

WESTMILL VILLAGE NEWS

Issue No. 5
June 2015



*A Painting of
Westmill Village*

Westmill Parish Council

The new 4 year term for Westmill Parish Council (WPC), commenced with the AGM in the village hall on the 13th May 2015.

The newly appointed Parish Councillors are Diane Bowtell, David House, Michael McRae, Russell Phipps and Winston Pickup. Mike McRae was nominated as the chairman. As we currently have five councillors, we still have one vacant position, so anyone interested in becoming a councillor, please make it know to any of these councillors.

The present Councillors would like to extend their thanks and gratitude to Muriel Parsons and David McMullen, who have both served on the council for several years and have made a significant contribution to village and the WPC.

The intention is to continue to meet four times a year in the village hall, (May, September, December & March), with the option to arrange additional meetings if it is considered necessary.

WPC has in the past couple of years, received a 'New Homes Bonus' from central government, via East Herts Council. Although our parish has not built any new homes recently, we have still been allocated a small sum from the central fund, which it is intended to be spent on community projects.

In the first year this money was received, a contribution was made by WPC towards the new play equipment in the children's playground. The parish council proposes to discuss if there are other village community projects that these funds could support for the benefit of village residents. The amount we are likely to receive this year is just over £1000.

The parish councillors would welcome any suggestions from villagers that can be then considered at our September meeting. Again please let any of the parish councillors know if you have any ideas.

Parish Clerk

Melanie Mason, our present Parish Clerk wishes to resign her position and we therefore have a vacancy for this role.

The responsibilities include attending WPC meetings, producing the minutes, dealing with correspondence in between meetings, raising cheques for payment, etc. A fee is paid by WPC for these duties.

If you are interested in learning more, in the first instance please contact Mike McRae on 01763. 272147, or email mjmcrae@aol.com

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY



Westmill Art Exhibition

Bank Holiday Weekend 29, 30 and 31 August 2015

10am to 5pm Westmill Village Hall,
Westmill, Near Buntingford

Attention all artists!

The Exhibition will soon be here.

New artists very welcome.

Artists who have previously exhibited
will be contacted.

Everyone welcome to come and enjoy the works of art on display.

Entry into the exhibition is free of charge.

All works are for sale.

Hope to see you there.

For further information or an entry form contact:

Olga Partridge 01763 273654

Sue Phipps: phippsappleyard@btinternet.com

Please note change of contact details

Daffodil Coffee Morning

Tuesday 31st March 2015

Held at The Pump House, Coles Park, Westmill



The morning was bright and breezy for the annual Westmill Daffodil Coffee Morning.

Over 60 people attended to enjoy tea, coffee and homemade cake and the added bonus of a walk in the very attractive gardens of Lady and Lord Carter to pick a bunch of daffodils. To end the proceedings a raffle was drawn with several prizes on hand.

The morning was very successful and we are delighted to announce that £382 was raised for St Mary the Virgin, Westmill Church funds.

A huge thank you to Lord and Lady Carter for allowing us to have the use of their home and beautiful gardens again for the event. Also many thanks to all the ladies and gentlemen involved in organising, setting up and running the Daffodil Coffee Morning.

Sue Phipps

VILLAGE LOTTERY BE IN IT TO WIN IT!

**Since it started, over £100 every month has come out in prize money with winners of £50, £30, £20 and £10
Ring Jan on 272217 or Liz on 272181 to join.**

Monies are divided equally between FoWC and prizes.

BELL RINGERS AT ST. MARY'S ON V.E. DAY

I am sure you will want to join me in sending many congratulations to Angela (second from the left) who with friends from the district rang her first quarter peal in Westmill, Monday 25th May. A quarter peal takes approximately 45 minutes of continuous ringing. Angela was faultless, very well done, we are proud of you.
Michael Thody



More about Angela.....

"I started bell ringing in 2006 learning at Broxbourne.

Clif and I moved to Christchurch in New Zealand in 2007 and I went along to the cathedral where I continued with my ringing; making some great friends along the way. Unfortunately, Christchurch experienced a massive earthquake and the cathedral was severely damaged along with the bell tower. The bells were shipped back to London to be fixed and will be re-hung once the cathedral is rebuilt.

We returned to the UK in 2009 where I continued with my ringing.

In 2012 we spotted a house in Westmill that we wanted to buy. I made an enquiry about whether the bells were rung in the village church as this was important to me. Before we even bought the house I even came along to a ringing event at Westmill to meet the local ringers and try out their bells - what a great bunch of people.

We moved into our house in Westmill in March 2012 and I introduced myself to Michael Thody. I was instantly welcomed along to ringing with the group and have now been ringing for most Sunday morning services at either Westmill or Aspenden, at weddings and to commemorate special events such as the Olympics and VE Day celebrations. It's so nice moving to a new area and instantly receiving such a great welcome and slotting into the village community all due to a hobby.

I had an opportunity to ring my first quarter peal and with the agreement of Michael Thody and Ian, the Vicar at Westmill, the group was allowed to have access and use of the church on the bank holiday Monday in May - to which I must give a big thank you. A quarter peal is ringing as a team with no guidance, following a strict set of rules, non-stop for 45 minutes. If achieved, performances are recognised by being published in The Ringing World magazine something which I can proudly say we achieved successfully.

Bell ringing is such a quintessentially British past time and you get to meet some wonderful people and visiting lovely towers with such beautiful views across the British countryside. I couldn't imagine not having bell ringing in my life. If you fancy giving it a go, why not contact Michael Thody. You will always be guaranteed a warm welcome".
(271321 if you're interested - Ed.)

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WESTMILL

Church Services

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2015



Sunday 14th June	9.30 Holy Communion
Sunday 21st June	NO SERVICE (services held at St Mary's Aspenden and St Peter's Buntingford)
Sunday 28th June	9.30 Holy Communion
Sunday 5th July	9.30 Morning Worship
Sunday 12th July	9.30 Holy Communion
Sunday 19th July	NO SERVICE (services held at St Mary's Aspenden and St Peter's Buntingford)
Sunday 26th July	9.30 Holy Communion
Sunday 2nd August	9.30 Morning Worship
Sunday 9th August	9.30 Holy Communion
16th August	NO SERVICE (services held at St Mary's Aspenden and St Peter's Buntingford)
Sunday 30th August	9.30 Holy Communion

We are still seeking two Churchwardens at St Mary's Westmill. Please give Rector Ian Hill a ring on 01763 274072 for an informal chat if you'd like more details.