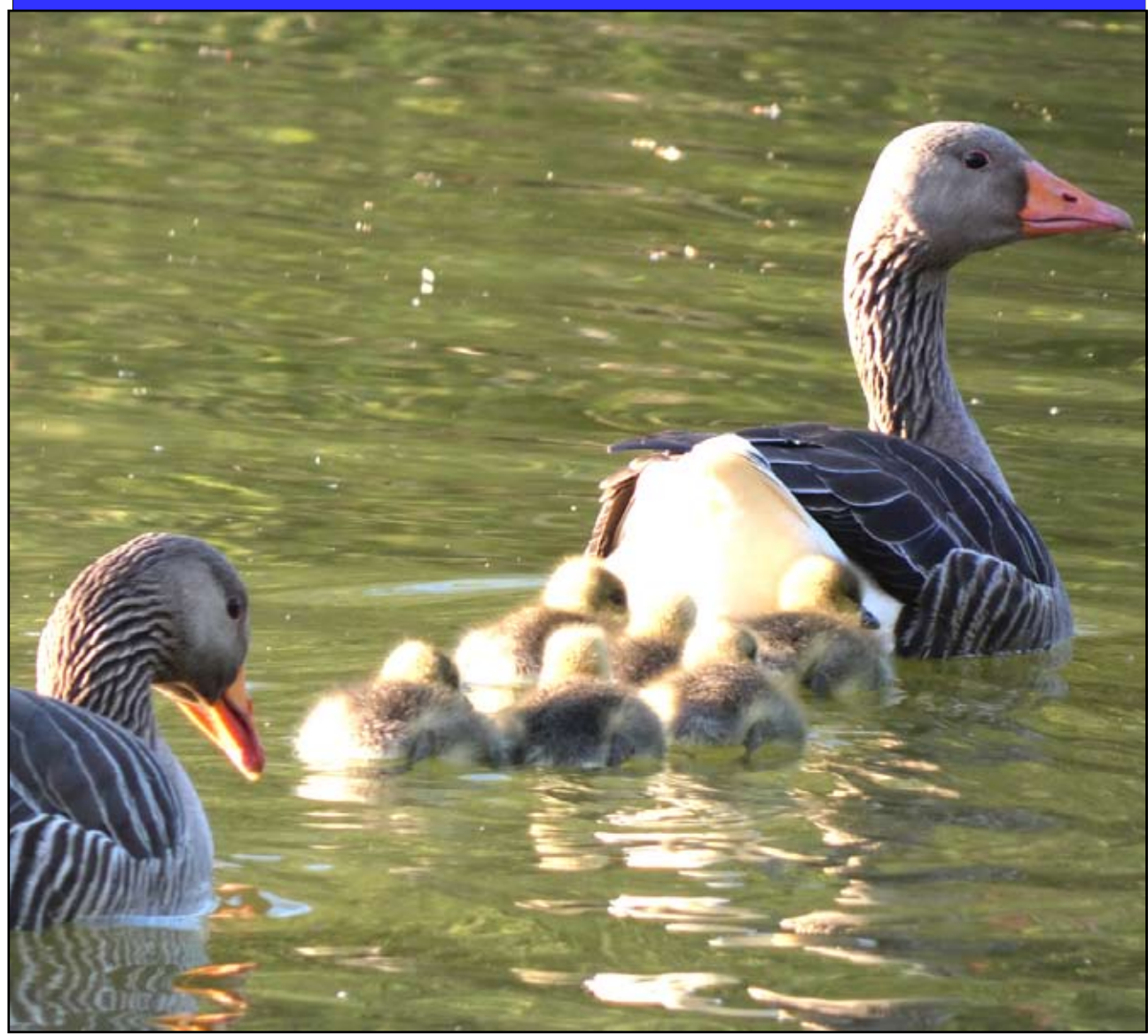


Great Hallingbury Highlights

Summer 2024

Vol. 102

An independent publication giving news on matters affecting Great Hallingbury



Greylag Goslings

Photograph courtesy of David Barlow

Councillors

Parish Council Chairman:

Mr. Alan Townsend Tel: 465790
7 The Grove, CM22 7TT
email: ajt1952@btinternet.com

Parish Council Vice-Chairman:

Mr. Andrew Noble Tel: 832837
Lewismead, Tilekiln Green, CM22 7TQ
email: agnoble@aol.com

Parish Councillors:

Mr. David Barlow Tel: 657182
128, Bedlars Green, CM22 7TL

Mr. Mark Coletta
email: cllrcolettapc@gmail.com

Mr. Mark Bloomfield Tel: 501679
The Old Post Office, Bedlars Green, CM22 7TP
email: bloomfieldmotors30@yahoo.co.uk

Dr Neil Jackson Tel: 654983
Monksway, Woodside Green, CM22 7UU
email: njackson57@btinternet.com 07801 431645

Mr. Alan Pinnock Tel: 659071
128A Bedlars Green, CM22 7TL
alanpinnock@hotmail.com Mobile: 07939 603507

Mrs Val Waring Tel: 07979 450871
email: val@valwaring.co.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Mrs. Urška Sydee Tel: 07432 297142
48 The Forest, Hatfield Broad Oak, CM22 7BT
email: greathallingburypc@outlook.com

Website:

<https://e-voice.org.uk/great-hallingbury-parish-council>

Uttlesford District Councillors

Mr. Geof Driscoll
email: cllrdriscoll@uttlesford.gov.uk

Mr. Neil Reeve
email: cllrreeve@uttlesford.gov.uk

Essex County Councillor

Mrs. Susan Barker Tel: 01245 231250
Little Garnetts, Bishops Green, Barnston, Essex,
CM6 1NF Fax 01245 231810
email: cllr.susan.barker@essex.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Mrs Kemi Badenoch MP
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
email: kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

Contacts for Village Activities

Bridge on Sundays

Organiser Christine Coultrup
bridgeonsunday@gmail.com 01279 655144

Friends of a Crafty Spell (craft club)

Suzanne Cousins 07951 168212
suze.cousins16@yahoo.co.uk

Cricket Club

Keith Behagg 01371 872550

Hallingbury Ladies

Secretary Gill Sewell 01279 504990
marjorieosegs@hotmail.com

History Society

Secretary; Claire Layer
gthallhistory@gmail.com 07776 936721

Neighbourhood Watch

Coordinator Mark Coletta
cllrcolettapc@gmail.com

Neighbours' Association

Secretary Val Waring 07979 450871
greathallingburyna@gmail.com

Poppy Appeal

Coordinator Gill Sewell 01279 504990
marjorieosegs@hotmail.com

St. Giles' Church

Associate Priest: Revd Dawn Jewson 01279 730288
rev.dawn.jewson@gmail.com 07930 902507
Village Contact: Pauline Beaumont 01279 653562
p-beaumont@tiscali.co.uk

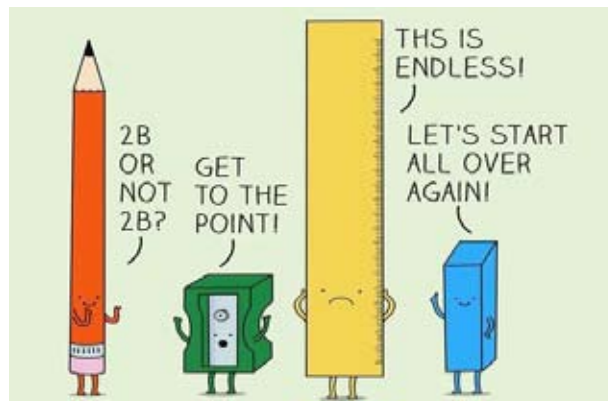
Scouting Associations

Sally Bentley 01279 902710

Village Hall

Bookings: Sarah Cox 07544 921459
enquiries.ghvh@gmail.com

Venture 85 - short term loan of mobility aids, etc
Monica Swann 01279 653820



Editorial

I love reading and have done ever since I was a child. My mother would get very frustrated and yell at me *to get my nose out of that book* and do whatever task she had for me. When we went to bed, both my brother and I would read under the covers by torchlight – a torch, of course, being a favoured Christmas present (but book tokens were preferable).

Before I retired, I imagined I would probably re-read many of the books on my shelves; but it was not to be. I still mostly read new titles and that loads of free time I thought I would have to read is taken up with all the other activities in which I am now involved – such as producing this magazine!

I stumbled recently on an article entitled *Life Unplugged with a Week long Digital Detox* in which the author described locking away his digital equipment and living life pre 1996. (He cheated half way through the week.) It was interesting to consider not using a mobile phone or checking emails or seeking information on the internet for a week. I wouldn't be unhappy to do that as I would read my books, although I would have to forsake Kindle and concentrate on printed editions.

The date 1996 hit me. Is it really only 30 years ago that digital communication and the internet became so universal? It is a dichotomy for me as they seem to have been around for ever but I know that I have personally experienced this huge change. My first computer was a Sinclair and my first mobile phone was installed in my car so not so mobile really in today's terms..

Think of that period of strikes, rolling blackouts and three day weeks in the early 70's when we used car batteries to power lights so that we could continue working in the office. Nowadays we would all be at a complete standstill without power. Even the landline phones will be gone by next year.

Just ask the people living on Latchmore Bank, who recently suffered a power supply

event, what it's like to lose all your electronic equipment!

However, if we don't get the country's power network sorted out very soon, rolling blackouts may recur. Renewable power sources are great but we do need a national storage and distribution system to allow us to use that power when we need it rather than when it is produced. In the short term at the very least, we will have to continue to use fossil fuel power generation. We have nuclear power plants in the pipeline but they do take a long time to build.

I have certainly adopted the digital world and would be frustrated by its loss. This change is probably as significant as the introduction of the printing press in the 15th century.

Editor

CONTENTS

2	- Councillors and Village Contacts
3	- Editorial
4	- Hundred Parishes
	- Litter Pick
5-7	- Great Hallingbury Parish Council
9-10	- View from the Cab
10	- RISE Performing Arts
11	- Book Corner
12	- Easton Lodge
12-13	- History Society
15-17	- Village Hall
17	- Proposed Beighbourhood Plan
	- Essex County Council
18-20	- The Village Donkeys
21-22	- Chairman's Report
22	- Bridge on Sundays
23	- Hidden History of Hallingbury
24	- Easy Eating
25	- Summer Quiz
	- Great Hallingbury Neighbours Assoc
27-28	- District News
28	- Little Hallingbury Cricket Club
29-31	- Great Hallingbury Anniversaries
31	- Neighbourhood Watch
	- Speedwatch
	- Quiz Answers
33	- WI / Hallingbury Ladies
34	- Digital Switchover
34-35	- St Giles' Parochial Church Council
35	- St Giles' Church Nature Reserve
	- Hallingburys Services
36	- Bells & Blooms Festival
	- Calendar

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY



The Hundred Parishes includes much of the extensive barley-growing area of the Hertfordshire and Essex borders. The malting of barley in preparation for its use in the brewing industry was a significant activity in several of our larger villages and market towns, especially along the River Stort, from the 18th to the 20th centuries.

Evidence is still to be found in the form of place names indicating the location of former maltings such as Malting(s) Lane in Much Hadham and Chrishall; and in the names of buildings that were once maltings or associated with one nearby. Thus there are a number of Malting(s) Cottage(s), as in Linton, Bartlow, Much Hadham, Aspenden and Ugley; and Old Maltings as at Manuden, Arkesden and Great Chesterford. In Little Hallingbury there is Malting Farm and The Old Brick Malting.

Manuden Old Maltings



As well as conversion to private houses, surviving maltings have been renovated and converted to a variety of uses. Great Dunmow's is now a museum and community resource. In Wethersfield the maltings is now the village hall and shop, while the station maltings in Newport and those in Central Arcade in Saffron Walden are commercial premises. Multi-storey maltings in Sheering

continued at foot of next column

Great Hallingbury Litter Pick



The Parish Councillors would like to thank everyone who took part in clearing the village on Sunday, 24th March.

We had our regular helpers, whom we appreciate so dearly for their constant support, but would also like to thank the newbie's who helped on the day and those that we have noticed walking around the Village throughout the year picking up litter.

If you wish to litter pick at your own leisure then please ask Mark and he can give you the appropriate bags and equipment that you can use.

Our next litter Pick is Sunday, 13th October. We hope to see you all then.

Mark and Joanne Bloomfield

continued from previous column

have been converted into apartments and in Stanstead Abbots to a business centre.

The classic form of a malting reflects the various processes which took place within the building. Grain was hauled in through the lucam or hoist housing at one end of the building where it was then steeped in water to start the germination process. The grain was laid out on germination floors before growth was halted at a particular stage by applying heat in the kiln at the other end of the building. The process of initiating and then halting germination is known as malting.

Ken McDonald, Secretary



Newport Station Maltings

Highlights from the Minutes of Meeting of Great Hallingbury Parish Council

4th March 2024

Present: Cllr Alan Townsend (Chairman), Cllrs David Barlow, Mark Coletta, Neil Jackson, Andrew Noble, Alan Pinnock and Val Waring, Mrs Urška Sydee (Clerk), District Cllr Geof Driscoll and four members of the public

Cllr Alan Townsend announced that Geoff Morris, our former footpaths representative, had passed away.

Parish Council Website

A member of the public advised that the Parish Council's website needs to be updated and some titles of the documents should be changed. The village magazine and the St Giles' newsletter should be published. It was proposed that the Parish Council's website is expanded to include community updates. The view of the Council was that the Parish Council's website should contain only Parish Council related matters and there should be a separate community / village website. Cllr Val Waring and Christine Coultrup agreed to get quotes for a separate website.

Community Broadband Hub

The Village Hall will be taking up an offer from Gigaclear of a free community broadband service. This will save the Parish Council the annual contribution they currently make for our the present service.

Gigaclear
Ultrafast Fibre Broadband

Potholes

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council had considered undertaking the repair of the potholes in the Village themselves. The Council was in agreement that this is in Highways' remit and impractical for several reasons.

Planning application UTT/24/0488/FUL

A member of the public raised issues regarding this planning application which was discussed later on the agenda. The issues

mentioned were:

- proposed dwelling on the current car park would cast shadow on the neighbouring property and affect the garden
- this is also a flooding area.
- concern regarding the ecological report – does it exist for this area?
- the proposed development would be an overdevelopment for this site.

Chairman's Activities

- attended Neighbourhood Plan meeting
- EALC Personnel and Executive Committee meeting
- ECC online meeting regarding Highways matters.



Uttlesford District Council

Planning: time at hearings for representations will be reduced to 15 minutes.

Waste: three new refuse vehicles will replace old ones.

Police: information regarding drug dealing is being collected. If residents see that kind of activity please pass information about the time and location to Cllr Geof Driscoll.

The issue about the amount of rubbish at the motorway junction was raised and where responsibility for clearing lies. Cllr Driscoll advised that perhaps Rissa Long could help. It was agreed for Cllr Waring to represent Great Hallingbury Parish Council regarding waste collection disruption.

Highways Matters

Cllr Coletta agreed to contact UDC regarding rubbish at M11 junction at Start Hill.

Hallingburys' Speedwatch

Cllr Coletta reported that there were no new volunteers. The Police will join at the B1256 hot spot on one of the future sessions. It was noticed that there was less speeding near the Village Hall recently.



Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Coletta reported that the group now has 69 members. There were a few car related incidents recently.



Village Hall

Cllr Alan Pinnock reported that the tree had



been moved from the field and the remains checked for growth.

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Waring reported that 25 people attended the meeting held on 15 January 2024 and some 10 expressed an interest to get involved. There will be a coffee morning in April 2024 where leaflets with information will be handed out. The clerk agreed to print the material for the AGM and the coffee morning.

HACS Development

Cllr Pinnock asked why Great Hallingbury Parish Council was not asked to comment on HACS developments in the past and how to ensure that the notification is sent to Great Hallingbury Parish Council in the future.

Cllr Driscoll advised that the post code determines who is asked.



Litter Pick

There will be two meeting points for the litter pick on 24th March, 2024: the Hop Poles and the church car park (layby). Refreshments will be served in St. Giles' Church afterwards.

It was agreed to purchase more litter pick equipment up to the budgeted figure.

A draft risk assessment was amended and approved.

It was agreed to make an one off donation of £50 to St Giles' Church for providing refreshments after litter pick.

Communications With Residents

Cllr Waring advised there is no central point in the village where residents are likely to go and get information. There should be more use of the village noticeboards.

Locations for noticeboards were discussed: Flitch Way, Esso Services and B1256. There is no provision for new noticeboards in the budget. The noticeboard at Tilekiln Green should be moved to either Flitch Way layby or to the new development at Mead Field Drive as the current location is unsuitable. Before moving it the owner of the land should be contacted and asked for permission.

Minutes

Cllr Waring proposed that the actions should

be listed at the bottom of the minutes as a reminder as to who should do what. This was discussed and it was concluded that each person should make their own notes as to what they agreed.

She also brought to the Council's attention that the installation of dog waste bins at Flitch Way, discussed in July 2023, was not followed. It was explained that the Council then agreed that the location was not suitable as it would create more rubbish which would then needed to be collected. The bins and collection would also have to be funded by Great Hallingbury Parish Council as UDC is not providing this service anymore. However, the Council considered once more this option and agreed on the previous decision for not installing the dog waste bins on the layby by Flitch Way.

Post Box at Top of Goose Lane

The Council approved the draft letter and agreed for it to be sent to the appropriate post office manager at the Chelmsford headquarters.



Planning

Application No // Site and Development // Decision (the Council's comments are shown in brackets)

Application Decisions

UTT/23/1470/OP // Stansted Distribution Centre, Start Hill // Outline planning application with all matters reserved for the demolition of units 1B, 2A, 2B, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and structures at Pontins Yard and redevelopment for flexible commercial uses with realignment of internal access road, car parking, servicing yards, soft landscaping and other associated works. // Awaiting decision (Strong objections previously published)

UTT/23/0957/FUL // Start Hill Service Station, Start Hill // Creation of charging zone, erection of EV chargers, erection of canopy, two jet wash bays, sub-station enclosure and associated forecourt works // Awaiting decision (Objections previously published)

UTT/23/1950/FUL // Old Cottage, Start Hill // Closure of existing access and formation of new access from the highway. Demolition of outbuildings and erection of nine dwellings // Refused (Objections previously published)

UTT/23/1470/OP // Stansted Distribution Centre, Start Hill // description and objections as before // Awaiting Reconsultation Decision
 UTT/23/2050/HHF // Cherry Orchard, Church Road // Section 73A Retrospective application for a rear single storey extension // Approved (No objections.)

UTT/23/1913/FUL // Normandale Farm, New Barn Lane // Section 73A Retrospective application for the use of barn as stables // Awaiting decision (No objections.)

UTT/23/2269/FUL // The Bungalow, Tilekiln Green // two new accesses to existing dwelling // Awaiting decision (No objections.)

UTT/23/2352/FUL // Land Rear of Start House, Tilekiln Green // Erection of one dwelling to rear of Start House // Awaiting decision (Objections: it is an overdevelopment and it has an overbearing impact on the neighbouring properties Hill View and The Bungalow, with poor access on a dangerous bend and the neighbouring Flitch Way. There are also concerns over mobile phone mast in the garden.)

UTT/23/2498/FUL // Newlands House, Church Road // Section 73A Retrospective application for change of use of annex to a separate residential dwelling // Awaiting decision (Objections: it should remain an annexe and not a separate building.)

UTT/23/2840/HHF // Highfield, Church Road // Demolition of existing conservatory. Proposed part single storey and part two storey rear extension. Proposed front extension to create a gable feature. Replacement of existing bay windows with square bay windows and new roof to accommodate first floor layout changes. // Awaiting decision (No objections.)

UTT/23/3039/FUL // Unit 2A Stansted Distribution Centre, Start Hill // Proposed external alterations including the removal of external doors and windows, installation of a new ventilation system, associated louvred vents, external condensers and a new and replacement extraction fan. Demolition of existing wall and gate and replacement concrete hard standing // Approved (No objections)

Applications Reviewed at Meeting

UTT/24/0416/FUL // South View, Start Hill // Proposal: S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved drawings) of UTT/19/2894/

FUL (Erection of two new detached dwelling houses) - To allow for the existing site levels/slope to the front of the proposed buildings to be retained and the extent of excavation and size of the retaining walls to be reduced. // No objections.

UTT/24/0537/LB // The Hop Poles, Bedlars Green // Proposed change of use from public house to residential including alterations to listed building. // No objections.

UTT/24/0488/FUL // The Hop Poles, Bedlars Green // Proposed change of use from public house to residential, changes to boundary and additional parking. Construction of one new dwelling. // Objections: Overbearing and too close to the boundary of the neighbouring property. Overdevelopment of the site. The impact on existing properties should be minimised. Drainage is a problem – it seems like ecological survey was not done properly – it should flow into mains drainage.

UDC Planning Committee

It was retrospectively agreed for Cllr Waring to represent Great Hallingbury Parish Council at their meeting held on 7 February, 2024, and give comments on behalf of the Council.

Bedlars Green

Cllr Barlow reported that it has been too wet to do work but the pond is being monitored.

Cllr Pinnock reported that some trees need attention, especially those in the pub car park. A working group was asked to investigate.

Training

Cllr Pinnock advised he would like to attend the *Protecting Public Right of Way & The Role of the Local Council* course organised by EALC. The expense was approved by the Council.

Woodside Green

Cllr Jackson reported on land adjacent to Greenways. There is a permanent caravan, more hard core has been put in, the works for new exit and entrance are taking place and it was noticed that the heavy plant is moving around. The land is still under offer. It has all been reported to UDC enforcement.

Greenways – two derelict cottages are unsafe.



HOWE GEEEN HOUSE SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL AND NURSERY, AGES 2-11

HOWEGREENHOUSE.ORG



The Physiotherapist

JULIE HERBERT MCSP BSc (Hons) MAACP

Associate NATALIE HILLIARD MCSP BSc (Hons).

The Street Barn Clinic, The Street, Great Hallingbury, CM22 7QR

Tel: 01279 826527 / Text: 07712 230391

enquiries@thephysiotherapist.net

Relocated from The Folly, 18 Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford

Treatment for all your joint and muscle pain from head to foot

Treatment for any neurological conditions, including Parkinson's, Stroke, MS, ME and Long Covid

SPORTS INJURIES RSI • HEADACHES • KNEES • BACK PAIN
NECK PAIN • TENNIS ELBOW • PRE & POST OPERATIVE REHAB
SHOULDER PAIN • ARTHRITIS etc.

Daytime or evening and Saturday morning appointments available.

www.thephysiotherapist.net

View from the Cab



The Rain

In a *normal* winter we seem to get four or five days when it is difficult to work because of torrential rain. This winter has been the opposite with maybe four or five dry days. For the rest of winter, we seem to have been trying to avoid getting soaked every day! It hasn't made it easy to do our spring work on the farm, sowing or drilling spring oats and beans, but we did manage to get everything in the ground by the end of March and, as the ground is slowly drying out now, we have been able to get on the land in recent weeks and are catching up with fertiliser and spraying jobs which had been building up because of the saturated ground.

If you think your gardens are wet spare a thought for farmers around the country, especially some in Lincolnshire where the River Welland burst its bank, flooding surrounding farmland. The Environment Agency estimates that to mend the six metre breach would cost £6 million! Bearing in mind that this happened in October, the work was due to start on 25th March. Meanwhile some farms have been underwater since the October storms! The farmers have no prospect of any crops this year. It is a disgrace. The Environment Agency couldn't run! During the Essex coastal floods of 1953, sandbags were used to temporarily repair breaches with volunteers doing the work, including Les Sage (of this parish).

Update on the River Welland in Lincolnshire! The repair work was due to start on 25th March but was delayed until April. Yesterday, asbestos was found on site causing more delays. Pathetic comes to mind, but enough of my moaning!

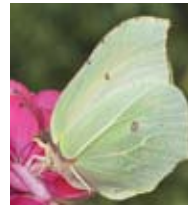


Arrival of the Visitors

On a more positive note, on the 18th April I saw my first swallow of the year in Pump Field, between the village

and the forest. I saw a few more in the following days around Bedlars Green but it is a cold welcome for them.

When we have had some sunshine, the first butterflies of the year have been showing themselves as well as bumblebees which are starting to appear in greater numbers. One of the first butterflies is the Brimstone but I have also seen Red Admirals, Peacocks and Tortoiseshells. I also saw a pair of Holly Blue butterflies the other day, fluttering above a privet hedge (one of their preferred food plants). I have also seen Orange Tip butterflies. They are white with orange wingtips but, if you see them sitting feeding, the underside of the wings are green and white.



Brimstone



Holly Blue



Tortoiseshell
Red Admiral



The Orange Tips' preferred foodplant is the cuckoo flower, a delicate pinky white flower growing on ditch sides and damp areas within



Orange Tip Butterfly on a
Cuckoo Flower

the grass rides in the forest. The plant flowers in late March or early April and the Orange Tips also lay their eggs on them. The name is derived

from the fact that its flowering also coincides with the arrival of Cuckoos from Africa. Having said that, I didn't hear any Cuckoos at all last year on the farm or in the forest. A first, but not a good one!

Other visitors have appeared over the last few weeks, notably Wood and Willow Warblers, Blackcaps and Whitethroats adding their beautiful songs to the dawn chorus. The Blackcaps are fairly secretive and shy birds, you will often hear them but not see them.



**Blackcap
Whitethroat**



The Whitethroats are different in that they seem to like being visible as they sing. We often see them perched on top of the bramble bushes or on teasel plants around the perimeter of the farmyard. To me, the Whitethroat is a favourite. Only Blackbirds, Thrushes and Robins are on a par with them.

The bird that surpasses them all is the Nightingale which will sing from April onwards (sometimes all night long). Great Hallingbury and the forest always had good populations of Nightingales but numbers have declined in recent years, possibly due to hazel coppices being decimated by Deer feeding. That is why the fences have been put up in the forest to try and keep the Deer away from the recently coppiced hazel trees which are the preferred habitat of the Nightingales. These lovely birds are now being heard more often in the last couple of years so let us hope it continues to be so.



Today, 24th April, two Roe Deer were spotted on Harps Farm. I had previously thought I'd seen one or two but couldn't be certain as they were too far away. We see them between



Thorley and Spellbrook and at Burton End at the other side of the airport so I suppose it was only a matter of time. They are shyer than the Fallow Deer but worth keeping an eye out for in your travels.

I often see Wheatears in the fields in and around Great Hallingbury. They usually appear in late January, early March, but I hadn't

seen any until one last week, although I've seen quite a few since. They are brown but, as they fly away, the rump and tail become visible which are white with a black tip to the tail. They are definitely worth looking for.



Anyway, enough from me. I'm looking forward to seeing the House Martins reappear at Harps and, after that, the Swifts.

Happy nature watching!

P.S. The House Martins are back at Harps on 29th April.

David Barlow

RISE Performing Arts Report to Annual Parish Meeting

RISE Performing Arts runs a performing arts class at Great Hallingbury Village Hall every Monday evening during school term time.

Our classes are for children aged 7 - 13 years of age. The session runs for three hours which includes an hour on each genre - Dance, Acting and Musical Theatre. We include a little food break for the children and a breather for us.

Performing Arts, we feel, is such a brilliant way for children to take a step out of their comfort zone and work on building their confidence. It's also a great way to make new friends outside of school. We also run workshops throughout the school holidays for the same age group.

We feel very appreciative and lucky to be a part of this community which has been extremely welcoming since we started last year. RISE is always keen to give back to the community and be a part of any community events that may take place.

Sam Thomas

Book Corner



Book Corner

House Of Correction

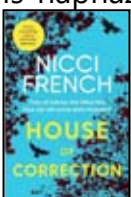
by Nicci French

Tabitha Hardy and her handyman, Andy, find the body of Stuart Rees in her shed late one night. The police soon discover that the dead man had been her Maths teacher and that she had been sexually abused by him when she was 15.

She is not the easiest person to like and is described as prickly and stand-offish by the people in the village. She has also suffered from episodes of depression in the past and when she is found covered in blood next to the body she can't seem to explain herself or remember what has happened that day. It is not surprising that she immediately becomes the most likely suspect for the murder, so is arrested and remanded in prison until her trial.

Although she protests her innocence, her solicitor obviously does not believe her and advises her to plead guilty to manslaughter, with diminished responsibility, for a shorter sentence. Tabitha knows nothing of the law and legal procedure but, just minutes before her first appearance in court, she fires the lawyer. She is determined to prove that she did not kill Stuart Rees - although she has no idea how she will do this!

The next day, however, she receives a visit from the solicitor who passes over all the paperwork about the case. Although this is of great help Tabitha has still to overcome the difficulty of talking to witnesses and gathering further information while in prison. When she eventually appears in court, her defence is haphazard and she constantly interrupts the judge, other lawyers and witnesses for the prosecution. The eventual verdict? Not what you would expect!



The Last Foundling

by Tom H. MacKenzie

In 1741, Thomas Coram, a sea-captain and philanthropist from a modest background, established the Foundling Hospital, London's first home for babies whose unmarried or destitute mothers were unable to care for them. Just over 200 years later, the author became one of the last children to enter a Foundling Hospital in Berkhamsted.

For the first five years of a foundling's life, the child lived with foster parents – in Tom's case in Saffron Walden - but then, at the age of 4 or 5, they were taken away from the only home they had known and sent to the Foundling Hospital where they would live until they were old enough to start work.

From their first day, the children were forced to march everywhere in pairs while in the Infants Section and needed permission to do virtually anything and everything. When Tom had to join the older boys in the upper school, life became even harder, learning to avoid the malice of these boys and the bad temper of the teachers and other staff. Back in the 40's, there was no real understanding of the damage that institutional life could have on small children or what could happen when older children were put in charge of the younger ones, allowing them to bully and torture at will.

As Tom became older, the Head Master and his wife took a special interest in him. He learned that his mother had always refused to allow him to be adopted. She had always hoped that she could *reclaim* him when the time was right. The idea that his mother was out there somewhere in the world, that she still loved him and wanted him back, was a thought that helped him through all the tough times.



Jan Baldwin

THE
FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF
EASTON LODGE

After cold weather in April the plants at the Gardens were back on a more normal footing at the beginning of May – so there was lots for visitors to enjoy through the month: bluebells, followed by cow parsley, foxgloves, then wild orchids as well as the alliums, rock roses (*Helianthemum*) and roses in the flower borders; and the stunning pink hawthorn in the Glade, then the Indian Horse Chestnut's flower spires succeeding the British Horse Chestnut's.

And there are lots of flowers to look forward to in June including the waterlilies in the Italian Garden, poppies everywhere and, by the end of the month, the first flowers in the dahlia border. The Robinia pseudoacacia tree's beautiful delicate pink pea-shaped flowers are my June favourite. The Trust's volunteers will be working hard to keep the Gardens tidy and to welcome visitors on Thursdays, with a steady flow of fresh produce for sale.



*Lord Burleigh and
Sir Henry*

On 23rd June, the monthly Sunday Open Day will be a lavish Tudor event – with visitors invited to meet Lord Burleigh, Queen Elizabeth I's Chancellor and sponsor of Henry Maynard who built Easton Lodge for his home in the 1590s. There will be Tudor activities for all the family, including archery, and Tudor music played on shawms, trumpets, sackbutts, cornetts, lyardss, bagpipes, recorders, gemshorns and fiddles. Fun and educational!

The Gardens are open from 11 and our volunteers provide refreshments. Tickets can be bought in advance for Sundays. There is no charge for children under 16 years old. Visitors can bring picnics and dogs on leads are welcome. For more information about tickets, times, activities and refreshments go to www.eastonlodge.co.uk/whats-on

Jill Goldsmith

Great Hallingbury History Society

The Last Year's Activities

As reported to the Annual Parish Meeting



I am almost two years into my position as Secretary of Great Hallingbury History Society and am thankfully becoming more used to my role. Our mailing list has grown from 50 to 65 and I have developed an antenna for spotting potential members!

Organising speakers for our monthly meetings is always at the forefront of my mind, so if anyone can give me a recommendation, please let me know; we are looking to include a diverse range of topics and speakers who reach out to the audience.

We have had some excellent talks during the last year including a presentation from the Archaeologist who led the team that excavated the post Medieval Lime and Tile kilns. He has given us access to a programme that allows us to see and manipulate a 3D image of the dig from both above and below the ground.

We have learnt about the impact of the Great Plague in Essex, discovered the hidden treasures of Hadham Forge and found out how The Countess of Portsmouth saved Audley End from ruin. We have been guided through the restoration of St Barnabus Barn at Thorley and looked at the part played by strong women in the First World War and the bravery and bravado of pilots in the Second World War.

My highlights include Anne Padfield's talk on Chimney's and Fireplaces (I grew up in a house built in 1430 and marks on fireplaces to ward off witches fascinate me!) and our latest talk which was the result of months of me bullying my brother into giving a presentation on Mudlarking. His son Jack, came back from university to co-present the evening with him which was a resounding success with our largest attendance figures to date: 34! There is a general consensus from all members about the need to reach out to

youngsters and he was proof of how much they can have to offer!

The foci for the committee this year have been the investigation into the best way forward for our archive in terms of its accessibility to the wider general public and the project to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the auction of Hallingbury Place.

We are lucky to have amongst our number someone who is willing to navigate the process of setting up a web page for the society which will allow access to our archive in the future. We have written to 56 local businesses in the hope that they may have scanning equipment they no longer need so that we can start the long process of uploading our extensive archive. It feels a little like arriving on the bridge of the Starship Enterprise and being given the controls!

The centenary project has involved writing to each resident who is currently living in a house that was sold at the auction of Hallingbury Place in 1923. We have asked their permission to photograph their house with the aim of mounting an exhibition in the Village Hall in September. We have hand-delivered over 50 letters and had many an interesting discussion with residents who have all been very keen to discover more about their houses. We have purchased a framed map showing the auction plot which you can see at the back of the hall and Philip Hays will give a talk on the *History of Hallingbury Place* on 11th September when our doors will be flung wide to any interested parties!



The Sale Catalogue

We have had trips to Finchingfield Guild Hall and Welford Park (the home of the Houblon descendants) and are planning an excursion to The Sun Inn Saffron Walden which is a Grade II Listed building.

We would love you to join us one evening.

Claire Layer, Secretary

Great Hallingbury History Society



Stars Who Fought: Stories of Screen Legends

By Russell Robinson

Wednesday 12th June 2024

This meeting will also include the AGM

Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 8pm

Entrance Fee Including Refreshments:

£3.00 for Members

Membership £10 pa

£5.00 for Non-members

Everyone is welcome, so do join us!

Great Hallingbury Village Hall

SUMMER SOCIAL EVENINGS



Informal social evenings to spend time with friends or meet your fellow Great Hallingbury residents.

Everyone is invited



Saturdays

13 July 10 Aug 7 Sept

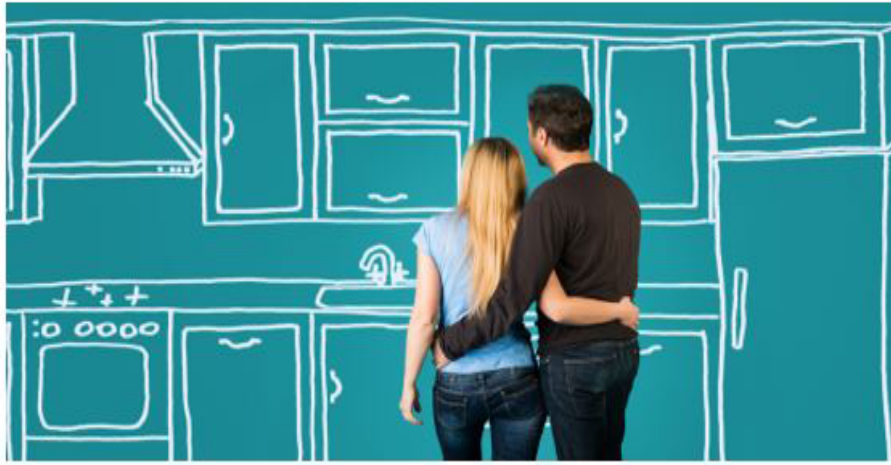
Bring your own drinks, nibbles and glasses

Weather permitting, hopefully outdoors will be an option for your children to play - so please bring a blanket etc. Seating and tables inside the hall.



Please contact Lee Cox on 07544 921459 for any further information.

Schoeman Renovations Ltd



Local business specialising in bathroom and kitchen design and installation.

Garage conversions and full internal renovations.

Contact Jaco Schoeman : 07341 901315

FUN AT THE FARM

- Pick Your Own Fruit Farm
- Pumpkin Patch
- Footgolf Course
- Dinosaur Maize Maze
- Nature Trail
- Seasonal Events
- Tractor Trailer Rides
- Tea Barn
- Pizza Oven and BBQ
- Children's Play Area
- Farm Shop

Footgolf Course

Dinosaur Maize Maze

Pumpkin Patch

WHAT'S GROWING?

Strawberries - Raspberries
 Blackberries - Cherries
 Sweetcorn - Blackcurrants
 Blueberries - Sunflowers
 Pumpkins... when in season!

Cammashall

Fruit Farm * Tea Barn * Farm Shop

Cammashall Farm Needham Green,
Hatfield Broad Oak CM22 7JT

Great Hallingbury Village Hall Report to Annual Parish Meeting



My last report saw a return to normality and stability for the Village Hall and its operation following the the pandemic in 2020. Happily, last year saw a huge increase in people wishing to use the hall for various events and occasions. This, coupled with the consolidation of all our regular users and clubs, was great for all concerned.

Our Clubs and Hirers

We have three U3A table tennis clubs, Bishop's Stortford dog training club, a craft club called Crafty Spell and a drama group, RISE. Unfortunately, we lost our pre-school children's activity group due to a lack of attendees. The Great Hallingbury WI, our History Society and our Bridge Club continue their meetings and functions on a regular basis, as well as our Parish Council.



We continue to host the District Councillors' surgeries on a monthly basis. Great Hallingbury Neighbours Association holds their meetings in the hall, as does the newly formed Great Hallingbury Planning Group. Amongst our hirers, of particular note is the continued increase in use by the National Child Trust who hold two to three classes every week here in the hall. We have always had extremely good feedback regarding health and safety and it is particularly pleasing to hear that too from the NCT area coordinator's inspections. I am minded of the vulnerability of the persons that attend these classes with their partners.

With regards to private hirers, we accommodated over twenty children's parties, a Beekeepers training day/meeting, a Hen Party, Inter County Estate agents' family

fun day. The building was also a designated Polling Station for the May local elections.

On a local level, the hall continues to be a meeting place for our village litter picking organised by the Parish Council a couple of times a year.

The hall hosted two charity events last year. One was a coffee morning in support for a local resident who was running the London Marathon to raise funds for a local charity called CHIPS, which supports children with learning difficulties and their carers/families. The other was a quiz evening for Bishop's Stortford Homeless Shelter, organised by Mrs. Val Waring.

Social Events

We had a social evening for residents in the summer which attracted around sixty people which was great and a good time was had by all.

Mid-November saw the return of our *Turning on of the Great Hallingbury Christmas Tree Lights* event. Alan Pinnock provided the Christmas trees, installed the lights and oversaw the operation. A special mention to the Streeter family who provided the machinery and staff in aiding Alan with the tree erection – thank you. The Parish Council kindly provided all the refreshments and helped and supported us on the night. Sweets were provided for the children and around 60 people were in attendance for a pleasant evening.



Colin Harris

In June, following a funeral service at St. Giles' Church, we had the wake for Mr. Colin Harris here in the hall. For thirty years plus, Colin cut the field and hedging for the hall as well as maintaining the church grounds. He was a life long resident of Great Hallingbury. His nephew, Simon, has in recent years taken over the role. We will always be grateful for Colin's time and

commitment to keeping the grounds looking so good.

The world witnessed the King's Coronation on Saturday, 6th May. The hall was decorated with external bunting and the Union Jack flag was proudly flown.

A Safe Environment

We have always prided ourselves on creating a safe and welcoming environment for the community to enjoy. All our risk assessments are regularly reviewed and updated accordingly. We have our annual fire inspection of equipment by an outside and authorised company and our electrical fixtures and fittings are also checked by a certified electrician. We have an Equal Opportunities



Policy and a Safe Guarding Persons Policy which are all available for view

Fundraising

The Ton Club continued for its fifth year as a monthly cash prize draw. To date, around £2,500 has been raised.

In 2023, we held three Quiz Nights, which brought in around £1,280, and a Christmas Flower Arranging Demonstration with afternoon tea which raised around £335. Special mention and thank you to Mrs. Val Walker for again organising and overseeing her teams' great efforts for this latter event.

Major Expenditure

Concerning the building and grounds there were three significant financial outlays.

In Spring, a new carpark floodlight was erected with two external plug sockets in a lockable cabinet. The new floodlight adds extra illumination to the carpark to rectify obvious risks identified during my annual risk assessment. New car park gates were installed as well as a handrail to the pedestrian gate from the carpark to the front entrance area. Lastly, a new P.A. system and projector

setup were implemented. A total cost for all three projects was around £3,500.

Thank you to Alan Pinnock for his significant input, as usual, for all three projects. Also to the Village Hall Secretary, Glenn Salmon, for his expertise, knowledge and work surrounding the installation of the P.A. system and projector.

Moving forward for 2024 we hope there will be a consolidation of funds and little outlay after our major projects in the last two years.

An annual financial review and pricing strategy was completed. We remain competitive and I can say with confidence the hall is in an extremely healthy financial position.

Regarding our administration, the paperless booking system continues successfully with an audit trail which is priceless in a world of accountability.

Recognition

As important as anything I have mentioned in this report is the recognition of people and their kindness, generosity, time and dedication in keeping the hall's existence alive.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of Village Hall Committee, to say a huge thank you to Great Hallingbury Parish Council. As always, they are so generous with their donations, support and attention to what we achieve for our Village Hall. I would also like to thank Sue Barker, Essex County Councillor, Geof Driscoll and Neil Reeve, our Uttlesford District Councillors, and the Rural Community Council of Essex for all their continued support.

My sincere gratitude goes to Mrs. Christine Coultrup, our Treasurer, for all her time and effort with the many administration tasks surrounding this hall. And a special mention for Mr. Alan Pinnock who represents the Parish Council on our committee. He gives so much time to the more specialised maintenance issues of this hall and is always eager to support us in all we try to achieve.

continued in next column

continued from previous column

The bookings for the hall have become a mine field with the volume of hirers and their requirements. Thanks to my wife, Sarah, for all her work in promoting the hall and keeping the administration side running smoothly.

Lastly, I would like to place on record a massive thank you to my fantastic committee for all their time, effort, support and opinions throughout the year.

The existence of this hall is paramount to myself and the committee and I feel privileged to oversee such an important part of this village. It is the last community building standing in Great Hallingbury.

*Lee Cox, Chair Person
Great Hallingbury Village Hall Committee*

Proposed Neighbourhood Plan

A Neighbourhood Plan is a document that helps to shape the future of the village (such as planning policies etc). It is written by the local residents. In addition, it can help to protect local green spaces, help better designs and can assist in bringing forward housing that meets local needs and help to protect heritage/historical sites. Once completed, it will sit alongside the District local plan and be used by Planning Committees to assist them when deciding planning applications.

Following the two meetings in January and early April, along with the Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting, we now have a number of people wishing to help get the Neighbourhood Plan underway,

A report will be given to the Parish Council at the meeting to be held in May and, subject to their approval, we will begin the process.

If you are interested in helping in any way and have not been able to attend the meeting then please do not hesitate to contact us.

*Cllr Val Waring
val@valwaring.co.uk*

Essex County Council Cllr Susan Barker



A new **Highways** initiative at Essex County Council has given me the opportunity to have a *team* from Highways carry out works that I nominate. I get a team every six weeks or so. There are, of course, a lot of issues across the whole division from Barnston and Dunmow through to Great Hallingbury, but the state of The Street, Bedlars Green and Church Road through the village is one that needs my attention. There are numerous instances of broken tarmac around ironworks as well as holes at road edges and mis-aligned or damaged kerbs. There will be a bit of a lead in time as a road closure will need to be planned but hopefully by the end of the summer we can have the road in a much better state.

Uttlesford is also due to have a large number of drains/ gullies cleared this year which will help all road users.

There is much in the news about Councils in financial difficulty but please be assured that this is not the situation at Essex. Officers and Members are very aware of the pressures and ensure that we have a balanced budget and a prudent level of reserves.

If there are any issues I can help with then please do get in touch

*Susan Barker
01245 231250
Cllr.susan.barker@essex.gov.uk*



The Village Donkeys

How Did It Start?

I have met so many people, popping in to say hello to the donkeys by the Church Road pumping station and the usual conversation goes, *Aren't they lovely, Are they yours?* and *Are they rescues?* In order – *yes, yes* and *no*. Yes they are lovely (I am admittedly biased). Yes they are mine and no, they are not rescues. Most are very carefully bred and we do a wide variety of activities with them.

I got my first two donkeys back in 1992, having decided I couldn't possibly manage the workload of three ponies for my then-infant triplets, so searched out a couple of donkeys instead. These donkeys had been shown Inhand – not a thing I knew existed – but it seemed like a fine family thing to do, so off we toddled to a few local agricultural shows and had fun days out.



Little did I realise this was the beginning of an all encompassing hobby and the start of my involvement with the Donkey Breed Society. This charity was set up in 1967 and I am now a trustee and the immediate past Chairman.

Back to the Donkeys

Apart from being the most wonderful, intelligent and fascinating pets, they can do so much more. We breed a few and show them at donkey specific and wider agricultural shows from Hadleigh Farmers, Suffolk County, South Suffolk, Royal Norfolk to



Great Yorkshire, New Forest and (in the past) Royal Cornwall shows.

As with responsible

breeding of any other animal, the parents are carefully chosen to produce the best offspring possible. We are doing something right as we have achieved several local and National Champions including the Supreme Inhand National Champion (the donkey equivalent of winning Crufts) with our home-bred stallion, Trinitas Alexander McQueen (Mac). Trinitas is our stud prefix and given to all of our homebred donkeys. Mac's mum has a theme of *designer labels* so she has also had Hugo Boss, Armani and Jimmy Choo. The boys live at home, and the girls are the ones you see by the pumping station.

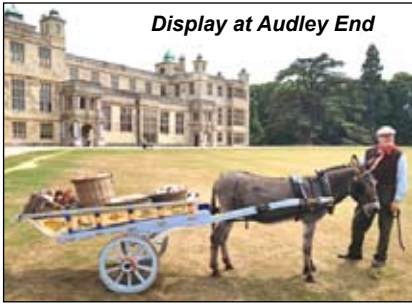
Parading Donkeys

As well as still showing, Mac is now learning to be broken to be carriage driven. Several of our stallions are broken to drive and we



compete with them at shows as well as taking part in weekends away with friends, heading off to the local pubs or competing around obstacle courses or sponsored drives.

We regularly take in the prestigious *London Harness Horse Parade* each Easter Monday, sometimes in our vintage Victorian Invalid Carriages, sometimes with one of our authentic London donkey barrows; one from Billingsgate and dressed with what, I joke, is the world's largest collection of plastic fish! We are also mad enough to pop off to Clacton seafront to collect fresh seaweed to decorate it – in the freezing cold at Easter! Georgia McCarthy took our tiny mare, Pyxie, one year and came away with a well deserved first class award.



Display at Audley End

We do parades at assorted locations. We have taken part in the *Celebration of the Horse* weekends at

Audley End, done parades at the Suffolk and South Suffolk shows and do an annual display at Gransden Show in Cambridgeshire each Autumn. My donkeys have been driven, led (bedecked in hi viz for road safety), carried pack saddles and even pulled a donkey-powered lawn mower!

Some of the donkeys also take part in other historical celebrations such as the *Pearly Kings' and Queens' Harvest Festival* parade at Guildhall, London. Donkeys were the *poor man's* work horse and much used by the Pearlyies. It is estimated that over 100,000 donkeys worked out of Covent Garden.

This year the Society members in this local Region have been asked to take part in *Wisbech Rose Fair*, last held pre-covid and being resurrected. The aim is to slowly bring it back to its previous importance having been held for many hundreds of years. We will be getting out donkeys to carry pack saddles overflowing with flowers and also dressed with floral harness. Preparations are underway!



London New Year's Day Parade in Whitehall

Donkeys can lay claim to some fascinating events – through ours we have taken part in the *London New Year's Day Parade* since 2000. There is something quite magical about driving a pair of donkeys along Whitehall in

front of 500,000 people and to a worldwide TV audience of several million. This year we managed to be in two parts of the parade as Tin – our first bred foal and now our oldest at age 29 – was asked to lead a group of South American entrants, celebrating their various cultures with Tin (and Dave) leading, dressed as a famous (in South America) donkey and



New Year's Day, London 2024

tradesman. The very colourful coffee sacks were actually stuffed with polystyrene so they would not be heavy if wet. Tin was met with tremendous applause. Meanwhile I took two of our youngsters with the main donkey entry.

We have achieved something most equestrians have not – we have taken part in driven displays at *Burghley Horse Trials* in the main ring, once to celebrate the 50th year of the Society. We were presented to Lady Louise and Sophie, Countess of Wessex, and met with delight by the audience. Not quite the huge athletic equines that would be in the ring just after us for the main prize giving, but we were very enthusiastically received!



Meeting Royalty at Burghley

continued on next page

More Events

The donkeys also do church-related things. One of my proudest moments is when my old stallion, Tin, took a great friend of mine on her final journey to her funeral. Her granddaughter asked if we would as my friend had loved Tin and had driven him a couple of times at events, including the *Lord Mayor's Show*. We were honoured to take her coffin through her village, with a great many villagers lining to route. It still brings a lump to my throat.

Our other two, more regular annual events, are *Palm Sunday* and *Nativity*. We have delivered many a *Mary* down the aisle in my parents' village's *Nine Lessons and Carols*



service. We even managed to be part of the *mobile Carol service* that went around the same village during Covid. Quite what an elf had to do with Carols I am

not sure, but the vicar asked, so we did!

Palm Sundays are always popular events and this year Mac (our Supreme Champion) had his first go at St Giles'. A good boy, albeit not a boy who managed to stand as still as he should. He will learn!



And Where Are We Now?

We have a new family member, young Mian, who is seven months old and, whilst his parents came from Ireland, he is obviously of French stock due to his size, colouring and shape. He is destined to be a very big boy (different breeds of donkey can range from 29 inches at the withers - base of the



Mian - April 2024

mane - up to 17hh; bigger than most Police Horses). Mian should reach about 14 hands. You may have spotted me introducing him to traffic outside the old School. So far he has not been bothered at all.

He has been entered for some local shows as the plan is to *bomb proof* him as a baby so he grows up nice and calm, all ready to learn to be driven when aged four.

We also potentially have four babies on the way, due later this summer, so you may notice some swelling tummies of some of

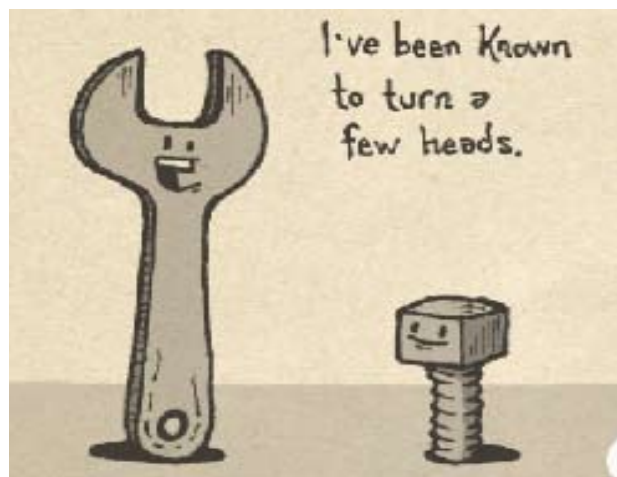


Amazon with baby Nancy

the mares by the pumping station.

If ever you want to know more, would like a more personal introduction or would like to know which shows we are going to so you can come and say hi, just get in touch.

Carole Travell 07889 162715
caroletravell@btinternet.com



Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2024



We have a full complement of eight Parish Councillors. We work as one body for the good of our village and all councillors are also part of working groups such as Planning, Housing, Neighbourhood Watch and Airport, and are representatives on Road Safety, Footpaths and Health matters.

I also represent us on, and chair, the UALC (Uttlesford Association of Local Councils) and sit on the Executive Committee of the EALC (Essex Association of Local Councils). I continue to carry out a weekly check on the defibrillator.

Meetings

Since March 2023, the Parish Council has held six meetings plus the Annual Parish Meeting, all taking place here in the village hall.

Over the past year I have attended meetings for both UALC and EALC. I have also had weekly Zoom meetings with the Clerk for updates on any issues.

The information from all meetings we attend enables the Parish Council to know about, and comment on, proposals within our District and County as well as Local Government issues.

Finance

Our budget for the coming year 2024/25 was reviewed and agreed and, after careful consideration, it was agreed to increase the precept for this year. This relates to the Parish portion of your council tax.

Although we have increased the precept, we took into account the new housing that has been built which meant that we knew that each house would actually be paying less this year than last year. As you will all see from your latest council tax bill from Uttlesford, it has a minus against the amount going to the Parish Council. We have one of the smallest precepts in Essex.

We continue to support SAW – Stansted Airport Watch (formerly SSE), along with Essex Air Ambulance, Uttlesford Community Travel and Accuro.

We continue to support the Village Hall and the *Great Hallingbury Highlights* magazine.

Planning

The Parish Council has considered and commented on 45 planning applications over this past year, which is almost the same number as the previous year. While in general we have had little reason to object to the proposals, relevant comments are made where necessary, whether in opposing the application or in support of it, for the good of the surrounding area. However, we do stress that new builds must connect to the mains drainage.

Local Plan

The Local Plan has still not been finalised.

Airport

We have no comments on the airport at present but we are kept up to date by Stansted Airport Watch.

Highways

We continue to report pot holes and other road defects in the village. As always, the big concern is speeding through the village and the lack of any enforcement.

The work carried out by the bridge at Captains to resolve the flooding problems seems to have worked well.

Due to the M11 being closed for various works, our village is being used as a diversion route causing many problems with our road. We have asked ECC and National Highways to make good the damage caused by these diversions.

Trees

The trees that we planted last year seem, in the majority, to be growing quite well. We will continue to monitor them.

Litter pick

A litter pick was held last October and

another is planned for this coming Sunday, 24th March. I would like to thank Mark and Joanne Bloomfield for organising this as well as everybody who comes along to help.

Community Speedwatch

We now have an active Community Speedwatch group again, thanks to Cllr Mark Coletta who is organising days for roadside checks. We would still like to have more members to help carry out speedwatch checks and you will hear more on this later in the meeting.

Neighbourhood Watch

We have a very active Neighbourhood Watch which, again, you will hear about later.

Neighbours Association

The Great Hallingbury Neighbours Association, formed initially to fight the Wren Kitchen application, is still in force and being ably run by Cllr Val Waring.

Neighbourhood Plan

Meetings are being held to see if this is a viable option, again organized by Cllr Val Waring, and you will hear more on this later.

Great Hallingbury Highlights

Thanks go to Christine Coultrup for continuing to produce this excellent magazine. This free publication goes to every house in the village through Christine's army of distributors. Please do read this when it arrives as it is all about our village.

Village Hall

A big thank you to Lee Cox and his team who look after and keep the Village Hall running smoothly.

Finally, I would like to thank all my fellow Councillors, and so many villagers, for their continued support during the past year. Special thanks to Urska, our Clerk, who works so well to lighten the Chairman's load.

*Alan Townsend, Chairman
Great Hallingbury Parish Council*

Bridge on Sundays Club



The Bridge Club continues to meet twice a month here, in our Village Hall. We have a good attendance with around 24/30 people each time.

We usually play duplicate bridge where everyone plays the same hands which pass around all the tables.

It is a friendly club for people of all standards of play from relative novices to experienced players. There is no segregation by ability, we all play against each other.

If you would like to join us, please do contact me. And don't worry if you are without a partner, we will always ensure that everyone has a game. And if you would like to learn the game, there are one or two teachers in the vicinity with whom I could put you in touch.

Christine Coultrup
Secretary



Cooking for a Small Dinner Party

Lady is seeking occasional help to cook and serve a meal for a group of 4/6 people in her home.

Nothing too elaborate but good tasty food, perhaps three or four times a year

If this interests you please email your name and contact details and your charge for your time and send it to gthallhighlights@gmail.com



Hidden History of Hallingbury

More Boundaries



After the battle of Edington in 878AD, there was a treaty between Alfred the Great of Wessex and Guthrum the Danish warlord. This became known as Danelaw.

Hallingbury was under Danelaw (Viking). Thorley was part of Mercia, Alfred's territory. The rivers Lea and Stort were part of the boundary line.



As the old Roman road, Stane Street, was the first viable crossing up from the Thames, the area became a strategic hotspot. Evidence of fortifications in the area have been found and it is considered that both Waytemore Castle and Stansted Castle were developed from earlier fortifications.



The picture shows the approximate point of the Stort *ford*, with Waytemore Castle behind the camera. Vikings on the left, Britons on the right.

After the Norman invasion, the river was again the boundary line between the lands gifted to Robert Guernon (Robert the Moustache) from Montfiquet in France. He had considerable holdings right down to Stratford including, of course, Hallingbury. Waytemore castle became the property of the Bishop of London, hence Bishop's Stortford.

The Montfichet's were an influential family, being standard bearers in times of war and known to have been at the Battle of Hastings. Richard de Montfichet signed the Magna Carter (with others) in 1215.

Alan Pinnock

Easy Eating

Asian Fishcakes

Ingredients (makes 4)

- 1 stick lemongrass
- 6cm piece ginger
- ½ bunch coriander
- 500 g salmon fillet - skin off *you could crisp the skin up and serve with it*
- 4 tsp chilli jam

Method

1. Smash the lemongrass to remove the outer layer
2. Peel the ginger and chop with the lemongrass and most of the coriander
3. Chop the salmon into 1 cm chunks and divide into two, half on each end of your chopping board.
4. Chop one half very, very finely over the other ingredients on your board and chop the other half into chunkier bits so you have some texture. Season with sea salt and black pepper
5. Mix together and then divide and shape with your hands into four, pressing each one into a 2 cm thick patty.
6. Cook with a little olive oil in a non stick pan on medium/high heat for approximately two minutes each side, until nicely golden brown.
7. Spoon the chilli jam over the fishcakes and add a splash of water to the pan. Jiggle to coat!
8. Sprinkle with the remaining chopped coriander.



Swedish Chocolate Cake

Ingredients

- 135 g Salted butter
- 55 g Cocoa powder
- 350 g Granulated sugar
- 110 g Plain flour
- 3 eggs
- 2 tbsp Icing sugar for dusting

Method

1. Heat the oven to 180C / 350F / gas 4
2. Grease a deep 18cm (7") cake tin and line with baking parchment.
3. Melt the the butter in a medium saucepan.
4. Remove from the heat and add the rest of the ingredients.
5. Pour the mixture into the prepared tin and bake for 20-30 minutes.
6. It should be set on the edges and gooey in the middle.
7. Leave to cool in the tin then gently lift out and remove the paper taking care as the centre will be soft.
8. Serve warm, dusted with the icing sugar and with summer fruit compote or just as it is
9. This is quite a rich cake so it will serve 8 people.

Rosemary Nugent

Summer Quiz



1. Which country has the most natural lakes?
2. What is the longest river in the USA?
3. What is the largest country in Africa by area?
4. What year did the Berlin Wall fall?
5. In what year were women first allowed to participate in the modern Olympic Games?
6. What is the maximum number of clubs a golfer is allowed in their bag during a round?
7. Which Korean series on Netflix became a global phenomenon in 2021?
8. Which country announced it would phase out the sale of new petrol and diesel cars by 2030?
9. Which gas do plants absorb from the atmosphere during photosynthesis?
10. Which country is home to the famous ancient city of Petra?
11. Which pop icon's real name is Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta?
12. Which celestial body is commonly referred to as the "Evening Star" or "Morning Star" depending on its visibility?
13. What was the name of the Mars rover that NASA landed on Mars in 2021?
14. Which element is represented by the chemical symbol "Fe"?
15. What is the only planet in our solar system that rotates clockwise, also known as retrograde rotation?
16. Which African country is known as the "Land of a Thousand Hills"?
17. What is the world's largest species of shark?
18. What instrument was the jazz musician Louis Armstrong famous for playing?

Answers on page 31

Great Hallingbury Neighbours Association

This was set up by a group of residents to help fight the Application made by FYK Ltd for a 24 hour logistics facility at the Tile Kiln Green end of the village. Having a Neighbours Association could have allowed us Rule 6 status for any appeal hearing which would have provided us with a stronger footing, certainly in terms of accessing information to be used at hearings. Indeed, we (not just GHNA) defeated FKY Ltd not once or twice but a third time, with a PINS hearing deciding that the proposed site was not suitable for such a centre. This, of course, does not mean that the owners of the land can not try again in the future.

However, GHNA was not set up solely to fight Wren Kitchens. It was to help formulate objections for any local villagers, which included Stansted Distribution Centre at Start Hill, Great Hallingbury.

It is our understanding that UDC may try and lessen the amount of time for public participation in planning hearings in the future and indeed, if this is the case, then there will be benefit in having an additional voice through a residents' association.

The Association very much supports the idea of Great Hallingbury having a Neighbourhood Plan which we hope will begin under the umbrella of the Parish Council. There may come a time when questionnaires need to be distributed to all in the village so if anyone would like to volunteer their services then please get in touch.

Val Waring, Secretary

(As reported to the Annual Parish Meeting)



LTH Waste Removal and Luxury Toilet Hire (UK) Ltd



LTH (UK) Portable Toilets supplies and maintains building site toilets, with weekly / ad hoc servicing as required. Existing site toilets and welfare units can also be maintained for the duration of the building project.



LTH Waste Removal is your local service provider for liquid waste removal, including :

- Cesspits
- Septic tanks
- Klargesters and Bio disks



Whether you are arranging a wedding, private party or corporate event, let Luxury Toilet Hire (UK) Ltd provide you with the perfect toilet facility to make your occasion a memorable success.

Please visit www.luxurytoilethire.co.uk



Based near Great Hallingbury, we provide a personal, professional and efficient service at very competitive rates.

For a free quotation, please contact us:

Tel: 01279 504638 or 01371 873003 Yard: 01371 871871 Email: info@luxurytoilethire.co.uk

THE SCRAP MAN

Free Metal Collection
Garage Clearance
Electrical/Electronic Items
Cables

Phone: 07792 395470

Town & Country



Sweeps

Chimney Services

**CLEAN CHIMNEYS ARE SAFER
CHIMNEYS**

Chimney Sweeping
Stove Servicing
Nest Removal
CCTV Inspections
Bird Guard & Cowl Fitting
and much more

07703 740638

www.townandcountrysweeps.com



DANIEL ROBINSON & SONS

Independent Family Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons



- A professional, caring, 24 hour service
- Arrangements in the comfort of your own home, if preferred
- Private Chapel of Rest
- Pre-payment Plans
- Fleet of air conditioned limousines & horse drawn funerals
- Free bereavement counselling

79/81 South Street
BISHOP'S STORTFORD
01279 655477

www.drobinson.co.uk

*Dedicated to serving our
local community*

Bullfields
SAWBRIDGEWORTH
01279 722476

District News

Cllrs Geof Driscoll and Neil Reeve

Easter has been and gone. It was a little early this year but, as usual, there were plenty of eggs in the shops well in advance. We hope that you enjoyed the break and the eggs for those that can eat them.



Waste Collection

As you are aware the Council now has a new operator's licence in place and business is back to normal, if with a couple of slight hiccups. Some bins were missed due to staff sickness. The UDC Scrutiny committee's *Task and Finish* group has completed its work and has now reported to the Scrutiny Committee and to the full Council.

Localised Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS)

The start of the new Council Tax year is upon us. Each Local Authority gets a fixed yearly payment from Central Government to pay the Local Council Tax Support to entitled residents. Government funding allocated to councils for LCTS has fallen to below 90% of its previous Council Tax Benefit spend. Uttlesford District Council has worked in conjunction with other Essex Authorities to determine who should be entitled to have their Council Tax charge reduced, taking into account the funding cut.

Protections for pensioners

The people protected by this scheme are:

- Single people who reached the qualifying age for state pension credit so long as they are not claiming Income Support, income based Jobseekers Allowance or income related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Couples where at least one member has reached the qualifying age for state pension credit and neither are claiming support as above.

These protected pensioners get LCTS, which

is still means tested, and the calculation is on a very similar basis to the Council Tax Benefit and Second Adult Rebate rules.

The scheme for working age people

It has been decided that the current scheme for Uttlesford District Council will limit support to a maximum of 87.5%

Uttlesford District Council

UDC will also protect anyone entitled to Personal Independent Payments, Disability Living Allowance or Carers Allowance. Working Age non protected people will have to pay at least 12.5% of their Council Tax bill.

Can't pay your Council Tax

If you are having any difficulty in paying your Council Tax don't just stop paying! Get in touch with the Council Tax team immediately so that we can offer you advice. **Don't be proud**, either contact UDC for details, check out the website (<https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/>) or ask someone to do so on your behalf.

Local Plan

The comments from the consultation have been made available for public inspection at <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/> Click the *What People Say* Tab at the top of the page. To find the Comment IDs that relate to a particular topic (Chapter/Policy/Evidence Base) or consultee, use the excel spreadsheet titled *Search by Topic or Consultee.xlsx* in the supporting files tab on the left side of the page.

To *Search by Comment ID*, use the search bar on the top right of the page.

I will say that using this this spread sheet is not for the faint hearted.

Changes to postal vote handling

Postal votes were sent out for posting back via a Royal Mail post-box.

New handling rules mean that they must not be put in the internal post or dropped off to us without the person doing this completing a postal vote handling form. Any ballot papers not delivered correctly will be rejected.

Saffron Hall Spring £5 Offer!

Saffron Hall has recently celebrated its 10th Birthday.

This Spring, Saffron Hall is offering a limited number of tickets across their entire programme to new bookers for just £5. There is something for everyone in their programme of events, so do take a look.

Please refer to <https://www.saffronhall.com/> for information on how to access this offer and the Spring/Summer event calendar. £5 tickets are limited and if the discount code doesn't work, it's likely that the offer has sold out on this concert. Full price tickets may still be available.

Saffron Hall looks forward to welcoming you soon.

Grants and Finance options to support your business

As part of Uttlesford District Council's Economic Recovery Plan, we are helping to deliver sustainable economic growth by supporting businesses within the district and by protecting and growing town centres as economic hubs and increasing tourist spend.

If you need help working out which grant or finance option is right for you and your business, contact the team and we can refer you to services to help advise you on the best solution for your business. <https://business.uttlesford.gov.uk/>

Ward surgeries

Please note that these surgeries are for you to discuss issues that you may have with UDC that we, as your District Councillors, can help with or represent you where possible. Please do come along and have a chat. You do not need to arrange an appointment; they are walk in surgeries and you can find them on the first Tuesday of each month at Great Hallingbury Village Hall and the third Friday of each month at the Dukes Head PH, Hatfield Broad Oak, both between 2 – 4pm.

And, of course, should you need to contact us, you can email on the following addresses.

cldriscoll@uttlesford.gov.uk
cllreeve@uttlesford.gov.uk

Little Hallingbury Cricket Club



We have had a busy winter with the under 11s and under 15s performing well in the indoor league at HECC.

From February we have been practicing at the sports hall at Leventhorpe School. This has been well attended by senior players and colts. The under 15s especially look to be improving all the time.

We start our season with a first Sunday match away to Eastons on 28th April, with the Saturday team starting away to Willingale. Having been promoted last year, we are now playing in the Premier League of the Bishop's Stortford Border league. Let's hope our winter practice helps us start well.



The first colts training session is on Wednesday, 8th May, starting at 6.15pm at Gaston Green. This is for

all colts - under 11, softball and seniors hardball. We have entered under 11 and under 15 teams in the West Essex leagues so will have plenty of games for the colts to show off their skills.

The Allstars coaching for 5 to 8 year olds will start on Wednesday, 5th June, at 5pm for eight weeks. Please register on the club website.

Our always popular Quiz Night is on Friday, 7th June, at Little Hallingbury Village Hall.

We have also arranged a trip to Chelmsford to see Essex play Sussex in the 20 overs T Blast competition on 14th June with free tickets to colts, thanks to Jack Petchey!

It looks as if we are going to be quite busy this summer! All we need is for the weather to be kind.



Keith Behagg

Great Hallingbury Anniversaries

As recorded in *The Herts and Essex Observer*



90 years ago

28th April, 1934: Great Hallingbury Junior Dancers recently competed in two classes in the Letchworth Folk Dance Festival. For their Morris dance, they gained a certificate of *proficiency*. The judges spoke in high terms of their dancing, expressing the opinion that it was the finest performance they had seen in a junior side and that *here is the beginning of a splendid tradition, which if continued, will one day bring Great Hallingbury to the forefront of English Morris Dancers.*

5th May 1934: At the May Day Festivities held in Great Hallingbury School, Gladys Stock was crowned May Queen by Mrs Elliot Binns, (wife of the rector). The programme included Morris and sword dancing and an innovation this year was Maypole Dancing. The newly crowned May Queen sang the solo *Peaceful England* and recited Alfred Lord Tennyson's poem *The May Queen*.

(One of the pupils who laid flowers in the May Queen's path was Eric William Palmer, who died in World War Two in May 1943 in a Japanese prisoner of war camp).

85 years ago

27th May 1939: The sudden death has occurred in Edinburgh on 22nd May of Robert Leatham Barclay of Gaston House, shortly after his 70th birthday. Mr Barclay had been a director of Barclays Bank and had lived in Gaston House for over thirty years, taking an active interest in the life of Little Hallingbury.



The funeral is due to take place at Higham in Suffolk and it is expected that Canon David Buxton Barclay, his brother and Rector of Great Hallingbury, will

assist at the service. Robert Leatham Barclay (1869-1939) (pictured) purchased Gaston House in 1906.

(Canon David Buxton Barclay was Rector of St Giles' Church from 1934 until 1940).

80 years ago

6th May 1944: At a recent meeting of the Great Hallingbury Women's Institute, presided over by Mrs Streeter, Mrs Young gave a lecture on Russia with lantern slides. Dumb charades were played for the social half hour.

75 years ago

8th April 1949: Members of the Women's Institute, at their monthly meeting, heard an interesting talk on *beauty culture* given by a representative of a Bond Street firm.

13th May 1949: Members of the Women's Institute, at their monthly meeting, heard an interesting talk on the life of Jane Austen given by Miss Minnis, who was dressed in the costume of the period and acted out scenes from the novelist's work.

70 years ago

28th May 1954: A Rogationtide Service has recently been held in Great Hallingbury. Led by the rector, Charles Percy Turton, and by the organist and choir, a procession of nearly thirty parishioners passed through the churchyard and on to a field belonging to T Streeter. The procession returned to the church where special prayers were offered for the growing crops.

(Revd Charles Percy Turton served as Rector of Great Hallingbury from 1954 until 1960).

60 years ago

10th April 1964: A trip around the world on a B.O.A.C airliner was the honeymoon waiting for a Great Hallingbury bride and her husband after their wedding at the village church last Tuesday. The Rector, Canon Douglas Percy Grant, conducted the service. The bride, Miss Rosemary Larkins, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C E Larkins of Howlets, is a B.O.A.C. stewardess. The bridegroom, Mr Paul Newsome, is the service manager of his father's garage business in Coventry.

(Canon Douglas Percy Grant served as Rector of Great Hallingbury from 1960 until 1967).

1st May 1964: The Woodside Green Social Club is holding a *Grand Garden Fete* on Whit Monday at Morleys, Woodside Green, by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Cater.

55 years ago

4th April 1969: At a recent meeting of the Great Hallingbury Women's Institute, members were shown how to bone and stuff a chicken by Mrs Buck. Later, members tried their hand at their own chickens, with good results.

50 years ago

12th April 1974: To celebrate the centenary of the rebuilding of St Giles' Church, a guide book is to be produced which will be on sale from Whit Sunday. 1000 guides have been initially printed and it is hoped that the guide will be a great success.



(The Guide Book was written by Heather Cocks and Colin Hardie and includes the history of the

restoration of St Giles' Church in 1874. Updated copies are still available to be purchased at the church).

31st May 1974: The theft from St Giles' Church of a priceless 16th Century metal funeral helm has recently been reported. Revd. Colin Smith noticed the theft on Sunday morning when he went into the church to prepare for the service. The helm was one of two, which hung over the chancel arch, high up on the wall.

(The funeral helm was fortunately recovered. An article in the *Guardian* on 11th January 1975 explained that the rector placed an advertisement in the *Personal Column* of the *Times*, asking for information about the missing helmet. The advert was seen by Mr Claud Blair, Keeper of Metalwork at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Mr Blair published a photograph of the helmet in the *Journal of the Arms*



and Armour Society and sent copies to about 40 dealers and collectors. A dealer in the Midlands reported that he knew where the helmet was and the police recovered it. The helmet is now on loan to the Victoria and Albert Museum. A replica of the helmet now hangs over the chancel arch. In October 2018 members of the Great Hallingbury History Society visited the Victoria and Albert Museum to view the priceless funeral helm and the photograph was taken by a member during that visit. It was for centuries the custom for dead persons of high rank to have displayed above their tombs such knightly equipment as helmets and spurs. This helmet was carried at the funeral of Henry Parker, 10th Baron Morley, which took place in St Giles' Church on 3rd December 1556).

45 years ago

24th May 1979: Following a junior hockey tournament in Newcastle, Philippa Mackrill, a pupil at Chelmsford County High School, has been named as an England Junior Reserve. This crowns a successful season for Philippa who, as captain, led her school to retain the Essex Schools' Championship.

(The Mackrill family were residents of Great Hallingbury for many years)

40 years ago

26th April 1984: A light engineering firm in Great Hallingbury will be forced to liquidate, with the loss of twenty prospective jobs, if its appeal fails against an enforcement notice from Uttlesford District Council. Rotary Manufacturing Co. Ltd has until 19th July to end its operation at Howe Green Moat Farm, where it has been making office machinery and computer components for the last six months.

3rd May 1984: Mrs Mary Ramsdale of Start Hill, Great Hallingbury, who is an enthusiastic member of the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens, is to be congratulated on her successful horticultural work. At present there are twelve national collections of endangered garden plants, cared for by the Essex Group of the NCCPG. Mrs Ramsdale cares for the national collection of heuchera, the old cottage garden plant, known as coral bells and the national

collection of chrysanthemum maximum, known as the *marguerite*.

35 years ago

13th April 1989: The guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Great Hallingbury Women's Institute was a local vet, Mrs Moffatt, who mentioned various animals in her talk, including a sheep called *Exocet* who went into attack, low and fast; a rabbit called *Rambo* who was not especially friendly and a constipated lizard. Mrs Moffatt's talk aroused much interest, as the majority of WI members are pet owners. One member has sixteen dogs! It has been noted that, for an institute of about twenty members, Great Hallingbury WI is unusual in that six of the members are practising nurses, all in different specialities, and so at every meeting any health crisis can be coped with instantly.

In the same newspaper it was reported that Revd. Dennis Staveley, Rector of Great Hallingbury, had called on parishioners in the latest Parish Magazine to *support conservationists and cry out against the worldwide destruction of wild life*. He said that he was already making enquiries about converting his car to use unleaded petrol.

11th May 1989: The funeral of diplomat Sir Eric Berthoud is due to take place on Saturday, 13th May, at St Giles' Church. His ashes will be interred with those of his wife, Ruth, at Holy Trinity Church, Takeley, in the family grave. The couple were married at St. Giles' Church over sixty years ago and from 1946 until 1967 they had made their home at Gaston Green.

30 years ago

28th April 1994: *Tails were wagging* recently at the Great Hallingbury Parish Hall, when about 125 dogs took part in the Bishop's Stortford Dog Training Club Show. Included among the winners were father and daughter team, Richard and Nicola Simmonds, whose two dogs, Tryfan and Guy, both came first in their obedience classes. The show raised £300 for the MacMillan Nurses Fund.

Philip Hays

Neighbourhood Watch



We now have over 70 members on our Facebook page where South Uttlesford crimes are reported weekly.

The police have issued information on Home, Garage and Shed security.

Please join our Facebook group (Great Hallingbury Neighbourhood Watch) if you would like regular updates on all crimes in Great Hallingbury and South Uttlesford.

Matk Coletta

Speedwatch



The recent Parish road works and wet weather have not been on our side but we have been out surveying.

The current diversion through the Village has been a double edged sword. In one respect it has brought in more traffic and caused havoc with the pot hole situation. On the other hand, due to the increased traffic volume and greater number of pot holes, drivers are thankfully forced to drive more slowly.

We had the Police with us in attendance on one speed survey. They demonstrated their speed camera which they used to record speeding drivers on the B1256.

We are still looking for volunteers so, if you've had enough of speeding drivers through Great Hallingbury, please come and join our team.

Quiz Answers

Answers to questions on page 25



- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Canada | 10. Jordan |
| 2. Missouri River | 11. Lady Gaga |
| 3. Algeria | 12. Venus |
| 4. 1989 | 13. Perseverance |
| 5. 1900 | 14. Iron |
| 6. 14 clubs | 15. Venus |
| 7. Squid Game | 16. Rwanda |
| 8. United Kingdom | 17. Whale Shark |
| 9. Carbon dioxide | 18. Trumpet |




VANS AUTOS



MOT TEST CENTRE

Class 4 and Class 7 vehicles
Service and Repairs

Opening Hours
Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm
Saturday - by appointment only

Tel: 01279 724534
or 07778 217304

Volunteer for our Summer Reading Challenge 2024!



Volunteer



for the Summer Reading Challenge 2024



A great opportunity to gain some volunteering experience, make a positive impact on the community and meet new people!

If you are 14 or over and need something to do this summer, then come along and volunteer for our Summer Reading Challenge!

To apply, [visit our website](#), deadline is Saturday 23 June.

novuscare

Care in the heart of your own home

Are you or an elderly loved one looking for extra care and support at home in **Great Hallingbury or the surrounding areas?** Then our local carers are here to help.

Novus Care is regulated by the Care Quality Commission and can provide a qualified carer to support your loved one in their own home from just **30 mins per week to full-time live-in care.**

For more information or to arrange a **FREE** assessment, please call: **01268 960285** or email: **hello@novus-care.com**

www.novus-care.com

Great Hallingbury WI



Local Footpaths

In February our speaker was Alan Pinnock, our local expert on the footpaths in and around Great Hallingbury. Many of these have been in use for over a thousand years.

Overall, there are three main reasons for their development and continued use in this country.

- **Coffin Roads.** As their name suggests, these were the paths used to carry the dead to church and burial. Very often they were not used for anything else.
- **Pilgrim Paths.** These were used by those travelling on pilgrimages to view and pray where there were Holy Relics. These same paths have been used over hundreds of years.
- **Drovers Roads.** Again, the same roads were used for hundreds of years to drive animals to market. Many of these are now footpaths and some are Bridleways or Green Lanes.

We were shown maps of our local area after a very interesting talk.

Suspension Meeting

In March we did not have a speaker and it became our Suspension Meeting. After several months of discussion, we had decided that, like many other smaller institutes, we would suspend as a WI. Over half of the subscription, £48 this year, is retained on behalf of the County and National Federations and we felt that it would not be possible to fund our local Institute's expenses from the monies left to us. However, it was decided that if it was a majority vote for suspension we would reopen as a Ladies Group, just not under the umbrella of the WI. On this evening, two Trustees from Essex Federation attended our meeting and chaired the suspension meeting and secret ballot. A majority of members were in favour of the suspension. Our final WI meeting closed with a discussion of future plans.

Hallingbury Ladies

a.k.a
HALS



*Fun &
Friendship*

The inaugural meeting of the group took place in April. A chairman and committee were elected and a ballot took place for the new name of the group. **Hallingbury Ladies**, or HALS, was the most popular out of more than sixteen choices. The subscription fee was agreed for the year.

To complete the evening there was a poetical entertainment given by some of the members. This was much enjoyed by everyone.



Upcoming Events

A full programme of events is in place for the rest of the year but here are a few snippets of some of our upcoming meetings.

In July we will be finding out about the work of a Residential Protection Officer/Bodyguard. We will be hoping for some scandalous stories!

In August we welcome back Charles Garland whose talk about the early days of *Dad's Army* had us all spell-bound last June! This time his talk is entitled, *From Vicar's son to BBC Producer*.

Have you ever wondered about all that is involved in the process of writing and illustrating a children's book? If so, come along in September as Gill McClure will be explaining this and showing us some of those she has written.

Always on the fourth Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We're worth a visit for our refreshments alone!!

Gill Sewell, Secretary



Are you ready for the end of traditional phone landlines?

Essex County Council wants to make residents in Great Hallingbury aware that changes are coming to analogue landlines.

By 2025, traditional phone lines will be replaced by a digital landline service. This means that calls will be made over a broadband line.

For most residents, this change will be straightforward – you'll also get to keep your phone number. Your telephone provider will contact you before anything changes. It is important to respond and discuss what you need to do to ensure your service won't be affected.

The switch to digital landline services could affect residents who don't have broadband, rely solely on a landline, use a personal alarm, have no mobile signal, or have additional needs.

If you're confused, worried, unsure or have any questions, call your telephone provider.

To read more about the switch to digital landlines, visit Essex County Council's website: www.essex.gov.uk/landline-switch



St Giles' Parochial Church Council Report to the Annual Parish Meeting



St Giles' has been for some time a United Benefice with St Mary's Little Hallingbury. As mentioned at last years APM, we will now be part of a United Benefice of Six Villages – St Mary's Little Hallingbury, Holy Trinity Hatfield Heath, St John's Bush End, St Mary's Sheering and St Mary's Hatfield Broad Oak.

Whilst there are still two services per month in St Giles' – the second and fourth Sundays – there are some joint services at our fellow churches.

At last years Annual Parish Meeting, I informed everyone that our Priest in Charge, David Herrick, had retired the previous July. Rev'd Dawn Jewson took over the position but she will now be retiring this coming July. The PCC's of all six villages met to put together a Parish Profile and advertised within the Diocese for a new Priest in Charge. The position now is that we have appointed Sophie Weller who will be Priest in Charge of all six villages.

Maintenance

Further to last years Quinquennial Inspection, last Spring and Summer saw the restoration of the parapet, external and internal restoration of the tower and servicing of the bells, enabling the bells to be rung again. Also roof repairs and internal repairs were carried out. We have a new bell ringing group up and running and several people learning how to ring.

Events

A Beer Festival and a concert were held last summer.

In July of this year, we are holding a **Bells and Blooms Festival**. This will be held over two days, 6th and 7th July, and is to celebrate the bells following all the repairs which have enabled them, with new bell ropes obtained a few years ago, to be rung again. Also we

will celebrate the summer blooms around. If anyone is able to help, either by baking a cake, doing a flower arrangement or helping on a stall, it would be very much appreciated.

Churchyard

There is an increasing number of species of wildlife in the churchyard. The gardening club is continuing but needing extra helpers.

Noticeboard

A new notice board for the front of the churchyard has now been purchased – this is the church notice board to be installed on the right as you look at the main gate, not to be confused with the Parish Council one on the left - and should be in place in a few weeks time. The PCC wishes to thank the Parish Council for their support in helping us to achieve this.

Freda Townsend



St Giles' Church Nature Reserve Project

Volunteers always needed!
Duke of Edinburgh Scheme welcome

Saturdays between 10 and 12 - subject to the weather!

Contact Russell on 07756 142890

**Services in the Hallingburys
June - August 2024**

G = St Giles' M = St Mary's

M	Jun 2	10.30am	Morning Worship
G	Jun 9	10.30am	Holy Communion
M	Jun 16	10.30am	Holy Communion
G	Jun 23	10.30am	Morning Worship
G	Jun 30	10.30am	Six Villages Holy Communion Valedictory for Revd Dawn Jewson
G	Jul 7	10.30am	Holy Communion <i>Bells & Blooms Festival</i>
G	Jul 14	10.30am	Morning Worship
M	Jul 21	10.30am	Holy Communion
G	Jul 28	10.30am	Morning Worship
M	Aug 4	10.30am	Morning Worship
G	Aug 11	10.30am	Holy Communion
M	Aug 18	10.30am	Holy Communion
G	Aug 25	10.30am	Morning Worship

Please Note:

The schedule of services in the Six Villages Churches is currently subject to change. Rev'd Dawn is retiring on 30th June. The new Priest-in-Charge, Rev'd Sophie Weller, will not take up her office until the Autumn, meaning that changes to our anticipated service pattern are more likely over the summer months.

Please check www.thesixvillages.org for the most up to date and accurate information.

The website has details of all services taking place across the Six Villages, and information about special events, our contact details and how to get involved.



BELLS AND BLOOMS FESTIVAL

6th & 7th JULY 2024

WE NEED TO RAISE FUNDS FOR ST. GILES CHURCH!

**Can You Help? Stall Holders, Baked Goods,
Advertising the Event and Help on the Day**

**PLEASE CONTACT PAULINE BEAUMONT ON
01279 653562**

**SUNDAY 7th JULY
BISHOP LYNNE JOINS US TO CELEBRATE
OUR REPAIRED TOWER AND BELLS**

Calendar

June 2024

- 1 Library Van - Bedlars Green 3 - 3.30 pm
Woodside Green 3.40 - 4.10 pm
- 1 Hallingbury Ladies - Quiz Night -
Village Hall 7 for 7.30 pm
- 12 History Society - *Stars who Fought:
Hidden and Heroic stories of TV and
Screen Legends* - Village Hall 8 pm
- 22 Library Van - Bedlars Green 3 - 3.30 pm
Woodside Green 3.40 - 4.10 pm
- 26 Hallingbury Ladies - Village Hall - 7.30 pm

July 2024

- 6/7 St Giles' *Blooms and Bells* - including
blessing of the bells
- 13 Library Van - Bedlars Green 3 - 3.30 pm
Woodside Green 3.40 - 4.10 pm
- 13 Village Hall Social Night from 6 pm
- 15 Great Hallingbury Parish Council -
Village Hall 8 pm
- 24 Hallingbury Ladies - *Residential
Protection Officer/Bodyguard* -
Village Hall 7.30 pm

August 2024

- 3 Library Van - Bedlars Green 3 - 3.30 pm
Woodside Green 3.40 - 4.10 pm
- 10 Village Hall Social Night from 6 pm
- 24 Library Van - Bedlars Green 3 - 3.30 pm
Woodside Green 3.40 - 4.10 pm
- 28 Hallingbury Ladies - *From Vicar's Son to
BBC Producer* - Village Hall 7.30 pm

September 2024

- 7 Village Hall Social Night from 6 pm
- 9 Great Hallingbury Parish Council -
Village Hall 8 pm
- 11 History Society - *The Houses Auctioned
from the Hallingbury Estate 100 years
ago* - Village Hall 8 pm
- 14 Library Van - Bedlars Green 3 - 3.30 pm
Woodside Green 3.40 - 4.10 pm

**Come to the next Parish Council
meetings - ask your questions - give
your views. See how the Parish
Council works for you.**

Monday, 15th July 8 pm Village Hall
Monday, 9th September 8 pm Village Hall