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



THE  
**PARISH  
MAGAZINE**

**March  
2022**

**Price  
60p**



**Hawfinch.** (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*) see page 22.

image: rspb.org

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parishmag@begesford.co.uk

Dear All

We are approaching the season of Lent. The period of Lent is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> March to 14<sup>th</sup> April. This season occurs prior to the important Christian festival of Easter. Although we often associate Lent with the time leading up to Jesus dying on the cross, Lent is also remembered for the 40 days of fasting and prayer Jesus undertook in the wilderness prior to starting his ministry.

Matthew 4:1-11 outlines the story of Jesus being led by the Holy Spirit to enter into the wilderness in order to be tempted by the devil whilst fasting.

As Jesus gave up food, people during the time of Lent often commemorate the period of Lent by abstaining from some pleasure in life. This may be anything from chocolates, to dairy, to social media. The isolated time away from a pleasure often leads to people feeling themselves draw closer to God. Since, as their mind wanders to the thing they are doing without instead of partaking in it at that moment, they are reminded of the discipline Jesus underwent to help him fulfil his ministry and mission. In this way, it helps us reflect on the love Christ had for us, that he was willing to dedicate his life for our sakes. Yet, it can also cause the question of, *“what is my mission here on earth and what things do I need to align myself to fulfil it?”* to rise within us.

Each of us is uniquely known and loved by God. Jeremiah 1:1 says,

*“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born, I set you apart”*. This reveals to us that none of us are a happenstance. We are divinely placed in this time for an amazing purpose that God has for us. However, this purpose can often go unnoticed or unvalued because we don’t recognise it. Jesus himself had a multiple of different purposes according to which season of life he

**We are divinely placed in this time for an amazing purpose that God has for us. However, this purpose can often go unnoticed or unvalued because we don’t recognise it.**

was in. Prior to his ministry, one could say his purpose was a carpenter. Making and providing products that would benefit the livelihood of people was his main focus until he was about 30 years of age. After this his focus changed to ministering

to people and revealing God’s goodness in their lives. Then in the later part of his earthly life, his purpose shifted to dying for our salvation and giving us hope through his resurrection. What he did externally shifted and changed according to the season of life he was in, but throughout it all he had purpose and was a son in whom God was well pleased.

In the same way, our life circumstances can shift and change depending on the season we are in. Maybe you are a mother whose purpose in this time is to love your children in the best way you know how, which brings God glory. Or maybe you have a job where you bring your talents to produce the best quality of service or product for the benefit of your clients, with which you bring God

glory. Or maybe this is a season in your life where you are unsure of your purpose. With it all we can know that firstly God is with us. Secondly, if we are finding it difficult to decipher what the purpose of God is for our lives in this season, then we can follow the example of Jesus throughout the time of Lent. As we consider abstaining from a pleasure

or multiple pleasures, may it create room for our hearts and ears to be turned more fully to God to hear his plans and purposes for us in our season.

Revd Theresa Musiwacho

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

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

If you, or someone you know is interested in a wedding or baptism, or just have a question for our Rector, we will be happy to see you.

All are welcome, you do not need an appointment, just turn up.

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### **On-line Donations**

It is now possible to donate to any one of our churches on-line via the donate button on the home page of our website  
[www.hartfordhundred.org.uk](http://www.hartfordhundred.org.uk)

Thank you.

## **Important Notice**

### **Confirmation Sunday**

**13<sup>th</sup> March,  
Bayford**

All scheduled church services have been cancelled on 13th March. These will be replaced by the Confirmation Service, at 10:30am at St. Mary Bayford, led by Bishop Michael

## MARCH CALENDAR

**Ash Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 10:00am**

**Telephone Service**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

9:30 am Parish Communion & Sunday Club

Essendon

9:30 am Family Service

Ponsbourne

11:00 am Parish Communion

Brickendon

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**9:30 am Confirmation Sunday, Bishop Michael. (see opposite)**

**Bayford**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

9:30 am Parish Communion

Ponsbourne

11:00 am Family Service

Brickendon

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

9:30am Parish Communion

Little Berkhamsted

9:30 am Family Service

Essendon

11:00 am Family Service

Bayford

5:00 pm Zoom Online

### **Wednesdays**

9:30 am Mid -week Parish Communion

Essendon

10:00 am Ash Wednesday, Telephone Service

Free Telephone

Joining instructions for both the Zoom and telephone services are available from [hartfordhundred@outlook.com](mailto:hartfordhundred@outlook.com)

## PARISH REGISTER



### **Baptisms**

23<sup>rd</sup> January Effie Juliette Deborah RHODES

Essendon

23<sup>rd</sup> January Rhys Timothy BIGGS-ASKEW

Essendon

30<sup>th</sup> January Darcie Nicola May PIDDUCK

Ponsbourne

30<sup>th</sup> January Jaxson Danny JOHNSON

Ponsbourne

6<sup>th</sup> February Sybil Betty May MCKELLAR

Essendon

## On-Line Bible Study Group

The Bible Study happens twice a month on a Wednesday in the 1<sup>st</sup> week ( Zoom 7-8pm ) and 3<sup>rd</sup> week (in person 7-8.30pm). We take a break in December and April as well as the summer months. We choose a theme, then follow a programme which runs for about six weeks but each individual evening study is self contained. If you are interested in joining us or wish information please email: [mckellartrish@gmail.com](mailto:mckellartrish@gmail.com)

# PILATES

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Thursday 9.30am - All levels**



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**07718386195**

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## **Church Woodyard has a record year!**

We are pleased to report the second year raising over £5,000 again for HHW churches and to thank all those who have supported us with their contributions for delivered logs, Thank you so much.

We have formed an association with Cuffley Tree Services who have covered the couple of times we have run out of stock, due entirely to increased demand and limited time. This situation is beginning to be cured thanks to the two volunteers, Tony and Peter, who have come to help us. We must make a mention too of Jamie and Sjoerd, who insist on using an axe, rather than the electric log splitter for health reasons!

Those who have donated fallen trees also must be mentioned as they are supplying our raw material and with special thanks for the huge generosity we have had from Robert Sherriff in Bayford, Thank you.

Delivery times average 10 days presently so email **colin4444@yahoo.com** or text **07540 351 530**.

CR

## Update from the Parish Magazine team

As our readership are aware, over the past few months we have been looking for new recruits to join the magazine team to ensure that we are able to continue to provide the level of service that you all deserve. We are pleased to advise you that the campaign has been a great success and all positions have now been effectively filled.

Let us take this opportunity to introduce you to the new members of the team and the roles they have agreed to undertake:

**Mike & Sue Wainwright** – In addition to being our editor and the principal point of contact with our printers, Mike, together with his wife Sue, will be responsible for getting the magazines out to the parish distributors on a monthly basis.

**Margery Bailey** – Resident of Stockings Lane, Margery has agreed to act as distributor for the Little Berkhamsted parish, which involves dropping off the magazines to five local distributors, together with a limited number at Emmie's Village Store for casual readers.

**Andrew Lessons** - Long standing resident of Stockings Lane, Andrew will be delivering to subscribers in his area.

**Lesley McDiarmid** – Recently moved into Goddard's Close, Lesley will each month be dropping the magazine through the letter boxes of subscribers in the outlying areas of Little B.

In addition, a number of our existing distributors have taken on additional subscribers, as we look to distribute the magazine across all of the parishes in a more effective manner.

We wish each of the above well in their respective roles and for those affected, you will take the opportunity to introduce yourselves to your respective distributor when they come calling for the annual subscription of £6 which is now due.

We are extremely grateful to all members of the team for their contribution in ensuring that the magazine gets out to our c500 subscribers each month, which we know is much appreciated by so many of our residents. PC

## Subscription Renewals. £6 per annum (£18 postal)

We trust that receipt of the magazine each month has in some way played a part in getting through what has been a most demanding past twelve months for many of us. Hopefully, better times are ahead of us in 2022.

The renewal of your **Annual Subscription** was due in **January** and has reverted back to the pre-pandemic rate of £6 for twelve copies. Your local distributor will collect the money, cash being preferable, but cheques are also acceptable. The price for postal copies has increased to £18, reflecting the current Second-Class large letter rate, together with the cost of the magazine.

**All cheques payable to 'Hartford Hundred West Parish Magazine'**

We thank you for your ongoing support and wish you well in 2022.

## Local Shops and Pubs (open for business)



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# Hair by Liz

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### The Duchess of Malfi.

**DUCHESS:** What hideous noise was that?

**CARIOLA:** 'Tis the wild consort  
Of madmen, lady, which your tyrant  
brother

Hath plac'd about your lodging. This  
tyranny,  
I think, was never practic'd till this  
hour.

**DUCHESS:** Indeed, I thank him.  
Nothing but noise and folly  
Can keep me in my right wits, whereas  
reason  
And silence make me stark mad. Sit  
down;

Discourse to me some dismal tragedy.

**CARIOLA:** O, 'twill increase your  
melancholy.

**DUCHESS:** Thou art deceiv'd.  
To hear of greater grief would lessen  
mine.

This is a prison?

**CARIOLA:** Yes, but you shall live  
To shake this durance off.

**DUCHESS:** Thou art a fool.  
The robin red-breast and the nightingale  
Never live long in cages.

**CARIOLA:** Pray, dry your eyes.  
What think you of, madam?

**DUCHESS:** Of nothing.  
When I muse thus, I sleep.

**CARIOLA:** Like a madman, with your  
eyes open?

**DUCHESS:** Dost thou think we shall  
know one another  
In th'other world?

**CARIOLA:** Yes, out of question.

**DUCHESS:** O, that it were possible we  
might

But hold some two days' conference  
with the dead!

From them I should learn somewhat, I  
am sure,

I never shall know here. I'll tell thee a  
miracle;

I am not mad yet, to my cause of  
sorrow.

Th' heaven o'er my head seems made  
of molten brass,

The earth of flaming sulphur, yet I am  
not mad.

I am acquainted with sad misery,  
As the tann'd galley-slave is with his  
oar;

Necessity makes me suffer constantly,  
And custom makes it easy. Whom do I  
look like now?

**CARIOLA:** Like to your picture in the  
gallery,

A deal of life in show, but none in  
practice;

Or rather like some reverend monument  
Whose ruins are even pitied.



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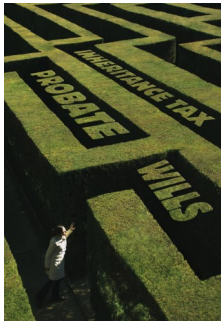
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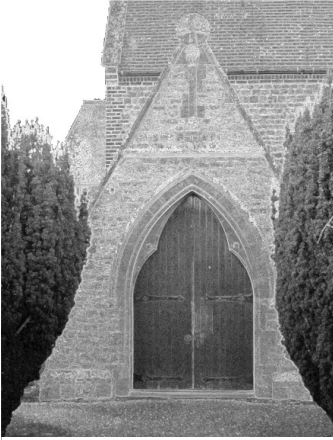
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References available



Stevegibson2013@gmail.com



# Bayford

## St. Mary's Church

The Church is open on Wednesdays.

13<sup>th</sup> March. Confirmation Sunday.

### **BAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL.**

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

### **Bayford Lane**

The state of the roadway in Bayford Lane has been the subject of a long, exchange between The Parish Council, Ken Crofton, local residents and HCC/Ringway. We have been advised to log occurrences of damage to vehicles. Please e-mail or telephone any Councillor if you have suffered any such damage.

Some repairs have taken place in January and surface dressing is due later in the year.

### **Meetings.**

Meetings are once again taking place in The Memorial Hall. Members of the public are invited to attend. Masks may be worn and hand sanitiser will

be provided. Seating will observe 'social distancing' recommendations.

### **The next meetings:**

**21<sup>st</sup> March,**  
16<sup>th</sup> May.

Please see the web site for information and minutes.

Michael Wainwright (Dr),  
Chairman.

**pc@begesford.co.uk,**  
01707 875970.

Please check the web site  
[www.begesford.co.uk](http://www.begesford.co.uk)

### **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

#### **Save the date - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

Bayford will be holding a jubilee picnic on the cricket pitch on the afternoon of Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June (the Jubilee bank holiday). More details to follow but please save the date. For more information please speak to Katie Neilson (07962 232535) or Jason Ruben (07515 490387)

The Parish Council will plant a tree on the green to mark the occasion.

## The Baker Arms.

We would like to say thank you to all those who gave us such a warm welcome, and for your continued support.

Should you need accommodation or to book a table please give us a ring on **01992 511235.**

**We look forward to seeing you.  
Martin & Beverley**



## Important Notice

### Confirmation Sunday

**13<sup>th</sup> March, Bayford**

All scheduled church services have been cancelled on 13th March. These will be replaced by the Confirmation Service, at 10:30am at St. Mary Bayford, led by Bishop Michael

### Knitting and Crocheting Group

A group of us have started meeting in the Baker Arms on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Everyone who joined our first meeting - even those who only came for the wine - left with knitting on their needles! March meetings are Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>. Complete beginners or expert knitters or crocheters, young or vintage: all are welcome.

For more information, please call **Caroline Fletcher on 07919 317212**

### Bayford and Brickendon PCC Treasurer

Eileen Gay is stepping down after many years of faithful service as Treasurer of the PCC when she and Gerry move away to live permanently in Gibraltar.

It is an important task, but not too demanding in time, and it would be much valued and appreciated if a volunteer could be found to take over. You do not need to be an accountant or skilled in figures, or a member of the congregation - just a willingness to help our local parish affairs.

If you are willing to help, or can suggest anyone who can do so, please contact **Gerry or Eileen Gay - 01992 465304** or **Colin Taylor - 01992 511041**





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### **A Little Boy's Troubles**

CARLOTTA PERRY

I thought when I'd learned my letters,  
That all of my troubles were done;  
But I find myself much mistaken  
They only have just begun.  
Learning to read was awful,  
But nothing like learning to write;  
I'd be sorry to have you tell it,  
But my copy-book is a sight!

### **Break, break, break**

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

Break, break, break,

On thy cold gray stones, O Sea!  
And I would that my tongue could utter

The thoughts that arise in me.

O, well for the fisherman's boy,  
That he shouts with his sister at play!

O, well for the sailor lad,  
That he sings in his boat on the bay!

Break, break, break

At the foot of thy crags, O Sea!  
But the tender grace of a day that is dead

Will never come back to me.

## **GARDENING**

### **Do You:**

NEED a strong pair of hands for those gardening jobs  
NEED your vegetable garden dug.  
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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## **THE 1<sup>st</sup> NORTHAW SCOUT GROUP**

Although we cannot physically meet during these difficult times, we are continuing with activities and badgework supported by regular teleconferencing each week at our normal times.

If any youngsters would like to join in, would parents please contact Mike and I will register them as members.

Mike Aston, 01707 658644  
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# Brickendon

## Chapel of the Holy Cross & St. Alban

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Parish Communion 11.00am

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Family Service at 11.00am

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April - Parish Communion 11.00am

You are welcome to stay for a chat and coffee/tea after the services

13<sup>th</sup> March. Confirmation Sunday.

See page 13.

Churchwarden: Gerry Gay 01992 465 304

### 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 511558**

**Gardening Club** - meets every second Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm in Fanshaws Room (the village hall), contact **Janet Rees** for more information **01992 511515**

**Friendly Club** - meets third Monday afternoon every month in Fanshaws Room (the village hall), contact **Beryl Mathews** on **01992 511617**

**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 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 £10 per hour. All Government guidelines concerning Covid must be followed by hirers. Phone 01992 511551 for further information or to make a booking.

### PLANS FOR THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

Brickendon Liberty Parish Council and Fanshaws Room Committee are planning a Picnic on the Green on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June from 12 noon to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. All residents of Brickendon Liberty are welcome to attend, music etc will be provided, bring your own picnic. The Parish Council are also considering commissioning a sculpture to be erected in the Parish to commemorate this jubilee.



## Brickendon Liberty

### Flowers

LENT - no flowers

### March

4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>  
18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>

### Cleaning

Tessa Whitlow  
Janie Corbisiero

I am looking for more helpers to clean the church and flower arrangers. Even if you could help only once or twice a year it would be so helpful. Thanks, Virginia Haryott 01992 511575 virginia.haryott@gmail.com

## Tennis Courts.

Bookings for courts should now be made via the village website: [www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk](http://www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk)

Go to the 'Things to do' section, select Tennis and you will find a calendar which allows you to book to play. The key should still be collected from The Farmer's Boy, as before.

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

## Parish Council

### Meetings 2022

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.

Meetings:

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

## Brickendon Petanque Boules Club

### Play at The Farmer's Boy

Winter Play Times

Tuesday 5.30pm - 7pm  
Thursday 10am - 12 noon  
Sunday 10am - 12 noon

Further information and enquiries  
contact Janet **01992 511515**



## The Farmer's Boy

**Take away and delivery service** available for food, wines, ales & soft drinks.

**01992 511 017**

Check out the menus online at **farmersboy.pub**

**Contact-free** collection point at the side of the pub.

**Both our collection service and our online delivery service** will operate the following hours:

Monday & Tuesday – closed  
Wednesday to Saturday 5pm-9pm  
Sunday 12noon-6pm

Essendon

# Essendon, Woodhill, Wild Hill & Woodside

## St. Mary the Virgin



Flower Arrangers:

No flowers during Lent.

**13<sup>th</sup> March. Confirmation Sunday.**

See page 13.

### Tennis Courts

It has been good to see so many members playing tennis on the court now it is open again and we always welcome new members.

To join the club or any questions please contact,

**Nicki Whitelaw 07946300512**

***nicki.whitelaw@sky.com***

Essendon Tennis Club Committee

### Essendon Connect Coffee Mornings:

We meet in the Village Hall on Friday Mornings 9.30-11.30 - drop in any time - tea, coffee, cake and conversation - all free. We have a "swap" facility for books, DVDs and puzzles - you might just find something ideal to while away a few hours!

**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 from 12<sup>th</sup> Jan. Spaces limited so please call **01279 498938** or email [allsortsdg@gmail.com](mailto:allsortsdg@gmail.com) for more information. Website: [www.allsortsdg.co.uk](http://www.allsortsdg.co.uk)

### The Village Hall.

For clubs, remember to check with your governing body for any specific COVID related requirements.

Tel: 07442 499601

email:

*essendonvillagehall@hotmail.com*

*facebook.com/essendonvillagehall*

*essendonvillagehall.wixsite.com/*

*essendonvillagehall*

### Essendon Playing Fields Association

The AGM will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March @ 7pm in Essendon Village Hall.

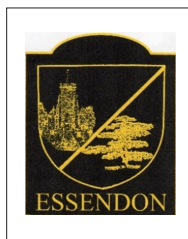
All welcome

IV



**All Sorts**  
Dementia Group

## ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL



The agenda will be available on the PC website,  
(<https://www.essendonpc.org.uk/>)  
and on noticeboards in the village.

Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings.



**FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S  
ESSENDON**

***SAVE THE DATE***

**DINNER JAZZ**

with the

**ISOBEL GATHERCOLE QUARTET**

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**7.00pm – 7.30pm**

**Essendon Village Hall**

**Tickets: £25.00 (inc Dinner)**

**Raffle ~ Licensed Bar**

## Essendon Nature Notes

Just four or five miles up the road is one of my favourite rambles through Bramfield woods with its mixture of deciduous trees and Corsican pine. These woods are deeply atmospheric and evocative and when the mist is cloaking the paths and rills with its sullen dampness it seems to justify the epithet of 'forest'. If you do take a walk there make sure you take the bridleway to Tewin to pass the exceptional 16th century Queen Hoo Hall which is tucked away on the fringe of these ancient woods with views over the valley to the south and adds to the sense of a place that has changed little over the centuries.

The village itself is a little off the beaten track but the thatched cottages and the church, which was reputed to be Thomas à Becket's first living, make it worth a detour. On a recent morning visit, I witnessed the additional attraction of a party of hawfinches settled in the yew trees at the back of the churchyard. A shy and reserved bird these are rarely seen and have been in decline. Seeing one

is a red-letter day as there are now thought to be less than a thousand pairs in the UK albeit Hertfordshire has been a stronghold over the years. It is our largest finch but what really marks it out is its massive beak which allows it to perform its party trick of cracking the seeds of the wild cherry giving it its various country names such as 'cherry finch' and 'berry breaker'. It likes other large seeds particularly hornbeam, beech and maple as well as hips and haws from the hedgerow.

If you get to see one it really is a quite striking and impressive bird particularly the male with its smart chestnut plumage and black on the wings and throat. They seem to have quite a liking for Bramfield but given that Essendon is not dissimilar in being surrounded by woodlands punctuated with hornbeam, I am hopeful that we might see one or two of these in our own churchyard at some point. It might mean a few less cherries but I think it would be worth the sacrifice.

DC

## QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

This June is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It would be lovely for the Village to celebrate this together. We need a Committee! Would representatives from all the Village Societies, ie Parish Council, Cricket Club, Playing Field Association, WI, Village Hall, Essendon Society, Tennis Club, School and any I have missed like to join Mandy Nevel and me to start planning events? The National Event is scheduled for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June, but the Bank Holiday starts on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and runs to the Sunday.

PLEASE contact us! Mandy 07967 500289 Hilary 07974 231206

## Essendon Family Services, 2022

### Services for families of all ages.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month at 9.30.

(some details are still to be agreed so this calendar will be updated regularly)

#### Everyone is welcome!

**March** – Mothering Sunday, A big thank you for all mums.

**April** – Chickens, eggs, ducks and some very important bits for Easter. (Easter day 17<sup>th</sup> April)

**May** - Pet Service; All pets are part of our families. Let's bless them.

**June** – Fathers' Day. A special day for Dad.

**July** – Children's service – A special service run by the children

**September** – Harvest – A time to give thanks and think of others. Farming families most welcome.

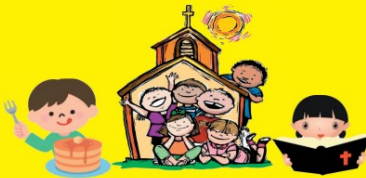
**October** – Teddies: How many can we collect this time for children in Syria who have lost theirs?

**November** – Remembrance. Thinking about those who gave their lives for us so we can live in freedom.

**December** – Christingle. Remind me, what's the orange for? Oh yes, the Children's Society.

**Christmas Day** – The big day is here. Jesus's Birthday. So did you get any presents?

## Sunday Club St Mary's Church, Essendon



The first Sunday of the month  
in the Church room  
9.30am – 11.00am

Each session will include a story or chat, activities, games and refreshments

You are very welcome to leave your children or stay and enjoy the morning with us

If you would like any further information, please contact Pauline Alleyne on 07979 505104

## Essendon Sunday Club

### Essendon Women's Institute. 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022



The evening's speaker was Philip Nalpanis who gave an interesting talk entitled 'The National Parks of England and Wales'. There are 13 national parks which cover 9% of the total land area in England and 20% in Wales. The first one, the Peak District, was designated in 1951. Using slides to show some of the magnificent scenery he gave an insight into the history, topography, flora, fauna, attractions and famous people associated with each park. They are visited by millions of people every year, eager to enjoy their unique qualities, peace and tranquillity. Much of the land is owned by organisations such as the National Trust, the Forestry Commission, the Water Companies, Natural England and the MOD.

The Campaign for National Parks is a multi-agency of other societies such as the RSPB, the CPRE, the National Trust and Ramblers Association so it can speak for a wide variety of people and causes, protect and defend the parks against major development, regulate the land use within them, and keep these beautiful places safe. They are, to quote Brian Redhead, well known author and broadcaster, "not ours, but ours to look after".

We are a friendly local group who meet on the third Wednesday of each month in Essendon Village Hall at 7.30pm for 8.00pm and we always welcome visitors to our meetings – our next few months talks are:

**16<sup>th</sup> March – Stained Glass – Not Just in Churches.**

20<sup>th</sup> April – A Year in a Hertfordshire Garden

KG

### Gardening in March

Sitting here writing this in the first week in February, it is really very mild and certainly very windy and I wonder what March has brought in. The snowdrops, aconites, early iris and hellebores have been a delight and the latter continue to be so but there was quite a lot to clear and tie up among the shrubs after those strong winds and check again that things are secure. That mild weather and soil warming up also meant that the slug population started to make its presence felt so that the early new shoots on plants coming through had a tough time. If weather permits, and it has rained, you can go on a very successful 'snail and slug-foray' in the early evening and collect them up very easily before they start laying their eggs!

Divide your favourite herbaceous perennials which have formed big clumps, keeping just the best bits with good roots.

Make sure you have empty compost bins ready for the coming season and, on a dry day, hoe early weeds emerging. Hoe carefully so you get the weeds out and a little hand fork helps. Prune your dogwoods/ cornus to keep their shape after their glorious winter display so they will be ready for next year. Move herbs you have been sheltering indoors to a protected place outside and water your outside pots if the weather is very dry.

Germander Speedwell

## Essendon.

### New to Essendon?

If you have just moved in, you might be wondering what sort of village you have come to! The answer is Essendon is a very friendly, village community and one of the high spots of each year is Village Day on August Bank Holiday Monday.

Over the 60+ years it has been held, Village Day (other villages have 'fetes!'), is a day the people come together to put on a sensational afternoon on the playing field, to raise money for local organisations and charity. Pre pandemic, Essendon attracted literally thousands of visitors. We want to talk about the best way to get back to that and your opinion counts.

Run by a dedicated committee, we want to invite new people to the village to join us and enjoy working together to achieve great things for charity as well as taking part in a community event. You are especially welcome if you can join the team that sets the event up on the Sunday prior or perhaps, run stalls - great fun!

Our next meeting is Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6.45pm, Village Hall. Meetings are never longer than 60 minutes. We would love to meet you there. For more detail, call **Ian 07764 777 343**.

### VACANCY FOR TREASURER AT ST MARY'S CHURCH ESSENDON

David Mitchell will be moving away from the area in the New Year and will be looking for a volunteer to take over as Treasurer at St Mary's Church, Essendon.

Please contact David who will be pleased to give you further information and discuss with you exactly what is involved in accepting this position.

Thank you

David Mitchell  
Telephone: 01707 659243  
Email: mitchelldavid145@gmail.com



# Little Berkhamsted, Howe Green & Epping Green

St. Andrew

All children are welcome to our services  
we have a craft and play area.

**13<sup>th</sup> March. Confirmation Sunday.**  
**See page 13.**

## **Church Cleaning**

12<sup>th</sup> March - Margery Bailey

26<sup>th</sup> March - Trish McKellar

**How exciting!**

**In June we will be celebrating the  
Queen's Platinum Jubilee.**

**Save the date!**

St Andrew's Church will be holding a flower festival weekend celebrating the Queen's 70 years on the throne.

- Music with a children's concert
- Vintage afternoon teas
- Children's picnic games and gardening competition.
- Stalls



There will be something for everyone if you would like to help, please call.  
Sandie Ash 01707 875221

## **Church Service**

If you are unable to get to Church and would like to join a service, there is a telephone Service on Wednesdays at 10am. This is free, and you can get details from Hartford Hundred Rectory **01707 875 940**  
or email [hartfordhundred@outlook.com](mailto:hartfordhundred@outlook.com)



## News from Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 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.

### **THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE WEEKEND 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June**

A wonderful opportunity for us all to come together and celebrate this once in a lifetime event.

#### **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June from 6pm**

At 8pm there will be a short ceremony to mark the planting of a tree as part of the Queen's Green Canopy Project and at 9.45pm the Village Beacon will be lit. Come along and enjoy a BBQ and drinks at the cricket pavilion.



#### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 1pm**

#### **The Big Jubilee Lunch**

is to be held on the recreation field. A day for all the family with a 'Best Crown' competition, music, children's games and races, a family cricket match and raffle.

#### **HELP NEEDED!**

As you can see planning is well under way for the village's Jubilee celebrations and it promises to be a very memorable weekend. Please contact us if you are available to help in any way (however big or small) with these events before, during or afterwards. Thank you.

[penny.stokes@littleberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:penny.stokes@littleberkhamsted.org.uk)

#### **Spring Litter Pick**

This will be on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April meeting at 10:30am on the recreation field. All equipment, apart from gloves is provided and there will be a chance to socialise over a drink once the hard work is done. Please make a note of the date and let us know if you are available to help. Thank you.

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

This will be held in the village hall on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

This is not a Parish Council meeting, but is usually chaired by the chairman of the PC who will report on the council's activities over the previous year. The floor is then open for residents to comment and ask councillors questions. The meeting will be followed by an informal social evening with drinks and nibbles. Everybody welcome!

#### **Volunteer Parish Rights of Way Surveyor Required**

Do you like walking the footpaths and bridleways across the parish? As a volunteer you can help to survey, maintain and improve the network of routes and this role can be undertaken in whichever way suits you. For further information and to get involved please click on the link on the home page of the website [www.littleberkhamsted.org.uk](http://www.littleberkhamsted.org.uk)

## Little Berkhamsted Community Facilities for Hire

The following facilities are available for hire -  
**Village Hall and Cricket and Community Pavilion**



The Village Hall has disabled access and toilet, a fully equipped kitchen for any refreshment needs 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 87522  
or [clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk)



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## Managing St Andrew's Churchyard for Wildlife

At a recent meeting, the Parochial Church Council for St Andrew's church in Little Berkhamsted, decided that over the coming year they would concentrate on improving the churchyard so that it both looked better for the people of the village and became a haven for wildlife. To this end, you may have already seen the smart new picket fence which has been installed on the side of Robins Nest Hill, and work has already started on refurbishing the post and rail fence in the churchyard along its boundary with Church Road.

Today churchyards have an important role to play in contributing to the patchwork of sites in an area which provide a refuge for the various species whose habitats are being eroded by new buildings and also some current methods of farming and gardening. The first phase will be to carry out a survey of the churchyard to identify what wildlife species are currently inhabiting the area before developing a management plan for the churchyard to incorporate some specific patches which will be managed to encourage and promote the wildlife. As with virtually every churchyard in the country, ours has a large area of grassland which can be an important habitat. Many meadows which were rich in wild flowers, butterflies and other insects have been lost since the 1940s, and churchyards are often the last refuge for the species they support.

Expert help is available within the Diocese to carry out the survey work

and to set up the maintenance plan, but we are hoping to hear from anybody in Little Berkhamsted who would be willing to become involved in creating a churchyard for wildlife. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact either Sandie Ash (The Churchwarden) or me - Ian Bailey (PCC Secretary) - whose details are listed in the front cover of the magazine.

ICB

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# Newgate Street

## Ponsbourne St. Mary

### Church Cleaning

**13<sup>th</sup> March. Confirmation Sunday.**  
**See page 13.**

### VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

All bookings can now be made through the Village website

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

Follow the link to Hall Rental and Book the Hall .

### Book Exchange.

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



### What's On in Newgate Street

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

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

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

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

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

### Post Office.

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



Next  
**Village Coffee  
Morning**

**Monday 7th March**  
10—12 noon  
In the  
**Church**



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Isabel Hospice relies heavily on donations from our community, as well as income from fundraising events and from our 18 shops. We forecast that our income from fundraising and shops will be £1.9m lower than our budget this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

For more information, visit [www.isabelhospice.org.uk/teaparty](http://www.isabelhospice.org.uk/teaparty)

If you are fundraising for Isabel Hospice, please ensure you are following government covid-safe guidelines and adhere to social distancing.  
For a list of fundraising events, visit <https://www.isabelhospice.org.uk/>



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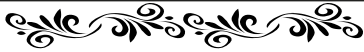
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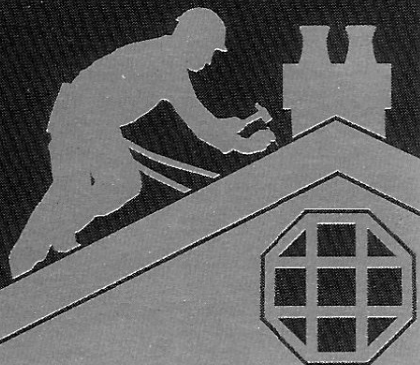
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1st Birch Green Brownies - Monday 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Meetings are held at

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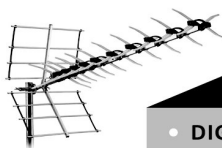


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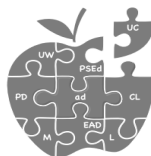
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