



# BALSHAM *Review*

ISSUE No. 652

SICUT CANIS CUM OSSIS

OCTOBER 2023



The Balsham time machine!

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

Photo: Lesley Bennett



Photo: Lesley Bennett

A misty morning en-route to West Wickham.



Allotments can be hard work, but with time and patience, it's all worthwhile. It hasn't been an easy season, but we have had some cracking produce: beetroot, beans, carrots, courgettes, potatoes, plums, tomatoes and many more - including flowers.

If you enjoy the great outdoors and enjoy gardening, why not get yourself a plot. Nothing can beat fresh vegetables!

**Sheila and Cyril Denny**

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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,  
OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup> 2023

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

## **Balsham Review Team**

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

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01223 892961

**Main editor:** Gill Parry Brown  
01223 893012

**Treasurer:** Gill Clarke  
01223 894034

**Contact:** Gill Parry Brown  
01223 893012

**This month's photographers:**  
*Sheila Denny, Richard Pargeter, Lesley Howkins, Jan Ellam and Lesley Bennett.*



## **Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme**

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

# Editorial

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Autumn does seem to have arrived now that the equinox has come. As a child we were always told that the change of season came on that day, September 21st, with gales or even storms, and this year it was exactly that day that the warm sun departed and, in my garden at least, everything seemed to change. Forget the meteorological office with their ideas of September 1st!

I don't like to say it now, but autumn means Christmas is on its way.

Operation Christmas Child has been an important effort in this village, and many others, when shoe-boxes are filled with small gifts for children who are in a deprived situation in other countries, because of war, economic problems, storms or other natural disasters. Page 22 has details of how you can help. For many years Penny Cook has collected and sent boxes from Balsham but this year she is not organising this any more. Thank you, Penny, for all the time and care you have spent, it has been much appreciated by those who have known about your efforts, and I am sure also by those children who have benefitted from your shoe boxes.

Someone else who has been a great organiser and helper in the village is Debbie Paton who has been busy with her own life lately, but has organised a Market for us for Halloween. Do try to get there; you will find all kinds of food, and also stalls with ideas of gifts ready for Christmas.

Remarkably, the pothole by the Green has been filled in, although we are still waiting for the rest of that stretch to be repaired. I have found the change of bin day reasonable so far, but it is early days. Sunday night was easy to remember, I'm not sure about Tuesdays, ready for Wednesday. Another item that has come up at Parish Council meetings is speeding in the village. Some drivers coming through are obviously taking no notice of speed restrictions, thirty is way below their speed. Consideration is being taken to dropping the limit to twenty in the centre of the village, for the safety of us all.

In the magazine this month you will find articles about allotments. If you have one, do make sure you get the best benefit possible, by keeping it in good order, providing you, and perhaps friends and neighbours, with great fruit and vegetables. Harold Gawthorp and the Dennys have found the benefit of growing for their fresh food, and also enjoying the outdoors as well.

A reminder to **Garden Club** members of the change of venue for their meeting—it will be in the Pavilion; and to the **Bowls Club** members a change of night—it is to be **Monday 9th** for the AGM to avoid a clash with the WI.

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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

### GERRY BUSH

My, and the family's, thanks to all who were so supportive, in every way, at Gerry's recent passing.

It has been very comforting that the care, concern and help of friends has so readily been given over the last few years.

Our sincere thanks to all.

### Andy Bush



### DAVID PETTITT

Through the Review, the family of David Pettitt, who sadly passed away on 20th August, 2023, would like to thank you for your kind messages and many cards.

He was a fireman until he retired and then did various jobs. He had an allotment for years, and also enjoyed walking all the dogs we had over the years.

Many thanks and special thanks from Rusty (*Woof Woof!*).

### Peggy Pettitt



Charity Bottle Opening at the Queens Head with landlords Dick and Hazel Sargent

Local boy Mick Lambert, a footballer with Ipswich Town FC, is in the middle

Approx. 1974/75

Photo supplied by Jan Ellam

# Balsham October Diary

DATE	EVENT & TIME	VENUE
4th Wednesday	Gardening Club 7.30pm	Pavilion
6th Friday	Community Café, 10.00am—12pm	Mays Avenue
7th Saturday	Picture House, <b>Ticket to Paradise</b> 7.30pm	Church Institute
9th Monday	Bowls Club AGM, 7.00pm	Pavilion
10th Tuesday	WI, 7.30pm	Pavilion
16th Monday	Parish Council, 7.30pm	Pavilion
17th Tuesday	Community Café, 10-12	Church Institute
17th Tuesday	Linton & District Historical Society	Linton Village Hall
<b>November</b> 2nd Thursday	All Souls' Day Service, 6pm	Church

## Bin Collections October/November

DATE	BLACK	BLUE	GREEN
Wednesday October 4 <sup>TH</sup>	✓		
Wednesday October 11 <sup>TH</sup>		✓	✓
Wednesday October 18 <sup>TH</sup>	✓		
Wednesday October 25 <sup>TH</sup>		✓	✓
Wednesday November 1 <sup>ST</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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At the time of writing, I am feeling grateful for the warmth and beauty of early Autumn and looking forward to a variety of celebrations in our parishes. I'm delighted we will be celebrating two weddings in early and mid-Autumn, and looking forward once more to Harvest festivals in our churches.

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

Our harvest festivals in church nowadays are usually celebrated sometime in early-mid Autumn and we will be doing this in each of our parishes. They are times when we give thanks for the many gifts of God and reflect on how we should seek to be generous in Christ's name. During our harvest festivals this

year we will be asking for donations of non-perishable food towards the foodbank run by Reach in Haverhill and reflecting on the daily importance of gratitude and of being cheerful givers. We hope to keep in mind the kind of generosity the Apostle Paul commended in his second letter to the church in Corinth, where he encouraged cheerful generosity and linked this to praise and thanksgiving.

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

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**Revd Iain McColl**

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There will be two special services to remember those of our families and friends who have died.

They will be held on:

**All Souls' Day on Thursday 2nd November - 5.00pm at Little Abington and 6.00pm at Balsham.**

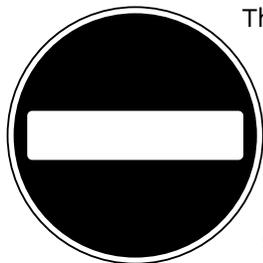


In Balsham we held our Harvest Service on Sunday 24th September.

<b>October Services</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>1st</b>		<b>United Service with Holy Communion</b> Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Rev Ben Brady to preach</i>	
<b>8th</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Weston Colville <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> West Wickham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Hildersham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> Balsham <i>Rev Iain McColl</i> <b>Harvest Songs of Praise</b> Great Abington <i>Rev Ben Brady Hannah Threlfall</i>	<b>Evening Prayer</b> West Wrating <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>
<b>15th</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> West Wrating <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Steven Wheeler</i> <b>Morning Prayer</b> West Wickham <i>Alistair Collen</i>	<b>Morning Worship</b> Balsham <i>Hannah Threlfall</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> Little Abington <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Steven Wheeler</i>	<b>Evening Prayer</b> Hildersham <i>Alistair Collen</i>
<b>22nd</b>	<b>MorningWorship</b> West Wickham <i>Steven Wheeler</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> Weston Colville <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Balsham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> <b>Café Church</b> Hildersham <i>Steven Wheeler</i>	<b>Evening Prayer</b> Little Abington <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>
<b>29th</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> West Wickham <i>Revd Iain McCollr</i> <b>Holy Communion</b> West Wickham <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> <b>Café Church</b> Great Abington <i>Rev Ben Brady</i>	<b>Choral Evensong</b> Weston Colville <i>Alistair Collen</i>

## A1307 Closure

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The A1307 will be closed for two – possibly three – successive weekends in both directions to allow a new roundabout to be installed at the Bartlow/Linton crossroads.

The road closure from **6am on Saturday, September 30** to **6am on Monday, October 2** and from **6am on Saturday, October 7** until **6am on Monday, October 9** will allow for the new roundabout now being built at the

Bartlow crossroads outside Linton to be installed. It may necessary to close the road the following weekend as well.

The work forms part of the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) South East Transport Scheme.

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## Balsham Gardening Club



**Wednesday 4th October at Balsham Pavilion, 7:30pm**

‘The Life & Times of The Countess of Warwick  
& the Gardens of Easton Lodge’.

**Speaker:** Gary Matthews.

Refreshments & Raffle | Non members £3.00 | All welcome.

## Community Cafés

For the rest of this year these will all be from **10:00** to **12:00**:

**Tuesdays** at the **Balsham Church Institute** on:

**October 17th; November 14th; December 19th**

**Fridays** at the **Mays Avenue Community Hall** on:

**October 6; November 3; December 1st**

*If you are interested in coming along to the **Community Lunch**,  
feel free to contact us for more details.*

# District & County Councillor's Report

SEPTEMBER 2023

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## Road closures

There are to be two or possibly three closures to the A1307, on the first and second weekend of October.

Once this work has been completed then the roundabout will be able to open and there won't need to be any further road closures.

For more up to date information go to the Greater Cambridge Partnership website -

<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/sustainable-transport-programme/public-transport-schemes/cambridge-south-east-transport/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-background/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-current-schemes>

## Community Gritting Scheme

Each year the County Council offers communities the chance to volunteer to assist with gritting the roads in our area. The scheme allows people the chance to identify specific roads/paths in their parishes that might benefit from some gritting, which currently aren't. Full detail of the scheme can be found at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and->

[parking/roads-and-pathways/gritting-roads-cycleways-and-paths/help-with-gritting-and-clearing-snow](#)

## Grit bins

Grit bins across the county are filled at the start of the winter season. They are intended to be used only for public roads and footpaths. If you spot a grit bin that is empty or running low, please let us know through the Cambridgeshire online reporting tool. You will need to pinpoint the location of the grit bin on the map and select the problem type 'Winter maintenance'. The bin will be filled as soon as we have the resources to do so.

To enquire about a new grit bin or report one that is damaged, please contact your parish, town or city council.

## Contact Information

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### Geoff Harvey

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR  
[geoff.harvey@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.harvey@gmail.com)

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### Henry Batchelor

COUNTY COUNCILLOR  
[henrybatchelor89@gmail.com](mailto:henrybatchelor89@gmail.com)

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# Balsham Parish Council

*The Parish Council Meeting took place on 18th September, 2023 in Balsham Pavilion*

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

Work is ongoing by CCC Highways to work out the source of the problem.

## **Illumination and other improvements to the Prince Memorial:**

The lighting quote is still to be received. The paving around the map boards has been completed. Further plans are on hold as the ownership of the land is in question with CCC.

**War Memorial:** The war memorial lettering has been repainted and the stonemason will come back and recut the lettering on some of the names.

## **Floodlighting at the recreation ground:**

The PC agreed to only put on the floodlights for football training and not every night for dog walking. This decision was made to reduce the large energy bills.

## **Planning:**

**Site address:** 2 Church Lane, Balsham.

**Proposal:** Addition of a 2-storey side extension, single storey rear extension and change to the front porch from flat roof to pitched gable roof.

**Reference:** 23/03264/HFUL

**PC Decision:** No recommendation

**Site address:** Dotterell Hall, Cambridge Rd, Balsham

**Proposal:** Conversion of existing agricultural building to 2 dwellings

and demolition of further agricultural building.

**Reference:** 23/03410/FUL

**PC Decision:** No recommendation

**Site address:** 50 West Wickham Rd, Balsham

**Proposal:** Single Storey Rear infill extension to replace poorly constructed lean-to

**Reference:** 23/03380/HFUL

**PC Decision:** No recommendation

**Site address:** 86 High St, Balsham

**Proposal:** T1 Sycamore, Fell.

**Reference:** 23/1006/TTCA

**PC Decision:** Approve

**Site address:** Mill Farm Buildings, Linton Road, Balsham

**Proposal:** Demolition of existing agricultural building and replacement with one self-build dwelling, conversion of existing outbuildings to residential ancillary to the host dwelling, change of use of agricultural land to residential ancillary to the host dwelling along with associated works and infrastructure.

**Reference:** 23/02555/FUL

The next  
**Parish Council Meeting**  
will be held on  
**16th October, 2023**  
at **7.30 pm**  
in **Balsham Pavilion.**  
**ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND**

*PC Decision:* No recommendation

**Site address:** 109 High St, Balsham

**Proposal:** T1 - Horse chestnut tree, reduce tree all round by a maximum of 4-5m in height and 2-3m on lateral branches and thin crown by 20% selectively removing the poorly formed unions. Tree has been heavily reduced/pollarded in previous years and now showing signs of decay in main trunk due to

poor practice and poorly formed unions in the newer growth.

**Reference:** 23/1068/TTPO

**PC Decision:** Minimum work to manage the signs of decay.

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**Tracy Coston** PARISH CLERK

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**Tel:** 01223 894462 / 07929930385

**Email:** clerk@balsham.net

**Website:** www.balsham.net

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## Linton & District Historical Society

### Cambridge

#### American Military Cemetery

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

After America entered into WWII, thought had to be given to the inevitable casualties and fatalities this would bring. East Anglia had a network of airfields and Cambridge was chosen for its central location to deal with this crucial role.

Photographs show how the fields were transformed over the years, from the first wooden cross to the thousands of marble crosses familiar today.

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

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

All our meetings are on **3rd Tuesday of the month** starting **7.30pm** at the Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 17th October** with **'The Edwardian School Room'**.

Like many organisations we are struggling to return to pre-covid attendances, so we have changed our format slightly. When arriving refreshments will be available and also a chance to win a raffle prize. The meeting will commence around 7.45-8.00pm.

If you would like to give support and help the society to keep going please contact us, either by email **ldhscamb@gmail.com** or telephone **01223 893915** or **01223 678835**.

# Linton Library News

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Are you keen to make our planet cleaner and greener for future generations? Libraries lend and share: we have always been at the heart of the circular economy. We have a wide array of books and online resources to inform and inspire you on your green journey.

**National Libraries Week, 2nd – 6th.** With the theme being ‘Green’, there will be drop-in eco crafts all week.

**Mark my Words:** October is **Black History Month**. Come and explore our display celebrating Black contributions to British life and literature.

**Caturday, Saturday 21st.** Cat puzzles, cat crafts, make a cat toy, and a representative from Woodgreen Animal Shelter will be here to answer your questions. Come along if you love cats.

**Storytime. Rhyme-time. Duplo-time** at the new time of 10am every Tuesday (in term time). Stories, songs and Duplo play for 0-4-year olds.

**New: Games Afternoon for Adults.** Beginning **Tuesday 10th** at **2pm**, meet new people and try new games (bring your favourite if you

like).

**Linton: Creative Mapping** continues **4th, 11th** and **18th, 10:30am-12:00pm**.

The free sessions are in collaboration with Arts and Minds ([artsandminds.org.uk](http://artsandminds.org.uk)) and led by Clare Basel.

**Knit and Natter.** Bring along your latest craft project, **2pm** on **Tuesday 3rd, 17th** and **31st**.

**Daylight Readers.** Our Book Groups meet on **Friday 20th** at **10.30am** and **2.30pm**.

**Justine** from **Reach Community Projects** will be here to offer advice and help **3 – 4.30pm** on the **1st** and **3rd Thursday** of the month (**5th** and **19th**).

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## Ann King & Melanie Symonds

COMMUNITY LIBRARY ASSISTANTS

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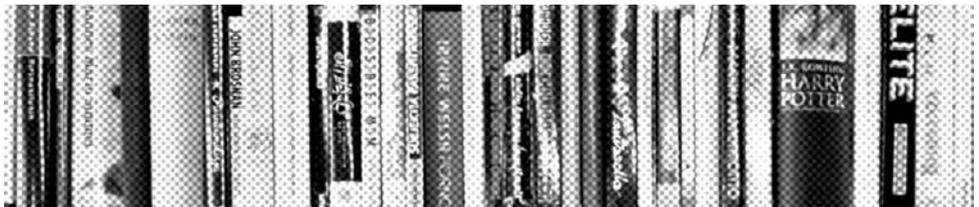
### Opening hours

<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)



# New Beginnings:

## A Fresh Start for the New Term

With one final blast of summer sun, we start our new academic year. We are looking forward to the new term that is now upon us, bringing with it exciting opportunities, new faces, and a chance to build on the successes of the previous year.

### Welcoming New Faces



This September, we welcome our youngest students, the Reception children, who are taking their first steps into the world of education. The start of the school year is always a special time, but there's something particularly heartwarming about seeing the Reception children take those first steps through our school gates.

### Out with the old...

One of the exciting changes this year is the revamp of our school's display boards. Out with the old and in with the new – the boards have been refreshed with hessian, creating a warm and rustic backdrop for showcasing the children's amazing

artwork and achievements. This new look not only adds charm to our school but also provides a more tactile and eco-friendly surface for display.



In addition to the updated display boards, our dedicated teaching team has introduced fresh new themes of learning to engage and inspire our students. These themes are designed to ignite their imaginations and foster a love for learning from the very start. From exploring the wonders of nature to embarking on adventures through history and science, our children are in for an exciting and enriching educational journey.

### Roles and Responsibilities

Year 6 marks the final year before the transition to secondary school, and during this time, students are entrusted with various roles and responsibilities that contribute to

their personal growth and the overall functioning of the school community. Our oldest members of our school have now been assigned as monitors and mentors as well as getting the opportunity to run for House Captain and Class Representatives. Here they will discuss school matters with teachers, advocate for student concerns, and participate in decision-making processes that affect the school community. Another element to their responsibilities is our buddy system, where our Year 6 students

pair up with the Reception children to provide guidance, support, and friendship. This not only helps the younger ones settle into their new school but also fosters a sense of belonging and community within our student body.

Here's to a fantastic new term filled with growth, achievements and cherished memories.

***Let's make it one to remember!***

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**Faye Facer**

ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER & EYFS LEAD

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## A Lifetime Love Of Gardening

One of my earliest childhood memories is being amongst the cucumbers and tomatoes in my grandad's greenhouse. In granny's flower garden there were hyacinths and forsythia in the spring, also flowering current and crocus. Now, nearly 70 years later, I still grow these items from my childhood.



At the time I was born, my father worked for Alan Bloom who had a nursery at Oakington, growing flowers. So it is only natural that I should have a passion for gardening,



especially growing flowers. I had my first greenhouse when I was 14 years of age. This was purchased with part of grandad's legacy. Ever since then I have had a greenhouse (or two) and get immeasurable pleasure from just being "amongst the plants".



Streptocarpus "Harlequin Lace"

My parents and grandparents, also aunts and uncles, instilled in me a lot of what I know about gardening and growing. I can think of no better hobby. My greenhouses and garden are a testament to what can be achieved, and there is nothing



Lilium Speciosum Rubrum

better than being able to put some home-grown vegetables on the table and to have cut flowers and pot plants in one's home.

**Photos:** Lesley Howkins

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### Harold Gawthorp

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YOU'RE INVITED TO  
**HALLOWEEN  
POP UP  
MARKET**

SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER

10AM UNTIL 12PM | BALSHAM CHURCH INSTITUTE

CANDIES, FUDGE, TURKISH DELIGHT,  
PRESERVES, MACARONS, CHEESE,  
KNOMES, DOG TREATS

**LINTON & DISTRICT  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

A Room in the old school room, early 1900s.

**The Edwardian School Room**  
**A talk by Linda Bevan & Jo Porth**

**LINTON VILLAGE HALL**  
**COLES LANE - 7.30 p.m.**

**Refreshments and Raffle**

**Visitors and new members always welcome**



Is it me or is the beer getting stronger?



Photos: Lesley Bennett

Sloes



Photo: Richard Pargeter

Common Darter



Photo: Richard Pargeter

Willow Emerald Damselfly



Photo: Richard Pargeter

Comma on verbena

# Balsham Bowls Club

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All the various leagues have now finished. The Friday night A Team have after over thirty years of trying finally won Division One of The Steeple Bumpstead Bowls League and will receive the trophy at the Champs v Rest game at Haverhill. At the same time the Newman triple will be attempting to win the Cambridge league Lacon cup. The rained-off Pairs League semi-final and final has now been completed over two Fridays which resulted in wins over Cavendish in the semi, and then winning the final against Castle Hedingham, to complete a win double of the triples and the pairs (bigger trophy cabinet required!). The other teams didn't fare quite so well with the Cambridge League team finishing third in Division 1, and the two B teams finishing bottom of their respective leagues.

The 2023 tour was to Eastbourne and was blessed with glorious weather. Despite a slight delay with a flat battery we arrived on the Friday and sixteen home players split into fours to compete for the maiden Chairman's Cup which was eventually won by Simon Tills team (so the Chairman's Cup was won by his brother-in-law). The Saturday match was at Eastbourne town, where we were successful, winning 108-92 on shots with four winning rinks. On Sunday we were back at Royal Sovereign Bowls Club where we had played



on Friday but unfortunately we lost the match 88-112, winning on only two rinks. The journey home on Monday was spoilt by a four-hour breakdown while the seized brakes were fixed, but overall the tour was very enjoyable and thanks go to Christine Till for her organising.

The Balsham pairs competition was held with 20 pairs, including 9 from Balsham taking part. The day which dawned bright and sunny with Jean Clements and Helen Day starting early in the kitchen preparing the lunches. The bowls started at 10.30 with each pair playing four games in a league format. By late afternoon following the raffle and spider, the final was decided by the last wood of the day resulting in the home pair of Phill Elliott and Wally Potter winning the trophy. Over all it was a successful day, despite the late rain, with much needed funds raised for the club.

The **Annual General Meeting** is on **9th Oct at 7.00pm**, and then the **Xmas Bingo** on **Saturday 2nd Dec**.

# Balsham Cricket Club

## Balsham Saturday Results

Saturday 19th August	Helions Bumpstead	Home	WON by 66 Runs
Saturday 26th August	Burrough Green	Home	WON by 25 Runs
Saturday 2nd Sept	Fulbourn II	Away	LOST by 6 Wickets

Having been promoted last year and starting off with no win in our first five games, we then won eight out of ten, leading us to finish a

creditable 3rd place.

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**Paul Ellam**

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## Balsham Football Club

This season Balsham Football Team are playing in the Cambridgeshire County League, Group 2A. Their fixtures and results can be found

on the FA website at:

**[www.fulltime.thefa.com](http://www.fulltime.thefa.com)**

and then search for

'Cambridgeshire', 'all ages', '2A'.

### RESULTS

DATE	HOME	AWAY	SCORE	RES
9 Sept	Fulbourn 1st	Balsham 1st	5-2	L
16 Sept	Balsham 1st	Whittlesford Utd 1st	2-2	D

### FIXTURES

DATE	TIME	HOME	AWAY	VENUE
30/9	3.00pm	Balsham	Guilden Morden	Comberton VC
7/10	3.00pm	Histon Hornets	Balsham	Histon Rec
14/10	3.00pm	Cambridge Ambassadors	Balsham	Trumpington 3G
28/10	3.00pm	Balsham	Papworth Res	Balsham Rec
4/11	2.00pm	Clare Town Res	Balsham	Clare Rec

# Balsham WI

Our first meeting of the Autumn term was held on 12th September when we had a speaker from the National Trust. Her talk was about working at Ickworth House in the 1930s, and she had many pictures of the House and servants to show us. Ickworth Estate covers about 1800 acres and consists of much more than the House itself. The House was built along the lines of an Italianate palace and was built to display the owner's large art collection. The central rotunda was purely for visitors and entertaining while the family lived in the east wing. The speaker told us about the owners of Ickworth needing investment at the turn of the century and this came from a bride bringing her family fortune with her. Her fortune came from her grandfather who had made his money by opening railways in South America. All was spent on renovating Ickworth.

The speaker was involved in the **Ickworth Lives Project** which started in 2009 and aims to restore the former servants' quarters. She often demonstrates old style recipes on the ranges in the kitchen when special events take place. Ickworth Estate was passed to the National Trust in lieu of death duties in 1956. Balsham WI also entered two teams into the **County Quiz** this month. Out of 35 teams Balsham came 3rd and joint 5th which was a good result, and a good evening was had by all.

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 are interested in joining us – **balshamwi@gmail.com** or send a message on Facebook, **@Balsham WI**



Opening of the Bowling Green at the newly built Pavilion 1974

# Operation Christmas Child

## Shoe Box Appeal

It is this time of the year again. Thank you for all the support over the last few years especially with the difficulties due to Covid. Last year nearly 11 million boxes were sent around the world, including two thirds of the boxes packed in the UK having gone to UKRAINE and the countries around who are supporting those who have fled the war.

This message is to encourage you to get involved again (or as a first timer) and fill a shoebox. It is a way of showing God's love. Each box may be the only gift a child will receive. So often items are treasured for years after and even into adulthood. Adding a photo or short message in the box means so much (no address). There are various ways to get involved:

- 1 Fill a whole shoebox with the suggested items (see link below) or
- 2 Donate one or more items, or
- 3 Make a donation which can be used to buy items, or for transport and training costs
- 4 Pack an "on line box"- for £20 you can chose the gifts via the

website. <https://shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk>

- 5 Make a cake for the cake sale on **Nov 18th 10-12pm**

Suggested items are stationery, toiletries (*not toothpaste or liquids*), toys, jewellery, hats, gloves, scarves, paper, balls, socks, (there is a long list on the website - see below, along with items to avoid)

**AGE GROUPS-** 2-4 yrs, 5-8 yrs, 9-14 yrs; Boys or Girls

Covered shoeboxes can be used or you can pick up a preprinted flat pack box from me, along with an information leaflet.

**Collection week is Nov 13th to 20th** when you can drop off filled boxes or items, (*bring along items if you*



have them) at my house or see other drop off places on the website.

There will be a **SHOEBOX FILLING PARTY** on **Saturday Nov 18th** at **Gt Shelford Free Church** along with a **CAKE SALE**.

Below is an address for the charity with all the information you will need.

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

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### **Jane Furlow**

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*I am a year-round volunteer for OCC. Please do get in touch if you need help or further information*

**Tel:** 01223 893 232

**Mob:** 07745 046 921 / 842181

**Email:** jane.furlow@gmail.com

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## **Cambridge Past, Present and Future**

**Volunteer Work Party - Wandlebury**  
**Tues 3 Oct | 10.30-1.30pm | FREE**

All instruction, equipment and tools provided. Wear tough clothes and boots and bring drinks/snacks. No need to book, just turn up. Meet at car park noticeboard.

**Dowsing at Wandlebury**

**Sat 14 Oct | 10am - 4pm | £25**

**(Members of CPPF & BDS £20)**

Archaeological dowsing at the Iron Age Hill fort with Steve Dawson of British Dowsers.

**Volunteer Work Party - Wandlebury**

**Tues 17 Oct | 10.30-1.30pm | FREE**

All instruction, equipment and tools provided. Wear tough clothes and boots and bring drinks/snacks. No need to book, just turn up. Meet at car park noticeboard.

**Orchard Autumn Amble**

**Wed 18 Oct | 10am - 12pm | FREE**

A gentle tour round the orchard and garden of the historic Wandlebury estate. Meet in the car

park. No need to book.

**Holiday Bushcraft at Wandlebury**

**Mon 23 Oct – Fri 27 Oct | 8.30am to 4pm | £42 per day**

Outdoor activities to inspire children, aged 5-12yrs.

Join **Cambridge Past, Present and Future** now and make the most of

members' free entry to our sites this autumn and a free ticket to the Merlin Sheldrake event. In addition you will enjoy:

- **Free** parking at Wandlebury for 12 months
- **Free** entry to Cambridge PPF heritage open days and discounted entry to events
- Discount on venue and BBQ hire
- Two copies a year of our members' magazine about local heritage and nature

Becoming a member is the best way to support our charitable work to protect the beauty of Cambridge and its environment.

# The Bell Inn

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Hi Everyone,

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.

We continue to serve food **Tues - Sat 12 - 2pm** and **5.30 - 8.30pm**, **Sunday 12 - 3.30pm**. Please book in advance if possible. Our **Summer Houses** are available for private dining for 4-6 people.



Monday night didn't seem popular for **Bingo**, so we are changing back to Wednesday, this month will be **11th**, and every second Wednesday of the month going forward. Eyes



down at 8pm.

The monthly **Charity Quiz** is **Tuesday 31st October**, new quizzers are always welcome.

Our regular **Lunch Club** is **Wednesday 25th October**, 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.

We are sadly losing **Nancy** at the end of September. After three and half years of loyal service, she is moving on to pastures new. We would like to wish her good luck in her new venture, and hope she has a happy and successful future.

**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.*

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**Phil & Mary**

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# The Black Bull



## **October greetings to all Balsham Villagers from all at The Black Bull**

Thank you to all of you who have visited this last month – whether for our **Pint of Music** event with Alton, a weekend brunch or just to make the most of the great weather while enjoying Rob's great food.

### **Taster Menus**

Rob's next taster menu has been set – **Thursday 5th October**. See the website for the menu. As many of you know now, we run these like a dinner party with everyone sitting down and being served at the same time, albeit at your own tables. Rob is always experimenting – we are never quite sure how it will turn out – but there have been only delights so far! Like any true artist, there is no formula – just instinct and intuition that comes from a life dedicated to his passion. As ever, be sure to book your table early as we cannot do that many tables at this level.

### **Christmas Bookings**

Yes, it is coming! We have ordered our logs, turkeys and crackers. Rob has done his usual magic on the menus. We know some have to get

super-organised early over Christmas so we have posted our menus and opened our bookings. Do get your towel down if you have particular dates that are important (eg 25th?!)

### **Some dates ahead for your diaries:**

**Rob Taster Menu: Thursday 5th October 7:30 for 7:45pm**

**Pint of Music: Friday 28th October – Steak Specials Board**

We are continuing our extension of our Black Bull Brunches programme to include Saturdays as well as Sundays due to popular demand – every few weeks – next ones:

**Saturday 7th /Sunday 8th October, Saturday 21st/Sunday 22nd October**

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

*Best wishes from all of us*

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

01223 893 844

info@blackbull-balsham.co.uk

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# Girlguiding Linton

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It's the start of a new term for us all in Linton District, one which has got off to a flying start. One of our Guides is cycling from Cambridge to Ely to raise money to go on an international trip to Sangam, our world centre in India. Whilst there she will take part in some community action; as well as meet Guides from around the world. There may also be time to see a few magnificent sights too. Our annual Cambs East County Grafham Water activities weekend has happened with a huge range of events such as kayaking, archery, raft building and of course the Grafham challenge, making lots of girls wet, happy and hungry. They were meeting girls from all over our county of Cambridgeshire East, some trying out a new challenge for the first time and some getting better skilled at a challenge they loved last time.

Our County Trefoil Guilds got together at Burwell for a celebration of the Trefoil Guilds 80th Birthday service. It was lovely to see one of our new county commissioners join us. Of course, no guiding event is a true guiding event without cake... We had a lovely one made by one of our members with the 80th badge on and all the trefoils through the ages.

We found out that they were formed in 1943 by a various group of old guides who together formed the Trefoil Guild. Here they found friendship as well as supporting and getting involved in guiding in many different ways, trying new challenges and having their own adventures. One of our amazing leaders has also just got

married and we wish her and her family many years of happiness together. What a beautiful day filled with friends and family and of course cake... We are very fortunate to have such wonderful group of unit leaders who give so freely of their time to enable our girls to know they can do anything. In 1916, 90 Guides aged 14-16 worked at MI5 during the first world war and some of them were taken to work at the signing of the treaty of Versailles.



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## Louisa

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**Tel:** 07711 614 328

**Email:** [lintondistrict@gmail.com](mailto:lintondistrict@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)

*Come and join us and be part of what we do. There are some amazing opportunities in guiding. Both locally and nationally. Share a skill or learn a new one.*

# Benefice ‘Mother Julian Of Norwich’ Group

This Group meets monthly on either the **second or third Wednesday at 7:15 pm at Nine Chimney House in Balsham**, the home of Joanna Sanders. This Group has been meeting for well over 12 years and initially was set up by the late Sharon Clark who was a Licensed Lay Minister.

We read one of Mother Julian’s readings from *Divine Love* and then

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

Thanks,

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**Joanna Sanders**

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Photo courtesy: Jan Ellam

Children’s pram race at the 1975 Carnival

# Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
& PETERBOROUGH  
**FIRE AUTHORITY**  
*Working together to improve community safety*

## Take Charge and Be Safe!

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is urging residents to **Take Charge and Be Safe** by keeping in mind some simple steps when using electrical devices, especially those with Lithium-Ion batteries. By following a few simple safety measures, like adding fire safety to your bedtime routine and being awake when using and charging some devices or appliances, people can keep themselves and their families safe in their homes.

Lithium-Ion batteries can be found in many electronic devices that are used every day. Things like mobile phones, laptops and tablets, vape cigarettes and games console controllers, as well as e-scooters and e-bikes.

## E-scooters and e-bikes

E-bikes and e-scooters are becoming a popular mode of transport and when bought from a reputable seller, with the correct battery and charger, and maintained well, they can be used safely.

Simple tips can help reduce the risk of overheating a battery:

- Use the correct charger for your

battery, and make sure to buy from a reputable seller

- Make sure your battery and charger meet UK safety standards – look for the CE mark
- Ideally, don't charge your e-bike or e-scooter overnight or while you are sleeping. If you must charge overnight, charge the bike/scooter in a room away from escape routes, close the door to the room and ensure the room has a smoke detector in it
- Keep an eye out for warning signs that your battery might be failing and becoming a fire risk – if the battery is getting very hot, making a noise, smoking, leaking or bulging or the charger cable is frayed, stop using it and get a replacement. It is normal for batteries to feel warm when charging but if it is extremely hot to touch it is a sign it may be defective and could start a fire
- Let your battery cool after use before charging it
- Unplug your charger once the battery has charged.

## Bedtime routine

Many fires in the home start at night while people are asleep. This can be down to a number of different causes, but can be easily avoided by following a few simple tips, as

well as having working smoke alarms on each floor of your home.

A bedtime routine is a great way to help you and your family stay fire safe in your home. By following a few simple tips before heading to bed for the night, you can prevent a fire from happening or, if one does break out, stop it from spreading.

### **Tip 1**

Switch off plugs and electrical appliances before heading to bed, as well as blowing out candles. Things like fridges, freezers and smart devices (e.g. Alexa) are designed to be kept on, but TVs, microwaves, washing machines and tumble dryers should all be turned off, as should wax melters.

### **Tip 2**

Closing internal doors will help prevent a fire from spreading, if one does break out. Take the time to close any doors around your home, especially the kitchen door.

### **Tip 3**

Work out the quickest way to escape your home should a fire break out and make sure it's clear before heading to bed. Keep stairs, hallways and corridors clear of clutter to ensure you and your family can get out quickly if needed.

### **Tip 4**

Before going to bed, make sure you have quick access to your keys so you can easily leave the house if

needed.

## **Batteries**

When buying lithium-ion batteries, there are a couple of things you can look for to decrease the chances of buying a dodgy battery.

The battery should have a CE mark to signify it meets UK standard.

There are a few steps you can follow to increase your safety in your home when charging lithium-ion batteries. Where possible, buy from recognised manufacturers for example.

***Lithium-ion batteries can't be disposed of in your regular household recycling. Doing so can cause fires.***

Many local shops have a battery bank where you can dispose of them and recycling centres can also take them.

If you're unsure you can check with your local council.

Residents can also use our online home safety check to carry out their own fire risk assessment of their home. This simple to use tool goes through each area of a property and generates a safety plan for the occupants to follow. The check can be carried out on behalf of a vulnerable family member.

Find out more on the fire service's website: [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk).



Meadow School Staff in 1977 (just love the 70's styles)



Photos courtesy: Jan Ellam

The Clock Shop, 1977 where 'if you can find it, we have it'

# Balsham Weather August 2023

Photo: Lesley Bennett



## Air Temperatures: Maximum & Minimum

recorded by Peter Neale, 11 Nine Chimneys Lane.

Daytime temperatures (in the shade)

**Highest:** 27° C on 10th August

**Lowest:** 16° C on 5th August

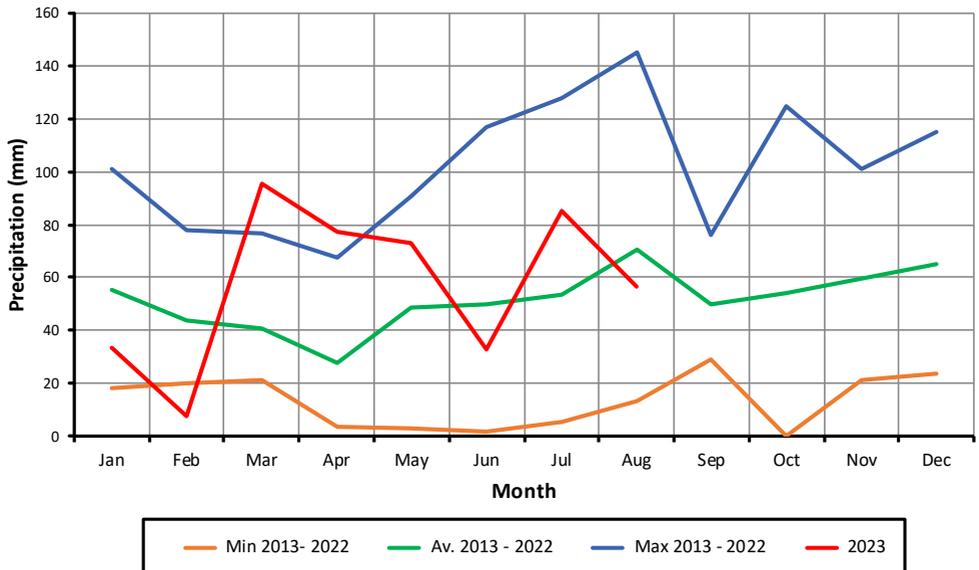
Night time temperatures

**Highest:** 17° C on 19th August

**Lowest:** 10° C on 6th August

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

Total August 2023 Rainfall: 56.5mm / 2.23" (11 days of Rain )



recorded by Peter Neale, 11 Nine Chimneys Lane.



**Saturday October 7th**

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

## **Ticket to Paradise (12)**



**Ticket to Paradise (12)** George Clooney and Julia Roberts team up as exes who find themselves on a shared mission to stop their lovestruck daughter from making the same mistake they once made. The film is a romantic comedy about the sweet surprise of second chances.

*Dave's bar will be open for pre-show drinks and nibbles as normal.*

*At the time of going to press the November film had not yet been decided upon. Please refer to the noticeboard at the Balsham Church Institute for details of the next film.*

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