

WESTHALL VILLAGE NEWS

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December 2021



The Racehorse
Westhall

£5
COMMUNITY LUNCH
Wednesday 8 December
12-2pm

Choose from Cottage Pie, Lasagne or Macaroni Cheese
Add dessert or cake for £2

Come along and enjoy a good value home cooked lunch
and join in with a fun game of bingo if you have time

OLD GLORY

OUT-OF-WORK PLOUGHBOYS
DANCE A SLOW HEAVY STEP
IN A STRICT
AND PARTICULAR FASHION
AND DEMAND MONEY WITH MENACES

WESTHALL RACEHORSE INN
SATURDAY 11TH DECEMBER
2021 AT 8.00PM

OLD GLORY MOLLY DANCERS AND MUSICIANS
ESTABLISHED 1994 - THE 28TH SEASON
NO REFUNDS TOUR
WWW.OLD-GLORY.ORG.UK

A warm, festive welcome awaits you at The Racehorse this December as we celebrate two-years of operation as a Community Pub -- we couldn't have achieved all we have without your support, so thank you!

The money raised from the public share offer, plus the grants we have been awarded have made our goal of owning the freehold possible and progress is being made towards completion just as soon as is possible.

Remember, the pub will only be successful with your continuing custom and support, so please call in and see when you can, we have a regular programme of events with hopefully something for everyone to enjoy.

Our December programme is a busy one, starting with the **£5 Community Lunch** on Wednesday 8 December. Come along and enjoy a good value home cooked lunch and join in with a fun game of bingo if you have time.

On Thursday 9 December we are holding our **Monthly Quiz**, this is a popular event so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Then on Saturday 11 December at 8pm we are delighted to welcome **Old Glory Molly Dancers & Musicians** to The Racehorse for their spectacular entertainment -- remember the dancing will take place outside, so dress appropriately and if you'd like food beforehand then it would be a good idea to book as soon as possible!

LIVE MUSIC
at The Racehorse
Sunday 12 December
from 2pm

LOVELY BOY

Don't miss this local duo who played the Inbetweeners Stage at Latitude this year
A mix of well known covers as well as beautiful originals

On Sunday 12th December we are offering Sunday Lunch and during the afternoon more live music -- **with the brilliant Lovely Boy** -- a young local duo who played the Inbetweeners Stage at Latitude this year. They will play a mix of well-known covers as well as beautiful originals, so please spread the word and come along if you can to show them your support. Steve, our music guru, thinks they will soon be too big to play the likes of The Racehorse, so catch them while you can and remember where you saw them first!

continued →




DOORSTEP CAROLS 2021
WED 15 DEC, 6PM Outside The Racehorse

On Wednesday 15 December we are opening specially in the evening to host **Doorstep Carols** outside The Racehorse. This is a nationwide event with cathedral choirs and professional singers leading the nation in song. Working with BBC local radio stations & streaming to schools, hospital wards, care-homes, and communities around the country, no one need feel isolated this Christmas. Rev Claire has organised this as an event for Westhall and we will raise money for the "Spread a Smile" charity. Come along & join in with the singing. The pub will be open for drinks, plus warm drinks & mince pies.

The Racehorse **Book Club** will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday 16 December and if you would like to join the group please pop along.

On Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 December chef Jonny Riordan will be cooking delicious **Festive Lunches** for us. So why not book with family, friends or colleagues and let us do the hard work while you relax and have a good time!

The Racehorse will be open as normal up to Christmas Eve and to welcome the festivities in style we will be having **Live Music & Buffet on Christmas Eve** -- it's sure to be a jolly evening!

On **Christmas Day** we will be open **12-2pm** for drinks, so do pop in and see us if you can. Then on **Boxing Day** (26th) we will again be open for drinks from **12-4pm**, so if you're out for your Boxing Day walk, do include a stop at The Racehorse on your route!

We will of course be open on **New Year's Eve**, do join us for drinks, a buffet and music as we welcome in the New Year with a party!

Thank you again for your support and custom during the year. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



The Racehorse

Festive Lunches

Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 December
 12-2.30pm on each day

TO START...

Homemade Broccoli & Stilton Soup with croutons	Classic Prawn Cocktail with brown bread
Twice Cooked Goats Cheese Soufflé with walnut & apple salad	Homemade Mackerel Pate with cranberry sauce and melba toast

MAIN COURSES...

Roast Turkey with stuffing, pigs in blankets, roast potatoes, honeyed parsnips, & a selection of vegetables	Roast Topside of Beef with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, honeyed parsnips & a selection of vegetables
Leek, Hazelnut & Cream Cheese Filo Parcel on a bed of tomato & basil sauce with roast potatoes, honeyed parsnips & a selection of vegetables	Salmon En Croute with new potatoes & a selection of vegetables

PUDDING!

Traditional Christmas Pudding with custard or cream	Bigod Brie with biscuits, chutney & grapes
Strawberry & Passionfruit Pavlova	Terry's Chocolate Orange Cheesecake

Two courses, £19.95
 Three courses plus coffee or tea & mini mince pies, £24.95
 Adjustments can be made for any food allergies with prior notice. Children's portions by arrangement.

**** Booking & food choices required in advance ****
 A non-refundable £10 per guest deposit is required to secure the booking

Please book early to avoid disappointment

To book, please call in at the pub when we are open or
 Tel: 01502 575665. Email: info@westhallpub.com
www.westhallpub.com



The Racehorse

GAMES NIGHT

first Thursday of each month
 from 6.30pm

Pizza & Nachos available

Come along with games of your own or choose from a selection including Bananagrams, Quirkle, Cribbage, Darts, Cards and more

www.westhallpub.com

Games Night a review: The fire was lit, the night outside was cold and dark, but fun and games were to be had inside the pub at December's Games Night! Lorraine proved a knock-out at Bar Skittles (she clearly had a misspent youth) and was crowned December champion; David took home a warm glow from a stellar performance on the darts board; the Bassetts intrigued us all with their game of Russian Trains (you'll have to ask them...) quickly followed by Quirkle; Steve valiantly took on all comers on a range of different games; dominoes and Bananagrams were going on at different tables around the pub and pizzas and nachos were much enjoyed.

Come along for fun and games on the **first Thursday of each month** (6th January, 3rd February), tell your friends, bring games or choose from a selection at the pub.

Important information regarding Avian flu

Because of a new outbreak of Avian Flu earlier this year, chief medical officers have decided to enforce strict measures for birdkeepers. An Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) came into force across Great Britain on the 3 November 2021, and in Northern Ireland on the 17 November 2021. This was extended to include housing measures across the UK on the 29 November 2021.

These measures mean that it is a legal requirement for all bird keepers across the UK (whether they have pet birds, commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard flock) to keep their birds indoors and follow strict biosecurity measures to limit the spread of and eradicate the disease.

The AIPZ in England means that bird keepers must:

- house or net all poultry and captive birds to keep them separate from wild birds
- cleanse and disinfect clothing, footwear, equipment and vehicles before and after contact with poultry and captive birds – if practical, use disposable protective clothing
- reduce the movement of people, vehicles or equipment to and from areas where poultry and captive birds are kept, to minimise contamination from manure, slurry and other products, and use effective vermin control
- thoroughly cleanse and disinfect housing on a continuous basis
- keep fresh disinfectant at the right concentration at all farm and poultry housing entry and exit points
- minimise direct and indirect contact between poultry and captive birds and wild birds, including making sure all feed and water is not accessible to wild birds



Westhall Church Carol and Crib Service



St. Andrew's Church will be holding a Christmas Carol service on Christmas Eve, Friday 24th December.

Starts at 5:30 pm.

New car park is in use.

A Hedge

A Poem

An ancient hedge, Familiar: there since
Lord knows when;
Home of Robin, Linnet, Finch and Wren;
A refuge safe for Leveret, Vole and Fowl,
The hunting ground for Hedgehog, Weasel, Stoat
and Owl.

We pass it by and seldom give a thought,
The shelter it has given, the joy that it has brought;
The woodbine may, and ivy in the Spring
The dead branch where the blackbird used to sing.

The Summer leaves, the berries in the Fall,
Where field-fares fed and danced with chattering
call,
Bare in Winter, yet it still did give
A place for tiny creatures there to live.

But then alas, for some that hedge means naught,
It's in the way, we'll have to grub it out!
So in they go with giant machines, (they call them
J.C.B.'s)
To gouge and scrape and smash, the place where
once grew trees.

We grieve about the Amazon and the forest that is
gone,
But it's happening in your back yard, right here by
your own home;
Think twice before you fell a tree and attack it with
the saw,
For once it's gone it's gone for good,
And won't come back no more.

Alasdair Cameron
MMXXI

Westhall News Editorial Group

Despite hard and troubling times, we will always keep Westhall informed with this newsletter. As always, we are very keen to accept contributions and ideas for future newsletters. Contact us on:

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Email: secretaryracehorse@gmail.com or oriches2304@gmail.com

Westhall's Fallen: The Second World War

Last month we looked at Westhall's contribution to the First World War – a conflict which saw the sleepy village lose six inhabitants to combat.

Although many more served in the Second World War – Army, Navy, Air Force, Home Guard, etc. – Westhall only suffered a single casualty to enemy combat, so I thought this section be dedicated to that man.

William Clarke was born in January 1912, and was a member of the Royal Navy Reserve when war broke out. He was assigned to the armed trawler, H.M Mastiff, which was then rebuilt as a minesweeper. On November 20th 1939, Mastiff struck a mine in the Thames Estuary whilst on patrol. William was one of six men who were killed instantly. His body was never recovered, and his name is recorded on Lowestoft's Naval Memorial.

