



HARTFORD HUNDRED WEST  
THE



# PARISH MAGAZINE

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

July  
2023

Price

80p

- **Ukrainian Update.**  
What has happened to our guests since the first arrivals in 2022. (page 6).
- **Richard Haryott, d. 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**  
Since moving to Brickendon in 1984, Richard and Virginia have been involved in many aspects of The Chapel. Richard will be missed enormously. (page 14)



## DIOCESE OF ST. ALBANS



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

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

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

Hartford Hundred Rectory,

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

Telephone: 01707 875940 email - hartfordhundred@outlook.com

*Communion to the sick, Notice of Banns and of Marriage by arrangement with the Minister.*

*Please advise us of any cases of sickness so that prayers may be offered  
or where they may be of any assistance.*

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

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Sandie Ash, Hall Cottage, 7 Church Road,  
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##### **PCC SECRETARY**

Ian Bailey, Tower House, Stockings Lane,  
Little Berkhamsted. SG13 8LW **01707 875791**

##### **TREASURER**

Mr C Nunn, Trewinnard House, Little  
Berkhamsted, SG13 8LS **01707 874299**

##### **ORGANIST**

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

##### **CHURCHWARDEN**

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

##### **PCC SECRETARY**

##### **TREASURER**

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

##### **ORGANIST**

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

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

##### **CHURCHWARDENS**

Paul Wombwell, 27 Rectory Close, Essendon,  
AL9 6HG **01707 273729**

Colin Rees, 2, Letty Green, Hertford,  
SG14 2NZ. **07540 351 530.**

colin4444@yahoo.com.

##### **PCC SECRETARY**

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

##### **TREASURER**

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

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

##### **CHURCHWARDEN**

Phil Ryan

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##### **ORGANIST**

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

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

## Rector's Article.

**D**ear All  
**Thy Kingdom come!**

The Kingdom of God is where God rules and is sovereign. It is a kingdom where He has authority, dominion and power. God does this with love through the Holy Spirit.

During Jesus's time on earth He moved around with his disciples. These disciples were keen learners. They observed Jesus with curiosity. They would observe him pray and were surprised by how effective Jesus's prayers were. We must remember that these disciples were people who had left everything to follow Jesus. They devoted their time and lives to serve people. Given that they were so dedicated it is easy to understand that they were eager to seek the 'kingdom things'. 'Seek you first the kingdom of God and his righteousness...' Matthew 6:33.

One day, they asked Jesus in sincerity of heart to teach them to pray. Jesus answered them by teaching them the 'Lord's prayer'. This is effectively a model of how to pray. In particular, I would like to draw your attention to the verse of the Lord's prayer which says, 'Thy Kingdom come'. As mentioned above, the Kingdom of God is where God has influence and rules. As we say 'Thy Kingdom come' we are actually opening our hearts to God. Practically, we will be surrendering our will and ways to Him. We will be saying may your life, Jesus Christ, manifest in us. This means that He will guide all aspects of our lives: the way we live, our relationships in our community with families, friends,

workmates, fellow Christians and those whom we come across in our daily lives. Allowing Him in trust to manifest in our lives and all around us is joy and freedom.

By saying 'Thy Kingdom come', one will be trusting God with his or her life. For the Kingdom of God is one of righteousness, peace and joy. Yes, hard times are there but when we allow His Kingdom to come in our lives, He is full of compassion and love. God will not allow us to walk alone. He will be our standby, helper and advocate. His love extends to everyone - yes to everyone. Waiting to hear from us the words 'Thy Kingdom Come' is our Father, our Master, our Healer, Our Shepherd, Ever present and all-knowing God. 'Thy Kingdom come' means yielding to His will.

With assurance and absolute confidence that in His Kingdom our sins are forgiven.

Jesus has already died for our sins, having freely forgiven us all our transgressions.

Understandably, it is not easy to let go of our ways and will, probably because of fear. Fear of the unknown, fear of losing those whom we walk with in this life and fear of losing control. It may be lack of trust or because of past hurtful experiences.

He knows it all. His perfect love drives out fear. In His Kingdom there is HOPE.

Revd Theresa Musiwacho

## Prayer Share

Almighty God, may your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven, in the way we relate to each other, the way we live our lives and the way we speak. Grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen



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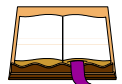
## Weddings, Baptisms and other matters.

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

No appointment necessary



## PARISH REGISTER



### Deaths

10 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Kenneth KING (91 years)	Essendon
21 <sup>st</sup> May 2023	Craig Ian RAVANSCROFT (67 years)	Essendon
24 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Richard Baskcomb HARYOTT (82 years)	Brickendon
6 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Dawn Butler (84 years)	Little Berkhamsted

### Interment of ashes

26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Michael John COLLECT RIP 18. 08. 2022 (Aged 89 years)	Bayford
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## JULY CALENDAR

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30am, Parish Communion, Essendon

9:30am, Family Service, Ponsbourne

11:00 pm, Parish Communion, Brickendon

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 am, Parish Communion, Bayford

11:00 am, Family Service, Little Berkhamsted

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30am, Parish Communion, Ponsbourne

9:30am, Family Service, Essendon

11:00 am, Family Service, Brickendon

### **Sunday 23<sup>th</sup> June, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 am, Parish Communion, Little Berkhamsted

11:00 am, Family Service Bayford

6:30 pm, Evensong, Essendon

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June, Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

10:15am, Family Service, Ponsbourne

### **Wednesdays**

9:30 am, Parish Communion, Essendon

10:00 am, Telephone Service Free

For Joining instructions see

*hartfordhundred@outlook.com*



## **BAYFORD C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Is looking to appoint two new governors to start in September

The role of a governor provides the opportunity to develop a variety of skills but, although volunteers should be people who care about improving education, they do not need prior experience. These are perfect roles for anybody who wishes to contribute to society and enhance children's futures.

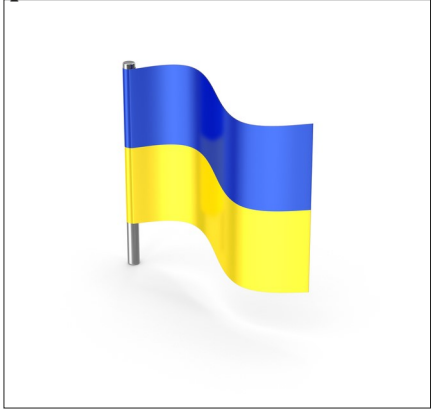
6 – 12 meetings p.a. usual start 5pm

For further information, or to apply, please contact

**Brenda Lambie (CoG) on 01992 511551**

## Ukraine Update

The Hartford Hundred Group of Parishes has been especially generous in their welcome to Ukrainians who have been displaced from their country as a result of the war. A Parish Support Group was set up to investigate how we could assist families fleeing the war torn country. Several hosts came forward and soon we were working with a variety of agencies and individuals to find out more about the process of hosting.



In May 2022 our first guests arrived to live with host Sara Walduck in Bayford.

Tanya and her daughter Dasha (24) flew in from Kyiv to a very different life here. Tanya, a Clinical Psychologist, continued to work with clients online in Ukraine. At Christmas time Tanya was part of the Ukrainian choir which sang in Hertford Castle and they both sold beautiful Christmas cards they had made. In December Tanya moved to Scotland to be with her son who was studying at University there and Dasha moved to another host family in London with hopes to pursue her dream to go to Art College.

In July 2022 Alona and her son Egor arrived in Essendon to stay with hosts, Mandy and Vince Nevel. Alona's daughter Daryna (23) was also hosted for three months before she returned to Kyiv. They had driven all the way across Europe to get here and they were soon settled into the household. The first task was to get Egor (14)) into school and he was lucky to secure a place at Richard Hale on the last day of the summer holidays. Alona is a patent attorney and now works with a firm in London. In December they both moved to a rented flat in Hertford but still retain close links with their friends in our community and are grateful for the start they got here.

In November Heather and Simon Ross from Brickendon agreed to host Iryna who was an accountant in Ukraine. She learned English through the classes run by volunteers at the St Andrew's Church in Hertford. As transport over the winter was difficult there has been a rota of incredibly kind local people from our villages who drove Iryna back and forth to the classes. She also worked part time in the Farmer's Boy in Brickendon. Iryna has recently moved on to live with members of her family who live in the UK and now have space for her.

Also in November, Judy Rennie in Essendon began to host Valentyna, who is a mental health therapist, and her daughter Katerina. Valentyna enjoyed her time here but at Easter she had to return to Ukraine to nurse her elderly father. Katerina studies at the University of Hertfordshire and lives in the accommodation on the campus. She will be staying on in the UK and Valentyna is also welcome to stay with Judy when she comes back to see her daughter.

We have now welcomed a guest family to Little Berkhamsted. Quintin and Trish McKellar are now hosting (another) Valentyna and her son Oleksii. They have already been living with a host family in Cambridge for a year. Valentyna practised as a barrister in Ukraine and hopes to work in a legal environment in the UK. Oleksii will be starting school in Hertford ( He already knows Egor who lived in Essendon with the Nevels).

Many people in Hartford Hundred group of churches have come forward to help our guests in lots of different ways- too many to mention here but please know you are really appreciated. It has been wonderful to see our community coming together to help others not as fortunate as ourselves. We will continue to support those still with us- and any more who seek to come. For more information please contact [mckellartrish@gmail.com](mailto:mckellartrish@gmail.com).



Bayford Church Annual Spring Clean

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E [annette.tyler@hrdept.co.uk](mailto:annette.tyler@hrdept.co.uk)

W [hrdept.co.uk/hertford-and-hatfield](http://hrdept.co.uk/hertford-and-hatfield)



Preventing People Problems





CUCUMBER FIELDS

# What's on at Cucumber Fields...



## Young Yogi's Summer Club

**24th July - 31st August | Mondays & Thursdays, 09:15 - 11:15**

Bring your children for a fun session of kids yoga, mindful activities and animal visits whilst you enjoy your favourite class or relax with a coffee in our Pantry.



## 'The Vinyasa Playground'

**Saturday 5th August | 11:00 - 12:30**

Join Toby Gillingham for a workshop of fun and play on our outside Orchard Platform, to explore breaking free of the structures within modern postural vinyasa to find freedom within your body.



## Bank Holiday Soul Sessions with Christian Coelho

**Saturday 26th August | 11:00 - 12:30**

Join Christian for this special Bank Holiday offering of Forrest Yoga to help calm the mind and open the heart, medicine music and meditation. A soulful and nourishing workshop.

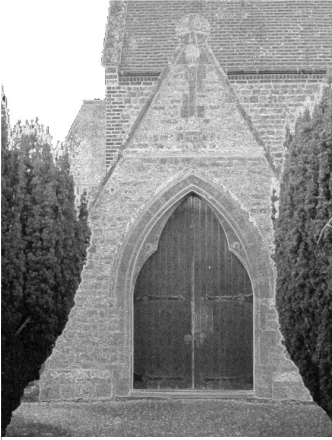


## Cucumber Beach: Portugal

**Thursday 5th - Sunday 8th October | Quinta do Lago**

An active wellbeing break hosting a program of yoga, cycling, dining delights and the Portuguese sun for a long weekend of movement, exploration, relaxation and fun.

[www.cucumberfields.co.uk/events](http://www.cucumberfields.co.uk/events) | [gail@cucumberfields.co.uk](mailto:gail@cucumberfields.co.uk)



## Bayford St. Mary's Church

Bayford Church is open Mondays Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday.

### **CHURCH CLEANING JULY**

9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> - Gabrielle Dolan and Lorna Fitzjohn

### **FLOWERS**

9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> - Lorna Fitzjohn

### **BAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL.**

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

### **Baker Arms**

I am sure it is with much sadness and not a little shock that we heard the announcement that Martin and Beverley are leaving the Village. After weathering the tough period of lockdown, they have revitalised The Baker Arms, and made it once again the centre of Parish social activities.

I am sure that we will all miss them and wish them our very best wishes in their future life in Yorkshire.

### **Co-option.**

Following the elections in May, we have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. We intend to co-opt one or more Councillors. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested.

### **Road Safety**

We have finally managed to get a meeting with Herts Highways about the options for improving road safety and traffic calming in Bayford.

### **Meetings.**

#### **19<sup>th</sup> July Wednesday**

Please check the web site.

Michael Wainwright (Dr),  
Chairman.

**pc@begesford.co.uk**

01707 875970.

*www.begesford.co.uk*



Scan the  
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to go to  
the PC  
web site.

## The Baker Arms.

Beverley, and I have had to make a very difficult decision regarding the future of the Baker Arms whilst under our tenancy.

It is with GREAT sadness that, due to family commitments up in North Yorkshire, we have given notice to McMullen's. The pub will be closing effective 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

I know that some of you will be bitterly disappointed, but we must look after family first.

Both Bev and I want to thank ALL of you whom have supported us over the last 20 months, we really have appreciated you support. But the time has come for us to return to North Yorkshire to help look after both Bev's Dad and Step mum. We do hope that you understand and won't be too cross with us.

God bless you all.

Martin & Bev signing off.



## The Knitting Group

The knitting group continues to meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 8pm in the Baker Arms. We are learning to crochet at the moment but have projects on the go for any level of experience of knitting or crochet (or complete beginners!)

Please call **Caroline Fletcher on 07919 317212** for more details.



## The Annual Church Spring Clean

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the Church spring clean, it is much appreciated. In addition to those pictured, we also benefited from the efforts of Jooles Crone, Jane Honeyman and Stephen Fletcher.

The church was sparkling by the time we finished!

Please see page 7.



## Help your local hospice care for local people

Isabel Hospice is a local charity and each year, we care for hundreds of people across eastern Hertfordshire.

All our care is free and can be provided in your home, at our community hubs or our In-Patient Unit. Most of the people we care for have cancer, however, we are also increasingly caring for people with other life-limiting conditions.

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- Donate **pre-loved goods**
- Donate **your time** as a volunteer

[www.isabelhospice.org.uk](http://www.isabelhospice.org.uk)  
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# Brickendon

## Chapel of the Holy Cross & St. Alban



### Sunday Services.

2<sup>nd</sup> July - Family Communion at 11.00am  
16<sup>th</sup> July - Family Service at 11.00am  
30<sup>th</sup> July - Group Communion .Ponsbourne  
(please check on notice board)

### Richard Haryott

Most of you will know of the very sad news that Richard died very suddenly on 24<sup>th</sup> May.

He and Virginia have lived in Brickendon since 1984 and he has been very involved in the Chapel from the beginning. He was Churchwarden for 20 years and was very much part of the team that built the extension to the Chapel. As an engineer he knew all about how the Chapel functioned, and if there was ever a problem he would know what to do! He truly loved the atmosphere of peace and quiet in the Chapel. He was always there to greet worshippers and he will be missed enormously.

### Flowers

Maureen Reid  
Amanda Davey

### July

1<sup>st</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>  
14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

### Cleaning

Alison Blakey  
Tessa Whitlow

### Brickendon Clubs:

We have some excellent clubs in Brickendon which are always happy to welcome new members.

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

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

### Fanshaws Room

(the Village Hall)

The Village Hall in Brickendon is a lovely space for meetings, children's parties and other gatherings. More details and photos can be found on the village website [www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk](http://www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk)

Hire charge for non-residents is £15 per hour (£10 per hour for residents of Brickendon Liberty parish)

Phone **01992 511551** for further information or to make a booking.

## 90 years celebration at the Chapel - 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023

Many people gathered in the church for a service of thanksgiving to celebrate 90 years since the consecration of the Chapel in 1933.

We gave thanks to the wonderful generosity of **Constance Demain Saunders** and her mother who gave the land and funds to build the church.

It was a happy occasion with a short history of the Chapel read by Richard Haryott, hymns and poems ending off with a slice of chocolate cake, baked by Joyce Mentern, and a glass of prosecco!



## Parish Council

### Meetings

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

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

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

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

### Meetings:

27<sup>th</sup> July  
28<sup>th</sup> September  
23<sup>rd</sup> November

## Brickendon Petanque Boules Club

### Play at The Farmer's Boy

#### Summer Play Times

Sunday 9.30am - 12 noon

Tuesday 5.30pm - 7pm

Thursday 10am - 12 noon

Further information and enquiries  
Contact Janet 01992 511515



## Brickendon Fete & Dog Show 2023

will be held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September  
11.30am - 3.30pm - Save The Date!!



## Tennis Courts.

The fee for hire is still £5 per court per hour for everyone. Last summer the courts and pavilion were renovated and are in excellent condition.

For further information and to book see Brickendon website ([www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk](http://www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk))  
Brenda Lambie



## AMV CHIMNEY SWEEPS

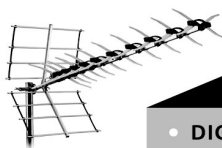


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**SCOUT GROUP**

Both our **Beaver Colony** (6-8 years) and **Cub Pack** (8-11 years) have resumed "normal" activities including hiking, camping and learning new skills and having great fun.

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

Meetings are based at our Headquarters in Northaw Village.

To find out more contact Gordon Marshall at

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

## GARDENING

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NEED a strong pair of hands for those gardening jobs  
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NEED your grass/hedges cut  
NEED logs moving/splitting  
NEED stables mucked out  
NEED terraces or garden furniture pressure washed.  
NEED shed or fences painted.

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**Email: [lukemstratford@gmail.com](mailto:lukemstratford@gmail.com)**

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

Essendon

# Essendon, Woodhill, Wild Hill & Woodside

## St. Mary the Virgin



Flower Arrangers July  
1<sup>ST</sup> WEDDING  
8<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup> SARA WALDUCK  
22<sup>ND</sup> & 29<sup>TH</sup> SUE ROGERS



### Bible Study

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

### The Village Hall.

Tel: 07442 499601  
email:  
[essendonvillagehall@hotmail.com](mailto:essendonvillagehall@hotmail.com)  
[facebook.com/essendonvillagehall](https://facebook.com/essendonvillagehall)  
[essendonvillagehall.wixsite.com/essendonvillagehall](http://essendonvillagehall.wixsite.com/essendonvillagehall)

### All Sorts Dementia Group.

Social and activity group for people with mild to moderate dementia starting at Essendon Village Hall every Wednesday 10.30am till 3pm.  
Spaces limited so please call  
**01279 498938** or  
email [allsortsdg@gmail.com](mailto:allsortsdg@gmail.com)  
for more information.  
Website: [www.allsortsdg.co.uk](http://www.allsortsdg.co.uk)

### Tennis Courts

New season starts 1<sup>st</sup> May. The prices are £40 family, £25 individual and £15 for a junior. New members always welcome. To join the club

To join the club or any questions please contact,  
**Nicki Whitelaw 07946300512**  
[nicki.whitelaw@sky.com](mailto:nicki.whitelaw@sky.com)  
Essendon Tennis Club Committee

### Essendon Cricket Club

We are looking for a scorer for the coming 2023 season and beyond, ideally Saturday and Sunday, but if someone only wanted to do Saturdays or Sundays that works. Saturday is the day we are struggling with as having your own scorer in a league game is very important. If anyone is interested please contact me.

**Ian Venables 07764777343**  
Essendon CC Captain

## ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL

ALL MEETINGS AT  
ESSENDON VILLAGE HALL, @ 7PM  
5<sup>th</sup> July

Agendas will be available on the PC website,

(<https://www.essendonpc.org.uk/>)  
and on noticeboards in the village.

Minutes of all meetings are also available on the website.

Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings.

Ian Venables (Chair)  
Rex Jones (Vice-Chair)  
Keith Venables  
Fran Christensen  
Mike Brown  
Tracey Willetts

Clerk: Nerine Chalmers  
[essendonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:essendonparishcouncil@gmail.com)



**The Friends of St. Mary's  
Essendon**

### **Progressive Supper on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July.**

Singles or groups of two, three or four can be booked.

Friendships were formed at the last Progressive Supper, by introducing strangers. We hope that by only guaranteeing seating together for small groups that this will happen again.

Everyone to meet in the Village Hall at 7.00 pm for drinks and canapés.

At 7.30 pm everyone will be allocated a house to go to for the main course.

At 9.30 pm we will all return to the Village Hall for dessert, cheese and Port.

Price £20.00 including a first glass of prosecco.

Tickets limited to 90

Tickets from

[Hilarypickard@hotmail.com](mailto:Hilarypickard@hotmail.com) or  
07974231206

Bank Transfer: Friends of St Mary's  
Essendon, Business Account,  
Account No: 30401682, Sort Code:  
601039, Ref: Name-ProgSup

**Entrance by Ticket Only**



**Obituary - By the death of Mrs. Saunders,** at the age of 87, Essendon has lost its oldest inhabitant and many will miss the tall, upright, picturesque figure in a sun bonnet, walking briskly along the village street or tending her pretty cottage garden.

She was of Scottish birth and bringing up and though the last 20 years of her life were spent in this quiet parish, she had gone through experiences which are probably unique, having actually lived on the scenes and shared in the horrors of four great wars - the Indian Mutiny, the Crimean, the American civil war and the Franco-Prussian war.

During the American war she was nurse to Mrs. Jefferson Davis, the wife of the leader of the Confederate States and could show the scars on her hands of wounds received in saving a child of theirs from being captured by a soldier whom she caught by the throat and rendered helpless.

A woman naturally of great strength and endurance, she retained her vigour of mind and body to a wonderful degree and though she began to fail last winter, just after reaching her 87<sup>th</sup> birthday, she only took to her bed a few weeks before she died.



On the 21<sup>st</sup> June, **Suzi Clark**, author, artist and company director spoke about her eventful life in the events industry and beyond - catastrophes galore and spectacular "wins" along the way.

Essendon WI meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the Village Hall at 7.30 for 8.00 p.m. Visitors are always very welcome.

## QR Codes

A QR Code is like a barcode. It is readable by mobile phones. It encodes some text, any text, but usually a web site address, such as your favourite; <https://www.begesford.co.uk/ParishMag>.

Most mobile phones are able to read this link and then open the corresponding web page.

Sometimes the print quality effects this, so please try the QR Code opposite and let me know! MW



## Gardening

Sitting here on what is at last a lovely sunny day, my eye was suddenly caught by an old gardening magazine lying about with the headline 'We love July' so I hope by the time you read this it is still true!

Feed and mulch Rhubarb now that most harvesting is over. Sow salad leaves where early potatoes have been harvested and do your watering as early as you can so your plants don't get too dry. If you are a herb grower the following seem the most useful - Basil, Chives, Oregano, Rosemary, Sage and Thyme - on the whole these are great sun-lovers and like good drainage so find an ideal spot for them.

If you have Summer house plants don't overwater them and potting mixes that are too wet for very long are a killer, so let them reach a slight 'drought' so the oxygen gets in and the roots breath before you re-water properly and add a balanced house plant feed every fourth watering or so.

Cut back Wisterias taking long whippy stems back to about 7 buds with a harder pruning to follow in January or February. Bay trees can also be pruned now and Philadelphus straight after flowering but don't touch your autumn-fruiting Raspberries.

Continue to 'dead-head' Roses, keep on removing side shoots on your tomatoes and, if in the greenhouse, it is worth keeping the areas around them moist.

Climbing French beans and Runner beans will soon be reaching the top of their supports so use sharp scissors to cut out the tips which will encourage more side shots and an even bigger yield!

Regularly remove faded flowers from roses, dahlias and sweet peas and you can avoid 'dead heading' by bringing some of these blooms into the house.

Enjoy your gardens and all your plants!

Germander Speedwell



## Essendon Nature Notes

On finally getting round to clearing away some logs left from an old ash tree I was surprised and delighted to see a female common newt under the first one, taking advantage of the woody dampness. I collected the newt in a pot and set her free in the half-barrel pond to keep an eye on her until she finds a new dark corner to commandeer. They hibernate in the winter but come the spring these nocturnal amphibians emerge from their daytime hideaways in order to breed in freshwater. Whilst their upper half is a dark brownish colour, good for camouflage, if you turn them over their underside is a gaudy yellowy orange showing off their black spots. The common or smooth newt is the one you are most likely to see locally, the other two species, palmate and great-crested, being found in Hertfordshire but not nearly in the same numbers.

After taking care of the newt I turned over the next log and under this one a toad was sulking and looking rather miserable at being disturbed. They are

not the prettiest of creatures with their rough, warty skin but the curmudgeonly character of 'Bufo bufo' has a certain appeal and their olive-brown appearance and copper-coloured eyes are redeeming features. I gently encouraged him to make his way towards the cover of an old shed next to the vegetable patch, which he duly did, taking his time as if to let me know that he was not to be bullied. Hopefully he will set up camp there and help in keeping the slugs and snails at bay as toads will consume large numbers when the mood takes them.

I think in future I will leave old logs where they fall as they are home to some of our most useful but least-seen creatures, their holes and hollows, crooks and crannies packed with invertebrates. If you have a few lying around learn to love their untidiness, but now and again play the lottery of lifting one up and seeing which shy beast calls it home.

DC



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# Little Berkhamsted, Howe Green & Epping Green

St. Andrew



## CHURCH CLEANING

8<sup>th</sup> July Trish McKellar

22<sup>nd</sup> July Margery Bailey

## Baby Group

Every Tuesday 10 - 11.30am

St Andrew's Church,

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

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



## News from Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The agenda is published on the website and village noticeboard the week before the meeting and residents are welcome to send questions and comments to the clerk beforehand, [clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk) or attend the meeting and ask in person.

Thank you to everyone who helped organise the Coronation Day BBQ and donated to, and bid in, the Auction of Promises. We raised just over £1000.

This is a great result, particularly given the terrible weather, so a big

### THANK YOU

to all those who supported the event. This money will go towards the installation of loft insulation and secondary glazing in the village hall.

It is **Cricket Season** again and the Little Berkhamsted Sahibs are hoping to do even better in their league this year.



There are games every Saturday and some Sundays usually starting at 1pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along and watch, join the team and their visitors for tea (around 3.30pm) and have a drink at the bar.

Interested in playing? Please contact:  
James Tancock  
[jtancock@googlemail.com](mailto:jtancock@googlemail.com)

phone: 07890 636205

## East Herts Lottery

Another great way to support the village is by purchasing a £1 lottery ticket. As well as being in with a chance of winning £25,000

In June the extra prize was a 4K TV and a Home Theatre System!



[www.easthertslottery.co.uk/support/little-berkhamsted-cricket-and-community](http://www.easthertslottery.co.uk/support/little-berkhamsted-cricket-and-community).

## COMING SOON! One Saturday on the Recreation Field.

- MEET THE ALPACAS
  - CRICKET CLUB OPEN - MORNING
  - TABLE TENNIS WORKSHOP
  - MASTER ARTS WORKSHOPS
- Get involved in the
- HEDGEHOG HIGHWAY PROJECT

## Little Berkhamsted Community Facilities for Hire



**The Village Hall** has disabled access and toilet, a fully equipped kitchen for any refreshment needs, internet access and projector equipment.



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

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

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



## Master Art Workshops are back in Little Berkhamsted

and we are delighted to welcome renowned, inspirational artists and craftspeople to teach in our lovely rural location.



Our small and friendly workshops mostly run on Saturdays from 10am till 4pm. As well as individual attention from our tutors, we offer unlimited tea/coffee, plus refreshments and a two course lunch. Our art workshops will feature watercolours, oils, acrylics and mixed media, and our craft workshops will teach clay techniques, photography and jewellery making, among other things.

Contact Sue on **07973 977192** or email **info@masterartworkshops.com**

Visit <http://www.masterartworkshops.com> for full information

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### St Elizabeth's School and College cares for children and young adults with special needs.

St Elizabeth's are delighted to say that our annual **Apple Day** will be returning this year, on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023**. With over 3-acres of ancient orchard, we need all the help we can get to pick and juice our delicious apples ready to make our famous apple juice. In return, we will be offering a wide range of entertainment, refreshments and a chance to browse lots of local stalls and products.

The day is always a firm favourite with families, as there is something for everyone! There will be a chance to join in with fun and games for the little ones, as well as the opportunity to pick apples as a family and either donate them back to us, or buy them to make some goodies of your own.

Come and join us between 11-3pm! For further information, please email [fundraising@stelizabeths.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@stelizabeths.org.uk)

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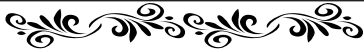
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# Newgate Street

## Ponsbourne St. Mary

Next

## Village Coffee Morning 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Phil Ryan appointed  
Church Warden

## Church Open

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

## VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

All bookings can now be made  
through the Village website

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

Follow the link to Hall Rental and  
Book the Hall .

## Book Exchange.

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



## What's On in Newgate Street

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

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

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

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

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

## Post Office.

A small Post Office is open on Tuesday  
and Thursday mornings in the village  
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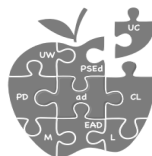
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## The Wormingford Dragon



It is said that after the siege of Acre, the King of England embarked for the Adriatic, taking with him a curious little "cocodrille" which was given to the King with other gifts. The King ultimately brought the beast to England and lodged it in a strong cage at the Tower of London.

Meanwhile the "cocodrille" had grown enormously and one summer day a few years later lashed out with its ponderous tail, smashed the cage to bits and escaped into the Thames

Time passed and swimming, crawling, ravaging it found its way to that small settlement on the banks of the Stour called Withermundford.

Natives, at their wits end sent to Sir George of Layer de la Haye, son of Eustice Earl of Boulogne telling the gallant knight that their was a fierce dragon which had settled with them

Sir George chased the dragon, which really put up a poor fight, and slew it, according to tradition about where the Grange now stands.

**A stained glass window in the church shows Sir George slaying the dragon which is in the process of eating a poor villager.**



## Ronald Blythe'

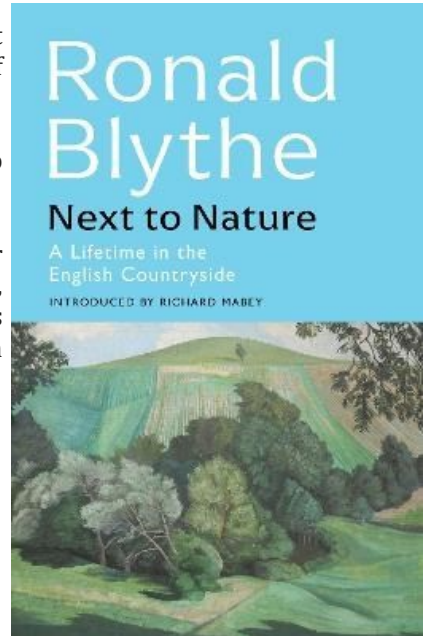
Ronald Blythe, the author of *Akenfield*, lived at the end of an overgrown farm track deep in the rolling countryside of the Stour Valley, on the border between Suffolk and Essex. His home was Bottengoms Farm, a sturdy yeoman's house once owned by the artist John Nash. From here, Blythe spent almost half a century observing the slow turn of the agricultural year, the church year and village life in a series of rich, lyrical rural diaries.

Next to nature is in the form of a diary. But it is clearly the product of many years of daily observation.

It is the kind of book that you don't want to finish but you can't put down.

Sometimes, it is difficult to know whether he is imagining the time of Constable, whose relatives owned several farms nearby, or he is recounting his own experiences.

I cannot recommend it more highly.



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