



Jubilee Beacon Page 37





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## **Public Service Contact Details**

Emergency	mergency Police, Fire or Ambulance 999					
	,					
Community Support Officer	PCSO Julie Hajredini 101 ext. 7113441					
The Surgery, Bottisham	Enquiries/Appointments: 810030					
Mon-Fri: 08:30 am to 6.00 pm						
Fulbourn Health Centre	Enquiries/Appointments: 880216					
Mon-Fri: 08:30 am to 6.00 pm						
Out-of-hours / Urgent Care	NHS Direct 111					
Cambridgeshire						
Anglican Church	Rev Alice Goodman 880337					
	Lay Minister: Steve Mashford, 882163					
Baptist Church	Peter Wells, 812388,					
www.re-new.me.uk	pandawells@cheerful.com					
info@re-new.me.uk	Rev Keith Morrison, 813055					
	Rev Alan Brand, 812558					
Great Wilbraham Parish Council						
Chairman	Sally Ramus					
	chairGW@wilbrahams.co.uk					
Clerk	Samantha Chambers-Turner					
	07369 248998					
	clerkGW@wilbrahams.co.uk					
Little Wilbraham & Six Mile Bottom Parish Council						
Chairman	Dave Humphrey 07775 764 988					
CI. 1	chairLW@wilbrahams.co.uk					
Clerk	Hayley Livermore 07725080631					
	clerkLW@wilbrahams.co.uk					
County Councillor	Claire Daunton 07905473395					
	Claire.Daunton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk					
District Councillors	Carla Hofman 01954713000					
	Cllr.hofman@scambs.gov.uk					
	Graham Cone 07595361285					
	cllr.cone@scambs.gov.uk					
	John Williams 01223 880940					
101	john.williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk					
MP Lucy Frazer	lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk					

Photos by Alison Hargeaves, Chris Fell, Martin Gienke & contributors

#### **Editorial**

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Wilbrahams' Warbler. We have yet again another packed edition for you, full of articles letters and reports.

Hilary Burton talks to Alex about coming over from Ukraine. It took him the best part of four months to get to Little Wilbraham. He is very grateful to his host family and being able to work in the UK.

Nigel Start talks about how dry his garden has been and draws parallels with the Botanical Gardens in A View from the Garden. He goes on to say that his garden in Great Wilbraham has only had 17mm of rain since 4th June.

In another article it looks like Great Wilbraham will be getting gates on all the roads into the village. Is it a crossing? Andy Martin gives us the results of the survey he did about the narrowing of the road outside the school. He has passed his findings onto the Parish Council in the hope that something can be done.

Hilda is the centre of attraction in Wilbraham Chapel Postcard as John Richer talks about the history of the chapel from the postcard sent to Hilda from her uncle and Aggie.

We can expect a visit from the Archdeacon of Cambridge early in October on the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup> or the 11<sup>th</sup>. The Archdeacon of Cambridge, the Ven Alex Hughes, will be joined by the Chairman of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, Mr Geoffrey Hunter, and our Vicar, Alice Goodman to discuss the future of St John's Little Wilbraham and St Georges Six Mile Bottom.

Bob Windsor pays tribute to Richard Wilcoxson who can only be described as Six Mile Bottom's unsung hero. He has been out virtually every day picking up litter around the village. Richard, by all accounts, doesn't like having his photo taken, so Bob turned Baldrick and came up with a cunning plan, all to do with the hi-vis jackets

Thursday 2nd June was a magical night in Little Wilbraham, according to Ruth Sinclair. St John's churchyard and the Church Green were alive with three or four generations of villagers from the Wilbrahams and Six Mile Bottom. It really was great to see everybody out enjoying themselves after lockdown and what better to celebrate than the jubilee of Britain's longest serving monarch.

Emma Adams has also written about the Jubilee party that was held in Great Wilbraham and continuing on with the Jubilee, jubilee coins have been given out to many of the children and young people in the villages.

A new tennis court/multi-use games area has been completed on the recreation area in Little Wilbraham and will be available for use soon.

I hope you enjoy reading our latest edition. If you have any comments, please contact us. Our details are on page 65 of this issue.

John Torode

#### AGE

Why do we worry about our age?

As someone once said it is only a number written on the page.

Some days we feel twenty one again,

Other times everything feels a strain.

It doesn't make sense.

Over the years my friends and I would dance all night.

Now when we go out we have to sit tight.

We sit and watch dancers going quick, quick slow.

My body wants to, but my head is saying no, no, no.

I look at my dancing skirts and tops.

Think I'll put them out of reach.

For them my hand hovers, then stops.

Let's hope we will take to the floor once more.

Just a slow one, no twirling around as we did before.

Greta

#### Letters

#### **Dear Editors**

Ref. Brian Smith.

On behalf of our family, we would like to say a big thanks to everyone for their kind wishes, lovely cards, and donations. £400 was given to the Memorial Hall Fund. Brian did lots for them in the past.

Again, a big thank you to you all.

Beryl Smith

#### **Dear Editors**

#### **Zebra crossing: Great Wilbraham Primary School**

Firstly, I would like to thank all those residents of Great Wilbraham who replied to my survey that was delivered in July. This was following on from my petition as a member of the public, to the Parish Council at the AGM in May for a Zebra Crossing to be installed outside the village school.

The situation outside the school has been of concern for the community for a number of years as it is extremely confusing for the children and drivers. What is outside the school is a road narrowing, a poor attempt at traffic calming. It is not a crossing. The traffic has the right of way and does not have to stop, putting the children and adults in danger as they stand centimetres from the passing traffic. Many of you who replied to my survey were surprised that there was not a proper crossing in place.

The results from the survey show that there is overwhelming support, 97.7%, from the community for the installation of a proper Zebra Crossing outside the school for the protection of our children. I passed this information on to the Parish Council at its meeting on 28th July. I look forward to the Parish Council and County Highways looking at and moving forward on this issue. The Parish Council has a new Highways, Transport and Cycleways Working Party which will be looking at the issue. I have offered to help the Working Party, and the Parish Council has said that it will keep me updated.

Thank you all again for your support and for taking the time to complete the survey.

Andy Martin

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#### Great Wilbraham Parish Council

#### Jubilee

The Parish Council would like to thank all those involved with arranging and to those who attended the celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee, despite the weather an enjoyable time was had by all. Over 100 coins have now been distributed to children living in the village, but there is still some availability of coins for anyone wishing to purchase one. Please contact the Clerk for further details at <a href="clerkGW@wilbrahams.co.uk">clerkGW@wilbrahams.co.uk</a>.

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

Great Wilbraham Parish Council held their Annual Parish Meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022. Peter McDonald, a guest speaker, delivered a small presentation on highways and associated matters including the Local Highways Improvement schemes opening in the Autumn. The meeting was well attended, and many local community groups delivered a brief report of the year's activities, details of which are available on the village website. Councillor Ramus delivered an overview of the Parish Council's activities during the year and the Clerk delivered the financial statement for the year end 21/22 which have now been approved by the external auditor.

#### **Community Led Plan**

As part of a new project for the Parish Council, Councillor Burton and Councillor Page are undertaking research into preparing a Community Led Plan. The project will set out a vision for the future based on local consultation. It covers anything that the community feels are important to them, and the aim is to produce an action plan as to how this can be achieved. Residents will be given the opportunity to come and speak directly to the Parish Council at the Farmers Market in September, more details on this project are available in this edition of the Warbler.

#### **Communications**

A new working group has been set up to look at how the Parish Council can improve on communication matters with the residents of Great Wilbraham. Councillor Dhaliwal and Councillor Harmer will be working with the Clerk and other Councillors to see how practices can be changed to deliver a more effective service. We are hoping to clarify exactly what the Parish Council are responsible for along with other tiers of Councils. The Parish Council are open to suggestions from residents and anyone who feels that they would like to make comment should contact the Clerk in the first instance.

#### **Public Footpaths**

Councillor Tippen and Councillor Jackman conducted a walk around the village recently and it was noted that some areas of the public footpaths and roads are

being obstructed by overgrown hedges and shrubs. It is a legal requirement that footpaths are kept clear to the boundary of the neighbouring properties to allow unhindered walking for all residents. The Parish Council therefore politely request that time is taken by residents to ensure that these works are carried out to allow free movement on the pathways. Failure to do so may result in the offending areas being reported to Highways who will carry out the clearance and charge for necessary works.

#### **Road and Street Maintenance**

Please be aware that you can report problems on the highways including potholes, kerbs, verges, flooding, hedges and trees, public rights of way, road markings and signs and traffic signals on the County Council's website https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-andpathways/roadworks-and-faults/. You can also use the highway reporting tool to track progress on a fault you have already reported. Enter the reference

to track progress on a fault you have already reported. Enter the reference number for your fault or the location into the top right-hand box on the map to view updates. If preferred any issue relating to the highway can be reported to the Clerk.

#### **Next Council Meeting**

The next scheduled full Council meeting will be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend.

Please check the Parish website for regular updates - www.wilbrahams.co.uk

# Community Led Plan for Great Wilbraham

Great Wilbraham is a lovely place to live, but what makes it so special, and can we work together to improve it further? Can we involve the whole community and learn together about people's hopes and concerns, whether about the village itself, (e.g. resources, environment or transport) or wider issues such as climate change, the economic crisis, poor health and loneliness? Can we identify the issues that are challenging for our residents, or the areas of activity where we want to have a wider impact? And, importantly, can we develop an Action Plan with clear objectives to address these needs together?

The Parish Council would like to work with the village to develop a community-led plan (sometimes called a Parish Plan). We will be launching this work at the Farmer's Market on 10th September – so do join us then to find out more about it.

In the meantime, we are looking for help. Could you:

Join our Steering Group – a great opportunity to get to know more people and learn about the village, develop new skills and experience and make a contribution. We want people of all ages and backgrounds, including people who are new to the village as well as longer term residents.

Let us know about any particular interests or knowledge that you can contribute, whether that is local history, the natural environment, the perspective of village groups, or anything you feel passionate about.

Tell us about support you may be able to offer (or would like to develop) – such as digital skills, photography, writing, illustration, data analysis, running focus groups or writing.

We are looking for people of all ages and levels of experience. This might be a great opportunity for a young person, or someone of any age wishing to enhance their CV. We can provide support to anyone who wants to work with us.

Development of the Plan will be led by two Parish Councillors, Hilary Burton and Christine Page. If you would like to get involved or to know more, please contact us by email or phone.

Hilary Burton (<a href="mailto:gwcllrburton@wilbrahams.co.uk">gwcllrburton@wilbrahams.co.uk</a>; 07710787917) Christine Page (<a href="mailto:gwcllr.page@wilbrahams.co.uk">gwcllr.page@wilbrahams.co.uk</a>; 07900964932)

#### Gates for Great Wilbraham

Many of your readers will remember the success of the village's Local Highways Improvement (LHI) Application for traffic calming measures at the entrances to the village under which the County Council will contribute £15000 to the work. It is likely that the installation of improvements will be completed in spring next year, but the good news at the time of writing, is that Parish Council has just been informed of the completion of the first stage.

The County's Project Engineer has sent the plan for the scheme. It is now being considered by the Parish Council but is very likely to be agreed. To summarise, there will be 40mph buffer zones on each of the entries to the village. An aspect of the plan which will be of interest to many is the installation of 'gates' at each



Sally Ramus Chair, GW Parish Council

entry point. An image is attached – apologies for the poor quality - showing the style of the gates carrying the Legend:

#### **Great Wilbraham**

#### Please drive carefully.

Because of the limited width of the verges, there will be just one gate on the north side of Station Road, one on the west side of The Lanes, and two on Mill Road.

This is real and satisfying progress to improving the safety of our village.

David Richer Chair, Transport Working Group

# The Wilbrahams' Community Choir

Fancy a sing song? Then look no further - we are friendly lot, and we are very lucky to have Gill Humphrey as our Choir director.

It is true to say that singing is "good for you" and that this is so in many respects. It is fun and it stretches one's memory. It keeps those brain cells active, stimulates your synapses, restructures your circuits. It can improve attention spans as well as motor and auditory skills. It is also, apparently, an integral part of the food of love.



So we meet weekly during term times on Thursdays at 8pm in the Memorial Hall and sing for an hour. After this there is the option of spending another hour or two chewing the cud over a drink or two. We restart on 8th September.

The Community Choir sings at Church services at Harvest, Easter and Christmas at which time of year members can be heard roaming the streets carol singing. We perform also at annual concerts in the Memorial Hall and our song list includes a wide variety of types of tunes from hymns to classical to popular. For instance, As Torrents in Summer, City of Stars, Right Said Fred, Shenandoah, Sunny Afternoon, I Got Rhythm and Adiemus to name but a few. There is a small fee to cover our expenses.

If you would like to join and have any related questions please contact Tony Goryn, acting chairman, on 07751 281341 or tonygoryn@icloud.com or mention it if we bump into one another, or Gill on 07710 236207 or gillianhumphrey@cloud.com

No auditions and no previous musical experience are needed. Tony Goryn

# **Bottisham Carpet Bowls Club**

The Summer is nearly over, and we are looking forward to returning to bowling at Bottisham Village College. Our first Club night will be Wednesday 7th September 2022. We bowl in division 2 of the East Cambridge League and the first league match Thursday 29th September 2022.

New Members are always welcome. Anyone interested in joining us on a Wednesday, 7.15 pm at the Village College (term times only, we meet in the Henry Morris Hall entry through the main reception. No equipment is required.

For more information, please contact any of committee members listed below:-

Richard Nichols 01223 812158 email <a href="mailto:rlla.bell@btinternet.com">rlla.bell@btinternet.com</a>

Nora Watson 01223 812121 email nora@gandnwatson.uk Nora Watson

# Wilbrahams' 🛼 Memorial Hall

# Angle End, Gt Wilbraham www.hall.gtwilbraham.net

Use of the hall has been ticking along well recently, with children's parties being particularly popular (catching up after a long gap due to Covid). The hall makes a great and easy to use venue for a party, but please plan ahead and make sure that you book your party well in advance. Some community groups, however, have been less busy whilst Covid waves build up and tail off – I guess this will be the case for some time to come.

#### **Decorations**

At the time of writing, we are taking advantage of the summer holiday lull to get the interior of the hall repainted professionally. It is hard to believe that the hall has been in use for 6 years now, and we are keen to make sure that maintenance is kept up and the hall looks as fresh as ever. The exterior woodwork has been redecorated over the last couple of months and a volunteer team will be decorating the Meeting Room and Store on the weekend of the 13/14th August – many thanks for Paul Lambton & Charles Raikes for organising this.





#### Play Area

Having applied back in January, we are pleased to announce that we have received two grants of £4500 each (from Wadlow Wind Farm Community Fund and FCC Communities Foundation) to put towards the replacement of the old red swing set in the Play Area. We will be placing the order soon, and the new swings will be installed sometime in the Autumn.

#### 'Wilding' the Recreation Ground

We have received so many positive comments from villagers who are enjoying the seeded wildflower area between Lufters (The Cummings) & Iceni Cottage (The Gienkes). At the moment, 'wild carrot' seed heads are forming a waist height soft



white haze and it completely transforms the feel of the open space. A huge thanks to Tony Goryn who prepared the ground and scattered the 23 different types of seed. It will be interesting to see which species happily colonise that area.

#### **Energy Use & Solar Panels**

Like every household, the Memorial Hall Committee are anticipating rapidly escalating electricity bills and it is very worrying. The building is well insulated, and we have a heat pump to run the underfloor heating, so there is very little we can do to reduce our overheads. We are tackling the problem from several directions:

More responsive controls so we can reduce the costs of heating when the hall is not used.

We are looking at the feasibility of installing solar panels on the Rec facing roof slope. Yes, we know that this is vulnerable to soaring cricket balls. In the last 6 years we have had to replace 2 roof tiles – however this rate of loss / damage would still make solar panels a viable project to mitigate rising electricity costs.

To protect our community rental rates, we are keen to increase commercial rentals when the hall is not in use by the community. If you run a business or work from home and need an occasional meeting room, please consider the facilities of the hall for your business needs.

#### **Events**

After a gap of more than two years, the Memorial Hall has hosted two memorable village events in the last couple of months. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration was held on Sunday June 5th. With the weather so very dry at the moment, it's easy to feel nostalgic for the relentless drizzle that we were faced with that day, even if it did spoil the outdoor picnic! Chris Fell is writing a separate article about the event. This year we also managed to reinstate the Flower & Produce Show in the hall after two years of holding the show out of doors. It was a fantastic day with lots of impressive entries and hordes of visitors for the prizegiving, auction, teas, and raffle. Thanks to Rosie White and her team for organising this – she will be writing a separate article in this Warbler issue.

For future community events, Chris Fell has volunteered to organise our team of volunteers and will announce some dates for your diary soon. Also, if you would like to organise a one-off event for Hall / Play Area funds or for your own charity, then please contact Shirley Morley for available dates.

After a break in August, the monthly Farmers' Markets will resume on the second Saturday of the month from 9.30-11.30 (September 10th). The market will run, whatever the weather, using the hall as well as our recreation ground. We aim to have an interesting and varied selection of craft stalls, together with our regular food and produce stalls. So please support this local initiative – it is a great way

to shop locally, reduce food miles and support Cambridgeshire's small businesses. Come and catch up with neighbours and friends and treat yourself to a fresh cup of coffee and a home baked treat! For Farmers' Market news follow: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/wilbrahamfoodandcraft">https://www.facebook.com/wilbrahamfoodandcraft</a>. The Wilbrahams' Produce Stall is run by a rotating set of village charities for their own benefit. The Wilbrahams' Community Choir will run the stall in September. If you have spare garden produce (vegetable glut / chutneys / plants) please donate them to the stall on the day. If you are involved in a local charity and would like to raise money for it by running the Produce Stall, please get in touch.

#### AGM, July 4th 2022

We welcomed Hilary Burton as a new Committee Member, representing Gt Wilbraham Parish Council.

If you would like to book the hall or have any practical queries, please contact Shirley Morley (Booking Secretary)

booking.wilbrahamsmemorialhall@gmail.com If you have any comments or suggestions for things you would like to see at the hall, please contact me: mail@emma-adams.co.uk

Emma Adams, Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee

# **MUGC - A Great New Facility for Our Residents**



A new recreation facility known as a Multi Use Games Court (MUGC) is due to open very soon on the Ken Davison Recreation Ground, Little Wilbraham. The court is just about finished with painting and line marking due to be completed by the end of August. When finished the court will be available to book.

We are planning a fun opening event at

the beginning of September so look out for more details.

This new space has a full-sized tennis court and court markings that cater for a netball court and a basketball half court. We will also be exploring other uses, so all suggestions are welcome.

Developed by The Little Wilbraham and Six Mile Bottom Parish Council this is a great addition to the recreation facilities of the three villages and was built from funds generously donated by the Wadlow Wind Farm Community Fund and the Amey Community Fund, both great supporters of previous projects in the villages.

The Little Wilbraham and Six Mile Bottom Parish Council have also made some very generous donations to the project and will manage the facility for the future. A big thanks goes to Andrew Carter for his efforts to seek the sponsors and for coordinating the build which was carried out by Cambridge Courts.

We intend to add a path to make the court more accessible for residents of all abilities but as funds are a little tight at this stage, we hope to complete this project with the help of volunteers as soon as possible. If you would like to help, we would love to hear from you. The area will also be landscaped with some strategic planting and the banks will be seeded with grass when we get back to having some reliable rain.

Residents from the Wilbrahams and Six Mile Bottom will be able to use the MUGC for free so don't be shy, it is yours to use. If the court is available it can also be used by other residents of surrounding villages. Pre-booked sessions take precedence over casual use at all times. You can book sessions of one hour, two weeks ahead and you will receive an automatic confirmation and a reminder of your booking.

Access to the Ken Davison Recreation Ground is from Orchard Close which runs off the High Street, just down from the Hole in the Wall. There is a small car park at the end of the close (turn left) and we would ask users of the court to park here and not on Orchard Close. It would be preferable that residents walked to the court where possible.

All the details about using the court are on a page on the Wilbrahams' website and you can book sessions from this page when the court opens. A notice will also be located on the court with a QR code so you can use your mobile phone to see the page on the website.

https://www.wilbrahams.co.uk/multi-use-games-court/

If you have any questions about using the court or ideas for future events, please contact the Parish Clerk. <a href="mailto:clerklw@wilbrahams.co.uk">clerklw@wilbrahams.co.uk</a>

Alan Cody, Little Wilbraham & Six Mile Bottom Parish Council

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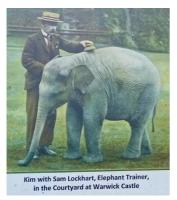
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#### Over 60s



In May we had a great day out to Rutland Water, with afternoon tea on the water.

Our half day outing to Easton Lodge on 14th July was interesting and a lovely day was had by all, whilst also learning a lot about the history of the place. Daisy, the Countess of Warwick kept and cared for a large and varied collection of animals at Easton Lodge and Warwick Castle over the years. At different times her menagerie included cats, dogs, monkeys, racoons and an "ant-bear" (aardvark), an emu, parrots, and a baby elephant

named "Kim".

The Tree House was built from oak and softwood for £100. The Countess of Warwick enjoyed asking her friends to take tea with her in the 'crows nest'. It could seat 10 adults. (photo from a postcard circa 1907)

Further Items coming up:

25th August: Gary Matthews giving us a talk on the flora and fauna we saw at Easton Lodge.

29th Sept: Charity tea dance

27th Oct: Lunch outing to Little Melton, stopping for coffee at Cherry Trees Cafe





As you can see the over 60s has a varied programme of outings & talks.

Please come along, everyone welcome.

We have been going since the 1950's so we must be doing something right.

Carol Whitehouse

(photographs from the Gardens of Easton Lodge Archive and courtesy of Alan Griffins, founder of Leamington History Group)

# **Traffic Survey**

Many residents will remember the survey carried out by the Transport Working Group (TWG) in July concerning pedestrian crossings on the main through route and a reduction of the speed limit to 20mph. The response was astonishing. Nearly 62% of forms were returned and people from over half the households in the village supported each topic. The support for a zebra crossing outside the school was a remarkable 98%.

Question	Yes	No		% Yes of households
Would you support a Zebra Crossing outside Great Wilbraham CofE				
Primary School?	169	4	97.7	60.3
Would you support a crossing				
opposite the end of Toft Lane				
to the play park/shop/				
Memorial Hall/Church?	146	23	84.4	52.1
Would you support a 20mph zone				
through Great Wilbraham?	154	15	89.0	55.0

Andy Martin on whose behalf TWG undertook the survey on zebra crossings has already raised the issue with the Parish Council at its July meeting. The Council has agreed to look at this matter again.

Regarding the 20mph speed limit TWG hopes to discuss this with the Parish Council at its September meeting. There is a time pressure: the County Council's Highways and Transport Committee has been reviewing the criteria for introducing 20mph limits in villages and once these have been agreed there may be competition between parishes applying for a limit. TWG plan to see that our own Parish Council is ready.

TWG also received a large number of comments on the survey forms. There is not space for them here but they can be seen on TWG's web page at: https://www.wilbrahams.co.uk/information/transport-working-group-twg/.

Finally TWG would like to thank all those residents who responded. We also thank those many helpers who distributed and collected the survey forms; without them we would not have this huge access to the opinions of village residents.

Tim Page

#### The Wilbrahams' Social Club

The Social Club is at last having a more relaxed time! Despite opening hours being slightly restricted (mostly because of lack of bar volunteers), Wednesday and Thursday evenings are well attended by table tennis, bridge club and choir members, and John regularly opens on Friday evenings from 6.30.

Saturday cricket afternoons are very busy making the most of the beautiful

weather. Cricketers and their many supporters sit around the ground with a drink or two watching excellent cricket. And, of course, we serve delicious cricket teas. Unfortunately there is only one more home game this season. It is on August 27th. However, football commences in early September and the bar will be open during home game afternoons.



The Saturday Coffee Mornings once again are a great opportunity to get together for a chat, to catch up with friends and to eat cake.

We are planning three 'Music on the Rec' afternoons, the seventh anniversary of the not so new Club:

Sunday August 28th with The Tofty 5

Sunday September 11th with Nick Barraclough and The Federales Sunday September 18th with The Tofty 6.

The bar will be open from 2pm - 6pm with live music from 3pm - 5pm Bring seats, a rug, a picnic and friends.

Weather and any other circumstances permitting.



#### Other dates for your diary:

Thursday Sept 8th Coffee Morning 10.30 Saturday Oct 15th Coffee Morning 10.30

#### **Current opening hours:**

Weds 7pm Thurs 8pm

Fri 6.30 pm

Sat: If cricket match at home - 1pm, if away

6pm

When football season starts, if match at home 3.30pm, if away 6pm

You can check Community Facebook page for any changes.

As always, we would welcome new bar staff and new committee members to bring ideas, enthusiasm and help us with the routine management of the club. We look forward to seeing you soon.

The Social Club Committee





# Great Wilbraham CE (VC) Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Richard Brown BEd (Hons) NPQH

Great Wilbraham C of E Primary School, Church Street, Great Wilbraham, Cambridge, CB21 5JQ, 01223 880408

And just like that, another school year was finished. This academic year has flown by and I cannot believe we are already breaking up for the summer. So much has been achieved at the school this year and we have been so pleased to implement so many exciting trips and experiences. We are already thinking of different learning opportunities for next year.

#### May

**BMX**: Hedgehog and Badger classes took part in a wonderful opportunity to develop their BMX skills on the playground with a trained specialist. Thanks to Miss Luddy for organising this great event. The whole school were treated to a BMX show with children from Year Six taking centre stage demonstrating everything they had learnt before a brave set of staff were placed in danger as the professional skater defied gravity in a daring jump off. Children were told – don't try this at home!

**Mobile Library**: All the classes were treated to a visit to the mobile library. This will visit the village on a regular basis and huge thanks to Mrs Levitt who drove the bus here and to Mrs Francis for organising the visit.

**Picnic and Book Look**: It was a wonderful turn out for the picnic and book look, the weather was much improved and it was fantastic to see so many families come to the school who enjoyed sharing their child's learning with them and then enjoying a picnic on the field.



#### June

**Sports day – part one and two!** : With the sun shining we started as soon as we could in order to get as much done as possible. Sunglasses and t-shirts were later exchanged for rain jackets and we were unable to complete the whole sports day as the torrential rain arrived.

However, just a couple of weeks later the weather held for us to be able to complete the running races. All the children competed exceptionally well and were very supportive of each other. This year we have new coloured

ribbons on the sports day cup. After what seems like every year since I've been here red ribbons were attached to the trophy, blue is the colour – congratulations to Temple House! We were so pleased to see so many families join us for the finale and also compete in the staff vs parents relay (although the staff retained that honour this year, I certainly raised the average age of our team and the unbeaten run has to end at some point).

Richard Brown

# Wilbraham Chapel Postcard 1912

Here is a postcard of the Chapel sent in about 1912. It was sent from Great Wilbraham to a Miss Crowe in Grantham, possibly a young niece of the 'Uncle':

"My dear Hilda Uncle and I were very delighted to hear from



you dear. Am spending a nice quiet Holiday with him. Of [course] I miss you dear but still that can't be helped. Am sending you card of Chapel as you ask dear. Hope you will put it in your Album & take care of it. Best love from dear Uncle & myself Aggie."

The Baptist Chapel was built in about 1833 to seat from 60 to 80 people, although in 1851 the congregation was down to between 30 and 50 and had fallen again to about 12 by 1885. The Chapel closed briefly in 1894 but was revived by the Baptist Cambridge Village Preachers Association and formed part of the Cherry Hinton group in the early 20th century. Older residents may be able to confirm that there was still a Baptist Sunday school in 1970 when the congregation was up to 45. I have found a story that in 1980 the pastor was converted to an American sect and gave over the chapel to new-style services, involving chanting and guitar playing, but in1981 he was ejected! Can that be true?

My memory of the event is none too good, but I believe the Chapel closed in about 1990. It is of course now a dentist's practice. Quite a change.

**David Richer** 

# Bottisham Medical Practice Dispensary Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of Bottisham Medical Practice's Dispensary Newsletter

We would like to start by thanking all of our patients for your understanding and support over the last two years. It has been an extremely challenging time for the practice and we very much appreciate you working with us to ensure we can continue to deliver essential healthcare services to the local community. We have been overwhelmed by messages of support and thanks which have been a real morale boost for the practice team.

We have put together this newsletter as a way of updating patients on the latest news relating to our Dispensary Service. The combination of Brexit and COVID-19 has had a direct impact on our Dispensary and how we deliver our services, and we thought it would be useful to update our patients on the latest issues and how it may affect the services we provide and what improvements we are making as a result of feedback from patients.

#### **Turnaround Times for Repeat Medication**

We are having ongoing problems with patients attending the Practice before five full working days to collect their repeat medication. Working days relate to days the Practice is open (Monday to Friday). The Practice non-working days are Saturday, Sunday and all Bank Holidays. This means if you drop your prescription off Friday afternoon you need to attend the practice the following week on Friday afternoon to pick up.

Subsequent to patient feedback, we are implementing a text message service which will confirm when your medication has been dispensed and is ready to pick up. This should resolve the frustrations of medication not being ready when attending the Practice.

#### **Medication Delivery Service**

The Practice continues to run a delivery service 5 days per week (Monday to Friday) for the delivery of repeat medication. We deliver to over 600 patients and we have received extremely positive feedback about the service. This was introduced for the convenience of our patients and to reduce queues for collections at the Dispensary.

If you would like to use this service please do speak to one of the team in the Practice or complete an application form on our website. If you work during the day but you have a safe place to leave medication, or it will fit through the letter box we can still deliver.

#### **Medication and Supply Issues**

Due to Brexit, COVID-19 and issues with sourcing raw materials there have been delays beyond our control in sourcing some drugs. This changes daily and the practice cannot predict from one day to the next what drugs may be out of stock. The local Clinical Commissioning Group provide regular updates regarding stock issues and the dispensary team work closely with the GPs to source suitable alternatives to ensure patients always have their medications. These supply issues are nationwide.

HRT is the one medication which we continue to have consistent supply issues with. There are particular issues with oestrogel and some of the patches. Where these items are not available, we are trying to source suitable alternatives. I know this is frustrating and we are working hard to ensure we keep stocks in when they are available to ensure there is no disruption to patients having their medication.

You may find that you have a different brand of medication, but please be assured this will be a suitable alternative.

Suppliers are also struggling with a shortage of delivery drivers so it does mean that there are sometimes delays to deliveries to the practice.

It is for these reasons patients will find that they may not always have all of their repeat order ready when collecting and is why we are still operating a 5 working day turnaround time. This ensures that in the majority of cases when a patient comes to pick up their medication it is all there.

Due to patient feedback, we are looking at implementing a new system on how we dispense repeat prescriptions. We will Keep patients updated on improvements being made.

We will keep patients updated by informing patients via text when medication in ready to collect.

We will, through this Newsletter, continue to keep you updated on supply issues.

#### **Dispensary Staff**

We have this month increased the number of staff in the Dispensary Team to help improve the service we deliver to patients so you will see some new faces. They are all working very hard and we would ask that you are polite and respectful to the Team at all times.

#### Visiting the Dispensary

The Infection Prevention Control Guidelines were revised two months ago which means we can have more people in the surgery. We have reviewed these guidelines in conjunction with local risk assessments and we have taken the decision to continue to ask patients to come into dispensary one at a time. We have taken this decision in order to protect our most vulnerable patients and staff.

We ask that patients continue to wear a mask when visiting the practice.

The dispensary is open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 12pm and 2pm to 6pm. We are working towards trying to open again throughout the day and will update patients when we are in a position to do this.

#### Your Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and as you can see from this newsletter, we have been making improvements because of this. If you have any feedback or ideas for service improvement which you would like to share with us, please use the Contact Us form on our website.

**Bottisham Medical Practice** 

# **Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group**

**Appointments:** Patients can now choose between face to face or telephone consultations. For non-urgent issues please ask for a pre-bookable appointment. Whilst patients will still need to queue for the dispensary there will be now be more seating allowed in the waiting area.

**Flu Clinics:** These are planned for 24 September and 1 October and invitation letters will go out at the end of the month initially to the over 65's.

**Masks:** Covid infections are rising again so for your protection and the safety of the staff please wear a mask when visiting the surgery.

**Health Pod:** This has now been installed in the waiting room to enable patients to take their blood pressure, weight and complete health questionnaires which will automatically upload to their GP record. Screening will be provided for privacy.

**Red Bucket Funds and other Donations:** Thank you to all those who have donated. The current total is £388.90 after our contribution to the purchase of the new ECG machine. We are planning to purchase a mobile screen to have available in the waiting room in case of need.

**Dispensary:** Please see separate newsletter.

The Practice Manager wishes to extend thanks to patients for their help and support over the last difficult few months.

**The Patient Participation Group:** We are looking for new members to join the committee, all patients of this Practice are eligible. Please contact our chairman as below to find out more information and how you can be involved.

#### **Regular Meetings:**

Next meeting is via Zoom at 2pm Wednesday 28th September 2022.

If you wish to join our Zoom meeting please email our chairman at <a href="mailto:s.j.gilson@btinternet.com">s.j.gilson@btinternet.com</a> who will send you a meeting invite.

Bottisham Medical Practice Patients Participation Group



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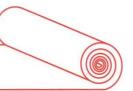
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# Wildlife in the Churchyard

St Nicholas, Great Wilbraham's church, is lucky to have a big and beautiful churchyard; a recent survey revealed that it contains 39 different plant species and some rare mosses and lichens, some of which are to be found on stonework or on old wooden crosses. So, when our churchwarden, Lorna Carr, made us

aware of the award scheme developed by the Wildlife Trust for Bedford, Cambridge and Northants (BCN) the Parochial Church Council (PCC) agreed to go for a Bronze Award.

Several of the requirements for this were already in place, such as a compost heap to attract small mammals and reptiles, boxes for birds and bats to nest in and areas of grass which are only mown at certain times of the year so that wildflowers can thrive and set seed. This can look a bit untidy at the



moment, but we hope that it will eventually become flowery meadow.

Paul Lambton has helped us to install a small pond which is already attracting frogs, and a small herb garden is beginning to take shape on the left of the church door in the hope of attracting butterflies and bees. This is my special interest and it seemed suitable to plant rosemary (for remembrance\*) and pansies (for thoughts\*) beside the seat dedicated to the memory of Vivien Wilson, who in her quiet way did so much for the church and the village. Besides the pansies and rosemary I have planted several kinds of thyme and fennel, sage and marjoram, lovage and borage. Other herbs will follow when the ground is more suitable for planting. It is quite a thought that the stones I dig out of this patch may have been underground for all of the eight centuries since the church was built.

Huge gratitude is due to the dedicated team who mow the grass and maintain the machinery for doing this.

\*There's rosemary, that's for remembrance.
Pray you, love, remember.
And there is pansies, that's for thoughts ...
There's fennel for you, and columbines.
There's rue for you, and here's some for me.
We may call it "herb of grace" o' Sundays.

- Hamlet, Act IV, Scene 5

NB We have just heard from the Wildlife Trust that we have been awarded a Bronze medal, so perhaps we should start planning for the silver!

Judy Hanmer

#### Hands

Continuing my anatomical theme from the last edition of 'The Warbler' (Feet), some reflections on 'hands on' and 'hands off' approaches to tasks, here below!

As I write (early August 2022) it is almost a year since I was able to gather together a number of members of the parish council with members of the transport working group (TWG), along with a senior county highways officer, to consider whether or not Great Wilbraham should put in an LHI (to the uninitiated, a local highways improvement) application. In essence, this is a process whereby the county provides financial support to villages to help with traffic control (very broadly defined), provided parish councils also contribute financially.

The County puts up significant sums of money every year for LHIs: County provides the money and expertise and project evaluation (hands on) but does not tell local communities what they should apply for (hands off) and those communities have to work at the project.

Great Wilbraham community applied, was successful, the county and parish council are contributing funds: a good example of hands on and hands off together.

Sometimes though one just has to let the experts get on with it and only a 'hands on' approach by them, without too much comment, will work. A local example: white lines.

On many roads and junctions white markings are completely worn away. How much easier it is to drive where they are clear and fresh: we've seen that this year in the Wilbrahams and Fulbourn. In my default 'hands on' mode I've pressed for the painting of white markings, with some success; but in one case I was told firmly but kindly to keep to 'hands off' mode. When querying, again, why we were waiting for white lines to be painted on a resurfaced road in another village I was told 'under current regulations a road that is less than 5.5 metres wide should not have centre-line markings; in a road under 5.5m white lines give a false perspective within the road and potentially an increase in speed... '. Hands off' was the message I took away, leave the professionals to it, they know what they're talking about!

There are times, though, when 'hands on' by everyone does bear fruit and the matter of cycling in the Wilbrahams might just be one of them. A small group of us have been working away quietly for some time now to try to create safe cycle routes from the Wilbrahams and Six Mile Bottom. You will have read in the past of the work of Robert McCubbin, Nick Toovey and Sam Daliwal, representing both parish councils and the Wilbrahams Environment Group (WEG), working together. Their hands-on approach has borne fruit in surveys and analysis of their results, videos and maps of possible routes and presentations on these. My role has been hands on to the extent of engaging county officers to hear our voices and

register our concerns and needs. We seem to have been heard. We've had a good, positive response to our latest approach, and we hope something will come of it. The officers have gone away to look in detail at our various schemes for routes to Bottisham, the city and Fulbourn, with one across Short Drove to the Quy roundabout currently being quite high up the list. Now perhaps is the moment to be a little patient and a little 'hands off' while the professionals take things to the next steps, whatever these might be.

One important piece of information from this latest meeting: the 'hands on' approach to completing surveys and consultation questionnaires is the RIGHT approach! County officers told us that when they analysed responses to one of the many active-travel or transport questionnaires the name Wilbrahams leapt out at them: so many of us had responded telling them that we were active-travel deprived – i.e., no cycle route, virtually no bus and no safe roadside footpaths to major villages or the city. 'You might be few in number' they said, 'but you sure did let us know you were there'. Hands On. Please keep replying to consultations.

Making sure a white line is painted or a pothole filled, or a hedge or verge cut back or a road resurfaced or... can often seem like a major victory and one has to take one's victories seriously because often the road to them is long and arduous and the complaints many. But it is so refreshing, such a privilege, to work alongside residents and officers who get involved and are 'hands on' and, crucially, also know when 'hands off' is the better approach.

There is, though, MUCH more to county work than roads and paths. The county's role in education, child and adult health and social care, community support, libraries and archives, and of course environment and green investments matters amongst others, is really significant.

We are at a critical juncture at the moment in terms of **health and social care** with the implementation of the Health and Social Care Act 2022. At the heart of the changes brought about by the Act is the formalisation of <u>integrated care</u> systems (ICSs).

In the words of the influential health charity, The King's Fund, 'ICSs are partnerships that bring providers and commissioners of NHS services across a geographical area together with local authorities and other local partners to collectively plan health and care services to meet the needs of their local population. This solidifies the move away from the old legislative focus on competition to a new framework that supports collaboration'.

The way that we experience health and social care will change significantly as local health providers, county and district and the voluntary sector find their ways of working under this new legislation. The King's Fund has a very good introduction to it all. Recommended reading, I think! Here is the link.

https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/health-and-care-act-key-questions Life is also changing in other ways, as we all know, from the cost of living crisis.

This coming winter the county will work hard with district councils and other organisations to provide support for those in real hardship over the increasing cost of food, fuel and energy. Details are here so if you or anyone you know needs help, do follow this link.

https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/household-support-fund We are also hoping to provide free spaces for those in need to keep warm and have access to refreshment and wifi in buildings across the county. I'll post more on this when things develop, as I hope they will. It's the 'hands on' approach to helping out.

Claire Daunton, County Councillor 07905 47335; claire.daunton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

#### Untold Stories 27: Peter Dawson

Peter Dawson has many more untold stories than there is space for here: this is a ruthlessly edited version of our conversation.

I was born in Great Wilbraham in 1935. I went to the village school: we lived opposite. I was one of six.

What was school like then?

It was all right. The teachers were a bit strict. We were always into mischief. When the threshing machine came to the farm where the school now is, I spent the day chasing rats and mice. The next day the teacher rapped a ruler across my knuckles. I said I'll tell my mum of you. She said it was my mother told me to give it to you! There were three of us: one day I was stood in a corner, one was locked in the porch – he got on the cupboard and out of the window - and one was stood behind the piano. He needed to relieve himself. He put his hand up but was told to stay there. There was a handle hole in the back of the piano...

Was there a lot of truancy then?

Not at the Wilbraham school. When we got to Bottisham school I took days off beating at Six Mile Bottom shoots. The day I left school, the teacher said you could have brought me a pheasant! In the music room, I got caught playing the teacher's special recorder, and spent the lesson cleaning all the others. We used to have a tame jackdaw come into the classroom: he was a bit of a nuisance.

Did you have a lot of freedom to roam around the countryside, climbing trees? We were always out. Mum knew we would come back at meal times. I climbed the highest trees. I joined the RSPB (The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds). The teacher saw me up a tree and said I was after birds' nests. I had my

membership badge taken away. We did have collections of birds' eggs back then. Once I saw mice hanging on thorns in the hedge and knew a butcher bird, the red-backed shrike, was about: a rarity. I found the nest but did not touch it.

When you took eggs from a nest, how many did you take?

We only took one. I would go to the bridge at Little Wilbraham: there would be kingfishers there. There were bullheads, three- and five-spine sticklebacks, stone loach and such. One day I found a wren's nest by a loose brick under the bridge. I could not reach it. I got a tin and stood it in the water. The tin moved, the brick came out, and I fell in the water - in my school clothes. It was a sunny day: I stripped all my clothes off and wrung them out and set them out to dry. Later my sister came down The Lanes shouting my name, so I had to put them on again and go home for tea.

Did you get into trouble for that?

Not really.

What memories do you have of the war?

Different regiments came to the rest camp in the village. The artillery, the King's Royal Rifles, and the Polish, when I knew Kazek Goryn. When the artillery were here, we got some of their unused charges, put them under a clay pot, dropped a match in and stood on the lid. It tried to lift us up in the air. At one point there was a tank and a bren gun carrier in the village. You could pay sixpence for a ride on the tank or threepence for a ride on the bren gun carrier. Towards the end of the war different aircraft crashed. A Witney had an explosion on board and crashed. I witnessed the collision between two aircraft in the air. One day a Lysander landed, and as the pilot walked away it burst into flames. We shouted to him and he rushed back, took off his flying jacket and put it out with that. I still have a small drogue parachute from the container drop days. I remember the doodle bugs, and running down the garden and climbing the damson tree to watch one coming. AV2 rocket fell in a field at Fulbourn.

So you did not run away and hide. That says a lot about you, doesn't it? When you left school, what did you do?

I went on the farm as a stockman, and then drove tractors – fast. The governors on the tractor had gone. I would draw the harrow across the field and come back through a cloud of dust.

You must have done national service at some point?

Yes, I am glad I did. I think that makes a man of you. It teaches you how to bear yourself. I was in the artillery and went to Oswestry for training. I got posted to the Suez Canal. During the day it was scorching hot but at night there was dense fog. I was a lorry driver, did equipment repair and was a storeman. When we came back we were posted to Kent. It was February and there two-foot-long icicles hanging from the gutters.

You were demobbed and went back on the land?

For a year. They moved us between farms here and at Cottenham, where people would sit in the house watching us. We hoed acres and acres of sugar-beet, push push, chop chop. I gave my notice. I went to Woodcraft in Coldham's Lane, where the pay was three shillings and a penny an hour, and then went on the building for various firms, and then I was invited to join a new firm starting up.

So you are very versatile. You put your hand to lots of different things.

There were letters on the office wall about the various things I did. When I was courting I had an A35 van. I used to take the engine out and work on it and put it back in.

You were courting?

That would be about 1957. We got married in 1959 and lived in Fulbourn. I have had three children, two sons by my first wife and a daughter, Amanda, by my second wife.

Are you a grandfather?

And a great-grandfather: I have four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. *Were your children as mischievous as you had been as a child?* 



No, I don't think they were. Sid was a bit of a tearaway, but John was a bit like me on the nature side of things. He saw an owl drop what it had in its talons, and it was a grass snake. He brought it home and kept if for ages. He has a moth collection he shows. At the time I was a beekeeper.

I lost my Mum just before I was divorced – that was 1986. Dad was not too good, and I had to sell the roof from over my head to pay for the divorce. I came back here with my dad in 1987. It was the time when you could buy your council house and I bought this. Then Kathleen and I got together.

What did you when you retired?

I was made redundant three years before I retired. I went self-employed. I went with Alan Bullen doing maintenance on buildings. I helped with rearing pheasants and partridges in the release pens among other things.

One of the threads running through your life, Peter seems to your curiosity about everything, from nature to music to aircraft to doodle bugs to explosives! I hope you continue to enjoy your retirement. Thank you for sharing some of your memories with us.

John Tanburn



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## **NOTICE BOARD**

#### **DATES FOR AUTUMN 2022**

Monday 5 September School term begins

Monday 24 October Half term

Saturday 5 November Bonfire Night

Friday 11 November Remembrance Day

Monday 30 November St Andrews Day

## **Mobile Library Timetable**

The mobile library schedule is every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday:-

22<sup>nd</sup> September, 27<sup>th</sup> October, 24<sup>th</sup> November

Six Mile Bottom,

Delaware Close, 11.35-12.00.

Little Wilbraham

Bus stop on High Street, 4.10-4.25

**Great Wilbraham** 

Opposite the playground, 4.30-5.00.

# BIN COLLECTIONS

#### **Black bins**

Monday 5 September

Monday 19 September

Monday 3 October

Monday 17 October

Monday 31 October

Monday 14 November

Monday 28 November

#### Blue & Green bins

Monday 12 September

Monday 26 September

Monday 10 October

Monday 24 October

Monday 7 November

Monday 21 November

# Deadline for the Winter Issue Friday 11 November 2022

Email contributions or adverts to;

bramwell.083@gmail.com

martin@gienke.net

#### johnboy\_torode@hotmail.com

Hand-written or typed contributions can be handed in or posted to the editors.

## LW&SMB Parish Council

Next meeting dates Thursday 8 September Thursday 10 November At 7.30pm

# **Community Group Contact Details**

Great Wilbraham Common Rights Steve Bartlett 881096

stephen.bartlett@mindworks.ltd.uk

Great Wilbraham Guild of Change Ringers

Peter Sims

Great Wilbraham Primary School

ptrs28@googlemail.com

**GW Primary School PTFA** 

Office: 880408 **Emily Oliver** 

Oil Syndicate, Great Wilbraham

emilystar\_uk@yahoo.com

Chris Gurney

chris.gurney@tylers.net

Over 60's

Carol Whitehouse

**Transport Woking Group** 

Carolwhitehouse4@gmail.com

Tim Page 881738

David Richer 880547

Volunteer Group The Well-brahams

hgvs.wilbrahams@gmail.com Pat Simpson pas49@cam.ac.uk www.thewell-rahams.weeblv.com

well.brahams@gmail.com

Weenie Warblers Mother & Toddler Group Wilbrahams' Bridge Club

Sarah Fordham, 880698 Di Raikes, 881065

Wibrahams' Community Choir

raikswilb@btinternet.com Tony Goryn 07751281341

tonygoryn@icloud.com

Gill Humphrey 811436

Wilbraham' Gardening Club

Jackie Beadsmoore, 880889 jackiebeadsmoore@icloud.com

Shirley Morley, 880723

Wilbrahams' Memorial Hall

booking.wilbrahamsmemorialhall@gmail.com

Wilbrahams' Scrabble

Julia Cornwell, 881751 juliacornwell@gmail.com

Wilbrahams' Sports Club

Roddy Tippen 880728

#### Wilbrahams Memorial Hall

Regular monthly Farmers' Markets are held on the second Saturday of the month from 9.30-11.30 am commencing in August See full report on page 12

#### **GW Parish Council**

Next meeting date

Thursday 18 September at

7.30 pm

See full report on page 8



# **Bespoke & Traditional Funerals**

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## Celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

## The Wilbraham's Beacon **Lighting Celebration**

Thursday 2nd June was a magical night in Little Wilbraham. St John's churchyard and the Church Green were alive with three or four generations of villagers from the Wilbrahams and Six Mile Bottom, all eating, drinking and making merry, reminiscent of the 'church ales' on the Green



centuries ago. We were celebrating the Jubilee of Britain's longest ruling monarch, but also we were simply very happy to be together again after a difficult couple of years.



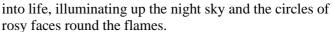
The evening started as people gathered for the BBQ, and as the sun set and the shadows grew, people moved down from the churchyard to surround the new beacon on the Green.

Suddenly a lone kilted bagpiper, Andrew

Dumble, was heard, as he emerged from the church, taking our breath away as he processed slowly down to the beacon. When he finished, the bugle call written for the Jubilee, Majesty, was played by Ryan Higgin, Natasha and Patrick. It sent shivers down the spine and one almost expected the Queen to appear at its regal summoning. As they finished the Choir began,



simply and beautifully, to sing "A Life Lived with Grace," and our brand new village beacon leapt



rosy faces round the flames.



One great pleasure of the evening was seeing how many children and young families were there - many to pick up their Jubilee coins (kindly handed out by Elaine Allison). It was great to see them running about in their glow stick

necklaces, like multicolour fireflies darting around in the grass. They seemed to be having a great time, gleeful at being allowed up well past bedtime, and their squeals as the colourful fireworks shot up were a delight. We hope to see them and their families again at many future events, and that they remember this night to tell their own grandchildren. Throughout the evening, a close up magician and Magic Circle Champion, Matt Le Mottee, added to the atmosphere of enchantment by quietly and charmingly performing seemingly impossible tricks for astonished onlookers.

Massive thanks go to David Humphrey, Andrew Carter and Alan Cody, who really worked hard to make this event a success, and epitomised the truth of "If you want something doing, ask a busy person." They were the heart of a fabulous team, and our thanks go to all those who stewarded and volunteered in advance and on the night, in all kinds of ways, to help with setting up, catering, and health and safety. Thanks to Alex Wright for permission to site the fireworks in his field, and also to John Sturdy whose adaptations to the beacon made it even more effective and safe. Thank you very much to all the talented musicians, and especially to Gill Humphrey for kindly organising and conducting everyone. Many thanks to Sue Lee and Chris Fell for facilitating access to the church. Chris also took some marvellous photos, one of which is now held in the Platinum Jubilee archives in Windsor Castle, as a record of one of the many events around the country.

Thanks also for grants and donations from the Parish Councils, the Little Wilbraham Commoners' Rights Holders' Association and some generous private individuals, which meant we were able to provide, amongst other things a free BBQ, fireworks and a magician, and to build the beacon itself, which will hopefully be used in many more celebrations in the future. Thank you to all who came to share the occasion and made it such a wonderful memory.

Ruth Sinclair

## Jubilee Picnic

The fourth day of the long jubilee weekend was planned to be celebrated with a mass village photo followed by a "bring and share" picnic on the recreation ground, sports, games and music all afternoon.

However, the weather gods had other ideas and the Sunday morning dawned with drizzle which became heavier as the morning progressed. Fortunately, the organizers had a "plan B" which was put into operation. The photo and the picnic were regretably cancelled and everything, bar the bouncy castle, was moved indoors.

The afternoon started with a right royal fancy dress competition for children in which all entries deserved to be winners and were adjudged so by Di Raikes who kindly adjudicated.

Next came the community choir who sang a selection of items on their own as well as a couple of rousing numbers with the Tofties. Gill Humphrey had resurrected the choir after the devastation caused by Covid and got them back to performance standard in time (if you would like to join, come along to the hall on a Thursday evening from September onwards. All voices welcome and no experience required).

As the hall filled to bursting point, minds turned to tea and copious quantities of delicious cakes whilst being entertained by the Tofties. What a lovely way to reopen our lovely Hall after two years of enforced hibernation.

Emma Adams

#### Fulbourn WI

Hello, I thought I would introduce myself as the new President of Fulbourn WI. On the 16th of March this year we celebrated our 101st birthday (with cake of course) as the WI for Fulbourn and Teversham. We had lots of events planned as you can imagine for our Centenary last year but of course with Covid restrictions during the last two years it wasn't to be (extremely frustrating).

As many of you know we always meet at the Swifts on the third Wednesday evening of the month but this year we have made a big decision about the time of our meetings and after a vote of our members we have decided that at the wish of the majority from the 21st of September 2022 we will change to the afternoon and our new meeting time will be 2-4pm.

Most of you will know of us from our WI Cafe at the Community Market and may know me from my craft stall. Others may know Julia Cornwell (our WI Programme Secretary) and myself as we run the Wilbrahams' Scrabble Club twice a month. But did you know that nationally we do so much more - for example in the 1960's we got the Kidney Donor Card scheme started and you all recognise the sign on bins around the world with the figure of the man throwing his rubbish in a bin - yep that was us too!!

In August we held a "WI Summer Cafe" and I do hope that some of you saw the notices around the villages inviting you to come, plus we will also have our usual cafe at the Fulbourn Community Market on 3rd September 2022.

If you would like to come and see what we are all about (and it isn't all Jam and Jerusalem I promise) why not pop along one month. It is only £4 to come as a new visitor (but only for up to three visits - National Federation rules I'm afraid) and then it is full membership at £ $\frac{44.pa}{1}$  (pro rata if you join during the first year) which includes eleven meetings Our speakers vary and we hope we have selected something to suit all tastes.

What have we got planned for the next few months you ask? Well, we hope you like the selection the committee have chosen.

21st Sept 2022- Jean Coxall from Lode WI will give a talk on "Mrs Beeton's Picnic"

19th Oct.2022 - Learn a new skill with our craft afternoon

16th Nov 2022- Cambridge Food Bank are giving a talk about their work - we are asking members and visitors if they can afford it to donate food items to help those on low incomes to have a few "extras" in the cupboard this Christmas 21st December 2022 - our Christmas party where one of our members will give a demonstration on Christmas Door Decorations

 $17\ Jan\ 2023$  - Fishermen's Mission - A talk on "The Trivia of Fish & Chips and Sea Shanties

15th Feb 2023 - our AGM and Mr. R Freeman will entertain us with the words & music of Flanders and Swann

15 Mar 2023 - Kate Kirk will give us a talk about her aunt, Dame Cicely Saunders, Founder of the British Hospice Movement

The Cambridge Federation of Women's Institutes also arranges theatre trips, craft and art classes and many more.

We do hope that you will come along, and we look forward to meeting you.

Marilyn Moyse President, Fulbourn WI

## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Commemorative coins



In June, a Platinum Jubilee commemorative coin and personalised certificate was hand delivered to all children and young people in Great Wilbraham, where their families had nominated them as recipients. The photograph shows Isabella, aged 10, with her coin and certificate.

We have a number of coins remaining and these will be available to purchase at a

cost of £3.00 from the Parish Council stand at the Farmers' Market on Saturday 10th September. If you wish to purchase a coin, but are unable to attend the market please contact

gwcllr.page@wilbrahams.co.uk .





Little Wilbraham and Six Mile Bottom Parish Council also distributed coins and certificates. Each child got a mint uncirculated 50p coin and a certificate.

## Great Wilbraham Graves Survey: Can you help?

The Cambridgeshire and Huntingdon Family History Society are updating their records of people buried in St Nicholas' Church Yard and the new village burial ground. Chris and Caroline Norton, from Little Wilbraham (pictured here) are carrying out the review following up on the first one compiled some 40 years ago. Not all the grave inscriptions are legible and will be recorded as such, but we are hoping that there may be people in the village who would have information about some of them. If you do, please contact



<u>jackiebeadsmoore@icloud.com</u> or telephone/message 07568 701566 / 01223 880889



## Litter Picking in Six Mile Bottom

Periodically a few villagers, (I wish there were more) meet up at the War Memorial in Six Mile Bottom to collect litter pickers and bags to enable us to collect the accumulated rubbish that has been discarded by thoughtless drivers and those that have little or no regard for the environment. After our perennial clean up, most of us congratulate ourselves for being so public spirited and then settle back in pursuing normal activities; but not Richard Wilcoxson. Richard, a resident of many years in SMB, can be found hard at work several times during any one week busily

collecting litter and it's not unusual to find him out at the crack of dawn, such is his enthusiasm. Recently I left home at 6:50am to go fishing and there was Richard busily collecting other people's casually discarded rubbish. Richard is an unassuming sort of chap, does what he does for the village without being asked and I don't believe ever gets the acknowledgement and plaudits he deserves. This is Richard and to those villagers wondering why Six Mile Bottom is invariably clean & tidy; he is the reason and I take my hat off to him.

I joined Richard for one of his litter picking sessions one morning. I got my wife, Meg, to take us a fair way up the Wilbraham Road. We collected two large bin bags between us during our 1 & 1/2 hr stint: quite sad after I discovered that Richard had already cleared both sides earlier in the week.

I was gobsmacked after he'd told me that he goes out EVERY DAY and has been doing so since January.

Next time you see him beavering away, say hello and thank him or toot your horn as you pass him by in your non littering car or bike.

Take a bow Richard and thank you

**Bob Windsor** 

#### Conversation with Alex from Ukraine

Alex came with members of his family and is being hosted by Val and Duncan Wells in Little Wilbraham, whilst his sister is in Fulbourn. On a hot Friday in August, Alex and I sat down at the back of the church in Great Wilbraham – Alex had just left his shift at the Carpenters Arms. I was keen to learn more about him

and his recent experiences as he left Ukraine and came to live in our small Cambridgeshire village. Here's what we talked about.

Alex – tell me more about yourself.

My name is Alex – full name Oleksandr Shliakhov – I am 19 years old. I have an older sister.

What are you studying?

I am studying computer sciences and artificial intelligence – and managed to complete the second year of my studies at Kharkiv University – the last bit was online.

Where did you live before coming to England?

We lived in Kharkiv, which is in the Northeast of Ukraine. I went to university there and lived at home – 20 minutes walk away. Kharkiv is a very big city – about 2 million people – so, much bigger than Cambridge!

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I enjoy playing the guitar – from soft rock to heavy metal. In Kharkiv I used to have a band but now every member of the band is in a different part of the world. I am also a master of sports in archery

How did the band come about?

That is quite a funny story. I had a guy who was a friend long before university. One day he came to my house and saw my guitar. He said, 'What's that' and plucked a string – very soon after he bought a guitar for himself and we learned together, writing music and playing together. Then he went with a friend of ours to some party and started playing guitar, and our common friend started singing there – the random guy started clapping in rhythm and it turned out that he was a drummer. They realised how exciting it would be to play in a band. So they decided to form one. The drummer said that he knows a bass player, and insisted on him joining them. They tried to come to a band practice studio together, but the bass player didn't show up, and soon after completely disappeared. As we started university, approximately in a month, my friend got a text from this bass player asking: "Are we meeting to play?" My friend replied: "Our band are not together anymore. But we can work something out". This bass player introduced a vocalist to him and they started a band. When I heard this story, I immediately asked to join. Before even joining, I found a drummer and that's how we formed

our five-piece band. And after we met for the first time, we realized, that all five of us were from one University! We rehearsed a lot and did a few live shows – and were in the middle of recording an album when the war started – only 9 out of the 13 songs were done – so this is work unfinished – the band still exists in various places round the world, and we hope one day to complete the album.

We left Kharkiv in February in the middle of the night. It was a 4-day journey across Ukraine; we were driving in a group of 4 cars but first went to our summer house to the west of Kharkiv where my grandparent still live. I left my beautiful cat with them – she is OK. The journey was really scary; by the time we left the summer house we heard explosions all over. One night on our journey it was too dangerous to drive and so we stayed overnight in an abandoned hotel. It was really cold, (below freezing) and the hotel had no doors and windows.

Eventually we got to the border and made our way across Europe – a long trip of 6-7 days to some friends of my Mom in Germany. Germany felt like a transit place, because fairly soon my sister was invited to come with her boyfriend to his family in Fulbourn and we were offered a place staying with Val and Duncan, who were friends of the Fulbourn family. My uncle came as well – but he arrived later because of visa delays.

Tell me about leaving Kharkiv.

We arrived at Stansted airport on 31 May at 11 pm. Val and Duncan came to meet us. The first thing was that we felt welcomed – even the guy on passport



control, immediately when he saw our Ukrainian passports; he said he mentally wanted to support us and hoped everything would be OK. My first shock was a water bottle that cost £5. Everything in the UK is very expensive. A bottle of coke would cost £1.25 here, but in Ukraine I could buy it for 30p

What did you first think about England and Little Wilbraham?

It's cosy! Actually, the landscape and villages are not unlike where our summer house is – but you have more wildlife – I even saw a deer in the road in Little Wilbraham!

How did you settle in with Val and her family?

Actually, settling in and living together has been easy because Val and Duncan are fabulous people. We have become close friends. We have dinners together – sometimes English cuisine and sometimes my Mom and I cook. Getting groceries for Ukrainian food was a problem as the UK spices just taste different – so we got a parcel of spices shipped to us from Ukraine and now it tastes right!

What have you been doing since you arrived?

I am still writing music and playing. The first thing I grabbed when we had to leave Kharkiv was my guitar. My Mom said "Alex, there's shooting going on outside' – but I can't live without my music. I have not found a band here and I don't really want to because my Ukraine band is still together – hopefully we will manage to play again together – we stay in touch online.

When I arrived, I urgently needed to find work to support my family, but it had to be close by, so I got a job in a housekeeper role at the Carpenter's Arms. It is hard work and very busy, but I enjoy meeting the people, especially my friends who work there.

Is there anything else that you would like to say?

I really want to say a huge thank you to Val and Duncan and to every single human here in the UK that all of you make us feel at home and welcomed and we highly appreciate it. As for future – I don't really know – it's hard to say what is going to be even two days into the future. All our plans have collapsed, and you can't really plan anything – you don't really know what it is going to be like even this minute. And finally:

Слава Україні! Glory to Ukraine!

Героям слава! Glory to heroes! Hilary Burton

## Newmarket 18 bus is 10 years old this summer

The Tuesday and Friday bus between Teversham and Newmarket via Fulbourn, the Wilbrahams and Six Mile Bottom is 10 years old this summer.

It came about because in 2010 the County Council decided to withdraw its subsidy for the then Stagecoach route 17 that ran every two hours on Monday to Saturday from the Fen Estate to Newmarket.

Stagecoach said it could continue to run the 17 on a commercial basis but only between the Fen Estate and Fulbourn, with some journeys on the Citi 1 extended beyond Fulbourn to the Wilbrahams. This meant the very popular shopping journeys to Newmarket would cease.

Back then as the District Councillor for Fulbourn I organised the four parish councils along the route from Teversham to Six Mile Bottom to fight the closure, and together with the Fulbourn Forum, we successfully lobbied the County Council to continue to financially support a limited service, by suggesting that a school bus operator could run a bus between Teversham and Newmarket during the day when the bus and driver was not used.

But with the amount of money the County was prepared to pay, it could only run twice a week. So, I asked passengers what two days would be the most popular

and A&P Travel which was a Bottisham Village College school bus operator started the Tuesday and Friday service as a result.

In 2013 I got the Wadlow Wind Farm to fund a Saturday service to broaden the potential passenger demand, but after a year this had to be withdrawn due to its cost as this was a non-school day. The number of the route had to be changed to 18 when Whippet subsequently took over the contract because at the time it already had a number 17 route!

Now with the creation of the Greater Cambridge Partnership there is a plan to reintroduce a regular bus service between Teversham and Newmarket. Long may our Newmarket bus keep going until then.

Cllr John Williams District Councillor for Fen Ditton and Fulbourn Ward

## Photography awards

The photography section of the Flower Vegetable and Produce Show was well supported with nearly 100 good quality entries. The winners of the individual sections were:

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1st Emily Oliver
 2nd Mary Painter
 3rd Andrew Evans

#### **Night or Low Light**

1<sup>st</sup> Alison Hargreaves

2<sup>nd</sup> Claire Pearl

3rd Martin Daunton

#### Yellow

1st Peter Lawrence2nd Mary Painter3rd Andrew Evans

#### Movement

1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Evans 2<sup>nd</sup> Andrew Evans

3rd Martin Gienke

### **Beauty in Nature**

1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Evans 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter Lawrence 3<sup>rd</sup> Alison Hargreaves



Ian Wilson, who kindly judges the images for us each year will be coming to the Hall on Tuesday 13th September to go through some of the entries and to tell us the reasoning behind his decisions. That meeting will also discuss the restarting of the Wilbrahams photographic Group which meets monthly to discuss aspects of photography and to learn new techniques - come along and have your say!

Chris Fell



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## When I met Royalty Part II

We had a few reminiscences that weren't included in the Summer edition and thought we should continue in this issue.



#### Kath Dawson met the Duke of Edinburgh

I met the Duke of Edinburgh at Newnham college on 9 June 1988. It was a party to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Henry Sidgwick's birth and the 100th anniversary of the Royal opening of clough dining hall. His royal highness the Duke of Edinburgh was a visitor of the college.

Kathleen Dawson

#### Richard Hames When I met the Queen twice

I have been lucky to have actually met the Queen on two occasions:

The first time I met the Queen was 20th February 1991 and I was part of a delegation from a Cambridge start-up company called Datapaq, based on the Cambridge Science Park, and we had just won the Queen's Award for Export and Technology. As the Sales Manager I was the lead member of the delegation to go to Buckingham Palace for the official reception. Together with the Company Secretary and Chief Engineer I drove down to central London allowing plenty of time. I had a Buckingham Palace parking permit so was really looking forward to driving through the gates of the Palace and parking in the grounds. Parking behind a hotel near Hyde Park in the late afternoon we called into the hotel to freshen up before we drove to the Palace. However, about 90 minutes later we got back to the car only to find it had been clamped! No way to sort that one in time and we had to find a taxi to go to the Palace. On entering the Palace we were met by an Equerry who explained the procedure and where we should go. About 150 people were in the large gallery containing many spectacular paintings and at the appointed time the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Kent appeared through a door that was invisible to all but the closest inspection to form the head of the reception line. This line also included The Right Honourable John Major, MP (The Prime Minister), government ministers, members of the Advisory Committee, Ladies in Waiting, Equerries and Private Secretaries plus members of the Royal Household including some minor Royals and senior Military figures including several Lieutenant-Colonels, a Rear Admiral, and a Brigadier. Following the formal reception drinks, cocktails and snacks were provided.

At the end of the reception, we made our way back to where the car was clamped only to find it had been removed to a compound under Hyde Park where I paid the fine and eventually got it released and drove home a lot later than we had originally envisaged. A day of very different experiences!

The second time I met the Queen was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2008 when I was County Commissioner for Cambridgeshire Scouts and at that time also a Trustee Board member of the Scout Association. We were at Baden-Powell House, 65 Queen's Gate, Kensington, London and the Queen was coming to unveil a bust sculptured by Frances Segelman in 2007 as part of our 100th year celebrations. I was introduced



to the Queen by the then Chief Scout, Peter Duncan of Blue Peter fame, and was explaining to her some of our new badges. The particular one we were talking about was part of an environmental series sponsored by Thames Water whose delegation is standing behind me in the picture attached.

Richard Hames

## The Wilbrahams and Six Mile Bottom Vegetable Flower and Produce Show, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2022

It was great to be back in the Hall and for the Show to run 'as normal' again after the last couple of Covid years! A VERY BIG THANK YOU goes to all who contributed to the terrific 711 entries. Also to everyone who came along in the afternoon or who helped support the Show in any way which altogether made it such a great event. There was a lovely atmosphere and a buzz of excitement



with people busy chatting and catching up with old friends and making new ones. It was amazing to see lots of young families and newcomers to the Village . . . and the cricket match outside was a bonus too! Although we've had incessant dry weather for such a long while and conditions have been a real challenge for growers, somehow miraculously the tables were covered with vegetables, fruit and flowers. The Judges were truly impressed. . . especially with the size of a cabbage in the 'any other vegetable' Class, entered as a nudge to resume the cabbage Class which was omitted from the Schedule this year! The array of



magnificent pot plants was staggering and a few of the very large ones were placed outside the entrance which gave a super colourful welcome to the Hall.

The number of entries for the baking Classes in the Produce Section was generally rather sparse but we had fine array of 7 Victoria sandwich

cakes and 5 plates of scones. If anyone has any ideas how to boost this section

please get in touch. On the other hand, the Handicraft Section has really picked up on entries and there were many really exquisite exhibits – please, keep them coming!

Chris Fell managed to rustle up 90 photographs from the Entrants of the Photographic Section which he very kindly and cleverly projected on the Hall wall providing a magnificent rolling display



for everyone to see whilst having tea! Thanks very much to Chris for all he does to organise this section – please see his report for more details.



The School and First Steps Nursery excelled themselves again with their impressive art and craft work which looked fantastic on the display boards giving the Halls a real splash of colour. I really appreciate the commitment of the Staff who amongst their very busy timetable find the time to come up with ideas for the classes to fit in with the School Curriculum and then inspire the children to produce such innovative entries all beautifully

presented. Many thanks to the Parents too, who encouraged their child/children to enter other Classes and to grow the Oopsy Daisy Calendula plants which looked really stunning along the windowsills with their bright orange blooms and vibrant green leaves.

There were lots of keen entrants for the 'Spud in the Bucket' competition and despite tales of woe along the way of failures due to drowned potatoes, leaves dying off or being devoured by creepy crawlies we still had 32 surviving entries. The variety was 'Rocket' and the yield from 1 spud ranged from 38gm to the winning 1.41kg!

The pelargonium plug plant competition also proved popular again, especially between households. They were a bit slow to flower but generally managed a fine display of pink blooms 'on the day' and looked wonderful altogether on the table in the entrance hall.

Many Congratulations to the Winners!

It was great to see some new names on the list and many thanks to Paul Lambton (member of the Hall Committee) who kindly stepped in for the President, Ray Tilbrook, who was sadly unable to attend to award the following trophies:

The Stephenson Cup (highest points in Vegetable section) Roger Rayner

Runner Up: a tie between Emma Adams and Brian Purkiss

Best Vegetable Exhibit: Kathleen Dawson (Cucumber)

The Les Potter Cup: (highest points in the Fruit section: Roger Rayner

Best Fruit Exhibit: Roger Rayner (Rhubarb)

The 'Spud in a bucket' Competition: David Richer

The Brian Fisher Salver (highest points in Flower section): Kathleen Dawson

The Rose Bowl: (Specimen Rose): Dru Goryn

David Waters Memorial Cup (Pelargonium plug plant Competition): Trish Davis The Show Helpers Cup (highest points for Flower Arrangements): Emma Adams Best Flower Exhibit: Jenny Upton (Window box flower arrangement)

The Social Club Cup (highest points in Produce Section): a tie between Emily Lane and Brian Purkiss

2012 Diamond Jubilee Rose Bowl (highest points in Craft Section): Emily Lane Les Potter Cup (Highest points in Photography Section): Andrew Evans Thistle Tankard (highest points in under 12's Section: a tie between Oscar Wilson and Jack Wilson

The Junior Cup (Best exhibit in under 12's Section): Jack Wilson (wooden house)

The Auction is always fun and was led by auctioneer, Nigel Start with help from his Grandson Oliver and raised £78. We really appreciate the donation of exhibits – thanks very much to all of you who did. The highlight of the Auction was a water colour painting by Ian MacManus who grew up in the Village and very generously painted and framed a Wilbraham scene (the allotments backing onto Squires Field) especially for the Show Auction in order to boost funds for the Memorial Hall. The painting raised £90 – many thanks Ian!

The Raffle went well – thanks so much to everyone who provided prizes, including the following local businesses: Great Wilbraham Stores, The Carpenters Arms, Beaumont's Butcher, the Kirin and Co-op Fulbourn, Scotsdale's Garden Centre and Shepreth Wildlife Park. The raffle raised £273.

A great many people are involved and help with the Show and work extremely hard the evening before, setting up the Hall and 'on the day' - I would like to THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH, including the Judges and the dedicated people who deliver the Schedules to your door! A special mention goes to Beryl Monk who over 20 years ago very kindly produced the really beautiful drawings that we use on the Schedule and posters. Also to Pat Nutbourne who created the wonderful painted scarecrow and fruit and veg signs which advertise the Show each year.

Along with some kind monetary donations and people returning their "prize money' overall the Show made £700 for the Hall Fund so thank you everyone so much for your generosity.

As this was my 25<sup>th</sup> year of running the Show I decided it is time to 'step down' and we now are going for a team approach to run next year's Show. We have some volunteers already but if you would like to be involved, please let me know. We do need someone to make new signs advertising the time and date of the Show to be placed at each entrance of the Village. Please contact me if you could help with this or have any other ideas for the Show.

The date of the Show next year is Saturday, 15th JULY

Rosie White Tel 01223 881293 07757982934 email: rosiewhite77@hotmail.com.

## Gardening Club Visit to a Local Hidden Treasure



The club's visit to Childerley Hall Gardens was a club highlight of the year for a lot of us for whom this local hidden treasure was a very pleasant surprise. Set in four acres deep in the countryside, not far from Dry Drayton, Childerley Hall and its gardens, have been beautifully restored by the Jenkins family who acquired the property in a very neglected state some 60 years ago.

We were welcomed by a family member who set us off to enjoy a privileged exploratory tour of the garden, its lake and stunning surprises - life sized elephant art for instance. A special feature of the garden, for which Childerley is

renowned, is its rose garden, stuffed full of a huge variety of fragrant old species. Tea and cakes under the trees followed to round up a well spent gloriously sunny summer afternoon.

Apart from a wide and frequent range of special events the Hall and Gardens are not generally open to the public and it is a popular venue for weddings and parties held in a 19th Century long barn.



If you would like to know more about The Wilbrahams' Gardening Club, please contact <u>jackiebeadsmoore@icloud.com</u> or message 07568 701566.

Jackie Beadsmoore



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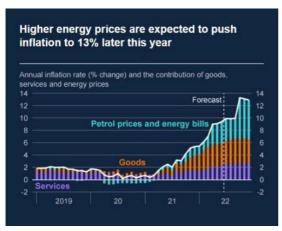
## The Saint Nicholas Great Wilbraham Trust Chairman's Half Yearly Report as at 30 June 2022

To remind those who are not yet familiar with the aims & objectives of this charitable trust (founded in 1988), they are: "To provide capital and income for the preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement, upkeep, beautification and restoration of the Church and of any monument fitting fixture-stained glass organ or bell in the Church but excluding the churchyard adjoining the Church".

Today the trustees' strategy is to preserve all capital donations (and grow their value by at least CPI inflation each year), and from the preserved capital to generate £10,000+ income pa. Some of this income is passed on to the Church's Fabric Committee to help meet the Church Architect's Quinquennial Report (5 yearly) on all the repairs and maintenance required and on the upkeep of the building. It also includes funds for improvements, such as the recent conversion of the church tower into a ground floor kitchen area & disabled wc; raising the bell floor to first floor for the bell ringers; the electric space heating and the interior redecoration of the walls. The remainder is added to any "special" donations & grants for major repairs and improvements to the church.

Since 2021 there has been the maximum of five trustees responsible for the running of the trust, made up by local parishioners living in the village of Great Wilbraham plus our Reverend Alice of Fulbourn, The Wilbrahams and Six Mile Bottom.

As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, the Trust's Legacy Capital Fund was valued at £228,402, showing a significant fall of around 12% from its capital value of £259,782 as at 31 March 2022. However, that has been unavoidable and very much in line with the Global Bear Market fall over the same period. It is hoped, by all, that the current Global Bear Market is at or near its end, and that it will soon turn for the



better. It has been reported that the first half of 2022 has been the stock market's worst first half performance since 1970, and with the current Consumer Prices Index of inflation at around 10% pa and rising, it is echoing what was going on in the early 1970s, fifty plus years ago. Then on 4<sup>th</sup> August the Governor of the Bank of England gave a deeply worrying forecast of inflation increasing to over 13% pa later this year:

Meanwhile, over the past quarter, the fund has generated £2,343 more of dividend income, which, if added to the Q1's dividend income of £3,145, totals £5,488, still covering 2022's target of £10,000+ pa.

Today, the trust's available cash for St Nicholas Church amounts to £8,500.

The trustees continue to be very thankful to those who make one off donations and to those who are making regular contributions to the Trust via banker's standing orders, which currently produces an extra regular income of around £1,500 pa (including the Gift Aid Tax Refund if you are a taxpayer).

We hope (post Covid) to start up again some fund-raising events later this year and will let you know with as much notice as possible.

For further information on how to make donations and how to contribute most efficiently to the Trust's Capital Legacy Fund, please contact our treasurer, Tony Ryan, who may be contacted via email: <a href="mailto:lyansan@btinternet.com">lyansan@btinternet.com</a> or myself via email: <a href="mailto:graham@clarkesresidential.co.uk">graham@clarkesresidential.co.uk</a>.

With my best wishes, Graham Clarke, chairman ... written on Monday 8th August 2022.



## Fulbourn Village Library, Haggis Gap, CB21 5HD (next to the Health Centre)

Fulbourn Village Library is now open on Monday afternoons 3-5pm, Tuesday afternoons 3-5pm, Thursday afternoons 3-5pm, Friday afternoons 3-5pm and Saturday mornings 10-12 noon. Unfortunately, we are unable to return yet to our pre-pandemic opening hours of 7 sessions each week.

For those of you who are not aware of us, the County-run Library was closed in Fulbourn by the County Council in 2003 and it has been run by volunteers since then. The library was next to the Primary School in School Lane but moved to The Swifts in Haggis Gap in 2009.

Although we are volunteer run, we are still connected to Cambridgeshire Libraries and use the same computer system. Therefore people can return books to us that they borrowed elsewhere in the County, and they can request books from Countyrun libraries for collection at our Library. There is a small charge of 50p per book for adult borrowers, but this service is free for children. We have a delivery once a week on a Thursday.

We have a good selection of books for you to choose from, so why not visit us to see what we have to offer. We also have a large number of jigsaws available for loan.

We hold a Book Sale on the 1st Saturday of each month from 10am – 12noon (during Library opening hours). Paperbacks 50p, hardbacks £1, children's books 30p each, or 4 for £1.

We have also resumed our Storytime sessions, for children aged 6 and under, on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10.30am - 11am.

For further information please visit our website – fulbournlibrary.weebly.com

## A View from the Garden

What a difference a few weeks makes. I missed writing for the last issue, but it would have been upbeat, talking about success with autumn-sown beans, onions and cabbages and the crops of strawberries, gooseberries, blackcurrants etc. Early sowings of carrots, parsnips and leeks started well, but our last significant rain was June 4th when I recorded 17mm in an overnight downpour. Since then, almost non-existent rainfall along with extraordinary high temperatures have transformed the landscape. I started the season with over 4000 litres of stored rainwater, but it's now used up and a limited ability to irrigate with a hosepipe has forced me to make some hard choices. The lawns (sorry, grassed areas) are never watered. The same goes for the flower borders and fruit trees, but I've also stopped watering the potatoes and onions and concentrating my efforts on the runner beans, courgettes and leeks.

As always, a period of extremes has its casualties, and this drought is no exception. It will certainly pick on the trees and shrubs with weak root systems and reveal the plants that are well-suited to coping with very little moisture. A visit to the Botanic Gardens in Cambridge in the first week of August was an eye-opener. It seems that they too have a limited capacity to irrigate, and many plants had already succumbed and others were severely affected. In general, the survivors were tough-leaved evergreens and dry land species like Verbascums and Echuim. On the plus side, I've not had to cut the grass or trim the hedge and it's given me the opportunity to put a new cover on my poly-tunnel. A small team of willing friends and neighbours helped me to stretch the plastic over the metal frame when the air temperature went over 27 degrees to produce a nice tight finish. Hopefully it will last another 12 years. Finally, I've not forgotten about the wildlife and the garden pond has been a focal point for all sorts of creatures desperate for a drink or as a refuge to keep cool.

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## Big wins.....and narrow defeats.

The 2022 season has been an absolute run-fest for Wilbrahams' Cricket Club. As I write (11 August) we sit in second place in CCA Senior 2, one point ahead of Fulbourn who we have yet to play at home. In the fifteen 45-over games we have played so far, we have scored 200 or more on no less than thirteen occasions. Three times we have scored over 300 (303/4, 329/6 and 307/4). If anyone can remember when a Wilbrahams' side scored 300 or more, please let me know.

Most of our ten victories have been overwhelming (by more than 100 runs five times, and by more than 5 wickets three times). Four of our five defeats have been very tight, notably the two losses to league leaders Bluntisham who beat us by one wicket and 4 runs respectively.

There is no doubt the weather has contributed significantly to this run-fest. Hard wickets and fast outfields make a big difference. Huge thanks here to Goryn and Son for maintaining our wicket so well in the hot weather, which some of our opponents have failed to do on their patch.

Needless to say there have been some notable batting performances. Usually I report a few 50's and maybe a century or two. In 2022, with three games to go,



there have been no less than twenty scores of 50 or more. Five of these were centuries (Ollie Drake 112 and 124 not out, George Moore 125 and 109, and Joel Gawthrop 117 not out) and there was a further magnificent 221 not out from Ollie. Spare a thought for the bowlers in such conditions. Ben De'Ath's 5 for 39 against Bluntisham is the highlight.

We've smartened up the ground too. 'Viv's View' is a splendid new commemorative bench made by George Moore in memory of Vivien Wilson, who was a loyal fan for many years. The new electronic scoreboard surveys the scene majestically from the balcony. Many thanks to the Parish Council for the initial scoreboard funding, to Dave Chapman for the steel fabrication and to Steve Drake, our shirt sponsor, for the electrics. We are still blessed with the best cricket teas, even though the League, sadly, now allows clubs to opt out.

Judging by the number of Wilbrahams' spectators who come to watch, home and away, I am not the only one who has really enjoyed the cricket this year. The highlight for me has to be the 198 that Ollie Drake (star bat, 220 not out) and Andy Goryn (58 not out, never having scored 50 before, ever) put on for the sixth wicket when we were in trouble against Cambourne. Here's hoping the rest of the season is just as good.

Roddy Tippen Chairman, Wilbrahams' Cricket Club



The Climate Crisis, the supply and cost of fuel/power to the UK and the need to "green" our environment seem set to continue to be dominant concerns for us all, internationally, nationally and locally. WEG is doing all it can to provide practical and relevant information about these themes and to encourage others, particularly our Parish, District and County Councils and the Greater Cambridge Partnership, to work with residents to improve our local environment.

#### **Open Evenings**

"Your Household Energy – save money, save energy and save the Planet" was the title of the third in our series of Open Evenings back in June. Speakers from our Committee gave practical presentations about how to insulate your home; the merits of Solar Panels and storage batteries; living with Air Source Heat Pumps. Ian Cumming then gave a typically fun presentation on how to use less gas/electricity while cooking and we ate the proof that "it can be done."

Videos of the Open Evenings are available on YouTube at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5937dSdcEjw">www.youtube.com/watch?v=5937dSdcEjw</a>. After a break for the Summer we hope to organise further Open Evenings – keep an eye out for posters etc.

#### **New Hope for Cycle Paths**

We may be getting somewhere with this campaign! County Council officers, influenced by the strength of feeling in the Wilbrahams revealed by our Cycling Survey and by a large number of responses (including a detailed one from WEG) to its Active Travel Consultation, have told us that the Wilbrahams will "definitely" feature in a revised Active Travel Strategy to be presented to the relevant Council Committee this Autumn. WEG, County Councillor Claire Daunton and LW Parish Councillor Robert McCubbin met a number of Council Officers recently to look at the practicalities of a cycle route over Short Drove LW towards Cambridge, as well as routes from our villages to Bottisham and to Fulbourn. We will certainly not get all three but, fingers crossed, something will emerge.

#### Solar Farm Update

Early in August we had a meeting, at their request, with the intended developers of a new Solar Farm on land between the A11 and the A14. A planning application is likely to be submitted within the next couple of months. Although the site is not actually within our parish boundaries it will affect us during construction and connection to the National Grid – which will require new cabling

all the way to Cherry Hinton! We have already suggested various additions and changes to the "biodiversity management plan" and other aspects of the scheme - and the developers appear to be receptive to local knowledge and constructive criticism. We expect to continue to be involved: if you have expertise or particular interest in this site, please get in touch with us!

#### **Trees**

The exceptionally dry weather (perhaps it is no longer "exceptional"?) is a challenge for the trees which we have planted in the past year — and we have been trying to keep them watered. The new oak trees up Butt Lane/Street Way have been difficult to reach with water but, with some additional help from our local farmers, we think they are surviving. Of the ten new trees along The Lanes one has died, and another is really struggling — perhaps that is a reasonable "success rate"? Here is a photo of the oak tree we planted in the school field — doing well!

#### **Climate Change**

We have asked the new GW Parish Council (and will also be asking the LW



Parish Council) in all their decision-making to take into account the need to tackle, at our local level, Climate Change and its effect upon our environment. We are looking hard at the extent of Biodiversity locally and hope to present some ideas during the Autumn.

#### **Car-Sharing**

We at WEG had this idea in mind but Aga Hextall has beaten us to it. We support it and are giving it some publicity here. There is now a Facebook Group "Great Wilbraham – Car Share and Green Rides": the idea is to offer to other members of the Group a lift on your way out of the village to work, college, Cambridge, maybe shopping etc. Great for helping others without their own transport, and for the Environment by reducing the number of car journeys. Give it a try! And have a look too at Aga's other creation on Facebook "Wilbrahams Recycle/Free to Good Home" – the title says it all, really

#### Join us! Tell us what interests you!!

We are keen to involve everyone, young and old. Have a look at our section of the Wilbrahams website or contact us <a href="www.wilbrahams.co.uk/information/weg">www.wilbrahams.co.uk/information/weg</a> or contact us by email <a href="wilbrahamseg@gmail.com">wilbrahamseg@gmail.com</a> or ring 07594 601205 (Nick Toovey)

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Football and from parties to facilities' hire. Our pool timetable is subject to change and is available to find on our website. The waiting list for Judo and swimming lessons are open. The fitness suite remains open for membership users and day passes. There will be opportunities for lifeguard courses coming soon, so keep your eyes peeled for such opportunities! Your vision is our command, so get in touch with us to enquire and even book at the same time.

Email: bottisham@anglianleisure.co.uk Phone: 01223 811121

Website: <a href="https://bottishamvc.org/sports-centre/">https://bottishamvc.org/sports-centre/</a>

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 $\underline{https://anglianleisure.leisurecloud.net/joinathome/MemberRegistration.asp}$ 

x?refresh=637955739093968216

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https://anglianleisure.leisurecloud.net/Connect/mrmLogin.aspx

## Care Network Cambridgeshire receives Friendly Tick



Care Network Cambridgeshire has been awarded Caring Together's Carer Friendly Tick Award (Employers), in recognition of their work to identify and support carers who are part of their workplace.

The award was decided by a panel of carers who assessed the submission on behalf of Caring Together. Caring Together supports people caring for family members or friends across Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Norfolk.

Care Network, a charity that provides information and practical support to empower people and communities to improve independence, health and wellbeing, is supported by a team of volunteers working across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Their roles range from helping people settle back at home safely after a hospital stay, to offering Check and Chat support to people at risk of loneliness, isolation, and low mood.

Susie Willis, chief executive officer at Care Network Cambridgeshire said, "At Care Network Cambridgeshire we recognise the vital contribution carers make to support individuals, families, and wider society.

## Help for St John's and St George's

It was always curious that the Wilbrahams should have three churches, the two largest only about a quarter of a mile apart. This, though is a feature of the Norman manorial structure, reflecting in turn the wish of Norman carpetbaggers to cash in on the rich resources of the area. Churches weren't built to be filled with worshippers. They were built for the glory of God and to demonstrate the power of the people who built them, that is to say, the local landowners. Their tenants attended their particular church, which is why we now also have the beautiful little 1930s church in Six Mile Bottom, commissioned originally for the estate workers for whom the trek down to St John the Evangelist every Sunday was a bit much, and who were meeting in the school instead.

For years people have puzzled over how best to preserve the life of our churches: churches that are well-loved, but not well-attended, and which require the time and energy of volunteers to keep them going. When the same small group of people do this over many years, it is inevitably exhausting. In the case of Little Wilbraham, the situation was made worse by the arrival on the scene of two major problems: the need for major structural repair to the south wall, window, and pediment, and the covid pandemic. The repairs cost something in the region of £125,000, and we are grateful to those who contributed towards them and to those

others who applied for grants, which covered the greater part of the work. However, the money that the church runs on, that pays for the insurance and the utilities and the bread and wine and candles and the parish share was not forthcoming. How could it be? Little Wilbraham is known for its marvellous Fete, and for its exquisite open garden days and lunches. None of these things could take place during the pandemic. And so the parish's income stream dried up. The situation seemed hopeless, and a rumour went around about the legal position of the members of the Parochial Church Council, and the church wardens. Were they, or were they not each personally liable for the debts of the PCC?

In point of fact, they were not. The Church of England, individually and collectively, alongside other mainstream denominations, has been recognised as a charity by the Charity Commission. When the Charity Commission recognises an organisation as a charity, it accepts both the charitable purpose of the organisation and the means by which it is governed: that is, its constitution.

Because of the legal structure of the Church of England and its parochial church council systems, the individual PCC member is not in the same position as the general instruction given for the position of trustee by the Charity Commission. I will quote some sentences from the

website <a href="https://churchofengland.org/">https://churchofengland.org/</a> under the heading "Parochial Church Councils: Legal Position of Members":

'PCC members have the duty of protecting the assets of the charity; to show a reasonable degree of care and skill in administration of the charity (such as taking professional advice where appropriate); to not receive financial benefit from the charity, directly or indirectly; to not take advantage of information or knowledge acquired by being a PCC member/trustee; and not to put themselves in a position of "conflict of interest". Some charitable trusts, where the trustees could be personally liable, take out an insurance policy to protect individual trustees if something goes wrong. But there is no significant need for a PCC to do this.

At the annual parochial church meeting of the Parish of Little Wilbraham and Six Mile Bottom both church wardens and the entire PCC stepped down from their posts on the advice of the treasurer. To paraphrase Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, 'To lose one church warden may be thought of as a misfortune. To lose both looks like carelessness.' Not to mention the PCC, of course. How I wished they had come and spoken to me, or to one of the other people who could have reliably relieved them of their worries!

As I reflect on the matter now, it seems to me that this crisis point in the lives of our churches has been coming along the road for years. So much to do, done by so few for so many years. So many worries and tasks on so few shoulders. And yet I firmly believe that there are people in our villages and beyond who care for St John the Evangelist, Little Wilbraham and St George's Six Mile Bottom, and

who would be willing to step forward to reimagine what their lives might be. What new things might we do at St John's? How might we use St George's? What kinds of services might we have? How might we better serve our villages? Early in October on the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup> or the 11<sup>th</sup>, the Archdeacon of Cambridge, the Ven Alex Hughes, the Chairman of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, Mr Geoffrey Hunter, and I will be convening a public meeting at St John's to discuss the future of our churches. This is the Archdeacon's message:

From the Archdeacon of Cambridge: I am grateful for an invitation to visit Little Wilbraham for an open meeting to discuss the future of the Parish Church. The evening will include a presentation about the current situation and some options for the future, with plenty of time for questions and general discussion. I very much hope that the collective will and wisdom of the village will enable us to identify some positive next steps. Please come!

Alice Goodman

Vicar of Great Wilbraham Rector of Little

## **Church Welcomes Cantilena Singers**

St Nicholas' Church, Great Wilbraham was delighted to host a concert for The Cantilena Singers in July - Les Chanson des Roses. It was very much enjoyed by an appreciative local audience, and we are hoping that they will return very soon. Our Church has good acoustics and is becoming more and more appreciated as a venue for small choirs and music ensembles as well as small drama productions.

The Church now has effective heating and good lavatory and kitchen facilities, so if anyone knows of any local groups seeking a performance or rehearsal venue, we may be of use to them. St Nicholas' even provided a cool haven for our local school during the recent heatwave when some classes moved into the church for respite from the scorching temperatures.

jackiebeadsmoore@icloud.com or message 07568 701566.



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## Coffee & Cake Concerts Holy Trinity Church Bottisham

I am delighted to report that we have arranged three more of the highly popular coffee and cake concerts on Saturday mornings for the next few months. On Saturday let October the exceptional and well known professional

Saturday 1st October the exceptional and well known professional

songwriter/folksinger Jancis Harvey (<a href="www.jancis-harvey.co.uk">www.jancis-harvey.co.uk</a> ), formally a resident of Bottisham, has kindly agreed to come and entertain us. Jancis has performed for many years in a variety of BBC radio programmes and has given numerous concerts in a wide variety of venues throughout the world. She has made many recordings and these will be available to purchase at the concert. Many of these can be heard by logging onto her website when the quality of her playing and singing can be really appreciated.



On November 5th a very well known duo will be performing a programme of songs and words about England entitled "England, our England." Rex Freeman sang his first solo when he was four, entered and won his first competition when he was nine, and has sung as a soloist ever since - he is now 92 and still performs about twenty times a year. His main hobby has been directing over 100 musicals in the ADC and Arts Theatres in Cambridge. He will be accompanied by



Rosemary Wheeler who commenced piano lessons at the age of five and has enjoyed a lifetime of making music, entertaining the troops stationed in the area where she lived. When she moved to Cambridge, she became involved with three operatic societies as their rehearsal accompanist. Rosemary (now 94 years old) is still in demand, accompanying various singers and occasionally playing solos as well as duets with another pianist. As the

accompanist of the Cambridge Gilbert and Sullivan Society for many years she was also privileged to accompany many of the D'Oyly Carte principal singers when they performed in Cambridge

Finally on December 3rd I will give a talk entitled 'The History of our Christmas Carols', play my violin and will be joined by Sarah Maxwell (soprano) and Jonathan Giles (keyboard). Put the dates in your diary now. The concerts will start at 10.30am, last just over an hour and entry will be £5 (children free), to include coffee and cake. Money raised will go towards the church building fund.

All are welcome.

Stuart Field, Churchwarden

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Little Wilbraham, Manor Close	07.04	08.04
Great Wilbraham, Carpenters Arms	07.08	80.80
Cambridge Drummer Street D2	07.42	08.42
Cambridge Drummer Street D1	17.39	17.39
Great Wilbraham, Carpenters Arms	18.13	18.13
Little Wilbraham, Manor Close	18.17	18.17
Six Mile Bottom, London Road	18.23	18.23

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