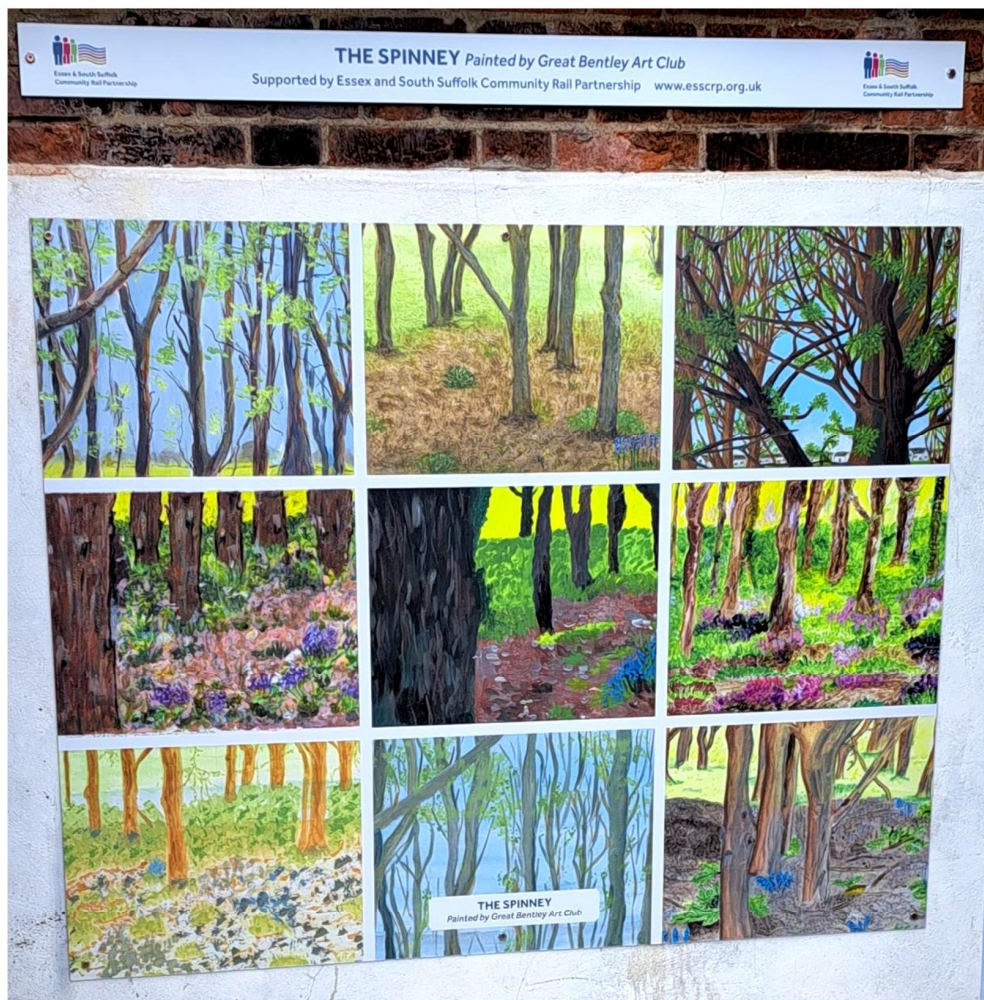


# Great Bentley Parish News

**Produced by the Community  
for the Community**



# November 2023

# Village Information

## St Mary's Church

### CHURCHWARDENS:

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Mrs Mandy Miles  
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Carole Allington  
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### ST MARY'S FACEBOOK PAGE

St Mary's Church, Great Bentley.

### ST MARY'S CHURCH WEBSITE

[stmaryschurchgreatbentley.co.uk](http://stmaryschurchgreatbentley.co.uk)

### ST MARY'S SUNDAY CLUB

For details please contact Mary Maskell 01206 250524  
email: marymaskell@sys3internet.net

### WEDDING CO-ORDINATOR

Wendy King - 01206 250852

### PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Lyn Gordon 01206 681884 Mobile: 07870 311610  
Mandy Miles 01206 251382  
Mary Maskell 01206 250524

### METHODIST MINISTER

Revd Tom Osborne  
Email: [tom.osborne@methodist.org.uk](mailto:tom.osborne@methodist.org.uk)  
Mobile 07305 805444 01206 396654

### DOCTOR'S SURGERY:

The Hollies, The Green - 01206 250691

### PODIATRIST:

Terry St George  
45 Oakmead Road, St Osyth - Mobile: 07775 833200

### POLICE:

Clacton 0300 333 4444  
**24 hour Non emergency number 101**  
**In an emergency ring 999**

### GREAT BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman - Pippa Dennitts  
07848 872018

Clerk to the Parish Council Jennifer Spear  
The Community Resource Centre, Village Hall,  
Plough Road Great Bentley CO7 8LD  
01206 256410  
[clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk)

Office open Monday and Thursday 9.30-2.00pm

### TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCILLOR:

Cllr Lynda McWilliams,  
Mobile: 07564 613603.  
email: [cldr.lmcwilliams@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.lmcwilliams@tendringdc.gov.uk)

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR - ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL:

Councillor Alan Goggin, Freshfields, Church Road  
Brightlingsea, CO7 0QT  
Mobile: 07860 519117  
email: [Cllr.Alan.Goggin@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Alan.Goggin@essex.gov.uk)

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

Richard Nowak - 01206 250204

### MEDICAL AIDS:

Richard Nowak - 01206 250204

### TENDRING FURNITURE SCHEME:

Rocket House, Gorse Lane Industrial Estate, Clacton:  
01255 476068

### BOOKING CLERK FOR GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL:

Joanna Hesketh  
email: [bookings@greatbentleyvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@greatbentleyvillagehall.co.uk)  
07494 234049

### METHODIST HALL BOOKINGS:

Robert Taylor, Dominica, Moors Close - 01206 250087

GT BENTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL: - 01206 250331

COLNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL: - 01206 303511

### VILLAGE HISTORY RECORDER

Heather Taylor - 01206 251004

COLCHESTER HOSPITALS: 01206 747474

CLACTON & DISTRICT HOSPITAL: 01255 201717

Road, CO7 8PD  
01206 250309

VILLAGE TRANSPORT REP: Peter Harry  
07503 153960

### VILLAGE CARETAKER:

Robert McWilliams, 07598 640622

### WHEELCHAIR LOANS

Alan Bayliss, 01206 250450

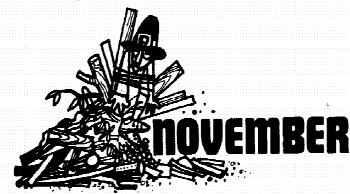
### TREE WARDEN

Sue and Faris Shimali 07973 534301

### FOOTPATH REP.

[melanie.sawers@nuffield.ox.ac.uk](mailto:melanie.sawers@nuffield.ox.ac.uk)

# EDITORIAL



## 2023

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I usually try and keep to a lighter note in the editorial but having had time to reflect on the past 10 months of the year it would seem that there have been far more natural disasters than ever world wide, many of a totally devastating nature. How quickly they fade from the news headlines and are the people whose lives have been affected still without homes, power and unable to ascertain if their loved ones are still alive? How do they keep hope alive? With the war in Ukraine showing no signs of abatement and now the dreadful instability in the Middle East, we have to be so grateful for our lives here in the UK. Maybe if we all, whatever religion or spiritual beliefs, just took time to offer prayers and thoughts, maybe a glimmer of hope could spread to bring better lives and outcomes for others worldwide and in this country.

On a positive note it was great to be able to see from my window, one sunny afternoon this week, three buzzards circling on the thermals. Twenty or thirty years ago this would have been unbelievable and add to that red kite sightings locally, then all is not doom and gloom in the natural world. However we include notification that a fox has become more urbanised and taken pet rabbits from a garden not far from the green/Birch Avenue. (Caught on camera). Please make sure your pets are safe at night time and with 5th November approaching do take all sensible precautions.

We will be having a big autumnal clear up in St Mary's churchyard on 11th November starting from 9am. Please do come along to help in any way if you can, be it pruning, raking leaves, or making tea. As it is a churchyard and not a cemetery, we get no funding whatsoever to help with the upkeep, so as the well known advert reminds us.....every little helps! You can also buy for just £12 a square in the **Churchyard 100 CLUB** and you can read about this on page 4. Please return your Shoeboxes by 5th November at the latest, you can leave them at the back of the church. Also time to return your Children's Society Collection Boxes at the Coffee Morning on 18th November and we look forward to welcoming you there.

I cant believe that it is now time to start organising the advertising for our 2024 magazine. We have spaces available so please contact me if you would like to place an advertisement for next year. The cost for the various sizes are featured on page 15.  
marymaskell@sys3internet.net or 01206 250524. Thank you.

Well done to all involved with the station upgrade/gardens/paintings. So pleased you have achieved success and all in such a short space of time. Thanks also to the Bentley in Bloom Team for the winter displays and to those who cleared the village pond.

Well, what more can I say other than **Christmas Lights Switch On** will be **Sunday 26th November**. I cannot wait to see the village illuminated once again. Such a special time and thanks as ever to the Plummer family for brightening our lives in every sense of the word.

Don't forget to order your logs, turkeys etc and keep warm and dry.

**Mary Maskell**

**Painting at  
the Station  
by  
Great Bentley  
Art Club**

### DISCLAIMER

The statements, opinions and data contained in these publications are solely those of the individual authors and contributors and not of the Churchwardens, Parochial Church Council, the Editor nor the publisher. The appearance of advertisements in the Great Bentley Parish News or the website is not a warranty, endorsement, or approval of the products or services advertised or of their effectiveness, quality or safety.

# LETTER FOR NOVEMBER

Dear Friends,

Sometimes the most ordinary events in our daily life can transform our lives. God's love and grace flows through us each day and sustains us moment by moment if only we take our time to see and view our surroundings with more and more attentiveness. In every moment there is something fresh and life-giving, like an underground spring hidden yet nourishing and enriching our lives with the good which God is pouring into our lives. The nice people we meet, a telephone conversation with a friend, all the good things that could happen in the normal course of life, the moments in everyday life which somehow connect us with this underground spring of peace and joy.

Often, we are so occupied by where we want to be, and what we want to do. When we rush and dash through life we lose the life and joy of the present moment. "You are here." said the words on the train station map, reminding me of the present moment, awakening me to the connectedness of things around me, the gradual unfolding of life into the richness and beauty of what is already given and continues to be given as the creator takes us on a journey of living in the present moment. "You are here." I took a deep pause and pondered on the words and what they meant to me.

"You are here." As I read the words, I felt deeply connected with the present moment. The words brought me back to the truth about life, my experience, my journey. The words gave me clarity and a deepened awareness. To be in the moment for me is to be alive. It's being open to the love and grace that flows from God. I walked away with a deepened sense of joy and gratitude as the words of the psalmist rang in my heart;

*"What are human beings that you are so mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honour. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands, you have put all things under their feet."*

Psalm 8:4-6

"You are here." I wonder what it means for you.

What does it mean to truly live in the here and now, the present moment?

What do you give your attention to?

Where do you take your life cues from?

## Deacon Angela Shereni

Dear Friends,

As we continue to carry Rev., Sharon in our prayers as we look forward to the future for us as a parish and Rev Sharon in her future, we realise it will be a time of change for us both. It is something to look forward to.

We will continue to ensure that all services are supported and as we approach the period of Advent, a time of looking forward with working together.

As we offer up our prayers for the world at this time, there is a prayer for the troubles in the Middle East, written by rather Archbishop of Canterbury for all to use as we pray for peace in the world. This prayer can be found at the back of St Mary's Church.

Best wishes

**Wendy King  
Reader**

## St. Mary's Church Facebook Page

St. Mary's Church has a facebook page!

Here we will be posting news of upcoming services, as well as any forthcoming events or fundraising. Please like and follow the page to keep up to date with our news, the page name is 'St. Mary's Church Great Bentley'.

**facebook**

Are you going to be booking your wedding at St Mary's Church?

If so, your first point of contact is

Wendy King  
01206 250852





## GREAT BENTLEY

### METHODIST CHURCH

Forge Lane CO7 8GD

Don't forget our Facebook page.

Search for Gt Bentley Methodist Church

Hire our warm, large or small halls with fully serviced kitchen.  
Ring 250087

Greetings to you all

We welcome you to worship at Church or on Zoom with us during November. If you would like to join our Zoom service by Computer, please ring 250087 for the connection link.

Morning worship will be held at **10.30am** unless otherwise stated.

The leaders of worship are set out below: -

<b>November 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Anne Scott</b>
<b>November 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Remembrance Service led by Rev Tom Osborne - 10am</b>
<b>November 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Peter Wright</b>
<b>November 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Ann Beeton</b>

#### Events in November:

Next Coffee & Chat not one this month due to Bazaar on the 4<sup>th</sup> November at 10am.

This year the village Remembrance Service is hosted at the Methodist Church. It starts at 10am to allow us time to reach the memorial before 11am. The uniformed organisations have been invited to parade at Church and lead the walk to the memorial.

**Prayer Meeting** The one planned for November is on the 8<sup>th</sup> November at 9.45.

#### **Sandwiches for Hope @ Trinity, 8<sup>th</sup> November**

Each second Wednesday of the month at 9.30am we collect Sandwiches and take them to our Trinity Church in Clacton for those struggling to buy food for themselves. Collection at our Church before we go to Clacton at 9.30.

**Advance notice of Christmas Quiz 17<sup>th</sup> December** Sunday Afternoon.

**Messy Church.** Running on the third Tuesday of the month which is the 7<sup>th</sup> November after school.

**Adventurers Club** This club for Juniors and lower secondary school children meets on Fridays at 6.30. Fun and games with Christian teaching. Except in half term.

**Each week the following events are normally held at our Church.**

**Ring these numbers for more information.**

Messy Church once a month after school 250087  
Parent & Toddlers Group Thursdays 9-15 a.m. 251537

The Adventurers Club. Fridays 6.30 p.m.  
Ring 250087

## ST MARY'S SERVICES

### Sunday 5th November - All Saints Day

10am Joint Benefice service at St Mary's  
Laurie Bond

Sat 11th Churchyard clear up, 9am

### Sunday 12th November - Remembrance Sunday

10am Remembrance Service at the Methodist Church

Thurs 16th Knit & Natter, 2-3.30pm, Church Hall

Thurs 16th PCC Meeting, 7.30pm

Sat 18th Coffee Morning, 10am

### Sunday 19th November - 2nd Sunday before Advent

Pauline Scott

9.30am Holy Communion

### Sunday 26th November - Christ the King

Pauline Scott

9.30am Holy Communion

## ROTAS FOR ST MARY'S CHURCH FOR NOVEMBER

### Sidespersons & Readers

5th	Chris Aplin
12th	(Remembrance Sunday)
19th	Linda Hayes
26th	Annabel Stearn

### Prayer Rota

5th	Carole Kerridge
12th	Remembrance Sunday
19th	David Branch
26th	Nicky Justice

### Coffee Rota

5th	Wendy Smith
12th	Remembrance Sunday
19th	Vicky Rothwell
26th	Hannah Justice

### Cleaning Rota

4th	Bev Adams
11th	Edna Black
18th	Nicky Justice
25th	Vicky Rothwell

Great Bentley Methodist Church

# Autumn Fayre

Books Face Painting



Gifts TOYS Preserves Raffle Refreshments lunches served

Saturday 4th November  
10am to 3pm

## Friends of Great Bentley Churchyard 100 Club

The 100 club is run to financially support the upkeep of the churchyard, which is a benefit to the whole village, not just the church community.

A square numbered from 1 to 100 costs £12 for the year, with a chance of winning 1<sup>st</sup> prize £100 or 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £50, at each of the 2 draws in the year. You can buy as many squares as you like! The year runs from December, with the first draw at the Christmas Tree Festival, on 2nd and 3rd December this year.

Anyone who already has a square or two, will receive a renewal letter in the next few weeks; we thank you for your support this year, and hope this will continue.

If you are not yet a member, would you be interested in joining the 100 Club?

For more information, please email Annabel Stearn at [wylieandsinger@talk21.com](mailto:wylieandsinger@talk21.com)

## PASTORAL CARE AT ST MARY'S CHURCH GREAT BENTLEY

Three of us passed our Pastoral Care Course, Part 1 this year, Lyn Gordon, Mary Maskell and Mandy Miles.

Following on from this we hope we may be able to help you in some way eg. home communion, a visit to you personally or a telephone call. Also lifts to church are offered.

Please ring one of us if you feel we might be able to assist you in some way.

Lyn Gordon 681884: Mary Maskell 250524:  
Mandy Miles 251382:

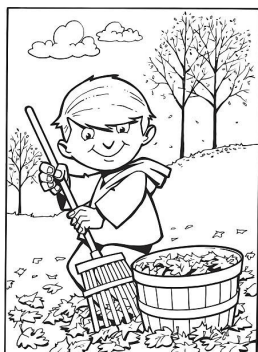
## CHURCHYARD CLEAR UP DAY

Saturday 11th November

from 9.00am

We will give time for the Remembrance Service

Please bring along your own rakes, pruners etc.



## BAPTISM

12th October

Bertie Stephenson

## WEDDING

14th October

Martin Burley  
and Fiona Herbert



# The Children's Society

Dear Boxholder,

It is the time of year when the Children's Society boxes are due to be collected and the money counted.

We are holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 18th November 10.00am - 12 noon in St Mary's Church Hall. Not only can you enjoy a cuppa, biscuits and cake we can hopefully raise a few more funds for the Children's Society. **Please remember to bring your Children's Society box along.** We will also have a small raffle.

If for any reason you cannot make this date to bring your box along do not worry, either bring the box along to Church around about this time or drop it off at my home address below. Any problems please give me a ring.

Thank you so much for supporting the Children's Society and I look forward to seeing you at the coffee morning.

**Wendy King**  
17 Larkfield Road  
Great Bentley, C07 8PX

Tel: 01206 250852  
email: wendyjaneking@aol.com

## THE DEANERY CHOIR

### Nov 12th

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7HZ** at the 10.30am Remembrance service that will start at the roadside War Memorial.

The historic church of St Georges has a massive tower housing a variety of bells still in use. The north aisle and north arcade of the nave, the south chapel and the south porch are of the 15th century. The clerestory windows ranged above the arches of the nave were built in about 1500, as was the magnificent double hammerbeam roof that spans the nave. The Church was once known as the Cathedral of Tendring.

The anthem that the Deanery choir will be performing is, 'Be still my soul' arranged by Alan Troy Davis, a beautiful setting that is rarely performed and is to the Finlandia melody, sung unaccompanied and is very evocative and poignant for this service.

### Dec 16th

A date for your diary:

The Deanery Choir will be performing 'A living Christmas '23' at **St Mary Magdalen Church, Clacton Road, Thorrington. CO7 8HA** at 7pm. A concert of music by arrangers and contemporary composers with readings reflecting the Christmas message. More details will follow in the December issue.

**Graham Bell**  
Deanery Choir

## COFFEE MORNING

**Saturday 18th November**

**10.00am - 12 noon**

**St Mary's Church Hall**

**All proceeds to the  
Children's Society**

**ALL WELCOME**

## MEMORY TREE

The Memory Tree will be in place on Saturdays 2nd, 9th and 16th December.

Each Saturday it will be manned from 10am - 12 noon.

Donations to St Helena Hospice welcome.

Please feel free to write you message on a star for a loved one and hang it on the tree.

Volunteers will be needed to cover any Saturday.

If you think you can help please contact Wendy Smith 01206 250098.

**Great Bentley Primary School**

**DONATIONS NEEDED**

**PTA Christmas Present Surprise Room**

Any new or like-new unwanted items such as toys, games, books, chocolates, biscuits, toiletries, candles, jewellery, hats, scarves, gloves, craft sets, mugs, gift sets, etc, etc. Anything that could be bought as a gift for someone of any age.

Every year we run a Christmas Present Shop for the children to buy presents for their family and friends. It is run at school, children are taken in groups to choose gifts for loved ones. The presents are wrapped and labelled and ready for the children to take home and put under the tree. The children absolutely love being able to choose gifts that parents and carers haven't had to buy for them. Gifts normally range between 50p-£4. This year it will be run on the 18th and 19th December.

**MERRY XMAS**

Any donations will be gratefully received!  
Donations box in School Foyer

**CHRISTMAS  
FAYRE & WREATH MAKING**

To book on to wreath making (£25 per person) please contact Rachel on 07517104241 or via email [rachelhfparsons4@hotmail.com](mailto:rachelhfparsons4@hotmail.com)

Christmas present wrapping  
Food stalls  
Sweets & Treats  
Mulled Wine & Mince Pies  
Handmade crafts and gift stalls

**Saturday 2nd December  
2.30pm onwards**

Great Bromley Village Hall CO7 7JA

Everyone is welcome  
£1 entry per person

**PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES FOR 2024**

**ADULTS  
FLOWER POWER  
CELEBRATION!  
CITY LIFE  
HAND IN HAND  
BLACK AND WHITE  
EXPRESSIONS  
OPEN**

**CHILDRENS**

**AGEWELL EAST**

*Living happier and healthier*

We welcome you to come to our

**COFFEE MORNING**  
Dementia Friendly

Every 4th Thursday of the month  
between 10.00am - 12 noon

United Church, Chapel Road,  
Brightlingsea, Colchester, CO7 0HF

A chance to have company, chat and meet others over tea, coffee and biscuits.

[enquiries@agewelleast.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@agewelleast.org.uk)  
or phone 0300 37 33 333

Thursday 23rd November



## Community Speedwatch Update

Speed monitoring took place around the village during September bringing the total number of reports for Great Bentley in the first 9 months of 2023 to 477! September's reports, as usual, covered a wide range of vehicle types and speeds, with some again recorded around the 50mph mark!

As we've said before, our Community Speedwatch reports, particularly those flagging up 'repeat offenders' are of interest to the Police and are used actively to focus their speed enforcement plans. On that note, anyone watching social media will have noticed the significant increase in Police activity of late with large numbers of drivers caught (and prosecuted) for excess speed in the surrounding villages and also of course, here in Great Bentley itself. We hope that is helping drivers remember to keep within our 30mph limits.

The team really appreciates the friendliness of local people and when talking we've noticed a growing sense that residents have had enough of the speeding, as well as a host of other traffic issues in the village. We're doing what we can and new team members are already joining the team, but there's always room for others to join in! If it's something you'd like to do for Great Bentley, please get in touch at [greatbentleyspeedwatch@gmail.com](mailto:greatbentleyspeedwatch@gmail.com)"

### For Sale

A Junior single bed with mattress.  
166 x 78cm (5ft 6 x 2ft 6)

It is clean, with white frame and headboard with sheep motifs.

This is for toddlers and approx up to 8 years old.  
Price £15

Cross Trainer.  
This originally cost over £100.  
It is a sturdy Domyos make with a LCD display on front to record mileage, heart rate etc.  
Full instruction book.  
Lovely fitness machine but now not used.  
Price £30 ono

**Contact details 07887887276**

### FOOD BANK

The main needs at the moment are for basic tinned and packeted foods, longlife milk, squash, biscuits, tinned fruit, vegetables and meat, teabags 40s or 80s, long life juice, coffee, sugar, shampoo, washing up liquid, and washing powder/pods/gel. (At the present time they have a good stock of pasta thanks).

Thank you for your continued support as donations have decreased recently.

Please leave any donations at the back of St Mary's church in the boxes provided.

### THANK YOU

Thank you to Judith and Peter Clayton for the lovely concert held in St Mary's church on Saturday 7th October. Everyone who attended enjoyed themselves and £200 was raised to help fund the redecoration of the Church Hall. We hope to have another concert in the spring.

Great Bentley Good Neighbours  
present a

### QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 10th November

Methodist Hall - 7.30pm start

£5.00pp to include tea and coffee

Bring your own nibbles and drinks

Raffle

To book in teams of any number contact  
Robert/Janet on 250 087  
or Yvonne on 250 413

All funds raised to go towards the printing costs of the Great Bentley Good Neighbours annual red information booklet which is delivered to everyone in the village

## The St. Osyth Witch Trials Part 1

This month students from The Colne Community School came to the Priory to learn about the 1582 St. Osyth Witch Trials. The trials are a fascinating part of village history, a mixture of fact and fiction over hundreds of years has created a story that many today are still amazed by. But why did the trials take place and how can we make sure we teach this history in a way that doesn't lose sight of the individuals, families and community behind the stories? In England 513 witches (mostly women) were put on trial between 1560 and 1700, but in many ways the situation at St. Osyth was unique. Firstly this was because it pre-dates a lot of the major witch trials across Europe and the accusations that took place during the lawless Civil War years under men like Matthew Hopkins. It pre-dates the publishing of 'Daemonologie' by King James VI of Scotland (and later 1st of England) from which a lot of guidance for juries on recognising witches comes from. It was the first big witch trial and the numbers accused accounted for 13% of all crimes brought before the Assizes (travelling courts) that decade. Let's look at some of the reasons that this shameful part of our history started in this quiet backwater village.

We don't have the death figures for St. Osyth in the years leading up to the Witch trials of 1582, but we do for some of the surrounding villages and they paint a very bleak picture. The death toll was three times higher than previous years. This must have created a culture of fear and in an age without scientific theory the people started to look for explanations among the people around them. St. Osyth was a very small village where most people were related and lived and worked alongside one another in farming and the wool trade. For most, life was hard and poverty was rife. Until 1539 the Priory had been the provider of alms, hospitality and medical care but once it closed there was no welfare state for those to lean on in hard times. Widows and women with illegitimate children were among the poorest and they survived by begging and borrowing from their neighbours. For an already poor community these individuals were becoming quite a burden and likely became the scapegoat for the fears the villagers felt. In St. Osyth these poor women were on the margins of society, they would have perhaps begged together for safety and may well have used intimidation as a way of getting what they needed and because it was safer for them if others feared them.

This period of History saw great religious change. For the first time Catholicism wasn't the only religion in the country. Changes in religious thought brought to the forefront a belief in an ongoing spiritual battle between good and evil. Looking back to the Christian creation story of Adam and Eve the belief that women were more easily tempted by the devil was preached. Women also had a reputation for an insatiable sexual appetite so could easily fall victim to the sexual temptations of the devil. Perhaps society was quick to look for faults in women and for men to look for ways to assert their authority over them as in 1558 a woman took the highest position of authority in the country when Elizabeth I succeeded to the throne.

**Helen Brown**  
**Education Manager**  
**Priory Education Centre**

Village Christmas Lights Switch On  
Near the War Memorial

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm (approximately)

Refreshments from 4.30pm  
including mulled wine

+ a visit from Father Christmas

**FRIENDS OF THE GREEN**

**AGM**

**Wednesday November 8th**

**7.30pm**

**Michael Wright Room**  
**Village Hall**

**All are welcome**



**Weeley  
Veterinary  
Centre**

**Winner of Best Vet UK 2023**

## **PET NOTES**



Last month I covered the normal role of the kidneys and the causes of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD). In part two I will discuss the symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of CKD.

### **SYMPTOMS OF CKD**

Most common:

- Weight loss
- Poor appetite
- Increased thirst (polydipsia)
- Increased urination (polyuria)

Less common:

- High blood pressure (hypertension)
- Vomiting
- Poor coat condition
- Weakness

### **DIAGNOSIS**

To diagnose CKD it is necessary to perform both blood and urine tests. The traditional marker of CKD are high levels of urea and creatinine in the blood. The substances are by-products of metabolism which are normally excreted by the kidneys. High level can be due to other causes and CKD can only be diagnosed with a concurrent poorly concentrated urine sample (we call this a low urine specific gravity). A newer blood test, called SDMA, now allows earlier detection of CKD and may be used alongside the traditional blood tests.

### **TREATMENT**

- Plenty of water to prevent dehydration, therefore dry diets should be avoided. Some pets require intravenous fluid therapy (aka a “drip”) to rehydrate them.
- Since many of the toxic products that accumulate in the blood in CKD are a result of protein breakdown, pets should be fed a protein-restricted diet.
- Phosphate binders are drugs which reduce the amount of phosphate absorbed from the intestine. A lower phosphate level in the blood has been demonstrated to protect the kidneys from further damage.
- ACE inhibitors are drugs which dilate blood vessels, supporting blood flow through the kidneys and lowering blood pressure.
- Specific medications to resolve nausea and vomiting.

Sadly CKD is progressive and cannot be cured, however with appropriate management many pets will have longer, better lives. The earlier the diagnosis, the better the prognosis.

**Dr April Young MRCV**

**PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YOUR PETS AROUND THE 5th NOVEMBER  
WHEN THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF FIREWORKS.**

## SESAW NEWS

Is it too early to mention the 'C' word when bonfire smoke has yet to fill the chilly evening air? I hope not because one of our supporters has the ideal gift for avid readers. They say everyone has a book inside them. Well in Frank Payne's case it's not one, not two - but three!

Frank started to chronicle his full and interesting life during lockdown, as a fundraising exercise for SESA. "Here Today, Gone Tomorrow" began with his childhood in wartime London to a promising career in sports journalism cut short by National Service. "Well Worth Waiting For" followed the extreme highs and lows experienced in sales and advertising, whilst raising a family and rescuing dogs.

The trilogy is completed with Frank's latest book, "It All Kicks Off on Sunday". This lifts the lid on the inside story of football after forty three years as a referee. Our awesome author is offering all three books for £12 as a perfect Christmas present or enjoyable holiday reading for yourself. Frank is generously donating all proceeds to SESA, please phone him on 01206 263006 or email [cahors@live.co.uk](mailto:cahors@live.co.uk) to place an order.

Don't forget to keep your pets safe during the firework season and check for hedgehogs before you build a bonfire. Mum says now the clocks have gone back (where to, I know not!) and Autumn has arrived, our opening hours are subject to change so please check before visiting us. Mum also says that's quite enough writing from me, I'm not to get any big ideas, the world is not ready for the memoirs of me, Kenny (the Boss) Chihuahua.

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare, Registered Charity No.1124029, Stoke Road, Leavenheath, CO6 4PP. Tel: 01787 210888 [www.sesaw.co.uk](http://www.sesaw.co.uk)

## CHRISTMAS POST

This may seem a little premature but I will be doing the annual Village Christmas Post and will be collecting your cards on the following Saturdays throughout December 2nd, 9th and 16th between 9 and 12. I will take up my usual position by the village sign. I am happy to deliver throughout the village and Aingers Green. All monies raised will again be donated to the Foodbank.

If you are housebound and would like me to collect your cards please give me a ring on 07751455132 Likewise if anyone would like to assist with manning the post or delivering cards please give me a ring or text.

**Neen Powell**

## Great Bentley Station Update

There was a Greater Anglia awards day in Ipswich on Friday. Station Adopter Peter Neal was there to receive an award for winning a certificate for community involvement at the station. So thank you to all those who have helped and supported us. New volunteers are always welcome, looking forward to some new ventures in the new year.

On that note we wondered if anyone has a strimmer that we could borrow occasionally to help cut back the weeds on the London platform? We have been given the go ahead to tidy this area but it will be hard work with shears. .

If you would like to join in or have suggestions, pictures, photos or art work you would like us to include in the future, please call me on 01206 481746 and leave a message. I will be happy to get back to you.

**Dawn Vinn**  
**(Station Adopter)**

## Hope@Trinity

Firstly I must say thank you to everyone who responded to my article last month and brought items of men's/ ladies clothing to me which in turn I sort, bag and label ready for Jackie to take to hope@trinity in Clacton. The glorious, welcome prolonged spell of warm weather tends to keep thoughts of the cold dark days of winter out of our minds but the same cannot be said for the volunteers who are well aware of the plight of the men and women who will come through the doors of hope@trinity. Believe me not being able to find a warm coat or a pair of decent sturdy shoes to meet the needs of someone down on their luck who, not to put too fine a point on it, are in the depths of despair turns your heart, it does mine. My ask of you all is to help build up a store of suitable warm clothing in readiness for the inevitable onset of winter. Over the years I have struggled with a commonly held perception whereby doubt is cast on those unfortunate men and woman who find themselves reduced to sleeping in a shop doorway with only newspaper or cardboard to cover them, in a vain effort to keep the cold out, are there because they choose to be. Spend some time helping on a 'soup run' as I have done looking into the eyes of the men and women of all ages who queue patiently for a pack of sandwiches, bag of crisps, chocolate bar and a cuppa soup, tea, or when possible a 'mocha' you see a person, someone's son, daughter or a parent.

Volunteering with the homeless and vulnerable has been the most rewarding and best thing I have ever done. Along with the sadness I also like to think that the chat, banter and laughter we enjoyed, for however brief a time, had hopefully made them feel worthy and a person in their own right. If you can help 'hope@trinity' to improve the lives of the men and women who turn to them for a host of reasons and situations when they are in need of the support and non judgemental welcome they receive it will make a huge difference. Furthermore it will lift the spirits of the volunteers who, when asked for an item of clothing, can say yes!!!

GENTS: jeans/trousers/joggers, warm jumpers, fleeces, shirts, tee-shirts, vests, thermal underwear, warm hats, gloves, scarves, trainers, boots, sturdy footwear, coats, waterproofs.....

Last but not least: BOXER SHORTS, new are great but clean well laundered pairs are acceptable and the same applies to socks.

LADIES: Apart from Boxer Shorts all the above requisites are the same with the addition of bras and ladies undies.

Toiletries, personal feminine requisites, dog food.

Blankets, sleeping bags and a special plea for TENTS please they are desperately needed, there are occasions when people are sleeping on Clacton beach!

I am happy to receive donations.

**Judy Bishop 5, Morella Close Great Bentley 01206 251702**  
Thank you for caring.



# GREAT BENTLEY CRICKET CLUB

*Playing cricket on The Green since 1771.*



Website: [greatbentleycc.co.uk](http://greatbentleycc.co.uk) Email: [info@greatbentleycc.co.uk](mailto:info@greatbentleycc.co.uk)

With the season over there is not much to report from the cricket club. The bar is now closed, the kit has been stored and the sound of leather on willow will not be heard again on the Green until next April. However, you may have noticed that work has already started on the square for next year. After a very long season the old square had taken a bit of a battering and was in desperate need of some major repair. Thanks to Head Groundskeeper Peter Giles and his willing helpers Michael Giles and Alex Youngs for all the work they put in one Saturday – the new grass is looking very green and lush!

The adults held their annual end of season dinner on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at a number of establishments in Thorpe-le-Soken. The event was a roaring success and luckily, for some, no photos or videos exist!

The adults end of season awards have been re-instated this year following our first league season in many years. There were numerous great individual performances across the season so picking the winners of the awards was a difficult task. However, the winners were chosen as follows;

**Batter of the Year: James Snowden.** James scored close to 250 runs including two match winning centuries. His high score of 129 off 77 balls against Eight Ash Green will live long in the memory. He ended with a very impressive average of 61.25.

**Bowler of the Year: Michael Wright.** Michael opened the attack in many matches and often troubled the batsmen with accuracy, movement and pace without taking wickets. He took 8 wickets with a strike rate of 27 and an average of just under 23. His best figures were 6-0-17-2

**All Rounder of the Year: Dan Barker.** Dan was without doubt the player of the year. Scoring 202 runs in eight innings (average of 25.3, high score of 71). He also took 11 wickets at an average of 16, strike rate of just under 25 and a run rate of just under four.

In league news the decision has been taken to move to the Two Counties T40 Sunday League. This league has ten local teams (including Harwich & Dovercourt, Tendring, and Kirby) meaning that the adults will be able to play far more cricket matches on the Green next season. Staying in a league enables the colts to have a clear pathway for further development -- five of the older colts have already represented the adults this season, all performing well.

The U12 colts have entered a team for the winter indoor league which is a fantastic opportunity for the children to build on their skills from the summer. All matches are played at the Northern Gateway and details are as follows;

Date	Time	Opposition
15th October	6pm	West Bergholt
29th October	6pm	Great Totham
19th November	7pm	CEE
10th December	6pm	Tendring
21st January	6pm	Witham
3rd March	6pm	Kelvedon
24th March	6pm	FINALS

GBCC is an inclusive, volunteer run, family friendly club welcoming new playing and non-playing members at any time during the season. The bar is open every weekend, all summer, from 5pm Friday and 1pm Saturday and Sunday serving a wide variety of drinks and snacks. Please contact the club via the email address [info@greatbentleycc.co.uk](mailto:info@greatbentleycc.co.uk) if you or your child would like to give cricket a try or with any questions.

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November in the Clubhouse on the Green. If you are interested in learning more about the cricket club or would like to join the committee, please feel free to attend.

Great Bentley Show  
AGM  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November  
at 8pm  
in the Michael Wright Room  
at the Village Hall  
Everyone welcome

## **Great Bentley Show**

The 'dust has settled', and we are now looking forward to next year. Our AGM is in the Village Hall on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm.

Everyone is welcome and we are looking for people to take on the Raffle and the Tombola for 2024. We are extremely grateful to Rosemary and Chris who have nurtured these two posts over a considerable number of years. They are a tough act to follow but I am sure there are people out there who would like to become part of the team and put their own stamp on these two roles.

Please get in touch if you would like more information about becoming part of the show.

**Mary Barber**  
[chair@greatbentleyshow.co.uk](mailto:chair@greatbentleyshow.co.uk)

## **BENTLEY IN BLOOM**

Another year passed and as most people must have noticed the planters on the Green have looked and at this time are still looking full of colour! Unfortunately they have to be removed to make sure the winter pansies etc have a chance to get rooted before winter! Once again our small group organised by Jenny Moss will have completed this task.

At this stage can I express on a personal note my thanks to the Plummer family for taking on the watering of the ground displays and baskets in the village during this summer! Much appreciated by me during a particularly troubled spell!

The baskets will be collected in early November, it would help if they were emptied before collection!

Finally our thanks to those who have purchased basket displays or helped in any way during the past year.

**Michael Dorling.**

## **BEWARE!**

Great Bentley seems to have a rather hungry brave fox in the village. It somehow managed to get into a garden over a 6 foot fence and took a child's rabbits. Please be on the look out especially if you have chickens or rabbits.

# POLICE REPORT

## RECORDED CRIMES

From 01/09/2023- 27/09/2023

## CRIME TYPES

ARSON - ASSAULT ABH X2 - ASSAULT WITHOUT INJURY - OTHER X2 PURSUE  
COURSE OF CONDUCT - THEFT X2 - FROM MOTOR VEHICLE

## INCIDENTS REPORTED – 18

## INCIDENT TYPES

ABANDONED 999 - ABANDONED VEHICLE X2- ASSAULT X2- ASSIST AGENCY CALL ON - DRINK/  
DRIVE- DRUGS- HIGHWAY DISRUPTION X 4 HARECOURSING - PEDESTRIAN - PROPERTY- THEFT  
FROM BUSINESS - THEFT FROM RESIDENCE.

## TRUCAM (SPEEDING)

5 Sessions of 1 hour each were deployed over the course of September. A total of **150** vehicles were reported for the offence, with a top speed of **59mph**. The **30mph** signs were checked before and after deployment and **clearly visible. Please Drive with due care and attention.**

## CONSIDERATE PARKING TICKETS (CPI,s)

**5 considerate parking tickets** were given out this month in the village and a few others being given words of advice. Vehicles are parking on **junctions** and **footpaths**, which causes obstruction and danger to safety of others. These are both offences under the Highway code. This can also damage pavements and kerb stones in time, which costs money to replace and dissatisfaction to residents for looking unsightly in the village.

Pavement parking may be done in a considerate mindset, however, this causes problems to pedestrians trying to pass, which leads them to walk on the road, which is not ideal for those with disabilities and children in buggies and people with poor visibility.

Considerate Parking Incentive tickets are aimed to educate drivers of bad parking offences of the highway code. Parking services have and will be attending the village on a regular basis and **fixed penalty notices** may be issued.

## CHILD CAR SEATS

Parents are reminded that children must be transported in their vehicle with correct car seats. This is compulsory for the safety of your child. Children must normally use a car seat/booster seat until they're 12 years old or 135 centimetres tall, whichever comes first. Children over 12 or more than 135cm must wear a seat belt. You can choose a child car seat based on your child's height or weight. If you are unsure of the law around car seats. For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rule>

## UNWANTED SCAM CALLS

If you are receiving calls from unknown callers, scams, selling, etc you can contact your service provider and ask to have a call screening put on your phone and how to block a callers number.

## Nitrous Oxide

Nitrous oxide capsules are still being used around the village. Nitrous oxide is, and has been for some time, a craze which is inhaled to get a euphoric state which can cause other unwanted symptoms and can be dangerous and cause possible death.

## Copied from the web

Effects of nitrous oxide. Nitrous oxide affects everyone differently, based on:

- the amount taken
- the user's size, weight and health
- whether the person is used to taking it
- whether other drugs are taken around the same time



The following effects may be felt almost immediately and can last for a few minutes:

- euphoria
- numbness of the body
- sedation
- giddiness
- uncontrolled laughter
- uncoordinated movements
- blurred vision
- confusion
- dizziness and/or light-headedness
- sweating
- feeling unusually tired or weak
- sudden death.

If a large amount of nitrous oxide is inhaled it can produce:

- loss of blood pressure
- fainting
- heart attack.

Inhaling nitrous oxide can be fatal if you don't get enough oxygen, which is known as hypoxia.

Long-term effects

Prolonged exposure to nitrous oxide may result in:

- memory loss
- vitamin B12 depletion (long-term depletion causes brain and nerve damage)
- ringing or buzzing in the ears
- incontinence
- numbness in the hands or feet
- limb spasms
- potential birth defects (if consumed during pregnancy)
- weakened immune system
- disruption to reproductive systems
- depression
- psychological dependence
- psychosis.

Is it really worth the risk for a few moments of a high? If you are **concerned** for one of your family members, there is more information and helpline numbers on the internet

#### **Suspicious circumstances.**

If you see anything that does not look right, report it. Try and get as much information as you can, including registration numbers, which are key to a lot of activity. The more you have, the more chance we have of a positive investigation, with results.

#### **Reporting incidents the correct way.**

To report an incident please **ring 101** or for **Emergency 999**

Or report it online

<https://www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/report-a-crime/>

## **ADVERTISING IN 2024**

If anyone **NEW** would like to advertise in 2024 the prices will be

Small	£60
Medium	£100
Quarter page	£170
Half a page (limited number)	£330

Please contact Mary Maskell 250524  
email: [marymaskell@sys3internet.net](mailto:marymaskell@sys3internet.net)

## NEWS FROM THE OAKS

Here at The Oaks, our residents are our number one priority, both physically and spiritually.

We have introduced 'Fun Friday' where upon we have something a bit outrageous to give our residents a real fun experience! This is in addition to 'chocolate Tuesday' and 'make up Mondays' where all the ladies and gents have the opportunity to have their hair styled by a qualified hairdresser.

This month we visited 'Alpaca Acres' in Braintree. There were lots of animal cuddles and it brought great joy and comfort to our residents.

For all the residents that are bed bound, we had a visit from a lovely Jack Russell called 'Tess' who again brought miles of smiles and joy!

We are now preparing for our Halloween party, the residents will be making some decorations for us to display.

Next month we have Remembrance Day, so we will be busy making poppies.

We wish everyone kind thoughts and we feel privileged to be part of this lovely community.

Take care everyone

## CLACTON & NORTH EAST ESSEX ARTS AND LITERARY SOCIETY

**Monday nights at 7.30pm**  
**The Princes Theatre, Town Hall, Clacton on Sea**

**November 20th** - To end the first half of the season we present 'Christmas Swingtime', fronted by singer Joanna Eden and featuring the Chris Ingham Quartet, this festive jazz entertainment presents songs by the likes of Ella, Frank, Doris and Dean, the perfect way to swing into the holidays. Sponsored by Michael and Julie Payene.

**January 15th** - The New Year starts with concert pianist Hiroaki Takenoughi. As a soloist Hiroaki has appeared on many concert platforms. His curiosity and a natural penchant for integrity makes his playing and vast repertoire unique amongst his generation of pianists. Sponsored by Clive and Jeanette Harre.

**January 22nd** - This evening John Benjamin presents the History of European Jewellery. Elizabeth 1 to Elizabeth Taylor. Broadcaster, writer, jewellery expert and valuer, John appears regularly on the BBC's Antiques Roadshow.

**January 29th** - An evening with the Rev'd Canon Kate Bottley. The Reverend Kate Bottley is a parish priest, journalist, radio presenter and TV personality who is passionate about sharing stories of her faith to the widest possible audiences. Sponsored by Peagrams (Estate Agents) Clacton on Sea.

Should you wish to apply for membership please contact Debbie Day on 01255 421579 to place your name, address and telephone number on our waiting list, in order that we may contact you as soon as a vacancy arises. Should you not be a member and there is a presentation which particularly attracts you, the price of admission is then £10.00.



This month I would like to say a big warm welcome to Everly and her family.

We are all very much looking forward to working with you all and hope you enjoy your time at our Pre-school and have lots of fun. You will gain lots of wonderful and exciting new experiences and make lots of new friends.

**Autism Coffee Morning**

Our next coffee morning is arranged for Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30.

These sessions are held to support parents with children on the Autistic Spectrum or for parents who are concerned and want to find out more about Autism. If you are worried or concerned about your child, going through the assessment stages, or have a child who has been diagnosed and feel you might like to share your experience please come along and join in the discussion, we would love to see you.

You do not have to have a child attending the Pre-school to come along, if you know of anyone who might benefit from this then please spread the word.

**September 2024 Primary School Applications**

If you have children due to start Primary School in September 2024 it's not long before you can start applying for your allocation.

The opening date for applications is November 6<sup>th</sup>, with the closing date of January 15<sup>th</sup>, the application process is completely the responsibility of yourselves to apply.

Below is a link to the government website that will provide you with all the information and details you will need.

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>

**Registers**

This month I will be working on the registers for the new term in January.

If you would like your child to join our Pre-School, please get in touch so we can start the introduction process and arrange a stay and play before we break up for Christmas, this will give you the opportunity to start building a relationship with your child's key person prior to them starting. Contact details are above or message via our FB page.

Thanks for reading.

**Julie Wiles**

**SMARITANS PURSE  
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

A reminder to return your boxes to the church by **Sunday 5th November.**

If you are not able to fill a box but have odds and ends you can leave items at the back of the church in the marked designated container.

**The Post Office is situated  
at the front of the Garage**

**GREAT BENTLEY  
POST OFFICE**

**OPENING HOURS**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>9am - 1pm</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9am - 12 noon</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9am - 12 noon</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9am - 12 noon</b>

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Year 1

It's been a wonderful start to the Autumn term for Year 1. The children have had such a happy first full week back. In Maths we have been counting amounts, comparing them and drawing conclusions. We have used duplo bricks to vote on which book to read in class. We compared the sizes of each tower to find out the results. The winner was 'Three Little Monkeys' by Quentin Blake and Emma Chichester. Clark.

## Year 2

What a fantastic way to start the year's final first term. They have adjusted nicely and enjoy each lesson in their curriculum.

By being able to understand numbers up to 100, we have been emphasising place value in maths. We have investigated and contrasted numbers using various symbols in order to show our conclusion. Moreover, how to divide a number into tens and ones. We investigated several materials in science to discover if they could bend, stretch and twist to change their shape. We have tasted coleslaw and investigated its ingredients. After being affected by Benji Davies' short story The Storm Whale, we are starting to write our own English narratives.. We are eager to publish.

We would like to congratulate Benjamin in Year 2 who cycled over 14 miles along the coast in the summer holiday. We are very proud of him.

## Year 3

This term Year 3 are learning about the Stone Age in history. They learnt about archaeology and Skara Brae, they enjoyed their own archaeological dig on the school field and worked in groups to make fact sheets about Skara Brae. In English, they have enjoyed looking at our class text Stone Age Boy.

## Year 4

Year 4 have been finding out about the Anglo Saxons and why they invaded Britain. They heard about King Vortigen and Hengest and Horsa who he enlisted to help when Britain was being invaded. They have also been exploring sound in their Science lessons and conducted an investigation as to whether sound travels through solid objects by making string telephones. Whilst conducting their experiments the children were excited to find out that they actually worked!

## Year 5

In English the class has been preparing to write stories based on The Last Bear. They have used novels to learn different ways to write a good start and ending to a story. In art, they have been investigating the different effects and textures they can make with water colour. Year 5 have had a very successful start to the year.

## Year 6

In year 6 they have been studying World War I in its history lessons and have been using the book 'War Horse' in their English work. This have given them a great insight into what war would have been like both from the perspective of horse and a soldier. They are now starting to research other military animals and how they helped the war effort. They will be using the facts they find to write their own war narrative from the perspective of a different war animal.

## **LUNA THE GUIDE DOG**

Meet the latest member of our family. Luna, she is a German Shepherd Husky cross and she has a very important role. She is very intelligent and has a beautiful temperament which will hopefully make her the ideal companion dog for my dad who is registered blind.

Dad started to lose his sight in his teens as he was born with a rare genetic degenerative eye condition. He was taught to use a white stick around his secondary school and this is still the tool he uses to find his way around new places and when going to London for work. He only goes to London twice a week and as his peripheral vision is good, he has good mobility. However, bin day and pavement parking can make negotiating the local footpaths tricky and training Luna to be aware of obstacles and ensure there is space for her and him to pass will be a huge help. She may also be able to help with crossing roads as new electric cars can be so quiet Dad can't always hear them coming.

We are very used to seeing Labradors or Golden Retrievers working as assistance dogs, they are very loyal which helps with training, but less than 50% of all the puppies bred by Guide Dogs UK go on to become working guide dogs. The first dog trained to help the blind were in fact German Shepherds back in 1931. They were trained for soldiers who had lost their sight during WWI. The dogs proved to be life changing for those with sight loss. Currently there is a huge shortage of Guide Dogs across the UK owing to the restrictions put in place during the pandemic. Nationally there are 1108 people waiting for a guide dog and many more face the prospect of their current dog retiring and no replacements being available. The current average waiting time for a guide dog is 18 months. For some this wait is too long and they are taking matters into their own hands and training their own guide dog. Thankfully the law doesn't make a distinction between self-trained guide dogs and those trained by organisations so the rights of access remain the same. Abigail Hughes, recognised the need for information and support for those training their own assistance dog and set up PAWtected CIC. The organisation offers online and in person courses for those training their dogs for a range of needs including autistic adults and allergen detection dogs. Training your own dog can take two years. It can be challenging and expensive with vet bills, public liability insurance and paying for the online courses. However, we hope the family and Luna will find it very rewarding and an enjoyable experience and we are all very excited to have her as part of the family.

**Gwen Brown aged 11**

## **GARDENING NOTES**

In November keep on digging, especially if you have heavy soil, so it can help to break down with the frosts later on. Many have held back on digging at the moment as the soil is very light and the weeds just seem to grow again. Just run the hoe through them and then possibly dig more at the end of November and the beginning of December and hopefully the ground will stay nice and clear ready for next year's seeds. Talking of seeds don't forget to plant your early crop of broad beans so that they germinate and produce small plants that will survive through January and February and then give a crop in early June. Look through the seed catalogue and make sure you use a hardy variety (such as Aquadulce) for the autumn sowing, then a second crop can be sown in January/February to follow on.

Ask any youngster what November is most famous for and they will probably say Firework Night. What's that got to do with gardening you ask? Well before you set light to your bonfire please check to see that there isn't a hedgehog making a nice snug bed so that he can over winter safely.

Enjoy November and perhaps the leaves that have turned colour will have dropped off the trees so that you can enjoy that most simple of pleasures, kicking your way through a pile of dry leaves and breathing in some frosty clear air. Oh what simple pleasures we all can enjoy.

## BELLRINGERS UPDATE

Ringling has continued as usual for Sunday services, and our normal Monday practices through September & October. We have to be grateful that we have sufficient skilled members to be able to continue this through a time when many of us have been away on holiday.

We have been privileged to be joined by several new members this year, some of whom I'm proud and delighted to say have recently started ringing for Sunday services. In order to tutor new members, we start our Monday practices slightly earlier now so that we can give time to everyone in our ever increasing band the chance to practice. This is why you will often hear odd numbers of bells ringing from early evening on a Monday, whilst there will be 6 or 8 ringing together a little later.

Looking forward to November, if you are in the village on 11<sup>th</sup> November, please listen out for a single bell being chimed just before 11am on the 11<sup>th</sup> November. This is to mark the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice when the guns finally fell silent at 11am, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 1918.

With Christmas rapidly approaching, one of our busiest and most important times will require careful planning so that we can ensure ringing for all the church services that take place.

Please contact me if you are keen to learn to join us and learn to ring church bells.

**Roger**  
07422 880921

### Thank You To Great Bentley Primary School

Thank you to our lovely village school who donated 96 kilogram's of food for the Food Bank. This had been collected at their Harvest Festival.



**ST MARY'S CHURCH  
GREAT BENTLEY**

**CHRISTMAS TREE  
FESTIVAL**



**Theme - 'Christmas Songs'**

**SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER  
10.00am - 4.00pm**

**SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER  
11am - 4.00pm**

Christmas Food Stall: Bottle Tombola:  
Christmas Gifts/Crafts:  
Tombola & Raffle: Teddy Stall:  
Light Lunches and Refreshments:  
Christmas Music:  
Pre-order your Christmas Wreath  
ring Mary 01206 250524 or  
Jackie 01206 250717

**Entrance £1.00 Children free**

### DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 2023 MAGAZINE

#### TUESDAY 14th NOVEMBER

Material to Mary Maskell, Caldew Cottage, The Green, 250524 **AND**  
Carole Allington, Poplar House, Station Road, 251086.

Please mark all material - "Parish Magazine"

email: [carole@pncallington.co.uk](mailto:carole@pncallington.co.uk) **AND** [marymaskell@sys3internet.net](mailto:marymaskell@sys3internet.net)

**IMPORTANT - PLEASE SEND ALL INFORMATION TO BOTH OF US**

# Nature Notes

## Wrabness Nature Reserve.

The Tendring Branch of the Essex Wildlife Trust recently held an open day at Wrabness Nature Reserve marking the last of the summer events. This 47 acre reserve is located on the south bank of the river Stour with extensive views across to the north shore of the river encompassing the Royal Naval School building at Holbrook. The reserve is a mosaic of habitats including wild flower meadows, grazing marsh, borrow dykes and salt marsh. The range of habitats create ideal conditions for a wide diversity of flora and fauna throughout the seasons with the river adding winter wildfowl interest.

Originally land farmed by the local Garnham family, some 50 acres at Wrabness was sold to the MOD and a mine depot created under the Royal Naval Armaments Department (RNAD) a smaller sister site was constructed in Copperas Wood for detonators. The sites were separated for reasons of safety. A standard gauge railway network connected to the main Harwich railway line with Wrabness having its own, 'Priory Halt' stop, for the movement of personnel and armaments. Records show that c160 people were employed on the site a major local employer. It remained in operation from 1921 to 1968 when the majority of the site was demolished.

In the 1960's the then government, as part of a reforming and modernising of the Victorian prison system, proposed to build a c700 in-mates prison on the site. This was fiercely resisted at both local and county level with the then local MP Julian Ridsdale raising questions in The House. Following the failure of the prison scheme a second plan, also strongly resisted, proposed the creation of a 100 placement holiday complex which was also refused on appeal in 1985.

In order to save the site for wildlife the Wrabness Nature Reserve Trust charity was formed with patrons Lord Braybrooke, Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Ian Sproat M.P. and the actor Griff Rhys Jones. The charity raised the funds (£200,000) for the purchase and set about the creation of the nature reserve eventually handing over the site to The E.W.T. the current custodians. In 2020 the north shore of Tendring received the highest national landscape notification when it was included in the extension of the Suffolk Coast and Heath Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty AONB designation.

The site is noted for, the now scarce, breeding Turtle Dove and also holds breeding Nightingale, Yellowhammers, Bullfinch and Cetti's Warbler. Osprey pass through in autumn and the river often holds large rafts of wildfowl. Barn Owls breed and Short-eared Owls quarter the marsh. Otter and Dormouse have also been recorded.

The Tendring Moth Group have carried out site surveys over several years recording more than 130 species in one season. Essex Red Data species: Festoon, Bordered Gothic and Beautiful Hooktip being notable. Likewise the Tendring Wildflower Group, working toward a new Essex Botanical Atlas, have surveyed the site, building on earlier survey work. Species of special note, scarce in Tendring, are the diminutive Eyebright and tall Ploughmans Spikenard. The striking Everlasting Pea, Tree Lupin and discreet Bee Orchid may also be seen.

The site is interlaced with hard paved walkways, relics of its industrial past, making it accessible for all. There is a small car park accessed from Wheatsheaf Lane.

**Kevin Marsden**

For your diary. The author will be giving an illustrated talk on the history and wildlife of Wrabness Reserve on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at Gt Bentley village hall at 7:30pm.

# YOUTH FOOTBALL TEAM

## HERE COME THE GIRLS!

All is well at the village's thriving youth football club and we are now looking to expand and create our first all girls teams ever! The plan is to create a key stage 1 team (school years 1 and 2) and a key stage 2 team (school years 3, 4, 5 and 6) to make the most of the growing popularity of the women's game. Please get in touch with the club via Ellis Obia on 07966 975290 or Tony Nash on 07867 748184 to express interest and if the numbers stack up we'll try to make it happen. We are also hoping to begin having some mini-kicker sessions for the current reception year (boys and girls) with a view to getting a team for next season.

As ever, volunteers will be needed to come forward to enable these teams to get off the ground too and the club will pay for the Football Association's approved coaching course if you want to give something back to the community, as well as providing all the help and support you need. Contact Ellis and Tony if it's something you want to get involved with. Of the existing teams, the under 13's are continuing to be very competitive at the top level of the Colchester and District Youth League, whilst the under 12's now sport a brand new red and black away kit, which has been kindly sponsored by the The Fusilier in Aingers Green.

The under 10's are on fire! With hard work, dedication and love for the game, they are leaving their mark on the pitch and proving to be a real success story. Both of the under 9's teams recently appeared in the Colchester United programme and were also displayed on the scoreboard at their recent game against Mansfield. Meanwhile the under 7's are eagerly continuing their journey into the beautiful game and appreciate your weekly support. There's all sorts of fun and games planned in the coming weeks as the tables will turn at a forthcoming charity match when the coaches will play the parents, with the children being on the sidelines and managing both teams! The under 9's will also play their eagerly awaited kids v parents match, which is always good fun. As ever stay tuned to our social media channels for weekly fixtures and feel free to offer your respectful support to all of the teams each and every Sunday.

# FRIENDS OF THE GREEN

What is it? What do they do?

In the 1960's the Green was formerly registered as common land with the Manorial Rights being transferred to Great Bentley Parish Council.

Friends of The Green had its first meeting back in the 1960's with the aim of protecting this unique and much envied open space. Ask anyone who knows this area of Essex what Great Bentley means to them, the answer will always be "the green". What a precious environment we enjoy here!

Common land and open space, wherever it may be, will always face the pressure of change or threats of encroachment and is to this ever present possibility that Friends of the Green is mindful.

Our primary aims:

To assist in the maintenance of the village and its green

Report to the Parish Council actual or potential encroachment onto, or misuse of, village green.

Encourage tidiness and prevent litter on the green and in the village.

To raise funds in respect of the above.

It would be so nice if a few more like-minded people could come and join in our efforts to uphold the purposes of Friends of The Green and hopefully we'll meet you at our AGM on November 8th in the village hall. As always in Great Bentley you can expect the usual warm welcome and community spirit. Our committee meets several times a year.

For any further information you can email [kendrew678@btinternet.com](mailto:kendrew678@btinternet.com) or give me a call on 01206 250177.



## FOOTBALL CLUB NOTES

<b>ESSEX &amp; SUFFOLK BORDER LEAGUE Div 1</b>			<b>KO 3.00pm unless stated</b>
Sat Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	CO4 Ultras	(A)	L 2 – 1
Sat Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Stanway Rovers Res	(H)	L 3 – 1 League KO Cup
Sat Sept 30 <sup>th</sup>	Cressing Utd	(A)	L 2 – 1
Sat Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Thorpe Athletic	(H)	D 1 - 1
Sat Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	White Notley Res	(A)	Essex Junior Cup 2 00pm
Sat Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	Kings Park Rangers	(A)	
Sat Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tiptree Jobserve	(A)	
Sat Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Dovercourt Rovers	(A)	2 00pm
Sat Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	Wormingford Wanderers	(A)	2 00pm
Sat Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>	Mersea Island	(H)	2 00pm

<b>ESSEX &amp; SUFFOLK BORDER LEAGUE Div 3</b>			
Sat Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	Alresford Colne Rangers	(H)	W 7 – 1
Sat Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Colne Athletic Res	(A)	W 2 – 1 Res KO Cup
Sat Sept 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tollesbury	(H)	W 4 – 1
Sat Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wormingford Wanderers	(A)	Essex Junior Cup 2 00pm
Sat Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	Fliitch Utd	(H)	2 00pm
Sat Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>	Barnston Res	(A)	
Sat Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Gas Rec Res	(A)	2 00pm
Sat Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	Little Oakley Res	(H)	2 00pm
Sat Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>	Prettygate	(H)	2 00pm
Sat Nov 25 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklands	(A)	T Thompson Cup 2 00pm

<b>ESSEX &amp; SUFFOLK BORDER LEAGUE Div 5</b>			
Sat Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	Ramsey & Mistley Res	(A)	D 3 - 3
Sat Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Hedingshams Utd Res	(H)	W 6 – 0
Sat Sept 30 <sup>th</sup>	Boxted Lodgers	(H)	W 3 – 1
Sat Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Mersea Island Res	(H)	W 3 - 0
Sat Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	Elmstead Market	(H)	
Sat Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	Hedingshams Utd Res	(A)	
Sat Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Kelvedon Social	(A)	2 00pm
Sat Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	Brooklands	(H)	2 00pm
Sat Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>	Roman Rovers Development	(A)	2 00pm
Sat Nov 25 <sup>th</sup>	Bradfield Rovers Res	(H)	2 00pm

September was a frustrating month for the 1<sup>st</sup> team. Injuries and player availability meant losing 3 consecutive games by the odd goal when we were pressing for an equaliser on each occasion.

Connor Jones has continued to score goals, helped by Luke Whybrow, Barney Morton and Toby Britton but we are losing the battle of midfield. In the recent draw with league leaders Thorpe Athletic, Goalkeeper Jake Allwood was man of the match for the second time in 7 matches. That tells a story !!

The reserve team remain unbeaten this season. Winning 2 – 0 away at Colne Ath Res in the league KO cup. Scorers were Elliot Mcmillan and Greg Wainer. Followed by a 4 – 1 win at home to Tollesbury. Scorers were Adam Morton and Sam Winney with a pair each.

The new 'A' team have started out on a really positive note. Using the cricket club changing rooms and the southside pitch has been working well in keeping the club all together.

On the field they have had a hard fought draw at Ramsey and Mistley with Oscar Herbert, Flynn Hutchins and Jakob Attril scoring followed by a resounding 6 – 0 win at home to Hedingshams Utd res. Scorers. Henry Cross x 2, Charlie Dobson, Oscar Herbert, Connor Baker and Matt Maunton scoring 1 each. A 3 – 0 win the following week on the green against Mersea Island res. Scorers Tony Chatters, Charlie Dobson and Isaac Woods. Trevor Kirk had to dig out his goalkeepers gloves to cover for our suspended keeper.

Numbers at training continue at a high level of attendance for all 3 teams. The floodlights now in action for the whole session on a Tuesday evening.

Eagle eyed locals may have noticed the defibrillator on the front of the clubhouse. This had been originally installed at the side of the building but it was felt that it would be more prominent and accessible at the front.

Follow Great Bentley Football Club on Facebook and X for all the up to date information.

**Come on the Bulldogs**

## Those damn Potholes

Minister: Morning Smithers, did you listen to my radio broadcast last evening - road surface deterioration?

Smithers, junior secretary: Yes indeed, minister. I noticed that you '*steered clear*' of the word, 'pothole' - hee, hee.

Min: Quite right, old boy. We must avoid the word 'pothole'; it suggests 'neglect', Smithers, which implies 'blameworthiness' on our part. Can't have that, old boy. That's like giving old foxy the key to the hen house.

Smithers: Of course, but this issue is a matter of great urgency. You've already explained the seriousness of the situation; that the number of potholes is increasing exponentially.

Min: Did I use that word? Jolly impressive, aren't I? Tell me, this urgency, are we doing this pothole thing to bring us in line with the EU?

Smithers: Not really, sir. There aren't any potholes in Europe. Britain is the world leader in this field.

Min: World leader in the field, eh? Wonderful. It makes one jolly proud to be British, don't you think, Smithers? 'World leader' - take that, you French blighters! But why are we in this mess, these damn potholes?

Smithers: Some say it's all about water - freezing and thawing - followed by cars cracking the weakened surface. Last evening on the radio you blamed the situation on the number of diesel cars on the road, sir. Remember?

Min: Yes, I do remember that. Why was I told to blame diesel cars? Do electric cars crack the surface?

Smithers: Supposedly not, sir. They have A.I. pothole sensor technology.

Min: Have they really? Damn clever those Germans. Anyway, I've promised zero-craters by 2041. But how on earth am I going to fund this road repair? By the way, Smithers, what exactly do I mean by 'zero'?

Smithers: Nobody's sure about the answers to either of those questions, sir. We need something to blame - we need to create a crisis. A crisis always deflects the public's focus away from our failings. The diesel car option is the favourite.

Min: Yes, I agree. It's a simple matter of us finding diesel car owners culpable, without us being at fault for being negligent and unaccountable. Does that make sense?

Smithers: Could not be clearer, sir. And there is always climate change. You can blame climate change for anything.

Min: No, not climate change again. That's already been used for train cancellations - leaves on the line, and the conker crisis of two years ago. It was damn lucky that nobody suffered a serious injury.

Smithers: Yes indeed, sir. Weight! That's the answer. Let's tax everybody, not just diesel cars!

Min: Wait? I can't wait. I told you; this must be done by 2041.

Smithers: No sir, not wait. Weight, as in heaviness. Airlines are doing it all the time, nowadays. It's only fair that people should pay according to the weight of their vehicle, and acknowledge the impact that their car is having on the destructive eroding of our road surfaces, if that is the right word.

Min: Aren't we doing that already, Smithers?

Smithers: Not really, sir. Electric vehicles enjoy all manner of cash exemptions, subsidies and enticements, but they must be included in this war against the pothole, sir.

Min: Smithers, please. You are being most unhelpful. During this time of misguided political speculation, it would be ticklish to include electric cars in this campaign, it will upset the emissions lobby. No, we'll have to come up with something that does not tax electric cars.

Smithers: Very well. But this is not easy, sir. What about multistorey car parks? Legally, owing to the weight of these battery cars, we could restrict availability for electric vehicles to the ground floor only. And charging them double, you know, for exclusive parking with convenient electric power points.

Min: No! Definitely not! That means an eighty-year-old driving a 2009 Mercedes SLD3000 will have to park on the top floor. That's like giving electric vehicles all the disabled spaces. Do you want a riot, Smithers?

Smithers: Of course not, sir. But these vehicles are too heavy for the upper floors. And how are we going to dispose of all the extra worn tyres? As I've suggested, every driver must contribute to the war on potholes. It's only fair, sir.

Min: Stop this electric car thing. Now! The emissions lobby will have my job if I insist that electric car owners actually have to pay for something. That damn lobby has supplied thousands of them to all and sundry, spent a king's ransom on unrealistic and certainly unsustainable financial incentives to buy the damn things, measures Smithers, all of which have had not the slightest effect on private sales figures. My hands are tied, Smithers, tied! Now, where's our press officer, what's his name, Peabody, is it? Get him in here at once.

Smithers: Sorry, sir. But he's not in his office at the moment. His secretary said that he apologises but he is working from home at present. He is unable to get to the office because there is a power cut in his post-code area and the battery of his electric car is flat. The A.I. on his pothole sensor isn't working.

**JE**

# Surgery Newsletter

## **WINTER DEMAND – Please help us to help you!**

As we head into winter, demand for our services usually increases substantially. We really do need all of our patients to consider whether they really need to see a doctor before calling and consider using other local services such as your local pharmacy, which might be more appropriate. Of course, if you consider your problem is urgent we are always here to help and our daily on call doctor triage system will ensure you are contacted by a clinician in a timely manner.

## **COVID BOOSTERS**

This is just a reminder for patients that as the Surgery will not be administering the Covid boosters this autumn, anyone who is eligible can book this on-line using NHS.uk, via the NHS App or by calling 119. For further information and details of Walk-in Clinics these can be found on-line at [sneevaccine.org.uk](http://sneevaccine.org.uk).

## **November is Lung Cancer Awareness month.**

### **About lung cancer**

Lung cancer is one of the most common and serious types of cancer. There are usually no signs or symptoms in the early stages of lung cancer, but many people with the condition eventually develop symptoms including:

- a persistent cough
- coughing up blood
- persistent breathlessness
- unexplained tiredness and weight loss
- an ache or pain when breathing or coughing

### **Less common symptoms of lung cancer include:**

- changes in the appearance of your fingers, such as becoming more curved or their ends becoming larger (this is known as finger clubbing)
- a high temperature (fever) of 38C (100.4F) or above
- difficulty swallowing or pain when swallowing
- wheezing
- a hoarse voice
- swelling of your face or neck
- persistent chest or shoulder pain

### **If you have any of these, you should speak to your GP.**

#### **Types of lung cancer**

Cancer that begins in the lungs is called primary lung cancer. Cancer that spreads from the lungs to another place in the body is known as secondary lung cancer.

There are 2 main types of primary lung cancer. These are classified by the type of cells in which the cancer starts. They are: non-small cell lung cancer – the most common type, accounting for more than 80% of cases; can be either squamous cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma or large-cell carcinoma  
small-cell lung cancer – a less common type that usually spreads faster than non-small-cell lung cancer.  
The type of lung cancer you have determines which treatments are recommended.

#### **Who's affected**

Lung cancer mainly affects older people. It's rare in people younger than 40, and the rates of lung cancer rise sharply with age. Lung cancer is most diagnosed in people aged 70 to 74.

Although people who have never smoked can develop lung cancer, smoking is the main cause (accounting for over 85% of cases). This is because smoking involves regularly inhaling a number of different toxic substances.

**If you feel you have any of the above symptoms, please contact your GP surgery on 01206 250691**

## **SURGERY TRAINING AFTERNOON**

Along with all other surgeries in the area we will be shut from 12 noon on Wednesday, 29 November for staff training. If patients require urgent care on this afternoon, then they can contact 111 for assistance.

## **PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP – MEETINGS RESTARTING**

The next Patient Participation Group meeting will be held at 6.30 pm in the Mitchell Room, at Great Bentley Village Hall on Thursday, 17th November.

**Sue Mitson – Operations Manager**



## COOKERY CORNER

### TAKE THREE EGGS ( at least )

A year ago our son and his wife moved up to the Perth Hills in Western Australia into a house with half an acre of land attached. Here they have a kitchen garden and an orchard with many mature fruiting trees. Two young Dorper rams were acquired to mow the fast-growing grass in the orchard and two chickens soon joined them, very quickly producing fresh eggs each day. Recently, tragedy befell the chickens next door in the form of a fox, and the lone survivor decided to fly over the fence. Despite efforts to entice her home she is determined to stay in the company of the two Evans chickens in their henhouse, securely locked in before dark each evening. She has been renamed Lucky and is happily producing eggs alongside Elvira and Parmì. Even after regular donations to the neighbours, there are only so many eggs that can be eaten by two people when at least three a day are produced! Fortunately, our daughter in law loves cooking and her husband thoroughly appreciates her efforts. These recipes use medium or large eggs.

#### SCOTCH EGGS

2 slices white bread crusts removed      6 eggs      4tbs milk      500g sausagemeat  
2 tbsp chopped parsley      6 rashers streaky bacon      2tsp ground nutmeg  
6 hole deep muffin tin

Cut the rind off the bacon, stretch each rasher and cut in half lengthways. Preheat the oven to 190c. Place the eggs in a saucepan of enough boiling water to cover them completely. Bring back to the boil then simmer gently for 8 minutes. Drain and cool in the saucepan under cold running water. Shell the eggs and set aside. Tear the bread into small pieces and put in a large bowl, add the milk and leave for 2 minutes to soak, then mash it down with your hand. Put the sausagemeat into the bowl containing the soaked bread. Add the parsley, nutmeg and seasoning. Work everything together with your hand and divide the mixture into 6 balls, then flatten them to make rounds. Stand an egg in the middle of each round, pointed end up, and work the mixture up around the egg to create a smooth even layer, sealing the egg completely. It will be easier to do this with wet hands. Put each egg in a hole in the tin then crisscross two pieces of bacon over the top, tucking in the loose ends. Bake for about 35 minutes in the preheated oven until golden. Leave to stand for 5 minutes in the tin then run a knife around the edges of the holes to release the eggs. Drain on kitchen paper and serve warm or cold with salad and mayonnaise or mustard.


#### EGGS AU GRATIN ..... this will serve two.

25g butter      4 eggs      2 or 3 tomatoes      4 large spring onions      25g plain flour  
300ml milk      75g cheddar cheese      3 rounded tbsp white breadcrumbs  
3 rounded tbsp rolled oats

Preheat the oven to 180c. Trim and slice the spring onions very thinly, grate the cheese and slice the tomatoes. Put the eggs into a small saucepan, cover with cold water, bring to the boil and boil gently for 10 minutes. Remove the eggs from the pan and cool in a bowl of very cold water until completely cold. Shell the eggs then cut them in half lengthways and arrange cut sides down in a lightly buttered, shallow oven proof dish. Melt the butter in a largish saucepan, add the spring onions and cook gently for 2 to 3 minutes until softened but not browned. Stir the flour gradually into the butter and onions, stirring continuously until the sauce thickens. Take care that the sauce does not catch at the bottom of the pan. Add two thirds of the cheese and stir well until the cheese melts completely. Pour the sauce evenly over the eggs and arrange the sliced tomatoes on top. Mix together the breadcrumbs, oats and remaining cheese and sprinkle evenly over the sauce. Bake in the middle of the preheated oven for 30 to 40 minutes until golden brown and bubbling.

**M.E.**

# D SNEY QUIZ



1. What is the name of Anna and Elsa's kingdom in Frozen?
2. In 'The Little Mermaid' name the prince with whom Ariel falls in love?
3. Which Disney princess appeared on our screens first?
4. Who played the Genie in the 2019 live-action remake of Aladdin?
5. Where is 'Lilo & Stitch' set?
6. Who is Donald Duck's girlfriend?
7. In 'The Aristocats' which street cat befriends Duchess and her kittens?
8. What is the name of Andy's little sister in the 'Toy Story' franchise?
9. What kind of animal is Louis in 'The Princess and the Frog'?
10. Which film features the address '17 Cherry Tree Lane'?
11. In which year was Disney's original 'Lady & the Tramp' released?
12. In 'The Lion King', what animals are Pumba & Timon respectively?
13. Which pet does Esmeralda have in 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame'?
14. In 2017 version of Beauty and the Beast , who plays the character Belle?
15. Name the elderly woodcutter who created Pinocchio?
16. What is Flynn Rider's real name in Tangled?
17. What is the name of the Darling's dog in Peter Pan?
18. Which Disney character has animal friends named Meeko, Flit & Percy?
19. In which animated film does the chef Auguste Gusteau feature?
20. In Coco, which famous musician does Miguel idolise?

1.Arendelle 2.Prince Eric 3.Snow White 4.Will Smith 5.Hawaii 6.Daisy 7.Thomas O'Malley  
8.Molly 9.alligator 10.Mary Poppins 11.1955 12.warthog & meerkat 13.goat 14.Emma  
Watson 15.Gepetto 16.Eugene Fitzherbert 17.Nana 18.Pocahontas 19.Ratatouille  
20. Ernesto de la Cruz

# RUNNING CLUB

In another busy month of running activities it's hard to pick out the highlights but here are a few.

One of our own runners, Craig Mitchell, hosted the second of his knockout challenges at Colchester's Northern Gateway on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October. While the Northern Gateway doesn't have a dedicated running track the cycle track makes a good substitute. The event sees runners completing 600metre circuits of the track, followed by a 45-second recovery, with the last two competitors of each lap getting eliminated before the runners set off again.

Great Bentley enjoyed a successful night at the race with Magdalena Komoroska winning the ladies' race, Ben Myhill (V45) and Paul Davison (V50) winning their age categories, and Craig Slocombe finishing fifth overall whilst notching up a total of 12 laps of the course. Not to be put off by small things like rest and recovery, Craig also finished Colchester Castle parkrun the next morning in 18:42, finishing second overall.

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October there was a great turnout at Highwoods parkrun as Paul Hollidge completed his 300th parkrun and Magdalena Komorowska volunteered for the 50th time. There was a great turnout from GBRC runners and the local cafe sold a lot of coffee and cake afterwards.

Elsewhere on the same Saturday morning, Josh Beaumont claimed sixth place on the men's GBRC all-time Top 10 by completing Harwich parkrun in a blistering 16:45, claiming the first finishers token and bagging himself a shiny new PB at the same time. Following Josh across the finish line were Mark Jasper, who was the second finisher in 17:22, and Donna Harris who claimed a new parkrun PB of 26:32 in her final week of training before the Chicago Marathon. Good luck, Donna! Further along the coast Andrea Markwick completed Clacton seafront parkrun in 27:52, and finished first in her age category, as she continues her comeback from injury.

Our members were also out in force at the Long Distance Walkers Association Flower of Suffolk event on Sunday, and whilst most people chose to walk the 27 mile route around the Suffolk coast, Tom and Mags Komorowski ran it in less than five hours. Also opting for a nice walk were Leoni Harvey, Neil Robins, and Mark Crittenden who walked the Witchfinder Trail 10K to help raise money for Acorn Village.

Meanwhile, Inga Hayden-Cooper (52:44), Charlie Keitch (40:19) and Chris Warren (38:01) were busy at the Southend 10k, as they took on another race in the Essex County Road Running Grand Prix. With one race left at Tiptree 10, all three are still in with a chance of a coveted county series medal in their age categories. Come on you blues!

Finally, Emma Levett-Welham completed the Loch Ness Marathon in 6:48:40. She might have done it a bit quicker, but she kept wanting to stop to take in the beautiful views of the Loch, and who can blame her.

Planning is already underway at the club for our half marathon. It takes place on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February and while that seems a very long way off at the moment it always amazes us how quickly the time goes. Entries for the race open online at 10:00 on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October. We are expecting it to sell out quickly. We will post more details to keep everyone up to date with road closures and such like.

## In defence of life.

My eyes itched; I reached for a cloth,  
As my eyes adjusted to the light I went outside,  
I brushed my hair back and put my helmet on,  
I was regretting every moment of this.  
The eerie silence made my heart burn,  
The gun shots made my heart rate drop.  
BOOM! I tumbled forward in fear and hunger,  
Trying to walk, like a wounded dog, with all my force  
I skidded my way through,  
I just wanted to be back with you,  
I turn my head and think I see my loved one lying dead.  
My hand is red but I'm glad I am still alive.  
Death valley I see again, but remember we are strong  
men.  
My sweat slipped down into my boots and my helmet  
filled with water as it rained.  
The open, grey, breezy sky was filled with blinking eyes,  
I ran on, with trepidation .

***Lola Scillitoe aged 12.***

## BENTLEY GREEN LADIES CLUB

Our invited speaker for the October meeting was Norma Howell, a volunteer from Medical Detection Dogs. This charity, which was conceived in 2008, has gone from strength to strength and is now at the forefront of research and the training of both Bio Detection and Medical Alert Assistance dogs. Bio detection dogs are 'super sniffers', using their incredible sense of smell to help save lives every day. The dogs use their noses to find illnesses such as cancer, Parkinson's disease, malaria and now even Covid-19. It can take up to 2 years to train a puppy and costs £29,000 to care for, train, place and support a dog which will then be able to diagnose disease much earlier than with the usual more invasive and expensive methods. This charity depends on donations and puppy sponsorship and members gave generously as a thank you for an interesting and informative talk.

### **Dates for your diary....**

**Tuesday November 7th**

**Monday December 4th**

'An Evening of Magic' with Paul Clancy

Christmas Lunch at The Courthouse, Great Bromley 12 noon

Please bring a £10 deposit to November's meeting

## GREAT BENTLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

Thursday 9th November, Village Hall, 7.30pm

The War in Iraq from the perspective of a serving UK police officer in Basra.

Speaker Paul Rogers.

Members £2 at door. Visitors £4 at door.

## GREAT BENTLEY GARDENING CLUB

Our next meeting in the Village Hall is on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7.30pm**. Our speaker will be Ken Crowther, former radio gardening programme presenter and author, who will tell us about the changes he has seen through his years of gardening. It will be interesting so do come along.

All welcome

Visitors £3.00

## ART CLUB

Gt. Bentley Art Club meet up on Tuesday's, from 2pm, in Gt. Bentley Village Hall.

The meeting dates for November are as follows.

14th November - Drawing/Painting in the style of Georgia O'Keefe

28th November: - Drawing/Painting headress from other cultures

The subjects are suggestions only, as some do work on individual projects. New members are always welcome.

### **MAGAZINE COLLATING DAY FOR DECEMBER MAGAZINE**

Magazine collating will be on **FRIDAY 24TH NOVEMBER**

in St Mary's Church Hall starting at 9.00am



# Wildlives

## Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre

'Catkins', Frating Road, Thorrington, Colchester CO7 8HT  
www.wildlives.org.uk

Opening hours: n/a 07802 767016

Outside of Wildlives' hours, please call the RSPCA on 0300 1234 999 or log on to our website for advice on what to do with a sick animal until we are open again in the morning. **See the web site for extra pictures too!**

### Otter kit found in a field

November 2023

Mera, a female otter kit, was found alone near Deben Mills near Wickham Market by a member of the public. She went back after 48 hours and the kit was still there. The tiny kit was only about three weeks old, and her eyes were just beginning to open. By the time the RSPCA brought her in she was hypothermic and severely dehydrated. While it was right to wait to see if the mother came back, ideally she should have been checked after 1-2 hours. She would have been dropped by her mother while moving her from a flooded holt. Baby otters usually stay with their mothers for about a year, and little Mera would not have survived another day had she not been rescued. After being cared for at Wildlives for a week, a place was found for her at the UK Wild Otter Trust in Devon, where she will be rehabilitated and eventually released – a process that will take around 18 months. Many thanks to Adrian from the badger/otter group who kindly transferred her to Devon.

A cygnet was brought in with a barbed fish hook embedded in its leg. With great difficulty it was successfully removed, and after being given a long-acting antibiotic the cygnet was released where it was found. If you go fishing, please don't leave your tackle lying around.

### Be careful on bonfire night

The mature female hedgehog on the right was kicked to death in Braintree by jobs using her as a football. She was found in an alleyway running from Glebe Avenue past Clavering Road and into Church Meadows, at 2pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. She suffered major internal injuries and bleeding, and must have died in agony. As if that wasn't appalling enough, she was lactating, so her babies will have starved to death. The RSPCA have issued a press release and are doing everything they can to find the culprits. If you have any information please contact the RSPCA inspector appeal line on 0300 1238018 quoting incident 01157240.



## Great Bentley Hedgehog Highways

A Facebook page set up by Demi Harvey and Emma Garrood. We are both veterinary nurses from Kinfauns vets based in little Clacton 01255 860555. We want to help people encourage hedgehogs into their garden by writing a monthly diary of a hedgehog's life.

November is here and most hedgehogs will have started to hibernate. Any late born youngsters that are still found wandering around are unlikely to survive for long. This is the time to get in contact if you are worried about a young hedgehog. As mentioned before hedgehogs need to weigh at least 600g in order to have enough body fat to survive hibernation. There is evidence that a healthy hedgehog weighing 450g can survive hibernation, but it is more likely to survive weighing 600g - 650g +.

Hibernation is not continuous, periodically the hedgehog will wake up and their temperature returns to near normal. They seldom move about, but simply remain alert in their nest. Hedgehogs may also be woken from their hibernation by flooding, disturbance or unseasonably warm weather. Too many arousals will use up the animal's fat reserves before winter is over. But if hibernation goes well the hedgehog can pass the chilly days of winter safely sheltered in their nest.

I continue to supply a shallow bowl of fresh water in case the hedgehogs are disturbed from their hibernation. This water supply also helps other wildlife. I also make sure the feeding station has a fresh supply of dried food, as not all hedgehogs are asleep yet and some will wake or be disturbed.

November is also a very dangerous month for hedgehogs as fireworks tend to be continuous and not just on the 5th November. Bonfires are such an appealing hibernation nest, any piles of debris, wood or bush are irresistible to hedgehogs and also other wildlife such as amphibians and reptiles.

Top tips to keep hedgehogs safe -

- Build the bonfire on the day of burning
- Dismantle and relocate the bonfire a few metres away just before lighting.
- Putting up a fence or barrier around bonfire beforehand using chicken wire (remember hedgehogs can climb, so might not prevent)
- Checking bonfire thoroughly before lighting and try lighting one side of the bonfire first to allow any hidden hedgehog or wild life escape before lighting all the bonfire.
- Go to an official organised fire works display as opposed to making your own. (Better for the environment)
- Ensure bonfires are completely out to prevent wildlife or pets getting injured from hot embers.
- Spread the word and educate others

Another confused belief is to give hedgehogs and wildlife the used pumpkin. This is not good for hedgehogs as they are omnivores. This meaning they forage garden pests such as slugs, insects and tasty meaty grubs. They will eat a small amount of fallen fruit, roots and plants. However eating a lot of pumpkin flesh which happens quite often during Halloween, can result in health issues. The large amount of fibrous fruit is likely to cause digestive upset, causing diarrhoea, which can result in dehydration and in serious cases it can be fatal. Especially if it is a rotting pumpkin. If you are putting out a Jack lantern try not to leave them on the ground. Place the pumpkin on a wall or tree out of reach of foraging hoggies.

Remember to help support Demi in her campaign to make people aware of the amount of hedgehog deaths on the roads. Help her create a map of live hedgehogs and also the dead hedgehogs in Great Bentley. This can be done by joining our Facebook page and recording your resident hedgehogs.

**Emma Garrood RVN, C&GCertVNES**

### **KNIT & NATTER**

**Thursday 16th November**

**St Mary's Church Hall**

**2.00pm - 3.30pm**

**All Welcome**



# TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

## **New Constituency Update**

The Parishes of Great Bentley, Little Bentley and Frating, with Great and Little Oakley and Wix were officially moved from the Harwich and North Essex Constituency and have now been joined with the Clacton Constituency as from the 20<sup>th</sup> September. Giles Watling is now our MP.

## **Almost 1000 Residents ‘Try Before They Apply’ at Tendring Jobs and Skills Fair**

Residents looking for their next career or training opportunities tried out different skills at the Tendring Jobs and Skills Fair. Almost 1,000 people attended the event at the Princes Theatre in Clacton on Thursday (28 September) and had the opportunity to ‘try before they apply’ a range of jobs, such as bricklaying, and wind farm and car maintenance.

The event was organised by Tendring District Council (TDC) in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions (Job Centre Plus) as part of the Tendring4Growth Business Fortnight. Fifty-three exhibitors attended offering careers or skills training, providing fun, interactive activities showcasing the various skills people may need for jobs in that industry – allowing attendees to see what they may enjoy or have a flair for. Popular activities included a timed tyre change ‘pit stop challenge’, virtual reality simulation of working at an offshore windfarm, and bricklaying.

## **New Towns Fund for Clacton**

Clacton has been announced as the beneficiary of one of the towns named as part of the New Towns’ Fund. It is an endowment of £20 million to be spent over 10 years. It will be led by TDC and will require a Towns’ Board to be established. There are no further details at present.

## **Drive to Increase Food Recycling comes to Tendring**

Households across Tendring will soon be getting extra support in a bid to boost food recycling in the district. Suitable homes will receive a sticker on their black bin reminding them to recycle food waste, along with a roll of food caddy liner bags and an information leaflet. The leaflet includes top tips on recycling food – which, instead of recycling going to landfill, is recycled to generate energy and fertiliser for use in farming in Essex.

The initiative, led by Essex County Council in partnership with local authorities including Tendring District Council (TDC), is being rolled out in three phases across the county in a bid to reduce the 25% of food waste which currently ends up in general bins. Previous interventions elsewhere have increased food recycling by 25%.

Last year Tendring recycled more than 4,300 tonnes of food – equivalent to 360 double-decker buses. For more information about the project and how to recycle your food waste, visit [www.loveessex.org/food-recycling](http://www.loveessex.org/food-recycling)

## **Great Bentley Station Volunteers**

It was very pleasing when receiving recently through our District Councillors weekly reports from TDC’s Chief Executive that there was a mention of the success there has been regarding the volunteers work at Great Bentley station, with also a mention of the Art Clubs contribution of their excellent picture selection of scenes of the Spinney.

## **The Seventh Tendring Youth Awards**

The winners of this year’s youth Awards were revealed at a presentation evening held at Clacton’s Princes Theatre on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The awards commemorate achievements by young people across a range of categories along with a category for adults who support young people in Tendring.

Harwich Haven Authority the headline sponsor of this year’s Tendring Youth Awards, were supported by Tendring District Council and Essex County Council. Other sponsors are Actual Radio, the Princes Theatre, Halterman Carless and Nova Training, along with new sponsors Aquinas Provisions Ltd who introduced a new school Attendance Award category for 2023.

The awards celebrate young people, alongside the award presentations were performances by Stagestruck, All Saints Primary School Choir, and some of the cast of *Evita* from Clacton County High School’s production.

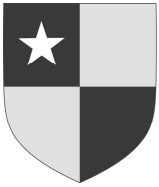
To keep up-to-date with the Tendring Youth Awards, or for organisations interested in being a sponsor, visit <https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/community/young-people/tendring-youth-awards> or go to the awards’ Facebook and Instagram pages.

**Cllr Lynda McWilliams**

**Tendring District Councillor for The Bentleys and Frating Ward**

**[cllr.lmcwilliams@tendringdc.co.uk](mailto:cllr.lmcwilliams@tendringdc.co.uk)**

**Mobile Phone number 07564 613603**



## **Are you a local organisation that needs financial support for a project in the coming year?**

Then Great Bentley Parish Council may be looking for you!

### **To Qualify you must be:**

- *Locally based within Great Bentley Village*
- *A Non-profit organisation or community Group*
- *The project must support parishioners in the village.*
- *Your bank account must be registered to your organisation.*
- *If you are a charity – you will need to be officially registered.\**

We are now accepting Grant requests to be awarded in April 2024, these must be received by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023, as these will go before the Finance Committee in January 2024 for their consideration.

The Grant awarding Policy and application form is available on the website

<https://greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk/policies-and-procedures/> .

### **Local Organisations and Groups that Great Bentley Parish Council have awarded funding to in 2023:**

- a) Great Bentley Pre-School, for the cost of a new shed to store their outside garden equipment to keep it safe and protect it from the weather.
- b) Great Bentley Good Neighbours, to support ongoing printing costs for the free publication.
- c) Bentley in Bloom to help with the ongoing costs of the bulbs, flowers and compost.

The Council have also supported the Great Bentley Carnival and the Coronation Party on the Green by providing the mobile toilets for the events.

If you do have any questions about this process, or to find out if your organisation is eligible please email the clerk at: [clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk)

*(\*for full conditions of eligibility please refer to the grant policy, please note this is a limited fund with only a set amount for the financial year 2023-24).*

*The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd November in the Village Hall, we hope to see you there!*

**Jennifer Spear – Clerk to the Council**

# Community Volunteering Opportunity Board

## Community Speed watch

*Do you want to be part of a team who are actively reducing speeding in the village and supporting the police and our PCSO through identification of offenders? No specified commitment with training provided.*

**Email:**

[greatbentleyspeedwatch@gmail.com](mailto:greatbentleyspeedwatch@gmail.com)  
for further info.

## Train Station Volunteers

*Do you know that Great Bentley Train Station have been awarded a 'Wildlife Friendly' accreditation? If you have an interest in biodiversity and supporting nature, why not join our group and be part of this exciting project.*

*Contact Dawn on 01206 481746 for more info.*

## Parish Council

### Environment Working Group

*Passionate about the environment? You should consider being part of Parish Council's EWG. A blend of both councillors and residents, the group meets monthly to address environmental issues and conduct projects within the parish.*

**Email:** [john.wharton@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:john.wharton@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk) for further info.

## Parish Magazine Collators

*With over nine hundred copies of the parish magazine printed monthly, our group of volunteers are essential in the collating of the pages and the distribution of the magazines.*

*Any new willing volunteers should contact: Mary Maskell -*

[marymaskell@syszinternet.net](mailto:marymaskell@syszinternet.net) or  
[carole@pncallington.co.uk](mailto:carole@pncallington.co.uk)

If your group has any volunteering opportunities and would like to be included on the noticeboard please email [john.wharton@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:john.wharton@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk)

## REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES

11th November - The official Remembrance Day Service 11am at the Memorial, service led by Wendy King. A piper will be in attendance.

12th November - Methodist Chapel service at 10 am. Following the service the public are invited to parade to the memorial led by a piper, the parade will include scouts and guides. Memorial service starts at 10.55. Service will be led by Methodist minister both at chapel and at the memorial. A service sheet will be available at the memorial, please note this is for the Sunday service only not the church services.

The school children will be planting crosses, one for every villager who lost their lives during the two Wars, in the preceding week. All other wreaths etc will be laid at the Sunday service. Police will be informed regarding the parade and hopefully escorts will be in attendance.

**Michael Dorling RBL**

## Bumper Christmas Raffle

At the Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary's Church, on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December, I would like to organise a bumper raffle this year. In the past many residents have contributed to this fund-raiser which helps towards the expenses of running the church and keeping it open for the benefit of all.

If you would like to offer a prize, I would be very grateful. Suggestions for festive contributions could include Christmas crackers, preserves, savoury or otherwise, plants, candles, biscuits, chocolates etc.

These can be left at the back of the church (please label them with reference to the Raffle), can be collected by me or brought to 4 Wents Close. I would appreciate receipt of prizes any time in November.

The Festival starts on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. I hope to see you there – many thanks in advance.

**Rosemary Branch - 01206 250137**

## Turkey Square Fund-raiser

Thanks to the generosity once again of Hubert's Happy Healthy Turkeys, we are able to offer everyone the opportunity to win a fresh turkey to the value of £70! All proceeds raised will contribute to the maintenance of our lovely 12<sup>th</sup> Century village church, which is open to the whole community.

Turkey Squares cost £1 each. Sheets of 10 are available to buy, as many as you wish, or sell. Please contact me on 01206 250137 or 07802 268897 if you would like to participate in this particular fund-raiser. Previous helpers will be contacted as usual.

All squares, sold and unsold, plus money received, must be returned to me by **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November**. Please put these through my door at 4 Wents Close, Great Bentley, CO7 8PZ or ring me for collection.

The draw for the turkey voucher will take place at the Christmas Tree Festival, St Mary's Church, on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and the lucky winner will be informed.

With many thanks in advance,

**Rosemary Branch**

## CHRISTMAS WREATHS

### Pre-order please

So that your wreaths will stay fresh for the festive season we will be **TAKING ORDERS** and you will be able to come along to the church hall to choose/collect yours on the afternoon of **Friday 8th December.**

**They will NOT be on sale at the Christmas Tree Festival.**

As usual we will give a generous layer of moss and plenty of fresh greenery.

Please, when ordering tell us **what colour bow** you would like.

**6 inch** (suitable for grave or cremation area) **£ 12**

**12 inch will be £20**

**14 inch will be £25**

**16 inch will be £35**

To order ring **Jackie Kilby 01206 250717**  
**Mary Maskell 01206 250524**

## PLEASE CAN YOU HELP ST MARY'S CHURCH?

Our major winter fundraiser is our Christmas Tree Festival 2/3 December.

We need the following for our stalls;

**Bottles** for the Bottle Stall (**FULL ones please!**).

**Tombola Prizes** for adults and children.

**New gifts and home made craft items, handmade cards etc**

**Homemade Christmas Fare, Jams, Cakes, Mincemeat, Mince Pies etc**

**Raffle Prizes**, see article on page 36.

These can be left behind the curtain at the back of the church or in Mary Maskell's porch. Caldew Cottage, The Green. (Just open the door and walk in)

**Thank you in advance, from all at St Mary's church.**

## CHRISTMAS TREES

Groups in the village will be invited to take part in our Christmas Tree Festival on 2nd and 3rd December but if you would like to decorate a tree as an individual you will be most welcome.

The theme for this year is 'Christmas Songs' and trees should be approximately 1 metre high and can be either real or artificial. Lights may be used on the trees but can you let me know if you need electricity.

For further information please contact  
**Carole Allington, 01206 251086 email: carole@pncallington.co.uk**

## NOVEMBER DIARY

- Thurs 2nd **PCC MEETING**, Village Hall
- Sat 4th **AUTUMN FAYRE**, Methodist Church, 10-3pm
- Sun 5th **DEADLINE FOR SHOEBOXES**
- Tues 7th **BENTLEY GREEN LADIES CLUB**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- Wed 8th **FRIENDS OF THE GREEN AGM**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- Thurs 9th **HISTORY SOCIETY**, 7.30pm, Village Hall
- Fri 10th **AUSTISM COFFEE MORNING**, Village Hall, 9.30am
- Fri 10th **GOOD NEIGHBOURS QUIZ NIGHT**, Methodist Hall, 7.30pm
- Sat 11th **CHURCHYARD CLEAR UP**, from 9am
- Sat 11th **WAR MEMORIAL SERVICE**, 11am
- Sun 12th **REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE AT WAR MEMORIAL**, 11am
- Sun 12th **DEANERY CHOIR**, St Georges Church, Gt Bromley 10.30am
- Mon 13th **CRICKET CLUB AGM**, Clubhouse, 7.30pm
- Tues 14th **ART CLUB**, Village Hall, 2pm
- Wed 15th **GREAT BENTLEY SHOW AGM**, Village Hall, 8pm
- Thurs 16th **KNIT & NATTER**, St Mary's Church Hall, 2pm
- Tues 14th **MAGAZINE DEADLINE**
- Thurs 17th **PATIENT PARTICIPATION GOUP**, 6.30pm, Village Hall
- Sat 18th **COFFEE MORNING, FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**, St Mary's Church Hall, 10-12 noon
- Tues 21st **GARDENING CLUB**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- Thurs 23rd **TALK ON WIDLIE OF WRABNESS**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- Fri 24th **MAGAZINE COLLATING**, 9am, Church Hall
- Sun 26th **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON**, 5pm
- Tues 28th **ART CLUB**, Village Hall, 2pm