



## The Wheel - October Normal Menu and Special Deals

+

**EVERY WEEK**

**Wednesday Night: Pie Night**

**Thursday Night: Curry Night**

**Thursday 24th October: Quiz Night**

**Friday Night: Fish Night**

**Saturday Night: Steak Night**

**November 1st: 2 year anniversary +  
Halloween party!**

**Contact: 01233 712223**

**info@thewheelinnwestwell.uk**



# THE WESTWELL EYE

\*200\*

October

2019



**4th October**

**8th October**

**14th, 28th October**

**19th October**

**24th October**

**10.30am Coffee in The Wheel**

**11am Book Club in The Wheel p13**

**1.30pm Art Group**

**7pm Harvest supper + auction of promises p8**

**7pm Quiz - the Wheel**

## October 2019

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
3 16th Sunday of Trinity 8am Holy Communion 3.30pm Messy Church - Hall	4 7pm Fitness	1 7.15pm Players	2 10am Chair Exercise 11am Fistssteps	3 Re.FT 9.15am Pilates	4 10am Iona Eucharist 10.30 Coffee Wheel	5
6 16th Sunday of Trinity 8am Holy Communion 3.30pm Messy Church - Hall	7 7pm Fitness	8 Book Club - p13 7.15pm Players	9 10am Chair Exercise 11am Fistssteps	10 R.F.W 9.15am Pilates 7.30pm WI Meeting	11	12
13 *10am * Players - Hall 17th Sunday of Trinity 11am Iona Eucharist 3.30pm Messy Church - Hall	14 1.30pm Art Group 7pm Fitness	15 7.15pm Players	16 10am Chair Exercise 11am Fistssteps	17 Re.FT. 9.15am Pilates Quiz- The Wheel	18 7pm WI Quiz Parish Hall	19 7pm Harvest Supper + Auction of Promises
20 18th Sunday of Trinity 11am Harvest Service	21 7pm Fitness	22 7.15pm Players	23 10am Chair Exercise 11am Fistssteps	24 R.F.W 9.15am Pilates	25	26
27 *10am * Players - Hall 19th Sunday of Trinity 11am Eucharist	28 1.30pm Art Group 7pm Fitness	29 7.15pm Players	30 10am Chair Exercise 11am Fistssteps	31 Re.FT 9.15am Pilates	Nov 1	2

## From the Editor's desk...

I would like to thank all my regular contributors who sent me their copy for the September Eye punctually for the earlier date I asked for; keep it up, you can do it – 20th of previous month please!!

The fete was a great success, read all about it on page 3 (and 9), thank you Val for the super photos.

I am so glad to read that the players have got a Christmas show, it would have been really sad if they hadn't achieved that.

The special nights at the Wheel have changed this month, see back page.

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Harvest Supper, you can pay for them on the night, but you must book them in advance see page 8

Going out of Westwell into Lenham there is an apple pressing fun day on 13th October in the Tithe Barn; apples will be provided free, but you can bring your own if you would prefer, read about it on page 15.

*Carolyn Thorneloe* ✍

**Photos front page, top:** Cafe au lait in a Westwell garden. Broad bodied Chaser Male (Val Butcher) **Middle:** Heather on Hothfield Common, Field scabious (Amy Lewis). **Bottom:** Puddle of honey in St.Mary's after a hot weekend, (Rosemary Harding)

Dear Editor

I would like to congratulate all the helpers who made Westwell Fete such a success in spite the sweltering weather keeping the number of attendees down.

Moreover I would like to give an especially 'Big Thank You' to Christine Drury who worked tirelessly before the day, on the day and even now still delivering unsold items to the Hospice Shop. What would we do without her enthusiasm, persistence and sheer hard work.

The views of any contributor to this publication may not necessarily be those of the editor and team, nor can the Westwell Eye accept any responsibility in connection with any companies or organisations mentioned or any advertiser.

Correspondence to: Carolyn Thorneloe, Gaoler's Retreat, 5, Faversham Road, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent ME17 2PN.Tel: 01622 859376, Email: westwelleye@gmail.com

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## Useful Contacts

### Telephone Numbers

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Ashford Volunteer Car Service	633219
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Pilgrims' Hospice (Admin)	504100
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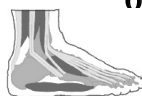
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## Westwell Fete 2019: A triumph in the heat !

First a huge thank you to Val for those great pictures in the September Eye. The sun shone and we sheltered under gazebos and created another day of Westwell fun and fundraising. It was a super result – nearly back to the record of 2017, 'though on the hottest August bank holiday ever attendance was down: families had headed to the beach and dog owners had been advised to stay in.

Thanks to everyone who ran all the stalls and activities: Heather for brilliant face and painting! Produce, Bric a Brac and the Tombola all worked flat out under the new big gazebo, as did the bookstall. Golf, Bowling, China smashing, Coconuts and Nails in Wood all had enthusiastic support and great work on the beauty products and jewellery stalls. Lots of people bought raffle tickets for the Barrow of Booze, supplied by Tarmac. The Dog Agility course and Freda, the balloon car were new for 2019: thank you Anne and Frances. Irene, Alan and Terry did sterling work keeping the Pimms, lemonade and a little beer going – even the ice didn't run out. Thanks to Joan and her raffle sellers on the day. Great to have the Lister BBQ in action and good teamwork with Wheel on the supplies. As ever a big thank you to the WI for generously donating cakes for the WI teas, and lovely to have John Hurrell at the piano. We have a loyal group of stalls that visit including Westwell Wine and Les Langley's carving. The arena events went to plan thanks to Hayley organising the races, Kara judging the Dog show on Hannah's registrations and Jolyon enlisting support for the tug of war, George for leading Daisy the cow ( thanks Nina and Hayley ! ) and Trevor for refereeing another amazing egg throw - which we could rename as the "cricket fielding trials".

The Fete gets wonderful support from our generous sponsors – donated and sponsored raffle prizes, and costs: not least contributions to the evening festivities at the Wheel with Chillbillies. Sponsorship makes huge difference to the result and is also a way for those who are away to support the event. Thanks also to Perfect Day Marquees for tables and Clive, Penny, Terry and John for gazebos; and Duncan and Mark for the skip.

Results	£	Pimms stall	206
BBQ	323	Face painting	46
Bowling	92	Books	212
Dog Show	55	Tombola	405
Nails in wood	15	Golf	82
Bouncy Castle	37	China Smashing	124
Bric a Brac	220	Coconut shy	121
Barrow of Booze	378	Cowpat sweepstake	78
WI Teas	212	Plants and Produce	234
Raffle	884	Freda -balloon car	41
Beauty	250	Jewellery	84
Pitch fees and event contributions,			186
		Total takings	4265

Less Net expenses for Fete after donations - 105  
 Available for distribution after costs 4160  
 £590 of costs were sponsored eg AZ Care for St John ambulance bill of £138.  
 Other donations towards costs totalled £400.

**contd on page 9**

**JAYO**

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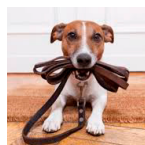
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## Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Monday 2nd September. Borough Councillor Larry Krause reported on a new fund being set up by Ashford Borough Council for infrastructure projects such as broadband provision; this may help Westwell parish which has very poor provision in some areas.

The Minutes of the meetings held on July 1st and July 23rd were approved. Matters Arising included the hedge delineating the Garden of Remembrance in the cemetery: box holly was suggested as a more suitable hedging plant; 30mph speed limit sign in Sandyhurst Lane is now visible since the hedge has been cut back; the damaged bus stop on the A20 near Watery Lane has been replaced.

Planning: There were no new planning applications to discuss. The Parish Council's submission on the appeal against planning refusal for The Old Forge, and comments to the borough council on planning application 19/00943/AS, Bridgewood Farm were ratified. Above-ground building works on the houses next to the Wheel Inn are due to start in late September.

Finance and Projects: Repairs to the hall access track will be carried out when the Players' storage container is in situ; plans are being drawn up for a new pedestrian access to the playing field from Westwell Lane and a safety audit will to be carried out on those plans; the noticeboard in Westwell village will be repaired/replaced and a new Parish Council noticeboard will be placed in Hoads Wood Gardens (subject to the necessary permissions); a replacement bin will be provided for use on the playing field by the youth shelter; repairs will be carried out to the play equipment on the playing field following the annual safety inspection by RoSPA.

Transport: A request has been received for a bus service to Westwell village, which currently has no public transport. This will be followed up.

Reports: KALC: A possible discrepancy between crime figures reported by the PCSO and the national crime statistics for the area is being investigated. ACRK: Help will be sought for a bus service to Westwell. Highways : The 50mph speed limit signs have not yet been put up on the A20. Repairs needed to potholes on Amberleaze. Tree Wardens: The need for works to trees in the churchyard was identified during the annual tree survey; a notification of the works has been sent to the borough council because the trees are in a Conservation Area. Parish Hall: The footpaths map will be rehung on an outside wall to be useful to walkers and passers-by.

Any other business: The Harvest Supper and Auction of Promises will be held on 19th October; the Westwell Fete raised approx £4000 net, which will be distributed to St Mary's Church, the parish hall and playing field, and a charity; Hayley Empett was thanked for her efforts on the parish hall planters – replanting and watering.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 4th November at 7pm in the parish hall, all meetings are open to the public and all are welcome. Meetings in 2020 will be held on the first Monday of alternate months.

## Classified ads

**Help Available: Light Garden Work, Housework, Dog Walking. £15 Per Hour**  
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## WESTWELL WI

This month's meeting was members' night which is the opportunity for members to thank the committee for all their hard work during the year. This year Tracy Shaikh organised the entertainment and she was ably assisted by her daughter Shakira. Between them they put on a show of "Play Your Cards Right". Two members were selected to make up two teams, the red and the blue team. Shakira played the part of the "Dolly Dealers" and Tracy stood in the shoes of the legendary Bruce Forsyth as the Question Master. Questions asked were how many journalists out of 100 believed everything they read in papers, how many landlords out of 100 who would run a pub where customers were all students and how many Instagram viewers were under the age of 35. Moving across the card layout was great fun as members either cheered or gasped as the cards in turn revealed either a higher or lower value. The eventual winners were the red team winning a magnificent £13,000 in Star Wars pound notes which were immediately converted to chocolate winnings. A huge thank you goes to Tracy and Shakira for organising such a fun event.

Events which had taken place during the month of August had been the BBQ and a trip to the newly opened Curious Brewery.

On 18th October we will be running our annual Quiz night. This event is open to all and includes a ploughman's supper at a cost of £6.50 each. If you would like to put forward a team of 6 to 8 people or just think you might like to come along in ones or twos just send an email to Catherine at [westwellwi2015@gmail.com](mailto:westwellwi2015@gmail.com).

Future events on the horizon will be the ladies' lunch in November at the Halfway House in Challock and a pudding night in January.

If you are interested in knowing more about being a WI member please contact us via the email address above.

**Catherine Hazelden**

**Next Meeting:-** Thursday 10th October.

**Talk:** The Pilgrim's Hospice

**Vote of thanks:-** Catherine Hazelden

**Hostesses:-** Mesdames Gardner; Wood and Bowdery

**Competition:-** A Limerick



## 1st Charing Scout Group



The new term has seen many changes with our young people. Six new beavers started. They look so small! (But so full of energy). At the same time five beavers swam up to cubs. Scouts have consolidated their two sets and now have one troop meeting on Mondays.

Scouts are hoping to go camping in Europe next year, so will be fundraising to allow it to happen. They are looking for decorated plates to make into cake stands. They also will be making jam and preserves so are looking for jars with lids.

Cubs are hoping to welcome Damian Green to a meeting. They are planning all kinds of fun  
[gsl\\_charingscoutgroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gsl_charingscoutgroup@hotmail.co.uk) **Terry Lister**



## Sheila Brooksbank - a personal memory

I met Sheila many years ago. She was living in Malthouse Cottages. I met her cats and we had coffee. She showed me some of her picture framing and furniture restoring work. After that we would say hello on the roads in Westwell. Then we had lunch together at Liz Robson's in Dunn Street. I realised she was a friend to several older members of our community.

One day at her new home (Forge Cottages) we were having a birthday tea with a few of her other friends and we heard a sudden knock at the front door. Two police officers asked if they could access her neighbours through her back garden; no other explanation! Later we realised that cottage had tenants who were growing cannabis. No one ever saw those who lived there, and the curtains were always drawn. Now Westwell was in the news!

Some time later I went to her cottage and she was quite angry. Her coy carp had died after a short water cut. When the supply resumed, the water used to top-up the pond had too much chlorine. Needless to say, I don't think she got any compensation.

Another time we visited Jean at a nursing home outside Tenterden. We had a nice lunch at the Turkish restaurant there, and that was when she mentioned she was finding it hard to swallow. The medics, she said, were dismissing these worries as baseless.

Sheila was a very kind woman. Also very eccentric and artistic. She loved her living space, cats, and friends. I never heard her being mean about anyone - except if they enjoyed hunting! She was so gentle and loving that when her cat stole a slice of smoked salmon she had prepared for lunch, she was as calm as you could imagine, even with Wilbur licking his mouth and lying on the counter.

Her 60th birthday party in October 2017 was a very generous and happy event organised with Charlie, her partner. I realised how many friends she had, of all age groups, from the village and elsewhere. There we indulged her love for champagne, sushi and The Doors!

One day we talked about places we had lived in. She had lived in, and loved, Indonesia, Malaya and Cyprus. She had loved the exotic fruits and flavours. She showed me pictures in a photo album. The family had chickens in Cyprus and she said she wanted to have some herself. The chicken coop was in the garden, which she was determined to keep improving, even though she did not own it. Even in her last days she was growing and planning to preserve her vegetables. At the hospital she was reading up on gardening and making cards using skills she had learnt at the weekly art classes at the Hospice. These skills included painting on silk, and she promised to paint a necktie for Charlie.

Sheila died in the early hours of Tuesday July 9th; she was not yet 62. She will be greatly missed.

**Q. Rawi**

**Photograph from Sheila's  
60th Birthday Invitation**



## Lenham Meadows Trust - Apple Pressing Fun Day

Lenham Meadows Trust is holding an Apple Pressing Fun Day on Sunday 13th October from 11am to 3pm and we'd love to have you join us. We'll have an apple press set up in the barn so please bring your own apples (washed ready for pressing) and a clean container so that you can take home some fresh apple juice. Don't worry if you don't have your own apples as we'll have plenty for you to press.

\* BBQ \* cake stall \* live music \* face painting \* kids adventure tunnel \* hook-a-duck  
\* apple-bobbing and lots more \* plenty of prizes to be won.

The Apple Pressing Fun Day is free to enter, although there may be a small charge for some of the games and activities. We hope to see you there!

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As our thoughts (and the shops) turn to Bonfire Night and Christmas so should we also review our home security as the length of darkness increases.

As most burglaries are opportunistic the best form of defence is deterrence.

Make it difficult for the burglar, or increase his chances of capture, and he will leave you alone and go somewhere else. So check your outside security lighting and any CCTV cameras, repair or replace them as necessary; make sure doors and windows can be locked when required and ensure any alarm systems, fire as well as intruder, are fully functional. Secure your garden sheds and immobilise any garden machinery.

### The Police also advise:

Making a note of expensive items and equipment, including make, model, serial numbers and any details that may help identify them

Photographing your valuables, particularly items that you do not want to security-mark

Registering your property on a property database such as [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com),

Remember, the villains are looking for the easy option! Make it difficult!

### Be Prepared

As part of the planning for emergencies in Kent required under the Civil Contingencies Act, the Kent Resilience Forum is required to assess the risks in their area.

To help the public help itself in emergencies, they have just released a leaflet advising on Household Emergency Plans.

This can be used to help Kent's residents prepare for a range of emergency situations and reduce their dependence on outside help from other services.

You can view, and download, a copy from the WCWS site on the Westwell website: <http://www.westwell.org/>

More information about how we are planning for emergencies can be found on the

Kent Prepared website: <http://www.kentprepared.org.uk/>

To report suspicious activity call 101 or use Country Eye – in an emergency call 999

For more information go to  
[westwell.community.watch@gmail.com](mailto:westwell.community.watch@gmail.com)

You can also indicate whether you would like to get Westwell Events news, including updates from the Parish Council

**Keep Vigilant - Tony Bartlett – WCWS Co-ordinator**

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# Letter to the Parishes

## Harvest: a Shared Enterprise

It is the season for Harvest Festivals. In churches across England people will be singing “We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land”. This 18th century hymn sees harvest as a shared enterprise between people and the creator. Ploughing and sowing are human work. “It is fed and watered...” is God’s work. This relationship is ancient and predates Christianity. Some of the produce, a tithe for example, is offered to God as a thank you and a reminder of our dependence on the natural world. Something we re-enact in churches at harvest festivals.

In England we have had about 150 years of food security interrupted only by the two world wars. The growth in agricultural and food technology has also eroded our sense of dependence on nature. Perhaps this is about to change. Global warming has already caused mass displacement of people as agriculture and fishing collapse, and everyone will be affected in the next few years (See the UN Special Report on Climate Change and Land, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/08/1043921> )

Christianity looks to the wellbeing of our neighbours, not just ourselves. Harvest festival is a wakeup call, and demands a just distribution of the Earth’s resources. If we are bold enough to pray about it, so we ourselves become open to changing the way we live and consume

*Mark Taylor* 

## Cleaning Rota.

Cleaning Sarah Stevenson  
Flowers Sarah Stevenson  
Brass Valerie Hooper



I would be so grateful for offerings of produce or flowers or help to give a special autumnal flavour to St Mary’s for the Harvest Festival on 20th October. I will be decorating the church just a little on Thursday 17th at 11am. You might be hearing from me (!) or please do phone me.  
**Sarah Stevenson 01233 712486**

## Harvest Supper and Auction of Promises

Join us in the parish hall on Saturday 19th October at 7pm for the harvest supper, a delicious traditional 2-course home-cooked meal.

The tickets are £15 each, pay on the night and bring your own drinks.

It’s always a very popular event so early booking is essential – contact Jane Richards [jane.richards58@googlemail.com](mailto:jane.richards58@googlemail.com) 07929232285.

After the meal we move on to the Auction of Promises, which are many and varied – previous Promises have included gardening/a massage/babysitting/a ton of manure!

If you have a Promise you can offer please contact Sue Wood [susanwood@uwclub.net](mailto:susanwood@uwclub.net) 07939633232.

All proceeds are in aid of St Mary’s Church.

## Etc

### Dates for diaries

19th October: Harvest Supper

7th December: Bazaar

### Coffee at The Wheel Inn

Coffee at The Wheel, **Friday 4th October**  
from 10.30 - 11.45am. All welcome.

**WAGS – Westwell Art Group**  
**14th and 28th October.**



### Book Club September 2019

We were delighted to have Joan Hazell with us and Lynne, her neighbour from California. A former resident of the village and co-founder of the group with Liz Jamieson and Sheila Horton of fond memory, Joan is pleased to still be an official member of the book club, receives the notes and tries to keep up with some of the books. For her it was heart-warming to see the group flourishing, she had done a good thing! One aim had been to enable people to walk to the meetings rather than drive. Now meeting at the pub was another innovation. She had enjoyed the photo of Celeste Muir in the pub in a burqa. We all felt lucky as women to have the choice to meet in the pub and speak freely, or decide to attend a football match, unlike the 29 year old Iranian woman who had been arrested for trying to attend a football match, and died that morning having set fire to herself in protest outside the Tehran court.

Our September book was Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine, the debut novel by Gail Honeyman, about a socially awkward young woman in Glasgow written from her own point of view. Not easy to get into for some but everyone enjoyed and were moved by the book, the way it unfolded to the unexpected conclusion. The novel was triggered by the author reading an article about a young working woman not seeing anyone for a whole weekend once she had left work on the Friday. We agreed that it is easy to miss signs that

people are lonely and with prompting might like to talk about it, that isolation happens everywhere to all ages, including in this village where there is no shop, for reasons such as lack of transport, no family nearby or not belonging to any groups, and where physical security can cause anxiety to those living alone.

**Next meetings: 8th October – anything by Barbara Pym 12th November - Me Before You by Jojo Moyes 11am at The Wheel, everyone welcome.**

### October - Charing Gardeners’ Society

We return to Wednesday evenings for our Autumn talks: 16th October at 7.30pm in the Church Barn, Kevin Tooher will talk about roses for the garden. Everyone is welcome, £3 entry for non-members includes a cuppa and a chance to chat after the talk. Raffle, seed-swap and plant stall, for which contributions always welcome. Parking is in the Square. We were very pleased to come second in the annual inter-village competition with Harrietsham and Lenham Garden Societies in September. Annual membership is a bargain at £3 and includes our 2019 Annual, packed with articles, show schedules and details of members’ events. Check out our Facebook page for news and photos of recent events including the colourful autumn show held on 21st September, for further information about the society see: <http://charinggardeners.org.uk>

### Christmas Bazaar - 7th December

I am beginning to plan this year’s Christmas Bazaar so I am looking for volunteers for the day, please let me know if you are available.

Any cakes, homemade produce, unwanted gifts, tombola and raffle prizes would be much appreciated. Thank you, **Penny Knatchbull,**

**07976 522908 / 01233 714983**

**[pennyknatchbull@gmail.com](mailto:pennyknatchbull@gmail.com)**



## Parish News

Westwell Church Services for October  
[www.g7benefice.org](http://www.g7benefice.org)

**Friday 4th: Eucharist**

**Sunday 6th: 16th Sunday of Trinity**

8am Holy Communion

**Sunday 13th: 17th Sunday of Trinity**

11am Iona Eucharist

3.30pm Messy Church - Parish Hall

**Sunday 20th: 18th Sunday of Trinity**

11am Harvest Service

**Sunday 27th: 19th Sunday of Trinity**

11am Eucharist

### Wedding

Mark Stephen Ralph and Mandy Smith were married at St. Mary, Westwell on Saturday 24th August.

### Church Matters October 2019

Breakfast at St Marys Sunday 6th October 9.30am for tea, coffee, bacon butties, toast and jam. Bring some friends for a good start to the day. Things to do for all ages. There will be a short service (15minutes) at 10.45am

**Messy Church** Sunday 13th October Creation Month Westwell parish hall 3.30 - 5pm. For children with an accompanying adult. Fun, games, crafts, story, songs and tea all with a bible theme. Next month Messy is on 10th November, theme people who help us.

**19th October** is the Harvest Supper followed by Harvest festival at 11am in church on Sunday 20th October. All age service. A Thanksgiving service for harvest and the food in our lives. Bring a vegetable, just for show, bring some dried goods for the Food Bank Or a harvest story. An informal service with bread and soup this month. Things to do for adults and children.

This month's coffee collection is for Food Bank costs.

Charity collections for the last few months  
Water Aid £28.66, Childhood First £31.94  
Christian Aid £14.05

Looking forward...

Samaritans child shoe boxes and leaflets are now in church. You can drop off items in church or If you would like a box to fill between you and your friends please ask Heather to drop one off or collect one from church. Email [hlist@hotmai.com](mailto:hlist@hotmai.com) if you are interested.

### Thank You.

I was absolutely overwhelmed by your generosity when I received the parting gift during my last service with you on the 1st September. It was lovely to see all those who could make it to the service, far too many to have proper conversations with. To those who couldn't make it but who have sent cards or messages, thank you. It has been a memorable seven and a half years spent in the benefice as your Rector. There have been challenges along the way but very many joys. It has been a privilege to serve you in this role and I will miss all your friendship and support. I pray that God will continue to bless you as you move into the next chapter of your life as a benefice.

*With love and continuing prayers. Sheila*



### Remembrance Sunday

This year is November 10th. The main focus will be on those who died in the two world wars. We would like to also honour those men and women who lived in Westwell or have friends or relatives here who served in any of the other conflicts since 1945 or who were conscientious objectors and served in other ways.

If you can give us any information please let me know, Heather Lister, or drop a note into church before it closes for winter after Harvest. [hlist@hotmai.com](mailto:hlist@hotmai.com). You are very welcome to bring details with you and post them on the remembrance board during the service if you prefer.

## Wye Surgery Patient Participation Group.

**'NHS Changes- Your Services, Your Future'**

**Health Information Day Friday 25th October**

**Village Hall Wye 10am -3pm**

On 18th June last year Wye Surgery PPG held a Health and Information Day as part of National Patient Participation Awareness Week. The event received positive feedback from the many members of the public attending, with requests to organise a further day in due course.

We are aware that there are intense discussions and consultations taking place about the future delivery of services and the need to deploy limited human and financial resources in the most effective way possible, both for those who use and those who provide services. However, there are all too few opportunities to receive accurate information about what is being planned and to participate in constructive discussion. Nor is there any comprehensive route map, which can help negotiate the system. At times this can be at best bewildering and at worst distressing, especially when you are feeling vulnerable through illness or disability.

The focus of the day will be the proposed changes and the future operation of the new Ashford Stour Primary Care Network of which Wye Surgery will be a part. There will be a series of presentations including input from a Wye Surgery clinician and a question and answer session. In the afternoon we will broaden the focus a little to look at modern challenges to health and wellbeing in a rapidly changing landscape. Presentations will include a Neighbourhood Watch film and a Kent Crime Prevention Officer will advise on how to avoid the anxiety of increasingly sophisticated scams and cyber crime.

There will also be Information Stands and representatives from some of the health and welfare related East Kent organisations, of which many of us are unaware until we need them and maybe not even then. Information about support services can be patchy and poorly signposted and yet they can make all the difference. Last year more than 20 organisations attended and provided a wealth of information which was greatly appreciated by participants.

All are welcome, whether or not you are a Wye Surgery Patient. You can drop in for all or part of the day. There will also be coffee and delicious home made cakes. Do put the date in your diary.

*Judith Timms PPG Chair*

### Westwell Fete 2019: contd. from page 3

Last year despite the wash out we made £2456 to distribute. This year we are back up to £4160 to distribute. £1877 will go to the Church; £1877 to the Parish Hall and Playing Field ; £208 to the Church loo project and £208 to the charity that provides cuddle cots to help families cope with losing a baby. The Pilgrims Hospice warehouse welcomed our donation of over 50 boxes of books and bric a brac. Huge thanks to Doris throughout the run up, and also Clive, Graham, Tim, Sue and Anne for organising so much and to Jayne for the new layout plan and Sue and Heather for managing the floats and receipts. The success of the Fete relies on the setting up as much as the clearing away . Special thanks to Albert and Jolyon for the marking out and to the big gazebo team especially Peter, Sarah and Rob. And to everyone for being there!

*Christine Drury*



## Westwell Players

The die is cast.....and so is the Pantomime! We are delighted to report that we have decided to stage a Pantomime called "Rapunzel" We have two lovely youngsters in the two main parts and were very thrilled to come away from the first rehearsal laughing and happy with the Show and the casting. If you fancy being in the chorus – with little or nothing to say, we would love to see you on any Tuesday evening at the Hall at 7.30.p.m. We can promise our audiences lots of laughter, innuendo, chases, horses and dragons, not to mention a ghost or two for good measure and some twists and turns along the way. We have a great team, all raring to go and words are being learnt and songs chosen to brighten up a dreary November evening. Our scenery lady is full of bright ideas and we already have some patterns for the costumes. We need a pantomime horse costume but already have a wonderful dragon's head. Rapunzel and her swain are learning their lines in record time and putting everyone else to shame. Tickets for Players members will go on Sale on 29th September and for the rest of the Public and our many fans they will be available online from Sunday 6th October. More details next month.....

*Our Pantomime is called "RAPUNZEL" and is to be seen in our Parish Hall as usual on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 21st, 22nd and 23rd of November 2019, Thursday and Friday will be at 7.30pm, but as a concession to our younger audiences Saturday's performance will be at 6.00 pm. Tickets will be £8 for all adults and £6 for children.*

*Mary Anne Pitt* 

### Free public talk: The Tufton Family of Hothfield during the English Civil War

**Friday 11th October at 7.30pm, St Margaret's Church, Church Lane, Hothfield**

Hothfield History Society invites you to attend our next public talk by Dr Janet Pennington. Sir John Tufton, 2nd Earl of Thanet, had a tough time during the Civil War, particularly during the years of 1642-1648. He supported King Charles I and became a marked man in Kent - a 'Delinquent' - and his estates were sequestered by the Parliamentary side. His lands at Hothfield in Kent, Northiam and Wiston in Sussex were pillaged by soldiers of both sides. He went to Spa for a year 'for his health', leaving his pregnant wife Margaret and young children behind at Wiston House in Sussex. This talk explains just what happened to one family during these turbulent times.

The free talk is being held in the historic setting of Hothfield Church within the grounds of the former country seat of the Tufton family and where Sir John's grandfather funded a magnificent tomb for the family. Visitors will be welcome to tour the church and admire the colourful tomb.

Janet is the historian for the Wiston Estate in Sussex and has researched the Tufton family's difficult existence during the Civil War. Please come along to find out more and to ask questions. Talk lasts about 45 minutes. Free admission and tea/coffee. Church is wheelchair accessible. All welcome. Visit [www.hothfieldmemories.org.uk](http://www.hothfieldmemories.org.uk)



## October on Hothfield Heathlands

Two notable things about the heather this summer was how quickly the colour faded in the strong sunshine, but also how well it is spreading. Most visible and pleasing was the colour on the right-hand slope above the causeway over the upper bog. Heathland needs bare ground for plants to colonise and this slope has been gradually cleared by the regular volunteers, aided in July by more bracken bashing and tree popping by a combo team of 30 staff and volunteers from the Environment Agency, KWT, Natural England and Stour Countryside, who join forces on different sites several times a year.

The Hebridean sheep have been taken to a different reserve, leaving us with 60 Herdwicks and the Highland cattle. The Konik ponies were off site in September, but may be coming back soon.

In September bee species and hornets headed for the mauve devils bit scabious that floated above the yellow tormentil, which has flowered all summer. Butterflies recorded were small white, clouded yellow, brimstone, common and holly blue, small heath, comma, painted lady, speckled wood, and red admirals, plus migrant hawker, brown hawker, emperor, keeled skimmer, ruddy, common darter and willow emerald dragonflies. Numbers dwindled mid-month and volunteer recording stopped at the end of September.

On 24th October KWT hosts the awards event for a record number of entries in the 2019 Wild About Gardens non-competitive scheme. Gardens meeting the criteria for being wildlife-friendly receive various levels of award, whatever the size and wherever the garden. Entry forms will be on the KWT website in 2020. An adviser arranges to visit the garden and make suggestions, results are announced in September. Every wildlife-friendly garden in the area contributes to the biodiversity of Kent.

Ian reminds walkers that ticks on humans on the reserve are still few and far between, but definitely increasing and a very regular occurrence on dogs. He advises keeping dogs to the main paths and checking yourselves and your dogs on leaving the reserve. For tick removal and other medical information go to the NHS website. The Heathland is open to everyone; trails are signposted and marked on entrance maps, as is the location of livestock. The noticeboard down the main slope from the Cades Road car park gives recent wildlife sightings. Please keep dogs in check, especially around children and livestock, and keep them away from the heather and undergrowth where they will disturb sensitive wildlife. Please remove dog mess, including in the Triangle compartment. For email alerts on the location of the livestock on Hothfield contact Ian Rickards [ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk](mailto:ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk). or 01622 662012.

*Margery Thomas* 

We will have volunteer days at Hothfield on the following days. All welcome.

Friday 4th October - 10:00

Tuesday 8th October - 9:00

Sunday 13th October - 10:00

Friday 18th October - 10:00

Tuesday 22nd October - 10:00

For more information contact [ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk](mailto:ian.rickards@kentwildlife.org.uk)