



HARTFORD HUNDRED WEST  
THE



# PARISH MAGAZINE

*Bayford, Brickendon, Essendon,  
Little Berkhamsted & Ponsbourne.*

**Oct  
2024**

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Price

**80p**

**St Andrew's  
Night Service  
and Supper.  
p. 11  
29<sup>th</sup> Nov, 7pm**



**The Swallow: African or British? p.19**

Photo: RSPB

## DIOCESE OF ST. ALBANS



**The Bishop of St Albans:** The Rt. Revd. Dr. Alan Smith  
**The Bishop of Hertford:** The Rt. Revd Jane Mainwaring  
**Archdeacon:** The Venerable Janet Mackenzie .  
**Rural Dean:** The Revd. Mark Dunstan  
**Assistant Rural Dean:** The Revd. Ysmena Pentelow

### THE PARISHES OF BAYFORD & BRICKENDON, LITTLE BERKHAMSTED, ESSENDON & WOODHILL, PONSBOURNE:

**RECTOR: Rev'd Theresa Musiwacho,**

Hartford Hundred Rectory,

1 Little Berkhamsted Lane, Little Berkhamsted, SG13 8LU.

Telephone: 01707 875940 email - hartfordhundred@outlook.com

*Communion to the sick, Notice of Banns and of Marriage by arrangement with the Minister. See p4.  
Please advise us of any cases of sickness so that prayers may be offered  
or where they may be of any assistance.*

#### **ST ANDREW'S - LITTLE BERKHAMSTED**

##### **CHURCHWARDEN**

Sandie Ash, Hall Cottage, 7 Church Road,  
Little Berkhamsted, SG13 8LY **01707 875221**

##### **PCC SECRETARY**

Ian Bailey, Tower House, Stockings Lane,  
Little Berkhamsted. SG13 8LW **01707 875971**

##### **TREASURER**

Christopher Nunn, Trewinnard House, Little  
Berkhamsted, SG13 8LS **07885 464055**

##### **ORGANIST**

#### **ST MARY - BAYFORD and HOLY CROSS and ST ALBAN - BRICKENDON**

##### **CHURCHWARDEN**

Mr C Taylor, Baybury House, 41 Ashdene  
Road, Bayford, Hertford, SG13 8PX  
**01992 511041**

##### **PCC SECRETARY**

##### **TREASURER**

Mrs. L. Fitzjohn, Home Farm, Bayford Lane,  
Bayford

##### **ORGANIST**

Mrs V Haryott, Wellpond Cottage, Brickendon,  
SG13 8NU **01992 511575**

#### **ST MARY THE VIRGIN - ESSENDON and WOODHILL, AL9 6AS**

##### **CHURCHWARDENS**

Paul Wombwell, 27 Rectory Close, Essendon,  
AL9 6HG **01707 273729**  
Colin Rees, 2, Letty Green, Hertford,  
SG14 2NZ. **07540 351 530.**  
colin4444@yahoo.com.

##### **PCC SECRETARY**

Ms C Blackman, 42 High Road, Essendon,  
AL9 6HW 07831 341886  
casblackman@yahoo.com

##### **TREASURER**

Mr Nick Pickard, Cucumber Hall, Essendon,  
AL9 6JB 07779 325847

#### **ST MARY - PONSBOURNE**

##### **CHURCHWARDEN AND TREASURER**

Phil Ryan  
50, New Park Road, Newgate Street,  
SG13 8RF - **01707 876151**  
phil.ryan47@gmail.com

##### **ORGANIST**

Mr P Minchinton, 14 Byfield, Welwyn Garden  
City, AL8 7AL **01707 323742**

##### **PARISH MAGAZINE EDITOR**

Dr M E Wainwright. 12 Church Road, Little  
Berkhamsted, SG13 8LY. **01707 875970**  
parishmag@begesford.co.uk

The Parish Magazine is also available online, free of charge.  
Google 'HHW Parish Magazine'.  
For the HHW web site Google 'Hartford Hundred West'.

## Rector's Article.

**D**ear All

Being thankful is morally excellent and a virtue. We are approaching the season of Harvest in our Anglican Liturgical calendar. When we show our gratitude for what God has done in our lives.

Biblically, this is also demonstrated in the story of the ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19). The Lord Jesus was travelling towards Jerusalem along borders of Samaria and Galilee. When he approached the village, ten men who were lepers saw him. As they had the leprosy condition they could not come near Jesus. The condition prevented them to draw close. No matter their physical distance, they were not going to let their miracle pass or the distance which separated them be a barrier to their breakthrough. They called out in a loud voice "Jesus, Master have pity on us". They cried out for Him to heal them. Call out to Jesus!

Jesus heard and saw them. He rewarded their faith and told them to go and show themselves to the Priests. This meant that when they reached the Priest they would have been healed from leprosy. The Priest had no power to heal but he was designated to pronounce them clean. Being obedient to the words of Jesus, the lepers started to walk to the

Priests. As they went, they were cleansed from the disease.

They all had faith because they all obeyed the Word and went. One of them, seeing that he was healed, he went back to thank Jesus. Interestingly, this one was a Samaritan, the others were Jews. When he got to where Jesus was, he fell on his face, at the feet of Jesus, the posture of worship, and thanked Jesus. However, Jesus asked if it were not true that ten were cleansed but only one had returned to give thanks. None of them had come back to give glory to God. Turning to the Samaritan Jesus said "Rise and go, your faith has made you well". The grateful will inherit Christ's true riches.

Jesus meets and blesses us when we give thanks. The nine were healed from leprosy but the one who came back was saved from sin.

In the Old Testament, under the law, Israel was not allowed to strip the fields clean when harvesting, they were to leave some of the grain as gleaning for the needy, strangers, the fatherless and the widows. This is pictured by Ruth in the fields of Boaz (Ruth 2). Boaz went further to invite Ruth to eat with his workers and instructed the reapers to leave extra grain for her on purpose.

Thankfulness is an act of worship.

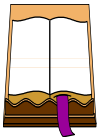
Rev'd Theresa Musiwacho

### Prayer Share

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen



# PARISH REGISTER



## Wedding

7<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Bonnie Annie Lily BLAKE and  
Oliver James PETERS Bayford

## Interment of Ashes

29<sup>th</sup> September 2024 George James Stuart WALKER 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
Little Berkhamsted

29<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Marian Heather BUTTERFIELD d.14<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Brickendon

## Memorial Services

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 David John MITCHELL 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Essendon

28<sup>th</sup> August 2024 Phil Neal SIMMONDS 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Essendon

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## OCTOBER CALENDAR

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October, Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 am, Parish Communion, Essendon  
9:30 am, Harvest Service, Ponsbourne  
11:00 am, Parish Communion, Brickendon

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October, Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 am, Parish Communion, Bayford  
11:00 am Family Service, Little Berkhamsted.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October, Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 am Family Service, Essendon  
9:30 am Parish Communion, Ponsbourne  
11:00 am Family Service, Brickendon.

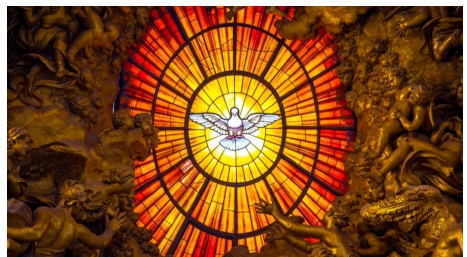
### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October, Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost.**

9:30 am, Parish Communion, Little Berkhamsted  
11:00 am Family Service, Bayford  
6:30 pm **No Evensong, Essendon**

## Wednesdays

9:30 am, Holy Communion, Essendon  
10:00 am, Wednesday. 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>

### Pentecost



## The Clock has Stopped Ticking ..... Almost

As at the time of drafting this article (8<sup>th</sup> Sept), there have been no positive developments since last month's offering, in our efforts in filling a number of potential key vacancies within the Magazine Team. Unfortunately, last month's approach of widening the net by placing postings on parish social media platforms also failed to produce any positive responses.

Should there be any last-minute shows of interest from within our readership, details of the roles to be filled can be found in last month's copy of the magazine. However, having set ourselves an internal deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> September for making the necessary appointments, it is possible that 'The Clock will have Stopped Ticking' by the time you are reading this article in the October edition. If this is the case, there will be only two more editions of the parish magazine in its current format, before the existing Magazine Team brings the curtain down on more than thirty-five years of 'going to press' (one of our contributors has stumbled upon a copy of the Church Magazine dated September 1986).

As with Readers' Digest, which closed earlier this year after more than a century of monthly publications, the Magazine has in recent years seen a sharp decline in reader engagement and resultant subscriptions. Over the five-year period that I have been a member of the Team, our monthly



print run has dropped from 600 to 400 copies. Whilst we have moved with the times by making our monthly publication available on-line, interest to date, measured by the number of hits in any given month, has been minimal, to say the least.

Consequently, it falls upon members of the Magazine Team to bring about the closing down of the publication in its current format in a structured manner, with due regard to all interested parties - printers, advertisers, contributors and most importantly, our loyal readership. Whilst the lack of a January 2025 edition dropping onto the mat will be sadly missed by all of our current subscribers, alternative ways of finding out what is happening in any given parish at any future date will no doubt be sourced by all to fill the gap left by the magazine.

But who knows, we may still yet witness 'the rising of the phoenix from the ashes' - stranger things have happened!

Peter Chivers.

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**Scam emails.** I recently published a couple of scam emails, noting that they looked quite convincing. I forward these as an attachment (very important) to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). This month they replied that they had received 33,687,208 suspicious emails as of July 2024, across 345,407 URLs.

# LITTLE BEES MUSIC CLASSES

FOR 0-4S AND THEIR GROWN-UPS!

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& Friday  
mornings



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07540 351 530.**

Order early as deliveries are made in strict order. Colin Rees



## North Mymms Arts Festival

musical cafe session, Songs of Praise featuring local school children, art workshops and a closing concert by Buck Brass. The exhibition is open daily from 10am - 4pm (11am on Sunday). You can find all of the information about the Festival on [www.northmymmsarts.co.uk](http://www.northmymmsarts.co.uk)

is a week-long festival of the Arts between 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> October, with a selling exhibition featuring local painters, photographers and a ceramicist. Alongside the exhibition there is a preview evening, a

### **Weddings, Baptisms and other matters.**

**Saturday Registration** is held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month at 10.00 am to 11.30 am in Little Berkhamsted Church.

No appointment necessary

### **Bridleway 18 - Modification Order Update. Little Berkhamsted.**

The Planning Inspectorate's public local inquiry is set to start on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at Priory Hall, Ware Priory,** High Street, Ware SG12 9AL at 10 am

Visit <http://www.gov.com> and enter ROW/3311608 the information is under the Hertfordshire tab with relevant dates for any submissions.

For more information please contact the Parish Council via [clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk)



# OPEN DAY

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Bayford Primary School & Nursery**

10am - 12pm

Come and meet us!

Updates & Information at:

bayford.herts.sch.uk or 01992 511259



in the  
**COMFORT and SAFETY**  
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## Hair by Liz

07809446786

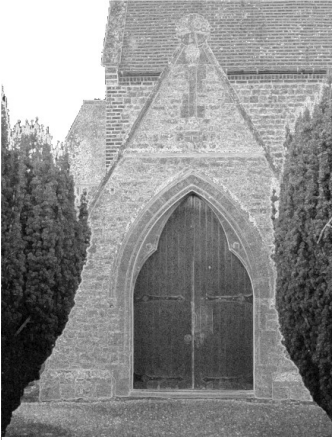
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# Bayford

## St. Mary's Church

Bayford Church is open **Sunday, Wednesday** and **Saturday**.

### **CHURCH CLEANING**

**Sarah Heath and Vicky Court**

### **FLOWERS**

**Sarah Walduck**

### **BAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

To read the minutes and agendas just Google '*Bayford Parish Council*' and follow the link to '*Minutes*'.

#### **The Old Playground.**

Gavin Nelson continues to update us on the progress as Bonnel Homes. The new house is now well underway

#### **Meetings.**

**25<sup>th</sup> November 8pm**

Please check the web site.

Michael Wainwright (Dr),  
Chairman.

**pc@begesford.co.uk**

01707 875970.

[www.begesford.co.uk](http://www.begesford.co.uk)

### **New PC email Addresses.**

Below are the new email addresses for Bayford Parish Councillors. I have set these up so that Parish Council business and information are kept separate from personal emails. In recent months politicians and others have come under fire for using personal emails and What's App counts etc for Council business.

Whilst we do not handle the level of information that, for example, Hilary Clinton did, we nevertheless would be liable if information gained in the course of carrying out PC business was passed on or used for other purposes.

There is also a new web site under construction:

[bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk/](http://bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk/)

**boborme@bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk**  
**chrisorme@bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk**  
**alanfitzjohn@bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk**  
**clerk@bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk**  
**oliverriley@bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk**  
**mikewainwright@bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk**  
**georgerowley@bayfordparishcouncil.org.uk**





### Friends of the Baker Arms

After the period of purdah following the announcement of the election and giving the dust to settle on the new administration, we have again started the process of acquiring the Bayford Arms.

Please follow, like and share on social media for all the latest campaign news.

[www.friendsofbakerarms.org](http://www.friendsofbakerarms.org)  
[hello@friendsofbakerarms.org](mailto:hello@friendsofbakerarms.org)

**Friends of Baker Arms**

## **Halloween QUIZ NIGHT**

**Saturday**

**1st November 7.30pm.**

£5 p/p cash on the door.  
Raffle Prizes.

Book ahead for tables of up to 6 with  
**Gill 01992 511144 or**  
**Sally 07817 298105**

### **From Desne Nicholls**

I rehome some hedgehogs ready for release back into a safe habitat from Shepreth Hedgehog Hospital. They have asked if I could pass on this link <https://bighedgehogmap.org> which monitors where hedgehogs are sighted. Currently no hedgehogs from Bayford have been put on this website (I believe it is a fairly new one and probably most people are unaware of it) and obviously it would help the cause if there is a clearer picture of the Bayford hedgehog population.

Place Farm, Bayford Green  
01992 511765

### **Bayford CofE Primary School & Nursery**

Due to a recent change to their constitution Bayford CofE Primary School & Nursery have a vacancy on their Board of Governors. We would like to appoint a local person with a real interest in young people and their education. There would be between 6 and 12 early evening (5pm) meetings to attend per year. If you are interested in school governance and think you could support this thriving village school please contact the Chair of Governors (01992 511551) for a chat.

### **Erratum.**

Last month I noted here the sad passing of Jim Monaghan and stated that he and Collette were the last 'University residents' in BGW.

I must apologise to Claire Smith, who still lives in BGW and is very much still alive! MW

## Knitting

We have made 30 trauma teddies for the Hertford fire service to give to children caught up in traumatic incidents. We are now working on our next project which is jumpers for babies in Kenya, South Africa and Uganda where the nights can be cold.

We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the Farmers Boy in Brickendon from 8pm.

For more information please contact Janet Rees on 07795 963531 or Caroline Fletcher on 07919 317212."



## Bench FOR SALE

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## Will Writing Service



### Local Solicitors Donate Will Writing Services Throughout October to Raise Funds for Isabel Hospice

From October 1st and October 31<sup>st</sup> 2024, multiple local solicitors and will writers have agreed to write basic single or mirror wills free of charge, in return for a suggested donation to the Hertfordshire based hospice care charity, Isabel Hospice.

60% of people in UK do not yet have a will written and writing a will is the only way to be sure that your wishes are followed after your death and that the people and causes you care about are still supported when you are no longer here.

Isabel Hospice last ran the Make a Will Month scheme in March, and with the support of local solicitors raised almost £9,000 to help Isabel Hospice care for patients and their families in eastern Hertfordshire affected by life-limiting-illness.

To take part, all you have to do is find your nearest participating solicitor online at [isabelhospice.org.uk/MakeAWill](http://isabelhospice.org.uk/MakeAWill) and give them a call or email to make an appointment.

Suggested donations to Isabel Hospice are £120 for a single basic will and £175 for a pair of mirror basic wills.

Appointments are limited and allocated on a first come, first served basis so it is advisable to contact your chosen solicitor as soon as possible.

If you have any queries about Isabel Hospice's Make a Will Month please visit [isabelhospice.org.uk/MakeAWill](http://isabelhospice.org.uk/MakeAWill) or contact Conor Williams at Isabel Hospice, on [Conor.Williams@Isabelhospice.org.uk](mailto:Conor.Williams@Isabelhospice.org.uk) or call 01707 954 817.

## St. Andrew's Night Service and Supper

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

Service

7 pm followed by

Supper in the church

7.45 for 8 pm

Bring your own cutlery, glasses and drinks

Individual Tickets £12

from Sandie on **875221**

Please indicate if vegetarian option require



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Scan the QR code to view our class timetable.

CUCUMBER LANE | ESSENDON

# Master Art Workshops

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## Beginners Welcome



**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Little Berkhamsted,  
Glass Fusion with Laura Brooks-Payne 10-1pm £65 + 10% discount**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Little Berkhamsted,  
Candle Making with Anne Nudd 10-1pm £35**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Little Berkhamsted  
Fox/Birds in Watercolours with Nicky Hunter 10-4pm £45 incl. lunch**

To book visit <http://www.masterartworkshops.com> or  
email [suewilliams021@aol.com](mailto:suewilliams021@aol.com)

Follow us on social media to keep up with our news -  
Facebook page is <http://www.facebook.com/masterartworkshops> and  
instagram page is [@masterartworkshops](https://www.instagram.com/masterartworkshops)

## WAGGONERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

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Low impact exercise “walk” through the moves in time to the  
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## HARVEST HOEDOWN

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

**7.30-10pm £5.00**

e-mail: [waggonerssdc@gmail.com](mailto:waggonerssdc@gmail.com) or phone  
Bob or Penny on 01920 465276

or see

[www.waggonersssquaredanceclub.com](http://www.waggonersssquaredanceclub.com) for  
further details



# Brickendon

## Chapel of the Holy Cross & St. Alban

For enquiries concerning the Chapel, please contact **Virginia Haryott 01992 511575** or email **wellpondharyott@gmail.com**

Many people will have noticed that the front hedge, fence and noticeboard at the church were destroyed late at night by an out of control driver. We have now had the noticeboard restored and have replaced the shattered fence with a new oak fence. Thanks go to Simon Hedley of Little Berkhamsted who has done an excellent job.

### **October Services.** Please see page 4 for a full list of services.

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October      11.00am Parish Communion  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October    11.00am Family Service  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November   11.00am Parish Communion

	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Maureen Reid		Julie Pickering
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Maureen Reid		
18 <sup>th</sup> October	Janet Burger		Tessa Whitlow
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Janet Burger		

**Please consider volunteering for either Church cleaning or flower arranging as it would help lighten the load for all the existing hard workers!**

Contact Virginia on 07770944854 or email [virginia.haryott@gmail.com](mailto:virginia.haryott@gmail.com)

Concern has been raised about the amount of artificial flowers that are being placed on the graves in the churchyard. Please remember that this is not recommended by the Diocese.

## Tennis Courts.

The fee for hire is still £5 per court per hour. The courts are in excellent condition and we like to see them being used, there is also a pavilion for changing in.

To book a court please telephone 07734 715002 or email [tony.roberts@brickendon-liberty.org.uk](mailto:tony.roberts@brickendon-liberty.org.uk)

**Pilates** - Every Tuesday morning in Fanshaws Room (the village hall) at 9.15am, to register contact **Harriet Barton, 07944 500504** or [pilateswithharriet@hotmail.com](mailto:pilateswithharriet@hotmail.com)

**Book Club** - meets every first Tuesday of the month at 8pm, contact **Andrea Trendler for venue - 01992 511588**

## Parish Council

### Meetings

Meetings are normally held in the Fanshaws Room at 7.30pm and all parishioners are welcome to attend and to raise any issues of concern. Agendas are posted on noticeboards at least 3 days before the meeting.

**Parish Council meetings in 2024**  
**28<sup>th</sup> November**

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne  
Brickendon Liberty Parish Council  
PO BOX 81, Knebworth, SG3 6YZ

Email [clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk)  
Mobile 07803 906291

**Minutes:** Brickendon website  
[www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk](http://www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk) for .

## Brickendon Petanque Boules Club

We play at The Farmers Boy  
Sunday 10am - 12noon  
Tuesday 5.30pm - 7pm  
Thursday 10am - 12noon

We have a full and active summer programme and new players are always welcome, boules can be borrowed from the club hut.

For further information contact our Club Secretary **Janet 01992 51151**



## Ring Necked Parakeets.

These have become naturalised in the UK. We regularly get them on our peanut feeder. MW





## Synchromesh.

Now this is an interesting thing!

It's part of a manual gearbox from a series 1 BMC car. The unit engages 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> gear by moving the large ring up or down with the gear lever. This ring presses against the gear to be engaged so that they travel at the same speed and therefore do not crunch.

It was invented by Ferdinand Porsche in 1952.

Before this it was necessary to double declutch in order the speed up or slow down the next gear. MW

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## **Bayford and Brickendon Parish**

Would you like to support your wonderful local churches?  
Have you got a few hours to spare each month?

### **St. Mary's Bayford and Holy Chapel Brickendon are seeking a new Treasurer,**

as our present Treasurer is retiring in June. It would be possible to have one Treasurer for each church.

The PCC meets three times a year and has an annual meeting when the accounts for the previous year are presented.

The role is voluntary and includes paying bills, managing bank accounts, and producing the annual accounts which are examined by an independent accountant.

The Treasurer does not have to be experienced as a handover will be provided. The weekly collections and fundraising money are paid into the bank by the churchwarden.

For more information or to arrange a chat with the current Treasurer about the role, please contact:

Lorna on 07582538996 (lorna.fitzjohn@gmail.com) or  
Virginia on 07770944854 (virginia.haryott@gmail.com)



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Essendon

# Essendon, Woodhill, Wild Hill & Woodside

St. Mary the Virgin



## FLOWER ARRANGING.

5<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>  
Remembrance 26<sup>th</sup>

Pauline Alleyne  
Paula Marshall  
Pam Worsley



Services. See page 4.

## All Sorts Dementia Group.

Social and activity group for people with mild to moderate dementia starting at Essendon Village Hall every Wednesday 10.30am till 3pm. Spaces limited so please call

**01279 498938** or

email [allsortsdg@gmail.com](mailto:allsortsdg@gmail.com)  
for more information.

Website: [www.allsortsdg.co.uk](http://www.allsortsdg.co.uk)

## The Village Hall.

Tel: 07442 499601

email:

[essendonvillagehall@hotmail.com](mailto:essendonvillagehall@hotmail.com)

[facebook.com/essendonvillagehall](https://www.facebook.com/essendonvillagehall)  
[essendonvillagehall.wixsite.com/essendonvillagehall](http://essendonvillagehall.wixsite.com/essendonvillagehall)

## Bible Study

All are welcome.

More information and dates from  
[mckellartrish@gmail.com](mailto:mckellartrish@gmail.com)



## Essendon Toddlers

The new Baby and Toddler group meets in Essendon on Friday mornings, 10-11.30 in St Mary's Church room (just to the side of the St. Mary's Church).

If you have or look after a baby or toddler and want to meet up, why not come along and join us?

All are welcome.

There is no charge although in the future we may ask for a contribution for tea and coffee! Any questions please message  
[mandynevel@gmail.com](mailto:mandynevel@gmail.com)

## ESSENDON W.I.



An al fresco lunch was enjoyed by the ladies of Essendon WI in September. Lyn and Bryan offered a two course meal with wine and the afternoon concluded with members catching up on news of long forgotten summer holidays and plans for the winter season.

On 16<sup>th</sup> October Roger Gibbons will be visiting Essendon talking about Butterflies of Britain and Europe. Roger lives on the south coast of France for most of the year. He is on a personal quest to see all 240 mainland species of butterfly and is a keen photographer with his photos being widely published.

Please call **Lyn McCash** on **07971 909540** if you would be interested in joining the WI. Alternatively come along as a guest on the 16<sup>th</sup> October.

### Essendon Nature Notes

It is perhaps a philosophical rather than a scientific question as to whether the swallow is a British bird which winters in Africa or an African bird which spends its summers here. I always think of it as the latter because its sojourn to our fields and meadows seems to be such a short one. The last stragglers will be leaving this month but I have enjoyed their company immensely this year. A pair nested undisturbed on the beams of an old garage nearby and consequently their electric-blue elegance has been a constant presence over the neighbouring field.

Whilst some are departing, others are arriving. This is the month of transition and I will be looking out for the fieldfares and redwings who come in from Scandinavia to brighten up our autumn days. These migrants are here for our milder weather and the

redwings have a distinctive 'seep-seep' call as they fly over at night. Berries are the main attraction but these members of the thrush family are also fond of apples and pears. They may face some competition this year as the other evening I was caught unawares by a badger streaking past me in the garden. Despite the gloom, its black and white striped head was unmistakable and I had obviously disturbed its dinner of windfall apples that I had failed to clear from under the old tree.

October always has a mellow and melancholic feel as we mourn the passing of the season and look ahead to the failing light and the frost. However we should take a moment to reflect on the summer past, say goodbye to recent companions and welcome back our old winter friends.

DC

## Gardening in October

2024 has been a strange year in our gardens and lessons can be learnt from how our different gardens, whether large or small, have coped and maybe we can take this opportunity look at things from all sorts of fresh angles.

Just looking round here as I write this, I can only say that in my own garden I am wondering whether some of my Dahlias are ever going to actually flower! They look very healthy and full of bud and two new ones have finally gently burst slowly into flower. I made the mistake last winter in not digging them up, letting them dry out properly and wintering them with protection!

I am also enjoying what has done well this summer in other peoples gardens and learning from them their tips and am continuing to do so into this Autumn - we gardeners never stop learning!

I remember last year seeing a beautiful Acer Palmatum, a Japanese maple, which is deciduous with foliage that turns first to a golden orange, then a deeper orange and finally red in late Autumn and it was a wonderful spectacle. A Rosa rugosa, also often known as the 'hedgehog' rose'. This also has pretty pink flowers followed by large red hips in the Autumn and it also gives a wonderful lasting display. Another lovely Autumnal tree is the Sorbus pseudohupehensis, Pink Pagoda, which is in fact a deciduous Crab Apple tree with edible fruits!

Create colourful container displays of Autumn foliage and flowers and position them where they can be seen - perhaps on a Patio or outside the Front door! They can be easy to create, not too costly, easy to put together and probably, with a bit of luck, you will be able to integrate these plants into your borders for the years ahead. Chose a large container with good drainage holes in the base, fill it up with peat-free multi- purpose compost and plant the biggest plants first. Then evenly plant trailing plants and fill any gaps with smaller upright ones giving a well-balanced full display. Make sure you plant all the plants firmly, fully top up the compost and water well. 'Dead head' regularly to keep it flowering as long as possible and give it a liquid feed every five weeks or so to balance the 'peat-free' compost and to keep the plants healthy. Continue to remove any faded or damaged leaves and it should be a great and cheerful success!

Germander Speedwell.

## Essendon PC

The October parish council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm in the Village Hall. The meeting's Agenda will be available at least three working days beforehand on the parish council website [www.essendonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.essendonparishcouncil.gov.uk) and on noticeboards in the village. Meeting Minutes are published shortly after each meeting on the website. Members of the public are

warmly invited to attend and will have an opportunity to raise any comments, questions or concerns relating to the village, they may have, or they can contact the Clerk by emailing: [clerk@essendonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@essendonparishcouncil.co.uk)

Caroline Chapple  
Clerk  
Essendon Parish Council  
[clerk@essendonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@essendonparishcouncil.co.uk)



### Hatfield House Music Festival

## Musical Time Travel

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

Guy Johnston, Artistic Director.  
[hatfieldhousemusicfestival.org.uk](http://hatfieldhousemusicfestival.org.uk)

### Tennis Courts

The prices are

£50 family,  
£30 individual and  
£15 for a junior.

New members always welcome.

To join the club or any questions please contact,

**Nicki Whitelaw 07946300512**  
**[nicki.whitelaw@sky.com](mailto:nicki.whitelaw@sky.com)**  
Essendon Tennis Club Committee

## The Friends of St. Mary's Essendon -Fun on the Field.

A great afternoon and evening were had by many on the 7<sup>th</sup> September as the committee held a Food, Fun and Frolics on the Field in Essendon. Rain was forecast, but the weather was just about perfect – warm but not overly sunny, dry and not at all windy. Mel the circus entertainer helped young and old master top spinning, stilt walking and various other circus tricks. The bouncy castle was never empty and Emma did some amazing face painting. Next followed music and dancing with the Ceilidh Tree as well as music provided by Dav. Hotdogs and curry cooked by the committee, with ice-cream and waffles from a food van (as well as the bar!) provided the necessary sustenance required after the dancing. The field was well populated awash with villagers, their friends and family, and it was lovely to see all the children having such fun. Many thanks to AF for the loan of the bales – unfortunately didn't get as many back as we were given, but the children had great fun building their own straw house and landing cushion! As always, many thanks to the helpers on the bar, food, music, face painting, setting up, clearing away, taking money, cooking, donating.....a great team effort!



### Candlelit Supper—save the date!

It may be a bit early, but just a reminder that we will be holding our usual Candlelit supper in St Mary's Church on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, tickets £20. We expect a full house this year so please secure your tickets early by contacting Judy or Mandy [mandynevel@gmail.com](mailto:mandynevel@gmail.com).

### Bee Orchid

This was photographed in Bayford.

The bee orchid is a sneaky mimic - the flower's velvety lip looks like a female bee. Males fly in to try to mate with it and end up pollinating the flower. Sadly, the right bee species doesn't live here, so this orchid is self-pollinated in the UK.



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[fundraising@stelizabeths.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@stelizabeths.org.uk)



# Little Berkhamsted, Howe Green & Epping Green

St. Andrew

## CHURCH CLEANING

11<sup>th</sup> October Trish Mckellar

25<sup>th</sup> October Jeff and Louise Robinson

## Services for October

13<sup>th</sup> Family Service 11am

27<sup>th</sup> Parish Communion 9.30am

See page 4 for a full list of services

## Telephone Service Wednesday 10am

The service is for anyone at home or away and is free.

Contact Revd. Theresa at Hartford  
Hundred Rectory. 01707 875940

## Baby Group

Every Tuesday 10-11.30am

Very casual so feel free to pop in and say hello....

All babies and toddlers are welcome with parents, grandparents, and carers.

## Books.....Books.....Books....

We have a good collection of books in the church, they are free. Find a corner and enjoy.

**The Church is open every  
day.  
So, pop in and see what is  
going on.**

## Harvest at Little B





## **News from Little Berkhamsted Parish Council**

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Novmber 2024** at 7.30pm in the village hall. The agenda is published on the website and village notice-board the week before the meeting and residents are welcome to send questions and comments to the clerk beforehand, [clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk) or attend the meeting and ask in person.

### **Community Clothes Bank**

On the field is our Clothing Bank ready for your donations of clothes, shoes, bags and belts. Thank you for your support. All proceeds go towards the village projects.

### **The Community Café**

Friday mornings in the Cricket and Community Pavilion from 10am to 12.00 come along and enjoy coffee, tea, cakes and great conversations.

### **Vacancy**

Little Berkhamsted Parish Council currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. This is a rewarding voluntary role in which you can really make a difference in your village.

To obtain more information or to apply for the position, please contact the clerk to the council, Laura Brooks Payne by e mail.

[clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk) or phone 07803906291.

### **HELP THE VILLAGE**

One of the conditions of the East Herts Health and Wellbeing grant that we were awarded for the pavilion renovations is that we sell at least 50 tickets for our cause on the East Herts Lottery.

Thank you to those who have already bought tickets, your support is very much appreciated. If you would like to help us in this way, and be in with the chance of winning,, please go to Play the East Herts Lottery.

### **Harvest Festival**

Thank you everyone who joined our service and shared our light lunch provided by Sarah and Norma, it was delicious.

Colin took our service and Virginia played the hymns. Diane collected flowers and arranged them around the windows in the church.

### **Wellbeing Class**

Every Monday at 10.30am  
at St Andrew's Church.

Come along and learn how to keep yourself healthy and well!

For more details call Bevely on 07989181847 everyone welcome.

## Little Berkhamsted Community Facilities for Hire

The **Village Hall** has recently been insulated and redecorated. It has disabled access and toilet, a fully equipped kitchen for any refreshment needs, a table tennis table, internet access and projector equipment.



The **cricket and community pavilion** has a fully equipped kitchen, bar area, changing rooms and shower facilities.



Hire Charges (per hour): Little Berkhamsted Resident: **£12** Other: **£17**

For further details contact: Sandie Ash 01707 875221  
or [clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk)



## News from Little Berkhamsted Parish Council



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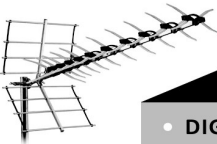
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The numbers in both Sections are growing and we would love to welcome new members. We would also be really happy to have more adult helpers and leaders to support this. Beavers meet on Thursday and Cubs on Monday.

Meetings are based at our Headquarters in Northaw Village.

To find out more contact Gordon Marshall at

[gordon.marshall@pscouts.org.uk](mailto:gordon.marshall@pscouts.org.uk)

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# Newgate Street

Ponsbourne St. Mary

## Village Coffee

Morning

7<sup>th</sup> October

10am to 12 noon

at

The Crown

## Church Open

for

prayer and quiet contemplation,  
every **Wednesday 9:30 to 12:30.**

## VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

All bookings can now be made through the Village website

[www.newgatestreet.org/](http://www.newgatestreet.org/)

Follow the link to Hall Rental and Book the Hall .

## Book Exchange.

A **BIG THANK YOU** for the donation from the **BOOK EXCHANGE** which continues to run at the **Post Office** in Newgate Street Village Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings .



## What's On in Newgate Street

**Table Tennis:** Tuesday evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm in the Village Hall. £1 pay and play

**Tennis** - Tuesday mornings 9.30-10.30am Village Courts. Term time only. Contact 07710 507 215

**Book Swap** - Pre read books to buy £1 or swap 50p, in the Village Hall Post Office Tuesday & Thursday mornings.

**Village Chat** - WhatsApp group for people living in the village. To join the group contact 07710 507 215

**Village Pub Social** - 8pm the second Friday of every month in either The Crown or The Coach & Horses Pubs, come along to meet friends and make new ones. See Village Chat WhatsApp group or Village website for details.

### Post Office.

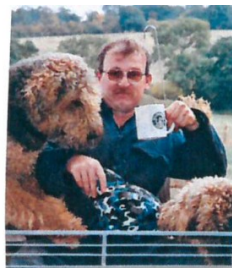
A small Post Office is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings in the village hall.



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## JUMBLE SALE

2<sup>nd</sup> Nov2 till 4pm

**Newgate Street Village Hall**  
**In aid of Ponsbourne St Mary Church**

Please bring any donations of clothes, bric-a-brac, toys, jewellery etc to the village hall post office on Tuesday or Thursday mornings or to the hall on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November after 6.30pm. Enquiries **07790373568**



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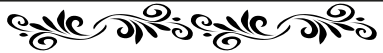
Please contact Bob  
07940565379

or come along to

The Methodist Church,  
Woodhall, Welwyn Garden  
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-J C-

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Cub Pack - Thursday 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Scout Troop - Monday 8.00pm—9:30pm

1st Birch Green Brownies - Monday 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Meetings are held at

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