

Challenge

The Parish Newsletter of Weston Colville and West Wrating

The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.
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West Wrating Café

Thanks to everyone who made our first Café Studio such a great success. Our band of bakers and servers deserve special thanks – having a continuous supply of delicious cakes made the day!

We're encouraged by the positive response to hold another café studio later in the year; details to follow.

Our next Saturday Café will be on Saturday 5th August, 10.30 am until noon. We're dusting off the table tennis equipment and it will be available for everyone feeling energetic to have a game. Of course our usual homemade cakes, teas and fresh coffee will be available. Looking forward to seeing you.

Sherry & Jan

Much Ado About Nothing

Sunday 6th August, 7 pm, St Mary's Church

Who doesn't love love? Well, you might be surprised! In Shakespeare's raucous romantic comedy, deception is rife as wedding bells sound in the air, testing not only the young lovers Hero and Claudio, but also the steadfastly single Beatrice and Benedick!

With plots, pranks and live music throughout, you will fall in love all over again with Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* this summer!

Booking link: www.thisismytheatre.com/weston-colville-much-ado

Jazz on a Summer Evening



Our first jazz concert in St Mary's church exceeded expectations as the amazing trio of Tim Boniface with Colin Oxley and Malcolm Creece entertained



us with jazz standards and beautiful improvisation. We look forward to welcoming them back again in future. Keep an eye out for future arts events coming up!

Jane Pryor

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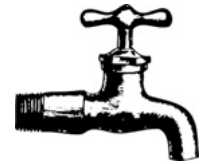
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Tea & Cakes

Thank you to everyone who has supported T&Cs over the past months; we have enjoyed seeing you all.

Just a reminder that we will not be holding a session in August due to the school holidays.

Our next date will as usual be on the third Friday, 15th September in the Reading Room from 3.30 to 5.00 pm. We look forward to seeing you there.



Val & the Team

Weston Colville Book Exchange

Many thanks to everyone who has donated books to the Book Exchange. At the moment we have a large stock of books so we are temporarily suspending accepting donations.

Please do not leave any books in the exchange unless you are taking one and leaving one.

We will let you know when we need more books; once again thanks to everyone for donations thus far.

*Joyce, Jackie B, Emma and Jacqueline,
Community Bookworms*

Weston Colville Circular Walk

Here's our merry July band of walkers en route to Carlton on a sultry summer Saturday, through the golden harvest-ready crops. Re-routing a little to



avoid a herd of enthusiastic cows, we looked inside the beautiful little chapel and enjoyed sharing news and stories. These included the coincidence that one of the group, from West Wrattling, had worked in Waikato hospital with the consultant there who had treated the mother of our visiting Kiwi friend.

In the words of another happy wanderer: "Thank you for organising the walks. Really enjoyed being out with you all and wonderful to be led. We would never find our way round ourselves! We slept well last night". If you would like to join us for a walk one time, just email me and I can keep you up to date as and when we're heading out. We'll typically have one in July and on New Year's day, and there'll be others in between.

jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com

Jazz on a Summer Evening

Many thanks to Jane and her team of helpers for the wonderful evening of jazz we enjoyed in St Mary's Church.



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West Wrattling Auction of Promises

Friday 6th October 6.30 pm

West Wrattling Village Hall

Plenty of exciting promises, including:

- * weekend in Norfolk seaside cottage
- * sailing holiday in Scotland
- * round of golf & lunch at Saffron Walden Golf club
- * two hours of gardening
- * punting trip on the Cam
- * dog walking and dog grooming
- * baby sitting

and many more. Programmes of promises will be circulated in August. Any further promises welcomed as soon as possible.

Get your Christmas presents sorted early!

- **Tickets** £20 each, to include barbecue supper and glass of wine
- **Bar** available
- **Raffle** (tickets to be drawn on the night; the winner must be present to win prize!)
- **Lucky programme** number wins a prize

In aid of the fabric of the oldest building in the village – St Andrew's Church. Please help us keep it in good condition.

Contact: Fanny Peers (07702 122353)
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Weston Colville Oil Co-operative

Ordering deadline: **noon, Sunday 27th August.**

Church End to the bottom of Mill Hill:

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

Chapel Road, Common Road, Horseshoe Lane:

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

Please note we can no longer order fill-ups, due to the pre-payment requirements.

Any orders left by email will always be acknowledged; if you do not get a reply, we haven't received your order. Please don't phone before 8 am or after 10 pm (leave a message during the day). We keep a note of any special requirements, such as needing a phone call the day before delivery to arrange access; please let us know if you wish to change these. The minimum delivery is 500 litres; this is a Trading Standards ruling because of the accuracy of lorry gauges.

Please ensure we have your correct address and post code. If you are close to running out, tell your contact. Orders will be collated and placed shortly after the order deadline. The price will not be known until the order is placed, and we will give you the number for you to ring the supplier to arrange prepayment for your order.

Anne Vidler

West Wrattling Football

Saturday 12th August – Milton (H), 3.00 pm

Tuesday 15th August – Linton (H), 6.15 pm

Saturday 19th August – Shelford (H), 3.00 pm

Tuesday 22nd August – Bassingbourn (H), 6.15 pm

Tuesday 29th August – Foxton (A), 6.15 pm

Saturday 2nd September – Press (H), 3.00 pm

Saturday 9th September – Shelford (A), 3.00 pm

Blanche Miller, WW Pavilion Secretary

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Parish Matters

I was reminded recently I have been a curate in the Granta Vale Churches for almost a year. Indeed, last week was the second anniversary of my ordination as a deacon and first anniversary as a priest. A lot has changed in that time. Two house moves, lots of new names and new areas I have had to get to know pretty quickly!



Since moving I have enjoyed seeing the changing seasons of rural Cambridgeshire: snow in December; the vicarage garden come into bloom in spring; and now the vibrancy of summer, even though at times it has been a little bit too warm! Yet even in the midst of change, it's been helpful to be reminded that God's love and guidance remain the same.

Change is inevitable; sometimes it is exciting, sometimes it's daunting. When we follow Jesus, however, we need to be open for transformation and open to change our way of doing things. Jesus came to challenge the way it's always been. Much of his ministry brought about change. His disciples struggled to understand what all this change was about, and why it needed to happen. As they accompanied Jesus towards the cross, they gradually began to understand it. Their experience of the risen Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit further deepened their insight and courage. They were witnesses to an abundant life they hadn't known before. It needed change for that transformation to happen.

Faith in God can help us embrace change and be hopeful. For there is always hope and good news. God will always support us and sustain us. That is why we need to continue to respond to God's presence and keep him at the heart of our worship.



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One of my favourite worship songs is 'Seasons Change' by the Christian worship group United Pursuit. It reminds us that though the seasons change, God's love never changes and he remains faithful. When seasons have changed in my life, I am reminded of these words and that is my hope and prayer for you: that even though seasons change, you may know God's love is with you.

Revd Ben Brady

Ely Cathedral

It is 1350 years since St Etheldreda founded two monasteries at Ely, and various events are being held in the Cathedral to celebrate this.

The shrine of St Etheldreda was much visited by pilgrims but all this ended with the dissolution of the monasteries. Etheldreda (Audrey) was born in Suffolk in the seventh century, a daughter of the king. She desired to commit her life to prayer and chastity, and after two arranged and unconsummated marriages, founded a religious house at Ely for both men and women. She died on 23rd June 678 and is remembered each year on this date.

Joanna Sanders



A fun family Eco event for everyone to enjoy: the second annual Green Fair will

showcase eco-friendly stalls selling home-made, locally produced artisan products, plus vegan

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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.

specialities, local beers and ciders. 5th August, 10 am. Free entry.

Nature Notes

Has anyone seen any Purple Emperor butterflies? I'd like to know if they've returned to our local woods since the tree felling and replanting. The males are big and purple and bold, females the same but brown.

<https://butterfly-conservation.org/butterflies/purple-emperor>.



Male Common Redstart
©BBC Wildlife magazine

Over the last month, Margaretha Galt has seen a male Common Redstart occasionally along Common Road, between Weston Colville cricket field and the start of the open fields. Redstarts are handsome birds, as you can see.

There seem to be a large number of boldly black and white Great Spotted Woodpeckers around this year. Look for their exquisitely carved holes high up on tree trunks: about 8 cm across, perfectly circular with a neatly bevelled border, so the whole appears expertly countersunk for a screw head. You'll know you've got the right hole when you hear the loud, staccato

'pip pip pip' alarm call from the trees. Their eyesight is excellent, so they'll see you long before you see them. Adult males have a red neck, juveniles have a red crown and adult females have no red on the head at all. All have red vents.

If you see a Great Spot with a red crown, no red vent and very small (about the size of a Chaffinch), I want to hear about it! You might have a rare Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and the sighting needs to be reported to help its conservation. This species has declined even more than Marsh Tits, dropping 83% since 1970.

We really need to know how our Marsh Tits are doing after bird flu. As always, sightings please to cambsmarti@gmail.com or **Challenge**. Thank you to our regular spotters and a warm welcome to everyone else!

Enjoy the scream of the Swifts and the chatter of the Swallows before they leave for South Africa. The legendary Gilbert White believed Swallows hibernated in ponds rather than migrate, as they often flit around water to gather insects. In the early spring of 1770 and 1771, cold snaps made the Swallows disappear for two weeks. White thought they were much more likely to hide in nearby water, rather than migrate back to warmer climes for this short period. (<https://www.jstor.org/stable/106194?seq=1>). The perils of not testing your hypothesis!

Alex Inzani and the South Cambs Ringing Group

Weston Colville Playground

We are putting together a survey and flyers regarding the playground at the recreation ground; please look out for it. If anyone would be interested in joining the playground working party, please contact me.

Jess Ashbridge, Parish Clerk
 (clerk@westoncolville.org.uk, 07779 277647)

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West Wratting Parish Council

The following matters were discussed at the parish council meeting on Monday 10th July. The complete draft minutes are available on the noticeboards.

Planning: no new applications.

23/05596 – 1 Mill Road: The Asset of Community Value has been re-applied for and accepted, meaning we can activate the ACV for six months. During this time it would give the village the option to put an offer in for the purchase of the pub. It is hoped that Mr & Mrs Causton will inform the parish council about any potential purchasers. This would be helpful to reduce the risk of a potential purchaser who may have plans to develop the site rather than support our pub.

Finance: the list of authorised payments and ‘monies received’ is shown in full in the draft minutes.

Audit Update: the internal audit has been carried out satisfactorily and the report distributed. An external audit is not required.

Councillor Vacancies: the Vice Chairman said there were three vacancies to be filled but was pleased to report that three parishioners (Prof John Harvey, Simon Chandler, and Philip O’Donovan) present at this meeting had offered their services to be parish

councillors and were therefore proposed and seconded for acceptance. The documentation will be completed by them to be signed and witnessed at the next meeting.

Maintenance:

Trees in Hayter Close: Scilla Harvey spoke about the two trees planted by her husband and herself and registered under the Queen’s Canopy Project. Although they had gone against the parish council’s wishes they hoped they would now be allowed to remain and said she would take full responsibility for their maintenance. A vote was taken and it was agreed to allow the trees to stay in place.

Village Hall: update on Land Registration re Trustees – it is necessary to get the names changed on the Land Registration as they are no longer parish councillors. Information has been received from CAPALC about how to go about making this change.

Recreation Ground & Pavilion: Cllr Parsons reported that funding is being sought for the proposed junior football pitch on the old bowls green.

Traffic Issues: 20mph speed limit application – Cllr Chandler had heard nothing so far about the application but was told by County Cllr Batchelor that the matter was in hand and we would be notified shortly on the outcome.

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Play area: it was decided to only purchase half the amount of bark previously proposed and see how its use works out.

Report by County Cllr Batchelor: the joint report for June/July has been put on the website.

Community Capital Fund: this fund is designed to help the community assets eg village halls, sports pavilions etc. An application for solar panels would be the sort of proposal to be looked kindly upon.

Any Other Business: Mike Rowland, who has run the website since it started, wishes to retire and Simon Chandler has agreed to take this on, for which he was thanked. Thanks were also given to Mike Rowland for doing this job so ably for so many years.

Next Meeting: Monday 11th September at 8 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Jenny Richards (Parish Clerk)

Weston Colville Parish Council

The following items were discussed at the meeting on Monday 3rd July. The full minutes and meeting documents can be found on www.westoncolville.org.uk

Flooding – there were a number of blocked pots/drain/gulleys on Mill Hill and Chapel Road. Cllr Garrod would report these on the Highways Portal, using What Three Words for accurate locations.

Footpaths – footpath 18 had been cut, footpath 21 needed to be cut, and footpath 16 was blocked.

Assets Register – the clerk had contacted the insurance company to add the items that were not registered. She was asked to seek quotes for an odd-job person to restore the benches, tidy the ivy around the bus shelter at Church End, and remove the fence at the back of the car park.

Wildwood Festival Horseheath – a complaint had been received, and West Wickham PC were holding a meeting to discuss next steps. No action would be taken by WCPC.

Risk Assessment/Health and Safety – defibrillator batteries were changed 29/06/2023; it was rescue ready. The hedge at the Reading Room car park would be trimmed in September. The concrete post in the car park was noted.

Playground – the terms and reference for the Playground Working Party were approved. The clerk, one parishioner, Cllr Rayner, and Cllr Pagonis would make up the working party, with additional occasional help from other parishioners for specific areas such as grant applications etc. A positive discussion of various ideas was held, and organisations that could provide grants. It was suggested that the clerk contact the clerk at West Wrattling to discuss their project. She was also asked to look into section 106 monies owed from the Ivy House development. It was felt one of the first steps of the working party would be to create a flyer to find out what changes parishioners would like; there had been a suggestion in the past that adult exercise equipment could be added, which would need discussion with the Reading Room committee if more space was required.

Annual Return 2022/23 – documents were submitted to PKF Littlejohn on 28th June. Period of Public Inspection of accounts from 3rd July to 11th August. The Internal Audit Report was received; the suggestions will be implemented, and some of the policies reviewed in September.

Dates of Next Meetings – 7th August (planning), 4th September.

Jess Ashbridge, Parish Clerk

The Meadow Primary School, Balsham

We were treated to the most fantastic production by Y5/6 in their end-of-year performance of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean', with some amazing acting, dancing, singing and solos – real teamwork! The children all performed brilliantly and the staff and audience were incredibly impressed.



We had two fantastic move up days, when the children had a wonderful time in their new class getting to know their new classmates. We have seen some amazing artwork completed and some equally amazing teamwork. I enjoyed wandering around the classrooms, chatting to the children and finding out what has been their favourite thing they have experienced on these days. Along with learning, meeting new friends and lockers for Y3, lunch also featured!

Sports Day actually became Sports Days due to the British weather! We managed to get through Key Stage 2 sports in the morning but had to postpone

Key Stage 1 for a week later. The children enjoyed competing against one another in running, egg & spoon and obstacle races, to name but a few, and then working together in their teams to receive the most points – and of course, most importantly, they all received an ice pop!



And finally . . . we are still looking for reading volunteers. If you have a couple of hours in the morning or afternoon to hear children read, we would love to hear from you! Please email me for further information: nbutcher@meadowprimary.org.

Nicky Butcher, Deputy Head

Marsh Mail

Our annual Prom for our Year 11 leavers on 30th June was an amazing event. Parents and members of the school community joined us to welcome the arrivals of the Class of 2023. Students looked very glamorous and it was lovely to see their eclectic methods of transport.



The school was decorated in keeping with the Prom Committee's chosen theme of 'celestial' and looked really sparkly and special. Students enjoyed the food



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trucks, DJ, mocktail and sweetie bars, photobooth and outdoor games throughout the evening. I'm grateful to all of the staff who were involved in organising the event and supervising, particularly Mrs Harris who arranged the whole evening. We look forward to welcoming our Year 11s back on 24th August to collect their GCSE results.



We also enjoyed Year 6 transition in July, welcoming our newest cohort of Linton Learners to the college for two days of induction and a parent information evening. The Year 6s experienced a range of lessons, a dance performance from the current Year 7 students, and a chance to tour the school and meet staff. Our fabulous team of 8M8s showed great student leadership in supporting our youngest students to settle in and be excited for moving up to secondary school.

It's great that student numbers have increased this year, with 180 in the year group and a waiting list for places at the college for Year 7.

Helena Marsh

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Granta Medical Practices Flu Clinics 2023

Flu vaccination is important because, whilst flu is unpleasant for most people, it can be dangerous and even life-threatening to others, particularly those with certain health conditions. The best time to have your flu vaccine is early autumn before flu starts spreading. However, you can get your vaccine later if necessary. Most flu vaccines are given with a needle in the arm but there is also a nasal spray flu vaccine.

We are holding our flu clinics at our health centres on the following dates. All clinics start at 8.30 am and finish at 4.15 pm.

- Saturday 23rd September – Linton
- Saturday 23rd September – Sawston
- Sunday 24th September – Royston
- Saturday 30th September – Shelford
- Saturday 7th October – Sawston
- Sunday 8th October - Royston
- Saturday 14th October – Barley
- Saturday 14th October - Linton
- Saturday 21st October - Shelford
- Saturday 28th October - Linton
- Saturday 28th October - Barley

Groups eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine from 1st September 2023 are:

- Those aged 65 years and over
- Those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups:
 - Chronic respiratory disease
 - Ischaemic heart disease and vascular disease
 - Chronic kidney disease
 - Chronic liver disease
 - Chronic neurological disease
 - Diabetes and adrenal insufficiency
 - Immunosuppression and those in close contact with an immunosuppressed person
 - Asplenia or dysfunction of the spleen
 - Pregnant women
 - Morbid obesity, BMI 40+
- Carers in receipt of a carer’s allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person
- Care home residents
- Pregnant women
- Children aged 2 or 3 years old at 31st August 2023.

Primary school children will be vaccinated in school and only eligible to have vaccines through us if they have an underlying health condition mentioned above.

Please note that over 50s with no underlying conditions are no longer eligible for a free NHS flu vaccine. However, private flu vaccinations will be widely available through high street pharmacies, etc.

Whilst you are having your jab don’t forget to ask about your eligibility for other vaccinations such as shingles, pneumonia or whooping cough.

Eligible patients will shortly receive a text with a link to book a flu jab, or you can call us on 0300 234 5555. Clinics will be available to book from August.

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



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AUGUST	9.30 am	11.00 am	6.00 pm
6 th		United Service with Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Revd Ben Brady to preach</i>	
13 th	Holy Communion – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Holy Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>	Holy Communion – Hildersham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Revd Ben Brody</i> Morning Worship – Little Abington, <i>Alastair Collen</i>	Evening Prayer – West Wrating, <i>Alistair Collen</i>
20 th	Holy Communion – West Wrating, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i> Morning Prayer – West Wickham, <i>Steven Wheeler</i>	Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Steven Wheeler</i> Holy Communion – Great Abington, <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>	Evening Prayer – Hildersham, <i>Alistair Collen</i>
27 th	Holy Communion – West Wickham, <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Alexandre Garziglia to preach</i> Holy Communion – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Ian McColl/Alexandre Garziglia to preach</i> Holy Communion – Hildersham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	Evening Prayer – Little Abington, <i>Keith Day</i>

DIARY

AUGUST 2023

- Sat 5 West Wrating Saturday Café
Green Fair, Ely Cathedral
- Sun 6 ‘Much Ado About Nothing’, St Mary’s
- Thur 17 Lunch Club, The Chestnut Tree
- Sun 27 Ordering deadline, Weston Colville Oil Co-op

Fish & Chip Van, Weston Colville

The van will NOT be visiting during most of August, and will return at lunchtime on Monday 28th August.

West Wickham & District Gardening Club

The club’s Annual Show will be on Saturday 2nd September from 2.30 pm in the village hall. The full schedule, which includes the rules and entry form, is now available, either from me or by going to the village website (westwickham.org).

The show is open to our gardening club members, everyone living in West Wickham, and to people in neighbouring villages without their own club – so that means you! There are classes for fruit, vegetables, cut flowers, domestic (preserves and baking), photography, and one children’s class, and we would love to see you take part.

Do come and see what’s on show, enjoy a cup of tea and piece of cake, enter the raffle, guess the weight of the cake, and make a bid or two in the auction of produce at the end of the afternoon.

Sue Thurston, Show Coordinator
(897811, mail@suethurston.co.uk)

Revd Iain McColl
01223 890693, mccoll.iain@gmail.com
Rev Ben Brady
01223 344920, revdbenbrady@btinternet.com
Mr Steven Wheeler, Licensed Lay Minister
01223 290396, steven@juicyfruitsuk.com

Churchwardens:
St Mary’s – Ian Ashbridge (291344)
St Andrew’s – Sebastian Bain (07736 198101)
Church Administrator: Caroline (Cazzy) Walshe,
7churches.seven@gmail.com, 01223 891443
Weston Colville Parish Clerk: Jess Ashbridge,
clerk@westoncolville.org.uk, 07779 277647
West Wrating Parish Clerk: Jenny Richards,
j.richards597@btinternet.com, 01223 665260
Community Warden: Lucy Cameron,
Lucy.Cameron@AgeUKCAP.org.uk, 07436 102865

Mobile Post Office: Thursdays, Reading Room car park,
Weston Colville, 12.30 - 1.30 pm
Mobile library: fourth Thursday: 24th Aug, 28th Sept
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: Monday 7th & 21st August,
Monday 4th & 18th Sept
Blue & green bins: Monday 14th & **Tues 29th** August,
Monday 11th & 25th Sept

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 August issue:
Sunday 20th August