

THE SALINGS MAGAZINE



MAY 2025



THE PARISH MAGAZINE FOR GREAT AND LITTLE SALING

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

May in the Salings – Blooming with Community Spirit!



This month we celebrate spring's full arrival with our **Plant Sale** on 5th May, marking the season with flowers, cake, and good cheer! - see pages 5,6, & 8.

No doubt many of you will have seen the signs from Gray & Co – many thanks to Janice and her team for this!

We're also commemorating **VE Day's 80th anniversary** (a few days early in fact - see p7),

tending to our churchyards by straightening some old grave-stones (p18),

and diving into village events from Ely Cathedral trips (p16)

to talks on The Bardfield Artists by Janet Dyson (p17)

Prior to the Plant Sale, we also have our Annual Parish Meeting in the Salings (see p12). One of the items on the agenda is the Salings Magazine, so this will be our opportunity to meet many of you, and we look forward to interesting discussions!

Finally, you will see on p29 that The Creamer Fund are looking for local volunteers to further their work. They say 'no more than a couple of hours a month' - so maybe that is something you could do?

Deadline for contributions to the June edition is the 15th of May

Email: SalingsMagazine@gmail.com



From the Pilgrim Parishes

I was out with some friends recently when one of them mentioned how cold she felt, prompting her friend to jokingly respond – ‘surely you haven’t stopped wearing your vest yet?’ and I couldn’t resist adding – ‘ne’er cast a clout till May is out’ a phrase from my childhood that just popped into my mind. A time when vests were worn as an extra layer of insulation to keep one warm, rather than the fashionable items sold today.



As I drove home I thought about all the sayings that were once part of our everyday lives, short pithy phrases to help one remember things, long before we had the internet with information always available at our fingertips. Some sayings were derived originally from the Bible like, ‘Go the extra mile; Turn the other cheek or Red sky at night, shepherd’s delight; red sky in the morning, shepherd’s warning’ for example, with plenty more besides. And a maxim relevant to this time of the year – ‘March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers.’ Now, I am writing these notes at the beginning of April, and so far the weather has been very dry and sunny so we will have to wait and see if we still have plenty of May flowers.

But, regardless of the flowers, the month of May is often seen as a turning point in the year, the time when we can safely put winter weather behind us and enjoy brighter days ahead. And yet, since the late 1920’s, the international distress signal has been the word ‘Mayday’ repeated three times. A quick search on the internet showed that it was nothing to do with the month of May but instead, an adaptation of the French phrase ‘m’aider!’ literally meaning ‘help me!’ And it was this which had prompted the decision to use it as the international distress signal for all ships and planes.

Sadly, as our history books remind us, on two occasions in the 20th century, France and her neighbours had reason to call out to other nations for help when they came under attack by German armed forces, instigating two World Wars.



Fortunately on both occasions the enemy was eventually defeated and it is on the 8th May this year that we celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day when the Second World War was finally over in Europe. A time of great joy and celebration as recorded on a kneeler in St Mary’s Church, Lindsell.

The design is very simple and yet says so much with the image of a dove, the symbol of peace, plus a simple Cross, symbol of Jesus Christ's amazing love for us all, and the words – Peace: Goodwill - an encouragement to us all going forward to try to live in peace and harmony with one another.

As Jesus once said, *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”* (John 14: 27)

And so, from bring and share picnics to lighting a beacon, our local villages will each have their own ways of celebrating this momentous occasion, may it be an enjoyable and memorable time for us all.

Anthea Gray



Church Services in the Salings

*You are warmly invited to join us at any of our upcoming services.
We are a small, friendly congregation who meet on Sundays at either
9:30 or 11:00am in St Peter and St Paul Church, Little (Bardfield) Saling or at St
James Church, Great Saling.
We would love to see you!
Lydia, Robert, Debs and Jacqui (Churchwardens in the Salings Churches)*

Sun 4th May	Little (Bardfield) Saling	11:00 am	Morning Prayer
Sun 11th May	Great Saling	11:00 am	Holy Communion
Sun 18th May	Little (Bardfield) Saling	09:30 am	Holy Communion
Sun 25th May	Great Saling	09:30 am	Morning Prayer



THE SALINGS
Plant Sale

MONDAY MAY 5TH

VILLAGE HALL,
PICCOTTS LANE,
GREAT SALING CM7 5DW

10_{am} - 2_{pm}

PLANTS SHRUBS
TREES

From North End Nurseries
and the Blue Egg

SALINGS ART GROUP

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE SALINGS CHURCHES



Salings Plant Sale

Cake Stall

See page 5 for details of the Salings Plant Sale on Monday 5th of May.

We are calling all willing Bakers

for contributions of Sweet or Savoury cakes, biscuits, scones and traybakes!

All would be much appreciated.

Nut and gluten labelling might be helpful but not obligatory.

Please start as early as you can as we are able to store in our freezers.

All proceeds to the Saling Churches

**For collection and enquiries
please contact:**

Debbie: 07468 566690 (text) or

Moira: 01371 850503

Thank you!!

Looking forward to seeing you on the day.



To commemorate the forthcoming
80th Anniversary of VE Day,
there will be a

‘Moment of Celebration’

This will be held after the Plant Sale at

Andrewsfield Millibar

Monday May 5th

6pm onwards

Licensed Bar

Hot Supper

Music from the era

Come as you are or wear an
appropriate costume!

For further information contact

Peter: 0792 3981 900





We Need Your Bottles Please!

We are running a bottle stall at the Salings Plant Sale on May 5th and need bottles of every description to make this work.

This can be anything from a bottle of bubble bath to a bottle of wine!

If you have any unwanted Christmas presents, or would be happy to donate a bottle for a good cause, please let us know.

All proceeds go to the Salings Churches for the upkeep of our amazing ancient churches!

Debs (01371 810985 or

home@theblueegg.co.uk)

Jacqui (01371 850863 or

jacquirhall@outlook.com)



Jaeden Izik-Dzurko

First-prize winner, 2024
Leeds International
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Vivaldi across two concerts
from this leading orchestra

**20 June to
13 July 2025**

District Councillor Ann Hooks

133/333 Bus Route Update

Residents will hopefully be aware that Central Connect has agreed to take on the 133 bus route—now renumbered 333—between Braintree and Stansted Airport, following Arriva's decision to stop operating the service in June.



While this is great news, it does come with some ongoing concerns. The first bus from Braintree is scheduled to depart at around 5:30am, and the final return from Stansted is at approximately 10:30pm. This means that many workers and travellers will struggle to reach the airport in time for early shifts or the first flights of the day, and similarly, late-night flights or shifts will leave them without a way home.

Additionally, the Saturday timetable operates on a reduced three-hourly schedule, and there is currently no service at all on Sundays.

I have been in direct contact with the Managing Director of Central Connect—following our joint appearance on BBC Radio Essex discussing the issue. I've also raised this with James Cleverly's office, as well as with the Essex County Council portfolio holder for Highways and Sustainable Transport.

Discussions are ongoing between Central Connect, Essex County Council, and Manchester Airport Group to explore the possibility of a more user-friendly timetable. After all, this route serves London's third airport—an airport that relies on accessible, sustainable transport options to support its continued growth in passenger numbers.

We need a level of service that reflects the importance of the destination it serves, and I will continue to push for a resolution that works for workers, travellers, and the wider community.

DigiGo Update

At a recent meeting, I raised several concerns from residents about the DigiGo transport service. While DigiGo has the potential to be a valuable asset for our community, it's clear that improvements are needed to ensure a more reliable and user-friendly experience. I highlighted a number of issues residents have faced, including:

- Cancelled journeys
- Rides marked as "completed" when the passenger was never picked up
- Problems with booking and app functionality
- Confirmed journey times later being altered
- Single-passenger rides and associated cost or sustainability concerns
- General perception and trust in the reliability of the service

These concerns were acknowledged by those present at the meeting. It was helpful to gain more insight into the booking process: when a customer first requests a ride via the app, they enter a preferred time. The system then returns an offer based on availability, which may not always match the original request. This process might explain why some users feel their confirmed times are unexpectedly changed.

While there's still work to be done, raising these issues is a step toward making DigiGo a service that truly works for everyone in our community. I'll continue to monitor the situation and follow up where needed.

Hedgehog Solar Farm – Community Liaison Group Update

I recently attended the second Community Liaison Group meeting for the proposed Hedgehog Solar Farm, which is planned for land between Rayne and Felsted.

A number of key issues were discussed, including the heritage value of the Flitch Way, which is recognised as a non-designated heritage asset. Mitigation measures were a central part of the conversation—particularly the need to protect the character and setting of this important local feature. I've made it clear that, should the proposal move forward, proper mitigation and a respectful buffer from the Flitch Way must be included.

Residents also raised concerns about the proximity of solar panels to nearby homes, requesting that panels not be sited close to their properties. Representatives from Hedgehog Solar and TotalEnergies have since been visiting residents who requested home visits, to explain the process and listen to their concerns directly.

An important issue raised during the meeting was the cumulative impact of the proposed Hedgehog Solar Farm alongside the already approved solar development at Willows Green. It's vital that the overall effect on the local landscape and community is considered, not just each project in isolation.

There was also discussion around access to the site during construction, and how the local community might benefit from the developer's community fund. While both Rayne and Felsted parishes will receive support, it's important to note that only one field sits within Rayne parish, so our share of the fund is likely to be smaller than Felsted's.

A statutory consultation is expected later this summer, during which residents will again have the opportunity to comment.

I'll continue to attend these meetings and will keep residents updated on the process and any outcomes.

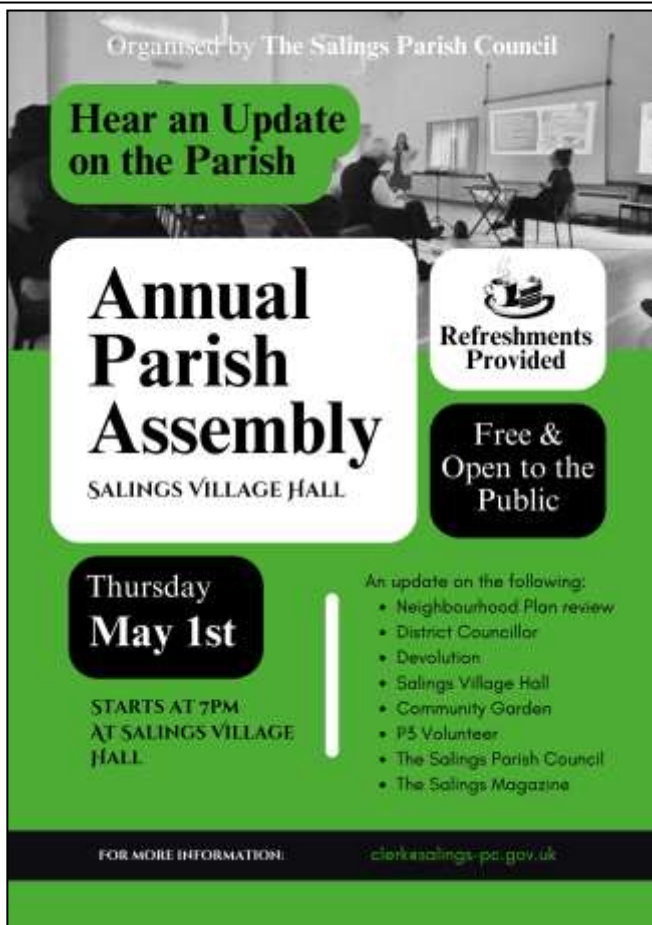
I have also been chasing potholes! For those of you that drive from Rayne to Saling via Duck end Green, will see that the craters and destroyed haunching's have been marked up at Duck End Green, so hopefully will be repaired soon.

I have also been along to Plums Lane and taken more photos of the state of the road, after it was under water for so long! I am aware of other areas that need attention. If you do see a defect, please do report on the Essex highways website www.essexhighways.org/tell-us

I hope to attend the plant sale, so hopefully I will see or did see a few of you there. I also hope to see you at Salings PC Annual Parish Assembly.

As usual, 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!

Ann



Organised by The Salings Parish Council

Hear an Update on the Parish

Annual Parish Assembly
SALINGS VILLAGE HALL

Refreshments Provided

Free & Open to the Public

Thursday May 1st

STARTS AT 7PM AT SALINGS VILLAGE HALL

An update on the following:

- Neighbourhood Plan review
- District Councillor
- Devolution
- Salings Village Hall
- Community Garden
- P5 Volunteer
- The Salings Parish Council
- The Salings Magazine

FOR MORE INFORMATION: clerk@salings-pc.gov.uk

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

Meetings The Annual Parish Assembly: Thursd. 1st May at the Salings Village Hall

Braintree District Council Sweep in Great Saling & Bardfield Saling

BDC will be carrying out a sweep in the following areas:

♀ Great Saling – Thursday, 29th May

♀ Bardfield Saling – Friday, 30th May

The sweep is expected to take 1–2 days in each location. Please be mindful of the scheduled work and ensure vehicles are parked appropriately to allow for efficient cleaning. Thank you for your cooperation!

Community Garden Update We're excited to announce that work has begun on the Community Garden near Vicarage Close, funded by The Hundred Parishes Society and Braintree District Council. Led by Cllr Terry McCarty, the project is off to a great start. If you'd like to contribute – there is not long term commitment needed – any time you can offer, big or small, will make a real difference!

If you'd like to get involved, please contact: ✉ clerk@salings-pc.gov.uk

Highways Signage Update Residents may be aware that the Parish Council has been pursuing the installation of "Slow Down for Horses" signs to improve road safety for riders and drivers alike. Unfortunately, we have recently been informed that all Local Highways Panels (LHPs) have been temporarily suspended while Essex County Council undertakes a review of the 2025–2026 programme. This means that no new requests—including ours—can be progressed at this time. We understand the frustration this may cause and will continue to monitor the situation and push for updates as soon as the review is complete.



PLANTS.

GREAT BARDFIELD

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info@plantsgreatbardfield.co.uk

plantsgreatbardfield.co.uk

**A COMPLEMENTARY TICKET to attend this concert is being offered to the first reader of the Salings Magazine who contacts Tony Baker, (F.C.S.Committee member).
Mob 07799 413191 or email tony@unifygrp.uk**



Songs of the Fleet



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Bass Soloist: Theo Perry
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Venue: Holy Cross Church, Felsted, CM6 3DG

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SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 2025
Adults £10, Under 16s Free
Includes return coach trip to Ely, entry to Ely Cathedral and the Threads Through the Bible exhibition.
Book via Eventbrite using the QR code above.

MISSION EVENT 2025 – Rodings, Easters and Great Canfield Churches

An invitation open to all across the deanery to join us in 2025 as we explore faith through a creative lens.

We start with a trip to Ely Cathedral on Saturday 14th June 2025 to see **Threads through the Bible** by Textile Artist Jacqui Parkinson.

It is an astonishing, inspiring exhibition of textile art. With spectacular designs, brilliant colours and extraordinary stitching, you're taken through a journey from the first pages to the last pages of the Bible. It is probably the largest ever textile project by a single person!

There are 44 huge spectacular panels, each almost 3m high and up to 4m wide. If all the panels were laid out side by side, they'd stretch more than 80 metres!

Approximate timetable

10.00am	Depart High Easter
11.30am	Arrive Ely
12.30pm	Entry to the exhibition
4.30pm	Leave Ely
6.00pm	Arrive High Easter

There are catering outlets nearby, or you can bring a pack lunch! We have space for 100 people on a first come first served basis. You will need to meet at High Easter (Lodge Coaches) for a 10.00am departure. We will be leaving Ely at 4.30pm. The cost of the coach and entry to Ely Cathedral is £10 for adults with under 16s free.

Tickets can be booked online via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1312075084899?aff=oddtcreator>

Or if you do not have online access please contact Allison Ward on ad-min@regc.org.uk or 07960 796346.

Inspired by what we see, we hope to follow this event with creative workshops led by artists working in our communities in the Autumn, culminating in a mini-exhibition of our own.

Contact Di Matthews for further details or information on 07729 899203



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EMAIL- Info@mikesgutters.co.uk (OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK)

FelstedTalks

On Thursday 15th of May 2025, Janet Dyson will be giving a
1 hour talk on

🎭 **‘The Bardfield Artists’** 🎭

This will be in the URC hall in Felsted (Stebbing Road, CM6
3JD) @ 10.00am (followed by free coffee).

Janet lives locally; and is very well known to many of you.

Her book ‘ Artists of Great Bardfield ‘ is already on many of our
bookshelves!

Please join us if you can;

Payment at the door (£10 cash).

Queries can be emailed to: felstedtalks@icloud.com

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON 15th MAY



Straightening of Ancient Gravestones **at Little Saling Church**

The Little Saling PCC is planning to undertake work later in 2025 to straighten some of the ancient gravestones in the churchyard at St Peter and St Paul, Little Saling.

We have a number of very old gravestones (over 100 years old) that are leaning quite badly. We need to give notice of the work intended before we apply for a Faculty, in case any living relatives of the deceased have questions (or objections).

We do not plan to undertake any work on gravestones less than 100 years old.

If you have any questions, please contact Jacqui Hall (Churchwarden) on 01371 850863 or at jacquirhall@outlook.com



Christopher THE LOCKSMITH

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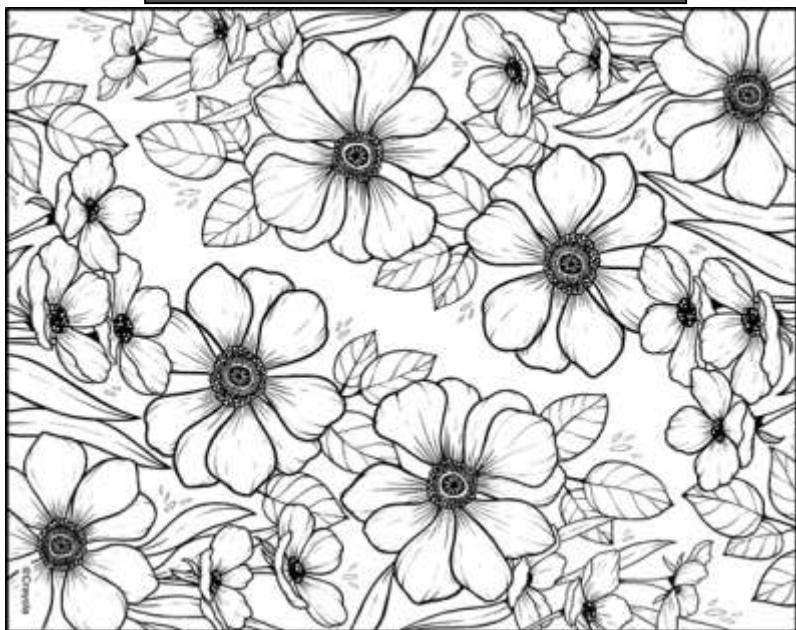
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DUNMOW AND STANSTED DEANERY WALKS 2025

Come & See, Go and Tell



Our Deanery walks are an opportunity for everyone to come and see Jesus in the communities we visit and the people we meet. They are an opportunity to hear about the mission of our deanery churches, or to hear the stories of those whose faith and example have influenced the community or further afield.

Through walking, hospitality and fellowship may we be encouraged to go and tell our stories of God's love and faithfulness with those we meet on life's journey.

Please see the calendar of walks below. All our walks **start at 9.30am at the designated church**, we will walk for one hour before returning to the church at 10.30am for refreshments, finishing with worship together in a short service. Please join us and bring friends and dogs, all are welcome. There is a contact for each walk if you need more details. We will conclude our walks with a deanery service on Sunday 19th October, 4.30pm at High Easter church.



DATE	CHURCH	CONTACT
17 th May	Stansted	JIM SOLLARS jimsollars@googlemail.com
21 st June	Tilty *	FIONA DOWN tiltychurch@outlook.com
19 th July	Abbess Roding	ROBERT PARMENTER r.p.parmenter@btinternet.com Tel: 01279 876219
16 th August	TBC	
20 st September	Lindsell *	MARTIN WILLIAMS m.f.williams@leedsalumni.org.uk
18 th October	Takeley	HUGH MASCETTI hmascetti@aol.com Tel: 07940 791446
Deanery Service 19 th October at 4.30pm	High Easter *	ALLISON WARD admin@regc.org.uk Tel: 07960 796346

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News from Farleigh Hospice



Volunteer for Farleigh

Volunteers play a vital role in everything that Farleigh Hospice does. It could not provide care, free of charge, to people affected by life-limiting illnesses and bereavement across mid Essex without them.

Farleigh is currently looking for volunteers to help at its stores. This could include sorting stock, putting it on display, helping customers and taking payments. The charity also has fundraising events that need volunteers to help make them more successful.

For volunteering opportunities across all areas of the charity, please visit www.farleighhospice.org/volunteer.

Take on a sporting challenge

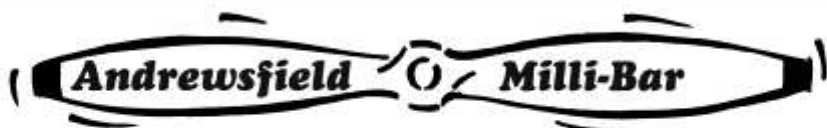
Whether you want to walk, run, cycle, sail around our coastline or even jump out of an aeroplane, Farleigh has a challenge to suit you at www.farleighhospice.org/events.

This includes the Kent Downs 50 Ultra Challenge on 11 October. Walk, jog or run 10km, 25km or 50km around the Kent Downs which is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. All three routes start and finish at the Kent Showground near Maidstone. For more information, go to www.farleighhospice.org/kent-50.

Clothes for every occasion

Are you looking for the perfect prom dress or a beautiful bridal gown? Farleigh Hospice's Special Occasionwear store above the Maldon Warehouse (behind Morrisons) and the charity's Full Circle store in Chelmsford city centre sell 'new with tags' and gently pre-loved occasionwear including evening dresses, mother-of-the-bride outfits, shoes, handbags, jewellery and hats. Please contact these stores to check opening times – www.farleighhospice.org/prom





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E: petrabennett@btinternet.com

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

SALINGS 100 CLUB

Please contact Maya Hatcher if you would like to be a member of the Saling Village Hall 100 Club.

The prizes each month are £60, £40 and £20 pounds
01371810887 or

mayahatcher@btinternet.com.

It costs £2 per month.

**Many Congratulations
to the winners!**

April winners:

1st Hilary Hughes

2nd Annika Woodcock

3rd Barrie Hatcher

VILLAGE HALL EVENTS:

Tuesdays **Arts Group** 10.00am - 3.00pm

Thursd. **Zumba** 10.30am - 11.30am

Fridays **Pickleball** 2pm - 5.00pm

Carpet Bowls 7.00pm - 10.00pm



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

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

⇒ There is a **Defibrillator** at the Village Hall.

⇒ **The First responder** is Robert Bucknell: **07860521548**

DEAD SLOW - A plea to motorists using our rural lanes and roads

As spring passes and summer looms it's that time of year when the lighter evenings are coming and more of our equine enthusiasts are taking to the roads to gain access to bridleway/paths etc to exercise their trusted steeds. With this comes an issue that I know is being raised by many horse/pony owners. As more homes are being built in rural locations, more vehicles are taking to our rural roads and drivers are passing far too quickly or closely to horses/and or horse drawn vehicle. Statistics from the British Horse Society state that this is the cause of 81% of equine-related road incidents.

In total, 58 horses were killed in an equine-road related incident last year, with over 3,100 incidents recorded across the previous twelve months.

An alarming 81% of these occurred because the driver didn't pass safely. 33% of equestrians were also victims to road rage or abuse, which is a 43% increase from the previous year, and these are only the incidents that are reported.

It is evident that many drivers remain unaware of the changes to the Highway Code that came into effect on 29 January 2022 about safe distances to pass a horse or horse drawn vehicle that is using the road.

The changes are:

Motorists are told to pass horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles at speeds under 10 miles per hour and to allow at least two metres of space, and as much space as they would give when overtaking a car.

Motorists are told to stay behind if they are following a horse rider or horse-drawn vehicle approaching junction, and the motorist intends to turn left, so as not to cut across a horse rider or horse-drawn vehicle.

Rule 213 provides that on narrow sections of road, horse riders may, if they wish, ride in the centre of the road and that motorists should allow them to do so for their own safety and to ensure that they can see and be seen. On narrow roads, motorists are also now required to allow horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles plenty of room to manoeuvre to avoid uneven road surfaces or obstacles.

BE PATIENT - Rule 215 states that upon seeing a horse rider or horse-drawn vehicle, the motorist must be patient, not sound their horn or rev their engine. Motorists are advised that horses are flight animals and can move incredibly quickly if startled.

Slow down when approaching/passing horses - you'll get to your destination just as quickly and the horse and rider will get home safely.

Any horse rider/cyclist/pedestrian who experiences abuse/ or dangerous/ bad driving can report the incident on Extra Eyes - saferessexroads.org. Be sure to upload your dashcam or go-pro footage within 7 days of the incident and please ensure that you read out number plates of offending vehicles in case it is not captured on the footage being submitted. Offences will be dealt with.

I am currently involved in a scheme that Essex Police are rolling out called THE ESSEX VOLUNTEER HORSE AND RIDER SCHEME whereby we are asking for volunteers to assist with rural and heritage crimes and how to spot them –horse riders cover far more ground and will spot discarded items or burnt-out vehicles, badger sets that have been tampered with, than I can on foot.



If you know of anybody that would like to become a volunteer for the EHRVS then please email

essex.watch.liaison.officers@essex.police.uk

PCSO Terrie JOHNSON

Braintree Neighbourhood Police Team

Create Space

Make time to be creative! From silk painting to flower arranging. Sessions to be held in The Millenium Hall on the 14th May & the 15th October 7-9pm There will be a charge to cover costs of individual sessions.

For more details contact:
revsuehurley@gmail.com

THE FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

May is a lovely month at the Gardens, with flowers everywhere: alliums, foxgloves, irises, roses, to name a few.

The Italian Garden beds will be lined with helianthemum. The herb border in the Walled Kitchen Garden will be in flower. There will still be blossom – deep pink hawthorn in the Glade; and



the purple of the rhododendrons in the Japanese garden. And there will be wildflowers too...the last of the bluebells at the beginning of the month, followed by orchids and of course the wafting cow parsley in Laburnum Walk.

Marking the end of the Second World War in Europe, 8 May 1945 was a hugely significant day for the airmen and women at Easton Lodge, as elsewhere. The 80th anniversary of VE Day falls on a Thursday so the Gardens will be open for those who wish to reflect on the significance of this day in a tranquil environment. Our history of the airfield will be on display, with photos and stories of those involved. This Thursday as other Thursdays, the Gardens are open from 11.00-3.00pm, with hot and cold drinks and homemade cakes available from our refreshments kiosk. On Thursdays, visitors can chat to our volunteer gardeners and buy our seasonal produce.

Our 18 May Sunday Open Day will focus on Easton Lodge's Tudor history. Queen Elizabeth I granted the estate at Little Easton to Henry Maynard in 1590 and he owned a lot of other land in the local neighbourhood too. Our Archivists will present a special display and there will be a range of fun activities for children, including archery for the older/stronger ones, provided by White Dragon archery and making cordage bangles, with Discover Bushcraft. Colchester Waits will play Tudor music on shawms, bagpipes, fiddles and recorders. There will be Tudor foods to sample and a range of stalls. There is more information and links to advance booking of tickets on our website: www.eastonlodge.co.uk/event/may-open-day-our-tudor-story.

Jill Goldsmith



Dear Residents

We know that The CREAMER Fund has some wonderful supporters out there and we are hoping some of you might like to get involved in helping the Charity in some way.

Well, here's a way you can!

We are looking for someone from each of the villages who fall under the reaches of Freshwell Health Centre to act as our 'eyes and ears on the ground'!

We would really value people's insights and opinions on how to develop CREAMER - both in outreach/PR and in the services we offer in the community.

In essence you would:

- ⇒ Help to co-ordinate representation of the charity at local village events (equipment provided)
- ⇒ Help deliver occasional publicity materials
- ⇒ Obtain feedback on services provided
- ⇒ Generally help to raise the profile of CREAMER within their communities

If you think you could help out, and it really wouldn't be more than a couple of hours a month maximum, we'd love to hear from you.

Please email Alexandra Cox at

hellorubyred@outlook.com

to express your interest.

Thank you!

The CREAMER Fund



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As well as providing traditional burial and cremation packages, in June 2022 we completed the building of Dunmow Crematorium, which we run alongside our established Funeral services.

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- ◆ Collection of cremated remains

***We know seeing a hearse at a funeral can be upsetting, therefore with this service the coffin will be placed in the crematorium before the congregation arrives. A full service will then take place with no hearse or bearers required.**

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- ◆ Crematorium fees
- ◆ Collection of cremated remains

Funeral Cost Estimator

We all know a passing is difficult, that is why at Michael J Walsh Funeral Directors and Dunmow Crematorium we like to be as transparent as possible, by giving you the reassurance that the funeral cost will be kept to a minimum, with no unexpected surprises when it comes to receiving the bill. Which is why we have included a cost estimator on our website. You can find this under the funeral tab on walshfunerals.com

Please see our website walshfunerals.com for more details or phone us on **01371 856274** or email info@walshfunerals.com



Our current shopping list 2025

Food items

- Coffee
- Tinned rice pudding
- Sponge puddings
- Tinned hot meat (stew/chilli)
- Tinned cold meat (Spam/Ham)
- Small bottles of squash

Non food items

- Toilet rolls
- Washing up liquid
- Shampoo (male and female)
- Shower Gel (male and female)

If you wish to donate to the Braintree Foodbank, either food or money, you can also use this link to help:

<https://braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>

We ask for small packs as larger packs do not fit in our boxes making it difficult for our clients to carry home. Also, we are unable (for hygiene reasons) to split large size or catering packs.

We follow the standards set by the Food Standards Agency. We can only accept donations of unopened and undamaged goods that are still well within their "use by" date (no less than six months if possible). Items which do not meet these requirements cannot be used and your donation may be wasted.



braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/collection-points/



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The Hundred Parishes

A barn is essential for a working farm, to store produce, tools and machinery and to house live-stock. The Hundred Parishes has many fine examples of ancient barns which are still in use today, albeit sometimes for a purpose not envisaged when they were built. Some have been converted into homes while others have quite varied new uses.

In 1994, Thorley church purchased a dilapidated 16th-century barn which, following restoration, opened for community use as St Barnabas Centre. At Duddenhoe End, the thatched Hamlet Church started life as a barn.



Ashdon and Westmill village halls both began life as barns in the 17th century.



Great Bardfield and Great Saling each have an ancient barn that has been converted into a retail outlet with café, respectively The Blue Egg and Timbers.

In Chrishall, the Red Cow pub offers accommodation in the adjacent 500-year-old thatched barn.

In Little Easton, the Countess of Warwick converted one of her barns into the Barn Theatre. It was used by many famous performers of the early 1900s and still occasionally serves that purpose, on other days being part of a tea room and events venue called Little Easton Manor.



In Great Bardfield, a Grade-I listed, 16th-century brick barn at Great Lodge now serves as the Anne of Cleves Barn wedding venue.



In Widdington, Grade I-listed Priors Hall Barn is a fine example of a medieval barn, dating from the 14th century and now owned by English Heritage. It is said that 400 oak trees were used in its construction. The large doors on either side could be opened for threshing, with the draught blowing the husks away from the grain. Priors Hall Barn is free to visit, open at weekends from April to September.

Ken McDonald, Secretary



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www.braintree.gov.uk/forms/form/426/en/report_a_noise_nuisance](https://www.braintree.gov.uk/forms/form/426/en/report_a_noise_nuisance)

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

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Mr Julian Dyer, T: 07768 124418 , E: julian.gspcc@outlook.com

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