

October 2010
Volume 35, No. 8

Buntingford Journal



The Renovated Old Rectory, Hare Street Road

40p

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Join the Buntingford Civic Society

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USEFUL LOCAL INFORMATION

POLICE STATION:	Baldock Road, Buntingford Non-emergency 0845 33 00 222
Saturday Police surgeries:	Every Saturday, 2:00pm – 4:00pm at Buntingford Police station
GAS:	Emergency (gas leaks) telephone 0800 111 999
ELECTRICITY:	Emergency (power loss) telephone 0800 7838 838
WATER (Three Valleys):	Emergency telephone 0800 376 5325
DOCTORS:	The Medical Centre – White Hart Close Telephone 01763 271362 (24 hours) Orchard Surgery – Baldock Road Telephone 01763 272410 & 272411 (after hours)
FAMILY PLANNING:	Clinic every Wednesday 6:30pm – 8:30pm at The Medical Centre. Telephone 01763 271763
B A S H (Buntingford Action For Social Help):	Providing transport for hospital/doctors appointments, telephone Jane Winter 01763 271484
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, RACE, HATE or RAPE CRIME:	Confidential Information Help-line, telephone 01992 554440 (in an emergency, dial 999)
LOCAL COUNCILS:	East Herts District Council – telephone 01279 655261 Housing – telephone 01279 714714 Benefits – Freephone 0800 373852 Buntingford Town Council – telephone 01763 272222 Hertfordshire Highways – telephone 01438 737320
BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY:	Telephone: 01438 737333 (enquiries) 01438 737373 (renewals) Mondays: 09:00 – 13:00 14:00 – 18:00 Tuesdays: 09:00 – 13:00 14:00 – 18:00 Wednesdays: CLOSED ALL DAY Thursdays: 09:00 – 13:00 14:00 – 18:00 Fridays: 09:00 – 13:00 14:00 – 18:00 Saturdays: 09:00 – 13:00 CLOSED
BUNTINGFORD CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU:	The Manor House, High Street, Buntingford Telephone 0844 848 9700 Mondays: 10:00am – 4:00pm Tuesdays: 10:00am – 1:00pm Wednesdays: 10:00am – 1:00pm Telephone advice available Mon – Thurs, 10:00am – 4:00pm
HOUSEHOLD WASTE SITE:	Watermill Industrial Estate, Aspenden Road Open: Mondays – Fridays 5:00pm – 8:00pm Saturday & Sunday 10:00am – 1:00pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 2nd 7:30pm for 8:00pm start Quiz Night at Layston First School, Buntingford. See page 27.
- Tuesday 5th 8:00pm Buntingford & District Cage Bird Society – Benson Hall. New members welcome to join our society formed in 1956. Enquiries to Mr W Lodge on 01920 438482.
- Wednesday 6th 7:45pm for 8:00pm Buntingford Gardeners Club at URC Hall, Baldock Road, Buntingford. Speaker Aubrey Barker on 'Lovely and Smelly'.
- Saturday 9th 2:00pm for 2:30pm St Richard's Church – Bingo at Benson Hall.
- Sunday 10th 10:10am Buntingford Railway & Local History Society – Walking the Buntingford Line. Departs from the Railway Public House.

Buntingford & District Social Club Darts Tournament. See page 15 for full details.
- Monday 11th 2:00pm – 4:00pm Buntingford U3A AGM Seth Ward Community Centre.
- Thursday 14th 7:30pm for 7:45pm Buntingford WI at URC Hall. Speaker Richard Thomas on 'A Walk with the Admiral'.

8:00pm British Legion. All members welcome at the Crown PH.
- Friday 15th 8:00pm Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at the Crown public house, Buntingford. Speaker Roy Tricker on 'History of Churches'.
- Tuesday 19th 12noon deadline for November edition of Buntingford Journal. Contact 01763 272040.
- Wednesday 20th 10:30am – 12 noon BALA Coffee morning at Benson Hall.
- Monday 25th – Friday 29th 8:00am – 4:00pm Buntings Out of School club. See page 10 for details.
- Wednesday 27th 2:00pm for 2:30pm St Richard's Church – Bingo at Benson Hall.

7:30pm (doors open 7:00pm) Buntingford & District Flower Club at Benson Hall. Doug Howard – A Man and a Box of Flowers.
- Saturday 30th 1:00pm – 4:30pm Buntingford & District Cage Bird Society 'Cage Bird Show'. See page 31 for full details.

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER?

MONDAYS

- 9:30am – 11:30am Buntings Tumble at Cottered Village Hall. Contact 01763 272868.
- 10:00am – 12 noon Free sports activities for over 50s men and women run by Herts Sports Partnership at Seth Ward Community Centre. Yoga, badminton, dance, pilates, new age bowls, table tennis, seated exercise and lots more. Free tea & coffee. Tel 01707 281201 for more details.
- 10:30am – 12 noon Iyengar Yoga Classes at URC Hall – term time only. Contact Jen Harris on 01920 821288.
- 1:30pm – 3:30pm Senior Citizens Club at URC Hall, Baldock Road. Bingo and an afternoon of socialising. For more information contact Jeanne Clark on 01763 274631
- 5:30pm – 6:30pm Cougars Under 7s training, Norfolk Road. Andy on 07941 078069.
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Shotokan Karate at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact Peter Deacon on 01462 642922.
- 7:00pm – 8:00pm Pilates at Benson Hall. Contact Jacqui on 01763 274681.
- 7:30pm – 8:15pm Abs (body toning) session at Fit Together Gym, Buntingford. Contact Al on 07739 131694.
- 7:30pm – 9:45pm Buntingford & District Youth Club for young people aged 13 – 19 years, held at the Technical Institute, Baldock Road. Contact Nick Howell on 07789 927 64 or email nick.howell@hertsc.gov.uk.
- 8:15pm Circuit Training at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact 01920 823677.

TUESDAYS

- 9:15am – 10:15am Badminton at Seth Ward Community Centre – £2.50 per session. Contact 01763 273712.
- 9:30am – 11:00am Tuesday Toddlers at URC Hall. £1.50 includes drink and snack. Term time.
- 1:00pm – 3:00pm Leapfrogs Pre-school (Gt Horstead). Cookery sessions for ages 2 to 5 years, £6.75 per session. It is not necessary to be attending the pre-school. Booking is required. Please call 01763 289942. Term time only.
- 5:30pm – 6:30pm Cougars Under 12s Blues training, Norfolk Road. Shaun on 07836 214129.
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Cougars Under 14s training, Norfolk Road. Frank on 07768 078167.
- 7:00pm – 8:15pm Grade 5 Ballet Lessons, Layston School. Contact Philippa on 01763 271010.

WEDNESDAYS

- 5:30pm – 6:30pm Cougars Under 10s training, Norfolk Road. Martin on 07834 318518.
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm Circuit Training for 50+ at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact 01799 550190.
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Cougars Under 11s training, Norfolk Road. Sean on 07860 365681.
- 7:00pm Classes in classical yoga, relaxation & meditation at Seth Ward Community Centre. Call Tom Newstead to book on 07900 654227.
- 7:30pm – 8:30pm Body Circuit at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact 01799 550190.

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER?

WEDNESDAYS

- 7:30pm – 8:15pm Boxercise/Tae Bo session at Fit Together Gym, Buntingford. Contact Al on 07739 131694.
- 8:00pm – 9:00pm Cougars Under 16s training, Norfolk Road. Mike 01763 271750.
- 8:00pm Horizon Divers at Freman Pool. Contact 01920 823955.

THURSDAYS

- 9:30am – 11:00am Little Ones Mother & Toddler Group at Scout Hut. Contact Jean on 01763 272081 or Clare on 01763 273019.
- 9:30am – 11:30am Mother & Toddler Group at Anstey Village Hall (next to the school). Range of activities including arts & crafts, music, outdoor activities, small world play, trikes & bikes & role play. All welcome. Term-time only. £2.50 per child (tea & coffee, snacks & juice included).
- 11:00am Keep fit for 50+ at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact 01799 550190.
- 1:00pm – 3:00pm Leapfrogs Pre-school (Gt Hormead). Art sessions for ages 18 months to 5 years, £6.75 per session. Alternatively parents may stay with their child 1:30pm–2:30pm for £4 a session. (Under 2s must be accompanied by a parent/carer). It is not necessary to be attending the pre-school, booking required. Phone Kim Semple on 01763 289942.
- 2:15pm – 2:45pm 'Story-time' for under 5s at Buntingford Library. Singing, stories, a sweet or biscuit and a picture to colour.
- 4:30pm – 6:30pm 14 to 18 year olds drama workshops with Stagefrights Theatre (term-time only) at URC Hall, Baldock Road contact Dave on 01438 232181 or email stagefrights2009@yahoo.co.uk
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Cougars Under 9s training at Norfolk Road. Kevin 07930 192079.
- 5:30pm – 10:00pm Buntingford Swimming Club at Ward Freman Pool. Contact Alan Bowell on 01920 821722.
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm Cougars Under 8s training at Norfolk Road. Matt 07814 838460.
- 6:15pm – 7:00pm Jazzercise Class at Seth Ward Community Centre.
- 8:00pm – 10:00pm Badminton Club at Seth Ward Community Centre.

FRIDAYS

- 9:30am – 10:30am Badminton at Seth Ward Community Centre – term time only.
- 10:00am – 11:00am Baby & toddler 'Rhyme Time' at Seth Ward Centre. £1 for first child, 50p for additional children & adults to include tea & coffee. Contact Mandy Sims at Bramble Hill Children's Centre 07904 955141 while the organisers of Rhyme Time are on maternity leave.
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Cougars Under 15s training at Norfolk Road. Darren 07764 573696.
- 5:30pm – 8:00pm Friday Project, Buntingford & District Youth Club for young people aged 13 – 19 years. A range of activities, held at the Technical Institute, Baldock Road. Contact Nick Howell on 07789 927 64 or email nick.howell@hertsc.gov.uk.
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm Cougars Under 10s Stripes training at Norfolk Rd. Dave 07836 231915.
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Cougars Under 12s Whites training at Norfolk Rd. Dave 07786 933963.

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER?

SATURDAYS

9:00am – 12:30pm Ballet Classes at Layston School for children aged 3 – 18 years. Contact Philippa on 01763 271010.

12:00pm – 2:00pm 14 to 18 year olds drama workshops with Stagefrights Theatre.

2:15pm – 4:15pm 6 – 15 year olds drama workshops with Stagefrights Theatre.

4:15pm – 6:15pm 6 – 16 year olds dance workshops with Stagefrights Theatre.

All Stagefrights workshops are term-time only, at United Reform Church Hall, Baldock Road. Contact Dave on 01438 232181 or email stagefrights2009@yahoo.co.uk

2:00pm – 4:00pm Police Surgery at Buntingford Police Station, Baldock Road.

MONDAY – FRIDAY

Buntingford Heritage Centre in the foyer of the Manor House. A display of Buntingford's past, open 9:00am – 5:00pm.

MONDAY – FRIDAY

Councillor John Warren Surgery at the Manor House. Contact 01763 273344 for an appointment.

OUT AND ABOUT IN OCTOBER

Saturday 2nd 10:00am – 12noon Great Hornead Farmers Market, Village Hall.

Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd Furneux Festival 2010 – see page 45 for details.

Saturday 9th 7:30pm Braughing Music Society, The Williams Kelleher Duo, Classical Guitar Recital. See page 48 for full details.

Saturday 16th 9:30am – 12noon Sandon Growers Market.

Thursday 28th 10:00am – 3:30pm British Red Cross Christmas Fair at Fanhams Hall Hotel, Ware. Further details contact 01992 586609. See page 17.

LOOKING AHEAD

November

Saturday 6th 11:00am – 12:30pm Nearly New Sale at Barkway Village Hall. See page 11.

7:30 The Royal British Legion Quiz Night at Benson Hall. See page 21 for details.

7:30pm Aspenden Festival Committee evening of Cheese, Wine and Live Music. See page 29.

Saturday 13th 10:00am – 3:00pm Friends of Orchard Surgery Annual Craft Fair. See page 41.

December

Mon 20th –
Fri 24th Buntings Out of School Club at Layston School. For more details, phone 07880 914 511.

EDITORIAL

October is here and many shops have been displaying Christmas goods since September – a real shocker to think that it's just around the corner. Where has this year gone to? Answers on a postcard please!

I've started a six-week beginners watercolour painting class (advertised in last month's Journal), which I am thoroughly enjoying. Janet Westerman is our very talented and charming teacher and I really had no idea just how relaxing it would be. I'm no budding Van Gogh but gosh, you can certainly get totally engrossed and lost in what you are doing. Thanks Janet, just what the doctor ordered!

Coming back to earth with a bang, this month's Journal contains a lot of information and articles referring to the consultation by EHC on development in East Herts and especially for Buntingford and the surrounding villages. This is really important and everyone really should get involved as the plan goes to 2031 – so if you don't think it will affect you and your family, you are mistaken. Take a few minutes to complete any questionnaires that you have received and submit them. Who knows, en masse we may get heard and help shape our future and that of our children.

On a lighter note, on a visit to the local vets recently, my husband and I overheard a conversation between a father and his small son. Their little dog had been stung in the eye by wasps and the little lad was asking why the wasps had stung their pet. Dad, very patiently, explained that the dog got too close to where the wasps lived and it was their way of telling the dog to go away, so they stung her. The charming young man, who was knee high to a grasshopper, thought for a moment or two and said he knew another way to ask someone to go away and that was to say, "Excuse me, I need some time alone". How refreshing! Well done Dad (and Mum).

Aliya Chowney

**Deadline for the November Journal is
12noon on Tuesday 19th October 2010**

Thanks go to Debbie Lemay for proof reading

Copy and diary entries:

Aliya Chowney, 5 Longmead, Buntingford SG9 9EF (01763 272040)
email: aliyachowney@btinternet.com

Advertising enquiries: Bob Jackson (01763 271463) email: henryjack@msn.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir/Madam

by post

OLD "COSY CINEMA" IN BUNTINGFORD

I give thanks to the secretary of the Buntingford Railway & Local History Society for informing me that the former *Cosy Cinema* in Station Road in the town still stands, in the guise of 'Benson Hall', next to the church there, and used by them. In checking this out, it appears that the funeral directors, standing immediately in front and obscuring much of the view, used to be the old fire station, which now stands on the opposite side of the road, next to the Co-op store.

As a former projectionist, I'm interested to know if anything remains of the old projection box inside, along with the 12 foot stage it was said to once have. From the outside, it's possible to make out where boards covered the downstairs windows, to show coming or current film posters, but other than that, there isn't anything to indicate its one time use as a cinema. Still at least the building remains.

I will be pleased to receive the details I seek.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Wheeler
8 Gainsthorpe Road
Bobbingworth
Ongar
Essex CM5 0NG

Motor Madness

by email

Whatever happened to the days when one felt safe on the pavements? You may as well walk on the road in the High Street in Buntingford; it's no safer using the pavement. One has to constantly negotiate the traffic (even on the pavement) and worry about whether you're going to be run over. My children have come close to being hit by cars swinging onto the pavement and just breaking in time because they're too lazy to find a parking bay, which are ample and free for an hour.

Only the other day I saw a car swing onto the pavement right behind a woman pushing her baby in a pram; the poor woman looked terrified, there were inches between her and the ignorant motorist. Observe the High Street next time you're in it. I see these dangers every single day. The bollards need to be on both sides of the road. When the traffic warden walks along the High Street there isn't too much of a problem, but when they are not around, 'You take your life into your hands walking along the High Street'.

From a fed up resident

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,

by post

I often attend St Peter's Church. As you will know we have a new vicar, Ian Hill and his wife Sarah, who have been here a year now and we are very fortunate – both being very enthusiastic. The times of the services are in the Journal and children are very welcome. We feel it is good for our children to come to church services. We haven't had much need for accommodating children in recent years, but have a large upper room if numbers increase. We just want you to know you are loved by God. If you want to sing his praises – come and join us.

We support good causes abroad. In the past we have collected toothbrushes for a Russian orphanage so each child could have their own. At the moment we are collecting new socks for a Russian orphanage through "Love Russia". Each pair of socks has to be accompanied by £1 towards fur lined winter boots. No trainer socks please. If you would like to donate any new socks, accompanied with £1 for each pair – please leave at St Peter's, there is a box in the coffee area. Join us for a Sunday service and leave them then, or at our weekly Monday coffee mornings from 10.00am to 12.30pm. These poor children have to feel that they are loved by someone, they are the next generation.



Audrey Taylor

Dear Friends,

by email

I would like to extend my thanks to all who so kindly sent us gifts and cards on the occasion of our wedding, on Saturday 11th September at St. Mary's Aspenden. I am off to the United States on 22nd September to meet up with my new husband and go house hunting in Florida (lucky me!).

I want to say goodbye to everyone that I haven't got round to seeing. Having lived in Buntingford for over 30 years, I shall miss not only the people but the town itself. All I can say is thank you and goodbye.

Jill Cork (Smart)

Buntingford Journal is published by, but is editorially independent of, Buntingford Civic Society. It is delivered free to members of the Civic Society or it can be purchased from:

**A CUT ABOVE • BASRAS SUPERMARKET • CO-OP SUPERMARKET
COUNTRY FLOWERS • DELISSIMO • FLUTTERBY'S
HARE STREET SHOP & FILLING STATION • KIRKHAMS • MARK DOEL
PEARCE'S FARM SHOP • PIGGOTTS • QUILLER BOOKS • WESTMILL TEA ROOM**

Buntingford Youth Project

For all 13 - 19 year olds

Monday evenings 7:30pm – 9:45pm		Friday evenings 6:00PM – 8:00pm	
Mon 4 th Oct	Career advice, CV building & biscuit making!	Fri 1 st Oct	Zumba taster session & Pizza night
Mon 11 th Oct	First aid night	Fri 8 th Oct	Graffiti night
Mon 18 ^h Oct	Street dance	Fri 15 th Oct	Crafts and pool tournament
Mon 25 th Oct	Film night with popcorn	Fri 22 nd Oct	Alcohol awareness and pizza making
Mon 1 st Nov	Sexual health night	Fri 29 th Oct	Wii Sports and mask making

Come along and join in with activities or chill out with friends.

At the Technical Institute, opposite the Post Office in Baldock Road

Don't forget that every Monday until Christmas we have Weight Training open to anyone aged 13 to 19! 7:30pm to 8pm is a girls only session, 8pm to 9pm is open to anyone. For more info ask staff or see Youthy

**buntingford
& district
youth club**

**Nick Howell
Youth Connexions**



Buntings

Buntings Out of School

25th – 29th October 2010

8:00am – 4:00pm

at Layston School

The club is run every school holiday and is connected to our before and after school club that runs during school term time and collects from local schools. We provide fun activities, cooking, crafts, outdoor fun etc... for 3 to 12 year olds. A variety of games, activities and trips. Take a look at our programmes at <http://www.buntingsnursery.co.uk/afterschool.html>

For more information, contact 07880 914 511

BUNTINGFORD GARDENERS CLUB

Buntingford Gardeners Club have met a few times since I last had an entry in the Journal.

We visited the Lavender Farm at Ickleford near Hitchin and in spite of a storm in the late afternoon (the yard was flooded!) an excellent evening was had by all.

We held our Flower show for club members in August and we had some good entries, but slightly down on last year, probably because of the very dry weather we had encountered earlier in the year. The cup for the most points in show and the Best in Show was won by Alec Gatward.

The September meeting included an excellent speaker, Tom Cole, speaking about herbaceous borders, including new wave borders.

Members were again reminded about the trip to Wisley on Thursday 14th October and urged to book their seat as the coach was filling quite quickly.

The speaker for October is Aubrey Barker with a talk entitled 'Lovely and Smelly'. Is that smelly compost or fragrant flowers? To find out come to our meeting on Wednesday 6th October at the URC Hall in Baldock Road, 7:45pm for 8pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

The competition will be an autumn flower – any flower in bloom at that time.

Contact Margaret Howarth on 07747 355 017 for more details



Nearly New Sale of Toys, Books, Children's Clothes and Nursery Equipment

Saturday 6th November 2010

11:00am - 12:30pm, Barkway Village Hall, Barkway

Entry fee on door £1

To sell items please email tami@thecakehouse.co.uk

or phone Tami on 01763 849900

Raising money for Barkway Playgroup





Buntingford Civic Society

Have a voice – it's Essential!



We have entered the cycle of consultation by EHC on development in East Herts and especially for us in Buntingford and the surrounding villages.

As we understand it, Buntingford is classed as "too small" by EHC for a report on our future transport needs. This is a poor decision for although our population is in excess of 5000, the Town serves a wide area with a population of more than 10000.

This is a further example of EHC overlooking Buntingford and we question whether the fact that long standing councillors feel invulnerable to the choices made by the local electorate contributes to their behaviour.

Coming back to the consultation process, Buntingford Civic Society has willingly accepted an invitation to share our views with EHC planners.

In a nutshell, we advocate gradual development in Buntingford; new dwellings that have a good 'carbon footprint', a mix of affordable starter homes and family homes, very significant improvements in infrastructure and public transport also real evidence of Section 106 Agreement money being spent in the Town. In other words a Town to be proud of in 2031 and meets the needs of our children and grandchildren.

What is so distressing is the tone of EHC planner's documents, which describe Buntingford in attractive and sensitive terms and then permit the Barratt development to grow from 68 dwellings to 149 dwellings, which grossly impacts on Fairfield residents. If it has happened there it can happen elsewhere!

Please become engaged in the consultation process and influence the Local Development Framework planners. Look out for and beware of a broadcast mailing by North Harlow Joint Venture. They imply that by endorsing Harlow North development EHC targets will be met and there will be no need to develop elsewhere. Believe that and you will believe anything!

Remember the East of England Plan enquiry in Letchworth? The Inspector rejected the Harlow North proposals on numerous counts only for it to be overturned by the then Housing Minister Ruth Kelly and her successor Yvette Cooper.

A closing comment. Challenge any suggestion for a large supermarket in Buntingford as it would destroy our excellent High Street, which is damned with feint praise by EHC consultants. (Just look at Royston and Hertford.)

Derek K Cooper, chairman

Check out our website at <http://www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk>

Questions put to East Herts LDF at Consultation meeting with Buntingford Civic Society at Wallfields on Tuesday 21st Sept 2010

1. How can we trust EHDC to stick to their plan after the experience over the Barratt Development off London Road? This has done nothing to meet the Council's corporate vision of "improving the quality of people's lives and preserving all that is best in East Herts".
2. What assurances can you give that the final Core Strategy will be based on proper consideration of the factors discussed in Chapter 2 of the Consultation Document as weighted by the responses to the questionnaire rather than on the figures contained in Table 3.4 of the Consultation Document, section 3.7.4. That table shows attendees at 2008 LDF sessions indicated that 12% of future development should take place at Buntingford. This may well be a reflection of the fact that many attendees simply wanted to see development other than in their own town, together with the fact that the larger number of attendees came from the three main towns of the district. Asking for the views of the rest of the district on the suitability of development to the north of Harlow may well produce a similarly skewed piece of information.
3. What guarantee is there that there will be sufficient infrastructure provision for water supply and sewage treatment to cover the needs of the proposed population increase? At the East of England Plan hearings this was highlighted as an area where there were significant difficulties in meeting future needs.
4. Bearing in mind the limited extent of Brownfield sites in Buntingford and the recent Cabinet Office report (2008: Food Matters: Towards a Strategy for the 21st Century), how can further loss of agricultural land be justified?
5. The possibility of meeting some of the housing requirement by urban extensions to Stevenage and Welwyn Garden City is linked solely with the distribution of the remaining housing to the five Towns. Why is this? Why is there no option in which development is spread between the urban extensions to Stevenage and Welwyn Garden City, the five towns and the larger villages? Leaving out this possibility skews the consultation.
6. Will account be taken of the fact that the private sector housing will be available on the open market and some will continue to be bought by those wishing to flee from the environment of north London but who will still commute to working in the Metropolitan Area? This will have a big effect on attempts to reduce dependency on car use.
7. How much weight will be given to the need to preserve significant landscape and the rural nature of the area, especially in the north of the East Herts district?
 - ❖ Section 2.4.2 of the Consultation Document refers to the potential for sighting wind turbines on the high land to the North and East of the region. Surely, the effect this would have on the landscape of the area would rule this out? It would not fit in with the vision in section 2.13.5, Theme 4.
 - ❖ Buntingford nestles in the valley of the Rib and has very little adverse effect on the local landscape (the white elephant house at the Sainsbury site being the one, hopefully temporary, exception). Development planned for the area should give great weight to maintaining this situation. For this reason, the Civic Society's preference is for further housing development to take place along a north-south axis.

Continued over ...

8. The questions relating to housing density appear to be over simplistic. A town like Buntingford will require new housing to attract and keep the right balance of population. This will mean providing housing of different densities in different locations within the new town boundary. As space is also required for buffer zones to avoid the situation similar to the Barratt development occurring again, do we assume that the only way of addressing this in the answer to questions such as Q 28 is to express a preference for lower density housing as being the average figure allowing for different densities and some buffer area? The residents of Buntingford rely on EHDC planning to protect the quality of life for existing residents and ensure an equal or better quality of life on new developments. Therefore as development will almost inevitably require sacrificing agricultural land, EHDC have the opportunity to achieve both these by creating 'green buffers' of say 100m between subsequent expansion zones.
9. In recent years development has been taking place on allotment land. There are waiting lists for allotments with people of all ages. Should the Consultation Document not indicate the need to consider the supply of allotment plots along with the need to provide land for other leisure activity? Such activity, in a small way, helps with reducing greenhouse emissions.
10. Buntingford has an imminent shortage of burial land. Is the need for burial land not regarded as a significant issue?
11. In looking at the requirement to provide further housing in Buntingford, how will you take into account the fact that, for Buntingford at least, the figures in Table 3.1 of the Consultation Document are already significantly out of date? The development by Barrett's is already increasing the number of homes in Buntingford by 149; this brings the total in table 3.1 to 306 rather than the 254 quoted. The National Office of Statistics predicts population growth, including immigration, at 0.7% per annum to 2033. Therefore if a 'fair' approach to accommodating growth, whereby NIMBY'ism is discounted and all share the pressure of development, Buntingford would expect an annual growth of approx. 14 homes per year. Therefore the recent Barratt development would equate to 10 years development growth.
12. The Consultation Document, section 2.7.11 & 12 refers to the need to preserve and enhance the character of conservation areas and heritage assets. If this is to apply to a place such as Buntingford, what steps are envisaged to ensure that inappropriate developments of, say, a large edge of town supermarket will not occur that would significantly damage the High Street? It has happened elsewhere, e.g. Royston.
13. In considering housing density, land take and number of homes required, how is sufficient weight being given to the need to provide the type of housing that will attract skilled/professional people to stay in or move into the district? The Consultation Document in section 2.8.7 ESP 1 discusses the need for creating skilled jobs but does not appear to relate this to the type of housing required. Similarly, an ageing population with four bedroomed houses may wish to down size but not to a one or two bedroom dwelling on a high density development with no or little garden.
14. Will the requirement for parking provision on new development be improved over that currently being approved (e.g. the Barratt development at Buntingford)? This is another driver of the core strategy view of housing density. A significant building programme in a place such as Buntingford, without the initial provision of suitably skilled/professional employment, would result in an increase on an already high level of out-commuting by car and would require a satisfactory level of car parking provision to avoid increasing the already high level of on street parking. From the

talks by EHDC on Weds 14/9/10, it was confirmed that residents in Buntingford are reliant on private motorcars to commute to work. As new developments should aim to meet 'homes for life' standards, then, unlike the new Barratt development, adequate parking (at least 3 spaces for each 2 bed+ residences) should be provided.

15. Does the wording of section 2.7.8 in the Consultation Document indicate that the decision has already been made to go ahead with a large development north of Harlow?
16. We have witnessed how the success of improved vehicle transportation routes attract more traffic and hence require further development (e.g. M25, A1M, A10 dual carriageway from Cheshunt to Westmill). So have EHDC transportation and planning agreed highway improvement zones along each side of the A10 to allow future improvement to dual carriageway or even A10M standard, plus suitable areas for sound protection and maintenance of the 'green corridor' as exists from Cheshunt, before any permitted development? If not, why not?

While every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of information contained in the Buntingford Journal, the editor assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions in this publication.

Buntingford & District Social Club present an open

Darts Tournament

Sunday 10th October 2010

Guaranteed minimum £300 cash first prize

Entry £5 per person for pre-registration

£6 per person on the day

Entries are limited, so apply early to avoid disappointment

Doors open at 10:30am and registration closes at 11:45am

6 Church Street, Buntingford, Herts SG9 9AS

Tel 01763 271889

email charlie.gynn@hotmail.co.uk



CHRIST CHURCH

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH BALDOCK ROAD BUNTINGFORD

MINISTER: Rev Duncan Goldie
The Manse
Meeting Lane
Melbourn
Cams SG8 6AN
Tel: 01763 260747

SECRETARIES: Gwen & John Edwards
'Great Stones'
Hare Street
Buntingford
Herts SG9 0AD
Tel: 01763 289460

MORNING WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY AT 11:00am

October	3	Morning Worship	Mr John King
	10	Holy Communion	Rev Duncan Goldie
	17	Morning Worship	Mr Arthur Brignall
	24	Morning Worship	Rev Duncan Goldie
	31	Holy Communion	Rev Duncan Goldie
November	7	Morning Worship	Dr Jeffrey Barham

Junior Church meets at 11:00am every Sunday during term time and welcomes all children and young people.

The Bright Hour – a time for fellowship with prayers, hymns, activities and occasional visiting speakers – meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 2:30pm in the Church Hall.

Coffee and Company, organised by 'Churches Together', is held in the Church Hall every Thursday morning from 10:30am for anyone wanting fellowship and time for a chat.

Lunches organised by Christian Aid are held in the Church Hall from 12:30pm to 2:00pm on the first Friday of the month.

Visit our website at www.buntingfordurc.freeserve.co.uk

ST. RICHARD OF CHICHESTER

Catholic Church

3 Station Road, Buntingford
Telephone 01763 271471

Parish Priest: Father Ian Dickie

HOLY MASS is celebrated each:
Sunday at 9:30am and 6:30pm
Saturday at 6:00pm at Furneux Pelham
Holy Days at 10:00am and 8:00pm
Weekdays at 9:15pm

CONFESSIONS are each Saturday from 10:30am – 11.15am





United Benefice of

St. Mary's – Aspenden

St. Peter's – Buntingford

St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill

Church of England

Reverend Ian Hill – Telephone 01763 274072

There is a full and varied pattern of worship across the three churches

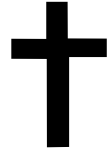
St. Peter's in Buntingford has a more contemporary style

St. Mary's in Aspenden has a more traditional style

St. Mary the Virgin in Westmill has a more liturgical style

Everyone is welcome at any of the churches

Services for October 2010



Sun 3 rd	9:15am	St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill	Holy Communion
	10:00am	St. Mary's – Aspenden	Family Service for Harvest Festival
	11:00am	St. Peter's – Buntingford	All Age Family Worship for Harvest
Wed 6 th	9:30am	St. Peter's – Buntingford	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
Sun 10 th	9:30am	St. Mary's – Aspenden	Holy Communion
	11:00am	St. Peter's – Buntingford	Holy Communion
	3:00pm	Nevett's Care Home	Songs of Praise
Sun 17 th	9:15am	St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill	Holy Communion
	11:00am	St. Peter's – Buntingford	Family Praise
Sun 24 th Bible Sunday	9:15am	St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill	Morning Worship
	9:30am	St. Mary's – Aspenden	Holy Communion
	11:00am	St. Peter's – Buntingford	Holy Communion
Sun 31 st	9:30am	St. Mary's – Aspenden	Holy Communion
	11:00am	St. Peter's – Buntingford	Morning Worship

The Church office is open Mon, Tue and Thurs mornings in St. Peter's Church
Administrator – Mrs Jenny Hill Tel: 01763 271552 email jenny.unitedbenefice@hotmail.co.uk



BritishRedCross

Christmas Fair

at

Fanhams Hall Hotel, Ware, Hertfordshire

Thursday 28th October 2010

10am – 3:30pm

Entrance £4

Café and Restaurant ❖ Free parking

For further details contact 01992 586609



EDWINSTREE MIDDLE SCHOOL

At our annual prize giving, awards were given to the following Year Eight students:

Geography	Matthew Coote	Cassie Fraser
Science	George Bradfield	Rachel Byrne
Music	Ben Surrey	Deanna Christou
Food Technology	Charlie Payne	Emily Handley
Design	Sally Bellano	Shai Cookson Swan
English	Jasmine Bannisey	Anthony Phillips
Maths	George Gannellin	Louise Heath
ICT	David Spicer	Hannah Richardson
History	Oliver Bishop	Christie Bays
German	Corneille Hazeley	Poppy Hursey
Art	Jamie Lawrence	Kelly Game
Town Twinning	Jonathan Lacey	Emma Phillipson
The Good News Prize	Alex Daines	Catrina Wagstaff
Victrix Ludorum	Matthew Mardle	Emma Trehearn
Claire Cockle Award	Shelby Riches	
Sacha + Marie Lozeau Award	Joe Handy	

Two extra awards were given this year by Mr Knowles, our previous head teacher, to George Clarkson and Ellie Hooper for their contributions to the life of the school. We wish them and all our Year Eight students well in their continued education at Freman College.



From left to right: Mr Howells, Miss Silveston, Miss Bustard, Miss Clew & Mr Brazier

As well as the arrival of our new Year Fives for the autumn term, we welcomed five new members of staff to Edwinstree: Mr Howells – Leader of Learning for Year Seven, Mr Brazier – Year Seven tutor, Miss Silveston and Miss Bustard – Year Five Tutors and Miss Clew – Year 6 Tutor.

Year Six pupils are off to Shropshire the first week of October for five days of abseiling, kayaking, canoeing, climbing, BMXing as well as taking part in a confidence course and various other activities. They start off the week with a visit to Blists Hill in Telford, to augment their studies on the Victorians.

On October 13th we are having a sponsored pilgrimage around Buntingford to raise money towards a new mini bus. Our school association has been busy over the last year with events to go to this cause and has raised a magnificent amount of money which we need to add to, so if you see us on the day, please give us a wave!

Our annual opening evening is Thursday 14th October at 7pm, when prospective pupils and parents will be visiting us.

Diane George

BUNTINGFORD CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Manor House, Buntingford

Telephone 0844 848 9700

Mondays 10:00am – 4:00pm

Tuesdays 10:00am – 1:00pm

Wednesdays 10:00am – 1:00pm

Closed Thursdays and Fridays



Mobile Phones

Q. Last month my mobile phone contract bill was extortionately high and much more than I expected. I rang the phone company, who said I had to pay the bill and then they would investigate the query. If I did not, they would cut me off. What should I do?

A. If you have a contract phone rather than a pre-pay phone, you will be committed to using a certain network, at a certain tariff for a minimum period of time usually without any legal right to change tariff or cancel without charge.

However, if the service fails to meet the way it was sold to you, you may be entitled to a refund, compensation or both. In the first instance, you should contact your mobile phone company. It is in a company's own interests to treat its customers fairly and well, and in most cases they will resolve the issue satisfactorily.

If the phone company does not help satisfactorily, your mobile phone service provider must belong to one of two telecoms dispute resolution schemes, Otelo or Cisas. These are independent complaints schemes that will investigate your complaint about a mobile phone service provider if you haven't been able to resolve your problem directly.

You must give the service provider a chance to resolve the complaint first, going through its formal complaints procedure if necessary.

If it can't or won't help, after eight weeks you can take your complaint to Otelo or Cisas. You can contact them earlier if your mobile provider issues you with a 'deadlock letter' stating it will not deal with your complaint.

Otelo and Cisas only deal with complaints about mobile service providers (the company you pay for your service) and not about other mobile phone retailers that 'resell' mobile contracts but don't operate their own service.

If you have a bill which you cannot pay and you want to prevent the mobile phone from being disconnected, you can ask the phone company to see if it will accept regular installments on the bill and if so, how much will be required. The company may still disconnect the phone until the repayments are paid but allow incoming calls and 999 calls only. However, you will usually have to continue paying the whole of the rental for the period of the contract and any notice period, even if you are not making or receiving any calls at all.

My Freman Experience

As a student in Year 13 at Freman College, I am wrapped up in school work, looking at uni's and what the exciting future holds. But as my time edges closer to leaving the college, I reflect back on my time at Freman and how it has helped shaped me and made me who I am today.

Coming up to Freman College into Year 9 is always a daunting experience, however immediately the teachers and students welcome you into the school environment and it's easy to feel part of the close community at the college. There are so many events and clubs to get involved in and the house events and tutor system allows all years to interact and get to know each other! Going to a new school was always going to be intriguing for me and I threw myself into the activities available.

Looking back, I realise how much Freman College and the teachers provided such a valuable support system; every student experiences a whirl-wind of emotions as they grow up and we all have our bad days! But I found the teachers were always there to support me and my decisions. The teachers have your best interests at heart and that, as I have found, has really helped with boosting my school work and grades.



Charlotte

Working through my final year, I realise just how quickly my time at Freman has flown past, and I am incredibly grateful to those who have assisted me. The teachers at Freman have really encouraged me to achieve my best and I find myself working really hard this year to get a place at my chosen university. This included gaining a work experience placement during the school summer holidays, which involved travelling to London everyday to work with journalists within the media. My experience was extremely valuable and great fun; it confirmed my interest in journalism and thus what I want to pursue in the future. I learnt many new skills, and it has provided me with a greater opportunity to reach my goal of studying journalism at university. It is the help and support that I have received from Freman College that contributed to my growing confidence and, as an ambitious student I have the incentive to work hard for what I want in the future. I am only forever thankful to the college for all their efforts.

Charlotte Cropper

The views expressed in letters and articles in the Buntingford Journal are not necessarily those of the editor.



**Buntingford Branch of
The Royal British Legion**



Quiz Night

Saturday 6th November 2010

Benson Hall 7:30pm

Licensed Bar and Raffle

Fish or Chicken and Chips – £10

**Tickets from Di Bamford on 01763 848 481
(after 4th October)**



Have Your Say!

East Herts Local Development Framework *Shaping Now, Shaping the Future*

**Public Consultation:
September 2nd to November 25th, 2010**

East Herts Council are now consulting on its first planning document in the new Local Development Framework (LDF).

The **Core Strategy** document will set the vision and development strategy for the district to 2031. Importantly, the Core Strategy will not deal with specific sites.

The consultation itself is called **Issues and Options** and is structured around 43 questions. It is a discussion document and is not the final plan. This is your chance to have your say to shape the future of East Herts to 2031.

Every household in the district will receive a summary leaflet and questionnaire in Autumn LINK Magazine but you can also comment on the full consultation document at <http://eastherts-consult.limehouse.co.uk> or paper copies will be available to view at the Council's Offices in Hertford and Bishop's Stortford, and at public libraries and town council offices.

For further information please visit the website at www.eastherts.gov.uk/issuesandoptions or contact the Planning Policy Team on 01279 655261.



Buntingford Swimming Club



The Club is now proud owners of some top of the range 'anti wave' racing lanes, thanks to help received with funding from the Buntingford Memorial Charity, which donated a very large sum towards the high cost involved. The Club is very grateful for their assistance.

We have also been advised that the Club will be receiving a donation from the British Gas 'Club Grant' scheme. British Gas is now the main sponsors of British swimming and it is very encouraging that the grass roots of the sport are receiving help in the way we have experienced.

We also now have some special 'turning boards', made by one of the parents. These boards are a great help when teaching the children how to do correct turns when swimming. The Club is very lucky to have such people who are prepared to help in this way and it is greatly appreciated. Once again, a lot of hard work has gone into the preparation for our 'Swim 21' accreditation, which this year has included a new equity action plan. We are currently awaiting the results from both the regional and national panels, and we are quietly confident (and hopeful) that all the hard work pays off.

The Tuesday night training sessions are going from strength to strength. Over the 1½ hours available to us, we have about 40 swimmers who attend on a regular basis, albeit with the use of only three lanes of the pool for the younger swimmers for the first part of the session, which does cause the Club some problems. The situation will need to be looked at again in the near future with the Pool Managers, with a request for all the pool to be made available to the Club for the whole time booked.

The Club took part in the 'Brocks Trophy Gala' in September, organised by the Broxbourne Swimming Club. We did very well and finished in third place behind the winners from Bishop's Stortford and Enfield in second place. We finished in front of both the host team and Letchworth. We sorely lack very young boy swimmers and no matter how hard we try to encourage them, they just do not seem to be around. Perhaps we need to invent under water football!

At the end of the month we will be running our annual Club Championships, and the entries seem to be high once again. As has happened in the past, we are expecting new Club records to be set and numerous personal best times achieved. The children have worked hard all year, so deserve their little bit of glory.

I will end with a plea to all the parents with young children (**especially boys**) who can swim lengths. If you have a child of about 7 or 8 years of age and they have perhaps just completed a course of swimming lessons at the pool and are ready to 'move on', why not come along and see us / talk to us / come for a trial. We do **NOT** teach swimming – that is what the council lessons are for – but at the Club, we **can** and **do** improve swimming very successfully. We need younger swimmers – they are the future of the Club and we need them for competitions such as the County Peanut League, etc.

Want to know more about us? Have a look at our web site www.buntingfordsc.co.uk. You can also speak to any of the committee members who will be only too willing to spend time with you or look at the Club notice board at the pool or take one of our leaflets (available at the pool) away with you and read about us or pay us a visit any Thursday evening from 5:30 onwards. Go on – give it a try – you might even like it!

Alan Bowell – Buntingford Swimming Club 01920 821722



Millfield First and Nursery School



We are already busy this new term and have welcomed new children into our Nursery and Reception Class. The elections for the new School Council have just taken place and the new committee has just been introduced to the school. The new Assembly Committee, Eco-Action Team and Reading Rockets are also being chosen and have begun their work.

This term the whole school is studying the theme of 'Long Ago'. Key Stage 1 children are discovering the world of dinosaurs. There will be a 'Dinosaur Day' when they will dress as explorers, study fossils and go on a dinosaur hunt! In October they are going to visit the Natural History Museum.

Key Stage 2 pupils are studying the world of the Ancient Greeks. They have taken part in an 'archeologically dig' at school to investigate Ancient Greek pots and tiles. They have a visit to the British Museum planned later this half term. They are also having a day when they will come to school dressed as Ancients Greeks, sample some Greek food and take part in some Ancient Greek Olympic activities.

As part of our Eco work we are having a clothing collection from our school on Thursday 23rd September. If you have any clothing you no longer require please bring it to the school on this day in a plastic sack.

Our Harvest Assembly, based on 'Harvest Around the World', is taking place on Wednesday 6th October at 9:00am in our School Hall.



Kathy Willett – Headteacher

Beginning of the Middle

(Part 13)

Martin & Mandy

So the game is now on. Unfortunately this part of the story is a little bit factual so light on humour or history but bear with us... First thing on the list is to get the site security sorted. Over the past two years we have been aware of numerous occasions where people have climbed into the nave and tried and break into the chancel or get up the tower. So far we have been lucky and only minor damage has been done, but we need to get the scaffolding arranged so that we can complete the plan for the stonework. Putting up scaffold without a perimeter fence, well, we might just as well hand over the keys! The big problem with scaffold is that you basically rent the stuff and this is fine if you are having the roof on your house changed and you know the job will only take ten days, but with St Bartholomew's anything could happen! I've been working on the basis that it's going to take much longer and I don't want to be landed with a hefty weekly rental bill for years. So I write the tender for the scaffold and Julian, our architect, produces a diagram that places the perimeter fence round the church carefully avoiding trees, gravestones and providing enough room to actually let stone masons work inside it, and I drop this in the post to five scaffolding companies, and we wait.

The sticky subject of trees still needs to be addressed; the planning and listed building consent had eighteen conditions attached to it but, surprisingly, none were to do with trees. From my original meeting with Malcolm from the council I know he is up for helping, so I arrange another site meeting with him and Phil from Newsoms on a crisp Monday morning nice and early.

The meeting goes well and we look over the plans for the garage whose foundations have been changed to have an even smaller impact on the ground and hence the local "residents" and of course the tree roots. The original tree report identified nine dead trees and we deal with eight of them at a rate of knots – four need to come out because they are actually dangerous and the rest remain. We want to leave them all, but it's difficult to argue the case for a tree that's clearly 100% dead and rocks alarmingly when you push it – and that's what the stump behind the Vaughan tomb is like.

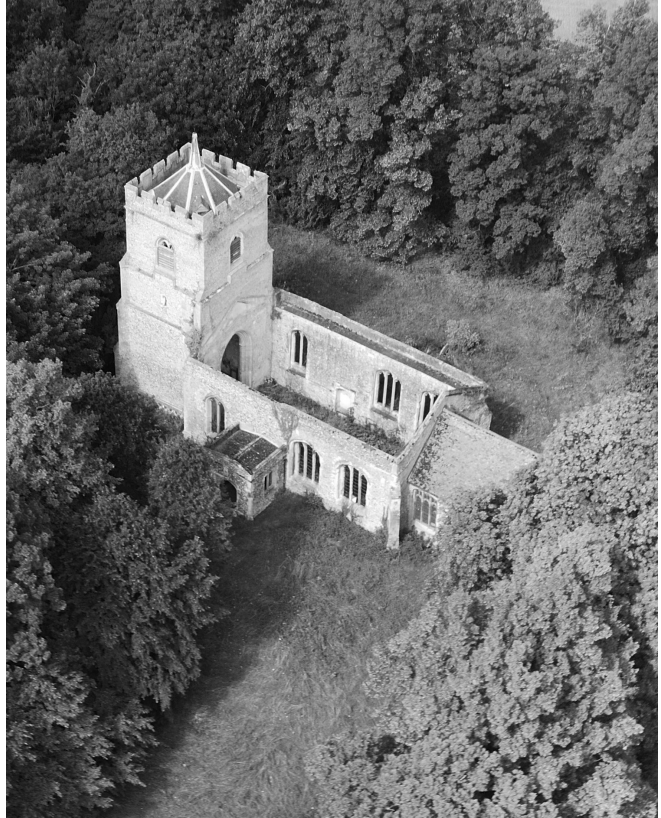
We eventually come to good old 1877, which is the first tree in the avenue on the left, the one that's dead at the bottom and very much alive and kicking at the top and we grind to a bit of a halt at this one. Still Malcolm and Phil prove their worth and a cunning plan is concocted that does not involve the word 'felling'. What we decide to do is to reduce the weight in the crown of the tree. Basically the bottom of the tree is 90% dead but is quite solid and substantial – the thing that will finish it off is the weight of the crown, so once the leaves have fallen it's in for a bit of careful pruning.

We also have a Yew tree very close to the tower which we need to protect from the scaffold, it's got ivy growing in with the tree, and the solution we come up with is to remove the ivy and in effect fit a rubber band around the girth of the tree to pull it away from the tower. This will let us get the scaffolding in, protect the Yew and help it to flourish in the future. There is also a self seeded sycamore right next to the Yew that's been growing like billio over the years and has basically grown over the Yew making the Yew grow even slower than normal. Plans for the sycamore vary from 'leave it alone' to 'fell it completely' so the Yew can have a chance, the choice in the end is to trim the overhanging branches off it.

We also need to get power to the site as well, so it's off to EDF to get a plan together for that... A year or so ago I received an indicative quotation for delivery of power but it involved a trench across the rather nice lawn in the back garden of Gooseacre, so an alternative plan would be good if it's possible. This all comes down to how far the pole where the transformer would need to be sited is from the church... There is another pole a little bit to the east of the first pole considered that we could use, but it's another 20 metres or so away from the church.

Anyway, the first time I had an EDF site meeting I had seven people come along to look at the job – this time I get one efficient and rather nice lady who turns up and wanders around with me, makes notes and takes some pictures of the fields we need to cross. She departs with all the details to prepare the actual plan and produce the estimated price for the work (gulp).

Bore holes! That's the way to get round being on the end of a very long water supply where the water dribbles out of the tap. Now Layston Primary School has a bore hole, it might not be working anymore – but they are the closest bore hole to the church, so we know the technology works in this area. Odd things bore holes – you can basically drill a bore hole for water



and extract 20 cubic metres of water per day, that's about 20,000 litres or 125 bath tubs of water, and you don't even need a license to do it! Mandy does like a good bath or two :-). What you do need though is a survey to have a stab in the dark as to the likelihood of actually striking water without having to drill to Australia to do it. The survey actually tells you a whole pile of interesting stuff about the ground formation, and surprisingly has a fair guess at how far you need to drill – in the case of St Bartholomew's that will be 90 odd metres into a pile of chalk. If you're interested in the full survey result it's on the web site in the documents section.

For more history and information related to St Bartholomew's visit
www.layston-church.org.uk

The 10th Buntingford Classic Event

The weather was fair and once again Buntingford High Street was regaled with the sight and sounds of hundreds of cars, motorbikes, military vehicles and even vintage tractors.

There was a tremendous variation of vehicles with modern classics rubbing shoulders with true vintage vehicles, a procession of Harley's and even several hot-rods. A truly spectacular turn out for the 10th anniversary of this increasingly popular event.

There was certainly enough on show for the huge crowds who descended upon the town to talk about while they listened to the many bands who provided the musical entertainment for the day. Food and drink were plentiful and all-in-all the day was a tremendous success.

One of the show highlights was the 'coming home' of two AC Buckland Tourers. These very rare cars (only about 23 remain) and were built in 1951 in the village of Buckland, just 2 miles north of Buntingford. They stood proudly in the Red House car park all day and they certainly provided a nostalgia trip for one local resident, who worked in the factory where the cars were produced, and was certain that he actually helped build one of those on display!



As usual thanks go to the many people who turned out for the day – there was not one single incident that marred what was a very special day.

There was the usual prize giving towards the end of the day and the prizes were presented by Councillor John Warren, whose brain child this event was ten years ago.

Prizes were awarded in the following categories:

- **Leka Award for best Car** – Danny Smith with his Dax Cobra
- **Dickie Burrell Award for best bike** – Mark Sluman with his 1916 Ixion
- **J Oliver Radley Award for the vehicle most liked to drive home in** – Chris Williams with his De Lorean
- **MY Computer Services Award for most interesting vehicle** – Geoff Parker and his 1926 Austin Swallow
- **Brian Juniper Chairman's Choice Award** – David Baldry in his AC Buckland Tourer

Final thanks must go to the organising committee and helpers without whom this event would be impossible to run. The organising committee look forward to welcoming everybody back next year – remember the date now – it's **Saturday 3rd September 2011**.

If you would like to have your event in the diary of events pages,
please contact **Aliya Chowney** on **01763 272040**
or email: aliyachowney@btinternet.com

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 2nd OCTOBER 2010

Doors open 7.30pm for 8.00pm start

at

Layston First School, The Causeway, Buntingford

£8 a ticket

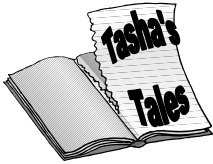
Including Ploughman's supper

Maximum 8 persons a team

Prize for each member of the winning team

LICENSED BAR

Tickets available from Debbie and Matt – telephone 01763 272398



Halloween has a mixture of views between different cultures, religions and personal opinions.

Make sure you keep safe and you don't take advantage of some people who may have different views than you.

Ooo... October

For Halloween I thought that I would include in my article a spooky recipe for you to try! Stay safe and be grateful for all the candy that you receive!

Pumpkin Pastries:

2 eggs, slightly beaten

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar

1 1lb can pumpkin (or 2 cups fresh, roasted in oven then pressed through a strainer)

$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt

1 tsp. cinnamon

$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. ginger

$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. cloves

1 $\frac{2}{3}$ cups evap. milk (1 can)

$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. allspice

9 oz pie crust pastry (enough for two single standard pie crusts)



Bake the pie filling only (no crust) in a large greased casserole dish in hot oven (425F) for 15 minutes. Keep oven door closed and reduce temp to moderate (350F/180C) and continue baking for 45 minutes or until table knife inserted in centre of dish comes out clean. Cool on wire rack. Make or purchase pie crust pastry. Roll thin and cut into circles approx 4" in diameter. Put a spoonful of the cool pumpkin mixture towards one side of the centre of the circle. Fold over the crust into a half-circle and firmly crimp the edges closed. Slice three small slits in the top for venting, place on a greased baking sheet, and bake only until crust is a light golden-brown. The pumpkin filling will begin to make the crust soggy, so best baked the day of serving. Can be made ahead by freezing the assembled pasties unbaked on cookie sheets, then thawed and baked the day of serving. Great served at room-temperature to avoid burning mouths on the hot filling!

First month back:

I hope to everyone that they are enjoying their new school year and good luck to everyone who has now finished with full time education and good luck for the rest of your lives.

Now that I have started my GCSEs I get my timetable full of the subjects that I really enjoy. Which is really good in the way – even with the scary loom of GCSEs – that all the lessons that I want to put my efforts into I am doing to the best of my ability without worrying about the lessons that to me aren't as important.

Natasha Morrison

BUNTINGFORD W.I.

The speaker booked for our September meeting had to cancel at the last minute but we were very fortunate that Tom Doig, from Nuthampstead, was able to step in as a replacement and his talk entitled 'Births and Baptisms in the 1800s' was fascinating.

We were told that there was no stigma for a woman to be pregnant when she got married because it was proof that she was fertile at a time when it was considered that the purpose of marriage was 'to provide children and to stop fornication'. If she did not have a prospective husband then there was the possibility that a local miscreant would step in because men who had committed a minor crime, such as stealing a pheasant, would be offered a choice: be shipped off to Tasmania, join the army, or marry a local pregnant girl. Most elected the latter option.

Mothers-to-be had to take to their beds for a month before the birth and they were looked after by a woman called a 'birthing mother', who was different to the midwife, and who helped with practical matters. Women were only allowed out of bed to attend calls of nature and inevitably this inactivity caused problems such as deep vein thrombosis. There were no special socks in those days; instead leeches were applied to the legs. Tom said that the leeches worked wonders but he didn't recommend that long-haul travellers take them on to aeroplanes.

We were sorry that time ran out on Tom's talk and he didn't get round to talking about Baptisms – maybe another occasion?

Our next meeting is on Thursday 14th October at 7:45pm at the United Reformed Church Hall and our speaker is Richard Thomas on 'A Walk with the Admiral'. Visitors are always welcome.

Val Hume

Aspenden Festival Committee



Invite you to

**An evening of Cheese & Wine
and Live Music**

**Saturday 6th November
at 7:30pm**



The Bell House, Aspenden

Tickets price £12 Tel: 272420



BUNTINGFORD TOWN FC

www.buntingfordtownfc.com



It was a shaky start to the season for the First Team at Belstone during their first match of the campaign; down 2-0 at half-time, a much improved second half performance saw the lads earn a well-deserved 2-2 draw. A 6-0 victory at home three days later against Whitwell warmed our bones, but the chill of reality struck us hard when league newcomers Goffs Oak outplayed us, inflicting a 5-1 defeat at The Bury with the season just a week old. Confidence was beginning to drain when the side went in 3-0 down at half-time in another midweek game at Knebworth, but a superb second-half performance showed us just what the team is capable of, despite the eventual 3-2 defeat.

Two draws followed, against 8 Bells Hatfield and Bedmond Sports & Social Club; Town were the better side in each game and in terms of chances both matches should have earned us three points. It was only a matter of time before we would win again, and, at home to AFC Hatfield Town we recorded a 7-0 victory, with striker Max Camp hitting the back of the net five times.

On the same day the Reserves put eight goals to no reply past Bedmond S&S Reserves in the Chairman's Cup – a total of 15 goals in one day – we are surely value for money! Prior to that cup game the Reserves had played just one competitive match, beating Bushey Rangers 4-1 in their first league match of the season.

With both County League sides performing well it was up to the Vets to keep the ball rolling, and locally, at the time of writing, remain undefeated with victories against West Cheshunt Vets, Goldings, Littlington and Birchanger, scoring a total of 19 goals with just four conceded.

Did you notice the word 'locally' in the previous paragraph? Well, it was there for a reason!

During September the Vets went on tour to Torquay and faced the South Devon Veterans at the Devon FA's County Ground in Newton Abbot. Despite a great start, where we were denied by both the opposition's 'keeper and also the woodwork, we went into the half-time interval 2-1 down, finally losing the match 4-1. On the balance of play a fair result, but we would have performed better had it not been for the late night/early morning 'bonding' sessions at the local hostelryes!

Despite the defeat we had a great time and I would like to thank the Devon FA for their hospitality, and also Nick Savage for arranging the game, and his brother Dan for organising the tour itself.

Overall it has been a good start to the season. Let's keep up the good work!

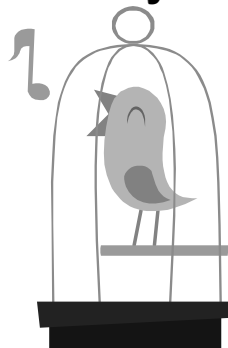
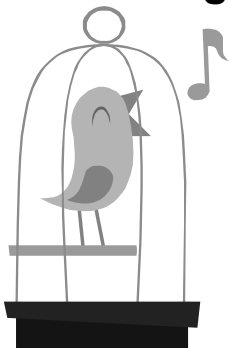
Forthcoming Fixtures (see www.buntingfordtownfc.com for the latest fixtures and results)

Date	Fixture
Sat 2 nd October	First Team v Sarratt Reserves – Herts FA Intermediate Cup (home)
Sun 3 rd October	Veterans v Old Minchendonians (away)
Sat 9 th October	Reserves v Ware Lions Old Boys – Herts FA Junior Cup (away)

Chris Thurgill – chairman, Buntingford Town FC

Buntingford & District Cage Bird Society

1956 - 2010



You are invited to the Cage Bird Show

Saturday 30th October

at Benson Hall

1:00pm – 4:30pm

Free Entry

Teas ● Raffle ● Birds for Sale

New members welcome to join – subscriptions are only £3 a year.
The Society meets on the first Tuesday each month at 8:00pm at Benson Hall for talks, slideshows, quizzes and more.

See our website at www.buntingfordbirdsociety.com
or call Mr W Lodge (Society secretary) on 01920 438482



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

MEET YOUR LOCAL PCSO

If you have any issues you would like to talk about with your Police Community Support Officer Amanda Higham or you just want to say hello, she will be at the specified venues as listed below.

(Times are subject to change at short notice)

Telephone 0845 33 00 222

PCSO:	Date:	Time:	Venue:
Amanda	Sun 10 th	11:30am – 12:00pm 12:15pm – 12:45pm 12:50pm – 1:30pm	High Street, Harestreet Outside Church, Outside Church, Anstey Outside Village Hall, Meesden
Amanda	Wed 20 th	10:00am – 10:30am 10:35am – 11:15am 11:20am – 11:45am	Outside Village Hall, Albury Furneux Pelham Village Outside Village Hall, Stocking Pelham
Amanda	Thurs 28 th	1:00pm – 1:30pm 1:35pm – 2:00pm	Malting Lane, Braughing Willow Close, Gt Hormead

Let the train take away the strain

Everything is going so fast these days and I am not sure if it's that I'm getting older or the whole world seems to have become obsessed with speed. We are all encouraged to buy this gadget or that product to 'save us time.' Having saved time we then have to buy things to use up the time saved. Even the most basic things like remote controls, encourage 'time saving'. Did I say basic? There was a time when one had to heave oneself up and cross the room to switch programmes, mind you there were only two channels. Today with all the multitude of options one might die of exhaustion after an evening of channel hopping.

Even the elderly and infirmed have sped up and where once you had to employ all your Boy Scout training to assist a little old lady across the road, now you have to watch out as one of Hell's Grannies tears up the pavements on their go-faster mobility scooters, and the only warning you get is "Gangway, coming through," as they attempt wheelies in the supermarkets! That's when they are not shopping with their mates and whole aisles are shut down while they discuss what offers to buy.

There are few places where one can escape this rat race, but there is one that is still available to those who seek a steadier interlude, that is a train journey. The senior manager and myself often seek out various trips on steam trains, not that either of us ever donned an orange cagoule or stood on the end of railway platforms studiously recording train numbers in the pouring rain.

We are in it solely for the nostalgia and relaxation, and a break from the hurly burley of everyday life, taking time out to put the brakes on our ever busy day-to-day living. We are 'working' on this retirement lark you know, which can be exhausting. Personally I enjoy the way people interact with each other when travelling by train and of course there is always the passing panorama of people's back gardens as we are embraced with the soporific clackety clack of the wheels, not always evident since somebody had the bright idea of welding all the lines together to give a 'smoother' more user friendly ride. Why do some people always want to meddle?

I have many happy memories of train journeys, which way back when meant an exciting adventure to far off climes like Waltham Cross, Hertford East and Broxbourne (we didn't get out much). Indeed when school days turned to the more earnest pursuits of work, each day I, together with many of my mates, caught the 6.30am train and settled down for an hour plus journey to London. In the mornings the carriage had its own aroma – a combination of cigarette smoke, newsprint and Lifebuoy soap, coupled with the ever present sulphur smell from the smoke emitted from the train engine.

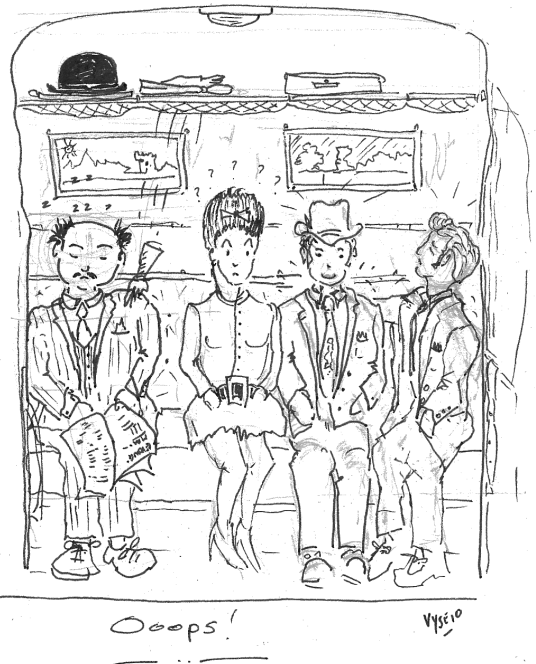
There was always plenty to see even if your fellow companions were less than talkative at that hour. If one was fortunate to sit by a window you could watch the world come to life in their homes, seemingly unaware of the audience that passed at the bottom of their gardens. Indeed one particular spot along the way always attracted the attention of the young bucks as waiting for the points to change the carriage was in line with the frosted, uncurtained, bathroom window of a particularly comely maid!

People seemed much more polite and considerate back in the fifties and there was little controversial behaviour beyond the odd rustle of the Times or the ever present fug from the cigarette or pipe smoke. Not like now with the incessant inane chatter on mobile phones ("I'm on the train," "I'm having a sweet.") or the mind numbing tinkling of iPod,

feet up on the seats munching away on all manner of 'fast' food or coffee 'to go' the detritus of which is casually dumped on the floor. The carriage in days of yore always had a good sense of humour and many trips provided distractions to make the journey memorable.

On one occasion, when all the young likely boys and girls were settled into our compartment on the five forty five out of Liverpool Street, we were joined by a rather portly business man complete with pin striped suit and bowler hat and he settled himself into a corner seat and promptly fell asleep. Above him was the luggage rack, remember them? For the uninitiated these were racks where one might place your luggage, since disappeared as many of people who now travel on trains nowadays seem to want to either destroy anything of use or daub it with graffiti. Anyhow, placed above the slumbering chap was one of our girlfriend's handbag and white gloves (worn in summer by any young fashion conscious lady back in the day).

The train made its way north, stopping at all the stations, while we amused ourselves with happenings of the day in the metropolis until the shaking across a set of points caused the gloves to fall from the rack to the corpulent midriff of the business man in the arms of Morpheus. Today it may not have been a problem, not least the fact that young ladies do not wear white gloves and even if they did they would have no compunction to retrieve the accessories, but way back then young women were a more demure breed and our friend was reluctant to retrieve the gloves from the slumbering body in the corner. This caused a great deal of hilarity but not as much as when pulling into Cheshunt station the chap awoke looked around and sensing our laughter looked down and no doubt thinking his shirt was poking out pushed the gloves down the front of his trousers! He had by now turned a delicate puce and darted from the carriage as we came into the station.



The remainder of the journey was taken up with speculation of what our friend was going to tell her mum as to the location of her lost gloves and what might be the scene when the guy undressed later that evening. How was he going to explain that away to his wife? Did I say wife? They hadn't invented partners in the fifties unless you count John Lewis.

So each time we spend a day on the Rattler I cannot help but to look up as we cross a particularly rough set of points, just in case. Now you wouldn't get that much fun on an Arriva away day special two for one, pre-booked, off peak would you?

The new Craft Group will be starting 4th Oct at 2pm, the first meeting of the Badminton Group will be on 29th Sept at 3pm–4 pm in the Community Centre and then weekly. Two members are interested in getting a group together to read poetry and plays. The Carpet Bowls should be starting in October and Buntingford Over the Last 70yrs will have its first meeting on Tue 28th Sept 2pm – 4pm and then on 26th Oct, 10am–12noon, both upstairs in the Community Centre.

Our next meeting on 11th Oct at 2pm is our AGM. The business side of the meeting should be concluded quite quickly leaving time to socialise. There will be nibbles, drinks, a light hearted quiz and even a few songs from our Singing for Pleasure group.

There is still space on the London Museums and Lights outing on 9th December costing £10. We also hope to fit in a trip to Haileybury College for a guided tour. The new Travel group, concentrating on short breaks, will be having their first meeting at 2pm on 7th October at Wyddial. Don't get depressed sitting indoors, come and join us and meet new people and try new things. Any queries on above please phone **Jean Devenish 01763 271783** or for membership details phone **Christine Jeffries 01763 273466**.

First Monday 4 th Oct 2pm Contact Hilary Curtis	Craft Group 01763 272323	2:00pm – 4:00pm Plastic canvas work
First Thursday 10am Contact Linda Hood Group has a waiting list	Walking Group (2hours plus) 01763 272020	10:00am – 12:00pm Local Footpaths
Yogic Breathing Every Monday £4	Exercise suitable for all Phone Jean Devenish 271783	10:00am – 11:00pm Various homes
Wed 13 th Oct 10am –12noon Contact Colin Gibbons	Family History 01763 271398	Finding Information to share with family/friends, group session
Last Tues 26 th Oct Contact Mick Westwood	Strollers Group 1 (Gentle stroll) 01763 272594	TBA
4 th Wednesday 27 th Oct Contact Hilary Curtis	Walkers Group 2 (1hour plus) 01763 272323	10:30am
3 rd Thursday 21 st Oct Contact Gill Southgate	Coffee & Chat 01763 271892	Phone for details 2:00pm – 4:00pm
4 th Thursday 28 th Oct Contact Alan Rumble £3	Computers (all levels) 01920 823608	2:00pm – 4:00pm Seth Ward C Centre
2 nd Friday 8 th Oct Contact David Smith £3	Digital photography 01763 849023	2:00pm – 4:00pm URCH
2 nd & 4 th Tuesday Contact Christine Jeffries	Singing for Pleasure 01763 273466	2:00pm – 4:00pm Wyddial
Every Tuesday Contact Alan Smith £5	Bridge for Beginners Tutored 01763 287657	10:00am –12:00pm Various homes
Various Contact Evelyn Smith	Social Outings 01763 272241	Local theatres, meals out, quiz nights etc
Mondays Contact Dave Austin £3	Multi Activity Group 01763 272066	10:00am – 12:00pm Seth Ward C Centre
3 rd Wed 20 th Oct Contact Anne Austin	Reading Group 01763 272066	2:00pm Various houses
12 th Oct 2:00pm Contact Linda Grace	Art Group 01920 438220	Courtyard Arts Port Vale 27 th Nov Artshead Westmill Farm
Every Wednesday Contact Dave Austin £3	Table Tennis 01763 272066	2:00pm – 3:00pm Seth Ward C Centre



Buntingford Scout Group Summer Camp August 2010

This year's annual Summer Camp was held at Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Centre in Norwich.

While at camp the 20 Scouts who attended took part in a wide variety of activities from putting their own tent up, cooking meals for themselves and the rest of their patrol, to climbing and kayaking.

This year the section used the time at camp to work on their navigation skills with a hike around Thetford Forest. They also went on a nine mile hike from Wroxham to Aylsham. Once at Aylsham they caught one of the trains from Bure Valley railway back to their start point at Wroxham.

The scouts also learnt to cook at camp (some of them for the first time!). They prepared meals ranging from simple to more advanced – camp fish and chips anybody? We also found time for them to do some of the more traditional scout cooking, over an open fire – and not a burnt sausage in sight!

Kayaks are always a great success at camp with this year being a slight difference – the camp site has its own stretch of river. The scouts all came back wet from kayaking – some from falling in to those that decided to jump in at the end. However not to put a damper on that day, once they had showered, changed and had lunch it was time to go swimming (we had found a pool that had a water chute and wave machine).

As part of the programme this year we included a visit to Norwich Castle museum. On arrival at the Castle two of the Scouts were awarded their Chief Scout Gold Award, which is the highest award within the Scout Section. Once inside the museum the scouts were taken on a tour of the dungeons (we did count to make sure they all came back up!) and castle battlements.

On Friday the last full day at camp we went to Cromer where we spent the morning at the Henry Blogg lifeboat Museum and then onto Cromer lifeboat station. Our guide at the lifeboat station informed us that the current lifeboat cost in excess of £2.3 million. Later in the afternoon the scouts had a go at crab fishing off of the pier with varying success.

Saturday was spent striking camp and for general camp presentations before returning home. We all had a fantastic camp and once we are all rested we will start planning for the next one!

If you know anyone who is 10½ years to 14 years old who might enjoy coming along and getting involved at Scouts and the activities we do, please send an email to jo.mcnamara@yahoo.co.uk and you could be at summer camp next year!

The leadership team:

Andrea Clover • Chris Clover • Gary Lutner • Sandra Sanderson • Alex Tomkins

Jo McNamara
Group Scout leader

Freman News from Freman College

COLLEGE

We have started the new academic year on a real high note at Freman this year!

Our GCSE students broke all former college records by considerable margins. 91% of them achieving 5 or more A* – C grades and 71% achieving 5 or more top grades including English and mathematics – a great performance in relation to other schools in the county.

Almost without exception, our Sixth Formers got the A Level results they needed to take up the university places of their choice or to follow the career they had planned. They achieved some fantastic results, comparing extremely well with others both in Herts and nationally.

We came back to a bigger college than ever before this year, with significantly increased numbers in the A Year and the Lower Sixth. This year, we also took the exceptional step of creating an extra class in the A Year in order to ensure that all Year 8 students from Edwinstree and Ralph Sadleir were able to come to Freman. This is not something we could sustain every year. The admissions criteria for the college have been updated to give students in our partner middle schools priority.

Many improvements to the premises took place over the summer holidays and as the new term started it was lovely to see how appreciative students are of all the Site Team's hard work.

As I said to all the students on the first day, despite the pressure to study, I strongly encourage them to be as involved as possible in the extra-curricular opportunities Freman offers through House competitions, sports, music, drama, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, educational visits and so on. Our most successful students academically, more often than not, are those who immerse themselves in the wider life of the college.

We are looking forward to our Open Evening on 29th September – our chance to show everyone what goes on at the college and in particular to show off our students. Just before half term we have House Music, always a highlight of the Freman calendar and an early opportunity for our new A Year students to support their House. The second half term will bring the challenge of mock GCSE exams for E Year students but also the pleasure of this year's college play, *Twelfth Night*, and the Christmas concert. Certainly a busy start to the new academic year!

Helen Loughran – Headteacher

AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP

This group continues to grow, and the families enjoyed a summer evening at The Fox in Aspenden at the end of last term. It is for parents and carers of children with Autism or those awaiting diagnosis. Everyone is welcome. The group will continue to meet monthly at a variety of venues including Freman College and local pubs.



Dates for this term are:

Wednesday 22nd September 7pm – 8:30pm at The Fox, Aspenden
Thursday 21st October 7pm – 9:30pm in Freman Library
Wednesday 17th November 7pm – 9:30pm in Freman Library
December – TBC

This group is made possible thanks to funding from Extended Schools. For more information, contact Tracey Hawkins on 01763 271818.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH SILVER AWARD

At the start of July, sixteen of our E Year students, fresh from the rigours of GCSE exams, took on the additional challenge of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award Silver expedition. Since February, they had attended training and route-planning sessions, and each of the three walking groups had carefully designed a route of well over 50km, through the Chilterns Hills.



After leaving college early on a drizzly Friday morning, each group was dropped at their chosen start points, several regretting having packed their waterproofs quite so deep in their bags.

Many hours later, a bedraggled set of students climbed the hill to their first campsite, hoping to soak away their aches and pains in a nice hot shower. They were to be sadly disappointed, as the campsite that had been booked was one of the type that is politely called a "backwoods camp".

Over the next two days, all of the groups did outstandingly well to maintain high spirits during what was, at times, a gruelling experience. Often, when their assessor was waiting for them to arrive at an agreed checkpoint, the group could be heard singing their hearts out from quite a way away. This may have been an attempt to scare away the many inquisitive cows they passed through on their walk, but it was still nice to hear.

They supported each other well with some difficult navigation decisions as they made their way eastwards towards Chorley. By the third day, many of them were bravely struggling on despite evil-looking blisters. A walk of this distance, carrying your tent, food, stove and clothes, takes great determination, and the strength of character shown by our students was impressive. Mr Green and I would like to thank all of the students involved for the spirit they showed and for not stressing us out by getting lost!

Mr Abell



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 3rd October 2010 – Open Gardens at Bromley Hall, Standon – 14:00 – 17:30

Open as part of the National Garden Scheme. Please come along and support Isabel Hospice by visiting these beautiful gardens. Mature 4½-acre garden surrounding C16 farmhouse (not open). It is both an architectural and a plantsman's garden with an immaculate kitchen garden. Location: 6 miles west of Bishop's Stortford on the Standon to Much Hadham Road, SG11 1NY. Contact Renee Friend 01279 755320.

Saturday 9th October 2010 – Jubilee Singers

At Cottered Village Hall in aid of Isabel Hospice. Times to be confirmed.

Monday 1st November 2010 – Race Night

Race Night to be held in a marquee in the grounds of Stag Hall, Great Munden, Ware, Herts SG11 1JW in aid of Isabel Hospice. More details including times to follow.

Isabel Hospice website www.isabelhospice.org.uk



BUNTINGFORD COUGARS

Youth Football Club

Calling all Under 11s



If you have started Year 6 this September and are interested in playing football, the Elsenham Cougars have an exciting opportunity to play competitive football in the Royston Crow League. Training takes place on Saturday mornings with matches on Sundays, why not come along and take part in a friendly training session and meet the manager and team.

For more information
please call Dave Voller on 07786 933963



LAYSTON C OF E FIRST SCHOOL

Our autumn term has got off to a busy start with a number of exciting projects.

The children were delighted to see our new pond when they returned to school. After the rainy summer it was already half full of water. We had high hopes that the fire brigade or a local farmer might be able to help fill the other half, but when these plans fell through, we were left with only one solution – to fill it ourselves! We assembled a variety of buckets and watering cans and the children of Year 4 ferried water up the field. We learnt a good deal about team work and co-operation and great fun was had by all. They raised the level sufficiently for Simon Smith to come along last Friday to work with the children to site the pond plants.



We are well on with our Harvest Festival arrangements too. We will be holding our traditional Harvest Festival Assembly at 11am on 6th October. This will then be followed by a Harvest Lunch. The lunch will be prepared by Mrs Hall and Mrs Handy and the children of the Let's Get Cooking Club. We will be inviting – as our guests – some of the older people in the locality. If you know of an older person who lives near our school who would enjoy the occasion please contact Mrs Gray in the office. All funds raised from the lunch will be donated to the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal 'Fruits of Justice'.

Finally, we have yet more sporting triumphs to report. Our Year 4 pupils attended the



Olympic Games at Wodson Park last week and came home with the shield for scoring the most points. They had a great day taking part in a variety of sports and activities including hockey, dance, basketball and table tennis.

If you would like to find out more about our school, please look at our website at www.layston.herts.sch.uk or contact us on 01763 271235 to arrange a visit.

Gill Langley – headteacher

Poets Corner

It's at about this time of month the Journal hits the shops,
In Buntingford all trading halts and children's laughter stops.
The Journal's out, we all stop work, just so that we can see
On poet's page... the thoughts and words of our Teresa B.
But wait, let's check, can it be, this month there is no rhyme!
When asked, but why? Teresa said..."I just aint had the time",
And so this month what have we got? The ramblings of a fool.
It can't compete with Teresa's prose, which always are so cool.....
But rest assured, I have been told next month she will be back!
And then you will be pleased to hear as poet, I've got the sack!!

Graham Bonner

To Zak

**You big black hairy beasty,
My mate and my companion.
In the way, in the bloody way,
My third degree each morn
Stepping o'er your slumb'ring form.
Savage as an angel and as vicious as a nun.
Known to all and known by none.
You even let me know by your
so slowing, stumbling, falling,
you were going, going, going,
now you're gone, gone, gone.
The black grime on the walls
where you laid, the only remnant of
eleven dear years.
My alter ego – where's Guy? –
There's Zak. No lead, no need.
A hound profound promoted, by consent,
to humankind.
You dined far more luxuriously even than your master dined,
scoffed pork scratching without demur.
Wolf, shaggy bear or just a cur –
I loved you.**

Guy Mace

get **more** out of **walking with the Ramblers**
Royston and District Group

- Sunday 3rd Steeple Morden figure of eight – 6 + 4¼ miles. Leader Paul 01763 244038.
- Tuesday 5th Morning walk Weston, Graveley – 6 miles. Leader David 01763 247572.
- Friday 8th Annual General Meeting in Market Hill Rooms, Royston 7:30pm followed by DVD of Jenny's holiday in Japan.
- Sunday 10th Elmdon figure of eight – 7 miles + 5 miles. Leaders Janet & Graham 01763 838300.
- Thursday 14th Morning walk Duddenhoe End – 5½ miles. Leader Mark 01763 848409.
- Sunday 17th Bengoe, Chapmore End, Watton-at-Stone – 11 miles. Leader Lesley 01763 273463.
- Tuesday 19th Morning walk Longstowe, Bourn – 6 miles. Leader Gerry 01223 870403.
- Sunday 24th Barley, Little Chishill, Great Chishill, Langley, Nuthampstead – 13 miles. Leader David 01763 242677.
- Thursday 28th Morning walk Wallington – 6 miles. Leader Paul 01763 244038 .
- Sunday 31st Weston, Graveley figure of eight – 7 miles + 5 miles. Leader David 01763 247572.

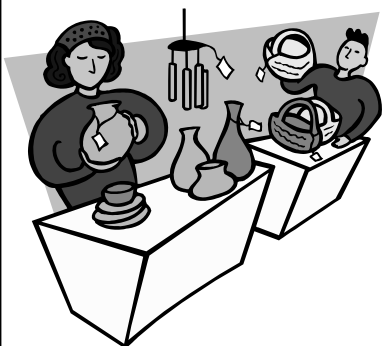
Friends of Orchard Surgery

Annual Craft Fair

Saturday 13th November 2010 10:00am – 3:00pm

Benson Hall, Station Road,
Buntingford

Crafts ~ Bric-a-Brac ~ Cakes
Refreshments
Tombola ~ Face painting
Raffle



We are also supporting the children's hospice – Cambridge E A C H

B A L A

Buntingford Action for the Less Able

Registered Charity No. 1094426

Minibus trips for October 2010

Tues 5 th	10:30am – 2:30pm	Letchworth – drop off at Morrisons	Bus £5
Thurs 7 th	9:30am – 12ish	Tesco at Bishop's Stortford	Bus £4
Tues 12 th	10:30am – 2:30pm	Hitchin – Market day	Bus £5.50
Thurs 14 th	9:30am – 12ish	Bishop's Stortford Town Centre	Bus £4
Fri 15 th	10:00am – 3:00pm	Scotdale Garden Centre, near Cambridge	Bus £7
Sat 16 th	2:30pm	Performance – "The King and I" at Gordon Craig. Tickets £12.50	Bus £4
Mon 18 th	10:30am – 2:30pm	Harlow – Town Centre	Bus £6
Thurs 21 st	9:30am – 12ish	Tesco at Bishop's Stortford	Bus £4
Tues 26 th	10:30am – 3:00pm	Welwyn Garden City – John Lewis, M&S, Debenhams, WH Smith, Boots etc.	Bus £6
Thurs 28 th	9:30am – 12ish	Bishop's Stortford – Town Centre	Bus £4

November 2010

Thurs 4 th	9:30am – 12ish	Tesco at Bishop's Stortford	Bus £4
Sat 6 th	2:30pm	Performance – "The Merry Widow" at Gordon Craig Theatre. Tickets £13	Bus £4

To book a seat or for more information phone **01763 273623** or **01763 271708**

Coffee Morning

at Benson Hall, Buntingford

Wednesday 20th October 10:30am – 12noon

Coffee ♦ Bria-a-Brac ♦ Cakes ♦ Raffle ♦ Marmalade

Proceeds for the Mini-bus





Gardening Year – October



We are now well into the 'mists and mellow fruitfulness' time. I love the rich autumn leaf colours and the refreshing nip in the air early morning and evening. Collecting leaves, splitting plants, planting climbers, protecting plants from frost and planning for next spring should keep you busy! So put on a warm coat, pick dry days and get to it.

General

- Cut dead flower stems and tidy borders composting all suitable material.
- Tidy the leaf falls weekly so there is not a build up, especially on the lawn.
- Have a final weed of the flower beds and dig over vacant ground.

Vegetables

- Harvest last of the season's vegetables.
- Carry out winter digging once vegetable patch is cleared.
- Plant spring cabbage and towards the end of the month garlic.

Trees and Shrubs

- Cut back tall shrubs and check all tree ties are secure.
- Plant bare rooted plants towards end of month once leaves have fallen.
- Cut back hardy fuchsias and plant climbers.
- Choose new acers now as you can see their leaf colours in their autumn glory.

Lawns

- Start to reduce frequency of mowing and raise blades.
- To save raking, use a rotary lawn mower on a high setting to pick up leaves.
- Bit late for seeding but October is the ideal month for laying turf.

Flowers & Patio Pots

- Replace summer bedding with winter/spring bedding as flowering finishes.
- Start planting spring bulbs in beds and containers.
- Reduce the amount of watering in tubs and containers.

Ponds

- Have a good clear out by cutting down marginal plants and scoop out as much bottom sludge as possible. Rotting material left in now will reduce oxygen in the water that fish need to survive over the winter.
- Cover ponds with netting to keep out falling leaves.

Top Tips

- Put tender plants under cover now
- Any you can't bring in protect from frosts with horticultural fleece
- Scrub bird tables and feeders and start to put out food for the birds.

Brian Lemay
brianlemay@btinternet.com

STOP Harlow north's response to East Herts Council's Issues and Options Consultation

Introduction:

The idea of building on the green fields north of Harlow was rejected by the independent planning inspectors after all the planning arguments were explored at the Examination in Public in 2006. Major building in this location would be unsustainable and it would be highly damaging to the environment. The Harlow Infrastructure Study (March 2010) also identified infrastructure requirements totalling £753m but we all know the Government has run out of money.

However Harlow north is not yet dead. The developers are continuing with their plans to concrete over the Green Belt in East Herts and have submitted their land in the "Call for Sites" process. They have also distributed leaflets widely claiming they can solve the entire district's housing need, which is obviously nonsense.

We need to give East Herts Council clear evidence that residents do not want major building on the green fields north of Harlow and that they value the rural character of the district.

What do I need to do?

You need to respond to Q43 in the full consultation (or Question 4 in the Link questionnaire), saying you:

- object to building thousands of houses in the countryside north of Harlow and the planned loss of Green Belt
- support the local parish councils' view that the land should remain actively used countryside, with access for all, as described in our Gilston Great Park proposals

How can I respond?

Complete the form on our website www.stopharlownorth.com. Responses must be received no later than 5pm on 25th Nov 2010. You can also follow the campaign on Facebook at STOP Harlow north.

Will it make a difference?

Over the many years of the campaign public support has been instrumental in achieving our goals. The number of individual responses the Council receives will make a significant impact. Everyone in your household should respond separately, including children as these plans will impact their future. Make sure your voice is heard.

STOP Harlow North's summary response to Question 43 East Herts Local Development Framework Issues and Option Consultation is:

Do you agree with the consultants' Suggested Approach in respect of growth to the north of Harlow?

No. I disagree with the consultants' suggested approach in respect of growth north of Harlow.

If not, how would you distribute development in accordance with Policy HA1 of the East of England Plan and why?

There is no longer any need to distribute development in accordance with policy HA1 of the East of England Plan as the Plan has been revoked by the new Government. I support a better not a bigger Harlow. The area north of Harlow should remain an essential part of the (extended) Green Belt.

If development to the north of Harlow is no longer required by the East of England Plan, should we consider north of Harlow as a broad location to meet some of the East Herts district wide housing requirement?

No. The green fields north of Harlow are not suitable as a broad location to meet district wide housing requirements.

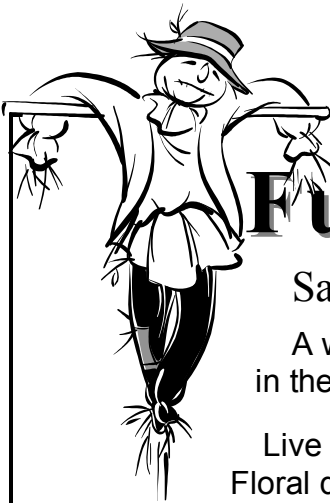
The towns and villages north of Harlow should be treated in the Local Development Framework no differently from other towns and villages of similar size and character in the district.

I support limited housing to meet local needs in accordance with locally developed parish and town plans.

I strongly object to major development north of Harlow.

I support the local community's plans for Gilston Great Park north of Harlow.

Nigel Clark
Secretary STOP Harlow north



Furneux Festival

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd October

**A weekend of fun and entertainment
in the beautiful village of Furneux Pelham**

**Live music in the church ♦ Country store
Floral displays and Photographic competition
Craft stalls ♦ Classic cars ♦ Art exhibition
Football tournament ♦ Dog show ♦ Scarecrow
competition
BBQ ♦ Beer tent ♦ Live music ♦ Tombola
Pony and carriage rides**



BUNTINGFORD AND DISTRICT SOCIAL CLUB



C I U affiliated

6 Church Street, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 9AS

Telephone 01763 271889

www.buntingfordsocialclub.com

www.lemonrock.com/buntingfordanddistrictsocialclub

*** BIG CASH BINGO EVERY MONDAY ***

Guaranteed £150 minimum snowball prize. ALL WELCOME – start time 8pm

Let's give you a reminder of events

ALL MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS SHOWN, TIMES PERMITTING

♪ **Live entertainment on Saturdays except**

2nd Saturday in the month (unless otherwise announced) ♪

Plus: Darts • Pool • Snooker • Wii console

We have Club Knockouts for Darts, Crib, Pool and Snooker

Golf days in September and October (see notice board)

AND DON'T FORGET, WE SELL THE CHEAPEST PINT IN BUNTINGFORD!

New members always welcome and for any of you lapsed members, you are always welcome to rejoin at anytime.



10th October Darts Tournament with Cash Prizes.

Entrance fee £5 Pre-registered, £6 on the day. Contact Club for entrance form.

For your diaries

13th Nov – Family Disco Night – come and bring your kids for a family disco night, a time for members and their families to enjoy a night together having a boogie. (No age restrictions.)

23rd Nov – Maxwell, Hammer and Smith do Queen

SATURDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT *(Subject to change)*

2nd Oct – Abakus

9th Oct – No entertainment, free pool, free snooker, free juke box

16th Oct – The Believers

23rd Oct – Saturday Special – Bee Gees and Kylie tribute

30th Oct – T B A

MEMBERS FREE, GUESTS £4 WHEN ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED OR £7 SPECIAL NIGHT

Don't forget to check out our page on facebook



BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

A QUALITY TOWN COUNCIL

The final number of boxes sent to Afghanistan was 124 and grateful thanks go to all those residents who participated. It is hoped to have another campaign closer to Christmas; details will be published at a later date.

Many of you would have seen the publicity on the East Herts Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation. This is a very important document as it will shape the future of the District until 2031. The document, once produced, will outline the strategy for the distribution of new houses across the district. The link for the consultation is: <http://www.eastherts-consult.limehouse.co.uk> and residents are encouraged to respond.

The East Herts Transport and Parking Strategy is also under consultation with copies of the questionnaire available at The Manor House or you can complete it online at www.eastherts.gov.uk/parkingsurvey.

We have received notification that Planning Permission has been granted for the planned extension at the Seth Ward Community Centre and works should commence towards the end of October.

Jill Jones MILCM
Town Clerk

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER	
Thursday 5 th	Amenities Committee – 7:30pm
Thursday 12 th	Planning Committee – 7:30pm
Thursday 12 th	Resources Committee – 8:00pm
Thursday 28 th	Planning Committee – 7:30pm
Thursday 28 th	Full Council – 8:00pm

All meetings will be held at The Manor House
All members of the public are welcome to attend
Office hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm, closed Fridays

Tel: 01763 272222

email: btc.manorhouse@btclick.com – website: www.buntingfordtowncouncil.co.uk

Braughing Music Society

Classical Guitar Recital

The Williams Kelleher Duo

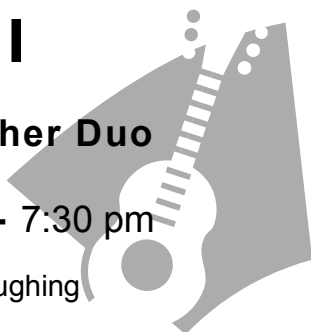
Saturday 9th October – 7:30 pm

St Mary's Church, Braughing

Ticket prices: £15 Premium • £12 Standard
£10 restricted view • £15 at the door

Telephone Box Office: 01763 289073

www.braughingmusicsociety.co.uk



Have you enjoyed this month's Journal?

If so, why not have it delivered regularly to your door. Join Buntingford Civic Society and part of your fee will pay for your Journal and the remainder will go to the Civic Society whose efforts monitor the town we value.



BCS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I / We* wish to apply for family membership of the Buntingford Civic Society, at the annual subscription rate indicated below.

Name/s: _____

Address: _____

Post code: _____ Tel: _____

I / We* enclose £7 door delivery subscription / £15 postal (UK) subscription *

Signed: _____

Send to: Chris Eagle (Membership Secretary)
5 Monks Walk
Buntingford
Hertfordshire SG9 9EE

*delete as appropriate