Café, West Wrating Village Hall
 Balsham Picture House, 'Downton Abbey'
 Sun 8 Oil Co-operative ordering deadline
 Tues 10 Balsham WI
 Wed 11 West Wrating Book Club, The Chestnut Tree
 Kingsway Solar Community Action AGM
 Mon 16 West Wickham & District Gardening Club
 Tues 17 Linton & District Historical Society
 Thurs 19 Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree
 Fri 20 Tea & Cakes, Weston Colville Reading Room
 Sat 21 Lent Quiet Afternoon, St Mary's
 Tues 24 Baroque Music Concert, Hildersham
 Sat 28 Talk on 'Weston Colville: its Church and People'
 Lower Wood Working Party

Churchwardens:

St Mary's – Ian Ashbridge (01223 291344)
 Bob Coates (07785 361345)

St Andrew's (Secretary) Simon Thorley (01223 290888)

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@westwrating.org.uk

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 March issue:
Friday 20th February

Black bins:	Wednesday 4 th & 18 th February, Wednesday 4 th & 18 th March
Blue bins:	Wednesday 11 th & 25 th February, Wednesday 11 th & 25 th March
Green bins:	Wednesday 11 th February, Wednesday 11 th & 25 th March