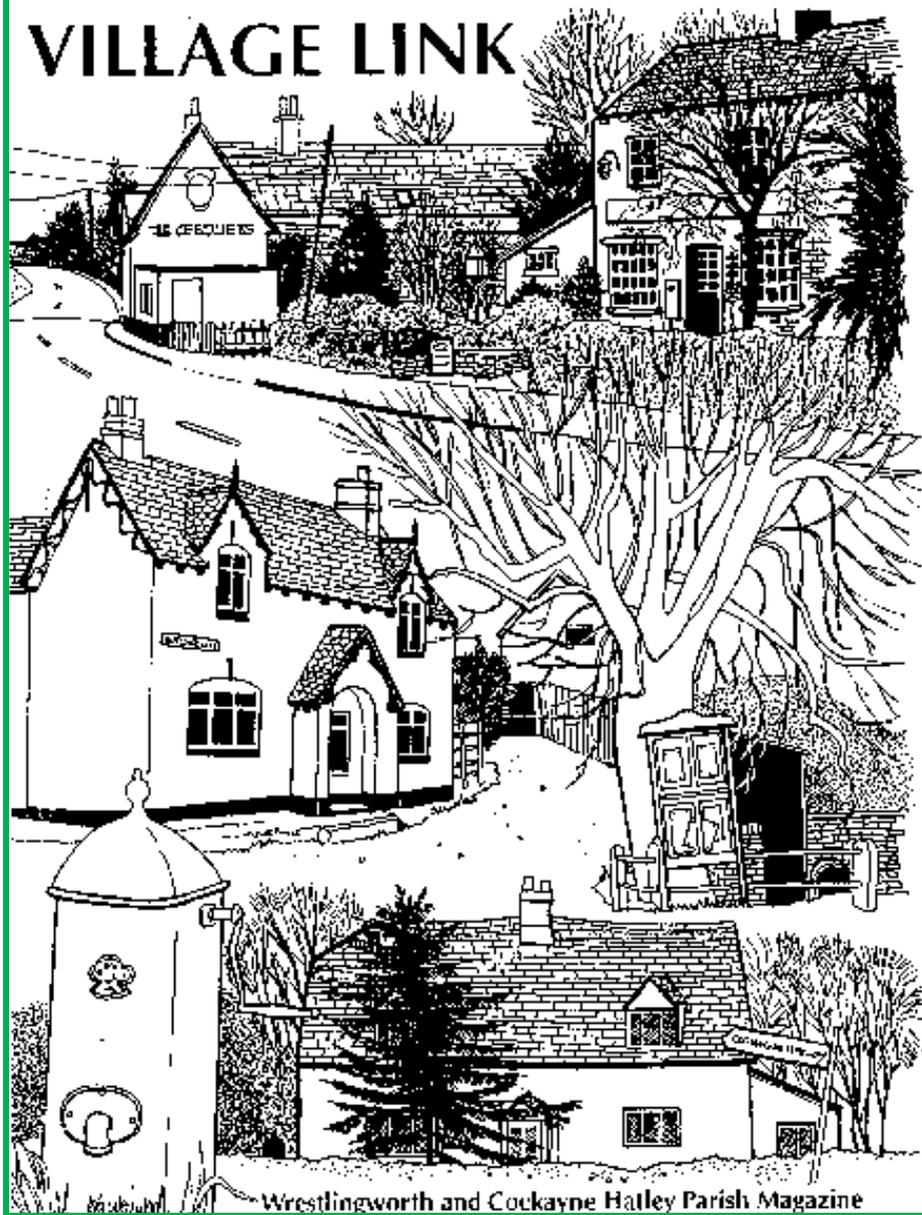


VILLAGE LINK



Wrestlingworth and Cockayne Hatley Parish Magazine

Issue 151 April May 2017

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ISSUE 151

April-May 2017

EDITORIAL

Thank you to everyone who contacted me with memories of the very first edition of Village Link, in particular Sandra Williams and Rod Cross.

The cover picture is a reproduction of the cover of that first edition very kindly supplied by Sandra Williams. The design and drawing was by Isla Woiwod and is in black and white as it was in April 1992. More information will be found later in this edition (page 19).

If you have views on the Village Link, or indeed would be willing to help in anyway, our AGM will be held at 8pm on the 10th May 2017 at The Chequers in Wrestlingworth. I do hope you will find the time to attend.

My contact details are email: villagelink@zoho.com

Phone: 01767 631123

David Fryatt

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Wrestlingworth History Society

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St John's Church, Cockayne Hatley

Parish Council



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COCKAYNE
HATLEY

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Holy Communion.

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Sharon Weston
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Dates for Your Diary

April

- 2nd Craft Fair at Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall 11am-3pm
2nd Pub Quiz at The Chequers 8pm
4th Coffee Morning at Liz Teague's 10-30am to 12 noon
14th Hot Cross Buns at Eyeworth Village Hall 10-30am to 12 noon
18th WI Meeting at Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall (Mosaic Making) 7-45pm
23rd PWWG Geology Walk from The Chequers 10am
23rd Music Night at The Chequers from 6-30pm
26th St Peter's Annual Meeting at the Church 7-30pm
30th Pub Quiz at The Chequers 8pm

May

- 2nd Coffee Morning at Liz Teague's 10-30am to 12 noon
7th PWWG Dawn Chorus Walk from The Chequers at 5am
8th Copy deadline for the June July edition of the Village Link
8th Parish Council AGM at Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall at 7-30pm
10th Village Link AGM at The Chequers 8pm
15th Parish Council Meeting at Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall 7-30pm
16th WI Meeting at Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall (Quilting) 7-45pm
18th History Society Meeting at Wrestlingworth Village Hall 7-30pm
20th Locrian Choir Spring Concert at Cockayne Hatley Church 3pm
21st PWWG Beating the Bounds walk from The Chequers at 9am
21st Music Night at The Chequers from 6.30pm
27th-29th Spring Beer Festival at The Chequers

Please email your diary dates to villagelink@zoho.com. We want to include all relevant events but do rely on your input; if you don't tell us, we might not know about your event. We would also like your articles and suggestions for future content. Do you have a family favourite recipe you could share, or why not tell us about your interesting pets or animals? We would love to hear about any other events, clubs or organisations we are not already featuring.

PLEASE NOTE

The views contained in the articles within this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the publisher or the members of the editorial committee.



All Saints' Eyeworth
'The Church in the Fields'

www.dewbenefice.com

**Sunday Services for April and May 2017 and other news.
Services**

2 Apr: 3pm Sunday Praise

9 Apr: 9.30am Palm Sunday Benefice Pilgrimage*

13 Apr: 7.30 Maundy Thursday Benefice Lord's Supper at St Mary
Magdalene, Dunton

14 Apr: 2.00pm Good Friday Benefice Holy Hour at St Mary
Magdalene, Dunton

16 Apr: 9.30am Easter Day Parish Eucharist

23 Apr: 3pm Sunday Praise

26th Apr: 2.30pm Little Fishes at St Peter's (Easter picnic) **

30 Apr: 9.30am Benefice Eucharist at St Mary Magdalene, Dunton

7 May: 3pm Sunday Praise

14 May: 9.30am Parish Eucharist

21 May: 9.30 Rogation Sunday Benefice Eucharist at All Saints, Eyeworth

24th May: 2.30pm Little Fishes

28 May: 3pm Ascension Sunday-Sunday Praise

*The Palm Sunday Benefice Pilgrimage departs from St Mary Magdalene, Dunton at 9.30am and will proceed via Eyeworth Village Hall to St Peter's, Wrestlingworth for Holy Communion at 10.45am (ish) and will be followed by a bring your own picnic lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

**Little Fishes is a new group for pre-school babies and toddlers at St Peter's Wrestlingworth on the 4th Wednesday in term time. We meet at 2.30pm for a time of soft play, story (from the Bible) and song. Refreshments are served and we aim to end in time to pick up older children from school.

Please check the weekly notices sheet or web site for any changes or additions.

You are more than welcome to visit us and join in the services as above. Check out our page on the Benefice web site www.dewbenefice.com or read the church notice board for any changes to these dates and new ones which may be planned.

Plans for the replacement roof are continuing – there is still no date for the start of work. The notice board was damaged by the heavy winds in February. It will be reinstated as soon as possible.

If you would like the Rector (Canon Lindsay Dew) to visit please do contact me either on 01462 743617 or lindsay.dew@btinternet.com or 07545878082. I am always happy to respond to pastoral need in the parish.

Canon Lindsay Drew



WI PROGRAMME FOR 2017

Following our Annual Meeting this month, the new committee will be raring to go.

I promised to let you know our programme for 2017 – so here goes and it will go in a flash. There's something here for everyone I think.

18th April – 'Mosaic Making' – Dionne Ible

16th May – 'Small is beautiful – quilting' – Margaret Johnson

8th June – note it is a Thursday – Meeting on Wheels, Kathy Brown's Garden, Stevington

18th July – 'Scottish Invasion (Friendly) of Bedfordshire, 1914.' – Richard Galley

15th August – Evening Tea

19th September – 'Family Lawyer' – Duncan Willox

17th October – Chilli Evening with Christmas Bring and Buy Table

21st November – 'A Female in Fleet Street' – Deborah Brady

12th December – note it is 2nd Tuesday of month – Christmas Party

I'll let you know about next year nearer the time and as it is our Centenary Year it should be something special.

Visitors and new members are always welcome, so ladies give us a try. Our meetings are normally held every third Tuesday of the month at 7.45pm in the Memorial Hall and as well as our planned programme there's always time for a cup of tea and a chat about our other activities.

Carolyn Driver

MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's Day, or Mothering Sunday as it used to be known before commercialisation took over, was on 26th March this year. I doubt there are any servants nowadays who are given the day off to go and visit their mothers with a gift, as was traditional, but giving is still part of the celebrations. Be it a box of chocolates, flowers, meal out or whatever, it is nice to be recognised on our special day. Not only bought gifts are appreciated though – what about the cards lovingly made at Pre-school still dripping with paint and glue? I have received many such cards which were made with such care.

My two-year old granddaughter, like her mother, loves shopping, so my son Diccon took her off to the local Waitrose to choose her gift. They came home with a carrier bag containing a lemon, a jar of jam, muffins, a packet of prawn cocktail crisps, a birthday card for a 4-year old covered in bears (Mummy likes bears) a microwave chocolate pudding and a tin of SPAM!! I would have loved to have seen Julie's face when she unwrapped her precious parcel.

Carolyn Driver

Community Notices

Thank you

Tom and Sarah O'Hare of Victoria Close, would like to extend their heartfelt thanks for the kindness and support of their Wrestlingworth friends, Lindsay Dew, the Congregation of St Peter's and the Goodwill Fund. Particular huge thanks to our neighbours, the Jordan Family.

Since Tom was suddenly and unexpectedly taken ill in September, we have been strengthened and sustained by all of your help, kindness and support.

We hope later in the year to raise money for the East Anglia Air Ambulance, who stabilised Tom's condition so that he could be transferred to Hospital and the Goodwill Fund, who have offered their help when Tom comes home.

Thank you all so very much.

Memorial Hall

The Memorial Hall Committee would like to thank Mary Oliver-Barratt for taking on the Memorial Hall Bookings.

Please email wrestlingworthmemorialhall@gmail.com or Tel: 631418 to check availability and make any new bookings for the hall.

Thank you to all those that took part in the recent Wrestlingworth Village clean up. You did a fantastic job!

Neighbourhood Plan Update

A copy of the Pre-submission Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan was delivered to every household in the parish in September last year at the beginning of a six week consultation period. Many of you took the opportunity to comment on the Plan. We also received comments from land owners in the parish and statutory organisations such as Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) and Anglian Water. Since the consultation period ended, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has considered the responses received and amended the Plan where necessary.

Next Steps

We are now ready to undertake the next stage, which is to submit the Plan to CBC for a further six week consultation. Following that, CBC will appoint an independent examiner who will decide whether the Plan meets the basic conditions and other requirements set out by law. If the Plan meets the basic conditions, the examiner will recommend to CBC that the Plan moves to the referendum stage. This is when you, the residents, will have the opportunity to vote on whether the Plan should be brought into force. If more than 50% of those voting are in favour, the plan will be used to help decide planning applications in the parish.

Where Can We View The Neighbourhood Plan?

The latest version of the Neighbourhood Plan, maps and supporting documents are now available on the Parish Council website www.wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk If you would like to view these documents but don't have access to the internet, please call Sandra Williams on 01767 631269 who will make them available to you.

The Village Link Annual General Meeting

We do hope you are enjoying the larger Village Link with four extra pages in colour. Thank you to all those who contribute, whether regularly or as a one off. With your help, we hope to continue with the extra pages and make them a permanent feature.

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 10th May at 8pm at The Chequers in Wrestlingworth. Please try and join us, and let us know what you think, what you would like to change and if you are willing you could even join the committee which meets briefly just six times a year. Thank you.



St Peter's Church, Wrestlingworth
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Services

2 Apr: 11.00am Parish Eucharist

9 Apr: 9.30am Palm Sunday Benefice Pilgrimage (See All Saints)

13 Apr: 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Benefice Lord's Supper at St Mary
Magdalene, Dunton

14 Apr: 2.00pm Good Friday Benefice Holy Hour at St Mary
Magdalene, Dunton

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14 May: 11.00am Sunday Praise

21 May: 9.30 Rogation Sunday Benefice Eucharist at All Saints,
Eyeworth

24 May: 2.30pm Little Fishes

28 May: 11.00 Ascension Sunday Parish Eucharist

* You are invited to stay after the Easter service for refreshments
(and Easter Eggs for the children)

** 'Little Fishes' meet every 4th Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm. The
next meeting is on 26 April when we shall hold an Easter picnic (bring along
a little something to nibble) and after that on 24 May.

Please check the weekly notices sheet or our web site for any changes or
additions.

St Peter's News

The church was given a thorough clean over a period of three days in January. The work was undertaken by Bob Hughes and his BCM team who vacuum-cleaned all the interior walls, beams, ledges and windows restoring them to how they looked when the church was redecorated in 2004.



In the process of cleaning the clerestory windows an example of unrecorded graffiti was discovered scratched onto one of the panes of glass - "W^m Davey & Lee, Glazier, Potton, 1814". Thanks Bob for such a job well done.

Please help St Peter's to help Christian Aid.

This year Christian Aid Week will be from the 14th to 20th May and once again members of St Peter's Church will be seeking your support. Envelopes inviting donations will be delivered to all homes in the village. We have been delighted with the support that our own community has offered in the past and hope that you will continue to give generously to this worthwhile cause. Thank you.

St Peter's Annual Meetings

Our Annual Meetings this year will be held in the church at 7.30pm on Wednesday 26 April. All are welcome to attend.

Old Rectory Open Garden: Sunday 4 June, 2.00-5.00 pm We are very grateful once again to Jo Hoy for opening her beautiful garden in aid of church funds. Entry is £4, children free, so come along with your friends and enjoy the quintessential English experience of exploring the garden and enjoying tea and cakes on the lawn.

Coffee Mornings

Coffee Mornings will be held on Tuesday 4 April and Tuesday 2 May at Liz Teague's, 6 The Slade, from 10.30 to 12.00am. All welcome.

A very happy and blessed Easter to you all from Lindsay and members of St Peter's church.

Mick Bister



Hunting Orchids in Bedfordshire

For most people orchids are those showy things you can buy in every supermarket, so bright and garish they almost look fake. Once rare and tricky to grow, modern horticulture has made them commonplace. Unfortunately, Britain's native orchids have never been more

threatened, several only appearing on a single site in the county. I'm a botanist originally though I make my living writing about wine nowadays, so plants have become my hobby. Over the last couple of years, I've been trying to track down all the orchids still found in our county.



Possibly the most exciting sighting of the year was the bird's nest orchid, spotted (not by me) in Maulden Woods. This is almost certainly Bedfordshire's rarest and most threatened orchid as only two individual plants had been sighted in the county over the previous eight years and this was a new site for it. Its weird brownish colour is because it lacks chlorophyll so it gets nutrients via a saprophytic relationship with a fungus and tree roots, often beech. It's quite hard to spot in deep woodland shade so it is possible that more plants have been overlooked – someone I took to see it said it looked dead.



Also very rare are a couple of species seen at Totternhoe Knolls. The endangered musk orchid is pictured on the left. It's so tiny at around 5cm tall you could easily miss it so trampling is a real risk. And on the right, is the nationally endangered man orchid, only found on three sites in this area and nowhere else in the county. Most of the plants are in an area only about 10 metres across.



Some of our more common species are also found around here on the chalky clay of Totternhoe Knolls and quarry. The pyramidal orchid is distinctive and easy to recognise from the shape of its flower spike. It is usually vivid pink but occasionally a white variant with no pigment appears (*both pictured left*).

Nearby Totternhoe Quarry is also full of orchids (and rare butterflies like Duke of Burgundy, Small Blue and Green Hairstreak) and these rather magnificent specimens of chalk-hill fragrant orchid were photographed here (*right*). Easy to spot because of the long spur on the back of the flower and lovely scent if you get down close enough.



Knocking Hoe National Nature Reserve is a hugely important site for Bedfordshire's orchids. It is the only location in the whole of the East Midlands and East Anglia for the critically threatened and stunningly beautiful burnt orchid. All the plants known grow on a single hillside about 25 metres across - shocking to think how vulnerable this tiny site is. Pictures (*left*) show the normal pigment and the even rarer pale variant.





The other special orchid at Knocking Hoe is autumn lady's tresses. It is our latest native orchid to flower (towards the end of August) and is found only on this one site in the whole of the Chilterns. It's been studied here since 1962, making it the second longest population study of wild orchids in the world. *(left)*

The earliest orchids to flower each year include the scarce green-winged orchid, which grows in the old orchard at the aptly named Orchid Lawns hospital near Flitwick. Officially there's no public access here, but no one has ever stopped me visiting. Plastic tags show that the population is closely monitored. *(right)*



So what's left? I still need to track down lesser butterfly orchid (seen in the last couple of years in Potton Woods), green-flowered helleborine and early marsh orchid (Harrold country park is its only site), and get a picture of greater butterfly orchid. For readers who want to know more, 'Wild Orchids of Bedfordshire' published by Bedfordshire Natural History Society (www.bnhs.org.uk) is an essential reference.

Article and photographs by Caroline Gilby

The PWWG have walks on the 23rd April, 7th May with a 5am start for the early risers and on the 21st May. Further details from Robin Barratt 07768 340599 or www.pwwg.co.uk.

COCKAYNE HATLEY CORNER

The Henley Monument in Cockayne Hatley Churchyard

A large stone monument stands in the churchyard of St. John the Baptist Church, Cockayne Hatley. It marks the burial place of the Victorian poet W.E. Henley, his wife and their daughter, Margaret Emma.

The Henley family lived in London.. They had many friends in the literary world. J.M. Barrie was a regular visitor, and Margaret would sit on his lap calling him her "frendy". This is said to have inspired the name of "Wendy" in Peter Pan, and was a popular girls' name thereafter. Margaret died at the age of six, and her grieving father said he wanted to bury her "in a beautiful place" – not in London. His friend, Harry Cockayne suggested Cockayne Hatley churchyard, and so it was done. Henley had a small white stone memorial erected over her grave and composed her epitaph "Nothing is here for sorrow, nothing to wail or knock the breast, but all is well and fair". Henley suffered from tuberculosis of the bone, which resulted in the amputation of one leg below the knee. He was in hospital in Edinburgh at the same time as Robert Louis Stevenson, who was writing "Treasure Island" at the time. He later told Henley that he had modeled Long John Silver on him as he also had a peg leg and a bad temper.

Henley died six years after Margaret and was buried in the same grave. His wife had the present imposing monument erected around Margaret's memorial stone, with his own epitaph engraved on the monument. His wife died thirty years later and is buried with Henley and Margaret.

Henley wrote many poems, but the most memorable is “Invictus” which Nelson Mandela said gave him the courage to survive his long imprisonment, and is probably the inspiration for the name Prince Harry chose for his charity for helping disabled members of the armed forces.

The Memorial is Grade II listed being of architectural and historic importance. In the last century, the monument was leaning dangerously. It was made safe with the help of donations from Henley’s old school, the Henley Society and Henley’s descendants.

A leaflet giving information about Henley and his poetry is available in the church. A copy of some engravings on the tomb, and his poem “Invictus” are also available.



Gloria Crossley



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The Search for the 'Grey Ghost'



As we commenced our 3 hour drive from Leh to Ule along the twisting, very icy mountainside track I tried to block out the fact that there were no barriers between us and the sheer drops to the frozen River Indus below and thought back to the journey we had already completed. We had arrived in Leh in the Ladakh region of Kashmir three days earlier, having taken the early morning flight from Delhi. The flight only lasted an hour but during this time we had spent the last 25 minutes flying across the snow-covered peaks of the Himalayas and had climbed to some 11,500ft by the time we landed at Leh.

The rapid change in altitude required us to spend the next two days acclimatising by resting and drinking at least 3 litres of warm water a day, before we could embark on the road journey that would take us up to our Homestay accommodation in Ule, at an altitude of 12,500ft, our first base for launching our search for the 'Grey Ghost', the elusive Snow Leopard of the Himalayas.

Our Homestay at Ule consisted of three buildings on the outskirts of the small village, all built out of rough cast clay bricks. The main building was the family home, where we all met to eat in the kitchen, warmed by the wood and dung-fuelled fire. The next smaller building housed three very simply furnished bedrooms and, at an appropriate distant away, stood the very small long drop toilet, which was probably the toilet with the best view in the world: snow capped peaks and plunging valleys.

After a very satisfying evening meal with our hosts, we retired for the night, wrapped in a number of layers (in fact all the layers used during the day!) to counteract the minus 25 degrees centigrade night time temperature.

The following morning we rose early, eager to start the days trekking. During breakfast we were excited to hear that our Trackers had been out early and had located a female Snow Leopard with two cubs! We set off to walk the 2kms to the viewing point, conveniently located on the roadway just outside the village. Upon arrival all we could see on the mountain side across the valley were some tracks leading to an opening below a large rock. We settled down to wait and watch. After about an hour, we watched enthralled as a beautiful grey spotted creature emerged from the darkness beneath the rock and made its way across the snow and up on to a neighbouring rock.



It looked around and, once happy it was safe, looked back to its former resting place. A few minutes later, first one cub and then a second emerged to join its parent.

We continued to watch as first one and then a second of the Snow Leopards climbed further up the deep snow covered mountain-side.

Suddenly we realised that in addition to the two animals venturing up the slope, there were still two Snow Leopards waiting on the rock below them. An unprecedented sighting, four Snow Leopards at the same time!

We stood mesmerised as eventually all four of the beautiful creatures climbed up the snow field until they were out of sight, so we returned to our Homestay, intoxicated by the spectacle we had witnessed.

Back at base, the Trackers informed us that we had been watching a family group, a male and female and their two cubs. This was very unusual for the male to be with his family and was probably due to two other Snow Leopards having been seen in the area, so he was protecting the Cubs; a very, very special sighting to start our Grey Ghost search.

Robin Barratt

Wrestlingworth History Society

Our last great Naval Hero (and perhaps a bit of a bounder?) was the theme of Roy Smart's presentation on Admiral David Beatty given to the History Society on 16th March.

Rapid promotion through the naval ranks in the early 20th century, a questionable role in the Battle of Jutland and a highly intriguing and complex love life were all woven into the interesting portrait of the man who became the 1st Earl Beatty after leading the defeated German Navy to Scapa Flow at the end of WW1. He was so lauded that his eventual resting place is together with Lord Jellicoe next to Nelson's tomb in St. Paul's Cathedral.

There was a full house for this fascinating presentation – one in the latest series of visiting experts to address the History Society. So please join us at the Memorial Hall on May 18th when we have Peter Ibbet from Potton History group to talk about 'Infamous Pottonians.'

This will be followed in July (20th) with Peter conducting a 'walk through time' in Potton.

So look out for the posters giving details of where and when for this annual outing.

Val Cooper



The Chequers Public House 01767 631818

The East Beds branch of CAMRA have presented The Chequers their award as **‘Rural Pub of the Year 2017’** in recognition of the fine work by Dave and Carin Moore in “re-establishing a traditional county pub with close ties to the local community”.

CAMRA added that “The Chequers has a warm atmosphere with friendly and knowledgeable service”.

The presentation of the award took place on Sunday 19th February.

Pictured Dave Moore receiving the award from John Goodlet of East Beds CAMRA



CAMRA also mentioned the live music evenings and the Spring Beer Festival, details of these will be found in the Diary pages.

Well done Dave and Carin and keep up the good work.

There are monthly quiz nights held at The Chequers, open to teams of all sizes. It’s just a bit of fun to exercise your brain, entertain you and you may even learn a thing or two!!

If that is not enough, all money raised goes to the children in the village, whether to put a new bench and ship’s wheel in the park or to support the School or Youth Club. In April there are two quiz nights, details in the Diary page but the second is on the Sunday before the Bank Holiday so why not come along and see? You will be most welcome.

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Twenty Five Years of Village Link

Just over 25 years ago, following the demise of the Church magazine covering Dunton, Eyeworth and Wrestlingworth, Hugh Williams suggested to his fellow parish councillors the idea of a bi-monthly magazine delivered free of charge to every house in Wrestlingworth and Cockayne Hatley. There was some scepticism at the suggestion but Hugh was given the parish council's blessing to "try it out". An editorial committee was recruited and a grant from the parish council kick started the enterprise. Income was to be from advertising and sponsorship.

The original committee were the late Alan Rider (editor), Clare Garrard, Veira Rudkins (who came up with the name "Village Link"), Mike Brown, David Morrison and Hugh Williams. Many local businesses were keen to advertise. It is interesting to note how times have changed and how few of them are still around: The Chequers, The Queen Victoria, Green King, Ashbury Builders (Colin Garrard), Tysoes of Potton, Wrestlingworth Village Stores and Post Office, Lesly Elliot Hair Salon, Hatley Arts Studio, Biggleswade Snooker Club, Jackson the Butcher, RK Harrison Insurance, RE Quince, Potton Service Station and Bickerdikes Garden Centre. The Parish Council, St Peter's PCC, the Memorial Hall, Goodwill Fund, W.I., and Friends of the School were the first local sponsors with the main sponsor being Calor Gas.

Articles in that first magazine give us a snapshot of village life in 1992. There was a move to get mains gas to Wrestlingworth and interested residents were asked to contact the Parish Council Chairman, the late Jean Rider. The Parish Council also put out a plea: "*Has anybody got the key to the Cockayne Hatley notice board? Last notice to be placed was by the W.I.*" The Goodwill were publicising their annual Gardening Gala at the Queen Victoria and the Memorial Hall was looking for "*money and manpower*" to help refurbish the kitchen. Grants and loans had been obtained but further fundraising would take place at a "*new look Village Day*" in July. There were articles from the W.I., the Rector Gordon Briscoe, the Parish Paths Partnership, the Carpet Bowls Club, who had done well in the Bedfordshire Association's Knockout Cup and the Wrestlingworth team in the BBC Radio Bedfordshire Village Quiz. There was also a gardening page, a children's page, a recipe page and an article from Carolyn Driver on the interesting things she saw on her walk to work as Secretary at the Lower School. Carolyn joined the editorial committee later on and continues to submit interesting articles.

Hugh took on the role of distributor and although he stood down from the editorial committee two or three years ago he continues to deliver magazines to the far flung parts of the parish. Over 25 years he thinks he has clocked up around 1,500 miles delivering to outlying farms and houses.

We have a copy of the first Village Link, printed in black and white, its cover designed and drawn by Isla Woiwod of Cockayne Hatley. It sits in a box in our loft with a copy of every magazine published in the first 25 years. A testament to those original sceptics who thought it wouldn't take off.

Good luck with the next 25 years.

Sandra Williams

Would you like to see Centrebus 188 run through the heart of Wrestlingworth?

When Centrebus took over the contract for running our local bus service, they stopped running through the centre of our village and missed out Cockayne Hatley completely. Now the buses only stop at The Slade (The Chequers) and at the crossroads to the south of the village.

Recently a public meeting was held in Potton attended by representatives from Centrebus and Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) along with our local Councillors, Adam Zerny and Doreen Gurney, in response to threats to drastically cut our bus service. Most of those present were pleasantly surprised when it was announced that the only cuts they were actually proposing were to remove the last buses each day. This met with the approval of the majority of those present, with the exception of those affected by the change.

With this in mind, some of us are now trying to get the service restored so that it runs through the village again and so includes Cockayne Hatley as well. This would mean reinstating the stops at Cockayne Hatley turn, the north end of the High Street and the one at Chapel Close. However the only chance of getting this to happen is if enough of us show a willing interest and would actually use this service, if only occasionally. It may be that we could persuade Centrebus and CBC to run the service through the village for a trial period to see how things go or even just run every other bus through the village. They presently run every two hours, so it is not too much to ask really!

If you wish this to happen then please contact:-

Councillor Adam Zerny: adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk;
Chairman of the Parish Council Robin Barratt: rbarratt@btinternet.com and
Susan Childerhouse, Head of Public Protection & Transport CBC:
susan.childerhouse@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.

They can then take the matter forward on our behalf. Ultimately it is Susan who will make the final decision. Please be aware that this can only happen with your support. So, if you would like the bus to run through our village once again then at present this is your only chance to do something about it.

Brian Buck



Local Independent Central Bedfordshire Councillor Adam Zerny's latest email newsletter is now available; it includes the latest on potential development in Potton, news of speed calming in Wrestlingworth and issues over superfast broadband in the village

As always the newsletter will include a round-up of up-and-coming local events. To get it directly, join the mailing list by emailing him at adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk

or visit the website www.adamzerny.co.uk .

For the latest news, follow him on twitter @adamzerny

or facebook - cllr adam zerny

Wrestlingworth Youth Clubs

These are the things I like about Youth Club.

1. The environment
2. The activities always put a smile on my face.
3. The other kids
4. Cooking (D.I.Y)
5. You don't get bored
6. Drinks and food
7. Well organised
8. Lovely staff
9. Staff listen to your ideas of what to do

AND EVERYBODY'S NICE! *By Alfie Bourne age 11 and a half*

We have been busy celebrating lots of 'National' weeks with 'Story-telling' week, where we had a shadow box story of the Gruffalo and a big washing line with lots of 'Pants'- a great younger child story. 'Nesting week', where everyone got involved with making bird boxes, which have been distributed through the village and 'National Chip Week', with pizza making to go with the chips.

Fashion show

Everyone got to design a T-shirt, either by drawing or tie dying, and we held a mini fashion show for the parents to come and watch, which was great fun and everyone worked so hard considering we did it in 2 weeks!

I would like to thank Rosemary for enticing another member from the carpet bowls club to come and do a demonstration and let us have a go. It was quite interesting and fun.

We are now planning for the next few months to keep our group fresh, we do listen to the children's ideas as Alfie has mentioned and we try to implement them the best we can.

Debbie

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10am - 4pm, 8th & 9th April 2017.

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Craft Fair/Fete to be held in Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall on 2nd April 2017, 11-3pm

Lots of craft stalls including cards, decoupage gifts and furniture, Avon, sewing items, Reiki master and much more.

Try your hand at the coconut shy, hook a duck or print or tie die a T-shirt. Face painting, and games, games, games for all the family!

We will be holding a fabulous raffle, (top prize is a 4 ball at John O'Gaunt), wine, chocolates and many more wonderful prizes to be had.

Or would you like a ride in a McLaren 570s or on a Harley bike? Enter our draw to be in with a chance, only £2 a ticket.

Proceeds will go to The Avenue and Wrestlingworth Youth Club. The Avenue is an Autistic Family Support Group, which many families in the Village have received help and invaluable guidance from. They will be there on the day to help should you need their services.

If you can't cope with too much excitement why not just pop along for a cake and a cuppa or a bacon roll, we would love to see you!

Our thanks to Sally Stone for letting us know about this event.

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Name	Trade	Contact
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Claire Lawrence	Animal Portrait Artist	01767 631560 www.clairerlawrence.co.uk
Brian Auty	5 Star Pet Services	07779 101698 www.5starpetservice.co.uk
Donna Bubear	Ironing Services	01767 631850
Armande Fryatt	Wedding & Dinner Party Harpist	01767 631123 www.theweddingharpist.net
Mrs. A Fryatt BEd, MA, APC	Specialist Dyslexia Assessor & Tutor	01767 631123 www.assessment-for-dyslexia.co.uk
Geoff Swinden	Home Delivery Newsagent	01767 631231
Mary Swinden	Florist	01767 631231
Sushma Patel	Crystal Therapist	01767 631825 or 07970 000095 www.amethystcave.co.uk
Melvyn Robinson	Painter, Decorator & Gardener	01767 631283 or 07506 536298
Ben Searle	Elm Park Double Glazing	01767 631569
Charles Millard	Cambridgeshire Chauffeurs	01767 631096 www.cambridgeshirechauffeurs.co.uk
Mark Atkins	All Green Landscapes	01767 651126 www.allgreenlandscapes.co.uk
Frazer Dewey	Oil Boiler Services	01767 631746 or 07968 956977 www.abacusoilexperts.co.uk
Michael Slevin	Gutter Cleaning	0800 316 8167 www.highwash.co.uk

To be added to the above list, please supply your name, trade (i.e. Plumber) and telephone number(s) to the editor by emailing:- villagelink@zoho.com There is a small charge of £10 P.A. for entries. This does not apply to those traders with other display advertising in the Village Link. Our thanks to all of the traders who support the Village Link, if you do need their services please let them know how you found them.

HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

ORGANISATION	CONTACT NAME	PHONE NUMBER
St. Johns Church Cockayne Hatley	Priest in Charge – The Rev Gill Smith P.C.C. & Church Warden – Mrs. Gloria Crossley Friends of St. Johns – Mrs. Sharon Weston	01767 260782 01767 260527 01767 631608
Wrestlingworth, Eyeworth & Dunton Churches	Rector – The Rev Lindsay Dew Deputy Church Warden (St. Peters) - Rosemary Chapman Church Warden (All Saints) – Wendy Robinson	01462 743617 01767 631330 01767 631283
Church & Poor's Fund	Mrs. Liz Teague	01767 631628
Parish Councillors	Mr Robin Barratt (Chair) Mr. James Kirkpatrick Mr. Andrew Dagless Mr Geoff Whale Mrs. Sandra Williams (Vice Chair) Mr Carl Turner Mr. Nigel Dodgson Clerk to Parish Council - Mrs. Catherine Dear	01767 631418 01767 631767 01767 631880 01767 631358 01767 631269 01767 631070 01767 631643 01767 631383
Central Beds Councillors	Adam Zerny Doreen Gurney	01767 261319 01767 680395
Wrestlingworth Lower School	Head Teacher - Mrs. N. Sheehan Friends Chair - Niamh Scanlan-Blake	01767 631249 01767 631483
Wrestlingworth Pre-School	Sam Randall	01767 631722
Youth Club	Debbie Hughes	01767 631523
Women's Institute	Mrs. Jan Law	01767 631215
Conservative Association	Doreen Gurney	01767 680395
Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund	Mr. Mick Andrews Doctor/Hospital Transport – Mrs. Margaret Pantry	01767 631644 01767 631548
Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall	Chairman - Mr. Jim Hawkins Bookings - Mary Leggetter	01767 631736 01767 631418
Eyeworth Village Hall	Bookings - Mrs. Wendy Robinson	01767 631283
Walking & Wildlife Group	Chair - Robin Barratt	01767 631418
History Society	Coordinator – Mrs. C. Walker	01767 631450
Badminton Club	Mr. Jim Hawkins Ladies section – Jan Goodwin	01767 631736 01767 631282
Carpet Bowls	Rosemary Chapman	01767 631330
The Chequers Public House	Dave and Carin Moore	01767 631818
EMERGENCY (24 HOURS)		
Police Contact PCSO 4939 Michela DIDONATO tel: 101 - Anglian Water 0800 145 145 Potton Surgery 01767 260229 – 24/7 (electricity 0800 783 8838) Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) 07842 087395 or 0300 300 4439		
Useful Numbers		
Potton Surgery (appointments/requests)		01767 260340
Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator		01767 631265
Police (Control Room)		01234 841212
Samaritans		01234 211211
National Rail Enquiries		08457 484950
Central Bedfordshire Council Dog Warden		0300 300 8302

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