

Village Link

Issue 181

30TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



April - May 2022

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Saturday: 9am-3pm

Sunday: Closed

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Assistant - Cameron Bubear

e-mail us at: villagelink@zoho.com

ISSUE 181 - 30TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE - April - May 2022

EDITORIAL

Happy birthday to you!

Happy birthday to you!

Happy birthday, dear Village Link!

Happy Birthday to you!

And with a “hip hip hooray” we toast our 30th anniversary with a bumper issue - a sure sign that the magazine continues to play a vital role in communicating what’s happening across our villages. Thanks to everyone who sent in material - we’re always happy to include your event here, and print your interesting articles.

The Village Link is currently looking for a treasurer. Can anyone help?

- Simon Dear, Editor

COPY DEADLINE ISSUE 182.....12th May 2022

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OUR KIND SPONSORS

Friends of Wrestlingworth Lower School

St Peter’s Church

Parish Walking and Wildlife Group

Women's Institute

Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund

Parish Council

Wrestlingworth History Society

Memorial Hall

St John’s Church, Cockayne Hatley

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.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

- 2nd Blind Whisky Tasting at The Chequers, 7pm. Booking essential.
- 10th Palm Sunday Pilgrimage - St Mary Magdalene (Dunton) at 9:30am ; All Saints (Eyeworth) at 10:15am and St Peter's (Wrestlingworth) at 11am.
- 17th PWWG walk - Pasque Flowers & Fairfield Heath. Meet at the Heath Café car park off Baldock Road (SG8 5BG) at 10am
- 19th Women's Institute's Games Evening, Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
- 24th "A Feast of Music" concert, All Saints Church, Sutton at 2.30pm
- 30th Bingo Night organised by the Friends of Wrestlingworth Lower School, Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, 7pm

MAY

- 1st PWWG walk to Potton Wood to celebrate International Dawn Chorus Day, departing The Chequers at 4.30am
- 1st Red Kite Concerts presents "Deep Blue", St John the Baptist Church, Cockayne Hatley, 5pm. Tickets available on-line
- 3rd Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall AGM, the Hall, 8pm
- 7th Quiz Night at the Chequers, Wrestlingworth, 8pm
- 9th Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley Parish Council AGM and meeting, Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
- 17th Women's Institute's Annual Meeting, Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
- 19th Wrestlingworth History Society talk 'The History of Potton' by Peter Ibbett, Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st & 22nd Sutton Plant Sale at The Old Rectory, Sutton, 10am-4pm. Duck Race, Sunday 22nd at 3pm.
- 29th PWWG walk - Fowlmere, meet in the RSPB Fowlmere car park at 10am

Please do check dates and times with organisers, as they may be subject to change. 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. So, please email your diary dates to villagelink@zoho.com.

W&CH PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Parish Council Changes

We have recently seen significant changes on the Parish Council, and would like to advise parish residents on the new structure:

We wish farewell to Sandra Williams who worked tirelessly to enable our Neighbourhood Plan to come to fruition. Sandra was a wealth of information on planning and council regulations, and she resigned from the council in late 2021.

We also wish farewell to Robin Barratt (resigned 11th Feb 2022), who devoted much of his time to various village bodies, including a significant seven year tenure as Council chair. His energies, enthusiasm and hard work will be missed by us all, not only on the Council, but the myriad other committees and bodies to which he contributed.

Many thanks to Robin and Sandra for their contributions to the village through their council work. We also wish Robin and Mary all the best as they leave the village.

The new council:

Chair:	James Kirkpatrick
Clerk:	Catherine Dear
Vice-chair:	Vacant
Councillors:	Kevin Puddephatt, Andy Ewens, Lorna Chapman, Simon Thorpe. (2 vacancies)

We welcome our newest councillors Andy, Lorna and Simon.

Dog Poo

Once again the Parish Council has been asked to take action on the dog poo on footpaths around the village and in our countryside. We have no powers to prevent it, but we ask dog owners to be diligent in cleaning up after their pets and use the dog waste bins provided where they are available. Thank you.

Parish Council Notice Board

Following feedback from residents, the Parish Council notice Board has been

moved from the end of Butcher's Lane. It is now at the bus stop, opposite The Slade.

Please Respect Public Spaces

It is disappointing to have to advise that some anti-social behaviour has occurred in the Millennium Garden, with subsequent deliberate damage to the defibrillator cabinet.

This equipment could one day save the life of someone in the village, and we would urge those that feel the need to smoke in this area to do so without damaging the equipment.

Vacancies

The Parish Council, which meets six times a year, is looking to fill two vacancies of Parish Councillor. Are you interested? If so, please contact the clerk Catherine Dear via email at wrestlingworthch@gmail.com or phone 01767 631383.

Parish Council Meetings

The March meeting was held virtually on Zoom due to Covid. Draft minutes can be found on the Parish Council website:

wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk

Our next meeting will be at the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm on the 9th May, and will start with our AGM. Please feel free to come along.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, COCKAYNE HATLEY

Rector Rev. Alex Wheatley

Services

2nd Sunday of the month at 9 am - Holy Communion

4th Sunday of the month at 3 pm - Evening Prayer

<https://www.pottonparishchurch.org.uk/>

FROM OUR WARD COUNCILLORS

It's been three years since I was elected to Central Bedfordshire Council and I am so glad I have this opportunity to represent our ward. Every day brings something new to my desk, from the day-to-day stuff such as potholes, fly tipping or helping residents get a meaningful response from the council, to the less obvious such as influencing policies and planning, and sitting on committees.

One more satisfying parts of the job, which brings immediate benefits to our community, is helping groups access the Ward Councillors' Grant scheme and I am pleased to say that all last year's money was allocated to some great projects across the ward.

Applications for this year's funding are now being taken for a share of £4,000 in grants - that's £2,000 per councillor.

So if you have a group, or project, in mind which works to benefit the community take a look at the scheme www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

The money can only be spent on capital expenses i.e. buying things rather than time or services, and some grants can be given without match funding.

For bigger projects to restore/repair/improve community buildings there is the Community Asset Grant.

Please get in touch to discuss your application.

Tracey Wye

*Independent Central Bedfordshire councillor for
Potton and Wrestlingworth*

traceywye@icloud.com

TREASURER NEEDED FOR VILLAGE LINK

The current incumbent joined our committee a couple of years ago on the understanding it was on a temporary basis. So we would welcome a fresh face on the committee. No prior experience needed.

The Village Link is a not-for-profit community magazine run completely by volunteers and deserves your support. If you can help, please call David on 631407 or Simon on 631383.



Ways to keep in touch with St Peter's

Our Notice board outside church
Our web site: www.dwe.org.uk
Facebook – follow 'DWE Benefice'

Whoever you are, you are welcome here!

St Peter's exists to serve the village of Wrestlingworth and the wider local community. Our regular congregation is made up of people of all stages of life and we hope to provide something for everybody. You are very welcome to join us at a service, reach out to us if you have a pastoral need or make contact if you would like to discuss holding a christening, wedding or another special service at the church.

Easter Services at St Peter's

Sunday April 10th: Palm Sunday Pilgrimage

Beginning at 9:30am at St Mary Magdalene (Dunton), arriving at All Saints (Eyeworth) at 10:15am and finishing with a short Eucharist service at St Peter's (Wrestlingworth) at 11am. Do feel free to join us for all or part of the morning.

Monday April 11th, Tuesday April 12th and Wednesday April 13th: Compline, 7pm at St Peter's.

Thursday April 14th: Benefice Lord's Supper, 7:30pm at St Peter's.

Friday April 15th: Good Friday Holy Hour, 2pm in St Mary Magdalene, Dunton

Sunday April 17th: Benefice Easter Day Eucharist Service, 10:30am at St Peter's.

Regular Services at St Peter's

There will be some changes to our regular services as we go into vacancy. You can find the revised times on our notice board, on A Church Near You and at our website: www.dwe.org.uk

Coffee Mornings are back!

We are delighted that as COVID restrictions continue to ease, we have restarted our coffee mornings on the first Tuesday of each month between 10:30am and 12pm. Do join us on **April 5th and May 3rd** for hot drinks, cake and the chance to catch up with old and new friends from the village.

DUNTON OIL GROUP UPDATE

The next order period will be starting on April 2nd and the book will close on 17th April with deliveries starting 18th April. *-Larry*



Defibrillator

**Call 999
whilst at Patient**

VILLAGE DEFIB. LOCATIONS

Cockayne Hatley

On brick cabinet
opposite 21 Village Road, SG19 2EE

Wrestlingworth

Millennium Garden bus shelter
opposite 78 High Street, SG19 2EP

DUNTON OIL GROUP

helps those of us in the local area who use oil as our main heating source to buy it more cheaply than we could as individuals. There are 3 deliveries a year - in January, April and September.

We have 140 members and order around 50,000 litres each time. This quantity gives us a price that is usually about 5 pence a litre cheaper than would otherwise be possible. The minimum order is 500 litres so that means **a saving of about £25 or more on each order.**

To join the group send an email to:-
duntonoil@larry-smith.co.uk
or phone Larry on 01767 600603

WRESTLINGWORTH HISTORY SOCIETY



CAN WE ADD YOU TO OUR MAILING LIST?

Wrestling worth History Society was formed in 1999. It has members both from the village and a wider area around. We host a broad programme of talks on local history, British History, World History and the Arts.

Ordinarily, our meetings take place every two months either in the Memorial Hall, or using Zoom.

Annual Membership is £15 per individual or £20 per Family. Non-members are welcome and pay £4 per meeting.

If you'd like to be informed about upcoming talks, please go to the 'Contact' page on our website and drop us a short line with your email address. (Your details won't, of course, be shared with any 3rd party including other members.)

www.wrestlingworth-hs.org

WRESTLINGWORTH HISTORY SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS

THE HISTORY OF POTTON

Thursday, May 19th in the Memorial Hall

A talk by Peter Ibbett



VISIT TO NORTH HERTS MUSEUM

Thursday, July 21st

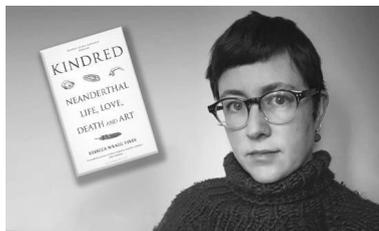
Guided tour by Museum curator
& archaeologist

Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews

KINDRED: NEANDERTHAL LIFE LOVE, DEATH & ART

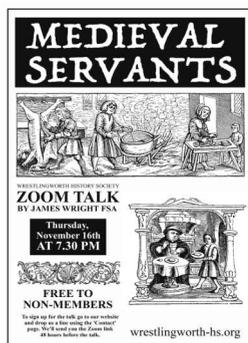
Thursday, November 17th via Zoom

Talk by author of best-selling book
archaeologist Rebecca Bragg-Sykes



*Our talk for Thursday, September 15th: Still to be decided

SOME PREVIOUS TALKS





Contact Us

Wendy Robinson, Church Warden
01767 631283

For more information see: www.dwe.org.uk

Follow us on FaceBook group
'We Love Eyeworth'

Whoever you are, you are welcome here!

All Saints exists to serve the village of Eyeworth and the wider local community. Our regular congregation is made up of people of all stages of life and we hope to provide something for everybody. You are very welcome to join us at a service, reach out to us if you have a pastoral need or make contact if you would like to discuss holding a christening, wedding or another special service at the church.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN EYEWORTH

Sun 10th April - Palm Sunday - Tractor-led pilgrimage starting at Dunton Church at 9.30am, reaching Eyeworth Church at 10.15am & then Wrestlingworth Church at 11am.

All welcome to join the pilgrimage at any point.

Fri 15th April - 10.30am - 12.15pm - Good Friday - coffee/tea & hot cross buns in Eyeworth Village Hall to raise funds for our Church.

Sun 17th April - Easter Sunday - Arch Deacon Dave will lead an all-age Eucharist at 9.15am followed by an Easter scavenger hunt in the Churchyard.

Sat 23rd April - Table top sale - 10am - 1pm. Tombola. Refreshments available. £10/table. If interested in booking a table please contact Wendy (631283) or Abi (631864).

Sun 1st May - All-age worship at 3pm led by Mary Millar.

Sun 29th May - Benefice Eucharist at 9.30am.

For further info please follow updates posted in 'We Love Eyeworth' Facebook group or contact Wendy/Melvyn (631283) or Abi (631864).

HISTORY, TEA, DARTS AND TRAIN ROBBERS



February saw two events for the WI, both of which had good turnouts. Gary Fisher knew his subject well, ‘The Life of Elizabeth I’, and bombarded us with facts. What a miserable life she had – she saw her mother executed, was named a bastard and imprisoned all before she was 25 when she came to the throne and then was surrounded by men all wishing to marry her so they could grab power.

Our postponed ‘Posh’ Tea Party was nearly scuppered again, but by Covid this time, when three of the St. Neots Ukelele Band fell foul of it. However, the WI doesn’t make a drama out of a crisis and singer Terry stepped in at the eleventh hour to entertain us while we drank tea, ate dainty sandwiches and cakes and sipped prosecco. It helps enormously that we have a retired Catering Manager as our President. Twenty-one ladies, one husband and one granddaughter were encouraged to sing-along to pops from the 50s, 60s and 70s. It was a great afternoon.

Our darts team have had their first friendly match and it is hoped another league can be started up. We did well last time. It pays to advertise they say because we have found our WI banner was lurking in someone’s shed. All we want to find now is our ‘crested’ china.

In March I was unable to attend our meeting with Nick Cooke’s talk on the ‘Great Train Robbery.’ I have heard his talk before and had to laugh when the gang’s hideaway was discovered by a police constable who had to cycle to the nearest phone box to raise the alarm!

On 19th April we will be holding a Games Evening and 17th May will be our Annual Meeting, with a speaker yet to be decided. Ladies, come along and join us 7.30 pm, Memorial Hall, on third Tuesday of the month – you will be welcomed.

- Carolyn Driver

VILLAGE LINK CLASSIFIEDS

PÉTANQUE PLAYERS NEEDED. We are based at The Chequers and if we have enough players, we will compete in the South Cambridgeshire league. All ages and abilities welcome. Phone Simon on 01767 631383.

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADVERT HERE - We kindly ask for a small donation of £5 to help cover printing costs. Please contact the editor of the Village Link for more information.

Friends of Wrestlingworth Lower School presents...



Bingo Night



Please come & join our PTA bingo night at:

Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall

Saturday 30th April 2022 | Doors Open 7PM

£8 per ticket in advance (or £10 per ticket on the night) includes a glass of prosecco/nibbles! Please bring your own additional drinks & snacks.

Tickets Available via the QR Code or

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Friends-of-Wrestlingworth-Lower-School-Assoe/t-revgml>



All Welcome - We look forward to seeing you on the night!



The W.I. enjoying their Posh Tea Party in the Memorial Hall



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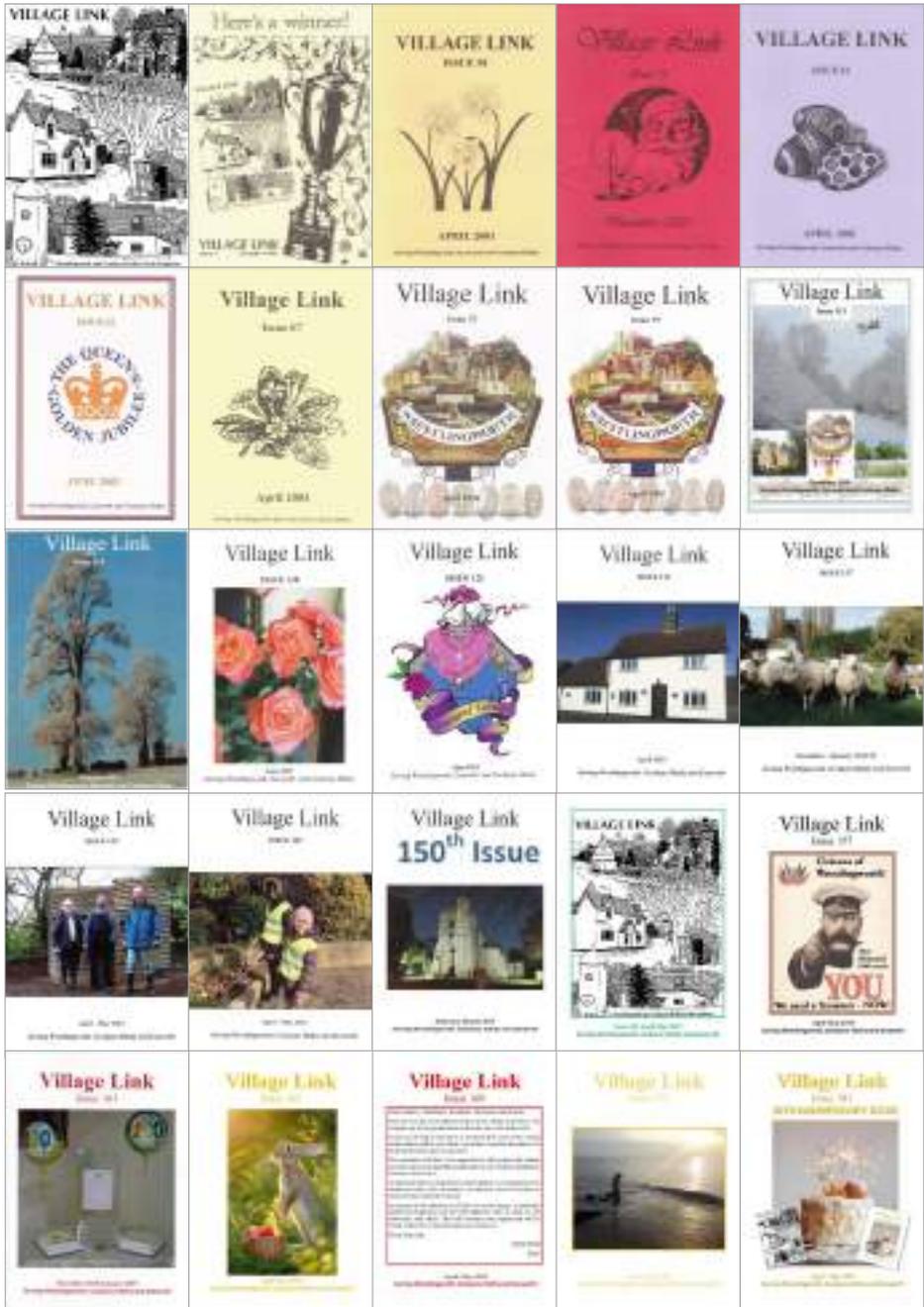
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and search for: Wrestlingworth Lower



Players must be 16 years of age or older. Offer ends 23rd Apr 2022. T&Cs apply (see website for details).



30 Years of Serving Wrestlingworth, Eyeworth & Cockayne Hatley



Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall Presents

Platinum Jubilee Exhibition

Saturday 4th June 2022

11am - 4pm

Come and join us to see exhibitions from our local groups and societies including the Goodwill Fund, Parish Walking & Wildlife Group, Friends of Wrestlingworth Lower School, Wrestlingworth WI, Wrestlingworth History Society and more:

Refreshments provided. This is a great opportunity to get involved with your local community and celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.



THE RETURN OF THE RED KITE



**Parish
Walking &
Wildlife
Group**

Karen Greenway and Bill Dennis of the PWWG rejoice in the return of one of our favourite raptors.

A lone bird circles high overhead. As it drifts closer the tell-tale fork of the tail heralds the arrival of one of our most iconic birds of prey – the red kite. Once common throughout the British Isles it is now making a welcome return thanks to one of the most successful reintroduction programmes in the world.

This large reddish brown raptor would have been a common sight in medieval times and was protected in England until the 16th century as it was useful for clearing carrion from the streets of towns and cities. It was mentioned by Chaucer in ‘The Knight’s Tale’ and Shakespeare makes numerous references to it – describing London as “a city of kites and crows” in Coriolanus. By the end of the 16th century, perhaps due to growing numbers, a law was passed awarding “one penny a head for every kite” and this together with gamekeepers erroneous belief that they killed game birds led to their extinction in England in 1871.



Red Kite adrift over adjacent fields

A small population survived in the remote valleys of Wales with just a dozen birds recorded in 1903 when the world’s longest running conservation project began. In spite of these efforts numbers remained low until the 1960s when slowly they began to increase. Eventually it became obvious that the Welsh kites would never produce enough young to repopulate the rest of Britain. So in 1989 the first 5 birds



Three kites in a tree near Barr Lane.

were released in the Chilterns.

Initially local residents feared for the safety of their pets, but once they were reassured that the kite's main food was carrion (usually road kill and supplied by the project at the outset) supplemented with worms and beetles, they welcomed the birds back into its natural habitat and a breeding population was gradually established.

The success of this project led to others across the country and today there are more than 10,000 red kites in Britain – about 10% of the global population.

30 years after the original release red kites are now a common sight around our villages. Look up and enjoy the spectacle - long may it last!



Red Kite perched on Cockayne Hatley Church

In February the PWWG said a sad farewell to our chairman Robin Barratt with a thank-you presentation in the Chequers. "It's been an incredible 12 years and I will always be in awe of what a small team of dedicated volunteers has been able to achieve. Long may the PWWG survive, and I look forward to hosting a walk near Bury St Edmunds in the future" said Robin.



All are welcome to join the monthly walks organised by the PWWG on the third Sunday of every month. Forthcoming walks are:

April 17th Pasque Flowers, Therfield Heath – meet in the Heath car park off Baldock Road (SG8 5BG) at 10am

Special Walk - May 1st Dawn Chorus walk to celebrate International Dawn Chorus Day. Meet (quietly!) at The Chequers at 4.30am for a local walk to hear the dawn chorus and see the sun rise over Cambridge.

May 29th Fowlmere Family Walk with pond-dipping for children. **Places must be booked in advance.** Please message via the PWWG Facebook page. Meet RSPB car park Fowlmere at 10am.



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BLIND WHISKY TASTING AT THE CHEQUERS

2ND APRIL 2022 1900

A guided blind tasting session of 10 Whiskies



Food Slovak beef goulash



Another tasting of the same whiskies but with details revealed about each whisky at the end

£30 per head - Limited Places (27) £10 Deposit

Book your place at the

All money raised will be donated to Verity's Crowd Funding Page for MNGIE Treatment

All proceeds go to Verity in our village

QUIZ NIGHT RETURNS TO THE CHEQUERS

We are delighted to announce that Quiz Night is making a welcome return to The Chequers on 7th May at 8pm.

Each quiz is hosted by volunteer quizmasters, with the main point of contact being Jim Hawkins

(JimHawkins@metronet.co.uk). Entry is just £1 per person and all profits go to local causes including the children of Wrestlingworth, primarily through the Lower School. It is planned that Quiz Night will take place in the pub on the 2nd Saturday of each month from June onwards.

So come along and join us. We also welcome new quizmasters who might want to give it a go!



30th ANNIVERSARY!

What a year it is for anniversaries! The Queen celebrates her Platinum Jubilee, 'Aunty' BBC now becomes a 'Great Aunt' celebrating its Centenary and our very own "Village Link" its 30th anniversary.

Who would have thought when I submitted a small article to the fledgling publication "Village Link", I would still be doing so regularly 30 years later? Indeed, who would have thought I would have been its Editor and Compiler in the past and now am involved again in its Distribution. Produced over the years entirely by many volunteers it has kept our three villages of Wrestlingworth, Cockayne Hatley and Eyeworth, with barely a mile between them, in touch with what is going on, entertained us and given local advertisers a window into their services. Do you need a plumber, a vet, a florist, an MOT or even a haircut? Look in "Village Link" and you will find one.

It says in one of my reference books that a 30th Anniversary is a Pearl Anniversary. I think that is an apt name for "Village Link" – it is our Pearl.

- Carolyn Driver

How It All Started 30 Years Ago

The team that sat down around Hugh Williams kitchen back then consisted of Hugh, Liz and Mike Brown, Vera Rudkin and myself. Previously Hugh had done a lot of work to try and implement a village magazine and it was due to his persistency that we were all there that evening in an effort to improve and produce a professional product. Our first decision was what to call it and it was Vera who came up with the suggestion of the 'Village Link' and so it has remained.

- David Morrison

The First Village Link

A facsimile of the first Village Link is viewable on the PC web site:

wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk/village-link-first-edition

Our Wonderful Team of Distribution Volunteers

A key task every issue is to deliver your magazine to your door. Many in our team have given years of service, and we can't thank them enough for their dedication and support, and frankly unenviable task of walking door-to-door in the cold, wet winter months. Thank you Mick Andrews, Carol Bonfield, Val Campbell, Rosemary Chapman, Val Cooper, Carolyn Driver, Louise Landen, Janet Leaver, David Morrison, Helen Pinnington, Aileen Reeves, Wendy Robinson, and Olive Walker.

WRESTLINGWORTH MEMORIAL HALL

Hall Hire

Following the lifting of all Covid related restrictions, we are very pleased to announce that the Hall is fully open for hiring. It is an ideal venue for your children's party or private function, equipped with a fully fitted kitchen containing 2 ovens and 2 hobs plus a microwave and fridge. Our rates are very competitive, and we are also looking for local clubs and societies to consider using the hall for their regular meetings. For all booking enquiries, please email bookings@wrestlingworthmemorialhall.org.uk

Hall Car Park

One of the key advantages of the hall to hirers is that it has an on-site car park for around a dozen cars. Recently we have had a few complaints due to cars not associated with the event using up spaces and preventing full use of the car park. Some residents have also interrupted events as their cars have been blocked in, again causing upset to both parties. To resolve this issue the committee will publish a list of upcoming events and requests that anyone not associated with these event finds an alternative location for their cars during the published times. For those people that do park their cars in the hall car park during times when the hall is not in use, the committee need to make it clear that it is not responsible for any damage and/or theft.

Essential Maintenance

Parts of the guttering surrounding the building needs repairing, starting with the installation of a soak away and a new downpipe. This will stop the overflow of water which, in turn, is making the back wall of the hall damp. We will keep you posted on progress and this work will be completed in a few small phases over the coming months. At the start of this work there will be a skip delivered, and the car park must be completely free of cars to ensure a safe and speedy installation. As soon as the date for the skip delivery is confirmed, a notice will be displayed in the car park.

Treasurer Vacancy

We are in urgent need of a Treasurer as our current one is moving on after giving us an excellent service. You don't need any accounting experience, just be comfortable with Excel Spreadsheets. Cheryl Roberts, who is our current Treasurer, is more than happy to give you a brief overview of what is

required and can be contacted on 07734 751079 or cherylisnow@live.co.uk.

Annual General Meeting

This will take place in the Hall on May 3rd, starting at 8pm. You are very welcome to attend, and we would be very interested in any ideas and suggestions you have to make the Hall more attractive to potential hirers. We would also like to offer a place on the committee for any clubs or groups that wish to hire the hall on a regular basis, and in return, we give a discount on the standard hourly rate.

WRESTLINGWORTH GOODWILL FUND

On 21st February we held our AGM in the Memorial Hall. We said farewell and grateful thanks to Kelvyn Higgins our Treasurer. Kelvyn has done an excellent job looking after the finances over the last few years as well as tackling many other time consuming projects. He will be greatly missed. We welcomed Geoffrey Coan onto the committee as our new treasurer and we wish him well in this post. Zoe Wempe had decided to step down as secretary after many years' service for which we are immensely grateful. I am pleased to say that she has agreed to stay on the committee continuing to give us the benefit of her great experience. We are very pleased that Rachel Lovett has stepped up to be secretary. Sarah Burgoine has remained as Chair, Mary Swinden as Vice-Chair and we have also welcomed Lesley Higgins to the committee as our welfare representative.

We have navigated our way through another tricky year and are very grateful for the supportive donations we have received from residents of the villages.

When you read this we will have held our first "in person" quiz for over two years.

We will be holding our Pensioner's Tea Party on Sunday the 8th May in the Memorial Hall. If you know of anyone who has reached 65, please let us know so they can be included in the invitations.

We are in the process of updating our list of "friends" who would be available to help us on occasions such as the fete and tea party. If you are able to support us in this way please email

info@wrestlingworthgoodwillfund.org

Thank You!

-Sarah Burgoine

WRESTLINGWORTH LOWER SCHOOL PTA



Like many other charities, the PTA has needed to find new ways of raising funds over the past two years and we have been well supported by parents of children at the school. We were all pleased to be able to host our first in person fundraiser at Christmas and thank residents for supporting our Big Christmas Breakfast and raffle. We managed to raise over £1000 from this which will mean that the school can buy new reading books for the children. During the last year, we have been able to support the school to buy a new shed to replace a rotting one so they now have somewhere dry to store things. We hope to be able to treat Mrs Knibbs to a pergola for the school garden in the summer.

We have ideas for the next few months and would love it if you were able to join us at our Bingo Night on 30th April from 7pm at Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall. There is an early ticket price of £8, or £10 on the night. This includes nibbles and bubbles! Tickets can be purchased from

www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-wrestlingworth-lower-school-assoc/t-revgml

We're looking forward to supporting the school to plan their first school trip in two years. This will be the first school trip for the majority of the children at school who have only known school during a pandemic. We are also planning an Easter egg hunt for everyone and an event to mark the Queen's Jubilee.

Please look out on Facebook for our online Easter Raffle and support us by buying tickets.

TELL US YOUR CORONATION MEMORIES

Our next issue of the Village Link (June / July 2022) coincides with the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Do you have any memories of the Coronation to share with our readers? Maybe you listened to it on the radio, or were fortunate to watch it on T.V.? How did your school celebrate the occasion? Did you or your family travel to London to join the festivities there? We'd love to hear your personal stories. Please contact the editor via email or phone.

CONCERTS AT COCKAYNE HATLEY

It is a rare treat when world class classical performers come to the Parish. If the recent March “Sacred Chants” concert is anything to go by, which brought the beautiful vocal music of Hildegard von Bingen with saxophone and flute interludes to the Church of St John the Baptist, we are set for a year of extra special series of musical events.

The talent behind the performances are local professional musicians Sarah O’Flynn (flute) and Christian Forshaw (saxophone) who have teamed up to bring world class musicians performing intimate, bespoke concerts to our beautiful venue.

The next concert is “Deep Blue” on 1st May, 5-6pm. Christian Forshaw explores the ambient, absorbing sound world of music for saxophone, percussion, organ and bass clarinet, debuting his own new material alongside the captivating works by *Moondog*.

Tickets can be purchased on line. Given how well attended the March concert was, I’d suggest booking your seats early. More details can be found at www.redkiteconcerts.com

- *John Foulkes*

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A WALK AROUND WRESTLINGWORTH, A PERSONAL VIEW – PART 10 BY BRIAN BUCK

You join me as I am sitting on the bench in Wrestlingworth graveyard, taking a break from my walk round the village.

Soon it was time for me to complete the last part of my walk. I followed what had now been reduced down from a track to a footpath, which winds through what initially appears to be a wood, by virtue of its intensified collection of trees and undergrowth which at the time of my walks, in the spring of 2020, needed to be trimmed a bit. But in reality, this was just a prolonged narrow spinney. But be careful here with your footing here. Not only are there protruding tree roots, there are also a few holes along this section, which makes it easy to trip into if you are not careful. Nonetheless this is a very pleasant section of the walk, as not only can it shade you from the hot sun, it can also protect you from the wind.

But before you exit this ‘wood’ there is one joy to behold. At the time I first started on these walks, where the narrow footpath opens up a little, there was a tree worth looking at, or more especially the base of it where one local family has built a mini garden made up of small pieces of bric-a-brac and written on a couple of lollipop sticks were the words: ‘Please add. Don’t take.’ This was lovely and was worth a minute or two of your time to stand, stare and look at. As I write, this has now disappeared but under another tree close by, a new ‘Aladdin’s cave’ is in the process of being constructed!

Soon you exit the ‘wood’ and suddenly the landscape changes dramatically, as you find yourself in an open field. In fact, all you can see ahead of you initially are fields, stretching far and wide. A grassy track shows you where to go and soon you see what I meant about the wind, as it seems to blow in from nowhere. On my initial visits the fields to my left and right were not growing crops that year, but as I walked further, I could see that others were. Although I could have walked on and eventually ended up in Tadlow, I chose to turn left onto another grassy track at the first opportunity. I could see that something was starting to grow in the field now to my right. For a few weeks it didn’t seem to grow very fast, due to the lack of rain, but as the weeks went by it grew more quickly and by the end of my series of walks, I could see that it was barley being grown in that field. At the end of this grassy track you

have options to turn right or left. By turning right you have the opportunity to go on a longer walk which takes you to places I have not yet investigated, but you can get to Tadlow this way as well.

On one walk I met a lady coming towards me from that direction and for a while we both walked together as I turned left here. She had what I thought was an artist's pad with her, but on asking her about this she told me that she was here to record butterflies and moths. She was part of a group of people who go around the whole country doing this and she has a designated area to cover, doing this four times a year. I found it rather amazing and somewhat reassuring that there are people like her who care about little things like these.

Anyway, we continued our walk along yet another grassy track, but this time with a hedge on our right. Soon we found ourselves at the end of Braggs Lane and we then walked the length of it, past some very well maintained detached houses, including the last house on the right, which became the 'new' Vicarage, when the Old Rectory was vacated. We then found ourselves back in the High Street. Turn left here to head back to the starting point of this walk, going past my favourite tree at this junction and then the Millennium Gardens on your right and the former Chapel on your left. Just before the road crosses the brook and the opportunity to turn right to go towards Potton arises, there is another picturesque part of the village to admire and if you look carefully you will see a well maintained old advertising sign on the side of the old Butchers shop, for Brooke Bond Tea, looking resplendent with its black writing on its traditional orange background.

From here retrace your steps, over the B1042 to Potton and then after a few yards, back to the Chequers, where this walk started. I do hope that you have enjoyed my 'ramblings' and that my words will inspire you to do this walk yourselves.

Join me again next time as I tell you more about my walks around the village.

If you have any comments, additions or corrections to make then please contact me at brianbuck66@yahoo.co.uk and I will add them to a 'round-up' once the last of this series of articles has been published. Also, if you give me permission then I will acknowledge your contribution by name. Thank you.

TRIAL AND ERROR COOKING BY GORDON BLUE (ASSISTED BY EGON RONNIE)

CRUNCHIE ICE CREAM WITH CRANBERRY SAUCE TOPPING (Serves four people)

Ingredients :-

For the meringue:

- 3 egg whites
- 100 g of caster or icing sugar

For the ice cream:

- A carton of either 500 or 600g of extra thick cream or of double cream

For the cranberry sauce topping:

- 100 g granulated sugar
- 100 ml orange juice, fresh or from a carton
- 250 g pack fresh or frozen cranberries

Method :-

This is a recipe which went wrong, but despite this I still managed to make something edible and I hope that it will impress Egon Ronnie!

Where I went wrong was in the making of the meringue. I could have bought some ready-made meringues, but I elected to make them instead, as you would expect me to! So, whisk up the egg whites until they are as thick and as white as you can make them. Here I did not whisk them for long enough. Then add the sugar, a spoonful at a time, whilst continuing with the whisking. Icing sugar is preferable, but caster sugar works just as well. Gradually your mixture will get thicker and thicker, but because I used granulated sugar it did not.

If you want to make a ‘nest’ then place the contents in a piping bag and on a greaseproof paper base, or tin foil base if you do not have any, make some circular nests. My mixture was not stiff enough to do this, so I spooned it on instead. Then bake in the oven for one hour at 100 degrees for about an hour. Then leave for half an hour to cool down. Another failure here because after doing this, instead of being the off-white colour you would expect meringues to be, it came out golden brown with a slightly burnt taste! But when I tried a bit, it tasted rather like the honeycomb in a Crunchie bar.

When it has cooled, break up your finished meringue, putting it into what will be your ice cream receptacle. Next, complete the making of the ice cream. For this

either pour in the carton of extra thick double cream or a carton of double cream, the latter which should be whisked until it becomes thick and hard to whisk any further, then put your contents into the freezer for at least an hour to allow it to set firmly. When it is ready it will taste like crunchy ice cream.

To make the cranberry sauce add the sugar and orange juice into a pan and then bring to the boil. Next stir in the cranberries, simmering until tender but still holding their shape. This will take about 5 minutes if using frozen cranberries or 8 to 10 minutes if using fresh. The sauce will thicken as it cools. Then when the sauce is either lukewarm or cold, add sufficient spoonfuls of it on to your ice cream to suit your needs before serving.

Egon Ronnie comments :-

You did indeed claw yourself out of trouble here Gordon and the end product did taste nice with the slightly tart taste of the cranberries contrasting well with the sweet taste of the ice cream. But it would have been quicker and probably more cost effective, given the cooking time, to buy in the meringues instead. Additionally, apart from the acquired taste, you could have made the ice cream by simply mixing in the whisked egg whites, icing sugar and whisked cream together and not bothered with the meringues at all! Don't worry though Gordon. I will not tell Delia!

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Wrestlingworth, Eyeworth & Dunton Churches	Karen Nurse - Church Warden (St. Peter's) Wendy Robinson - Church Warden (All Saints)	01767 631487 01767 631283
Church and Poor's Fund	Liz Teague	01767 631628
Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley Parish Council	James Kirkpatrick - Chair Kevin Puddephatt Lorna Chapman Andy Ewens Simon Thorpe Catherine Dear - Clerk to Parish Council	01767 631767 07950 691905 07858 776514 07740 553229 TBA 01767 631383
Central Beds Council	Adam Zerny - Independent Ward Councillor Tracey Wye - Independent Ward Councillor	01767 261319 01767 261319
Wrestlingworth Lower School	Nancy Sheehan - Head Teacher Abi Chipperfield - Friends Co-chair Kelly Whitfield - Friends Co-chair	01767 631249 07949 831993 07834 614613
Women's Institute	Lesley May	01767 631259
Conservative Association	Doreen Gurney	01767 680395
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Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall	Jim Hawkins - Chair Edwina Parker - Bookings	01767 631736 01767 631066
Eyeworth Village Hall	Wendy Robinson - Bookings	01767 631283
Parish Walking & Wildlife Group	Nicola Adkins - General Enquiries	01767 631789
History Society	Connie Walker - Coordinator	01767 631450
Badminton Club	Jim Hawkins	01767 631736
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Dunton Oil Group	Larry Smith - Coordinator	01767 600603

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Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)	07842 087395 or 0300 300 4439
Potton Surgery	01767 260229

USEFUL NUMBERS

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