

VILLAGE VOICE

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

MAY 2026

BRINKLEY COFFEE AND CAKES

MONDAYS 11th & 25th May
2026

10.30 am to 12.00 noon

at

Brinkley Memorial Hall



Please join us for Tea, Coffee and
Cake and an opportunity to
catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

Any Queries: Caroline Egar - 01638 507418
07976 250961

RECYCLING

Carlton & Willingham Green - WEDNESDAYS :
Black bin - 13th & 27th May 2026.
Green & Blue bins - 6th & 20th May .

Brinkley, Burrough Green, Westley Waterless -
MONDAYS

Black sacks weekly. MONDAYS 11th & 18th May
TUESDAYS 5th & 26th May
Blue Lid - TUESDAY 5th & MONDAY 18th May
Green Lid - MONDAY 11th TUESDAY 26th May

ALL NEW FOR JUNE - with new food bins and black
wheelie bins. Details will be on new leaflets and
reprinted here.

BRIDGE AFTERNOON and GAMES EVENING

Sheriff's Court in Burrough Green host a Games
Evening every Tuesday evening from 7pm.
Come along and play Scrabble, Rummikub, Upwords,
Boggle or Mahjong for example. No expertise
required! Tea & biscuits included. £2
They also hold a Bridge session on a Tuesday afternoon
and would love some new players, experienced or
wanting to learn to play. (Kathie 07923 526555)

ALL WELCOME

DULLINGHAM COMMUNITY LUNCH

Every first Tuesday of the month, 12 -2pm, at the
Taylor Hall, Dullingham.

This is a free lunch, although we do ask for a donation.
So come along and meet your neighbours. If you have
any allergies or if you want any further information,
or would like to volunteer, contact me on 01638
507736 - Ann Johnson.

ALL WELCOME

BRINKLEY BELLS

On Saturday 13th June, the Brinkley
bells will be rung from 9.30 - 10.30, by
a visiting team, in honour of the King's
official birthday.



MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile Library will be at BURROUGH GREEN by
the BUS STOP on 3rd THURSDAY of
each month at 3.50 - 4.10pm
BRINKLEY Memorial Hall on the 4th
THURSDAY of each month between
1.10pm - 1.50pm.

They stock a great selection of books for all
ages, plus NHS hearing aid batteries. They
can even check and replace the ferrules on walking
sticks. Make use of this wonderful resource.



ELLESMERE ARTS PRESENTS

'ALLO 'ALLO 2

'The Camembert Caper'

at The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

Thursday 14th, Friday 15th & Saturday 16th May
at 7.30 pm

Tickets £12 Available from the Ellesmere Centre
Village Shop and

www.ticketsource.co.uk/ellesmerearts

VILLAGE OIL SYNDICATE



The next oil syndicate order will
be placed on Friday 15th May. If
you would like to be included in



the delivery, please contact Vicky Cavey on 07818
231632 or via email vickycavey@icloud.com no later
than Wednesday 13th May.

Please provide details of your order ensuring all
requests are accompanied by a house name/number,
postcode, telephone number and quantity of oil
required (500ltrs minimum).

BRINKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council warmly invites all residents and
community groups of Brinkley to attend the Annual
Parish Meeting of the Electorate.

Monday 11th May 2026 at 7pm

Brinkley Memorial Hall

This is your opportunity to come along, hear what's
been happening in the village over the past year, and
share your thoughts or ideas for the future. It's an
open meeting for all local electors, with updates from
the Parish Council and community groups, and a chance
to raise any local matters of interest.

R.A.F. WRATTING COMMON

May Memorial Service Sunday 31st May 2026

A short open-air service will be held at 12 noon on Sunday 31st May 2026 at the R.A.F. Wratting Common Memorial, to commemorate the anniversary of the commissioning of the airfield. The last Sunday in May was chosen for this annual service as it was the same day in 1943 that the airfield was commissioned.

The Memorial is dedicated to those who served at the airfield, especially the 260 who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. We look forward to seeing some relatives of the Veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade.

The Memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville, CB21 5NR and all are very welcome to attend the service. For further information please email: rafwrattingcommon@gmail.com

We are always pleased to hear from anyone interested in getting involved with the Airfield Memorial. With just two services per year to arrange, as well as year-round general maintenance, this is not an onerous project to assist with but is very rewarding. It is hoped that, with the continued support of people in the locality, this important memorial to our community's war effort will survive for many generations.

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# BG COLOUR RUN

Get ready for the biggest, most colourful event of the Burrough Green C of E Primary Academy PTA calendar! Come and take part in the BG Colour Run around the beautiful village green and enjoy a fun, family- friendly run filled with laughter, music and clouds of colour.

Saturday 27th June

Please scan the QR code below to launch the event website!




**SAVE THE DATE**

**Suffolk Punch Open Day**

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July      Brettons, Burrough Green.  
More details to come

**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. PLEASE SEAL THE BOXES .      denisehrebniak@yahoo.com

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ELLESMERE GARDEN CLUB

Now Spring is well under way please keep the weekend of 9th and 10th May free for our first two events. The **Plant Sale on Saturday 9th May** is a very popular event and our most successful fund raiser. It will be held in the **Ellesmere Centre from 10 am until noon**. You can help by donating plants from your own gardens, taking a turn on one of the stalls, or just coming along to buy, with your friends and family too. Come early for the best choices!

New gardens will be amongst those open in Dullingham and Stetchworth on Sunday 10th May under the NGS Open Gardens scheme. This is your chance to enjoy the beauty of our local surroundings and raise funds for the charities the NGS supports. Open between 1.30 and 6 pm, with teas at St Peters Church, Stetchworth. Full details can be found in the yellow booklet "Gardens open for charity Cambridgeshire 2026" available at the Ellesmere Centre, or by visiting ngs.org.uk. All Welcome.

Looking ahead, on 10th June we have a visit to Columbine Hall Gardens at Stowupland. Meet at the Ellesmere Centre at 6pm to share lifts.

Then on 18th June our coach trip this year is to Gardeners' World Live at the NEC, Birmingham. The coach will leave the Ellesmere Centre at 9.30 am and return leaving the NEC at 4pm. The cost of this is £60 pp (which includes entry ticket).

Please book asap if you want to go, as seats are selling fast - to book and for full details call Pat on 07810 430804.

Any general queries about the Garden Club call Sandie on 07903 584676

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**DULLINGHAM FLOWER CLUB**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 8pm

The Taylor Hall, Dullingham: CB8 9XE

Come & enjoy a fun evening with a Demonstration

By Wayne Bailey : Entitled 'Escape'

Admission £8

Includes Tea/Coffee and biscuits

Raffle

The Raffle will include all the arrangements made on the evening

Please contact Lesley Bird

Tel: 01638 507658 or 07786 817154

## KSCA MAY NEWSLETTER UPDATE

### **Kingsway Solar - what we know now**

With Kingsway's plans nearly finalised, we now know more about what this industrial-scale development around our villages will look like.

- Over one million panels mounted in frames over 4-metres high (as tall as double decker buses).
- Include up to 300 container-sized lithium-ion battery storage units.
- Over 3,000 acres of prime farmland (larger than Heathrow Airport).
- Affecting an area roughly 7 miles across, from Worsted Lodge by the A11 to Brinkley
- With 15km of pylons up to 65m tall, connecting the site to Burwell substation (not yet submitted for planning).
- Three years of heavy construction traffic on our village roads.

This will fundamentally change the land use, heritage and character of our countryside. **If you're unsure why so many people in the community are opposing the project, watch our short video explaining their concerns:**

<https://vimeo.com/1162674623?fl=pl&fe=vl>

### **Kingsway Solar Farm - the fight continues**

At the time of writing (16 April), Kingsway is expected to submit their planning application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) in the coming days or weeks. Once submitted, and if accepted by PINS (which can take up to 28 days), the national planning process will begin — but this does **not** mean the project has been approved, and the community can still play an important role. This is the first chance for residents, parish councils and community groups to send their views **directly to the decision-makers**, rather than the developer, Kingsway

At that point, anyone can register as an **Interested Party** and submit a short comment outlining their concerns (called a **Relevant Representation**). There will only be **30 days** to do this, so it is important to be ready. KSCA will provide guidance, workshops and templates to help make the process straightforward. In the meantime, please **sign up to receive updates from PINS** so you are notified as soon as the application is submitted.

Go to: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/ENO10165>

Our aim is for **over 1,000 people to register as Interested Parties** to ensure the Planning Inspectorate knows the strength of feeling across the area.

### **KSCA becomes a registered community organisation**

KSCA is now registered as a **Company Limited by Guarantee** and a **Community Interest Company**, meaning it can operate formally while ensuring it acts in the interests of the wider community. These steps

help ensure the campaign is run responsibly and can represent the community effectively.

### **Support the legal campaign**

KSCA, working with the Parish Council Alliance, is engaging legal advisers and independent experts in areas such as hydrology, battery energy storage systems (BESS) and landscape impact. Their evidence will be essential to present to the planning inspectors at a later stage. If you are able, please consider supporting this work: <https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/kingswaysolarcommunitylegalaction/>

### **Can you spare a few hours?**

Over the coming weeks we will also need volunteers to help with awareness activities such as social media, leafleting, community events and workshops. If you can help, please contact [hello@kingswayaction.org](mailto:hello@kingswayaction.org)

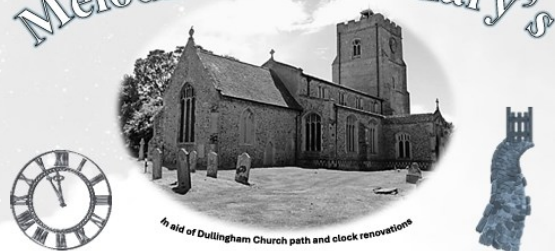
**Together we can make sure our community is heard.**

## **Concert: Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

7.30pm, Taylor Hall, Dullingham

the **Kitchen Choir**  
presents

Melodies for St. Mary's



A varied menu of musical treats

BAR Also featuring *The Kitchenettes*  
from 7pm



Tickets £12.50 (inc. nibbles) from:

Sally Peyton:  
[sallypeyton65@gmail.com](mailto:sallypeyton65@gmail.com)  
07503 198897

RAFFLE  
Prizes!  
27 211

Facebook: @kitchenchoir [www.kitchenchoir.weebly.com](http://www.kitchenchoir.weebly.com)

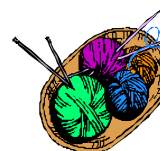
## **KNIT & NATTER**

**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. Any donations of wool would be greatly appreciated.

ALL WELCOME



**BALSHAM PICTURE HOUSE**

**Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
HAMNET (12A)**



**HAMNET (12A)**  
Award winning BAFTA and Oscar period drama film  
After her son Hamnet dies, aged eleven, Agnes Shakespeare (Jesse Buckley) is struck with intense grief. As she mourns with her husband William (Paul Mescal), the pair struggle to come to terms with the frailty of life and the ruthlessness of the plague. Set in 16th-century England, Agnes, a healer by trade, must find a way to move on with her life and provide for her other children.

Based on the bestselling New York Times novel the film features the marriage of William Shakespeare (Paul Mescal) to Agnes (Jessie Buckley) and their 3 children. When tragedy strikes the strength of their marriage is tested but that inspires his masterpiece HAMLET.

**Doors open 7pm and film at 7.30 in Balsham Church Institute**

Dave's bar will be open for pre-show drinks and nibbles as normal.

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

**BRINKLEY RED LION**

Red Lion, Brinkley



A new chapter for the Red Lion with new Head Chef Henry and his team now in place and rapidly finding their feet! The menu is slowly tweaking towards welcome feedback, and the website menu will soon be updated to reflect these changes; our menu will stay the same for one month at a time going forward, while regular specials will be available and shown on our blackboard in the dining room.

**In May we will be celebrating our 2-year birthday with a BBQ on Friday 22nd May, in a similar way to last year's hugely enjoyable evening.**

More details about this will be displayed in the pub as well as on our social media, so do please pop in or follow us on Instagram to keep an eye on plans. We also display our Instagram on the website for those who haven't ventured into the world of social media!

New menu highlights see a Sirloin steak coming on permanently, with a new Cod dish as a hint towards fish and chips. There's also some more classic puddings coming on for those more in tune with their sweet tooth!

Do please book where possible to help get staffing levels and food quantities correct!

Best

George

[www.redlionbrinkley.com](http://www.redlionbrinkley.com)

[info@redlionbrinkley.com](mailto:info@redlionbrinkley.com)

01638 650 879

[redlion\\_brinkley](https://www.instagram.com/redlion_brinkley)

**NEWS FROM THE ELLESMERE CENTRE**

**ELLESMERE GARDEN CLUB  
PLANT SALE  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May  
10am-12pm**



**QUIZ NIGHT  
FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY**



**UNFORTUNATELY THE QUIZ  
NIGHT HAS HAD TO BE POSTPONED**

**See next month for new date**

**DIGITAL CHAMPION**

Does the online world feel scary to you? Would you like to be able to access essential services but not sure where to start?

We now have a Digital champion at the centre who can help you with getting the confidence to engage with the online World.

We can offer direct support working one-on-one or in small group training sessions.

We can give you the confidence to access services such as on line banking, health care apps, contacting family members or help with online shopping.

Please Speak to the office if you would like some help.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- Summer Show - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 12 noon**
- Outdoor Live Music Event - 11<sup>th</sup> July 4-8pm**
- Pudding Club - September 26<sup>th</sup>**
- Christmas Market - Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November**
- More details to follow in the coming months*

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

**THE BULL BURROUGH GREEN**



We have a number of events planned so watch this space, and check out our Facebook page

Tina & Danny

**01638 476424**

## BALSHAM VILLAGE PUMP TRACK

A new outdoor cycling space for the whole community

| What is a Pump Track?                                                                                                                                        | Why Balsham Needs One                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>A looping track with bumps and turns for bikes, scooters, skateboards &amp; balance bikes.</p> <p>Riders "pump" through the course— fun for all ages!</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A safe place for children &amp; teens to ride</li> <li>• Outdoor activity for all ages</li> <li>• A fun space for bikes, scooters &amp; skateboards</li> <li>• A community asset for the whole village</li> </ul> |

**WE'RE RAISING FUNDS TO BUILD IT!**

- Donate to the project
- Attend village fundraising events
- Local businesses can sponsor
- Volunteer to help us succeed

Help us build something amazing for Balsham!

Donate to - <https://gofund.me/8ebb4f0f7>

For more information contact: [clerk@balsham.net](mailto:clerk@balsham.net)

Supported by: Balsham Parish Council • Local Volunteers • Community Fundraising

## LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE News

### **Community Connections**

Linton Village College continues to value its close links with the local community, working with families, volunteers and partner organisations to support students and shared activities.

The College is grateful for the ongoing support of its Trust Fund, established in 1987 to help meet the welfare needs of individual pupils and to widen access to extra-curricular opportunities. Over the past year, more than £3,200 has been donated, including Gift Aid, helping over 40 students take part in activities. The College would also like to thank John Batchelor and Scilla Harvey, who recently stepped down from the Trust Fund committee after many years of dedicated service.

The Friends of LVC is our PTA. We are very lucky to have a fantastic, dedicated team of parents and carers that support the College through fundraising and organising community events. The annual Friends Quiz Night takes place at LVC on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May in the main school hall.

Tickets are on sale online for teams of 6 and are available via the school website on the '[Linton Village College - Parents - Friends of LVC' page](#)

Tickets are priced at £15 including a fish and chip supper. There will be a bar and raffle with donations from local businesses. Money raised will be invested in enriching LVC students' school experience.

We are also excited to be hosting the 20th anniversary of the Linton Book Festival on the weekend of the 16-17<sup>th</sup> May. It's a fantastic free family event celebrating reading and offering reading themed and creative activities for children aged 0-11 including talks and workshops led by children's authors and illustrators. Tickets can be secured in advance via the [lintonbookfest.org](http://lintonbookfest.org) website.

### REPORT FROM CHARLOTTE CANE MP

#### Keep Ely and East Cambridgeshire Moving

Many residents have contacted me recently about the rising cost of everyday life - particularly the price of getting around and heating their homes. From filling up the car to travelling to work or keeping warm, pressures are building fast for families and businesses across Ely and East Cambridgeshire. That's why I'm calling for urgent action to help keep our area moving. I'm pressing the Chancellor for an immediate 10p cut in fuel duty, which would reduce prices at the pump by around 12p per litre. In a largely rural area like ours, where many people depend on their cars, this would make a real and immediate difference. Alongside this, I'm backing a wider package of measures to reduce transport costs, including cutting bus fares to £1, reducing rail fares by 10%, and lowering the cost of electric vehicle charging by cutting VAT and tackling unfair network charges.

I'm calling for these measures to be introduced for an initial three-month period, with the option to extend them if high prices persist. People need help now, not later.

I also continue to campaign for fairer support for off-grid households. Over a quarter of homes locally rely on heating oil or LPG rather than mains gas, leaving them especially exposed to volatile global prices. I'm therefore calling for an immediate three month VAT holiday on heating oil and LPG, and for the introduction of a proper price cap, similar to the one that already exists for gas, to protect rural households from extreme price spikes.

In the short term, I want residents to be aware that a £53 million Government support package for vulnerable households reliant on heating oil or LPG is now available. Applications opened on 1 April, and eligible households may be able to receive up to £400 in support. (More information here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/support-with-the-cost-of-living/crisis-payment>).

The fund is limited, so I would urge anyone who may qualify to apply as soon as possible. I encourage those not eligible but in need of support to seek advice from Citizens Advice.[LJ1.1][TH1.2]

I know that for so many, this relief won't be enough, or it will be too little, too late. After the Council's funding allocation, I wrote to the Chancellor to urge her to reconsider the funding formula in light of skyrocketing prices, and offer more support for all. I

will continue pressing the Government to go further and act decisively to support households across Ely and East Cambridgeshire during this challenging time.  
[charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk)

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

In a time of international concern, I want to start this month by concentrating on those needing additional help.

**Help with oil and heating costs**

The council has received £708,000 from the Government which is ring-fenced to support households struggling with the cost of domestic oil heating. The money has been added to the council's Crisis & Resilience Fund, and applications are being administered by the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation.

Applications to the fund opened on Monday 30 March. The link to apply is at

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/support-with-the-cost-of-living/crisis-payment>

This fund is intended for Cambridgeshire households on low incomes who are reliant on heating oil and who need to top up their tanks as a matter of urgency. To receive this support, applicants must meet all the following criteria:

- Live in Cambridgeshire.
- Be reliant on heating oil to heat their home and/or water.
- Have 150 litres or less of oil remaining at the time of application.
- Be in receipt of or eligible for one of the following means-tested benefits:
  - Universal Credit
  - Pension Credit
  - Income based Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

If funding allows, the council hopes to expand the scheme later to households on incomes just above the threshold for means-tested benefits, or with exceptionally high energy needs.

Eligible households can apply for up to £400 of support. The level of support awarded may fluctuate with the price of oil. The target for payment to be issued is 48 hours from the time that all required evidence is received.

For residents whose household income is above the level for means-tested benefits, other support is available. The council funds Citizens' Advice Rural Cambs to deliver an income maximisation service.  
<https://www.citizensadviceuralscambs.org.uk/>

**Holiday voucher values**

Following the Government's withdrawal of the Household Support Fund, replaced by the Crisis & Resilience Fund with lower levels of funding, the council has agreed holiday voucher values as follows for the coming holidays.

| Holiday Period                 | Weekly Voucher Value | Total Voucher Value |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| May Half Term (25 - 29 May)    | £10                  | £10                 |
| Summer (21 July - 1 September) | £10                  | £60                 |

The Crisis & Resilience Fund is expected to support all those facing 'financial shocks', not just children eligible for free school meals.

**HIGHWAYS**

The approach to the Six Mile Bottom Road junction in Brinkley is scheduled to see improvements in the middle of May. This will hopefully see an end to the recent increase in near misses at this junction.

If all has gone according to schedule, the following road should have received treatment in April:

-Dullingham: Brinkley Road (Kings Head to Eagle Lane), London Road

Maintenance Officers are breaking through the winter backlog on potholes. We should start to see a noticeable difference over the coming months. For anyone interested to find out more about this year's road conditions, Highways & Transport Committee chair Cllr Alex Beckett has written a very informative article which is well worth a read at <https://notesfromalex.substack.com/p/why-are-the-roads-so-bad-rightnow>

Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974 348141,  
[jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

*Bottisham Ward*

**Changes to Bin collection.**

Delivery of the new bins is proceeding, and you should have received, or about to receive, two bins: one for general waste and the other for food waste. The new service is due to start in June, once all the bank holidays are over, and a regular routine is established. Full information will be given with the arrival of the new bins. Information can also be sought from the Council web-site.

**Change to Group sizes**

One Lib Dem member has left the party and decided to form a group with the Conservatives; the Conservative and Independent Group has 15 members, and the Lib Dem and Independent Group has 13 members.

**Operational Services committee 23 March 2026**

Not an exciting meeting, as the agenda contained a number of housekeeping reports: the ECSS business plan for next year, the Community Safety Partnership six-monthly report, End of Year Reports on Service Delivery and the Plans for next year, Quarter 3 2024/25 Budget Monitoring Report (which predicts an underspend of £229,000 on operating costs and an overspend of some £3.7m on capital mainly for buying

black bins and for the Mepal Crematorium had been deferred from the preceding year.

The new bin collection arrangements were on course for a June start.

The proposed Mepal Crematorium rules and regulations were presented, discussed, and accepted.

**Finance & Assets committee 26 March 2026**

Two items of housekeeping were discussed: the ECTC Business Plan for the next year, and End of Year Reports on Service Delivery and the Plans for next year.

Two new funds were created, one for Local Infrastructure, the other for Inclusive Play and Open Spaces. Information about these funds will be provided to Parish Clerks.

**Surgery**

On Tuesday 19 May at Passage Hall, Lode, 6.30 - 7.30pm, and to be followed by socialising at The Shed, Lode Road, Lode.

Cllrs Charlotte Cane MP  
([charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk)) 07976 607512  
and

John Trapp ([john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk))  
07942 685599

**District Council Report - Woodditton Ward**

**Waste Services**

On 1<sup>st</sup> June, the way that waste is collected changes. Black Bins replace black bags. Food waste will be collected weekly in separate food caddies.

This change has been previously communicated to residents last Autumn and the new bins will be delivered soon.

**Highways**

The poor workmanship of repairs continues. The County Council needs to quickly improve this issue.

If you believe there is a pothole or road defect that 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 Statutory Consultation ended on 26th March, so we now await the decision, probably in the summer.

**The Ellesmere Centre Post Office**

The likely outcome for the Post Office is one of a community Post Office.

This requires a considerable amount of work for the working group of trustees of the Centre, who continue to work with the Post Office management to get the Ellesmere Post Office open for business.

As mentioned last month, this is going to take some time, as we must ensure that we are legally constituted to run the service, as well as meeting the Post Office requirements. I will continue to update accordingly.

**Forest City**

Further to my comments last month, the proposal that has been floated across social media of a new city of

400,000 houses between Newmarket and Haverhill continues to cause concern amongst some residents.

The two individuals behind the proposal have recently published an 85-page document, which has many illogical plans within it. I will continue to oppose this opportunistic proposal and will update residents accordingly.

Please contact me if there is any issue concerning you.

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

E-Mail: [alan.sharp@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:alan.sharp@eastcambs.gov.uk)

Telephone: 07794 292941

**BURROUGH GREEN  
GARDEN FETE  
SUNDAY 7TH JUNE 2026**

**BBQ and Beer Tent open from 1 pm**

**Fete opening at 2 pm  
by Rev Virginia Moggridge**

**Homemade Teas, Plants & Bric a Brac  
Silent Auction, Tombola, Raffle  
and Sideshows galore**

**Fun for all the Family  
In a beautiful garden setting**

*Please scan QR code for details of updates  
including items for the Silent Auction,  
children's free Colouring Competition,  
Stalls and other information.*

*If you have any enquiries or can offer any support,  
please contact Lucy Talbot 07910 158463 or  
email [peterandlucyt@btinternet.com](mailto:peterandlucyt@btinternet.com)*

**VILLAGE WEBSITES**

They contain information on the facilities of each village and back issues of Village Voice newsletter

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

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

[www.brinkleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.brinkleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

[carltoncumwillinghampc.org.uk](http://carltoncumwillinghampc.org.uk)

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

**ARTICLES FOR JUNE VILLAGE VOICE**

To

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

**BEFORE 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026 please**

**MAY SERVICES - ALL WELCOME**

**Sunday 3rd May**                    **5th Sunday of Easter**  
9.00 am Communion                    Brinkley  
10.30 am Family Service              Burrough Green

*Acts 7: 55 - end 1 Peter 2: 2 -10 John 14: 1 - 14*

**Sunday 10th May**                    **6th Sunday of Easter**  
9.00 am Communion                    Stetchworth  
10.30 am Morning Prayer              Carlton

*Acts 17: 22 - 31 1 Peter 3: 13 - end John 14: 15 - 21*

**Sunday 17th May**                    **7th Sunday of Easter**  
9.00 am Communion                    Burrough Green  
10.30 am Morning Prayer              Brinkley

*Acts 1: 6 - 14 1 Peter 4 12 - 14 5: 6 - 11 John 17: 1 - 11*

**Sunday 24th May**                    **Pentecost**  
**10.00 am** Communion                    Dullingham  
6.00 pm Evensong                      Stetchworth

*Acts 2: 1 - 21 1 Corinthians 12: 3b - 13 John 20: 19 - 23*

**Sunday 31st May**                    **Trinity Sunday**  
10.30 am Benefice Communion      Westley Waterless

*Isaiah 40: 12 - 17 2 Corinthians 13: 11 - end  
Matthew 28: 16 - end*

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**Rector's letter**

Since my last letter, we have not only seen the arrival of Spring in all its glory here in the villages, but we have also celebrated the joy of the Risen Christ in our Holy Week and Easter services. We had a wonderful Palm Sunday service and waved our palm crosses; there were reflective services in Holy Week and a final, joyous and packed service on Easter Day - we even had the bells ringing out in Brinkley! The churches all looked beautiful after the bareness of Lent, and huge thanks go to all those who decorated them with such love and care - the wonderful work which goes on quietly in our amazing buildings never ceases to astonish and delight me. I wonder what Easter held for you? Easter Egg hunts and lots of chocolates maybe! Perhaps you spent time with family and friends, perhaps like me you were working, or perhaps you are among the many who spent time alone. Holiday periods can be difficult; despite the longer days and better weather isolation can feel more acute when it seems as though everyone else is having a good time. The Easter season reminds us that Christ came among us in human form: he cared for all, the sad and the lonely as well as the joyful and flourishing. He gave his life on the Cross for our salvation, and rose again,

for all, so that we might live life in all its fullness. As we look around the world and see so much darkness in so many places, we can give thanks for the light of Christ which shines so brightly and be especially thankful for our communities. So perhaps it is a good time to remind ourselves that we could help those around us to live *their* lives in fullness; why not pop in to see a neighbour living alone, say hello to someone at a bus stop or in a queue? Kindness and compassion are always in season, and a few minutes of our time might be a small act which makes a big difference. As the season unfurls, and we begin to spend more time outside, may I wish you all a joyful Easter season, and hope to meet more of you as I continue to familiarise myself with this lovely corner of the world in which we are lucky enough to live. The peace of the Risen Christ be with you all.

Reverend Virginia

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**RECTOR**

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**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](http://www.raddesley.com)

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**CATHOLIC PARISH SERVICES:**

Newmarket: Saturdays 6pm & Sundays 11am

Kirtling: Sunday 9am. For a full list of weekday services, the newsletter & other information please visit the website. <http://www.olise.co.uk/wordpress/>