



BALSHAM *Review*

ISSUE No. 659

SICUT CANIS CUM OSSIS

JUNE 2024

Snapping Dogs

SEE FULL STORY ON PAGES 16-17



**BALSHAM
FEAST
SATURDAY
6TH JULY**

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



Photo: Dave Arnold



Photo: Richard Pargeter



Photo: Andrea Nunn

Busy stallholders at the Big Balsham Sale



Photo: Richard Pargeter

Balsham Wood Walk: Matthew Biddel explaining Ash Dieback to the group.

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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.

KEEP UP TO DATE!

All the latest news and events at:
www.balsham.net

DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

FRIDAY, June 14TH 2024

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

Balsham Review Team

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

Chairman: Helen Hatfield,
01223 892961

Main editor: Gill Parry Brown
01223 893012

Treasurer: Gill Clarke
01223 894034

Contact: Gill Parry Brown
01223 893012

Photographs supplied by:

Puja Hazlehurst, Lesley Bennett, Richard Pargeter, Dave Arnold, Darren Gunn, Junior Harris, Claire Kavanagh, Les Redhead, Leon Ketteridge, Andrea Nunn & Henryk Pisarski.



Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme

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

Editorial



You may have noticed that each page of the Review now has the village website address at the bottom. Do please use it to find village news, past editions of the Review, information about future events, links to other village websites and much more besides. At present there are some areas that have little on them, and anything you can contribute will be welcome. To do so you need to email clive@ben8and.co.uk or clerk@balsham.net

It was great fun bringing our dogs to the Rec for the photos that are on pages 16/17. It went off very well with dogs behaving well. Actually most of them knew each other as they regularly meet walking. It would be good to have even more next year, particularly from each end of the village - it's not that far to walk to the Rec - and you might find other good walks you don't yet know about. We are lucky that we do have several community events in our village throughout the year from the **Plough Monday** celebrations to the **Christmas Tree Festival**. We are fast approaching the **Feast** on **July 6th** and many are busy preparing for

their stalls and events that are part of it. Keep an eye open for anything that you can do to help beforehand, for example the gardening club will have a stall to sell plants, and welcome any you can bring, and then buy others to replace them!

Something that has again come up at the Parish Council is the state of our footways (pavements). Regular parking on the footways has caused some to disintegrate. This is especially bad in Trinity Close, where the state of them is a real problem for the residents, especially those who find walking difficult at the best of times. There is a very narrow roadway but careful parking does allow passage for other vehicles on the road, leaving the footway for those walking with children, especially with pushchairs. However the width of footways also causes difficulties, and in many places around the village this is restricted where hedges project over the footway, and in one or two places pushchairs even have to go on the road. Please, if you have a hedge beside a footway check to make sure the new growth isn't causing a problem for those walking past.

We often manage to have good weather for the Feast, so let's hope it will be a great day for us all, and **'See you there!'**

Gill Parry Brown

EDITOR, BALSHAM REVIEW

Letters

*Letters to the Editor for publication **MUST** be signed and include your telephone number. Names can be withheld, if requested. The opinions expressed in the letters and articles in this magazine are those of the writers, who are responsible for the accuracy of the information contained within them.*

DEAR EDITOR

THANKS

Dear Friends,

I would like to express my most heartfelt thanks for the many messages of love, encouragement, support, and good wishes which I have received since my final Sunday service at the beginning of May. I have been inundated with gifts and cards which have been so very much appreciated. They say that having a good 'ending' enables a good 'beginning' and I leave this place well, with precious memories which will stay with me for the rest of my days and will speed me on my way to Hertfordshire.

My prayers will remain with all of you in each and every village. It has been an honour to have played a significantly small part in the Granta Vale Group of Churches.

So, until we meet again friends, with all my heart God bless you and once again thank you.

Reverend Ben Brady

BALSHAM PAROCHIAL CHARITIES

The trustees will be holding a further meeting later in the year to consider applications for funds, particularly from groups involved

with children and young people within the village of Balsham. Any person or organisation who feels they may be entitled to a donation, please drop a line to the clerk.

Ian Creek

*Clerk to Balsham Parochial Charities,
6 Trinity Close, Balsham, CB21 4DW*

I understand that in 'days of yore' the charities in the village were administered by the church. Money or land was left to provide for the poor, and one of the boards on the wall in the church mentions this. Later the many small charities were amalgamated and some land, now two fields, was acquired to bring in a regular rent. The charity is now administered by the Balsham Parochial Charities (BPC), with members representing the Church's PCC and also the Parish Council. In living memory money was given at Christmas to all pensioners in the village, and the elderly continue to be supported, although often it is 'thank you but give it to someone else'.

As some of the money had been left to help educate 'poor children' the BPC prioritises young people and their needs, maybe to help towards sponsored work trips by school children to international camps, or help towards learning a special skill such as playing an instrument. Organisations in the village can also receive financial assistance, and help can be given after a fire in a home, or assistance given to those in need arriving in the village with little or nothing.

The Charity is for all in Balsham, and if there is a special need an application will be considered provided the applicant has lived in the village for at least six months.

Editor

Church Services



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

Information about services in Holy Trinity Church, Balsham can be found on the Church Notice Board and on the website www.grantavale.org.uk under the calendar section, or by signing up to our weekly newsletter, details of which can also be found on the website.

CHURCH CONTACTS

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

SERVICES at other CHURCHES when possible

ROMAN CATHOLIC Masses at:

Cherry Hinton: St Philip Howard Church

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

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

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

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

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

METHODIST: Haverhill Methodist Church, Camps Road

From the Church

When Iain and Cazzy asked me to write this piece for the newsletters, to say farewell to you all as Community Minister, I could not quite believe that the year had gone by and that it was time to take off the Community Minister hat. But sadly, it is so.

It has been such an honour and privilege to have been able to take on the role and it has been a joy to meet so many of you within the Benefice. This may have been at a coffee morning, community lunch, a service, at the primary schools, a chance meeting or when I have been able to provide support within your home. Wherever our paths crossed – I will always be so grateful that we were able to connect, laugh, share, solve and pray. Blessed moments indeed.

Thank you to you all, for making me feel so welcome, for allowing me to walk alongside you and for giving me the support needed to flourish within ministry.

Now, I mentioned earlier about taking off a hat, and I am thrilled to be able to share that I am indeed putting on a new one. I shall be Joining the Benefice in July as your new Curate!

My family and I will move into The Vicarage, Abington in June and an exciting venture for us all will begin. On the 30th June, I will be ordained by Bishop Dagmar at Ely Cathedral and I will then begin my Curacy on the 1st July!

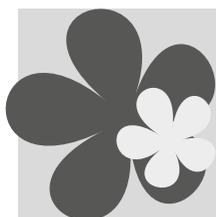
This placement affords so many advantages – for I can continue with so many of the connections and events that I had as Community Minister. So, it is a “Goodbye” but also a very big “Hello”.

May God bless each and everyone of us within our communities and continue to shine his love, guidance, care and strength to all.

Hannah Threlfall



June Services	9:30am	11:00am	6:00pm
2nd		United Service with Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Hannah Threlfall</i>	
9th	Holy Communion Weston Colville <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship West Wickham <i>Alistair Collen</i>	Holy Communion Great Abington <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship Balsham <i>Hannah Threlfall</i>	Evening Prayer West Wrattling <i>Alistair Collen</i>
16th	Holy Communion West Wrattling <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Rhona McEune</i> Holy Communion West Wickham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i> Morning Worship Weston Colville <i>Alistair Collen</i>	Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Iain McColl/ Rhona McEune</i> Morning Worship Little Abington <i>Alistair Collen</i> Holy Communion Hildersham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	
23rd	Holy Communion West Wickham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Morning Worship Weston Colville <i>Steven Wheeler</i> 10:00am Creative Church Abington Institute <i>Rosemary Mead</i>	Café Church Hildersham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i> Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Kathy Bishop</i>	Evening Prayer Great Abington <i>Steven Wheeler</i>
30th		Holy Communion Balsham <i>Revd Michael Wilcockson</i>	Evening Prayer Hildersham <i>Revd Iain McColl</i>



The **Gardening Club** will have a **Plant Stall** at the **Balsham Feast** on **6th July**. Contributions of spare garden and house plants will be very welcome. If you don't know a member of the Club, please drop plants off at the Recreation Ground on the morning of the Feast.

Buttercups Community Pre-School

It was wonderful to see so many faces, both familiar and new, attend our Easter Fun Egg Hunt. The weather was definitely on our side that day! It was such a success which raised some much-needed funds for the pre-school. An eggstra special thank you to everyone who supported us and the event.

It was a very nerve-wracking day when we had OFSTED come to Buttercups recently. The children

were their usual amazing selves, and the staff were very proud to show the inspectors what we do.

A huge thank you for all the wonderfully supportive, kind words of praise we had from our parents/carers. Those testimonials meant so much to us all and were very much appreciated.

Officially Buttercups Community Pre-school are GOOD!

Balsham Gardening Club



Photo: Dave Arnold

A few of us from the Balsham Gardening Club had a very enjoyable visit to the Royal Horticultural Society gardens at Hyde Hall near Chelmsford on 21st May. The early summer colours were vibrant,

especially in the dry garden and cottage gardens, and there was plenty of lush growth. At least there hasn't been any shortage of rain this year, including on our visit, to hold back growth.

Yole Farm

Well, what a farming year this has been. One to remember!

The last Saturday of April we at last finished drilling. This meant that we have drilled every month since last July. We have never done this before!

Due to the wet Autumn, we hadn't drilled 200 ha of winter crops. This has meant the spring has been very busy with extra crops going in. Some of these have gone into less-than-ideal conditions. Cropping has had to be adapted as so many farmers across the country were in the same predicament and there were seed shortages.



We have planted Spring Barley for Malting, Spring Oats for Milling, Peas which are grown on contract for Herba's at Fulbourn and Sugar Beet. We are some of the lucky ones as I hear some farms will not get drilled this season putting more financial pressure on them.

We have moved a lot of grain out of our stores over the last few months,

Barley for seed, Hard Wheat going to Weetabix, Milling Wheat going to Heygates for flour, Rye going to Yorkshire for pig food and peas going to Herba's at Fulbourn. We also had American rice come from Ipswich Docks to be stored which has then also been carted into Herba Foods.

Routine cropping jobs are now continuing with herbicides and fertiliser being applied. Compound, which is Phosphate and Potash, is being applied via variable rate application. This means it is only applied where it needs to be. Each field has been mapped via satellite imagery and with the aid of an iPad which is plugged into the tractor's GPS system we drive up and down the tramlines and product is applied automatically where it needs it with variable rates.

Despite the wet weather we have kept busy. Nearly all the store lambs that came down from Northumberland to be finished have now gone. We have finished all our home bred cattle, but more were bought in to use up the excess straw, silage, and barley. As of the beginning of May we have nearly completed calving, and all the cattle have at last been turned out to grass.

On the conservation side many of you have probably noticed that we have been planting hedges on field

boundaries around the villages. This will be a rolling programme where we intend to have all fields with hedges on their boundaries.

In March we dug four ponds on two wet fields at Great Wilbraham. This is part of an on-going conservation scheme to convert 2 semi derelict fields running alongside the stream into a wildlife haven. Later in the year we will be redrilling the field with grass, and then fencing ready for us to graze next year with sheep and cattle.



Other conservation jobs to do over the next month are the planting of Wild Bird food for the winter and grass margins that are to go in round the edges of fields to encourage hares and small mammals.

Before we know it harvest will be with us in July and the farming year will come to an end to restart in September.

Let us all hope for a kind summer and Autumn this year.



James Kiddy

Bin Collections June/July

DATE	BLACK	BLUE	GREEN
Wednesday June 5 th		✓	✓
Wednesday June 12 th	✓		
Wednesday June 19 th		✓	✓
Wednesday June 26 th	✓		
Wednesday July 3 rd		✓	✓
Wednesday July 10 th	✓		

Balsham Singers

The **Balsham Singers Spring Concert** took place on **Saturday 18th May** in Holy Trinity Church Balsham. We were delighted to see a large and appreciative audience with many of you being loyal supporters of many years; we hope you enjoyed the performance. The singers' committee would like to take the opportunity to thank most sincerely Balsham and Abington Post offices for acting as our box office, Balsham PCC for allowing us to use the wonderful venue and especially

Nigel who also doubles as our sign writer, the ladies and gentlemen who look after front of house duties and of course Brian and his team for organising furniture and staging. Rehearsals will continue after the concert this year as we prepare for our **next performance** at the **Balsham Feast** on **6th July**. Hope to see you there.

Thank you for your support.

Jo Stinton

.....

Balsham Singers at the Really Big Chorus at the Albert Hall



A group of Balsham Singers and friends joined a throng of 2000 singers from around the world to sing Mozart's Requiem Mass at the Royal Albert Hall on May 12th.

Accompanied by the English Festival Orchestra, led by conductor Brian Kay, celebrating his 80th birthday, it was a tour de force of voices. Two rehearsals each lasting an hour and

a half were pretty demanding and the performance, in front of a large audience, was exhilarating.

Thanks to Jo Stinton for organising everything from tickets to hiring scores to organising a very comfortable minibus to take us there and back. A truly memorable occasion.

Dave Arnold

Linton Library News

June is busy here at Linton library...

29th June: Children's author and illustrator, **Steve Antony**, will be here to delight and captivate. Steve is well known for prize winning picture books such as *Mr Panda* and *The Queen's Hat*, and recently *Rainbowsaurus*, a colourfully inclusive animal adventure. Come and meet Steve at **10:30am** for a story and singalong. Places are limited, please book a free ticket at the library.

June is **National Crime Readers Month** and we have a huge selection of crime fiction, and are ready to help you solve the mystery of what to read next. It's also **Pride Month**, celebrating LGBTQ+ diversity, and **HiVis Fortnight**, find out about how library services support people with a vision impairment.

8th-16th is **Great Big Green Week**, a national celebration of simple planet-friendly actions. We will have a display of small changes you can make and a selection of free books

to keep that were once library books.

Storytime, Rhyme-time, Duplo-time, our friendly group for 0-4-year olds, **10am – 11am, every Tuesday** (*in term time*) for stories, songs and Duplo play.

Knit and Natter, every **Tuesday, 2pm – 3pm**. Bring along any craft project you're working on – table space is available.

Daylight Readers. Our Book Groups meet on **Friday 21st**, one at **10.30am** and the other at **2.30pm** and always welcome new members!

**Ann King &
Melanie Symonds**

COMMUNITY LIBRARY ASSISTANTS

Opening hours

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

Customer Services

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

A Book to Give Help: by a Local Author

Rev Chris Kemshell, minister at Linton United Reformed Church has recently written a book based on his own personal experiences, titled **'Cancer and the Cross'**. This book has been written for people of all religions and none.

Written by Pastor Chris based on his own first-hand experience of a

cancer diagnosis, as Clive Urquhart, Senior Pastor of Kingdom Faith Church, says, *"This real-life story is not only for those facing a life-threatening health issue but for anyone who feels like they are facing a mountain they can't climb. Read on and discover what is possible for you"*.

Linton Village College

Beyond the Curriculum at LVC

At LVC we are proud of the depth and breadth of our Enrichment programme. Enrichment encompasses all of the clubs, trips and opportunities for our students outside lessons and is firmly at the centre of the LVC experience for all of our learners.

A highlight of this month is our Enrichment week. Students in Years 7 and 8 go on a variety of exciting excursions and trips, whilst Year 9 will go further afield on residential adventures to the Peak District and Greece amongst others and will have the opportunity to develop transferable skills such as leadership, resilience, and teamwork.

As part of our Enrichment programme, students are also able to gain a variety of National Qualifications. Year 8 can take part in the Silver Arts Award validated by Trinity College in London and Year 9 can take part in the Gold equivalent. We are very lucky to be able to offer this Gold Award as it is usually a 6th Form undertaking and carries a certain amount of UCAS points.

The **Duke of Edinburgh Award** has had a long history at LVC. We offer the Bronze Award which comprises four sections to complete which involve helping the community, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and

completing an expedition. Our Year 10s are currently training for their expedition to the Peak District, which will take place in mid-June. Our Enrichment programme also consists of a range of opportunities that involve outside organisations and visitors coming in to work with our students. Some of the visits we have had this year include our local MP, a PhD scientist from the LMB Laboratory and dancers from the internationally acclaimed '*Hofesh Shechter Dance Company*'. Additionally, we are very excited to be welcoming children's author and poet **Michael Rosen** to the school in June to participate in our **Creativity Week**.

Laura Heard

LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE PR & COMMUNICATIONS



AFC BALSHAM
JUNIOR FOOTBALL

More Players Wanted

Under 9's Football Team

- 3rd year in Cams FA League
- 7-a-side football
- School Years 3 & 4 (Sept 2024)

Training sessions begin 6th June 2024

- Summer training sessions on Thursday evenings.
- 18:00 - 19:00 @ Balsham Recreation Ground.
- All players aged 7 and 8 are welcome.
- Great way to get started in football.
- All coaches are FA Qualified and DBS checked.

Call or message for more information and to book a space at training.

Jamie Adkin
07889 505284



Northern Lights!

From 10th to 12th May the Northern Lights were visible with villagers taking some striking photographs of the colourful skies:



Photo: Puja Hazlehurst



Photo: Darren Gunn



Photo: Darren Gunn



Photo: Darren Gunn



Photo: Junior Harris



Photo: Junior Harris

Snapping Dogs

On the morning of Saturday 18th May, a very respectable number of dogs and their owners arrived at Balsham Recreation Ground for a

photograph to celebrate the fact that Balsham is such a dog-friendly village.

Using state-of-the-art technology



Photo: Les Redhead



Photo: Les Redhead



Photo: Les Redhead

our two photographers, Les Redhead and Leon Ketteridge, took some very memorable photos.

The photos are now on the Balsham website: <https://www.balsham.net/balsham-a-dog-friendly-village/>

There is also a very impressive 360° photo of all of the participants at: <https://panorra.com/p/h58d02a6135-2024052131120851>

It is hoped we can make this an annual event from now on!



Photo: Leon Ketteridge

Prada, the ‘Pets as Therapy’ Dog



For those villagers that are out walking (with or without a four-legged friend) you may already have met (Princess) Prada the small dog

with a big personality, a Daxijack (Daschund x Jack Russel) who loves to meet and greet both people and pooches. Often seen lying in wait to greet her other four legged friends she approaches at top speed then darts to circle them leaving them wondering in which direction she went!

Such is her love of meeting people as well as pooches Prada is now a fully registered Pets As Therapy

dog and for two evenings a week she dons her uniform and attends Addenbrookes Hospital to visit specifically assigned wards where she is well received and warmly welcomed by patients, staff and visitors. Simply walking through hospital she brings a smile to many faces and her presence is always welcomed.



Photos: Claire Kavanagh

Balsham Feast 2024

COME & JOIN US FOR THE

BALSHAM FEAST

SATURDAY 6TH JULY **BALSHAM RECREATION GROUND**
1PM TO 5PM

FREE ENTRY

Axe Throwing, Assault Course, Inflatable BumperCarz, Mini Monsters, Punch and Judy Shows, Face Painting
Teddy Bear Parachuting, Target Bowls, Target Golf, Beat the Goalie, Bowling at the Stumps, Classic Cars, Bar, Café, Scouts BBQ, Music from Haverhill Youth & Community Band and the Balsham Singers

Thank you to our sponsors:

CHEFFINS

Balsham Parish Council
Plough Monday
Balsham Parochial Charities

COORE TURBIZ & CO

The Meadow Primary School

As we embrace the warmer weather it makes us reflect on the beauty of nature and how we can continue to foster creativity in our curriculum. This month has seen lots of wonderful outdoor learning experiences take place at our school. From immersing ourselves in nature to exploring the beauty of outdoor art, our students have embraced the great outdoors with enthusiasm and creativity.

Year 6 Forest School Trip to Wimbish Primary:

Our Year 6 students embarked on an unforgettable journey to Wimbish Primary School for an enriching

Forest School experience. Surrounded by the sights and sounds of the natural world, our students had the opportunity to connect with nature in a meaningful way. We are grateful to Wimbish Primary School for hosting this enriching experience, and we look forward to hearing about the developing friendships across both schools as they get ready for their residential trip together.

We would also like to add how immensely proud of our Year 6 pupils we are for their dedication and hard work as they completed their SATs exams this week. These assessments represent a significant milestone in their academic journey, and we commend each student for approaching them with determination and resilience. As a school community, we celebrate their achievements and look forward to supporting them as they continue to flourish and grow in their educational pursuits. Well done, Year 6 – you have made us proud!

Inspired by Nature:

In addition to our Forest School trip, our school community embarked on a whole school focus on the artwork of Andy Goldsworthy, a renowned environmental artist known for his captivating sculptures and installations made from natural materials. From leaf patterns to stone sculptures, our students unleashed their creativity while learning about the interconnectedness



of art and the environment. Each and every artwork created was unique to each child and showcased, not only a real talent, but a beautiful and creative flair.

Skipping into Action:

We were also lucky to have Skip Beats visit us to provide all our students with the exciting opportunity to skip and stay active! Skip Beats specializes in promoting fitness and fun through skipping, offering a unique and engaging experience for children of all ages. This initiative aligns perfectly with our commitment to promoting physical activity and well-being among our students. By participating in skip-based activities, our students



not only enjoyed a fantastic workout but also developed coordination, balance, and teamwork skills.

Faye Facer

ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER & EYFS LEAD

Linton & District Historical Society

Homes of William Morris - Fiona Rose presented a well researched and entertaining programme following the life and times of William Morris. His father became a director and held shares in the West Country Copper Mining industry, from which he gained considerable wealth, thus enabling his family to enjoy a privileged upbringing.

Fiona enlightened us with images of William's various artistic talents, including his most famous The Red House which he called "*The beautifullest place on earth (more a poem than a house)*" built in the countryside and was home to William and his wife Jane, The wall paintings

and decorative schemes of the Arts and Crafts Movement have been sympathetically preserved in the stunning house and gardens by the National Trust, and it retains its character although now part of Greater London.

Thank you to those who continue to support the society; we hope you have enjoyed our programmes and it is hoped we can resume next September.

Recommendations for interesting speakers and subjects are welcomed when planning our programmes

For further details of the LDHS please email ldhscamb@gmail.com or call: **01223 893915** or **01223 678835**.

Balsham Cricket Club

RESULTS - 2024 LEAGUE 3 SOUTH

DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A	RESULT
Sat. 4th May	Little Shelford II	A	WON by 79 Runs
Sat. 11th May	Saffron Walden IV	H	WON (<i>Conceded-no team</i>)
Sat. 18th May	Audley End & Littlebury II	H	LOST by 7 Runs

FIXTURES - 2024 LEAGUE 3 SOUTH

DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A
Saturday 25th May	Royston II	AWAY
Saturday 1st June	Burrough Green	HOME
Saturday 8th June	Thriplow II	HOME
Saturday 15th June	Fulbourn II	AWAY
Saturday 22nd June	Audley End & Littlebury	AWAY
Saturday 29th June	Little Shelford II	HOME

MIDWEEK CRICKET RESULTS - 2024

DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A	RESULT
Wednesday 1st May	Cam Kerala	H	LOST by 82 Runs
Wednesday 8th May	Thurlow & Mill Green	A	DRAW (<i>Unplayable pitch</i>)
Wednesday 15th May	Ickleton	H	LOST (<i>Conceded-no team</i>)
Wednesday 22nd May	Fulbourn	H	DRAW (<i>Unplayable pitch</i>)

MIDWEEK CRICKET FIXTURES - 2024

DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A	COMPETITION
Wednesday 5th June	Wratting Lions	A	League
Wednesday 12th June	Saffron Walden	H	League
Wednesday 26th June	Fulbourn	A	League
Wednesday 3rd July	Reach	H	League

Balsham Football Club

RESULTS

DATE	HOME	AWAY	SCORE	RESULT	COMP
27 April	Balsham	Cambridge Ambassadors 1st	1 - 5	L	League
30 April	Balsham	Sawston Phoenix 1st Team	0 - 5	L	League

Balsham Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting followed by the Parish Council Meeting for May took place on 20th May, 2024 in Balsham Pavilion

Annual Parish Meeting:

Gordon Fiddy read his chairman's report (see page 23).

The Clerk reported about the PC finances.

Two members of the public reported about the terrible state of the pavements in Trinity Close. The PC will report to CCC. Please can parents/carers not park on the pavements in Trinity Close as they are becoming very hazardous for the residents.

Annual Parish Council Meeting

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair: Gordon Fiddy was duly elected as Chair and James Kiddy was duly elected as Vice-Chair. They were thanked for their work last year.

Other responsibilities:

Allotments:

Heather Pierce/Jenny Tipler

Trees: James Kiddy,

Balsham Charities:

Paul Anderson/James Kiddy

Highways: Kim Pearson

Recreation Ground/Pavilion:

Nick Coates/Jerry Wade.

Anaerobic Digester Plant

Streetly Hall Farm: The PC discussed the revised plans and unanimously agreed that their previous objections still stood due to the prospective increase in heavy goods/farm traffic in Balsham. The PC have also asked for a clause to be added for vehicles to and from

the plant to avoid school times.

Improvements to the Prince Memorial:

The improvements will start on the 2nd week of June.

Defibrillator at Mays Avenue:

SCDC have agreed for the PC to purchase a defibrillator and outside cabinet to be installed at Mays Ave Community Building. SCDC will arrange the installation.

Solar Farm update:

Kingsway Solar have informed the PC that they hope to launch their project by the end of the year.

Planning For Discussion:

Site address: 1 Dotterell Hall Barns, Cambridge Road, Balsham.

Proposal: Single storey extension to courtyard elevation.

Reference: 24/01514/HFUL

PC Decision: Approve.

Site address: School Cottage 4A High Street, Balsham.

Proposal: One and half storey rear extension.

Reference: 24/01125/HFUL

PC Decision: No comments.

Site address: 17 Queens Close, Balsham.

Proposal: T1: Ash - Pollard by approximately 3-4m and remove large dead branch. This is regular maintenance of the tree to allow more light into the garden/property. This tree has been worked on

before when the Ash next to it was pollarded in 2019.

Reference: 24/0438/TTPO

PC Decision: Approval.

Site address: 43 Plumian Way, Balsham.

Proposal: G1 4x Field maples with a combined canopy. Crown reduce in height and width by up to 3m to previous pruning points.

Reference: 4/0419/TTCA

PC Decision: Approval.

Website:

If anyone has any events/

information to be added to **www.balsham.net** please send to **clerk@balsham.net**

Tracy Coston PARISH CLERK

Tel: 01223 894462 / 07929930385

Email: clerk@balsham.net

Website: www.balsham.net

The next **Parish Council Meeting** will be held on **17th June, 2024 at 7.30 pm** in **Balsham Pavilion.**
ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND

AGM: Chairman's Report May 2024

I want to thank all of my fellow councillors for their support throughout the year. With particular thanks to: Heather Pearson and Jennie Tipler for the management of the allotments, Steve Wilcox for his contribution as a member of the Church Institute committee, and of course to Tracy for keeping us all on the straight and narrow. We welcomed Jerry Wade onto the parish council. Thanks to Steve Thurgood for continuing to maintain the Millennium Wood/Rosie Green. Thanks to Mike McCall and Steve Thurgood for moving the speed signs to various locations in the village.

With good financial management we were able to set the precept for 2024/2025 that forms a small part of the council tax, to a minimum. This in turn means that we have to spend wisely and take advantage of grants which might be available. Thanks to the efforts of Kim Pearson

and Heather Pierce we have submitted an application for a grant to install 20 mph areas through the village High Street. If successful we will conduct a survey within the village.

Despite many hours in discussion we were not able to agree a lease for the Church Institute acceptable to both parties. The institute is an asset to the village and will continue to be managed and used as before.

In conjunction with the Balsham Ploughmen we have agreed the cost and programme to refurbish the Prince Memorial. The plan is to 1 Replace the flooring flagstones as per the current design, 2 Install additional wood seating, 3 Clean stonework, 4 Install stone edging at the base on the memorial. Hopefully the work will be completed by the end of June.

The war memorial was cleaned and the lettering repainted.

Following meetings with West Wickham Parish Council we objected to the increased number of truck movements created by the proposed anaerobic digester on land at Streetly End Farm. This application is with Cambridgeshire County Council for consideration.

We held a well-attended public meeting on the proposed solar farm. Since that meeting we have heard

nothing from Kingsway Solar the developer for this proposal.

I want to thank all of those people who give up their time to run clubs and activities during the year and the volunteers without whom nothing would get done!

Gordon Fiddy

CHAIRMAN, BALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

District & County Councillor's

Report May 2024

Zero Carbon Communities Grant

The popular Zero Carbon Communities grant from South Cambs District Council is now open again - <https://southcambsweb.azurewebsites.net/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant> - community groups, as well as parish councils, can apply for funding for green and sustainable energy projects. The deadline for applications is June 2nd, so don't hang around.

Rural Prosperity Fund

There is a new fund from central government, facilitated by the District Council, that is aimed at supporting rural communities with the aim to help support local businesses and communities. Worth taking a look at if you are a looking for funding for a project or you're a local business looking to expand and progress - <https://www.scams.gov.uk/business/uk-shared-prosperity-fund/rural->

england-prosperity-fund/ -

applications opened on Monday April 8th and when the money is gone, it's gone!

Solar Farm Proposal

Kingsway Solar, the company proposing the new solar farm between the A11 and West Wrattling/Balsham, have now given an informal presentation to local residents. The plans were lacking in some of the detail that people would have wanted to see at this stage but, as the applicants said at the meeting, the plans may change before a formal planning application is submitted. Other than the information that was presented at the meeting in March, there is still nothing tangible to link you to, other than West Wrattling Parish Council's own write up of the event - https://westwrattling.org.uk/parish_council-planning-applications/solar-farm/

Stagecoach Timetable Changes

Stagecoach made some timetable

changes to the 13/X13 service between Haverhill and Cambridge recently. The main changes affect the routes in Haverhill itself but one knock-on effect is that one of the early morning buses that used to stop in Linton no longer does, meaning people that want to catch the bus at that time need to walk to the Police Houses on the A1307. If you are affected by the changes, please do write to Stagecoach directly - <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/help-and-contact/faqs/im-not-happy-how-do-i-make-a-complaint#> as well as

this, do contact the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority, who have ultimate responsibility for public transport in the county - <https://transport.cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/contact-us/>

Contact Information

Geoff Harvey

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

geoff.harvey@gmail.com

Henry Batchelor

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

Rehab 4 Addiction

www.rehab4addiction.co.uk/country-wide/drug-alcohol-rehab-cambridgeshire

Rehab 4 Addiction offers a wealth of resources and information about addiction and mental health, which could be invaluable to those in need. We provide a helpline that offers immediate assistance to those struggling with addiction in Cambridgeshire, a service that could be life-saving. We offer a comprehensive directory of treatment centres throughout the UK, making it easier for those in need to find help near them.

As we approach Summer, it's important to remember that this can be a particularly challenging time for those dealing with addiction and mental health issues. Many people feel more vulnerable during this period and may be in desperate need of the resources and support that Rehab 4 Addiction

can provide.

Boris MacKey

REHAB 4 ADDICTION

Twitter: [@boris_mackey](https://twitter.com/boris_mackey)

Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme

Community Cafés

Community Cafés are held from **10:00 to 12:00.**

Tuesdays at the
Balsham Church Institute on:
25th June; 16th July

Fridays at the
Mays Avenue Community Hall on:
7th June; 5th July

If you would like to support the work of the Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme in any way, get in touch on: **07508 430057** or email balshamgns@gmail.com

Balsham WI

Our speaker at the meeting was Maggie Woodhouse who works at Bury St Edmunds hospital as a Dementia Practitioner. She told us that there were about 100 different kinds of dementias, and that around 1 in 4 elderly people suffer from this disease. Early diagnosis is key to good care. Keeping your brain and body active is key to helping to

prevent symptoms of this disease. Things to avoid include lack of sleep, alcohol, more than 6 cups of coffee a day, endless 'scrolling' and spending too much time alone. Anything which causes you to become isolated (such as hearing loss) is not good for you, so coming to WI is obviously good for your health!

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 11th June at 7.30pm** in the **Pavilion**. Our speaker will be **Richard MacPhail** who was a school friend,

aide-de-camp and tour manager for **Genesis** in their early years. He will have his book '**My book of Genesis**' available to buy at this meeting. This will be an open meeting open to all visitors, including men.

the **WI**
INSPIRING WOMEN

Visitors can book a place by emailing **balshamwi@gmail.com**, first come first served. A donation will be requested from visitors for WI funds.

New members are always welcome – why not come and try us out? We are a friendly bunch and welcome anyone over 18 who identifies as female. Our meetings are held on the **second Tuesday** of each month at **7.30pm** in the **Pavilion, Balsham**. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining us – **balshamwi@gmail.com** or send a message on Facebook, **@Balsham WI**.

Debbie Mower

Skylight: Journey to the Stars, with Serenata

A concert on **Sunday, July 14th at 7.30pm** in **Holy Trinity Church, Balsham**.

The music includes short works by Benjamin Britten and Claude Debussy amongst others, and familiar favourites: *Fly Me to the Moon, Here Comes the Sun and Another Day of Sun (from La La Land)*.

 *Serenata*

Tickets can be purchased from Balsham Post Office or **www.Ticketsource/Serenata** in advance and will also be available on the door. Prices: Adults £15, child (under 18) £5 and an exceptional value Family Ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £32.

For enquiries please contact **01223 892001**

The Black Bull



June Greetings to all Balsham Villagers from all at The Black Bull

Thank you to all who joined us for Rob's **Music, Sushi & Tacos Night** last month – always a favourite.

You will be pleased to hear Rob has set up another Tasting Menu to put in your diaries – see below.

Rob's **Spring Menu** is going down a treat – see our website. The best sellers so far are:

Artichoke Soup: *truffle oil, rosemary bread*

Roast Lamb Rump: *lamb belly & potato press, roast shallot, grilled courgette marinated in salsa verde, goats' curd, jus*

Cherry Souffle: *crumble topping, blueberries, vanilla ice-cream*

Reminder of our next events:

Pint of Music: Thursday 30th May
Mystery Guests Acoustic Irish/Folk Sets from 8-10pm.

I am excited to announce that our Pint of Music programme has a new find! Our very local Tony Day has kindly offered to pull together a few of his musician friends for an informal

evening of acoustic music and song. Musical styles range from traditional folk tunes to contemporary songs.

Book a table to dine, drink or listen – or all three – let us know in the notes your preferences.

Annual **Fathers' Day** weekend:
Beer, Steak & Music Festival
Friday 14th – Sunday 16th June with our favourite Norfolk Busker, **Alton Wahlberg** on **Friday 14th June**



Rob's next **Tasting Menu** night is set for **Thursday 27th June** – the theme is to be infusions of summer spice – menu to be posted shortly.

Balsham Feast Night: Pint of Music, Burgers, Tacos & Bar Snacks
Saturday 6th July 6pm-late

We are continuing our **Black Bull Brunch Weekends** every few weeks (**9-10:15am**) – next ones:

Saturday 1st/Sunday 2nd June
Saturday 15th/Sunday 16th June
Saturday 29th/Sunday 30th June

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

Best wishes from all of us

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

The Bell

Hi Everyone!

We have thankfully been able to enjoy a few lovely sunny days in the beer garden, hopefully June will bring some more good weather.

Our three summer houses are available for dining bookings for up to six people.

Diary for June:

Every Sunday evening: Street BBQ food van in Bell Inn car park. 5pm - 8pm.

Every Monday evening: Happy Kebab van in Bell Inn car park 5pm - 8pm.

Wednesday 12th: Bingo Night Eyes down at 8pm.

Friday 14th: Euro 24 begins, matches to be shown on TV.

Saturday 15th: - Annual Charity Football Match K.O. 3pm.

Tuesday 25th: Charity Quiz 8pm , all welcome.

Wednesday 26th: Lunch Club advance bookings and pre orders only.

Our **Annual Charity Football Match** will take place on **Saturday 15th June**. Bell Inn Landlord's X1 v AFC Balsham at the recreation ground. We will be raising money for the Cambridge branch of The National Autistic Society. The match will be followed by a fundraising fun night at The Bell, with **Disco/Karaoke**,



and **BBQ**. Please bring cash for raffle etc.

On **Saturday 6th July**, we will be hosting the **Balsham Feast After Party**, with **live music** and **BBQ**. More details to be announced on Facebook, and July Balsham Review.

For 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.

Phil & Mary



SUFFOLK PUNCH OPEN DAY

In aid of the Suffolk horse society

Sunday 30th June

2pm - 5pm

Adults £2 and Kids under 12 free

Come and meet our beautiful Suffolk punches, enjoy tea and cake, play the prize-winning raffle and have a wander around the house gardens all in aid of the Suffolk Punch charity that is dedicated to protecting these critically endangered breed.



Where to find us:

Brettons, Church Lane, Burrough Green
CB8 9NA

Parking will be available on the Village Green

Dogs welcome. Cash Only.

For any enquiries please contact:
charlotteway123@hotmail.com

Balsham Bowls Club

The season started in early April with mixed weather causing the greens to be heavy and damp making bowling difficult. The team in the Cambridge and District have played 5 matches, only winning one match so far, while the A team in the Steeple Bumpstead Pairs League have won 3 out of their 4 matches, only losing at Stoke-by-Clare on a very heavy and tricky green. The B team (which gives experience to new and upcoming players) have sadly lost all 3 of their matches. The Friday night triples league A team has started well in defence having won that league last year, starting well with an 8-2 win against the runners-up from last year, Stoke by Clare Blue. The triples league B team have played 2 matches winning the first one 10-0 and losing the second one 9-1.

Our **Open Day**, on the **11th May**, was blessed with good weather. Thank you to everyone who came along to give bowls a try and to enjoy a cup of tea, cakes and a chat. We hope to see you back at the club on Monday evenings (our social evening) from 6pm onwards. Coaches will be available to guide you through the game if needed.

We are looking forward to being part of **Balsham Feast** on the **6th July** with target bowls on the bowls green and coaches for anyone who would like to have a go at bowls.

If anyone is interested in playing, we welcome new members. Please see our website for further information: **balshambowlsclub.co.uk** or contact us at **balshambowls@gmail.com**

Phil Elliott

Balsham June Diary

DATE	EVENT & TIME	VENUE
1st Saturday	Picture House ' One Life ' 7.30pm	Church institute
7th, Friday	BGNS Community Café, 10.00am—12pm	Mays Ave Room
11th Tuesday	WI 7.30pm	Pavilion
17th Monday	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion
July 6th Saturday	Balsham Feast	Recreation Ground & Institute

Cambridge Nature Festival

25th May – 30th June 2024

After a very successful first two years the Cambridge Nature Festival is back and aims to get us all more in touch with the nature on our doorsteps! This year the festival has a river/water theme, but there will be activities concerning all aspects of the natural world.

The third annual Cambridge Nature Festival will include over 90 events and activities with something for all ages, abilities and interests. There will be hands-on creative activities, nature walks, live music, bat punt safaris, BioBlitzes and much more. Most of the events will be free or affordable and will take place in Cambridge and the surrounding countryside.

The Cambridge Nature Festival is being organised by the River Cam CAN (Climate Action through Nature) project which is hosted by Cambridge Past, Present and Future and part of Cambridge Nature Network, a partnership of organisations working hard to increase the amount of nature in our area. The festival is being supported by the National Lottery Community Fund. Events will also be run by The Wildlife Trust BCN, The National Trust, RSPB, Cambridge City Council, Cambridge Sports Lake Trust, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Magog Trust and Cambridge University Botanic Garden and many, many more!

Visit www.cambridgenaturenetwork.org/cambridge-nature-festival for a full list of events. The Festival will have kicked-off with a Launch event

on 25th May with free events and activities for all the family.

The Cambridge Nature Festival is a celebration of nature on our doorstep, as well as the wonderful people and organisations that work tirelessly for the natural world. A small selection of events is included below - for a full list of events and more details please go to the festival website.

cambridgenaturenetwork.org/naturefestival

- **2nd June** – World Peatland Day walk – Wicken Fen (National Trust)
- **3rd June** – Summer Wild Flowers of Wandlebury (Cambridge Past, Present and Future)
- **7th June** – ‘*Building Stones of Cambridge*’ – guided walk (Cambridge Geological Society)
- **9th June** – Plant swap (Trumpington Allotments)
- **14th & 15th June** – BioBlitz (Hobson’s Conduit Trust)
- **15th June** – Reedbed Ramble at Ouse Fen (RSPB)
- **21st June** – River rights festival (Friends of the River Cam)
- **21st June** – Talk: ‘*The Mysteries of the Ice Volcanoes*’ (Cambridge Astronomical Association)
- **22nd June** – Zoology Live! (Museum of Zoology)
- **29th June** – Coton Orchard Bioblitz (On The Verge)

Also, throughout the Cambridge Nature Festival:

- Bat Safari Punt trips
- Tall Tree Climbing at Wimpole
- Lode boat trips at Wicken Fen

Balsham Weather April 2024

Photo: Henryk Pisarski

Air Temperatures: Maximum & Minimum

APRIL:

Daytime temperatures (*in the shade*)

Highest: 21° C on 12th April

Lowest: 9° C on 24th April

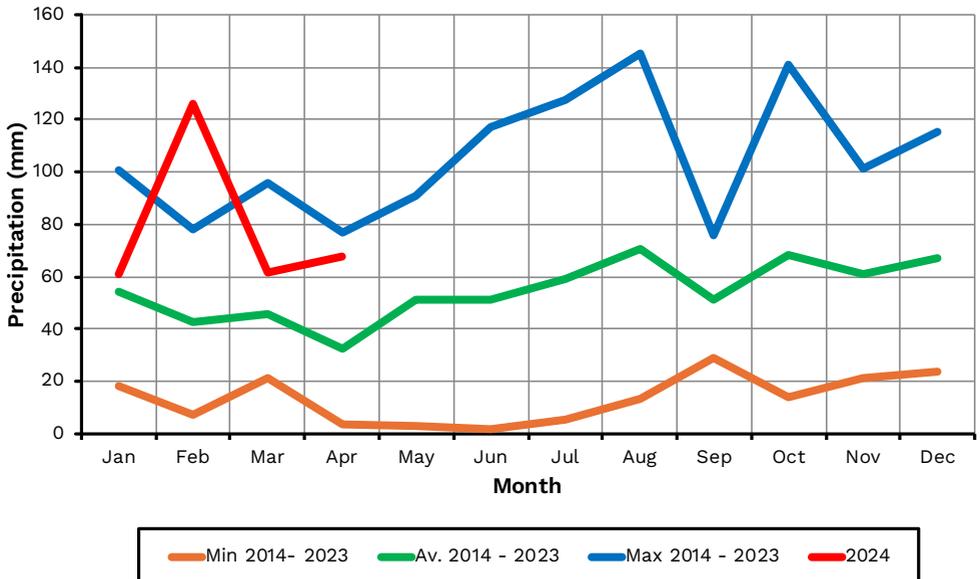
Night time temperatures

Highest: 12° C on 6th April

Lowest: 1° C on 26th April

April Rainfall at 11 Nine Chimneys Lane, Balsham

Total April 2024 rainfall: 67.5mm / 2.7" Occuring on 15 Days





Saturday June 1st

Doors open 7.00pm and film at 7.30pm in Balsham Church Institute

One Life (12)



The Oscar awarded and acclaimed true story of Sir Nicholas (Nicky) Winton starring *Anthony Hopkins* and *Helena Bonham-Carter*.

One Life is a deeply moving film telling the story of Nicky Winton visiting Prague in December 1938 and over the next months rescuing more than 600 predominantly Jewish children and finding families in the UK to take these children into their homes in a race against time before the Nazis close the borders. Fifty years later and haunted by the memories he is surprised by a *That's Life* TV programme and this starts a journey of discovering the lives which befell these rescued children.

Dave's bar open as usual before the film for refreshments!

Saturday 6th July is the day of The Balsham Feast which will run throughout the day and is centred on the Recreation Ground. The main events conclude at the end of the afternoon and for those who wish to stay in the village Balsham Picture House is showing, by popular request the 2016 Academy Award winning film **La La Land** (12) starring Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone as a jazz musician and actress pursuing their Hollywood dreams and finding each other!

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