

THE SALINGS MAGAZINE



NOVEMBER 2023



THE PARISH MAGAZINE FOR GREAT AND LITTLE SALING

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

As the evenings shorten and the warmth of September seems a distant memory, November offers us a time for reflection and remembrance, and the different articles on pages 4-6 highlight this in various ways.

There will be a time to remember loved ones who have passed on at the All Souls Benefice service in Little Saling church on the 5th of November at 4pm (see p4).

Then there is the traditional Remembrance Day service which will be held at Great Saling church on the 12th of November starting at 10.50 (to allow for the minute's silence at 11am).

But darker evenings also allow for more theatre:

The Greville Theatre Company is putting on 'Waiting for God' from the 15th - 18th of November (see p15).

The issue of our local 'green lanes' is touched on by Councillor Anne Hooks (see pages 9 & 10). It seems that, at least for the moment, Rogues Green will need to remain a 'BOAT' – byway open to all traffic – which in turn, of course, means Essex CC will have to spend money repairing it!

Finally – green bins, a subject dear to (nearly) all of our hearts! Don't forget to claim your first year discount – see the link in Ann's article.

Please note that there is a black and white copy of the bin collection calendar on p11 to save you downloading it.

Provided we get further helpful responses to our appeal for funds (see p3) we may be able to publish the Salings Magazine in colour next year.

**Please email contributions to the combined
Dec. 2023 & Jan2024
edition by the 15th of November to:
SalingsMagazine@gmail.com**

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Saling's Parish Magazine is delivered free to every house in the parishes of Great Saling and Little (Bardfield) Saling.

We rely on income from advertising to cover the cost of production of the magazine. Since the pandemic, we have seen our revenue from advertising reduce, and this year there will be a significant shortfall from the money we receive from advertising, and the cost of producing the magazine. This shortfall will need to be found from very limited church funds.

We are therefore asking for your help. We are asking for donations to help cover the shortfall, and enable us to continue producing a monthly magazine for our parishes.

If you would like to donate, please scan the QR code to make an online donation. Alternatively email julian.gspcc@outlook.com for other ways to donate.



If you run a business and would like to place an advert in the magazine, please email on the above email address for details.

Thank you for supporting our parish magazine.

CHURCH SERVICES IN THE SALINGS

This is the standard pattern of monthly services
(please see Church Notice Boards for changes):

<u>1st Sunday of the month:</u>	Lt. Saling at 11am – Morning Prayer
<u>2nd Sunday of the month:</u>	Gt. Saling at 11am – Holy Communion
<u>3rd Sunday of the month:</u>	Lt. Saling at 9.30am – Holy Communion
<u>4th Sunday of the month:</u>	Gt. Saling at 9.30am – Morning Prayer

Rev. Helen will be leading an **All Souls Benefice service** in Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Little Saling on 5th November 2023 at 4 p.m.

This will be a time of gentle reflection where we gather to remember and give thanks for those we love and see no longer.

It is also an opportunity to seek comfort for those who have suffered the loss of a partner or close relative.

At the service there will be Bible readings, hymns and prayers, a short sermon and an act of remembrance for those who have died.

A Message from Rev. Jo Wood

As I leave the Pilgrim Parishes and move to complete my Curacy in the Rodings, Easters and Gt. Canfield benefice, I would like to express my thanks to the churches and communities across the Pilgrim Parishes for your welcome, friendship, support and prayers over the past two years.

It has been a joy and privilege to minister with you and I am grateful for all that I have learned and shared with you.

Thank you and God bless you all.



From the Pilgrim Parishes Ministry Team



Autumn is now well upon us – although with the changing climate I'm not really sure that autumn now brings us what we would previously consider as autumnal weather. Autumn is (or at least should be) a time of dropping temperatures with nights drawing in as we head towards winter. The weather is (or should be) unsettled.

Our days are rapidly getting shorter and the sun is becoming lower in the sky. The autumn equinox, when day and night are of equal length, has now passed. There are often spectacular sunsets in autumn, the stars can seem brighter at night, and on some mornings mist hangs over the fields.

This is a time of nature's plenty, with a wonderful hedgerow harvest of blackberries, rose hips, crab apples, hazelnuts and seeds. Crisp autumn days are full of colour as the leaves turn red and gold, while toadstools pop up from the floor. Many of our much loved creatures take advantage of this wild harvest to build up reserves of fat for migration or for hibernation.

Autumn has always been a time of change as we slip from summer into winter. But global warming is throwing all this out of kilter. The previously predicted transition is now becoming a big unknown. What does October hold in store for us?

In fact, the world these days seems to be full of uncertainty, of unpredictability; dare I say of chaos?! The terrible war in Ukraine continues – people continue to die in armed conflict, not just in Ukraine, but in many places in the world. In Afghanistan (and other countries) women continue to be marginalized and victimized. Wild fires are ravaging countries across the globe. Here in the UK, people continue to battle with their financial situations, our NHS appears to be on the verge of breakdown, and many are still suffering from the effects of Covid.

But midst the ebb and flow of this ever-changing world, the Christian faith finds solace in the unchanging nature of God, as beautifully stated in Malachi 3:6: "I the Lord do not change." And the reassurance of Hebrews 13:8 proclaims, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

These verses anchor our souls in the unshifting character of God, his enduring love, and his steadfast promises. In a landscape of shifting sands, the unchanging God can become our bedrock, as affirmed in Psalm 18:2: "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge."

With each step in life's journey, we can find renewed strength in the unchanging God, who remains our constant companion, as tenderly expressed in Isaiah 41:10: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand".

May you all find this assurance at this time.

Revd Ian Elliott

November - the season of Remembrance

by Catherine Elliott, Licensed Lay Minister



At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918, the Armistice was signed that signalled the end of World War 1 hostilities. Fighting rumbled on for some time as commanders tried to capture territory before the war ended...but the final outcome had already been decided. Today, we continue to respectfully remember those who fought, died or suffered in so many different ways.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

We thought we would never see another war in Europe in our lifetime. How wrong we were. But we give thanks that most Western politicians seem to have heeded the lessons of the past and are trying to avoid WW3 breaking out over Ukraine. Let us pray that they will be successful.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

This season of remembrance begins on November 1st with All Saints Day and is immediately followed by All Souls Day. Together, these give us the opportunity to remember with thanksgiving all those who have died, whether in the distant past or much more recently. For some of us, that remembrance brings only the sadness of loss. For others, it also brings the blessings of happy memories and the certainty of our future reunion when all things are made new.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

That future was won for us when Jesus died on the cross, whether we choose to believe it or not. Like the Armistice, the final outcome of the war against evil has been decided... but individual battles continue to rumble on. Evil in all its forms tries to make us think our resistance is a lost cause. But hang on in there - ultimately, victory is assured, for Christ is King. That's something to remember whenever people or circumstances try to bring us down - especially as the nights grow longer and the weather gets cold and cloudy – because, as we move towards the end of this sombre season of remembrance, we'll soon be hearing again the songs of love and joy and peace and hope, as we start to prepare for the celebrations and remembrance of Christmas.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.*



(Robert Laurence Binyon, 1914)

Harvest was very successfully celebrated in September and many thanks to all who contributed in so many ways. It was really wonderful that Sue was able to lead us and to join, with Andy, to picnic afterwards.

There was representation from those from the first decade of their lives all the way through to those in their 80's!!

A large quantity of produce has been delivered to the Food bank and tools to The Tools with a Mission project. Thank you also to those who made financial contributions to the churches. Helping to keep the buildings in good order and open, to all.

Lydia Roe



Here are pictures of Rev Sue Hurley celebrating with us in the Salings

surrounded by sunflowers donated by Philip Ratcliff and wheat sheaves from Robert Bucknell!



Thank you very much for all the donations to Braintree Area Foodbank you have made over harvest. An especial thanks to those church partners and school partners who held harvest festivals.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Councillors

Chair: Peter Martin - peter@pmp ltd.co - 07801 236461

Colin Bennett - petrabennett@btinternet.com - 01371 850320

Terry McCarty - k.mccarty@sky.co.uk

Jennifer O'Connell - Jennifer.OConnell@russellreynolds.com -07872 844961

Ann Hooks - Annhookssalings@gmail.com

Janice Macleod - janice@grayandcompany.co.uk

Clerk to the Council

Lisa Harris – clerk@salings-pc.gov.uk - 01371 532405

Website: Salings Parish Council (www.salings-pc.gov.uk)

District Councillor - Ann Hooks - Cllr.ahooks@braintree.gov.uk

County Councillor - Graham Butland - Cllr.Graham.butland@essex.gov.uk

Meeting Schedule 2023

The next meeting is proposed for Thursday 30th November 2023, at 7 pm
The Salings Millennium Hall

Parish Ranger What the ranger has been up to:

- The painting of the fence posts on Grove Villas has begun.
- The grass was cut on the triangle where Bardfield Road meets Grove Villas.
- Emptying the bins on the playing field.
- Where safe, signs around the villages specifically the speed signs have been cleared of foliage and cleaned.

Refuse Collections Braintree District Council will no longer be printing and delivering bin collection calendars. The parish council aim to provide reminders of refuse collection dates in the magazine and on the Facebook page. There is also the yearly recycling calendar until September 2024, on page 11 in the magazine.

November dates:

7th – Green bin, clear sacks, and food bin. 14th – Grey bin and food bin.

21st - Green bin, clear sacks, and food bin. 28th - Grey bin and food bin.

Overgrown hedges The parish council kindly requests all members of our community to ensure that any hedges they own are well-maintained and do not encroach upon footpaths or roads. Keeping our pathways clear ensures the safety and convenience of all residents and visitors. Your cooperation in trimming back any overgrown hedges is greatly appreciated and contributes to the overall well-being of our village. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



District Councillor Ann Hooks

After supporting residents and the Parish Council in its request for a reduction in the status, on Byway 10 at Rogues Green, after its serious decline on its surface condition and the volume of unsociable behaviour on it, it is disappointing to learn that there is no provision in law to support this kind of request. Obviously, this not the outcome that many wanted and I share your frustrations.

Although on a happier note, it is great to see that Essex Highways have completed repairs to the Byway, as promised in June, making it a lot safer and pleasant for all users. If unsociable behaviour is witnessed on the byway, people are encouraged to report it to Essex Police on 101 or via the live chat function, so a picture can be formed, even if the police do not attend at that time.

BDC are no longer printing and delivering bin collection calendars. But you can find it here <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/bins-waste-recycling/download-collection-calendar> if you wish to print it yourself or have it saved on your electronic devices. You will also find reminders in the Parish Council section of the Salings Magazine.

It is now getting to the time of year when the green bin collection will cease being collected (late November / early December) and if you are interested in having your green bin collected from March 2024, you have until the 30th November 2023 to sign up for the early bird offer, to get the service at 50% reduced rate. Visit www.braintree.gov.uk/gardenwastesubscription to take up the offer.

Calling all businesses & community groups, the Rural Prosperity Fund is now 'live' at BDC. The Rural Prosperity Fund supports the aims of the Government's Levelling Up White Paper and Future Farming Programme.

The fund supports capital projects for small businesses and community infrastructure which will improve productivity and strengthen the rural economy and rural communities.

The rural fund provides capital funding to:

- support new and existing rural businesses to develop new products and facilities that will be of wider benefit to the local economy.
- support new and improved community infrastructure, providing essential community services and assets for local people and businesses to benefit the local economy.

Any organisation with legal status within rural areas can get funding. The list includes, but is not limited to:

- public sector organisations such as town and parish councils

- higher and further education institutions
- small and medium sized businesses
- voluntary organisations
- registered charities

Grants between £10,000 and £50,000 are available for the execution of capital projects in rural areas. If you are a business applying for the business grant you must show that you are contributing at least £10,000 to the project. Organisations such as: charities, voluntary organisations or councils will not be required to match funds. Projects must be finished and invoiced before 31 March 2025 and grants can only be paid once the project is complete. Please visit BDCs website to get more information.

If you do require my assistance or would like to reach out to me, my email address is cllr.ahooks@braintree.gov.uk This is my preferred method of contact. Although, in an emergency I can be contacted on my mobile, 07852 552247.

I also have active social media pages, Facebook (Cllr Ann Hooks) and Instagram page (cllr_ann_hooks), where you can keep up to date with what I am up to!



Lindsell Annual Church Coffee Morning

Saturday 18th November

10am to 12 noon

at Lindsell Village Hall

Handicrafts Books Cakes Produce Tombola Raffle

Everyone Welcome
All Proceeds to St Mary's Church

2023/2024

Recycling does not end at your kerbside collection

Reduce your waste even further by using recycling bring banks to recycle your:

- glass bottles and jars
- tins and shoes
- food and drink cans, e.g. Tetra Pak

To find out where to recycle these and lots of other items, go to www.recyclingnow.co.uk/recycling-locator

Disposable nappies are not accepted in your clear sacks - please put these in your grey bin, or try reusable nappies.

RECYCLING SACKS



My Recycling Calendar

TUESDAY ROUTE 2

OCTOBER 2023	NOVEMBER 2023	DECEMBER 2023
3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 27
		WED
JANUARY 2024	FEBRUARY 2024	MARCH 2024
3 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	5 12 19 26
WED		WED
APRIL 2024	MAY 2024	JUNE 2024
3 9 16 23 30	8 14 21 29	4 11 18 25
WED	WED	
JULY 2024	AUGUST 2024	SEPTEMBER 2024
2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
	WED	

- ☒ Grey bin and food bin
Different collection day
- ☒ Clear sacks and food bin only
Different collection day
- ☒ Green bin, clear sacks and food bin
Different collection day
- ☒ Green bin, clear sacks and food bin
Different collection day



Food that cannot be eaten should go into your weekly food waste collection. It becomes a liquid mid-oil mixture. A single recycled bottle can be made into enough electricity to charge your phone twice!



MY COLLECTION CHECKLIST:

- ☒ Our food collection on the right day by 7am
- ☒ All waste is in the bin with the lid shut
- ☒ Clear recycling sacks are securely tied
- ☒ All cardboard kept dry in clear recycling sacks
- ☒ For furniture or bulky items use our collection service www.braintree.gov.uk/bulkywaste

Braintree District Council



Correct as time of publication 16.8.2023
Please check www.braintree.gov.uk for any changes

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<https://www.salingsmillenniumhall.co.uk/>

SALINGS 100 CLUB

**Many congratulations to
the winners:**

September

1st Toby Bax
2nd Diane Christopher
3rd Carol Cooper (Lt Bardfield)

October

1st. Louis Lewis
2nd Graham May
3rd Peter Wilkinson

VILLAGE HALL EVENTS:

Tuesdays **Arts Group** 10.00am - 3.00pm **Pilates** 6.00pm - 7.00pm
Thursd. **Zumba** 10.30am - 11.30am
Fridays **Carpet Bowls** 7.00pm - 10.00pm New members welcome!

**Third Thursday of the month:
Flitch & Chips 4.30 - 7.30pm**

**We have a clothes Recycling
Bank in the carpark.**







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50th
Anniversary

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Francis Poulenc

ORGAN CONCERTO

Saturday 25th November, 7pm

Felsted School Chapel

[By the kind permission of the headmaster]

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what3words:///shred.fired.hero

Soprano: Jessica Edom-Carey

Mezzo-Soprano: Esme Bronwen-Smith

Tenor: Adam West

Bass: Theo Perry

Conductor: Thomas Duchan

Organist: Stephen King (Brentwood Cathedral)

Tickets £20 Programme & Interval
drinks included

1 @FelstedChoralSociety

Email: felstedchoralsociety@gmail.com

Further enquiries: Tony Baker 07799 413 191

Registered Charity 297351





TICKETS FOR "WAITING FOR GOD" ARE NOW ON SALE!

Based on the popular 1990s TV sitcom which starred Stephanie Cole and Graham Crowden, and written by the same author, Micheal Aitkens, all our favourite characters from the original series are reimagined for the present day, facing the challenges that come with growing old disgracefully in the era of the silver surfer.

At Bayview Retirement Village, battle-axe extraordinaire Diana Trent conspires with new resident Tom Ballard to give the conniving, slimy manager Harvey "The Idiot" Baines his comeuppance through a hilarious conspiracy with unexpectedly heart-warming results !

At the Barn Theatre, Little Easton, 15th-18th November 2023.

Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th are "no-food", Theatre only nights, with a licenced Bar of course! Curtain up time is 7:45pm. Tickets are **£15**

Friday 17th & Saturday 18th:

These performances includes a full 2-course (Main and Dessert) or 3-course dinner, served before the show. Dinner is served at 7:00pm, curtain up at 8:30pm (or as soon as Dinner is finished!).

Tickets for these Dinner +Theatre nights are **£38** (for two courses) or **£45** (for three courses).

Get your tickets now at:

www.greville.org.uk/buy-tickets



IF YOU ARE AFFECTED BY THE **NOISE FROM GAS GUNS** USED AS BIRD SCAR-ERS, PLEASE VISIT

<http://www.b-oom.co.uk/>

B-OOOM is named for the noise of gas guns and from the saying

Bang Out Of Order Mate!!!

The group is working to

- encourage crop growers to use visual deterrents
- eliminate nuisance noise pollution
- build a better understanding between crop growers and people affected by noise in and around their homes and businesses

Use this URL to report noise nuisance to Braintree Council or contact 01376 552525 to speak with a Environmental Health Officer: [https://](https://www.braintree.gov.uk/forms/form/426/en/report_a_noise_nuisance)

www.braintree.gov.uk/forms/form/426/en/report_a_noise_nuisance

On Facebook? Visit <https://www.facebook.com/BoomBirdGasGuns>

Using Twitter? Look for **@gasgunboom**



Please donate via
cheque to Braintree
Area Food Bank Ltd
(phone 01376 330694
for address)

or via BACS to:
Braintree Area Food
Bank, Account no:
00029229,

Sort code: 40-52-40.

Thank you



November Shopping List

Jam
Tinned Cold Meat
Biscuits
Tinned Fish
Tinned Fruit
Tinned Tomatoes
Squash
Nappies Size 3 & 6

We follow the Food Standards Agency standards. We can only accept donations of unopened and undamaged goods well within their "use by" date. Items that do not meet these requirements cannot be used and your donation may be wasted.

www.braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk
info@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk

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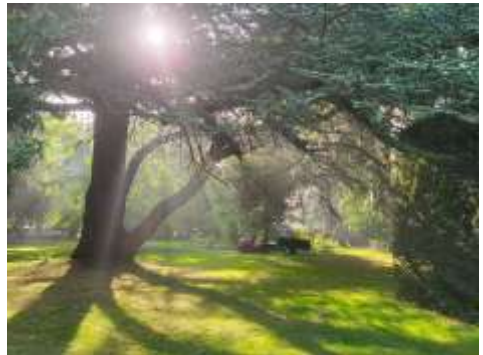
A great place to meet your friends and do your shopping.....

- A large selection of gifts for all ages
- Chocolates, chutneys & jams
- Locally produced beers & ciders
- Fieldfare and Cook frozen ready meals
- Greetings cards, wrapping paper and stationery
- Seasonal gifts and produce
- Freshly made bread, cakes and pastries available from Café Knead who also serve breakfast, lunch & afternoon tea
- Animals and outdoor play area.

THE FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

By November we have reached the end of the season and closed the gates to visitors – and hopefully by the time you read this, we will have completed a lovely and memorable season. In September we had a fine day for our Open Day and welcomed regular visitors and new ones to experience the joys of apples, apple juice, jams and honey. Local concert band Take Note played a wonderful range of music and a lot of homemade cake was eaten! We have lined up October to be a fun finale – with a Halloween themed dog day on our last Sunday Open Day and the local Enchanted Parties group are also having a Halloween event for children at the Gardens.

When the Gates have shut, we turn our thoughts to major projects for the closed season. Last year we put in a new path from the Italian garden to the walled kitchen garden. Visitors have really appreciated it and it is already well bedded in. This year we are planning to complete the project, so the path starts from the car park and we can make the entrance area more welcoming. Once it is complete the path will help visitors see the glory of the Gardens even when the grass is very wet in spring and autumn months.



Through October the Gardens look lovely in their autumn colours, but that means that in November we need a big leaf clearance effort. It is a group activity, both in raking up the leaves and in squishing them into the composting bay. By the end of the year the bay is full to overflowing, but it is amazing how quickly the leaves rot down and become usable mulch. We use mulch for protecting the dahlia border and asparagus beds over winter and for keeping moisture in the ground around newly planted trees and shrubs, so we need a lot!



You can see more about what we are up to through the closed season by following us on Facebook or Instagram; looking at the Garden News on our website; or signing up for our e-newsletter through our website:

www.eastonlodge.co.uk

Jill Goldsmith

News from Farleigh Hospice

Farleigh Hospice has lots of events planned for the festive season. If you are looking for a quiet moment of reflection, a family-friendly fun run or an easy way to recycle your real Christmas tree, Farleigh has something for you!

Light Up A Life Services: 2 - 14 December

Everyone is welcome at these special events across mid Essex to remember loved ones. For the dates and times of the services and to make a donation to Farleigh's Light Up A Life appeal, please go to www.farleighhospice.org/lightupalife

Santa Fun Run in Chelmsford: 3 December

Join Farleigh in Central Park to run, jog, walk or propel yourself around the 5K Santa Fun Run course. It is suitable for all ages and accessible for push-chairs and wheelchairs. Well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome too. The entry fee includes your Santa suit! For more information and to sign up, go to www.farleighhospice.org/santa

Christmas Tree Recycling: 5 - 7 January

A real Christmas tree looks fantastic but what do you do with it in the New Year? Farleigh can collect and recycle your tree for you, which is great for the environment and saves you the trouble of disposing of it. Please go online to register your tree and make a donation at www.farleighhospice.org/trees

For more information on all of Farleigh's events and sporting challenges, go to www.farleighhospice.org/events



POLICE CHOIR OPENS UP TO EVERYONE



ESSEX POLICE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Having spent 34 successful years as Essex Police Choir - which has tended to make people think that they had

to be in the Force, or something to do with it, to be a member - the Choir has decided to widen its appeal to the whole community.

Essex Police Community Choir will be the new name and this coincides with some internal changes to modernise their image.

Gone will be the somewhat dated uniform for ladies who will now wear their own white tops and black skirts or trousers. Potential members will still not need to read music as the Choir rehearses pieces in a way that everyone will learn the songs quite easily. There is no audition or test for new members to pass as they will just have to be able to hold a tune.

The Choir's repertoire includes songs from the shows and other popular items and sheet music is provided at no cost.

Because they are part of the Police family, members will still have to accept that they represent the Police and therefore need to uphold the image of Essex Police and the wider service. Whilst the Choir is totally self-sufficient, not receiving any money from the Police precept, it does have very welcome support from the force, in that it rehearses at the HQ in Chelmsford and when needed, is provided with transport.

This enables subs to be kept to a minimum - £100 for 2024 or around £2 per rehearsal for the 48 weeks a year that it meets, as opposed to most commercially run choirs who charge upwards of £6 a session, or £300 a year for just school terms.

The Choir performs around 5 or 6 concerts a year for good causes, at no cost to them, and over its life it has raised in excess of £300,000 for those charities. It also believes that it has helped put more toilets in churches than any other organisation!

Choir Chairman, Tony Willson, said 'These days there are many community choirs around and potential members can choose which one they feel comfortable with. However, we feel that we are missing out on a vast range of people who probably thought that they had to be working for the police in order to join. We can now say that this just isn't so. We have thrown the doors open to anyone who wants to sing - which we all know helps our mental wellbeing. So if anyone is interested in seeing what we do, they are very welcome.'

Chief Constable and President of the Choir, BJ Harrington said "Essex Police is proud of being part of the community, so this is a great opportunity for anyone to get involved with the Choir. Being a member is an amazing way for people to enjoy singing and to get-together with like-minded people whilst giving something back to the community and raising money for good causes."

The Choir's first concert as the new Community Choir will be their Christmas event on Saturday 16th December with Essex Police Band at Christchurch,

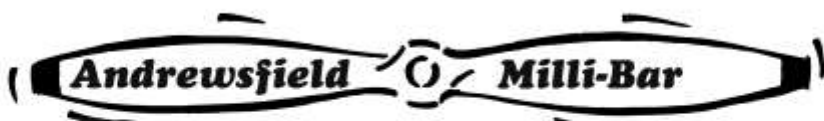
London Road, Chelmsford and details will be on the website and on social media soon.

If anyone is interested in attending a rehearsal, they should either send details via the contact form on the Choir's website (eesexpolicechoir.co.uk), via email at membership@eesexpolicechoir.co.uk or telephone Sally Low, Membership Secretary on 07966 207115 to make arrangements.

For more information please contact:

Tony Willson,
Chairman and Publicity Officer
Essex Police Choir
07939101838
enquiries@essexpolicechoir.co.uk





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Further seating available in heated marquee.

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UNTIL 3pm**

FRIDAYS from 6pm

Curry Night

£7.00 (CHILLI OPTION)

Includes: Curry,
Poppadum, Nan,
Mango Chutney,
Lime Pickle, Rice

**A Warm Welcome to Club Members
& Local Social Members**

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The Hundred Parishes Society

Thatch has been used as a roofing material for thousands of years. It was once common in rural areas because the material was cheap and readily available. Now, a thatched roof is much more expensive but the skill of the thatcher can still be seen throughout The Hundred Parishes. A thatcher undertakes a five-year apprenticeship with a master thatcher before becoming a master thatcher himself.

Most properties in the UK use either long straw, wheat reed or water reed. Many thatched properties are listed and when re-thatching is needed there is a requirement to use the same type of material as before.

In medieval times wheat grew to nearly 6 feet tall, while today's modern farming methods produce shorter-stemmed wheat and this has weakened the straw and its longevity. Now specialist growers produce taller-stemmed varieties, grown especially for thatching.

There is some debate about the longevity of a thatched roof. To some extent, life expectancy relates to the material used, but it is also dependent on factors such as pitch, orientation and air circulation. A good thatch will typically last from 20 to 50 years, providing excellent insulation. The ridge, along the top of the roof, will last between 10 and 20 years, so requires more frequent attention.

Traditionally a new layer of material is laid over the seasoned roof; this is called "spar coating". The bundles of straw taken up onto the roof are called "yelms". Twisted hazel sticks known as "spars" or "gads" are used to secure the thatch in place. A thatcher may mark his work by placing a distinctive straw finial on the ridge.

Thatch appears not only on houses. There are several thatched pubs, a thatched church at Duddenhoe End in the parish of Elmdon, and a partly-thatched village hall in Ashdon.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

Photos

- 1: Ickleton: long straw being secured by local master thatcher, Mark Treadwell.
- 2: Rickling Green – work in progress.
- 3: Little Hadham – Thatched Cottage
- 4: Thorley – The Olde Thatch.
- 5: Nuthampstead – Woodman pub.
- 6: Hatfield Heath – The Thatchers.



1st FINCHINGFIELD SCOUT GROUP

There are four sections that meet in the
Scout Headquarters, Finchingfield.

Beavers 6-8yrs held on Wednesday evenings 5.45 – 7.00pm

Cubs 8-10 1/2 yrs on Tuesday evenings 6.30 – 8.00pm

Scouts 10 ½ -14yrs on Thursday evenings 7.30 – 9.00pm and

Explorer Scouts 14–18yrs on Monday evenings 7.30 – 9.00pm

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Mark Wells - Group Scout Leader

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