



VILLAGE VOICE

BRINKLEY.....BURROUGH GREEN.....CARLTON
WESTLEY WATERLESS



DECEMBER 2025

BRINKLEY CHRISTMAS CARD 2025

Last call for entries in the Brinkley Christmas Card 2025. The last time you may sign up will be Dec 6th at the Winter Fair, in the Memorial Hall.

If you already have a form, please give it either to Ros, at 18, Green Park; or Trish, at Tree Tops, High Street. I need this for accounting purposes, and also to find out how you wish to be named in the card. If you don't have a form, please ring Ros (01638 507240) and I will drop one off to you.

We are raising money for our church, and also for the charity St Nicholas Hospice.

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**WINTER FAIR**  
**SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**  
**12noon to 2.30pm**  
**BRINKLEY MEMORIAL HALL**

Come along and have lunch.  
There will be Homemade soup  
and Sausage in a bun,  
followed by Mince Pies  
and Chocolate Brownies.




Gift Stall -  
Christmas stalls  
Cakes - Tombola - Raffle Games




Chance to win a lovely homemade  
Christmas Cake  
**COME AND SEE THE BRINKLEY  
CHRISTMAS CARD**  
**YOUR LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP**  
**Please support this fund-raising event  
for your village church,  
St Mary's, Brinkley.**

If you have items, small cakes, gifts, and bottles, that you could donate to the fair, or can help run a stall, it would be much appreciated.

You can bring items to the hall before 11.00am on 6<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

Please contact Trish on 01638 507495, or Ros on 01638 507240

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CHRISTMAS BRUNCH **Sunday 14th December** **in Burrough Green Reading Room** **9 - 11.00am**



£8 adult, £4 under 12s

Includes a glass of Prosecco

Booking essential

via Joanne Harrison 01638 508888

Festive Raffle

Come and support your village hall!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a
Happy and Healthy New Year.



BRINKLEY COFFEE AND CAKES **MONDAY 8th December and**



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION **on MONDAY 22nd December** **10.30 am to 12 noon** **Brinkley Memorial Hall**



All welcome to pop in and catch up whilst sampling home made cakes, with Christmas treats and fun on 22nd December



Any Queries: Caroline Egar - 01638 507418 / 07976 250961

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## **R. D. JAGGARD**

This year we are not selling from the yard in Burrough Green.

Instead we are taking orders for delivery. Please book early to avoid disappointment.



07766 566226

rdjaggardandson@btinternet.com

01638 507330

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DON'T FORGET - CHRISTMAS FAYRE

BURROUGH GREEN READING ROOM **Saturday 29th November 2025**

10.30 - 15.00

Have a browse through the gifts, enjoy some retail therapy



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**BRINKLEY BELLS**

There will be a quarter peal rung on Saturday December 6th, from 3.30 - 4.30pm by a team of visiting bell ringers.


**Candlelit Service  
of  
Carols & Readings**


**St Augustine's, Burrough Green  
SUNDAY, 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 6 PM  
2025**



All welcome

Mulled wine and mince pies  
following the service

**'ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL'**

**Progress report**

Funds continue to be raised by generous local residents to repair part of the ancient 16th Century flint wall with brick coping at

**St. Mary's church, Brinkley.**

**Specialist work has now begun and the wall is taking on its original shape and condition once again.**

We would like to thank you all for your very generous donations. However, we do need to continue to fundraise for this important preservation work.

**\*\*\* Donations can still be made as follows: \*\*\***

By cheque, or BACS to: Brinkley PCC  
Sort Code: 60 15 47 Acct: 44335059  
(Ref: brick followed by your name)

For more info please email: [rospates@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rospates@yahoo.co.uk) or  
mobile: 07368 968412

**Please do walk up to the church and see the work in progress**

**YOUR HELP WILL BE APPRECIATED BY  
GENERATIONS TO COME**

**GAMES EVENINGS**

Sheriff's Court in Burrough Green are hosting Games Evenings every Tuesday evening from 7pm.

Come along and play Scrabble, Rummikub, Upwords, Boggle or Mahjong for example. No expertise required. Tea & biscuits included. £2

**ALL WELCOME**

**SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

**6pm**

**St Mary's Church Brinkley**



**Service of 9 Lessons and Carols**

**Featuring  
Rubato Recorders**



Enjoy Mulled wine and mince pies  
after the service.  
**ALL WELCOME**



**BOOK AND JIGSAW EXCHANGE - BRINKLEY**



Please pop into the church porch to use the book and jigsaw exchange.



Feel free to borrow a book or jigsaw and return it when you have finished or replace it with another. Donations of clean, readable modern or classic novels and auto/biographies would be greatly appreciated. Complete jigsaws only please.

[denisehrebniak@yahoo.com](mailto:denisehrebniak@yahoo.com)

**St Peter's Church Stetchworth  
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**



**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
2.00 - 4.30 pm**

Come and see the Christmas Trees that have been decorated by Community Groups.

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies  
Raffle, Cake and Jam stall

**Entertainment from the Kettlefields School choir  
and The Kitchen Choir**

**RECYCLING**

**Carlton & Willingham Green - Wednesdays :**

Black bin - 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> December.

Blue & Green - 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> December

Blue Bin only 31<sup>st</sup> December

**Brinkley, Burrough Green, Westley Waterless - Mondays**

Black sacks weekly (Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December)

Blue Lid - 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Green Lid - 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

**BRINKLEY RED LION**

Another year creeps towards the end, and I am delighted to be approaching the pub's second Christmas since opening! I will be opening the pub on Christmas Day for drinks only from 11:30 until 13:00 but will not be offering any food. As with last year, the dining room tables will be unlaidd to provide extra space to sit down for those who'd like, or if the bar is similarly busy to last year!



I have been delighted with how consistently busy we have become on Sundays, so do please get in touch soon for any Sunday plans before Christmas, and in a similar line, our Private Room has been picking up well for larger parties (up to 12). December's menu will be going online this week, and will start from the 1st December, running until New Year's Eve when there will be a couple of specials to go alongside our dining menu. I will keep the pub open until 1am, with last orders at half-past midnight.

We now have a cocktail menu available alongside our drinks list, while on the back of the cocktail menu we have a list of 'Fine Reds' for those who'd like some additional options at the top-end of the red list!

After a successful Taco night last year, there will be a repeat evening on Monday 29th December to split up the gap between Christmas and New Year! I hope it can provide a fun evening with a busy bar for all to enjoy over the festive period!

It's been a pleasure to be here for our first full calendar year, and I hope we can welcome plenty of you through December and into the New Year!

Best

George      www.redlionbrinkley.com  
                 info@redlionbrinkley.com  
                 01638 650 879  
                 redlion\_brinkley

**MOBILE LIBRARY**

The Mobile Library will be at BURROUGH GREEN by the BUS STOP on 3<sup>rd</sup> THURSDAY of each month at 3.50 - 4.10pm



BRINKLEY MEMORIAL HALL on the 4<sup>th</sup> THURSDAY of each month between 1.10pm - 1.50pm. They stock a great selection of books for all ages, plus NHS hearing aid batteries. Make use of this wonderful resource.

**DULLINGHAM COMMUNITY LUNCH**

Starting on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January and continuing throughout the year on the first Tuesday of each month, there will be a community lunch in the Taylor Hall, Dullingham, Time 12-3pm. All Welcome.

If you need help with transport or if you have any special dietary needs and would like to come please contact Ann Johnson on 01638 507736.

**THE BULL BURROUGH GREEN**



We would like to wish everyone a Happy festive season as it's almost upon us.

We have a few places left for party booking over December; a 2 course meal is available or just party food you can choose what works for you guys.

We are offering Xmas dinners on Sundays during the month of December. It is by booking only as I do get full so please call 01638 476424 to avoid disappointment.

We have just one speed quiz left for this year which is on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, also *Play your Cards Right* which has a kitty now of £300.00. Come and try your luck if you dare.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE FROM ALL OF US  
AT THE BULL IN BURROUGH GREEN

*Danny and Tina*

Check us out on our facebook page ..instagram ..... or .....our Web page bullburroughgreen.com for up-and-coming events.

**PETER AND RUTH LLOYD TRUST - AWARD 2026**

Yes, incredibly another year has flown past! We are now inviting applications for pupils starting university in September 2026. Normally one scholarship is awarded each year to the amount of £1000.

Broadly speaking the degree course should be from one of the following:- Architecture, Engineering, Geography, History, Law, Mathematics, Sciences, Education, Medicine, Nursing and Veterinary Medicine. But all will be considered.

The applicant should be living in one of the parishes bordering the old RAF Wrattling Common airfield - Great & Little Thurlow, West Wickham, Carlton cum Willingham, West Wrattling, Weston Colville and Withersfield. The award is intended to be of assistance in the purchase of books, materials, equipment etc. The final decision and award will be made immediately after 'A' Level results & University offer are confirmed. For further information about the trust and the award please contact: Jonathan Drury -01223 290087 For an application form please apply via email to: peter.ruthlloydtrust@sky.com The application form & supporting documents must be received at the latest by 5th April 2026

**VILLAGE WEBSITES**

- [www.westleywaterless.com](http://www.westleywaterless.com)
- [www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk)
- [www.brinkleyparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.brinkleyparishcouncil.org.uk)
- [carltoncumwillinghampc.org.uk](http://carltoncumwillinghampc.org.uk)

Information on the facilities of each village and also back issues of Village Voice newsletter and the adverts.

## WADLOW WIND FARM COMMUNITY FUND SUPPORTING LOCAL PROJECTS

Did you know? Local groups and organisations within 5 miles of Wadlow Wind Farm can apply for grants of up to £10,000 to support community projects!

Recent grants have helped:

- Great Wilbraham Over 60s enjoy excursions including a boat trip and festive celebration (£4,500).
- West Wratting Village Hall improved acoustics with a new damping system (£4,574.40).
- Meadow Primary School PTA replaced unsafe playground equipment for younger children (£9,426).

If you're part of a non-profit group in Balsham, Brinkley, Carlton, Fulbourn, Great Wilbraham, Little Wilbraham, Six Mile Bottom, Weston Colville, or West Wratting, your project could be next!

□ Next deadline: 1 February 2026

□ Apply online: [www.cambscf.org.uk/funds](http://www.cambscf.org.uk/funds)

## KINGSWAY SOLAR COMMUNITY ACTION

It's been a busy month.

We've published a report on land use and solar energy, drawing on new modelling by Tony Day showing that large-scale solar offers limited grid benefits. We've promoted the #AskEd campaign with Stop Oversized Solar, challenging the government's renewable-energy strategy.

We issued an Open Letter to Ed Miliband in response to the government's claim that 76% of the public "wouldn't mind" living next to a solar farm. We also contacted George Freeman MP following the APPGSTA report *Feeding Britain Sustainably to 2050*, which warns that current land-use policies risk undermining UK food security.

We are continuing to encourage our MP to engage more fully with the inadequacies of the consultation process, which has left many residents feeling poorly informed.

During the consultation phase we strengthened our links with communities along the grid-connection corridor, and we are now working with BEAT (Burwell Energy Awareness Team) to help maintain pressure on these issues.

Keep an eye on our News page for the latest updates, announcements and links to useful resources: [kingswayaction.org/news](http://kingswayaction.org/news)

It has also been a busy month for wildlife, with sightings of golden plover and lapwings near the Fleam Dyke as winter migration gets underway. Please continue to log any wildlife observations on iRecord, particularly along the grid connection corridor. Every record counts.

We are working closely with the Parish Council Alliance who are seeking legal representation, which will be critical in the next stage. Our Crowd Justice fundraiser supports this effort. This ensures that donations only go towards a fully-funded case, with

automatic refunds if targets aren't met. Every pledge, large or small, helps.

Finally, a note on sign thefts. During the consultation it was wonderful to see so many signs, banners and stickers displayed. Unfortunately, after some early incidents, we've now had further reports of signs being taken. These are expensive to produce and funded entirely through your donations. If signs are removed from private land, please report it to the police and request an incident number. This helps us build a clearer picture of what's happening.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and thank you for your support throughout 2025.

Useful links

- Join KSCA: [kingswaysolarcommunityaction.co.uk/how-to-join-us](http://kingswaysolarcommunityaction.co.uk/how-to-join-us)
- Request a sticker: [hello@kingswayaction.org](mailto:hello@kingswayaction.org)
- Support our campaign: [gofund.me/no-to-kingsway-solar-farm](https://gofund.me/no-to-kingsway-solar-farm)
- Contribute to legal funds: [crowdjustice.com/case/kingswaysolarcommunitylegalaction](https://crowdjustice.com/case/kingswaysolarcommunitylegalaction)
- Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: [#kingswaysolaraction](https://www.facebook.com/kingswaysolaraction)

**Kathy Day**

## BALSHAM PICTURE HOUSE

**Saturday Dec 6<sup>th</sup>** we will celebrate Christmas early with the film and all drinks and festive nibbles FREE on the House. Doors open 7pm and film at 7.30 in Balsham Church Institute

### BALSHAM PICTURE HOUSE



**PIRATES of the CARIBBEAN  
AT WORLD'S END**

After losing Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) to the locker of Davy Jones (Bill Nighy), the team of Will Turner (Orlando Bloom), Elizabeth Swan (Keira Knightley) and Captain Barbossa (Geoffrey Rush) make their final alliances with the pirate world to take on the forces of Lord Cutler Beckett (Tom Hollander) and his crew, including Davy Jones, who he now controls. It's not going to be easy, as they must rescue Sparrow, convince the pirate lords to join them and defeat Beckett, whilst each pirate has their own route to follow.

**Sat. Dec 6<sup>th</sup> Doors open 7pm**

A swashbuckling fantasy adventure film which won lots of Oscars and is rated 12 so bring the kids along as well. It's a longish film so will have a mid film break to recharge our glasses etc.

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

**NEWS FROM THE ELLESMERE CENTRE**

**THE POST OFFICE**

The Post Office remains closed.

We will post updates on the Ellesmere Facebook page as soon as we have any information.

**THE ELLESMERE CENTRE COMMUNITY SHOP**

In the meantime, the shop remains open as usual Monday to Friday from 9 am until 12 noon

Fresh bread, pastries and delicious sausage rolls delivered Tuesdays and Thursdays. Newspapers can be reserved and a good range of groceries and sundries stocked all served by our friendly volunteer staff.

**NEW GENTLE PILATES CLASS**

Starting January

**FREE TATSTER SESSION THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup>  
JANUARY 2-3pm**

Contact [gentlepilatesclasses@gmail.com](mailto:gentlepilatesclasses@gmail.com)  
Or Contact Charlotte on 07889 679945



The Staff and Trustees would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Email: [office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk](mailto:office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk)  
Web Site [www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk](http://www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk)  
Alternatively call us on 01638 508212

**CAMBRIDGE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE BULLETIN**

**Get your chimney swept and keep your home fire safe!**

The Service attends around 100 fires a year involving chimneys, most of which could be avoided by following some simple safety tips:

- Appoint a skilled and technically competent chimney engineer. To find your nearest local HETAS Approved Chimney Sweep visit: <https://www.hetas.co.uk/find-chimney-sweep/>
- Keep the flue shafts clear and ensure they are well maintained
- Only use properly treated wood to build a fire
- Always use a fireguard to protect against flying sparks from hot embers
- Make sure embers are properly put out before you go to bed.

We always advise getting your chimney swept at least once a year, preferably before lighting it for the first time when the cold weather arrives. There could be a buildup of debris that's accumulated over the year, which can be set alight when heating the home and could cause a significant fire.

Some will also be looking at using a chimney for the first time, that may not have been used for many years. It is really important to make sure it is swept and inspect the brickwork before lighting it for the first time.

**Stay fire safe in your kitchen**

More than half the fires crews attend in the home start in the kitchen. This can be down to a number of things.

Below are some simple safety tips to help you stay fire safe in the kitchen:

- Avoid leaving children in the kitchen alone when cooking on the hob. Keep matches and saucepan handles out of their reach to keep them safe
- Take care if you're wearing loose clothing - this can easily catch fire
- Keep tea towels and cloths away from the cooker and hob
- Double check the cooker is off when you've finished cooking
- Don't store items on top of hobs
- Take care if you need to leave the kitchen whilst cooking, take pans off the heat or turn them down to avoid risk
- Make sure saucepan handles don't stick out - so they don't get knocked off the stove
- Keep electrics (leads and appliances) away from water
- Check toasters are clean and placed away from curtains and kitchen rolls
- Keep the oven, hob and grill clean and in good working order. A build-up of fat and grease can ignite a fire.

**Help your local community - become an on-call firefighter!**

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is looking to recruit more on-call firefighters to help local communities by responding to emergencies.

On-call firefighters are a vital part of your fire and rescue service. They respond to a wide range of incidents, from fighting fires and attending road traffic collisions to rescuing people and animals in need. They also respond to medical emergencies.

In addition to responding to emergency incidents, on-call firefighters support their communities by providing a range of safety advice helping people to keep safe in their homes.

Being an on-call firefighter has many benefits. As well as being paid an annual wage and for the time spent at incidents or training, there are also opportunities to develop first aid skills and heavy good vehicle driving qualifications.

Find out more about becoming an on-call firefighter by visiting our website: <https://bit.ly/CFRSONcall>

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DULLINGHAM FLOWER CLUB

Thursday 11th December 2025

8pm

The Taylor Hall, Dullingham. CB8 9XE
**Come & enjoy an evening of festive fun
with a Two course supper and quiz**
**SUPPER MUST BE PREBOOKED BEFORE THE
NIGHT**

Admission £18

Please contact Lesley Bird

Tel: 01638 507658 or 07786 817154

January - no meeting. Next meet 13th February

ELLESMERE GARDEN CLUB

Everyone going to the Christmas Party at the Red Lion in Soham has placed their orders and we look forward to another convivial evening together. Don't forget that if you wish to take part in Secret Santa just bring along a wrapped gift to the value of around £6.

Then in the New Year we have an uplifting talk on "Dahlias" by Kim O'Brien on **Wednesday 14th January**. There will be the usual raffle and refreshments at the meeting, which starts at 7.30 pm. Any prizes for future raffles would be very welcome please - bring them along.

The following month our **AGM** takes place on **Wednesday 11th February**, followed directly by a quiz. Please come and let your opinions about the club be known and help to shape future meetings with your suggestions. Anyone who would like to join the committee please contact Sandie beforehand.

Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you soon. Any queries about the Garden Club call Sandie on 07903 584676 or speak to someone at a meeting.

All that remains is to wish Seasons Greetings to you all from the Garden Club committee.

KNIT & NATTER

Every Monday from 1:30 to 3.30pm

In the Community Room at Sheriff's Court Burrough Green. All knitters or potential knitters are welcome.



Bring your own knitting or we can teach you to make squares for the local neonatal unit or knit for other charities. We have odd bits of wool, patterns and needles etc. There will be a small charge for refreshments. **ALL WELCOME**

Any donations of wool would be greatly appreciated.

**A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE
DISTRIBUTORS OF VILLAGE VOICE
FOR THEIR DISTRIBUTION OF YOUR
FREE NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU TO
ALL OUR ADVERTISERS FOR
THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT**



THANK YOU ALL.

Happy Christmas

NEWS FROM LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

Battlefields and Bletchley Park

School trips are an essential part of life at LVC, enriching our curriculum and offering experiences beyond the classroom. One of the most significant events in our calendar is the two-yearly Battlefields trip to Northern France and Belgium.

Led by the History Department, the trip takes 95 students from KS3 and KS4 on a journey through key sites of World War I. Starting in Ypres, students visit Essex Farm Cemetery and an Advanced Dressing Station, learning how medical care was delivered close to the front lines. At Mansel Copse and the Somme, they explore the realities of trench warfare and the immense human cost of conflict.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing and the moving Last Post ceremony deepen their understanding of remembrance and loss. Throughout the weekend, students develop historical knowledge of why men fought,



empathy for those who endured unimaginable hardship, and insight into the impact of war on individuals and societies.

Last month we also had over 100 students visiting Bletchley Park, the historic home of World War II codebreakers. Here, they watched a live demonstration of the Enigma Machine and took part in hands-on decoding activities, discovering how logic, mathematics, and teamwork were used to crack secret messages. The experience not only illuminated the vital role of codebreaking in the Allied victory but also highlighted its lasting influence on modern computing and cybersecurity.

Both trips offer students a unique opportunity to connect with history in a tangible way. These experiences remind us that the past is not just something we read about and that it shapes the world we live in today.

VILLAGE WEBSITES

www.westleywaterless.com

www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk

www.brinkleyparishcouncil.org.uk

carltoncumwillinghampc.org.uk

Information on the facilities of each village and also back issues of Village Voice newsletter and the adverts.

BURROUGH GREEN C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY



The Disciple of Ed
ACT Multi
Academy
Trust
**Agapé, Courage
Thankfulness**

Hello everyone, and welcome to another round-up of events and activities from us all at Burrough Green Primary.

STEM Inspiration Day

Year 6 pupils from Burrough Green and Great Wilbraham enjoyed an exciting visit to the AstraZeneca STEM Inspiration Lab. They took part in hands-on science activities and toured the Discovery Centre, observing real scientists at work. It was an inspiring day for students and staff alike!



Remembrance

Our Remembrance service went very well, and the Prayer Team thoroughly enjoyed leading it. The event was well attended by parents and the messages of remembrance and hope for the future were put across very well by the children.

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Children in Need collection. Together, we raised **£119** for this wonderful cause!

Equestrian Success

Our BG riders competed in their first National Schools Equestrian event with outstanding results:

- Chloe rode brilliantly and won her class, bringing home a 1st place rosette!
- Fenella, our Team Captain, led by example, securing 3rd place in the 40cm and then finishing 2nd in the 50cm.
- Rex showed true resilience after an unfortunate fall in the 40cm, bouncing back to achieve 5th place in the 50cm.

We are incredibly proud of our riders for their skill, sportsmanship, and team spirit. A huge thank you to Ryan Arnel, our team leader and organiser, for making this initiative possible.

Film Festival

We were fortunate to attend the Youth Film Festival at the Light Cinema in Cambridge, significantly enriching their cultural experience. Reception to Year 3 watched *The Wild Robot* - which blends adventure and emotion, telling the story of a robot's journey to survive and connect in the untamed wilderness. Year 4-6 enjoyed *The Bad Guys 2* - a film of thrilling heists and hilarious twists while teaching valuable lessons

about teamwork, trust, and the importance of second chances.

Playgroup

We really value the strong links we're building with Burrough Green playgroup. Each week, we invite the children to join our pupils for lunch, helping them feel comfortable and confident as they prepare for the transition to our school.

September 2026

If your child is starting school in September 2026, we'd love to welcome you into our school family! It's not too late to come for a chat and a tour to see how we work together to support every child and build a strong community.

Please contact the school office - 01638 507236 or email office@bg.act-academytrust.org

David Sandford

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**REPORT FROM CHARLOTTE CANE**

As the year draws to a close and we gather for festive events across our villages and towns, I've been reflecting on what makes Ely and East Cambridgeshire so special — our sense of community, our compassion, and our determination to look out for one another. That spirit has shone through in everything from local campaigns to doorstep conversations this autumn.

In November, I joined my constituent Lisa Smart, from Cottenham, outside 10 Downing Street to deliver a petition with over 15,500 signatures calling on the Government to save vital hospice beds at Arthur Rank Hospice. Lisa's daughter received end-of-life care there, and her powerful story shows just how much this service means to families across Cambridgeshire. The petition is part of a joint campaign I launched alongside Liberal Democrat Cambridgeshire MPs Pippa Heylings and Ian Sollom to reverse an £829,000 funding cut. Without that funding, nine of the hospice's 23 beds face closure - meaning more than 200 patients could be left without access to specialist care each year. Everyone deserves compassion, dignity, and peace at the end of their lives. We must not let a funding failure take that away.

In Parliament, I've been urging the Government to deliver fair funding and real reform for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). In Ely and East Cambridgeshire, 4% of pupils have Education, Health and Care Plans — higher than the national average. Our schools do incredible work, but they need the Government's support. Every child deserves the chance to thrive, with properly funded and accessible support close to home.

I continue to press the Government on fuel poverty, after uncovering official figures showing that 9.6% of households in our constituency — that's 4,487 homes — were living in fuel poverty as far back as 2023. Shockingly, Ministers have yet to publish the data for the past year, even as families continue to struggle

with soaring energy costs. I am urging the Government to publish the latest figures, to end fuel poverty and tackle the cost-of-living crisis.

Whether it's meeting residents on the doorstep, attending local events, or holding my three monthly surgeries, I'm always here to listen and help. Since being elected, I've now closed over 9,000 cases where residents have come to me for advice or support.

As your local champion, I'm here to stand up for you - and I'll keep doing just that.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who keeps our community running through the darker months — from NHS staff and carers to utility workers, emergency services, and transport teams who work tirelessly through the holidays.

*Wishing you a peaceful and happy festive season,  
Charlotte*

*P.S. This is just a snippet - to keep up with everything I'm doing, sign up to my newsletter at [bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte](https://bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte).*

*Charlotte Cane, MP for Ely & East Cambridgeshire  
[charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk) | 020 7362 1601*

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COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

For The Woodditton Division

As we get closer to the end of 2025. I would like to wish you all the best of times, with lots of fun, celebrations and rest throughout the Christmas season.

It is also a time when we need to look out for those in more need of support at every age and circumstance. Everyone deserves to be able to enjoy themselves and have some relief from the stresses of daily life throughout this winter season. I'm sure within the community there will be many of you doing all you can to help others.

For the social media savvy, follow [#BeWinterWise](#), or go to the website using the following link and add 'HAF' into the search engine. It will provide a directory of useful support for all in need. <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/support-with-the-cost-of-living>

Support for young families

For those needing support with young families, the County Council will again be operating its Christmas Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme. This will be in operation from 20th December to 4th January.

Children eligible for benefits-related free school meals can access a funded place at a HAF holiday scheme or family experience for up to 16 hours. Families experiencing financial hardship may also qualify.

General support

For those needing support over the winter, the links provided above will direct you to help for Cambridgeshire residents to stay safe, warm, and healthy throughout the colder months by sharing

practical advice, highlighting local support, and encouraging communities to look out for one another.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

Though there is consensus the process and timelines we were forced into were not what any of us would have wished for, the County Council have voted to make sure the only option placing East Cambridgeshire with the City and South Cambridgeshire is put in front of government ministers at the end of November. Other councils will continue to work on and recommend their preferred options.

In addition, our local County and District Councillors have been working with parishes across Woodditton and Burwell to write a letter to ministers representing our unique position on this, helping to make sure our communities are linked to the likely Cambridge, rather than Peterborough based authority.

It will ultimately be the government that decides the future of our local government structures.

HIGHWAYS

Improvements

I am working with parish councils to consider improvements to our roads in the future. These not related to maintenance, but rather local schemes to improve the safety and practicality of our roads and pavements. Most parishes already have a good idea of the work needed from concerns shared by you or known to them. Please do continue to engage with either your parish councillors or myself if you believe there are things we should be considering for the future.

Maintenance

After considerable personal input to get interventions in place, by the time of reading, the road between the King's Head and Eagle Lane in Dullingham should have undergone work to make it safe. This work has been needed for a very long time and was critical ahead of general surfacing work scheduled for summer 2026, the existing road being the sub-layer for the regular stone treatment that has been seen recently on Station Road.

Also, the speed humps in Brinkley should now have progressed. The underlying pots holes having been filled and the humps being bolted back down to the surface.

The council's reporting site was upgraded in September,

<https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/en>. I know many were frustrated by the system previously, but please do report any concerns on this site, it's the best way to inform officers of work to be done. An officer does now inspect our roads on a more regular basis, so over the coming year, you should notice improvements to any reactive maintenance work required.

Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974 348141, jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

*Bottisham Ward*

**Local Government Reorganisation**

The Leader of the Council is still pursuing Option B (with East Cambs joining Fenland, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough) for the Local Government Reorganisation. Cambs County Council has debated the options and plumped for Option A (with East Cambs joining Cambridge City and South Cambs).

The Full Council will have debated this on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November; the ECDC submission will be sent to the Minister of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Homelessness together with the submissions from the other Councils. This will be considered by the Minister, and a decision will be made soon.

Parish Councils in this ward have signed a letter to the Minister informing them of our desire to join with South Cambs and Cambridge City Council.

**Street Sweeping**

Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, local authorities have a statutory duty to provide clean streets, footways and open spaces that are in public ownership. All towns and villages are divided up into "zones" with the busiest being cleaned more regularly. <https://eastcambs.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/clean-streets>

**East Cambridgeshire Community Fund**

The East Cambridgeshire Community Fund will be open to applications between 31 October and 12 December 2025. Community groups are being encouraged to apply for grants of up to £1,000 to spend on new or existing projects designed to improve the quality of life for residents. Information about the grant including eligibility criteria and application guidance can be found on the council's web site.

<https://eastcambs.gov.uk/community-safety-and-wellbeing/grants-and-community-projects/community-fund>

**Surgery Bottisham Ward**

There will be no surgery in December. Do remember that residents can contact us by telephone (07976 607512, 01223 812120) or email ([charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk), [john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk)) whichever is preferable.

*With all best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,*  
*Cllrs Charlotte Cane MP and John Trapp*

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Woodditton Ward

Highways

Further to my report last month, the repairs to the B1061 on the hill coming out of Dullingham should have been done by the time that you read this report.

However, this is not a full resurfacing but patching of the road to make it safer.

This is exactly what I told residents after the Highways Committee meeting in March 2025, with full

resurfacing taking place in financial year 2026/2027, so unfortunately this work was not expedited as an urgent matter by the Lib Dem controlled County Council, despite my pleading to officers.

I will continue to hold the administration to account. If there is any work that you believe requires work, please contact me and I will raise this with Highways and aim to get it done to address the neglect that has happened over the last 5 years.

Council Reorganisation

The work on Local Government reorganisation continues and will continue well into next year.

The Lib Dem controlled County Council has voted for Option A, The financial details show that combining with Cambridge will result in a loss of over £50m in funding compared to Option B, for the new unitary.

By the time that you read this, all the Councils in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire will have made their decision. I will provide a comprehensive report next month of the situation, what this means and next steps.

Kingsway Solar

The statutory consultation ended on 29th October, so we await the next stage during next year when Kingsway will present their further plans.

I have always maintained that we need better ways of generating solar power, making it compulsory on all new builds, on factory and business plants and sites like Babraham Road Park and Ride, where the solar panels are placed over parking spaces. That is a great use of the space.

Building on Grade 2 agricultural land is not the answer, as it risks our food security and creates more carbon in importing products from overseas. Buy British produce from the supermarkets or go to Farm shops and get good quality food that has many less air miles. I will keep you updated on this unnecessary development close to our community.

As this is the last report before Christmas, may I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and Merry New Year with your friends and family.

Look out for others not just at this time, but throughout the year and if you have any concerns about someone let the proper authorities know or if you cannot find the right people to contact, then let me know and I will do it for you.

Stay safe and I will speak to you all next year. I have not done surgeries previously, because I am able to visit residents or meet them, wherever is suitable for them, rather than making residents come to me. I am available to all.

Alan Sharp
East Cambridgeshire District Councillor - Woodditton Ward

E-Mail: alan.sharp@eastcambs.gov.uk
Telephone: 07794 292941

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**EDITOR'S NOTE - For Your Information**

Cambs County and District councillors for our area are split into Wards. Bottisham Ward covers Brinkley and Westley Waterless, Woodditton ward covers Burrough Green, in East Cambs. Carlton and Willingham Green are in South Cambs.

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GILLIAN SHARPE, a much-loved resident of Brinkley, passed away peacefully at Addenbrooke's Hospital on Friday 17th October 2025, aged 45 years. Beloved and special daughter of Richard & Jackie, much loved sister of Neil and Adam, adored sister-in-law and auntie and a dear niece. Gillian touched the lives of many and will be greatly missed by all who knew her.



A service celebrating her life was held on Monday 24th November.

About 150 people attended the service with others on live transmission across the world, which indicates just how many lives she had touched. Rest in peace.

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**VILLAGE HALLS**

Brinkley, Burrough Green and Westley Waterless have excellent village halls, all beautifully refurbished over the last few years; and all available for hire at reasonable rates.

Information on their facilities and availability can be found by contacting them on:

**Brinkley Memorial Hall** - Contact: Susie Shuter on 01638 508729 : 07836 656643

**Burrough Green Reading Room** - Please contact Joanne Harrison on 01638 508888

E mailing [bgreadingroom@yahoo.com](mailto:bgreadingroom@yahoo.com)

[www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Westley Waterless Village Hall** - For more information please go to

[www.westleywaterless.com/hall](http://www.westleywaterless.com/hall)

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CATHOLIC PARISH SERVICES:

Newmarket and Kirtling churches.

For a full list of services, the newsletter & other information please visit the website.

<http://www.olise.co.uk/wordpress/>

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE	
	St Augustine's Church Burrough Green Family Worship 10.30 am Led by Peter Talbot
A short service suitable for all ages with refreshments to follow. We look forward to welcoming you, your family and friends.	

DECEMBER SERVICES - ALL WELCOME

Sunday 7th December Advent 2

9.00 am Holy Communion Brinkley
Rev'd Keith Morrison
10.30 am Family Service Burrough Green
Rev'd Keith Morrison
Isaiah 11: 1-10 Romans 15: 4-13 Matthew 3: 1-12

Sunday 14th December Advent 3

9.00 am Holy Communion Stetchworth
Canon Dr. Malcolm Brown
10.30 am Morning Prayer Dullingham
Canon Dr. Malcolm Brown
6.00 pm Lay Led Carol Service Burrough Green
Isaiah 35: 1-10 James 5: 7-10 Matthew 11: 2-11

Sunday 21st December Advent 4

9.00 am Communion Burrough Green
Rev'd Robert Van de Weyer
6.00 pm Lay Led Carol Service Brinkley
Isaiah 7: 10-16 Romans 1: 1-7 Matthew 1: 18 - end

WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm Lay Led Carol Service Westley Waterless
6.00 pm Lay Led Carol Service Stetchworth
6.00 pm Lay Led Carol service Dullingham

THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00 Benefice Communion Stetchworth
Rev'd Virginia Moggridge
10.30 Lay led family service Burrough Green
10.30 Lay led Christmas service Carlton
Isaiah 52: 7-10 Hebrews 1: 1-4 (5-12) John 1: 1-14



Sunday 28th December Christmas 1

10.30 am Holy Communion Dullingham
Rev'd Dr. Lynne Broughton
Jeremiah 31: 15-17 1 Corinthians 1: 26-29
Matthew 2: 13-18

As I write this it's the middle of November, and yet I'm writing for a Newsletter that will cover three major seasons in the Church's year, Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. These are seasons where, despite it being dark outside, Christians celebrate wonderful festivals of light.

I can be a bit of a "grumpy old man" sometimes in terms of the run up to Christmas. I do rather think that decorations (and Christmas adverts) seem to start a little early, although I do completely understand the need for preparation for Christmas - both from a faith perspective (with the time of Advent being a preparation) and in terms of the "busyness" of the season. It's rather fascinating in some ways that Christmas itself is now the time for giving of gifts, as the "traditional" reasons for such

came with the festival of St. Nicholas (from where we derive Santa Claus), which will always fall within Advent, and the coming of the Magi (or Wise Men) to visit the baby Jesus at Epiphany. Yet I know that the greatest gift of all is the one that we all receive at Christmas with the coming of Jesus among us, when "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

Within these pages you will find details of the services in all our churches over the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany seasons. You will be very welcome to join any of our services or just to visit a church at some time as many generations have done in these villages. We all wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Alastair France

CHURCHWARDENS:

Burrough Green: Lucy Talbot Tel: 01638 507060, email: peterandlucyt@btinternet.com
Westley Waterless: Ms. Deborah O'Riordan, Tel: 01638 507741, email d.a.oriordan@btinternet.com and Mrs Liz Gibson, Tel: 01638 508600, lizgibson@me.com
Brinkley: Ros Pates 01638 507240 rospates@yahoo.co.uk

Carlton: Stephen Roberts 01223 290372 or Stephen.roberts28@btopenworld.com.

RURAL DEAN

Rev'd Canon Dr. Eleanor Williams
Vicar of Burwell with Reach

Rural Dean of Fordham and Quy Deanery
The Vicarage, 22 Isaacson Road
Burwell, CB25 0AF
Telephone 01638 741262
email: vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk

RADDESLEY BENEFICE WEBSITE

On the website you can find out more about our churches, services, what's on and useful information about baptisms, funerals and weddings: www.raddesley.com

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**ARTICLES FOR JANUARY 2025 VILLAGE VOICE**

To [villagevoicenewsletter@btinternet.com](mailto:villagevoicenewsletter@btinternet.com)

**by 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025 please**

**01638 507495**



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