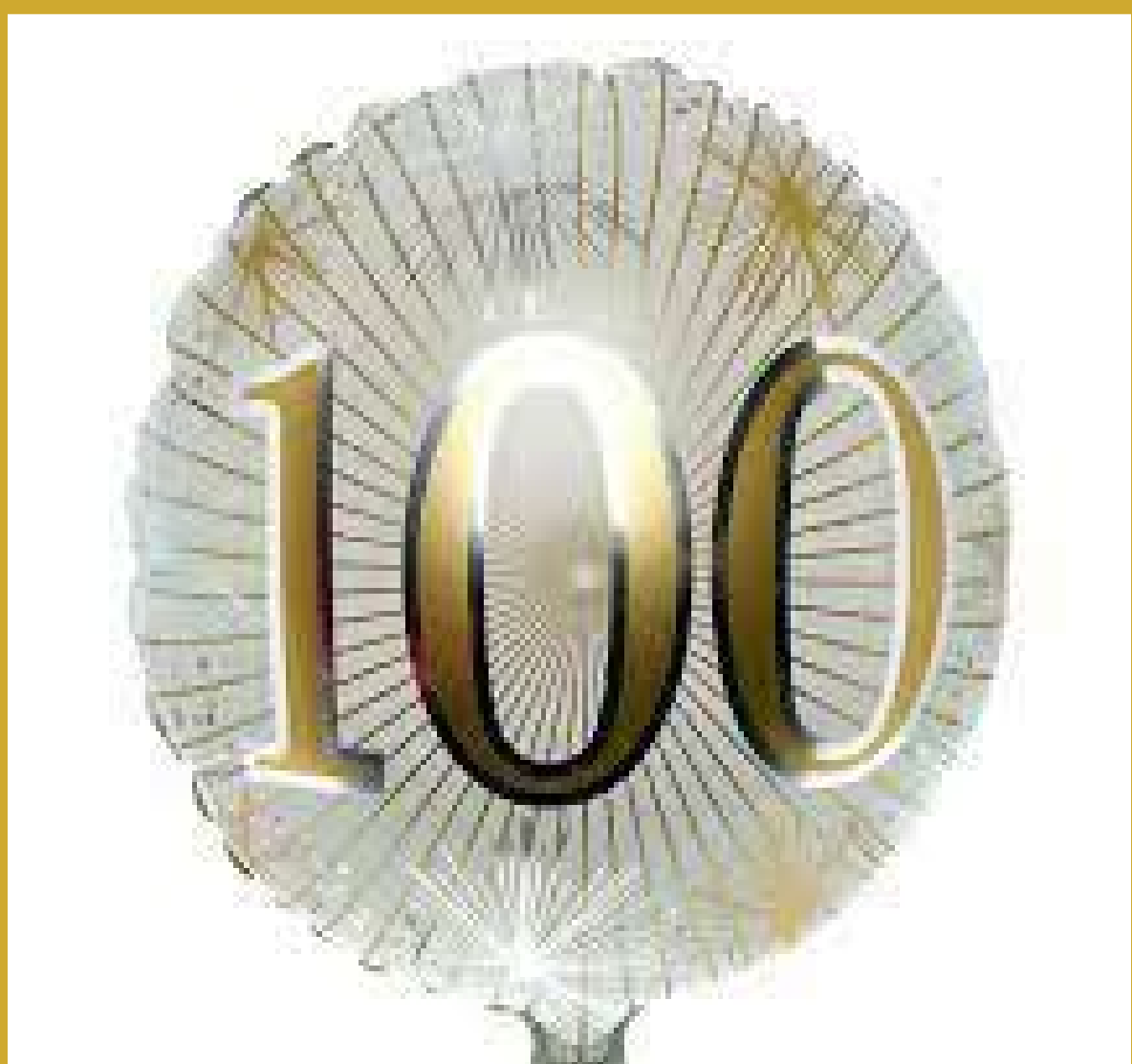


Great Hallingbury Highlights

Winter 2023

Vol. 100

An independent publication giving news on matters affecting Great Hallingbury



**It's the 100th Issue of
Great Hallingbury Highlights**

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Editorial

One Hundred Editions

As you will have seen from the front cover, this is the 100th issue of Great Hallingbury Highlights. When we started it in 1997, at Ron's instigation, we had no idea that I would still be producing the magazine 26 years later. It became important for us to help foster our village community and he was anxious that I continued. Yes, we have enjoyed doing it, especially when we got a publishing programme for the computer and started introducing colour. Yet another new set of computer skills for me!

Over the years, we were surprised and pleased when *Great Hallingbury Highlights* received recognition and success in Essex competitions for local magazines and we have been delighted when people have told us how much they enjoy reading it. There have been some very generous remarks in response to the announcement of the 100th edition. Thank you all.

Beyond Great Hallingbury

In this issue you will see reference to the draft Local Plan produced by Uttlesford and now in a consultation phase until 15th December. The proposals would impact our Village, possibly not advantageously, so it is important that we each consider the plan and submit our comments.

Great Hallingbury Highlights focuses on our Village but the wider world impacts us all too and current events are more than disturbing; they are dangerous. You can read articles discussing whether the current situation in the Middle East is comparable to Sarajevo in 1914 or Europe in 1938. Spine chilling thoughts, without considering the Ukrainian situation in parallel. We can only wait and see what happens next.

Here in Great Hallingbury

By the time you receive this, the lights should have been illuminated on the Christmas tree at the Village Hall and I hope you came to enjoy the social evening afterwards. After the Halloween flag on the flagpole, we had

the Poppy flag for Remembrance Sunday and the Union Jack again for the King's birthday and then, perhaps, there will be a Christmas flag? The Village Hall Chairman likes us all to keep current!

Christmas and especially New Year are, of course, a time for reflection and for conjuring hopeful thoughts for the future. Let us hope, perhaps forlornly, for less traffic through our Village next year and for Great Hallingbury and the wider world, may 2024 be peaceful.

Happy Christmas to you all and all the very best wishes for the New Year.

Editor

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Neighbourhood Watch



New signage has been fitted at the Esso petrol station at Start Hill and the Thremhall junction traffic lights.

It is frustrating as I would have liked more but signage cannot be put on telegraph poles or on sign posts. If anyone in the village, and most certainly on Start Hill (which is slightly under represented) would have a sign on their private property please do contact me and hopefully we can get some additional signage where it's needed. There are window stickers too which I would be glad to supply if residents would email me please.

The Facebook page is doing well over 50 Great Hallingbury residents now members and receiving weekly crime reports from South Uttlesford Neighbourhood Watch.



The QR code shown here will connect residents directly to the Great Hallingbury Neighbourhood Watch Group on Facebook.

Mark Coletta
cllcolettapc@gmail.com

**Love Your Village?
Join the Litter Pickers**



We all enjoy living here in Great Hallingbury

BUT

We didn't all get together on

Sunday, 22nd October, 2023

The number of people who came to help was disappointing. But those who came were amazing.

We couldn't manage the stretch from the Village Hall to Latchmore Bank as there just were not enough people.

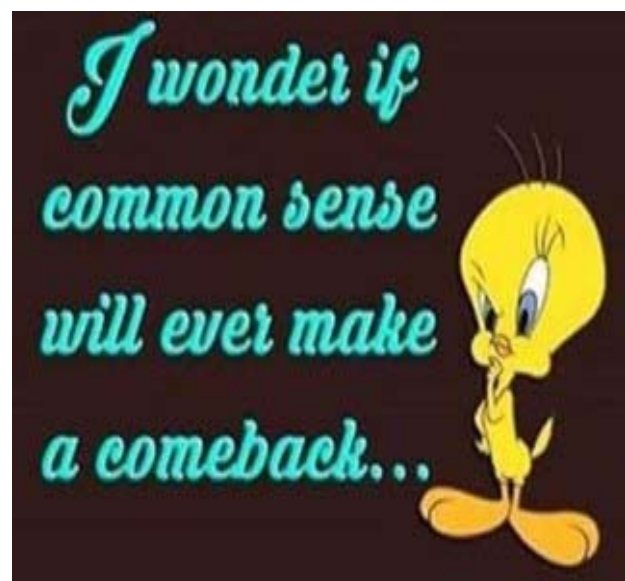
**Please do join us next time on
Sunday, 24th March, 2024**

Put the date in your diary but, never fear, we will remind you nearer the time

Bags, grabbers and high vis jackets are always provided as required or may be collected if you would like to collect litter around your house and leave the bag outside your property on the day

Working together makes light work of a chore. Everyone can help

Joanne & Mark Bloomfield 0775387020



Highlights from the Minutes of a Meeting of Great Hallingbury Parish Council

04 September, 2023

Present: Cllr A Townsend (Chairman), Cllrs M Bloomfield, M Coletta, N Jackson, A Noble and A Pinnock, Mrs U Sydee (Clerk) and two members of the public

Cllr A Smith has resigned.

Land Development at Woodside Green

It was reported that agricultural land had been sold but it was understood a property will be built. Currently a big excavation is taking place, heavy machines being used causing noise early in the morning and throughout the day, including weekends. This seems not to be in line with what was approved. In addition, a large mobile home has appeared on the land. One person declared they bought the land yet the agent said that the land is on offer. Enforcement visited the land in question and the works continued more intensely after the visit.

Chairman's Communications

- attended the S62A/2023/0017 hearing
- speedwatch session
- communication with a resident regarding field
- delivered Great Hallingbury Highlights
- checked defibrillator weekly.

Highways Matters

The potholes near Captains have been repaired and works carried out to remedy flooding. The first rain will reveal if the repair was successful.

Hallingburys' Speedwatch Group

A new battery for the speedwatch gun has been purchased.

Code Of Conduct

It was agreed to adopt the new Code of Conduct received from Uttlesford District Council.

Stansted Airport

The Council agreed with the letter composed by Stansted Airport Watch regarding London Stansted Airport's Draft Noise Action Plan. It was agreed to submit a response from the Parish Council based on that letter.

Uttlesford Local Plan

Phase 2 Viability Consultation was considered by the Council including further feedback, market observations, housing and other development values and cost information or examples - a refresh of the previous consultation exercise. The Council agreed with a response from Hatfield Heath's Parish Council which had been received and it was agreed to attach a copy to our response.

Planning

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

Application Decisions

UTT/22/0434/OP // Land North of Stansted Airport // Outline application for demolition of existing structures and redevelopment of 61.86Ha to provide 195,100sqm commercial / employment development predominantly within Class B8 with Classes E(g), B2 and supporting food retail/food/beverage/nursery uses within Classes E (a), E(b) and E(f) and associated access/highway works, substation, strategic landscaping and cycle route with matters of layout, scale, appearance and other landscaping reserved // Approved (No objections but improved access of the north side should be considered)

UTT/23/0709/HHF // The Old Pump House, 82 Woodside Green // Landscaping works to rear garden only. Proposed garden room. // Approved (No objections)

UTT/23/0985/FUL // 1 The Gatehouse, The Street // Erection of one detached dwelling with associated private garden, car parking and landscaping and removal of existing relocatable dwelling // Approved (Objections: all previous planning applications had been turned down. There will be excess traffic on a narrow lane without a footpath. Development would also destroy historic landscape)

UTT/23/1015/FUL // Land Southeast of

Great Hallingbury Manor, Tilekiln Green // S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/22/1528/FUL (amendment to UTT/20/0336/DFO - Details following outline approval UTT/16/3669/OP for the erection of 35 no. dwellings) // Withdrawn (No objections to the change of conditions but note that this area is within the Countryside Protection Zone. Any variation to the conditions of this application must not impact the open characteristics of the CPZ)

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 application S62A/2023/0017 // Land at Tilekiln Green // Development of the site to create an open logistics facility with associated new access and ancillary office and amenity facilities // Refused (Strong objections had been lodged by the Parish Council)

UTT/23/1143/HHF // Highfield, Church Road // Installation of 15 ground situated stand-alone solar panels to be placed at the rear of the garden facing directly south, tilted at an angle of 35 degrees // Awaiting decision (No objections)

UTT/23/1455/FUL // Meadowside Cottages, Woodside Green // Erection of two detached dwellings, with new vehicular access to public highway for the existing dwellings, and associated private garden, car parking, and landscaping // Awaiting decision (Objections: Overdevelopment and overbearing; not in keeping with aesthetic of the area and too close to high power cables. The contamination mentioned in the documentation must be thoroughly inspected)

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 set out in the Autumn edition including safety concerns related to the airport; the impact on neighbouring properties, including listed buildings: a need to continue current restricted hours of operation; concerns regarding how wastewater

treatment and collection will be processed as the current outfall into streams and rivers has signs of intense pollution; verges are overgrown and pathways poorly maintained; footfall will be limited to the motorcar as cycleways are insignificant for users from Bishops Stortford and there is no pedestrian access from there. With the approval of the North Industrial Development there is no need to increase current commercial building stock in this area)

UTT/23/1641/HHF // 97 Woodside Green // Single storey front extension, two storey side extension and part single storey, part two storey rear extension. Rear dormer extension to loft space to accommodate loft conversion. Insertion of new first floor window to front elevation above front door / Refused (Objections: Changes to the line of vision, overdevelopment: the house will become too big for the corner looking onto the National Trust site.)

Applications Dealt with at Meeting:

UTT/23/1711/HHF // 10 Start Hill, Stane Street // Proposed side and rear extension (No objections)

UTT/23/1755/LB // 89 Woodside Green // Replacement rainwater goods and installation of french drain (No objections)

UTT/23/0957/FUL // Start Hill Service Station // Creation of charging zone, erection of EV chargers, erection of canopy, two jet wash bays, sub-station enclosure and associated forecourt works (Objections: UDC Local Plan 2005 Gen 2. This application will encourage more traffic on a very busy junction of the B1256/Tilekiln Green/M11 Junction 8. There have been many accidents from vehicles exiting the Start Hill Fuel Filling Station. We are currently awaiting the S62A planning decision re Wrens Kitchens. In the event that this application is approved both these applications will cause chaos at such an accident black spot. At busy times we already see vehicles wanting to use the fuel station backing up towards the M11 junction.

Gen2/Gen 4. This local area has increased in residential homes. The submitted plans do not show these properties. Please visit this site for a true representation, even google

maps do not show these developments. UTT/19/1096/FUL was approved with conditions and restrictions on Jet wash usage from 11pm to 7am and this was well before any of these properties were built. The Jet Wash bays will be very close to residential properties, including Accuro, a charity-based organisation for vulnerable people. We also have concerns as to how the wastewater will be treated and what means of removing detergents, chemicals and dirt will be used before the waste water is fed into the sewer network. Is this development on mains drainage? The area at the rear of the filling station will need appropriate lighting to avoid glint and glare not only to low flying aircraft but as not to inconvenience neighbours. There will also be an increase in noise due to the Jet wash usage and vehicle, doors slamming, talking, engine noise etc. This is a residential area with sensitive neighbours whilst the applicant is a 24/7 operational fuel filling station. The B1256 is a *freeway* at this point and traffic regularly spills out onto the B1256 queuing to get into the petrol station. It is not a large site and planning approval was requested and wrongly given a while ago to increase the canopy height which now allows large HGVs to use this garage which helps create the queues and increased traffic congestion)

UTT/23/1396/HHF // 125 Church Road // Proposed first floor extension, alterations to the fenestration and internal alterations (No objections)

UTT/23/1878/FUL // Land North of The Gatehouse, The Street // Proposed detached house, cart lodge/store and related works including upgraded access // (Objections: It is greenfield site and cannot be connected to mains sewage therefore needing a septic tank. It will spoil the whole look of a very beautiful, peaceful lane)

UTT/23/1950/FUL // Old Cottage, Start Hill, Stane Street // Closure of existing access and formation of new access from the highway. Demolition of outbuildings and erection of nine dwellings // (Objections: Start Hill is becoming overdeveloped. Plot by plot houses are being demolished and the land being

slowly disappearing. Start Hill is within the CPZ and is dramatically overdeveloping. Our Countryside (S7) and the Character (S8) of this area is being challenged by the development of small- scale housing estates. We see many issues arising from this. Great Hallingbury and Start Hill are suffering constantly low mains water pressure. Affinity Water will not take responsibility and admit that the water supply in this area is compromised, yet we are seeing more and more developments being built. Our current residents are seeing low pressures at their taps, so low that their heating boilers won't ignite due to insufficient mains water pressure. With all these planning applications we never see any response from Affinity Water. They are not consulted but we anticipate a lame response. Thames Water are consulted but they are not responsible for our water supply but handle mains drainage although most properties in our parish have their own cesspit/septic tanks. All the utilities have not increased to cope with a growing population. Unfortunately, we had a recent local house fire at 02:30 am when the fire brigade reported low mains pressure at the hydrant as they struggled to calm the flames. We are not opposed to new developments per se, but we cannot continue to see our residents disadvantaged with the hindrance of poor utilities that we can only see being exasperated by more development. Also, the B1256 is a fast, unlit and ever busier 40mph main road and increasing building developments are going to increase traffic and accidents with the number of vehicles pulling onto the Dunmow Road. The ground of the access in this application slopes down dramatically and makes the access dangerous exiting the plot)

UTT/23/1470/OP // Stansted Distribution Centre, Start Hill // Re-consultation. Outline planning permission for the demolition of units 1b, 2a, 2b, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and structures at Pontins Yard, and redevelopment for predominantly Class B8 use with supporting Classes E(g) and B2 use, car parking, servicing yards, soft landscaping and other associated works. All matters reserved. // (Objections: We are extremely disappointed that meetings

have taken place with the developer. It is of utmost importance that this application is discussed from now on in the public domain. We feel that matters have not been fully addressed in the meeting summary which has led to a last-minute amendment to this planning application. Some serious matters need to be addressed, for example the 24/7 change of use. This application was scheduled for a committee decision but it would appear that the case officer has been consulting with the developer. Is this standard practice?)

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 S62A/2023/0022 // Land at London Stansted Airport, Bassingbourn Road // Partial demolition of the existing Track Transit System and full demolition of two sky link walkways and the bus-gate building. Construction of a 3-bay extension to the existing passenger building, baggage handling building, plant enclosure and three sky link walkways and associated hardstanding // No objections.

Additional Comments: We note no mention was made about working dogs. We are concerned that no provision has been made to incorporate them as we are not aware that they have been trained to go on moving walkways)

UTT/23/2050/HHF // Cherry Orchard, Church Road // Section 73A Retrospective application for a rear single storey extension (No objections)

HACS Shop // Cllr A Pinnock stated that a barn has been built at Hacs Shop on which Great Hallingbury Parish Council was not consulted. The land is technically in Little Hallingbury but bordering, and perhaps some of it in, Great Hallingbury. The Great Hallingbury Council would not object but would still want to be consulted.

Naming of a New Street

The Council accepted the proposed name of Provenance Close for the development to the East of Old Elm, Tilekiln Green

Bedlars Green Pond

Cllr Pinnock will meet with residents regarding the clearing of the pond at Bedlars Green.

Village Hall Field

The felled tree on the field needs to be

removed because of a hornet infestation. The Council agreed for the tree trunk to be removed.

Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Coletta noted there are over 50 members on the Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page.

Neighbourhood Plan

This needs volunteers with expertise and will be considered further at the next meeting.



Presents

Sleeping Beauty

Little Hallingbury Village Hall
25th - 27th January 2024 at 7.30pm
Matinee 27th January at 2pm

Box Office:

thelittleboxoffice.com/hallingburypanto



SCAN FOR BOX OFFICE!

Bar & refreshments available

Naturalist's Review

100 Not Out

Highlights is 100 not out. Huge congratulations, Christine, for providing our village with such a fabulous magazine, full of interesting, informative articles and keeping everyone up to date with what is happening in and around Great Hallingbury!

Rutting Deer

Watch out for Deer crossing the roads this time of year. Because of the rut, they are moving about a lot, some even making the journey from Epping Forest to Hatfield Forest. Careful driving required!!



Fungi

Keep an eye out, too, for fungi. There will be some interesting fruiting bodies popping up as the temperature drops and the ground becomes wetter. Giant Puffballs have been appearing in the last month. They are good



Magpie Cap

to eat if you can get to them before the deer, slugs and snails. The Magpie Cap will soon be seen; absolutely stunning to look at if you



Amethyst Deceiver

can find one. Amethyst Deceivers are small pretty purple fungi growing at the base of trees including oaks, hazel, birches and even pines. Earthballs have appeared lately; they smell fabulous but aren't edible for humans! Shaggy Inkcap and Parasol mushrooms can be found in large numbers at the moment and both are edible, but I don't really like the Inkcap. Never pick or eat fungi unless you are absolutely certain of what it is. For all the good ones, there are other varieties that look the same but which are either inedible or will poison you! Please do not try!!

Did you know that there is a wood wide web, a network of underground mycelium (the underground parts of the fungi). Nutrients and information pass along these fibres helping trees and fungi alike. This is a newish discovery and more information will

be gathered by scientists over the next few years. It will be interesting to find out more about how this benefits both trees and fungi within an ecosystem.

Butterflies and Moths

There has been a profusion of butterflies this year. I wasn't sure the season was going to be good but there were lots of Silverwashed Fritillary, Speckled Wood, Red Admiral, Common and Holly Blue. I didn't see any Purple Emperors and not many Purple Hairstreak.



Silverwashed Fritillary

Common Blue
Holly Blue
Red Admiral



Marbled White

The success story this year was the profusion of Marbled

White butterflies which appeared in huge numbers in the forest. Since we have put wildlife margins around a lot of fields at Harps, the Marbled White really seem to like them, feeding on knapweed and other members of the thistle family.



Common Knapweed

Wildflowers

We had Vipers Bugloss appear in the field margins this year and I have never seen it around here before. The only place I had previously seen it was on the walkway to the beach at Wells-Next-the-Sea in Norfolk. It has seeded and will hopefully spread.



I've collected a few seeds from the Vipers Bugloss for my wildflower meadow at home. I chucked a load of Yellow Hay



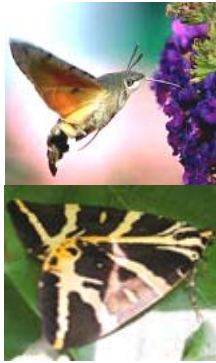
Yellow Hay Rattle

Rattle seeds in there last October and well over a hundred of them flowered this year. Yellow Hay Rattle is parasitic on the roots of grass in a meadow, hopefully weakening the grasses and

making less competition for the wildflowers. I haven't cut my meadow yet. It's been a bit wet when I have had time so I'm late and it will be cut in November rather than October as I usually do it. Hopefully we will see no bad effects from this. I didn't count the numbers of varieties of flowers and grasses this year but there were 67 the year before.

Moths

As well as butterflies, we had a lot of good moths this year but I didn't see many Hawk moths, apart from the beautiful Humming Bird Hawk moths which appear in the village in quite large numbers in May, June and into July. My favourites this year were the Jersey Garden Tiger and a large hairy grey moth with furry legs that looked like something out of this world! I haven't identified it yet!



*Hummingbird Hawk
Jersey Garden Tiger*

If you have seen hedges covered with what appears to be a very large spider's web, it could be made by processionary moths or, more likely, something like a Hawthorn moth (think Box moth which devastates box hedges). The caterpillars are within these webs in large numbers and they strip all the greenery and kill whole sections of hedge, not only Hawthorn but also Maple, Spindle Tree and Privet. The worrying thing is that we are seeing more of it every year. I don't know what the answer is!



Birds

The birds this year have been interesting. Red Kites are definitely on the increase and will fight with Buzzards for territory. They really don't get on. The Kites seem to dominate the Buzzards. The yard at Harps is ruled by a Kestrel which will see off Kites and Buzzards, usually by flying above them and dropping onto them in mid air! The Kestrel is very vocal, especially when protecting its nest. The Kites and Buzzards keep returning to the yard for food provided. If my dog kills

mice or rats, I throw the carcasses onto the fan shed roof. The Kites are there within minutes! This spring, the dog caught a rabbit and carried it to where my truck is parked to eat it. The Kites worked as a pair; one flew in and dropped down to about six feet, hovering above the dog. Bearing in mind that the wingspan of a Kite is about four to six feet, the dog took the intimidation for about ten seconds before retreating under the truck. The other Kite swooped in and picked up the rabbit!



*Red Kite
Buzzard*

A Barn Owl has nested at Harps for the last couple of years. There were two chicks last year but the two days of consecutive high temperatures above 40°C killed them. This year there were three Owlets which all fledged and two are about at the farm now. Hopefully they will nest next year.



House Martins turn up at Harps every year and build their nests on the house. We put water in the yard surrounded by mud so that the Martins can use this to repair or build their nests. There were between 80 and 85 nests this year and some produced three broods. A good year for them!

Hares

It has been another good year for Hares at Harps, some producing four lots of Leverets, the last ones being born at the end of September, early October. All Leverets are under threat in the first few weeks of life. Whilst combining beans at the end of August, I slowed down for two Leverets that were moving amongst the beans. They ran out at the end of the field as I moved forward, only to watch in surprise as two Kites simultaneously swooped in, picking up the Leverets as they emerged from the cover of the beans. Nature can be brutal!



Once again, congratulations on 100 not out. Let's hope there are many more to come!

David Barlow

Great Hallingbury Neighbours Association

Uttlesford Local Plan

The new proposed local plan would likely impact our Village and certainly the surrounding area. It is now out for consultation and we can all respond and give our views before 15th December.

A local plan is a document that sets out how development, including housing, business, industry and infrastructure can best benefit the area for which the local council is responsible. UDC has been working for some time on drafting such a plan that will set the blueprint for new housing, employment and infrastructure for the district over the next two decades. That draft plan has now been approved by the Full Council for public consultation. This will be a six week consultation from 4th November until 15th December. You will all shortly receive a leaflet from UDC explaining the Proposed Local Plan further and detailing how you can have your say.



If the Local Plan is adopted it will be used to help decide on, amongst other things, planning applications. Remembering the battle with FKY Ltd (Wren Kitchens) that raged on for over two years, making sure you have your say may help safeguard our rural areas in the coming years.

In particular, in this area the plan threatens the Countryside Protection Zone (which acts as a buffer between villages and commerce) and you may recall that the CPZ played an important part in the refusal of the application for Wren's logistics centre.

This is our opportunity to make sure that our wishes and needs are properly considered. Please make sure that you respond to the consultation.

Val Waring
Secretary



Great Hallingbury Village Hall Ton Club

Recent Results

September

1st	no 80	Rosemarie Stevens
2nd	no 2	Eleanor Cox
3rd	no 35	Sue Jagers

October

1st	no 96	Lucy Walker
2nd	no 53	Philip Hays
3rd	no 70	Pam Lovett

November

1st	no 31	Sally Stuebler
2nd	no 9	Carole Morris
3rd	no 81	Glenn Salmon

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Sale of the Century in Great Hallingbury

25th October 1923

One hundred years ago, on 25th October 1923, two hundred and fifty people attended an auction held at The Chequers Hotel, Bishop's Stortford. There were forty-nine lots in the Auction, but the principal lots were Lot One, which involved the sale of *The Important County Seat known as HALLINGBURY PLACE* and Lot Two, the sale of *the beautiful and compact stretch of forest land known as HATFIELD FOREST*.

The Hallingbury Place Estate had been in the possession of the Houblon family since 1727. Over the years the house had grown to considerable proportions. It stood in Great Hallingbury in the area known as Ladywell. East Lodge, at the junction of Bedlars Green and Church Road, and West Lodge, in Howe Green, mark the entrances to the house. In its Edwardian heyday, it was

Hallingbury Place as shown in the Sale Catalogue



The Main Staircase

known to contain seven reception rooms, including a dining room 41 feet long, a library of 32 feet and a drawing room of 60 feet. In addition there were twelve rooms of domestic offices, four staircases and eleven principal bedrooms, most with marble fireplaces and dressing rooms. On the second floor there were twenty bachelor and staff rooms.

The last member of the Houblon Family to live in Hallingbury Place was George Bramston Archer-Houblon, nephew of John Archer-Houblon, the Victorian squire, who rebuilt St. Giles' Church in the 1870s. Hallingbury Place was sometimes leased out by the Houblon family, during which times they lived in London or Welford Park in Berkshire. One of the longest periods that the house was rented out was from 1909 to 1922 when it was occupied by Mr and Mrs Lockett-Agnew. Mr Lockett-Agnew was a director of *Thomas Agnew*, the art dealers and connoisseurs in London. The Lockett-Agnews carried out extensive work on the house and gardens. Mr Lockett-Agnew died in 1918 and his widow in 1922.

From 1909 George Bramston Archer-Houblon lived in Howe Green House with his wife, Lady Alice. George died in 1913 and his eldest son, Henry Lindsay Archer-Houblon, inherited the estate. At the time of his father's death, Henry was serving as a Captain in the Buffs stationed in Rhodesia. He returned home at the outbreak of the First World War, was wounded at Hill 60, near Ypres on the Western Front, and invalided out of the army. Henry Lindsay Archer-Houblon owned three homes: Hallingbury Place, Culverthorpe Hall in Lincolnshire and Welford Park in Berkshire. Henry, a bachelor, opted to live in Welford Park, the smallest of the three houses. With the death of the Lockett-Agnews and in the absence of a further tenant, the decision was sadly made to put the Hallingbury Estate up for auction.



*Steps to the Lawn
In 1914, the gardens were featured in Country Life*

Some local farms had already been auctioned in 1921: Great Beldams had been sold to Mr Lowe; Great Jenkins to Mr Darby; Yew Tree and Lewis to Mr Adams; Forest Farm to Mr Robarts and Monkbury Farm to Mr Rose.

At the auction in October 1923, Lots One and Two were first offered for sale together. A timber merchant, Thomas Place from Northallerton, Yorkshire, bought both lots for £35,000. The chief reason for this purchase seems to have been the profit which Thomas Place hoped to make from the best timber in Hatfield Forest. Contractors were quickly employed to start felling the standard oak trees in the forest. Fortunately, this work was halted when Mr Edward North Buxton, a pioneering conservationist of Buckhurst Hill, long aware of the forest's historical interest and natural beauty, together with his two sons, Gerald and Anthony, persuaded Mr Place to sell the forest to him, writing out a cheque on his death bed as part payment for the forest. This action also saved the felling of a number of trees conspicuous for their beauty. Following the death of Edward Buxton in January 1924, his sons completed the transaction and bequeathed the forest to the National Trust, fulfilling their father's wishes.

Mr Place, having sold the forest, was unable to sell or even lease Hallingbury Place and on 24th April, 1924, the fabric of the building and the contents of the house were put up for sale, prior to demolition, which was to take place within twelve months. Among the items sold were two thousand feet of oak panelling, two thousand and four hundred feet of oak flooring, three staircases and one hundred and twelve mahogany, oak and deal doors.

On 29th December, 1923, an article in the Herts and Essex Observer commented that: *Owing to the very great changes that have recently taken place in this parish through the sale of the Hallingbury Place Estate, it is needless to say that a gloom has been cast over the whole parish and district. The employees will feel the change considerably. Several have been in constant work there for the whole of their lives and, in some cases, for fifty years.*

Visit To Welford Park

Welford Park, which became the home of Henry Lindsay Archer-Houblon after the sale of the Hallingbury Estate, is still home to descendants of the Houblon Family.

In September members of the Great Hallingbury History Society were fortunate to visit Welford Park to be shown round the house by James Puxley, the present owner.

James' mother, Aline, was the niece of Henry Lindsay Archer Houblon and she inherited Welford Park in 1954 on his death. On a previous visit we had the privilege to meet and talk to Aline. She died in 2012, just short of her 90th birthday.



*China used at
Jacob Houblon's Baptism*

James, Aline's son, showed us various items which had once been part of Hallingbury Place including various fireplaces, a slide rule owned by Sir Isaac Newton, china plates used at the baptism of Jacob Houblon in 1736 and the catalogue of John Archer Houblon's library.

James Puxley told us of the festivities at Hallingbury Place which followed Jacob's baptism. The London Daily Gazetteer for 14th September, 1736, gives the following account: *Most of the gentlemen within fifteen to twenty miles were present and most of the local people within four to five miles were made so welcome that they lay in heaps round the house dead drunk.*

Jacob Houblon married Susanna Archer of Coopersale House in 1770. The Archer Family also owned Welford Park and the marriage took place on 18th September, 1770, in St Gregory's Church, Welford, which is situated within the grounds of Welford Park. This was not a love match but a marriage arranged by their parents (Jacob was 34 and his bride-to-be only 17). The Houblon family estates were greatly increased through this marriage as Susanna was the sole heiress of the Archer Family of Coopersale which, by a series of marriages, had also

acquired the property of the Eyre family of Derbyshire and the Newton Family of Derbyshire and Lincolnshire. A piece of the wedding dress worn by the bride, Susanna, has been preserved and is hanging within a frame situated in the drawing room of Welford Park. St Gregory's Church is noteworthy for having a round tower,

After being shown around the house by James, we were served afternoon tea in the dining room at Welford Park by James' wife, Deborah Puxley. Our visit to Welford Park took place almost one hundred years to the day after the Great House of Hallingbury was sold in 1923.

Philip Hays

Quiz 100



1. **What is 100th of a pound?**
2. **When did Clarence Birdseye invent frozen food?**
3. **How many legs does a centipede have?**
4. **What famous archaeological event happened in 1923?**
5. **Name the leading UK stock market index?**
6. **Who was the singer of *One Hundred Miles Away from Home*?**
7. **How long did the 100 years' war last?**
8. **When was Julius Caesar born?**
9. **What is the name of the house at 100 Park Lane, London?**
10. **Richard Attenborough and Charlton Heston were both born in which year?**
11. **Who wrote of the 100 acre wood?**
12. **What is the 100th digit from 1 to 100?**
13. **What is a 100th anniversary called?**
14. **Who became Prime Minister in 1923?**

Answers on page 35

Essex County Council

Cllr Susan Barker



Dear Residents

The last couple of months have seen many gangs out repairing our roads. A number of long standing flood issues have been attended to, including Church Road.

Road closures are not always for Highways. BT/Broadband/Water companies/Electricity companies can all require the road to be closed. Where the road is below a certain width, two way working is not permitted for safety reasons. I know this is very frustrating for residents who then need to go round *the long way*.

The Local Plan is now out for consultation and it is important that Uttlesford hears from as many people as possible. The plan allocates over 1600 homes in Takeley, as well as a lot of employment land, and tears up the Countryside Protection Zone. The consultation lasts six weeks from November 6th.

At Essex we are looking forward to the November statement from Central Government that will devolve more power, giving us greater influence on issues such as skills and bus franchising.

I have been out and about with your M P visiting businesses in the area. In Great Hallingbury we met with the bus company, Vectare, who told us of their plans to improve the quality of their fleet and their reliability.

Finally, writing this as the clocks go back, I wish you all a peaceful Christmas.

Susan Barker

Cllr.susan.barker@essex.go.uk

01245 231250



Great Hallingbury Village Hall Update



Before I give you updates on Great Hallingbury Village Hall, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Christine Coultrup, the editor of this publication, *Great Hallingbury Highlights*. I say this as a friend, a resident and as Chair Person for Great Hallingbury Village Hall Committee too. This edition is the 100th and it is a great testament that it thrives and exists today. This is down to all the hard work and dedication given by Christine and her late husband, Ron, who started this magazine back in 1997; the year I moved into the village to live. It has been, and still is, the only method of communication/information for many in the community. I must also mention and pay special thanks to all the many people who have contributed to the various interesting articles and information within its pages over the years. Last, but certainly by no means least, we mustn't forget

all the people past and present who have selflessly given up their time to deliver *Great Hallingbury Highlights* to our doors. Thank you for keeping us connected.

A Hall for the Community

I can say with confidence and great pleasure that we are in a good position all round. It is important that residents of Great Hallingbury know this. Over the years we have seen the disappearance of our school, our post office/shop and our pub. This is our last village facility and we will always need your support. This is not my Village Hall or the committee's but yours, so if you have any ideas for fundraising, want to get involved in existing projects, events, get information on what we are doing, then please feel free to contact me.

Our regular clubs continue to use the hall, having weathered the storm of recent years. Private hiring is increasing and this is great from a financial aspect.

Completed Projects

The committee and I are fully aware of our responsibilities and the transparency needed to run a registered charity, which is Great Hallingbury Village Hall's status. So, with the money raised and the grants sought, we have in recent years replaced the flooring and totally upgraded the heating system as reported in previous editions of *Great Hallingbury Highlights*. This year we have replaced the existing carpark gates and improved the lighting in the carpark with financial assistance from Great Hallingbury Parish Council. As always, we are grateful for their donations, support and attention to what we achieve for our Village Hall. A special mention for Mr. Alan Pinnock, a Great Hallingbury Parish Councillor, who continues to give his time to us for projects and to all those involved in assisting him - you know who you are!

Winter Events

Our Christmas Tree will again be erected at the front of the hall. The lights on the tree will be turned on at 7pm on Saturday, 18th November, followed by refreshments provided by Great Hallingbury Parish Council.



Great Hallingbury Village Hall Committee

CHRISTMAS FLOWER ARRANGING
Demonstration with Ann & Lorraine



with afternoon tea and a raffle in Great Hallingbury Village Hall



**Friday, 1st
December, 2023**

1.30 for 2 pm



Tickets £10

Contact Valerie Walker
01279 964140

We are then inviting people to bring their own drinks and nibbles and stay on for a social evening. All are welcome and there is no charge.

On Friday, 1st December, we have our annual *Christmas Flower Arranging Demonstration* with afternoon tea and a raffle. Further information on this event is on the previous page.

Saturday, 2nd December, is our last fundraising event of the year; our *Christmas Quiz Night*. All tables for this event have been booked and there is a waiting list in place. We expect there will be around eighty-five people which is fantastic.

2024 Activities

High on the agenda at the committee's January meeting will be exploring the possibility of a *Great Hallingbury Summer Fun Day* with various activities, stalls, food, drink, music etc. We were sad at the loss of the 2023 *Great and Little Hallingbury Flower Show*, an event that is part of village history and is something that has united the Hallingburys. It will be a huge loss to the calendar.

We will also be looking at opening the hall for social gatherings on a regular basis during the summer months. This would enable family and/or friends to meet and enjoy the safe environment of a local open space and hall in hopefully the good weather!

A date will be set for one of our fundraising quiz nights in March. I must stress that booking a table is essential as these events have become extremely popular and we have a capacity limitation for the hall. I appreciate that, in the past, groups have just turned up but this will cause issues for us on the night. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

Ton Club

Our fundraising monthly prize draw, the *Ton Club* continues to grow and subscriptions are due within the next month for the start of the new year in January 2024.

The *Ton Club* is now into its fifth year and runs from January to December at a cost of £1 per month, thus £12 for the year. As it stands,

we have 91 numbers sold. It raises much needed funds for the upkeep of our Village Hall and its grounds. We are sincerely grateful for your past and continued support for this fundraiser. You will find the recent winners listed on page 11.

On behalf of the committee, we wish you, your families and friends a Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous and healthy new year. Stay safe and continue to look after each other in whatever form that may be.

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

Great Hallingbury Village Hall

Ton Club

**New Subscription Year
starts 1st January**

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY

**A monthly draw with cash prizes
for just £12 per year**

**Half of each month's membership fees will
be paid out as first, second and third prizes
The draw will take place on or near the first
day of the month and prizewinners will be
notified by the 10th of the month.**

**To renew your membership - or to join
the Ton Club - please contact**

**Lee Cox, 5 The Grove, Great Hallingbury,
CM22 7TT
07500 805281 or cox_L3@sky.com**

**Payment for the year may be made direct to our
bank 40-12-03 account no. 01230999
or cheque made out to Great Hallingbury Village
Hall sent to Lee Cox**

**Support the Village Hall
to help us maintain it in good condition**






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Kemi Badenoch *MP for Saffron Walden*



Following a busy recess out and about in the constituency alongside travelling to India for trade talks as part of my role as Secretary of State for Business and Trade, I am now back in Parliament and it is all hands-on deck as we work to resolve the challenges coming up this autumn.

In Westminster, Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in education settings has been top of the agenda. Having spoken to all our local schools that have cases of RAAC, thankfully they were all able to open for the start of term. Most of them have mitigations in place and I am supporting the few schools that have had to vacate certain buildings until surveys are completed.

Whilst the media have gone into a frenzy on this issue, for context this affects fewer than 1% of schools and since 2018 the Government has been proactively working with local authorities and trusts to establish which schools have RAAC and support them reinforcing the affected buildings.

As the Government presses on with its priorities to halve inflation, grow the economy, reduce debt, cut our waiting lists and tackle small boats. On a local level I am also working on delivering my plan for our communities. This

has included welcoming the 500 additional police officers for Essex and joining our Uttlesford District Commander recently for a walkabout in Great Dunmow. I launched my Rural Crime Survey a few weeks back to which I would welcome your response.

Over Summer I visited Broomfield Hospital and Little Waltham surgery to discuss waiting lists and the 8 am GP phone rush. The Government has allocated additional funding for both areas as well as introducing new technologies to tackle them.

Cllr Susan Barker and I also dropped into Dunmow library to catch up with the Uttlesford Citizens Advice Team to hear more about how our most vulnerable are managing with cost-of-living pressures. I will be feeding back to my ministerial colleagues to ensure we continue to have the support in place for them.

With so much going on, I will be sharing more about what I got up to in the constituency over recess and in the next few weeks in my e-newsletter which you can sign up to on my website: www.kemibadenoch.org.uk

I have also published my latest bi-annual report so residents can get an update on my 6-point plan and local issues that I am working on. You can view it by visiting: www.kemibadenoch.org.uk/kemi-badenoch-mp-reporting-back-2023

Kemi Badenoch MP

Sister Mary Ann's Petrol



Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting homebound patients when she ran out of petrol.

As luck would have it, a Texaco petrol station was just a short way away. She walked to the station to borrow a petrol can and buy some petrol.

The attendant told her that the only petrol can he owned had been loaned out but she could wait until it was returned. Since Sister Mary Ann was on the way to see a

patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car.

She looked for something in her car that she could fill with petrol and spotted the bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, Sister Mary Ann carried the bedpan to the station, filled it with unleaded petrol, and carried the full bedpan back to her car.

As she was pouring the petrol into her tank, two Church of England Bishops watched from across the street. One of them turned to the other and said, *If it starts, I'm turning Catholic!*

100 Issues of Great Hallingbury Highlights

In 1996 my husband, Ron Coultrup, had been a Parish Councillor for five or six years. He felt that many residents did not know of the work performed by the Parish Council, largely as communication was restricted to information posted on several notice boards around the village. But nearly everyone had a car and did not stop to read notice boards! He proposed preparing a Great Hallingbury Newsletter which would be distributed to every house in the village, free of charge, and the Parish Council concurred.

Early Editions

The early issues were in small A5 format which quickly grew from four to eight and sometimes even twelve pages. Then one Saturday in 2002, we attended a short course run by the Rural Community Council of Essex on how to produce a village magazine. We learned a lot that day and the Great Hallingbury Newsletter morphed into Great Hallingbury Highlights in October 2002.

Parish Councillors

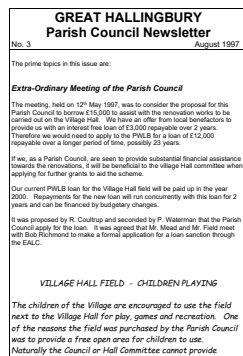


76 years service to Great Hallingbury
Retiring Parish Councillors at May 2015 election:
Alex Russell (12 years), Martin Maggie (28 years),
Ron Coultrup (24 years) and Chris Goodlife (12 years)

As the original purpose of the publication was to inform villagers about the work of the Parish Council, we continued to report on their activities and in 2015, when four councillors retired, we celebrated their total of 76 years of service to the village and, in the next issue, introduced the new four councillors who had been elected in their place.

Korean Air Crash

Following the terrible crash of the Korean Cargo Jumbo Jet on the edge of the village, the first newsletter in 2000 dwelt on the response of residents and the Parish Council. We noted *the initiative, dedication and even courage of the villagers, including Parish Councillors, immediately after the Boeing 747 plunged into Great Hallingbury Parish.*



GREAT HALLINGBURY Parish Council Newsletter
No. 3 August 1997
The prime topics in this issue are:
Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
The meeting, held on 12th May 1997, was to consider the proposal for this Parish Council to borrow £15,000 to assist with the renovation works to be carried out on the Village Hall. We have an offer from local benefactors to provide us with an interest free loan of £2,000 repayable over 2 years. Therefore we would need to apply to the PWLB for a loan of £12,000 repayable over a longer period of time, possibly 20 years.
It was, as a Parish Council, our aim to provide substantial financial assistance towards the renovations. It will be beneficial to the Village Hall committee when applying for further grants to aid the scheme.
Our current PWLB loan for the Village Hall field will be paid up in the year 2000. Repayments for the new loan will run concurrently with this loan for 2 years and can be financed by budgetary changes.
It was proposed by R. Coultrup and seconded by P. Waterman that the Parish Council apply for the loan. It was agreed that Mr. Maud and Mr. Field meet with Bob Richmond to make a formal application for a loan section through the EALC.
VILLAGE HALL FIELD - CHILDREN PLAYING
The children of the Village are encouraged to use the field next to the Village Hall for play, games and recreation. One of the reasons the field was purchased by the Parish Council was to provide a free open area for children to use. Naturally the Council or Hall Committee cannot provide

The fireball had hardly subsided when many rushed to the crash site itself to render aid if they could, resulting in scorched clothes and footwear actually in flame. Then, before the emergency services and the police arrived, Councillors and Villagers took charge of traffic control. Subsequently, upon the arrival of the emergency services, local people continued (where allowed) to render vital assistance and also provided the more mundane but vital help of easing traffic by opening their drives as temporary car parks, giving access to essential bathroom facilities and the indispensable cups of tea.

The Parish Council worked diligently to ensure residents were fully informed of developments afterwards. Councillors also negotiated the provision by Stansted Airport of a hard standing car park at the Village Hall as a future emergency centre if ever needed.

Parish Council

We have tracked the Parish Council's work on trying to reduce speeding through the village and successfully getting speed limits agreed - the SpeedWatch group is led by a Parish Councillor; remedying repeated flooding on Church Road; leading the biannual litter picks through the Village; monitoring the development of UDC's local plans and proactively seeking to protect Great Hallingbury from undesirable developments; watching Stansted Airport matters and registering objections as appropriate; fighting for information on compensation due from the airport; liaising with Uttlesford District Councillors and our Essex County Councillor to seek benefits for the Village; reviewing and responding as appropriate to a myriad of governmental documents - both national and local; reviewing planning applications which used to be about 25 per annum but last year reached nearly double that number; and constantly chasing Highways to repair potholes.

In addition to these continuing concerns, over the life of Great Hallingbury Highlights we have recorded other Parish Council activities:

- The purchase of the Village Hall field for the village

100 Issues of Great Hallingbury Highlights

- Purchasing the telephone box and its development as a local library
- Fighting for and obtaining the installation of mains drainage
- Restitution of the Bedlars Green post box
- Purchasing and monitoring the defibrillator mounted on the wall of the Village Hall
- Planting of Elm trees



- Supported the History Society's project to design and install a Village Sign

Other Authorities

In recent years, we have included a District Diary from our Uttlesford councillors and news from our Essex County Councillor. Kemi Badenoch became our MP in 2017 since when she has also sent contributions on matters affecting our village.

Village Societies

But we also included reports on the activities of various groups and societies in the Village.

Last year we reported on the creation of the *Great Hallingbury Neighbours Association* who led and coordinated the successful campaign against the proposed development of a logistics depot at Start Hill. They continue to be alert to any new such developments whilst seeking also to augment social contact between residents.

You will have seen regular reports from the Great Hallingbury WI which continues to be very active and attracts a good number of members.

The Carpet Bowls Club used to send us reports on their matches until it disbanded and we follow the activities of the Little Hallingbury Cricket Club where a number of our youngsters are leading lights.

You will have read reports from the History Society on their speakers and trips out. Our previous MP, Lord Haselhurst, escorted a tour around the Houses of Parliament in 2010 and in 2018 there was a private visit to the Victoria

and Albert Museum to view and handle the original medieval helm that used to be in St Giles' church. The helmet was stolen and, when recovered, a copy was made for the church and the original loaned to the V&A.



St Giles' Church is important to the Village and we have always tried to include their news and promote their events. The Tudor Weekend last year was a tremendous success - and a large undertaking - and we happily promoted the occasion and reported on it.

The Great and Little Hallingbury Flower Show has been going for over 80 years and has always been featured in the Summer issue with photographs and results. It is sad that it didn't take place this year.

Village Hall



Great Hallingbury Village Hall is now our one remaining asset in the Village - the post office and shop closed in the early 90's and

the pub around ten years ago - and we support them by advertising their events and reporting on their achievements. The addition of the Peachey Room and new toilets around 2000, the new kitchen and storage area in 2013, the heating system inaugurated by our MP Kemi Badenoch in 2021 and the new floor last year have all been featured in the magazine. We promote their quiz nights and other events as well as the Ton Club, a monthly draw.

People

Over the years there have been people who have made a big contribution to our Village and we have been happy to write about them.

- Andy Streeter, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, District Councillor for many years and High Sheriff of Essex in 2004
- Evelyn Notley and Doreen Milton on each of their 90th birthdays and Lily Este when she was 100.



continued overleaf

100 Issues of Great Hallingbury Highlights

- The recipients of Uttlesford Community Achievement Awards - Jan Baldwin, Joan and Malcolm Field, Martin and Val Mugele, Ron and Christine Coultrup, Heather and Philip Hays
- Bill Fitch, bell captain at St Giles'; Nancy Woodley, postmistress and parish councillor; Nora Field, Nessie Streeter, Eileen Peachey
- Ernie Field, who was born in Bush End and lived in Great Hallingbury from 1946; Parish Councillor for 45 years; the founder, Chairman and latterly President of the History Society; historian and chronicler of the village; celebrated his Diamond Wedding with Nora with a carriage drive round the village
- Norman Mead, Chairman of the Parish Council for many years; a founder member of NWEPPA, the forerunner of Stop Stansted; recipient of an MBE for his services to the community
- Ron Coultrup, Parish Councillor for 24 years, Village Hall Treasurer and creator of this magazine.



And so much more

Community travel services; Howe Green House School; Accuro, the charity facility at Start Hill; Little Hallingbury School; the eventual arrival in Great Hallingbury of superfast broadband; the annual pantomime; neighbourhood watch; advice from Essex Police; Uttlesford Citizens Advice; covid And articles on the natural world that David Barlow has contributed; Ernie Field's biographical histories; Philip Hays' histories relating to Great Hallingbury

Awards

We have been glad to receive a number of awards over the years including a section Winner of the 2005 Essex Village Magazine competition.

Magazine Today

2010 saw the start of advertising in the magazine and we have benefitted from a grant from the Parish Council since 2016. From a four page A5 newsletter to today's 40 page full colour quarterly magazine, *Great Hallingbury Highlights* continues to be delivered without charge to every house in the Village. And the residents who deliver the magazine are so important as, without them, producing a magazine would be pointless. My grateful thanks to them and to all our contributors.

Christine Coultrup



Easy Eating

Ultimate Chocolate Cake **TO CELEBRATE 100 ISSUES OF GREAT HALLINGBURY HIGHLIGHTS**

Ingredients

200 g dark chocolate, chopped
200 g butter
1 tbsp instant coffee
85 g plain flour
85 g self raising flour
1/4 tsp bicarbonate of soda
200 g light muscovado sugar
200 g golden castor sugar
25 g cocoa powder
3 medium eggs
75 ml buttermilk
50 g grated chocolate or chocolate curls

The Ganache

200 g dark chocolate, chopped
300 ml double cream
2 tbsp golden castor sugar

Method

1. Heat the oven to 160C/fan140C/gas 3 and line a 20 cm round cake tin, 7.5 cm deep.
2. Put the chocolate and butter in a pan and melt very gently.
3. Mix the coffee granules with 125 ml cold water and pour into the pan, mixing thoroughly.



4. Mix flours together with the bicarb, sugars and cocoa powder and squash out any lumps.
5. Beat eggs and buttermilk, pour into the flour mix with the the melted chocolate.
6. Combine well - it will be quite runny - and pour into the tin.
7. Cook for about 1 hr 25 min until it feels firm and test with a skewer. It may crack slightly on top when cooked.
8. Leave to cool completely in the tin before turning out and slicing horizontally in half.
9. Make the ganache by heating the cream to nearly boiling, add the sugar then chopped chocolate.
10. Stir until smooth and thickened slightly.
11. Sandwich the layers together with some of the ganache, then pour the rest over the cake and decorate with the chocolate curls.

AND LOOKING TOWARDS CHRISTMAS

Spiced Apple Syrup with Clementine and Clove

Ingredients

200 ml Apple Juice
1 cinnamon stick
Tsp whole allspice
1 blade of mace
2 whole cloves
Small strip of fresh ginger
1 clementine finely zested with a peeler



Method

1. Heat the apple juice gently with the ingredients then bring to the boil.
2. Simmer gently for 10 mins then cool
3. Strain and pour into small bottles with a cork or screw lid.
4. This will keep well for a month or more
5. The syrup can be used with hot apple juice or wine for a sweet and fiery burst of Christmas flavours.
6. Also it can be used on desserts or ice cream

Rosemary Nugent

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Book Corner



Book Corner

One Hundred Names by Cecelia Aherne

Have you ever been intrigued by something you have overheard and thought, "I wish I knew what that was all about?" At first, the theme of this book will seem the opposite of this as it involves a journalist interviewing a random set of people who have nothing in common and who do not seem at all interesting! But, as you read on, you begin to realise that everyone has experienced something in life that you would never have guessed could happen.

One Hundred Names tells the story of Kitty Logan who, until recently, had everything going for her; she was a successful journalist on a magazine, appeared regularly on a television news show and had a live-in boyfriend. However, she made a huge mistake on TV when she wrongly accused a schoolteacher of sexually abusing two underage girls and fathering one child. The repercussions were numerous: a lawsuit for slander, the loss of her position on television and possibly her magazine job and vilification from all around.

The final blow is the death of Constance, her friend and mentor, who had been the editor of the magazine. On her last visit to her in hospital, Kitty asked, *What is the story that YOU always wanted to write?* In answer, Constance instructs her to look for a list of names in her files. When Kitty finds it, she sees that's all it is - a list of one hundred names but absolutely no other information. And then Constance dies before Kitty can question her about the significance of these names. What should Kitty do with the list now? She decides, with the reluctant agreement of the stand in editor, to contact them and possibly write an article about each.



One hundred names. One hundred stories. What is it that links them?

The Hundred-Year Old Man Who Climbed Out Of The Window And Disappeared by Jonas Jonasson

"When Bucket was cleansed of Sonya's excrement, he was put under the backseat of his own Ford Mustang. Normally there wouldn't have been room for him, but now he was nicely flattened." So, who were Sonya and Bucket and how was he flattened?

After a long and eventful life, Allan Karlsson is about to become a centenarian and his retirement home has planned a big celebration for him - but Allan is not interested. Instead, he climbs out of the window, still in his slippers, and disappears. He walks to the bus station, intending to travel as far as his available cash will allow. There he meets a young man with a suitcase too large to take into the toilet with him who demands that Allan looks after the case meantime. But, before he comes out, Allan's bus arrives and he decides to board, along with the suitcase which turns out to be full of illegal drug money!

Unknown to Allan, he is now being hunted by both the police, who are treating him as a vulnerable missing person, and a gang of murderous criminals! He manages to deal with one of them with the help of Julius, a small-time thief, and as they move from place to place, they are joined by the owner of a hot-dog stall and *The Beauty*, along with Sonya, her elephant.

The story includes flashbacks to Allan's earlier extraordinary life and you may have to suspend your disbelief even more! BUT surely we can believe that someone who climbed out of a window to avoid his own 100th birthday celebrations might well have had a very *interesting* past, can't we?



Jan Baldwin

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District News

Cllrs Geof Driscoll and Neil Reeve

100th issue, a great achievement. Neil and I would like to congratulate all that have worked on this splendid and informative magazine; may there be many more issues. At 4 issues per year I make that 25 years, always assuming it has always been quarterly, but there are many of you who know what ASSUME really stands for and I have probably got egg on my face.

Well, the cold weather is upon us as I write this, Autumn has arrived. Now would be a good time to check on neighbours who may have difficulty with heating during the winter. Uttlesford District Council has a *Cost of living support fund* which may be able to help along with, maybe, Citizens Advice or the Uttlesford Food Bank and many other local groups and volunteers. Check out the UDC website or phone 01799 510510; if out of hours it should transfer to an emergency line. And don't forget, Neil and I are always willing to assist, if possible, see our email addresses below.

Tyre Safety Month

Essex Police is urging the public to check their tyres. The awareness raising month is organised by TyreSafe who are encouraging drivers to check the air pressure, condition and tread depth on their tyres at least once a month and prior to long journeys. Regular tyre safety checks can reduce the risk of an incident on our roads so it's important that drivers regularly take a few minutes to check their tyres to ensure their own and their passengers' safety. (Source: Adam Pipe, Head of Essex Roads Policing)

Recycling Centre Bookings Consultation

Essex County Council has launched a public consultation on the booking process at recycling centres. It is proposing to retain a booking process permanently for vehicles visiting all Essex County Council recycling



centres. Bookings have been in place as a trial since March and they now want to know what Essex residents think of the proposal. The six-week consultation will close on 19 November. All details are available at: www.essex.gov.uk/recyclingcentrebookings

Uttlesford DC Budget 2024/25

Each year we have to prepare our budget and decide how much should be spent on the services we provide to the community. We're asking for your feedback on what our spending priorities should be in the financial year from April 2024 to March 2025.

For the current financial year 2023/24 the total cost of providing council services is budgeted at £19,251,000. This is the net cost after taking into account fees for services such as Planning, Licensing, and car park income. Council Tax income for the year is forecast to be £6,694,000, representing 35% of the net cost of services. The remaining cost is funded through a mixture of business rates, government grants, commercial investments and reserves set aside in previous years. Increasing cost pressures and real term reductions in government funding have significantly increased the financial pressures on the council in recent years. This means that we need to ensure we remain efficient while continuing to provide the same high-quality services residents expect. The results of this consultation will help us to decide on the priorities for the budget for April 2024 to March 2025.

You can now give your views on what our spending priorities should be at <https://letstalk.uttlesford.gov.uk> or paper copies of the questionnaire are available by calling 01799 510510.

After you've responded, all the views will be considered as part of the final budget proposals for 2024/25. The proposals will be discussed by the Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet before being debated and voted on at the full council meeting in February 2024.

Chair's Carol Service:

As you may be aware, I am the Chairman of Uttlesford for this year (May 2023 - May 2024) and will be holding a Carol Service on

Wednesday 13 December, from 7.30pm, at St Mary's Church, Little Hallingbury. There will be light refreshments after the service so please come along if you wish.

I would also like to thank you all for the donations for the Charity ride I completed in September for ACCURO Stride (based in Great Hallingbury). The sum raised now stands at £1,215.



History Buffs

Evacuee: A Wartime Childhood, by artist and author Brian Saunders, between 11th November, 2023. and 17th March, 2024.



EVACUEE

A WARTIME CHILDHOOD

Exhibition of original artwork of artist and author Brian Saunders. With illustrations of a wartime childhood in Saffron Walden along with high profile work for TV's Mad Men and Stanley Kubrick.

Saffron Walden Museum
Museum Street, Saffron Walden, CB10 1BN
01799 510333 | saffronwaldenmuseum.org | museum@uttlesford.gov.uk

Ward surgeries

These surgeries are for you to discuss issues that you may have with UDC that we, as your District Councillors, can help 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, on the first Tuesday of each month at Great Hallingbury Village Hall, 2 - 4 pm, and the third Friday of each month at the Dukes Head PH, Hatfield Broad Oak also between 2 - 4 pm.

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

cldrdriscoll@uttlesford.gov.uk
cllrreeve@uttlesford.gov.uk

THE FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

By November we have reached the end of the season and closed the gates to visitors. Hopefully, by the time you read this, we will have completed a lovely and memorable season with successful September and October Open Days which included our produce tables.



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

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

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

Jill Goldsmith

Parish Council Chairman



Firstly I would like to congratulate Christine Coultrup, the editor of *Great Hallingbury Highlights*, as this edition is the 100th! A great milestone and quite an achievement. Very well done Christine for all your hard work over the years and we look forward to many more editions.

Your Parish Council has been working hard putting in comments and observations on the many planning applications that have been coming in. Comments would only include an objection if there is good reason to do so but it is UDC who make the decisions.

As you will be aware, Essex Highways did indeed attend to the problem of the road flooding by Captains. It is good to report that the problem has now been resolved. With the road closure after the August Bank holiday, the work was carried out and the pot holes there fixed. So far it is thumbs up, even since the heavy rain we had in October

We carried out a litter pick on 22nd October, and my thanks to all who took part. I would say that we were very disappointed with the Police who did not attend or even reply to the clerk's message asking for signs for the day. It's still amazing just how much rubbish is thrown out of cars as they drive through the village.

I would like to remind everybody that if you see a pot hole please report it on the Highways website.

I continue to monitor the Defibrillator and report if any problems occur or items need replacing.

I attended the AGM of the Essex Association of Local Councils on Thursday 21st September and I learnt a lot more about the Essex Sheds Society. This is a network in Essex where there are meeting places for people to learn new skills or just have a cup of tea and a chat to like minded people. Contact details are on the Essex County Council website.

As we come into the winter season, it is important that we look out for the elderly

and lonely. Sometimes a chat is all that's needed to make someone's day.

On a lighter note GHPC, along with the Village Hall Committee, is organising an evening for turning on the Christmas Tree Lights at the Village Hall. This will be held on Saturday, 18th November, at 6.45pm. All are welcome to come to the event and afterwards to partake of mulled wine, mince pies and sausage rolls - all provided by your Parish Council.

On another light hearted note, both Freda and myself are in the Little Hallingbury Pantomime *Sleeping Beauty* (oh yes we are!). The box office opens on 1st November and the show evenings are 25th, 26th and 27th January, with a matinee also on 27th. Come along and have a great evening out.

As always I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for all the hard work they do on behalf of the residents of the Village and, of course, Urška, our Clerk, who keeps us all under control.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Alan Townsend.



Little Hallingbury Cricket Club



End of season report

The Saturday team had a successful season in the Herts & Essex Border Cricket League, ending in 2nd place in division 1. Next year we will be playing in the Premier Division which will certainly be testing!

Our Sunday team didn't win too many games but we played lots of youngsters which is good for the future. In the last match of the season 14 year old Beau McCardle hit a six off the penultimate ball to win the game at Manuden.

BBQ and Awards Presentation

This regular end of season event was blessed with a sunny day and lots of club members and families.

The awards.

Most runs: Amit Kalyankar 567 runs
 Most wickets: Rishabh Dixit 32 wickets
 Junior Cricketer: James Hutley
 Most improved: Cam Leland
 Young Cricketer: Beau McCardle
 Most improved: Charlie Mugele.

The Jack Petchey Achievement Award went to Beth Brichieri-Colombi. Beth is a great asset to the club. She always volunteers to help with the colts coaching and is now a regular

player in the Sunday team scoring runs, taking wickets and a good fielder. A great example to our younger colts.

Clubman of the Year went to Amit Kalyankar. Amit really deserved this prestigious award for many reasons - scoring runs, helping coaching the colts and putting on the ever popular Curry Night at the ground.

The indoor cricket league has already started with games for our under 15 and under 11 teams. The under 11s managed a fine win against Harlow Town, 156 to 57 runs. Yes, a win by 99 runs!

Our three winners of Jack Petchey awards 2022/2023 - Charlie Jones, Aarush Soni and Danny Hunt - were invited to a presentation evening at Dunmow. Another great evening put on by Jack Petchey.

Keith Behagg



Hallingbury Speedwatch



We have been out and it's been tough to see many speeding vehicles coming through the Parish.

We are currently awaiting approval from Essex Community Speed Partnership for an additional site where we will be allowed to monitor speed.

Remember, we don't want to report anyone, we just want drivers to slow down and observe the 30mph speed limit.

We are looking for additional Great Hallingbury residents to join our Speedwatch team. Training is provided by Essex Speed Partnership.

It lasts one hour and is done online. It's very informative and there is no test, just a briefing really of how to keep yourself safe and how to use the speed surveying equipment. Anyone over 18 years can join so, if speeding vehicles are getting you down, then why not get involved in doing something for the community.

We have a great team but with additional members we could be more consistent. We want to build a local awareness that speeding through Great Hallingbury will not be tolerated.

It's Easy to Use a Speed Gun



Hidden History in Great Hallingbury

Capability Brown was hired to landscape the Hallingbury Place estate which has made the layout of Great Hallingbury prior to his input difficult to trace. One clue lies in the thatched houses of the village.



A lot of the ten or so thatched houses would have started off as single storey dwellings with a medieval loft conversion. Windows would be cut into the thatch to give light to a mezzanine or open loft. This perfect example still has elements of such a platform remaining.

All of these houses seem to be at either end of now disused tracks which would have been part of what was a more comprehensive road network in the village. This cottage sits on the old lane to what was Norwich Pump Farm by the forest and went on to Takeley, a track still on the map in the 19th century.

The Street and then Leapers Lane would have continued through to Woodside Green and beyond.

The lane that starts next to the phone

box, and runs past more thatched houses, can be traced towards Jenkins Lane, the other side of the motorway. There was a bridge across the river until recently and a very hard stoney area up to Jenkins Farm. Halfway down Jenkins Lane was a track on the right that goes past another thatched house on its way to Beldams Lane.

Many factors would have contributed to the loss of these roads, although many continue as footpaths. The enclosures act, various plagues, the drift from the land to towns; but probably the biggest of all was the Lords of the Manor dictating who and what went where.

The village doesn't give up its secrets easily.



Alan Pinnock






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Robert Halfon

MP for Harlow



Dear Residents,

I am delighted to be writing to you for the first time to introduce myself as your prospective new Member of Parliament. As you may know, recent Boundary Commission changes have altered the Parliamentary constituency boundaries which means that the beautiful village of Great Hallingbury will become part of the Harlow constituency at the next General Election.

Before I begin, I would like to pay tribute to Kemi Badenoch MP who has served the Saffron Walden constituency and the people of Great Hallingbury with dedication and diligence since 2017.

Since I was first elected to Parliament in 2010, I have worked hard for the constituency to level up our communities, cherish our villages, cut the cost of living, champion education and skills and strengthen our NHS.

My very first speech in the House of Commons was about maximising the opportunity of apprenticeships. As the Prime Minister said, education is the closest thing we have to a silver bullet and so I am pleased to share his vision for world-leading education and skills, lifelong learning opportunities and higher standards in universities. In my time in Parliament, I have served as the Chair of the Education Select Committee for five years, was previously Skills Minister and was honoured to be re-appointed as the Minister for Apprenticeships, Skills and Higher Education by the Prime Minister in October last year.

I know that local villages in the constituency have different challenges compared to Harlow Town. That's why I have always campaigned to cherish our villages and to protect the environment. From stopping unauthorised traveller encampments and clamping down on speeding, to holding rogue water companies to account and delivering adequate flooding protections. I strive to do what it takes to ensure our beautiful villages are well looked after and remain wonderful places to live, work

and grow up. This includes protecting our green belts, controlling the extra traffic from the new Junction 7A and clearly representing the views of residents on noise disturbance and the expansion of Stansted Airport.

The NHS is one of our greatest national assets, which is why I have always pledged to protect and strengthen it. In May, after over a decade of campaigning, I was delighted that the Health Secretary confirmed that our local and valued Princess Alexandra Hospital would be replaced with a brand new and fully funded state of the art health campus which will serve the people of Harlow and the surrounding villages for generations to come.

Cutting the cost of living for everybody is a priority for me. Since 2010, I have successfully led the campaign to freeze fuel duty every year and, in 2022, secured a fuel duty cut to help motorists save money every time they go to the pumps. I have also supported the introduction of the National Living Wage and I am pleased to be part of the Government that ensures hard-working people get a fair deal. I am also supporting the Government's plan to be fair to taxpayers by clamping down on the small boat crossings and putting an end to illegal immigration.

Feeling safe in our homes and communities is fundamental. I have worked hard to make our streets safer and I am pleased to say that Essex Police is now bigger than ever with more bobbies on the beat to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour. Crime is falling but it is important to create a sense of pride in where we live which is why I support the Government's plan to level up communities like ours and I have secured over £40 million investment in the last two years alone.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming months.

Kindest wishes,

Robert Halfon MP

Editor's Note: Kemi Badenoch remains our MP and represents us until the next general election. Robert Halfon is the current MP in the Harlow Constituency and, if re-elected, would become our MP at that time.

Great Hallingbury History Society



Spring Programme 2024

Tilekiln Green Dig

By Robin Mathieson

Wednesday 10th January



Chimneys, Hearths & Fireplaces

By Anne Padfield

Wednesday 14th February

Thames Mudlarking Treasures

By Stephen Engeham

Wednesday 13th March



Meetings are held in Great Hallingbury Village Hall at 8pm

Everyone is Welcome, so please join us!

St Giles' Nature Reserve

As the seasons turn and winter approaches I have been pondering where all the butterflies go. For most the answer is that they hibernate - good places to look are in sheds, farmyard buildings and sheltered structures like bird houses. Butterflies can also be found hibernating in natural hollows in trees, log piles, rock crevices, stone walls and other outdoor spaces.

Eggs, larvae and pupae are usually well hidden over winter but sometimes people do find the chrysalis of the Large White butterfly (see right) attached to a wall in their house. The Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock also sometimes decide to overwinter



Small Tortoiseshell

in our homes during late summer/early autumn, when it is still warm outside and they are looking for sheltered conditions. The church is a particular favourite of Peacocks. They are often to be seen fluttering about the windows when the church heating has been on - but they go back to sleep when the warmth has seeped away.



Peacock

In common with other cold-blooded creatures, butterflies can't warm themselves up like warm-blooded mammals do. They require external sources of heat, so winter is a challenge for their survival.



Painted Lady

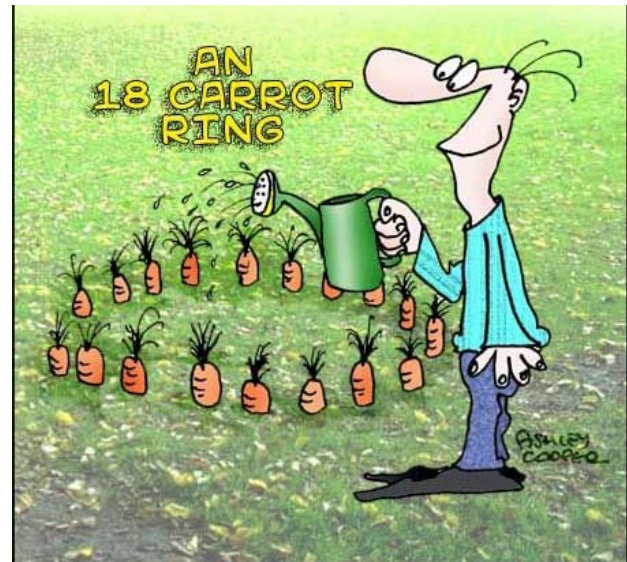
While a few species, like the Painted Lady, cope with falling temperatures by simply migrating to warmer places, most butterflies are forced to find a safe place to go dormant during the coldest months of the year.

The Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock are the butterflies that will most often be found hibernating in our houses. They settle down in autumn in a sheltered spot but, when winter comes and we put our heating on, they often

wake up out of their slumber. This is a quite a big problem for our fluttery friends who wake up thinking it is spring and there will be food outside for them.

If you find a dormant butterfly in part of your house which is likely to be heated on cold days, you need to relocate it to a cold area outdoors. The best thing you can do if you see a butterfly flying about in your house in the middle of winter is to help it relocate to a cooler spot. Put it in a cardboard box for a while to calm it down and then leave it in your shed, garage or another suitable location. Somewhere cool and dry is ideal. Remember to set it free when spring arrives!

Russell Robinson



Quiz 100 Answers

to questions on page 15

1. Penny
2. 1923
3. 35 pairs on average
4. Opening of King Tutankamen's tomb
5. FTSE 100
6. Glen Campbell
7. 116 years
8. 100 bce
9. Dudley House
10. 1923
11. A. A. Milne
12. 4
13. Centenary
14. Stanley Baldwin



Great Hallingbury W.I.



As usual our summer months have been busy and enjoyable. We met three times.

Creative Designer

Amanda Sutherland visited us in July with her talk *My Creative Journey*. Amanda told us how her career started after completing a course in fashion design at the London College of Fashion. Her first job was a head buyer at London's Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. She then went on to work on productions such as *Jesus Christ Superstar* as well as fringe theatre and commercials for the BBC. Amanda followed this by working as a lady's period costumier for the world's leading costume house, where she worked on numerous films including several Bond movies, theatre productions and television dramas, notably *Downton Abbey* and *Eastenders*.



Members modelled some of Anamda's Creations

In 2002, Amanda started an accessory business in a shared bridal boutique, promoting herself through local events and recommendations. For many years she focused on Bridal accessories, Fascinators and Tiaras. When lockdown hit, she had to rethink her business and started making jewellery by recycling items like fizzy drinks cans and turning them into brooches and necklaces. Men's ties (and socks) were also upcycled into some very fine neckwear.

For the past twelve years she has given talks to the WI, U3A and social groups and has received many awards for her presentations. She brought many items with her to sell and the audience bought!

Members Day

In August we had a members' evening where the committee were thanked for all their hard work during the year. They were welcomed by the members to a Wine and Cheese evening with a talk from the owners of a local vineyard.

All members had been allocated specific tasks, expertly organised by Sharon, and the tables were laid, raffle prizes wrapped and food prepared in good time before the committee arrived. The speakers were Jane and Peter Moore from Toppesfield Winery and what an interesting story they had to tell, starting back in 2011 when they had the opportunity to buy some agricultural land next to their house.



Members provided the lovely raffle

Research showed that the valley around Toppesfield was heavily planted with vines in Roman Times and this was the inspiration to create a 21st century vineyard in the rolling hills around. Peter explained in great detail how, by following advice from a Vineyard Management Consultant, they were able to determine the best site and grape varieties for their location and soil type. He shared many interesting facts about root stock, planting, harvesting and much more. At harvest time the villagers of Toppesfield descend on the vineyard where all the grapes are picked by hand. After control checks, the grapes are then delivered to the wine maker.

Two grape varieties are grown at Toppesfield; Bacchus, the main white grape variety, and Pinot Noir Précoce, an early ripening red grape which makes excellent rosé wine.



Sharon handed out the wine!

We had the opportunity to taste both these wines and learnt about our taste buds and how a wine will change depending on the food that is eaten when drinking it. To end the evening, everyone enjoyed cheese, wine and deserts and, if they were lucky, a lovely raffle prize.

Coppicing in Hatfield Forest

Our Speaker in September was Bob Reed. Bob has volunteered in Hatfield Forest for 45 years and has been involved in Coppicing all that time. The trees are cut down to a particular height on a regular basis. This enables the

coppices to regenerate and encourages a variety of plants and creatures to increase. Branches are placed around the trees to prevent deer from reaching the new growth and this fence gradually breaks down as the trees grow taller. The forest has been developing since the Iron Age and the medieval map of coppiced areas is still accurate as these are the areas which continue to be used. Modern Coppicing started in 1975 and is on a 30-year rotation.



Bob finished his talk with a recording of early bird song in the forest from a few years ago. Sadly, the planes interfere with the sound now. It was interesting also to see pictures of the wild plants that can be found there. Dawn thanked him for his interesting, illustrated talk.

During the summer members have continued to meet for our monthly lunch and a new activity has started, also on a monthly basis, with members meeting up for a local walk. We hope the weather continues to be kind for this.

We welcome visitors to our meetings in the Village Hall on the fourth Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm. We have a lot of fun and there are always excellent refreshments provided by our members.

For more information please contact me on marjorierosegs@hotmail.com

Gill Sewell, Secretary
<http://www.greathallingburywi.weebly.com>



Bell Ringers Needed!

Over recent weeks, St Giles' Church in Great Hallingbury has undergone extensive (and expensive) repairs to its tower and bells.

The bells have not been rung in the classic way since 2015 due to a combination of structural problems and the sad passing of several ringers but, with repairs complete, we now need to build up a new team of enthusiastic bell ringers.

The plan is to have the bells rung for St. Giles' Harvest Festival on 24th September by a highly experienced group of bell-ringers from surrounding villages. This should be a really good sound - and a rude awakening for anyone nearby seeking a Sunday morning lie-in! However, it would be unfortunate if the bells were to then go silent once again because we simply do not have the ringers.

So.... If you (or anyone that you might know) would like to learn how to ring, or simply find out what is involved, do get in touch. Maybe there is someone who might consider returning to campanology after a lengthy break? A professional master bell-ringing tutor has offered to give initial one-to-one training sessions (probably on a Friday but that is negotiable) and then bring the team together once the techniques have been learnt. It is suitable for all ages from 8 to 80 and is a test of balancing skills rather than sheer strength.

We have five bells in total, one of which was donated back in Tudor times by the (in)famous Boleyn family so we are looking for 5+ people to give it a go.

Please help by phoning 01279 653562 or emailing b-beaumont@tiscali.co.uk

I look forward to welcoming you a new hobby at St Giles'.

Brian Beaumont



The Churches of the Six Villages

I feel it is important to update you all on the current situation of the Churches of the Six Villages: St Giles' Great Hallingbury, St John's Bush End, Holy Trinity Hatfield Heath, St Mary's Little Hallingbury, St Mary's Sheering and St Mary's Hatfield Broad Oak.



For the past couple of years we have been looking at forming a United Benefice of the Six Churches. This would enable us to share resources, both physical and personnel. It is a situation that is becoming more and more common, not just in our Diocese of Chelmsford, but across all Dioceses. The model of one priest, one church is no longer the norm and priests are being asked to cover multiple parishes.

But this is not a story of gloom, doom and demise. Rather it has given the laity, the non-ordained members within our worshipping bodies, the opportunity to take more active roles in their church life. Members of the church who are rooted in the communities in which they live, serve and attend church, are suddenly being empowered to lead our churches, both in terms of strategic initiatives as well as worshipping events. In many communities this has seen growth as churches are invited to re-imagine what Church looks like in their setting. Church is not just about what happens on a Sunday morning but throughout the rest of the week too. At St Giles' there is an active Gardening Group which meets on a Saturday to tend and care for God's created world around the churchyard. In St Mary's Little Hallingbury, the whole school continues to attend Collective Worship on a Monday morning. For the gardeners, their church happens on a Saturday. For the children, their church happens on a Monday.

Revd Dawn Jewson, who is currently our Associate Minister following the retirement of Revd David Herrick in July 2022, is herself retiring in July 2024. We are currently recruiting for a new Priest in Charge to join us to shepherd our Six Village churches and communities. We very much hope and pray that they will hear God's call to them and that they will be able to join us before too long into 2024.

*Caroline Harding
Licensed Lay Minister, The Six Villages.*



We Will Remember Them.....

In our corner of Essex, and many parts of the UK and Europe, November is characterised by dark evenings, mists, bare trees, a damp chill in the air..... and the sound of the bugle.

Each year we gather in our villages on Remembrance Sunday to commemorate those who gave their lives in past conflicts. It's especially poignant to hear such familiar local names read out as we stand at our war memorials, often in the presence of the direct relatives of those who died. We hold Remembrance services in our churches as well as at our war memorials and there will be a service happening on Remembrance Sunday in a church near you.



But November is also a month to remember others who have died. The church festival of All Souls' Day, or the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, on 2nd November, is marked throughout the Christian world in various ways such as visiting the graves of loved ones and leaving flowers, candles, sweets and other gifts. I remember many years ago in France seeing potted chrysanthemums - a flower strongly associated with the dead in that country - on all the street corners in the towns on that day.

Here in the Six Villages we mark All Souls' Day by inviting all who have lost loved ones recently or some time ago to a service of Memory and Hope in St Mary's Church in Sheering. The service includes hymns, readings and the opportunity to have the names of loved ones read out during the service and to light a candle in their memory. This year the service will be on Sunday, 19th November, at 4pm and

all are welcome.

But as we pray for peace and remember all those who have died, in whatever circumstances, we also remember that our Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose again, conquering death and giving us vibrant hope for the future. So he is very much part of our Remembrance, our remembering and, of course, our thanksgiving.

*Revd Dawn Jewson,
Associate Priest in the Six Villages*



United Benefice Services

December 2023 - February 2024

G = St Giles' M = St Mary's

M	Dec 3	10.30am	Morning Worship
G	Dec 10	10.30am	Holy Communion
M	Dec 17	10.30am	Holy Communion
G	Dec 17	6.30pm	Nine Lessons and Carols
M	Dec 24	3.00pm	Crib Service
M	Dec 24	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
G	Dec 25	10.30am	Christmas Morning
	Dec 31	10.30am	Joint Six Villages Service
M	Jan 7	10.30am	Morning Worship
G	Jan 14	10.30am	Holy Communion
M	Jan 21	10.30am	Holy Communion
G	Jan 28	10.30am	Morning Worship
M	Feb 4	10.30am	Morning Worship
G	Feb 11	10.30am	Holy Communion
	Feb 14	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday - Joint Six Villages Service
M	Feb 18	10.30am	Holy Communion
G	Feb 25	1030am	Morning Worship

Please Note:

The patterns of worship in the Six Villages Churches are currently under review. Consequently, the forward schedule of services may be subject to change and you are advised to check our website at 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.

Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday and Sunday, 9th/10th
December in St Mary's, Little
Hallingbury



*To all our readers,
 contributors, advertisers
 and deliverers
 May you enjoy a
 happy and
 peaceful
 Festive Season*



Calendar

December 2023

- 1 Village Hall Flower Arranging Demonstration and Tea - Great Hallingbury Village Hall 1.30 for 2 pm
- 2 Village Hall Quiz Night - Great Hallingbury Village Hall 7 for 7.30 pm
- 14 St. Clare Hospice - *Light Up a Life Hastingwood* - St. Clare Hospice 7.00pm
- 16 Library Van - Bedlars Green 3 - 3.30 pm
Woodside Green 3.40 - 4.10 pm
- 16 St. Clare Hospice - *Light Up a Life Hastingwood* - St. Clare Hospice 4.00pm and again at 7 pm
- 17 *Nine Lessons and Carols* - St Giles' at 6.30 pm
- 22 Refuse/Recycling as normal - green recycling bins
- 29 No refuse/recycling bin collections

January 2024

- 5 Refuse/recycling resumes - black/grey lidded general wast bins
- 8 Great Hallingbury Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall at 8 pm
- 10 History Society - *Tile Kiln Green Dig* - Great Hallingbury Village Hall at 8 pm
- 24 Great Hallingbury WI - *New Year Dinner*
- 25-6 Little Hallingbury Panto - *Sleeping Beauty* - Little Hallingbury Village Hall - 7.30 pm
- 27 Little Hallingbury Panto - *Sleeping Beauty* - Little Hallingbury Village Hall - 2 pm and 7.30 pm

February 2024

- 12 Little Hallingbury History Society - Little Hallingbury Village Hall at 8 pm
- 15 History Society - *Chimneys, Hearths & Fireplaces* - Great Hallingbury Village Hall at 8pm
- 28 Great Hallingbury WI - Village Hall at 8 pm

March 2024

- 4 Great Hallingbury Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall at 8 pm
- 13 History Society - *Thames Mudlarking Treasures* - Great Hallingbury Village Hall 8 pm
- 18 Great Hallingbury **Annual Parish Meeting** - Village Hall 8 pm
- 24 Great Hallingbury Litter Pick
- 27 Great Hallingbury WI - Great Hallingbury Village Hall at 7.30 pm

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

Monday, 8th January 8 pm Village Hall
 Monday, 4th March 8 pm Village Hall

Annual Parish Meeting

Monday, 18th March 8 pm Village Hall