



# BALSHAM *Review*

ISSUE No. 650

AUGUST 2023

Not burning - just a stunning sunset!



Photos or articles to: [editor@balshamreview.com](mailto:editor@balshamreview.com)  
Website: [www.balshamreview.com](http://www.balshamreview.com)

**Photo:** Lesley Bennett



Photos: Richard Pargeter

Hummingbird Hawk Moth on Verbena



Brimstone



Small Skipper



Small Elephant Hawk Moth on honeysuckle

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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,  
AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup> 2023

*Copy should be submitted where possible to  
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or delivered to the  
'Balsham Review Postbox'  
held in the Post Office*

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## **Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme**

Email [balshamgns@gmail.com](mailto:balshamgns@gmail.com)  
or phone or text **07508 430057**

# Editorial

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Climate Change, what a concern that is. It seems only a couple of years ago that there were denials that it was happening, but now it is obvious that the weather is becoming more extreme in its rain or drought, and heat or cold. We often say we are never satisfied: I know last month I was staying inside because it was so hot outside, and now I am staying inside as it is so wet outside. The gardening clubs of West Wickham, Wickhambrook, Linton and Balsham are combining to hold a **'Gardening with Climate Change Day'** on **12th August** in West Wickham's Village Hall. It is free to attend, do read Dave Arnold's piece in the magazine on page 28 for details.

I hope you will have seen that we have been cutting the grass in the churchyard in various areas allowing wildflowers and creatures to thrive, and keeping the areas where we remember our family members as neat as we can. We have had a response to our plea for volunteers to help, but could do with more. It is not necessary to be able to work on a Monday, but it is important that anyone helping makes contact with me first so that we can go through safety points (for both you and for people who use the paths etc) and also sort what tools and areas need attention. Jane Goode has been net-sweeping for tiny wildlife in the long grass - see her article on page 10 and look at the display in the church about the churchyard

and what nature has given us there. Richard Pargeter's photos remind me that you might well see butterflies, and until August 6th. you could join the national big butterfly count:

**<https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/>**

This morning I had a telephone call on my landline, purporting to be from the Bank. They told me they were concerned that a gambling company in America had taken £1,100 pounds from my account, using my bank card number, to pay my debts!! Those who know me would know that would not have been me! They asked for my card number to confirm it was the same card and my date of birth. I put the phone down. I then tried to ring my bank using the number on my card, and the same voice asked again for my card number and date of birth. I recognised that they must still be on the line even though the phone had said 'call ended'. I then went to a neighbour and using their phone again rang the number on my card. A totally different voice having asked why I was ringing, then asked for my card number, date of birth and another question. They then confirmed that no money had been taken and that the call had been a scam trying to get at the money in my account. I think they call it phishing. Lucky me, not to get caught. Please be warned, and don't answer the questions if you get a

call. Use another phone to call your bank to check what is going on.

A quick note about the ducks. I have been told that there is a dearth of ducklings this year in the gardens and pond areas around the village. I think that must be because they are all in my garden. On the whole the broods have been quite small when they have come to the garden as day-olds, usually around six or seven, although one duck came with thirteen. As usually happens the numbers went down quickly, but I

have five families visiting at present, of differing ages, from three to seven ducklings. The earliest two which were from an April hatch are now indistinguishable from the adult ducks. The drakes are all changing their feathers and are looking very dowdy, but I think there are at least two ducks sitting on eggs near the house. I'll have to wait and see

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**Gill Parry Brown**

EDITOR, BALSHAM REVIEW

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## 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

#### **DENNIS TIPLADY**

Den Tiplady was a Balsham resident for the past 23 years. He loved Balsham finding it a warm, friendly and welcoming village and was very happy residing there.

The family would like to say a big thank you to all his friends and neighbours who helped to support him to remain in his bungalow until his admission to Home Close Fulbourn when independent living became unsustainable.

Dennis died in June and his funeral took place at Cam valley on July 4th. Due to generous donations the family have been able to send a

cheque of £369 to Macmillan Cancer Care. Thank you.

**Mark and Sue Tiplady**

#### **IT RECYCLING**

I took another car full of IT to be recycled at the end of June; many thanks to all the donors. The next collection is likely to be in September. Please hang on to large items (printers, towers etc) until then, but I do have limited space to store smaller items like laptops, phones, and tablets.

Please leave donations in the wooden box marked "Deliveries" in our sideway at 67 High Street, Balsham

**Neil Dunlop**

# Support Ella!

Ella T is planning to host another **Crafts, Plants and Things Pop Up Shop** at 2 Nine Chimneys Lane on **Saturday 2nd September** raising funds for her forthcoming trip to the World Centre for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, Sangam, India in August 2024. Please come and

support her in raising funds for this exciting trip. She'll be writing an article for next month's Review about her trip and planned outreach activities with her team mates.

*Thanks very much,*

**Ella T & Friends**



## Balsham August Diary

DATE	EVENT & TIME	VENUE
5th Saturday	Picture House, <b>Tár</b> 7 for 7.30pm	Church Institute
12th Saturday	<b>Gardening with Climate Change</b> 10am-4pm	West Wickham Village Hall

## Bin Collections August

DATE	BLACK	BLUE	GREEN
Monday August 7 <sup>TH</sup>	✓		
Monday August 14 <sup>TH</sup>		✓	✓
Monday August 21 <sup>ST</sup>	✓		
<b>Tuesday August 29<sup>TH</sup></b>		✓	✓
Monday September 4 <sup>TH</sup>	✓		



# 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](http://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

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		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/Lintoncornerstone](http://www.facebook.com/Lintoncornerstone)

**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](mailto:prcook@talktalk.net)

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

# From the Church

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

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

Change is inevitable; sometimes it is exciting, sometimes its daunting. When we follow Jesus, however, we need to be open for transformation and open to change our way of doing things. Jesus came to challenge the way it's always been. Much of his ministry brought about change. His disciples struggled to understand what all this change was about, and why it needed to



happen. As they accompanied Jesus towards the cross, they gradually began to understand it. Their experience of the risen Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit further deepened their insight and courage. They were witnesses to an

abundant life they hadn't known before. It needed change for that transformation to happen.

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

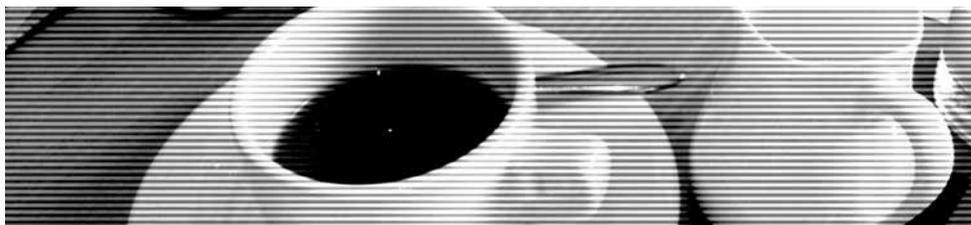
One of my favourite worship songs is 'Seasons Change' by the Christian worship group United Pursuit. It reminds us that though the seasons change, God's love never changes and he remains faithful. When seasons have changed in my life, I am reminded of these words and that is my hope and prayer for you: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

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**Revd Ben Brady**

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<b>August Services</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>6th</b>		<b>United Service with Holy Communion</b> Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Ben Brady to preach</i>	
<b>13th</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Weston Colville <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> West Wickham <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Hildersham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> <b>Morning Worship</b> Balsham <i>Rev Ben Brady</i> <b>Morning Worship</b> Little Abington <i>Alistair Collen</i>	<b>Evening Prayer</b> West Wrattling <i>Alistair Collen</i>
<b>20th</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> West Wrattling <i>Rev Ben Brady</i> <b>Morning Prayer</b> West Wickham <i>Steven Wheeler</i>	<b>Morning Worship</b> Balsham <i>Steven Wheeler</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> Great Abington <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>	<b>Evening Prayer</b> Hildersham <i>Alistair Collen</i>
<b>27th</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> West Wickham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Alexandre Garziglia to preach</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> Weston Colville <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Hildersham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Alexandre Garziglia to preach</i>	<b>Evening Prayer</b> Little Abington <i>Keith Day</i>



## **Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme**

### Coffee Morning

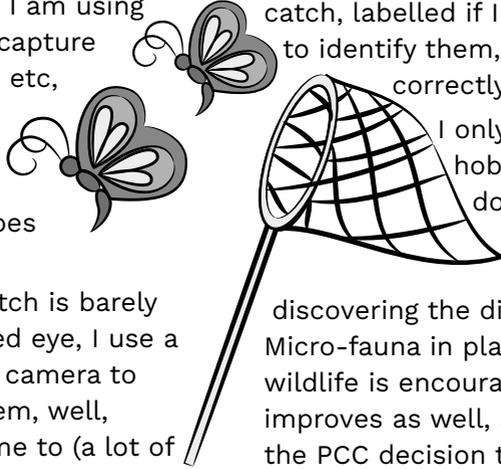
There won't be a coffee morning in August, to give the organisers a break, and the dates for the rest of the year will be given in the September Review.

# The 'Lady with the Net'

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If you see a woman with a large net in the Churchyard, it is me, and no I am not catching butterflies. With the landowners' permission, on this occasion the PCC, I am using the sweep net to capture insects, arachnids etc, that are on the plants in the areas where regular mowing does not occur.

As most of the catch is barely visible to the naked eye, I use a Macro lens on my camera to take photos of them, well, those that allow me to (a lot of the catch is very camera shy and either run, jump or fly away.) Once the photos are taken



everything is released where I found it.

In the Church on the display table, is a folder containing photos of the catch, labelled if I have managed to identify them, (hopefully correctly).

I only started this hobby during lockdown and am no expert, but I have loved discovering the diversity of the Micro-fauna in places where wildlife is encouraged. The flora improves as well, so I fully support the PCC decision to leave areas to go 'wild'.

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**Jane Goode**

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## Outdoor Church for Balsham Congregation

### The last Sunday in June:

On a very, very hot Sunday morning 14 of us plus one dog met up outside Balsham Church for 'Outdoor Church'. Our Rector explained to us about pilgrimages and that we would have a very mini pilgrimage walking round the Churchyard and the village. He had thought out all the readings which we had on a sheet and sometimes we were silent between stops and sometimes not. Various people read from the sheet and we went north of the church, along the

south side of the recreation ground and had a stop in the shade under a group of three chimneys at Nine Chimney House, a stop at the Prince Memorial when we were joined by a regular worshipper, then to Les Ellam's seat opposite the War Memorial and so back to church to sing a hymn, and then to enjoy refreshments.

It was a lovely idea of the Rector's but **IT WAS HOT!**

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**Joanna Sanders**

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# Balsham Parish Council

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

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## **Water leak in West Wratting Road:**

Highways are clearing all the gulleys out by the end of month. A contact has been made with Diocese Property Manager.

## **Illumination of the Prince**

**Memorial:** A quote is being organised for flagstones around the Prince Memorial. The seating will also be improved. The lighting quote is being worked on.

## **Bus shelter refurbishment at Lower**

**Farm:** Quotes will be arranged for repainting.

## **Planning:**

**Site address:** Rectory Farm, Cambridge Road, Balsham.

**Proposal:** Change of use of 2 agricultural buildings to Use Class E (g).

**Reference:** 23/01927/FUL

**PC Decision:** No objections

**Site address:** 7 West Wratting Road, Balsham.

SCDC approved the construction of a single storey garden room extension, demolition of existing garage/outbuilding and replace with an outbuilding and removal of the shutters.

**Reference:** 23/01920/LBC / 23/01809/HFUL

**Pre-consultation:** proposed radio base station installation at

SCA24892 grass verge of Dolls Close, Balsham: The PC opposed the application due to the inappropriate location.

**Cleaning the War Memorial:** The war memorial has been cleaned and next the re-lettering and re-painting will take place.

## **Anaerobic Digester - Streetly Hall**

**Farm:** Horseheath, West Wickham and Balsham Parish Councils are aware of a proposal by the Streetly Hall Estate to construct an Anaerobic Digester facility at its farm site near Horseheath and Streetly End. The proposal was made to the West Wickham and Horseheath Parish Councils at their respective Parish Council Meetings but lacked detail and supporting credible information for the Parish Councils to consider. We will jointly monitor this proposal and keep you informed of substantive information if it becomes available.

**Alex Schuilenburg** Chair, West Wickham Parish Council

**Dr John Howard** Chair, Horseheath Parish Council

**Gordon Fiddy** Chair, Balsham Parish Council

## **Balsham WI's 100th celebration:**

This will take place at the end of next year and the WI would like to mark the occasion with a bench

and planting a tree. The PC suggested planting a tree on the Rookery amenity area as a tree that was felled has to be replaced. A flower bed on the bandstand green was also discussed.

**Defibrillators:** There has been an issue with the codes that ambulance service gives out for the defibrillators which has now been rectified. If anyone has an issue with the code on the defibrillator please contact me. If you or someone else need to use a defibrillator, please remember you

have to call 999 first for the code.

The next  
**Parish Council Meeting**  
will be held on  
**18th September, 2023**  
at **7.30 pm**  
in **Balsham Pavilion.**  
**ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND**

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**Tracy Coston** PARISH CLERK

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**Tel:** 01223 894462 / 07929930385

**Email:** [clerk@balsham.net](mailto:clerk@balsham.net)

**Website:** [www.balsham.net](http://www.balsham.net)

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## **District & County Councillor's Report**

**JULY 2023**

### **4 Day Week**

The trial of a 4-day working week at the District Council was recently extended by another year for office staff and will also be introduced to the waste service as of September this year. This will mean residential bins will only be collected between Tuesday and Friday each week – meaning our area will have a new bin collection day. This will be communicated, by the council, once the detail has been finalised.

More recently, you may have seen in the news, a junior minister has asked the council to cease the trial. He asked this without giving any real reason for doing so, or with any kind of legal backing – SCDC have

responded with a request to meet with him, to understand what the concerns actually are.

### **Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund**

The County Council have updated and rebranded the Communities Capital Fund that they ran a few years ago. The fund is designed to support local communities in projects that enable them to upgrade community buildings and assets. There is up to £40,000 available in each bid. The Council are currently asking for an 'expression of interest' from those community groups/parish councils that are thinking of applying. Full information, plus an application, can be found on the

website:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/cambridgeshire-priorities-capital-fund>

### **Parliamentary Boundary Changes**

The Boundary Commission has announced the final proposals for the new parliamentary boundary, which will come into play before the next general election, which is currently scheduled for next year. Our villages are currently proposed to

move from South East Cambridgeshire into South Cambridgeshire. This will move them more broadly into line with the District Council's boundary so is generally a good move, in our view

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### **Contact Information**

#### **Geoff Harvey**

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR  
geoff.harvey@gmail.com

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#### **Henry Batchelor**

COUNTY COUNCILLOR  
henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

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## **From Lucy Frazer MP**

At the end of May, Balsham Football Club received **£3,600** from the Government's Multi-Sport Grassroots Facilities Programme towards goalposts.

The programme is backed by £300 million over four years and is designed to support local sports clubs with outdated facilities, helping players and fans to better enjoy their training and matchday experiences.

Balsham was just one of eight parishes in South East Cambridgeshire to receive funding in the programme's 2022-23 round. In total, South East Cambridgeshire benefitted from almost £100,000 of capital investment, which has gone towards a variety of projects, including an upgraded multi-use games arena and a new pavilion.

I have been working with the FA



and the Football Foundation to ensure that Cambridgeshire maximises all its funding opportunities, and I will continue to do so alongside your local representatives from the parish council.

*Best wishes,*

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#### **Lucy Frazer**

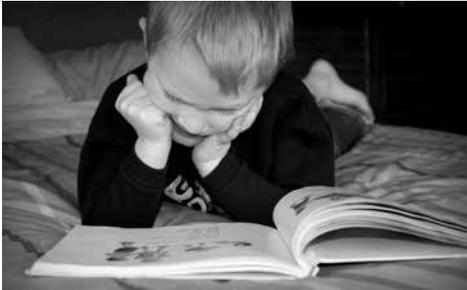
MP FOR SOUTH EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE

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# Linton Library News

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**Ready, Set...Read!** Sign up for this year's Summer Reading Challenge at Linton Library - it's free! With stickers to collect along the way and a medal and certificate for everyone who finishes, it is a fun way to keep children reading all summer during the long school break. Don't forget, if you are travelling on holiday you can pack a mobile device with library eBooks, eAudiobooks and eComics to keep your luggage light!



## At the library this month:

**For the family:** come along and enjoy **Creating with Lego** on **Monday 7th** for £2/child (**2-3.30pm**).

Learn all about **Bee Keeping** on **Wednesday 16th** for £2/child (**10.30-11.30am**).

Be captivated by a **Magic Show** on **Monday 21st** for £5/child (**2-3.15pm**).

To reserve your place, please call into the library or contact [cambourne.referral@](mailto:cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

[cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://cambridgeshire.gov.uk).

**For adults:** bring along your latest craft project to **Knit and Natter**, **2pm** on **Tuesday 8th and 22nd**.

**Daylight Readers**, our Book Club, meets on **Friday 18th** at **10.30am and 2.30pm**. Also, Justine from **Reach Community Projects** will be here to offer advice and help **3 - 4.30pm** on **Thursday 10th and 24th** - no appointment necessary

Have you heard of Social tariffs? They are low-cost broadband and mobile phone package deals offered to customers claiming government benefits. Ask for more details or check out: [www.ofcom.org.uk/cheap-broadband](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/cheap-broadband) or [www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/about/help-to-get-online](http://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/about/help-to-get-online)

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**Ann King & Melanie Symonds**

COMMUNITY LIBRARY ASSISTANTS

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## Opening hours

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

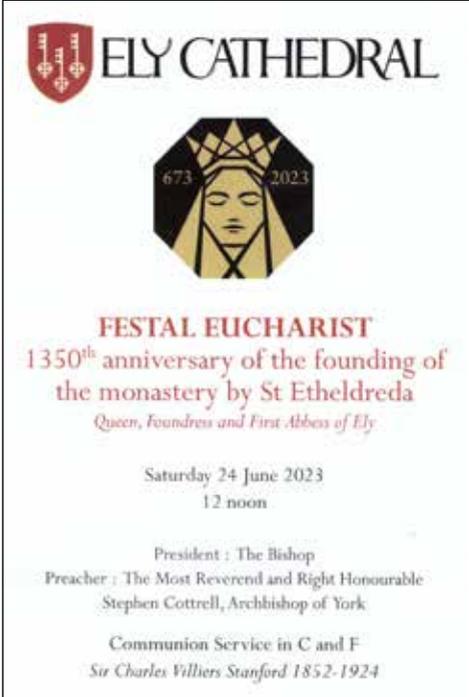
## Customer Services

(regular office hours): **0345 045 522**  
[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library)

# 1350<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary

This is the cover of a service I went to in Ely Cathedral – a diocesan event. As you will see it is 1350 years since St Etheldreda founded two monasteries at Ely. There are various events being held in the Cathedral to celebrate this– the shrine of St Etheldreda was much visited by pilgrims but, of course, all this ended with the dissolution of the monasteries. It is amazing to think it is 1350 years since Ely’s foundation.

Etheldreda (Audrey) was born in Suffolk in the seventh century a daughter of the king. She desired to commit her life to prayer and chastity, and after two arranged and unconsummated marriages, founded a religious house at Ely for both men and women. She died on 23 June 678 and is remembered



**ELY CATHEDRAL**

673 2023

**FESTAL EUCHARIST**  
1350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of  
the monastery by St Etheldreda  
*Queen, Foundress and First Abbess of Ely*

Saturday 24 June 2023  
12 noon

President : The Bishop  
Preacher : The Most Reverend and Right Honourable  
Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York

Communion Service in C and F  
*Sir Charles Villiers Stanford 1852-1924*

each year on this date.

**Joanna Sanders**



Photo: Lesley Bennett

# Marsh Mail



## June News:

LVC students enjoyed a great enrichment week full of extra-curricular activities and experiences at the beginning of June.

During the collapsed timetable, Year 7 and 8 benefited from a programme of day trips, team building and cultural events that included visiting Thetford Forest, The Nuclear Races, Willen Lakes and the Imperial War Museum. As well as enjoying water sports and getting very muddy, Year 7 engaged in a Caribbean day including a steel pan and dance session, cooking and art.

Meanwhile, the whole of Year 9 had the opportunity to spend a week away on a residential. Trips to the Peak District, Wales and London provided students with the chance to build relationships, visit new places and push themselves out of their



comfort zone. Staff members also took the plunge at the Zip World Tower in Aberdare.



Our Year 10 Languages students had the opportunity to spend a week practising their spoken language skills and soaking up the culture on trips to Barcelona and Paris. Their itinerary included sampling local cuisine and exploring local sights in addition to the language lessons.

This half term has also been packed with calendar events to celebrate and showcase the efforts and talents of LVC students.

Our **Summer Soiree** featured a host of performances from classical music to 80's pop, some of which were shared at Linton's Picnic in the Park earlier in the month. The Jazz Band also took part in the Anglian Learning celebration event at Marleigh Primary School in Cambridge to mark the school's official opening.

## July News:

Our annual Prom for our Year 11 leavers on 30th June was an amazing

event. Parents and members of the school community joined us to welcome the Class of 2023's arrivals. Students looked very glamorous and it was lovely to see their eclectic methods of transport.



The school was decorated in keeping with the Prom Committee's chosen theme of 'celestial' and looked really sparkly and special. Students enjoyed the food trucks, DJ, mocktail and sweetie bars, photobooth and outdoor games throughout the evening. I'm grateful to all of the staff who were involved in organising the event and supervising, particularly



Mrs Harris who arranged the whole evening. We look forward to welcoming our Year 11s back on 24th August to collect their GCSE

results.



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

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

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**Helena Marsh**  
HEADTEACHER LVC

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Photos: Lesley Bennett



# The Meadow Primary School

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The end of the school academic year 2022-2023 has arrived and (as usual) we have had a very busy end to it!

## **The Y5/6 Production:**

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



## **Move Up Days:**

We have had 2 fantastic move-up days. The children have had a wonderful time in their new class getting to know their new classmates. We have seen some amazing artwork completed and some equally amazing teamwork. I enjoyed wandering around the classrooms, chatting to the children and finding out what has been their favourite thing experienced on these days. Along with learning, meeting new

friends and lockers for Y3, lunch has also featured!

## **Sports Day:**

became 'Sports Days due to the British weather! We managed to get through Key Stage 2 Sports in the morning but had to postpone Key Stage 1 for a week later. The children enjoyed competing against one another in running, egg and spoon and obstacle races- to name but a few- and then working together in their teams to receive the most points and of course, most importantly, they all received an ice pop!



## **And finally:**

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

**[nbutcher@meadowprimary.org](mailto:nbutcher@meadowprimary.org)**

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## **Nicky Butcher**

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER, THE MEADOW SCHOOL

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# Balsham Cricket Club

## Balsham Saturday Results

Saturday 17th June	Abington II	Away	WON By 17 Runs
Saturday 24th June	Fulbourn II	HOME	WON By 42 Runs
Saturday 1st July	Abington II	HOME	WON By 35 Runs
Saturday 8th July	Saffron Walden IV	Away	WON - Conceded

## Balsham Midweek Results

Wednesday 21st June	TAC	Away	WON by 8 Wickets
Tuesday 11th July	Reach	HOME	LOST by 68 Runs
Wednesday 12th July	Haverhill	Away	WON by 34 Runs

## Balsham Saturday Fixtures - League 3 South

Saturday 5th August	No Game	-
Saturday 12th August	Linton II	HOME
Saturday 19th August	Helions Bumpstead	HOME
Saturday 26th August	Burrough Green	HOME
Saturday 2nd Sept.	Fulbourn II	Away

## Balsham Midweek Fixtures

Wednesday 2nd August	TAC	HOME	Cup Match
To Be Announced	Chesterfords	HOME	League Match

## The Balsham Ploughmen



The Balsham Ploughmen are pleased to have made a donation to AFC Balsham under 8 and under 11 youth

teams for the purchase of football strips and training equipment. The picture above shows Terry O'Neill handing over a cheque for **£500** to Peter Askham and Connor Collis who manage the teams. Both the under 8 and the under 11 AFC Balsham Youth Teams are always open to new players and pre-season training will start again in late August.

The Ploughmen also recently made a significant contribution, alongside the Balsham Parish Council, to the cleaning and renovation of the War Memorial.

# Balsham Bowls Club



Following the cold and wet start to the season we had a brief spell of good weather in June, but we have now returned to unseasonable cold and wet conditions which has resulted in games being cancelled, but all our league teams have continued. The Cambridge District team are currently second in division one and hopefully will do better than last year's runners up. The Friday triples teams have had mixed results with the A team second in division one, and the B team holding up division two, but they have given all our members competitive bowls. In the pairs league the A team have won section A and will compete in the finals day which is being held at Balsham on Saturday 5th August at 10.30am. The B team pairs have completed all their fixtures and again much experience will have been gained. Away from the leagues Steve and

Trish Newman's triple, together with Phil Elliott, have reached the semi-finals of the district league triples, and the Newmans have also reached that stage of the mixed pairs. Yours truly was part of the league representative team that **won the Dick Moody Shield.**

Dates for your diary are:

- the **Buster Moore Day** at Birdbrook on **Sunday 13th August** with two teams entered.
- The **club tour to Eastbourne Sept 1st to Sept 4th** with three games,
- and I hear next year's tour to Weymouth is already booked.
- Finally, our **Pairs Day on Sunday 17th September.** Entry forms from Phil and Christine.

*Let's hope the weather improves soon!*

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**Peter Day**  
**M 07706 075 798**

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# Sunday Paper Girl

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When I was 7 years old we moved from No 2, Lower Farm Cottages, to a council house in Cambridge Road, which meant my world as I knew it just got a whole lot smaller and I don't think mum knew what to do with me at weekends; Saturdays were fine as I helped with the chores but my continuous whinge of 'I'm bored' on a Sunday must have got on her nerves. So it was suggested that I should assist dad on his Sunday paper round - the perfect solution which meant I was out all morning and tired all afternoon.

The papers were collected from Whittlesford Railway Station by the Agent, Mr Tickner who would then drop off the paper bundles at my grandparent's house in Fox End. They were then divided into the individual paper rounds, Balsham, West Wratting, West Wickham, Streetly End and Horseheath. My dad was responsible for Balsham whilst grandad and uncle 'Pud' delivered around the villages.

Our transport was bicycle with delivery bags strapped on the front (a trade bike was a later acquisition followed by a van as the village grew larger). Titles were very similar to the ones we have today with the addition of the now defunct *Sunday Pictorial*; *Dispatch*; *Weekend Reveille* and the *News of the World*. Papers then were much larger and heavier than today's. Prices ranged from

2½d (pre decimal) to 6d which amounted to an awful lot of copper coins and were dirty. One day I had to tell a 'gentleman' that his paper had gone up in price by a penny, his response was to throw the money on the floor and tell me '*If I wanted it that badly to pick it up*', which I did as I thought I should. Needless to say when I told Dad that particular delivery was immediately cancelled.

We started our round at Princes and Dolls Close, these were the two largest estates at the time, built in 1948 and 1950 respectively to solve the village's housing shortage. The village wasn't very big then with a population of just 662. The first 'tea' stop was at Rose Lingham's in Dolls, the first of many of such stops where news and views were exchanged and local scandals hinted at.

There was a house or yard (I seem to think it was Kidman's builders) in West Wickham Road which had a big stuffed Boar's Head complete with tusks and teeth hanging above the door, which from a very young age I was absolutely terrified of. However, with dad's 'encouragement' I quickly got over this. Mrs Kidman lived in Sorrel Cottage in Burrell Way (called Back Lane then) and the paper money was left on a table just inside the door together with a bar of 5 boy's chocolate for me. Also on this table was her pet

jackdaw. He would sit on his perch with beady eyes watching my every move but he was harmless and enjoyed a life where he would come and go as he pleased, returning to his perch at will.

I was quickly put in my place when delivering to the Manor House, home of the MP, Commander Scott-Miller and his very glamorous wife. I was shown the little gate in the wall which led to a back door as the one I must always use. It was about this time that the Scott-Millers also owned Nine Chimneys House, using it as a privately owned Country Club for entertaining their weekend and Newmarket racing guests.

The one house I did not like going to was Balsham Place where Mrs Cyrankowski, our infant school teacher and her husband lived in the ground floor flat. I did not enjoy school and would find myself being called to the front of class to stand with one hand on my head the other holding my tongue. My crime, no surprise, was talking when not spoken to. Balsham Place has a long driveway and I imagined she was watching me walk up to the door and would pounce on me like one of their numerous cats.

After a few years I got a bit fed up with getting up early on a Sunday so I went to see the Reverend Guy Ford to ask if I could join the Church choir. The choir used to get paid for attendance at some services, weddings etc, but as he tactfully pointed out it also involved choir

practice once a week and would be more of a commitment than a Sunday paper round. I've always had a terrible singing voice anyway.

Once, when dad was ill in hospital, my mum had to do the round with me and soon realised that it wasn't quite as easy as she thought and immediately raised my 'wage' from 6d (2½p) to 2 shillings (10p) needless to say I was more than satisfied, especially as the village was starting to grow with the planning and building of new housing estates. This increase in population meant that we had carry more papers, so an arrangement was made with the village shop (Fred Smith's then - now the Post Office) to leave a couple of bags of papers there for later collection to enable deliveries at the bottom end of the village. This worked well and dad could enjoy a cigarette break at the same time.

Finally, when we got home it was time for pockets and bags to be emptied, with copper and silver coins spread out on the dining table. Dad would have a count up and then at 12.00 take it over to the Queens Head to change into notes. Meanwhile, with the Sunday roast in the oven, mum with her pre-dinner gin and me with a Vimto we would both settle down to read the leftover papers.

You could say the original objective of preventing boredom had been well and truly achieved.

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**Jan Ellam**

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# The Bell Inn

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## Hi Everyone!

The Bell Inn beer garden is a great place to enjoy a meal and drink with friends and family during the summer months. We are also dog friendly, but please supervise your dogs, and clean up after them. You can book our Summer Houses for dining for groups of 4 - 6 people. It is advisable to book for all dining where possible, as bookings will be prioritised, and it allows us to staff accordingly, to give you the best experience.

As we do not cook on Mondays, the **Happy Kebab** van is in the car park from **5.00 - 8.00pm**. You are welcome to enjoy your kebab in the pub or beer garden, with a drink from the bar.

Thank you to everybody who supported our **Charity Football Match**. We raised a massive **£1,018.36** for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. Money was raised from raffle ticket sales, donations, the footballers match fees, and the karaoke. A special thank you for raffle prizes, donated by local businesses, individuals, and suppliers to the pub.

Our first **Bingo Evening** is **Wednesday 9th August** at **8pm**, if



successful this will be every second Wednesday of the month.

The **Monthly Charity Quiz** is **Tuesday 29th August** new quizzers are always welcome.

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

**30th August**, 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 if possible.

Our **Annual Beer Festival** will take place over the **August Bank Holiday weekend**.

- **Friday 25th** TBC (see Facebook).
- **Saturday 26th** Live music 7.30pm and Turkish Barbecue.
- **Sunday 27th** Family Fun Day
- **Monday 28th** Happy Kebab van 5.00 - 8.00pm.

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 call in the pub to see us.*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

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**Phil & Mary**

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# The Black Bull



## ***Greetings to all Balsham Villagers from all at The Black Bull***

If you have not tried out Rob's new summer menu you are missing out! (*Devon Crab? Brisket? Plaice, Duck Breast, Seafood Linguine, Strawberry Souffle, Chocolate Ganache*)

Over the summer Rob is also managing to bag the odd lobster (a la Mustique) to pop on the specials board so look out for last minute social media alerts.

Rob's next **Taster Menu** is now live – see the website – **Saturday 29th July**. We run these like a dinner party with everyone sitting down and being served at the same time, albeit at your own tables.

Rob will treat us again to an inspired array of tastes, flavours and textures, often unusual, always stunningly presented in Rob's inimitable style. They are getting quite a following now, so be sure to book your table early as we cannot

do that many tables at this level. Some dates ahead for your diaries

### **Rob's Taster Menu:**

**Saturday 29th July 7:30 for 7:45pm**

### **Rob's Caribbean Summer**

**Barbecue: Saturday 26th August 4:30pm – 8:30pm**

We are extending our Black Bull **Sunday Brunches** programme to include, from August, Saturdays and Sundays due to popular demand – every few weeks – next ones: **Sunday 23rd July, Saturday 5th/Sunday 6th August, Saturday 19th/Sunday 20th August.**

Places are limited so that we can still get ready for lunch, so please book ahead.

Reminder that we are now happily back **open seven days** a week again.

*Best wishes from all of us.*

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### **Alex, Rob, Liz, Luke & the teams**

01223 893 844

[info@blackbull-balsham.co.uk](mailto:info@blackbull-balsham.co.uk)

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# Granta Medical Practices Flu Clinics 2023

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## ***Influenza (flu) vaccines that protect against the influenza viruses.***

Most flu vaccines are given with a needle in the arm but there is also a nasal spray flu vaccine.

Flu vaccination is important because, whilst flu is unpleasant for most people, it can be dangerous and even life-threatening to others, particularly those with certain health conditions. The best times to have your flu vaccine is early autumn before flu starts spreading. However, you can get your vaccine later if necessary.

We are holding our flu clinics on the following dates:

- Saturday 23rd Sept – Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS
- Saturday 23rd Sept – Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU
- Sunday 24th Sept – Royston Health Centre, SG8 7BS
- Saturday 30th Sept – Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY
- Saturday 7th Oct – Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU
- Sunday 8th Oct - Royston Health Centre, SG8 7BS
- Saturday 14th Oct– Barley Surgery, SG8 8HY
- Saturday 14th Oct - Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS
- Saturday 21st Oct - Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY
- Saturday 28th Oct - Linton Health

Centre, CB21 4JS

- Saturday 28th Oct - Barley Surgery, SG8 8HY

All clinics start at 8:30am and finish at 4:15pm

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

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

eligible to have through us if they have an underlying health condition mentioned above.

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

Whilst you are having your jab don't forget to ask about your eligibility for other vaccinations such as shingles,

pneumonia or whooping cough.

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

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

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**Sandra East**

HEAD OF PATIENT SERVICES

**E** [cpicb.grantapatientervices@nhs.net](mailto:cpicb.grantapatientervices@nhs.net)

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## **Cancer Support Service Receives Award**

Cambridge University Hospital Cancer Support Service has been awarded Caring Together's Carer Friendly Tick Award – Health. The award is in recognition of their work to identify and support unpaid carers – people that look after a family member or friend.

Unpaid carers being recognised by the hospital has benefits to the carer, the person they look after, and enables the hospital staff to fulfil their roles more effectively.

The Cancer Support Service receiving the Carer Friendly Tick Award – Health, will help unpaid carers know what they can expect when they are attending the service and what support is available.

Sarah Jayne Rodwell, from Cambridge University Hospital Cancer Support Service said, "*The Cancer Support Service being awarded the Carer Friendly Tick Award – Health gives carers accessing our service*

*assurance that we value the important role they play in our patients' pathway.*

*"We work extremely hard to support carers signposting them to services and peer support both locally and nationally, sharing news and information whilst promoting trust systems that are in place to support carers."*

Jill Nooij, from Caring Together said it has been a pleasure to work with Sarah and her colleagues and added, "*They have shown a real commitment to supporting carers. It's clear that they have a good understanding of the challenges faced by carers and how they can provide support within their department and the wider hospital. Their enthusiasm has even spread to other hospitals.*"

*"Congratulations on achieving the Carer Friendly Tick, it's very much deserved!"*

# Gardening with Climate Change

## Gardening with climate change - what we can do!



**Coming soon:  
August 12th West Wickham Village Hall and  
Recreation Ground 10.00 -16.00**

Balsham, Linton, West Wickham and District and Wickhambrook gardening clubs have joined forces to bring you a unique event devoted to learning more about managing the effects of climate change on gardening. Full details are on our website:

**[www.climatechangegardening.org](http://www.climatechangegardening.org)**

All activities are **FREE**. Book on line to save a space at the talks in the morning from 10.00-12.30 (we are limited to 100 places), or bring the family to the afternoon activities and demonstrations from 13.30. We have limited spaces (20) to build a birdbox: one box per family on a first come first served basis. There will also be the chance to build a bug hotel and to make your own newspaper plant pots. Experts from voluntary organisations, including Suffolk Wildlife Trust, and retailers will be on hand covering issues such as attracting wildlife into your garden, peat replacement composts,

water use and irrigation, garden ponds and much more.

There will be a lunch break between 12.30 and 13.30 and we recommend that you pre-order a pizza from Balsham's BPP catering orange pop up pizza trailer which will be at the event. They will also be cooking waffles! The link to BPP can be found on our website above. Click on The Event and scroll down to Refreshments. Click on pre-order here.

We also hope to have Toni's ice creams with us. Tea, coffee, soft drinks and cake will be available to purchase in the village hall.

Apart from on line payments for pizzas, please bring cash for other purchases.

Do join us for what we believe will be a truly enjoyable and informative occasion.

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**Dave Arnold**

BALSHAM GARDENING CLUB

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# Cambridge Past, Present and Future



## Unleash the fun!

We are delighted to be opening a new dog run area at Wandlebury Country Park in mid-August. To mark the opening there will be a free **Fun Dog Show** at 2pm on **Saturday 12 August**. Join us with your pooches to take part. More info here. Winners will be awarded rosettes for Puppy (under 12 months), Best trick, Waggiest tail, Best condition, Best child handler, Best adult handler, Most adorable eyes, Best pair, Veteran (over 8) and Dog the judge would like to take home.

The new dog run is on former farmland and is part of our project to expand Wandlebury for people and nature. You will be able to access the dog run from the path that runs between Games Field and the main

road. The dog run is securely fenced so that your dog can't run off and big enough to throw a ball. There is also a dog bin to clean up after your pet. We will provide a drinking bowl for your pooch – just add water.

## School Holiday Ideas

Wandlebury is a great place to visit with all the family. **Build a den, watch wildlife, climb a tree, run around, find the Dinky Door, have a picnic, book a BBQ area** or go to the website for more ideas of how to spend a good time together outdoors across our sites. Join a **free guided walk to visit the cows on 22 August** or book **holiday bushcraft** at Wandlebury for 5-12 years olds. There will be a **pop-up café** every day of the week from 10-4pm, with ice creams being served on

Wednesdays from midday.

### **Planning Matters**

We continue to be very busy working to influence new development to benefit Cambridge's environment, heritage and people. We have taken part in a planning inquiry against proposals for a giant wall of new development near the River Cam meadows in north Cambridge. In recent weeks we met with 4 different developers who plan to build new laboratories and offices. This includes plans for the Beehive shopping area and you can have your say on these by going to: <https://beehivecentreconsultation.co.uk/>. We are concerned that they are proposing lots of jobs but no housing for those new workers when it is desperately needed and in an ideal location.

In addition, Cambridge Airport will be turned into a new district from 2030 and we have been talking to them about greenspace and nature, but they are also interested in your views on how the airport might be developed, you can have your say at: <https://cambridgeeast.com/index.php?contentid=32&utm>.

We are raising awareness of plans to build a new 5-mile bus road through the countryside south of Cambridge, and we are trying to persuade decision-makers that a combination of bus lanes and bus road along the A1307 corridor would

be better for the environment, better for tax-payers and equally good for commuters. To sign the petition and add your voice go to: [www.change.org/p/save-south-east-cambridge-countryside](http://www.change.org/p/save-south-east-cambridge-countryside).

### **Helping Hands**

Thank you to everyone who has been in touch about helping at our summer events. We could still do with a few extra pairs of hands please:

- Welcoming and hosting guests at the **Summer Jazz Concert** at Wandlebury on **Sun 6 Aug, 2pm-6pm**
- To serve refreshments at **Stourbridge Fair** at the Leper Chapel on **Sat 2 Sep, 12-4.30pm**.
- To deliver flyers to advertise the **Stourbridge Fair (18-30 Aug)**.



# Balsham Weather June 2023



## Air Temperatures: Maximum & Minimum

recorded by Peter Neale, 11 Nine Chimneys Lane.

Daytime temperatures (in the shade)

**Highest:** 31° C on 25th June

**Lowest:** 16° C on 6th June

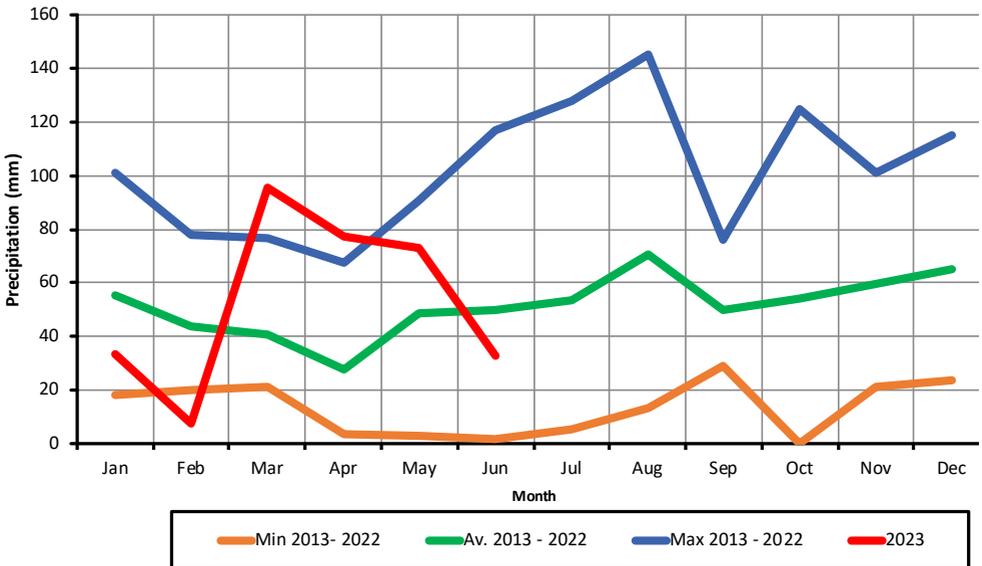
Night time temperatures

**Highest:** 18° C on 12th June

**Lowest:** 6° C on 3rd June

## June Rainfall Measured at 11 Nine Chimneys Lane, Balsham

Total June 2023 Rainfall: 32.6mm / 1.28" (4 days of Rain )



recorded by Peter Neale, 11 Nine Chimneys Lane.



**Saturday August 5th**

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

**Tár (15)**



Cate Blanchett as leading actress and BAFTA Award winner in the acclaimed film **Tár** (15) starring as the iconic musician Lydia Tár – a BAFTA award winning film examining the changing nature of power and its impact in our modern world.

***Dave's bar will be open for pre-show drinks and nibbles as normal  
Join the Picture House with annual membership of just £12  
or come as a guest member at £3/film show***



## **ADVANCE NOTICE**

**Saturday September 2nd 2023**

**Allelujah** (12) based on Alan Bennett's play Allelujah is a warm, humorous and deeply moving story about surviving old age. When a geriatric ward of a small Yorkshire hospital is threatened with closure the hospital decides to fight back. Stars include **Derek Jacobi, Judi Dench** and **Jennifer Saunders**.