



Autumn 2025

Issue Number 207

Chairman's Chat

Pete Jones

This newsletter is timed to come out just before the Ag & Hort Show on September 13. We will as usual have our white marquee; please come and visit (see page 3).

Come along to the Sports Pavilion on 22 September for the next of our occasional free talks, when Michael Jones will talk about the rare heathland in this area. It will be informative and fun, with tea/coffee and nibbles afterwards. See page 4 for details.

Our Project of the Year (digitized historic photos and documents relating to the village) is progressing well - see page 12.

Our newsletter editor (Guy) will be introducing regular digital-only bulletins, so worth supplying your email address if you haven't already done so. We produced e-newsletters during Covid to replace hard copy which could not be delivered, but the new digital bulletins are extras. See page 2.

Can you help us? If you have friends in the new estates or on the nursery estate, please mention WEVS. Residents can join through our website or at the Ag & Hort Show. Although around a third of homes in the village are members there are few from these estates. We have leafleted all the homes with little success.



Ag & Hort Show - 2010

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From The Editor

Guy Consterdine

Digital-only bulletins

West End Village Society (WEVS) will introduce a new feature for members later this year: a digital-only bulletin. It will consist of the equivalent of two pages with updates of information, short-term announcements, and reminders of forthcoming events. It will appear during the intervals between our long-established 12-page newsletters which traditionally are published in May (before the village fete), August-September (before the Ag & Hort Show) and January (before the WEVS AGM). This means it will double our direct communications with members - that is, those for whom we have email addresses. Being digital-only avoids burdening our hardworking volunteer newsletter distributors with twice the work.

Those members for whom we do not have an email address, or who are not sure if we have it, are encouraged to email us at comms@wevs.org.uk in order to receive the bulletins. As membership is for households each household member may receive their own copy of the bulletins if we receive the relevant email details. Email addresses are used solely for communicating with members. They are not used for any other purpose.

Our newsletters

The three 12-page newsletters a year will continue to be available in printed and digital form. All members for whom we have an email address will

receive digital versions of the newsletters, which have the advantage of speed - sent as soon as the newsletters are ready. The printed copies, which some people prefer, are slower to arrive because they have to be sent to the printer and then physically distributed by our invaluable team of volunteer distributors. Members may still receive newsletters in both formats if they wish.

WEVS' communications policy

Some of our communications are for members only, while some are for the wider world. In summary:

- Newsletters:** members only; in-depth coverage of our activities; 12 pages; 3 times a year.
- Bulletins:** members only; updates, reminders and ad hoc short-term announcements; faster delivery of information to members; 2+ pages; 3 times a year, doubling our direct communication with members (if we have your email address).
- Facebook page** ([facebook.com/West End Village Society](https://facebook.com/WestEndVillageSociety)): for the wider community; available all the time.
- Website** ([WEVS.org.uk](https://wevs.org.uk)): permanent yet updatable description of what we do and have done; available to all.

Contributors and bylines

Certain articles in this newsletter have kindly been provided by contributors, to whom I am most grateful. They are recognised by their bylines. Articles with no bylines were written by me.

Membership Subscriptions & WEVS Website - wevs.org.uk

Subscriptions are only £4 a year per household (or £10 for 3 years). Or £75 for Life. We encourage members to pay subscriptions and renewals online on the WEVS website at <https://wevs.org.uk/membership/>. They may also be paid at the WEVS marquee at the Ag & Hort Show. We ask for members' email addresses solely for communicating with members.

Receiving newsletters in digital format means seeing each issue more quickly than in print (and it remains possible to have copies in both formats). It also means that in future we may communicate quickly with members on an ad hoc basis about any

short-term news or activities, using our new digital-only bulletins.

The WEVS website (wevs.org.uk) has sections describing WEVS and its objectives and activities; membership; West End history; Projects of the Year; causes to which WEVS has donated; village information; and a collection of newsletters and updates from West End Action Group (WEAG) which merged into WEVS in 2023. The current refreshed website, in a clean, modern and elegant format, was designed by Committee member Johan Schoeman.

West End Ag & Hort Show - 13 September

Mandy Bye

If you're looking for something to do with the family, we have an amazing annual village show taking place at West End village green on Saturday 13 September. It's a beloved local tradition bringing together the community for a day filled with colour, creativity, amazing stalls and children's rides.

The Show is run by the Ag & Hort – full name West End, Windlesham & District Agricultural & Horticultural Society.

A Show schedule is available from Mr. Brown's, The Hare & Hounds, and Classy Coats Grooming. Prefer a digital copy? Visit www.wewdahs.org to download the schedule for free.

You can support us by joining the society. Membership starts from just £3 and includes a copy of the show schedule delivered to your door, free entry to the marquee on Show day, and discounted entry fees for all competition classes. It's not too late to become a member – we are now taking show entries until the deadline 6th September and a chance to win trophies and prize money.

We have a wide variety of fun classes and the event offers something for everyone - for both adults and children, for gardening enthusiasts and for food lovers. There are competitions for arranging flowers, vegetables, baking cakes, making wine & beer and a range of handicrafts and art. Why not get started on your own entries now?

There is also our ever popular Dingley Dell Dog Training and Agility competitions and dog show

enjoyed by many dogs and their owners. We also have traditional ales and BBQ whilst sitting on straw bales and listening to the brass band, viewing Shire Horses and Morris Dancers or soaking up the richness of village life. The Show is a great way to feel part of this amazing village. You catch up with friends old and new.

Timings for the show: our outside attractions start from 12.00 noon and the marquee opens 2.00pm after judging, for you to see show winners and runners up.

If you'd like more information about the Show or are interested in joining our committee, please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you.

Barn Dance Tickets On Sale!

In the evening, the marquee transforms into our annual Barn Dance with traditional band and caller to guide you through the steps. It's a fun packed evening, so why not get together with friends for a fun evening out; bring your own food and drink. Tickets are available online through the website, or you can buy them directly from Mandy Bye or David Pearce - addresses can be found online and in the Show schedule.

Annual Ploughing Match – 6 September

The village annual Ploughing Match will take place on Saturday 6 September in the field opposite Windlesham Golf Course. Ploughing starts at 10.00am. Further details are on our website and Facebook pages.

WEVS at the Ag & Hort Show

WEVS will as usual have its marquee at the Show, including a photographic display of historic photographs, information sheets, and books and maps for sale. New members will be able to join WEVS and existing members will be able to renew if necessary.

Ag & Hort Show 2004



To receive regular updates on WEVS events visit facebook.com/WestEndVillageSociety or www.wevs.org.uk

Free Talk on Our Local Heathlands: Monday 22 September

Come to a fascinating free talk on our precious heathlands by Michael Jones, who is the Education and Engagement Officer for Thames Basin Heath Partnership (part of Natural England). This informative talk will be held on Monday 22 September at 7.30pm in the Sports Pavilion, Benner Lane.

This is part of WEVS' series of occasional free talks on a wide variety of topics. The most recent ones covered heat pumps and avoiding scams.

Surrey Heath borough is home to some of the UK's most ecologically significant heathland. This rare lowland habitat is internationally important for wildlife, supporting endangered species such as the Dartford warbler, nightjar, and sand lizard. The open sandy heather-clad landscape has been shaped over centuries by grazing and human activity. These ancient habitats not only offer biodiversity value but also hold cultural and historical significance, with some features dating back to the Bronze and Iron Ages including, at West End, four

Bronze Age burial mounds and pottery, and proof of a metal-working Iron Age village.

Drastically, 85% of Surrey's heathland has been lost over the past 200 years, so the remaining areas are now protected and actively managed for conservation.



Chobham Common

WEVS at the Village Fete: Saturday 14 June

On a beautiful summer day West End fete on June 14 attracted a record crowd, including our local MP, and there were a record number of stalls and activities for them to see and do. The entire afternoon felt a very festive occasion.

The WEVS marquee presented a photographic exhibition. There were 14 panels of historic photos of the village, some from John Smith's collection and others from the new WEVS digital collection, totalling around 200 images, which attracted a constant stream of interested visitors. The pictures invoked many comments and reminiscences, including "Hey Dad! Come and look at this. I remember this!"

The buzzer game - trying to move a copper ring along the length of a twisting copper wire without it touching the wire and sounding the buzzer - was

also very popular. Outside the marquee a maze game, in which timed players run (or walk!) to touch twelve sensors scattered within the large maze, was great fun.



Surrey's Local Government Reorganisation

The UK Government, in its quest to replace two-tier local government with unitary authorities, designated Surrey as one of the counties for reorganisation. It will mean replacing Surrey's two-tier system – the County Council and below that eleven borough councils – with mid-sized 'unitary' authorities, each of which will be responsible for all the things both the County Council and the boroughs are currently responsible for.

Councils submitted proposals in May. There are two rival proposals. One is to split Surrey into two areas called East Surrey and West Surrey. The other proposal was to have three areas called East, North and West Surrey.

Two unitary authorities: For us, West Surrey would consist of Surrey Heath, Guildford, Runnymede, Spelthorne, Waverley and Woking. This proposal is supported only by Surrey County Council and two boroughs. The advantage is that it's a simpler structure with potential for more cost savings and streamlining.

Three unitary authorities: West Surrey would consist of Surrey Heath, Guildford, Waverley and

Woking. This proposal is supported by nine of the eleven borough councils. The advantages are that it's designed around "functional economic areas" and travel-to-work zones; it better reflects local identities and housing markets; it means decision-making is closer to the residents affected; and councillors will have better knowledge of the areas they cover.

A substantial county-wide survey found that 63% of Surrey residents supported three authorities, and only 17% preferred two authorities.

The Government is expected to make a decision between the two options in about October. It is not inevitable that either proposal will be approved however, for there are some significant problems to resolve, not least billions of pounds of debt owed by the existing councils. Woking alone, formally bankrupt, has debts of over £1 billion.

Assuming one of the options goes ahead, there will likely be council elections in May 2026, so that new 'shadow' councillors will be able to prepare to take over when the new councils go live on 1st April 2027.

Proposed Speed Restrictions on Lightwater Bypass

Surrey County Council is proposing to reduce the speed limits on the Lightwater bypass. From Gordon's roundabout to just beyond the junction with the road into Lightwater the speed limit will be reduced from 70mph to 40 mph, under this proposal. The remainder of the bypass northwards towards the M3 junction will be reduced from 70mph to 60mph.

The reason is the number of collisions on the bypass in the last ten years, including four fatalities and some serious injuries. Some occurred at the dangerous crossing of the dual carriageway as one drives from Lightwater towards Gordon's roundabout. A short public consultation was held which ended on 14 August. The results are not yet published but expect the proposal to be put into practice.

Illuminating Lucas the Stag

WEVS aims to fix up lighting to illuminate at night our Lucas the Stag sculpture on Fellow Green roundabout. However it's taking a lot of time to work through the formalities and approvals.

Surrey Heath Local Plan: Inspector's Examination

The Local Plan, which aims to shape the Borough's development for the period 2019 to 2038, is entering its final phase - independent examination by a Planning Inspector. The hearings begin on Tuesday 16 September in Camberley.

The Local Plan, due in 2019, underwent a long and much delayed preparation until in December 2024 it was submitted to the Secretary of State for approval. The Plan was immediately outdated by the Government's release of new compulsory housing targets which were more than double the original ones.

Since the announcement of the forthcoming Inspector's examination there has been a flurry of new documents from Surrey Heath and others. One of the key ones for West End is the snappily named 'Strategic Land Availability Assessment Update 2025, Appendix 2 -Realistic Candidates for Development'. Published on 20 August, its review of all potential sites in the Borough identifies four sites in West End which it considers are realistic prospects for development: land south of Fenns Lane (site ID 153) for 7 houses (though an application for 99 houses may be coming forward); land to the rear of 32-34 Benner Lane (ID 840) for 8 houses; land east

of Benner Lane (ID 178), adjacent to site 153, up to the boundary with Holy Trinity School, for 16 houses; and land between Old House Lane and the Bourne river (ID 799) for 6 houses (though a developer had previously argued that 75 houses could go there). For full details of the Inspector's examination process visit:

www.localplanservices.co.uk/shlocalplanexamination



Pre-Submission Surrey Heath Local Plan (2019-2038): (Regulation 19)



July 2024
Surrey Heath Borough Council
Knoll Road, Camberley, GU15 3HD
planning.consultation@surreyheath.gov.uk



Trial of Booking to Use Camberley Recycling Centre

A booking system is being trialled at two recycling centres in Surrey in an effort to reduce congestion. Between August 11 and November 10, [Surrey County Council](#) is running an online booking system for residents using the [Camberley](#) and [Lyne](#) ([Chertsey](#)) Community Recycling Centres (CRCs).

Following the trial period, the impact of the system will be evaluated and residents will be asked for their feedback.

To book a slot, residents will need to go to the council's website at <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/community-recycling-centres/bookings>.

Alternatively, residents can book a slot by calling 03456 009 009. Slots are available to book two weeks in advance. After booking a time you have to arrive within 15 minutes of that time. Presumably residents who are unaware of the scheme and turn up without an appointment are liable to be turned away. Users also need proof they are Surrey residents.

In a SurreyLive poll, 87% were against having to book. No wonder: among other reasons, there's the inconvenience, the confusion for residents, and surely it will increase fly-tipping.

Surrey's other twelve recycling centres, including Martyrs Lane Woking, are open as normal. Expect them to be even more congested than usual!

Garden Club - Dealing with Drought

Chris Anthony

After the disappointment of 2024, we deserved a good summer with plenty of warm rain-free days. But as Aesop's Fables warns us: "be careful what you wish for". For those of us old enough to remember, this year has been similar in many ways to the summer of 1976 when keeping our precious garden plants in reasonable health became an onerous task. Many more of us now have rainwater storage equipment in our gardens but this has been wholly inadequate this summer. And most of us have had to resort to using tap water to bring some relief to all the distressed plants and shrubs in our gardens. But in the day and age of meterage this can be expensive and we are constantly reminded to avoid using too much of this precious commodity.



The Parched Rec in August 2022

It is sad to think that many of the plants that we have so lovingly nurtured over the years may not survive the drought and even if they do, they may be badly damaged. It is almost certain that we will need to resort to restorative action in the winter months, or should I say the rainy season. It seems quite clear that climate change has had a noticeable effect upon the seasons in this country. Winter and Spring have become the "rainy season" and Summer and Autumn are the "dry season" irrespective of temperatures and amounts of sunshine.

With this in mind, we need to alter our approach to garden planting if we are to avoid frequent disappointment. Several years ago the Village Garden Club invited a speaker from RHS Wisley Gardens to deliver a presentation on drought

resistant plants. The talk was an interesting journey into what was beginning to attract the attention of many experts, but the amount of information at the time was relatively sparse. It is very pleasing to note that a huge amount of progress has been made since then and the RHS has put together a most impressive amount of information on dealing with dry conditions and the plants best suited to them. This can be found at the following website address: www.rhs.org.uk/plants/for-places/drought-resistant.

A couple of years ago, the Village Garden Club was asked by the Parish Council to replant the Jubilee Garden adjacent to the War Memorial. Years of neglect had reduced this bed to a very sorry sight. New plants were selected with dry conditions and poor soil in mind. The bed has prospered and has thrived with minimal watering this year. Why not take a look.

If you would like some information about joining the Garden Club please email either our membership secretary Fred Wells at wellsfrederick@hotmail.com or our Secretary Judy Douch at judithdouch@gmail.com or phone 01483 475133. Alternatively, come and see us for a chat at the Village Society's stand at this month's Ag & Hort Show.



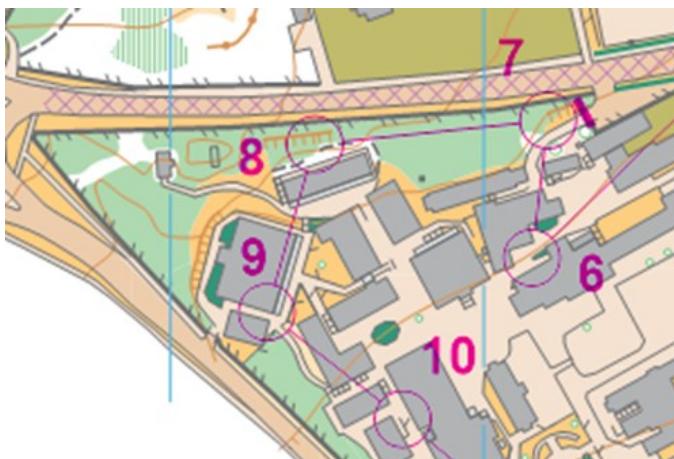
Jubilee Garden - August 2025

Gordon's School Orienteering Event

Pete Jones

On 23 July, WEVS, in conjunction with Southern Navigators, held an Orienteering event at Gordon's School. Two courses were available, one for 'experts' (runners), and one for novices (aimed at juniors and WEVS). 55 folk took part.

An extract from the novice course is shown here.



The aim was to navigate around the 16 controls on the course in order. At each checkpoint there is an orange and white flag with an electronic unit which registers the time you visit, using a 'dibber' (the blue item) attached to your finger.



On the novice course (2km), the fastest was 25 minutes (fast juniors), and a few walked around (enjoying the architecture) in around 50 minutes.

We are hoping to put on another event here in March. Details

<https://www.southernNavigators.com/>

WEVS' Community Orchard

Yvette Jones

West End is blessed with many native, non-native and ornamental trees. The long drought and extreme heat have affected them adversely. If you have a young tree in your garden (planted under five years ago) or live near trees in a nearby open space please give them water. Perhaps consider adopting a tree or a set of trees to look after. We need to maintain our beautiful trees; they need tender loving care to survive the changing weather patterns.

The WEVS community orchard in the SANG has also suffered, despite occasional watering by the Borough's Green Space Team. The healthiest tree is the walnut, planted at the highest point of the orchard. The fruit trees at the bottom of the orchard seem to have suffered most. This is a surprising outcome. Two Victoria plum trees

produced most fruit, albeit they were rather small fruits.

If you have a garden give a thought to wildlife. West End has evidence of many hedgehogs living in the built environment. If you can, leave a shallow dish or saucer of fresh water on the ground for hedgehogs and keep birdbaths topped up. If you have a garden pond the water level has probably dropped. Make sure you have a ramp, beach or baskets of plants anchored at the pond edge. Even though hedgehogs are good swimmers they can drown if they cannot climb out of the pond.

If we all participate in looking after our trees and wildlife West End will continue to be a wonderful place to live. The area within Surrey Heath borough is proud to claim the highest percentage of tree cover in the country. Let's keep it that way.

Quilting Exhibition in West End

Tringham Hall hosted a very colourful exhibition of quilting on 22 June. It was mounted by Heather Quilters, a society covering Camberley and district, and has members in West End.



Two long lines of tall display boards presented, on each side, large vivid tapestry-like quilts, and further quilts were displayed along an extensive wall. In addition there were displays of smaller quilts designed on the subject of Seaside. As a non-quilter I did not fully understand all the various techniques described but the skills required were very evident and I could readily appreciate the attractiveness of the results. Patterns ranged from abstract geometric designs to fully representational.

Heather Quilters ("Quilting keeps us sane - well almost!") was founded in 1987 by a small group of like-minded quilters.

The Group's Chair, Carol Phyllis, writes "We meet in

Camberley once a month in the evening (apart from August). Our programme is varied and includes speaker and sewing evenings plus a Christmas and AGM Party. Because we all love sewing (and having a chat !), we also hold four Sewing Sundays. These are all held at Tringham Hall.

"Many of our members enjoy making charity quilts and as a group we support Linus, plus Frimley Park neo natal unit. Our quilts go to local people that need them, this is helped by one of our members being the area co-ordinator for Linus. The committee prepare the quilting kits, which can be sewn by attendees, at 2 of our Sewing Sundays.

"If you are interested in coming along to any of our meetings, the first one is free. Just give us a try - we are very friendly and welcome new members. Details can be found on the website <https://heather-quilters.weebly.com>. Alternatively, you can contact Carol on 07845 603150."



Tony Akerman - donation to WEVS in his memory

One of WEVS' long-term supporters, Tony Akerman, has passed away aged 94, and his daughters Sally and Jennifer have made a generous donation to WEVS in his memory. It is to be spent on enhancing the village such as planting Spring bulbs.

Tony and Pam Akerman moved to West End in 1965. They both quickly got involved in village life, including the PTA, Guides and Brownies, WI, the

fete, the Ag & Hort Show, Garden Club and latterly the Old Folks. When Tony retired in 1986, he joined TWERPS with Ian Cameron, and they would reccy the walks together with secateurs and loppers. Tony was an avid reader, with a wide range of interests including local history and bookbinding. He supported WEVS for many years, and particularly appreciated the beautiful daffodil displays and Lucas the Stag. He lived in Commonfields for 59 years.

VE Day: The Most Exciting Day of My Life

8th May 1945, by Joy Chessun, nee Thorn (14 years old)

Following the highly successful VE80 exhibition mounted by WEVS and West End Social Club in May (reviewed in our Summer edition) which celebrated the 80th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe, WEVS received this account of one local resident's experience of the original event in 1945, when she was a 14 year old girl. Joyce (known as Joy) lived till 2005. We are very grateful to the family to receive this, and it becomes part of our History Project collection (see page 12). Other residents' recollections of historic events would be welcomed.

Six long years of war, weeks of waiting, excitement and longing had passed and at last peace was declared. I think that it was almost impossible to describe the feeling of relief it brought. At last there would be no worrying about the safety of relations and friends in the forces, no bombs, buzz bombs, rockets or news of the horrible suffering of occupied Europe. Yes, at last it was all over and we could relax and celebrate.

About twelve members of my family met, and after a marvellous supper, we caught a bus to Piccadilly Circus. The streets were overflowing with happy, carefree crowds singing and dancing. Most of the houses were bedecked with the flags of all nations and enormous VE for Victory signs. It was getting dark and people made the excuse to switch on as many lights as possible to make up for the blackouts of the previous long months and years.

We alighted at our destination and immediately became surrounded by milling mobs of people, young and old, adorned with big red, white and blue rosettes and waving multi coloured flags. Rockets were frequently ascending into a now dark sky and bursting in a blaze of coloured lights above our heads. An aeroplane in the emblazoned sky seemed to be giving its crew a good aerial view of the City by swooping, reeling and performing extraordinary acrobatic stunts so that I was amazed at the way it avoided crashing into some of the taller buildings.

The crowds became so dense that it was with relief we escaped into a side street for a breathing space. We then discovered that we had lost four of the party including my mother and father. We waited for them quite a while but when they did not turn up we made our way towards Trafalgar Square.



VE Day: The Most Exciting Day of My Life (continued)

Nelson's Column was illuminated by searchlights and the surrounding buildings were all floodlit. One very gay sailor had his trousers rolled up above his knees and was having a marvellous time wading in the fountain and kicking the water over the spectators. The illuminations gave the most lovely blue effect, and the searchlights, advertisements and rockets showed up to perfection in the lovely warm summer night. When we could drag ourselves away my cousin decided to direct us to 10 Downing Street to try and get a glimpse of Mr Churchill. On our way there, we heard a voice coming from many loudspeakers. People began to run, including us. Suddenly we came upon a crowd of people gathered round the Home Office, and on looking I saw Mr Churchill, accompanied by his small grandson on a balcony which was decorated with an enormous Union Jack.

A hush fell on the crowd as we all listened to what the great man had to say. At the end of his speech a small band below struck up with "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow". The response was terrific. The night was filled with the voices of us all and for minutes afterwards our cheers rang out. When at last Mr Churchill left the balcony we began to wander back towards Trafalgar Square. The air was full of coloured streamers and rows of us were marching along arm in arm, all friends, all sharing the same great happiness.

Many people made a real night of it as they were unable to get home but at last, very tired yet very

happy, we joined a queue for the Underground. I shall never forget that journey!

Once the train came in, the people behind simply seethed forward packing the ones in front so tightly, just like sardines, when at last absolutely no more could be crammed in the doors were shut. There was only just enough room for my feet so I had to balance over the lucky ones who were seated by hanging onto the straps. After what seemed hours in that crowded stuffy compartment we were able to get off and drag ourselves home. As one of my relations lives only about four minutes from our flat I went home with them to wait for my parents. About an hour later they turned up after having to walk about half the way.

So the greatest day of my life had ended. It was not only the day itself which has been so stupendous, but the fact that the war with Germany was over and won.



80th anniversary of VJ Day

While VE Day celebrated the end of the war in Europe, the Second World War did not end until Japan was defeated. 2025 is the 80th anniversary of VJ (Victory in Japan) Day, which is marked on different days in the UK and USA. VJ Day for us is 15 August when Japan announced its surrender. In the US it's 2 September, the day the formal surrender documents were signed aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

The West End History Project

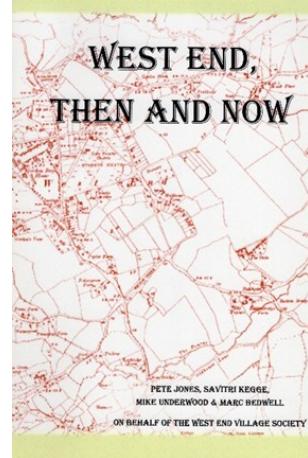
Our History Project continues to collect photographs and written items, and of course we would like further additions from residents.

This WEVS Project of the Year is led by Johan Schoeman, Savitri Kegge and Guy Consterdine. As described in our Summer newsletter, WEVS has taken over the project from John Smith, whose display of photographs of old West End at the forthcoming Ag & Hort Show will be his final display, after many years of fascinating exhibitions in the village and elsewhere.

A significant difference between John's collection and the collection that WEVS is developing is that ours is digital-only, hosted on its own section of the WEVS website, and is accessible for anyone to examine the photographs at wevs.org.uk/history-project.

WEVS encourages all residents and local organisations to send us any photographs they have of events, people or views in West End, from the early years of photography through to the present, and of course into the future as the months go by. They

can be in any form: prints, slides or negatives, or digital images. Prints, negatives and slides will be digitised and the originals returned. The information we would like about each image (as far as possible) is title, photographer, date, and description. Please contact us at history-project@wevs.org.uk to arrange delivery/collection of photographs or documents.



Book on West End's history

Previously WEVS published 'West End, Then and Now', a book describing the development of West End from the Bronze and Iron Ages to the present day. Priced at £7.50, it will be on sale at WEVS' marquee at the Ag & Hort Show on 13 September, or may be ordered via comms@wevs.org.uk

The Boxing Day Walk

Chris Anthony

Weather permitting, WEVS plans to hold its traditional Boxing Day walk this year. The route will very much depend upon the amount of rainfall we have in the weeks before the event. Normally it covers a distance of around three miles. The first half of the route is relatively dry under foot and child buggy friendly. Mid-way there is an exit point where walkers can shorten the route and return to the village by road. Participants assemble in the car park of Tringham Hall for a 10:30 start or 10:40 opposite the Hare & Hounds, suitably attired with warm clothing and sensible footwear. The route

takes walkers across Brentmoor Heath and around the back of the village, ending up close to the Hare & Hounds Pub about 1½ hours later, just in time to take some well-earned refreshment.

It is almost ten years since Mary & Chris Anthony began running this popular event and they are looking for volunteers to take over from them in 2026. It's a very simple task, a great way to catch up with old friends, to meet new ramblers and to make a much-appreciated contribution to the community. If you are interested, please contact them via comms@wevs.org.uk or the WEVS website.

WEVS Committee - comms@wevs.org.uk

Chairman: Pete Jones **Vice-Chairman:** Jeff Llewellyn **Secretary:** Jan Smith

Treasurer: Yvonne Simpson **Membership Secretary:** Mary Anthony **Newsletter Editor:** Guy Consterdine

Other members: Anne Allard, Andrew Hopkins, Yvette Jones, Savitri Kegge, Johan Schoeman, Pauline Wells