

SHALFORD

Village Magazine March 2022

Produced by the People for the People



SHALFORD

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR COMMUNITY

At the heart of our Village is its People. Our Family, Friends, Neighbours and even those we have yet to meet.

- WHAT'S ON
- CHURCH NEWS
- SHALFORD SCHOOL
- PARISH COUNCIL
- SHALFORD MEMORIES
- ARTICLES

ANDREW HULL

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KNOW WHERE YOUR NEAREST DEFIBRILLATOR IS LOCATED



Jaspers Green
CM7 5AU



Shalford Village
Hall Church End
CM7 5EZ



The George Inn The
Street CM7 5HH

SAVE THE DATE(S) QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

2nd June Beacon Lighting
**3rd June Meet & Greet plus History
Society Talk**
4th June Walk & Activity Day
**5th June Picnic, Cricket & Church
Service**

FRONT PAGE Shalford Primary School

Shalford Village Magazine can
be downloaded or viewed from
www.bendlowe.co.uk

WHAT'S ON

SHALFORD ROADSIDE & CHURCH FISHING LAKES



are affiliated to Billericay
& District Angling Club
The river Pant in Shalford
is also covered by the Club

For further details
contact:-
Fishery Officer: Derrick
Marriott, or
www.bdac.co.uk

SHALFORD TENNIS CLUB

(located at the Village Hall)

Membership

Annual Family (of 4)) £40

Adult £24

Junior (U17 or full-
Time Education U20) £16

Casual Hire Cost

£2 per hour/per person (£1
all players U17). To book
the court and for further
information:

Contact: 07505 282374

JOIN US

BRAINTREE Parkinson's Support Group

Community
Centre Bocking
End

2 – 4 P.M.

**Every 4th
Thursday In
The Month**

Dance And
Singing Therapy
Available

**Contact: Jackie
01376 342729**

PARENTS & TODDLERS GROUP

Run By Wethersfield Community Activities

Tel: 01371 850620 E: wethersfieldca@gmail.com

At WETHERSFIELD VILLAGE HALL

EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.



SHALFORD PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING

**EVERY THIRD
WEDNESDAY OF THE
MONTH
HELD AT SHALFORD
VILLAGE HALL
TIME: 7.30 p.m. to 9.30
p.m.**

For more information
<https://shalfordessex.org.uk>



WETHERSFIELD COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

**SOCIAL SATURDAY EVERY
2ND AND 4TH SATURDAY**

**TEA, COFFE, CAKE AND A WALK
9.30 a.m. for 10 a.m**

Held in the Village Social Club - situated
underneath the Village Hall. The entrance
is at the side of the building in Old Mill
Chase.

For more information Tel: 01371 850620

WALKING GROUPS

**From SHALFORD The
George Pub every
Wednesday at 10 a.m.**

**From FINCHINGFIELD
Green every Friday at 10
a.m.**

WHAT'S ON

PETANQUE (BOULES) **LOCATED AT SHALFORD** **VILLAGE HALL**



No Need to book

HEDGEHOPPERS **MODEL FLYING CLUB**

Affiliated to the British
Model Flying Ass (BMFA)
For more information visit:
<http://www.hedgehoppers.org.uk>

WEA Shalford **Workers Education** **Association**

For more info visit:
<https://www.shalfordessex.org.uk>
<http://www.wea-essex.org.uk>



SHALFORD **FOOTBALL CLUB** **Located at Shalford** **Village Hall**

For more information visit:
<https://www.shalfordessex.org.uk>
<http://www.cfcshalford.co.uk>

SHALFORD **HORTICULTURAL** **SOCIETY**



For more information
<https://www.shalfordessex.org.uk>

FOSTAC **Friends of St** **Andrew's Church**



Contact:
www.fostac.co.uk
or
<https://www.shalfordessex.org.uk>

JOIN OUR FRIENDLY **GROUP OF BELL** **RINGERS**

WE MEET EVERY
MONDAY at Wethersfield
Church, 7 p.m. &

FRIDAY at Shalford
Church, 7 p.m.

FOR MORE DETAILS
CONTACT:

ROY THREADGOLD

Tel: 01371 850481



RE-ENGAGE **(Formerly Contact the** **Elderly)**

Arranging monthly get
togethers over a cup of
tea for the elderly



For more details:
Contact:
Sarah Cunningham
Sarah8750@hotmail.co.uk

Or

The Charity Website:
www.reengage.org.uk
Freephone: 0800 716543

SHALFORD **LOCAL** **HISTORY** **ASSOCIATION**



Meetings take
place monthly

For date and
more information
contact: Barbara
01371 851519

or visit <https://www.shalfordessex.org.uk>

WHAT'S ON



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

For 3-11 year olds

Meets on the third Saturday of each month

10.00am – 11.00am

in Wethersfield Parish Church

Arts, crafts, stories and songs on a Christian theme

No charge – bring a coin for the collection.



Further details from

Sarah Pilgrim. Tel: 07788411360

Email: pilgrim511@btinternet.com



SHALFORD CRAFT GROUP

Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

At 2pm onwards.

Please bring along any craft projects you are working on.

Share ideas and learn new crafts.

Chat and craft over tea/ coffee and cake.

For dates of when and where please contact.

Caroline Ottley

07734140478

Marianna Marriott

07450251525



St. Mary Magdalene Church, Wethersfield

Come and join us for coffee and cake at our

SATURDAY

COFFEE MORNINGS

in Wethersfield Church

11am – 12 noon

on

the 3rd Saturday of each month

Meet up with old friends, make some new.

No charge.

ALL WELCOME



ECC – MOBILE LIBRARY 2021/2

Saturday – 12th March, 2nd April

Wethersfield: 11.20 to 11.50 a.m.

Barryfields: 12.00 to 12.30 p.m.

Jaspers Green: 1.30 to 2.00 p.m.

For further information contact:

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk>

MEET & GREET

FRIDAY, 4th MARCH, 2022

SHALFORD VILLAGE HALL

11.00 A.M. TO 2.00 P.M.

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, 17TH AUGUST 2022

COACH TRIP TO THE SEASIDE

THE HUT, FELIXSTOWE

FOOD BANK COLLECTION POINTS

1 West Drive, Wethersfield - Anytime

St Andrews Church

Last Friday of the Month - 9 to 11 a.m.

INDOOR CARPET BOWLS EVERY TUESDAY AT SHALFORD VILLAGE HALL

FROM 7.30 p.m. to 9.15 p.m.



All ages are welcome to our friendly club. Come along and enjoy a game of bowls, a chat, plus tea, coffee and biscuits

Contact: Vic 07773 707404

WHAT'S ON

TABLE TENNIS IN FINCHINGFIELD



Following the easing of Covid-related restrictions on our activities, the group who come to the village hall on Monday evenings to play table tennis has been able to re-start the regular weekly sessions. We welcome new members to come and join the group. Sessions start at 7.30pm each Monday and run for 2 hours.

The group has 3 tables and mainly play doubles matches during the evening. All equipment is provided. Currently, to provide most protection for each other, everyone brings along their own refreshments.

The standard of play is varied. Most of us had not played since our school days! The key point is that we have a lot of fun whilst aiming to help us keep in shape. Well-being has been realised as a major need following experiences during the last 18 months. Table Tennis definitely provides an uplifting and enjoyable exercise for all who attend the weekly sessions.

Why not consider an early New Year Resolution and come along and join us for some laughs and good exercise? We look forward to greeting you. If you would like to have a chat beforehand, please call me on 07775 531781 - Brian

POST OFFICE

**EVERY FRIDAY
AFTERNOON**



SHALFORD VILLAGE HALL

All Services 3.00 – 4.00 p.m.

AMIE'S DANCE CLASS

Shalford Village Hall

Every Monday

16.45 to 19.45

Tel: 07852 505153

TODDLER GROUP

Shalford Village Hall

Every Wed 9.00 to 15.00

Tel: 07764 204027

ART CLUB

Shalford Village Hall

Every Tuesday 11.00 to 13.00

Tel: 07505 282374

PILATES CLASS

Shalford Village Hall

Every Thurs, 20.45 to 21.45

Tel: 07969 557845

**LEARN TO PLAY THE DRUMS
AT YOUR OWN PACE
IN A FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT**

CONTACT: JAMES

TEL: 07704 070498



WHAT'S ON

WETHERSFIELD CHAMBER CONCERTS

www.wethersfieldchamberconcerts.org.uk



Sunday 10 April 2022, 4 pm.

ELODIE CHOUSMER-HOWELLES - violin

STELLA MARIE LORENZ - piano

Beethoven, Vaughan Williams, Brahms

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Sunday 24 April 2022, 4 pm.

TRIO ISIMSIZ - piano trio

Mozart, Brahms, Korngold

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Sunday 8 May 2022, 4 pm.

BEN GOLDSCHIEDER - horn (finalist BBC Young Musician 2016)

RICHARD UTTLEY - piano

Beethoven, Schumann, Ravel, etc.

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Ticket price: £17 (concessions £15)

Season ticket: £45 (concessions £39)

Children under 16: free

All seats unreserved

Complimentary refreshments during interval

and after concert

VENUE: WETHERSFIELD CHURCH

Further information:

www.wethersfieldchamberconcerts.org.uk



Wethersfield Horticultural Society

Annual Coach Outing

To
Beth Chatto & Place for Plants
on Friday 24th June
Details to follow
for more information please contact
Caroline Ottley on 07734140478

ANGLIA SINGERS

The Choir of Anglia Singers University - Chelmsford Campus

John Rutter

REQUIEM

Conducted by

Emeritus Professor Christopher Green

Accompanied by Ashley Thompson—Organ

Sunday 20th March 2022 at 4.00—5.00pm

Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Braintree CM7 3HX



Admission Free
Retiring Collection Supporting



Carers First
Essex



www.anglia.ac.uk/angliasingers

Choir Number 1001461

WETHERSFIELD THEATRE TRIPS

We organise theatre trips to London from Wethersfield & surrounding villages. The price includes a seat in the stalls plus luxury coach travel, so there's less hassle & more enjoyment when you book with us.

Upcoming Shows 2022 (March - June)



WEDS 30TH MAR
CHOIR OF MAN - £52.50



WEDS 20TH APR
GET UP, STAND UP! - £70



THURS 5TH MAY
ONLY FOOLS & HORSES - £75



WEDS 8TH JUNE
GREASE - £60

CONTACT US TO
BOOK YOUR PLACE

T: 07975 735882
E: WETHERSFIELDTT@OUTLOOK.COM
f: WETHERSFIELD THEATRE TRIPS

WHAT'S ON

Wine Tasting

in aid of

Wethersfield Parish Church

Tickets £20
to include wines
+ a simple supper

For Tickets call
07801 868278 or email
community@wethersfieldchurch.org.uk



Wethersfield Pavilion
Saturday 26 February
7:30pm PROMPT
(After the Rugby!)

FOSTAC
Friends of St Andrew's Church
President Sir Roger Singleton OBE

**St Patrick's Day
Afternoon Tea**

Wednesday
16th March 2022
Shalford Village Hall
From 3.00pm

Raffle
Cake Stall

Tickets £5
Available from
Shalford Village Store

Affiliated to Charity No 2495405

www.fostac.co.uk

OUR VERY OWN
MARY & GRAHAM BRACE
ARE GIVING AN ILLUSTRATED
TALK AT
THE QUAY THEATRE, QUAY
LANE, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK,
CO10 2AN
ON SUNDAY, 3RD APRIL, 2022
AT 6.00 P.M.
TANZANIA: THE WILDLIFE
PARADISE



TICKET PRICE: £10
BOOKING: Tel. 01787 374745 or
<https://quaysudbury.com/whats-on?page=3>

Wethersfield Amateur Performers
Present

HI-DE-HI!

Hi de Hi by Paul Carpenter and Ian Gower
adapted from the original TV series by Jimmy Perry and David Croft

5th, 6th and 7th March 2020
Wethersfield Village Hall

Tickets and more information
Online at:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/wap
Box Office
(look out for Box Office sign at top of High Street)
07347 632016 or pjha_pears50@hotmail.com
07714 244356 or text/sharing@brotenvill.com

Performances start at 7.30pm

Thursday - £8.50 (£7.50 under 16 and over 65)
Friday and Saturday - £18.50 (includes food & drink support)
£8.50 (Rear seating only)

The amateur production "Hi de Hi" is presented by arrangement with Cammell Theatricals Ltd
an agent of the original "Hi de Hi" series.

Wethersfield Amateur Performers
www.w-a-p.org

BENDLOWE'S MEET & GREET



FRIDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY

Another pleasurable and rewarding Meet & Greet. Thank you to everyone who came. We also welcomed SWAP (Stop Wethersfield Airfield Prisons) who updated those that wanted to know regarding the planning proposals for two prisons at Wethersfield. Looking forward to Friday, 4th March – see you then.

Photos by Marianna Marriott



CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON EVEN IF IT IS FEBRUARY (10TH)

2018 saw our first Christmas Luncheon arranged for January. We filled the function room at Weavers restaurant and this event proved to be extremely popular in 2019 and 2020 both again at Weavers. Yes, we were fortunate to enjoy our Christmas function in 2020 just before lockdown hit in March 2020 which resulted in no Christmas luncheon in 2019. However, after a false start of postponing from January to February, we finally enjoyed our Christmas luncheon on 10th February 2022. We saw a change of venue to The Fox in Finchingfield and this time filled the pub. All enjoyed an extremely tasty meal, good service and excellent company. Well done and thank you to Sally for arranging our 2022 Christmas luncheon.





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NEW HIGHWAY CODE REVISIONS 29th JANUARY 2022

From the 29th January 2022 it is a requirement for all vehicles to pass horse riders at speeds UNDER 10MPH and allow AT LEAST 2 METRES SPACE.

Let's make our villages safe for all road users 🐎🚗🚲🚶



8 CHANGES YOU NEED TO KNOW

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>

1. Hierarchy of road users
2. People crossing the road at junctions
3. Walking, cycling or riding in shared spaces
4. Positioning in the road when cycling
5. Overtaking when driving or cycling
6. People cycling at junctions
7. People cycling, riding a horse and driving horse-drawn vehicles on roundabouts
8. Parking, charging and leaving vehicles

You can read the full updated version of the Highway Code, free of charge, on Gov.UK website address above.

REMEMBRANCE EASTER LILIES 2022

I will be collecting donations for the Easter lily arrangements made at St. Andrew's Church, Shalford, in memory of loved ones. This is an annual event which anyone can participate. If you would like to participate please send me –

Your name and Contact Address. The name/s of who you would like to be remembered. And your donation (a minimum of £5 please, to cover the cost of a lily, or a donation).

Monies to be received by Friday 25th March 2022 latest please.

I am happy to collect **or** You may phone me 01371 851378 **or** Deliver to my address Stag Lodge, Church End, Shalford (between the school and the shop)

Heather Smith (organiser of Church flowers)

For those of you who do not agree with 2 mega prisons being built at Wethersfield, we give details below of a petition that has been created.

Petition **Do not build two new prisons at Wethersfield Air Base**

We believe the Government is reneging on commitments in the Environment Act to stop the decline of wildlife by proposing to develop two mega-prisons on the site of the old Wethersfield airfield, which has become an important space for nature near Braintree, Essex.

More details

Some 74 species of birds, many Red-listed, nest nearby and the area comprises 75,000 trees and shrubs. The site also includes ancient woodland, as well as Great Crested Newts and rare orchids. Red-listed birds on the site include European Turtle Dove, Northern Lapwing and Grey Partridge.

Sign this petition

At 10,000 signatures...

At 10,000 signatures, government will respond to this petition

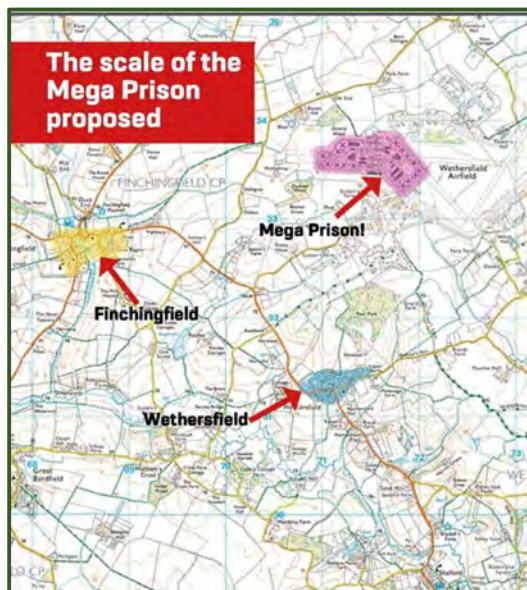
At 100,000 signatures...

At 100,000 signatures, this petition will be considered for debate in Parliament

The above has been downloaded from website address

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/603619?fbclid=IwAR1Lq1iwOwbQPkApwVXjtbpCFzLQUA2wEy5xvilBUNsxzhQtjP9ju3Cg3-8>

To sign the petition simply login and follow the instructions



**STOP
WETHERSFIELD
AIRFIELD PRISONS**
An Environmental
Conservation
Organisation on
Facebook



- Double Glazed Units
- Cat & Dog Flaps Installed
- Table Tops
- Splash Backs Any Colour
- Shelves
- Glass Cut To Size
- Emergency Glazing
- Greenhouse Glass
- Replacement Misted Double Glazing
- Emergency Boarding

**SAME DAY
DOUBLE GLAZED UNITS**



01376 388511

www.braintreeglazier.co.uk

info@capitalglaziers.com

Essex Bridleways Association

The Essex Bridleways Association was formed some years ago to protect and enhance Bridleways. Membership costs £15 to join and runs for a year. Under 16s can join free. Traffic is getting worse on our roads and none of us like riding on them. Please encourage fellow equestrians to join EBA and support better bridleways in Essex.

HIGHWAY CODE AMENDMENTS

The highway code has now been changed and the guidance is now for Motorists to pass Horse Riders and Horse-drawn Vehicle's at speeds under 10mph and allow at least 2 meters space.

Flu Vaccination Requirements for 2022

Our policy regarding the requirement for flu vaccinations for 2022 is that all horses attending our rides and holidays must be up to date with their annual flu injections (ie the last booster is no more than a year old). Random checks may be made so please remember to take your horse's passport.

Entry Price.

The price of each ride is still to be confirmed as unfortunately there are some unavoidable additional costs this year to enable EBA to run the rides. **Depending on circumstances there may be additional covid rules.**

Rides

10th April 2022. Middlewick farm, Southminster, CM0 7JQ

Opening date one month before. Closing date 3rd April 2022.

This is our first ride of the year. Very flat with lovely grassy tracks around Middlewick Farm. There are a few minor roads with little traffic and a choice of 7 or 10 miles.

Mandy French

The George Inn - Pub

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT



Open Tuesday - Sunday 12.00 noon - 11.30pm

Tel: 01371 850207

www.thegeorgeinnshalford.com

HORTICULTURAL QUIZ
SAT 29TH JANUARY 2022
BY: MARIANNA MARRIOTT



Shalford Horticultural Society held their Annual Quiz on Saturday 29th January at Shalford Village Hall. As always it was a lively, fun and educational evening. The Quiz Masters were Debbie Brignull-Harvey and Gary Hitchings. Participants were asked to form teams of eight. There were ten rounds on various subjects including general knowledge. Each team could play a joker on a subject of their choice to double their score.

There was a raffle with an impressive range of prizes on offer. This was drawn at half time.

My team was called Rose Amongst Thorns as my husband Derrick was the only male in the team. We had a reasonable start with some decent scoring rounds. However things went downhill when we played our joker on the General Knowledge round. We only managed to get three correct answers out of ten!!!! What a waste of a joker!!! We lost our momentum after that disgraceful score. However we didn't do too badly on the two table-top sheets of questions which we were able to complete during the evening in between the rounds of questions. One was anagrams of British Prime Ministers or US Presidents. The other was guessing logos of internet apps. The outcome was that we ended up coming last with a score of 106 - aaaahhhhhhhh. But we did receive a lovely juicy lemon each - yeeaaaaaay.

The winners were S & M's – a team made up of the Smith, Stevenson, Martin and Manson families with a score of 129. They came away with a bottle of wine each. Second were Pieces of Eight with a score of 128 and third were the Daisy Dreamers with a score of 127. So as you can see it was a very close scoring evening. There was a lovely friendly atmosphere and a lot of laughter, so please look out for the event at the same time next year. It was great fun and you'll be sure to learn a thing or two. As they say it's all about the taking part and having fun. You don't have to be a brainbox - as my team can say.

Thank you to the Quiz Masters and to the Horticultural Society for hosting the event. We will look forward to next year – if we can get our brains into gear by then!!!



MARCH'S UNSUNG HEROE(S) IS MARIANNA (NOT FORGETTING, OF COURSE, DERRICK)

Our Unsung heroes this month are Marianna and Derrick Marriott. From my standpoint Marianna appears never to say "no". She is an invaluable member of the Bendlowe's team always there to help set up, prepare the food, bake a cake, wash up, organise an outing. With the help of Derrick she is a member of the distribution team for the Shalford Village Magazine. She hosts afternoon teas for the charity Re-Engage (formerly Contact the Elderly). Derrick is never far away offering his help and support to our local organisations. He is always there to help set the tables up at Meet & Greet and, not only is he a demon carpet bowler, he is always there early giving up his time to help setting out the carpets and paraphernalia required to play the game. Derrick arrives in plenty of time at community events to help set up and only leaves once everything is done. Derrick is Fishery Officer for Shalford Fishing Lakes and Marianna is a bell ringer. Marianna & Derrick – you enrich our community in Shalford. Both of you are treasured. We appreciate and recognise all you do for our lovely Village.

THANK YOU MARIANNA AND DERRICK.
YOU ARE BOTH UNSUNG HEROES



Services offered include: • Chimney and Flue Sweeping • Wood Burning Stoves
• Open Fires • Aga/Rayburn • Bird Nest Removal • CCTV Examinations

t: 01799 599981 • m: 07956 099788
e: paddy@waldensweeps.myzen.co.uk

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LATER-LIFE PLANNING – DOING THE RIGHT THINGS!

By: Adrian Quick, MSc FPFS LLAA
Chartered Financial Planner

HarperLees Financial Planning in Ingatestone celebrated its 25th anniversary in May 2021 (www.harperlees.co.uk). As a Later Life Accredited Adviser (SOLLA - Society Of Later Life Advisors, the leading professional body for the later life community <https://societyoflaterlifeadvisers.co.uk>) I provide specialist advice on funding long term care.

Long Term Care – What you need to know, and Why

So, what is the context for reaching out to you?

- There are nearly 12 million people aged 65 or above in the UK
- In 2017 life expectancy at the age of 65 was to age to 86 for women and 84 for men
- As life expectancy has increased, time spent in poor health has also increased
- On average, women have 11 years of poor health in later life and men 10 years
- 1 in 14 people over 65 (7%) and 1 in 6 over the age of 80 (17%) have dementia
- 225,000 people are projected to develop dementia this year, equating to around one person every 3 minutes
- **Dementia is the key cause of disability in later life, a more common cause than cancer, cardiovascular disease and stroke**

I'm not deliberately focusing on Dementia in later life, but if you don't see the reality of the problem potentially facing you and/or your parents etc, why should you read this any further, let alone take any action? Long term care is fundamentally polarised into two primary needs:

- **Health Care**, which is the responsibility of the NHS, funded either through Continuing Health Care (NHS CHC) in full (so no cost to you), including the major nursing home residential (often referred to as the 'hotel') element, or for health treatment costs only via a capped Nursing Care Contribution.
- **Social Care**, commonly referred to as Activities of Daily Living (eating, washing, dressing, mobility and using the toilet), which may be domiciliary (in your own home) or residential (in a care home), is the default responsibility of the Local Authority (LA).
- A Financial Assessment will determine who is paying the social care bill, you or them. If it's you, you are in control, but if it's the Local Authority you're not.

It's no surprise that in these lean economic times, neither the NHS nor the Local Authority want care costs sitting within their budgets, so understanding the rules and getting the right care outcome is fraught with challenges and obstacles. Whilst charities such as Care UK have made a lot of information available, without specialist knowledge, access to a Care Navigator such as My Care Consultant or Care to be Different can make a critical difference to getting

the right care and ensure the right party is paying for it. If you are one of the very small minority who qualify for NHS Continuing Health Care then you're hopefully home and dry financially, with only the periodic re-assessments a disturbing glimmer on your horizon. Unfortunately, the vast majority of later life long-term care needs fall under Social Care. Whilst the £86,000 'Care Cap' is due to be implemented from October 2023 it will have significantly less impact than expected. Currently, your outcome is simple:

- If you have assessable assets over £23,250, you will default to being a self-funder
- Under £14,250, you become the care responsibility of the Local Authority

NB: Let's clear one myth up now...your home is not automatically taken into account if you, your spouse or a dependant continue to live in it.

Let's assume you fall into the first category, a self-funder, either with reasonable liquid assets (savings and investments) or an empty property as you've already moved into residential care. The cost of care will be determined by the care package needed or wanted. NB: there is a difference. A recent 92 year old client was determined by the joint NHS/LA assessment to need just 4 x 30 minutes per 24 hours supportive domiciliary care but wanted to have a 24-hour live-in carer, as she didn't feel safe on her own with her conditions. There were significant cost implications, which we were able to assist her with.

Whether the need is physical, due to declining mental capacity or a combination, the costs of self-funding domiciliary or residential social care can be significant, particularly in our region. Expenditure on this scale for any other lifetime event would be planned, discussed and professional advice engaged. Later-life planning, including long term care, shouldn't be an exception.

As a society, we are reluctant to discuss money, ill-health or death with our families. However, early open discussions create a wider understanding of personal preferences such as; care at home rather than care in a home, non-resuscitation, cremation or funeral etc, and both directs and facilitates later life planning to be put in place. It also avoids family conflicts where clear direction and supporting authority to act hasn't been provided...a surprisingly common issue which can be difficult to overcome. I'll address what to consider, the tools available, appointment of trusted attorneys and their legal responsibilities in my second article.

In the interim, I recommend reading local author Elizabeth Orr's personal experiences fighting an overwhelmed NHS/Local Authority care system in 'Who Can Care For Me Now?', available as a kindle download or paper back from Amazon <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Who-Can-Care-Me-Now-ebook/dp/B07J22ZSVW>

Being involved in providing advice to Elizabeth in the latter stages, I was privileged to contribute the Foreword to her book. At HarperLees, we issue copies to our clients as we believe it is a powerful catalyst for action. My third article will address options to fund long-term care and their respective impacts on the future inheritance available to the estate beneficiaries. Please feel free to call or email me and have a confidential chat if you have any immediate concerns. At the very least, I should be able to offer support or direct you to another appropriate professional.

Adrian Quick, HarperLees Financial Planning, 01277 350560 adrian@harperlees.co.uk
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FOUR GENERATIONS OF MY TURNER FAMILY

(A FAMILY OF FARM WORKERS)

BY: TREVOR BEAL

James Turner (2 x Great Grandfather)

As we already know, James, the eldest surviving child of Thomas and Mary Ann Turner, was born on 29th June 1856 at Wethersfield and was baptised on 10th August 1856 at St Andrews Church in Shalford.

James had already left the family home by the 1871 census, although he hadn't gone far, only to the Hole Farm at Rotten End where he was employed as a domestic groom, aged only 14 years old!

James was married to Sarah Steward on 18th May 1877 at St Mary the Virgin Church at Blackmore End, a small hamlet near Wethersfield, which is where Sarah Steward lived at the time of their marriage. Sadly the Church at Blackmore End is no longer used and has been converted to a private house. James' profession was a labourer and was living at Rotten End.

Page 25

No.	When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname	Rank or Profession of Father
49	May 18. 1877	James Turner Sarah Steward	20 20	Bachelor Spinster	Labourer —	Rotten End Blackmore End	Thomas Turner Abraham Steward (deceased)	Labourer Labourer

Married in the Church of St. Mary according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by George Doe Minister by me, Samuel Holman

This Marriage was solemnized between us, James Turner Sarah Steward in the Presence of us, George Doe Elizabeth Turner

Copy from the Blackmore End Marriage Register

It is interesting to see that Elizabeth Turner (James' sister) signed as a witness to the marriage. Strangely, we do not know what happened to Elizabeth as we have been unable to trace anything about her after this date!



St Mary the Virgin Church at Blackmore End

James and Sarah had eight children, the first of whom, Frederick Thomas Turner (my great grandfather), was born on 11th July 1878 at Wavers Farm in Blackmore End (more about Frederick later). By the time of the birth of their second child, Edith Sarah Turner, the family had moved to Shalford. Edith was born on 29th September 1880.

By the 1881 census on 3rd April, James and Sarah were living at Water Lane in Shalford with their two children, James was aged 24 and employed as an agricultural labourer.

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the Parish of Shalford. 111 [Page 17]										
Civil Parish (or Ward) of	Household	Household	Household	Household	Household	Household	Household	Household	Household	Household
Shalford	Shalford	Shalford	Shalford	Shalford	Shalford	Shalford	Shalford	Shalford	Shalford	Shalford
ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	AGE last Birthday	SEX	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	IF (1) Blind and Deaf (2) Blind (3) Deaf (4) Lunatic or Idiot		
41 Water Lane	1	Mr James	Head	24	M	Gardener	Shalford, Shropshire			
		Sarah	Wife	24	F		Shalford, Shropshire			
		John	Son	2	M		Shalford			
42A	1	James	Head	24	M	Ag. Lab.	Shalford			
		Sarah	Wife	24	F		"			
		Edith	Son	2	M		"			
		Edith	Son	2	M		Shalford			

Copy of the 1881 census

Another four children came along before the next census, all born at Shalford, William Frank Turner (born 7th April 1883), Mary Ann Turner (born 13th November 1885), Willie Charles Turner (born 2nd October 1887) and Ernest Turner (born 22nd August 1890).

At the time of the 1891 census, taken on 5th April, James, Sarah and the rest of the family lived in a cottage near Goldsticks Farm (Crozier's) in Shalford, by then, James was 34 years old and still an agricultural labourer.

A further two children came along after the 1891 census, both born at Shalford, Emily Mary Turner (born 16th March 1893) and Elizabeth Maud Turner (born 24th December 1897). All eight children survived into adulthood and all went on to get married and have children of their own.

By the 1901 census, taken on 31st March, James, Sarah and six of their children were still living in a cottage near Goldsticks Farm (Crozier's) in Shalford. James was 44 years old and had progressed to being a horse keeper on a farm.



James and Sarah Turner taken outside Bellows Cottage, Water Lane in Shalford



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By the 1911 census, taken on 2nd April, James and Sarah had moved to a cottage near Killhogs Farm in Water Lane, Shalford (Bellows Cottage) where James was 54 years old and still a horse keeper on a farm.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of this Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

Number of Schedule **26**
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after Census)

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (Date of Birth) and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE		PROFESSION or OCCUPATION		BIRTHPLACE of every person.	NATURALITY of every person.	DEFERMENT.
			Single	Married	Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which name is connected			
1 James Turner	Head	54	Married	8	8	0	Horse keeper on farm	Wether	Wether
2 Sarah Turner	Wife	54	Married	8	8	0	Wether	Wether	Wether
3 Willie Turner	Son	9	Single				Shepherd on farm	Wether	Wether
4 Violet Turner	Daughter	2	Single				Wether	Wether	Wether
5 Margaret Turner	Daughter	13	Single				Wether	Wether	Wether

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge of this dwelling)

Signature *James Turner*
Printed Address *100 Water Lane, Shalford, Suffolk*

Copy of the 1911 census



James Turner in later life

Sadly James died on 16th February 1932 aged 75 years old at Shalford and was buried on 20th February 1932 at St Andrews Church in Shalford. His wife, Sarah was to survive another five years, passing away on 7th November 1937.



The gravestone of James & Sarah Turner at Shalford Church (Sarah is named on the reverse)

**IN THE UNITED BENEFICE
of Finchingfield, Cornish Hall End, Shalford,
Wethersfield, Little And Great Bardfield
THE PANT VALLEY CHURCHES**



**Shalford
St Andrews**



**Wethersfield
St Mary
Magdalene**



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**Gt Bardfield
St Mary The
Virgin**



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Bardfield
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**Cornish Hall
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From the Vicarage...

This year, the beginning of March almost exactly coincides with the beginning of Lent, with Shrove Tuesday falling on March 1st, and Lent beginning the following day on Ash Wednesday. Lent always seems to get a bad press – people associate it with giving things up, not having flowers in church, and the general impression is that it's all about making oneself feel gloomy. And yet, when we look at the world around us, gloom is (weather permitting!) far from what we see as March heralds the beginnings of Spring. The word which comes more immediately to mind is 'growth', and this is also a truer description of what Lent is really all about: it is the season in which we concentrate particularly on growing spiritually.

Of course, it is a familiar fact that 'growing' is not always a comfortable process. The business of journeying from childhood to adulthood involves making a fair few mistakes and wrong turnings, and often includes a number of regrets. Along the way though are times of blessing and happiness, and even those mistakes of the past become things which teach us how to live a more contented and fulfilled life. Spiritual growth has its struggles too, and the more challenging traditions of Lent are those which help us to face up to those areas where we need to change, or allow ourselves to be changed.

One of the things we hope that our churches do is to provide a place where that change can begin to happen for all of us. Over the course of this Lent, we will be providing lots of extra opportunities, as both individuals and groups, to start a new season of spiritual growth. There is a discussion group following themes from the film 'The King's Speech', which aims at helping us each find our own voice with which to talk about our spiritual life. There is another group which will look at the lives of saints who have helped bring new people to faith, and shone a light in their lives. And we are fortunate that almost all of our churches are open all day every day, so that individuals can go in and spend some time in God's transformative presence – each church will have some material there to help you begin your journey of prayer if you wish to make use of it.

I hope that, this Springtime, and this Lent, you may all see the growth in the natural world around reflected in your own lives, and that this will lead to a year in which the fruits of happiness flow from it. Wishing you every blessing.

Rev'd/Fr Alex

SHALFORD CHURCH OF ST ANDREWS

PANT VALLEY CHURCHES

CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT



Shalford
St Andrews



Wethersfield
St Mary
Magdalene



Finchingfield
St John the
Baptist



Gt Bardfield
St Mary The
Virgin



Little
Bardfield
St Katharine



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By the time you read this we shall almost be in the season of Lent when the Church becomes more contemplative as we travel together through Jesus's final days on earth. There will be no flower arrangements in St Andrew's and the altar frontal will be purple to remind us of the solemnity of the weeks leading up to the Church's greatest festival of Easter, in April this year.

Many people like to deny themselves in Lent; they voluntarily forgo a special treat, often chocolate, sweets or alcohol, to mark the season. Easter, when it arrives, then brings an added bonus! I'm not very good at denial so I tend to try to do something new or extra in Lent instead.

Here is my venture this year: beginning on Sunday, 13th March there will be a simple Breakfast monthly in the meeting room at St Andrew's after the 8am Communion service, so the doors will be open around 8.45-ish. Sadly, facilities do not allow me to provide the "full English" as yet but there will be most other breakfast staples on offer. No charge, but donations appreciated. **Everyone** is welcome! You do not have to attend the Communion service beforehand or even be a churchgoer. This is for the village and I would love you to come and be welcomed as a friend, old or new.

Let me also tell you about another church activity which has been quietly going on for several years now ever since Beverley Vincent (now the Revd Beverley) set it up originally. It is, for want of a better name, just called "The Ladies' Group" and we meet on the second Wednesday of the month, at the home of a member, in the afternoon between 2 - 4, fuelled as usual by tea and cake. We talk. We discuss (and sometimes disagree). We share experience. Sometimes the topic of discussion is Bible-based, sometimes it focuses on the ethical issues that concern us all these days; sometimes a mixture of the two. There is no reason that I can see for gentlemen to be excluded! Indeed, they would undoubtedly add a different perspective. I should add that everything that is said in the room stays in the room. So, if you would like to come and try it, do contact me for further information.

Now that the snowdrops are blooming in the churchyard and the pandemic seems to be in retreat I am very hopeful that this Lenten season will be a time of new beginnings and renewal for us all. Enjoy the spring!

Hilary Penney

Sunday Services

Sunday 6 March – First Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield

9.30am Eucharist with Hymns – Shalford

9.30am Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End
Theme: Rev'd Alex on 'Questions you always wanted to ask about God but never dared ask!'

10.30am All Age Eucharist – Finchingfield
4pm Time to Be – Wethersfield

Sunday 13 March – Second Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford

9.30am Eucharist with Hymns – Cornish Hall End

10.30am Sung Eucharist – Great Bardfield
11am All Age Morning Worship – Wethersfield

4pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

Sunday 20 March – Third Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield

9.30am Morning Prayer – Shalford

9.30am Sung Eucharist – Little Bardfield
4pm Words and Music for Lent – Cornish Hall End

Sunday 27 March – Mothering Sunday

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield

9.30am Mothering Sunday Service – Shalford

10.30am Sung Eucharist for Mothering Sunday – Great Bardfield

10.30am Mothering Sunday Service – Finchingfield

11am All Age Eucharist for Mothering Sunday – Wethersfield

Regular Services and Events during the week

Monday

8.30am Morning Prayer – Finchingfield

10.30am Lent Group: Sent with the Saints – Finchingfield

An informal celebration of the Eucharist followed by refreshments and a meditation on the life of a missionary saint

Tuesday

8.45am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield

7pm Lent Group: Finding a Voice – Wethersfield Pavilion

A course based on the film 'The King's Speech', with extracts from the film, discussion, and refreshments

Thursday

8.45am Morning Prayer – Wethersfield

10am Prayer Group (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)

Coffee Morning (2nd & 4th weeks) – Shalford

10.30am Eucharist – Little Bardfield

Friday

8.45am Morning Prayer – Shalford

Special Events and Services

Tuesday 1 March (Shrove Tuesday)

9.30am Said Eucharist – Great Bardfield, *followed by...*

10.30am Pancakes (all welcome, whether you can be at the service or not!)

Wednesday 2 March (Ash Wednesday)

10am Eucharist with imposition of ashes – Shalford

7.30pm Sung Eucharist with imposition of ashes – Great Bardfield

Wednesday 16 March

3pm St Patrick's Day Tea – Shalford Village Hall

(organised by FOSTAC, Friends of St Andrew's Church, in support of church repair funds)

Thursday 17 March

10am Coffee Morning – Cornish Hall End

Saturday 19 March (St Joseph)

9.15 Said Eucharist – Wethersfield

10am Children's Church – Wethersfield

11am Coffee Morning – Wethersfield

Friday 25 March (The Annunciation)

7.30pm Sung Eucharist – Great Bardfield



St Andrew's Coffee Mornings ***STOP PRESS!!***

Now we are into the third month of 2022—although January seemed a very long month, February was only 28 days!! Then we have March the month of the coming of Spring!

This month we are going to return to two Coffee Mornings each month so the next Coffee Morning will be on **Thursday 10th March** then on **Thursday 24th March**. This is a great opportunity to meet up and chat with old friends and make new ones

This year we are going to continue to donate to a local Charity and the one which has been chosen is Essex Air Ambulance. As we know they do wonderful work and we are lucky to have this service – so please come along and enjoy good company, coffee, cakes and donate anything you can.

If you are able to make a cake or cakes these would be very welcome – so far we only have one 'cake-maker'!! if you can bake a cake please do, but let Diana know as it will be very much appreciated

For more details contact Diana Forrow on 01371 850110 or Sylvia Lester 01371 850211



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FINDING A VOICE **A Lent course based on** **'The King's Speech'**

This is a new and original Lent course using the film 'The King's Speech'. We will explore ways in which fear holds us back and how we can face and overcome our fears to find our own voices.

There will be five sessions lasting between 1.5 - 2 hours which will include watching extracts from the film, group discussions, exercises and meditations.

The sessions will be held at Wethersfield Pavilion on Tuesdays from 7.00pm and refreshments will be provided.

The first session will be on **Tuesday 1st March** when we will show the film.

This is a free course that can be attended by everyone, no prior knowledge is needed. Why not come along and find your own voice?

If you are interested in attending please send an email to Dawn Wilson at blackendwilson13@gmail.com so we can have an idea of numbers.



St Andrew's Church – Shalford

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Dear Thursday Cake & Coffee Consumers

What a joy it was to be able to resume our church coffee mornings last autumn after the Covid pandemic and the necessary lock downs. Our grateful thanks go to the magnificent efforts of all those, led by Diana, Ann and Sylvia, who work so hard to lay on a fabulous array of cakes to go with our coffee. I know I personally always look forward to those Thursday mornings when we are able to enjoy fellowship together. Over the years these events have also raised a lot of money for whatever has been the charity of the year. In 2021 whilst we had only four months of the year, we still raised nearly £400.

In 2021/22 the Church was forced to hold a lot of its services on zoom and so was unable to collect any offerings at services. It was decided to have the Church as the charity for 2021 and as Church Treasurer I would like to thank all those who contributed so generously.

This year we are raising money for the Air Ambulance and hope soon to be able to return to two Coffee Mornings each month (second and fourth Thursday 10-12.00). Please come along and support the team that works so hard to provide us with a very pleasant morning

Thank you to the team and all of you for supporting our Coffee mornings

Look forward to seeing you there.

Mike Chumbley
(Church Treasurer)

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PANT VALLEY CHURCHES

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Friends of St Andrew's Church (FOSTAC)

Chairman Sue Morton

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Email:

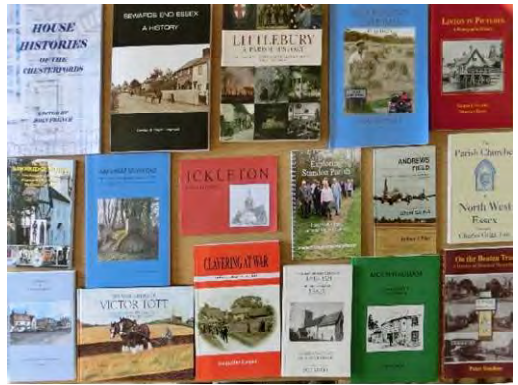
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THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

BY: KEN MCDONALD

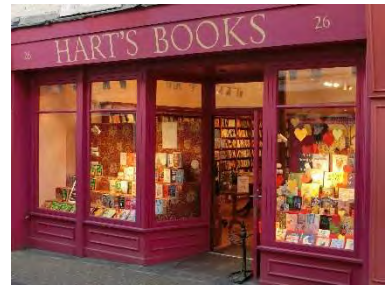
The Society has now sold all 800 copies of its first hardback book *The Hundred Parishes: An Introduction*. There will be no reprint, although we have open minds on the possibility of a second book. Preparation of our first book took several years and was



only possible because of the vast resource of what had already been written, in far more detail, about individual places, people and events. The Society holds more than 300 local books and pamphlets.

The Society's website www.hundredparishes.org.uk has recently been updated to ensure, amongst other things, that individual parish introductions

include references to their share of available literature. A good number of local books are available, in person or online, from the four excellent outlets that each sold many copies of the Hundred Parishes book: Harts and the Tourist Information Centre in Saffron Walden, the TIC in Bishop's Stortford and



Between The Lines bookshop in Great Bardfield.



A few parishes, as yet, have no book of their own, or perhaps just a pamphlet available in the church, whilst other places have extensive coverage. One of the Society's trustees, Peter Sanders, conducted research for 30 years before compiling a definitive history of Stansted Mountfitchet. Another easy-to-read classic, *Littlebury: a Parish History*, was produced by a team of authors. I have recently been absorbed by a largely

pictorial history of Sewards End and by the 4th edition of *Around Cold Christmas*, not least because the latter has frequent references to my wife's distant relatives. Clavering's Jacqueline Cooper always seems to be working on yet another book about Clavering or Saffron Walden. Several local history societies have generated books or booklets, or have work in progress. So rich is our local history that there is no shortage of reading material or potential subject matter.

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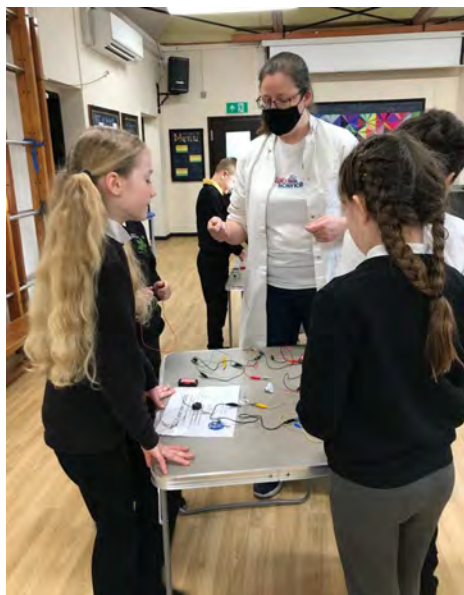
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SHALFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Jennifer Penney
Head of School



The children in Key Stage 2 have recently enjoyed a Science workshop provided by a company called 'Fab Science'. They were particularly focusing on forces, electricity and circuits. There was a range of hands-on activities which all the children enjoyed. A lot of learning and fun happened all at once!



AN EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT

THE TIME CAPSULE

BY: IAN BOWER

A Short Article From Another Village

My wife and I moved into our beautiful home in December 2019, spending our first non-pandemic Christmas in this lovely village (Pentlow). We were looking forward to becoming part of all the local activities, then along came COVID and everyone's world was turned upside down.

We met a few other residents whilst out walking our two Huskies locally but obviously we were unable to meet at social gatherings. This thankfully is now changing with everyone remaining respectful of social distancing guidelines and we can meet again.

We were able to marry in September 2021 at St Gregory and St George's church, the service being conducted by Rev Gill Morgan. This was a wonderful service during which my two and a half year old granddaughter, Willow, helped Rev. Gill and stole the show. We celebrated with family and friends joining us at home for a celebration in the garden.

At the time of our wedding, we were preparing for repairs and a fresh coat of paint to the clock tower at our home, this began in late October. Nothing could have prepared us for the lovely surprise that was found within the enclosed roof area of the tower.

The previous owners, Michael and Nicola, had prepared and placed a time capsule from 2002 in the clock tower. This contained a lovely letter from them, family photographs, local newspapers, a copy of the February 2002 **parish magazine**, and various other flyers of local interest. This had been placed within there when previous repairs were completed. It was an amazing find and great to have a snapshot of 2002 and such a lovely early Christmas present, which kept us smiling for days.

We have prepared our own time capsule, enclosing current duplicates of some of the original items which will hopefully give an interesting comparison between the years 2002 and 2021 when found. We obviously had to include a couple of face coverings and a COVID lateral flow test kit! This has been placed, along with the original, back in the clock tower to be discovered later by a new owner of our home.



Photos
by Gill
Askew

Left
8.2.21

Right
8.2.22



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In February as well as celebrating Chinese New Year the children enjoyed finding out facts about St. Valentines Day and making their own hearts for someone special.



Valentine's Day



Candy, flowers, heart-shaped notes—what's not to like about Valentine's Day? This sweet celebration, which happens every year on February 14, is all about spreading the love.

ROMANTIC RULE BREAKER **St. Valentine**

Valentines Day we know today got its name from a man named Valentine. While a few different stories are told about what he did to inspire the holiday, many people believe he's celebrated for his role as a Roman priest who helped couples secretly get married.

As the story goes, Emperor Claudius II of Rome—who reigned from the year 268 A.D. to 270 A.D.—banned marriage because he

thought unmarried men made better soldiers. Valentine thought this was unfair and decided to break the rules and perform marriages anyway. He kept the ceremonies quiet, but he was eventually caught and later killed on February 14 of the year 270 for defying the emperor. Right before he died, Valentine supposedly wrote the first-ever "valentine" to his jailer's daughter, with whom he'd fallen in love. Later, in the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I declared the day of his death as St. Valentine's Day.

ANCIENT MATCHMAKERS

The celebration surrounding this day actually has roots in an ancient pagan festival that started centuries before Valentine was even alive. Held in Rome each February, part of the event focused on bringing new couples together.

During the festivities, it's said that boys drew the names of girls from a container. The pairs would stay together during the festival, and some would actually get married when the festival was over. After Pope Gelasius I created St. Valentine's Day, the festival turned into a Christian celebration that focused on the saint. The Catholic Church doesn't recognise St. Valentine's Day on its calendar anymore, but people throughout the world still celebrate the day.

CHANGING TRADITIONS

Valentine's Day traditions have evolved a lot over the years. For example, in the Middle Ages—which lasted from the 5th to 15th centuries in Europe—people started exchanging handmade cards with love notes inside.

In a tradition that's also tied to the Middle Ages, South African women actually wear their hearts on their sleeves ... sort of. Girls pin the names of their crushes on their shirtsleeves, sometimes revealing themselves as secret admirers to their sweethearts.

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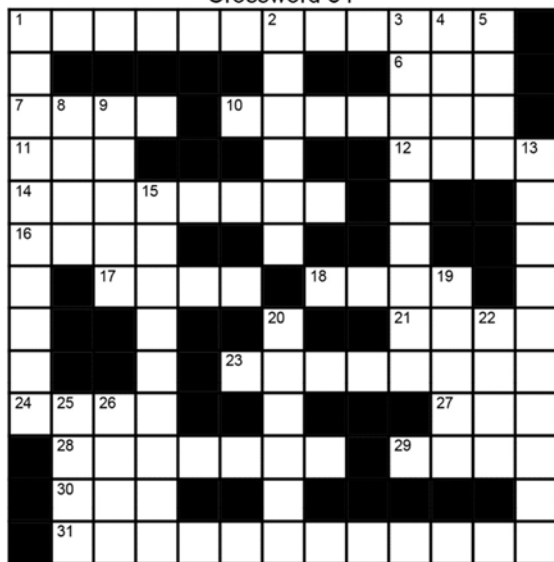
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CROSSWORD 54 – ROBERT BURROWS

Crossword 54



Across

- 1 Christian fellowships (12)
 6 Stinging insect (3)
 7 Hasty or reckless (4)
 10 An initiator (7)
 11 Large deer (3)
 12 Pulled along (4)
 14 Weather regions (8)
 16 Song of praise (4)
 17 Small enclosures (4)
 18 Transgressions of divine law (4)
 21 Monetary unit of Ghana (4)
 23 Official account (8)
 24 Bony outgrowth (4)
 27 An ornamental pendant (3)
 28 Sign of respect (7)
 29 Discharge of lightning (4)
 30 And so on: Abbr. (3)
 31 Christian church festival (12)

Down

- 1 Colchester area (10)
 2 Lifted up (6)
 3 Compliance with a command (9)
 4 Cervidae mammal (4)
 5 Gun trigger component (4)
 8 Confederation (4)
 9 Use a meagre amount (5)
 13 Village: Doomsday listed as Wilituna (10)
 15 Art of improving memory (9)
 19 Renewed attack (3-2)
 20 Racer (6)
 22 Clock face (4)
 25 Above (4)
 26 Council fee (4)
Cryptic Across
 1 Robin's Siblings? (12)
 6 Insect in some adobe events (3)
 7 Bra should cover spots (4)
 10 Prone, ie, a starter? (7)
 11 Poor Kel out to get deer (3)

12 Sketched Andre Williams? (4)

14 Weather patterns for 151 friends (8)

16 Holy song – reportedly not for her (4)

17 Remove some of pencils for new writers (4)

18 Seven deadly ones (4)

21 Badly iced monetary unit (4)

23 News from the shooter (8)

24 Could be of plenty?

27 Wattage could hold label (3)

28 Removal of hat in respect (7)

29 Dash from the blue? (4)

30 More to come! (3)

31 Easter miracle? (12)

Cryptic Down

- 1 No longer a parish in Colchester area (10)
 2 Lifted – a ride's organised (6)
 3 Said to be better than sacrifice (9)
 4 Source of venison (4)
 5 SE Region, dry and withered (4)
 8 Supporter – in part, totally! (4)
 9 PS - Use short measure, Mik (5)
 13 Ancient Essex village (10)
 15 Way to help you remember (9)
 19 Attack on totes? (3-2)
 20 Fast mover on the ground (6)
 22 Laid back face (4)
 25 Higher than some clover-leaf (4)
 26 Speed of property tax (4)



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WETHERSFIELD VILLAGE HALL 1922-2022



In January, the Hall celebrated 100 years of being gifted to the village. The significant event was celebrated with a Jazz evening and an exhibition of photographs depicting the Hall's history and the many events that have been held there. It was also a chance to showcase not only the clubs that are presently available with hirers but also events hosted by the Trustees.

Wethersfield Village Hall was originally the Maltings of the Wethersfield Brewery, which was run by the Raven family. The brewery closed in 1915 and most of the property was sold to Greene King. However, Edith Maberly, the only surviving child of the Raven family, retained the Maltings and Hillfoot House, which had been her home. In 1921 Mrs Maberly decided to give the Maltings to the village for use as a meeting place. Hence the Village Hall was initiated. Mrs Maberly felt that it was important that men returning from the war, and unable to find employment, should have a suitable place to meet and socialise. However, to make necessary improvements to the building and to install a wooden floor around £700 was needed. The villagers raised £300, which was very generous when times were hard. £1 shares raised the remaining amount, to be redeemed later. After 10 months, the hall was ready for use. Weekly dances with over forty people attending were held with the admission of 1 shilling, which included refreshments. It rapidly became the hub of the village. There were whist drives; monthly meetings by the WI and theatrical productions were performed twice a year raising funds to provide stage curtains. A section of the hall was set aside as a reading room and meeting place, and the back room for billiards. Playing any games for money was prohibited and still is to this day. The first AGM of the shareholders and interested parties was held on 29th September 1922.

The use of the hall has changed remarkably over the years, and after being somewhat neglected the board of trustees launched an envelope appeal in 2017 for funds to start the restoration process. In less than 2 years, thanks to the help given by various grant providers, the Parish Council and the generosity of local residents, the refurbishing of the hall to the level it is today sees it modified from a dated and tired building to a significant asset for the village that is both modern and welcoming.

The Centenary weekend was a great success and the Trustees were delighted with the number of people who attended. The local primary school also came along to view the exhibition on Monday and pupils and staff were pleasantly surprised by the changes over the last 100 years. This event would not have been possible without the help of the local history group, the hirers and the dedication of the Trustees. It was wonderful to see so many people and to share this historic occasion with them.



If anyone is interested in finding out more about the history of Wethersfield please feel free to visit our website: www.wethersfieldvillagehall.co.uk and follow the link to the Wethersfield local history group. The group have an extensive knowledge and are more than happy to welcome you along to the archive room or why not go along to one of their meetings that are held each month at the Pavilion. The next meeting is on Thursday 10th March at 8pm. Pam Wenley will be giving an illustrated talk on the Story of Wethersfield Manor.

Deborah Brignull-Harvey
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THE WAY WE WERE

BY: BILL ASKEW

Fetes, Fayres, Festivals and Fun

It's a beautiful June day in the mid-20th Century. The verges are bejewelled with a colourful array of wild flowers and a warm fragrant breeze is playing amongst the swaying grass. The hedgerows are full of dog roses and the gentle rasp of crickets lends the perfect accompaniment to this balmy summer day.

As you turn into the driveway of Abbots Hall, the laughter and hubbub of a merry crowd of villagers reaches your ears and a beautiful scene opens up before you. In the foreground, the lake reflects the azure blue of the cloudless sky and the scented breeze raises twinkling highlights on its surface. From its far shore a large lush green lawn sweeps up to the hall with a row of stalls and sideshows forming a boundary on each side. In the middle, John Crittall can be seen setting out the area where the village children will run races in the afternoon spurred on by the hopes of winning the sixpence prize money awarded to the winners. Working alongside him is Malcolm Wright placing obstacles and chicanes ready for the adult comic sports. The happy throng of Villagers move from stall to stall and sideshow to sideshow where they are exhorted to test their skill or try their luck or maybe sample some fine homemade cake or perhaps just sit for a while and enjoy a cup of tea and a hot dog. Mr and Mrs Marlton from the Church End stores are doing a roaring trade dispensing ice cream and fizzy pop. The vicar's wife is enjoying brisk business with her bran tub and the White Elephant stall is attracting a steady stream of rummagers. It is the big social event of the year in Shalford and practically the whole village has turned out to sample the many delights the Fete has to offer, the rifle range, skittles, bowls, craft stalls and maybe even a visit to the fortune teller. A trapeze has been strung between 2 trees and is proving very popular with the children some of whom are rigged out in various outfits for the fancy dress competition which will take place immediately after Mrs Gold has officially opened the fete. Down by the lake, Abbots Hall Head Gardener Jack Whitehead is offering the heady excitement of a mini cruise around the lake in a rowing boat. From around the side of the house the skirl of bagpipes announces the arrival of the Dagenham Girl pipers who file out into the centre of the lawn and impress the crowd with their choreographed marching while playing a selection of lively Scottish tunes. What a day! And to top it all off there is still a chance of winning one of the exotic raffle prizes which range from a bottle of champagne to two gallons of petrol or from a chicken to a table lamp. Even after the races have been run, the ice cream and pop has been exhausted, Madame Zsa has packed away her crystal ball, and the park has been cleared, there is still the whist drive in the village hall to come, where friendly rivalry with competing teams from surrounding villages will guarantee an evening of uproarious fun to round off the day.

Major and Mrs Gold hosted many such occasions over the span of several decades and I think it is probably true to say that they presided over what was the golden age of village fetes in Shalford.

The village hall playing field was the venue for many other successful Summer Fetes but of course it couldn't offer the backdrop of a fine old country house or the wonderful amenity of a lake. A particularly memorable Fete was the one held in 1959 in the then very large garden of the Church End Vicarage, when the team of Arthur Grubb, Frank Jennings, Rev. Crossley and David Root, otherwise known as the "Roots Group", built a very fine shed to house the "music and electrical arrangements." As an added attraction, sometimes celebrities such as actor Wilfred Bramble, disc jockey Alan Freeman and Miss World, Anne Sidney were brought in to open the Fete.

In the 1970s there were several acclaimed Flower Festivals held in Church Barn and on the Pightle by kind permission of Bob and Tim Goodchild of Shalford Hall Farm. The usual tireless army of volunteers set about making these shows a huge attraction. As well as the stunning displays of flowers in the barn, the pightle was bordered with stalls and sideshows, fabricated by Horace Miles, Frank Jennings and Joe Morcom. The craft stall was manned by Joy Parmenter and Anthea Morcom, the toy stall by Sally Prime, refreshments were served by stalwarts, Mabel Jennings, Margaret Smith and Eva Lorimer. Ken James and Iris Beard ran the Tombola, Mrs Laggett and Betty Goodchild were on the White Elephant Stall and on the Plants and Produce stall Donald and Audrey Root, Mrs Stoyell and Peggy Goodchild honed their costermonger skills. Again, these events pulled in huge crowds and provided a great day's fun.

In June 1975 the Summer Fete, temporarily rebranded as The Shalford Country Fayre, returned to Abbots Hall, this time at the invitation of the then owners, Robin and Sue Soames. Despite a savage wind and unseasonal cold the good folk of Shalford turned out in force and made the show a resounding success. In August of the same year, the Soames introduced a new concept to the village, a Swimming Party. Once again the weather was less than perfect but even if the swimming had lost some of its appeal the guests were kept happy by the poolside barbecue and bar.

In June 1978 Robin and Sue held another swimming party with the added attractions of supper and dancing, it was such a resounding hit that it was reprised the following year.

Well, the fun and excitement continued up until recent years, although a gradual decline was evident and the pandemic hasn't helped matters. Maybe we are too sophisticated for home-made fun in the 21st century who knows, but that can't be true because we do have the Bendlowe's Meet and Greet (the brain child of Alice Cox) at the village hall every month and it is an absolute roaring success. I was there last Friday, the hall was packed to capacity and filled with the buzz of lively conversation and laughter. The buffet lunch was superb and out in the car park we were treble parked! This glorious beanfeast comes to us courtesy of Alice Cox, Sally Welsh, Mel Fray, Marianna Marriott and Nora Taylor...apologies to anyone that I have missed out... a huge thanks to you all.

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Our Chair Mandy recently attended a First Aid Training course and found out about this new service that enables you to contact 999 in an emergency if you cannot make a voice call.

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> Who?

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> What?

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> Where?

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The emergency service will either ask for more information or will tell you that help is on the way.

Don't assume that your message has been received until the emergency service sends a message back.

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Defibrillator Training

Another defibrillator training session will be scheduled soon following the cancellation of the last one. Please do consider attending if you can. It will be held in the village hall. Date and time TBC.

Tree Felling at Stoneley Park

Although most of the trees on site are healthy, a number are dead or in poor health. Many of these are unsightly and some could be hazardous. It is therefore planned to fell many of the dead and unhealthy trees, in phases, over the next few years. In addition, a small number of trees will be thinned out to allow room for others to grow. The work has been planned so it will avoid any significant adverse visual impact and care will be taken to avoid any danger to the public during the work. A Felling Licence for the work has been obtained from the Forestry Commission.



A small number (about 20 or 30) trees will be felled this season. These are the ones which are the most obviously desirable to fell in the short term. It is planned that the remainder will be done next season.



Village Improvements We have two new 'Wild animals in Road' signs that have been installed along Braintree Road. There are often sightings of deer along this stretch and sadly we have seen some accidents too. Hopefully, these signs will encourage drivers to take care when travelling along this stretch of road.

We have also purchased a new bin to replace the one next to the bus shelter, opposite the village shop. The current one has no drainage and often fills with rainwater. We have also purchased a new bench to replace the one near the corner of Water Hall Lane that currently looks directly at a hedge.

Council meetings continue in person at the Village Hall every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm. Please look out for the agenda which is published online and on our notice boards. We look forward to seeing you.

Mandy, Adrian, Sam, Rob, Andrew M, Andrew H, Neil & Michelle



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NATURE NOTES THE MOOSE

BY: MAC BEANLAND



The moose is by far the largest member of the deer species with the stags weighing in at one ton. They can be found throughout northern Europe, North America, Canada, and most of the Scandinavian regions. They are solitary animals and only get together for mating at rutting time which takes place in September. The males known as bulls have large antlers which can measure up to three ft across and as with a lot of animals the males will fight for the privilege of mating with the females using their antlers as weapons.

When rutting is over the bulls shed their antlers and grow new ones the following spring. Even though they are large lumbering animals they can run when they need to and can reach speeds of up to 35 miles per hour. They are also good swimmers and can hold their breath under water for 30 seconds. The females known as cows don't have antlers, they give birth to their calves in the spring, usually a single or twin but triplets are not uncommon, the calves stay with their mothers until they are a year old then go off to live a solitary life. Moose are herbivores but because they are large lumbering animals find it awkward grazing grass on the ground so prefer eating leaves and small tree branches. Their favourite food comes from native willow, aspen, and balsam fir trees. They also like standing in water, feeding on aquatic plants and water weeds. I attended a talk on the moose and we were shown a film of a large bull moose eating apples and leaves from an apple tree in someone's garden where there was a robot mower cutting the grass. The mower went straight up to the moose and the moose just lifted one front foot up the mower it kept coming so the moose just stood with all its weight on the one foot, crushed the mower and carried on eating as though nothing had happened. The problem is they tend to be like that with traffic on the roads. In Norway there are lots of moose warning signs on the roads. There are an estimated 40-50000 moose in Norway and Sweden, Hunting moose in Norway is allowed under strict licence. Between the end of September and the beginning of December, only large bulls can be shot. They must be five pointers, that means they must have at least five points on their





antlers which shows they are more than five years old. 1000 licenses are issued each year and there is a waiting list. The antlers are kept for trophies but the venison is the main prize, by restricting culling to 1000 the population remains stable and sustainable. Moose kept from calves have been domesticated in the past and used as draft animals very successfully, not only are they very powerful animals but seem inexhaustible, Norway has several wildlife parks and Zoos and they all have tame moose which

enjoy petting and being fed carrots but people are warned never to approach a wild moose. Predators include brown and grizzly bears and wolves. The moose are very clever they run until they tire the predator then turn and fight with antlers stamping with front feet and kicking with hind legs. They can easily kill a wolf with a single kick and a tired bear often gives up after a good kicking. Moose are very capable of living in very cold conditions with temperatures down to minus 40 degrees. They have very thick coats and each hair is hollow with air trapped inside to form an insulated layer. They have very large cloven feet which helps them for both walking on snow and swimming.

Last month I covered Reindeer which I am pleased to say was very well received it's so nice to get some feedback. Since I wrote that article, I have been fortunate enough to spend two weeks on a cruise in the Norwegian Fjords and learned more about the Sami people and their reindeer. I am not wishing to become boring but I attended a lecture on the subject and one thing I would really like to pass on, because I think it is both fascinating and worth knowing. It's a well-known fact the Sami are a very old race of nomadic people who have followed and lived off their reindeer for many generations. Recently a university set up a study to look into their way of life; health and diet. They are slim, extremely fit and healthy and their diet consists entirely of reindeer meat and milk. They only drink water which has been boiled with a lump of meat floating in it. I was privileged to try a sample but I must say I have had better drinks! The study proved that a diet of reindeer meat plus reindeer milk contains every single vitamin mineral and element that the human body needs to thrive, very little fat and an excess of iron (I think we need to eat more venison) local farms are overrun with fallow Deer and Venison is available to purchase from several local Butcher's and local outlets.



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Village Hall Booking

Nicola

Tel: 07505 282374

Village Hall Secretary

Linda Golding

Tel: 01371 850246

E: linda.golding50@gmail.com

Wethersfield Before & After School

Debbie Brignull-Harvey

Tel: 01371 851100

Wethersfield Community Activities

Tel: 01371 850620

E: wethersfieldca@gmail.com

William Bendlowe Charity

Alice Cox

Tel: 07850 264518

Website: www.bendlowe.co.uk

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THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

SAVE THE DATE(S)

2ND JUNE TO 5TH JUNE 2022

MONTHLY UPDATE

Shalford's Platinum Jubilee Committee is meeting regularly to ensure that Shalford has a weekend celebration to be remembered – both enjoyable and varied – something for everyone, young and not so young.

If you wish to help either by attending our meetings and helping with the preparations or perhaps by helping on the day, please contact Mel Fray.

Last month we gave a brief outline of events and timings.

This month we are looking for:-

- *Volunteers to help with ongoing preparations*
- *Volunteers to help on the day(s)*
- *A Piper*
- *A Bugler*
- *A Cornet Player*
- *Choir*



Meeting Dates will be hosted on www.bendlowe.co.uk OR
Contact: melfray@hotmail.com