

Village Link

Issue 189



August - September 2023

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ISSUE 189

August - September 2023

EDITORIAL

We are very happy with what our new printers produced with our last issue in terms of quality, look and feel. Their full colour process means we can brighten up our pages! You can see the results from our regular contributors. Thank you and well done everyone.

Wrestlingworth resident Steve Cook wrote to us in June about a spectacular scarlet tiger moth he photographed in his garden (*see this issue's cover*). These strikingly colourful moths, along with the other tiger moth species, emerge during June, July and August. Worth keeping an eye out for!

Please send us your interesting photos - it will be a pleasure to include what we can in our pages,

- *Simon Dear, Editor*

COPY DEADLINE ISSUE 190.....** 10th September 2023 **

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Wrestlingworth Women's Institute

Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund

Wrestlingworth History Society

St John the Baptist Church, Cockayne Hatley

Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall

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Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley Parish Council

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST

- 12th Café at St John's, St John the Baptist Church, Cockayne Hatley, 1-4.30pm
- 12th Quiz Night at the Chequers, Wrestlingworth, 8pm
- 14th 5-week Puppy Introduction Course with Dogzaloud, Eyeworth Village Hall, 6.30pm
- 15th Women's Institute, speaker Sarah Harrison on "You Couldn't Make It Up", Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
- 19th Family Fun Day, Eyeworth Village Hall, 10am-2pm
- 20th PWWG walk - Butterfly Foray to Potton Wood, starting at Chequers car park, Wrestlingworth, 10am

SEPTEMBER

- 2nd Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund Summer Fete, in the amenity field behind the Chequers Public House, 2-5pm
- 3rd Red Kite Concerts present "Percussive Vibes", St John the Baptist Church, Cockayne Hatley, 5pm. Tickets available online
- 4th Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley Parish Council meeting, St John the Baptist Church, Cockayne Hatley, 7.30pm
- 8th Mess Around's messy play session, Eyeworth Village Hall, 10-11am

... continued over ...

Please check dates and times with organisers, as they may be subject to change. Further information may be found later in this issue. We aim to include all events of interest to the residents of our villages, and rely on you to let us know. So, please email your diary dates to us at villagelink@zoho.com.

9th	Quiz Night at the Chequers, Wrestlingworth, 8pm
17th	PWWG walk - Weston-Baldock Loop, details TBA
17th	Harvest Festival Family & Children Service, St Peter's Church, Wrestlingworth, 11am
19th	Women's Institute, speaker Christine Farmer on "Masquerade", Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
20th	"Let's Talk Gardening!", Arrington Garden Centre, 10-11am, £5 per person
21st	Wrestlingworth History Society, speaker Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews on "What's in a Name?", Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
23rd	Harvest Festival themed Coffee Morning in aid of All Saints Church, Eyeworth Village Hall, 10.30am-12.15pm
24th	Harvest Festival, All Saints Church, Eyeworth, 3pm



Red Kite Concerts
2023 SEASON
st john the baptist | cockayne hatley | sg19 2ea



3rd September
5-6pm

PERCUSSIVE VIBES

JORDAN ASHMAN percussion

BBC Young Musician 2022 Jordan Ashman performs a breath-taking programme of thrilling works for marimba, vibraphone and mixed percussion.

Tickets £15
Under 18s free
Available in advance from
www.RedKiteConcerts.com

 facebook.com/redkiteconcerts

 [@redkiteconcerts](https://twitter.com/redkiteconcerts)

WRESTLINGWORTH & COCKAYNE HATLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillor Vacancies

Following the AGM on the 15th May and following our meeting on the 10th July, the Parish Council are still looking to fill 2 vacancies.

Councillors need to live within the parish & attend most of the six council meetings a year, as well as have an interest in all matters that affect our Parish.

The existing vacancies also does mean that residents of Cockayne Hatley currently have no representation on the Parish Council.

Anyone with an interest please contact Catherine Dear by email at wrestlingworthch@gmail.com or phone 01767 631383.

Around the Parish...

It is with regret that the Parish Council announce that it has become necessary to remove the flowering cherry tree at the junction of High Street and Braggs Lane. The tree has been inspected and considered a potential hazard, and will not survive many more seasons. We believe that the tree was planted for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 and we intend to replace it with one to mark the King's Coronation.

Parish Council Meetings

Our last meeting was held in the Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall on Monday 10th July. Draft minutes can be found on the Parish Council website:

wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk

Next meeting: **Monday 4th September**, St John the Baptist Church, Cockayne Hatley, 7.30pm

FROM OUR WARD COUNCILLORS

Wrestlingworth 20MPH Petition Considered by CBC

June's Central Bedfordshire Council Traffic Management committee (TMC) accepted a petition to consider reducing the speed limit to 20mph in Wrestlingworth.



Back in February, we backed a petition on behalf of Wrestlingworth residents to implement a 20mph zone throughout the village.

Alongside the parish council, we highlighted to CBC Highways that despite warning signs, some drivers still hurtle through the village endangering pedestrians and other motorists, hence launching the petition.

If more than 100 people signed then CBC were obliged to consider it formally, at a committee meeting. We got the numbers.

The meeting took place on 7th June and the committee chairman requested council officers go and get speed data for the roads in question.

Tracey also requested officers look at this in context of all the roads leading to and from the village being either national speed limit or 50mph.

A future meeting of the committee will consider the reports in the months to come. We'll keep you informed.

- Adam Zerny and Tracey Wye

Independent Central Bedfordshire councillors for Wrestlingworth, Cockayne Hatley and Potton

adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk - traceywye@icloud.com



ST PETER'S CHURCH

serves Wrestlingworth and our wider local community. Services take place at 11am every Sunday (unless a Special or Benefice service) with refreshments afterwards. Rainbow Rock is a special activity area for children to enjoy.*

All are very welcome at any of our services!

It is now a year since Revd. Liz joined us. No, we can't believe it either!

With a passion for the importance of school ministry, she takes weekly Collective Worship in both church schools, and it is wonderful to have the whole of Wrestlingworth School in St Peter's church on Thursday afternoons.

Thanks to the Rainbow Rock team, the diocesan 'Values' for School Collective Worship (most recently 'Communication', 'Service', and 'Trust') are reflected in the informative and eye-catching displays in this special area of the church.

At St Peter's, along with the other churches in the Benefice, we are currently reviewing and updating our Mission Action Plan and Vision for the future.

A Vision/Mission morning for all 3 churches is taking place on 9th September, as we look to the future flourishing of our churches.

Fundamentally important is our outreach and welcome within the local community. Perhaps there is something new or different that you would like to see happening at your village church, or that you would like to get involved with? If so, please do let us know!

We celebrated our Patronal festival at the end of June, and it was wonderful to see the St Peter flag (beautifully restored to its former glory) flying once again from the tower - and thanks goes out to our new tower volunteers from the village!

Please come and say Hello to us at our stall at the Goodwill Annual Fete on Saturday afternoon September 2nd in the field behind The Chequers.

Services at St Peter's in August & September

6th August	Parish Communion at 11am
13th August	Sunday Praise at 11am + Preen Food Bank Collection and Blessing
20th August	BENEFICE COMMUNION, ST MARY MAGDALENE, DUNTON 9.30am
27th August	Parish Communion at 11am
3rd September	Parish Communion at 11am
10th September	Sunday Praise at 11am + Preen Food Bank Collection and Blessing
17th September	HARVEST FESTIVAL FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICE at 11am
24th September	Parish Communion at 11am

Regular Coffee Mornings take place on the first Tuesday of the month (except in August) from 10.30am to Midday. Everyone is welcome for coffee, cake, and fellowship, with a raffle and books for sale. You can bring along your Food Bank donations at the same time.

For any further information please contact:

Rev. Liz Lavelle, revlizlavelle@gmail.com, 01767 235071
Nicola Adkins, PCC Secretary, nicola.adkins@btinternet.com,
01767 631789 or 07720 294929
dwebenefice.com

EYEWORTH VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Please follow Eyeworth Village Hall on Facebook (www.facebook.com/EyeworthVillageHall) for updates regarding our Family Fun Day on the **19th August** & all other upcoming events.



On the **1st October** at 2.30pm, we have the Theatre of Widdershins performing 'The Gingerbread Man & a Pot Full of Magic' plus an Autumn Wreath Making workshop taking place at 7.30pm on **4th October**.

Mess Around's SEND Halloween messy play session will be on Sat **21st October** at 10am.

Thanks for your support.



Contact Us

Rev Liz Lavelle 01767 235071

Wendy Robinson, Church Warden
01767 631283

For more information see:

www.dwebenefice.com

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.

Church Services at All Saints Church, Eyeworth

27th August 3pm All-age outdoor Worship

24th September 3pm Harvest Festival

A Harvest Festival themed Coffee Morning is being held in Eyeworth Village Hall to raise funds for All Saints on **Saturday 23rd September**, 10.30am-12.15pm. Refreshments, games, raffle & more.

Details of future services will be posted in the 'We Love Eyeworth' Facebook group and on the DWE Benefice website (www.dwebenefice.com).

www.facebook.com/groups/289732161550166

Or call Wendy, Abi (01767 631864) or Rev Liz Lavelle for more info.



ADVERTISING IN THE VILLAGE LINK

If you run a business locally and would like to promote it, please consider the Village Link.

Distributed to every home in Wrestlingworth, Cockayne Hatley & Eyeworth, our contacts and events information is kept by many for easy ready reference. From just £70 per year, you can help your business and your community. For more details, email villagelink@zoho.com

NEWS OF COCKAYNE HATLEY CHURCH

Our programme of events for 2023 is now well under way but there is plenty still to come and there will be something for everyone to enjoy. We hope to see you at one or more of these events. All fund-raising events contribute to the fabric fund of this historic church.

On **Saturday 12 August**, from 1pm to 4:30pm, we have the next **Cafe at St John's**. This is something we introduced last year and it is understandably popular, given the high quality of the refreshments on offer. The Cafe is usually held on the second Saturday of the month during the spring and summer months, but the following Cafe will be on **7 October** because of the special September event (see below). If the weather is favourable we have seating outside so you can enjoy the lovely surroundings.

Cockayne Hatley church will have a stall at the **Goodwill Fete** on **Saturday 2 September**. Contributions of books, bric-a-brac and other saleable items are very welcome and may be delivered to Church Farm Lodge, Cockayne Hatley (phone 631443).

On **Sunday 3 September**, we have the latest concert of the year given by Red Kite Concerts. We have already held two concerts this year: the music is different each time but always of very high standard, with performers who enjoy an international reputation. This latest concert features Jordan Ashman, winner of the BBC Young Musician 2022, in a programme of works for marimba, vibraphone and mixed percussion. All the concerts this year begin at 5 pm and last for about one hour. The last concert of this year will be held on **5 November**. Tickets cost £15 (there is no charge for under-18s) and can be obtained at www.RedKiteConcerts.com.



The next meeting of Wrestlingworth and Cockayne Hatley Parish Council will be held in the Church on **Monday 4 September** at 7:30pm.

On **Saturday 9 September** we have the combined **Heritage Open Day** and Bike 'n Hike. The Heritage Open Day is a national event. Every September thousands of volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our wonderful history and culture. We participate in this by opening the Church and offering guided tours. We also offer refreshments, not on the scale of our regular Cafes perhaps, but still worth sampling. Remember that this event replaces the Cafe for September.

You are invited to join in the **Bike 'n Hike** event on **9 September** by cycling or walking to as many churches as you choose and by seeking sponsorship for meeting the challenge you set yourself. Participants nominate a church to receive half the sponsorship money and the other half is given to the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust. The Trust aims to raise funds and make grants for the repair of churches and chapels in the area and a generous grant was made towards the cost of masonry repair work at St John the Baptist over the last winter. If you would like to join in the Bike 'n Hike and to nominate St John the Baptist to receive your sponsorship money please contact Pat Foulkes for the sponsorship papers (foulkes632@btinternet.com or 01767 631443).

In July we are starting an occasional programme of **Taizé services**, with the next being on **Sunday 17 September** at 5:30pm. Taizé Prayer is evening prayer for all Christian faiths. It is a simple, meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell deeply on Christ's presence. Mantra songs, prayerful silence, and short readings guide the focus of the prayer. The peaceful setting of St John the Baptist offers an ideal environment for the service.

Services in August and September will be held as follows:

... continued over...

Sunday 13th August:	No service - <i>We shall combine with St Mary's, Potton, to celebrate their Patronal Festival at 10:30am.</i>	
Saturday 19th August	Wedding	
Sunday 27th August	4 pm	Evening Prayer
Sunday 10th September	9 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 17th September	5:30pm	Taize Service
Sunday 24th September	4 pm	Evening Prayer

Everyone is very welcome to join us at these services. The Harvest Festival will be a little later than usual this year, on **22nd October** (details in the next issue).

TAKE CARE!

How I hate those hackneyed phrases I hear uttered every day after some transaction or other – “Have a nice day” or “Take care”. I have had reason recently to change my tune.

The day after King Charles Coronation III I was on my way out of the house ‘suited and booted’ for church when I planned to go off to Potton afterwards to buy the celebratory newspapers to go with my Coronation scrapbook of Queen Elizabeth II. Something outside the window distracted me. I reckon I am good at multi tasking, I am a woman after all, but that moment’s lack of concentration made me slip on the bottom stair and fall in a heap on the floor.

After paramedics, an ambulance ride to Bedford and X-rays I found I had fractured my ankle. The next few months I spent with a heavy “moon boot” and crutches, so it wasn’t ‘A nice day’ because I wasn’t ‘Taking care’.

I would like to thank the Goodwill for their Get Well card, gift and a pile of books to read, neighbour Catherine for the impossibly difficult jigsaw which I took 5 weeks to finish but mostly my friend Christine Knight who came to my rescue and others who have ferried me about. You have all been an enormous help.

So be warned – Take Care – it only takes a moment’s lack of concentration!

- Carolyn Driver

FRIENDS OF WRESTLINGWORTH LOWER SCHOOL



We have one more week left of term as I write this. The children are excited about the summer holidays (& so are the teachers!). 2022/2023 has been another busy, busy year. We look forward to welcoming the new reception class in September and are sad to say goodbye to the Year 4 leavers. They are a small group but they will leave a big hole and will be really missed. We also say goodbye to Headteacher, Mrs Sheehan, who has been involved with Wrestlingworth School for a long time. We wish her the best for the future.

A month or so ago I was asked to go into school and speak to Acorn Class about being a former pupil. In preparation, my Mum went through old photos of school finding ones of Christmas plays and sports days for me to share with the children. The children were ready with lots of questions for me including ‘was there a swimming pool?’ (yes) and ‘did you use computers?’ (no). Whilst there were some differences, what struck me was that very little had changed and the children’s experiences were very akin to my own. I am sure there are people in the village with even more stories of their time at the school.

Thank you to those who attended the PTA’s Big Breakfast which was a success and raised vital funds for the pot. The fundraising we do, whilst small, is really important to the children’s school experience. We are looking to buy new Chromebooks for the school in the next few weeks ready for the new term so that each pupil is able to access one, with IT otherwise being really poorly funded.

We have decided to end The 100 Club. If you have a standing order to us, please remember to cancel it. The PTA benefit greatly from the school lottery, however, so please take a look and sign up if you can. <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/wrestlingworth-lower-school>

Finally, thank you to the teachers at the school for working above and beyond for the children this year. We hope you have a lovely summer!



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WRESTLINGWORTH HISTORY SOCIETY

EVENTS TO COME THIS YEAR

For our next two events, we'll be welcoming back two speakers who have been very popular before.

In September, Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews will be talking to us under the short heading of 'What's in a Name?' but the longer one is 'Place Names, Language Change & the History of North Herts.' (He'll be stretching the geography a bit to include Cockayne Hatley and Wrestlingworth).

Behind every local name lies a story: it might be a person, a local feature, an event or an activity, but whatever the origin they are signposts to the life of local communities. Keith is Curator of North Herts Museum and his talks are always well-informed and entertaining.

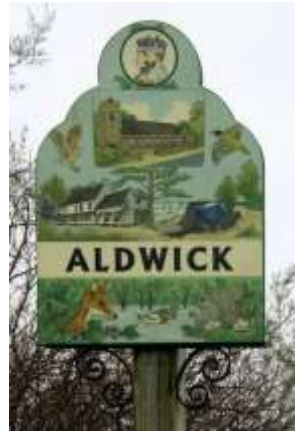
In November, we have an event very appropriate to the Season, when Reg Varty returns to give us a Magic Lantern Show. He uses the real thing, of course, a marvellous apparatus of brass and lenses with many, many original Victorian glass slides.

Reg is a very amusing speaker and we can imagine ourselves sitting in a Victorian Parlour (even though our actual setting is somewhat larger.) To add to the atmosphere, we'll be serving a free glass of mulled wine.

So even if you are not a full-time member of the Society, please join us as a guest for just £3 for either of these events.

Before these, of course, we will be taking our usual stand at the Goodwill Fund Summer Fete, with great pictures showing the Village past, and a quiz.

We hope to welcome you soon.



NON-MEMBERS WELCOME!

WRESTLINGWORTH GOODWILL FUND

Hello to all from the Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund.

Over the last couple of months we have been busy planning and preparing for our 'main event' of the year, the Summer Fete, which will be held from 2-5pm on **Saturday 2nd September** in the amenity field behind the Chequers in Wrestlingworth.

As a taster to whet your appetite for what we hope will be a beautiful summer's day, the Fete will be opened at 2pm by a well-known local person, there's a fun dog show in the central ring so bring your favourite pooch along too, and we'll have lots of entertainment with an Irish Dancing display, Red Cuthbert Morris Men and a Pirates show. We will have a number of side shows around the field with games and activities for all the family, and many of the village organisations will be joining us with their own stalls as well.

Tea and scrummy cake refreshments will be available as well as our ever popular BBQ.

As you can imagine there is a lot that goes into putting on such an event, from attractions in the central ring, to side shows and stalls, to all the refreshments, and of course raffle prizes, the programme, advertising and more! We're really indebted to the Friends of Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund who have helped us loads with the event planning. If this sounds like something you'd like to get involved with, we'd love to have you join us.

The raffle tickets are a major part of the fund-raising for the Fete and we've been delighted by the prizes kindly donated by local businesses and Friends of Goodwill. We will be visiting all the homes in our villages of Wrestlingworth, Cockayne Hatley, Tadlow and Eyeworth through August to distribute the Fete programme door-to-door and to give the opportunity to buy raffle tickets. This year our top prize is £100 so please do buy a book of tickets when we call round. All money raised goes to the Goodwill Fund and helps residents of our villages.

We will need help on the day to setup the field and stalls in the morning, man the side shows and refreshments, and tidy up the field afterwards. If you are able to offer even an hour or two on the day, that would really help - please do drop us a line if you can.

Finally on the fete we'd like to mention the White Elephant stall. If you have any books, games or household items that you can contribute to the stall, please contact us so we can arrange collection.

Turning to other things beyond the Fete, we would like to remind readers about our Resource Award that offers financial support to aged 16+ students who are starting courses from September. We want to support younger residents in our villages who at the start of their courses and/or academic year can often have significant outlay for books, mandatory materials or equipment needed for their courses. An application form is now available to apply for financial support for such resources. All award submissions must be made by 10th September.

And finally, a future date for your diary, the Goodwill Quiz will be returning to the Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall on Saturday **18th November**. More details will be advertised and on our Facebook page nearer the time.

We look forward to continuing our support of our villages and thank you in advance for your support to the summer Fete - we couldn't do it without you!

Goodwill mail: info@wrestlingworthgoodwillfund.org.uk



Cockayne Hatley, Eyeworth and Wrestlingworth Cyclists

Following my message in January's Village Link I am pleased to say we now have a small group of enthusiastic cyclists and have managed a few rides so far. Rides are around 25-30 miles on quiet roads with the routes selected so riders could add an extra loop if they wish. The

photos show Richard, Steve, David and me in the countryside on our rides. We are keen to attract more riders to join us - if you are interested, send me an email to andy@ewens.info or message me on 07740553229 with your mobile number and I'll add you to our WhatsApp group.

- *Andy Ewens*





JOIN US FOR OUR

Family Fun Day

SATURDAY 19TH AUG
10AM - 2PM



SO
MUCH
ON
OFFER

Bouncy castle, rides,
games, stalls & special
appearances

Join us for lots of fun!

Much, much more to be
announced soon!



EYEWORTH VILLAGE HALL

charity number 300030

VISIT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EYEWORTHVILLAGEHALL FOR INFO



Wrestlingworth
Goodwill Fund
Summer Fete

Saturday 2nd September 2023

To be held in the field behind
The Chequers PH,
Wrestlingworth from 2-5pm



Music
Stalls
Raffle
BBQ
Dog Show



Irish dancing
Pirate show
Morris Dancing
Refreshments
Cakes & more



Charity No. 1035463

SAILING TO SILK

In April I was cruising with a friend down the River Seine on the *MS Jane Austen*. In June I was cruising with eighteen members of the WI down the River Gt. Ouse on the community boat *John Bunyan*. Manned by

qualified volunteers we sailed from Priory Marina, through Bedford Lock (which I never knew existed) into the river and upstream along the Embankment and under countless bridges until we stopped for the delivery of our Fish & Chip Supper which we ate while the boat turned and retraced its steps. It was a great evening which we all enjoyed.

At our Open Meeting in June we had a visit from **Yvonne Bell** with her wonderful display of silk painted clerical vestments. She explained the intricacies of designing and painting on silk and we were able to handle the garments to see her exquisite work.



Our ‘Meeting on Wheels’ to Burleigh House happens after the Link’s copy date so I can’t tell you about that, though I am sure the visit to the historic house and gardens will be a good day.

In the last issue I promised to let you know the rest of our programme until next March (2024) so we hope there will be something of interest for everyone. Meetings at Memorial Hall starting 7.30 pm.

For the remainder of 2023

Thursday 26th October Group Meeting with entertainer Richard Stark

Tuesday 21st November “One of our Own” - David Duker,
The Wartime Story of Battle of Britain pilot
Victor Eakins

Tuesday 12th December Christmas Party with Simon Daniels “The Singing Butcher” (**N.B. the second Tuesday of the month**)

For the start of 2024

Tuesday 16th January No Hall Meeting but a meal out to be arranged

Tuesday 20th February “The North Coast 500” – Nick Cooke

Tuesday 19th March Annual Meeting

So – ladies come and join us.

- Carolyn Driver

July 17th

My family and I thank all our friends in and around Wrestlingworth for the kind and loving messages we have received following the death of Paul. The full Church at his funeral on 14th July showed us how admired, loved and respected he was. This has brought us great comfort.

- Rosemary Chapman



WRESTLINGWORTH MEMORIAL HALL

Summer is usually a quiet time for the Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, so we're busy forging ahead with the planning of our race night on **Saturday 7th October**. Tickets will go on sale through August and September. The ticket price includes entry on the night, and a light supper to be served midway through the evening. You can buy tickets and horses at our stall at the Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund summer fete. We still have a few races available for sponsorship if you'd like to promote your business and support your village hall at the same time. To find out more or pre-book tickets, phone Simon on 01767 631383 or email treasurer@wrestlingworthmemorialhall.org.uk.

With the uncertainties of the British summer weather, you may want to consider using the hall for your private function or children's party. The hall is equipped with a fully-fitted kitchen, with 2 hobs, 2 ovens, microwave and fridge. And our rates are very competitive!

Bookings - Edwina Parker 07808 125613
bookings@wrestlingworthmemorialhall.org.uk

TICKETS
ON SALE NOW

Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall presents WRESTLINGWORTH WRACES

Back by popular
demand!

Saturday 7th October 2023, 7.30pm

First race starts 8.00 prompt

A race night with a difference!

Ticket includes
light supper*

- ◆ Cash bar
- ◆ Tote
- ◆ Prize draw

*Please advise us of any
special dietary
requirements



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◆ Horse auction for
final race

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MORE TIGERS SEEN IN WRESTLINGWORTH!

Or rather, tiger moths! At left, the striking pinkish-red and velvet-black cinnabar moth, whose large yellow and black striped caterpillars may be seen in large numbers on ragwort and garden plants such as toadflax. At right is the larger Jersey Tiger Moth. Its bright red underwings are shown off when in flight. A long-time resident of the Channel Islands and the south coast, its range has spread north in recent years to Bedfordshire. Thanks to the readers who sent these pictures in.

ITSY BITSY TEENIE WEENIE LITTLE PLASTIC POLLUTANT MEANIE



**Parish
Walking &
Wildlife
Group**

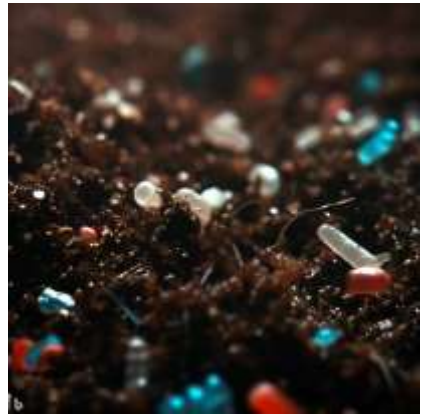
Simon Dear of the PWWG Committee explains the threat that microplastics have to our environment and ultimately our health & lives.

This is not a laughing matter. This is deadly serious. We are all unwittingly polluting our environment with microplastics. And few seem to care. We don't fully understand the impact yet, but the signs from early research are not good. It's a ticking timebomb.



Ocean microplastics are a menace

Microplastics - small pieces of plastic less than 5mm in length - are formed when plastics break down either by bacterial decomposition or the effects of abrasion and sunlight. Their presence in our waterways and oceans is well known - you may have heard about the north Pacific gyre, where the ocean's plastic seems to gather. Samples taken in remote corners of the around the earth where you'd least expect to find plastic - high mountains, in the Antarctic or deep on the ocean bed - all reveal how widespread plastic has spread across our planet. And it's fair to say our own local countryside environment is filled with the stuff.



But microplastics pollute soil too!



Some plastics found in garden compost

It's perhaps not surprising given our love-affair with this most versatile of materials. It's hard to imagine a world without plastic. But we have to try - and succeed. For our planet's sake.

Plastic gets into our countryside soils in a number of ways - such as from agricultural packaging such as spray containers, plastic wrapping and bailer twine discarded after use. Walkers may drop their snack packaging. Roadside verges are strewn with litter thrown from cars. Or it may arrive in bulk from sewerage waste spread on fields as fertiliser.

When the effect of microplastics in the environment was first studied a decade or so ago, things looked rosy. The filaments, fibres and surfaces of the plastics created more places on which microbes, especially bacteria beneficial to soil health, thrived and that seemed a good thing.

But we have since learnt that plastics, especially hard plastics, remain in the environment for decades, if not hundreds of years, and they may have serious and detrimental effects on larger organisms in whose gut and delicate tissues tiny fragments have been found. Earthworms are our soil ecosystem engineers, essential for the health and vitality of our agricultural lands. Recent studies have repeatedly shown they are severely stunted by the microplastics they consume and are less effective at doing their important job of boosting soil nutrients.

Microplastics potentially have large impacts on human health too, though it's not yet well understood. Water is one of the worst sources of microplastic. It has been reported that a person who drinks only bottled water would ingest around 130,000 fragments of microplastic



yearly from that source alone. It doesn't bear thinking about.

Every bit of plastic we have used in our lives still exists somewhere. But it's a time to act, not to be despondent. There are things we can all do to help. We can avoid using plastics wherever we can. We can recycle the plastics we can't avoid using. Or we may be able to reuse it.

And for the sake of our countryside – take all your litter home with you and dispose of it thoughtfully. If you can, pick up any litter you find. The PWWG have litter-pickers you can borrow.

How Long Does it Take To Decompose?

(from various online sources)

Paper Towel - 2-4 weeks	Cigarette Butts - 10-12 years
Banana Peel - 3-4 weeks	Leather Shoes - 25-40 years
Paper Bag - 1 month	Tin Cans - 50 years
Newspaper - 1½ months	Foam Cups - 50 years
Apple Core - 2 months	Rubber Boot Sole - 50-80 years
Carboard - 2 months	Plastic Containers - 50-80 years
Cotton Gloves - 3 months	Aluminium Can - 200-500 years
Orange Peels - 6 months	Plastic Bottles - 450 years
Plywood - 1-3 years	Disposable Nappies - 550 years
Woollen Socks - 1-5 years	Fishing Line - 600 years
Milk Cartons - 5 years	Plastic Bags - 200-1000 years

Our Next Walks

Sunday 20th August - Butterfly Foray to Potton Wood

Meet in the Chequers car park, Wrestlingworth at 10am for a local circular walk of 6-7 miles to look for butterflies in Potton Wood. In previous years, a number of interesting varieties were seen, such as Purple Emperor and Silver-washed Fritillary.

Sunday 17th September - Weston-Baldock Loop

A walk through the hills between Baldock and Weston. Details TBA closer to the time.

Members free or a £2 donation for non-members.



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QUIZ NIGHTS AT THE CHEQUERS

Quiz Night is a regular fixture at the Chequers, Wrestlingworth, taking place on the second Saturday of each month. Each quiz is hosted by a volunteer quizmaster.

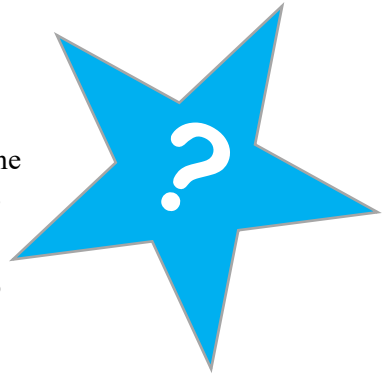
Recent months have seen a good turn-out, so please get there early to secure a table.

Upcoming dates are:

Saturday 12th August, 8pm

Saturday 9th September, 8pm

So why not put together a team with friends and come along? Entry is just £2.50 per person, which includes a raffle ticket. All proceeds support local charities. *We welcome new quizmasters - if you want to give it a go, contact Jim Hawkins (JimHawkins@metronet.co.uk).*



FREE MOBILITY AIDS

The following mobility aids are available and can be delivered locally:

- Three wheel walker with removable basket
- Weight bearing trolley
- Small food trolley not weight bearing
- Raised toilet seats

Please contact Helen or Neil 07593 891060



IN AND AROUND WRESTLINGWORTH - PART 1

BY BRIAN BUCK

Having completed my second walk around the village in the last issue of the Village Link, I am continuing to write about life in our wonderful village. I will be taking you on more walks, trying to link this with some local news and some more historical events I have not previously covered.

This article is a good example of what I hope to achieve in the future. If you see me on one of my walks, which I usually undertake on a Friday afternoon and you have some knowledge of your time in the village, then please stop me and talk to me about it, no matter how small or seemingly unimportant this may be to you. Collectively it all adds up to something others may find interesting and anyway, everyone likes a bit of gossip! Alternatively, you can email me at the address provided at the end of my article.

Also, from now onwards, I will be dipping into the booklet entitled 'Wrestlingworth Recalled 2002' from time to time. It was prepared by the then newly-formed Wrestlingworth History Society by Martin Hall and Ronnie Pickford, to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 2002 and was published a year late deliberately, to include details of all the celebrations which took place at the time. At the time a copy was sent to every household in the village. Have you still got yours?

Some time ago now I asked Martin if he minded me 'borrowing' information from this impressive account of our village life over the years and he was very keen that I should do so. His attitude was that it is no good spending a lot of time preparing something if it is not passed down to others to enjoy. Indeed, in its last paragraph the booklet's Foreword states that it is intended to be a live document, with the hope that it would trigger memories and snippets of information which the History Society would be pleased to hear about. The same applies to the articles I now write.

I suspect that Martin and Ronnie ‘borrowed’ much of their information from a 1977 booklet, which was produced by Colin Riches and called ‘Wrestlingworth Recalled – Village Life in the Coronation and Jubilee Years since Queen Victoria’s Accession’. I think that I have a copy of this booklet somewhere in my house, but I cannot find it!

I have some sad news to bring you about Colin, whom I never met. I was told that at that time he lived at Twin Elms, the thatched house at the end of Hatley Road. Colin was a professor at the Open University and both edited and wrote books on management in education. Colin and his wife Mary later moved to what is now known as Hawthorne House on Sutton Hill and then to Hereford where in retirement he was very involved with the cathedral. My additional research shows that Colin sadly passed away in Hereford on Saturday, March 10th, 2018 aged 86 years. A much-loved husband of Mary, father of Adrian and Malcolm and a devoted Grandfather to three. A private Cremation was followed by a Thanksgiving Service at Hereford Cathedral on Wednesday, April 4th, 2018 at 1pm.

Moving on, did you know that the village now has a new shop, called the Farm Shop? You can walk to it easily from the Chequers Public House. Leaving the Chequers pub, turn right and without crossing the road yet, walk for a while up towards the crossroads. But almost immediately, by the bus stop you will see the main village noticeboard, which in recent years has been moved to here from its previous position, which was by the brook where Butchers Lane starts. Obviously, it includes relevant up to date village information, but I would also draw your attention to the inclusion of a map of the village, which shows all the local footpaths, including the ‘Permissive’ ones. It is my hope that a copy of this map can be included in the Village Link one day, so that regular walkers can have a better idea as to where they can and cannot go.

Anyway, on with the walk and continue to the end of the terraced houses, where you will find the southern entrance to Church Lane, a one-way street. It is signposted in brown and white under the entrance

to the school sign. Soon you see the Farm Shop on your right, just before you reach the school on your left and it consists of an unmanned (on my visit) large, new-looking, garden shed. The shop is well worth a visit and I noted things like eggs, honey, kindling and some plants for sale. There are other items here as well, but I cannot remember what they are!

Finally, talking of shops and things for sale, Olive Walker pointed out to me that when she was a young girl and visited 1 Hatley Road, she did not buy any vegetables there, as I stated in an earlier article, just groceries. I thank her for correcting me. Also, when talking to Ronnie Pickford recently, he told me that he has two small conker trees for sale. He also told me one or two other things, but I will keep them for another day!

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 forthcoming article. Also, if you give me permission then I will acknowledge your contribution by name. Thank you.



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

LARGE CHOC ICE (Serves four people)

For the meringue:-

3 egg whites
100g 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 chocolate topping:-

100g of dark chocolate, containing cocoa if possible

Method:-

This is my attempt to make a version of a giant choc-ice.

First of all, you need some meringues. Bearing in mind that I am going to ask you to crunch them up into a large bowl, it is really simpler to buy some ready-made ones instead. But if you want to make your own, whisk up the egg whites until they are as thick and as white as you can make them. Regular readers will be pleased to know that I now have an electric whisk, so this task is much easier. 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.

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. Then bake in the oven at 100 degrees Celsius for about an hour. Then leave for half an hour to cool down.

When you are ready, as stated above, crunch up the meringues, making them as powdery as possible, before putting it all into what will be your ice cream receptacle, which should be a large bowl. 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, which should be whisked until it becomes thick and hard to whisk any further. With

a knife, or the back of a spoon, try to make your mixture flat and even. Then put your contents into the freezer for at least an hour to allow it to set firmly. If you are going to eat this immediately, the timing is crucial.

After about 45 minutes have passed, start to make the chocolate topping. Break up the chocolate bar into pieces and melt it in a receptacle over some boiling water, making sure that the mixture does not come to a boil. Try to use chocolate which contains as much cocoa as possible.

Now comes the tricky bit! When your chocolate is melted it then needs to cool down so you can pour it over the ice cream you made earlier. You cannot do this immediately because it will melt it, so you have to wait a while. After 15 minutes the melted chocolate has lost most of its heat and starts to thicken, so after waiting about five minutes pour it over the ice cream, using a knife to make sure that it is all covered up. Refreeze it for a further 15 minutes and then it will be ready to eat.

Egon Ronnie comments:-

Good news all round here Gordon. First of all, after all this time, you have finally bought yourself an electric whisk. You were the laughing stock of the celebrity chef's union until you did this! Secondly, you have provided us with something tasty and cool to tuck into on these very warm days. Just a small tip. Spread the melted chocolate as thinly as possible over the ice cream as when frozen it becomes rock hard and difficult to cut into.



Defibrillator

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whilst at Patient**

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Cockayne Hatley
On brick cabinet
opposite 21 Village Road, SG19 2EE

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

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Steve Brown	Building & Electrical	01767 631046 or 07760 241922 sdbrownbuildingcontractors.co.uk
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Cheryl Roberts	Cleaning Services	01767 631402 cherylisnow@live.co.uk
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Wrestlingworth, Eyeworth & Dunton Churches	Revd. Liz Lavelle - Priest in Charge Nicola Adkins - P.C.C. Vice Chair (St. Peter's) Wendy Robinson - Church Warden (All Saints)	01767 235071 01767 631789 01767 631283
Church and Poor's Fund	Liz Teague	01767 631628
Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley Parish Council	James Kirkpatrick - Chair Julie Dix - Vice Chair Lorna Chapman Andy Ewens Marc Wilson Catherine Dear - Clerk to Parish Council	01767 631767 01767 631480 07858 776514 07740 553229 07793 465062 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 Kelly Whitfield - Friends Chair	01767 631249 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 07808 125613
Eyeworth Village Hall	Wendy Robinson - Bookings	01767 631283
Parish Walking & Wildlife Group	Jim Hawkins - Chair Nicola Adkins - General Enquiries	01767 631736 01767 631789
Wrestlingworth History Soc.	Connie Walker - Coordinator	01767 631450
Badminton Club	Jim Hawkins	01767 631736
The Chequers Public House	Dave and Carin Moore	01767 631818
Village Link	Simon Dear - Editor Geoffrey Coan - Treasurer Carolyn Driver - Distribution	01767 631383 07720 805620 01767 631350
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