

VILLAGE VOICE

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

SEPTEMBER 2026

BRINKLEY COFFEE AND CAKES

MONDAY 14th & 28th 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 - 2nd, 16th, & 30th September.

Green and Blue - 9th, & 23rd September.

Brinkley, Burrough Green, Westley Waterless
MONDAYS

Black bins - 1st, 14th, & 28th September.

Food Caddy - Every week.

Green Lid - 1st, 14th, & 28th September.

Blue Lid - 7th & 21st September.

QUIZ NIGHT

?

FRIDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2026

?

Brinkley Memorial Hall

Doors open 7.00 pm - first question 7.30 pm

Teams of up to six people

£15 per person to include a two-course home-cooked
meal

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINK AND GLASSES.

Raffle

To book your meal and your team call Trish on

Tel: 01638 507495

or email trish.bull50@btinternet.com

IN AID OF BRINKLEY CHURCH

CLEANER WANTED To join the team at

the Ellesmere Centre

Weekdays 7-9am

Applications to:-

julie@ellesmerecentre.org.uk



RIDE AND
STRIDE
12th

SEPTEMBER



2026

We hope you will be willing to take part in this year's
Ride & Stride and help Cambridgeshire Historic
Churches Trust (CHCT) support churches of all
denominations in the county with their repair and
improvement costs. Half the money you raise will go
towards your nominated church.

There are numerous ways you can do this:

- **Bike, walk or ride** around the beautiful
Cambridgeshire countryside, stopping off at
as many churches and chapels as you can along
the way. Be imaginative in your mode of
transport.

Be a virtual visitor - if you aren't able to physically
visit churches, try using the National Churches Trust's
explorer website to visit some virtually
<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/church/find-a-church>

- You could set yourself a challenge, for
instance, 10 minutes to visit as many
different dedications (church names) as
possible.
- Finally, and most important of all, **be**
sponsored for your visits or for your time
spent volunteering, or simply make a donation
to the CHCT. Remember that you can split
the funds you raise 50/50 with CHCT and a
church of your choice, or donate all you raise
to CHCT.

- Or of course, you could just make a donation.

All the information and paperwork you need will be
available to download from our website.

<https://camhct.uk/ride-and-stride/>.

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



ELLESMERE ARTS

MURDER MYSTERY EVENING with meal

Saturday, 7th November
At The Ellesmere Centre

Tickets available from
ticketsource/ellesmerearts

from 15th September

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL WILDLIFE TRUST RESERVE.

The Lower Wood (Weston Colville) working parties begin again on Saturday 26th September. It's a chance to volunteer and help maintain the ancient woodland, learn about local wildlife, get some exercise and meet likeminded people.

Come along on the last Saturday of the month at 10am between September and February (Christmas/New Year date may vary). You'll find us along the main path in the middle of the wood (what3words location: saved.shape.guess). We'll be coppicing the hazel to improve biodiversity and the health of the woodland. All ages welcome, although children should be accompanied by an adult. Wear clothing and boots appropriate for the weather and remember you'll warm up as you work. You just need to bring a pair of gardening/DIY gloves. Tools and light refreshments are provided. Most stay until around 1pm but you are welcome to work on after a BYO lunch. Looking forward to seeing you there! For more information please contact

Lower.Wood@wildlifebcn.org.

Dates For your Diary

Lower Wood work party (10am) 26/9/26.

Lower Wood work party (10am) 31/10/26.

Lower Wood work party (10am) 28/11/26.

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 GARDEN CLUB

Doesn't time fly? Here we are in the middle of August as I write, and the weather has thankfully cooled down - for the moment - but we still await any significant rain.

However, moving on, we have a talk to look forward to on **Wednesday 9th September - Linda Gasgoine on Wildlife Gardening**. It will be good for all of us to get together again - at 7.30 pm in the Ellesmere Centre, just in case you need reminding.

Then on Wednesday 14th October Geoff Hodge will talk to us about 'The 12-month Garden'. Same time, same place.

I'm sure both will be fascinating and well worth coming along to. Maybe a relief from worrying about the state of our gardens after this punishing summer. But in the meantime, do enjoy your gardens everyone - and make the most of whatever the weather throws at us, rain or shine!

For any general queries about the Garden Club call Sandie on 07903 584676.

NEWS FROM THE ELLESMERE CENTRE

THE ELLESMERE CENTRE AGM

Tuesday 15th September

7pm

Please come along and show your support

LINE DANCING CLASSES

Starting Mid-September

All ages and abilities welcome

(Low impact to start with)

Over 65's will be subsidised by Active Ageing

If interested, please contact the centre

PICKLEBALL

Court hire is £9 per hour £7 concession.

Call today to book

01638 508212

ADULT AND CHILDREN'S CLASSES

For an up-to-date list please see our website or email the office and we will send you a copy

Email: office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk

Web Site www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk

Alternatively call us on 01638 508212

KINGSWAY SOLAR COMMUNITY ACTION

Kingsway expected to resubmit soon

We expect Kingsway Solar to resubmit its application soon. The Planning Inspectorate will first assess whether the new application meets the necessary requirements before deciding whether to accept it for examination.

If it is accepted, we will need to look carefully at what has changed. Have all the missing surveys and assessments been completed? Have the concerns raised by the Planning Inspectorate been properly addressed? And has the design and layout of the solar panels changed significantly? These will be some of the key questions.

Fire safety

Recent fires at the existing Great Wilbraham Solar Farm have highlighted the importance of fire safety. Kingsway would be on a much larger scale, so we will be looking carefully at the plans for preventing fires, dealing with any incidents and protecting neighbouring land and communities.

An Open Letter to Andy Burnham

We have written an Open Letter to Prime Minister Andy Burnham, copied to the new Energy Secretary. We hope they will listen to our plea that renewable energy projects should be developed **with people, rather than done to them**. Local communities need a meaningful say in projects that could have such a major and lasting impact on their lives and countryside.

Did you know?

As the football season gets underway again, it's a good time to put the scale of Kingsway into perspective.

The proposed Kingsway Solar Farm would cover around 1,750 football pitches — compared with around 90 football pitches at the existing Great Wilbraham Solar Farm. That makes Kingsway around 20 times larger.

It's a simple comparison, but it helps bring home just how enormous the proposed Kingsway development would be.

Stay informed

With Kingsway expected back soon, now is a good time to make sure you are receiving our campaign emails. **Sign up to stay up to date** with what is happening and to hear about opportunities to have your say. Please also encourage friends and neighbours to sign up.

The more people who know what is happening, the stronger our community voice will be.



LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

This August, fifteen of this year's Year 11 leavers embarked on an unforgettable 10-day World Challenge Expedition in Evje, Norway, where they embraced adventure, developed new skills and created memories that will last a lifetime. Our sincere thanks go to Mrs Scally and Mr Barton for making this incredible opportunity possible and for giving up time during their summer holidays. The expedition saw students take responsibility for every aspect of camp life, from planning meals and shopping for supplies to leadership, navigation and campsite management. Their teamwork was evident from the outset, with students rotating roles throughout the trip and successfully providing food for the entire group, even donating surplus supplies to site staff at the end of the expedition.

Activities included white-water rafting, wild camping, mountain trekking and a two-day canoe journey covering 25km. Although a nationwide fire ban meant some trekking plans had to be adapted, students still completed challenging wilderness hikes to remote lakes and mountain summits, enjoying spectacular views across the Setesdal Valley. Navigation proved particularly demanding, with Norwegian maps offering fewer details than those students were used to in the UK. However, they rose to the challenge, demonstrating resilience and determination throughout. By the final days, students had become highly skilled at setting up camp, working together and supporting one another. Staff praised the group for their positivity, teamwork and willingness to step outside their comfort zones and said it was a privilege to watch them embrace new experiences, support each other and return home with lasting memories they will never forget.



GCSE RESULTS PRESS RELEASE 2026 - LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

There were smiles, celebrations and a great sense of pride at Linton Village College this morning as Year 11

students collected their GCSE results and reflected on their achievements.

Students gathered with friends, families and staff to celebrate the culmination of years of hard work and dedication, with many now looking forward to exciting next steps in education, training and employment.

This year's results day was especially meaningful for Mrs Marsh, LVC's Principal, whose daughter, Phoebe, was among the cohort receiving her GCSE results. Celebrating her own excellent academic achievements alongside her peers, she was part of a year group whose hard work, resilience and ambition have been evident throughout their time at Linton Village College.

"I'm incredibly proud of the many success stories from the Class of 2026. The young people have demonstrated our Linton Learner qualities and have secured impressive results across the arts, sciences, humanities and languages. I wish them all the best for the next stages of their educational journeys" (Helena Marsh, Principal of Linton Village College).

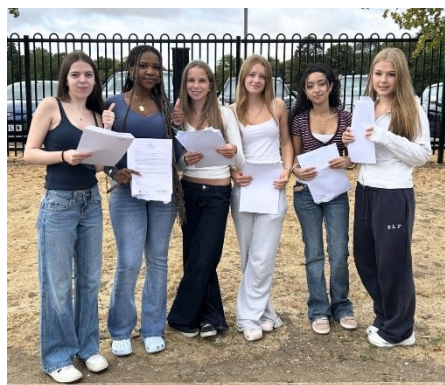
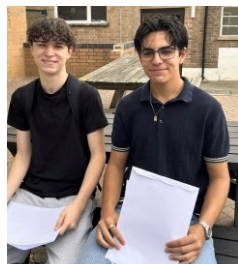


Photo 1: Phoebe Marsh and her mum, Mrs Marsh (Principal)

Photo 2 Lucas Turrell and Zafar Afnan-Murray

Photo 3 Lucy Smith, Ruvi Razemba, Charlotte Miranda, Isabel Evans, Kayla French and Bea Anderson

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

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

Any questions please email
denisehrebeniak@yahoo.com

THE BULL BURROUGH GREEN

We've had a great summer, thank you everyone. We are amazed at the volume of people that support us and are truly thankful. Onwards and upwards.



Now the holidays are over and there has been a let up in this glorious weather, hopefully we can all get back to some kind of normality.

Our up-and-coming events this month are:

Wednesday 2nd September - Speed Quizzing starting at 7.30pm. Come early to avoid disappointment as to where you would like to sit. Let me cook for you, while you sit back, chill have a cool glass of beer or glass of wine, relax and enjoy the evening.

Check out our web page or Facebook for all the new things we are introducing to our menu, some as a specialty which we do on occasions and if they are really popular then we will add to our board

Danny, Tina, and all our staff

01638 476424

BALSHAM PICTURE HOUSE

CHOCOLAT (12)

starring Juliette Binoche and with Johnny Depp and Judy Dench amongst the cast

SATURDAY 5th September

Based on the Joanne Harris novel. Single mother and chocolatier Vianne Rocher (Juliette Binoche) and her young daughter arrive in a rural French town in the winter of 1959 and open an unusual chocolate shop in LENT that disrupts the moral fibre of the strictly Catholic townsfolk and the mayor Reynaud.

Her chocolate confections, however, win over the villagers and her own life is then transformed by the arrival of handsome Roux (Johnny Depp)

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



Trio Tóla Concert

A mosaic of classical music

Musicians from Cambridge University

St Augustine's Church
Burrough Green
CB8 9LY

**Friday
23rd October
at 7 pm**

Tickets £15

to include glass of wine

Payment to Burrough Green PCC
Sort Code 20-60-38
Acc No 00225002

Please reference your payment with
your surname and the number of
tickets: eg Smith 2

Please email
bgchurch24@gmail.com
to confirm payment and you
will receive a confirmation
email of your ticket

www.raddesley.com



SPECIAL APPEARANCE

Aisling Martin - Violin
Ota Kiezan - Cello
Tom Yang - Piano

Programme to include:

Beethoven - 'Gassenhauer' Trio Op.11
Judith Weir - Piano Trio No. 1
Fauré - Piano Trio in D Minor

Photo by Harriet Kara

Looking forward to welcoming 'Trio Tola', an up-and-coming group of musicians from Cambridge University, who have kindly offered to perform at St Augustine's Church, Burrough Green, to help raise funds towards the upkeep of our beautiful Church. Do hope you can join us on Friday 23rd October at 7 pm.

Enquiries: Lucy Talbot 07910 158463

Proceeds from this concert will go to St Augustine's Church Fabric Fund.

DULLINGHAM FLOWER CLUB

Thursday 10th September 2026

at 8pm

The Taylor Hall, Dullingham. CB8 9XE

Come & enjoy a fun evening with a Demonstration
by

Rachel Borenkova

Entitled

'Autumn Offering'

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

DATE FOR DIARY Next meeting

Thursday 8th October 2026 - Demonstration by
David Wright

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

BRINKLEY CHRISTMAS CARD 2026

It is never too early to be thinking about Christmas!

For our Christmas card 2026 I would like a new picture, connected to our village. This picture could be from times past, or a photo of something current.

In portrait orientation please.

Please submit your photos to me at
rospates@yahoo.co.uk ,

and I will judge which is the best/most appropriate/etc to be the winning entry.

The card which goes to every house in the village will be raising money for Brinkley Church and St Nicholas Hospice this year.

SEPTEMBER UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL BAKERY

- MULINO

The past few months have flown by, and we want to say a huge thank you to all the lovely customers who've come to support our bakery on Saturdays.

We've got lots of community events planned for the autumn and winter season. There's an autumn flower/pumpkin arranging workshop on the 24th October, and a Christmas wreath workshop on the 28th November, both guided by the lovely Patrica Roses.

We're also delighted to now be stocking Kerb Collective coffee beans, alongside local honey from our dear Wendy, beautiful greetings cards and portraits from Paul Thorby, PLUS fresh local flowers bunches in limited numbers!

Lastly, we'll be baking a special sourdough with autumnal flavours and spices this September. Our pumpkin pie is always a big hit, so you won't want to miss it, and expect other autumnal treats too, like cinnamon apple turnovers!

See you soon!

Mark your diary:

Seasonal pumpkin/flower arranging workshop 24th October.

Book at patricarosesflorist@gmail.com or online at
www.patricaroses.co.uk

Christmas wreath workshop 28th November:

£60 per person, flower, tools and ribbons included, plus coffee and cake! 12.30am to 2.30 pm at Mulino bakery, The Running Horse Burrough Green. CB89NE.

Book at patricarosesflorist@gmail.com or online at
www.patricaroses.co.uk

BRINKLEY RED LION

The rain arrived, but summer goes on! I hope that September can provide many an opportunity to enjoy a drink in our garden. There's lots of improvements coming up, so do come down and enjoy!



Our upcoming excitements include the arrival of Alice as Sous Chef to complete our kitchen team and provide the consistency we strive for. September's menu will start to go live across the first week, so do book soon for one last go at your favourites from August!

I'll get September's sample menu on the website as soon as possible, and I hope to be offering specials more regularly than ever, announced in advance on socials where we can.

One I can already mention is lamb sausages coming towards the end of September, in time for Newmarket Sausage Festival on the 26th September!

Our themed evening for the month will be on Wednesday 16th September when we have a "Brapas" (British Tapas) evening, to enjoy smaller plates and amazing tables full of food. Please book soon as I expect this to be popular.

Dare I mention December and what it brings on its 25th day?! - We'll share our menu from early October, so for those of you who like to plan ahead; the menu will be online once available!

A little request from us - we love welcoming walk-ins, and have been delighted to see many this month, but do please book when you can, as it does help to make sure we are staffed correctly to provide the service we expect of ourselves!

I hope to welcome many of you through September!
Best

George

www.redlionbrinkley.com info@redlionbrinkley.com
redlion_brinkley

A warm welcome to all in the bar or the restaurant
01638 650879

JOIN YOUR COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH TEAM!

Can you spare just one hour a month?

Our friendly Community Speed Watch group of local volunteers helps keep local roads safer by monitoring traffic speeds and raising awareness.

You'll receive full roadside training on how to use the device, and it's a great way to meet neighbours while helping make your community a safer place to live.

Interested? Please email Claire (Burrough Green & End, Community Speed Watch Coordinator) pearlsie30@hotmail.com for further information.

THE VOLUNTARY NETWORK

Sometimes it's the little things that make a huge difference. The Voluntary Network is a small charity making a big impact, helping vulnerable people stay independent, connected and less isolated. We want more people to know about the support we offer — and how we may be able to help in your community.

Our Befriending Service supports people aged over 60, and demand is growing. We are looking for friendly volunteers who enjoy a chat and could offer someone an hour a week, either in person or by phone. Volunteering is flexible, and befriending often becomes a rewarding friendship for both people involved.

We also provide a reliable, affordable transport service for social, work and medical journeys, as well as onward bus or rail connections. For many people, this service is a real lifeline — and our drivers are known for their friendliness and care.

To find out more about our services, or to volunteer, please visit our website.

www.thevoluntarynetwork.org

NEWS FROM CHARLOTTE CANE

As Parliament returns after the summer recess, I have been reflecting on a busy few months across Ely and East Cambridgeshire. I have met residents, businesses, community groups and local councils, while continuing to raise local concerns with ministers and press for action on the issues affecting our area.

One issue that has dominated the summer is the continuing uncertainty over local government reorganisation in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. After months of consultation and planning, the Government announced in July that it still could not reach a decision and may delay an announcement until October. This is a major decision for the future of local services, yet councils, residents and businesses have been left in limbo.

I raised this directly with ministers in Parliament, asking what further consultation would take place and how electoral officers are expected to prepare for elections next May when they still do not know council boundaries, ward structures or councillor numbers. Those questions went unanswered.

I have since written again to ministers, pressing for clarity and urging them to put local people at the heart of any decision. If the Government cannot show that reorganisation will improve services and accountability, it should consider retaining the current arrangements rather than imposing a flawed solution with little public confidence.

Many conversations over the summer have also turned to the cost of heating homes as we approach autumn and winter. The new Burnham Government has announced the removal of VAT from domestic electricity bills from October, but that will save the

average household only around £45 a year. For many families, that does not go far enough.

This is especially true locally, where many villages have large numbers of homes not connected to the gas grid. More than a quarter of households rely on heating oil or LPG and are often overlooked in national energy policy, despite facing sharp and unpredictable price rises.

The Liberal Democrats are proposing an Essential Energy Guarantee that would save the average household around £100 a year, with extra support for lower-income families, disabled people and households with children. We are also calling for stronger protections for households using heating oil and LPG. With around 4,500 households in Ely and East Cambridgeshire experiencing fuel poverty, keeping people warm this winter must be a priority. I will continue pressing for certainty on local government and practical support with the cost of living.

If there is an issue or concern you would like to raise with me, please do get in touch. I am here to listen and to help wherever I can.

Charlotte Cane MP

charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk | 020 7362 1601

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

What a summer it has been. I hope you have been staying cool, your gardens have scraped through with the hosepipe ban and you are staying vigilant with the ongoing fire risks. At the time of writing, I think we are all waiting for a break in the weather with some rain, but it really does remind us of the times we live in and the climate risks we all need to be more mindful of every day and in all future thinking.

Over recent weeks many young people will have received results from the courses that will move them onto their next stage in life. Well done regardless of the grades you received, opportunity is there for you even if you chose to change direction at any point in the future. Good luck with your next steps.

Local Government Reorganisation

On the last day of Parliament before its summer holiday, the [then] Secretary of State for local government announced delaying a decision on new councils for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. He said a decision would be made 'by October'. He is no longer Secretary of State, so Angela Rayner will be handling this when parliament returns after the summer.

Before the delay was announced, it had been rumoured that the Government would announce an option splitting Huntingdonshire down the middle and putting East Cambridgeshire with Fenland and the south of Huntingdonshire. It was clear from the leaks those proposals were not going to be popular, but the Government has said no further information is required from the existing councils in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough before it makes its decision and

expects local elections to the new councils in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to go ahead in May 2027, regardless of the delay. This will put a lot of pressure on preparations for the new authorities and on all councils being ready to deliver the elections once we have an outcome.

I have been working with our parish councils and other councillors to restate our local concerns and a need for us to be aligned with Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire.

Highways

In recent months, the existing Highways contract with M Group has been renegotiated for a further 3 years delivery. The amended contract focuses on timeliness and quality. Where the contractors are not meeting requirements, they will receive fines. They will also be required to photograph all work carried out so the council are able to check and intervene on poor quality sooner. It is hoped this will force improvement in standards and gives M Group a short period of time to prove themselves before the new authorities negotiate future contracts with whom they choose.

In addition, the Highways and Transport Committee that I sit on agreed a £5m investment targeted at winter readiness. Of the record £78m allocated to highways in 2026/27, only £31.3m of the budget comes from the government; the rest is funded by the council itself. This is an attempt to bridge the significant historical deficit of £800m required to tackle highways issues across the county.

Frequent checks indicate we are still on track to receive new surface treatment to the B1061 between the King's Head and Eagle Lane in the early autumn. I will share exact dates and details as soon as they are confirmed.

Kingsway

The application for the Kingsway Solar Farm was withdrawn by the developers in June. Downing Renewable Developments have indicated they still intend to revise and resubmit the application.

(See included report form Kingsway Action Group)

If you have any queries or need support with a particular issue, do get in touch.

*Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974348141,
jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk*

EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Woodditton Ward

I hope that everyone had a good summer and managed to survive the heat. We are all now hoping for a wetter autumn to refresh the garden and replenish water reserves.

Highways

There was a serious collision on Wednesday 19th August at the Duchess Drive crossroads on the road from Stetchworth across to Cheveley.

I raised the issue of funding two years ago when I was on the County Council for this sort of road junction and asked for more funding to be put into the budget to enable these vital road safety measures to be put in place. I was responsible for pushing through the staggered junction on the A1303, which took a lot of pushing and time, but it was finally completed and is now a safer junction.

That design can be replicated in other locations, if the County Council put the funding in place, that I pushed for in 2025 and made an amendment to the County Council budget, which the ruling group voted down. I will continue to push for better use of YOUR money.

Council Reorganisation

Government announced on 16th July that the decision on the Local Government reorganisation for Cambridgeshire would be postponed until October.

This is a very concerning situation, as it puts at risk The existing District and County Councils, who will no longer exist after March 2028, have to work with the new unitary councils, whatever form they will be, to enable a smooth transfer and this delay is not helpful to ensure that smooth transfer.

I will continue to push for the best outcome for residents, but as you will be aware, the decision is that of Government, with a new Secretary of State in place, so we are at their mercy.

The Ellesmere Centre Post Office

Trustees continue to explore funding avenues to offset some of the costs involved in setting up a commercial arm to enable the Trustees to run the Post Office.

Brinkley House

I attended the open garden at Brinkley House in July and it was good to get ideas for my own garden, meet and chat to local residents and eat some wonderful cake! Well done to all who organised it.

Forest City

No new update on this.

Kingsway Solar

(Article by the action group is in the newsletter)

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 - Woodditton Ward

E-Mail: alan.sharp@eastcambs.gov.uk

Telephone: 07794 292941

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
www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk

Westley Waterless Village Hall - For more
information please go to
www.westleywaterless.com/hall

Date for your diary

ST. PETER'S CHURCH STETCHWORTH

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 24th October 2026

Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth

Doors open 7.00 pm - first question 7.30 pm

Teams of up to six people

£15 per person to include a two-course home-cooked meal

Licensed Bar Raffle

To book your meal and your team Tel: 01638 507576
or email lilywhymer@gmail.com

VILLAGE WEBSITES

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

www.westleywaterless.com

www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk

www.brinkleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

carltoncumwillinghampc.org.uk

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

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/>

ARTICLES FOR OCTOBER VILLAGE VOICE

To

villagevoicenewsletter@btinternet.com

before 20th September 2026 please

SERVICES

Sunday 6th September 14th After Trinity

9.00 Holy Communion Brinkley
10.30 am Family Service Burrough Green
*Exodus 12: 1-14 Romans 13: 8-end
Matthew 15: 18-20*

Sunday 13th September 15th after Trinity

9.00 am Holy Communion Stetchworth
Canon Dr. Malcolm Brown
10.30 am Morning Prayer Dullingham
Canon Dr. Malcolm Brown
*Exodus 15: 1b-11, 20-21 Romans 14: 1-12
Matthew 18: 21-35*

Sunday 20th September 16th After Trinity

9.00 am Holy Communion Burrough Green
10.30 am Morning Prayer Carlton
*Exodus 16: 2-15 Philippians 1: 21-end
Matthew 20: 1-16*

Sunday 27th September 17th After Trinity

10.30 am Holy Communion Dullingham
6.00 pm Evensong Stetchworth
*Exodus 17: 1-7 Philippians 2: 1-13
Matthew 21: 23-32*

RADDESLEY BENEFICE- additional services:

We are introducing two new monthly services - a Communion service at 10.00 on the first Thursday of each month, moving round the six churches in turn, and a Compline service at 6.30 pm on the third Thursday of each month, also moving around the parishes. The Communion service will begin in September (on 3rd September at Brinkley) and the compline service will begin in October (on 15th October at Westley Waterless). The services will, of course, be included in the list of services published in each newsletter. If you have other commitments on Sundays, but would like to attend a service, these services might well suit you.

FROM THE RECTORY

What a summer it has been. I hope and pray that by the time you read this it has finally rained. Whilst the warm sun is normally seen as a blessing, and so it generally is, the sometimes extreme temperatures and lack of rain these past weeks have been really challenging to our landscape, with fields and gardens reduced to dusty, parched blocks of brown. The harvest came in very early, with farmers reporting low yields as a poor return for all their hard work over preceding months. It is especially hard for wildlife and nature; we have been placing bowls of water around the garden for our resident hedgehogs and field mice, and the chickens have dug the biggest dust bowls I have seen! So, yes, droughts can be tough, and we have to dig deep, sometimes literally, to manage the land and our own expectations. But drought can also bring

unexpected opportunities: nature constantly surprises us. Perhaps some plants thrive when you least expect, new plants, better adapted, take the place of those we lose. In our cart barn, 2 pairs of swallows have raised 4 broods, and are now fledging healthily into clear blue skies. So it is with a spiritual drought. For some, finding God in times when they feel most in need of his love and compassion can feel like a drought - not being able perhaps to find the words to pray, or not feeling his presence nearby, can be a time of aridity. But as with nature, so with God. If we wait patiently, and quietly, if we seek ways in which we might engage differently, perhaps by talking to a friend we have lost contact with, or walking amongst the early ripening blackberries and sloes, we might feel the comfort of His grace and know He is with us. The climate is changing, yes, and we must adapt with it, but God's love and compassion is changeless and will endure - we only have to welcome it in.

May you have a blessed and restorative last few weeks of summer.

With my prayers for you all

Reverend Virginia

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
