

Challenge

The Parish Newsletter of Weston Colville and West Wrating

The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

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Tea & Cakes

Thank you to everyone who came along to our September Tea and Cakes, meeting up again over a cuppa and delicious cake.

Our next session will be on the third Friday as usual, 20th October, 3.30 pm - 5.00 pm in the Reading Room. We look forward to seeing you there.



Val & the Team

West Wrating Café

Hoping everyone has had a lovely summer? I can hardly believe it's our October café – we'll be offering homemade cakes, fresh coffee and tea on Saturday 7th October in the village hall, 10.30 am - 12 noon. The table tennis is proving very popular so do come and join us for a game or two, or just a chat and catch up.

Sherry & Jan

Wratts Jam & Open Mic Nites

Starting on Friday 6th October, the first Friday evening of every month at West Wrating Sports Pavilion from 7.30 pm will be Open Mic Night. All musicians of every level are welcome to come, chat and enjoy.

All friends of the football club are very welcome to come along and have a singsong, enjoy some music and drink, and support the WWFC.

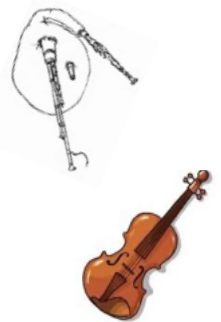
Please call Gary (07767 803919), Mark (07739 393670), or Paul (07751 119906) for more information.

Blanche Miller, Sports Pavilion Secretary

Weston Colville Folk Evening

On Saturday 25th November, the Reading Room will be delighted to welcome back 'Camus' (pronounced 'car-mus') featuring our very own David Somerville for what we hope is becoming an annual gig. They say they have always been very well received here and, having played at Cambridge and Ely Folk Festivals among others, this is the one they enjoy most. So, if you've seen them before, you'll no doubt want tickets, and if you've missed them, the music starts at **8 pm** – come along!

- ★ David Somerville – Northumbrian small pipes, keyboard
- ★ Greg Smith – fiddle, viola, vocals
- ★ Andrew Burn – melodeon, Northumbrian small pipes, vocals
- ★ Brian Cleary – guitar, bouzouki, vocals



The four friends have been playing together in various folk bands for over forty years and their music is an eclectic mix of material from the folk traditions of countries including England, Scotland, Ireland, USA, and Spain, as well as self-penned tunes and songs. As David says: "If we like the tune we'll play it".

- ★ £5 a ticket (proceeds to Jimmy's Night Shelter)
- ★ book your seat in advance, from jacquelinetheteacher@hotmail.com or 291475, then either pay on the door or request bank details
- ★ refreshments available.

Jacqueline



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West Wrattling Book Club

We read two books during our summer break: ‘The Nine Tailors’ by Dorothy L Sayers and ‘Possession’ by A S Byatt.

Many of us knew ‘The Nine Tailors’ from previous readings or dramatisations. All of us who read it enjoyed it although most of us found it difficult to follow the bell ringing references, interesting and intriguing though they were.

The Fenland setting and descriptions were very enjoyable. There was a lot of local colour, detail as well as humour. One person did not find it possible to read it because they were too influenced by previous dramatisations. The sexist and class attitudes were a little difficult but they were of their time and should be accepted as such. The use of people talking was described by one person as “a good example of a simple narrative device used well being sufficient for a good story”. Scores were 8 out of 10 across the board.

‘Possession’ was very different in subject matter and response. This book explores the different forms of possessiveness, revolving around various relationships, in particular, two academics researching

two 19th-century poets and whether there is a romantic link between them. Other themes are feminism and 20th-century attitudes to women in academia, while the 19th-century story is set against a background of new evolutionary discoveries. All found parts of it difficult to read, in particular, long sections of poetry, to the point that several people could only manage to read part of it. Some enjoyed the intertwining of mythology, the subject of some of the poetry, while two people enjoyed the themes of ‘hidden historical secrets, crumbling houses’ and research into old documents. A note of information: the 2002 film starring Gwyneth Paltrow and Aaron Eckhart has some major changes in character and tone from the book. Scores ranged from 3 to 7, with one 10.

We will next meet at the Chestnut Tree at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 18th October to discuss ‘Flatlands’ by Sue Hubbard. We will then read ‘My Name is Leon’ by Kit de Waal and meet on 15th November.

Linda Gorman (290653)

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West Wrattling Oil Syndicate

There will be a West Wrattling oil syndicate fill-up this month with an order cut-off of Monday 9th October at 6.30 pm. Place your orders either by email to me at westwrattlingoil@gmail.com, putting your surname in the subject box, or by phone/text on 07982 291922. I will reply to all communications within 48 hours.

If you require a 'fill-up' please provide an estimate of the quantity and also make sure that you tell me if you have any special delivery requirements. Remember that syndicate orders take at least a couple of weeks from the cut-off date to be collated, brokered and delivered, but if you take the minimum of 500 litres every time there's a fill-up, you'll always be buying at the best price.

Due to a change in circumstances this will be the last syndicate order that I shall be coordinating. If anyone would like to take over from me then do please let me know.

Phil Tempest (westwrattlingoil@gmail.com)

Three Points or a Speed Awareness Course?

Speedwatch is a national organisation of volunteers who spend a small fraction of their time educating and helping vehicle drivers reduce the risk they pose to all road users and themselves.

We operate a Speedwatch session with a team of three very visible volunteers who observe vehicle speeds on an approved Speed Indicator Sign. Vehicles exceeding the limit are reported to Cambridgeshire Police for further action.

The West Wrattling team needs a few new volunteers if we are to get back to our schedule of operating three sessions a month across our four major traffic routes. Improving speed awareness on West Wrattling's roads has benefits beyond our village. If you live outside our parish, helping us helps you.

I am the co-ordinator for surrounding villages; if other villages require advice please contact me. I will be at the West Wrattling Café on Saturday 7th October – come and talk to me/us or don't delay helping all our communities.

Martin Davey (penywaen1@gmail.com)

Remembrance Day, West Wrattling Pavilion

On Sunday 12th November, from 1 pm at the pavilion:

- Dennis Stratton, original guitarist with Iron Maiden
- Dave Edwards, guitarist with Status Quo & Manfred Mann
- with special guests.

Donations welcome to support Remembrance Day and West Wrattling Football Club. Food also available to purchase.

All friends of WWFC very welcome.

Blanche Miller, WWSP Secretary



www.westwratting.org.uk

for information on:

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

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

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West Wratting Auction of Promises

Friday 6th October, 6.30 pm

In aid of St Andrew's Church, the oldest building in West Wratting, the **Auction of Promises** will be a fun-filled evening for the local community.

Residents from around the village have donated a wide array of promises for you to bid on. Pre-bids are welcome, in addition to submissions on the night, and the person with the highest bid when the gavel comes down wins! Only the winner will pay, and they will receive the promiser's contact details for arranging/collecting their prize.

Suitable for all ages, the **Auction of Promises** will be held at the West Wratting Village Hall on Friday 6th October at 6.30 pm.



Tickets cost £20.00 each in advance, which includes a two-course supper, glass of wine and glass of port. If you have any dietary requirements, please let us know when booking.

As well as the auction and meal, attendees can also expect a cash bar, raffle and lots of good company!

If you would like to pre-register a bid, please visit the village website: www.westwratting.org.uk/west-wratting-auction-of-promises/

For tickets and enquiries please contact Fanny or Jeanette.

Fanny Peers (07702 122353,
francespeers@hotmail.co.uk)

Jeanette Job (07971 671193, thejobs@hotmail.co.uk)

To all the donors of all these amazing promises: a HUGE thank you.

To all the local businesses who have helped in this event; Ashtons Legal and Jeanette for the printing and posters; Hall Farm Fornham/Long Farms for the potatoes and onions; Simon Chandler, Doug and Toby for sorting out the online bidding, the programme and formatting; the Event Committee for bringing it all together and bringing the village together too: THANK YOU!

Lot	Promise
1	A set lunch for two at The Old Fire Engine House restaurant, Ely – either a two course lunch with a glass of wine, or a three course lunch with no wine.
2	The use of a local swimming pool one weekday afternoon in the summer 2024 (to be arranged) for 6 to 8 people.
3	A wash and blow dry for one dog
4	Learn to do rock climbing under the guidance of an amateur but enthusiastic West Wratting climber, Simon Chandler. To include climbing on Simon's indoor bouldering wall, climbing with ropes at Big Rock in Milton Keynes (if you wish), and climbing on real rock in the Peak District (if you wish). See the website for details.
5	A full picnic basket and blanket for two people
6	A pizza making and cooking session for a family: 'How to use a real pizza oven', including ingredients.
7	4 x one-hour dog walking sessions along West Wratting paths.
8	The use of a swimming pool in West Wratting in summer 2024, for up to six people, children to be supervised, for up to four hours in an afternoon, to be agreed with the owners.

Lot	Promise
9	Framing of one small or medium picture, including glass.
10	A brand new robotic floor cleaner - Gufy Robo Vax 15c Max Wi-Fi connected robotic cleaner for hard floors and medium pile carpets. Amazon price £244.
11	A hand painted child's chair - painted with name and decoration to order, including supply of chair.
12	A punting trip on the Cam – date to be arranged – hosted by the fabulous Cobby. In addition to Cobby there will be room for four to five on the punt.
13	A week's sailing holiday with Clive in his Tradewind 35 boat off the coast of Scotland or Norway (successful bidder needs to arrange transport to Scotland), spring/summer 2024. Includes oilskins, lifejackets, skipper and one crew so can take two to four other people, min age 14 years old; food, drink and £30 or so marina fees if needed, free if on mooring/ anchor. An amazing opportunity for an adventure, and references available if needed.
14	A four to five-hour session of baby-sitting, house-sitting or granny-sitting for a morning, afternoon or evening. Perfect for the festive season or a date night!
15	A round of golf and lunch for one person at Saffron Walden Golf Club, timing to be agreed - suggested weekend of 21 st October or wait until April 2024 as times for guest players are limited.
16	A cake baked each week for two months, delivered locally.
17	A weekend in Norfolk --Sherry and Phil offer their cottage at Holme-next-the-Sea for a weekend break for two people, including linen.
18	A baked cake.
19	Two hours of gardening in the local area.
20	A garden visit and tea for two at Wyken Hall, Wyken, Bury St Edmunds.
21	A professionally handmade Christmas wreath, valued at £60.
22	A box of home-grown seasonal vegetables grown on Wally and Margaret's allotment.
23	A hands-on introductory session of hand bell ringing for a group of four to five people.
24	A home-made cake.
25	A day's sailing for four guests with James on the River Orwell from Woolverstone marina, date spring/summer 2024 to be arranged.
26	A valuation of a stamp collection and advice by philately expert
27	Dinner for six people - Sherry and Jan will shop, prepare, cook and serve a dinner party for six at Sherry and Phil's house on the High Street, West Wrattling, to include ingredients and wine.
28	A long weekend in a two-bedroomed two-bathroom cottage in Overstrand, Norfolk, sleeps five, plus one well behaved dog. To be taken during winter months 2023/2024 excluding bank holiday periods; includes bed linen and towels: Bond Cottage, see <i>glavenvalley</i> or <i>travelchapter</i> websites for more details.
29	Two hours gardening design consultation with 'Ladies that Mulch'.
30	A chocolate fudge cake – ten to twelve servings.
31	A dog walking session with Verity (with her Mum or Dad).
32	A £50 gift voucher to spend on one meal for two at The Chestnut Tree, West Wrattling.
33	A dog or animal therapy session.
34	An original painted picture of West Wrattling scenes from a local artist.
35	Two hours' gardening within a five mile radius of West Wrattling.
36	A hand-made locally-made bird box and wooden planter by Wally and Margaret.
37	Two brace of dressed partridges - dressed, fresh, from Pampisford, from Nigel.
38	Five jars of locally made Seville Orange marmalade, to be made by Jeanette in February 2024.
39	Lunch at the exclusive Jockey Club Rooms in Newmarket High Street for four people.
40	One cubic metre 'Big Bag' of Field Compost Soil Improver, to be delivered within a ten mile radius.
41	One cubic metre 'Big Bag' of Field 12 Nutrimulch, to be delivered within a ten mile radius.
42	A case of twelve bottles of wine from Naked Wines.
43	Tea for two in a lovely garden in West Wrattling, with magical views up at the Windmill - summer 2024.
44	An aromatherapy consultation to create your own unique scent blend, using pure essential oils. Includes oil. A great unique Christmas present!
45	Basic inspection/service on any BMW including parts and oil, carried out by local independent BMW specialist with over thirty years' experience.
46	Two 30-minute massages from the Cambridgeshire Family Chiropractic Centre. Ed is a registered chiropractor and Jo is a massage therapist, working from home in West Wrattling.

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From the Rectory

At the time of writing, I am feeling grateful for the warmth and beauty of early autumn and looking forward to a variety of celebrations in our parishes. I'm delighted we will be celebrating two weddings in early and mid autumn, and looking forward once more to harvest festivals in our churches.



Harvest festivals in this country may be traced back to the 1840s when, in recognition of the many 'Harvest Home celebrations', the church began to include an annual harvest thanksgiving service in early October. This was often accompanied by bringing to church gifts of fresh produce and other food, and became an important way of celebrating the season.

Our harvest festivals in church nowadays are usually celebrated sometime in early to mid autumn and we will be doing this in each of our parishes. They are times when we give thanks for the many gifts of God and reflect on how we should seek to be generous in Christ's name. During our harvest festivals this year we will be asking for donations of non-perishable food towards the food bank run by Reach in Haverhill and reflecting on the daily importance of gratitude and of being cheerful givers. We hope to keep in mind the

kind of generosity the Apostle Paul commended in his second letter to the church in Corinth, where he encouraged cheerful generosity and linked this to praise and thanksgiving.

The medieval Christian theologian and mystic, Meister Eckhart, reputedly said that "if the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough". Showing gratitude and praise is at the heart of the Christian faith and may transform a sense of ethical duty into the work of grateful hands and hearts. Harvest thanksgiving, then, can remind us that a daily practice of gratitude and praise may charge our lives with greater purpose, joy and wonder, as well as moving us to serve those in need.

Revd Iain McColl

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Benefice 'Mother Julian of Norwich' Group

This group meets monthly on either the second or third Wednesday at 7.15 pm at Nine Chimney House in Balsham, the home of Joanna Sanders. This group has been meeting for well over twelve years and was initially set up by the late Sharon Clark, who was a Licensed Lay Minister.

We read one of Mother Julian's readings from Divine Love and then have half an hour's meditation followed by the rereading from Mother Julian and then time for a chat over a glass of wine. At the moment we are a fairly small group but anyone who would like to join us would be very welcome. We usually finish around 8.30 pm.

Joanna Sanders

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West Wratting Parish Council

At the parish council meeting held on Monday 4th September the following edited matters were discussed. The full draft minutes will be posted on the notice boards and on the website.

Election of Three Councillors: Prof John Harvey, Dr P O'Donovan and S Chandler signed the necessary Register of Financial and Other Interests and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms, and were welcomed on to the council.

Councillors' Workload Management: Cllr S Chandler suggested setting up a different system of email for the council, a gmail account which would be solely for parish council work. This was agreed.

Co-option Policy: it was thought necessary that a document setting out the policy for co-opting new councillors should be drawn up and published in *Challenge* and put on the website. Any other policies in existence or made in the future will also be published.

Planning:

22/004689 – Boreham Development: this application has been granted permission but construction work is unlikely to begin for a year as the site has to be cleared first.

23/05596 – The Chestnut Tree: this application has been refused and the owners are selling the pub. An Asset of Community Value (ACV) order had been reinstated meaning that a sale could be prevented if it was not sold as a going concern. An email update from the current vendors indicated that both sets of solicitors had agreed that this was a sale that qualified as a Transfer of Going Concern (TOGC), therefore the disposal is exempt from any restrictions in terms of ACV listing. Whilst not obliged to do so, the

Caustons have been in touch with the relevant department at SCDC who have requested a letter confirming TOGC at completion. It is believed the moratorium is in place until an exchange of contract takes place but this may be incorrect based on the above and as it is being sold as a going concern the moratorium has no effect. Colin McCall spoke about the delay in the initial planning decision being made, and the lack of a site inspection despite one of the Planning Committee being Cllr G Harvey. Cllr G Harvey stated that he had made a site inspection, although not in a formal capacity as a member of the Planning Committee, although conceded that the Planning Officers had not attended. He reiterated that he was prepared to have taken this application refusal to planning (having recused himself from the Committee decision itself) but that the Caustons did not wish to appeal. It is hoped that if a sale to a publican goes through as planned, the pub will continue as before. However, Cllr Williams-Gray restated that the ACV will still be in place for the next five years and if there are serious changes it would be enacted. Mr P McKenna said that the pub could still be re-sold in a year's time and why had the village done nothing about buying it. Cllr O'Donovan has convened a group of interested villagers and stated that this had been looked at but there was not sufficient interest. Cllr Williams-Gray said an offer by a village consortium could be made now and any time up to completion but of course it would have to be a private and commercially viable proposition and it would be at the discretion of the current vendors as to whether they accepted it or not. He stressed that the parish council could play no part in this as it had charity status and could not be involved in a commercial acquisition, and reiterated several times that the parish council could and would only get involved if the pub were not to be sold as a going concern, which would trigger the ACV and the restrictions to disposal therein.

Maintenance: two seriously dangerous potholes on Common Road need to be dealt with urgently, both having been reported many times. Cllr Batchelor was asked to look at these potholes. He said he would do so and contact Highways.

Correspondence: a request had been made by Peter Job to plant a willow tree in memory of his son who had recently died. He and Cllr Chandler went to

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Pocket Park and he chose a spot. It was agreed that a plaque could be placed.

Village Hall: The parish clerk had received information about Land Registration from CAPALC and she was now going to get in touch with a solicitor for his advice regarding the trustee names on the registration document, which would be of parish councillors as the hall is owned by the parish.

Martin Davey, who represents the parish council on the management committee, requested that the parish clerk writes to the developers of the Boreham land to enquire about any plans which might involve the boundaries.

Recreation Ground and Sports Pavilion

Bowling green: it is hoped with the use of S106 money to create a junior football pitch. This needed a business plan to check that it is viable. Windfarm fund could possibly help

Skate park: again a business plan was needed. Whether the recreation ground was a good place for a skate park would have to be discussed.

Conifers between the tennis club and the sports ground need cutting back and the parish clerk will check whose responsibility it is.

Colin McCall thanked Colin Miller for keeping the recreation ground looking so good.

Traffic Issues & Speed Restriction: Martin Davey and Tim Blomfield requested the purchase of two more brackets to enable them to have the signs at different sites. This was agreed. They were concerned at information received from the Cambridgeshire Police that they were no longer looking at the data sent in by those villages with SIDs equipment despite a dedicated team being set up to do so. The parish clerk will write to the Police & Crime Commissioner about this. Martin Davey said he would be happy to resubmit the LHI application, which was entered too late last year, with the help of a parish councillor.

Any Other Business: Cllr Williams-Gray asked the District & County Councillors about the congestion charge – will there now be reasonable bus services in rural areas and when can they be expected? He was told that because the congestion charge will only apply during peak times there would not be sufficient money to provide bus services.

The next parish council meeting will be on Monday 13th November at 8 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk

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Weston Colville Parish Council

A summary of items discussed at the meeting on Monday 4th September is below. For the full minutes please visit <http://www.westoncolville.org>.

Items of Interest – the grass cutting regime was questioned, as some of the verges had become very overgrown prior to their recent cut. Chapel Road had been narrowed due to the verges, and there were safety concerns due to vehicles travelling in the middle of the road around the bends. It was advised that there had been reductions in cutting due to No Mow May, which continued to the end of August, encouraging ecological diversity, and cutting costs. The junctions had been cut for safety, although it was felt that the visibility had still not been good at the junction of Chapel Road and Common Road.

Cllr Harvey was asked to find out the name of the Emergency Planning Coordinator. Although not within the parish boundary, the county councillor was reminded of the poor state of the road from the junction of Chapel Road and the Common going west into West Wrating: there are some nasty potholes and the whole stretch of road was in a poor condition. Many residents of Weston Colville regularly use this stretch of road. He will investigate the matter, which had also been highlighted by West Wrating PC.

Flooding – Cllr Garrod had cleared the drain grills where he was able to, and had reported two completely blocked drains, and asked if the other councillors and the clerk could do the same. He would be attending the Flood Action Conference. The clerk was asked to contact West Wrating Estate about clearing the ditch adjacent to the cricket pitch.

Footpaths – Footpath 21 had been reported to Peter Gaskin (CCC Footpaths Officer) as the footpath needed to be reinstated. A question of ownership had

been raised for Footpath 16; Cllr Durham had asked Peter Gaskin to investigate, as the route was impassable.

Emergency Plan – there had been a personnel change at SCDC. Cllr Durham was trying to update the Emergency Plan. There was a request to seek a Trained First Aider in the village – the clerk would place a note in **Challenge**, and also establish who the Age UK Community Warden was.

Training – Cllr Rayner would complete councillor training on 30th September. It was proposed that the clerk would attend the CAPALC Conference on 15th September, with the cost to be split between the three councils to which she is clerk.

Handyman – The clerk had sought quotes from handymen, and would be meeting two or three. A budget will be approved for the works to restore the benches, remove the fence from the carpark, and clean/remove ivy from the bus shelters, for up to £1,000. The contractors must have public liability insurance.

Risk Assessment/Health and Safety – The defibrillator was rescue-ready on 4th September.

Playground – Cllrs Rayner and Pagonis, with the clerk, had made a start on producing a leaflet and survey to seek the views of parishioners in the village. The Reading Room committee had offered more space for equipment at the bottom of the recreation ground, and had suggested that the area could potentially be fenced, although this would impact the footpath, requiring very costly kissing gates, so it was felt that the fenced area should remain with other equipment left unfenced. The clerk would arrange a meeting of the playground working party. Two more parishioners had come forward offering to help.

Jess Ashbridge, Parish Clerk

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Balsham Gardening Club

The next meeting of the club will be on Wednesday 4th October at 7.30 pm in the Balsham Church Institute.

Gary Matthews will speak on ‘The Life & Times of The Countess of Warwick & the Gardens of Easton Lodge’.

Refreshments and raffle. Non-members £3.00.

Hazel Leeson

Balsham WI

At our first meeting of the autumn term we had a speaker from the National Trust. Her talk was about working at Ickworth House in the 1930s, and she had many pictures of the house and servants to show us. Ickworth Estate covers about 1,800 acres and consists of much more than the house itself. The house was built along the lines of an Italianate palace and was built to display the owner’s large art collection. The central rotunda was purely for visitors and entertaining while the family lived in the east wing. She told us about the owners of Ickworth needing investment at the turn of the century and this came from a bride bringing her family fortune with her. Her fortune came from her grandfather who had made his money by opening railways in South America. All was spent on renovating Ickworth.

The speaker was involved in the Ickworth Lives Project which started in 2009 and aims to restore the former servants’ quarters. She often demonstrates old style recipes on the ranges in the kitchen when special events take place. Ickworth Estate was passed to the National Trust in lieu of death duties in 1956.

Balsham WI also entered two teams into the county quiz this month.. Out of 35 teams Balsham came 3rd and joint 5th which was a good result.

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

Debbie Mower

Balsham Picture House

Saturday 7th October: ‘Ticket to Paradise’ (12)

George Clooney and Julia Roberts team up as exes who find themselves on a shared mission to stop their lovestruck daughter from making the same mistake they once made. The film is a romantic comedy about the sweet surprise of second chances.



Doors open 7 pm, film at 7.30 in Balsham Church Institute. Dave’s bar will be open for pre-show drinks and nibbles as normal.

Join the Picture House with annual membership of just £12 or come as a guest member at £3/film show.

Dick Paden

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Linton & District Historical Society

At our first meeting this season we welcomed Suzie Harrison who gave us an in-depth history about the American Military Cemetery in Madingley.

After America entered WWII, thought had to be given to the inevitable casualties and fatalities this would bring. East Anglia had a network of airfields and Cambridge was chosen for its central location to deal with this crucial role. Photographs show how the fields were transformed over the years, from the first wooden cross to the thousands of marble crosses so familiar today.

Around 60% of families who had lost loved ones requested that their body be repatriated to their homeland. Once again, photographs and documentation gave us an insight into how this was carried out with dignity and military precision.

A huge amount of work continues to maintain the grounds and memorabilia as a tribute to the young lives lost far from home – history on our doorstep, and well worth a visit.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 17th October, from 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton, with ‘The Edwardian School Room’.

If you would like to support and help the society to keep going please contact us: ldhscamb@gmail.com or 01223 893915 / 678835.

Margaret Creek

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Bringing Back Nature

Ground Control, a leading external maintenance business and biodiversity expert committed to enhancing and improving the physical environment, is on a mission to pioneer the recovery of nature with the launch of ‘The Devana Centre for Environmental Recovery’ in West Wickham. This is the second centre of this kind, adding to the 296-acre ‘Wildfell Centre for Environmental Recovery’ in Braintree, Essex. The site will support the UK’s natural recovery, champion Cambridgeshire’s regional objectives, provide jobs, and give greater access to nature to the local community.

From a regional perspective, Devana supports a key part of Natural Cambridgeshire’s ambition to double the land managed for nature across the region from 8%, one of the lowest in the country, to 16%, the national average. The new location will plant native tree species and shrubs, alongside a wide variety of native wildflowers and grasses, which will create valuable habitats for fauna such as pollinators, birds, bats, mammals and reptiles. Biodiversity enhancements across Devana will also create woodland, scrub, grassland, ponds and hedgerow habitats that will reduce the land’s carbon footprint.

Nationally this enhances UK biodiversity and tackles key issues from their groundbreaking ‘Time to Act’ report, which engaged key stakeholders such as the Forestry Commission and highlighted that ‘Britain now sits in the bottom 10% of countries globally for biodiversity’.

Charles Bawtree, Nature Recovery Director

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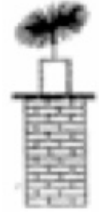
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Reimagining Community Energy Together

Sunday, 22nd October, 2 - 5 pm, at Whittlesford Memorial Hall, CB22 4NE.

Expect engaging discussions, inspiring talks, and networking opportunities with experts in the field.

- Expert speakers from Octopus Energy’s community energy project, Younity; Cambridgeshire County Council’s Head of Energy Services, Eithne George; and Grantchester Heat Project organiser and filmmaker Josh Newman;
- Stalls from Transition Cambridge, Cambridge Carbon Footprint, and local people at various stages of actual community energy projects, including solar, wind and heat networks;
- Plenty of time for questions and discussion with people from other communities to explore how we can work together to develop our own community energy schemes.

Community Energy programmes often start with reducing energy needs in the first place, so we’ll also have local retrofitting experts on hand who can answer your questions about transitioning to comfortable, cost-effective homes that are good for us and the planet.

This event is a collaboration between the Net Zero Now Programme, Haslingfield and Harlton Eco, 2G3S, and Cambridge Carbon Footprint.

1st Horseheath Brownies

We have lots of exciting activities planned this term. We will be working on the ‘Make Change’ topic from the Take Action themed skills builder; this was the first skills builder we completed when the programme changed in 2018/2019. We will also be working on

the ‘Brownies Go Explore’ challenge badge, as well as Harvest and Christmas crafts.

We will also visit the pantomime again, as an end-of-term treat with 1st Linton Guides.

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

Take Charge and Be Safe!

Most people will be charging some kind of electrical device on a regular basis,



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such as a mobile phone, tablet or game controller, bike or scooter. These contain batteries that can heat up if over charged, which can cause a fire.

We are urging residents to Take Charge and Be Safe by only charging their devices when they are awake and alert, so they can be ready to respond should an emergency happen. Most devices come with failsafe features to ensure they do not overheat when being charged, but rely on the manufacturer-provided charging cables and adapters to work. Using the plugs and wires supplied with product rather than cheaper versions will help charge devices safely.

Many fires in the home start at night while people are asleep. This can be easily avoided by following a few simple tips, as well as having working smoke alarms on each floor of your home. One thing that all residents can do is to plan a good bedtime routine: making sure all internal doors are closed, electrical sockets are switched off, any candles or heating appliances are off, and keeping hallways and stairs clear of obstructions. This will not only help prevent a fire from happening but also ensure an easy escape if one does.

OCT	9.30 am	11.00 am	6.00 pm
1 st		United Service with Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl/Revd Ben Brady to preach</i>	
8 th	Holy Communion – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Evening Prayer – West Wrating, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>
15 th	Holy Communion – West Wrating, <i>Revd Iain McColl/Steven Wheeler</i>	Morning Worship – Balsham, <i>Hannah Threlfall</i>	
22 nd	Holy Communion – Weston Colville, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>	Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	
29 th	Holy Communion – West Wrating, <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>	Holy Communion – Balsham, <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	Choral Evensong – Weston Colville, <i>Alistair Collen</i>

There will be services for All Souls' Day on Thursday 2nd November - 5.00 pm at Little Abington and 6.00 pm at Balsham.

DIARY

OCTOBER 2023

- Wed 4 Balsham Gardening Club
- Fri 6 Auction of Promises, West Wrating Village Hall
Wratts Jam & Open Mic, Sports Pavilion
- Sat 7 West Wrating Saturday Café
Balsham Picture House, 'Ticket to Paradise'
- Mon 9 West Wrating Oil Syndicate order cut-off
- Tues 10 Balsham WI
- Tues 17 Linton & District Historical Society
- Wed 18 West Wrating Book Club, the Chestnut Tree
- Thur 19 Lunch Club, the Chestnut Tree
- Fri 20 Tea & Cakes, Reading Room
- Sun 22 Reimagining Community Energy, Whittlesford

NOVEMBER 2023

- Mon 4 West Wrating Parish Council
- Wed 6 Weston Colville Parish Council
- Sun 12 Remembrance Day, West Wrating Pavilion
- Mon 13 West Wrating Parish Council
- Wed 15 West Wrating Book Club, the Chestnut Tree
- Sat 25 Folk Music from Camus, Reading Room

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

Mobile library: fourth Thursday: 26th Oct, 23rd Nov
High Street, West Wrating 11.10 - 11.50 am
Reading Room, Weston Green 12.00 - 12.35 am
Mill Hill, Weston Colville 12.40 - 1.05 pm

Black bins: Wednesday 4th & 18th October,
Wednesday 1st, 15th & 29th November
Blue & green bins: Wednesday 11th & 25th October,
Wednesday 8th & 22nd November

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

Hannah Threlfall, Community Minister

07867 515914, hthrelfall82@gmail.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

Weston Colville Parish Council

Weston Colville Parish Council is seeking a registered first aider to name as a contact on their Emergency Plan. Please email clerk@westoncolville.org.uk.

The council has vacancies for two councillors. There is an opportunity to help your community, and potential to get involved with the new playground project. The council meet on the first Monday of every other month. Please contact Jess Ashbridge (clerk@westoncolville.org.uk) for more details.

Editor: Anne Bragg (editor@challengemag.co.uk)

Thank you for all your articles, news, etc. If these are sent by email, they are always acknowledged; if you don't get a reply, your items haven't been received, so please resend. Some contributions may have to be edited, to fit the space available, and are published at the discretion of the editor.

Copy date for November issue:

Friday 20th October