



Contact westhallnews@gmail.com

March 2020

**Tuesday March 24th 2020 will be the  
75th anniversary  
of the death of American servicemen in  
Westhall.**

The B17 Flying Fortress named 'I'll be seeing you' had been badly damaged during a mission to attack a Luftwaffe airfield at Rheine, Germany.

As the plane returned to England it attempted to make an emergency landing at the airfield in Halesworth. When the B17 approached the runway another of its engines stopped working, resulting in a crash landing at Whitehouse Farm in Westhall.



The Pilot and Co-Pilot survived, but the other crew members were all killed.

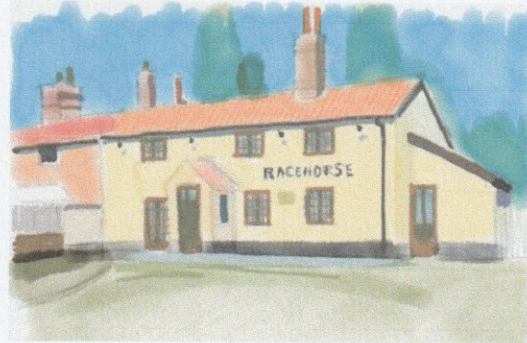
**Unfortunately the Memorial Service that had been planned to take place on Tuesday March 24th 2020 has been postponed and will take place later in the year.**



Members of the Pub Committee, the Parish Council and Community Council met with the Post Office to discuss a Post Office counter in the Racehorse.

The most feasible option at the moment will be to have a hosted Outreach Service for a few hours a week.

This will take a while to organise as the Post Office will have to recruit and install their own secure internet. But, all being well Westhall will have access to a Post Office again.



**Westhall has its own Community Pub 😊**

at the moment opening times are;  
Thursday 11am - 2pm and 5pm - 10pm  
Friday 11am - 2pm and 5pm - 11pm  
Saturday 11am - 2pm and 5pm - 11pm  
Sunday 11am - 2pm

## Covid-19 Virus

The developing Government guidelines have made us think very carefully about keeping the Racehorse open.

Our conclusion is that as a community pub our main aim is to support the community. So, we will open as usual at the moment. We may close earlier than usual, but we want people to call in if they need company, a change of scene, help with something or a beer.

We have plenty of space and hand washing facilities to keep people safe and we will keep monitoring the situation and let people know if anything changes.

We also have the ability to help with shopping and in providing cooked meals if needed. Please contact us if you have a problem.

[secretaryracehorse@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryracehorse@gmail.com)  
01502 575800 [westhallpub.com](http://westhallpub.com)

## Westhall Community Council



The Community Council would like to update and refurbish the equipment on the village playing field but what we need is help and ideas from people that use it.

Please let us have your ideas and thoughts.  
George Harvey 575774 Julia Punt 575518  
westhallcommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk

## ST ANDREW'S CHURCH PCC

People attending fundraising events in aid of the village church often ask where precisely the money goes.

We have two separate money streams - one for general expenses and one for the maintenance of the fabric (bricks, mortar and thatch).

### General fund

The greatest expenses we incur each year are:  
Approximately £7500 to the diocese as our Parish Share.

Approximately £1750 for insurance.  
£480 to the Hundred River Benefice for expenses.  
£1000 for running costs (electricity, organ tuning, village hall hire, candles, etc.)

So, with the unforeseen expenses that always occur, we need to raise in the region of £11000 per year in order to survive.

Our sources of income are approximately:

Regular giving £500  
Collections at regular service £1500  
Donations which include an annual sum from the Glenis Miller Foundation £2500  
Weddings, funerals and burials £1500  
Fundraising £2500  
Gift Aid £500

It doesn't take too much maths to work out that we are usually some way short of our needs which means that we are rarely able to fulfil our commitment to the diocese.

## Repairs and Maintenance fund

This fund was set up by the PCC over 20 years ago to work alongside the Restoration Committee which was set up initially to raise funds to repair the roof after the 1987 storm. Since 2003 we have undertaken four major projects - roof timbers and thatch on both the South and the North roofs of the Nave, the restoration of the South aisle window, replacing some of the plaster and repairing the drainage gullies in and around the chance.

To date we have paid out in excess of £200,000 in order to complete these works. Whilst the majority of the money has come from grants (mainly English Heritage, the Church Commissioners and various historic buildings trusts) we have, with your help, fundraised many thousands of pounds ourselves.



We have two more projects currently underway - retiling the chancel roof, and the carpark. The Church Commissioners will fund most of the retiling work but we still have to find approximately £3 000 towards it.

The initial work on the carpark will be to improve the access which will cost (including legal fees) in the region of £2000 despite the majority of the work being done by volunteers (David Miller and Maurice Howland). Without the generosity of Antas (through Jes Hanson) who have gifted the land on a peppercorn leasehold we wouldn't have been able to start. This is only the beginning though given that we need several thousands of pounds more in order to create a suitable surface for parking and to provide easy access to the church.

As you can see it is a constant battle to find the funds firstly, to maintain the running of the church and secondly, to keep the building in a good state of repair. There are a number of ways in which you could help if you were so inclined, namely:

- volunteer to help with maintenance
- make a regular contribution by standing order (we can claim 25% Gift Aid on top)
- make a direct donation (again gift aided)
- attend, or even organise, fundraising events

For any of the above please contact any member of the PCC for information or more specifically myself. Kevin Minton (PCC Treasurer) 575438  
[minton54@btinternet.com](mailto:minton54@btinternet.com)