



BALSHAM *Review*

ISSUE No. 647

MAY 2023



Illustration: Noah C Age 8

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



Photo: Lesley Bennett

You're never too sure whether you'll need an umbrella in Balsham...



Photo: Lesley Bennett

An orphaned lamb at Yole Farm



Photo: Lesley Bennett

More youngsters



Photo: Richard Pargeter

Currant and dark edged bee fly



Photo: Richard Pargeter

A dog violet (*Viola riviniana*)

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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:

WEDNESDAY,
MAY 17TH 2023

*Copy should be submitted
where possible to
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or delivered to the
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This month's visual contributors:
*Richard Pargeter, Lesley Bennett &
the Meadow School children.*



Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme

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

Editorial

This year April seems to have given us the April showers we are often promised. When you look at the rainfall graph at the end of the magazine you will see that February was drier than the previous 10 years of Februarys, and March was wetter than previous Marches. My pond is now fuller than it has been since February last year but there is no sign of frogspawn at the moment, maybe because the three moorhen chicks have found it. The chickens are also relishing freedom at last after a winter of confinement!

Monday 15th May is the date of the **Annual Parish Meeting**. This is the occasion when villagers are told what the Parish Council has been doing, and spending our money on. It is the main opportunity for villagers

to question councillors about their plans and you can also put forward your ideas for future actions.

Among matters that have been on the agenda in recent months have been: Coronation celebrations or commemorative tree planting, lights on/for the Prince Memorial, care for the Community Orchard and any trees planted by the council, turning off street lights after midnight until early morning, roads where a 20mph limit would help safety, and also whether the council will renew the lease for the Church Institute. Do make the effort to attend if you possibly can, this is your chance to help village democracy work.

Gill Parry Brown

EDITOR, BALSHAM REVIEW



Letters



*Letters to the Editor for publication **MUST** be signed and include your telephone number. Names can be withheld, if requested.*

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.

DEAR EDITOR

IVOR WEBB

On March 14th, Ivor Webb passed away peacefully at his home in Linton. He had just turned 85 years old.

He was born at the Yole Farm in 1938 and spent his early life working in the fields around Balsham. He later married Sally Vale, also from the village. After a time in London they returned to Balsham and lived at 19 High Street, before moving to 1 Bartons Close in the early 70s.

Ivor worked in KNS, opposite the Meadow School alongside his father Les. He spent a couple of years as a “Mother’s Pride” bread delivery man and then finally a milkman. He joined forces with Bernard Plumb to create “Plumb & Webb”, a successful milk delivery business which ran for nearly 30 years.

He lived in Balsham up until 1976, when he moved to Linton.

He will be fondly remembered by his 3 children, 2 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Diane Webb

THANK YOU

I would like to say a big thank you to all who rang and sent lovely cards and offers of help after my fall. A big thank you to Lynn who looked after me and took me to A&E. Thank you to my family for looking after me and Holly (my dog) and to Janet for ringing every day.

Sylvia Merry

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the Cambridge Community Grants Team for agreeing to give the Balsham Review £1000 towards our annual costs in producing the monthly magazine. This was through the Wind Farm Grant and means we have been able to keep the costs of advertising in the Balsham Review Advertisers’ Directory the same for 2023 as last year. The income from our advertisers means that the Balsham Review is distributed to all Balsham households free of charge.

Gill Clarke

BALSHAM REVIEW TREASURER & ADVERT COORDINATOR

Coronation Memories

June 1953 -

Cambridge Weekly News

BALSHAM Outdoor events were inevitably postponed until the Saturday but festivities were fully enjoyed on June 2nd as arranged.

The programme began on June 1st with the distribution of tins of chocolate from the Parish Council to all children and a mug from the Coronation Committee to all under school age.

Meanwhile Mr Watson judged Mrs Guthrie. Mrs Whittaker, Masters R and B Pettitt and Miss Valerie Deer the winners of the decorated house-front competition.

Coronation Day began with a well- attended service conducted by Rev G Ford and Mr Guthrie. Many of the Over 60's and children were brought to their respective teas by car. In the Men's Club the children responded as expected to the excellent fare provided whilst the over-60's in the Institute extended their tea with sing-along. A buffet was available for all others.

In the whist drive (MC-Mr Beeton) the winners were: Ladies—Mrs S Turner, Mrs H Jacob Mrs E Morley and Mrs L Webb; Gentlemen Mr D Miller, Mr Robertson, Mr C Whittaker

and Mr T Park.

The Social which followed (MC-Mr Gedny) was enjoyed by a full hall and concluded with the presentation by Mrs Randall of the gifts won in the Coronation competitions. The

bonfire burned surprisingly well, a tribute to Mr W Beeton's construction.

The fine weather on the Saturday encouraged a large number of entries in the carnival procession which ended up on

the Men's Club Meadow. Miss Pauline Plumb, aged 6 won first prize in the fancy dress as a 'A Dolly in a Box'.

Children's sports were followed by a football match for children under 10 (refereed by Dennis Clarkson).

Finally the victorious bell-ringers Tug -of-War team were hosts to the losers, and numerous others, at the tapping of their nine gallon barrel of beer.



Pearl Potter (*nee Thompson*)
Taken at the Men's Club Meadow.



Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Tuesday 2nd June 1953

– a few remembrances

Got up at 5 am and thrilled to hear that Mount Everest had been climbed. My brother Mike (aged 17) and I (aged 13) made our way to the Carlton Club – our parents had seats in Westminster Abbey as my father was an MP. We watched some of the service on a tiny black & white television. We had a champagne lunch (according to my diary) and then the homeward procession came up St James's Street at around 2.15 and lasted until 2.45 by which time it was really raining. Winston Churchill gave the Club a terrific wave as he

was a member of the Club. Queen Salote of Tonga was terrific and sat in her open carriage. I don't have a specific memory of the Coronation Coach. In due course Mike and I somehow got into the Mall – by this time I was tied to Mike with the belt of the my school mac (gaberdine!) so saw everyone on the balcony. Somehow, somewhere, we met up with our parents and joined friends to watch the fireworks by which time it was COLD.

Joanna Sanders

Peter's father, a farmer, said that Coronation Day 1953 would be colder than Christmas Day that year, and he was right. The family had recently given Peter's Grandparents a 9inch television to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, and the whole family crowded round to see the celebration. Judy also saw the Coronation on television but she had yellow jaundice at the time so couldn't go outside. She remembers that seeing the television was better than the medicine that the doctor prescribed, which was half a bottle of champagne!

Peter & Judy Neale

I was a student at the time of the last Coronation in London. Before the event we would all look out of the windows and watch the troops marching by for a practice before the Coronation. On the day before the Coronation we were all given sandwiches and that night we all slept on the pavement to have a good view next day! There were so many people that to go to the lavatory and get back took 2 hours. My Father had been in the Army and he and my mother had to be in their seats at 4am!!
I just remember on the train going home again I fell asleep.

Rosemary Theophilus

On my twelfth birthday I used all my Christmas and Birthday money for five years to buy a Pye portable radio shaped like a small blue suitcase. On Coronation Day morning I switched it on and heard that Everest had been conquered, so I ran through the house shouting to tell everyone. That was not a popular move as we had several aunts and cousins staying and then all the children got up 'too early'. We were all given breakfast and told to be quiet until time for the television to start up. (No twenty-four-hour service then.) Meantime grandparents and a couple of local families arrived. Chairs were brought from all over the house so all the adults had somewhere to sit, with all ten children on the floor so everyone had a view of the small television. I don't remember

anything of the service, but I do remember that halfway through the service as the eldest I had to dash down to the local sweet shop which was opening specially for half an hour for people who had ordered ice cream (no one we knew had freezers then, indeed we had one of the few fridges around, a monstrous thing that had a larger motor capacity than space for food). It wasn't raining then, but I ran all the way there and all the way back and they were still in the Abbey when I got back. I don't remember seeing any of the procession back to the Palace, but when we got to eat it was FHB (Family Hold Back) as there were so many there and there wasn't enough ice cream for us at the end!

Gill Parry Brown

Balsham May Diary

DATE	EVENT & TIME	VENUE
5th Friday	BGNS Community Café, 10-12pm	Mays Ave Hall
6th Saturday	Coronation Day	
6th Saturday	Picture House, ' <i>Mrs Harris goes to Paris</i> ', 7.30pm	Church Institute
9th Tuesday	WI, 7.30pm	Pavilion
13th Saturday	Bowls Club Open Day, 2-6pm	Bowls Club
13th Saturday	Balsham Singers' Concert, 7.30pm	Church
14th—20th	Christian Aid Week	Village
15th Monday	Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30pm	Pavilion
16th Tuesday	BGNS Community Café, 10-12pm	Church Institute
16th Tuesday	Linton & District Historical Society, 7.30pm	Linton Village Hall
17th Wednesday	Garden Club Spring Outing	Wyken Hall
20th Saturday	Cake Sale, Christian Aid, 2—4pm	Prince Memorial
21st Sunday	Big Balsham Sale, 10—2pm	Village
28th Sunday	RAF Wrattling Common Memorial Service, 12noon	Wrattling Common



Church Services

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

Information about services in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham can be found on the Church Notice Board and 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

Rector: Revd. Iain McColl	01223 890693	mccoll.iain@gmail.com
Curate: Revd. Ben Brady	01223 344920	revdbenbrady@btinternet.com
Church Warden: Nigel Clark,	01223 893043	n.clark5@btinternet.com
Administrator: Cazzy Walsh	01223 891443	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

Early this May we look forward to an historic moment in the life of our nation when we celebrate the coronation of King Charles, as well as



enjoying a bank-holiday weekend. As someone who usually loves any excuse for a celebration, I am looking forward to gathering with others to enjoy this occasion! On that Sunday, we will also have a special service in each of our village churches when we will mark the Coronation and reflect on the life and calling of Jesus, the Servant King.

Then, on the Monday of the Coronation weekend, the Church of England is joining with others in encouraging voluntary acts of service in our communities as part of the ***Big Help Out**. Hopefully this will be a good excuse to celebrate all the voluntary work already going on in our communities and to reach out to others and share our time and gifts. Perhaps consider how you might make a small act of kindness or service on that day, and reflect on the ripple effect it may create.

The last Sunday of the month will also be a special occasion when we celebrate Pentecost, sometimes known as the 'birthday' of the Church. At Pentecost we remember the gift

of the Holy Spirit to the disciples gathered in Jerusalem after the resurrection of Jesus. This astonishing gift of God's Spirit, as described in the Bible

in the book of Acts, bound together the early church in worship and shared life, and empowered them to reach out to others in the name of Jesus. This in turn created an amazing ripple effect which continues today. Pentecost is therefore both a celebration and helps remind the church of its calling, as we seek to share the good news of life in the Spirit.

How wonderful that we can come together to mark out such times and seasons in our lives and be grateful for all that is good around us. This may shape our sense of purpose, help us cherish the time we have, and increase our capacity for joy. It may also, as Pentecost reminds us, draw us more deeply into the life of the Spirit and lead us, in all the seasons of our lives, to praise, prayer and thanksgiving.

Revd Iain McColl

*For more information about the **Big Help Out** go to <https://thebighelpout.org.uk/>

May Services	9:30am	11:00am	6:00pm
7th	<p>Holy Communion West Wrattling <i>Revd Iain McColl</i></p> <p>Morning Worship West Wickham <i>Alistair Collen</i></p>	<p>Morning Worship for Coronation Sunday Weston Colville <i>Steven Wheeler</i> Great Abington <i>Rev Ben Brady</i> Balsham <i>Hannah Threlfall</i></p> <p>Holy Communion Hildersham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i></p>	
14th	<p>Holy Communion Weston Colville <i>Revd Iain McColl</i></p> <p>Morning Worship West Wickham <i>Alistair Collen</i></p>	<p>Holy Communion Little Abington <i>Revd Iain McColl</i></p> <p>Holy Communion Balsham <i>Rev Ben Brady</i></p>	<p>Evening Prayer West Wrattling <i>Rev Ben Brady</i> <i>Alistair Collen</i></p>
21st	<p>Holy Communion West Wrattling <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i></p> <p>Morning Worship West Wickham <i>Church Warden led</i></p>	<p>Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i></p> <p>Holy Communion Great Abington <i>Rev Ben Brady</i></p>	<p>Evening Prayer Hildersham <i>Rev Ben Brady</i></p> <p>Evening Prayer Weston Colville <i>Revd Iain McColl</i></p>
28th	<p>Holy Communion West Wickham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Alistair Collen</i></p> <p>Morning Worship Weston Colville <i>Steven Wheeler</i></p>	<p>Holy Communion Hildersham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Alistair Collen</i></p> <p>Morning Worship Balsham <i>Hannah Threlfall</i></p>	<p>Evening Prayer Little Abington <i>Steven Wheeler</i></p>

Bin Collections May/June

DATE	BLACK	BLUE	GREEN
Tuesday MAY 2ND	✓		
Tuesday MAY 9TH		✓	✓
Monday MAY 15TH	✓		
Monday MAY 22ND		✓	✓
Tuesday MAY 30TH	✓		
Monday JUNE 5TH		✓	✓

Balsham Horticultural Society

‘Your friendly local gardening club’

April 5th was our last meeting until October, so we can all be busy and enjoy our own gardens through the summer months. It was timely that our speaker Nicola Molloy, a representative from Anglia Water, came to talk about saving water for use in our gardens and in our homes.

She began by giving us a questionnaire to test our knowledge about general water usage, which she was going to feed back to the company. Her aims were to engage the public in what Anglia Water does and what it proposes to do in the future, and how we can reduce our water consumption. Anglia Water covers the biggest area in the UK, from Hartlepool in the North East to the Essex borders, which are also the driest areas, with a third less rainfall than the rest of the country, hence the need to ask customers to use water wisely. On average an individual uses 145 litres a day.

The aim is to encourage each household to reduce their consumption of water by twenty litres. Nicola explained that 33% is lost in flushing the toilet, the largest use of household water. She gave suggestions to reduce our

consumption of water, by filling a bath only two thirds full, or better still taking a quick shower, (but not power showers as they use far more water); waiting until the dishwasher is full before using it, or washing up by hand; installing water butts and using watering cans rather than a hose; using ‘dirty’ water, ie: washing up water to water the garden especially in times of drought; and installing a water meter.

Nicola said we should look at our water bills to see the breakdown of our usage.

Anglia Water has a priority service register, which in the event of a leak, or burst pipes, it prioritizes those most in need to be supported. They collect water from six million customers through seven thousand kilometres of pipes!

Future plans:

In the next five years they plan to create 500 kilometres of interconnecting pipelines from the North to the South of England, complete a smart meter roll out, and run a campaign to **‘Keep it clear’** by educating us about what not to put down the sink so preventing ‘fatbergs’ which cause sewer blockage, for example, cooking fat,



wet wipes, etc.

By 2045:

- Anglian Water plan to reduce leaks and flooding events by 100%
- Plant a million trees in our streets, to reduce our carbon emissions.
- Install water butts & disconnect a million down pipes.
- Educate school children.

Anglian water work in collaboration with other organisations, water companies, local authorities and the University of East Anglia known as Water Resources East (WRE)

We were very grateful to Nicola for all the information she provided us, and she gave a very thought-

provoking talk.

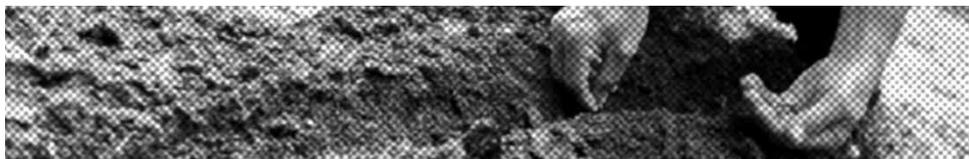
Harold's tips for April:

- Dead head daffodils and feed them to encourage good flowering next year.
- Protect lupins and delphiniums against slugs, using pet friendly pellets.
- Be aware of late frosts and protect potatoes and other tender plants.

Hazel Leeson

Our Spring outing is to **Wyken Hall** on **May 17th**.

Members: please contact **Dave Arnold** for details to this event.



Linton & District Historical Society

MARCH 2023 MEETING

JFK Medical Betrayal – Where the Evidence Lies

We welcomed Russell Kent who gave us a most interesting insight into the events that followed the assassination of John F Kennedy on 22nd November 1963.

Using film footage, photographs and documents relating to the hours and days following this tragic event it left many questions unanswered, which remain to the present day. Everyone was fascinated by Russell's

depth of knowledge and this naturally led onto some interesting discussion and theories.

NEXT MEETING

Our final meeting for this season:

Tuesday 16th May 2023

'The History of a Town Crier'

by **Mike Wade**

Meeting starts at 7.30pm

Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane.

All welcome.

Email ldhscamb@gmail.com

Tel 01223 893915 or 01223 678835

The Meadow Primary School

We can't quite believe that we are now in our final term of this academic year: Summer Term! We are looking forward to Forest School, swimming outside in the school pool, more opportunities for learning outside, Sports Day and our school fair:

June Revels - hopefully the weather will be kind to us!

Learning Themes:

The children have launched into their new learning topics for the Summer Term which are:

Foundation Stage: Life on the Ocean Wave.

Understanding the world: This Early Learning Goal covers Past and Present, People, Culture and Communities and The Natural World. The children will be comparing the UK with Madagascar.

They will be looking at explorers who have travelled the world. They will look at chronology and timelines, examine what life would have been like at the time, using historical sources to help them. The children will be exploring: Living things and their habitats and how different habitats provide for the basic needs of a range of animals and plants. The children will also get the opportunity to enjoy some Forest School sessions where they will have hands on experiences with nature as well as getting to practise the characteristics of effective learning skills; problem solving, taking risks, and using their imagination.

Key Stage 1: Life on the Ocean Wave.

History and Geography: In Geography, they will be completing a comparison study between the UK and a contrasting non-European country (Madagascar). They will be using the Golden Threads: "*What would I wear if I were there?*" "*Where in the world?*" and "*Where are all the people?*" to explore climate, places and settlement. In History, they will be looking at explorers who have travelled the world. In History, they will also look at chronology and timelines, examine what life would have been like at the time, using historical sources to help them.

Years 3 and 4: Water Cycles, Rivers and Seas and Ancient Greece.

History and Geography: In Geography, pupils will be exploring the water cycle, rivers and seas. They will recap their learning of climates and landscapes from Key Stage 1 before applying this knowledge to water. They will look at how rivers are formed and learn about the water cycle through observations and experiments. In History, they will be learning about what life was like for the Ancient Greeks. They will discover what life was like in Ancient Greece, including having a look at the Olympics. They will end the unit by thinking about the impact the Ancient Greeks had on how we live today.

Years 5 and 6: Black Britain and Balsham

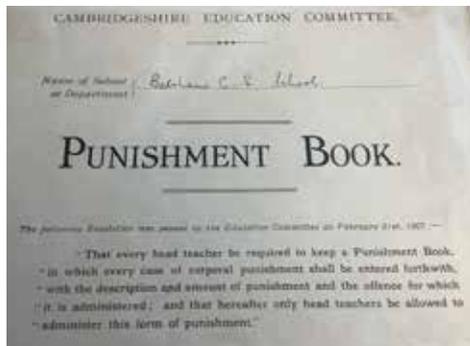
Black History: This unit explores the themes of slavery, immigration and discrimination for people of Western Caribbean and African heritage in Britain during the last three centuries. In particular focusing on the Tudor period and during both World Wars.

Fieldwork: Children will observe, measure, record and present the human and physical geographical features in the local area of Balsham.

Meadow History:

We have also been having a Spring Clean and, whilst sorting out some cupboards, we came across a box at the back. When we opened it, we were absolutely amazed to find records of the school dating from the early 1920's. There were old school registers, timetables and ledgers. There were two items that

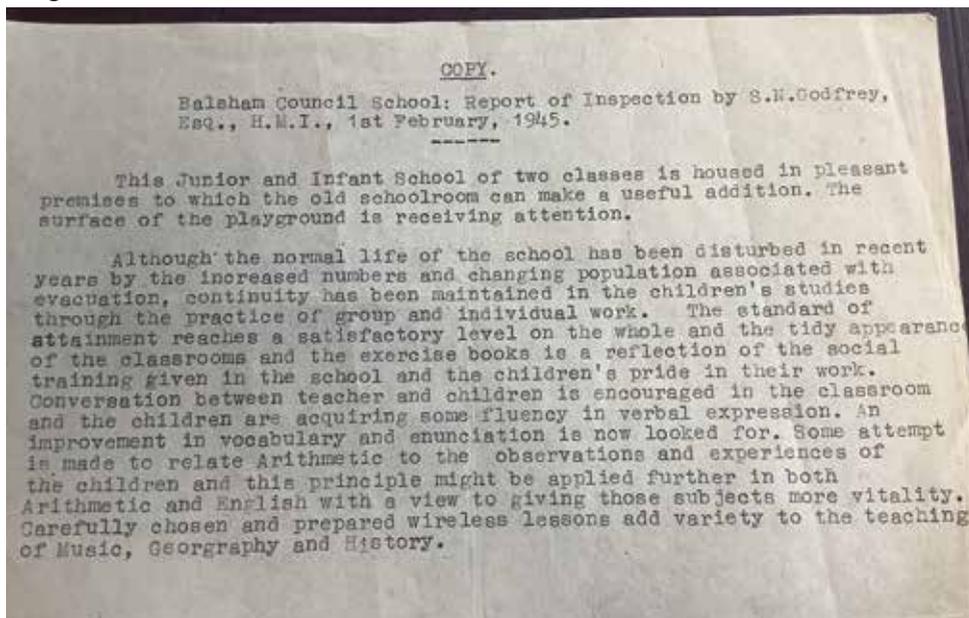
corporal punishment that was started in 1928 and details in the most beautiful handwriting the number of 'strokes' of the cane given to children for being lazy, not completing work, smoking pipes in the playground, disobedience and much more and the school inspection report from 1945!



Punishment records from 1928

Nicky Butcher

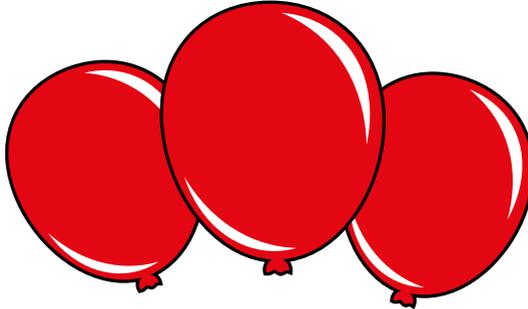
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER, THE MEADOW SCHOOL



School Inspector's report 1st February 1945

Big Balsham Sale

Sunday 21st May 2023, 10am – 2pm



Do you want to have a good clear out and sell all those unwanted items?

Then sign up to the **Big Balsham Sale** which is our annual community sale where householders can sell from their own garages/driveways etc.

It only costs **£5** which includes advertising and a village map showing the location of all participants so visitors and traders will know where to spend!!! You will also receive red balloons to fly so pinpointing your pitch to the buyers.

In order to guarantee your position is displayed on the published map please complete the tear-off slip below and drop it in at **11 High Street, Balsham** with the **£5** fee by **Monday 15th May**.

Your seller's pack will be available for collection from 11 High Street on Saturday 20th after 4pm.

Glynis Hanlon

Tel: 01223 890 219

Email: bigbalshamsale@gmail.com

I apply for an entry to the **Big Balsham Sale 21st May 2023** and enclose the **£5 fee**. Completed form and fee to be delivered to **11 High Street, Balsham by Monday 15th May**.

NAME	
ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE	
EMAIL	
SIGNED	

Coronation Artwork Competition

To celebrate the Coronation we invited the children from The Meadow School to submit their illustrations for the cover for the May issue of The Balsham Review.

We were overwhelmed with the response with a large number of pieces being submitted. After much deliberation we decided on the colourful portrait of King Charles by Noah (aged 8) for the cover.

However, as the standard was so high, we have decided to include some of the other entries on the following pages that we felt were highly commendable.

Thank you for all of your effort!



Illustration: Kerenza M Age 6



Illustration: Leila J Age 6



Illustration: Edie C Age 8



Illustration: Emily B Age 8



Illustration: Nancy M Age 7



Illustration: Florian V Age 10



Illustration: Edward B Age 6

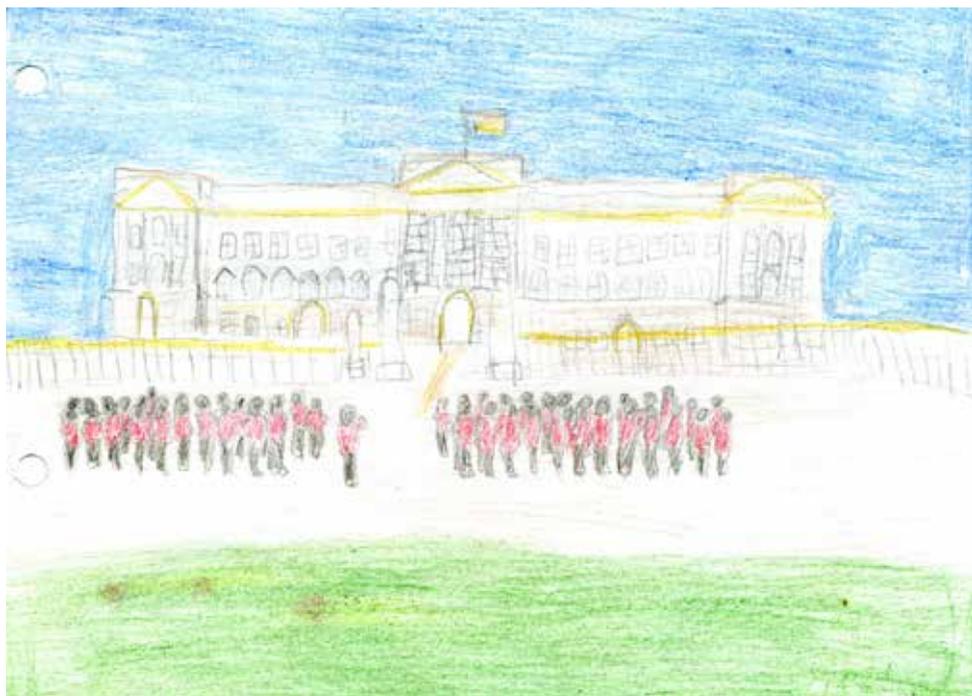


Illustration: Amber L Age 11

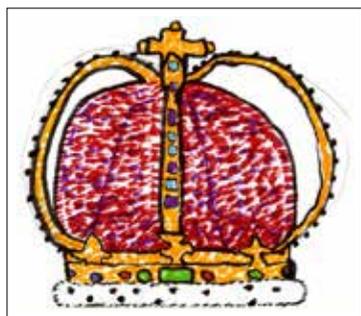


Illustration: Mia U Age 10



Illustration: Oliver T Age 8



Photo: Richard Pargeter

A soggy sparrow hawk (*Accipiter nisus*)



Photo: Lesley Bennett

A shattered fallen tree at Balsham Wood



Photo: Richard Pargeter

Currant and forsythia



Greater stitchwort (*Stellaria holostea*)



Bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)



Photos: Lesley Bennett

Oil Seed Rape



Photo: Lesley Bennett

Rain making its way towards Woodhall Lane

Balsham Bears



Baby and Toddler group

Balsham Church
institute
CB21 4DS
10-11.30am
Wednesdays
£3 per family

Open ended play space
for babies and toddlers
to explore whilst
parents can relax
with a cup of tea, cake and
chat to other parents

Find us on Facebook at
Balsham Bears Toddler group
for up to date information
and to register that you are attending



Spring Concert

Musical Director – John Clenaghan

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.

Saturday 13th May 2023
Holy Trinity Church,
Balsham
7.30pm

Tickets £10 (under 16's free) available
from choir members, Balsham or Great
Abington Post Offices or online at
www.ticketsource.co.uk/balshamsingers

Balsham WI

At our April meeting we had a talk on the life of Gabrielle (Coco) Chanel by Carol Pook. Gabrielle Chanel was illegitimate when born and educated in a convent where she learnt to sew. She was originally interested in appearing on stage and used to sing in cafes; it is rumoured that is where her name Coco came from, alluding to a song she used to sing. It is difficult to be certain as she often used to tell stories of her life differently to how it was! She was a very influential designer in the 1920s as well as being a good businesswoman. She never married, but had many lovers among the rich and famous of the time who helped financially in the early days, but she was soon wealthy in her own right.

We heard the story behind the naming



of Chanel No 5. and the war years under Nazi occupation. A very interesting and thought-provoking life and

remembered for her iconic bags and little black dresses.

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9 May** when we will be having a **Coronation Celebration**.

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/BalshamWI).

Sarah Evans
01223 290802

Christian Aid Week 14th -20th May 2023

Christian Aid is supporting farmers in Malawi to grow more resilient crops, secure a fairer price for their produce and recover from Cyclone Freddy.

Look out for donation envelopes being delivered throughout the village.

Cake sale **Saturday 20th May 2-4pm**

at the Princes Memorial

Donations can be dropped off at the cake sale or the Community Lunch on **Sunday 21st May 12.30pm** at the Institute



Anna McColl
Tel: 01233 890 693
Email: annamccoll3@gmail.com

Coronation 1953 – a few more remembrances

1953, A Welsh perspective of the Coronation.

I was about 6½ years old, living in Penarth near Cardiff, at the time of the coronation. Everyone was excited, we had a banner with E I I R hung on the front of the house and Union flags (a couple I've still got). We didn't have a television – in fact I didn't know anyone who did – the Wenvoe transmitter had only been erected the previous

year and had only started transmitting television signals from August 1952, so televisions were still a rarity and expensive. I expect my parents listened on the radio and were quite content with that. I don't remember – I expect I had more interesting things to do.

Nigel Clarke

I was in Wagga Wagga, Australia, for the 1953 Coronation, having won a scholarship through Young Farmers. I had arrived in Sydney in April 1953, having travelled by boat from England. I was guest of honour at Wagga Wagga's celebrations. There was a Carnival during the day and a Ball at night. I was staying with a farming family there and worked for my keep. In the three months I was in Australia I stayed in New South Wales and Victoria with various farming families.

David Kiddy

I remember the Coronation quite plainly as my father had bought a TV for the occasion. It was a 12inch screen and of course black and white. We were the second family in the village (West Wrattling) to have a TV and our sitting room was packed with friends to see the Coronation. I don't remember if it was the same day that Haverhill had a parade, but I was in fancy dress on the Haverhill Young Farmers' float as part of the Coronation Celebrations.

Ann Kiddy



We had a street party out in the road, in London. We had a long length of tables with piles of sandwiches and small cakes. When the weather turned bad we went in to the school at the end of the road and many of the children had to go on to the stage to sing or dance to entertain everyone.

Helen Hatfield

The Bell Inn

May should be a busy month, with three bank holidays, including the King's Coronation. The pub will be open from 12.00pm on all the Bank holiday Mondays for drinks only.

Happy Kebab van will be in the car park every Monday from 5 – 8.30pm.

We will be showing the Coronation of King Charles on TV on **Saturday 6th May**. Food will be served as usual 12- 2pm. This will be followed by **Cream Teas** served from **2 - 4.30pm** and **Barbecue** in the garden from **6 - 8.30pm**, weather permitting.

There is **live music** from **8.45pm** courtesy of duo **L.T.P.**

Sunday 7th May will be a **Family Fun Day**, with a bouncy castle from 12 - 5pm. Our normal Sunday menu will be served from 12 - 3.30pm, please book in advance for lunch.

The **Bell Inn Golf Day** is **Thursday**

25th May starting with breakfast at the Bell, 18 holes at Wyboston Lakes, and back to The Bell for evening meal and prize giving. At the time of writing this there are still a few spare places available, please contact the pub if interested.

The **Monthly Charity Quiz** is **Tuesday 30th**, new quizzers are always welcome.

Our regular **Lunch Club** is on **Wednesday 31st** - bookings and pre-orders only.

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

*For menus, events etc, please see The Bell Inn Balsham Facebook page, call **01223 892999**, or pop in the pub to see us.*

Phil & Mary

The Black Bull

Greetings to all Balsham Villagers from all at The Black Bull

Friday 5th - Monday 8th May: Come and join us for some festivities over the **Coronation Bank Holiday weekend**. It will be a great time to party with a **Beer Festival**, **live music** and a **Coronation Special Menu**.

Our Black Bull **Sunday Brunches** programme continues to popular demand. Next ones: **Sunday 7th May (Coronation Brunch)** and **Sunday 21st May**. Places are limited so that we can still get ready for

lunch, so please book ahead.

Saturday 20th May – Rob's next **Taster Menu Dinner Party**. Please book a 7:30pm table online at: <https://tableagent.com/cambridgeshire/black-bull-balsham/table-search/> stating 'Taster Menu'.

Best wishes from all of us.

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

Girlguiding - Linton District

Now is the time in our district for having camps, holidays and overnights. The Jarman centre are having their ever-popular family day on the 4th May with a coronation theme. Then it is the coronation of our King. We are also doing the big help out too in May. I hope you enjoyed Linton Guides' jumble sale on the 29 April and found lots of goodies.

We are extremely proud that our Cambs East County Commissioner has just become Anglia Region's Deputy Commissioner. Our newly appointed chief guide, was also Anglia Region's Chief Commissioner. How amazing to be able to grow from being a Rainbow or Brownie to volunteering as our Chief Guide, showcasing everything we do around the world as well as in the UK. As well as all this you may have

noticed that the Trefoil symbol has just changed as we begin the biggest rebranding in 113 years. We also have 5 new adventure badges for our girls, snow, water, sport, height and land.

Girlguiding also asks girls, parents and volunteers if they would like to take part in things like focus groups and surveys to ensure

Guiding stays current and adds to the challenge, fun and friendship we have, giving every girl a voice. Take a look at our website www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested to find out more, or better still come and see what we do. Linton District has something for everyone of every age very near you.



Louisa

Tel: 07711 614 328

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



Balsham Bowls Club

We are looking forward to the new Bowls season which is getting very close, however the weather is playing havoc with the preparation of the green, and it is not quite ready for roll ups and practice. We will let people know as best as we can, including via the Website information route, when it is ready. We can now confirm the **Open Day** is scheduled for **2 - 6 pm on Saturday May 13th.**

All Members and new people who want to try a new sport and give the game a go, are welcome to come along, and help kick the season off with a great start! Flat soled shoes are needed, and children must be

accompanied by adults, but all the equipment will be provided and refreshments will also be available.

The first two matches are **April 25th** and **May 1st**, then soon after the season really takes off. All fixtures are on the Website.

Membership, with a Handbook and Fixtures List for 2023 can be obtained from the Treasurer:

Steve Thurgood

TREASURER, BALSHAM BOWLS CLUB

Tel: 01223 290111

Mobile: 07794 167 456

We look forward to seeing you for the Open Day on May 13th.

Bob Stigwood

Balsham Cricket Club

Balsham Saturday Cricket Fixtures

Saturday 6th May	Saffron Walden IV	Home
Saturday 13th May	NO GAME	-
Saturday 20th May	Helions Bumpstead	Away
Saturday 27th May	Haslingfield	Home
Saturday 3rd June	Burrough Green	Away

Balsham Midweek Cricket Fixtures

Wednesday 3rd May	Chesterfords	Away	League
Wednesday 10th May	Abington II	Home	Cup
Wednesday 17th May	Haverhill	Home	League
Wednesday 24th May	TAC	Home	League
Wednesday 31st May	Hundon	Home	League
Wednesday 7th June	Abington II	Away	League

R.A.F. Wratting Common

May Memorial Service Sunday 28TH May 2023

A short open-air service will be held at 12 noon on **Sunday 28 May 2023** at the **R.A.F. Wratting Common Memorial**, to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the commissioning of the airfield. The last Sunday in May was chosen for this annual service as it was the same day in 1943 (indeed, also Sunday 28th) that the airfield was commissioned. The Memorial is dedicated to those who served at the airfield, especially the 260 who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. We look forward to seeing some of the Veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Cadets from 1451 (Haverhill)

Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade. The Memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville, CB21 5NR and all are very welcome to attend the service. For further information please email: **rafwrattingcommon@gmail.com**

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

Message from Lucy Frazer our MP

It is important that our roads are kept in good condition to ensure the safety of road users, cyclists and pedestrians. Over the past several months, the combination of heavy rain and freezing temperatures has led to several new potholes which I know have caused concern for many of you. I am pleased that in the Spring Budget the Chancellor announced that the Government will place an extra £200 million towards the Potholes Fund. This takes the total pothole budget for UK local

authorities to £700 million in the 2023/24 financial year. The uplift will mean an additional £4.1 million for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough. Although it is the responsibility of Cambridgeshire County Council to repair the highways in my constituency, I have always been happy to report problems on behalf of my constituents and follow-up with the authority if any issues remain outstanding. In Balsham, I reported issues on Balsham Road between Balsham and Cherry Hinton. I understand that this prompted

the undertaking of repairs to two manhole covers and the marking of large areas for patching in the near future.

If you have recently noticed any potholes in Balsham, Cambridgeshire County Council encourages people to report them using their **Highways Reporting Tool**, which you can access here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov>.

uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults.

You are also welcome to write to me about any highways issues on lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk and I will do what I can to assist.

Lucy Frazer
Email: lucy.frazer@parliament.uk

Balsham Football Club

RESULTS

DATE	HOME	AWAY	SCORE	RES
25 Mar	Balsham	Barrington Res	7-0	W
1 April	Thaxted Rangers Res	Balsham	1-3	W
4 April	Ashdon Utd Sat 1st	Balsham	2-1	L
8 April	Barrington Res	Balsham	0-5	W
11 April	Sawston Rovers Res	Balsham	0-3	W
15 April	Cambridge Ambassadors 1st	Balsham	2-1	L

FIXTURES

DATE	TIME	HOME	AWAY	VENUE
22 April	3pm	Balsham	Hundon Res	Balsham Rec
25 April	6.15pm	Melbourn Reserves	Balsham	Melbourn Sports
29 April	3pm	Hundon Res Sat	Balsham	Clare Playing Field
6 May	3pm	Balsham	Wilbrahams FC	Balsham Rec

Balsham Parish Council

The Parish Council Meeting took place on 20th March, 2023 in Balsham Pavilion

20mph speed reduction scheme:

The Parish Council noted the new County Council scheme which allows parishes to apply to reduce specific road speeds to 20mph. The Parish Council agreed that this should certainly be reviewed, and an application submitted.

Update on the Church Institute

Lease: Following advice from the solicitor, the Parish Council formed a working party to discuss the different options for the Church Institute Lease. Four options had been put forward for further discussion and for a final vote by the Parish Council.

Option 1: The Parish Council to lease the facility on terms proposed by the Balsham Parochial Church Council (BPCC).

Option 2: To notify the BPCC that the Parish Council will no longer be leasing the facility at the end of the current lease.

Option 3: Approach the BPCC requesting that they again consider gifting the facility to the people of Balsham or sell the freehold to the Parish Council for a nominal sum, to be held in Trust by the Parish Council to ensure that it could only be used as it is now.

The Parish Council would ensure

that there is an agreement between the PC and the BPCC giving the church use of the facility on Sundays and after 5pm one day each week, paying only for the utilities.

Option 4: The Parish Council to lease the facility under their proposed heads of terms.

The PC unanimously voted for option 3. The PC will write to Balsham PCC to inform them of the decision and a meeting has been arranged for 29th March for Balsham PC and Balsham PCC representatives to attend.

Planning:

Site address: The Old School, 5 Church Lane, Balsham, Cambs

Proposal: Installation of air source heat pumps to garage.

Reference: 23/00472/HFUL

PC Decision: Approve

Site address: 86 High Street, Balsham, Cambridgeshire

Proposal: T1: Sycamore - prune back from neighbours drive by 3m and to clear GPO wires by 2m.

Reference: 22/04541/HFUL

Received for information.

Highways issues:

The PC acknowledged that a number of issues that have been previously reported are still outstanding and there has been no correspondence with the Highways contact at CCC.

The PC will continue to report Highways issues via the website and urged members of the public to as well.

Please report at:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and->

**parking/roads-and-pathways/
roadworks-and-faults**

Tracy Coston PARISH CLERK

Tel: 01223 894462 / 07929930385

Email: clerk@balsham.net

Website: www.balsham.net

Balsham Parish Council

The Parish Council Meeting took place on 17th April, 2023 in Balsham Pavilion

Community Orchard: Is anyone interested in volunteering to help maintain the Community Orchard? Equipment/tools can be provided.

Please contact me if you are interested or require more information:

Tracy Coston clerk@balsham.net /
01223 894462

Planning:

Site address: 1 Field End, Balsham, Cambridgeshire

Proposal: Front Garden: T3 Field maple nearest house reduce to previous pruning points by up to 3m
T2 Silver birch. reduce to match field maple by up to 3m
T1 Field maple at end of drive reduce stems over drive to pruning points by up to 3m

Rear Garden: T4 and T5 2x silver birch reduce by up to 4m back to previous pruning points
T6 Field maple reduce in height by up to 3m.

Reference: 23/0350/TTCA

PC Decision: No objections

Site address: 64 West Wickham Road, Balsham, Cambridgeshire

Proposal: Second storey on part of existing house to create two bedrooms.

Reference: 23/01350/HFUL

PC Decision: Approval

20 is plenty campaign: Kim Pearson and Heather Pierce have collected information for the application but the deadline for the end of April won't be met. Further information will be collected for the next application. If anyone has any photos/information about near misses in the High Street/West Wickham Road please can they get in touch.

Illumination/upgrade of Prince

Memorial: The PC is waiting to hear back from the lighting expert. There are also plans to increase the benches, flagstones and flooring.

Play area: Please do not play football in the children's play area as the balls are causing an issue in the neighbouring garden. Please use

the recreation ground.

Lighting upgrade in the Church

Institute: The PC agreed to pay the invoice to improve the lighting in the Church Institute.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 15th May, 2023 at 7.30 pm followed by the Annual Parish

Council meeting at 8pm in Balsham Pavilion.

ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND

Tracy Coston PARISH CLERK

Tel: 01223 894462 / 07929930385

Email: clerk@balsham.net

Website: www.balsham.net

District & County Councillor's Report

APRIL 2023

Ukrainian Guests

South Cambs has so far hosted more than 780 Ukrainian Guests, more than any other District in the country. This is a great achievement and says much about the generosity of those that have opened their homes to people in need.

We still have new people arriving and others moving on for one reason or another. South Cambs is calling again for more hosts to come forward. If you have a spare room could you offer it to a Ukrainian family in need?

Hosts get a 'thank you' contribution of £500 per month to help with costs.

If you can help text **ROOM** to **8802** or visit the website at:

www.scambs.gov.uk/spareroom

A1307 Works

Work on the roundabout at the Bartlow Crossing will start early May and go on for about 40 weeks.

For more up to date information go

to the Greater Cambridge Partnership website:

www.greatercambridge.org.uk and look for the Cambridge South-East project.

Coronation Celebrations

If you are planning something or thinking about it, you might like to take a look at '**The Big Lunch**'.

There is lots information and materials to help you on their website: **www.thebiglunch.com/**

There are also grants available from South Cambs District Council, just check out their website.

Renting Privately

If you are renting privately and having trouble getting your landlord to maintain the property to a decent standard the government has a special advice service to help. Contact: **<https://check-how-to-get-repairs-done-in-your-rented-house.form.service.justice.gov.uk>**

£2 Bus Fare Extended

The Government subsidy capping bus fare at £2 per journey, due to end this month, has been extended to the end of June.

Potholes

The issue of pot holes is raised with us every winter, when the issue is exacerbated due to the colder weather. However, this year the issue seems to be a lot worse than it has in previous years. Pot holes are appearing at a faster rate than previously and holes that have been filled previously are reopening at a larger size than before.

Cambridgeshire Highways, who have responsibility for maintenance of the public roads and footpaths, are attempting to address these as soon as they are able. However, they are up against the usual constraints – staff and money. Their contractor only has a set number of crews that they can deploy to fill them and the Highways dept only has a limited budget for filling them. The County Council pumps more and more money into the Highways budget each year but it is never enough to thoroughly do the job.

The Highways dept are looking at improved technology to try to speed up and improve the quality of the process but this will be some years

off implementation. The message from Highways is to keep reporting them via the website - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults> - the more reports of certain holes the more the council sees the issue.

Food waste trial

For those that have voluntarily taken part in the food waste collection trial for the last 3 years, thank you. You will have seen that the trial concluded at the end of March with 3 years of data under its belt. The reason for the trial is because the government will be insisting that food waste is collected separately by the end of 2027 and the District Council (who collect our rubbish) wanted to see if people would take to using a separate food caddy correctly – the good news is that over 90% of participants in the trial did – so this will be the likely new method of food collection in the future.

Contact Information

Geoff Harvey

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
geoff.harvey@gmail.com

Henry Batchelor

COUNTY COUNCILLOR
henrybatchelor89@gmail.com



East Anglian Air Ambulance



Thanks to your support, EAAA crews have treated 1800 people in 2021/2022. That's five people a day who received the very best possible chance of survival in the face of the worst possible odds! Of 2,535 missions, 1,482 were helicopter taskings and 1,054 by road. We are expecting to take delivery of two new fully equipped Rapid Response Vehicles very soon now to further improve our ability to deal with emergencies. Just a few more statistics – the above figures included 443 cardiac arrests, 386 road traffic collisions, 354 medical emergencies, 268 falls and 60 assaults!

The people who have EAAA to thank for their ongoing lives recognise that this is possible only with financial support from people like you. Thank you.

To deal with these scenarios, EAAA has a team of highly committed pilots and paramedics with a widely diversified range of medical skills and experience. For example – Critical Care Paramedic Neil Flowers

has become a Consultant in Pre-Hospital Emergency Medicine (PHEM) with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He is one of only three paramedics in the UK to be awarded the title. Congratulations Neil.

To help Neil and his colleagues, the need for ongoing support is ever present and necessary. I make no apology for re-appealing for this help, in whatever form is suitable to you – contributions into collection boxes, gifts in wills, one-off donations, playing our lottery, payroll giving or participating in one of many activities across the four counties (please get in touch via: eaaa.org, eaaa.org/uk/eaaa-free-wills or eaaa.org/uk/lottery or eaaa.org.uk)

You might like to join 'Trek 24' at **Holkham Hall** on **Sunday 10th September** – a great adventure so, why not get in touch?

Thank you for your ongoing support – ***Together, We Save Lives.***

Michael White
info@eaaa.org.uk

Balsham Weather March 2023

Photo: Lesley Bennett

Air Temperatures: Maximum & Minimum

recorded by Peter Neale, Nine Chimneys Lane.

Daytime temperatures (*in the shade*)

Highest: 16° C on 20th March

Lowest: 3° C on 10th March

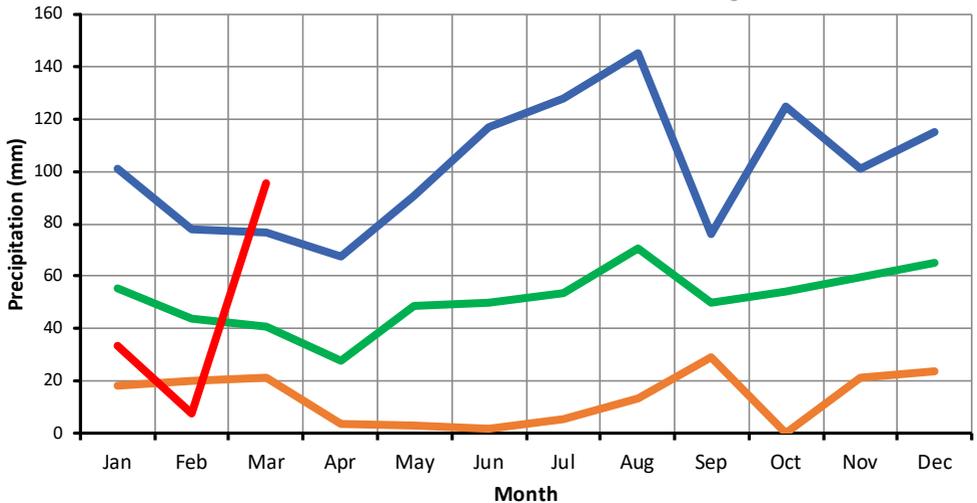
Night time temperatures

Highest: 10° C on 22nd March

Lowest: -3° C on 11th March

March Rainfall Measured in Nine Chimney Lane

Total March Rainfall: 95.5mm / 3.82" (23 days of rain)



Min 2013- 2022

Av. 2013 - 2022

Max 2013 - 2022

2023

recorded by Peter Neale, Nine Chimney Lane



Saturday May 6th

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

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 possibly the saviour of The House of Dior.

*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 **FREE** to all picture goers!*

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.