

Great Hallingbury Highlights

Autumn 2025

Vol. 107

An independent publication giving news on matters affecting Great Hallingbury



The Byways of Great Hallingbury

Photograph courtesy of Gabrielle Vickery

Councillors

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Website:

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

Uttlesford District Councillors

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Cricket Club

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Hallingbury Ladies

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marjorierosegs@hotmail.com

History Society

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Neighbourhood Watch

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cllrcolettapc@gmail.com

Neighbours' Association

Chair Diane Conway
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Poppy Appeal

Coordinator Gill Sewell 01279 504990
marjorierosegs@hotmail.com

St. Giles' Church

Priest in Charge: Rev'd Sophie Weller
Benefine 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

I am
responsible
for what I
say, not what
you
understand.

Editorial

Currently there are two projects afoot which will impact our Village.



The first, of course, is the reorganisation of local government which will mean the dissolution of Essex County Council, the Southend and Thurrock authorities and all 15 district councils. These will be replaced by Unitary Authorities, each of which would take full control of local services including everything from schools and roads, to social care and bin collections. Since our County Councillor, Susan Barker, wrote her piece on page 23, Essex CC has published a proposal for a three authority solution, divided horizontally across the county. This would put Uttlesford into the North Essex Unitary along with Braintree, Colchester and Tendring. This would, perhaps, have the benefit of binding together the more rural parts of the county but illustrates just how large geographically each of three unitaries would be. Southend is still working on a proposal for five authorities so nothing is yet settled and it will ultimately be a governmental decision.

Overall, there will be a mayor for Greater Essex who will be elected next year. The mayor will receive funding and decision-making powers from the government for housing and regeneration, local growth, adult skills (except apprenticeships) and local transport.

The concept is designed to simplify governance, save money and deliver better outcomes for residents!

The second project is alerted by the planning application that has been submitted by Stansted Airport for airfield works to accommodate a, yet to be approved, increase in passenger numbers to 51 million per annum. The throughput in 2024 was less than 30 million passengers.



As you will see on page 16, our Parish Council has already lodged objections to the plans.

Stop Stansted Expansion worked tirelessly for nearly 30 years to try to limit developments at the airport or to protect local residents and ensure the airport did not ride roughshod over nearby communities. They campaigned tirelessly and raised funds to go to court when necessary. The volunteers who did this work - including the late Norman Mead, long time resident of Great Hallingbury - are no longer able to continue and if present residents want to fight further expansion of the airport I believe a new generation of campaigners is needed. Some food for thought, perhaps.

Editor

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Uttlesford Citizens Bureau

Celebrating 25 Years of Dedicated Service



This year, Uttlesford Citizens Advice is proud to celebrate 25 years of service from Lyndie Taylor, our long-standing adviser in the Disability Benefits Team. Since 2000, her expert knowledge and compassion have helped hundreds of local people living with illness or disability to access the support they need, from Personal Independence Payments and Attendance Allowance to Employment and Support Allowance and Universal Credit.

Her dedication reflects what we do every day: Provide free, confidential advice to help you move forward, whoever you are, whatever your problem.

You can find more information online at www.uttlesfordca.org.uk. If you can't easily access the internet or need a little extra help, send us an email, give us a call, or pop into the Library in Dunmow, Stansted or Thaxted or the Old Schoolhouse in Takeley. If we aren't there in person, you can still speak to an adviser via our simple one-touch video link. Advice is always free and confidential.

To speak to one of our friendly advisers call **01799 618840** or email help@uttlesfordca.org.uk.

Can You Help Others Too?

As the need for our services continues to grow, we're looking for new volunteers to join our friendly and supportive Disability Benefits Team. If you have a few hours a week, an eye for detail, and a desire to make a real difference in people's lives, we'd love to hear from you. Full training is provided.

Go to <https://www.uttlesfordca.org.uk/join-us/> for more details on how to Join

*Uttlesford Citizens Advice
Barnards Yard, Saffron Walden, CB11 4EB
01799 618840 help@uttlesfordca.org.uk*

Can You Name These Wildflowers



*Daisy / Wood Anemone /
Wild Strawberry /
Celandine*



*Primrose / Cowslip / Oxlip
/ Celandine*



*Teasel / Spear Thistle
/ Common Knapweed /
Ragwort*



*Primrose / Wild Daffodil /
Cowslip /
Lesser Celandine*



*Rosebay Willowherb /
Foxglove /
Common Spotted Orchid /
Hogweed*



*Harebell / Bluebell / Bugle /
Primrose*



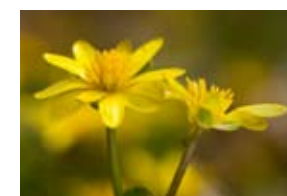
*Lily of the Valley /
Snowdrop / Wild Garlic /
Wood Anemone*



*Dead Nettle / Garlic
Mustard / Meadowsweet /
Plantain*



*Corncockle / Common
Mallow / Red Campion /
Red Clover*



*Lesser Celandine / Ragwort
/ Dandelion / Cowslip*

Choose from the suggested names.

Answers on page 34

District News

Cllrs Geof Driscoll and Neil Reeve

Neil and I welcome you and hope that you are enjoying this glorious weather.

Hopefully it will last during the school holidays but please take care, make sure to keep yourself, friends and family well hydrated and safe.

Please also think about pets and wildlife; they also need access to water and a bowl or a saucer of water in the garden may be a great help. Of course, the little rain that has fallen in the past few weeks, although heavy at times, may have been welcomed by farmers and gardeners alike but was it enough? Probably not with the talk on the news programs of possible hosepipe bans being introduced soon. I personally (Geof) would like to ask you to think about what you do with your washing up water or the water in which you rinse things; this can be used in the garden to water plants and help the water company supply at the same time. Every little helps, as a leading supermarket chain keeps telling us.

Uttlesford District Council Planning

As of Friday 6th June, the Council has been given back its full planning powers after the government took it out of *designated* status in relation to the way they handle major planning applications.

The De-Designation Notice from the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government included the following:

Uttlesford District Council was designated by the Secretary of State in respect of applications for planning permission for major development with effect from 8 February 2022, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 62A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.



In applying the criteria for de-designation ..., the Secretary of State has considered the potential capability of the designated local planning authority to deal effectively with applications for major development in the future and the effectiveness of the designated local planning authority in dealing with such applications during the period of its designation.

The Secretary of State is satisfied that the designated local planning authority has provided adequate evidence of sufficient improvement against areas of weakness identified in an initial assessment of its performance. The Council would also not be eligible for designation based on the most recent data currently available.

Having regard to the designation criteria, the Secretary of State considers that it is appropriate to de-designate Uttlesford District Council with effect from 6 June 2025.

Local Plan

On top of the good news above, there were good indications that the New Local Plan was well accepted by the Planning Inspectors with good comments in their summing up at the end of the public hearing carried out at London Road Council offices.

More than 100 participants, including developers, site promoters, legal representatives, the county council, parish councils and local residents' groups, took part in the The Examination in Public hearings. These were held in the council chamber and also streamed online. Although the public hearings have now concluded, the examination remains open. The planning inspectors will now review additional written evidence requested during the sessions.

We are currently awaiting the inspectors' post-hearings letter which will indicate whether they believe the plan is capable of being adopted and, if so, what modifications are required. Should any of the recommended changes significantly alter the content of the plan, a further round of public consultation

will take place later this year.

UDC remains committed to the timetable and aim to adopt the Local Plan in spring 2026.

Recycle your Electricals with Kerbside Collection Service

Soon you will be able to recycle small electrical items with your weekly kerbside bin collections in Uttlesford.

All you need to do is leave items - such as hairdryers, toasters and kettles - in a carrier bag on top of the bin when you put out your bins on the usual collection day. The items will be checked by our crews to ensure they can be recycled and then removed for storage at the collection depot ready for the final recycling process.

If you do not have a kerbside bin collection, you can continue to recycle small electricals at the drop-off points at Saffron Walden and Dunmow libraries and at local recycling centres.

Support for Heritage and Culture

Uttlesford District Council recognises the cultural and heritage offer of the district is crucial to the economy, for tourism and for quality of life for local communities. There are many organisations, groups and creatives that contribute to the vibrant cultural scene and so much experience and knowledge that underpins this.

UDC is working with Cultural Engine CIC to support key institutions and town/parish councils to be proactive in developing their own approach and policy to support strong cultural, heritage and tourism outcomes and ensuring they are ready to make the case for their important role after local government reorganisation. For more information go to the UDC website: <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk>

This project is funded by the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Community Development Grants

The Community Development Grant scheme

is funded through the government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund. A funding pot of £84,400 is available.

There are two funding streams:

- **Community Initiatives Seed Funding**
Grants of up to £1,000 to develop an activity or initiative that encourages local people to come together with the aim of reducing isolation and improving health and wellbeing
- **Community Business Grant**
Grants of up to £7,500 for the creation or growth of community businesses, including pubs, cafes, transport, energy schemes and creative spaces

See details and eligibility criteria for the community development grants on the UDC website <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk>

In addition, we have a one-off community grant available for voluntary organisations and groups. This is ideal for pilot projects, one-off events or new services. Grants of up to £3,000 are available. More information will be found on the UDC website noted above.

Campaign for Uttlesford's Rural Pubs

This project recognises the unique role pubs and bars play in the local community, not only economically but also socially and culturally and we are pleased to offer a funding and support programme tailored towards pubs. This includes:

- Visitor Economy and Hospitality Grant - to support the development of new products and facilities
- Hospitality Energy Efficiency Grant - to reduce energy costs and cut carbon emissions
- Community Initiatives Seed Funding - to kick-start new community initiatives
- Digital Skills - social media consultations and basic website packages
- Business Support - 12 hours of professional advice with a business mentor
- Promotional campaign through Discover Uttlesford

Get more details on the Uttlesford website.

Keeping Active

It is said that being active is good for your mind and body. Every minute of activity counts - and the more you do, the more you'll benefit. People of all ages, backgrounds, shapes, sizes and abilities can benefit from being physically active. Below are a few ideas; many more can be found on the UDC website <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/article/9086/Keeping-active>

Leisure centres, swimming pools and gyms:

Find swimming pools, leisure centres and sports facilities in Uttlesford, where they are and what you can do at them.

Essex Shed Network is a not-for-profit partnership between Maldon & District CVS and UCAN, funded by National Lottery's Community Fund. The aim is to provide help to anyone in Essex wishing to set up a Men's Shed, whilst also supporting existing Sheds to ensure their sustainability.

Wilderness Foundation: through education and therapy programmes, we help children, teens and adults reconnect to society and themselves through outdoor facilitation adventures, nature-based therapy and mentoring.

Ward Surgeries

Normal Ward surgeries:

First Tuesday of the month at Great Hallingbury Village Hall, between 2 - 4pm (2nd September, 7th October, 4th November)

Third Friday of the month at Little Hallingbury Village Hall between 9 - 11 am (19th September, 17th October, 21st November) (the future of this event will be reviewed and may be changed) with the Dukes Head PH, Hatfield Broad Oak between 2 - 4pm on the same days.

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

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

Great Hallingbury History Society



AUTUMN 2025



Twyford House became a maternity hospital

Bishop's Stortford during WWII

by David Clare

Wednesday, 10th September

Churches in the Hundred Parishes



by Ken McDonald

Wednesday, 8th October



The British Country House Revival

by Ben Cowell

Wednesday, 12th November

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

Easy Eating

Smoky Halloumi Bake

Rooted in Cypriot tradition, this dish turns simple ingredients into a warming bake, perfect for cool nights. Salty halloumi meets smoky paprika and juicy tomatoes for a savory balance, while the tender pasta and melted cheddar offer indulgent comfort. It's quick, flavourful and satisfying enough to become a vegetarian staple in your kitchen.



Ingredients:

250 g halloumi, cubed
300 g dry pasta
1 courgette, diced
1 medium onion, chopped
800 g diced tomatoes (canned)
2 tsp smoked paprika
Salt and pepper
160 g cheddar cheese, grated
2 garlic cloves, minced
2 tbsp olive oil plus extra for greasing

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 200°C (390°F). Boil pasta halfway, then drain.
2. In a pan, heat oil. Add garlic, onion and 1 tsp paprika. Cook for 1 min.
3. Add courgette and halloumi. Cook 3 - 5 mins until browned.
4. Add tomatoes and pepper. Simmer. Stir in pasta.
5. Pour into greased baking pan. Top with cheese and remaining paprika.
6. Bake for 10 mins until golden and sizzling.

Plum Tarte Tatin

Ingredients: Serves 6

600 g ripe mixed colour plums
1 tsp ground cinnamon
120 ml maple syrup
320 g sheet of all butter puff pastry (cold)
6 large scoops of vanilla ice cream

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 220°C / 425°F / gas 7.
2. Place a 26 cm non-stick ovenproof frying pan on a medium heat. Halve and destone the plums. Add to the pan with 30 ml water and cook for 1 minute.
3. From a height, sprinkle over half the cinnamon, then evenly pour over the maple syrup.
4. Place the pastry over the plums, using a wooden spoon to push it into the edges of the pan. Trim off any excess to patch up little gaps if needed.
5. Bake at the bottom of the oven for 16 minutes or until golden and puffed up.
6. Making sure you use oven gloves to protect your hands, confidently and very carefully turn the tarte out on to a plate larger than the pan.
7. Dish up with nice round scoops of ice cream. Sprinkle over the remaining cinnamon from a height and drizzle lightly with extra virgin olive oil before serving.



THE LIBRARY ON THE LANE

Way back when, Heather Pinnock, who was a member of the local book club, asked the Parish Council (who had bought the phone box), if the space could be transformed into a community library. For anyone who does not know, it sits at the end of Church Lane, between the Village Hall and the Church (on the same side of the road as the Church).

Shelves were added - and refurbished a couple of years ago - and, bit by bit, the books appeared (many of the original titles were from Heather's own collection). The idea was that you brought your fiction books you had finished with and left them, helping yourself to any other title that might take your fancy.

Sadly, Heather is no longer with us but her legacy lives on. We are very lucky to have such a space in the village and a few of us take turns in tidying it generally every few weeks or when time permits.

However, the heart of this library lies in its books. The shelves are filled with captivating fiction, spanning a wide range of genres – from timeless classics to gripping

thrillers, detective books and spine-chilling horrors to heartwarming chick lit and thought-provoking war time stories.

More recently we have noticed that a number of non-fiction books, including cookery books, have found their way onto the shelves. Can we please ask that only fiction titles are left at the library. We know from experience that non-fiction simply does not go and leaves no room for other fiction books.

If you haven't yet explored the treasures within, we invite you to wander up and indulge in the joy of browsing at your leisure. All we ask is that you donate a book for each one you take. This way, we can all relish the literary wonders that our community library has to offer.

The story of our community library is one of resilience, collaboration and the power of shared knowledge. It shows what can be achieved when a village comes together to preserve its heritage and foster a love for books.



Val Waring

Quick Amusement

**Why did the scarecrow win an award?
Because he was outstanding in his field.**

**Why did the melon jump into the lake?
It wanted to be a water-melon.**

**What did the duck say when it bought lipstick?
"Put it on my bill."**

**What do you call a pig that does karate?
A pork chop.**

**What has a bed that you can't sleep in?
A river.**

**Why were the teacher's eyes crossed?
She couldn't control her pupils.**



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- Septic tanks
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The Street, Takeley, CM226QW 01279 870738
www.timberscattery.com

Hidden History of Great Hallingbury

M11 Motorway

Very few people in Great Hallingbury can remember what it was like before the M11 motorway existed. In some ways, considering its size, it doesn't impact the village except when it is closed and we get the traffic!

When I first came to the village, the route had been decided and it was all pegged out where it was to go. If you look at the map you can see how it could have been very different. The dotted lines show that the Church end of the village could have been greatly affected had this early proposed route been adopted. The Parish Council, along with others, managed to find the least damaging route for the community. Little Hallingbury also dodged a bullet!



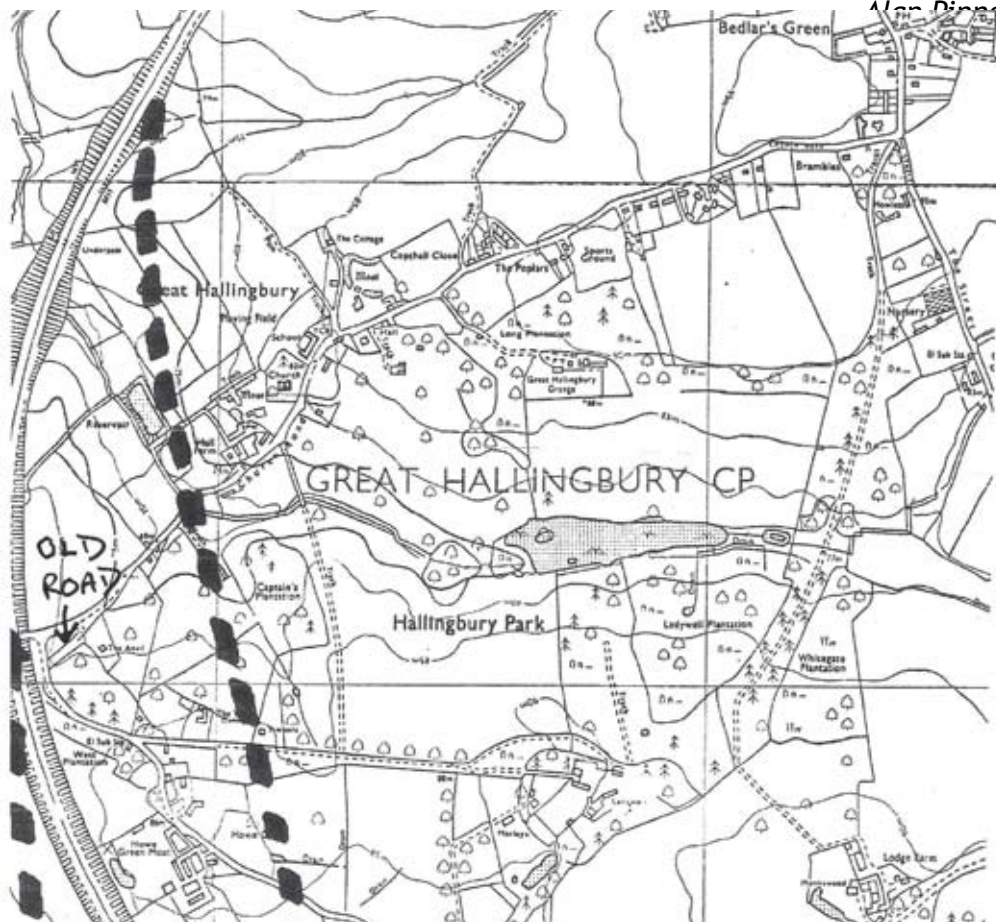
Evidence still exists of the road system prior to the changes necessary for the scheme. Anvil Cross was roughly where the left hand photograph was taken, looking towards the Church. The other shows the old road still intact as a farm track on the other side of the motorway.

The memorial to John Rosebrook (below), who was struck by lightning whilst sheltering under a tree, is sadly not in the correct spot or those reading it would be run over!



Alan Pinnock

Alan Pinnock



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

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Highlights from the Minutes of Meetings of Great Hallingbury Parish Council

12 May and 7 July, 2025

Present (at one or both meetings): Cllr Alan Townsend (Chairman), Cllrs David Barlow, Mark Coletta, Neil Jackson, Alan Pinnock and Val Waring, Mrs Urška Sydee (Clerk), District Cllr Geof Driscoll, Representatives from Stephen Davy Peter Smith Architects Ltd and one member of the public.

Council Annual General Meeting Election of Chairman 2025/2026

Cllr Townsend proposed by Cllr Pinnock and seconded by Cllr Coletta. Agreed unanimously.

Election of Vice-Chairman 2025/2026

Cllr Coletta proposed by Cllr Townsend and seconded by Cllr Jackson. Agreed unanimously.

Planning Committee 2025/2026

Members: Cllrs Bloomfield, Coletta, Noble, Pinnock, Townsend and Waring.

Chairman: Cllr Townsend, Vice - Chairman: Cllr Coletta

The remit of the planning committee was reviewed and no changes were made.

Working Groups 2025/2026

Airport: Cllrs Barlow, Bloomfield, Noble and Townsend.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch: Cllrs Barlow, Coletta, Jackson and Townsend.

Parish Plan: Cllrs Barlow, Coletta, Jackson, Pinnock, Townsend and Waring.

Housing: Cllrs Bloomfield, Coletta and Noble.

Neighbourhood Watch: Cllrs Coletta and Waring

Representatives:

Road Safety: Cllr Coletta

Transport: Cllr Noble

Health: Cllr Jackson

Footpaths: Cllr Pinnock

Tree Warden: Cllr Townsend

UALC: Cllr Townsend

Three Parishes Local Plan Group (TPLPG):

Cllrs Jackson and Townsend

Stansted Airport Watch (SAW): Vacancy

Financial Report

The requisite official forms were reviewed, agreed and signed.

Calendar of Meetings 2025/2026

7 July, 8 September, 3 November 2025

5 January, 2 March, 11 May 2026

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 16 March, 2026.

All meetings will be held in the Village Hall starting at 8 pm.

Normal Business Meetings

Chairman's Activities

- Attended the litter pick
- St Giles' churchyard clearing several times but more volunteers are needed
- Howe Green House School's event for Mother's Day at St Giles'
- Met with the UALC Secretary and chaired UEALC meeting
- Attended EALC Executive meeting
- Attended Village Hall AGM
- Checked the defibrillator weekly
- Met with the clerk weekly.

Uttlesford District Council



- Local Plan: scrutiny underway and inspectors appear mainly satisfied
- Surgeries continue as scheduled.
- Explanation of how enforcement responds to reported issues.
- UDC now out of designation and all planning decisions returned to their responsibility.

Highways

A member of the public reported that cars parked on the B1256 clearway are obstructing pedestrians. Cllr Townsend will bring this to the attention of Essex Police.

Also, lorries trying to get to the petrol

station are causing disruption as the road is too narrow and very busy.

Airport

Information on available grants was received and noted.

Communication received regarding an increase of annual passenger limits to 51 million passengers. (See later under planning)

Hallingburys' Speed Watch Group

The group was out last week. More volunteers are needed to be able to have more sessions. A new coordinator is sought.

Neighbourhood Watch

Currently 84 members.



Noticeboard

Cllr Coletta reported that the paperwork was signed. Awaiting confirmation that board may now be erected.

Post Box at Top of Goose Lane by Woodside Green

The MP's office had been contacted asking for progress. They had not received a reply from Royal Mail and the clerk suggested they expedite Royal Mail's response.

Flitch Way

A bench and plaque will be installed on Flitch Way. The bench has been ordered and delivery is awaited. This is a gift so it is not a Council fixed asset nor insured by the Council.

White Lining in the Car Park

Cllr Townsend is trying to get a quote.

Land to Rear of Hop Poles

Architect Representatives presented plans for developing land to the rear of the Hop Poles, Bedlars Green. A piece of land, which is planned to be a public space, is to be given to the Parish Council. Councillors asked questions and raised concerns about the dangerous junction and additional traffic and possible contamination of part of the site. Some of the land is flooding and all houses must be connected to mains drainage. Smaller three bedroom properties

might be more suitable. Kerbs should be installed.

Litter Pick

Date in October yet to be determined. Great Hallingbury Manor has offered refreshments for volunteers.

Salt Bag Partnership

The Council wishes to stay in the scheme and has enough salt for the winter 2025/2026.

Planning

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

Application Decisions

UTT/24/2682/SCO // Land to the North of Taylors Farm, The Street, Takeley // Request for Screening Opinion - for proposed employment development comprising of light industrial, strategic warehousing and distribution uses (use classes B2, B8 and E(g) (i) and associated infrastructure // Unknown (Not asked officially) (Details of the Council's concerns have been published in a previous edition.)

UTT/24/2820/FUL and reconsultation // Alpenrose, Bedlars Green // Proposed demolition of existing bungalow and erection of four detached dwellings // Refused The Council's objections published in previous edition.

UTT/24/3248/FUL // Barn at Lodge Farm, Woodside Green // Conversion of agricultural building into a pair of semi-detached dwellings and associated work (further to UTT/24/0362/PAQ3) // Refused (No objections.)

UTT/25/0486/FUL // Barn at Lodge Farm, Woodside Green // Conversion of agricultural building into a pair of semi detached dwellings and associated work (further to UTT/24/0362/PAQ3) // Approved (No objections.)

UTT/25/0048/HHF // 1 Green Ridges, Tilekiln Green // Proposal to construct a single storey rear extension and to build a replacement two-storey double garage to the rear // Refused (No objections.)

UTT/25/0060/HHF // 2 Green Ridges, Tilekiln Green // Proposal to build a single-storey rear extension // Refused (No objections.)

UTT/25/0236/HHF // Seven Acres, Latchmore Bank, Little Hallingbury // Erection of a single

storey outbuilding to be used as an Annexe // Approved (Concerns were raised because the proposed development is in Green Belt.)

UTT/25/0702/FUL // Start House, Tilekiln Green // S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) attached to UTT/23/2352/FUL (approved under appeal ref APP/C1570/W/24/3351924) - changes to orientation of dwelling and internal arrangements/fenestration // Approved (No objections.)

UTT/25/0748/HHF // 3 Moat Farm Cottage, Howe Green // Demolition of existing conservatory, construction of a single-storey extension, installation of rooflights and associated fenestration improvements // Approved (No objections)

UTT/25/0605/HHF // Cobbs Farm, Woodside Green // Proposed greenhouse and timber shed in rear garden // Approved (No objections)

UTT/25/0803/HHF // 2 Latchmore Cottages, Latchmore Bank // Proposed first floor rear extension above existing single storey rear extension // Refused (No objections)

UTT/25/1243/CLE // The Carridge at Oakside, Church Road // Existing use of building as one dwelling // Refused (No objections but should be connected to the mains drainage and stay as an annexe. Utilities must be connected to the main building and not changed in future)

Applications Dealt with at Meeting:

UTT/25/0812/FUL // Stansted Distribution Centre, Start Hill // S73 Application to vary condition 8 (Design Assessment), 14 (viewpoints), 18(tree protection measures), 19 (fencing), 34(Service Yard Management Plan) and 45 (Great Crested Newt impacts). Application to remove condition 25 (Construction Method Statement) 26 (external lighting), 33 (noise), 40 (highways works) 41 (Travel Plan) of UTT/23/1470/OP - 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 // Objections:

- Voids in planning process as matters were not fully addressed at the previous

Stansted Distribution Centre (SDC) outline planning application UTT/23/1470/OP.

- Pursuit for re-development misleading. Developer rightfully applied for planning under an outline plan. Planning committee hearing applied many conditions including an assessment or plan with the views, scale and impacts on heritage and the neighbouring residents. No such assessment has been done. Application never got to the reserved matters stage and therefore a gaping hole has been left with all the assessments and statutory requirements it required, missing!
- Residential dwellings in Start Hill almost double since outline planning application in 2023, tipping balance further to a residential area.
- Redevelopment seeking to vastly increase building heights, traffic density and scale of vehicle uses in residential area that has increased in size (with more housing about to become available), with new residents who have no knowledge of the previous outline plan nor this style of planning process. We ask that impacts on neighbouring residents and heritage assets be considered.
- This redevelopment less than 1km from proposed 27ha Taylors Farm industrial development and less than 1mile from new 65ha Stansted Northside Industrial development meaning impacts of more articulated HGVs on M11 Junction 8 and B1256.
- Site plan used for application UTT/25/0812/FUL is of current site with residential and heritage assets omitted, not what is proposed.
- UDC rightfully requested additional assessments and studies under UTT/23/1470/OP and applied relevant conditions to safe guard community. Developer in this FULL application seeks to remove and adjust these conditions

UTT/25/1130/FUL // The Old Forge, Woodside Green // Conversion and change of use of garages to form tourist accommodation (No objections other than increased traffic and with unsociable hours of comings and

goings)

UTT/25/1232/AV // Start Hill Service Station, Start Hill // Erection of illuminated small format advertising display // The Council is passionate about how this illuminated advertising sign will negatively impact the local area. This location is unlit at night, which intensifies brightness of sign. This sign will cause a distracting hazard to motorists on its western approach and those approaching from Tile Kiln Green. This Junction is already an accident black spot.

The listed Building (The Old Elm) is less than 20m from the sign (the plans do not correctly show the location of the Old Elm). New residential developments, built but not yet populated, are in direct view of this sign which will have a negative effect on the new residents' wellbeing. These not represented on plans.

Policy S7: This type of signage is not sympathetic to a countryside setting.

UTT/25/1346/HHF // Centuries, Church Road // Proposed outbuilding (No objections)

UTT/25/1569/HHF // Centuries, Church Road // Proposed single storey rear extension with internal alterations (No objections)

UTT/25/1570/LB // Centuries, Church Road // Proposed single storey rear extension with internal alterations // (No objections)

UTT/25/1332/OP // Alpenrose, Bedlars Green // Outline application with all matters reserved except appearance and scale for demolition of existing dwelling and erection of four dwellings (Council objections as for previous application and published in earlier edition)

UTT/25/0895/OP // Victoria Park, New Barn Lane // Outline application with all matters reserved except access for the partial demolition of the existing dwelling and the removal of the tractor store, shed and other structures on the site and the erection of two detached dormer bungalows (*Not asked officially*). Objections: it is in the Green Belt so could be considered a threat to the conservation area and on a road with speeding traffic which is highly dangerous due to its slightly curved nature with trees/vegetation growing along both sides)

UTT/25/1451/FUL // Barnmead, Start Hill // S73 application to remove conditions 6 (Residential Travel Pack) and 10 (Construction Method Statement) of UTT/21/2337/FUL (Conversion of garages from plots 2-5 into living accommodation and adding a room in the roof of plots 2 and 3 (amendment to previously approved application No. UTT/18/1982/FUL).) // Objections: Parish Council feels strongly in favour of keeping Conditions 6 and 12. Firstly, conditions are implemented for good reason by highly qualified and experienced officers. We encourage developers to demonstrate how forthcoming residents will actively travel for this and all future developments. Our rural village has poor amenities and travel connections; developers have a responsibility to encourage other options of travel other than the motor vehicle. This location is on a Clearway and we see issues with developers and tradespersons parking on the kerb and blocking the pathway. HGV access to this site and highway dirt and debris must be managed correctly. This is an accident black spot at a critical junction factoring in a busy fuel filling station.)

UTT/25/1542/FUL // London Stansted Airport // Airfield works comprising two new taxiway links to the existing runway (Rapid Access Taxiway and Rapid Exit Taxiway) to enable continued airfield operations of 274,000 aircraft movements and an increase in passenger throughput from 43 million terminal passengers to 51 million terminal passengers in a twelve-month calendar period // Objections to increased passenger numbers:

- Resident concerns that recording of night-time operational changes are self-monitored and recorded by MAG Stansted. These operational changes could be inappropriate and unjustified and should be investigated and managed independently. Residents experience sleep disturbance / deprivation.
- During winter months damp air sustains smell of burnt aviation fuel and rubber, sometimes causing residents to cough or need to cover mouth. This is risk to health
- During summer, residents endure intense



noise through open windows or in their gardens. Constant reports of oily substance on parked cars.

- M.A.G Stansted airport has responsibility to show best practice for benefit of community before reaping benefits of increased revenue.
- When M11/A120 are congested, local roads become rat run of now delayed and speeding travellers concerned about missing their flight. A strategy is needed to control local roads.
- Fly parking increasing concern for all areas around airport. Yellow lining doesn't solve issue but forces travellers outwards, risking parking in more dangerous places. Parking on site at Stansted must be affordable to prevent this.
- MAG Stansted representative should attend at least one Parish Council meeting per year to hear direct concerns from our residents.
- MAG Stansted should give priority to our residents over employment opportunities at Stansted to lessen need for travel from areas outside a 10-mile radius.

UTT/25/1566/FUL // Land South of Greenways, Woodside Green // Create access track with highway access between Goose Lane and Pond View, Woodside Green // Objections:

- Goose Lane single-track road with passing places and overgrown foliage at edges.
- High volume of traffic even leading to traffic jams.
- Lane used by cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians.
- Creation of another driveway onto lane will add to an already dangerous situation.
- Farm vehicles have access from Goose Lane to field next to the residential property Monksway.
- Approach to Goose Lane from Woodside Green on sharp bend and across cattle grid, very near to proposed new driveway
- Land South of Greenways (now called *Pond View*) currently has two caravans on site with concerns it is trading as van hire or sale business.
- Possible dispute with National Trust over current entry/exit driveway from the

site onto Woodside Green. Creating new driveway from behind the site across adjacent farmland and onto Goose Lane would circumvent problem. Believe UDC Enforcement has open case for this property.

- Original planning permission for Land South of Greenways allowed for construction of single four-bedroom dwelling with access onto Woodside Green.

UTT/25/1665/LB // Wallwood, Woodside Green // Demolish existing unstable outbuilding (No objections)

UTT/25/0931/FUL // ATM Start Hill // Proposed side extension to existing sales building // Objections:

- Since last approved planning application UTT/23/0957/FUL, residential developments vastly increased and not correctly represented on maps and diagrams under this application.
- Request conditions 12 of UTT/25/0957/FUL and 3 of UTT/19/1096/FUL fully upheld with implementation enforced on charging points also to lessen light emitting and public noise/nuisance impact to neighbouring residents at such close proximity.
- To prevent unscrupulous activity behind service station, request extra security considered with information on monitoring and enforcement.
- Request reinstatement of protecting bollards at front of filling station as this is accident black spot where bollards are repeatedly damaged. Permanent solution needed to prevent injury to pedestrians and possible serious consequences at fuel filling station, remembering listed building opposite this site.

Address

The Council agreed to proposed name change for Old Cottage, Start Hill, to St Giles' View.

Bedlars Green

CLlr Pinnock noted the ash tree at the pond needs cutting which will be handled by current volunteers.

Shining a Light on Local History

Celebrating 80th Anniversary of end of WWII



Did you notice the bunting fluttering in the breeze above the trusty red tractor or catch the jaunty rendition of *Run rabbit run rabbit, run, run, run!* or smell the buttery tang of the potato cakes as you drove through Little Hallingbury at the end of May? Well, if we didn't manage to draw you in, read on to discover just what you missed...

The three local history societies - Hatfield Regis, Little Hallingbury and Great Hallingbury - held a joint exhibition at Little Hallingbury Village Hall on Sunday, 25th May, for the 80th Anniversary of WWII's end. We might have been later than the actual anniversary of the event, which was 8th May, but we sure made up for it!

Outside, the sun shone on the righteous and bald pates glowed behind tables displaying Mudlarking artefacts brought by Steve Engeham - which included a 24 lb cannon ball found on the Thames - and tools of dubious intent displayed by David Roberts. (I particularly liked the device for extracting fish bones stuck down your throat!)

On entering the village hall, you came face to face with a land army girl taking a much-needed rest and the memories and stories of people who had lived in and around the villages during the war.

Sue Meyer's and Mark Ratcliff's displays contained original artefacts from the war including a gas mask, a soldier's uniform and a cape worn on the Normandy beaches.

A ring made from a bottle top by an Italian Prisoner of War who was detained in Hatfield Heath during the war was on display. He made it for the local girl he fell in love with and it took pride of place alongside documents about the camp at Hatfield Heath, as well as photographs of the family themselves.



Maps showed the local areas bombed during the war, including the fifty that fell in one terrible night, as well as the location of planes that either crash-landed or were shot down.

A display of the meagre weekly rations included potato cakes for visitors to taste and original tins and packets nestled amongst war-time kitchen utensils.

The afternoon was rounded off nicely with a cup of tea and a piece of cake to the accompaniment of wartime songs led by Philip Hays; the perfect end to a perfect afternoon!

Claire Layer



And Not Forgetting the End of the Far East War 15th August

Commander Arthur Simmonds, RN, brother of Richard Simmonds, a long time resident of Great Hallingbury and Treasurer of our History Society, was highlighted at the Exhibition.

Arthur was Second Engineering Officer on HMS Mull of Kintyre, a Repair and Maintenance ship for Minesweepers that had been commissioned in November 1945, just after the war ended. It joined the Pacific Fleet and was despatched to Kure, a port 20 km from Hiroshima where, of course, the atomic bomb had been dropped. Arriving on 4 February, 1946, it was tasked to clear the approaches to the harbour of shipping and mines to allow the harbour to be opened for Allied ships bringing in the Australian Occupation troops.

Designated as Base Engineering Officer, Arthur moved ashore to live in a hastily repaired bungalow close by, with two housemaids and an interpreter. He soon had new friends in the form of abandoned children whom he managed to feed by scrounging extra rations from the Navy and Army.

He had an RN Artificer and they set up their workshop by the main harbour jetty. Transport was a problem initially but then a US Liberty Ship moored onto the jetty and unloaded its cargo, which included a number of Jeeps. With the limited services in the port, the jeeps were offloaded out of gear and with the hand-break off, forming a line of transport that could be pushed along for each new addition at its rear. As the line of jeeps approached the workshop doors, an Officer decision was made and the first jeep smartly pushed into the workshop and covered over. Acquiring some brushes and naval grey paint from another RN ship close by, the jeep was soon officially repurposed into RN use and had boards denoting *Base Engineering Officer Kure* added front and rear.



Commander Arthur Charles
Simmonds (1921-2008)

The jeep facilitated his base work but also allowed him (and people from visiting ships) to visit Hiroshima's Point Zero. He was eventually released from his position and returned to his ship in Hong Kong via Australia. Whilst the backs of his hands had radiation damage, he was not affected by it and eventually rose to be a Senior Nuclear Safety Officer.

Quentin Spear, Hatfield Regis History Society



The Effects of Bomb Blast Heat

Japanese Glass Jar Contorted by Heat

*Japanese Coins Fused Together by
Heat and Used as a Paperweight*



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When a Step Challenge Gets Out of Control ...

Back in April of this year, I attended a Charity ball for the Charity of the Year that my husband works for, a Welsh Children's hospital who take patients with serious and/or life limiting illnesses.

One of the fundraisers they had was a **Steps Challenge** where they had measured the length of Wales, which was 187 miles and, so they tell me, that equates to 421,000 steps. During the course of the evening we heard from a vibrant young lady who, at a very young age, had to have a leg amputated. She was so positive and so full of joie de vivre, she is an Ambassador for the hospital and is now a Paralympian. I was so in awe of her, I decided I would do the challenge and see if I could raise some money for this incredible charity.

Some time back, I had expressed a desire to visit all the tube stations on the underground (including the DLR but not including the Elizabeth line). So what better way to start than by walking some of the lines closer to London centre and riding back on the tube. Obviously I would simply ride out to the far-flung ones, getting off at some but simply visiting the others. I was persuaded by my kids that simply going and coming back was *sooooo boring* and that I should at the very least take photos.

I decided not to photograph the usual Buck Palace, London Eye, St Pauls, etc, but to find unusual things and things with an unusual back story. I started to research and eventually a plan emerged to visit by tube line and I set off on each excursion armed with Dora, my trusty backpack, my most comfortable shoes (note to self - M&S ankle boots do not cut the mustard), my list of where to go and my phone to take the photos and to guide me from one location to the next.



My Trusty Kit

I started counting steps on 7th April this year but did not start this tube line trek until late April when, generally, I tried to go into London once weekly. I have had such a ball, met some incredible people and been to parts of London I did not even know existed.

My journey started at Liverpool Street station and ended at Greenwich. I finished my journey on 12th July, having visited 309 stations, taken well over 1000 photos, documented my journey and walked 1,289,382 steps for charity, just a tad over the challenge!



I am incredibly grateful to those who have suggested where to visit and of course those who have so generously sponsored me.

Walking in London has made me realise just how close one



area is to another, what amazing things we have on our doorsteps and to look up, not down, to see what is around us. It has given me a love of history I have never had in my life, a love for walking and a desire to do more of the same!

I suppose some people will ask why a charity in Wales. The answer is simple: if I think a charity is worthy of support, I will support it wherever it may be.....

Val Waring

End of the Journey



Recollections of a Policeman in Great Hallingbury in WW2

In the Summer edition of this magazine, there was an article about the Great Hallingbury Parish Invasion Committee. One of the members of the committee was P.C. Ransome of 154 Bedlars Green.

P. C. Ransome was Thomas George Ransome, born in Ipswich on 19th January 1911. In the 1939 England and Wales Register, he was living in 7 George Green Villas and his occupation was recorded as a police constable. He married Eileen Carver on 10th January, 1940, in Ashingdon. Thomas and Eileen had two children, a son and a daughter. He died on 14th May, 1992, in Witham.



*The wedding of Tom Ransome and Eileen Carver
10th January, 1940*

In the BBC Archive of World War Two Memories there is a contribution submitted by Terry Ransome, a volunteer at The British Schools Museum in Hitchin. Terry Ransome was the son of P.C. Thomas Ransome. This is Terry's recollection of a Policeman in Great Hallingbury in World War Two.

My father and mother were married on Wednesday, 10th January, 1940, at St Andrew's Church, Ashingdon, Essex.

My father was a constable in the Essex Police, Rochford Division. He had joined in the mid 1930's after being made redundant

from a pattern-making apprenticeship at Ransome Sims and Jefferies engineering works in Ipswich.

As was the practice then when a policeman married, especially, I believe, a girl from the area in which he served, Dad was immediately posted away to Great Hallingbury, near Bishop's Stortford. Mum and Dad set up home in the village Police House at 154 Bedlars Green, Great Hallingbury.

They often related to me and my sister Margaret the time when a doodle-bug landed and demolished the bungalow opposite that police house and they took in the lady who lived there - Mrs Judd.

They soon found a house nearby, 'Gerald Villa', for my Grandmother, Jessie Carver, and my aunts, Edna and Dora Carver, to move into and by doing so to get away from the bombing runs over the Southend area and up the Thames to London.

But, as luck and the Constabulary would have it, they were then transferred again to Fyfield near Ongar, Essex – their identity cards show them registered there, living at "The Police House" on 25th May, 1944.

So, as she often recalled, Mum had to make frequent trips on her bike back to Great Hallingbury to see her mother – usually returning in the dark with the front lamp shielded and therefore pretty useless.

Philip Hays

Editors Note:

The bungalow demolished by a doodle-bug must have been the original *Pantiles*. The current house was built in a different location on the plot immediately after the war.



Essex County Council

Cllr Susan Barker



Dear Great Hallingbury Residents

It has been an odd few months for me after losing my husband suddenly in April. Now everything is down to me. I am lucky to have three sons living nearby who have been a great help.

What a hot and dry start we have had to the summer. I trust that you have the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine with family and friends. With hardly any rain for two months or more it has been a struggle to keep vegetables watered and I expect we may well have a hosepipe ban soon. Good news is the tomatoes are ready.

Local Government Reform continues to dominate decisions at Council. At UDC the Chief Executive has taken the decision to increase the size of the management team to enable him to concentrate on the issue.

Late September will see a submission from the County's 15 Authorities to Government which may have two differing proposals. One is likely to be for three Unitary Councils, in



which case UDC would be in a new authority with Harlow, Epping, Brentwood and Chelmsford; and a second iteration which would be for five Unitary Councils where UDC would be with Harlow and Epping. At the end of the day the Government will make the decision. More options are still being considered but the numbers do need to add up.

Many factors have to be considered; for example the north of the County has a much older population than the south who rely on support from Social care and the associated costs. Imagine the cross charging for home to school transport and school places that will increase the more Unitaries there are.

Waste systems will have to be integrated

and the latest Government rules on waste brought in. From 2027 there will be a deposit scheme on plastic bottles and metal and aluminium cans - likely to be a hefty (possibly 50p) levy on every container which you will get back when you return it to the shop. Shops will have to introduce systems to recycle these! Relatively easy for big supermarkets, not so for corner shops. For District Councils this will mean a loss of income as currently these products are sorted and sold. It should help with littering as people are unlikely to throw away cans they can get a refund on.

New bins/ bags will also need to be introduced as Paper and Card will need to be separated from other recyclates. New for 2025 is also the extended *Producer Responsibility* whereby producers of packaging will be making payments to Districts and Counties to help towards the costs of disposal of said waste. Uttlesford will receive in excess of £1m in the current financial year.



Day to day work, of course, carries on and I will next have a Highways team in my Division at the end of August. I have reported a number of issues across my area but, on the whole, the number of defects reported to me has decreased dramatically. The extra £37m that Essex has allocated to Highways seems to be winning the battle.

As always if there are any issues I can help with please do get in touch

Susan Barker

*County Councillor for Great Dunmow Division
Chairman Essex Pension Fund*



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Hallingbury Ladies

a.k.a
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More fun for Hallingbury Ladies

We continue to enjoy Hallingbury Ladies and our increasing number of activities. It is a great way to meet new friends and to enjoy a range of interests with them.

Getting to Know you

Our meeting in May was an interesting evening arranged by several of our members. With nearly a quarter of our membership having only recently joined, we called it *Getting to Know You*. Members sat at small tables and responded to a list of questions on the table. Everyone had list one and after a few minutes moved to a another table with different people and, of course, different questions. Some of our members were reluctant about this but, by the time we stopped for our refreshments, it was clear that they would have liked to continue as they had not yet met everybody who was there. A successful outcome!

Make Do and Mend

In June we heard another talk from Amanda Sutherland entitled *Make Do and Mend*. All the items Amanda showed were recycled including jewellery from drinks cans. She



explained how she created different things from unexpected used items. There was a short jacket and shirt using just sleeves; and items made entirely of ties which she explained was quite easy as they are already stitched: a fascinating talk which we all enjoyed. Amanda judged

the competition for a photo of a flower with Dawn 1st, Claire 2nd and Carole 3rd. The evening was completed with delicious refreshments and the raffle.

Members Evening

This was in July and the idea is that the members plan the whole evening and everything is arranged without the knowledge of the committee, giving them a rest for a month. This proved to be a very enjoyable evening with an amusing speaker and a delicious buffet, followed by strawberries and cream. The Speaker was David Tomkins, ventriloquist and magician, who had visited us in November last year. We all enjoyed listening to information about how he got started and his long career, followed by some magic tricks with audience participation and his singing puppets.

Activities

Our monthly lunches and walks have continued during the past three months with visits to The Coach & Horses, Bretts Farm Restaurant and The Three Willows. These lunches have proved to be very popular which has given our organizer some headaches as some places are unwilling to accept bookings from larger groups.



May Walk

Each month there has been a walk, first with a visit to see Avis's alpacas and then on to Hatfield Heath,

a walk around Hatfield Heath on the second occasion and along the river to Spellbrook for the third.

In June we visited Brick Lock Island, a smallholding run by Helen Reynolds and her husband on an island in the river at Roydon. We had a fascinating afternoon hearing about how it had all been set up and touring round the holding to view her greenhouse, the knot vegetable garden, her chickens and the orchard with the apples they turn in to cider. While we were there, she also arranged for the weekly session of having hawks flown over the land to deter other smaller birds. The tour was followed by tea and homemade cake as well as the

opportunity to sample and purchase the cider and flowers and vegetables she had grown. A very interesting and inspiring afternoon.

Monthly Groups

The *Literary Ladies* have been meeting to discuss their chosen book. Each member takes a turn to choose and to lead the discussion at the next session. In May we were able to discuss *Mrs England*, by Stacey Halls, in Sally's garden, with lovely cake. We enjoy the variety of books and reading authors we would not usually choose.

Knit and Natter members continue to meet at Hunters Meet. Sometimes we have lunch there before the meeting which we all enjoy and is a way of saying thank you for letting us use the room every month.

Looking forwards

Our September Meeting is *All about Alpacas*. The speaker has been recommended and will tell us all about the animals themselves as well as displaying and selling some of the products made from their wool. In October we will be painting pumpkins and having a Harvest Supper.

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 always delicious - so come along and meet us as well as enjoying some tasty eats.

Gill Sewell, Secretary
marjorieosegs@hotmail.com



Hawk Flying

There is one room in
the house ghosts will
not haunt.

The Living Room

The Hundred Parishes Society



Since the launch of the Society in 2014, its website has continued to evolve and expand as a resource for the local area. It is hoped that this article may help people make the most of www.hundredparishes.org.uk.

You are encouraged to step through the menu to get a feel for what is available. If you want to look something up, you might try clicking on Parishes, What's On, Articles or Walks.

Parishes holds the key to lots of things. From either the map or the alphabetical listing, select an individual parish to find out a little about its history, the nearest walks or details for a pub or tea room. Introductions include ideas for further reading and links to useful websites.

What's On lists future events in chronological order. Many entries have a link to further information. We are pleased to give publicity to any event that promotes local knowledge or culture, exploration or conservation.



Morris Dancing in Saffron Walden

Articles offers local insight into a wide range of topics.

Walks has general guidance and then three options: Station walks, Quiet Lane walks and Other walks. Scroll down the list to find one that suits your need in terms of location and distance. Then click on the walk number to call it up. The first few paragraphs will

describe distance, terrain and opportunities for refreshment. When you find a walk you like, print it to take with you. (Control+P is a useful shortcut to start printing.)



Feedback is a way of telling us of changes or something we have missed – perhaps a pub closure, bus route change, additional activity for *What's On* or website links or phone numbers that no longer work.

I hope these notes have been useful and may make your visits to the website more rewarding.

Ken McDonald, Secretary
www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The Wrong Priorities

Jeff was a very successful young lawyer who was involved in a terrible car crash on the motorway.

The whole of the side of Jeff's Maserati had been ripped clean off, along with his arm.



He was staggering out of the wreckage when a motorcycle police officer arrived at the scene.

Jeff was clearly in a state of shock, mumbling, "Oh my God! My car! Look at my car!"

Seeing how badly Jeff was injured, the police officer said, "Sir, please try to stay calm. We need to be more concerned about your injuries than any damage to your car."



Jeff slowly looked down to where his arm had once been and then suddenly he screamed, "Oh my God! My Rolex is gone!"

Parish Council Chairman



Hello to you all and I hope you and your families are keeping well. It is very important in hot weather that we keep hydrated, so drink plenty of fluids. Remember, if you are thirsty you are already dehydrated.

We must also be aware and keep an eye on our bar-b-ques, particularly when the weather and grass are so dry, in case sparks fly!

Unfortunately the Speed Watch Team has not been able to go out due to lack of volunteers available at any one time. Please do think about joining the team; it's easy to pass the test and become a member. Anyone interested should contact Cllr Mark Colletta. As speeding traffic through the village seems to be getting worse, it would be a really worthwhile thing to do.

Please be aware that there are a lot of scams going on at the moment. One of these is to do with the winter fuel allowance, telling you to go online and register to see if you qualify. Be assured that the government will not send out any email about how to claim. If you are eligible, the payment will come through automatically.

Some of you may have noticed the grass in the churchyard is being cut. This work has been carried out by Cllrs Neil Jackson, Alan Pinnock and myself, along with members of the PCC. We were also fortunate to have some people from Stansted Community Engagement Volunteers Team for a morning and they helped a great deal. During the general mowing we have been very careful to leave areas where there are Pyramid Orchids. These areas will be left again in future as *Natural* areas. While the churchyard does not come under any remit of the Parish Council, members were hearing complaints about the state it was in and some people thought the church had closed. As the church and village hall are

the only two community hubs in the village, we want to give them both support where we can. If anyone would like to help with a little mowing, cutting back or other jobs in the churchyard, we would be pleased to have you along. Please contact me.

At this time of year when we are thinking of taking holidays, do make sure you let someone know you are away so an eye can be kept on your property.

As you may know, in accordance with government policy, Essex County Council plans to have unitary authorities with a Mayor at the head. The current idea is for three authorities so Uttlesford will be joining with other districts. This will mean sharing council services across a wider area, so we must hope we do not lose our identity. As I have said previously, we were not given the choice to agree with this. So much for democracy.

On a much happier note, myself, along with Cllrs Val Waring, Mark Colletta, Alan Pinnock and three councillors from Little Hallingbury, visited the Houses of Parliament. This was organised by Chris Vince, MP for Harlow and The Villages - which is how our Electoral Area is now known. It was an absolute joy to be given a guided tour and to see how Parliament works.

We learnt that our MP will be sending out a letter to every voting constituent to attend a meeting in either Great or Little Hallingbury at which you can ask him any questions you may have. I strongly suggest that you take this opportunity when it comes and thereby hold our MP to task and find out just what he can do for our village.

I would like to thank our Councillors, and Urška our Clerk, for all their hard work. Also a profound thank you to Christine Coultrup, the editor of this great magazine, for all the hard work that goes into getting it issued and delivered free of charge each quarter to every house in the village.

Alan Townsend



It's that time of year again....oh yes it is!

We are excited to announce our
41st village panto

ROBIN HOOD

Written by Tom Whalley

(Thursday 29th - Saturday 31st January 2026)

We will be holding a 'read through' prior to casting on **Tuesday 23rd September 2025** at 7.30pm at Little Hallingbury Village Hall, and invite anyone over the age of 14 to come along and join us.

Anyone unable to attend, but wishing to be considered, should contact our director, Marianne Bullen, ahead of this date.

Likewise, we would invite enquiries from children of secondary school age who might like to get involved.

We are also looking for people who would like to join our friendly, backstage team, so please do get in touch.

We look forward to meeting you!
Mark Hutley (Chairman)

Email hallingburypanto@yahoo.co.uk

Phone 07934 246960 (Marianne Bullen)

Call Centre Conversations...

Actually recorded !!



Travel Agent

Customer: 'I've been ringing 0800 2100 for two days and can't get through to enquiries, can you help?'

Operator: 'Where did you get that number from, sir?'

Customer: 'It was on the door to the Travel Centre'.

Operator: 'Sir, those are our opening hours'.

Samsung Electronics

Caller: 'Can you give me the telephone number for Jack?'

Operator: 'I'm sorry, sir, I don't understand who you are talking about'.

Caller: 'On page 1, section 5, of the user guide it clearly states that I need to unplug the fax machine from the AC wall socket and telephone Jack before cleaning. Now, can you give me the number for Jack?'

Operator: 'I think you mean the telephone point on the wall'

RAC Motoring Services

Caller: 'Does your European Breakdown Policy cover me when I am travelling in Australia?'

Operator: 'Doesn't the product name give you a clue?'

Directory Enquiries

Caller: 'I'd like the number of the Argoed Fish Bar in Cardiff please'.

Operator: 'I'm sorry, there's no listing. Is the spelling correct?'

Caller: 'Well, it used to be called the Bargoed Fish Bar but the 'B' fell off'.

Then there was the caller who asked for a knitwear company in Woven.

Operator: 'Woven? Are you sure?'

Caller: 'Yes. That's what it says on the label; Woven in Scotland'.

Book Corner



Book Corner

The Cat Who Saved The Library

Sosuke Natsukawa (translated by Louise Heal Kawai)

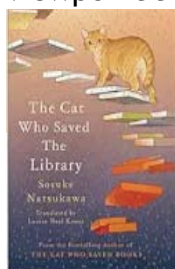
All fiction needs you, the reader, to suspend your disbelief

A chronic asthma condition prevents 13-year-old Nanami from playing sports or spending time with her friends after school. What it does not affect is her love of reading. She spends much of her free time at the local library, cocooned among the rows of bookshelves.

One day, she begins to notice that books have been disappearing, leaving quite wide gaps on the shelves and then she sees a suspicious-looking man and decides to follow him. She has to walk fast to keep him in view which brings on an asthma attack. By the time she has caught her breath, he has disappeared - but the shelves of books where he had been were lit up by a blueish white light.

Someone from behind tells her not to follow the man. She turns round, only to find that the voice is coming from a cat!

Tiger, the talking tabby cat is back and ready to continue the fight TO SAVE BOOKS. Tiger leads Nanami down unfamiliar passageways into another world where books are being burnt in the courtyard of a castle. Inside the castle she meets the man from the library - The General. He explains that books are being burnt because they are dangerous and encourage people to think and express our freedom to choose - a viewpoint that, in reality, is leading to books being banned around the world even today.



Nanami believes the opposite - reading *stories* fires the imagination and helps people to understand and share the feelings of others.

The List Of Suspicious Things

by Jennie Godfrey

It is 1979 and *The Yorkshire Ripper* is making a name for himself by viciously killing young women - but, before long, every woman, whatever her age, is feeling terrified and vulnerable when going out alone at night.

Most of the story is told by 12-year-old Miv who lives with her Dad, her Mum (when she's not having one of her regular spells in hospital, having completely withdrawn from life) and Aunt Jean - but, every so often, the narrator is an adult: Austin, Miv's father, Omar, a Pakistani shopkeeper, Mr Ware, one of Miv's teachers and Helen Andrews who works in the local library.

Miv overheard her father and aunt talking about moving away from Yorkshire, citing the Ripper as one of the reasons. Her aunt likes structure in her life and makes lists for everything. Inspired by this, Miv begins writing lists of all the suspicious things about the people she meets in her home town. If she can find out who *The Yorkshire Ripper* is, she won't have to move away and lose contact with Sharon, her best friend.

Sharon agrees to join Miv in the search for clues and the two girls - who are not even teenagers yet - embark on the quest to investigate anyone in the local community who seems to act in an unusual way. Before long, they come to realise that there are a number of very nasty people in the neighbourhood: thugs who like to intimidate, sexist and racist attitudes, a paedophile, an arsonist.....

What else lies in store for Miv and Sharon in their search for *The Ripper*?

Jan Baldwin





Cammash Hall
PUMPKIN PATCH
THROUGHOUT OCTOBER

Celebrate autumn at the farm!

BOOK NOW!
CAMMASHALL.CO.UK

PUMPKIN PATCH!
HALLOWEEN TERROR TUNNELS!
RESURRECTED NIGHTS! LIVE MUSIC
MAIZE MAZE!
ERUPTING PUMPCANO!



Get your Christmas tree locally this year!

We rent full-sized potted Christmas trees and sell cut trees

Prices approx. £10 per foot (inc. delivery and collection)

Contact Alan on 07939 603 507

Bedlars Green, Great Hallingbury

www.hallingburychristmastrees

 Hallingbury Christmas Trees



Essex Police

Protect Yourself - Crime Prevention Tips



Did you know stolen number plates are often used to hide vehicles involved in crimes or to avoid paying tolls and parking fees? Keep your vehicle's number plate safe by using one-way clutch head screws to secure your plates and deter thieves.

Keeping your child safe online is not always an easy task. New technology, regular updates or upgrades can change how things work, sometimes making it difficult to keep up. So, to help, we have put together some simple things you can do to make your child's online devices safer.

Top tips

- Protect your identity. Do not share personal information.
- Think before you post. Once posted it's no longer yours.
- Check your privacy settings.
- Games and Apps have age ratings for a reason.
- Make use of the parental controls.

The Scared Cab Driver



A taxi passenger tapped the driver on the shoulder to ask him a question.

The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the pavement and stopped inches from a shop window.

For a second, everything was quiet in the cab. Then the driver said, "Look, mate, don't ever do that again. You scared the living daylight out of me!"

The passenger apologised and said, "I didn't realize that a little tap would scare you so much."

The driver replied, "Sorry, it's not really your fault. Today is my first day as a cab driver — I've been driving a funeral car for the last 25 years."

Great Hallingbury Community Website

Great Hallingbury Community Website

As many of you will be aware, we launched a community website in early 2024. It is intended for anyone and everyone to use to find out details of what is going on in the village. Just a few pages are detailed below.

Happening now shows information affecting local roads (we can obviously only pass on information we given so it is by no means exhaustive).

Village events details things happening in the village from social evenings to quiz nights and sales.

Councillors messages highlights the monthly newsletter from our Uttlesford District Councillors (including details of ward surgeries).

There are details about Village Hall activities and hiring as well as a page with details of local contractors for anything from decorating to electricians and chimney sweeps.

You can find previous issues of **Great Hallingbury Highlights** if you want to look back on them. All the clubs who regularly use the village hall have pages or sections to look at.

If you haven't yet found the website, take a quick peek at www.greathallingburycommunity.co.uk.

As always, if you have any ideas or suggestions for what else would benefit the site, then please let us know.

Val Waring, Webmaster

Great Hallingbury Community Website

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service



Use Your Local Knowledge to Help Keep Vulnerable Residents Safe

I know just how powerful local knowledge can be when it comes to keeping people safe. You know your community. You notice when something feels off. So I'm asking for your help.

At Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, we're encouraging everyone, especially those working or volunteering in the community, to keep an eye out for residents who might be struggling. A rundown or neglected property isn't always just a sign of disrepair, it can be a sign that someone inside is at risk and may need support.

Here are a few things to look out for:

- Homes with poor maintenance – overgrown gardens, broken windows, smoke-stained curtains
- Signs of hoarding – such as cluttered windows or blocked access points
- Elderly or disabled residents living alone
- People who smoke at home

These small signs can be clues that someone is vulnerable or isolated and that's where we can step in.

A simple referral for a free *Home Safety Visit* can make a world of difference. During these visits, our team can fit smoke alarms, offer fire safety advice, help with escape plans and even link residents up with other services who can offer additional support.

Referring someone is easy, you can do it through our Online Home Fire Safety Check at www.essex-fire.gov.uk/online or speak to the person yourself and encourage them to get in touch if you feel it's appropriate.

The fire service carries a trusted brand. People open their doors to us, they listen, and they value our advice. That trust gives us a rare opportunity to reach those who may be isolated or overlooked by other services. A simple Home Safety Visit could save their life.

Please keep looking out for one another and don't hesitate to reach out to us if you think someone could use a little extra support.

*Claire Monk, Live Safe Manager,
Essex County Fire and Rescue Service*

Crossing the Raging River

Jim, Bill, and Mike are three friends out walking in the countryside when they arrive at a wide and raging river.

Naturally, they need to get across, but they have no idea how to achieve the crossing successfully.

Jim, being a believer in the good Lord, immediately prays to God. "Please God, give me the strength to cross this raging river."

Suddenly there's a POOF sound and Jim's arms and legs are transformed into powerful limbs that allow him to swim across the river in less than an hour.

Seeing this, Bill decides to pray too. "Please God, give me the strength and ability to cross this raging river in a way easier than swimming."

Suddenly there's a POOF sound and there before Bill is a kayak which allows him to row across the river in less than thirty minutes.

Having witnessed events so far, and seeing how it works, Mike decides to pray

too. "Please God, give me the strength, ability and intelligence to cross this raging river in the easiest way possible."

Suddenly there's a POOF sound and Mike is turned into a woman. She checks her map, walks 100 yards along the riverbank and walks across the bridge.



What are moving
left to right,
right now?

Your eyes

Great Hallingbury Bell Ringers

Come and Join Us



Great Hallingbury Bell Ringers have gone from strength to strength since ringing restarted at St Giles' two years ago. We are now able to provide ringing before Sunday Service and events, plus supporting other churches in the area.

We are looking for more ringers to come along and learn.

Absolutely no experience is needed and full training will be given by qualified ringing teachers. The only commitment from you will be enthusiasm to learn and practice once a week on a Thursday evening.

Once you are confident to ring a bell, and it doesn't take long, then we ring on every other Sunday morning for half an hour, finishing at the start of the service.

If you are interested, then give me a call or text on 07730 704750 or email smith63ma@gmail.com. Then you can come along on a Thursday and see what we are all about.

Mark Smith - St Giles' Tower Captain

Bull Story

A farmer is selling a prestigious award winning bull. A woman buys the bull for £5,000 but the bull dies just one week later.



The farmer kindly offers to give the money back to the woman but she declines. She explains, "Oh I held a raffle. It was £100 to enter to win a bull and 100 people bought in, so I made £10,000".

The man asks if people were upset because the bull died.

"That's the thing. Only the winner was upset and I just refunded him his ticket."

Poppy Events in The Hallingburys 2025



It is quite early to be writing about Poppy Campaign events in July but the next magazine will not be available until after this year's events.

As usual, we will be placing Poppy Boxes in shops etc. in the Hallingburys as we no longer have individuals involved in house to house collections. Our local schools are strong supporters of the campaign and those of you with young children will hear about this from them around the end of October.

This year Mrs Christine Coultrup has offered to hold a Poppy Coffee Morning at Pantiles, Great Hallingbury.

There will be sale tables for cakes, plants and other donations, a raffle and, of course, tea, coffee, cake and biscuits.



You will be able to get your poppy

at the event as well as donating.

This will be on Tuesday, October 21st, running from 10.30 am until noon.



On Friday, November 7th, Howe Green House School is inviting the local community to their traditional Poppy Coffee Morning in Bayford Hall from 9.15 - 11.15 am.



Traditionally this morning terminates with a short Remembrance event involving the children. We are always made very welcome and it would be good to see many members of the community there.

I look forward to meeting you at one of these events.

*Gill Sewell
The Hallingburys Poppy Appeal Coordinator*

THE FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Produce

As predicted, picking fruit and jamming has kept many of us busy in August which means we will have a fantastic jam and jelly tombola at our Apple and Bees Day on Sunday, 21st September. The plum trees have been covered in fruit with the various heritage varieties ripening in quick succession. The first plums were the Early Rivers, a variety developed and named by the Rivers Orchard in Sawbridgeworth, which lives up to its name *Prolific*. And our huge raspberries started cropping and selling at the beginning of August, swelled by the rains in the second half of July. Visitors have also been buying our vegetables through the month and we have planted more, so we should be cropping summer vegetables well into the autumn, together with later season produce: the sweetcorn, peppers and squash.



Activities

August is family time in the Gardens, as it's a relaxed space for children in the school holidays with a variety of garden games. Our volunteers worked on many additional traditional fun activities for our August Sunday Open Day. And we had a grass coil basket weaving workshop in the Gardens at the beginning of the month and cordage making at the end of the month.

This year the flowers and perennials have been growing strongly after the drought, so hopefully the dahlia border will be looking more like its best by September and the other borders will also fill out again. The roses will still be stunning and the walled kitchen garden as welcoming as ever. We remain open for visitors on Thursdays,

from 11.00-3.00, through September and October.

And we will have fun activities and stalls for our Apple and Bees Open Day on 21st September. There will be live music from the Rock Choir and Harlow Concert Band and various local produce stalls, as well as our own apple juicing and cider for sale.

For more information go to www.eastonlodge.co.uk

Jill Goldsmith

Name the Wildflowers

Answers to pictures on page 4

Wood Anemone	Bluebell
Primrose	Wild Garlic
Teasel	Garlic Mustard
Cowslip	Red Campion
Foxglove	Lesser Celandine

Great Hallingbury

**Everyone Can Help to Keep
Our Village Looking Smart**

**Autumn Litter Pick
Sunday, 5th October**

Starting 10 am from the Hop Poles
or the Church Layby Car Park

**Bacon Rolls provided by
Great Hallingbury Manor**

Bags, Grabbers and Hi-Vis Jackets will be available

Organiser: Mark Bloomfield



Little Hallingbury Cricket Club



With the sun shining most of the time, there were plenty of big scores and the Saturday team won three of their four games in June beating Bishop's Stortford 4th, Braughing and Thorley, although Thaxted won our game against them.

The Sunday team played against some strong teams but still managed to win two from the five games. The first three games were lost to North Weald, Great Hyde Hall and the Stedman XI but LHCC beat Mazars and Chrishall.

LHCC Colts

The under 13 team played two strong opponents and unfortunately lost two close games.

The under 11's played four games, losing to Stansted and High Roding but managing to beat two Dunmow teams. The last victory was achieved with captain Ben Khorshidchehr taking a wicket with the last ball of the game.

Jack Petchey Awards

On 2nd July we entertained our colts and their parents to a Pizza evening at the ground with over 80 guests enjoying the sunshine and an alfresco supper.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of two Jack Petchey Achievement

Awards to our colts Jensen Thompson and Max Khorshidchehr.

Both boys have shone this year with their cricket and personal development

Keith Behagg



Services in the Hallingburys

September - November 2025
G = St Giles' M = St Mary's

G	Aug 31	11 am	St Giles' Patronal Festival - Six Villages Holy Communion
G	Sep 7	9 am	Holy Communion
M	Sep 14	11 am	Morning Worship
M	Sep 14	6 pm	Café Church
G	Sep 21	9 am	Holy Communion
M	Sep 28	11 am	Harvest Festival Holy Communion
G	Oct 5	9 am	Harvest Festival Holy Communion
M	Oct 12	11 am	Morning Prayer
M	Oct 12	6 pm	Café Church
G	Oct 19	9 am	Holy Communion
M	Oct 26	11 am	Holy Communion
G	Nov 2	9 am	Holy Communion
G	Nov 9	10.50am	Remembrance Service
M	Nov 9	10.50am	Remembrance Service (starting at War Memorial)
G	Nov 16	9 am	Holy Communion
M	Nov 23	11 am	Holy Communion
	Nov 30	11 am	Six Villages Service of Holy Communion at St Mary's, HBO

Please Check:

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.

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

A Feather

Great Hallingbury
Village Hall &
Parish Council

Christmas Tree Lights Switch On

with Mulled Wine, Mince
Pies, Sausage Rolls

Saturday November 29th at 6.30 pm

followed by

Social Evening

NO CHARGE
Bring your own drinks
and nibbles



Calendar

September 2025

- 2 District Councillors' Surgery - Village Hall 2 - 4 pm
- 6 Library Van - Bedlars Green 13.45 - 14.15
- 8 Great Hallingbury Parish Council - Village Hall 8 pm
- 8 Little Hallingbury History Society - *History of Matching Airfield* - Little Hallingbury Village Hall at 8 pm
- 10 History Society *Bishop's Stortford During World War II* - Village Hall at 8 pm
- 21 *Apples and Bees Open Day* - Gardens at Easton Lodge 11 am - 5 pm
- 23 Little Hallingbury Panto Group - Read through for *Robin Hood* - Little Hallingbury Village hall at 7.30 pm
- 24 Hallingbury Ladies - *CPR and Defib Essentials* - Village Hall 7.30 pm

October 2025

- 5 Autumn Litter Pick - Hop Poles or Church Layby Car Park at 10 am
- 7 District Councillors' Surgery - Village Hall 2 - 4 pm
- 8 History Society - *Churches in the Hundred Parishes* - Village Hall at 8 pm
- 21 Poppy Coffee Morning - Pantiles - 10.30 - 12 noon
- 22 Hallingbury Ladies - *Harvest Supper* - Village Hall 7.30 pm

November 2025

- 3 Great Hallingbury Parish Council - Village Hall 8 pm
- 4 District Councillors' Surgery - Village Hall 2 - 4 pm
- 7 Poppy Coffee Morning - Howe Green House School 9.15 - 11.15 am
- 9 Remembrance Sunday - St Giles' Church at 10.50 am
- 12 History Society - *The British Country House Revival* - Village Hall at 8 pm
- 26 Hallingbury Ladies - *Louise Reed - A Tudor Christmas* - Village Hall 7.30 pm
- 29 Christmas Tree Lights Switch On - Village Hall at 6.30 pm followed by Social Evening

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

Monday, 8th September 8 pm Village Hall
Monday, 3rd November 8 pm Village Hall