



BALSHAM *Review*

ISSUE No. 646

APRIL 2023

Blossoming!



Photos or articles to: editor@balshamreview.com
Website: www.balshamreview.com

Photo: Lesley Bennett



Photos: Lesley Bennett



Photos: Richard Pargeter



Contents	Page
Editorial / Easter Flowers	4
Diary / Fulbourn Events	5
Linton Library	6
Bin Collections April	6
Church Services	7
From the Church	8-9
Help & Support When You Need It	10
Balsham Wood Walk	10
Computer Recycling / Gardening Climate Change	11
Horticultural Society	12
District/County Councillors Report	13
A Village Story 1617-2017	14-15
Linton Village College	16
Photos	17-18
West Wickham Plant Sale	19
Balsham WI / Balsham Singers	20
Neighbourhood Policing	21
Granta Medical Practices	22
Linton & District Historical Society	23
The Bell Inn / Youth Football	24
The Black Bull / Community Cafés	25
Girl Guides Linton	26
We Need Your Photos / Climate Action Course	27
Meadow School	28
Football Club	28
East Anglian Air Ambulance	30
Weather	31
Balsham Picture House	32

The opinions expressed in the letters and articles in this magazine are those of the writers who are responsible for the accuracy of the information contained within them.

DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

FRIDAY,
APRIL 14TH 2023

*Copy should be submitted
where possible to
editor@balshamreview.com
or delivered to the
'Balsham Review Postbox'
held in the Post Office*

Balsham Review Team

Editorial Team: Gill Parry Brown,
Clive Bennett, Rodney Bryant,
John Cope, Nigel Clark, Helen
Hatfield and Gill Watters.

Chairman: Helen Hatfield,
01223 892961

Main editor: Gill Parry Brown
01223 893012

Treasurer: Gill Clarke
01223 894034

Contact: Gill Parry Brown
01223 893012

This month's photographers:
*Richard Pargeter, Jane Goode and
Lesley Bennett.*



Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme

Email balshamgns@gmail.com
or phone or text **07508 430057**

Editorial

Well, at last I have had my knee op, and it seems to be going very well. I am pleasantly surprised at how quickly it seems to be healing, and how I am beginning to be getting around without too much trouble. Thank you so much to everyone who has sent cards and best wishes. As I work on my laptop to do the emails and preparation for the Review, I have found that I can't work with it on my lap as usual, and there have been some hiccups because of that. One is that some items that have probably come in late have been missed, I haven't received the Parish Council report as I write, so there will be two reports next month, and if anyone has sent in a letter I apologise for not finding it. We really would welcome help with the magazine, it isn't too time-consuming or difficult, and would be a great help for the Balsham Community. I would like to thank Anne Kiddy for

all the many years of rainfall figures she has sent in. Unfortunately her official rain gauge has been destroyed, accidentally, and she is no longer able to help. Luckily Peter Neale takes readings of rainfall as well as temperature so he is going to step in. As you will see later in the magazine, please send in photos that you have taken, now or in the past. Don't take notice of the message that tries to encourage you to shrink the size of the photo for email, please keep it as you have taken it.

I haven't heard anything from anyone about celebrating the Coronation, so I suppose it is up to everyone to decide whether they want to celebrate as streets or families or just make use of an extra Bank Holiday. Next month there will be an article about how Balsham celebrated Queen Elizabeth's coronation.

Gill Parry Brown



Easter Flowers

If you would like to make a donation for Easter lilies/roses in memory of loved ones please contact:

Alison Clarke, 15 Woodhall Lane, Balsham

Tel: 894031 **Email:** alisonclarke15@hotmail.com

or **Liz De'Ath**, 12 The Rookery, Balsham

Tel: 893027 **Email:** maisonportman16@gmail.com

Balsham April/May Diary

DATE	EVENT & TIME	VENUE
1st Saturday	Picture House, <i>Banshees of Inisherin</i> , 7pm	Church Institute
5th Wednesday	Garden Club, 7.30pm	Church Institute
9th Sunday	Easter Day	
11th Tuesday	WI, 7.30pm	Pavilion
17th Monday	Parish Council, 7.30pm	Pavilion
18th Tuesday	BGNS Community Café, 10-12pm	Church Institute
18th Tuesday	Linton & District Historical Society, 7.30pm	Linton Village Hall
27th Thursday	Balsham Wood Walk 2pm	Balsham Wood
May 5th Friday	BGNS Community Café, 10-12pm	Mays Avenue
6th Saturday	Coronation Day	
13th Saturday	Balsham Singers' Concert 7.30pm	Church



Fulbourn Events

The Six Bells

1st April 2023 8:30 pm (*doors from 8pm*) The Six Bells, Fulbourn CB21 5DH

Kim and Lee *Catchy tunes, infectious rhythms and witty lyrics from Kimberley Rew (Katrina and the Waves, The Soft Boys) accompanied by his missus Lee Cave-Berry on bass.*

£12 online, £14 on the door.

Fulbourn Cinema:

14th April 2023, 7:30pm, Townley Memorial Hall, Fulbourn CB21 5BS

'Judy' *Starring Renee Zelweger, who won an Oscar for her amazing portrayal of the late Judy Garland.*

£7 online, or cash or card on the door.

Linton Library News

Spring into some new reading at your library! Drop in to see what's new in our displays, ask staff for recommendations – or suggest your own favourite titles for us to share with other readers. Choose books, stay to read, relax with a jigsaw puzzle or use our free WiFi or a library computer.

Looking for some new company or things to do? The library is a great place to meet up with people and try something new. Here's what's happening this month:

There will be a **Family Lego** session on Monday 3rd, 2 – 3pm. We will be closed for Good Friday on Friday 7th, open as usual on Saturday 8th.

Knit and Natter will take place from 2pm on Tuesday 4th and 18th. Bring along your latest craft project. **Rhyme and Storytime** will be on Tuesday 25th at 10.30 – 11am.

Daylight Readers, our Book Club, meets on Friday 21st at 10.30am and 2pm. Our **Read a Little Aloud** session is the first Friday of the

month, 11.15 – 12.15am, our next session is on Friday 5th May.

Are you a new arrival to the UK and Cambridgeshire, or do you know someone who is? Cambridgeshire Libraries website has a page with lots of useful information and support. Search for "**Libraries of Sanctuary – Cambridgeshire County Council**" to find out about housing, internet access, learning English and more.

We now have the **Cambridgeshire Guide to Independent Living 2023** in the library, so come and pick up a copy if this sounds useful for you.

Ann King & Melanie Symonds

COMMUNITY LIBRARY ASSISTANTS

Opening hours

Mon CLOSED	Thurs 2-5pm
Tues 10am-5pm	Fri 10am-5pm
Weds 4-7pm	Sat 10am-1pm

Customer Services

(regular office hours): **0345 045 522**

Bin Collections April

DATE	BLACK	BLUE	GREEN
Monday APRIL 3 RD		✓	✓
Wednesday APRIL 12 TH	✓		
Tuesday APRIL 18 TH		✓	✓
Monday APRIL 24 TH	✓		
Tuesday MAY 2 ND		✓	✓



Church Services

Services will be shown on the benefice website and the Church Notice Board.

Although we have returned to a regular pattern of services inside our churches, we are continuing to run a weekly online meeting each Sunday at 10.30am, which is an opportunity for ‘virtual’ coffee and chat for those who wish. More information about this can be found on the website www.grantavale.org.uk under the calendar section, or by signing up to our weekly newsletter, details of which can also be found on the website.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Rev. Iain McColl	01223 890693	mccoll.iain@gmail.com
Curate: Rev. Ben Brady	01223 344920	revdbenbrady@btinternet.com
Church Warden: Nigel Clark,	01223 893043	n.clark5@btinternet.com
Administrator: Cazzy Walsh		7churches.seven@gmail.com

SERVICES at other CHURCHES when possible

ROMAN CATHOLIC Masses at:

Cherry Hinton: St Philip Howard Church

Saturday: 5.30pm (Vigil Mass) & Sunday: 10.00am & 12 noon

Haverhill: St Felix, Saturday 6.30pm & Sunday 10am

Sawston: Our Lady of Lourdes, Sunday: 8.45am & 11.15am

FREE CHURCH: Horn Lane, Linton. Sundays: 10.30am

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH, meeting as a house group, for further information please contact. www.facebook.com/Linton_cornerstone

METHODIST: Haverhill Methodist Church, Camps Road

ECUMENICAL PRAYER MEETINGS 4th Monday of the month at 2pm, when possible. If you would like to attend contact Penny Cook **892203, 07754 723355** or prcook@talktalk.net

BALSHAM GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME if you need help or can offer help for the community please contact: balshamgns@gmail.com or phone **07508 430057**

From the Church

At the time of writing, we are still beset by wintry storms in mid-March and the new life and promise of Spring seems far off! Snowdrops have appeared and yellow daffodils line the roads, yet cold winds and sleet seem to hold the celebration of Spring at bay. It's almost like a scene from C S Lewis' *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*, where Narnia labours under a long and baleful winter!

Yet in C S Lewis's Narnia, the tide turns when the main characters, Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy discover that Aslan, a Christ figure in these stories, is on the move. His presence gives them courage; which turns into a contagious kind of hope. Spring eventually returns to the land; creatures who have been turned into stone by the witch are reanimated, as Aslan breathes life into them; and evil is defeated.

Easter time in our contemporary lives may seem a world away from such fictional drama and part of our enjoyment of it may derive from holidays, Easter chocolate and family get togethers. All good things! Yet the profound Christian message of Easter points to a far greater depth. It acknowledges that sometimes new life may seem far away and the storms of pain and loss are all too real. Yet it also shows grief and

glory are intertwined. Good Friday reminds us that Jesus' trial and crucifixion are actually part of the pattern of God's work of salvation. Easter also proclaims God's saving love is shown in the resurrection of Jesus. The celebration of Easter, which can never be held at bay, reminds us that the resurrection of the Lord is a beginning, not an end. It's an event which changes everything. The resurrection sets free the Holy Spirit who empowers us to forgive, to build communities of trust, service and hope, and to enter into a deeper relationship with God. Whilst we will struggle with trials and turbulence in our lives, we may also hold a startling vision of both suffering and hope, death and risen life. We may see a deeper level of reality, where love and reconciliation spring forth and are ceaselessly at work. We may therefore act with courage and a contagious kind of hope. For in Christ, all things are made new.

Revd Iain McColl

There will be **Compline services** at **7.30pm** during Holy Week at the following churches

Monday 3rd - West Wrattling

Tuesday 4th - West Wickham

Wednesday 5th - Weston Colville

April Services	9:30am	11:00am	
2nd Palm Sunday		United Service with Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Rev Ben Brady</i>	4.00pm Easter Songs of Praise West Wrating <i>John & Scilla Harvey/ Revd Iain McColl</i>
6th Thursday of Holy Week (Maundy Thursday)			7.30pm Holy Communion Little Abington <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>
7th Good Friday	Devotional Service Hildersham <i>Alistair Collen</i>	11.30pm Stations of the Cross Balsham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	2.00-3.00pm Last Hour West Wrating <i>Steven Wheeler</i> Last Hour Great Abington <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>
9th Easter Day	Holy Communion Weston Colville <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Holy Communion West Wickham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Holy Communion West Wrating <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>	Holy Communion Little Abington <i>Rev Ben Brady</i> Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Holy Communion Hildersham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	
16th 2nd Sunday of Easter	Holy Communion West Wrating <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship West Wickham <i>Alistair Collen</i>	Morning Worship Balsham <i>Hannah Threlfall</i> Morning Worship Great Abington <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>	6.00pm Evening Prayer Hildersham <i>Alistair Collen</i>
23rd 3rd Sunday of Easter	Holy Communion West Wickham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship Weston Colville <i>Revd Ben Brady/ Steven Wheeler</i>	Holy Communion Hildersham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Ben Brady</i>	6.00pm Evening Prayer Little Abington <i>Steven Wheeler</i>
30th 4th Sunday of Easter	Morning Worship Hildersham <i>Alistair Collen</i> Holy Communion West Wrating <i>Rev Ben Brady</i> Holy Communion West Wickham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Ben Brady</i> Holy Communion Great Abington <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	

Help and Support When You Need It

The **Healthy You Falls Prevention Service** is a free service funded and commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

Its aim is to help prevent falls and falls related injuries.

- The service offers a 1-1 assessment in the community for people who have fallen or are at risk of falling/feel unsteady on their feet. The assessment will identify what you need.
- Following assessment, the service could offer free weekly strength and balance exercise classes delivered by specialist qualified instructors who understand the age related changes that occur in the body and the medical concerns

you may have. The exercises are specifically developed to help keep you strong, steady, and doing things you enjoy for longer. The classes are a great way to meet other people, receive support and build motivation.

- The nearest weekly classes to us are in Duxford or Cherry Hinton. If you are offered these exercise classes and need help with transport, get in touch with Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme on **07508 430057**.

Phone **0333 005 0093** to access the service. Or you can fill in an online referral form on **www.healthyyou.org.uk** . It is available to anyone aged 65+ living in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Guided Walk in Balsham Wood

Robin Vestey has kindly offered a short guided walk (about 1½ hours) of Balsham wood for Balsham villagers on **Thursday 27th April at 2 pm**. Bear in mind that the ground is very rough, and may be quite sticky, dependent on weather. *(Last year's dry conditions were*

rather exceptional!)



Early Purple Orchid in Balsham Wood, 2022

Send an email to **pargeterlegal@gmail.com**, and I'll add you to the list and pass on details when I know them. However, there will be a limit of about 25 people, so first come first served. Dogs welcome, but must be on a lead.

Computer recycling

This from my friend in Shelford who arranges the IT recycling to which so many villagers have kindly donated.

We have been recycling computers in Great Shelford since 2003. The initiative was initially set up by Mike Goater, the then vicar of Great Shelford. When he left to move to Salisbury (*as he said, the one in Wiltshire, not Southern Rhodesia*), I took over responsibility for the recycling.

It's important to note that our main aim has always been recycling to prevent computer hardware going to landfill, and only as a secondary objective to raise money or whatever for local charities. Having said that, over the last couple of years we have done the following:

- During COVID we refurbished and donated over two dozen laptops for home schooling.

- We have also provided laptops to local pensioners and Ukrainian refugees.
- We refurbish half decent laptops for sale on eBay and so far have donated £1,200 pounds to Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.
- We also have raised over £200 pounds through recycling of inkjet cartridges for Tommys (and prevented 38Kg of cartridges going to landfill).

Anything which we cannot use locally is collected by a partner in Watford who does further work to enable hardware to be reused for charities and schools.

Finally, if the hardware really cannot be used, our partner is a licenced waste carrier and will properly dispose of the remaining hardware.

Neil Dunlop

Gardening and Climate Change – What We Can Do

Save the Date!

12 August 2023

West Wickham Village Hall, CB21 4ES

This is a unique opportunity to find out how climate change is impacting our gardening, and how we can adapt.

Speakers | Plant sales | Discussions | Exhibits | Wildlife demonstrations | Book sales | Children's activities | Refreshments | Lots more!

The day is being jointly organised by local gardening clubs in Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Essex. Everyone is invited, admission is free, so save the date, and we look forward to seeing you in August!

More details to be announced shortly.

Gardening and Climate Change – Planning Group

sueboase@hotmail.co.uk

Balsham Horticultural Society

'Your friendly local gardening club'

Dr Gwenda Kyd was our expert speaker for the March meeting. Her talk on '**Plants to Drugs**' was very enlightening.

She did a chemistry degree in Edinburgh and studied medicinal plants. In 2012 Gwenda worked with a company who were linked with The Cambridge Botanical Gardens looking at chemical compounds that are produced from plants. She became more involved in the gardens and enjoyed taking the public around and sharing her knowledge.

Plants contain chemicals which are bitter and stop predators from eating them. The process of taking chemical compounds from plants to use medicinally has been in use for thousands of years. Records show the use of Chinese herbal medicine dates from 3000BC. In India, turmeric was used as early as 4,000BC. Ancient Egyptians c1550BC describe over 850 plant medicines.

Dr Kyd told of a Reverend Stone who, when suffering from the agues while walking in Chipping Norton took a piece of the bark of a willow tree to nibble which tasted bitter. He knew that that the Cinchona tree

had a bitter taste and from where quinine was derived and thought Willow might also have therapeutic properties. He experimented by drying the willow bark and turning into a powder which he gave to

several people, and so the discovery of Salicylic acid was made in 1763.

It was marketed by Bayer as 'Aspirin' in 1899.

Many common drugs we use today are associated with plants.

Foxgloves were used to produce digitalis which became digoxin to regulate the heart. Taxol is produced by Yew trees to prevent fungi degrading the yew bark. Two chemotherapy drugs were originally developed from yew trees. Dr Kyd explained that now these drugs are made synthetically in the laboratory. She was looking to see how plants could be grown in poorer countries for use to make medicines, instead of using synthetic methods which are costly for the poorer nations.

Dr Kyd thinks there is still value in looking for more plants to study for their medicinal properties. Currently 50,000 plants are used in medicine.



Harold's tips for April:

- Prune late flowering clematis. Mulch and feed.
- Prune winter jasmine.
- Prune roses to an outward facing bud and give rose fertilizer.
- Lift and divide snowdrops and aconites.
- Plant Lily bulbs in pots or in

borders.

- Sow broad beans.
 - Sow parsnips and shallots but not if the ground is frozen.
- Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 5th April at 7:30** in the Church Institute. The speaker is TBC.

Hazel Leeson



District & County Councillor's Report

MARCH 2023

Acorn Bioenergy Proposal - Suffolk

For those wondering what all the 'Muck Off' (great slogan) signs are relating to in and around Haverhill, these are referring to a proposal by a bio energy company to build a new plant just on the Suffolk side of the border, on the outskirts of Haverhill. The company is called Acorn Bioenergy and their website is here -

<https://www.acornbioenergy.com/>

- there is a lot of interest in this site, particularly from the Suffolk side of the border, as there are concerns about the environmental impact on the surrounding area, specifically smell, noise, traffic etc.

A planning application is suspected to be submitted this year, which will be decided by Suffolk County

Council. It's an interesting scheme that will have an effect on our area, especially those in the vicinity of the site, so do keep your ear to the ground and feel free to comment on the planning application, when it is submitted and in the public domain.

Cambridge City Car Parks

There was a news release last month saying that the cost of the car parks in Cambridge (Grand Arcade etc) will be increasing this year, by around 20p per hour.

Contact Information

Geoff Harvey

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
geoff.harvey@gmail.com

Henry Batchelor

COUNTY COUNCILLOR
henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

Balsham - a Village Story 1617-2017

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

Where do I start? Firstly, I guess is to say that personally I have learnt, and continue to learn, so much about my own village, people and events. The 1617 Balsham Map Project gave me an opportunity to share ideas and inherited photos gaining an avid interest to keep on acquiring more images and knowledge along the way. But more importantly is the continuing contact with fellow members and friendships with all who colluded with the publication of *'Balsham, a village story 1617-2017'* back in November 2017.

I guess others will have mentioned the up to date Drone survey and subsequent Map Boards, which can be considered a great achievement and continue to attract interest as well as being a wonderful tourist attraction.

Plus for me -

- Contact through the 1617 website from old Balshamites, many of whom I knew either as adults or went to school with, so it was good to hear their stories, past and present and to be able document memories and images whilst expanding on some of the original book contributions. Many were researching their family histories and meeting with these people was particularly interesting and rewarding, funnily enough three of them lived in public houses. Personally I have now

been able to assist 15 families, and in the case of the Plumb family from the Fox Public House, I even found a new 'cousin' who doesn't live too far from here.

- Generated interest to plan a central village archive with documents/maps and general historical information available to all to access.
- The published book and maps, together with photographic images, were the centre piece to some exhibitions, showing how the village has evolved and developed over the years. These were well attended and popular.
- I have also done a presentation *'A Walk Virtual Around Old Balsham'* based on a poem written in 1931 by a schoolgirl Elsie May Plumb (aged 14 years) which looks and probably sounds a bit like a talking version of the book. Below are 2 of 96 verses written by Elsie.

If you ever visit the village of Balsham

If you walk past Chestnut-Green

Situated on a hill

Then in sight there'll be a pond

If you ever stand on the Chestnut-Green

Through it sometimes horses wade

In the distance you'll see a mill

And of watching them I'm very fond

Janice Ellam

Tel: 01223 894887

janice.ellam@btinternet.com

The outcome of our book has been amazing and interest remains to the present day. The response we received enabled further information to be added, places and people identified, and in some cases corrected, so the village story can be continued.

Of the many letters we received it has been possible to put people in contact with others and help them to add to their research and family trees.

On the green, next to the Prince Memorial information sign boards have been installed based on the old and modern maps with accompanying text from the book. Despite meticulously checking both maps and text, it was only after the boards had been carefully measured and put into position, that, the present owner of Nine Chimney House pointed out the figure 9 had been substituted for the correct NINE which is familiar and has been used throughout many centuries. Paving is to be laid allowing for a

safe surface and wheelchair access.

Using old maps combined with other documents it has been possible to build up colourful images of how the village has expanded over the last century using modern technology.

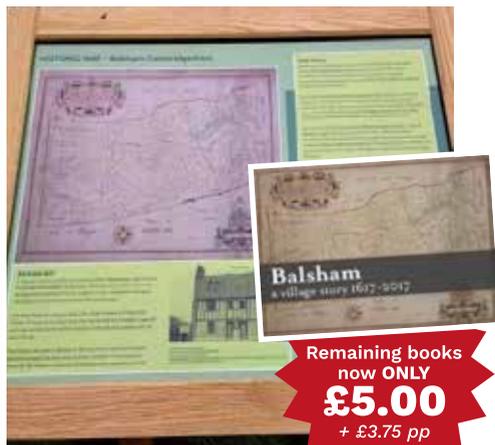
On a fine morning in May 2022, a drone took to the skies above Balsham to record wonderful images of the village as it is today in a matter of hours. How long I wonder did it take for the original map to be measured and recorded in such detail back in 1617?

All members of group have come a long way since we first met up way back in 2013. Sadly, Ray Symonds and Pat Faircloth have passed away, but their contribution and those of remaining members will live on for the next generation to continue 'Balsham, a village story'.

Margaret Creek

Tel: 01223 893915

Email: 1617mapproject@gmail.com
www.balshammap.net



Marsh Mail



On secondary school offer day, it was great to find out that we are over-subscribed at LVC for Year 7 places in September. We have a waiting list, despite low numbers of 11-year olds in our catchment area. We look forward to meeting our newest recruits on Year 6 move up days in the summer term. Current LVC students have engaged brilliantly with sustainable environmental initiatives over the last month. Our Eco Council has planted a mini orchard with fruit trees gifted from the Young Tree Champions Programme and World Book Day was celebrated with a successful book swap in the library. Meanwhile students have made use of refillable bottles with our new 'Generation Juice' machine in the canteen to cut down on single use plastic and waste.

Other enrichment highlights have included a dissection and a range

of explosive experiments during Science Week and a Comic Relief lunchtime concert, involving a range of comedy performances plus live poetry readings and music, which raised over £700 for charity. Our first ever Heritage Festival enabled students to learn about the different cultures that make up LVC, sharing music, activities and food from a range of cultural traditions. Our annual dance show showcased a fabulous range of talent with songs from the movies.

We've also celebrated a number of extra-curricular student successes including students' involvement in dance competitions and Crufts 2023. LVC students' achievements have also been recognised through certificates at the Roy Burrell Sports Awards and Haverhill Rotary Club Young Citizens Awards.

Helena Marsh

HEADTEACHER LVC





Photo: Jane Goode



Photo: Lesley Bennett



Photo: Jane Goode



Photos: Lesley Bennett



WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT
GARDENING CLUB

PLANT SALE

Something for everyone

Friendly people & expert advice

SATURDAY 20 MAY

10.30 - 12.00

at

WEST WICKHAM

VILLAGE HALL

Payment by cash or cheque only

VEGETABLES herbs FLOWERS shrubs

FLOWERS shrubs VEGETABLES herbs FLOWERS shrubs

VEGETABLES herbs FLOWERS shrubs VEGETABLES herbs

Balsham WI

Our March meeting took place on Tuesday 14th March and we welcomed local bee keeper Andrew Durham for a talk on the Asian hornet. The first sighting in Europe of this very invasive and damaging pest was in South West France in 2005 when it came in a consignment of pottery and since then the number of nests being reported has grown exponentially and are now being found in the South of the UK. It is bigger than a wasp but smaller than the European hornet and Andrew explained how it can be identified by its yellow legs, mainly black body and yellow face. They are a major threat to honeybees and all other pollinators, not to mention human health and the climate is changing in favour of them. It was a fascinating talk, although very concerning but



thanks to Andrew we now know what to look out for and how to report it if we spot one. He also brought along some of his honey for us to purchase which was most welcome. Refreshments were served, followed by our **Annual Meeting** which takes place every March.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 11th April** and we will be joined by Carole Pook for a talk on **Coco Chanel**.

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

Sarah Evans
01223 290802

Balsham Singers Spring Concert

The Balsham Singers are very glad to confirm that our traditional

Spring Concert will be held on **Saturday 13 May 2023, 7:30pm**, Holy Trinity Church, Balsham.

Music by Vaughan-Williams, Haydn and Whitacre, plus opera choruses, songs from “Matilda”, “Jekyll &

Hyde”, and songs made famous by Eva Cassidy and Frank Sinatra.



Tickets £10 (under 16's free) will be available from choir members, Balsham or Great Abington

Post Offices or online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/balshamsingers

Neighbourhood Policing Community Meeting



- Meet your Neighbourhood Policing Team
- Find out what the team have been working on in your area
- Share your concerns
- Help shape the local policing priorities



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire



SCAN HERE to find out when your next meeting is.

Dates of meetings:

South Cambs

DATE	TIME
2 May	7pm-8pm
8 August	7pm-8pm
7 November	7pm-8pm

At present these quarterly meetings are online. We do also hold **'Coffee with a Cop'** in-person events (*there was one recently in Linton*).

A link to all the meetings can be found here:
<https://bit.ly/37DkFHc>

Granta Medical Practices Update

Would you like to take part in our ... Patient Survey 2023?

GRANTA Medical Practices
Patient Participation Group



Help us shape the future of your local GP service provision by taking part

**A real
opportunity
to make your
voice heard!**

**Do you have
6 minutes to spare?**

We value your opinions and your input could help us shape the future of your local GP service provision. We can't promise to fix everything but it will enable us to focus on what is important for you.

Thank you in advance for taking part and we look forward to publishing the results.

Completing the survey

Online:

This is the most helpful way to complete the survey as the data will be collected and analysed electronically, **or**



Paper:

Paper copies of the survey can be found in your local Granta surgery and some local shops.

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KP86J9B

From 1st April 2023, Royston Health Centre (RHC) will be part of Granta Medical Practices (GMP). The practices are coming together to build on the existing practice

strengths, pooling clinical and administrative teams to offer greater resilience and a wider choice of services for our patients. The aim of this is to provide a more stable

model for delivering care within Royston and the surrounding villages. Both GMP and RHC have been sharing their values and commitment to high quality clinical care over the past year and a full merger helps provide improved access and choice for our patients.

The same doctors, practice nurses and staff will still be at RHC and you will still be able to see your chosen doctor as usual. For GMP patients, you will now have another surgery to choose from, should you wish to.

For the most part, patients of GMP and RHC should not notice any difference. There will be a slight delay

in merging the computer systems (currently estimated around the end of April) but after that any GMP patient may be seen at a GMP surgery of their choice. If there are any specific changes or additions to services we will of course let you know.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us via the GMP website:

www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk
or feel free to call into one of our surgeries.

Sandra East

HEAD OF PATIENT SERVICES

Linton & District Historical Society

In February we welcomed Bill Key who shared his 63 years of rowing along the river Cam. Bill, still a keen rower, recalled the history of the Cambridge Bumps, and with the use of a detailed chart explained how 'bumps' were awarded to the very competitive teams of rowers.

Photographs showed just how dangerous this could be on occasions.

From the ramshackle boathouses of yesteryear through to their modern purpose-built equivalent of today, Bill gave us an insight into their history, stories and the people involved in this Cambridge tradition.

Today, the Cam remains a popular tourist attraction, both for

recreational purposes and spotting an array of wildlife along its banks.

The title of his book '**Eyes in the Boat**' adds much more to the story of the Cam, and explains the title of his book. This was the first talk Bill had given; it was well researched and presented in a light-hearted manner and had a well-attended and captive audience.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 18th April, 7.30pm
'The Turning point of WW2'
by **Richard Gibbons**

Visitors welcome

Refreshments – Raffle

Email ldhscambs@gmail.com
Tel 01223 893915 or 01223 678835

The Bell Inn

Our holiday is now a distant memory, and everything is back to normal opening times, we hope it didn't cause too much inconvenience.

We haven't organised any outdoor activity during the Easter weekend, due to uncertainty over the weather. However we are hoping for a busy weekend, so book early for meals. Child diners will receive a small gift on Easter Sunday. We will also be open for food Easter Monday lunchtime 12pm - 2.30pm.

The monthly **Charity Quiz** is **Tuesday 25th**, new quizzers are always welcome.

Our regular **Lunch Club** is **Wednesday**



26th which is bookings and pre-orders only.

Wednesday evening is **Buy One Get One Free** on Scampi and Chips or Sausage and Mash, please book in advance.

There is **live music** on **Saturday 29th** with local

band **Basket Case**, starting at 8.30pm.

Live sport continues to be shown on Sky and BT sports.

*For event details, bookings and menus, please see The Bell Inn Balsham Facebook page, call **01223 892999**, or pop in the pub to see us.*

Phil & Mary

Youth Football

It has been wonderful to see the return of junior football to the village. AFC Balsham Youth is having a successful first season.

We have managed to raise two teams - under 8s and under 10s - and both are doing well in their respective leagues.

While the current season still has several weeks to go, thoughts are already turning to next season. We are keen to build the club up and want to increase our number of teams for next season. After the

Whitsun school holidays at the end of May, we will be running **Saturday Morning Fun Football Sessions** for children in years 2 and 3.

We are still working out precise details, so, if you would like to receive further information when it becomes available, please contact our Fixtures Secretary at **colineade67@btinternet.com** and we will let you know what our plans are.

Colin Eade

The Black Bull



Greetings to all Balsham Villagers from all at The Black Bull

Thank you all to any who braved Mothers' Day with us. The team did amazingly and we served a record number of guests – hopefully all very happily. It was wonderful to see the pub absolutely heaving with every nook and cranny filled. Thank you too to those who joined Rob's last taster menu dinner party. A great success and more to come – see below.

Some dates ahead for your diaries: Our Black Bull **Sunday Brunches** programme continues to popular demand – every few weeks – next ones: **Sunday 26th March, Easter Sunday 9th April, Sunday 23rd April**. Places are limited so that we

can still get ready for lunch, so please book ahead.

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May – open for lunch

Easter Friday 7th – Monday 10th April – already looking busy so please book ahead

Friday 21st April: Burger & Busker Night with our favourite Alton Wahlberg

Coronation Beer Festival Friday 5th – Monday 8th May + music + Rob's **Coronation Menu**

Saturday 20th May – Rob's next **Taster Menu Dinner Party**

There is a **mid-week special lunch menu** offer (*see the menu on the website*) for those just wanting something light to break up their day. *Best wishes from all of us.*

Alex, Rob, Liz, Luke & the teams
01223 893 844
info@blackbull-balsham.co.uk

Community Cafés

The Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme's Community Café in the Balsham Church Institute will take place at 10:00 to 12:00 on **Tuesdays**: April 18th, May 16th, June 13th, July 18th

We are now also running a Community Café at the Mays Avenue Community Hall, also at

10:00 to 12:00 on **Friday** May 5th.

Drinks and cakes are available for free. All are welcome.

If you need any help, or would like to become a volunteer helper, please contact:

balshamgns@gmail.com
or text or call **07508 430057**

Girlguiding - Linton District

This year is the 80th Birthday of The Trefoil Guild, an organisation that runs guiding for anyone over 18. Anyone can join and meetings are usually held once a month. Linton Trefoil Guild run theirs on the second Thursday of the month from 7.30 until 9 pm. It is amazing to think it has been going for eighty years and Guiding for 113 years. It is said that Sir Winston Churchill said to Queen Elizabeth II that *"the further back you look the further forward you can see."* I wonder if those first Scouts on Brownsea Island in 1909 thought that since then girls would join, let alone be represented in 152 countries around the world.

On the 22 February Girlguiding thought of all our girls and young women around the world and held celebrations in Units, Districts, Divisions and Counties as well as at our five world centres. It is celebrated on then as Both Lord and Lady Baden Powell had their

birthdays on that day. In our Local guild, Linton Trefoil Guild, messages came to our members from all corners of the globe. Amazing to think how many friends we make and how many adventures we have in Guiding from our youngest Rainbow to our oldest Trefoil member. We sing, we laugh, we have tasted whisky and we have visited fire stations, but sadly no pole to slide down! We also have adventures that can take you around the world. This is the family of Guiding.

Come and see us and join in the fun. There is something for everyone at every age. Imagine what we could be doing in the next 80 - 113 years...

Today, Tomorrow, Together
@lintondistrict

Louisa
Tel: 07711614328
Email: lintondistrict@gmail.com
www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested



We Need Your Photos!

The new look **Balsham Review** is looking for interesting photos to brighten up the pages of the magazine. If you have any photos taken in or around the village that you think readers may appreciate, please send them in to us at: **editor@balshamreview.com**.

Photos can be taken on a phone or camera, but when taking them please choose the highest resolution possible. as they need to be of sufficient quality for print.

Please only send us the **originals** (*i.e. not images placed in another application such as Word or Powerpoint as this degrades the resolution*). Recommended sizes for images are as follows:

	WIDTH	HEIGHT
Cover	1512 pixels	1678 pixels
Full Page	1512 pixels	2245 pixels
Half Page	1512 pixels	1123 pixels
Quarter Page	756 pixels	1123 pixels

There are many beautiful images of flora and fauna that are captured by regular contributors, but we would also like to see other aspects of the village that normally get overlooked – e.g. door knockers, deep ditches, pot-holes etc, etc.

The number of colour pages in the magazine is limited so not every photo submitted will be included but we hope to feature as many as possible. **We look forward to seeing your photos!**

FREE Community Climate Action Course

Applications are now open for residents of South Cambridgeshire to take part in **Net Zero Now**, a free community climate action course. The move towards net zero is a

unique opportunity to build sustainable, healthier, happier and more resilient communities. This six-week course, run by Cambridge Carbon Footprint with the support

of South Cambridgeshire District Council, Net Zero Now will provide you with the knowledge and confidence to support your local community on its way to net zero.



Applications close on Sunday 30th April. To find out more and to apply go to:

<https://cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/what-we-do/net-zero-now/>

The Meadow School - Ofsted Inspection

Shortly after returning from the winter break, we received a visit from Ofsted on the 10th and 11th January 2023. Following this inspection, I am thrilled to share that we have maintained the 'Good' rating that we were awarded after our last inspection in 2017. The report showcases many areas in which our school continues to succeed, including our ambitious curriculum and high standards of behaviour.

You will be able to find the full Ofsted report on our website from Monday 6th March, but I wanted to share some of my personal highlights with you:

- Pupils at Meadow Primary School are happy, polite and eager to learn. They enjoy reading and benefit from learning the content of a well-designed curriculum. Pupils are confident to talk about their knowledge and readily give their opinions.
- Pupils say that it is a friendly school where everyone looks out for each other. Pupils are safe. If they have any worries, they know whom to talk to. When there are any incidents of unkindness or bullying, pupils are confident that adults will sort it out.
- Whether in lessons or out of class pupils behave well. Older pupils undertake a variety of responsibilities that help them to be independent. They enjoy looking after the youngest

children during social times. Pupils take pride in keeping their environment clean and tidy.

- Pupils show a wider sense of responsibility by planning events to raise money for local and national charities. They understand that some people are less fortunate than themselves.
- Leaders have developed an ambitious curriculum that enthuses pupils from early years to Year 6. Leaders have made sure that the curriculum helps pupils to build on the knowledge they have learned without repeating content in the mixed age classes.”
- Staff support pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) effectively. Pupils with SEND fully access the same curriculum as their peers. Pupils focus on specific social, emotional or academic targets. Well-trained staff support pupils sensitively to achieve well.
- Reading is at the heart of the curriculum. Children learn the sounds that letters represent when they start in early years. Pupils then quickly apply this learning to spelling and writing words. The phonics programme complements the regular spelling and handwriting sessions. This further equips pupils with the knowledge and skills they need in order to be confident readers

and writers.

We are immensely proud of this success, which has been made possible by the hard work of our colleagues, our pupils and their families, Anglian Learning and the wider school community. The report is a reflection of all the support and dedication you have shown towards Meadow Primary School, and I'd like to take this opportunity to offer my appreciation.

Our school motto is embedded in everything we do, which is clear throughout the report. I am delighted to see that it has captured the happy and caring school we strive to be, and I look forward to building on this further to ensure our pupils continue to reach their full potential.

Nichola Pickford

HEADTEACHER, THE MEADOW SCHOOL, BALSHAM

Balsham Football Club

RESULTS

DATE	HOME	AWAY	SCORE	RES
25 Feb	Papworth Reserves	Balsham	1-6	W
4 March	Sawston Lightning	Balsham	(1-3)	Ab
18 March	Balsham	Duxford Utd	3-2	W

FIXTURES

DATE	TIME	HOME	AWAY	VENUE
25 Mar	3pm	Balsham	Barrington Res	Balsham Rec
1 April	3pm	Thaxted Rangers Res	Balsham	Saffron Walden County High
4 April	6.15pm	Ashdon Utd Sat 1st	Balsham	Ashdon Rec
8 April	3pm	Barrington Res	Balsham	Barrington Green
11 April	6.15pm	Sawston Rovers Res	Balsham	Mill Lane, Sawston
15 April	3pm	Cambridge Ambassadors First	Balsham	Trumpington
22 April	3pm	Balsham	Hundon Res	Balsham Rec
25 April	6.15pm	Melbourn Res	Balsham	Melbourn Sports Ground
29 April	3pm	Hundon	Balsham	Clare Playing Field
6 May	3pm	Balsham	Wilbrahams	Balsham Rec

East Anglian Air Ambulance



Articles, such as this, which appear in community publications e.g. village magazines, are just one of the many ways through which EAAA does its utmost to keep residents, particularly supporters, informed of its activities. Additionally, we do our best to bring to everyone's attention as many aspects of the charity's progress in terms of improving resources and levels of performance.

Given that the space generously afforded by editors is by definition, limited, much much more information is readily available via the website.

I continue to be surprised, amazed even, by the multitude of uses to which mobile phones and other devices are now being put. With this in mind, how about going 'online' at info@eaaa.org.uk to receive updates on missions, patients, supporting events and lots more. Enquiries about our lottery, volunteering, press, other media and fundraising generally can be

pursued in this way. Our **'Supporter Team'** is on hand, Monday to Friday – 08;30 to 17;00 to answer queries, take donations etc. Please call **0345 669 999** or use the above address. Whilst on the subject of contact, now is the time please, to take part in our Spring raffle – you could win **£3,000!** The Spring Raffle is a hugely important part of the EAAA calendar.

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our supporters, especially now when times are tough for many. If you are able to support our Life-Saving work, to help more people like farmer 'Judith' (read her story on line) then please enter our Spring Raffle today – that £3,000 is there for someone to win! Tickets are £1 each – you must be 18+ to play. Entries close on 5th May 2023. Good Luck! Together, we save lives.

Michael White
info@eaaa.org.uk

Balsham Weather February 2023



Photo: Lesley Bennett

Air Temperatures: Maximum & Minimum

recorded by Peter Neale, Nine Chimneys Lane.

Daytime temperatures (*in the shade*)

Highest: 16° C on 17th February

Lowest: 6° C on 25th February

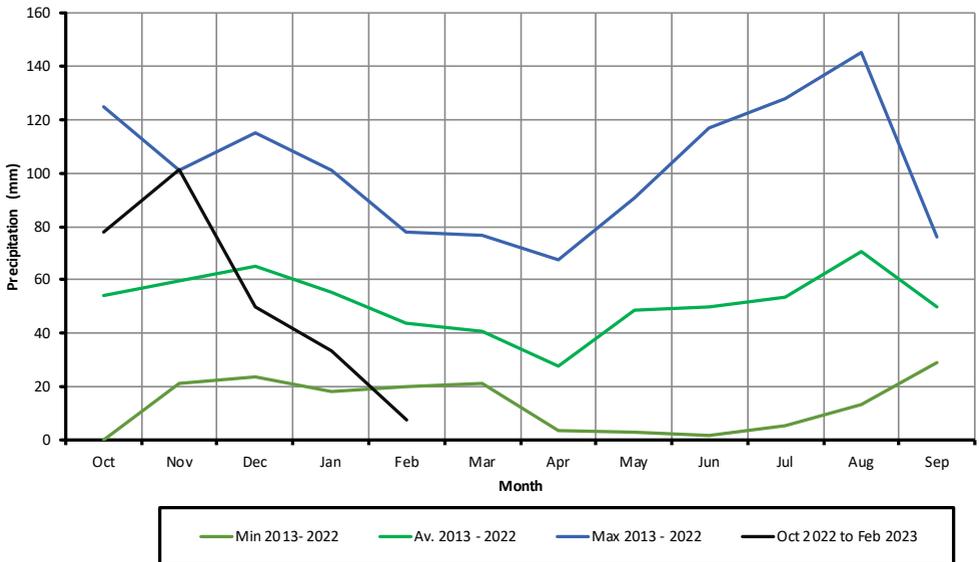
Night time temperatures

Highest: 10° C on 18th February

Lowest: -2° C on 27th February

February Rainfall Measured at Lower Farm, Balsham

Total February Rainfall: 6.5mm / 0.22"



recorded by Anne Kiddy, Lower Farm, Balsham



Saturday April 1st

Doors open 7pm and film at 7.30 in Balsham Church Institute



The Banshees of Inisherin (15)

The acclaimed and award nominated film set in the 1920's on the West Coast of Ireland starring Colin Farrell and Brendan Gleeson. Padraic (Farrell) and Colm (Gleeson) have been lifelong friends but find themselves in an

impasse when that friendship is abruptly severed and this brings alarming consequences for both of them.

***Guest visitors £3/ ni and Annual membership just £12 for adults
Dave's bar will be open for pre-show drinks and nibbles as normal***



Advance notice for our May evening which will be the recently released and widely acclaimed film:

Mrs Harris Goes to Paris (PG)

Enchanting film following Ada Harris's dream of owning a Dior gown and tells the story of the London housecleaner who travels to Paris and becomes involved and possible the saviour of The House of Dior.

Saturday May 6th 2023

*This film is being shown at the end of the day of celebration for the **Coronation of King Charles III** and to contribute to the day the Picture House will be offering Cake and Bubbly on the House to all picture goers!*