

# GREAT CANFIELD NEWSLETTER



# 2021

## CHURCH SERVICES MARCH 2021 TO MAY 2021

Since January there has been no public worship in our church buildings, however we continue to meet and worship together on Zoom at 9.30am and 11.00am every Sunday. The links for all our online services and church meetings are available on the church website, [www.thesixparishes.org.uk](http://www.thesixparishes.org.uk).

We also meet every Wednesday at 11am and this service will continue online for the foreseeable future. This is a short service and is followed by 'coffee and chat'.

At this stage it is not clear when we will return to worshipping in St Mary's, when we do the scheduled services will be as follows.

Date	Day	Time and Service Format	Officiant
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent 3	11.00am Morning Service	Local Team
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Mothering Sunday	11.00am Mothering Sunday Service	Local Team
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Lent 5	9.30am BCP Holy Communion	Rev Robert Stone
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Day	4.00pm Easter Celebration	Rev Robert Stone
18 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter 3	9.30am BCP Holy Communion	Rev Tim Goodbody
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Easter 5	11.00am Morning Service	Tbc
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Easter 7	9.30am BCP Holy Communion	Tbc

Note – Please note additional service for Mothering Sunday

### Special Days - Joint Services

Date	Day	Time and Service Format	Church Location	Officiant
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Ascension Day	8.00pm Common Worship Holy Communion	High Easter	Rev Robert Stone
30 <sup>th</sup> May	Trinity Sunday	11.00am	Tbc	Tbc

Please note services take place across the group of 10 churches every Sunday at 9.30am and 11.00am, there is also a late afternoon service at 4.00pm in the winter months or a 6.30pm evening service in the summer months. You are welcome and encouraged to attend services in any of the churches. Details of service times are displayed on the church notice boards and on the church website.

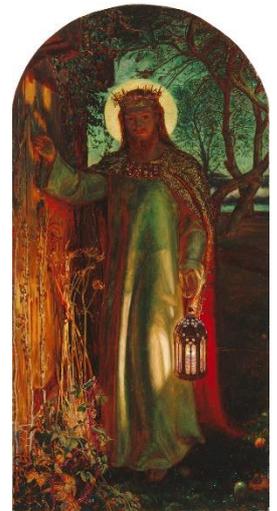
## ST MARY THE VIRGIN GREAT CANFIELD VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Spring 2021 seems to have begun in Lockdown much like most of 2020, but despite the uncertainty of knowing when and how things will change, we have been given a sense of hope with the roll out of various vaccines.

In this experience we catch a glimpse of the Christian message that we celebrate at Easter. The human condition seems to be full of uncertainty and questions, and yet it is when we discover our own personal limits that we sometimes look to God. In the life of Jesus we see God reach out to us in the uncertainty of our lives, and offer us hope. Not just a hope of heaven when we die but a hope of life with deeper meaning as he calls us into discipleship which is intended to make us the best versions of ourselves we can be. What someone once neatly summed up as "Not so much pie in the sky when you die, but more cake on your plate while you wait!"

The hope God offers isn't something we can find in a bottle or something that gets injected into us. Hope is found in relationship with Jesus. Jesus not only lived to teach us, but to call us his friends. This year I have a new picture in my study. It is a print of a painting by Holman Hunt, called light of the world. In the picture we see not the classic themes of the nativity or the cross, but Christ the King, standing in a dark forest about to knock at a door. He is carrying a lantern and also emits a heavenly light, both remind of the darkness we can experience but also that Jesus said that he was the 'Light of the World'. The picture was intended to illustrate a verse in the Bible, Revelation 3: 20 "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come into you and eat with you, and you with me."



When first viewed someone said to Hunt that he made a mistake by forgetting to paint a handle for the door. Hunt explained this was intentional. The door represented the way into people's lives and that the only handle was on the inside. Jesus does not force his way into our lives, he knocks and waits, the door has to be opened from within.

The hope of eternity is there for us all, but hope is a person and we may not experience that relationship with God because we haven't responded to the gentle knock.

May every blessing be yours this Spring and may hope be always at your table.

Rev'd Robert Stone

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN GREAT CANFIELD CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT



As you can probably imagine there is not much to report since last year, so this will be the briefest I have ever been (can I hear cheering?).

In compliance with CofE and Diocese guidelines all 10 churches remain closed for public worship. Services will remain on Zoom until the situation improves. Whatever the advice we will continue to put the health of our parishioners, clergy and anyone who may be at risk FIRST. As I write signs are promising. Covid vaccinations are on schedule and all data seems to be going in the right direction.

I am now publishing details of forthcoming services on the Great Canfield Facebook page each week so if you have access this you can get details (usually on Saturday).

If you would prefer, I can email details direct to you. My email address is below. They are pretty much “click and collect” on the link.

There has been no further progress on the repairs to the Lych Gate as any journey for this purpose could hardly be deemed essential. It still sits securely on its scaffold supports and awaits consultation once we have a 🇬🇧 for travelling from Boris.

We have received the draft plans for installing toilet/catering facilities. These are with the PCC for comment, then the final version will be submitted for approval. This is only the feasibility stage. There is a very long way to go yet.

Everything else is in limbo (where is that?). We are all struggling to learn the art of patience. The NHS has too many patients and Robert STILL has his desk job. The good news is the sanitiser does not have a “Rub By” date.

“Throw all your anxiety onto him, because he cares about you.” [1 Peter 5:7]

May God keep you all safe and well.

David Turner  
**Churchwarden**  
**01279-870620**



[hartview2@gmail.com](mailto:hartview2@gmail.com)

February 2021



# NEWS FROM GREAT CANFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

## Uttlesford Local Plan Update



Uttlesford has opened its 'Call for Sites'. Its purpose is to provide the opportunity for developers, landowners and other interested parties to put forward sites within Uttlesford that they believe are suitable for development for homes, employment or other uses. Further details can be viewed at this link <https://uttlesford-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/event/35905> which includes the form you will need to complete to put any land forward. The deadline for submitting responses is 5pm on 21st April 2021.

The community engagement part of the process will finish at the end of March by which time there will have been nine mini consultations, each looking at a different theme, the remaining two themes for March are 'Homes' and 'Creating new places and community'. These events take place every two weeks and are live streamed via zoom from 7pm so that anyone can tune in. Registration is available via the council's website: [www.uttlesford.gov.uk/new-local-plan](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/new-local-plan), or you can watch post the event.

Please see this link for further information including details on how to respond to the consultation, <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/consultation-and-the-community-stakeholder-forum>

## Planning Appeals

**Land North of Canfield Drive for up to 80 Homes** - The hearing into Uttlesford's decision to refuse planning for up to 80 homes on land north of Canfield Drive took place virtually over two days in early February. There was the opportunity for the Parish Council and residents to take part in the discussions. A decision is expected in the Spring/early Summer.

**Land adjacent to Sandhurst, Hope End** – The applicant has appealed Uttlesford's decision to refuse outline planning permission for 5 new dwellings. The appeal has been validated and is awaiting the allocation of a planning inspector before the process can progress.

**Stansted Airport** – At the start of the inquiry in January and along with several other Parish Councils and interested parties, Great Canfield Parish Council spoke in support of Uttlesford's decision to refuse planning permission for the increase in passenger numbers. The inquiry is now scheduled to run for approximately 29 days and will end in early March, reduced from 40 days a combination of the submission of written evidence by SSE and the remote meeting rather than face to face. A decision will be announced later in the year.

## Other News

**New Waste Depot** - Several different options to relocate the Dunmow waste depot away from the residential centre of the town have been considered over the years. These include the two more recent planning applications on land in Little Canfield, and in Great Dunmow close to the Water Treatment Plant. The first option was not given planning permission and the second required extensive investment in road improvements and the installation of a footbridge.

In October 2020 the council became aware of the opportunity to purchase the former Winfresh Banana ripening plant at Little Canfield as part of a wider commercial investment. This large site provides several advantages compared to the other sites in consideration, including the possibility of flexible office space that can be used by other UDC staff, and the opportunity to lease parts of the site to offset costs. The council committed to a bid to purchase of the site in early November and the transaction was completed on 27 November 2020.

The site requires some building works to make it suitable and a planning application is expected soon. The Parish Council has been in discussion with the District Cllrs to ensure they are aware of the local concerns and the need to ensure conditions continue to be applied to any planning approvals preventing large vehicles using the routes through Canfield and other rural villages. In addition, the Parish Council has submitted requests for weight limit restrictions and speed reductions through Bacon End, to the Uttlesford Highways Panel as these restrictions are not possible to include within planning conditions.

**Local Flooding** - Cllrs have been out and about looking at where works are required to help reduce the amount of surface water on the main village roads and have identified several areas where maintenance could improve the situation. Parish Council funds will be used to carry out some of this work as soon as conditions allow.

**Precept 2021/22** - The Parish Council agreed to keep this level with the current year at £7.5k.

**Village Hall** – It has not been possible to use the village hall in the latest lockdown and at this time it is not clear when village halls will be able to re-open and when groups will wish to return. As part of its new responsibility as the leasee of the village hall, the Parish Council has applied for and received Covid business grants which provide additional financial support in meeting running costs.

**Gigaclear** – There are a number of road closures scheduled in Great Canfield in the coming weeks; Bacon End in early March, Canfield Road between B1256 and Green Street 1-19 March and Green Street 22 March to 12 April. These works are necessary whilst cabling is laid underground to facilitate a fibre broadband service to the parish.

Future meetings of Great Canfield Parish Council will continue on the second Monday of the month at 8pm and until May these are likely to take place via Zoom. The link for each meeting is published with the agenda on the village website.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

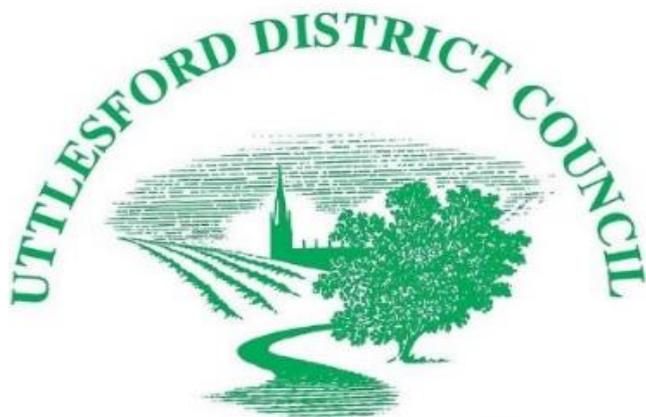
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Parish Council agenda and minutes are available on the village website  
[www.greatcanfield.org.uk/parish-council.html](http://www.greatcanfield.org.uk/parish-council.html)

**census**  
**2021**

Every household should complete the census on Sunday 21 March 2021 or as soon as possible after. In March you will receive a letter that will tell you everything you need to know about how to complete the census online including your unique access code. Paper copies of the census are available if you need it. For more information go to <https://census.gov.uk/> or on social media @Census 2021.

## NEWS FROM GEOF AND NEIL – UTTLESFORD DISTRICT CLLRS



Neil and I are both back in the groove as they say and working hard on your behalf. We are also looking forward to getting back to organising surgeries and meeting you in person again.

**COVID 19 Testing** - Testing is a key part of the strategy to reduce transmission of Covid-19 in Essex. Residents who don't have symptoms are now encouraged to get a fast Lateral Flow Test (LFT – otherwise known as a rapid test) which usually gives a result in around 30 minutes. Although the tests are aimed at all residents aged

18+, Public Health particularly wants people who work outside of their home, such as those who work in other people's homes, to get tested. In Uttlesford, the LFT centre is located at Saffron Walden ECL, 39 Audley Road, CB11 3HD. To book a test, residents can visit [www.essex.gov.uk/getting-tested](http://www.essex.gov.uk/getting-tested), call 0333 772 6144 between 8am to 8pm every day or email [booking.confirmation@nhs.net](mailto:booking.confirmation@nhs.net). Please remember to continue to follow the Covid-19 safety guidance, HANDS, FACE, SPACE.

**Uttlesford Business Team** - The pandemic has had a significant impact on the Uttlesford economy, resulting in more unemployment than UDC have seen for decades, and the loss of many businesses. The Economic Development team at UDC, are dealing with businesses all day every day, many of them very distressed about the challenges they are facing. If you are speaking to a local business and feel they could do with a bit of extra support, please do let them know that UDC are there for them. There are many businesses with the same questions but also a wide range of newly developing different challenges. UDC may have access to information, new projects coming on stream or be able to refer them to specialist business support agencies if they cannot help. Please refer them to the Economic Development Team via [business@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:business@uttlesford.gov.uk). With the end of furlough looming UDC are also keen to promote skills and training opportunities which may be of interest to both our business community and our residents. UDC are committed to ensuring businesses can obtain all the support they are entitled to and with this in mind will be running a monthly page in the Saffron Walden Reporter and Dunmow Broadcast, to flag up what help is on offer.

**Stansted Airport Appeal** - Uttlesford District Council is still 100% looking to win the appeal as the legal team have briefed the Members on several occasions. UDC were required by the Inspectors to submit a Condition 15 paper before the hearing began. Should the Inspectors be of a mind to grant the appeal the paper is there as a backup alternative to the main objections, which would if necessary, and if agreed by the Inspectors, oblige MAG/STAL to comply with very strict emissions and carbon requirements etc before being able to proceed as they propose. UDC will then be able to check on compliance with any conditions at each stage. Philip Coppel QC, the barrister acting for UDC, has been asked why the District Council have not teamed up with SSE. This is not allowed, as UDC and SSE must make their own cases. Furthermore, UDC can only defend their case on the 4 points listed in their refusal notice, whereas SSE can submit evidence and points of view on as many topics as they wish under Section 6 of the Planning Act 2008.

Take Care

[cldriscoll@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:cldriscoll@uttlesford.gov.uk)

or

[cllrreeve@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:cllrreeve@uttlesford.gov.uk)

## NEWS FROM ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR SUSAN BARKER



I do hope that you are keeping safe and well. By the time you read this at the start of March we will know much more about how life is going to be for the next few months. We will be looking forward to pupils returning to school, to having a timeline for remaining vaccinations and a timetable for gradually coming out of lockdown.

I must thank your Parish Clerks and Chairmen (*reference to all 15 villages where Susan is the Essex Ward Cllr*) for all their work over the last few months for keeping me informed about much of what goes on in the villages. Many road closures, flooding issues have been passed to me and passed on to be escalated. Road closures, particularly for Broadband installation have caused disruption across the area and very frustrating where residents already have alternative broadband provision. I have reported issues in Barnston and Dunmow and in White Roding where unfortunately the reinstatement of the pavement or verge has not been done well and we have instructed the company to return and make good.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers and good Samaritans. Across Essex in the latest shutdown 2,500 people have volunteered to help at test and vaccination centres. Others continue to work quietly in the community making sure that young families, the elderly and vulnerable are alright. Thank you to you all.

Council Tax meetings have been concluded at Uttlesford and at Essex. In Uttlesford the administration is looking to increase Council tax by the maximum of £5 per band D property. This equates to 3.61%. At Essex the Conservatives have not increased Council Tax but are looking to increase the Social Care precept by 1.5%. It has been a difficult budget to set with so much uncertainty on Council Tax and Business Rates income.

It is proposed that May 6th will bring local elections and the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's election postponed from last year. Unfortunately, as I write, candidates for Elections have not been allowed to deliver leaflets or visit residents which is a great pity. There will still by May be many voters will not have been vaccinated and I imagine there will still be social distancing measures in place. Councils are being given extra resources to assist with these. I am told you will be asked to take your own pen to the Polling Station! If you are concerned about voting in person you can, of course, apply for a Postal vote. These forms can be downloaded from the website <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote> and then need to be sent back to Uttlesford District Council. Postal vote papers will be sent out around 16th April.

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

Susan Barker  
Essex County Council    [susan.barker@essex.gov.uk](mailto:susan.barker@essex.gov.uk)    01245 231250



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Please see this link for details, <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/e-books-e-audio-e-magazines-and-book-groups/e-books-and-e-audio/>

## UPDATE FROM UTTLESFORD COMMUNITY TRANSPORT



In March last year, when Covid hit, we had to suspend our operation for 4 months, furlough our staff and put the buses into storage. In August we reopened with 5 of our 6 buses specially adapted to keep our members and drivers Covid safe. This included screens between seats and the driver, onboard PPE and hand sanitising stations, a fixed wall mounted thermometer in our reception area and a hand sanitising station and PPE available to our office staff. The cost of each bus adaptation was just under £1000 and office costs of £1200.

This adaptation has meant that the number of available seats per bus has reduced from 15 to 4. We are running two bubbles of staff on flexible furlough with one bubble working Monday/Tuesday and the following Wednesday/Thursday and Friday and the other bubble in reverse.

Our members slowly started to return to travel. We had to change our offering slightly as many of our hospital car drivers (the majority of whom are over 70 themselves) we felt should not be transporting passengers. We therefore chose to take these passengers on our bus service instead.

We remained open during the second lockdown, over the Christmas period and into the third lockdown. Our service is now more vital than ever, and we are extremely busy transporting the elderly and disabled to their vaccine appointments.

We have created a temporary membership system to allow those who are not members to use our service just as a one off for their vaccines. This is to comply with regulations relating to our charitable status. Since December, we have seen our full membership increase from 779 to 852 members so many of these temporary memberships have evolved into permanent ones.

We transported 356 passengers in January. Two-thirds of these were to vaccine appointments. West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group are actively issuing our details and our specialist transport is providing an invaluable service in ensuring that, those eligible within our community, are getting to their vaccine appointments on time as part of the countrywide effort. We need to ensure that this will be the case as the second round of vaccines start to commence. We have not refused any request for transport and worry what would have happened had our service not been available.

Moving forward, we look forward to a time when our 800 odd members are using us for their traditional journeys. Visiting the supermarket, lunching with friends, going to the garden centre and attending their medical appointments in comfort.

## YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ON BENEFITS TO GET HELP

Are you short of money and struggling to pay for food or other essentials? Has your 'rainy day fund' been used up?

There are lots of reasons why people find themselves in financial difficulty and need help with money. It may be through losing a job or a reduction in income. If your outgoings have risen suddenly, it can become harder to cope with making all the usual payments.

Coronavirus has made many of these problems worse for a great number of people. Many have seen their income fall. If this has happened to you, we can offer information, support and guidance. Our advice is confidential and costs nothing.

We can help you to access:

- Local foodbanks and children's clothes banks
- Help to pay utility bills or top up oil tanks
- Emergency funds for prescriptions and other household essentials
- Cold weather payments
- Budgeting and debt support
- Grants to improve the energy efficiency of your home
- Support with job hunting and small grants for education and training
- Universal Credit and Disability Benefits
- Benefits for working families
- Support for carers
- Help from your local council, such as council tax support



If you're worried about money, don't wait to get help.

Call us on 01799 618840 (Monday-Friday 9.30 am-3.30 pm) or email [help@uttlesfordca.org.uk](mailto:help@uttlesfordca.org.uk)

## REDPOLL CATTLE

I know it has been a while but I thought I would do an update on the Redpoll Cattle at Bury Farm. For those that are new to the magazine they graze in the meadows near to the church. I have had the herd since 2004 starting all with some cows from the Queen's Estate at Sandringham and with a Bull called Boris. As to be expected the herd grew over the years reaching almost 65 at one point. Now it totals about 35 as it is more manageable. The cattle not only graze here but at Hatfield Forest as well in the Summer.

Currently the cattle are all in for the winter, as you can imagine it would have been a bit wet outside over the recent months!!!

Sadly, my latest bull (posh name Kirton Retailer but we called him "Kurt") has had to go up to the beef pie in the sky as he had arthritis and was in some pain. He was a gentle chap, as most Redpoll Bulls are (the breeds noted for being one of the more docile ones) and I will be looking to get a replacement in a couple of months, so watch this space!!!!

Calving is due soon, last year we had lots of girls, so perhaps it will be the other way around this year. Hoping some of the girls are going up to Norfolk to join a herd there. I will update you in the Spring.

**The herd is a beef one and I periodically sell one from the farm.  
If you are interested in some local beef. Please call me on 07856 686812  
Many thanks Jonathan Clarke**

## GREAT CANFIELD TODDLER GROUP



Hello everyone, we hope you are all keeping well and attempting to find some normality in the ever changing Covid-19 situation. We are missing our Wednesday meet ups and seeing you all. We will hopefully be able to open our doors again soon. Thinking of you all.

If you would be interested in running the playgroup, once restrictions allow, please contact Michelle Tubby on 07733 267987

*HP*  
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& HOME VISITS



Any enquiries or to book an appointment please contact

*Hannah Parradine*

T: 07843 659749



@HannahParradineBeauty

@HP\_Beauty\_Essex

*\*Discount excludes treatments under £10 and lash lifts*



## Follow My Lead Dog Training Based in Great Canfield

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**BOOKING NOW**



## HIGH RODING & GREAT CANFIELD WI

We welcomed Robert Stone, Vicar of our ten Parishes to our virtual December Meeting who gave us a very interesting and inspiring talk. He spoke about his early life and how he eventually became Minister of the ten Parishes. It was by attending the Church at Little Dunmow with his Mother that he found peace and his final faith and conviction which changed his life. Robert told us how he had become familiar with our communities over many years and was very pleased to at last be part of our community, although he felt sad that due to the present circumstances, he hasn't been able to meet us all in person but hoped that would change very soon.



Our January virtual Meeting was spent talking about our 2020 Christmas Experiences. This proved very interesting to us all listening to each other's experiences ranging from one member and her family who were unfortunately too ill to enjoy their Christmas dinner, others had a more normal time with their families, another completed a 1000-piece jigsaw, of an owl in flight, but vowed that she never wanted to do any more jigsaws although she now has it framed!! A member and her husband spent Christmas decorating their dining room and then experimented decorating an old lampshade to fit in with the new décor!! Others had enjoyed seeing their families on Zoom and Skype and had taken part in quizzes. We all agreed it had been a very different and strange Christmas but most of us still managed to make it enjoyable.

Shelia Gunson gave us a virtual talk – "WI, Denman and the bedspread" for our February Meeting. She became a WI member in the 1970's when the annual subscription was £1.75! and soon became a committee member and progressed to secretary of her WI. Later she joined the County committee and became Treasurer for our Essex Federation. In 1992 Shelia went to Denman College for the first time and then made many more visits there, eventually qualifying as a tutor. A patchwork bedspread for the Essex Bedroom in Denman College was organised by Shelia with members throughout the County, making 12 patchwork squares which depicted a tour round Essex. With the sad closure of Denman College, Shelia decided to buy the bedspread which when we can all meet again in person, she has promised to bring it along to show us.

We have recently held two virtual craft and chat afternoons when we have all enjoyed seeing and talking with one another and hearing each other's news and what craft is being achieved or what exciting book is being read. We have been busy making hearts to give a little cheer to lonely people who are unable to get out at this time and have displayed many in the two villages "To Show the Love".

If you would like to join us on our Zoom Meetings please give me a call on 01371 872206, we will be very pleased to welcome you.

Margaret Stevenson



## BOOK CLUB



Needless to say the group has not managed to meet face to face because of the Covid restrictions but we did manage a zoom meeting at the end of January.

We decided not to meet in December as we had chosen to immerse ourselves in the misadventures of Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert which as it is quite a lengthy read gave us plenty of time to finish it. There were varying opinions about the book, as per usual! With the library being closed we have to fall back on our own devices and quite a few choose to read on a kindle and we found in the case of Madame Bovary that some translations were better than others, to put it mildly. In fact some of the translations were so bad that it made it impossible to read.

It was decided after that that we were in need of a little light relief so the book of choice for this month is Cold Comfort Farm by Stella Gibbons.

We will be having another zoom meeting next time but hopefully we will soon be able to meet in person. Maybe outside if the weather is kind to us.

Catherine Cook



## CRICKET CLUB

The Winter training has been going as well as can be expected with the current lockdown. One or two of our bowlers have been on rigorous dietary regimes John Priest our frontline bowler in particular.

Fixtures have been arranged for this year and hopefully we will have a full Summer although we will have to see about the tour to Nantes in France which is in early June.... Fingers crossed!!!!

We are always on the lookout for more players, so please give Stuart Hepburn a call on 01279 871664 or just pop by when we are playing!!!



## ADVERTISING

If you wish to advertise in the Newsletter  
please e-mail [Alison\\_M\\_Clarke@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Alison_M_Clarke@yahoo.co.uk)  
The cost is £5.00 per advert.

Deadline for the SUMMER Newsletter is 20 May 2021



## GREAT CANFIELD CARPET BOWLS CLUB



### STILL LOCKED OUT!

Those of you expecting a return to reports of spectacular sporting prowess against all odds, displays of unrivalled acts of chivalry or nail-biting conclusions to ferociously fought contests with the ultimate prize at stake, I can recommend the World Chess Championships. Any World Chess Championships. Any chess match. Or draughts.

Anyone expecting endless wittering about the weather, you've come to the right place! Honestly, what's going on? No real snow for years.

They say Global Warming has put an end to all that. Then what? It snows! Okay, I accept the weather is unpredictable. At least you can depend on that. So what next? As I write this the temperature recently has been around 0°. Tomorrow it's expected to reach 14°. How can I be expected to plan the weeks fashion icon outfits? Eskimo fur or Bermuda Shorts?

Right then, Carpet Bowls. Last time Priors Green was due to open on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. It did. Then it closed. It still is. Likely to stay that way for a few more months.

So no more heroics for a while yet. Nothing to type about. Of course I could just waffle, but that would be unfair. Boring. You would soon get the needle with me.

Hang on, I could tell you all about my vaccination. Susan and I got jabbed on 1<sup>st</sup> February at Stansted Surgery. Nothing to it really. So well organised. We had the American Pfiser flavour although some parts are supplied from the UK, then sent to the US so they can stick in their giant Kenwood blender then send it all the way back here. (Mr. Trump's idea no doubt). Revenge for sending Gordon Ramsay to teach them how to run a kitchen. Anyway we had to sit in a Socially Distanced waiting area just in case anything dropped off. It didn't. Nothing to this needle thing. I might get a tattoo. Maybe not. They use something resembling a dentist's drill (at least they do on TV). **Definitely** not.

Did you see the Indoor Bowls on the box? Brilliant! Mind you, they have it easy. We have to negotiate a great big wooden wheel thing parked in the middle of the mat. And our mat is much narrower. Like to see how good they would look on our mats where the bowling gets tough. (Apparently one of the officials had to resign. He was accused of Bias!).

If you don't quite understand that last merry quip, just call or email me and I will talk you through it. I could, if you promise to buy a couple of tickets to my World Stand-up tour of Canfield, get you on the top of our huge waiting list for when we return.

Priors Green Community Hall  
Bennet Canfield  
Little Canfield  
DUNMOW  
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Contact David Turner on: 01279-870620 or 07803-848681  
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February 2021

## SPRING GARDEN CRIME PREVENTION



Hopefully by the time that you read this we will be moving into spring and the weather improving inviting us out into the garden. It is a good time to take a look around; are your fences and gates in good condition do you have good quality locks on gates, will they keep the unwelcome intruder out? To the front of your property where possible keep fencing, planting and hedges to about 1.5m in height so that an intruder is not hidden from view.

Defensive planting: Security does not have to be just about locks, bolts, and spiky fence toppings; nature provides some excellent plants to keep people away. There are a number of attractive, fragrant plants of a spiky nature such as climbing roses, pyracantha and berberis and other planting of a dense nature that can work quite well. Have a chat at your garden centre or with the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) for the right plant for the right location. We have worked with the RHS at Hyde Hall and there are a number of mature examples that can be viewed there, why not book a visit at <https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/hyde-hall> .

New plants: Larger plants etc. can be secured to land or rootball anchors or plant through chicken wire covering the area with soil. Cement or bolt down containers to the ground. The RHS or your local garden centre or DIY store should be able to help.

Working in the garden: It is easy to get engrossed in what you are doing when working in the garden, if the house is empty it is wise to close and lock the door (don't forget the key though!). Remember when you stop for a break put your tools away, and at the end of the day as well as putting tools away put the wheelbarrow and wheelie bin away too. "It will add insult to injury" if your tools are used to break into your house, a neighbour's, nearby building such as a church, or provide a climbing aid or method of carrying things away.

New tools and lawn mowers: Be mindful of how you dispose of the packaging to your new purchases; don't advertise it to the thieves and burglars with your empty boxes on display outside for roadside collection. Fold boxes inside out or break them up and put them in bag for collection. If you are not using your lawn mower, jet washer or other put it away out of sight from prying eyes.

Property marking: It may deter a thief if your property or flower pots is visibly security marked with your house number and post code such as [www.creproducts.co.uk](http://www.creproducts.co.uk) or labelled if a forensic (hidden) property marking system is used such as [www.smartwater.com](http://www.smartwater.com) or [www.selectadna.co.uk](http://www.selectadna.co.uk). You can also record the serial numbers of any tools at [www.toolwatchapp.com](http://www.toolwatchapp.com) or [www.immobilise.com/](http://www.immobilise.com/) . If your property does get stolen with property marking and/or recording there is a greater chance of you getting it back.

For suitable security products look for the Secured by Design or Sold Secure logo's and for further garden security advice see the following webpages:

[www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/](http://www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/)

[www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com)

[www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com)

[www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=606](http://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=606)



Uttlesford  
**Frontline**  
one minute referrals

## REDUNDANCY HELP FROM UTTLESFORD FRONTLINE

Job loss through redundancy confronts more and more of us in these uncertain times. And even if it comes as no surprise, its impact cannot be underestimated. More often than not, there will be severe financial consequences, an inevitable blow to self esteem and of course the million dollar question of What Next?

Redundancy is an extremely complex issue, and while employers have a legal obligation to follow correct procedures it is always advisable to make sure you fully understand all the in's and out's of what is happening and are satisfied that your employer is fully compliant with the law.

For instance if you decide to accept an offer of 'suitable alternative employment' within your organisation, your employer is obliged to offer you a four week trial period without affecting any of your statutory rights. And if there is a suitable alternative job which is not offered to you, then this could be classed as unfair dismissal by an employment tribunal.

If in doubt or unclear about any aspect of the redundancy procedure, then trusted organisations such as Citizens Advice can help. In addition to employment issues, it can also advise on the inevitable money problems that accompany redundancy and with identifying and applying for available benefits as well as how best to handle debt problems..

Finding new employment is a challenge for anyone facing redundancy. Today's jobs market is highly competitive and you may feel you lack the necessary skills for success. Practical help with job search, CV writing, application letters and interview techniques are offered free of charge by The Transition Project in Saffron Walden and the new Employment Support Scheme from the CVSU (Council for Voluntary Service Uttlesford). Their volunteers are trained in negotiating the complexities of the job-seeking market.

Details about all these services plus more information relating to redundancy are instantly accessible from Frontline. This is **your** comprehensive online library of local resources giving you **direct access to specialist organisations** that can provide help with many of life's problems - in most cases with the opportunity to self refer

In addition Frontline has compiled a comprehensive 7-page fact sheet "**Preparing for Redundancy**" (with full contact details) downloadable free of charge.

Visit [www.uttlesfordfrontline.org.uk](http://www.uttlesfordfrontline.org.uk)

## THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

[www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk)

At this difficult time, we are fortunate to live in such a lovely area where we can take exercise close to home in attractive and interesting surroundings. One of the local delights is the number of thatched buildings.

Thatch was once the roofing choice of the poor as it was locally sourced, inexpensive and sustainable; now it seems that only the better-off can afford the necessary regular servicing and replacement. Most roofs are thatched with long wheat straw and many are topped out with a decorative straw feature on the apex. These are called straw finials.

Pheasants and foxes are still among the favourites for this tradition that goes back centuries. These finials may once have been installed to keep away birds or even witches, while some may have been the trademark of the individual thatcher. Today, they are more likely chosen by the customer from an online catalogue. They seem to be more abundant and varied than ever.

I have spotted some fine examples around The Hundred Parishes such as the two running hares on a cottage at Ashdon. In Finchingfield and Radwinter you may find families of ducks and there is a large thatched cow on the barn of the Red Cow pub at Chrishall.

You may see a hare on Dick Turpin's Cottage at Hempstead or a galloping horse at Great Bardfield. High Roding has a delightful cat stretching up the chimney stack and a fox chases a hare in Brent Pelham. An eagle has landed in Aythorpe Roding and there is a flying pig in Ugley.

The 16th-century Thatchers pub at Hatfield Heath is appropriately situated on a road that was once part of the route for horse-drawn cartage of wheat from Suffolk to London.

Do keep looking up!  
Ken McDonald, Secretary.

### Photos:



Brent Pelham – fox and hare



Chrishall – cow

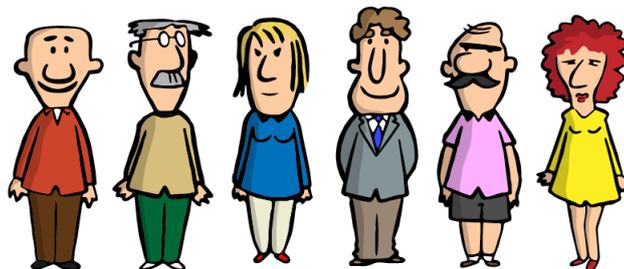


Great Bardfield – Horse



Ugley – flying pig

## WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH



Organisation	Name	Address	Telephone No.
Priest in Charge	Rev'd Robert Stone	The Rectory, Chelmsford Road Leaden Roding	07726 719288
Associate Minister	Rev'd Tim Goodbody	The Rectory, 3 Old Vicarage Close, High Easter	07485 308735
Church Warden	Mr David Turner	Hart View, Canfield Road	01279 870620
Church Warden (Deputy)	Mrs Mary Clarke	Haslow, Church End	01371 872213
Church Visitor Access	Mrs Jo Donald	Rodingbourne, Church End	01371 879197
Church Contact	Mr David Turner	Hart View, Canfield Road	01279 870620
Church Treasurer	Mr Tony Hughes	Fanns Cottage, Canfield Road	01279 871513
Organist	Mrs Margaret Stevenson	High Roding Bury Farm	01371 872206
Church Flowers	Mrs Mary Clarke	Haslow, Church End	01371 872213
Church Bells	Mr Jonathan Clarke	Great Canfield Bury Farm	01371 873403
Book Club	Penny Judd	Fanns Farm	
Carpet Bowls	Mr David Turner	Hart View, Canfield Road	01279 870620
Cricket Club	Mr Stuart Hepburn	Fitzjohns	01279 871664
Footpath Rep	Mr Chris Easter	Griffin Farm	01279 870155
Neighbourhood Watch	Mr David Hummel	davidhummel@hotmail.co.uk	01371 874884
Parish Council Chairman	Mr Robert Mackley	Foxley, Bacon End	01371 879192
Parish Council Clerk	Ms Allison Ward	Peartree Cottage, Slough Road, High Easter	01245 231798
VH Committee	Mr Jason Asser	TBC	
Village Hall Lettings	Gill Vincent	<b>For bookings and enquiries:</b> <a href="mailto:greatcanfieldhall261@gmail.com">greatcanfieldhall261@gmail.com</a>	01279 871421
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