Great Hallingbury Highlights

Summer 2026 Vol. 110

An independent publication giving news on matters affecting Great Hallingbury



St. Giles' Church

Photograph courtesy of Glenn Salmon

Councillors

Parish Council Chairman:

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

Parish Council Vice-Chairman:

Mr. Mark Coletta
email: cllrcolettapc@gmail.com

Parish Councillors:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Clerk to the Parish Council:

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

Website:

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

Uttlesford District Councillors

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

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

Essex County Councillor

Mr. Geoff Bagnall
email: cllr.geoff.bagnall@essex.gov.uk (tbc)

Member of Parliament

Mr Chris Vince MP
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
email: chris.vince.mp@parliament.uk

Contacts for Village Activities

Bridge on Sundays
Organiser Christine Coultrup
bridgeonsaunday@gmail.com 01279 655144

Cricket Club
Keith Behagg 01371 872550

Hallingbury Ladies
Secretary Gill Sewell 01279 504990
marjorierosegs@hotmail.com

History Society
Secretary; Claire Layer
gthallhistory@gmail.com 07776 936721

Neighbourhood Watch
Coordinator Mark Coletta
cllrcolettapc@gmail.com

Neighbours' Association
Chair Diane Conway
Dianeeconway@aol/com 07712 225085

Poppy Appeal
Coordinator Gill Sewell 01279 504990
marjorierosegs@hotmail.com

St. Giles' Church
Priest in Charge: Rev'd Sophie Weller
Benefice Administrator: Alison Uncle
administrator@thesixvillages.org 07934 260978

Scouting Associations
Sally Bentley 01279 902710

Village Hall
Bookings: Sarah Cox 07544 921459
gthallvillagehall@gmail.com

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

What do the letter T and an island have in common?

They are both in the mid-dle of water.

Editorial

Summer 2026 Issue

The summer edition is always pretty full with reports and information coming from the Annual Parish Meeting in March.

In addition to our regular contributions on village history, Hallingbury Ladies, the History Society, Cricket Club, recipes, book reviews, the Parish Council and more, this time we are delighted to also have news from Little Hallingbury Primary School and a new Gardening Group. We have even included a timetable for the bus service – just in case activities in the Strait of Hormuz present difficulties using your car.

We want to ensure Great Hallingbury Highlights provides information relevant to our residents so please don't hesitate to send me your own contributions.

Publishable jokes would also be welcomed.

Mobile Phones



You have all seen the cartoons – even in this publication – of people walking along the street, all looking down at their phones, and the street signs on the ground so they are seen. Yes, they are amusing but don't you remember when, as a child, your parents reprimanded you *to look where you're going* when you have just bumped into someone? Mobile phones have many benefits – you can tell people that you will be late, you're nearly home, everything's OK and much, much more. But one of their downsides is the loss of courtesy and not walking into other people on the street because you are busy using your phone. When you are looking at your mobile device, others have to step around you – even having to step into the road – which is just rude and possibly dangerous.

To help you be more considerate, keep in mind that, whenever you get out your phone on the street, you are setting yourself up as a target for a thief. So you win, too, by not using your phone whilst walking along.

Waste Collections

You may have heard that the government has standardised waste collections. I thought I was doing OK but have been dismayed to find I'm getting some of it wrong so, in the hope it may help, I have included a guide on page 26.

2026

This year seems to be rushing along - when is it different? Summer holidays are now in sight so, if you go away in the UK or abroad, or stay at home and just relax, I hope you enjoy yourselves doing whatever takes your fancy. Take care, be safe and end the summer refreshed.

Editor

CONTENTS

2	- Details of Councillors and Village Contacts
3	- Editorial
4	- Constable 250
	- Easton Lodge
5-6	- Chairman's Report
6	- History Society Programme
7	- Great Hallingbury Bus Service
9	- History Society
10-11	- Hallingbury Ladies
12	- Little Hallingbury Cricket Club
13	- Essex Fire & Rescue Service
	- Bridge on Sundays
	- History Society Outing
15-16	- District News
16	- Little Hallingbury Flower Club
17	- When Your Sight Starts to Fail You
18-19	- Hidden History
20	- Great Hallingbury Highlights
	- Essex Police
21	- Little Hallingbury Primary School
22-23	- Village Hall
23	- Gardening Group
25	- Hallingbury Ladies
	- Essex County Council
26	- Waste Bins
27	- Book Corner
28	- Hundred Parishes
29-33	- Parish Council
34	- Easy Eating
35	- St Giles' Parochial Church Council
	- Church Services in the Hallingburys
36	- Charity Quiz
	- Calendar

Constable 250

Anniversary Exhibitions Nearby



Just outside Essex, in our neighbouring county of Suffolk, Christchurch Mansion in Ipswich celebrates John Constable this year with three special exhibitions. A chance for you to see some wonderful paintings without going to London.

Constable: A Cast of Characters

28 March – 14 June 2026

An introduction to the people who inspired and supported the artist, including works by Suffolk artists Thomas Gainsborough and George Frost.

The Hay Wain: Walking Constable's Landscape

11 July – 4 October 2026

Unprecedented key loans from major galleries will come to Suffolk for the very first time to explore themes of landscape, place and walking including Constable's iconic masterpiece, *The Hay Wain*.



Constable to Contemporary

24 October 2026 – 28 February 2027

Highlights the artistic and cultural relevancy of Constable's art through a variety of contemporary and community responses.

An Opportunity to View Masterpieces

You can find more information online at https://ipswich.cimuseums.org.uk/constable250/ . I do hope you enjoy them.

FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Spring is my favourite season and at the Gardens extends into May, with bluebells and camassia and waving cow parsley under the trees, while the willowy white bracts waft on the handkerchief tree in the Glade. In a good year, the Laburnum walk drips gold and later the foxgloves are crowding out the herbs in the kitchen garden and the Allium Christophii are spectacular (if there's enough rain). We are treated to the lovely unusual pink pea shaped flowers of the false acacia and there are also flowers atop one of the tallest trees in the Glade, the Indian Horse Chestnut.



The Gardens are now open every Thursday from 11 am to 3 pm, last entry 2 pm. The Trust's volunteers provide refreshments in Daisy's Kiosk and are on hand to answer visitors' gardening questions whilst information will be available to tell the history of the Gardens, gardeners and surrounding area.

Time to Remember the World Wars is the theme of the 14th June Open Sunday. Easton Lodge was used in both world wars so look for more information on this history. Live songs from the Lancashire Belle will evoke the era and get us singing along.

Sunday, 12th July, will be a ***Discovery Day*** with the return of our native birds of prey so enjoyed last year. Children will enjoy finding the Countess of Warwick's animals around the Gardens and a craft activity and the Harlow Concert Band will be playing.

The 9th August Sunday Open Day will be ***Family Fun*** so we hope to see you then.

For the Sunday Open Days, the Gardens are open from 11 to 5, last entry 4 pm. Please do check our website for more information. www.eastonlodge.co.uk

Jill Goldsmith

Great Hallingbury Annual Parish Meeting 2026



Chairmans Report

We have a full complement of eight Parish Councillors who work as one body for the good of the village. Councillors are also part of working groups such as Planning, Housing, Neighbourhood Watch and Airport. As well as the Community Speed Watch, we also act on matters relating to footpaths, health, protected trees and organise the litter picks.

I represent Great Hallingbury on the Uttlesford Association of Local Councils and have again been elected Chairman. Until February this year, I also sat on the Executive Committee of the similar Essex body from which I have now retired. I continue to regularly check the Defibrillator installed at the Village Hall.

Meetings

During the last twelve months, the Parish Council has had six meetings, plus the APM and an Extra-ordinary meeting, all taking place in the Village Hall. I also have weekly zoom meetings with our Clerk for updates on any issues.

Elections

There have been no elections in the last year but an election for Essex County Council will be held in May.

Finance

Our budget for the 2026/27 was reviewed and, after careful consideration, it was agreed to raise the precept to £15,000. This relates to the Parish portion on your Council Tax bill.

We continue to support Essex Air Ambulance, Uttlesford Community Travel and Uttlesford Food Bank as well as the Village Hall and *Great Hallingbury Highlights*.

Planning

The Parish Council has considered and commented on 53 planning applications over this past year, which is almost double the number in the previous year. We aim to consider applications for the good of the surrounding area. In general we have had little reason to object to the proposals but we do stress that all new builds must be connected to mains drainage.

The Local Plan has now been adopted by Uttlesford and (post meeting) has been signed off by the Government so this should slow down speculative proposals.

Airport

We note Stansted Airport has just been granted a raise in passenge numbers.

Highways

We continue to report potholes and other road defects in the Village. The big concern is speeding through the Village which is used as a rat run and, when the M11 is closed, a diversion route. This all causes problems, congestion and wear to the road surfaces.

Trees

The Parish Council continues to monitor the trees which we have planted in recent years.

Litter Pick

The litter pick held last October was very poorly attended. Sadly, residents carrying out this task were abused and called names by motorists speeding through the Village. We therefore agreed litter picks be postponed until we can guarantee a Police presence to prevent this.

My thanks to Joanne Bloomfield for organising the October event and to Freda Townsend and St Giles' PCC for afterwards serving refreshments provided by the Parish Council.

Community Speedwatch

Cllr Mark Coletta is the organiser but unfortunately we have insufficient members so this has not been happening.

Neighbourhoood Watch

Again Cllr Mark Coletta is the organiser and my thanks to him for doing so.

Residents' Association

The Residents' Association is still in place

and being ably run by Cllr Val Waring. Many thanks to Val for all her efforts.

Great Hallingbury Highlights

My thanks to Christine Coultrup for continuing to produce this excellent magazine. This free quarterly publication goes to every house in the Village, distributed by Christine's army of volunteers. It contains news on Village activities and events to come. If you think that you may be able to contribute an article, I am sure Christine would be grateful.

Village Hall

A big thank you to Lee Cox and his team who look after the Village Hall and keep it running smoothly. You will have noticed, I hope, that the Parish Council has had the car park lines repainted, with bays marked out clearly.

Christmas Tree Celebrations

In November the Parish Council, along with the Village Hall Committee, held the *Lighting of the Village Christmas Tree* event. Mince pies, sausage rolls and mulled wine were provided for all who came along. It was lovely to see so many people joining in – over 60 people I believe. Once again we were pleased to welcome our M.P., Chris Vince, Essex County Cllr Susan Barker and District Cllrs Geof Driscoll and Neil Reeve. A big thank you goes to Cllr Alan Pinnock and Lee Cox for all their hard work in getting the tree, lights and hall ready for everybody to enjoy. I look forward to this year's celebrations.

Thanks

I thank all my fellow Councillors, and many Villagers, for their continued support during the past year. Also a thank you to our District and County Councillors.

This year has been a trying one and I thank Freda Townsend for standing in and supporting our marvellous Clerk, Urska, during her leave following very sad family news. I wish Urska all the very best and look forward to having her looking after things again.

Alan Townsend, Chairman

Great Hallingbury History Society

SUMMER 2026



Wednesday 10th June

History of Matching Airfield

by Mark Ratcliff



West Stow Hall Private Visit

Wednesday, 8th July

See page 13 for details

Wednesday 12th August



Royal Mail Coach Routes in East Anglia

by Hugh Feldman

Meetings held in
Great Hallingbury Village Hall at 8pm

Entrance Fee Including Refreshments
£3 for Members Membership £10 pa
£5 for Non-members

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Great Hallingbury Bus Service

Just in Case Petrol and Diesel Supplies Get Difficult

In the nearly forty years I have lived in Great Hallingbury, the provision of bus services has been hit and miss and constantly subject to change. At first there were two buses a week on Bishop's Stortford market days then, when this was cancelled, there was no service. The Parish Council campaigned for a new provision and suddenly we had three or four buses a day. Lack of use led to them being withdrawn and again there was another period of drought. Just now, there is a circular service with multiple stops in Great Hallingbury and in Bishop's Stortford.

All this uncertainty has, of course, meant that residents mostly have cars or other transport, so demand for the bus is not great. However, if by the time this issue of *Great Hallingbury Highlights* reaches you there is still turnmoil in the Middle East and obtaining fuel for cars becomes difficult, you may find some benefit in knowing the timetable for the bus service. But beware! The service is presently slated to be discontinued in July.

Route 315 operates Monday to Saturdays (not Bank Holidays). Contactless payment or cash accepted. Mobile tickets and live bus tracking available on the MyTrip app. More information may be found at www.central-connect.co.uk

Bishop's Stortford Interchange (Stop E)	08:16	10:16	12:16	14:16	16:16	18:16	20:16
Bishop's Stortford Riverside (Stop R)	08:18	10:18	12:18	14:18	16:18	18:18	20:18
Hockerill, opp Hillside	08:19	10:19	12:19	14:19	16:19	18:19	20:19
Hockerill, o/s Anglo European College	08:20	10:20	12:20	14:20	16:20	18:20	20:20
Hockerill, adj Stortford Hall Park	08:20	10:20	12:20	14:20	16:20	18:20	20:20
Hockerill, opp The Nags Head PH	08:21	10:21	12:21	14:21	16:21	18:21	20:21
Hockerill, adj Raynham Road	08:22	10:22	12:22	14:22	16:22	18:22	20:22
Parsonage Estate, nr Birchwood High School	08:23	10:23	12:23	14:23	16:23	18:23	20:23
Parsonage Estate, opp Shortcroft	08:23	10:23	12:23	14:23	16:23	18:23	20:23
Parsonage Estate, opp Birchanger Green Services	08:24	10:24	12:24	14:24	16:24	18:24	20:24
Great Hallingbury Tilekiln Green (SE-bound)	08:25	10:25	12:25	14:25	16:25	18:25	20:25
Great Hallingbury, opp Harps Farm	08:25	10:25	12:25	14:25	16:25	18:25	20:25
Great Hallingbury, opp Church Road	08:26	10:26	12:26	14:26	16:26	18:26	20:26
Great Hallingbury, adj The Grove	08:27	10:27	12:27	14:27	16:27	18:27	20:27
Great Hallingbury, opp Copthall Close	08:27	10:27	12:27	14:27	16:27	18:27	20:27
Great Hallingbury, opp Church	08:28	10:28	12:28	14:28	16:28	18:28	20:28
Bishop's Stortford, opp Beldams Lane	08:30	10:30	12:30	14:30	16:30	18:30	20:30
Bishop's Stortford, opp Pryors Close	08:31	10:31	12:31	14:31	16:31	18:31	20:31
Bishop's Stortford, nr The Three Tuns	08:32	10:32	12:32	14:32	16:32	18:32	20:32
Bishop's Stortford Interchange (Stop E)	08:36	10:36	12:36	14:36	16:36	18:36	20:36



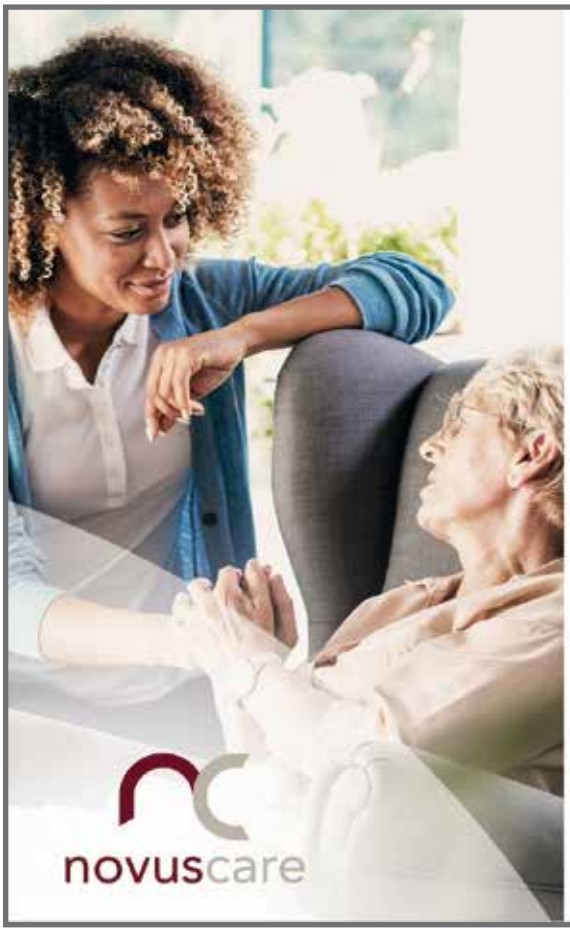
Why did the car get a flat tyre?

Because there was a fork in the road

What do you call a line of men waiting to get haircuts?

A barberqueue





Care in the heart of your own home

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

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

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

www.novus-care.com

Stephen's Gardening Service

All aspects of garden maintenance undertaken



grass cutting
pruning
hedge cutting
and more

jet washing
steam cleaning of patios, driveways and decking



Tel: 07730 201664

Stephen is a long standing Great Hallingbury resident

Great Hallingbury History Society

Another year has galloped past since I last spoke on behalf of Great Hallingbury History Society at the Annual Parish meeting. Advances in Al have presented me with the temptation to have this report written at the click of a button but I have resisted so far; who knows what I would be telling you!

The task of digitalising the Society's archives continues in the background with the four scanners we purchased at the beginning of last year but would benefit from volunteers willing to lighten the load.

The History Society membership has continued to grow; we currently have 36 paid members and I send out over 80 emails each month to inform people of our upcoming speakers. We have continued to build on our links with Little Hallingbury and Hatfield Regis History Societies and regularly have visitors from them to our meetings. We just need to encourage our members to take advantage of the opportunities presented by attending their meetings: a wider range of speakers and topics at a reduced entry fee.

We have had some very interesting talks since I last spoke to you. In April, Hatfield



Regis's Vice Chair, Quentin Spear, spoke about the history of the official war artists including the work of Eric Ravilious who lived in Saffron Walden and whose work can still be seen in the Fry Gallery there. Then we heard about the history of Tate and Lyle Sugars from Andy Hagan-Torkington in May. Did you know that the famous lion on the syrup tin is actually



a depiction of a dead lion surrounded by bees which is a reference to the biblical story of Samson *Out of the strong came forth sweetness*?

In June, Martyn Lockwood, a retired policeman, gave us an account of some very cunning and prolific arsenic murders including Mary Ann Cotton, who, in the 1870s, is believed to have killed 21 people, including 11 of her children. In July, David



Crashed Junker. Remnants of a parachute were found in this chestnut tree which still stands today, surrounded by houses.

Clare presented a very good account of Bishops Stortford in WWII which contained some very interesting photographs and accounts of bombing, such as the attack on Hockerill Teacher training college which resulted in the deaths of three young trainee teachers in 1940.

Ken McDonald next gave us a whistle-stop tour of the highlights of some of the churches in the 100 Parishes and the following month, Ben Cowell OBE, of Historic Houses, gave us an amazing account of the battle to save historic houses that were being razed to the ground from the early 20th Century to the 1970's.



Driven by high taxation, maintenance costs and a loss of servants following both World Wars, over 1,000 to 1,500 grand houses were demolished or abandoned.

We took a break from speakers over December and January when attendance has historically been rather low but, in February, Bill Hardy took us on a ramble down the 19th century lanes between Thorley Church and Twyford House to meet famous local personages of the past. Bill and I did the walk a couple of weeks before his talk which gave an extra boost to the enjoyment of the evening. And finally, last week, Tim Turner spun a wonderful tale of fakes and forgers, illustrating his talk with a table full of artefacts.

Claire Layer, Secretary, Great Hallingbury History Society reporting to APM

Town & Country Sweeps
Chimney Services
CLEAN CHIMNEYS ARE SAFER CHIMNEYS
Chimney Sweeping
Stove Servicing & Maintenance
Nest Removals
CCTV Inspections
Bird Guard & Cap Fitting
and much more
07703 740638
www.townandcountrysweeps.com
HETAS
BRITISH CHIMNEY SWEEPS
SIA

GRANGE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
MOB: 07516 783138



Grass Cutting
Hedge Cutting
Fencing
Turfing
Patio & Driveway
Cleaning Grounds
Maintenance Contracts
Garden Clearances

Contact Will Grange – 07516783138
Or Email
Grangegroundsmaintenance@gmail.com

Hallingbury Ladies
a.k.a HALS
Fun & Friendship

Hallingbury Ladies Enter Spring on High Note

After our successful and enjoyable New Year Meal in January we invited Suzy Conolly to talk to us in February. Suzy is the daughter of one of our members and she told us about the walk she undertook from Lands' End to John O'Groats last year in memory of her Father, Geoff Morris, who was well known in the Village.

Using the map that he had used when he made the same walk, she followed his journey and replicated his view of the final destination with her own photo. She made a film of this which featured some beautiful photos of places she walked through and some of the people she met along the way. She was lucky with the weather with only a few days rain, unlike Geoff who had encountered rain for most of his journey. Several of Suzy's friends attended our meeting and enjoyed the delicious spread provided by several of our members.



Tripe and Trotters

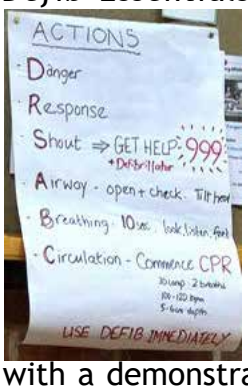
In March we welcomed Brian Carline who's talk was entitled *Tripe and Trotters* which alerted some of us to the fact that his talk was mainly about the late 1940s and the 1950s. We were kept amused for over an hour with his account of his childhood in Salford, where he grew up.

At the time the area was mainly industrial with many working mills. The landscape of the town was similar to others nearby. His Mother was the manageress of a Tripe Shop and the description of the items on the counter was a surprise for many of our members whilst the account of his childhood and the lifestyle was very familiar to others.

His talk was funny and very entertaining and we hope to hear him again next year with a different subject.

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting was in April and we started the evening with an interesting demonstration and guide about *CPR and Defib Essentials*. Our speaker, Marion



Dutton, firstly showed us steps to take when someone collapses. She had already told us the difference between a heart attack and a cardiac arrest and given us the first step for both - *ring 999*. She followed this with a demonstration of CPR and then the steps for using a defibrillator. Many of us had little idea about any of this but her talk was so informative and the steps were presented so clearly and concisely that I am sure we will remember the relevant points should we ever need them.



After some delicious refreshments, our Annual Meeting followed with the committee being voted back, plus a new member, and Lesley becoming our Chairman for another year.

Activities

Our first activity of the year was a visit to Southmill Arts, arranged by Jan for nearly 20 of us, to see Hairspray, performed by local group BSA. We were looking forward to this show which some of us had never seen.

Members will also be going for a tour of *The National Stud* in May.

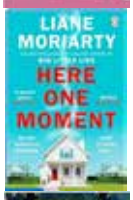
Our **monthly lunches** continue with three held already this year.

The **walking group** has continued its outings every month this year, including around Hatfield Heath in February and walking from Great Hallingbury to Claire's and back, with delicious refreshments being provided by Claire at the halfway point in April. The



group is sometimes small but everyone enjoys the walks, especially the pit stop at the end!







The **Literary Ladies** continue to meet every four weeks. Our discussions are very interesting and it is surprising to hear other members' take on a book. It is good that no one is loath to give their opinion. During recent months we have read three very different books: *The Burnout* (Sophie Kinsella), *Here One Moment* (Liane Moriarty) and *The Birdcage* (Eve Chase). Our meetings are always fun and enjoyable.

Knit and Natter members continue to gather at Hunters Meet. In February we decided to knit outfits for *Fish and Chip Babies* in Africa and also Easter chicks to send to St Clare's Hospice for them to sell ready for Easter. We held a *Knit and Natter* lunch before our meeting in March which was very enjoyable as usual.

We now have a **Poetry Circle** which should be having its first meeting soon. *Oh to be in England now that April's there*!

Looking forwards

In May our evening is entitled *Getting to Know You Part 2*. Last year we had an enjoyable and slightly chaotic Part 1 which was not long enough for everyone to chat to everyone else, so we hope to continue it this year.

We meet at 7.30pm in Great Hallingbury Village Hall on the fourth Wednesday in the month. Visitors are always welcome to give us a try – especially our refreshments which are delicious – so come along and meet us, as well as enjoying some tasty eats.

Gill Sewell, Secretary
marjorierosegs@hotmail.com

Little Hallingbury Cricket Club

Annual General Meeting

The AGM took place on Sunday 8th March with Stuart Dobson re-elected as Saturday captain and Karim Somani elected as Sunday captain.

Joe Apperley volunteered for the new position of social secretary and fund raiser.

The first fixture for Karim is away to Easton on Sunday, 26th April, with the league fixtures starting Saturday, May 2nd.

LHCC Colts

Looks like another busy summer for the colts!! We have entered teams to play in the West Essex under 11s and under 13s Leagues and also the under 14s Cup.

The Allstars sessions for 5 to 8 year olds start on Wednesday, 20th May, 5 - 6pm.

Colts sessions for 8 to 15 year olds start on Wednesday, 13th May, at 6.15pm

Social Events

On the social side, we have arranged 40 tickets for the England versus India Ladies T20 match at Chelmsford on 28th May. This should be a great experience, watching an International match under floodlights. On Wednesday, 24th June, we have our Jack Petchey Awards and Pizza night at the ground. Should be good.

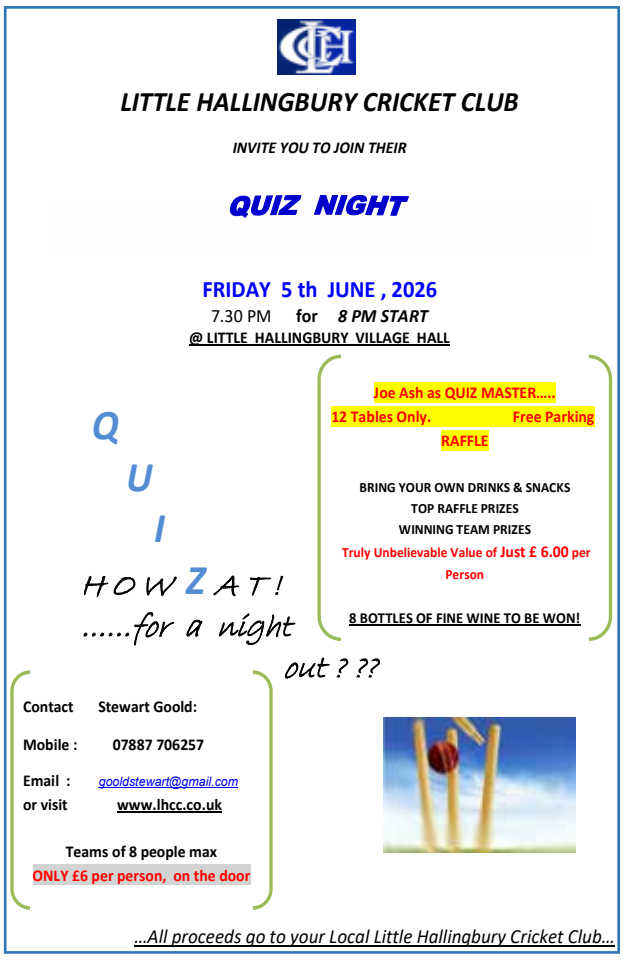
Keith Behagg

Saturday Fixtures

30 May High Beach CC Home 13:00 League
06 Jun Braughing CC Away 13:00 League
13 Jun Potter Street & Church Langley CC Away 13:00 League
20 Jun Stansted Hall & Elsenham CC Home 13:00 League
27 Jun North Weald CC Away 13:00 League
04 Jul Takeley CC Home 13:00 League
11 Jul Thorley CC Away 13:00 League
18 Jul Stansted CC Home 13:00 League
25 Jul Cloghams CC Away 13:00 League
01 Aug High Beach CC Away 13:00 League
08 Aug Braughing CC Home 13:00 League
15 Aug Potter Street & Church Langley CC Home 13:00 League
22 Aug Stansted Hall & Elsenham CC Away 13:00 League
29 Aug North Weald CC Home 13:00 League

Sunday Fixtures

31 May North Weald CC Away 1.30 Friendly
07 Jun Little Hadham CC Away 1.00 Friendly
14 Jun Great Hyde Hall CC Away 2.00 Friendly
21 Jun Great Canfield CC Home 1.00 Friendly
28 Jun Chrishall CC Away 1.30 Friendly
05 Jul Manuden Home 1.00 Friendly
12 Jul Vacant Home 1.00 Friendly
19 Jul Great Canfield CC Away 1.00 Friendly
26 Jul Vacant Home 1.00 Friendly
02 Aug Eastons CC Home 1.00 Friendly
09 Aug Matt Shepherd XI Home 1.00 Friendly
16 Aug Raj XI Home 2.00 Friendly
23 Aug North Weald CC Home 1.00 Friendly
30 Aug Stebbing CC Home 1.00 Friendly
06 Sep Sawbridgeworth Away 1.00 Friendly
13 Sep Acme CC Home 1.00 Friendly
20 Sep Manuden Away 1.00 Friendly



Essex Fire and Rescue Service

A message from local fire officer, Kevin Jenner

As a Station Manager in Uttlesford, keeping our community safe is at the heart of everything my team and I do. Over the last twelve months, firefighters have attended 731 house fires across Essex, 23 here in Uttlesford alone tragically resulting in one fatality. Behind every number is a home, a family and a life affected.

Cooking is the leading cause of house fires, some 23%, followed by electrical devices/ appliances at 14%. Many of these fires were preventable with small changes, such as never leaving cooking unattended and regularly checking electrical appliances and cables.

A most concerning trend is that 72% of homes where fires occurred had smoke alarms fitted. Smoke alarms provide an early warning and can make the difference between safely escaping and being overcome by smoke. Also notable, 68% of house fires in Uttlesford happened in homes with only one occupant, which highlights how important it is for people living alone to have working smoke alarms and a clear escape plan.

The good news is that there is support available. Essex County Fire and Rescue Service offers free Home Safety Visits to anyone living in Essex when firefighters or our safety team can provide personalised advice, help you plan an escape route and fit smoke alarms where needed. These visits are completely free and could help save your life or the life of someone you love. If you, or someone you know, would benefit, please take a few minutes to book a visit.



Phone: 0300 303 0088 or email home.safety@essex-fire.gov.uk. Online: www.essex-fire.gov.uk

Kevin Jenner

Bridge on Sundays

Report to Annual Parish Meeting

The Bridge on Sundays Club continues to thrive and we have often welcomed 25/30 people to our meetings.

It is a mixed ability group who enjoy playing bridge and we meet in the Village Hall twice a month on a Sunday evening.

New members are always welcome and it would be good to have one or two more people from our village.

Christine Coultrup
Organiser

Great Hallingbury History Society

Trip to West Stow Hall on Wednesday 8th July 2026



Great Hallingbury History Society has booked a guided visit to the beautiful West Stow Hall, Bury St Edmunds, built by the Master of the Horse to Mary Tudor and featuring Elizabethan wall-paintings, discovered during Victorian restorations.

The cost of the trip is £25 and includes a private tour followed by tea and cake.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact Claire Layer either by phone on 07776936721 or by email at gthallhistory@gmail.com

DANIEL ROBINSON & SONS

Independent Family Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons



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

79/81 South Street
BISHOP'S STORTFORD
01279 655477

www.drobinson.co.uk

Dedicated to serving our local community

Bullfields
SAWBRIDGEWORTH
01279 722476

Cammas Hall
Fruit Farm • Events • Food & Drink

- Fruit Farm
- Farm Shop
- Tea Barn
- Footgolf
- Play Area

A Great Family Day Out!



District News





New Kerbside Small Electricals Recycling Service

This makes it easier for residents to recycle their broken or unwanted small household electricals.

The project has joined the *Recycle Your Electricals* campaign and other projects around the country in making it easier for people to recycle their electricals through kerbside collection services. 25% of UK residents already have kerbside recycling available to them and Uttlesford District Council is now adding to that number.

Small electricals - such as toasters, kettles and hairdryers and, in my case, a small TV - are collected weekly at the same time as wheeled bins. Just put it on top of the relevant bin. If it fits into a carrier bag, it is small enough to be collected.

Housing Repairs and Maintenance

In December, there will be a significant change to the way housing repairs and maintenance services are to be provided, with a renewed focus on improving standards and providing a better experience for the council's tenants. They are in the process of bringing the current external contract to an early close and to establishing a new in-house service to manage council housing repairs and maintenance directly.

The decision reflects the Council's ambition to provide tenants with a repairs service that is consistent, responsive and better aligned to local needs.

Councils are changing

Greater Essex currently comprises 15 councils serving nearly 1.9 million residents. Southend and Thurrock operate as unitary authorities, meaning they manage most local services independently. In contrast, the rest of Essex follows a two-tier system:

- District Councils like Uttlesford handle local services such as waste collection, street cleaning and leisure facilities
- Essex County Council oversees broader services including highways, adult social care and special educational needs.

As part of the government's devolution agenda, aimed at streamlining local governance, these 15 councils are set to be replaced within the next couple of years by a smaller number of new Unitary Authorities. These new bodies will consolidate responsibilities, delivering all local services except those managed by Town and Parish councils, which will remain unaffected.

The government has now announced their decision and Greater Essex will be divided into five Unitary Authorities. Uttlesford, Harlow and Epping Forest will be amalgamated into one Unitary, the West Essex Council. The first scheduled Unitary elections are expected in May 2027. The current council network will stay in place until April 2028, shadowing each other for a smooth handover.



UDC's Planning Team Shortlisted for Prestigious National Award

The Local Government Chronicle Awards are one of the most respected accolades in local government, celebrating quality, innovation and commitment across the sector. More than 1,000 nominations were received this year, reflecting the strength and ambition of councils nationwide.

Uttlesford's Planning Team has been

recognised for its far reaching transformation programme and has been nominated for the *Large Team of the Year* category.
In recent years, the team has driven a step change in performance - moving from being designated by government to becoming a high-performing planning service for both applications and appeals. The team has also made significant progress on the District's Local Plan.
Once at risk of government intervention for not having an up-todate plan, Uttlesford has now produced a Local Plan that is at the forefront of climate change action and environmental standards, setting a benchmark for sustainable development.
And what I consider to be the best news for Uttlesford is that the Secretary of State has given UDC permission to make that Local Plan, which was completed by a vote of the full council in March.

Residents in Uttlesford Head to the Polls

On Thursday, 7th May, residents will choose who represents them at Essex County Council. These elections replace those postponed from May 2025 due to Local Government Reorganisation, with Essex included in the national Devolution Priority Programme.
As at 31st January, any postal vote that was required to be renewed and had not been, was removed. Postal votes now have to be reapplied for if over three years old. For any information, check out the government website. www.gov.uk/register-to-vote
By the time you read this, you will know the outcome of that election.

Should you need to contact Neil or myself (Geof), you can email us on the following addresses.

cllrdriscoll@uttlesford.gov.uk
cllrreeve@uttlesford.gov.uk

Little Hallingbury Flower Club

Summer & Early Autumn Programme

Little Hallingbury Flower Club is looking forward to a vibrant and inspiring few months, with a programme full of creativity, colour and expert demonstrations.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at Little Hallingbury Village Hall, with doors opening at 7.30pm for an 8.00pm start.

Tuesday, June 16th, members will enjoy a Working Evening focusing on Textured Design — a hands-on session exploring different materials and techniques to add interest and depth to arrangements.

Tuesday, July 21st, we welcome Sandie Draper for a demonstration entitled *An African Adventure*, promising bold colours, striking forms and plenty of inspiration.

After our summer break, we return on Tuesday, September 15th, with Helen Hare presenting *Down Under*, a fascinating demonstration inspired by Australia.

Visitors are always very welcome — £6 payable on the door — or why not join us as a member for £28 per year and enjoy the full programme.

Whether you are an experienced arranger or simply enjoy flowers, there is something for everyone, and a warm welcome awaits.

Val McKirdy



When Your Sight Starts to Fail You

Visually Impaired Club – Bishops Stortford

A warm welcome and a buzz of chatter greets you at the Visually Impaired Club in Bishop's Stortford.



I was introduced to the club several years ago owing to a chance exchange with Monika Noble in the kitchen in the Great Hallingbury Village Hall, over the washing-up! She has run the club for over 30 years at the Havers Lane Community Hall, Bishop's Stortford. Although none of the original cohorts remain, several of her trusty helpers do.

My sight has been failing for many years and I experienced a difficulty with my eyes on waking-up in a hotel at Machu Picchu. Richard and I had to leave the walking group and make our own way to Cusco where we saw an Optician. Luckily the Receptionist spoke English. We were due to fly back within two days and, as soon as we returned, I saw my optician, Mr Loveday, who sent me straight to Moorfields. I was diagnosed with Macular Degeneration and was treated with eye injections many times until the condition was considered stable. However, my eyesight will continue to deteriorate.

It is a frustrating situation and firstly I had to give up driving. In our rural area it means loss of independence and relying on loved ones and friends for lifts. No popping out for the forgotten grocery item or coffee with a friend. Also, it is difficult to recognise people's faces until they are very close (sorry if I have ever seemed to have ignored anyone). Day to day tasks, such as reading, require glasses and a magnifier so reading is no longer a pleasure. I use Audio Books, either from Essex Mobile Library or the charity, Calibre Audio (www.calibreaudio.org.uk). Shopping on my own is difficult as I am unable to read the labels on the shelves or the contents on the products. The longer hours of daylight are a great boon.







At the monthly VIP Club meetings we are often entertained by Musical Groups, the singers are very popular, and we even had a mobile zoo with many animals to handle (if you wished). We have quizzes printed in a large font, Domino Bingo and a game of patience played with oversized scrabble tiles.

We get a delicious afternoon tea with homemade cakes (including my lemon cake). The Christmas Lunch includes family members and we are presently looking forward to our Summer Meeting at Hunters Meet on June 24th.

For members without an individual lift, Monika books taxis, Dial-a-ride, book-a-ride (E) all of which are subsidised by the club. Grants, donations and bequests, together with a monthly raffle (in which every member wins a prize), pay the expenses.

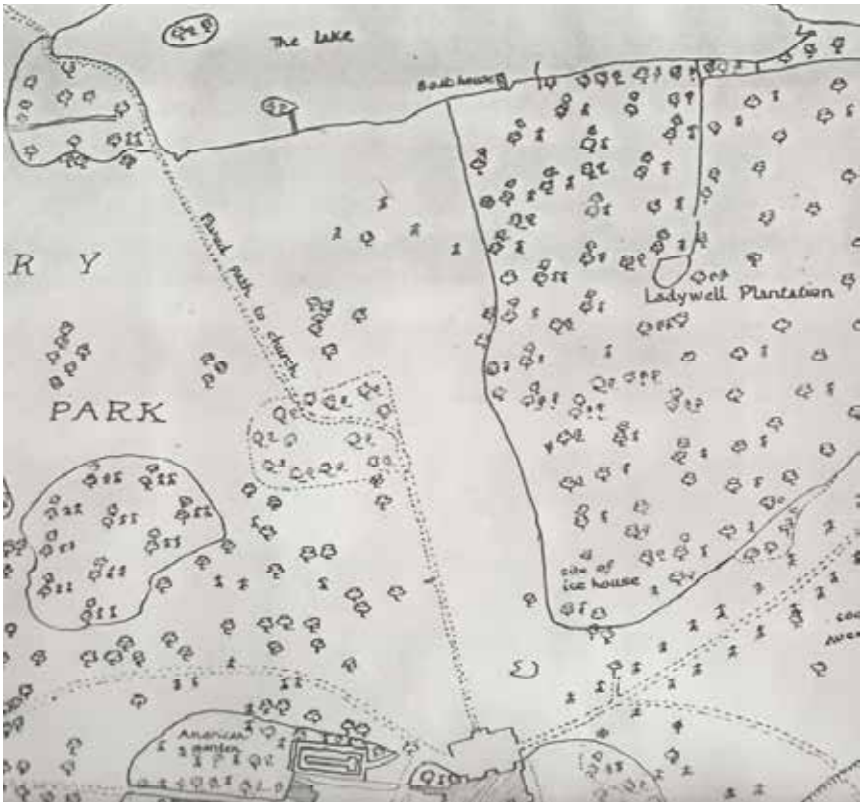
All visually impaired people are most welcome at the Club. Contact Monika Noble (07505 20435).

Judy Simmonds

Great Hallingbury - A Hidden History

It is widely known that Lancelot *Capability* Brown designed the parkland around Hallingbury Place in about 1757. Before this time, features such as a *Wilderness*, a bowling green and a moat, known as Morley Pond, had already existed since the 1600's.

The map shows the layout of part of the estate that existed in its heyday. The gardens near the house were extensively redeveloped around 1909 by Robert Wallace, a designer engaged by Mrs. Locket-Agnew who was the tenant at that time.



The pictures are of the redesigned gardens - sadly the lack of colour doesn't do them justice.

It is estimated that as many as 70 labourers were employed in the project.

Apart from the remaining places, like the Water Garden, there are little gems hidden away such as the pet cemetery in the Ladywell Plantation.

Hopefully in the next issue I will give a detailed account of the timeline, plans and cost of Capability Brown's efforts.

Alan Pinnock



Rose Garden, Hallingbury Place



Wild Garden, Hallingbury Place

The Gardens at Hallingbury Place



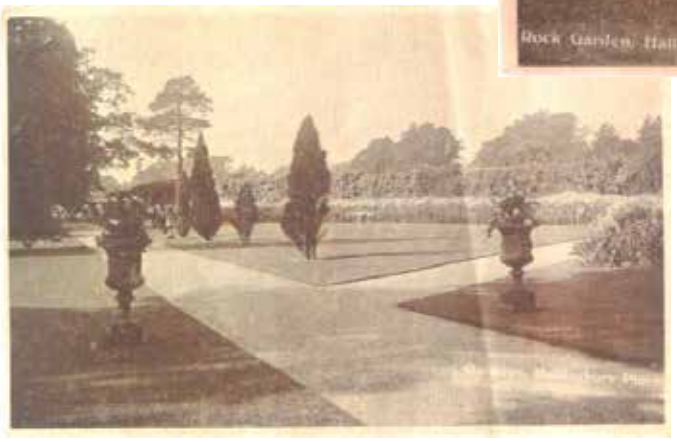
Garden, Hallingbury Place



Lily Pond, Hallingbury Place



Rock Garden, Hallingbury Place



Part of Formal Garden, Hallingbury Place

Great Hallingbury Highlights

The main changes that have occurred during the last year have been on the production side. As I recorded last time, Alan Rowett, who had handled the printing of Great Hallingbury Highlights, sadly died so I had to become involved in organising the printing.

Then in the summer, thanks to Microsoft's upgrading of their systems, I had to get a new computer. As many of you will know, switching computers is never fun but this transition was much, much more difficult than I have previously experienced. Worst of all there were real problems with the publishing programme I have always used for *Highlights*. Fortunately these now seem to be largely resolved but only at the cost of having to enter a monthly contract. It seems that you just cannot buy programmes outright any longer – or, at least, not the ones you want.



Nonetheless, the production of Great Hallingbury Highlights has continued as you will all have seen.

Photographs for the cover which feature the village or an aspect of life in Great Hallingbury would be much appreciated and if you have a project or a hobby about which you could write a small article, I would love to hear from you.

My thanks to Val Waring who supports me with getting advertising and finding articles. Thanks, too, for the Parish Council's grant which supplements the advertising revenue to meet the costs of production and great thanks to the team of deliverers all round the village who actually put the magazine through each door.

Christine Coultrup
Editor
Report to Annual Parish Meeting

Essex Police

Crime Prevention Advice

Secure Sliding and Patio Doors

Sliding and patio doors can sometimes be lifted off their tracks, especially older models. An anti lift device or additional locking bar prevents this and adds more resistance against forced entry. These devices are inexpensive, quick to install and offer valuable extra protection for one of the home's more vulnerable access points.

Distraction Theft

Stay alert to distraction thefts targeting drivers in Uttlesford. Reports have been received of people approaching motorists, claiming a vehicle has been scratched. This is being used as a distraction to steal purses or other valuables from cars.

Please remain vigilant:

- Be aware of your surroundings - Be cautious of strangers approaching you with questions or trying to distract you, especially in car parks.
- Secure your valuables - Keep bags, phones and wallets out of sight. If possible, place valuables in the boot before you arrive at your destination.
- Lock your doors - Always double check that your car doors are locked, particularly if you stop to speak with someone.
- Protect your belongings - Purse bells can help alert you if your bag is being moved
- Report suspicious behaviour - If someone is acting suspiciously around vehicles, report it to police straight away.

Too Good to be True?

If it looks too good to be true, it probably is. Very low prices, especially for popular or in demand items, are often used to trick people into scams.

Take a moment to pause before you buy. Compare prices on other websites and check reviews carefully.

For more ways to spot a scam online and keep yourself safe, visit our website.
www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/

Little Hallingbury Primary School

Sporting Successes

Year 5/6 Uttlesford Archery Champions 2026

Back in November 2025, Little Hallingbury School entered six teams in the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 archery competitions run by the Uttlesford Schools Sports Partnership for the primary schools in south Uttlesford. One of the Year 3/4 teams and two Year 5/6 teams qualified for the Uttlesford finals, held at the Lord Butler Leisure Centre in Saffron Walden at the start of the summer term.

The Year 3/4 team of Charlie, Ethan, Matilda and Miray scored 370, out of the potential 750, to finish a respectable Fifth in their competition. The Year 5/6 team of Phoebe, Albie, Jensen and Hazel all improved on their scores from the November competition to reach a solid score of 349.



However, it was Logan, Violet, William and Grace who showed consistency throughout the competition, shooting a combined score of at least 92, out of a possible 150, in each of the five rounds. Logan set the pace with the team's first three arrows - 10, 9, 10 - and the team went on to hit another six bullseyes during the rounds. Scores were close until the very end, when Grace decided to go one better with the team's last three arrows - 10, 10, 10 - giving them an amazing eleven bullseyes and a final score of 487. This impressive score was enough to earn them the title of Year 5/6 Uttlesford Archery Champions 2026!



Winning Cross Country Runners

In the autumn, over 50 children from Little Hallingbury School entered the local cross country competition run by the Uttlesford Schools Sports Partnership.

Lenny from Year 4, both Year 5 teams and both Year 6 teams excelled and qualified for the Uttlesford finals this term. The finals were held at Carver Barracks and all the qualifiers ran well on the unusually bright and dry spring day!



However, massive congratulations to Lenny who took on some very tall competitors to win the Year 4 Boys race by several metres.

Lenny competed in the Essex finals right at the end of last term, and came 17th out of 164 boys in his age group on a very windy day.

Apparently, he is ‘super proud’, as are we at school!

Nichola BC

Sudoku - *medium*

4	5				7		6	1
			5		1			
				4				
5	1					2	8	
9	3					5		
			7		3			9
	7		1			9		2
			9	6				
2		8	3			1	5	6

Great Hallingbury Village Hall



Report to Annual Parish Meeting

It gives me great pleasure to report that 2025 saw a continued increase in people wishing to use the hall for various events and occasions. This, coupled with the consolidation of all our regular users and clubs, was great for all concerned. It was a year of stability from a financial viewpoint

Hirers

We have three U3A table tennis clubs, Bishop's Stortford dog training club, a craft club called Crafty Spell and a drama group called RISE. Hallingbury Ladies (formerly Great Hallingbury WI), our History Society and our Bridge Club continue to hold their meetings/functions on a regular basis as well as the Parish Council. All three of our regular hirers who started late 2024 - Saint K9 - a dog training group, Air Britain – a group of aviation enthusiasts - and SOMA Breathwork and Meditation group have gone from strength to strength in 2025. As a result, all have booked well into 2026. Our newest addition – Basking Babies who offer classes and support for parents from pregnancy through the early years - again have now booked well into 2026 and the feedback from them is fantastic.

We continue to host and welcome the District Councillors' surgeries on a monthly basis and Great Hallingbury Residents' Association continues to hold meetings when needed. Of particular note, is the National Child Trust who hold classes every week here in the hall.

Events in the Hall

A seminar was held by the United Old English Sheepdog Club; Bishop's Stortford Bee Keepers ran a training day/meeting, two baby showers took place and Herts & Essex Flower Club hired the hall in December.

The hall hosted a charity quiz evening for *Noah's Ark,* organised by Val and Carl Waring. Around £600 was raised for the charity which helps babies, children and young people who have life-limiting or life-threatening conditions to make the most of every day. Although, the Village Hall is a registered charity there was no charge for that evening as we will always support such worthwhile events.

November saw the return, for a fourth year running, of our Great Hallingbury Christmas Tree *switch on* event. As always Councillor Alan Pinnock provided the Christmas trees and oversaw the installation, with our gratitude. Thank you to Freda and Alan Townsend and the Parish Council who kindly provided all the refreshments. It was great to see around sixty people attending including our MP, Chris Vince, County Councillor Susan Barker and District Councillor Geof Driscoll.



Upkeep and Maintenance

As a hall, we have always prided ourselves on creating a safe and welcoming environment for the community to enjoy.

All our risk assessments are regularly reviewed and updated accordingly and we have an annual fire inspection.

There were two projects last year. Stort Electrical conducted a much needed total inspection, overhaul and upgrade of our electrical system. A Hearing Loop System has also been installed - a well worthwhile project that will enhance the enjoyment and experience of the hall for those who have hearing disabilities.

Finances

We had two Quiz Nights which raised around £980. Thank you to all those involved in organising and supporting those nights which were very enjoyable. A Table Top sale in June, indoors to alleviate the possibility of the English summer weather being unhelpful, was supported hugely by sellers but with limited buyers. Nonetheless, we managed to raise £120 through table sales

and the refreshments. A donation to our funds from Great Hallingbury Parish Council was very much appreciated.
There will be no price increase for 2026 hire fees after slight price rises in October 2025. We do remain competitive and endeavour to promote the use of the Village Hall by more residents.
I am happy to say that the hall is in a healthy financial position.

Appreciation

As important as anything I have mentioned in this report is the recognition of people and their kindness, generosity, time and dedication in keeping the hall's existence alive. We thank for their continued support Great Hallingbury Parish Council, Essex County Councillor Sue Barker, Geof Driscoll and Neil Reeve our Uttlesford District Councillors and the Rural Community Council of Essex.
I place on record a huge thank you to my committee for all their time, effort, support and opinions throughout the year including Mrs. Christine Coultrup, our treasurer; my deputy, Mrs. Val Waring, for her all her hard work, especially in promoting the hall via her media expertise. A special mention goes to Mr. Alan Pinnock who gives much time to the more specialised maintenance issues of the hall.
Bookings for the hall can be a mine field so especial thanks to my wife, Sarah, for all her work in promoting the hall and keeping the administration side running smoothly.

Looking Forward

I can say with confidence and great pleasure that we are in a good position all round. This is the last community building standing in Great Hallingbury as the school, post office/shop and pub have all closed. If you have any ideas for fundraising, want to get involved in existing projects, events, information on what we are doing or have done then please feel free to contact me.

Lee Cox, Chairman
Great Hallingbury Village Hall Committee

The Gardening Group

Connect. Share. Grow

About Us

We are a friendly community of gardeners who love to share, whether that's plants, advice or encouragement.

Everyone is here to give as well as receive, helping each other grow along the way, simply for the joy of gardening; not for financial gain.

Our Plans

We are a new group and trialling the following format on the first Wednesday of each month:

Hall open from 7: 00 pm to set up
Group 7: 30 - 9: 30.

RHS trained leaders to run discussion on monthly topics
Followed by a practical session

Tea, coffee and cake

Finishing with plant swapping/ purchase opportunities.

£5 per session to cover hall hire and resources



LTH Waste Removal and Luxury Toilet Hire (UK) Ltd



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



LTH Waste Removal is your local service provider for liquid waste removal, including :
- Cesspits
- Septic tanks
- Klargesters and Bio disks



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

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

For a free quotation, please contact us:
Tel: 01279 504638 or 01371 873003 **Yard: 01371 871871** Email: info@luxurytoilethire.co.uk

Timber's Boarding Cattery

The Street, Takeley, CM226QW 01279 870738

LEARN HOW TO DRAW & PAINT

For all abilities!

Drawing & Painting
Workshops
Private Art Sessions
Arty Parties

Book via the website!
Great Hallingbury Art Studio
M: 07788 577448
E: info@thearthouseoasis.com

www.thearthouseoasis.com

STORT Electrical & Locksmith

"Local, reliable, qualified & insured"

Electrical Services:

- Lighting Upgrades, repairs, replacements
- Outside power
- Extractor Fans
- Alarms, CCTV & Home Automation
- EICRs (Electrical Installation Condition Reports)
- Rewires & Repairs
- Fault Finding & Problem Solving
- Electric Garage doors, gates etc.

Locksmith Services:

- Lock Repair, Replacement & Upgrades
- Key Cutting (we come to you - most keys £5)
- Lockouts
- Door and Window Mechanism repair or replacement
- Door alignment and problem solving

Call: 07775 725 748 Email: glenn@stortelectrical.co.uk

Discounted rates for Hallingbury Residents!
(because I live here too!)

www.stortelectrical.co.uk www.stortlocksmith.co.uk

Hallingbury Ladies a.k.a HALS Fun & Friendship

Successful and Growing

We are approaching the end of our second year as Hallingbury Ladies. We continue to enjoy monthly meetings with a mixture of speakers, social activities and a few learning events (chair yoga, defibrillator). Initially we had 23 members and now, despite losing a few who have relocated, our membership stands at 32.

When we started our members enjoyed eleven monthly meetings and seven monthly lunches, plus visits to other groups. However, as well as twelve meetings and more lunches, our activities have increased and now include a *Knit and Natter* group which meets monthly and the *Literary Ladies*. They have read a wide variety of books in the last year on which members have commented and discussed with cake and tea in each other's houses (unless the member has a badly behaved pet)! Tea and cake are features of all the group meetings, even the *Walkers,* who usually end their walk with a visit to a café for coffee and cake. At the moment a new *Gardening Group* is being formed — there is something for everyone.

Last year, between April and October, a series of outings was arranged. We visited Helen Reynolds' fantastic island garden on the river near Roydon; 21 members enjoyed a trip to Harlow dog track; afternoon tea at Little Easton Manor and a visit to Southmill Arts Theatre where we enjoyed an excellent production of *Anything Goes*.

Shortly we hope to welcome another new member who visited us last month to hear her friend speak and enjoyed the meeting so much has decided to join.

Although starting the group was a little stressful, it is now working well and is very enjoyable. Basically, a good time is had by all.

Gill Sewell, Secretary HALS
Report to Annual Parish Meeting

Essex County Council

Election Results

Takeley Division

You will likely know by now that our long time Essex Councillor, Sue Barker, has lost the seat by a narrow margin to Geoff Bagnell, representing Reform UK, and that Reform UK has won control of Essex County Council.

Message from Susan Barker



Dear Great Hallingbury Residents
I am disappointed and a bit sad not to have been re-elected as the County Councillor for the new Takeley Division.
During the campaign I re-reported the potholes through the village in an effort to get these prioritised and also had the road inspected in Tile Kiln Green where water has caused the road surface to break up and holes have formed. I hope, by the time you read this, it will have been repaired.
Speeding through the village was the main issue on the doorstep and, more widely, concern about the number of new homes being built.
Chasing up these issues is now down to your new Councillor. I hope they realise how many Parishes to which they are now answerable. *Susan Barker*

Our Neighbours in Harlow

As we are part of the Harlow constituency, you may be interested to know that Harlow returned Conservative councillors in all five of their Essex County divisions.
In addition, they had partial elections to the Harlow District Council and the Conservatives took all those seats too.

What kind of band never plays music?

A Rubber Band

Waste Bins

You may have heard that new rules have been introduced in England for bin collections. Which items are acceptable have changed over the years and I fear I am still working to several iterations ago. Here is what Uttlesford will handle today:

Food caddy

- fruit and vegetable peelings
- cooked and uncooked food
- meat and bones
- plate scrapings and leftovers
- eggshells
- teabags and coffee grounds
- dead house plants / flowers
- food stained paper and card such as pizza boxes and fish & chip paper

But not:



- dry recycling
- non-recycling
- plastic / degradable bags (green recycling)
- garden waste
- glass (green recycling)
- tin cans (green recycling)
- foil (green recycling)

Green bin



- Aerosols(must be empty) including: sun cream, room spray, air freshener, oven cleaner, shoe or furniture polish, hair spray

But not: gas products such as lighter fuel or camping stove fuel

- Cardboard including: boxes, cardboard packaging (including food packaging) cereal boxes, corrugated card, egg boxes, greetings cards, greyboard, tissue boxes
- Cardboard cartons including: juice cartons, liquid food cartons, milk cartons, tetrapak cartons
- Glass - all glass bottles and jars including: beer/spirit/wine bottles, baby food jars, cook-in sauce jars, jam jars, perfume bottles

But not: drinking glasses/vases, mirror glass, plate glass, pyrex bowls/jugs etc, window/windscreen glass

- Metal cans and tins including: aluminium takeaway containers, biscuit and sweet tins, drinks cans, foil, food tins (including pet food), tin lids
- Paper including: books, brochures, catalogues, envelopes (with and without windows), junk mail, magazines, newspapers, office paper (white and coloured), paper packaging, shredded paper, wrapping paper, Yellow Pages & directories

But not: Jiffy bags, wallpaper, kitchen paper, kitchen paper towels, tissues

- Plastic bottles including: bottle tops, cleaning product bottles, fabric conditioner and other cleansing product bottles, milk bottles, shampoo and other toiletry bottles, soft drink bottles, trigger spray bottles, pump spray bottles, roller-ball bottles
- Plastic food containers including: ice cream containers, margarine/butter tubs, meat trays, party platters, plastic cups, plastic sandwich packs, plastic takeaway food containers, plastic tubs, ready meal food trays, yoghurt pots

But not: Polystyrene cups, packaging, trays, bubble wrap, plastic film/cling film

Black bin



- jiffy bags
- patterned or flock wallpaper
- kitchen paper and tissues
- disposable nappies
- cling film
- bubble wrap, shrink wrap
- cellophane
- crisp packets, chocolate wrappers etc.
- black bin liners
- expanded polystyrene / Styrofoam
- CDs, DVDs, Video or cassette tapes
- hard plastic items such as toys

Book Corner



Book Corner

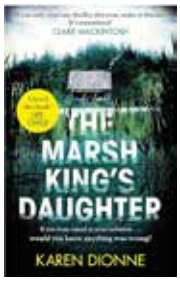
The Marsh King's Daughter

by Karen Dionne

Meet Helena, the Marsh King's daughter, who was born as the result of rape – but doesn't know it for many years. Her mother was abducted at the age of seventeen by Jacob Holbrook – the *Marsh King* being the name given to him by the newspapers years later – and Helena was born during her mother's captivity and raised in total isolation from the world.

She grows up in a small wooden cabin deep in the Michigan Wilderness and from an early age her father teaches her survival skills, hunting and tracking, and instils in her a deep connection to nature. At this point, Helena, being completely unaware of the dark truth of her mother's history, adores her father. She is too young to understand how he has kept them away from the rest of the world while, at the same time, fostering a deep, but warped, sense of family loyalty. As she grows up, though, she begins to experience at first-hand how cruel he could be to both her and her mother, both physically and mentally. When Helena is twelve, she and her mother are rescued, Jacob is captured - and all is revealed. This, however, is far from the end of the story!

We first meet Helena when she is married with two small girls and a successful business selling home-made jam. Having made a delivery of jam, she takes her younger daughter to the beach for a while. On the way home she turns the truck's radio on and, to her horror, hears that a prisoner serving a life sentence without parole for child abduction, rape and murder has escaped from the maximum security prison in Marquette – and knows it is her father!



The Fox

by Frederick Forsyth

The Fox is a spy thriller for the 21st century as the weapon is not a smart missile or a stealth submarine but cyber warfare - via the brilliant hacking abilities of a British teenager.

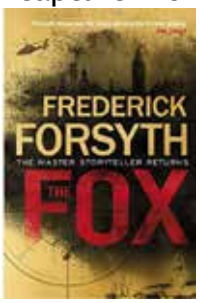
The central character, other than Luke, the 18 year old hacker, is the former chief of the British Intelligence service, Adrian Weston. He receives a call from the Prime Minister in the middle of the night; the National Security Agency of the USA had been hacked despite its supposedly impenetrable security. With the help of an expert from the Cyber Security Centre in London, the hacker is eventually traced and the Americans want him to be extradited without delay.

Realising, however, that Luke's hacking skills could be of great benefit to the Western World, Weston persuades the USA that it would be better to harness the hacker's brilliance at bypassing firewalls – and use his expertise to manipulate the enemy's computer programs.

In Russia, the *Admiral Nakhimov*, the largest and most modern battleship in the world with every function computerized, is launched and sets out on her triumphal maiden voyage. Unfortunately, when she sails into the English Channel, the ship *somehow* becomes stranded on the Goodwin Sands - in front of the eyes of the world.

The Fox now becomes a race-against-time across continents to find and capture – or protect and save – an asset with the means to change the balance of world power. Whatever happens, Luke must not fall into the wrong hands.

Jan Baldwin



The Hundred Parishes Society



Horses were once very important in everyday life. This changed quickly with the advent of tractors, trucks and the motor car. Horses were used extensively in agriculture; they also hauled delivery carts, buses and everything in between. Some of us may remember the horse-drawn milk float or the coalman and rag-and-bone man.

There were blacksmiths, smithies and forges in most towns and villages. We still have blacksmiths who work in metal, making gates, weather vanes, tools and farm implements, as well as shoeing horses. A farrier is a specialist in equine hoof care.



Barkway – Old Forge

Whilst blacksmiths and farriers are quite rare today, there are reminders of this aspect of our heritage around The Hundred Parishes, for example in the names Forge Green at Hildersham, Anvil Cross in Great Hallingbury and Smith's End Lane in Barley. The area has five pubs called The Three Horseshoes – a name which probably came about because they had a nearby farrier, ready to deal with a customer who arrived with a horse that had lost a shoe. Today, dwellings with names like The Old Forge or Anvil House often reveal their earlier lives.



High Easter – Weather Vane at Anvil House

Much Hadham Forge is still in use, part of Much Hadham Forge Museum. The museum usually opens Friday to Sunday, April to December, 11am to 5pm. It is housed in a series of listed buildings dating from the 15th to 19th centuries. The forge itself dates from the 17th century; today's blacksmith runs forge experience days.

Ashdon once had three blacksmiths in the village. Now, one of Ashdon Museum's excellent displays is a representation of a blacksmith's shop with all the tools and equipment that he would have used.



Much Hadham – Forge Museum

There is lots of information on our website.

Ken McDonald

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Three Lions



Three hungry lions wander across the Serengeti National Park in search of food when they stumble upon an old oil lamp.

Having never seen one before and being naturally curious, they start sniffing around it. As they're doing this, one of their tails brushes against the lamp and then there's a *Pooof!* sound. A genie is suddenly standing in front of them.

Lions*, says the genie, *I'm the genie of the lamp and I'll grant you three wishes. That's one wish for each of you.

The first lion is so hungry he doesn't need to think very hard. *I would like a big, juicy piece of meat, please*, he says. Pooof! In a flash, the biggest, juiciest piece of meat is lying on the ground in front of him.

Well, it's the turn of the second lion and he's so hungry he decides he wants even more. *I want a shower of meat, please*, he says. Pooof! In a flash, there are big, juicy pieces of meat falling from the sky.

Not wishing to be outdone by his friends, the third lion thinks hard for a second or two. *Got it!* he says. *I want a meatier shower!*

Highlights from the Minutes of Meeting of Great Hallingbury Parish Council

2 March 2026

Present: Cllr Alan Townsend (Chairman), Cllrs David Barlow, Mark Bloomfield, Mark Coletta, Neil Jackson, Andrew Noble, Alan Pinnock and Val Waring, Mrs Freda Townsend (LocumClerk), Cllr Geof Driscoll, Essex County Cllr Susan Barker, three representatives of Flitch Way Action Group, Trevor Dodkin of Bloor Homes, District Councillor for All Saints Ward, Bishop's Stortford, Cllr Chris Wilson and five members of the public

Bloor Homes' Beldams Lane Development

Trevor Dodkins introduced the scheme briefly and advised that a two week consultation had been held. They will look into the possibility of widening Beldams Lane.

District Councillor for All Saints Ward, Bishop's Stortford, Cllr Chris Wilson raised objections to the development: infrastructure – problems of congestion, particularly Haymeads Lane and Beldams Lane - and the development is in Green Belt.

Public Participation

A member of the public complained that drains were not emptied outside their house; the ditch water gathered there although piped out elsewhere.

Potholes were identified which Cllr Pinnock advised had now been marked.

The litter pick cancellation was mentioned.

Flitch Way

The Chair of Flitch Way Action Group said the problem is that Flitch Way doesn't actually connect the towns and they are trying to get connections done. Cllr Coletta advised the Parish Council supports Flitch Way and that four benches had been donated. He felt he could be the *developer lead* re planning proposals. Flooding was pointed out, litter and bike racing. He wondered how the problems would be managed once connected to Bishop's Stortford. The Flitch Way Action Group Chair, Stuart Withington, said these problems are not the responsibility of the local authority but Highways and others should sort them out. Cllr Pinnock asked if parking on the corner by the bridge could be improved. They will address this in time. Cllr Coletta expressed concerns regarding security.

Chairman's Activities

Chairman, Cllr Townsend reported he had:

- attended EALC executive meetings,
- at community initiative fund panel
- attended Essex Health and Wellbeing for Uttlesford
- met with National Trust at Bedlars Green with Cllrs Pinnock and Barlow re parking issues
- met with Secretary of UALC and attended executive meeting
- resigned from EALC.

VAS Speed Sign Start Hill

It is believed that the VAS sign at Start Hill does not work during the night. Could that be tested? The vegetation had grown. Cllr Barker agreed to investigate.

Village Hall Field

Forest Hall Park Football Club,a fairly new club, was struggling to find a suitable field for playing. They would like their children's teams to use the field adjacent to the Village Hall and the car park. It must be accepted that this an open field and thus open to the public. The club should liaise with the Village Hall Committee. The Council's groundsman cuts the grass on the field but the club should cut the grass on the pitch area to the standard they need. To get funding for maintaining the pitch they would need agreement for the use of the pitch. The Parish Council agreed this would not be a problem and confirmed their support for the club to use the field for children's football.

continued on next page

continued from previous page

Essex County Council

County Cllr Barker reported:

- Potholes: one at Leapers Lane and one at Church Lane will be investigated and hopefully repaired
- Water leak at Lewismead will be investigated
- Car park: looks good

Uttlesford District Council

District Cllr Driscoll reported:

- He had been invited by Bloor Homes but declined to attend
- Community Infrastructure Levy applications can be turned down if not on the Local Plan. Parish Council can claim money on houses being built to use on village infrastructure.
- Cllr Coletta asked about the speed camera outside new houses on Start Hill. Cllr Driscoll answered that cameras can be installed but Highways have to give permission.

Hallingburys' Speed Watch Group

Co-ordinator Janet Wiley will give a presentation at APM.

Village Hall

Cllr Pinnock reported that there are problems re the cesspit and the committee may consider going on mains drainage.

Noticeboard

Quotations had been received and considered. It was agreed unanimously to accept a quote from geViews. The noticeboard will be installed on the B1256 near to Kearsley Airways building.

Litter Pick

Cllr Bloomfield reported that the litter pick was cancelled due to lack of support and abuse from drivers. If there were more people taking part, they would be on the road for less time. To be reviewed in October 2026.

Post Box at Top of Goose Lane by Woodside Green

Cllr Jackson emailed the details needed but there was no answer. Cllr Townsend suggested that the clerk writes to MP, Chris Vince, to meet by the post box.

White Lining in Car Park

The car park was repaired and lines were repainted.

Planning

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

Application Decisions

UTT/25/1542/FUL // London Stansted Airport// Awaiting decision (Council's objections previously published)

UTT/25/1854/FUL // Cranwellian, The Street, Takeley // Awaiting decision (Council's objections previously published)

UTT/25/2181/OP // Land at Camps Field, Lower Road, Little Hallingbury // Outline planning application, with all matters reserved (except for principal access), for the demolition of existing structures and erection of up to 59 dwellings // Awaiting decision (As neighbouring Parish this development will curate more traffic through our village and we oppose it.)

UTT/25/2590/FUL // The Hop Poles, Bedlars Green // S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/24/1370/FUL (Conversion and change of use from public house to one residential dwelling and proposed erection of cartlodge. Proposed construction of one self- build dwelling in existing car park.) - alterations to external materials, removal of existing external render to original brickwork beneath // Refused (No objections.)

UTT/25/2634/LB // The Hop Poles, Bedlars Green // Application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/24/1371/LB (Conversion of public house to residential including alterations to listed building.) - alterations to external materials, removal of existing external render to original brickwork beneath. (Retention of exposed facing brickwork following removal of external render on the listed building.) // Refused (No objections.)

UTT/25/1542/FUL London Stansted Airport Bassingbourn Road (Re-consultation) Airfield works // Awaiting decision
UTT/25/2591/FUL // Land Adjacent 10 Start Hill // Erection of five dwelling houses // Awaiting decision
UTT/25/3006/FUL // The Old Forge, Woodside Green // S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/24/2714/FUL (Conversion and change of use of garages to form tourist accommodation.) - Changes to layout and fenestration of previously approved drawings // Approved (No objections.)
UTT/25/3007/FUL // The Old Forge, Woodside Green // S73 to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/25/1130/FUL (Conversion and change of use of garages to form tourist accommodation) - Changes to layout and fenestration of previously approved drawings // Approved (No objections)
UTT/25/2857/HHF // Wood End, Bedlars Green // Part single, part double storey rear extension, enlargement of rear dormer and front dormer. // Approved (No objections)
UTT/25/3239/HHF // Silver Birches, Church Road // Creation of a new vehicular access to the existing driveway, including a dropped kerb and associated surfacing works. // Approved (No objections)
UTT/25/3348/LB // Wallwood, Woodside Green // Re-roofing of main house // Approved (No objections.)

Applications Dealt with at Meeting

UTT/26/0089/FUL // 1 The Gatehouse, The Street // S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/23/0985/FUL (Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling with associated private garden, car parking and landscaping and removal of existing relocatable dwelling) // No objections.
UTT/25/2591/FUL // Land adjacent 10 Start Hill (Re-consultation) // Erection of five dwelling houses // (Objections: land lies within Local plan 2005 policy Air 7 public safely zone where no residential development allowed: aircraft noise is extreme with aircraft less than 100m overhead: garden areas positioned to south of proposed dwellings to act as buffer to airport noise to north but aircraft fly less than 100m directly overhead in both directions: insulating properties will not inhibit extreme level of noise in gardens or in summer months when windows and doors open.
UTT/26/0131/OP // Land at Latchmore End, Latchmore Bank, Little Hallingbury // Outline planning application with all matters reserved except access for the erection of two dwellings and associated works // Objections: arborist's report refers to tree on land belonging to Woodland View – it's a 180 year old oak tree.
The property Latchmmore Bank already comprises house, annex in stables and flat above garages. That triangle of land not big enough to accommodate two further properties. Not clear where driveways are; sight line not good exit onto A1060 and cars speeding up hill past Pig Lane or down from Little Hallingbury where road is straight. Difficult getting out of Church Road between 8.15am – 9am during school run and rush hour; turning left out of back gives difficult turn onto A1060 with severely restricted view of traffic. Many accidents happened over the years in this area.

continued on page 33

Great Hallingbury Community



Don't forget to check our Community website for information on the village and its surroundings. You may also be interested in the activities mentioned.

The Physiotherapist

JULIE HERBERT MCSP BSc (Hons) MAACP

Associate NATALIE HILLIARD MCSP BSc (Hons)

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

Telephone or Text: 07712 230391

Book Online at www.thephysiotherapist.net

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

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

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

Daytime and evening appointments available

www.thephysiotherapist.net

SK
SPOTLESSLY KLEAN

Cleaning Services

Reliable, friendly and professional cleaning services

Weekly, fortnightly along with deep cleans personalised to your needs

Tel: 07876 616299

spotlessly.klean

VANS AUTOS



MOT TEST CENTRE

Class 4 and Class 7 vehicles

Service and Repairs

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

Tel: 01279 724534
or 07778 217304

continued from page 31

UTT/26/0165/FUL // Land North of The Gatehouse, The Street // S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of UTT/25/2147/FUL (Erection of two detached dwelling houses and related works (alternative to approved scheme at Appeal under application UTT/23/1878/FUL)) -To change size, design and appearance of dwelling at Plot 2 from chalet to two storey dwelling, to increase size of private garden areas and alter landscaping. // No objections.

UTT/26/0229/LB // Howe Green House School, Howe Green Road // Installation of fibre broadband cable // No objections.

UTT/26/0300/FUL // Land adjoining Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill // Erection of employment building for use within Classes B2 (General Industrial), B8 (Storage andDistribution), E(g)(ii) (Research and Development), E(g) (iii) (Industrial Processes), complete with vehicular and pedestrian access from Dunmow Road, parking provision, landscaping and all related infrastructure //

Many objections including:

- B1256 becoming industrial corridor. Stansted Distribution Centre approved for expansion of storage warehousing; Land North of Taylors Farm already allocated and approved by Secretary of State's planning inspector under new Uttlesford Local plan 2026-2041 B2 and B8 usage and Stansted Northside less than a mile away.
- Difficult HGV and vehicle access from B1256 needing another filter lane. For previous application UTT/21/3777/OP (directly opposite this site), Essex Highways objected as B1256 too narrow and pathways and highway would need to be widened
- No mains drainage - no foul water or mains sewage. No watercourses to allow surface water or sewage treated water to discharge
- Site access to development cuts directly across National Cycle highway No16 or PPROW No.45 which raises safety concerns.
- Area unlit at night, pathways narrow and non-existent at location, on 40mph road with no safe crossing points.
- Extreme levels of noise just 500m from the southern end of Stansted Airport's Runway.
- Location has eight heritage assets surrounding development. One missing from applicant's heritage statement.
- Great Hallingbury End list No.1365615 would have full view of this development from its curtilage and style and massing of proposal would impact on its character and that of Thatched Cottage, already severely impacted by industrial development and that of planning application UTT/25/0812/FUL (not yet built)
- Proposal shows units built right up to the Flitchway which is considered a recognised wildlife corridor.
- Site not an allocated site in new Local Plan and if dealt with under old 2005 local plan then development falls into Countryside Protection Zone.
- Contravenes UDC policies:
  S7 and S8 Countryside Protection Zone
  ENV2 Development affecting listed buildings ENV7 ENV8 Protection to the Flitchway ENV10 Noise Sensitive
  GEN5 light pollution (this area is unlit)
  GEN4 noise and disturbance to Neighbours
  GEN1 safe access and egress to the B1256

Late Planning Matters

UDC's CIL consultation deadline is 25 March, 2026. Cllr Coletta authorised to draft response on behalf of Council and email it to the clerk for circulation and submission to UDC.

This is easy to lift but hard to throw. What is it?

A Feather

Easy Eating

Roast Pepper and Goats Cheese Tart

Preparation : 40 mins Cooking : 15-20mins
Servings : 6-8

Ingredients

1 yellow pepper
1 red pepper
2 tablespoons virgin olive oil
225g (8oz) ready made puff pastry
Handful of basil leaves (torn)
4 salad tomatoes thinly sliced
150g (5oz) barrel shaped goats cheese cut into 9 slices
Salt and pepper to season

Method

1. Preheat oven gas mark 7 / 210C / 190C fan / 425F
2. Cut peppers in half, remove seeds, brush with the olive oil and place on an oven tray. Roast for 20-30 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, roll pastry into a rectangle 20 x 30cm (8 x 12 inches). Line a baking sheet, place the pastry on it and score 1.5 cm (1/4 inch) around the edge to form a border.
4. Once peppers are cooked, remove the skin, cut into strips and place on the pastry. Add the torn basil leaves.
5. On top of the peppers and basil, place sliced tomatoes lengthways in three rows, slightly overlapping, then add the rounds of goats cheese at intervals. Make sure all the topping is inside the score mark.



6. Season to taste, then place back in the oven for 15-20 minutes until cooked.

Lemon Curd Crumble Biscuits



Preparation : 20 mins plus cooking time

Ingredients (makes 12)

170g unsalted butter, diced and chilled (plus extra for greasing)
285g plain flour
75g golden caster sugar
30g demerara sugar
50g jumbo oats
30g flaked almonds
30g pecan nuts
325g jar lemon curd
1 egg yolk
Zest of a lemon
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon baking powder

Method

1. Preheat oven to 190C / gas mark 5. Grease a 22cm tin and line with baking parchment.
2. Mix the flour and butter with fingertips in a large mixing bowl until they form a crumb mix. Stir in caster sugar and salt, then transfer 1/3 of the mixture into a separate bowl for later use.
3. Add baking powder, egg yolk and lemon zest to the remaining mixture until all the ingredients are well mixed. Place in the baking tin and bake for 15 minutes. Remove and allow to cool for 10 minutes.
4. Meanwhile, add demerara sugar, jumbo oats, almonds and pecans to the spare mixture along with ½ tablespoon of water. Mix together with a palette knife or similar. Spread the lemon curd over the cooked mixture then top with the crumble mixture you have just made.
5. Bake for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from the oven and allow to cool. To remove, use the palette knife to ease away the parchment, remove from the tin and cut into 12 slices. These can be kept in an airtight container for up to 3 days.

Rosemary Nugent

St Giles' Parochial Church Council



Services at St Giles' have again been reviewed to allow one of the fortnightly services to be at 11am. The first Sunday of each month is a Holy Communion service still at 9am. The third Sunday is a Family service at 11am. On the occasion of a fifth Sunday in the month, there will also be a Family service at 11am within the six parishes.

Our Priest in Charge, Sophie Weller, is unfortunately incapacitated at present due to breaking her ankle and dislocating her knee. We have had clergy from other local areas to assist with services.

Our bell ringers ring before each service and practise on Thursday evenings. We thank them for the lovely sound they create.

Our thanks go to Alan Townsend and Neil Jackson for keeping the churchyard grass cut throughout last year. Also thanks to others who helped with tidying plants and other areas. Several horizontal gravestones have been uncovered and these are less of a trip hazard when they can be seen!

While Alan and Neil hope to continue this year with grass cutting, they are unable to fix a regular day as this depends on availability and the weather. Any assistance would certainly be appreciated, so please give Alan a call if you are able to help so that he can let you know when they will be there or what you can do when you are available.

Two trees near to the main church gate were reduced in size by professional arborists earlier this year in order to make them safe.

St Giles' is a beautiful church, so please come along to a service when you can and enjoy a chat over tea and coffee after the service.

Freda Townsend, reporting to the Annual Parish Meeting

Services in the Hallingburys

June - August 2026

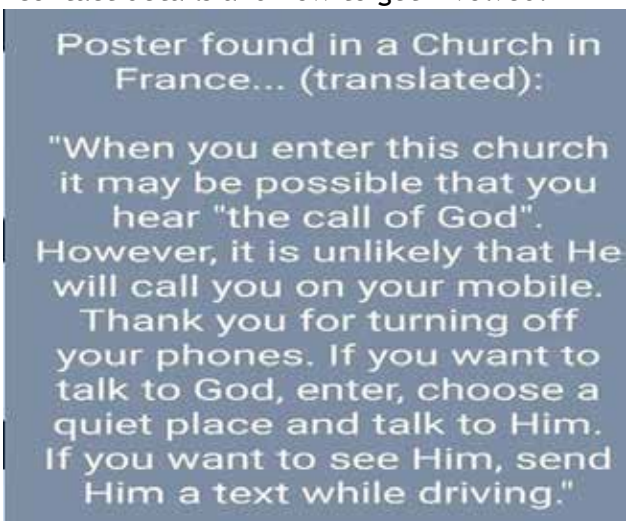
G = St Giles' M = St Mary's

G	Jun 7	9 am	Holy Communion
M	Jun 14	11 am	Morning Worship
G	Jun 21	11 am	Morning Worship
M	Jun 28	11 am	Holy Communion
G	Jul 5	9 am	Holy Communion
M	Jul 12	11 am	Morning Worship
G	Jul 19	11 am	Morning Worship
M	Jul 26	11 am	Holy Communion
G	Aug 2	9 am	Holy Communion
M	Aug 9	11 am	Morning Worship
G	Aug 16	11 am	Morning Worship
M	Aug 23	11 am	Holy Communion
	Aug 30	11 am	Six Villages Service
G	Sep 6	9 am	Holy Communion
M	Sep 13	11 am	Morning Worship
G	Sep 20	11 am	Morning Worship

Please Note:

Please 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.





Charity Quiz

PROCEEDS GO TO 50K CHARITY TREK ACROSS THE SAHARA
IN AID OF NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

SATURDAY 11TH JULY 7PM FOR 7.30PM START

GREAT HALLINGBURY VILLAGE HALL
TABLES OF 6 - 8 £5 PERSON

BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND NIBBLES
WINNER'S PRIZE AND RAFFLE

TO BOOK CONTACT VAL WARING
VALWARING@GOOGLEMAIL.COM



Calendar

June 2026

1 Little Hallingbury History Society - *The History of Malting in Bishop's Stortford* - LH Village Hall 8pm
2 District Councillors' Surgery - Village Hall 2 - 4 pm
3 Gardening Group - Village Hall 7.30 - 9.30 pm
5 *Little Hallingbury Cricket Club Quiz* - Little Hallingbury Village Hall at 7.30 for 8 pm
6 Library Van - Bedlars Green 13.45 - 14.15
10 Great Hallingbury History Society - *Matching Airfield* - Village Hall at 8 pm
24 Hallingbury Ladies - *Treasure Hunt* - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
27 Library Van - Bedlars Green 13.45 - 14.15

July 2026

1 Gardening Group - Village Hall 7.30 - 9.30 pm
6 Great Hallingbury Parish Council - Village Hall 8 pm
6 Little Hallingbury History Society - *The Great Flood of 1953* - LH Village Hall at 8 pm
7 District Councillors' Surgery - Village Hall 2 - 4 pm
8 Great Hallingbury History Society - *Private Visit to West Stowe Hall* *(see page 13)*
11 Charity Quiz - Village Hall at 7 for 7.30 pm *(see above)*
18 Library Van - Bedlars Green 13.45 - 14.15
22 Hallingbury Ladies - *Tom Way - Wildlife Photographer* - Village Hall at 7.30 pm

August 2026

4 District Councillors' Surgery - Village Hall 2 - 4 pm
5 Gardening Group - Village Hall 7.30 - 9.30 pm
8 Library Van - Bedlars Green 13.45 - 14.15
12 Great Hallingbury History Society - *Royal Mail Coach Routes in East Anglia* - Village Hall at 8 pm
26 Hallingbury Ladies - *Members Day* - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
29 Library Van - Bedlars Green 13.45 - 14.15

September 2026

1 District Councillors' Surgery - Village Hall 2 - 4 pm
2 Gardening Group - Village Hall 7.30 - 9.30 pm
7 Great Hallingbury Parish Council - Village Hall 8 pm
7 Little Hallingbury History Society - *Fakes and Forgeries* - LH Village Hall at 8 pm
9 History Society - Village Hall at 8 pm
19 Library Van - Bedlars Green 13.45 - 14.15
23 Hallingbury Ladies - *From Les Mis to Lion King* - 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, 6th July **8 pm Village Hall**
Monday, 7th September 8 pm Village Hall

Highlights is an independent publication compiled and edited by C. J. Coultrup, Pantiles, Great Hallingbury and printed by Tradeprint Distribution Ltd. E&OE This Newsletter is not the official record of the Great Hallingbury Parish Council; only the Minutes of Meetings are the true record. Neither the Council nor contributors are responsible for the accuracy of the contents. Content of advertisements is the responsibility of the advertiser. Contributions and dates for the diary would be welcomed. Thanks go to everyone who has contributed or helped in its production and distribution. Editor: 01279 655144 or gthallhighlights@gmail.com