

THE BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL



The independent journal for Buntingford & Villages published by Buntingford Civic Society

June 2026 Volume 51 | Issue 5

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GAS

ELECTRICITY

WATER (Veolia)

WATER (Affinity Water)

SEWERAGE (Thames Water)

FLOODLINE

DOCTORS:

Buntingford Medical Centre,
White Hart Close

B A S H (Buntingford Action
for Social Help):

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE,
RAPE, RACE or HATE CRIME**

LOCAL COUNCILS

BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY

77 High Street, Buntingford,
SG9 9AE | 01763 274 608

CITIZENS ADVICE EAST HERTS:

BUNTINGFORD FOOD SUPPORT

Non-emergency telephone: 101

In emergencies dial 999

Emergency (gas leaks) – Freephone 0800 111 999

Emergency (power loss) – Freephone 0800 7838 838

Emergency – Freephone 0800 376 5325

Emergency – 0345 357 2407

Emergency – Telephone 0800 316 9800

Emergency – 0345 988 1188 or 0845 988 1188

Environment Agency Incident Line: 0800 80 70 60

Tel: 01763 271362 (24 hours)

Bash volunteer drivers providing transport to medical
appointments Tel: 07787 183 288

Confidential Information Helpline: 01992 554 440
(in emergency, dial 999)

Buntingford Town Council: 01763 272 222

East Herts District Council: 01279 655 261

Housing – 01279 714 714

Benefits – Freephone 0800 373 852

FOR EMERGENCIES out of office hours:
01279 655 261

Adult Care Services: 0300 123 4042

Children's Services: 0300 123 4043

Hertfordshire Highways: Report faults online:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/highwayfaults

Tel: 0300 123 4047

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Option 1 – Renewals 3:00 – 23:45 every day

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More info: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

Call the CAB Message Line on 01920 459 944 at
anytime and they will call you back. They aim to return
calls within 24 hours (except at weekends).

www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk

Buntingfordfoodhub@gmail.com | 07842 889 772



LETTER FROM

The Editor

Our cover this month features members of the U3A Thursday walking group visiting Scott's Grotto, which many people don't know about, despite it being close by. Perhaps we could all do with being a bit more adventurous, take a new footpath on our regular walks and soak up the rich environment around us!

It is inspiring to see that our WI have been meeting for 107 years here in Buntingford. Although it sounds like the activities have changed somewhat since then. There is a lot of history running through our pages this month and not only with the History Society on p.22 but also with the Tennis Club celebrating 75 years and the Library's 100th birthday.

And talking of celebrations, do you enjoy tea and cake? (Silly question?) Why not host a tea party in aid of Isabel Hospice? You will receive a free fundraising pack and you can hold your event at home or within your local community any time up until the end of September. See p.20 for more information on how to sign up.

Finally huge congratulations to the Ward Freman Community Pool Group who today as we go to print (21st May) have taken over ownership of the pool from HCC. So much hard work has gone into getting to this point (and lots more hard work to go). This is a huge milestone in securing the future of our local pool. Who knows maybe in 100 years from now we will be reporting on their centenary in the town.

Anne

BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL

JUNE 2026

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journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

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01763 272 032

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EDITORIAL DEADLINE

Editorial copy deadline for the next
Journal is: **15th JUNE**

Please send all contributions to the editor
on the email address above.

The editor reserves the right to edit
copy received, and add or omit pictures
where necessary.

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

**The Buntingford Journal is published by,
but is editorially independent of,
the Buntingford Civic Society. For
information on how to join the Society
and have the Journal delivered to
your door for free, please email:
membership@buntingfordcivic.org.uk**

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ON THE COVER

U3A visit to Scott's Grotto. See p.14 photo taken by John Hood



BUNTINGFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Graham Waite, Chairman

chairman@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Member of



reg. Charity: 1014873

To those who managed to attend the Society's AGM on the 21st April, we hope you found the evening interesting and learnt a little about the activities undertaken by various Society members throughout the year. Unfortunately, three of our Executive Committee members have decided not to stand as committee members for the coming year. They are, Jennifer Keeling, Richard Prince and Antony Parish. Our grateful thanks go to them for the support they have given the Society over many years. Our invitation to ANY member of the Society is, if you could give of a couple of hours per month then we would welcome you as an Executive Committee member. If you would like to know more then please contact either chairman@buntingfordcivic.org.uk or secretary@buntingfordcivic.org.uk.

A very special thanks goes to our guest speaker for the evening, Peter Lohmeyer, his talk about "MY 13 YEARS at the PLAYBOY CLUB" was very interesting and enlightening, we would recommend, if you hear he is doing it again, you make every effort to go and listen. If nothing else it brought back memories of the 70's.

On the planning front we have been advised that the application to build 600 dwellings on land to the north of the

A507, west of the A10, that was refused by EHDC Planning, has gone to appeal. The appeal will be heard by Inquiry on 8th September and is expected to last for 7 days, venue to be decided. The appeal reference is 6008238.

The other application for the development of employment land, to the south of the A507, west of the A10, application number 3/24/1255/OUT, was refused by EHDC Planning on 6th May 2026.

As you know the Society is a founder member of Civic Voice and every year, they nominate a day, "Civic Voice Day", when Civic Societies all over the UK do something in the Community to recognise Societies and the great work they do throughout the year. This year it is 20th June. The National theme this year is "FIX ONE THING". We have some ideas as to what we could fix, but we would need some volunteers to help. We will publish our ideas on our Facebook page to coincide with the June issue of the Journal, www.facebook.com/buntingfordcivicsociety.

Graham Waite

Chairman, Buntingford Civic Society

Buntingford Civic Society was established in 1971 with the aim of improving the fabric of the Town. **Annual household membership is just £10** and includes delivery of the Buntingford Journal (10 issues a year) to your door. If you would like to join the Civic Society, you can download an application form from the BCS website: www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk or email the Membership Secretary, Peter Lohmeyer, at membership@buntingfordcivic.org.uk



BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk

01763 272 222

clerk@buntingford-tc.gov.uk

The Manor House, High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AB



@buntingfordtc



@BuntingfordTC

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-5pm; closed Friday

After much discussion, the Town Council has reluctantly decided to remove the gazebo from Layston Court Gardens. The gazebo was in danger of becoming unstable mainly due to people climbing on the roof. Once the gazebo is removed a decision will be made on a replacement for the space, it's not clear at the moment what this replacement will be.

We had many people asking us why we didn't have elections on the 7th May. Elections are held every four years and our last election for District and Town was in 2023, the next election will be in May 2027.

At the Council meeting in March, Councillors voted to appoint Councillor Duncan Wallace as Mayor Elect and Councillor Mrs Jackie Danagher as Deputy Mayor Elect for the 2026/2027 municipal year. They will be officially appointed at the Council's Annual meeting at the end of May.

The Council will be holding its Civic Reception at the end of June, an opportunity to thank the local voluntary organisations that offer so much to the town. If your organisation does not receive an invitation by the beginning of June, please let us know.

The Council has organised a further litter pick for the 30th May, 10am meet at The Manor House, all volunteers are welcome.

We have been informed that the application for 600 dwellings west of the A10, north of the A507 has gone to appeal, we await further details.

Details of the June Council meetings below.

In line with GDPR Regulations, the Town Council has published a number of Privacy Notices, these can be viewed on the Town Council web site.

Jill Jones PSLCC Cert HE -Town Clerk

Town Council meetings for the month of June are:

Thursday 4th June	7pm	Amenities Committee.
Thursday 11th June	7pm	Planning and 7.15pm Resources Committee
Thursday 25th June	7pm	Planning and 7.15pm Full Council

All meetings held at The Manor House unless indicated otherwise.

BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY NEWS

Kathleen Beale, Library Manager www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/

What an exciting start to June! We are celebrating Buntingford Library's 100th Birthday with a 1920's themed celebration in the library.

The official opening of the Buntingford Library Branch was on June 1st, 1926, at 6pm and on June 1st, 2026, from 6pm-8.30pm we will be marking this very special milestone.

We are planning a memorable evening, with the highlight being a talk about the history of Buntingford Library from its humble beginnings in the Parish Room to its current High street location. Carol, from the Local History Group, who has researched and written the talk, will deliver it on the night.

During the recent half term break, we asked children to imagine what the library would be like in the next 100 years and to write a paragraph or draw a design. These will be on display in the library for everyone to see during June.

Our Centenary Scrapbook will be available for members of the community to come along and record their memories of Buntingford Library. Our trusty 'old school' typewriter will be out for anyone wishing to type a message.

Celebrating 100 years of Buntingford Library

Date: Monday 1st June 2026

Time: 6pm-8.30pm

Tickets: Book in the Library as places are limited

Price: Free, refreshments included



Summer Reading Challenge 2026

The Summer Reading Challenge is nearly upon us, and we are very excited to announce that this year's theme is Read to the Beat.

If you want to make a difference and have one hour a week to spare, we are looking for volunteers to assist with the Summer Reading Challenge. Training is provided and all are welcome. Pop into the library or apply through the Hertfordshire Library website: Summer Reading Challenge Volunteers | Hertfordshire County Council

Growing into Reading

If you have a little bookworm in the making or would like to encourage your little one to read, we are running our Growing into Reading promotion. Pop in and collect a brightly coloured 'Growing into Reading' giant bookmark and at your next visit children can get their special bookmark stamped to help cultivate a love of reading and to make library visits a regular activity.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY



6 - 8.30PM | MONDAY | 1ST JUNE

BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY

Buntingford Library will be celebrating its 100th Birthday with a 1920s themed evening of music, food and books. Join us for a memorable evening, with the highlight being a talk about the history of Buntingford Library from its humble beginnings in the Parish Room to its current High Street location.

**FREE event, refreshments
provided. Please book in
library – spaces are limited.**



Hertfordshire
Libraries

Monthly Crafty Event

Following the success of our sold-out Print & Prosecco event, we have had enquiries as to when we will hold the next crafty evening. Well, we have listened and will be running a monthly Crafty Event on the last Saturday of the month, beginning June. Please follow us on our library Facebook page for more information.

BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY

77 High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AE

Telephone enquiries: 0300 123 4049

Follow us on Facebook #BuntingfordLibrary

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/

Opening Times:

Mon, Tue, Thur 10am – 5:30pm

Fri 2pm – 5:30pm

Sat 9am – 1pm

Regular events:

Baby Rhyme Time:

Mondays at 10:30 & 11:30

Jigsaw and Cards: Tuesday at 10:30

Chair Yoga with Kim: Wednesday at 11

Story Time: Thursday at 10:30

Lego Club: Second Thursday of the month at 4pm

The Friday Club: Friday 4pm-5pm



In 2025/26, we helped 298 clients in Buntingford with 1,258 issues, achieving financial gains of £474,123, including £127,607 in debts written off. Top issues raised by Buntingford clients were:

- Benefits – 38%
- Debt – 20%
- Relationships & family – 6%
- Utilities & communications – 5.6%
- Housing – 5.3%

We have maintained around 10% of client contacts in person – either at our office in the Manor House, or at community locations such as libraries and as home visits. We are seeing increasing numbers of clients at our Buntingford Contact Centre in the Manor House, having extended opening hours on Mondays to 10am to 12.30pm. Over the last year, we saw 169 clients, an increase of 71% over 2024/25. Top issues for our Contact Centre clients were:

- Benefits – 41%
- Housing – 13%
- Travel & transport – 8.3%
- Relationships & family – 7.7%
- Consumer goods & services – 5.9%

Some examples of the type of support we have given to Buntingford residents include:

- £49,500 of debts written off via Debt Relief Orders
- Free SIM cards provided to support client who had no credit
- Helped client to complete Attendance Allowance application
- Advised two clients about romance scams

- Gave client advice about how to deal with a wasp problem
- Provided details of how to complain to Housing Association
- Advised client about rights regarding cancelling a mobile phone contract
- Advised client about rights regarding reduction in working hours and employment contract

For the Contact Centre clients who provided details, the majority, as expected, came from Buntingford but we also saw a number of clients from more rural areas including Braughing & Standon, Little Hadham & the Pelhams, The Mundens and Ware Rural, as well as clients from North Hertfordshire and from Uttlesford.

As might be expected, 36% of our Contact Centre clients were aged over 75 – these clients are often digitally excluded and prefer face to face support. Only 6% were aged under 35 – we find that these clients are able to access us via digital channels. Over 53% of clients coming to the Contact Centre declared a disability.

Whatever your situation, you don't have to face this alone - get in touch with us and we can help. Our advice is free and we won't judge you – most people are two to three pay packets away from crisis. Our advisers can help to check if you're eligible for any benefits or financial support, and explore all the options for dealing with your debts.

Call our Message Line 01920 459 944 or visit citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk for our advice options. Or you can come and see us on Mondays between 10 and 12.30 at The Manor House, High Street, Buntingford.

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER WILL SEE THE CAR SHOW COME TO BUNTINGFORD ONCE AGAIN.

Held along the High Street plus Church Street and Market Hill the show regularly attracts a range of rare and classic vehicles.

Shows from previous years have featured a Green Goddess fire engine, a £3.5m Ferrari, a 1904 Humber Swing Seat Tonneau – the last surviving car of its kind in existence, and even the famous Bluesmobile from the Blues Brothers film.

The main stage at the top of Church Street will feature 4 live bands and at the Tile shop to the North of the Town there will be further live entertainment.

The show runs from 11 to 4pm and admission is free to spectators – to enter a vehicle is £5 and you can register online at **buntingfordclassic.com**

Reserve the date in your diaries and come along to experience all the day has to offer.



May I take the opportunity to convey my sincere gratitude through the journal to the many members of our community who supported the Mayors quiz night recently. The appetite for tables far exceeded capacity and I can only apologise to those who were unable to obtain tickets this year. The support from local business was, once again, overwhelming with generous raffle prizes and specific round sponsorship. All at a time when trading environments are challenging and personal budgets squeezed. Then there were, as always, those who generously gave their time to ensure the evening was once again a success, far too many to name individually.

Myself and Deputy Mayor Jackie were pleased also to welcome representatives



from East Herts District Council, Broxbourne, and Sawbridgeworth.

As a result, significant, and much needed funds were raised for charitable causes, namely Isabel Hospice, Motor Neurone Disease Association and local animal charity RATS.

Once again, on behalf of myself and Jackie, thank you.

Duncan (Mayor of Buntingford)



Teaching fitness since 1998

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WWW.JACQUI-SMITH.NET

07956 647806

How I like to sum up June -
"Let your life be as bright as
a June morning"

HAPpy Children's Summer Camps

Dates: 30th July, 4th & 6th August, 11th & 13th August and 18th & 20th August. Bookings going live soon. FREE to school dinner children and subsidised £15 payment for all other children. Games, Sports, Hot Cooked Lunch & lots of fun

Our next Buntingford Stretch & Sound Bath

Sessions scheduled for 21st July & 6th October. Donations of £10 to our charity to attend



Our Ware Priory 4 hour workshops with breakfast and lunch all finished off with Sound Baths. Spaces available 18th July, but sadly December is fully booked. £35.00

And as usual all our regular Dance, Mat Pilates and Strength exercise classes in Buntingford, Hertford, Bishop's Stortford and Ware for all ages and abilities.

Want to come to an Exercise Class or fancy one of our FREE workshops then contact me on: 07956 647 806

Jacqui Smith Personal Trainer & Chair of Community Initiative Charity

www.communityinitiativecharity.com | www.jacqui-smith.net



THE BUNTINGFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Bryan Jones

To all senior citizen's of Buntingford have you heard of us?

We meet every Monday (except Bank Holidays) 1:30pm for 2pm in the Church Hall opposite the Post office in Baldock Road.

We will soon be having strawberries and cream one afternoon and a trip to the coast, with more to be organized, so if you would like to come and meet new friends for tea coffee and bingo with like minded senior citizen's. Please call Val on 01763 272 019.

BUNTINGFORD GARDENER'S CLUB

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 3rd June

At: The URC Hall, Baldock Road

Doors open: 7:45pm for 8pm start

June is a time to focus on watering, weeding, and planting to make the most of the summer growing season. Water wisely, dusk is a good time. Weeds can get out of control this time of year so hoe regularly it kills weed seedlings before they establish.

At the time of going to print we still have a few seats for our coach trip to Kelmarsh Hall on **Thursday 18th June**. Prices are £38 for members and £42 for visitors.

This month our talk is "Japanese Gardens in Hertfordshire", given by Richard Hayden who is a member of the Reed Gardening Club. If you like acers and the tranquillity that these gardens give, please come along and find out more.

Don't forget the monthly competition to bring along a single rose!

Our club is a friendly club for gardeners of all ages and experience and visitors are always welcome.



We have monthly meetings on the 1st Wednesday of every month (with exceptions of January and August). We like to book a variety of speakers throughout the year, providing interesting talks and demonstrations. We also have regular outings, socials with quizzes and monthly competitions too!

Of course, there is always time for a cuppa tea or coffee and chat after the main event.

Annual membership cost is only £20 and visitors are always welcome at £4 per visit.

Come and see what goes on— there is no upfront commitment.

For more information, our secretary would love to hear from you, telephone: 07757 259 689.



Last month's free taster evening was a great success. We had six new people who had seen the advertising and took a chance to meet with us.

And more importantly they all came back the following week. We are now back up to the same membership as this time last year, mainly thanks to our wonderful new Music Director.

So if you have been a member of the choir before and were thinking of returning now would be a perfect time to do it.

www.buntingfordchoir.co.uk
info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk

Paul Webster

We are also now looking forward to the summer when we are planning to do some live concerts. Watch this space in the coming months for details.

As always if you want to come along to Millfield School any Monday evening, not Bank Holidays, at 7.30pm you would be most welcome.

Further details please contact me at:
info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk or via the website: www.buntingfordchoir.co.uk



Peter Remnant, Greg Amos, Brian Tebbutt, Jan Spong, Bryan Roberts, Steve Elliot, Cynthia Kattau, Chris Burleigh, Barbara Henderson, Roger Henderson, Steve Hisgrove, Clare Roberts, Prue Pidduck, Carol McKimmie, Malcolm McKimmie, Sue Hisgrove, Chris Newman

Back: Roger Henderson , Steve Elliot, Chris Burleigh, Peter Remnant, Front: Barbara Henderson, Chris Newman, Greg Amos, Cynthia Kattau.



Members of our Thursday Walking Group, were led by their Group Leaders Barbara and Roger Henderson from Ware along the River Lea towards Hertford then back to Ware via the New River, where a visit to Scott's Grotto had been pre-arranged. The group much enjoyed the day which was a little different from their usual straightforward country walk.

It was surprising how many of the group hadn't visited the grotto before, despite living in the area for many years. They were split into 2 groups for the visit to avoid overcrowding.

Forthcoming Monthly Meetings:

Monday 8th June – 'Florence Nightingale & Mary Seacole'.

Two extraordinary Victorian Ladies – an illustrated look at two amazing and controversial women who won fame in the Crimean War.

Monday 13th July Andrew Baker – 'The Profumo Affair'. Over 60 years on, a fascinating British Political Scandal and the consequences that followed.

Membership of the u3a is open to anyone not in full time occupation.

We meet at the Seth Ward Community Centre on the Second Monday of the month - 1.30pm

Please visit our website for news and details of all our groups.

www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford - New members always welcome.

Our meeting in May was our 107th Annual Meeting - yes, there has been a WI group in Buntingford for over 100 years! Pat Murray will continue to be our President and she read out a summary of our activities over the past year - a bit different to those experienced by members a century ago, which included demonstrations on rabbit skin curing and lectures on the women's vote. These days there is very little 'Jam and Jerusalem' at Buntingford W.I. - apart from the jam in the delicious victoria sponge baked by one of our members for the bring and share supper which we enjoyed after the

formal business of the Annual Meeting,. The evening finished off with a variation of the traditional 'Beetle Drive'.

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 11th June** and our guest speaker is Clare Pasquale. Her talk is entitled 'Various Verses' and her poems are about everyday subjects and situations but putting a humorous spin on things. We meet at 7.15 p.m for 7.30 start at the URC Hall (opposite Budgens). Visitors are welcome to all our meetings so if you are new to Buntingford (and even if you're not!) - just turn up on the night and come to see what Buntingford W.I. is all about.

If you would like further information about Buntingford W.I. please contact Pat on 01763 271 305.

STANDON & PUCKERIDGE TENNIS CLUB

Diana Foster

www.standon-ltc.co.uk

This year, Standon and Puckeridge Lawn Tennis Club celebrates its 75th anniversary. The land on which the playing fields stands on was acquired just after the Second World War for all forms of recreation and leisure time activity, with the aim of improving conditions of life for local inhabitants. Two tarmacadam tennis courts were laid and a club was formed in 1951. At least one founder member of the club survives and many others' forebears were members of the club at one time or another.

We are a proper village club with a real family atmosphere. Since 1951, the club has maintained a strong presence in the villages of Standon and Puckeridge, and has consistently had over 100 junior and senior members. In the early 1970s, a third court was added to the existing two making it easier to plan and play inter-club matches. This meant the loss of the club's

dedicated club house and, for a while, we shared use of the old pavilion with the cricket and football clubs. Older members may recall a wall of the old pavilion was dedicated to the roll of honour of club tournament winners since 1961.

Nowadays we play on a carpet surface and once again have our own facilities. Tucked away behind a tall hedge in the Station Road corner of the playing fields, it is easy to miss us, but we are still going strong and still welcome new members of all standards and ages.

Later in the year, we will be commemorating our special milestone and we hope many of our members and their families will be able to join us at these events.

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/standonpuckeridgetlc or check out our website: standon-ltc.co.uk

HOME START

**Royston, Buntingford
& South Cambridgeshire**

Angie Ward

Co ordinator (Part time) – Supporting Local Families

Are you passionate about helping families with young children thrive?

Home Start Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire is seeking a friendly, organised Co ordinator to join our experienced team. For over 40 years, we have supported local families through challenging times, helping children get the best possible start in life.

The role is part time (20 hours per week) and involves supporting families in their homes, helping to run weekly family support groups, and recruiting and supporting volunteers. You'll work closely with other local family services and play an important role in safeguarding and family wellbeing.

Salary from £26,760 FTE per annum (pro rata, depending on experience). You will need access to your own car (mileage paid). An Enhanced DBS check is required.

For further details and an application pack, please contact Jackie for an informal conversation.

Closing date: 26 June 2026

E: recruitment@hsrsc.org.uk

T: 01763 262 262



**A Celebration
of music through time**

Sunday 14th June

St Nicholas' Church tower has stood at the heart of Berden since c1270 and has lots of interesting stories to tell!

Join us to travel through time and experience

Medieval, Baroque, Romantic,	Renaissance, Classical, Contemporary music
------------------------------------	--

with
Bron and Kirsty, Berden Choir and more....

Doors Open & refreshments available from 2pm
Concert starts at 2.30pm
EVERYONE WELCOME

Entrance is **FREE**
Donations are encouraged to support
St Nicholas Church, Berden.

To reserve seats please
E: natalie.trapmore@outlook.com T: 07876 478717
Entry on the door is subject to availability
Please book to avoid disappointment



BERDEN
Open Gardens
Sunday 28th June 2026

2 - 6pm Plants from £1
Cafes
Live Music
Morris Dancing
Bee Keeping
Vintage Bus rides
Raffle
Plus lots more!

Berden's Open Gardens include,
Little London
& Berden Priory's
17th Century water tread wheel

Passport to all gardens only £5 per adult
Children under 16 free

FREE car parking

to find out more please
E: john.tippett@btpopenworld.com T: 01279 777446

<https://berden.org.uk/events/>

Raising funds for St Nicholas Church, Berden, Reg Charity no: 1216100

THE MAGICAL POWERS OF MUSIC

Jon Bartlett

It's common knowledge that learning music enhances children's brain function.

At Melodies School of Music, we believe passionately that no two children are the same and that's why all our lessons are bespoke and tailored to fit the individual learning needs of a young student.

Aside from the academic benefits, our lesson plans help children and young adults manage their emotions through music and develop fine motor skills through coordination and practice of an instrument.

We all feel something when we listen to music don't we? So it's important that learning music is not just about the lesson, it's also about the experience.

With this in mind, our vocal learning and creative music production programs are offered with a specific emphasis on music that enhances our creativity and mental focus.

Music and The Mind

Music is not a 'cure' for neurodivergence, ADHD or Autism, however it can help greatly to reduce anxiety, increase confidence and improve concentration. Through the years, many of our students with these conditions have developed better listening skills, memory, patience and emotional expression.



The key to all this? It's simple...a gentle and sensitive environment with lessons specially adapted to each individual.

A great piece of music can fire the imagination, create memories, images and emotions which are unique to us all. My teacher once said that there is a musician in all of us...I tend to agree!

This summer along with my amazing team, I'll be running a series of workshops and classes to help capture that 'inner' musician and promote well-being through music in our community.

For dates and details about our summer workshops and all term time lessons just reach out to us via our Instagram or 'contact us' at [melodiesschoolofmusic.com](https://www.melodiesschoolofmusic.com)

REED CHURCH EVENTS

Liz Jakeman

Strawberry Fayre

The Strawberry Fayre will take place in Reed Church and Churchyard on **Saturday 6th June from 12 - 4pm.**

In addition to the strawberries and cream, and cake, there will also be a barbecue and Licensed Bar.

There will be a range of stalls, plus a Bouncy Castle. Reed Choir will also be in attendance to entertain you from 2-2:30pm.

Do join us and take the opportunity to enjoy and relax in the lovely environs of Reed Church.

Jazz in the Churchyard

Our ever popular Jazz Event with the Rockin' Chair Band will be held in Reed Churchyard on **Sunday 14th June from 12 - 4pm.** In addition to a delicious lunch there will also be a Licensed Bar.

Admission £27.50. To book please email Alison Harrison - harrisonac@btinternet.com or contact Liz Jakeman: 07596 597 042



BUNTINGFORD SCHOOL OF DANCE



Zoë Eaglesfield

www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk



Buntingford School of Dance |



[buntingfordschoolofdance](https://www.instagram.com/buntingfordschoolofdance)

Following excellent exam results for pupils in Ballet, Tap & Modern last term, our classes are now focussed on learning choreography for our Showcase in June at Freman College. Most of our classes will be performing including our adult tap class. We are also excited to be welcoming back some of our alumni to perform a Moulin Rouge ballet, tap and modern medley. Tickets can be booked via Buntingford Live!

During the school summer holidays (**10th – 13th August**) we are running a four-day dance course. Through fun, focused classes led by our passionate BSD team, students will build confidence, sharpen technique, and explore a variety of dance styles in a supportive, high energy environment. The course will include Jazz, Contemporary, Musical Theatre and Classical dance plus two different dance workshops with experienced professional performers and teachers who have danced in shows in London's West End – To book a place - see poster for QR code or check our website – new pupils welcome.

TWO WEEK TRIAL: For all our children's classes for 3 – 18 years we now offer a two-week trial period, for £15 your child can trial any classes suitable for their age/ability, before booking for the term. Complete our registration form and we can send you details of suitable classes to trial.

PAY AS YOU GO CLASSES: For our toddler class (Baby Boppers) and adult classes (ballet & tap), classes can be booked online for a single week, a few weeks or a full term.

WHAT WE OFFER: ACRO - BABY BOPPERS – BALLET – COMMERCIAL/STREET DANCE

- CONTEMPORARY – MODERN/JAZZ - STRETCH & STRENGTHEN – TAP – HOLIDAY COURSES & WORKSHOPS

WHY DANCE? Dance is great for improving flexibility, core strength, posture, coordination as well as giving you a mental work out learning and remembering steps. Dance is also good for your social and emotional well-being; reducing stress and boosting self-esteem. It's a great way to meet new people with a shared interest.

If you wish to register with us to trial/join classes or book one of our pay as you go classes, please use the QR code to take you to the CONTACT page of our website or email **admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk** for more information.



Scan to book



Dance Fusion 4 Day Summer Course Mon 10 - Thurs 13 August

ENROLLING NOW!

**Classical
Contemporary
Jazz**

£180 - 4 days

£55 - 1 day

Sibling Discount
Available

Highly skilled and experienced faculty with substantial
teaching / professional performance experience
Includes 2 x guest workshops

9.00am - 3.00pm

**10th & 11th Barkway Village Hall
12th & 13th Scout Hut Buntingford**



admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk

Isabel Hospice Announces Return of 'Care for a Cuppa' Campaign

Isabel Hospice has announced the return of its popular Care for a Cuppa fundraising campaign, encouraging people across the community to get involved this summer.

The campaign brings people together over tea, coffee and cake to raise vital funds for the hospice. Supporters are invited to host their own tea party, afternoon tea or coffee morning, where guests make donations in exchange for refreshments.

Both first-time hosts and returning supporters are encouraged to take part, with events able to be held at home, at work or within local communities.

Running until 30 September, the campaign offers plenty of flexibility for people to get involved in a way that suits them.

The return follows last year's successful campaign, which raised £15,000 to support Isabel Hospice's essential services.

Everyone who signs up will receive a free fundraising pack with ideas and resources,



including hosting tips from volunteer Ann, a recipe from supporter Gillian, and a Care for a Cuppa-themed quiz.

Grace May, Community Fundraiser at Isabel Hospice, said "Every cup of tea shared helped us bring comfort, care and dignity to people and their families when they needed it most. This year, we'd love to see even more people getting involved."

For more information, visit isabelhospice.org.uk/careforacuppa or call 01707 954 850.

BASH

Buntingford Action for Social Help

VOLUNTEER HOSPITAL DRIVERS URGENTLY WANTED
CAN YOU JOIN THE GROUP DRIVING LOCALS
TO HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CENTRES?

We are currently unable to fulfil all requests due to driver shortage

Let us know your availability please

Ring BASH phone on 07787 183 288 to speak to Val or Maggie

It is with great pleasure and some trepidation that we have finally secured the future of the swimming pool.

The freehold was exchanged and the pool transferred ownership from Hertfordshire County Council to the Ward Freman Community Pool Group CIO on Thursday 21st May.

The main contractor has started work in the plant room and the tilers are chipping away in the pool!

This is just the start of Phase One works to complete the essential repairs and get the pool open again. As the work progresses we will have a better idea of an opening date. We are currently unable to fund a complete refurbishment of the changing rooms, but hope that with some volunteer help we can give them a thorough clean and refresh. Providing that we do not encounter any nasty surprises in the plant room, we may have some contingency funds to improve the showers, but only time will tell.

You can find out the latest on the repair work through our website blog www.wardfremanpool.org/blog or follow us on social media searching for Ward Freman Community Pool Group.

We will be out and about this summer attending as many village fetes and school fairs as possible to spread the good news and continue fundraising.

Local schools are also helping to raise money by having a non-school uniform day during the RLSS Drowning Prevent Week (13th-20th June). So don't be surprised if you spot lots of kids dressed as lifeguards, surfers or Adam Peaty!

All the money raised will help fund the essential new water mains supply. Affinity Water have now assessed the situation and initially quoted £9154 to bring a new mains supply to the boundary. This included £1950 for a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order which is required to close the public footpath adjacent to the pool for a short period in order to safely undertake the necessary works to the water main. However we are very grateful that Herts County Council have agreed to waive the fee. It still leaves us with over £7000 to raise and have applied for grants to help, but every little donation is greatly appreciated at www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/ward-freman-water

As always, your involvement will make a real difference to bringing this project to life so please get in touch if you feel you can help in any way.

Frazer Willett.
fwillett@wardfremanpool.org

BUNTINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Carol Emery

buntingfordlocalhistorygroup@hotmail.com

Buntingford Town Football Club.

This month's talk was given by Jennie Keeling whose father

Frank Aylott played for Buntingford Town Football Club and later became the chairman of the club so she had lots of photos of the teams throughout the years that had never been seen before.

The first meeting of the Football Association was in 1863, with the first cup final being played on the 16th March 1872 at Kennington Oval. In Hertfordshire the oldest recorded football club was Hitchen Town formed in 1865 but they disbanded in 1928. Bishops Stortford founded 1874, and Royston Town founded 1875 are the oldest clubs in Hertfordshire still playing.

In 1888 Mr Leader a prominent resident of Buntingford placed an advert in the local paper advising readers of a meeting to look at the viability of forming a local football team. No one knows the outcome of the meeting as there is no further mention of a club until 1897 when Buntingford Town Football Club was formed mainly from men employed by the Post Office. The team played in a blue and white striped shirt, and the pitch was at Vicarage Field. In their first game they beat Standon 3-1.

The first newspaper report on a club match appeared on the 4th February 1898 when they travelled to Hatfield to



This picture shows the team in 1902-3 back row B Perry(ref), H. Jackson, W. Smith, H. Howard, Middle row: - V. Saunders, F Brewington, F. Parker, front row: - W. Smith, E. Harradance, E.C. Harradance, L. Saunders.

play Horns Mill. The team included the following men: - Sutterby (goal) A. Neale, L. Hamilton, (backs), A. Mayes, Plummer, R. Murray (half backs), D. Beale, W. Johnson, E.R Murray, E. Parminter, and A.E Cutts, (forwards).

Mr F J Camp recalls watching matches at Vicarage Close in 1899. The admission fee was 2d for adults and 1d for boys. He joined the club in 1905 and the yearly membership subscription was 3/6 a week's wages for him. The team strip at the time was claret with a broad white stripe from shoulder to hip with blue shorts.

Players travelled to away matches by a pair horse brake which was hired from The George Hotel. The driver Jammie Wing would make the players get out and walk up steep hills. If a player missed the brake they would have to cycle. One player who missed the brake was Foreman Bonniwell who cycled from Rye House to Buntingford but was too late to get on the brake so he cycled to Melbourn, where the match

was to be played. It rained the whole way. In the mid 1920's W. H Smith whose son Wilf played in the team for many years, fitted bench seats in a model T Ford, primarily to get customers to Hitchin market but the vehicle was used by the football team to go to matches. Eventually they used a charabanc and then a bus. If the matches were south of Ware they would use the train.

The actual pitch was referred to as Vicarage or Rectory Close or field. It was situated in the grounds of the vicarage which was on what is now Vicarage Close. In 1914 Mr H A Ashford, owner of the Tannery offered to sell the club the field at the rear of The Chequers pub. He asked for £500 which was a considerable sum but far lower than its true value. Whilst the club were debating on how to raise the money Mr Ashford allowed them to prepare the field ready for the 1914-1915 season. The best position for the pitch was laid out but there was a large ditch running down the centre which had to be filled. There were many helpers to barrow bark used at the tannery down the High Street to fill in the ditch. The pitch was ready for their first league game of the season in September 1914. This was the only game played until the end of the WW1. The club had not been able to raise the money to buy the ground but Mr Ashford said they could use the pitch for as long as they needed it. During the war older members of the club kept the ground ready for the return of the players and so they returned to the league in 1919-1920 season and for the first time they fielded 2 teams.

At the clubs AGM in 1924 the idea of building a shelter for spectators was raised.

Although they had money in the bank from subscriptions, gate money and fund raising events the matter was shelved, but the following year at the AGM the committee agreed and, on the 26th December, the new grandstand was formally opened by the club chairman Mr H C Marshall.

Following the demand for more sports after the war and the lack of local clubs, Buntingford fielded 5 teams, they had good and bad seasons and in 1935 the club disbanded, however by 1936 they reformed and matches were played on Norfolk Road playing fields. The strip was once again blue and white. In 1948 they returned to the old ground behind The Chequers pub. By the 1950's they had added a changing room with cold water baths and another shelter for spectators. To celebrate the opening of the new changing rooms in 1958, Frank Aylott managed to entice Wilf Mannion, a former England player to attend a friendly game against Haddenham (Cambridge Premier League).

Fundraising for local charities by teams from the fire brigade, post office and railway in fancy dress seemed very popular. One team seemed to dress as women in this picture one is holding a board with Votes for Women.



This was in 1913 and was to raise money for the Nursing Fund.

Continues >

BUNTINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP CONT...

Many of the local villages had their own teams, here are a few of them.



Aspenden 1927-1928



Wyddial 1921 - 1922

Buntingford's teams played in several different leagues East Herts League, Barkway and District League and North Herts League. They won the North Herts League Greg Cup in 1920/21, 1930/31, 1948/49, and 1954/55. Champions North Herts Division 1 in 1948/49, 1954/55 and Champions North Herts Premier Division 1957/58 plus many other Leagues in North Herts.

The biggest crowd ever recorded to watch them was in April 1939 against Ashwell Old Merchant Taylors in the Newell's Charity Cup when 1000 attended, 800 of those had travelled from Buntingford. They were runners up and this is the team photo:

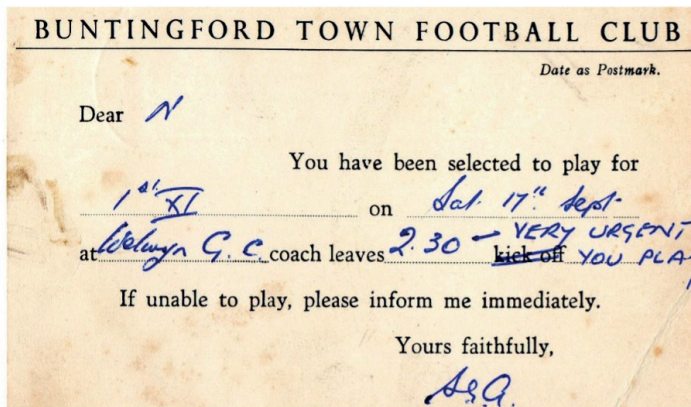


*Back Row: - T. Fox, W. Crouch, Lucky Smith, Jack Wilson, Bronk Bull, Les Poulton,
Front row: - B. Fox, Roy Pledger, Roy Emery, J. Aldridge, George Warner.*

In 1954 the team and some supporters travelled to Belgium to play some matches, this was the first time many of them have ever been abroad.

Letting players know they were needed to play in a match was a problem up until the 1950's as very few people had telephones. The manager had to rely on word of mouth or he would send cards like these to the players, post was delivered within a day, unlike today.

Around 1984 there were long discussions about ownership of the ground, although Mr Ashwell had said the club could use the ground in perpetuity nothing had been written down. It is believed on his death he must have bequeathed the land to the United Reformed Church of which he was a member. The land was sold to property developers who requested that one of the roads be named after Frank Aylott in recognition of the gentlemanly way in which he conducted himself in the meetings whilst trying to keep the ground for the club, hence Aylott Close.



In recognition of his service to the club as a player then manager 1936 – 1986 Frank Aylott received an award from Hertfordshire Football Association.

Our next meeting is on the **9th June at 2pm** in the United Reformed Church Hall. Everyone is welcome £2 per person which includes tea or coffee.



BRAUGHING FAIR AND WHEELBARROW RACE

Saturday 11th July 2026 - 12 noon until 6pm

Our preparations for the Braughing Fair and Wheelbarrow Race are now firmly underway. The categories for the races, and the entry fees, remain the same as last year as per below!

(One thing for which the price hasn't risen for two years now)!

There is no theme for your fancy dress so let your imaginations run wild. The entries open on Monday 11th May at 8am so please go to our website to enter.
www.braughingwheelbarrowrace.com

	Early Bird Entry Fee	On the Day Entry Fee
Children's Race <i>6-12 years old</i>	£5	£7
Children's Race <i>13-17 years old</i>	£8	£10
Adult & Child Race <i>Child must be between 6-17 years of age</i>	£10	£15
Adult Races <i>Men/Women/Mixed</i>	£10	£15

Prizes for Race Winners & 'Best Dressed Wheelbarrows'



DOG SHOW TIMETABLE

Sponsored by
Pampered Pups

**Saturday 11th July
2026**

Entry Fee: £2 per class

(You can enter in advance via our website from Monday 11th May
www.braughingwheelbarrowrace.com)

1.15pm Beautiful Bitches

Open to female dogs of all ages and breeds. Judges are looking for attractive dogs in good condition.

1.30pm Handsome Hounds

Open to male dogs of all ages and breeds. Judges are looking for attractive dogs in good condition.

1.45pm Cutest Puppy

Open to all dogs under 1 year of age. The title speaks for itself!

2pm Best Young Handler (8 to 16 years old)

Open to children aged between 8 and 16 with any breed, age and gender of dog. (The child must be able to control the dog at all times.)

2.15pm Best Rescue Dog

Open to any breed, age and gender of rescued dog.

2.30pm Dog The Judge Would Most Like To Take Home

Judges are looking for friendly dogs of any breed, age and gender, with good personalities.

The Judges' decision is final and remember it is just a bit of fun!

Dogs entered at owner's own risk.

PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG
KEEP DOGS ON A LEAD AT ALL TIMES

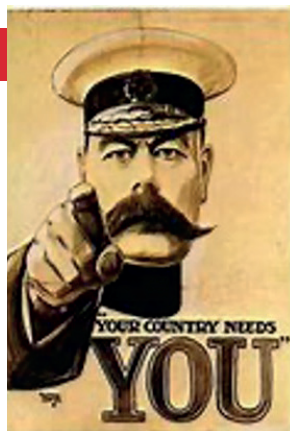
Any incident involving a dog is the owner's responsibility.

Sponsorship Opportunity

We are hugely grateful to all our sponsors who generously support the event each year. Their banners will be on display and their names in the programme. The event relies on this support to ensure that this annual event continues and delivers funding for village amenities.

If you, or your Company, would like to be a sponsor, please do not hesitate to email us at:

info@braughingwheelbarrowrace.com



Your Wheelbarrow Race Needs You!

Friday 10th July

8-11am Help put up bunting, netting and banners

6-7pm Help shovel the sand to create the beach (bring shovel)

6-8pm Litter picking/clearing bunting/ banners, etc.

Saturday 11th July

10-11am General help to do last minute jobs

6-7pm Help marshal vehicles leaving the fete field

Sunday 12th July

8-9am Help shovel the sand to be taken away by lorry

8-11am Litter picking/clearing banners, etc.

If you can spare an hour at any of these times (or other times) please email:

info@braughingwheelbarrowrace.com
and we can allocate tasks. Perhaps get a group of friends together as many hands make light work!

We would appreciate any time you can spare.

Thank you! - BFWR Committee

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Ken McDonald, Secretary



Although the Society is not a religious organisation, we encourage visits to parish churches as they are often the oldest and most interesting building in any community. Inside, you may find images of angels in some form or another. These winged creatures are considered to be messengers of God. They also represent goodness, with a promise of heaven if you live a good life.

Angels in churches are depicted in paintings, on stained-glass windows, suspended from ceilings, carved into corbels that support roof timbers or on poppyheads at the end of pews.

Clavering church displays several angels in its medieval glass windows as well as a series of wooden angels suspended from the rafters - they have feathers all over, including on their legs.

It is easy to miss Clavering's angels, but not those at Furneux Pelham. Their bright colours come from a repaint in the 1960s. Some play a lute and others hold a shield with a family crest, presumably of their sponsor. Furneux Pelham also has a series of angels on windows that were painted in the 19th century by renowned artists William Morris and Edward Byrne-Jones.

Radwinter has a series of stained-glass windows with angels featuring prominently. At Elmdon, one peeps out from under the lectern from which the vicar preaches. In Linton, one of the carved poppyheads depicts a scribe resting his book on the wings of an angel.

Some churches have carvings on the corbels that support major roof timbers. Hildersham's chancel has especially colourful decoration, including angels

on each of its corbels.

Over the last couple of years, I have given an illustrated talk to many local organisations, taking a peek inside some of our parish churches and including photos of angels in many guises.



Braughing – church ceiling



Clavering – medieval glass window



Elmdon – lectern



Furneux Pelham – ceiling



Hildersham – corbel



Linton – poppyhead



Ickleton – poppyhead



Radwinter – stained glass window



CONTACT DETAILS

website: www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-012BK/

email: unitedbeneficeabw@gmail.com | 07484 345 027

C/O St Peter's Church, Chapel End, Buntingford, SG9 9AL

 [unitededbenefice](#) |  [UnitedBeneficeABW](#)

St Mary's Church Aspenden
Website



St Mary the Virgin Church
Westmill - Website



St Peter's Church Buntingford
Website



OUR SERVICES FOR JUNE 2026

Sunday 7th June	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Morning Worship	St Mary's Aspenden
	11am	Holy Communion	St Peter's Buntingford
Sunday 14th June	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	All Age Worship	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 21st June		No Service	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 28th June	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
		No Service	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Morning Worship	St Peter's, Buntingford

REGULAR EVENTS AT OUR CHURCHES



Little Lambs at St Mary the Virgin Westmill

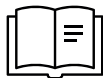
Every Wednesday in term time only 10-11:30am for pre-school children and their grown-ups. Songs, a bible story and prayer along with activities and playtime. A very informal social and worship occasion for pre-school children and their carers. There is a short service with songs and prayer followed by a story and activities for the children including toys.



Choc Stop at St Peter's

Every Thursday at 3:15 pm – 4:15pm.

Enjoy a hot chocolate on your way home from school. Outside St Peter's Church, Buntingford. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Morning Prayer

9am Every Tuesday at St Peter's Buntingford, Wednesday at St Mary the Virgin Westmill and Thursday at St Mary's Aspenden mornings. We pray together using the Church of England Daily Prayer book, with bible readings, a reflection and a psalm. It is a quiet, gentle gathering to prepare for the day ahead.



Monday Morning Coffee is back at St Peter's Church.

Held every Monday (except bank holidays) A chance to meet up with old friends and meet new ones. All ages welcome. Closed Bank Holiday Monday 4th and 25th May.

CHOC STOP

Enjoy a hot chocolate on your
way home from school

Outside St Peter's Church
Thursdays from 3.15pm



Hymnathon



Help us sing 100 Hymns!

If you like singing, come along and join us

St Peter's Church, Buntingford

Saturday 13th June 2026

10am - 4pm

Refreshments will be available
throughout the day

Donations raised in aid of Homestart.
St Mary's, Aspenden, St Peter's, Buntingford,
& St Mary the Virgin, Westmill.





Please visit our website for the latest information about our services, events and courses and you can also follow us on our social media channels.

Direct links to our 3 church Service and Event pages:

St Mary's Aspenden: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7834/service-and-events/events-all/

St Peter's Buntingford: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7839/service-and-events/events-all/

St Mary the Virgin Westmill: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7851/service-and-events/events-all/



The
United
Reformed
Church

CHRIST CHURCH

Baldock Road, Buntingford. SG9 9AA

www.buntingfordurc.org.uk

 URCbuntingford

Minister: Rev.Sue Fender
revsuefender@gmail.com | 01223 375 588

Secretary: Peter Godbert
buntingford.urc@talktalk.net | 01763 281 359

SERVICES at 11am / JUNIOR CHURCH IN THE HALL at 11am

June

7	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
14	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Robert Pope
21	Morning Worship	Allen Morton
28	Morning Worship	Rev Sue Fender

July

5	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
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REGULAR EVENTS

MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY

We are holding an Ecumenical Bible Study usually on the first Wednesday of each month.

We meet for lunch from 12:30 and our bible study will run from 1–2 pm

Bring your own lunch – tea & coffee will be available.

Next meeting 3rd June

COFFEE & COMPANY

Meets every Thursday, 10:30am to 12:30pm, in the Church Hall. If you're elderly, living alone, new to the area, perhaps working from home, and would like some company, come along to share Coffee, Cake, Company and Chat. All are welcome. Just turn up and give a small donation for the refreshments.



BUNTINGFORD REPAIR CAFE

SATURDAY 6 JUNE 2026

2.00pm to 5.00pm

Seth Ward Community Centre
Buntingford SG9 9SG

It's time to dig out your items in need of fixing and book them in for our next Repair Café.

Our dedicated team of repairers will be on hand to fix your items free of charge.*

Nothing to repair? Why not meet up with friends/family at our café, where we will be serving a range of drinks and homemade cakes.

*Donations towards running costs gratefully accepted.
We cannot guarantee to fix all items on the day.

Items we can accept for repair include:

Small electrical & battery items
(hairdryers, toasters, toys etc)

Household items
(small furniture, toys etc)

Basic bike repairs & maintenance

Knife & tool sharpening

Sewing, mending & textiles

Jewellery

*** BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL ***

Visit www.tickettailor.com/events/buntingfordrepaircafe
or email repaircafebuntingford@gmail.com

A Repair Café offers a great way to reduce your carbon footprint by extending the life of broken items and keeping them out of landfill.



part of
The Buntingford Community Project

EVERYDAY GARDEN PLANTS THAT COULD BE MAKING YOUR DOG OR CAT ILL

Local veterinary practice shares the hidden risks every pet owner should look out for this season.

With summer on the way and gardens coming back to life, veterinary teams are seeing a rise in avoidable cases linked to toxic plants and grass seeds, hazards that many pet owners don't realise are right on their doorstep.

Many popular plants can be harmful if pets chew, lick, or dig them up. Some of the most common include lilies, rhododendron, tulips, hydrangea, and bluebells.

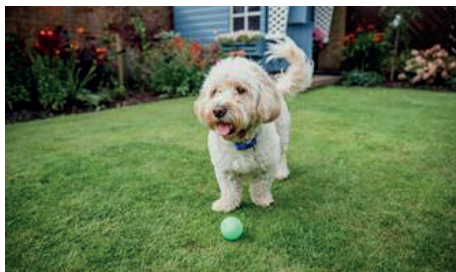


Curious dogs may nibble leaves or bulbs, while cats can be affected simply by brushing past certain plants and grooming themselves afterwards. Some plants cause mild tummy upsets, but others can lead to serious illness.

Signs of plant poisoning can include vomiting, diarrhoea, drooling, lethargy, loss of appetite, excessive drinking, or collapse. Symptoms don't always appear straight away, so pet owners should contact their vet immediately if they spot their pet eating a plant they are unsure of.

Grass seeds are another seasonal risk, particularly for dogs, and can lead to pain, infection, and complex veterinary treatment. These small, sharp seeds can become lodged in paws, ears, eyes, noses, or under the skin. Common warning signs that owners should look out for include

Harriet Rodgers Woolpack Vets



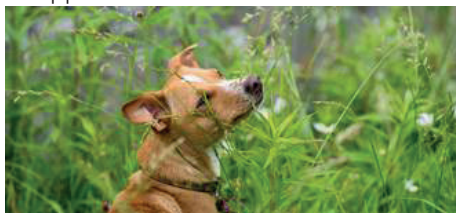
persistent licking of a paw, head shaking, limping, or a sore, weepy eye.

Owners are advised to check dogs thoroughly after walks, especially between toes, around ears and armpits, as removing grass seeds early can prevent big problems later on.

Nicola Wharnsby, Practice Director at Woolpack Veterinary Surgery, says "Our pets love exploring the garden as much as we do, but they don't know what's safe and what isn't. Every spring and summer we see cases linked to toxic plants and grass seeds. Supervision and regular checks can make a huge difference to your pet's health and comfort.

"At Woolpack Veterinary Surgery, we're always happy to offer advice and reassurance. If you have any concerns about your pet's health, behaviour, or something they may have encountered outdoors, please get in touch."

If owners have any concerns about their pet's health, contact Woolpack Veterinary Surgery or visit **www.cvsvets.com** to book an appointment.





Maureen



Sara



Donna



Amanda

Supporting Our Community: Meet the Counsellors at Attend2Health

At Attend2Health, we're proud to offer access to four experienced counsellors, each committed to providing a safe, supportive space for anyone seeking help with their mental and emotional wellbeing. Every counsellor is professionally registered with either the British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists (MBCAP) or the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society, ensuring the highest standards of ethical practice and care.

Our counsellors bring a range of therapeutic approaches and specialisms, making it easier to find someone who truly fits your needs. Whether you're navigating stress, anxiety, grief, relationship challenges, or simply looking for a space to talk things through, support is available close to home.

To learn more about each practitioner or to get a feel for whether they might be the right match for you—please reach out to them individually.

All counsellors offer a free introductory chat, giving you the chance to ask questions, understand their approach, and decide whether you feel comfortable working together.

Taking the first step can feel daunting, but you don't have to do it alone.

Attend2Health is here to help you find the support that feels right for you. Below are the counsellors contact details.

Maureen Linsdell maureen.linsdellsft@gmail.com 07526 604 710

Sara Lavarone sara@sionlinetherapy.co.uk 07359 190 716

Donna Robbie donnarobbiecounselling@gmail.com 07704 128 150

Amanda Lonergan amanda@indigowellness.co.uk 07773 477 259

Strengthening Mental Health Skills: Mental Health First Aid Courses

In addition to one to one support, Attend2Health also offers Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) courses at the clinic. These courses are designed to help people recognise the signs of mental health difficulties, respond with confidence, and support others in a safe and informed way.

The training runs over two consecutive Fridays, making it accessible for those balancing work and family commitments. It's an excellent opportunity for employers, community leaders, carers, or anyone who wants to better understand how to support mental wellbeing in everyday life.

To register your interest in the next course, please call the clinic on 01763 87 80 87.



MILLFIELD FIRST & NURSERY SCHOOL

www.millfield.herts.sch.uk | 01763 271 717 | admin@millfield.herts.sch.uk

Laura Kennedy-Weeks, Headteacher

As we sail into the Summer Term we have already shared and created lots of special moments here at Millfield.

Layston Grove Visit

Members of the Assembly Committee, along with a group of Year 4 children, visited Layston Grove Care Home for a morning of shared activities. The children enjoyed colouring with residents, this created a warm and friendly atmosphere filled with conversation.

The visit provided a valuable opportunity for children to connect with the local community. Residents thoroughly enjoyed the children's company and praised their enthusiasm and excellent manners.

It was a rewarding experience for all involved, and we are proud of our children for representing the school so positively. We look forward to future visits and activities at Layston Grove Care Home.

Buntingford Walk

Year 4 had a wonderful and engaging morning exploring a natural habitat in Buntingford. The children carefully observed their surroundings and discussed the positive and negative features they could see. They identified litter, people walking on the grass verges and graffiti as negative influences, explaining how these can damage the environment and wildlife. On the positive side, they highlighted the many natural features that help the habitat thrive, including a variety of plants, the river, trees and the wildlife that lives there. The children showed great enthusiasm and



thoughtfulness as they shared ideas about how the habitat could be protected and cared for in the future.

Year 3 Learning Outside of the Classroom

As part of their learning on a local case study, the children in Year 3 took part in a local area walk around Buntingford. This valuable experience gave children the chance to explore their town first-hand and develop a greater understanding of their local environment.

During the walk, the children explored the High Street, where they observed a range of buildings and discussed their different uses and features. They also visited the local river, which helped them learn more about the geographical characteristics of the area and Buntingford's history.

The walk successfully brought classroom learning to life and encouraged children to make observations and ask questions.

Herts Catering Limited Session

Herts Catering Limited hosted a cooking session for Children where they had the opportunity to make their own cereal bars by choosing from a wide range of ingredients. They selected different flavours and textures to create cereal bars that suited their personal tastes. This practical and enjoyable session helped the children to develop basic food preparation skills, encouraged creativity, and supported discussions about healthy eating choices.



Animal Encounter Experience

As part of our Key Stage 1 science learning on animals and living things, we

were delighted to welcome an exciting animal encounter experience to Millfield. The session provided a rich, hands-on learning opportunity that allowed the children to see, touch and learn about



a variety of animals close up which included a Meerkat, Snake, Stick Insect, Gecko and many more. The children were enthusiastic and curious throughout, asking thoughtful questions and making links to their classroom learning. This memorable experience helped to deepen their understanding of animals, their needs and their habitats, while also sparking a real sense of excitement and wonder about the natural world in a fun and engaging way.

School Trips

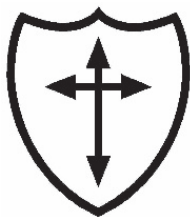
Our curriculum is looking exciting and enriched with a range of school trips throughout the Summer Term, these include:

- Standalone Farm for Nursery children
- Shepreth Wildlife Park for Reception children
- Hatfield Forest for Year 1
- Cambridge Botanic Gardens for Year 2
- Bedford River for Year 3
- Residential Trip to Hautbois Activity Centre in Norfolk for Year 4 children

EYFS Places for September 2026

We have places available in our Reception to start in September 2026. If you are interested in a place for your child, please contact the School Office for further information.

If you would like to know more about our School, please visit our website www.millfield.herts.sch.uk or contact the School on 01763 271 717.



LAYSTON CE FIRST SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Learning to Love, For every child a chance to shine!

www.layston.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Adele McMurrough, Headteacher

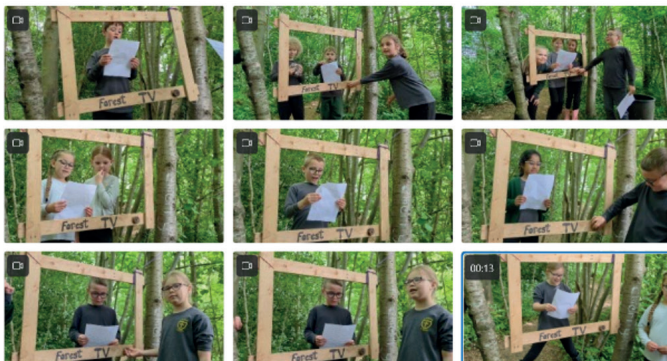
Our school value: Humility and Forgiveness

This half term we were focussing in school on the values of Humility and Forgiveness. Christians believe that their attitudes and actions must reflect the kindness and mercy and compassion of Jesus and the love of God for everyone.

The children have considered ways in which school helps all members of the community to make amends for their mistakes. They have shown kindness and respect to one another and have begun to foster links with charities for those in need.

Teaching and learning: Forest school:

In Forest School this half term children have been Celebrating Sir David Attenborough turning 100 and all the wonder in nature he's drawn our attention to. They have been telling their own animal stories in the style of David Attenborough, using the word extraordinary. We have been collecting photos and recording thoughts for a Layston time capsule buried in the meadow for the next 25 years. The children have also voted for their favourite British Butterfly (through the Butterfly conservation website), created symmetrical patterns and pictures out of natural materials. The children have



also continued to identify leaves of trees at Layston - ash, rowan, holly, cherry, hawthorn, sycamore. A huge thank you also to our Eco Warriors for helping with some Willow Tunnel maintenance this half term. They all worked so hard and did an excellent job weeding around the base of the willow and then watering it.

In the wider school, Y1 children enjoyed a wonderful visit from History off the Page when they were able to experience, explore and investigate the history of toys. All children continue to enjoy their phonics sessions and are making good progress with their reading and writing. Visitors have noted the excitement and buzz around the regular RWI phonics sessions during their visits and as a result

great progress is being made. They continue to take great pride and care with their presentation across all areas of the curriculum.

In EYFS, our curriculum continues to nurture curiosity, confidence and independence and ensures that the children feel safe. Now that the weather has improved the children are able to have outdoor adventures. They have enjoyed foraging for natural objects, and are learning to look for signs of the season.

We had a 100% of our Y4 children complete and share their 'unhomework' project this term, celebrating their successes together and demonstrating their creativity in many ways. Well done!

Enrichment:

Our Year 3 and Year 4 girls took part in an exciting football festival at Millfield First School. The event was a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their skills, work as a team, and enjoy friendly competition with another school. All of the girls showed great enthusiasm, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the morning, and most importantly, they had lots of fun. We are very proud of their positive attitude and the way they represented the school so brilliantly. Also our Year 3 and 4 children had a fantastic afternoon at the football tournament held at Royston Town Football Club. The girls played brilliantly throughout the competition and were crowned overall winners after showing excellent skill, teamwork, and determination in every match. The boys also had an outstanding tournament, battling their way to the cup final and narrowly missing out on the trophy. Every child represented the school superbly,



demonstrating great sportsmanship, resilience, and support for one another throughout the tournament! Miss Croucher was very impressed and proud of all the children.

FOLS:

A big thank you to our FOLS for raising money for the school by organising a Mad May Hair Day. The children were very creative and had such fun.

To find out more about our school or if you are interested in becoming a governor, please visit our website at www.layston.herts.sch.uk.

From all of us here at Layston we would like to thank you for your continued support.

Our Christian Values:

Reverence, Wisdom, Thankfulness, Humility, Endurance, Service, Compassion, Trust, Peace, Forgiveness, Friendship, Justice, Hope, Creation, Community



BUNTINGFORD FILM CLUB

Bringing Cinema back to Buntingford

David Woollcombe



THANK YOU to all our wonderful volunteers – old and new – who have made Buntingford Cinema such a fun and efficient community initiative to work with. With the drop down screen and the sound baffles now installed this year, the cinema experience in our Community Centre is as good as any of the community cinemas springing up across our region, with Christine Stuart Taylor's twinkling table lights making it special!

And a HUGE Thank You to everyone who came to our shows and made our 2026/26 season such a success! It started with WICKED in September at the Sword Inn Hand, and moved on to Timothy Chalamet's brilliant performance as Bob Dylan in A COMPLETE UNKNOWN in October. BRIDGET JONES – MAD ABOUT THE BOY followed in November and DOWNTOWN ABBEY – THE FINALE in December. January 2026 saw the Bond Champagne Gala with GOLDFINGER; February: the David Lean / Noel Coward classic, BRIEF ENCOUNTER; Brad Pitt in F1 – THE MOVIE in March; the brilliant Alan Bennet First World War drama, THE CHORAL, in April and the compelling NUREMBURG drama to close out the season in May.

We also re-launched our Classic / Foreign Film season at the Bowls Club in January with ANORA –

followed by PARASITE in February, and two classic French Films, JULES ET JIM and JEAN DE FLORETTE in March and April.

It's a hard record to follow – and we have to do so as two of our Founder Members, Peter and Vicky Burt, leave our planning committee as they prepare to move out of Buntingford. We thank them profusely for their tireless work for Buntingford Cinema over the years and for generously hosting our committee meetings. Also we thank them for choosing some of the most successful films we've screened, notably BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S and the BLUES BROTHERS! Thankfully, they will continue to support us with their suggestions – as we hope everyone in Buntingford who loves the movies will! Please join them and all our volunteers, at our -

Annual General Meeting

Friday 12th June at 6.30 pm at the Stables, 57 Wyddial Road, Buntingford SG9 9AX.

Drinks and Refreshments will be served as we appoint the new Committee and Officers for the 2026 / 27 season, and choose what films to show up to Christmas this year. Hope to see you there!

*David R. Woollcombe,
Buntingford Cinema*



On 17th April 100 people from Buntingford and the surrounding area attended The People's Emergency Briefing, a non-political film which has been created to present up to date facts on the climate and nature crisis and is being shown at more than 800 locations across the UK and several other countries.

The 45-minute film presents extracts from expert presentations given at the National Emergency Briefing in Westminster Hall last November in with Gogglebox-style reactions from celebrities and the general public. The experts explain the impacts of the crises on ten main areas including health, food security, the economy and national security - and also how we have the technology and the financial resources to resolve them if we can just find the will to do so. Our own MP, Chris Hinchliff, was one of the 1200 MPs, Peers, business, culture and faith leaders who attended the original Briefing. He also attended our screening in Buntingford's Benson Hall, concluding the evening with his point of view, which was wholly supportive of the film, and recently highlighting at Prime Minister's Question Time that climate change will have a greater impact on food security, energy security and supply of medication than the effects of the current situation in the Middle East (see Chris Hinchliff's Facebook page).

After the screening, people, sitting at tables, shared their thoughts and feelings about what they had seen and then explored ideas around local solutions as

well as global ones and these thoughts and ideas were shared with the rest of the audience. Thanks go to joint hosts Buntingford Cinema, Peacechild International and Churches Together for enabling this screening.

The general feeling was that the film should be seen by EVERYONE so if you were not there and would like to see the film in Buntingford, there is another chance to see the film on **24th June** at Seth Ward Community Centre. Tickets are free but please book early as spaces are limited at: www.tickettailor.com/.../buntingfordcommu.../2153077

You can also check who else is hosting interactive screenings by visiting the website map at: www.nebriefing.org. There are screenings planned in Ware, Hertford, Bishops Stortford and several other places locally and new screenings are being added all the time. The film really is that good!

What comes from these screenings remains to be seen but as the quote from James Baldwin goes "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."



At about the time of publication of this issue of the Journal, our second Drag Night will be bringing another fun-filled evening to our town. We are confident that it will be a resounding success!



On another level we had a packed church in Westmill who enjoyed the range of music provided by the young musicians from St. Edmund's College under the direction of Andrew O'Brien.

We had invited local charity Isabel's Hospice to launch an appeal for funds at this Westmill Concert hoping that people would be generous with donations at the end of the evening. Indeed they were, and we were delighted to pass on £350 to the charity as a result of this appeal.

This campaign will carry on at the June 7th Jazz event at The Stables Garden where a Raffle will be run to help boost the funds of this worthy, self-funded and much appreciated local charity. We're hoping again that our supporters will buy a £5 strip of tickets. We have some great prizes including £50 vouchers for both the Sword Inn Hand Pub at Westmill and Peppermill Kitchen in the High Street.

Further vouchers to use at Touch of Glamour, Bonney's Boutique & Detour, as well as a small hamper from The Cheese Plate and a plant or tied posy from Crazy Daisy. So it's well worth a £5 spend on raffle tickets!

Go to our website **buntingfordlive.org** to secure a place to enjoy another afternoon of Jazz in The Stables Garden on **Sunday 7th June**. Gate and bar opens at 12.30pm. Come early to find your spot in the garden, purchase your drink (Pimms will be available!), relax and get in the mood for the music.

The Peter Rudeforth Jazz Band

Returning to Buntingford by popular demand, are a London-based jazz band formed from the very finest Dixieland and Swing musicians on the scene today. The music is hot, uplifting, beautiful and rhythmically infectious. At times, due to the skilful arrangements, it seems as if the band might be bigger than it is. The programme is entertaining, humorous and original, whilst being directly connected to the great British jazz bands.

Peter is one the most in-demand jazz trumpet players in the UK. He studied at the Royal Academy of Music. He, like the rest of his professional musicians have played with Chris Barber, Kenny Ball, John Dankworth, Acker Bilk and Humphrey Lyttleton and in many of the large musical productions on the West End theatre including productions at the Royal Opera House.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming them for a (hopefully) sunny afternoon of 'live' toe-tapping blues and swing!

The Alvor Trio will be bringing a contrasting musical delight for you earlier in the week on **Wednesday 3rd June** in Westmill Church at 7.30pm. Tickets £16.

After 42 years playing viola with the well known Maggini Quartet, Martin Outram, wanted to go on creating beautiful music with other professional musicians. He contacted his friend, flautist Sarah Newbold from his Essex Youth Orchestra days and harpist Imogen Barford with whom he first played as students at Cambridge University.

Thus the Alvor Trio was formed.

Their programme for Westmill will include:

Extracts fro Mozart's 'Magic Flute'

'Elegiac' by Bax

'Zodiac Trio' by Welsh composer William Mathias

'The Gardener of Aleppo' by John Pickard, written as a response to the tragedy of that city during the Syrian war

'Donate' by Debussy and other pieces by Ravel and Vaughan Williams.

If you like classical music, you are in for a treat.

Hopefully the workshop they are giving at Freman College the following day will be successful.

The Jazz event on Sunday 7th June will be the last Buntingford Live event until September.

Please visit our website **buntingfordlive.org** for dates of the many upcoming events booked

BUNTINGFORD LIVE!

the
ALVOR TRIO

Wednesday
3rd June
7.30pm

Sr Mary The Virgin
Church
Westmill SG9 9LJ

Join us for an extraordinary evening of chamber music with the highly-acclaimed trio, featuring:

Sarah Newbold (Flute)
Martin Outram (Viola)
Imogen Barford (Harp)

TICKETS
£16

Scan the code or visit buntingfordlive.org
Also available through Buntingford Library, ask staff for details.

LICENSED BAR 10

Please bring cash to purchase drinks as the WiFi in the church is unreliable.

We recommend bringing a cushion for your comfort.

BUNTINGFORD LIVE!

Peter Rudeforth's JAZZ BAND

Back by popular demand!

SUNDAY 7th JUNE
1pm - 3.30pm
Bar open from 12.30pm!

**The Stables Garden
Buntingford SG9 9AS**
(Enter via gate on Church Street)

TICKETS
£15

Scan the code or visit buntingfordlive.org
Also available through Buntingford Library, ask staff for details.

A fun afternoon of toe-tapping jazz, blues and swing!

Bring a picnic, chairs and rugs, but we kindly ask you to purchase your drinks from our competitively-priced, fully licensed bar.

LICENSED BAR 10

WHAT'S ON - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE 2026

Monday 1st	Library: Celebrating 100 Years of Buntingford Library p.8
Wednesday 3rd	Buntingford Live! Alvor Trio p.43
Wednesday 3rd	Buntingford Gardener's Club: p.13
Friday 5th	Braughing Get Together: Gunpowder Mills
Saturday 6th	Reed Church: Strawberry Fayre p.18
Saturday 6th	Buntingford Repair Cafe p.33
Sunday 7th	Buntingford Live! Jazz Band p.43
Monday 8th	U3A: Florence Nightingale & Mary Seacole p.14
Tuesday 9th	History Society p.22
Thursday 11th	WI: Various Verses p.15
Friday 12th	Buntingford Cinema: AGM p.40
Sunday 14th	Reed Church: Jazz in the Churchyard p.18
Sunday 14th	Music Through Time p.16
Friday 15th	Buntingford Railway & Local History Society: Braughing Station - outside visit 7pm
Thursday 18th	Gardener's Club: Coach Trip Kelmarsh Hall p.13
Friday 19th	BALA: Coffee Morning p.46
Wednesday 24th	People's Emergency Briefing Film Showing p.41
Saturday 27th	Library: Regular Monthly Craft Event p.9
Sunday 28th	Berden Open Gardens p.16



LOOKING AHEAD

13th July	U3A: The Profumo Affair p.14
5th Sept	Classic Car Show p.11
17th Sept	Buntingford Live! Haileybury Young Musicians
26th Sept	Buntingford Live! Abba Angels
24th Oct	Buntingford Live! Sea Shanty Folk & Country Night

REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAYS:	TUESDAYS:	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS:	FRIDAYS:	WEEKENDS:
From 8.30am: Buntingford Market 10–11.45am: Chatter Table at the Manor House – 1st & 3rd Mondays Morning Coffee 10-12 St Peter's	Mini Millfield Stay & Play at Millfield First & Nursey School. 9-10am. For children aged 0- 4 years. Messy play, music, stories & a snack – £2 per family. No booking required – just come along.	Buntingford Meditation Online 8pm & once a month in Saint Peter's Church. To join contact me via the website - www.mindful-worklife.com/buntingford-meditation New meditators are welcome and guidance is given on how to meditate in the sessions.	10.30am–12.30: Coffee & Company in the URC Church Hall 2–3pm: Mind & Music at Standon & Puckeridge CC		Sun, 9am: Norfolk Road Playing Fields Junior Parkrun Sat, 10am: Walking Football at the MUGA, Norfolk Road Playing Fields
EVENTS IN THE LIBRARY:					
10.30–11am & 11:30 -12pm: Baby Rhyme Time (songs, rhymes, actions and puppets, for ages 6 weeks to 3 years)	10.30–12.30: Jigsaw & Cards club	11am: Chair Yoga with Kim	10.30 – 11am: Storytime ages 2-5 years Lego Club (every second Thursday) age: 5-8	4-5pm: The Friday Club age: 3-11	
11.45am–12.45pm: Forever Cycling Community Centre -1st/3rd		10-11am Chatter & Natter, Buntingford Coffee Shop			
1.30 for 2pm: Buntingford Senior Citizens' Club at URC Hall		12- 4pm Braughing Shed Group, The Barn at Brook Cottage Farm Fernaux Pelham SG9 OLL Contact: jacquithorne664@gmail.com or 07557 966 526			
7.30–9:15pm: Buntingford Community Choir at Millfield School					

BUNTINGFORD ACTION FOR THE LESS ABLE (BALA)

Registered Charity No. 1094426

MINIBUS TRIPS JUNE 2026

DATE	TIME	DESTINATION	PRICE
JUNE			
Mon 1st	9.30-3	Clacton on Sea	£13
Thurs 4th	10.30-2.30	Bury Lane/Dobbies	£5
Thurs 11th	10-2.30	St Neots (market day)	£8
Mon 15th	10.30-2	Scotsdales	£6.50
Weds 17th	9.30-1.30	Biggleswade – A1 Retail Park	£6.50
Weds 24th	11.30	Pub Lunch	£5
Fri 26th	10-12	Pearce's Farm Shop (table booking recommended)	
Tues 30th	9-1	Hitchin (town centre market day)	£6.50
JULY			
Thurs 2nd	9.30-3	Southend	£13
Thurs 9th	9-2	Ely	£10.50

All trips start from the Benson Hall car park unless otherwise agreed

To book a seat or for more information: 07870 638 480

(please be prepared to leave a message)

COFFEE MORNING

Friday 19th June, 10-11:30am

(sausage rolls, cakes, raffle)

at **URC Hall, Baldock Road**

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or call 01763 272 032

More information is available on page A26 or go to <https://buntingfordjournal.uk/>

45 High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AD

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RS Property Lawyers - 01763 295096

Email: nicola@stenfield.com
nicola@rspropertylawyers.com

Web: www.stenfield.com
www.rspropertylawyers.com
nicola@rspropertylawyers.com

S | STENFIELD
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RS | PROPERTY
LAWYERS

Stenfield Solicitors and RS Property Lawyers are regulated multidisciplinary law firms, each offering specialist legal services tailored to client needs.

Stenfield Solicitors specialises in litigation, matrimonial, family law, company law, commercial property, employment, wills and probate.

RS Property Lawyers is dedicated exclusively to residential conveyancing.

Our key objective is to provide solid, reliable, and cost-effective legal advice delivered in an efficient and friendly manner.

Our Buntingford branch looks forward to welcoming you.

Church of Saint Richard of Chichester

St Richard of Chichester Catholic Church
3 Station Road, Buntingford SG9 9HT
Telephone 01992 623156

Parochial Administrator: Father John Cunningham
Parish Deacon: Paul O'Connor

Regular Services at St Richard's Buntingford

Mass - Sunday 9.15am
Mass - Tuesday 7.30pm
Holy Hour - Friday 5.00pm

Services at St Thomas's Puckeridge

Mass - Sunday 11.00am
Mass - Thursday 12.30pm



If you would like your child baptised, to get married, or to find out about the other sacramental programmes, please speak to the priest or deacon after one of the masses.

Further information is available on the parish website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/buntingford/

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admin@reed.herts.sch.uk | 01763 848304

www.reed.herts.sch.uk

WHERE THERE'S A WILL

After working as a solicitor for over 30 years, Kate Bennett now specialises in the writing of Wills and Powers of Attorney.



If you haven't done so already, for the sake of your loved ones, make your final wishes clear and get your affairs in order today.

For a trusted, experienced and straightforward service phone or email Kate to arrange an appointment to see her for a free no obligation meeting at your home.

Kate Bennett
07525 454160
kbennettlegal@gmail.com



BUNTINGFORD

— H E A T I N G —

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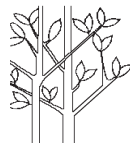
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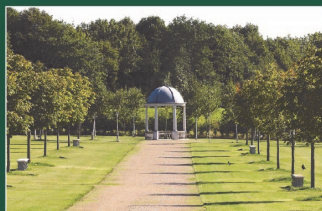
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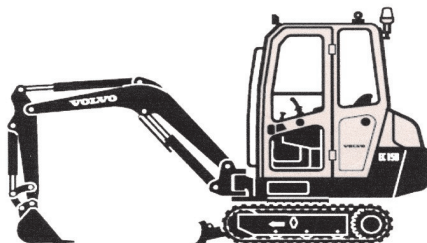
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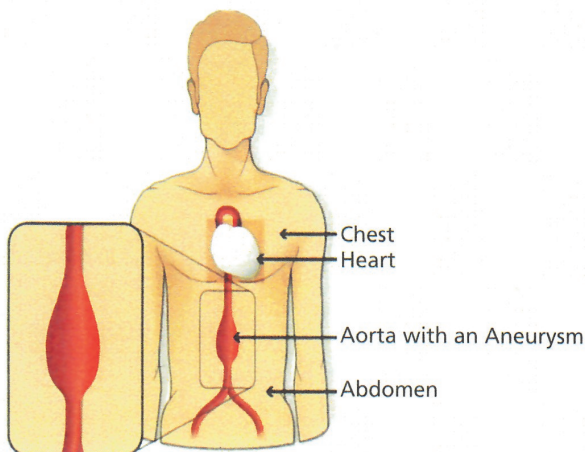
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WHO ARE WE?

We are your local amenity group, established in March 1971 initially as a conservation group covering the ancient parishes of Buntingford, Layston, Aspenden, Wyddial and Throcking. We obtained charity status in 1993. Our main aims are to secure the preservation, protection, development, improvement of features of historic and public interest within the locality and endeavour to promote high standards of planning and architecture while our archives are a source of reference on local geography and history. Over the years, the Society has broadened its interests within the community. Whilst conservation issues will always be important to us, we now try to take a greater interest in many other local organisations and activities.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE AND CONTINUE TO DO?

BCS have.....

- Introduced the Buntingford Journal in 1976.
- Restored the Town Pump twice and Town Cage once.
- Initiated erection of Christmas lights in the High Street and Market Hill.
- Presented an annual school civic award to Freman College.
- Updated the set of Town Trails with Discovering Buntingford booklet.
- Erected a Town Sign and replaced it on a like for like basis in 2018.
- Installed a seat on the hill to Layston Cemetery and paid for works at the Layston Cemetery.
- Erected Town Gateway signs complete with Planters.
- Contributed financially to Freman College sports hall, Buntingford Film Club, Buntingford Carnivals and "Summer Arts in Buntingford 2022" weekend.
- Start-up financial contribution to the Friends of the Rib and Quin.
- Paid for the Local History Group competition prizes in 2023.
- Carried out River Rib and town litter picks.
- Fitted a sign in the Police Station Community Garden and paid for new plants there in 2019.
- Were actively involved in the production of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Arranged "Buntingford in Bloom" competitions.
- Updated the circular walks on local footpaths leaflet in 2017.
- Paid for roses and a plaque in memory of Queen Elizabeth II and for the Coronation of King Charles III at the new Layston Cemetery in 2024.
- Hosted three Civic Day Heritage walks around the conservation area.
- Been actively involved in recent town celebrations to mark Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, the Coronation of King Charles III and the 80th anniversary of D-Day and VE Day.

BCS will continue to.....

- Publish the Buntingford Journal.
- Monitor future planning applications and work with local organisations for the benefit of the Community
- Play an active role in the River Rib Improvement Project.
- Source a replacement plaque for The Cage .
- Host future Civic Day Heritage walks around the conservation area.
- Arrange future "Buntingford in Bloom" competitions.
- Present an annual civic award to Freman College.
- Pay for the maintenance of the Town Gateway Planters.

To join the Society download a Membership Form from www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk or collect one from the Manor House on Market Hill

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28th Jul	25th Aug	29th Sept	27th Oct	24th Nov	No meeting in Dec

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There are also monthly groups in Ware (last Friday of the month) and Royston (first Thursday of the month) contact us for details.

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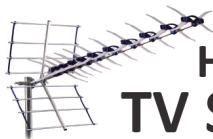
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For a full colour brochure contact :

Jill Jones-Town Clerk, The Manor House, Buntingford, Herts., SG9 9AB.

Or email : clerk@buntingford-tc.gov.uk Telephone: 01763 272 222

www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk

Gareth White Electrical Services



Welcome to Gareth White Electrical Services based in Buntingford: we are experienced and qualified electricians working with local home owners, landlords, developers, contractors and local businesses in and around Buntingford.

We are independent electrical contractors that place our customers first offering friendly, expert advice alongside our electrical services.

Every one of our jobs are different, however, we always maintain the same very high standards ensuring reliability, quality workmanship and fair pricing allowing us to provide the best possible service.

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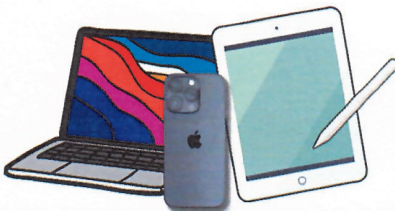
Location:

At The Manor House, High
Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AB

Every Second Monday
10:30am to 12:00pm

**No session in August 2026*

12th January, 9th February,
9th March, 13th April, 11th May,
8th June, 13th July, 14th September,
12th October, 9th November &
14th December 2026



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This is a free service available to NHS patients only. No service on Bank Holidays. Service may be affected by adverse weather conditions: please check before setting out during severe weather. Please note that our telephones are staffed Tuesdays to Thursdays (leave a message at other times and we will call you back). Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service is a registered charity no. 1063430 Leaflet/poster issued 20.07.2022

Scan the QR code, call 01707 324582 or email
info@hhas.org.uk to find your nearest clinic.

Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service



Hertfordshire
Sensory Services Strategy
2020-2023



NHS
Bedfordshire Hospitals
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But we can and we are
here to help.



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Domestic
Abuse
Helpline**

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hertsdomesticabusehelpline.org

Victims of domestic abuse in more rural areas are often unprotected and isolated from help. A 2019 report* into domestic abuse in Yorkshire highlighted a number of shocking facts, including that the more rural the setting, the higher the risk of harm to the victim.

If someone you know is causing you harm or distress – or if you are worried about a family member or friend – you can call or email us in confidence for help and advice on your options.

Call freephone 08 088 088 088

Monday to Friday: 9am–9pm Weekends: 9am–4pm

Or confidential email: kim@mailpurple.org

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