

April 2010
Volume 35, No. 3

Buntingford Journal



Wyddial Road and Little Court Bridge 1839

40p

Make sure of your copy of the Journal.
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

- Tuesday 6th 8:00pm Buntingford & District Cage Bird Society Meeting – Benson Hall. See page 36. Enquiries 01920 438482.
- Wednesday 7th 7:45pm for 8:00pm Buntingford Gardeners Club AGM at URC Hall, Baldock Road, Buntingford. Ann from Daisy Roots will be speaking about Autumn Colour and Extending the Season.
- Thursday 8th 7:30pm for 7:45pm Buntingford WI at URC Hall. Speaker Paul Jarett on 'Prison Chaplaincy'.
8:00pm British Legion at the Crown Public House, Market Hill.
- Saturday 10th 2:00pm for 2:30pm St Richard's Church – Bingo at Benson Hall.
- Monday 12th 2:00pm – 4:00pm Buntingford U3A Seth Ward Community Centre. Speaker Jacqueline Tevlin giving an illustrated talk on Joyce Grenfell.
- Monday 12th – Saturday 17th Buntingford Community Pride Environmental week. See page 10 for full details.
- Sunday 18th 10:30am Clean up the River Rib with the Civic Society. See page 20.
- Thursday 15th 7:45pm Buntingford Annual Town Meeting at Seth Ward Community Centre, Luynes Rise, Buntingford.
- Friday 16th 8:00pm Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at Crown ph. Dave Baker – Railway films.
- Tuesday 20th 12noon Copy deadline for April 2010 edition of the Buntingford Journal.
- Wednesday 21st 10:30 – 12noon BALA Coffee Morning at Benson Hall. Coffee / Cakes / Raffle / Bric-a-brac / Marmalade.
7:30pm Buntingford Civic Society AGM at Benson Hall, Buntingford. See page 9 for full details.
- Thursday 22nd 10:30am – 3:00pm British Red Cross Spring Sale at Cottered Village Hall. See page 36 for details.
- Sunday 25th 10:00am – 12 noon Buntingford Bowls Club Open Morning. See page 17 for full details.
- Wednesday 28th 2:00pm for 2:30pm St Richard's Church – Bingo at Benson Hall.
7:30pm Buntingford & District Flower Club at Benson Hall, Buntingford. Doors open at 7:00pm. Speaker Lisa Howarth on New Beginnings.
- Thursday 29th 9:00am Buntingford Networking Meeting at Buntingford Coffee Shop.

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL?

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@hertscc.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 Hormead). 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 APRIL?

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.
- 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@hertsgov.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 APRIL?

SATURDAYS

9:00am – 12:30pm Ballet Classes at Layston School for children aged 3 – 18 years. Contact Philippa on 01762 271010.

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

2:10pm – 4:10pm 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 – THURSDAY

Buntingford Heritage Centre open 10:00am – 4:00pm (subject to Town Clerk's office being open). A permanent display of Buntingford's past.

MONDAY – FRIDAY

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

OUT AND ABOUT IN APRIL

Saturday 3rd 10:00am – 12noon Great Hormead Farmers Market, Village Hall.

Saturday 17th 9:30am – 12noon Sandon Growers Market.

LOOKING AHEAD

May

Saturday 1st 9:30am – 11:30am Aspenden Festival Committee Annual Plant Sale. See page 9 for details.

Sunday 2nd 10:30am Free lessons at Buntingford Bowls Club. See page 21.

Saturday 8th 7:30pm Braughing Music Society – The Alberni String Quartet. See page 22.

Friday 14th 6:00pm Buntingford Charity Football Match. See page 40.

Saturday 15th 7:30pm for 8:00pm start, Layston School Quiz night. See page 36.

Sunday 16th British Red Cross Open Garden at Fanhams Hall Hotel, Ware.

Sponsored Ride and Barbeque. See page 22 for details.

June

Saturday 19th Buntingford Carnival. Stall application form on page 11 and procession/parade application form on page 12.

Sat 26th & Sun 27th Standon Village Hall Arts & Crafts Exhibition.

July

Saturday 18th Aspenden Fete.

EDITORIAL

The weather has started to improve and it's been lovely to see the sun and be able to get out and start tending the garden again.

Buntingford's Annual Town Meeting takes place on 15th of April at Seth Ward Community Centre at 7:45pm and I would like to encourage the residents of Buntingford to attend. If you have any questions about the town, you can put them to the members who attend from the council etc. I had a good moan last year regarding the poor numbers that turned out – so I suggest that if you want to find out what is happening in **your** town or want have your say, get along there.

The Buntingford Bowls Club are again offering **free** bowling lessons in May. Hubby and I went last year; the Club's members are really friendly and helpful and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, so go on, give it a try. There are more details on pages 17 and 21.

Also the Buntingford Carnival is coming up in June and you will find applications forms for the Procession / Parade and Stalls on pages 11 and 12. We only have to mention our Carnival to friends in Berkshire and they make sure they put it in their diaries and come up for the weekend (they have already 'booked in').

Finally, I am really pleased to say I have now got my car back!

Aliya Chowney

**Deadline for the May Journal is
Tuesday 20th April 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

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**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**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

by email

Myself and family moved into Buntingford last summer and I just wanted to say how much we love it. We love the High Street and its shops. The Christmas lights and car show were excellent, as was the recent panto. Well done to those responsible! We are very much looking forward to the carnival in the summer.

It is nice to live somewhere where there is still a sense of community and the people are both helpful and friendly.

The only very small gripes are as follows:

- The amount of dog mess in Owles Lane (pick it up owners, it's dangerous).
- Why are there not more allotments? We are surrounded by countryside! There must be some unused farmland which the council could hire?
- Lastly the small amount of boy-racers/bikers up and down London Road at the weekend.

Other than that it is a perfect place to bring up a family. I just hope it is not over developed in the future and spoiled, it would be a great shame.

Kind regards

Mark Teal

Buntingford Senior Citizens Club

**Meets Monday afternoons at the United Reformed
Church Hall, Baldock Road, Buntingford.**

1:30pm – 3:30pm

for bingo and a social afternoon

Outings, treats and goodies throughout the year

Christmas lunch every year

Please come and join us, you will be made most welcome

Jeanne Clark, Secretary (01763 274631)

Aspenden Festival Committee

ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Saturday 1st May outside St Peter's Church, Buntingford

9:30am – 11:30am

Annuals • Perennials • Vegetables • Shrubs

Cake and Produce stall

Come inside for coffee and scones

Proceeds in aid of church restoration fund

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



Buntingford Civic Society

(Reg. Charity No. 1014873)

invites you to its

Annual General Meeting

to be held at the Benson Hall, Buntingford
on Wednesday, 21st April 2010 at 7:30pm

The business part of the AGM will be followed at 8pm

by Ms Helen Loughran BA (Oxon)

Headteacher of Freman College, Buntingford on

Developments and Opportunities in Education at Freman College

Light refreshments will be served at the end of the meeting

RSVP to Joyce Jackson, 8 Longmead, Buntingford SG9 9EF Tel: 01763 271463

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 Community Pride Environmental Week

Your chance to make a difference in your community

Throughout the year there are many exciting projects taking place to make Buntingford a safer, greener and cleaner place to live and work. Community Pride hopes to empower the community to develop and deliver change, whilst offering sustainable diversionary activities to the town's youth. It will also work towards bridging the generation gaps between our more mature citizens and the younger residents.

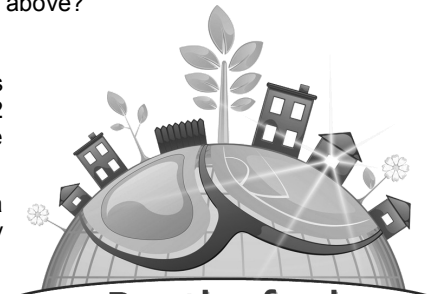
Community Pride already has a creative and innovative garden project established. We are planning another charity football match in May, which will incorporate music and entertainment into the evening for all ages.

Environmental Week will take place between the 12th and 17th April. This will include several projects, including:

- Cleaning the River Rib and its banks.
 - Providing crime and fire prevention advice to local vulnerable residents.
 - Taking a practical approach to tackling graffiti and low level damage.
 - Local young people, working alongside other community members, to clean up problem areas within the town.
 - Partnership working including EHDC, Town Council, Housing Associations, Local Groups, Local Schools, Youth Groups, Police and Buntingford Civic Society.
 - Charity Car Wash at Fire Station.
-
- ***Do you feel you can help make a difference to the town?***
 - ***Could you spare a few hours during this week?***
 - ***Do you have any skills that could be utilised to help others within the town?***
-
- Are you aware of anyone who would benefit from some help?
 - Does your elderly or vulnerable neighbour/relative/friend need their garden tidied, hedge trimmed or rubbish cleared?
 - Do you have a friend or relative who would benefit from tailored crime or fire prevention advice?
 - Is there a part of the town you feel needs attention?
 - Would YOU like some help with any of the above?

If you can answer yes to any of these questions please contact PCSO Jo Alston on 01992 533307 or pop into the Police Station to leave your details and we will contact you.

This is an exciting project that can really make a difference to our town. Please support it in any way you can.



**Buntingford
Community Pride**



Buntingford Carnival

in aid of local voluntary organisations and clubs



STALL APPLICATION FORM

Date – *19th June 2010*

Theme – *Fashion from Around the World*

If you would like to join in the fun on Carnival day 2010 by having a stall in the street market, please complete the booking form below.

Stalls can be set up from 8:30am
Pitch size 10ft wide x 6ft deep
Charge £18 per pitch
No tables supplied

Name / Organisation:

Type of stall:

We wish to reserve pitch(es) and enclose a cheque for £
made payable to '**Buntingford Carnival Committee**'.

Name and address of contact:

.....

.....

Tel no: Date:

Please return the completed form to:
Mrs H. Baker, 20 Fairfield, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 9NT
Tel: 01763 271176 for further information



Buntingford Carnival

in aid of local voluntary organisations and clubs



PROCESSION/PARADE APPLICATION FORM

Date – **19th June 2010**

Theme – ***Fashion from Around the World***

If you would like to join in the fun on Carnival day 2010 by taking part in the procession/parade, please complete the booking form below.

- Assemble at Norfolk Road Playing Field car park
- Judging at 2pm, procession starts at 3pm
- Free entry

We wish to take part in the Buntingford Carnival 2010 in the *Best adult's / *Best Children's / *Best Trade / *Best Family or Individual entry / *Best Pre-School
***please circle class entered**

Our entry *will / *will not have music ***please delete as necessary**

If vehicle based, we confirm that our motor insurance policy permits use of that vehicle in the carnival procession/parade and this will extend to indemnify you as organisers.

Signed: Print Name:

Name and address of group / organisation / individual:

.....

Tel no:Date:

PLEASE NOTE: AT THE END OF THE PROCESSION / PARADE YOU WILL BE DIRECTED BY A MARSHAL TO PARK, UNLOAD AND DISPERSE SAFELY

Note on insurance:

As organisers we have public liability insurance, which covers damage or injury resulting from the day's events, eg something or somebody falling off a float. Our insurance does not include damage done by a motor vehicle in the procession. It is the responsibility of the vehicle owner to ensure that their motor policy permits use in the carnival and that their policy will extend to indemnify us as organisers. We understand that as long as the owner is not being paid to participate in the carnival their normal policy should be sufficient but each entrant must check with their insurers.

Please return the completed form to:
 Mrs H. Baker, 20 Fairfield, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 9NT
 Tel: 01763 271176 for further information



Millfield First and Nursery School



The last month has flown by with a range of activities taking place at the school. Key Stage 2 concluded their work on the Second World War by inviting people who could remember the war to come along to school for the afternoon. Over tea and biscuits the children were able to ask questions about the war. Everyone enjoyed themselves and many of our visitors commented on how polite and friendly our children were.



Some of our brightest Year 3 mathematicians were invited to Edwinstree School for a Maths Challenge Day. The children all had a great time working with Year 6 pupils on maths activities based around chocolate!



The Community Police Support officer met with the School Council. The School Council organised a competition for the children to create Road Safety Posters encouraging safe parking around the school and walking to school whenever possible. The CPSO and the School Council fixed all the winning entries to the School gates and fence.

Next week the children will be meeting in their 'Friendship Ladders'. 'Friendship Ladders' are groups of children who are put in mixed ages ranging from Reception to Year 4. The children stay in these groups throughout their time at Millfield moving up 'the ladder' as they get older. The groups meet together each term to take part in a special activity and this time they are creating traditional tale puppet shows to perform to one another.

Mr Hall, our caretaker, is a qualified cycle instructor and this month he is going to be leading training in the safe use of scooters for all our Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils.

The School Council is also organising a 'Millfield's Got Talent' show to raise money for Sports Relief. Many of the children are busy rehearsing their magic shows, comedy and dance routines!

At Easter the PTA are organising our annual Easter Egg hunt around the grounds of the school for all the children.

Finally we are holding our Easter Assembly for all parents and carers in the school hall on Thursday 1st April at 9:10am.

Millfield Little Stars

Millfield Little Stars day-care offers care for children aged 2-4 years old in a fun, caring and stimulating environment and we are pleased to announce that from the start of the Easter term we are offering a morning session, which starts at 9:00am. We continue to remain flexible with varying sessions which are aimed at accommodating the needs of the community.

For further details and information on costs and session times please contact the day-care manager, Miss Ward, on 01763 271717 or visit the school office at Millfield School, Monks Walk, Buntingford, SG9 9DT.



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 £100 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 machine,
which are free on 2nd Saturday of the month and every Sunday.
Sky Sports

We have Club Knockouts for Darts, Crib, Pool, Snooker and Wii Bowling
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.

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIALS FOR 2010

1st May – Badness (Madness tribute band)

19th June – ABBA Queens

23rd October – Bee Gee Magic

SATURDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT *(Subject to change)*

3rd April – Abakus

10th April – No entertainment (free pool, snooker and jukebox)

17th April – Karaoke/Disco

24th April – Believers

1st May – Badness (Madness tribute)

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

To see more information about the bands go to:

www.lemonrock.com/buntingfordanddistrictsocialclub

B A L A

Buntingford Action for the Less Able

Registered Charity No. 1094426

Minibus trips for April 2010

Thurs 1 st	9:30am – 12ish	Bishop's Stortford Town Centre	Bus £4
Thurs 8 th	9:30am – 12ish	Tesco at Bishop's Stortford	Bus £4
Mon 12 th	10:30am – 3pm	Welwyn Garden City – John Lewis, M&S, Debenhams, WHSmith, Boots etc.	Bus £6
Thurs 15 th	9:30am – 12ish	Bishop's Stortford Town Centre	Bus £4
Sat 17 th	1:30pm	Performance – Musical "Adventures of Mr Toad" at Gordon Craig. Tickets £12.90	Bus £4
Tues 20 th	10:00am – 3pm	Cambridge Shopping	Bus £7
Thurs 22 nd	9:30am – 12ish	Tesco at Bishop's Stortford	Bus £4
Fri 23 rd	10:30am – 2:30pm	Van Hage Garden Centre	Bus £5
Thurs 29 th	9:30am – 12ish	Bishop's Stortford Town Centre	Bus £4

May 2010

Sat 1 st	2:30pm	Performance, "Crazy For You" at Gordon Craig. Tickets £12	Bus £4
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To book a seat or for more information phone 01763 273623 or 01763 271708

COFFEE MORNING



Wednesday 21st April
at Benson Hall

10:30am – 12noon
Coffee ★ Cakes ★ Raffle
Bric-a-Brac★Marmalade

Proceeds for the mini-bus

A Special 'Thank you'

At a recent Layston Lodge Ladies Festival held in the Cotswolds, £895 was raised and kindly donated to BALA.

We would like to express our thanks to the members and friends of the Lodge for their great generosity.

What a lovely surprise and much appreciated, be sure that we will put it to good use!

Veronica Easley
on behalf of the Trustees of BALA



BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

A QUALITY TOWN COUNCIL

The Youth Council's Tea Party at The Manor House was a well attended, successful event. Over 40 senior members of the town attended and all agreed it was a worthwhile afternoon. The young people were run off their feet serving tea and cakes and demonstrating Google Earth to those who have families overseas.

We are coming to the end of another financial year and we in the Clerk's Office are busy finalising the accounts for publication and approval. There will be a statutory period for inspecting the accounts, when these dates are available they will be posted on the notice board.

As mentioned in the last edition, the Annual Town Meeting will be held on the 15th April at the Seth Ward Community Centre. The evening starts at 7:45pm with a chance to read reports from various organisations in the town on their progress during the past year. This is followed by a speech from the Mayor and then questions from the floor. It is a meeting of the electorate, not the Council and everyone is most welcome to attend.

Jill Jones MILCM
Town Clerk

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL	
Thursday 1 st	Amenities Committee – 7:30pm
Thursday 8 th	Planning Committee – 7:30pm
Thursday 8 th	Resources Committee – 8:00pm
Tuesday 13 th	Youth Council – 4:00pm
Thursday 15 th	Annual Town Meeting – 7:45pm Seth Ward CC
Thursday 29 th	Planning Committee – 7:30pm
Thursday 29 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
www.buntingfordtowncouncil.co.uk



**Young or Old
Here's a game for YOU**



Open Morning
Sunday 25th April 10:00am – 12 noon

Buntingford Bowls Club
Wyddial Road, Buntingford

Don't be bored, pop in for a chat or even have a go.
Interested but cannot make the date, then ring John Hicks on 01763 272657 for
an alternative opportunity.

Free lessons for beginners start on Sunday 2nd May at 10:30am

Visit us at www.buntingfordbowls.co.uk

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

- Thursday 1st Morning walk Ugley – 5½ miles. Leader Judy 01223 835126
- Sunday 4th Letty Green, Little Berkhamsted – 10 miles. Leader Lesley 01763 273463
- Tuesday 6th Morning walk Nuthampstead – 5 miles. Leader Eric 01763 848576
- Thursday 8th Morning walk Foxton – 8 miles, followed by optional afternoon walk 7 miles. Leader Alan 01763 263352
- Sunday 11th Hexton, Lilley, Great Offley, Little Offley – 13 miles. Leader Mike 01462 491032
- Tuesday 13th Morning walk Barton – 6 miles. Leader Alan 01763 263352
- Thursday 15th Morning walk Newport – 6 miles. Leader Mick 01763 247579
- Sunday 18th Woburn – 8 miles. *Possibility of tea shop and market after the walk.* Leaders Tricia and Madge 01438 880553
- Tuesday 20th Morning walk Furneux Pelham – 5 miles. Leader Mike 01763 274679
- Thursday 22nd Morning walk Much Hadham – 5½ miles. Leader Bob 01763 271170
- Sunday 25th Berden – 10½ miles. Leader Paul 01763 244038
- Monday 26th Evening walk Barley – 3 miles. Leader John 01763 241525
- Tuesday 27th Morning walk Standon – 6 miles. Leader John 01763 241525
- Thursday 29th Morning Walk Ardeley – 5½ miles preceded by pre-booked breakfast. Leader Tricia 01438 880553

It's all a mystery and as for recycling!

What's the difference between ointment and cream? If Red Bull gives you a lift, where to? Why do women wait to get to the checkout until they realise they have forgotten something? Where are my glasses? All questions that defy answers, but the most mystifying of them all are recycling. It seems to have taken over our lives with endless discussions, television programmes, and newspaper articles constantly lambasting the public as to their lethargy and their shortcomings, which are the reason for all the nations' ills. With the election around the corner it won't be long before, call me Dave or Gloomy Gordon and Cleggy (nice but dim), will be seen at a dump near you for a sound bite or photo opportunity. I wouldn't put it passed Teflon Tony to be discovered on a corporation tip any day now in yet another step towards saint hood, with the ever-present ghostly figure of Uriah Heap (Heap? Get it?), Mandy hovering in the background.

Why do they always blame us, the consumer? Successive governments and their links to business have systematically decimated the high street and encouraged us to have that lifestyle shopping experience and 'one stop' shop (for that busy person), so now the big supermarkets control our very lives and it is them that have created the waste with packaging that promises more than it delivers. Offers that encourage both greed and waste and we, like hamsters on a wheel, now committed, are at their mercy.

But it wasn't always like this; in fact my family and others I know seemed to bypass consumer excess to some degree and still pursue diligently those careful habits of a more austere time. Our dustman (sorry – environmental service provider) is disappointed with the little we put in the bin.

Indeed this parsimonious attitude earned me the sobriquet "Frugal Dougal" with my work colleagues (it used to be work mates but now its 'colleagues', hey ho!)

My wife (sorry – partner) still has tins for buttons that fall off, bits of string, bundles of newspapers, odd ends of soap and rubber bands dropped by the postman (that would be a good contract to get). Jars for nuts and bolts (that we can never find) and Christmas paper, one piece of which has been doing the rounds in our family for many years. Not forgetting my garden tools that were first purchased just after World War One.

So now the land is covered in plastic bins (what did the production of that lot do to climate change?) we have recycling plants and endless collection days involving yet more gas guzzling trucks, new positions created throughout the administrative hierarchy, (another photo opportunity) at excessive salaries, (stick it on the rates), and Recycling Czars? Will the Russian royal family be making a come back?

All it needs is basic common sense and despite what the so-called experts think, most of us still retain a modicum of that.

Talking of common sense, cycling and the environment (try and keep up). Do cycling proficiency tests for school children still take place? Some may remember those occasions each year when it was a time of great anticipation for children. It used to take place in the grounds of the village school that we attended, usually late spring and if I remember the weather was always fine. (Ah! the sun always shone back then before global warming and snow drifts).

A day or two before the test we were all told to bring our bikes to the school after lessons, this was a big deal as we did it without parents in tow, always a plus in our book. God

knows what would happen now with the requisite loading of the latest models into the Chelsea tractors and who knows how many forms would have to be filled in?

Prior to the day my brothers and I would take our bikes to one of our uncles who was mechanically minded and had all the right spanners and he would give the machines the once over. Often these bikes were made from bits and pieces (recycled) so there were interesting combinations of odd wheels, frames, brakes (optional), and all painted in whatever colours were available. Battleship Grey was the predominant hue in our family since Dad had swapped some vegetables for five gallons of the stuff from a dodgy character with an even dodgier moustache. On the appointed day we all stood, freshly scrubbed, in a line in the playground, whilst the local bobby examined each machine for worthiness in the turning and braking department. He was a genial fellow in his best uniform and went about his work with a Woodbine hanging from his lips, which gave him a permanent squint as he tried to keep the smoke from his eyes. He recorded each check with an indelible pencil on a form while looking sternly over his wire-framed glasses at the quivering wretch whose machine was under scrutiny.

After the inspection we were asked to complete a slalom of milk crates and give appropriate hand signals when directed. Inevitably there were resultant crashes and grazed knees and elbows and sometimes tears, but this never prompted litigation or enquiries into abuse or negligence, only the words "Come on, stop crying and try again".



At the end of the exercise we were presented with an enamel badge, which we proudly displayed on our lapel. Later in the evening a converted double-decker bus was parked in the local pub forecourt and we were entertained with a road safety show and some rudimentary practical displays for which there was always a queue.

We always called into my aunties on the way home, where we recalled in detail all the gruesome details of the accidents displayed in the bus, whilst we consumed large pieces of Victoria sponge with butter icing (home made), and glasses of Cream Soda, bought, but from a recycled bottle (3d for the return). We must have taken a wrong turning somewhere between "Hippy Free love" and Maggie's "loads a money". I know I should have tightened the handlebars.

Must close as I have to spend an hour or two separating stuff for the bins. What next, Strictly Come Recycling?

Vyse



Buntingford Civic Society

BUNTINGFORD CIVIC SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY PRIDE

- WHAT:** Join in the fun and clean up the River Rib
- WHEN:** 10:30am Sunday 18th April 2010
- WHERE:** Rendezvous 'The Ford', Wyddial Road, Buntingford
- WHO:** Volunteers both young and old. 'In the water' and 'Spotters' on the bank.
- SCOPE:** To remove rubbish from the riverbed and river banks from the ford to Watermill estate.
- EQUIPMENT:** 'Pickers', gloves and bags supplied by EHC. 'In the water' volunteers wear wellies and old clothes.
- CONTINGENCY:** If poor weather conditions or too high water level causes a postponement, a new date will be announced in the Buntingford Journal.
- IMPORTANT:** This event really wants to engage young members of the community but unfortunately in for this occasion, only those 14 years of age and above are sought to be part of the team in the water.

Derek K Cooper, chairman

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

Annual Town Meeting Thursday 15th April 2010 Seth Ward Community Centre

The evening starts at 7:45pm with a chance to read reports from various organisations in the town on their progress during the past year. This is followed by a speech from the Mayor and then questions from the floor.

This is a meeting of the electorate, not the Council and everyone is most welcome to attend.

Buntingford Youth Project

For all 13 - 19 year olds



Monday evenings 7:30pm – 9:45pm		Friday evenings 5:30pm – 8:00pm	
Mon 5 th April	- Closed	Fri 2 nd April	- Closed
Mon 12 th April	- Sexual health - Mother's day crafts	Fri 9 th April	- Climbing in Harlow
Mon 19 th April	- Driving test & road safety - Dodgeball	Fri 16 th April	- CV building - Fundraising
Mon 26 th April	- Fire station night	Fri 23 rd April	- Chlamydia testing evening - Pizza

(up to 25 if you have a learning difficulty or a

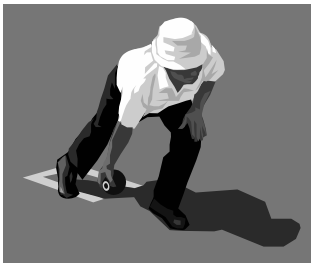
For more information contact Nick Howell 07789 927 640
email: nick.howell@hertscc.gov.uk

**buntingford
& district
youth club**



Bowls for Beginners

Free Lessons each Sunday in May starting
on the 2nd at 10:30am at
the Green, Wyddial Road, Buntingford



- Fully qualified County coaches
- Only flat-soled shoes required
- Bowls provided at no charge

*No obligation
Come along and play*

For further information contact:

Visit us at www.buntingfordbowls.co.uk

John Hicks on 01763 272657



Sponsored Ride & Barbeque

Sunday 16th May 2010

In aid of the
Herts & Essex Border Group of Riding for the Disabled Association

at Woodhall Park, Watton at Stone, SG14 3NF

Rides of 3, 6 and 9 miles

A rare opportunity to ride around some beautiful Hertfordshire countryside.

The organisers gratefully acknowledge the support and generosity of
Mr & Mrs Ralph Abel Smith over whose land the ride takes place.

More information see www.horsedates.co.uk
or contact Alex Cater on 01763 289808 (alex.cater@btopenworld.com)

RDA Charity No 1074385

. The Alburni String Quartet

Three Beethoven Quartets

Saturday 8th May – 7:30 pm

St Mary's Church, Braughing

Ticket prices: £15 Premium • £12 Standard

£10 restricted view • £15 at the door

Braughing Music Society



Telephone Box Office:

01763 289073



www.braughingmusicsociety.co.uk



Gardening Year – April



Now that spring is well and truly here there is plenty to keep you busy. Don't rush to buy tender plants until May, as ground frosts at night are common. The Easter weekend gives us all a chance to get out in the garden.

General

- Keep on top of weeding and fork over soil ready for May planting. Even better fork in some garden compost/soil improver as you go.
- Also you can mulch the soil with a layer of garden compost, bark chippings, manure etc to suppress weeds and help the soil retain water during dry spells.
- Feed roses with a general purpose fertilizer.

Vegetables

- Outdoors sow beetroot, broad beans, early carrots, lettuces, parsnips, peas, radishes, spinach and spring onions.
- Plant early and main crop potatoes but earth up shoots to protect from frost.

Trees and Shrubs

- Cut off last year's hydrangea flower heads and shorten thin or old shoots.
- Cut back overgrown laurel, bay, box, fatsia japonica, hebe and skimmia.
- Plant or move evergreen shrubs and trees and tidy hedges.

Lawns

- If the weather is mild and the ground has warmed up, re-seed bare patches by scattering lawn seed mixed with seed compost and water regularly.
- Start feeding lawns and if necessary use a feed with moss or weedkiller.
- Mow lawns weekly if weather is mild.

Flowers & Patio Pots

- Remove top layer of old compost in permanently planted containers and top up with new compost mixed with slow release fertiliser.
- Plant hardened off hardy annuals, unsprouted dahlia tubers and gladioli.
- Allow daffodil leaves to die off naturally before removing.

Ponds

- Remove blanket weed and divide overgrown plants.
- Add new water plants but leave planting or dividing water lilies until May.

Top Tips

- Watch out for slugs and snails as they will start to get active this month. Use whatever controls suit you and your gardening methods.
- Seeds can be planted directly into the soil now as the ground warms up.
- Feed borders with a light dressing of blood, fish and bone. Follow guidelines on pack.

Brian Lemay
brian.lemay@talktalk.net

Cash, property and an act of Parliament

(Part 8)

Martin & Mandy

In the chancel of St Bartholomew's is a memorial to Thomas Crouch who changed his name to Pyke. Well this is all too suspicious for my liking and the hunt is on. (Different spellings are found for names, hence Pike/Pyke and Crowch/Crouch in this article)

So... Once upon a time there was a gentleman called George Pike, who died in 1658 and was buried in Meldreth Church in Cambridgeshire. Around this time the average wage for a labourer would have been in the region of £20 per year. George left approximately £7,900 (which today would be worth around £10 million) and in his will he left money to just about all his relatives. What's more George breaks with tradition and leaves money to his daughters as well as his male descendants and this is just the cash part of his will. Then he distributes his vast number of properties. He owned property in Baythorne, Birdwood, Tattersett, Sheene, Meldreth, Snoring and the list goes on and on. It is fair to say that George was very comfortably off! George's will even left £120 for the erection of a monument to him in Meldreth Church and this can be seen today with all it's glorious Latin. He even leaves money for 30 of the poorest people in Meldreth to go to his funeral!



George Pike Memorial

Now George had many children and from his third marriage to Elizabeth he had a son – George junior, and a daughter – Elizabeth. Elizabeth was left 3000 'marks' in her father's will, payable when she reached 21 or when she married. George's will also required Elizabeth to obtain consent of her brothers in law before she could marry and with this consent, in 1661 she married George Baker (who sadly died shortly after the marriage). She married again the next year, this time to John Crowch of Alswick Hall in Layston, the son of John Crouch of Corneybury.

George junior was married at Aspenden Church on 2nd July 1660 to Ann Freeman, the daughter of Ralph Freeman of Aspenden Hall. Ralph was the son of Elizabeth Crouch and William Freeman (yes that's right, nothing like repeated inter-marriage within families). George and Ann had no surviving children so he decided to place an entail on their estate ensuring that only his or his sister's direct descendants could inherit the estate, which coming from George Senior, was going to be considerable.

Meanwhile John Crouch and Elizabeth had four children, their first-born being Pyke Crouch and this is the Pyke Crowch whose memorial is in St Bartholomew's, placed there by his son Thomas Crouch. So George Pike is the great-grandfather of this Thomas Crouch and more importantly Thomas is the direct descendant of George junior's sister.

George senior's will is complex and long (you can see the full version on the web site). He leaves money and goods to a large number of descendants, lots of whom sadly died young, as did many in those times. The long and short of his will is that the bulk of his

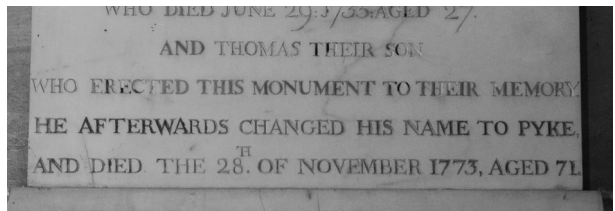
property was left to George Pike junior when he died in 1658. Now George junior has property all over Hertfordshire and Norfolk; a wife whose own family are Lord Mayors of London and are also well off financially, but they lacked one thing, children, as they never had children either, which leads to another complicated will that's on the web site.

This George leaves small amounts of money to the women in his life and then lots of options to the male descendants principally of his sister. For some odd reason he decides to hand everything over to Elizabeth's second and third sons. Elizabeth's first born, Pyke Crouch, got £10 and that's about it.

The second son John Crouch appears to have been the main beneficiary of the will and he collects the bulk of the property and wealth. On his own accord it appears that he changed his name to Pyke – certainly his will, dated 1731, identifies him as John Pyke. His will is another rip roaring and complicated document, made more entertaining by the fact that he and his wife Sarah both died without children.

His will lists all his relatives. Bromsall Crouch is his first beneficiary, but if he dies then his son, John Crouch (how many John Crouches can there be?) is his second choice but if both of them die before John Pyke dies then the third choice cuts in and his wealth goes to his brother's first born son who was called – wait for it – John Crouch, son of Pyke Crouch. Fortunately John Pyke has the good sense to put the clause from George junior's will into his own will, which basically says 'change your name to Pyke or get nothing' – he does this in memory of his uncle. In 1738 John Pyke died and if you take a trip to the Houses of Parliament you can have a look at the Act of Parliament that recalls his will and makes the name change legal for Pyke Crouch's son, John, to change his surname to Pyke. It's rather a good job that it was all left to the son and not the father, otherwise there would have been a Pyke Pyke in the family tree!

John Pyke now marries Ann and once again there are no children. In 1760 he dies and leaves everything to his wife, with a clause that says that when she dies it all goes to his brother, Thomas Crouch. Ann died two years later and everything was left to Thomas. Oddly John Pyke's will does not have a 'change your name or else' clause but Thomas changes his name anyway. Perhaps Ann's will specified he should? So Ann's will is the next line of enquiry here; I wonder where that will take us?



You can visit the archive office at the Houses of Parliament and if you ask for HL/PO/PB/1/1738/12G2n23 they give you a parchment roll about 5-feet long, which you can unroll and look at. It's possible that only a handful of people have looked at this Private act: the person who wrote it, a couple of archivists who have wrapped it in tissue paper and Mandy and I. The document forms a small part of English history and a large part of St Bartholomew's history and is how John's surname changed in accordance with the terms of his uncle's will, which eventually leads to the memorial in St Bartholomew's having those simple words 'changed his name to Pyke' placed after his brother's name.

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



EDWINSTREE MIDDLE SCHOOL

We celebrated World Book Day on the 4th March and what a wonderful day it was. We had some amazing outfits, an outstanding Hungry Caterpillar, wondrous Willie Wonkas, a remarkable Kung Fu Panda, terrific Tin Men, two fabulous Queens of Hearts, a superb White Rabbit, a super Juliet and even a Dalmatian puppy for the two cruel Cruella de Vils! We would have liked to have given everyone a prize, as they all looked incredible, but awarded over thirty book prizes to the eventual winners.



Congratulations to pupils who recently entered the Royston Rotary Club art competition. Thirteen students won prizes and certificates, with a First, a Highly Commended and several Commended awards in the Year Six and below category. In the Year Seven and above they received a Second, a Third, three Highly Commended and a Commended. They attended an award ceremony in Royston with Mrs Chipperfield, Head of Art, and Mrs Michael, Deputy Head teacher.



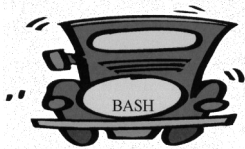
**HERTFORDSHIRE
CONSTABULARY**

MEET YOUR LOCAL PCSO

If you have any issues you would like to talk about with your Police Community Support Officers, Amanda Higham and Charlotte Creedon or you just want to say hello, they 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:
Charlotte	Thurs 1 st	10:30am – 11:30am	Outside St Peter's Church, Buntingford
Charlotte	Mon 5 th	10:30am – 11:30am	Outside United Reformed Church, Buntingford
Amanda	Wed 7 th	1:00pm – 1:30pm	Outside Village Hall, Stocking Pelham
Charlotte	Thurs 8 th	10:30am – 11:30am	Outside United Reformed Church, Buntingford
Amanda	Thurs 15 th	4:00pm – 4:30pm	High Street, Harestreet
Charlotte	Mon 19 th	10:30am – 11:30am	Outside St Peter's Church, Buntingford
Amanda	Wed 21 st	11:00am – 11:45am	Outside Village Hall, Meesden
Charlotte	Thurs 22 nd	10:30am – 11:30am	Outside United Reformed Church, Buntingford
Charlotte	Mon 26 th	10:30am – 11:30am	Outside St Peter's Church, Buntingford
Charlotte	Thurs 29 th	10:30am – 11:30am	Outside United Reformed Church, Buntingford



BUNTINGFORD ACTION FOR SOCIAL HELP

Volunteer Hospital Driver Service

Bash is a local organisation, which provides hospital transport for people who use the Buntingford doctors and who have no other way of getting to their appointments.

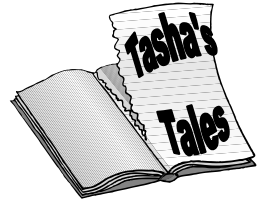
We are currently looking for volunteer drivers who may have time to take a person to a hospital appointment, to the surgery or visit a sick relative.

We cover the cost of petrol and are grateful for any help, even if you can only do the occasional trip.

If you feel you can help us please contact Jane Winter on 01763 271484 for more details.

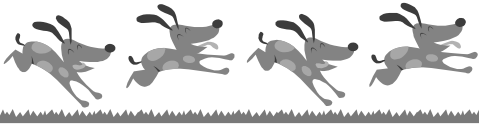
We would like to thank The Buntingford Social Club for their very generous donation to our funds. This has enabled us to keep the costs down for the people who need us.

Mother's Day



For Mother's Day I got my Mum a huge card, chocolate and a photo frame with my school picture in. Mother's Day is when you celebrate all the great and wonderful things your mother does for you and you try to give something back.

Dog Mad



In the middle of March my Uncle got a Labrador which he has called Barley, at the end of this month my Nan and Grandad are going to get a King Charles

Cavalier called Bonnie; I have a dog called Bella. So I think my family like calling their dogs names beginning with 'B'.

Option Picking Month



March was the month for my year at school to pick their GCSE options. I also had a parents evening in March where your teachers tell you what subject would be good for you to pick in GCSE and not so good for you to choose. Let's just say, I was more confused when I came out of the Parents Evening than I was before as my all subject

teachers wanted me to do their subject. However I can only pick seven subjects and the compulsory English, Maths and Science.

Awesome Adventurous April



April is bringing Easter early this year and a 2-week school holiday. Can't wait for the Easter egg hunts which I still enjoy! Also hopefully the weather will be warmer so maybe I can finally ditch my winter coat after four months.

Come back next issue for more!

Natasha Morrison



BUNTINGFORD TOWN FC

www.buntingfordtownfc.com



Firstly, I would like to thank all of you who contacted me regarding the old photo of Buntingford Town FC published in last month's Journal. It was pointed out to me on a number of occasions that the same photo, dated 1949, could be found in Philip Plumb's excellent 'Archive Photographs' of Buntingford along with the names of the players. Interestingly though, close examination shows that the players in Philip's book are all smiling, whereas the faces in the photo sent to me are far more serious. The two pictures were obviously taken at the same time – I wonder which of the two the 'official' one was!

Once the current season ends and there is more time, I hope, to publish this and other team photos on our website, so that we can start to build up a pictorial history of the club; watch this space...

The last match of February saw our First Team beat Kimpton Rovers 5-3, an excellent result, which followed two narrow defeats, 4-3 and 3-2 at home to Harpenden Rovers and St Peters respectively. At the start of March another narrow defeat, 3-2 to Whitwell, demonstrated once again that the team needs to stop leaking goals; normally, 2 goals in a game should guarantee at least 1 point, but only if the defence is solid. Our management team of Barry Tokely and Darren Fitzgerald are working hard to plug the gaps!

Fixtures for the Reserves have been thin on the ground, but an 8-goal thriller at home to Croxley Guild on 20th February ended 4-4 despite Town going into the half-time break 2-0 down; it was a thoroughly entertaining game to watch, full of drama and thrills. A 2-0 win a fortnight later at Mill End Sports ensured that Laurence Salmon's team is still pushing for at least a mid-table position come the end of the campaign.

The Vets are still playing very well, beating Wormley (4-1) and Old Minchendenians (1-0) and drawing 2-2 with Little Morden & Wrestlingworth and also Standon & Puckeridge; this looks like being their best season ever.

One player who will be missing from the Vets' squad on 25th April will be defender Pete Ware, who will be running the London Marathon for a charity known as 'Waves', which helps children in the slums of Nairobi. So if you see Pete running around the local villages in his Waves t-shirt, as he does most evenings, give him a honk – he would appreciate it! You can find out more about Waves and donate towards the £1,500 he hopes to raise by visiting <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PeterWare>; alternatively there is a sponsor form at The Bury.



Pete Ware (hoping to complete the London Marathon in under 5 hours)

As seems to be the case these days, the County League is behind with its fixture list, so at the time of writing I have just one confirmed for April – Bank Holiday Monday (5th), at The Bury, when the First Team will face Walkern Rangers. I shall update our website, www.buntingfordtownfc.com, as soon as I get more fixtures confirmed. The Vets have a full itinerary for April – again, see our website for details.

Chris Thurgill – chairman, Buntingford Town FC

BUNTINGFORD PEOPLE REMEMBERED FROM THE 1940s AND 1950s

Part 4

by Peter Downham

A If Hedges ran a typical old-fashioned car repair garage in a ramshackle property with an extensive yard to the rear. This was situated almost opposite to Barclays Bank. He was most efficient at keeping old cars running, for there were very few post-war cars at this time, most cars being at least ten years old.

Dr Alan Wigfield, brother of Dr Hugh Wigfield, lived in the large double-fronted house opposite the chemists. A lane alongside his house led to the old tannery, which by this time had ceased to operate, although the pits were still there. It was strictly 'out of bounds'.

In the property beyond 'The Bull' was an antiques shop trading as Frank Perring & Co, which closed down about 1951.

Handy's the builders had an extensive yard and workshops that extended back from the High Street to come out by the 'lockup' at the bottom of Church Street. At this time Colin Handy effectively ran the business, although I believe his mother was very active and domineering at the office end. Their speciality was Church work and they built the Catholic Church in Buntingford. They also carried out work on Layston Church when the roof was removed. They also made the fine oak doors that close off the Chancel. I remember seeing these being made by, amongst others, Colin Geaves who went on to become the landlord of 'The Chequers'. Colin Handy, I believe, flew in Mosquito aircraft during the war.

Mr Bew, who used to cut my hair, ran the second barbers in Buntingford. It was often a time-consuming event, for he must have had at least ten chairs for people awaiting his attention, and sometimes you had to stand. Often there would be a number of soldiers in there from the REME Camp now occupied by Sainsburys. Ted Devonshire took over this establishment.

The Eastons ran a bakers shop next to the property on the corner of Church Street. Mr Easton died a young man and his wife continued the business for some years afterwards, Harold Starr baking the bread. I always remember Mrs Easton for her very fine doughnuts, a treat on Saturday morning.

On the corner of Church Street was the 'Labour Exchange', long since demolished to widen the road junction.

On the other corner was the café of Lil and Tom Owen-Smith, which for many years was a thriving business. Every Sunday, almost throughout the year, dozens of cyclists descended on the café for refreshments, with cycles lined up two and three deep resting on the wall down Church Street, sometimes even on the wall opposite. The other notable feature of the café is that it was the first in Buntingford to install a refrigerator in the shop for the sale of ice cream. In those days it was always Walls Ice Cream, an occasional Sunday treat.

Next door to the Owen-Smith's café was Miss Sagger's haberdashery shop. I believe that she had been a milliner for Swann & Edgar in London before running her shop in Buntingford. It was a very small shop indeed, but had an incredible stock, and Miss Sagger's was a mine of information. She lived with her mother in a double-fronted house further up the High Street, but sometime after the death of her mother she renovated the cottages behind St Peter's Church, next to the River Rib, and moved into the one furthest from the road.

Past the White House was the small cycle shop run by Frank White. Frank became very skilled at acquiring parts and building up usable cycles, as new cycles were unobtainable not only throughout the war but for some years afterwards. He was one of the first people in Buntingford to buy a television – one of the very early ones with a screen perhaps 12 inches across. I was lucky to be invited by the Whites to see the Marriage of Princess Elizabeth in 1947. After the death of Frank the business was taken over by David and Joyce Boorman from Walkern. After a number of years they moved to a larger shop lower down on the other side of the High Street where he expanded into toys and electrical goods. Charlie Harris converted the new shop, which incorporated Charlie Miles barbers shop. The original property ultimately became a Betting Shop.

To be continued



Buntingford Cricket Club

After one of the Cricket Clubs most successful seasons ever in 2009 it's now time to look forward to the season of 2010. After the Siberian winter we have all just experienced let's hope we can look forward to some warmer and brighter weather in the months ahead.

Our first friendly fixture is on 17th April then, from the first Saturday in May through to the last Saturday in August, we have a busy league program where the first team will be defending their title in the 'Herts & Essex League Division One' and the newly promoted second eleven pit their wits in the fourth division for the first time. As usual there will be a selection of friendly fixtures on Sundays, so please come up to the Norfolk Road playing fields and support your local cricket club.

We will, again, be running the Colts section for the six to sixteen year olds of the town. Colts evening will be on Thursdays from 6:30pm to 8pm where a qualified coach will be in attendance. For further information about the Colts, please contact Pete Townsend on 01763 272832. (Girls and boys welcome)

We would also express that any new players are welcome no matter what ability or gender.

We look forward to seeing you all this summer, best wishes from all at Buntingford Cricket Club.



BUNTINGFORD COUGARS
Youth Football Club

Buntingford Cougars got its start in 1971. It was, and still is, managed by local parents. Some of those early players are now managers themselves. The club enjoys solid links with local schools and the community as a whole. The club's first pitches were at London Road and are still used by the Cougars today. Many local businesses are loyal Cougar sponsors and as the club has grown, so has the enthusiasm of the surrounding communities.

Read about the history of Cougars in our web site www.buntingfordcougars.co.uk. "The first 25 years" as written by Eric Addicott, (President of Buntingford Cougars) which was published in the Buntingford Journal in September 1996 on the Club's 25th anniversary. See a team photo dating back to 1972.

FA Charter Mark success

In 2003, Buntingford Cougars achieved the FA Charter Standard Development Club Award. We're very proud to have achieved this high award and grateful to the Vice Chairman at the time, Mick Nolan, for his efforts in guiding the club to this success. The then Chairman, Barry Tokely said, "Buntingford Cougars should always remember that without Mick at the forefront of our application, we would never have achieved it." Mick has recently been honored by the club and is now a Vice President.

Without the help and support of our committee, there would be no Club. Some of our committee members are coaches and managers, while others help with administration and keeping the club's finances in order. Whatever your talents and skills, there's a place for you on the committee. It's a great way to meet other parents and trade information on schools, clubs and events. And rest assured, we keep meetings short and focused. It's our goal to decide what needs to be done and to do it. If you'd like to join, please contact us or attend a monthly meeting usually on the first Monday of every month from 7:30pm at The Bury.

NEW VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

With a few long serving members due to step down this year we are now looking for replacement volunteers for the following positions on the committee.

- Treasurer
- Webmaster
- Fixtures Secretary
- Events Organiser
- Admin Assistant

If you think you could give a few hours of your time every month, please come along to our next meeting on April 12th at 7:30pm at the Bury where you can meet our friendly committee and will be guaranteed a warm welcome!

For further information about the club why not look at our new website www.buntingfordcougars.co.uk. Contact details are on the web site or phone 07786 933963.

Dave Voller

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



Tax Credit Overpayments

Q. I got a letter telling me I was overpaid tax credits dating back to the time I separated from my husband. This came as a total shock. I don't have the amount of money they want me to pay back. I don't know what to do – please can you help?

A. You may be affected by recent changes to the way some overpayments of tax credits are calculated.

If you have been overpaid because you separated from your partner or started living with a new partner and reported this change late, your overpayment may be reduced or even written off.

This is because under the new rules, HM Revenue and Customs will work out what you would have been paid if you had reported the change and made a new claim on time. They will offset the overpayment against this amount. HMRC calls this 'notional offsetting'.

Ask the Tax Credits Help-line on 0845 300 3900 for more information, or write to the Tax Credit Office requesting that they look again at the amount of your overpayment. If you have been asked to pay back tax credits and you don't understand why, or you think you don't owe the money, you should ask the Helpline for an explanation of how the overpayment occurred.

If you don't agree with the Helpline's explanation of the reason for the overpayment, you can ask HMRC to look at their decision again. This is called disputing an overpayment. You can do this in writing or by filling in form TC846 which you can get by calling HMRC on 0845 300 3900.

For more information or help with sorting out a tax credit problem, go to the Citizens Advice website, www.adviceguide.org.uk.

If you have received letters from HMRC explaining how the overpayment occurred and you would like assistance to dispute their reasons, please take the letters to your local CAB.

Buntingford Networking Meeting

Thursday 29th April



9am at Buntingford Coffee Shop

Contact Fiona or Nicola
email: info@flexystaff.co.uk or telephone: 0870 288 5141

Nearly 100 members and guests attended our first birthday on the 8th March. We are now into our second year and looking to improve on what we already offer. We have a varied programme of outings over the coming months; Best Chatto's gardens and Harwich, Olympic Sites, a cruise on the Lee, London Museums and a drive through the Christmas lights are some of those on offer. There will be another theatre trip and our Social group also go out, mostly at weekends.

Our next speaker will be Jacqueline Tevlin giving us an illustrated talk on Joyce Grenfell, at our monthly meeting on 12th April 2pm, Seth Ward Community Centre.

Membership secretary Christine Jeffries 01763 273466, Interest Group information Jean Devenish 01763 271783.

Group Activities

Every Tuesday Contact Beth Wilkins	Whist Group 01763 271359	10:00am
First Thursday 10:00am Contact Linda Hood	Walking Group (2hours plus) 01763 272020	10:00am – 12:00pm Local Footpaths
Yogic Breathing Every Monday	Exercise suitable for all Bev Smith 01763 849023	10:00am – 11:00pm Seth Ward Community Centre
Contact Colin Gibbons	Family History 01763 271398	Individual sessions arranged
Last Tuesday in month Contact Mick Westwood	Strollers Group 1 (Gentle stroll) 01763 272594	TBA
3 rd Wednesday Contact Evelyn Smith	Strollers Group 2 (1hour plus) 01763 272241	10:30am
3 rd Thursday Contact Gill Southgate	Coffee & Chat 01763 271892	Phone for details 2:00pm – 4:00pm
4 th Thursday Contact Alan Rumble	Computers (all levels) 01920 823608	2:00pm – 4:00pm Seth Ward Community Centre
2 nd Friday Contact David Smith	Digital photography 01763 849023	2:00pm – 4:00pm URCH
2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays Contact Christine Jeffries	Singing for Pleasure 01763 273466	2:00pm – 4:00pm 59 High Street
Every Tuesday Contact Alan Smith	Bridge for Beginners £5 Tutored 01763 287657	10:00am – 12:00pm Seth Ward Community Centre
Weekend Contact Evelyn Smith	Social Outings 01763 272241	Various
3 rd Monday Contact Iris Cannon	Enjoying Music 01763 274319	2:00pm Various houses
3 rd Wednesday Contact Anne Austin	Reading Group 01763 272066	2:00pm Various houses
Contact Linda Grace	Art Group 01920 438220	Various
TBA Contact Dave Austin	Table Tennis 01763 272066	PM Seth Ward Community Centre



RATS – are now at Highfields, Hare Street Village

RATS stands for **Re-homing Animal Telephone Service** and reflects the origins of our charity. We began in 1984 with a small group of dedicated animal lovers, who, via the telephone, put those who needed an animal to be re-homed in touch with those who wished to adopt.

The charity continues today to be run entirely by volunteers and we are proud to say that R.A.T.S. is now an established animal charity. Our aim is to re-home the animals in our care into loving, secure homes so that they can live out the remainder of their lives happily.



Emma (a weekend dog walker) with Obi

We have three sections: Dogs are now housed at Highfields and cats and small mammals are housed with volunteers. We always have a variety of these animals for re-homing, handed in by people who can no longer look after them and strays collected by us from dog pounds.

While in our care, every animal will receive any necessary veterinary treatment required and it is our policy never to have a healthy animal put to sleep.

As well as donations from the public, we help to fund our activities via monthly events and we have a charity shop in Biggleswade, which is very popular, so any bric-a-brac etc. not needed, please donate to us!

Some of the dogs rescued need training and some just need some TLC. Regular exercise for the dogs goes a long way to rehabilitating them and breaks up their day. We are currently needing volunteer dog walkers ideally during the week to give these dogs either a walk or to just play ball in our paddock to get some exercise. If anyone has an hour spare during the week and is interested in walking or socialising the dogs in the paddock, please contact either Mandy or Walter on 01763 289688.



Mandy (committee member) with two dog walkers

For further information about our charity, please visit our website which lists all the animals currently awaiting a new home – www.rats-animalrescue.co.uk



QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 15TH MAY 2009

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

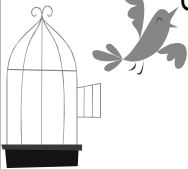
Tickets available from Debbie and Matt on 01763 272398

Buntingford & District Cage Bird Society

Talk and slide show on the History of Sainsburys Depot

by Alan Charles

on Tuesday 6th April at 8:00pm at Benson Hall



Any enquiries, please telephone Mr W Lodge – secretary on
01920 438482



BritishRedCross

Spring Sale

Thursday 22nd April 2010

10:30am – 3:00pm

Entrance £3,

including coffee or tea and biscuits

Sandwiches will be served at lunchtime

At Cotted Village Hall, SG9 9PS

on the A507 between Buntingford and Baldock



BritishRedCross

The **East Herts Fund Raising Committee** raises funds to help people within our own community. The two previous Spring Sales and the Christmas Fair held at Fanham's Hall raised £19,805.48, a massive contribution to the grand total of £27,000 raised for the Emergency Response Vehicle based at Hertford. This vehicle, together with the specially trained team of volunteers, was even used on Christmas Day to bring shelter, food and comfort to a young family whose apartment was gutted by fire.

BUNTINGFORD W.I.

Vice President Jane Eagle was in the chair for our March meeting whilst our President was on her hols.

The Speaker was David Wass, an ex Chief Superintendent from the Metropolitan Police, who talked to us about shoplifting. He is currently based at Fenwicks in Brent Cross and told us that the store loses about £1.4 million a year from stolen goods. After several years experience he said he can easily spot potential shoplifters by their body language and we were amazed to hear about some of tricks used to steal goods. We were given some random objects – an elastic band, a skirt, some tin foil and a sieve – and asked how we would use these to shoplift. We were also shown a bundle of forged bank notes and given tips on how to spot them.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 8th April when Paul Jarrett will be talking to us about Prison Chaplaincy. We meet at the United Reformed Church Hall at 7:45pm and visitors are always welcome.

BUNTINGFORD GARDENERS CLUB

Buntingford Gardeners Club held their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 3rd March, at which the subscriptions were amalgamated to £11 per year (no monthly meeting payments) for one person and £20 for a couple.

The officers remained the same and as one committee member was standing down, we were able to find a replacement.

The visits for the year were discussed, and also the cost of speakers. Members were asked for suggestions for speakers who would not expect the earth.

The evening was completed by the drawing of the raffle (no time for a quiz).

Members were advised about the details of the visit to Hever Castle on Wednesday 9th June and that the cost would be £20 for members and £25 for non members.

The meeting on Wednesday 7th April will be a talk by Ann from Daisy Roots who will be speaking about Autumn Colour and Extending the Season. There will be no excuse for not having a garden full of colour later in the year.

The competition is a Spring Flower – it should be possible to find one, in spite of the late spring.

The meeting will be held at the URC Hall in Baldock Road, Buntingford at 7:45pm for 8pm.

Margaret Howarth – Tel 07747 355 017





FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 17th April – *Thundridge Jumble Sale* – 2:30pm to 4:30pm

Thundridge Village Hall, entry 20p. Come and grab some bargains. Contact 01920 462992 for details.

Saturday 24th April – *Dinner in celebration of St George's Day in support of Isabel Hospice* – 7:15pm to 11:00pm

The Mayor of Bishop's Stortford ~ Cllr Colin Woodward invites you to a Dinner in Celebration of St George's Day in support of Isabel Hospice at The Rhodes Arts Complex, Bishop's Stortford Tickets: £40 each to include drinks reception, dinner and entertainment. After dinner entertainment by Graham P Jolley ~ a renowned mind reader and psychologist. Book early to avoid disappointment. Enquiries: Bishop's Stortford Town Council Tel: 01279 652274. Email tc@bishopsstortfordtc.gov.uk, email tc@bishopsstortfordtc.gov.uk or telephone Isabel Hospice on 01707 382500, email julie.north@isabelhospice.org.uk

Sunday 25th April – *Open Gardens at Great Munden House* – 2:00pm to 5:00pm

Please come along to visit these beautiful gardens, open in aid of the Hospice by kind permission of Mrs Bridget Wentworth-Stanley at Great Munden House, Great Munden, Ware.

Saturday 1st May – 12:30pm to 5:30pm and **Sunday 2nd May** – 9:30am to 4:30pm at *Harlow Tye Rotary Club, Abseil for Charity*

Harlow Tye Rotary Club are again organising an Abseil for Charity in 2010. Isabel Hospice would be very grateful if you would raise money for them. The venue is the Veolia Water Tower at Church Langley, Harlow. The challenge is to abseil 110 feet from the top of the tower and raise money for your chosen charity. Registration opens on 1st February and costs £30. Next you need to find sponsors. Register online at the Rotary Club website: <http://www.harlowtyerotary.org.uk>; email abseil@harlowtyerotary.org.uk or call Mary Bunyard on 01279 734211.



LAYSTON C OF E FIRST SCHOOL

March has been a busy month at Layston with children taking part in events both within school and in the local community.

Year 2 visited St Peter's Church to meet Rev Ian Hill, to hear about his job and to learn about the different parts of the building. Year 4 made a study of the River Rib and have written to the Council with their suggestions about how to make the riverside walk more attractive. Their ideas are being shared with the Buntingford Youth Council.



On 3rd March the whole school took part in a chocolate bar maths challenge. It proved very popular especially as the chocolate bars could be eaten at the end of the day! Some of our Year 3 pupils joined children at Edwinstree for their maths work. One challenge was to work out how many mini Mars bars – laid end to end – it would take to reach Mars!

On the following day we celebrated Mad March Hair Day. We enjoyed the rainbow coloured hairstyles and some wonderful wigs. In return for being allowed to wear mad hair, the children contributed an Easter egg for an Easter egg tombola being organised by the PTA for the last week of term.



We are so excited that our Sensory Garden, funded by a Lottery grant, is almost finished. Paths and stepping stones have been laid and the beds have been planted with grasses, herbs and primulas. A mirror has been attached to the outer classroom wall and a bench seat provides a place to sit and absorb the sights, sounds and scents. The garden will be enjoyed both by the children of the school and by the families who come to the Opportunity Class.

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

Gill Langley – Headteacher



BUNTINGFORD CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH

BUNTINGFORD Neighbourhood Team is holding a charity football match and music event on Friday, May 14th, as part of the yearlong campaign Community Pride.

The event begins at 6pm at The Bury (by the disused Sainsburys depot) and aims to bring the community together and raise money for local charity, the Lynsey Ivison Trust.*

Sergeant Duncan Wallace from Buntingford Neighbourhood Team said, "This will be a great evening that will not only be a lot of fun but will raise money for a very worthwhile local charity. Last year was a great success and we hope that this year will be even better. We would really encourage local people to come along to the event and get in the community spirit."

As well as the football match between Buntingford emergency services and the town youngsters, there will be an auction with prizes including a three-course lunch at Hanbury Manor, signed Everton and Arsenal photos and two England football shirts signed by footballer Teddy Sheringham. There will also be a hog roast donated by local businessman Warren Scott and a raffle, with prizes donated from businesses in the town.

The music event will start around 8:30pm. Local band 'Me Against the World' are headlining with support acts 'The Scratch', featuring PCSO Stephen Whittaker, and a tribute act performed by PCSO Paul Lillie.

Duncan continued, "We are inviting youngsters in the town to come along to six training sessions leading up to the match. It's open to anyone, although only 16-17 year-old boys are able to actually play in the match. We have a UEFA qualified coach to do the training and those who attend the training sessions will have the chance to go to Brands Hatch to see one of the super bike races courtesy of local businessman Warren Scott."

The training sessions will be held at The Bury from 6pm. The first session is on Thursday April 1st and then every Friday after that until the day of the match.

For more information contact Buntingford Neighbourhood Team on 01707 354192 or go to www.herts.police.uk and click on Safer Neighbourhoods.



* see page 41 for information on Lynsey Ivison Trust



PUBS 4 KIDS IN BUNTINGFORD

THE FOX AND DUCK in Buntingford is opening its doors for youngsters to meet and socialise as part of the year-long campaign, Community Pride.

The police initiative, Pubs 4 Kids, allows youngsters aged 14 – 18 to use one of the rooms in the local pub every Thursday between 6:30pm and 9:30pm. They will be able to buy non-alcoholic drinks and snacks and play on the Nintendo Wii and darts board.

Sergeant Duncan Wallace said: "Community Pride aims to bridge the generation gap between young and old. Part of this is about giving young people activities to get involved in and places where they can socialise, but it's also about treating them like adults and allowing them the opportunity to show the community they can be treated as such.

"This particular scheme allows youngsters to have a place where they can meet with their friends, and we are grateful to the landlord of the Fox and Duck for working with us in setting up the initiative."

The scheme is initially running for 3 months and will start after the Easter holidays on Thursday, April 22nd.



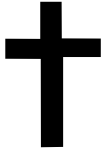
After Lynsey died of cancer in 1990 the family thought back to their last holiday together at Center Parcs. Many happy memories sprang to mind especially Lynsey saying how good it would be for children to escape from hospital and have a holiday without being prodded and poked about!

With this in mind the Trust was set up. The ethos of the charity is to send very sick children and families away on a special holiday.

The Trust relies completely on the goodwill and kindness of a small group of people who give freely of their time to fundraise and organise events.

We have established close links with major children's hospitals and with our strong commitment to fundraising and supporting families we have funded many holidays to Center Parcs over the years.

If you would like further information of forthcoming fundraising events or wish to organise one please phone Sue Iverson on 01763 271878.



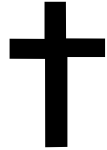
United Benefice of

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 April 2010

April

Maundy

Thursday

1st

7:30pm

St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill

Communion with stripping of the Altar

Good

Friday

2nd

10:15am

12:00pm

St. Peter's – Buntingford

Market Hill

Service of reflection

Good Friday public act of witness before the cross (Churches Together)

Tenebrae service: Passion readings with an impending sense of darkness

7:30pm

St. Mary's – Aspenden

Easter

Sunday

4th

9:15am

9:30am

11:00am

6:00pm

St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill

St. Mary's – Aspenden

St. Peter's – Buntingford

St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill

Holy Communion

Family Communion

Family Communion

United Benefice Service

Wed 7th

9:30am

St. Peter's – Buntingford

Said Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

Sun 11th

9:30am

11:00am

3:00pm

St. Mary's – Aspenden

St. Peter's – Buntingford

Nevetts Care Home

Holy Communion

All Age Family Worship

Songs of Praise

Sun 18th

9:15am

11:00am

St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill

St. Peter's – Buntingford

Holy Communion

Family Praise

Sun 25th

9:15am

9:30am

11:00am

St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill

St. Mary's – Aspenden

St. Peter's – Buntingford

Morning Worship

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

May

Sun 2nd

9:15am

9:30am

11:00am

6:00pm

St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill

St. Mary's – Aspenden

St. Peter's – Buntingford

St. Peter's – Buntingford

Holy Communion

Family Service

All Age Family Worship

United Benefice Service



CHRIST CHURCH

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH BALDOCK ROAD BUNTINGFORD

MINISTER:	Rev Duncan Goldie The Manse Meeting Lane Melbourn Cambs SG8 6AN Tel: 01763 260747	SECRETARIES:	Gwen & John Edwards 'Great Stones' Hare Street Buntingford Herts SG9 0AD Tel: 01763 289460
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MORNING WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY AT 11:00am

April	4	Holy Communion	Rev Norman Stetshall
	11	Morning Worship	Rev Duncan Goldie
	18	Morning Worship	Dr Jeffrey Barham
	25	Morning Worship	Rev Duncan Goldie
May	2	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Susan Durber

On Good Friday Churches Together will be holding their Act of Witness on the Market Hill from 12:00noon.

Regular activities

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 regular visiting speakers – meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 2:30pm in the Church Hall.

Coffee & 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



SEEING RED

You see 'them' here; you see 'them' there...
tossed aside without a care.

Laying like worms upon the road... 'pon pavement and path of your abode.

'They' make you look and say... "Ooooh, what is that?..."

"Is it something left bloodied by cat?"

No wonder the price of stamps is so high...
these slippery things are discarded to lie...
unloved and unwanted... their job is done.

'They' are left to go crisp under heat of the sun...

(Did I say sun?... I must be insane)

'They' go frozen and stiff in the snow and the rain!!!!

And what are these 'things' that litter our land?...

Why, of course... it's the postman's RED RUBBER BAND!!!!!!



Teresa Bonner

The lashing of the sapling by the gale
Unmercifully bends it to the earth,
So saplings learn in time to grow less frail
And growing older, to increase their girth.



The daffodil, laid prone by springtime snows
Leaps up when snow is gone and smiling shows
Its golden face to shame the pallid sun,
(Until the sun grows strong – and then it's done).

Heave dripping ropes, snagging wires, to tame the ship,
(Far mightier, motto has it, than the crew),
Until your blistered hands attain the grip
Of vices – strong enough to tame a shrew!



The same law hold for every living thing –
Bend until from bending you grow hard,
Grasp nettles 'til you cannot feel the sting,
Walk upon embers 'til your feet are charred.



The beauteous child, soft-skinned and dewy-eyed,
With downy limbs and tiny hands and feet,
Whose every wrinkle fills its Mum with pride,
Will soon be hanging around some city street.

Guy Mace

Editors note – I changed the last line of the poem.