

**Issue 42**  
**MAY—JUNE 2023**



# West Row Parish Echo



## **Our deadline for**

**issue 43 July/August 2023 is : 12th June 2023**

Please email

Helen Webber at

[helen.webber60@gmail.com](mailto:helen.webber60@gmail.com)

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# A note from the EDITOR

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the late Spring / early Summer edition of the ECHO which contains some very interesting articles, as usual. I hope you have time to read and digest them.

West Row is planning to celebrate the forthcoming coronation of King Charles III. No doubt many of you will watch the ceremony and parade on television and then please consider joining the festivities in and around the Village Hall from 2.00 p.m. onwards.

You are invited to bring your own picnic but a pay as you go barbecue will be available. Subsidised Fish & Chips will also be available but this needs to be booked in advance.

Also various forms of entertainment are planned throughout the afternoon.

Full details of the planned programme can be found on page 24.

Another couple of articles from 1932 edition of 'The Westrovia' are reproduced on pages 18 & 19.

The History Group's report about Roman times in and around West Row can be found on page 6. Remember that excellent copies of the Roman Treasure found in West Row are on display in Mildenhall Museum. The museum contains many other historical artefacts and is well worth a visit. Details of opening times and other information can be found at [mildenhallmuseum.co.uk](http://mildenhallmuseum.co.uk)

Details of regular activities on at the Village Hall can be found on page 5 and you may be interested in attending some of them.

Best Wishes,

Peter Rolfe

## Autumn Quiz answers.

1. Cotton Traders
2. River Island
3. Dunelm
4. Tesco
5. Primark
6. Heron
7. Virgin Airways
8. Amazon
9. CarpetRight
10. Pandora
11. New Look
12. Boo Hoo
13. Boots
14. Farmfoods
15. Iceland
16. Apple
17. Zara
18. H. Samuel
19. Asda
20. Next

Although nobody had all the correct answers, they were all identified across all the entries. The winner was Jenny Street, Chapel Road, West Row.



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West Row Village Hall offers a wealth of classes for sport, exercise and dance every week for all ages and abilities.

**Sunday:** 6:30pm – Kuk Sol Won, a martial arts training programme to children and adults of all ages.

Martial Arts with Darren Hart mob 07717 886 917

**Monday;** from 4.30 until 7.30pm: PWL (Performance Without Limits) offers dance/acro classes for children of all ages. Mob 07510 611 231

**Tuesday** offers an evening class of Fitness Pilates run by experienced Health & Fitness Instructor Karen Peachey-Gallagher .Mob 07554 119 550

**Thursday Evening:** 6pm – 6:45pm a Fun Step Aerobics class with all equipment provided and for all ages and abilities.

**Thursday Evening** from 7.30pm till 9.30pm: Linday Hop, Swing Jive Open to all adults. Caroline 07886 492 772, Dale 07399 776 994

**Friday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday and Last Friday of each moth:** from 12:30pm. Warm Rooms Fish and Chip lunch. Contact Sharon (Parish Clerk) to reserve a place, alternatively turn up for Soup and hot drink.

**Friday 6:30pm :** 5:30–7:30 pm Kuk Sol Won – same as Sunday

To book the hall: £15 per hour (Residents of the Parish of West Row)

£18 per hour – Non residents

Extra charge for Bar and Sun-Lounge



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## ROMAN TIMES FROM THE HISTORY GROUP

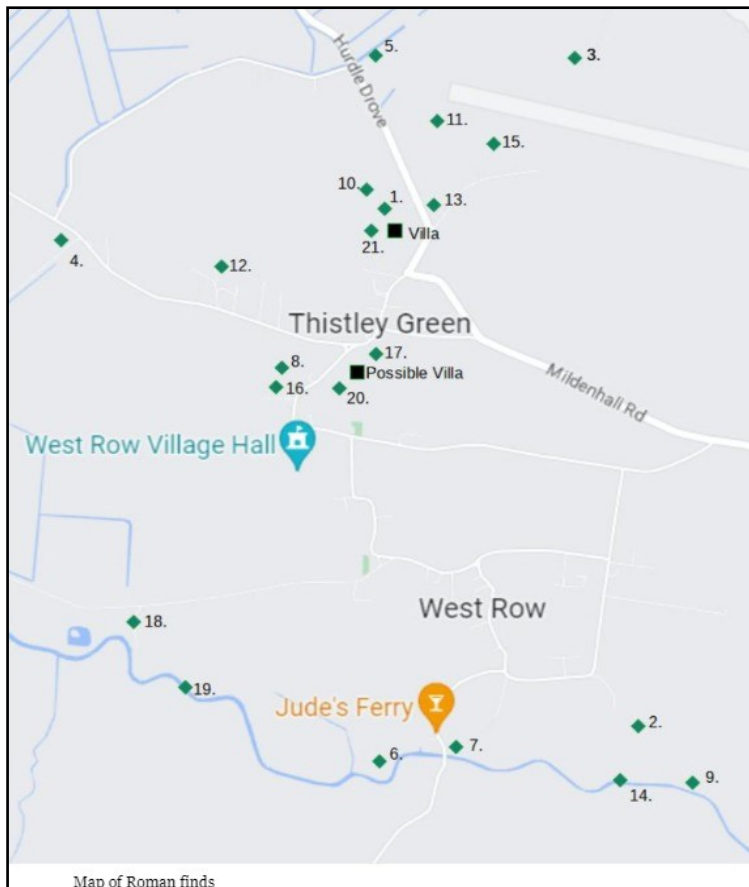
The Conquest of Britain by the Romans began in AD. 43. when four Legions and Auxillary troops landed in Kent and fought their way to the Thames. Thereafter under the command of the Emperor Claudius himself, the army defeated the Catuvellauni, the most powerful of British tribes, and captured their ramparted stronghold of Camulodunum. On a nearby ridge, the Romans soon began to build their own town, now known as Colchester.

The previous inhabitants of this part of Suffolk were the famous Iceni tribe. The Iceni welcomed the downfall of their aggressive Catuvellaunian neighbours, and signed a treaty of friendship with Rome. This gave them a measure of self government, while it gave the Romans a secure right flank for their advance into the Midlands and North. But, we all know how the story of Boudica goes, her rebellion failing to free modern day East Anglia of the Romans and Govenor Suetonius' victory cementing Roman control over the province.

After the downfall of Boudica, the east of Britain, like other areas of the country, were at first controlled by a strategic network of Roman roads and forts. In the south of Suffolk, forts began construction possibly as early as Claudius' defeat of the Catuvellaunian, occupiers of Trinovantian territory. The two main north-south roads of Roman Suffolk were certainly military. Roman roads generally avoided the fens except minor roads designed for exporting the products of the region, especially salt, beef and leather.

Within Suffolk, the Romans did not build walled towns with sophisticated features like Forums and Amphitheatres like Colchester. Nevertheless, archeologists have recently identified several undefended towns, which sprawl in an apparently unplanned way but certainly had commercial and industrial importance. Now, West Row was by no means a town but was certainly a settlement of great importance and wealth, evident from the archeological evidence found within the village

The most important find which is a clear symbol of this areas Romanisation is the West Row treasure. Found in 1942 by a farmer while ploughing in the village and in 1946 was acquired by the British Museum, it was considered the largest Roman precious metal hoard in Great Britain, until the Hoxne treasure was found in 1992. The hoard is a silver dining set comprising of 34 pieces with a total weight of approx. 26 kilograms. Its central piece is the Great Dish, measuring more than 60cm in diameter and weighing more than 8 kilograms which is now proudly the symbol of our village.



West Row itself appears to have been an agricultural settlement, with evidence of two villas within the village boundary, evidence of Roman field plans as well as a plethora of animal remains and grain samples supporting this claim. At West Row Primary School the finds, as well as the environmental samples indicate that it is likely that many agricultural and food processing tasks were occurring nearby, possibly to supply the local villa. This is evident on the map showing the location of Roman finds across the village, a large concentration being at the primary school and towards Western Ditch. Finds have also been found within the river Lark suggesting Roman activity using the river ways as transport, crossing the river close to the Ferry or maybe the Celtic traditions of making offerings to the gods through the water ways.

Little is documented about rural Roman Britain but it is safe to say that West Row was a well established settlement, maybe intergrating Roman and Celtic beliefs, customs and ways of life, but to what extent we will never be certain



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District Councillor Lance Stanbury and County Councillor Colin Noble have created an Action Team to campaign to get improved services and amenities for the communities of West Row. And they have been joined by Jordon Millward who will be working with both West Row and Beck Row parish councils to support bringing a monthly cinema to the villages.

The two councillors have used their Locality Funding to support The Shed, the Mildenhall & District Sea Cadets, which has members from West Row, West Row cycle security scheme and even desktop publishing support to this Parish Echo magazine.

**In the months ahead we will be dedicating our time, if we're fortunate enough to be re-elected to resolving some traffic sign issues around the village and also litter, speeding and dog fouling.**

**If you have any concerns that need addressing, please contact a member of the Team below.**

Printed by Riverside Print Services, 9 Leyton Avenue, Mildenhall, IP28 7BL and published by Sue Wood on behalf of Lance Stanbury, Jordan Millward and Colin Nobile, all of The Conservative Office, Moulton Road, Newmarket, CM8 8DY.

**District Councillor Lance Stanbury**

Tel. 07955 434410  
Email lance.stanbury@westsuffolk.gov.uk

**County Councillor Colin Noble**

Tel. 07545 423795  
Email colin.noble@suffolk.gov.uk

**Jordon Millward**

Call 07771 621038



**ELECTIONS: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**Residents are reminded that photo ID will be required in order to vote**

**The Parish Councillors** were unopposed, therefore those who opted to remain are duly re-elected for their 4-year term of office

**District Councillors.** Four (4) candidates have put their names forward for 2 places in The Rows.



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## PARISH NEWS

As the Term of Office draws to a close we can reflect on an extremely successful period since West Row Parish was formed – 4 years ago. We grow from strength to strength in building a fabulous and caring community, always ready to help where and when needed. But, times bring changes and we were saddened to hear that Cllr Carol Bebee will not be standing again. With heartfelt thanks for all the work Carol has put into the many events held over the past years, and the endless “behind-the-scenes” work she has carried out.

We have two Parish Councillor vacancies. If you are concerned about Parish matters contact the Parish Clerk for more information. Or sit in on a meeting. Next being **Wednesday 17th May**, in the Church Hall next to St. Peters.



**WEST ROW COMMUNITY CHOIR:** Contact Gaynor Fisher, [churchmaiden@btinternet.com](mailto:churchmaiden@btinternet.com)

We are starting again on Monday, 17th April at 6 pm at the West Row Bowls Club and will be meeting every week up to the Kings Coronation. We will be singing some popular songs during the interval.

Including such things as  
*It's A Long Way To Tipperary*  
*My Ol Man Said Follow The Band*  
*Underneath The Arches*  
*Que Sera Sera*  
*Down At The Old Bull And Bush*  
and  
*We'll Meet Again*

Anyone wishing to join us is more than welcome including our friends from the Mildenhall Church Choir.

Please contact Gaynor Fisher on email [churchmaiden@btinternet.com](mailto:churchmaiden@btinternet.com) or Tel: 07752 970461 for more details

**THE LITTER PICK WAS A GREAT SUCCESS:** Suggestions received that we hold them more frequently—can you help?

**THE SHED COMMUNITY GARDEN:** Offers **FREE** green space available to Parish residents. Book through email: [theshedcharity@gmail.com](mailto:theshedcharity@gmail.com) or 01638 715329.

**POT HOLES:** As much as it frustrates us all, they remain the responsibility of Suffolk Highways. Please report any instances on <https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/?type=5&subtype=510>

**CORONATION BIG PICNIC:** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May. See poster on Back Page. We were successful in applying for National Lottery funding which will cover all our expenses. Full details on another page. So come out and enjoy a family friendly fun afternoon culminating with the Beacon being lit. Pay-bar available.

**PARISH LAND:** We are making steady progress towards securing our own Cemetery on land off Chapel Road. Baby steps keenly led by Cllr Peachey who has worked tirelessly to secure this much needed facility – plus other facilities such as more Public Footpaths. Publication will be made as soon as we know when it becomes official our asset.

Minutes of each Parish Council meeting are published on our Parish website once approved in Council: <https://www.westrowparish.org.uk/>.

*Members of the public are welcome to observe any meeting. If you have questions for your District Councillor, D/Cllr Stanbury is a regular attendee and happy to hear your concerns.*  
*Rosalind Hamill, Chair at time of printing*

**ANNUAL GENERAL PARISH MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH MAY— 7 P.M. CHURCH HALL**



## DOWN THE SHED May – Jun 2023

theshedcharity@gmail.com



### WHAT'S TO DO IN THE GARDEN WHEN THE WEATHER'S DAMP, COLD AND MISERABLE?

Surprisingly quite a lot – just ask Jackie and Michael. Despite illnesses, holidays and endless wet stuff falling - The Shed soldiers on with preparations for the coming Spring, which brings with it lots of rotovating, sowing and of course – weeding !!

Jackie has been busy planting onion sets and the ground is being prepared.

Michael has continued laying the path from the small greenhouses – up to the existing path. This means less muddy boots and much easier to get around the veg. plots.

### BINGO BUDDIES MILDENHALL :



Huge thanks to Teresa Amoss and the Bingo Buddies for their generous cheque. The result of their bingo sessions and draws taken place at their monthly meetings.

Thank you so much, it

will be put to very good use.

*Thank you Teresa*

**DISABLED TOILET:** Work is slowly progressing along this overdue project. As we write, we are on hold over Easter, after which we hope to plough full steam ahead. First task is for The Shed to obtain an extension to our Lease. Although we have a few years to run, it needs to be secured for a longer tenure with the number of projects in hand. We have been assured that this will very likely be secured – just need to wait for the ink to dry. We will also be applying for Building Regs before we can proceed. Watch this space

**OUR BIG CIRCLE** is available to anyone who books a date when you can hold a private event, such as a children's birthday party, have games and picnics on our lovely newly grown grass.

Email: [rosalind.hamill@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rosalind.hamill@yahoo.co.uk) or tel. 07887 668 145

### THANKS ALSO TO D/CLLR LANCE STANBURY:

for recommending the Locality award which was duly presented recently. We were able to purchase much needed fruit cages of various sizes, plus two pairs of secateurs, useful once the fruit bushes grown.



*Thank you Lance*

**FRUIT / VEG. STALL:** As always, grateful thanks to our volunteers who go out in all weathers at all hours of the day and evening to collect the supermarket surplus. *Thanks ladies + Dave and Bill*

Food is put out for those on a Low Income and for those who can afford to donate. The metal box in on the wall between the stall and our gate.

We are noticing an increase in people arriving in large vehicles, taking carrier bags full and not donating. This is unfair to those on a low income who rely on these supplies.

If the pilfering continues, we will have to resort to a Food Bank system and personally distribute on an “as need” basis.

Speaking of the Veg Stall: Dave is revamping our Little Shed shelves. Work in progress but soon an updated shelving will display our wares nicely.

*Thanks Dave*



We now have a new-ish gate which has been waiting patiently to be fitted for many months/years.

Also the Greenhouses path is being extended

*Thank you Michael*

Next project is to erect our large greenhouse – it never stops. All help appreciated – come visit



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## WEST ROW BOWLS CLUB NEWS

The Indoor section of the Club recently finished its current season with a Finals weekend on 1<sup>st</sup>. & 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Ten Club finals were played over this weekend with the winners and runners up as follows.

<u>Competition</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Runner Up</u>
Champion of Champions	Daniel Moss	Robert Sale
Ladies Singles	Lynne Papworth	Avril Self
Club Singles	Peter Rolfe	Mick Orford
First Honours	Dave Bennett	Ian McFetridge
Mens' pairs	John Mitchell & Colin Day	Brian Brigden & John Drinkhill
Ladies' Pairs	Linda Wright & Lynne Papworth	Ashley Moss & Kathy Moss
Mixed Pairs	Lynne Papworth & Peter Rolfe	Gill Hagan & Colin Day
Morning League Knockout	Team Orford	Team Dennis
Evening Triples Knockout	Team Kendal	Team Thorpe
Aussie Pairs Knockout	Neil Pallant & Daniel Moss	Lynne Papworth & Alan Cox

The Indoor section of the Club is also seeking new teams to enter the Morning League, Evening Triples League and Aussie pairs League, beginning in September. Any one interested in entering a team should make contact as detailed below

The Club now turns its attention to the Outdoor season where it competes in four County Leagues, two in Suffolk and two in Cambridgeshire. Anyone interested in trying out the sport should make contact as detailed below or look at the West Row Bowls Club website. As a reminder anyone can apply for Social membership of the Club. This membership entitles you to use the bar facilities when the Club is open and also take part in the many social activities that take place e.g. monthly Bingo evenings, dances, barbecues and other social activities.

### Inaugural Yard Stick Competition

West Row Bowls held their first yard stick competition in March. This was a new tournament aimed at bringing our more experienced bowlers together with all the new members.

Photo left of the winning team 2023

Moving forward this is planned to be an annual competition.



**For information regarding any aspect of the Club please contact Club Coach, Peter Rolfe, tel: 01638 714073 or email:**

[peter.rolfe3@btopenworld.com](mailto:peter.rolfe3@btopenworld.com)



## WEST ROW ACADEMY

### Is in need of mini "toys" for the children.

They have a project to clear a space currently covered with overused grass which is now a mud patch. This site will be cleared, a suitable base laid, and the top covered with tarmac (slabs would not be suitable as they will eventually subside and become a trip hazard).

SO, what they need are kindly people to offer a MINI-DIGGER, a MINI-SKIP, a quantity of HOGGING or other suitable material as a base. AND fingers crossed, TARMAC.

Can you help the children, or know a (wo)man who can. If so, contact the school and leave your details. West Row Academy, Beeches Road, West Row, IP28 8NY .



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## AROUND THE ALLOTMENTS IN MAY AND JUNE



The month of May marks the end of spring and the beginning of summer and, fingers crossed, the onset of the warm growing months for plentiful crops of fruit and veg. It's been a very wet and cold springtime but hopefully everyone's managed to make a good start on their allotments and gardens.

Seedlings started in the greenhouse or on window sills should be ready to plant out soon and it's helpful to keep the seed packets to hand as they can contain a lot of useful growing information. Seed potatoes should already be in the ground with tasty new potatoes and a good crop of main potatoes to look forward to later in the year. As always, it's important to try to keep the allotment as clean and weed free as possible giving the plants the best chance of growing and producing a good harvest.

May is the time of year that early sown cabbages, rhubarb and some salad leaves can be harvested if the weather has been kind. Crops such as carrots, beetroot, tomatoes should be planted out by the end of May and it's also time to sow seeds such as French beans and cucumbers under glass ready for planting in June. Asparagus lovers will be pleased that May is upon us ready for the cutting of asparagus which has a short picking season of around six to eight weeks. Make sure to keep a close eye on young plants in the ground and keep them weed free and watered as there is still a possibility of ground frost so cover susceptible plants with fleece or covering of some other sort. Chairman Alan's tip for starting sweetcorn and runner bean seeds is use toilet roll tubes three-quarters full of compost, set a seed in each and top up with compost. Keep well-watered and when the plant is about 6 to 9 inches high just plant the whole tube into the ground.

It's also a good time to set seeds such as winter cabbage, broccoli and brussels sprouts (a Christmas essential for some) into trays ready to transplant at the end of May/beginning of June ready for the coming winter period. Runner bean plants will be ready to set out but, before they go in, building a frame for the plant to grow up will help to support it and make for easier picking too. By mid-May it's a good idea to plant pumpkin seedlings into the ground ready for an October Halloween harvest or even a nice wintery pumpkin pie or soup.

Come June it will be time to harvest crops such as radishes, broad beans, peas and salad vegetables but it is also time to stop cutting the asparagus so that the plants will thrive well again for next season. Strawberries will also be ready by June and it's important to try and keep the ever-hungry birds away with netting a good way to do this not only for strawberries but for other soft fruits as well. Planting flowers such as lavender helps to attract bees which in turn aids pollination of crops and fruit and provides also some colour and fragrance at the same time.

As the summer months progress pests such as greenfly, cabbage white caterpillars and carrot fly can become a nuisance and it's a good idea to keep a close eye out for any signs affecting plants. Alan's tip for broad beans is to spray the plants with soapy water to prevent greenfly and blackfly taking a hold. Also, organic sprays such as a homemade garlic infused spray can be used as general pest deterrent if you prefer not to use insecticides/pesticides on the fruit and veg.

On a final note, don't forget that if you have an excess of produce many fruits and veg can be frozen or preserved for use in the winter months so let's hope we have a lovely warm summer and just enough rain for a really good growing season.

## **St Peter's Church West Row**



### **CONTACTS:**

**Team Vicar:** Rev'd David Butcher

Tel.: 07747 816 038

Email: [revdavidbutcher@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidbutcher@gmail.com)

### **Other priests serving at St Peter's:**

Rev'd Gordon Anderson and

Rev'd Gill Anderson

**Churchwardens:** Beryl Austin 01638 712708 - Debbie Eaglen

**Elders:** Tricia Leverington - David Sennitt

## **Letter from the Vicar – Rev'd David Butcher**

We seem to be in a period of transition, with the Coronation of King Charles III shortly to be upon us. The pomp and ceremony of a national day of celebration will no doubt be matched by local celebrations in our towns, villages, even our streets and our own gardens! It feels good to have a time to enjoy collective celebrations. Hopefully the weather will remain fine and we can enjoy some time spent together with friends, neighbours and families as we mark the start of the King's new reign. "Long to reign over us" as the anthem goes, and "God save the King!"

We are also in a period of transition as far as our local village church is concerned. Revd David Everett who has kindly stood in the gap for the past two years has resumed his well-earned retirement (Although I suspect that we will still see him occasionally). The group of the Lark and Lee parishes, of which West Row forms a significant part, finds itself in a vacancy as the Church of England tries to find a suitable long term Team Rector to fill the post more permanently. The process is never as quick as we might like, it requires patience and a willingness to be flexible through the vacancy with willing cover from neighbouring priests. So for me, having previously been a Curate in this group, it is nice to come back and help out occasionally and once again to take the opportunity to catch up with some old friends. I look forward to seeing you soon. If you have any church related queries, please feel free to contact me.

Revd David Butcher – [revdavidbutcher@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidbutcher@gmail.com)

St Peters services are 11am every Sunday, all welcome.



**CORONATION OF  
HM KING CHARLES III  
6TH MAY 2023**

FISH & CHIPS Pre-Order TICKETS £5 P/P  
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AARON BOLTON ENTERTAINS  
BOUNCY CASTLE  
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PLUS the great EGG TOSSING COMPETITION  
THE BEACON WILL BE LIT 8 - 8:30PM  
FIREWORKS AND DISCO INTO THE NIGHT



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**WEST ROW VILLAGE HALL from 2pm**

**KING CHARLES III**

Please see the back page for  
details of the Coronation Picnic,

**This is an event for all the  
Village, we look forward to**

**seeing you all there on**

**Saturday 6th May.**

**Fingers crossed for**

**lovely weather**



**WARM ROOMS**

**12th MAY**

As part of the Warm Rooms,

local actor and writer

Beverley Bishop is coming along

to entertain after your

Fish and Chip lunch.

Don't forget to book your place by  
emailing

[rosalind\\_hamill@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rosalind_hamill@yahoo.co.uk)

Lunch is at 12.30

Fish and Chips or soup



*Free, Fun & Magical Performance*

Local actor and writer, Beverley Bishop is  
creating a new show and will be testing out  
material and sharing a magic trick or two in a  
performance followed by a discussion  
based workshop

**12 May at 2.00pm**

West Row Village Hall,  
Chapel Road, West Row,  
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP28 8NY

**Numbers are limited so please book your space**

**Call Rosalind 07887 668 145**

**or email: [rosalind\\_hamill@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rosalind_hamill@yahoo.co.uk)**

This is a free event but donations are welcome to help Bev with her  
self-funded trip to USA in June with her *Finding Magic* show.

## The WESTROVIAN part 2

As promised in the last edition, here are a couple of further articles published in the parish magazine in 1932. Please remember back then there were no 'woke' or health & safety influences!

### The Aerodrome by H.E. & G.W. Smith

*'There is great improvement along the Beck Row road, West Row.*

*An aerodrome is being built and already two hangars are erected, which will hold several aeroplanes. A hospital is built on the left hand side of the road, from West Row and also a canteen.*

*The grass was cut in the summertime and stacked in very large stacks around this great strip of land. Now and again an aeroplane will buzz overhead and sail over the aerodrome, sometimes landing. If it does, a lot of Beck Row and West Row boys and girls flock to see the machine and pilots land and await the return of the pilots to their machine to start it soaring through the air once more till it is out of sight.*

*Much of this has been done recently, on this government aerodrome. The aerodrome, I think, will annoy most of the people in West Row, because the aeroplanes make a tremendous noise and awake everybody from their day dreams.*

*A revolver and machine gun range is being erected which is very near to the road; the biggest part of it is made of cement and barbed wire is put around it.*

*Also the barracks is nearly built which is near the hospital. A big water tank is being made, which will hold a large supply of water for the aerodrome.'*

Does anyone have further to add about the aerodrome and / or old photographs that could be published in the next edition of the ECHO? Please make contact if you have.

### Life in the Fen described by Gwendoline Wells

*'Somewhere in the Eastern Counties of England are some low lying lands called the fens. They are inhabited by people of modest habits and means who are becoming quite civilised and will, I believe, in the near future, be recognised as Englishmen. Historians will remember that these people resisted the Norman invasion in the eleventh century to the last and possibly were never really conquered.*

*Well, several thousand years B.C. these lands were standing high above sea level and huge oaks flourished for hundreds of years. The fen was then a land of forests and streams, the dwelling place of numerous wild animals, birds and reptiles.*

*At some time unrecorded by History, something happened: - an earthquake, a landslide or subsidence of this tract of land at any rate something that caused the forest and its inhabitants to be thrown below the level of the sea at high tides.*

*This low land was a desolate waste of mud and water except for a few islands dotted here and there.*

*On a day considerably over a thousand years ago, a few monks seeking peace and seclusion, were carried in their boat by a stream within sight of an island several acres in extent. They decided that such would be an ideal spot to settle in, consequently one of the finest old buildings in the world, a magnificent structure that took three hundred years to complete, and should be visited by all who have the opportunity, the cathedral at Ely was built.*

*Hereward the Wake resorted to the fens while resisting the invasion of the conqueror and it was doubtless due to the condition of the swamps, which were almost impassable that he was able to hold out for so long.*

*For many centuries, little was done in attempting to drain it as a whole and it was only until two centuries or so ago that progress was made in this direction, even then it was largely due to the fact that the nature had been busy laying the foundation for this work.*



## The WESTROVIAN part 2 continued

*The mud and water were fertile and the soil formed by the decaying vegetation enlarged the islands and eventually connected them in many places so that the water took certain courses excepting in times of high tides and floods. The task of engineers therefore was reduced to preventing the tides from flowing up these streams and confining them to their courses and draining the water off the lands into the streams. This was accomplished by placing sluices in and building planks on either side of the streams and constructing windmills to drain water off the lands. The wind-mill for this purpose had been succeeded by the steam engine and the steam by the crud-oil engine.*

*Much could be said on the work and conditions under which the people of the fen now live. This is possibly due to the fact that few people remain in it longer than they are compelled except those residing who talk or write very little about themselves.*

*The day is commenced by a fen-man, as by most other people, by a splash and a cup of tea. The farmer goes to milk his cows or to feed his horses. Breakfast follows after which comes the day's routine. A labourer has to tramp with bag on back for a mile or two, along the muddy banks and over ditches to his job, which includes the usual occupations found in rural districts. His work is not what a noted schoolmaster imagined it to be, fishing and falling into rivers and drains. This same schoolmaster, when once venturing into his district thought he would "show 'em how". He chose a spot near a sluice where the water was fairly deep, promptly toppled in, but finding the water wet he just as promptly scrambled out, and decided there was a catch in fishing and falling into rivers and drains.*

*"But what do they do on winter evenings?" I have been asked. Well certainly there are no clubs and very few social gatherings to attend. In many cases they live in isolated places and in the winter-time the droves and banks are tracks of mud and water so that once the days work is over the fen-man settles down for the evening.*

*First there is the meal known as 'tea' to dispose of and then a look at the paper which may be a day late. But what does that matter to the fen-man? Then for selection he has 'The Life of John Wesley', Foster's Lectures, 'Macaulay's essays' or something of a lighter strain, from the pen of Rider Haggard or H.G. Wells. But these always after he has carefully studied the radio programmes and marked a talk her, a debate there, to be followed by a vaudeville or a half hour's chamber music.*

*Who, surrounded by these facilities for absorbing time could become bored between the hours of 6pm, 10, 11 or even 12pm? It is only when he is compelled (as he is sometimes) to journey in this waste of mud and water at night with the moon as his only street lamp and ridges of mist that warn him of ditches and bogs that he believes in the existence of 'Wil-o-the-wisps' or such things that abounded in the time of Hereward the Wake.*

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## From the Pastor's Desk

[evan@westrowbaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:evan@westrowbaptistchurch.org.uk)



At the time of writing, King Charles III's coronation is just around the corner. Tiny snippets of information have been passed onto the public about who is on the guest list, which member of the royal family will be wearing what item from the crown jewels and what transport the king will be using as he makes his way to and from the ceremony. It is expected to be a grand occasion with the climax being his majesty crowned with the 17th century St Edward's crown which has had to be resized for him. At the end of the ceremony, as per custom, King Charles III will switch to the lighter Imperial State crown. The king will leave Buckingham Palace, travel along the Mall, pass through Admiralty Arch, go around Trafalgar Square, then proceed along Whitehall, pass through Parliament Square and arrive at Westminster Abbey.

It will be a procession of great pomp and splendour with crowds lining the streets hoping to get just a glimpse of the king as he passes by in the Diamond Jubilee Stagecoach on the way there and on the way back in the 260-year-old Gold Stagecoach. What a day it will be for his majesty, King Charles III. But I want to take you back to another day, a day in the most momentous week in all of history. It is the day we now know as Palm Sunday. It was a day when a King, far greater than King Charles III or any other monarch, rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. It was a day foretold by the prophet Zechariah who wrote what is recorded in the Bible in Zechariah 9:9, **"Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."**

The Bible also tells us the crowd observing the spectacle grew in numbers as they watched Jesus ride into the city. They sang with great expectation, many believing Jesus was the promised King

who would free them from the tyranny of Rome. Few would have dreamt that their joy would soon turn to jeers. Who would have thought that less than a week later the world's true king, the Lord Jesus, would be wearing a crown of thorns and dying on a wooden cross? Pause to ask yourself: What sort of king arrives on a donkey, wears a crown of thorns and dies on a Roman cross? Only One who is humble, only One who has the best interest of His subjects at heart and only One whose kingdom is far greater than any past, present or future empire of this world. As we are soon to celebrate King Charles' coronation, I ask you, reader, if you are a subject of King Jesus' Kingdom? It is a far greater kingdom than that of Charles' and unlike his, it will never pass away. It is an eternal kingdom; it is a perfect kingdom in every single way. I ask you again if you are a citizen of Jesus' realm? Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." John 14 v 6 West Row Baptist Church Have you genuinely repented of your sin and put your trust in Jesus to save you from its consequences. The Bible tells us in Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." We may not ever get to meet King Charles III but we will all get to meet King Jesus. One day, the Bible (God's Word) tells us, in 2 Corinthians 5:10 "we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ." On that day you will only be welcomed into the Kingdom if Jesus has been your Saviour and King in this life. I trust you are a citizen of heaven but, if not, please think seriously about your future. It truly is a life-or-death matter. May the Lord stir your hearts to trust in His Son, King Jesus. May you bow your knee now and confess that Jesus is King. I hope you enjoy the Coronation long weekend.

*Evan*

**Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." John 14 v 6**



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## SPRING QUIZ 2023

All answers are 'classic' novels with many made into well known films.

e.g. Gambling place pertaining to a king or queen (6,6) ANS – Casino Royale

1. Can precede Ferguson and Front? (7) ANS.....
2. Could be any o'clock contraption? (3,4,7) ANS.....
3. This huge thing is anticipated to happen? (5,12) ANS.....
4. A mischievous child in a relationship with a seamstress, land fighter and Bond? (6,6,7,3)  
ANS.....
5. Could be apple juice alongside 'i' in a pink wine? (5,4,5) ANS.....
6. William's not telling the truth? (5,4) ANS.....
7. A group of wet newly borns? ( 3,5,6) ANS.....
8. Big Brother ruled this year? (8,6,4) ANS.....
9. Hardy or Cromwell could be entwined? (6,5) ANS.....
10. Commend a fine (anag) ? (2,4,3,3) ANS.....
11. Could be Lloyd's pleasurable trotter? (5,6) ANS.....
12. Conflict followed by calm? (3,3,5) ANS.....
13. Crime on this European transport? (6,2,3,6,7) ANS.....
14. A living magician? (5,11) ANS.....
15. Government issue doubled up? (4) ANS.....
16. Doctor Victor created this being? (12) ANS.....
17. Ceased to live on this waterway? (5,2,3,4) ANS.....
18. Hoarded wealth surrounded by water? (8,6) ANS.....
19. O rice soon burns (anag) ? (8,6) ANS.....
20. Taken possibly for a ransom? (9) ANS.....

NAME OF ENTRANT.....

ADDRESS.....

Contact tel. no.....

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**12<sup>th</sup>.MAY 2023 AT THE LATEST**

**THERE IS ALWAYS A PRIZE AWARDED TO THE WINNER**



# From the Bench



With the season close to finishing we find ourselves towards the bottom end of the table. We have been on a poor run after impressive results mid season. I still remain proud of the lads as they never give up. Frustratingly I know exactly what this team are capable of. We are more than capable of competing but maybe we've found our level for the time being.

As manager I am now looking at preparations for next season with some younger local players coming in and plans for weekly training even in winter. It feels like a re set is definitely needed and that's exactly what we will do.

We have 5 remaining games, the aim is to pick up as many points as possible which will push us up the table. We're so thankful for the support we get in the home games and I'm confident we can make everyone proud of West Row Gunners FC next season.

Any up and coming players are so welcome to join our preseason.

Email us: [westrow.gunnersfc1st@gmail.com](mailto:westrow.gunnersfc1st@gmail.com)

Thank you and up the Gunners



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# Coronation Big Picnic



IN AND AROUND WEST ROW VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023



2pm

## FESTIVITIES BEGIN

Bring your own Picnic and any drinks but Pay Bar will be open  
Bring your own picnic chairs, gazebo and cushions if you wish

Free Tea and Coffee throughout the day  
Free entertainment and games  
Free Cake and Savouries  
Free Bouncy Castle



2.30 pm

## CHILDREN'S COMPETITION FOR BEST DECORATED CROWN

2.30 pm

AARON BOLTON singing a medley of popular songs

FISH AND CHIP Van for those pre-booked ticket holders (£5 p/p)  
*Book ASAP* with Carol, mob. 07816 967 158, or  
Email: [westrowparish@gmail.com](mailto:westrowparish@gmail.com)

BBQ (pay-as-you-go) (tbc)

3.00pm

GAMES FOR THE CHILDREN (and Adults if they wish to join in)  
Led by Karen and Students from West Suffolk College

COMMUNITY CHOIR leading a Sing-a-Long, all join in  
Contact Gaynor Fisher to join the choir mob. 07752 970 461

3.30pm

DISCO INTERLUDE

3.45pm

AARON BOLTON singing more popular songs

4.30pm

## THE GREAT WEST ROW EGG TOSSING COMPETITION

5.00pm

CUTTING the CORONATION CAKE

8.00pm

THE BEACON will be lit  
Fireworks and more Disco music  
Party into the night – well maybe not ALL night



Come out to enjoy the Annual BIG PICNIC, come celebrate the CORONATION and come to meet new and old friends.

There will be a Pay Bar, but you're welcome to bring your own refreshments  
If you wish to make a donation to any of the FREE items, proceeds will go towards the Village Social Fund

*This event has been managed by the Parish Council and funded by the National Lottery*