

THE BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL



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

March 2025 Volume 50 | Issue 2

£1.25



JOHN D KILBY & CO

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & REGISTERED AUDITORS

**SPECIALISING IN THE ACCOUNTS AND TAXATION AFFAIRS
OF THE SMALLER BUSINESS AND SELF EMPLOYED.
LIMITED COMPANY FORMATIONS AND AUDITS.**

**FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION, WITHOUT OBLIGATION,
ANYTIME BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT.
ANSWERPHONE SERVICE OUT OF NORMAL HOURS.**

MUTFORDS, HARE STREET, BUNTINGFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE, SG9 0ED
TEL: (01763) 289 466 FAX: (01763) 289 888

Meeting House Boarding Kennels and Cattery



Family run kennels and cattery in 2 acres.
Fully trained staff.

Individual heated kennels with attached runs leading on to large grass exercise paddocks.

All pets must be fully vaccinated including dogs for kennel cough.

Vet on call 24/7.

Open for viewing – please call Peter or Sarah for an appointment.

Meeting House Boarding Kennels and Cattery,
Warren Lane, Cottered, nr Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9QG

Phone: 01763 281258 **Email:** enquiries@meetinghouse-kennels.co.uk

Website: www.meetinghouse-kennels.co.uk

USEFUL LOCAL INFORMATION

POLICE STATION:

Baldock Road, Buntingford

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)

Providing transport for hospital and doctors 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

Opening times: Mon, Tue, Thur 10:00 – 17:30

Fri 14:00 – 17:30 **Sat** 9:00 – 13:00

Telephone enquiries – 0300 123 4049

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

Option 2 – All other enquiries Mon–Fri 8:00 – 20:00,
Sat 9:00 – 18:00.

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

It's lovely to see that the Buntingford Live! mosaic of the town is now installed in pride of place on Church Street. So much hard work went into the designing and making of the mosaic it's great to see that it's now available for all to see and admire, see p.8 for pictures from the grand unveiling.

Nice too, to see that the Buntingford Dramatic Society are bringing back some more spooky ghost walks this month after they were hugely popular last time, see p.19 for how to book your spot - if you dare!

Buntingford Live! are also bringing you another one of their legendary Comedy Night's this month, and it's selling out fast, so don't miss the line up and details of how to book on p.42.

If you haven't thought about writing your will, or if you have but haven't quite got around to it yet, have a look at p.15 for a great incentive where you can get your will written AND support our friends at Isabel's Hospice at the same time. I was surprised to read that 60% of people don't have a will. So perhaps this will help give us the nudge that we need to put that on our to do list!

Finally anyone who has ever tried taking your cat to the vets, I think you will appreciate the story on p.20 from our writer's group. It certainly gave me a wry smile of recognition!

Anne

BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL

MARCH 2025

EDITOR

Anne Wright

journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

FAO Buntingford Civic Society
Journal Contributions
C/O The Manor House, 21 High Street
Buntingford, Herts, SG9 9AB

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES

Keith Edwards

01763 272 032

advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

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

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



WHAT'S ON

- 15 Braughing Get Together
- 19 Ghost Walks
- 29 Buntingford Hybrid Studio Events
- 40 Buntingford Film Club
- 41 Buntingford Shorts
- 42 Buntingford Live! Events
- 44 What's on Roundup
- 46 BALA

FEATURES

- 11 Ward Freeman Pool Update
- 18 Buntingford Dramatic Society Review
- 20 Writer's Group
- 22 Local History Group
- 26 The Hundred Parishes Society

REGULAR ARTICLES

- 6 Buntingford Civic Society
- 7 Town Council News
- 11 Reed Garden Club
- 12 U3A
- 13 Gardening Club
- 13 Community Choir
- 14 WI
- 14 Buntingford Senior Citizen's Club
- 16 Buntingford School of Dance
- 17 Riverwatch
- 28 Attend2Health News
- 30 School News
- 35 Church News

ON THE COVER

Buntingford High Street 2024

As mentioned in my February article, The Civic Voice trustees have now announced that following a competitive selection process, Rob Hattersley has been appointed as the organisation's new Chief Executive Officer.

Rob is an experienced charity CEO and originally comes from a teaching background where he was a primary school deputy head. He has practical knowledge of local groups having been involved with Hereford Civic Society for several years as a committee member.

At a time when Civic Societies need to respond to changes in planning along with the expansion of unitary local authorities, the role of Civic Voice is as important as ever and Rob will help develop the resources and organisation to meet these challenges.

Plans are progressing for the "Buntingford in Bloom" Competition, VE Day celebrations and Civic Day "Historic Town Walks". More details in the April issue or via our Social Media platform, keep an eye out.

On the planning front, the Planning Appeal by Wheatley Homes for 68 dwellings off of London Road is to be held on 11th March, we wait with bated breath for the outcome.

As Chairman of the Civic Society I have been involved in the Master planning process for the planned development of 350 dwellings on land east of the by-pass. The process involves working with local councils, local interest groups, the main site promoter and other landowners, to achieve a vision for the



Rob Hattersley

overall development of the site and ensure we are achieving key important elements in a way that will contribute to a great place for people to live, work and study.

Graham Waite

Chairman, Buntingford Civic Society

**We will be holding
 our AGM on Tuesday
 15th April at 7.00pm
 at the Seth Ward
 Community Centre –
 Bunters Suite.**

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 Hay, 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

Despite representation from the Town Mayor – Councillor Wallace, County Councillor – Councillor Jeff Jones and two District

Councillors – Councillors Nicholls and Burt, the Development Management Committee granted Full Planning permission for a new GP Surgery at the top of Hare Street Road and Outline Planning Permission for 200 dwellings on the same parcel of land. The District Council’s lack of a five year housing land supply was the driving factor behind the decision.

The Town Council along with local churches and the Royal British Legion are planning an event to celebrate the 80th anniversary of D Day. This will be held on the 8th May and details at the moment are a street party on Market Hill from 5pm and a service at the War Memorial at 8pm followed by the beacon lighting. We are keen to hear from any residents who were in the town on D Day and are able to give an account of the day from a personal perspective.

Plans are underway for a town event at the Seth Ward Community Centre on 12th July 2025. This will be similar to the event to

celebrate the Coronation with live bands, fair rides, dog show, food outlets and bar. Keep the date free and more details will be published when they are available.

The Manor House is licensed for Civil Ceremonies and many local residents have held their marriage ceremonies in the Grade II Listed Building. Ideal for small ceremonies of up to approximately 30 guests. All enquiries to the Clerk’s office where we will be happy to show you around and answer any questions.

The management of the Multi Games Area is now back with the Town Council. If you wish to hire the MUGA, please contact the Clerk’s office and we will check availability.

Layston Cemetery is owned and managed by the Town Council, please call us if you have an enquiry.

Details of the March 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 March are:

Thursday 6th March	7pm	Amenities Committee.
Thursday 13th March	7pm	Planning and Resources Committee
Thursday 27th March	7pm	Planning Committee and Full Council

All meetings held at The Manor House unless indicated otherwise.

BUNTINGFORD LIVE! MOSAIC UNVEILED

Christine Stuart-Taylor



As you can see from the photos, the Buntingford Mosaic is now securely placed on its permanent site, mounted on the wall of 38 Church Street, behind the bench.

Thankfully the sun shone on the afternoon of Sunday 2nd February attracting a

large crowd which gathered to watch it being unveiled by our Mayor, Cllr Duncan Wallace. Claire Costello who was pivotal in the design joined the mayor as well as Neil McDougall, chairman of Buntingford Live and several of the team members.



JOIN BEAVER SCOUTS

BUNTINGFORD
SCOUTS

At Beaver Scouts, boys and girls ages 6-8 years old embark on an unforgettable experience that builds character and nurtures leadership skills. Look no further and join us!

**We have spaces at our monthly
section, held every second
Saturday 12pm-4.30pm**



BEAVER SCOUTS ACTIVITIES

- Outdoor Adventures
- Exciting Challenges
- Character Development
- Skills for Life

For further info and registration email jo.mcnamara@yahoo.co.uk



Rita's fundraiser for MND Association



Skydive 25 May

Last year my husband was diagnosed with MND in January. Our family have done various fundraising events and challenges to raise funds for the MND Association and I have decided to do a skydive to raise funds. Do donate if you can. Any money raised will help the MND Association to continue their work in supporting people living with MND and in research so that one day they will find a cure

Scan the QR code for my JustGiving Page

 [mndassociation](https://www.facebook.com/mndassociation)  [@mndassoc](https://twitter.com/mndassoc)

www.mndassociation.org

Francis Crick House, 6 Summerhouse Road, Northampton, NN3 6BJ
Registered charity no. 294354 | Created in RightMarket - 14/11/2025 - 18:04:15



In February 2024 we asked the community to complete a survey about the swimming pool. 661 respondents shared their views. These were used to create a model timetable on which to base predicted usage and income, enablers to generate more income and shape our business plan.

One year after closure, we asked the community to complete another impact survey. Within two weeks there were over 550 responses. 61% of respondents reported in the last year that their aquatic activity had decreased as a direct result of the pool's closure. In 2024 many people feared the financial and environmental costs of using other pools and we now have the details that enable fuel costs and CO2 emissions to be calculated. We will share this detail and more, next month.

With impact statements like the following, we hope to be successful in obtaining grant funding.

Re-opening of the pool would have such a huge positive impact on our family - swimming is such a basic but incredibly important life skill that every child deserves to learn. For my daughter to be able to

re-start her weekly swimming lessons would have such an amazing impact on her confidence in the water - teaching her about water safety and important life saving skills as well as improving her physical health. The confidence it would give her would also have a positive effect on her mental health as she grows in age. She is embarrassed to not be as strong a swimmer as her friends who are able to attend weekly lessons.

It would also have a huge positive impact on my own mental health as I worry a lot about her not having this important life skill. It makes me feel I'm failing her as a mother as I can no longer walk to the pool, I don't have the transport or economic means to get her to another pool. Buntingford has no train station, it is very difficult and time consuming to try to get her to any other pool - buses only come once an hour and are often late or don't turn up.

She loves the water and going swimming as a family at the weekend was also one of her favourite activities. Living in a small rural town with very limited transport links means we now feel very isolated without this facility in the town.

REED GARDEN CLUB

Sue Huggins

12th March 2-4 pm

Reed Village Hall

Adrian Tindall " Bury St Edmunds -A handsome little town"

£3 entrance tea/coffee





Gill Jackson, Lesley Lowers, Mick & Mary Millen, Jean Handley, Norman Jones, Linda Marsh, Ron & Barbara Coxall.

Great news – Norman Jones has very kindly stepped in to take over the 3 Mile Walking Group which can now carry on walking on the last Wednesday of the month meeting at 11am. A big thank you to Norman and also to Liz Wright for leading the group for the past nine years.

Our Speaker for **Monday 10th March** is Simon Keable-Elliot: "Robert Keable - Utterly immoral WW1 Chaplain" - an extraordinary tale, highly recommended by other u3a groups.

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.



It was such a relief to us all when we recruited Carole to lead our Choir. She has been the breath of fresh air that we so badly needed. We are so fortunate to have such a considerate and talented Musical Director join us.

Things have really started to move forward with the Choir, and we now have 45 active members.

Unfortunately last year we had to turn down live performances, due to our lack

of a choir leader, but that will hopefully change this year and we will be able to showcase our talents.

We are still getting new members joining the choir, and still welcome anyone, with any musical ability (and over 16 Years old) who would like to join us please email me at this address: **info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk**

Or for more information go to our website: **www.buntingfordchoir.co.uk**

BUNTINGFORD GARDENER'S CLUB

Next Meeting: AGM Wednesday, 5th March

At: The URC Hall, Baldock Road

Doors open: 7:45pm for 8pm start

Last month we had a good turnout of members with new visitors, which is always good to see.

Our speaker, Nic Wilson talked about "creating a bird-friendly garden" that sings in every season. It was surprising to hear how so many birds we take for granted are now in decline!

I think we all went home with some ideas to try to encourage them back.

The next meeting in March is our Annual General Meeting.

The club has monthly meetings on the 1st Wednesday of every month (no meetings in January or August). We have invited speakers on a range of subjects, demonstrations as well as quizzes and outings.



Over a cup of tea or coffee, we catch up and help each other with gardening tips, whilst sharing common interests.

Annual membership costs just £20 and visitors are also welcome at £3.00 per visit.

For any more information, please contact the Secretary telephone 01763 271 885.

Our guest speaker in February was Kate Hufton from our local Herts & Essex Air Ambulance

Charity and her talk was so interesting. She told us that the first Air Ambulance started in the Shetland Isles and there are now over 40 helicopters throughout the country. Aboard each ambulance is a skilled pilot and medical team which can bring A & E services to the patient – the doctors are even equipped to do open heart surgery at the roadside!

Each mission costs about £2,800 and there is no Government funding whatsoever. Fuel alone costs £280 per hour. We were surprised to learn that they even have to pay the NHS for the blood that they carry – blood group O which can be given to anyone - - so lets make sure we all support our local Air Ambulance Charity Shop!

Also in February a group of us went for lunch at the Three Lakes restaurant in Ware.

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday March 13th at 7:15pm for 7:30pm start** at the URC Hall (opposite Budgens). Our guest speaker is Kay Goddard with her talk 'The Patterned Path to Freedom' which brings Quilting History to life and she tells the story of how slaves escaped from the southern states of America and fled to Canada.

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 our Secretary, Pat, on 01763 271 305

THE BUNTINGFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

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

We are celebrating our 70th year of the over 60s club this year, so why not come and meet new friends for a afternoon tea/ coffee, bingo and general socialising.

For more information please call Val on: 01763 272 019

BRAUGHING GET TOGETHER

Following the great success of our recent events, we have the following offerings over the coming months:

Friday 7th March we present another in our series of Murder Mysteries - "The Jewel of the Ocean"

Join the captain for a dinner while a mystery unfolds (formal attire is optional) There will be a choice of fish, chicken or a vegetarian option with chips.

Booking is essential and the price is £15.

Friday 4th April join us for a sociable Whist Drive.

No previous experience needed, as an explanatory session will be given before the games begin.

Like our Beetle Drives, this is an opportunity to mix, mingle and make new friends.

All our events are held in Braughing Church Hall unless otherwise stated.

To book or for any information about our events contact:

Cynthia at:

email: cynthia.matthews44@gmail.com
phone: 01920 822 230 or 07933 202 547

or Marion at:

email: marionjsaunders@gmail.com
phone: 07887 915 215



LOCAL SOLICITORS DONATE WILL WRITING SERVICES THROUGHOUT MARCH TO RAISE FUNDS FOR ISABEL HOSPICE

From March 1st to March 31st 2025, multiple local solicitors and will writers have agreed to write basic single or mirror wills free of charge, in return for a suggested donation to the Hertfordshire based hospice care charity, Isabel Hospice.

60% of people in UK do not yet have a will written and writing a will is the only way to be sure that your wishes are followed after your death and that the people and causes you care about are still supported when you are no longer here.

Isabel Hospice last ran the Make a Will Month scheme in 2024, and with the support of local solicitors raised over £11,000 to help Isabel Hospice care for patients and their families in E. Hertfordshire affected by life-limiting-illness.

To take part, all you have to do is find your nearest participating solicitor online at isabelhospice.org.uk/MakeAWill and give them a call or email to make an appointment.

Suggested donations to Isabel Hospice are £120 for a single basic will and £175 for a pair of mirror basic wills.

Appointments are limited and allocated on a first come, first served basis so it is advisable to contact your chosen solicitor as soon as possible.

If you have any queries about Isabel Hospice's Make a Will Month please visit isabelhospice.org.uk/MakeAWill or contact Conor Williams at Isabel Hospice, on Conor.Williams@Isabelhospice.org.uk or call 01707 954 817.

Zoë Eaglesfield www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk

 Buntingford School of Dance |  [buntingfordschoolofdance](https://www.instagram.com/buntingfordschoolofdance)



BUNTINGFORD
SCHOOL of DANCE

'BabyBoppers'

A dance class for 2 – 3 year olds accompanied by a parent or carer

A

FUN

CREATIVE

introduction to

DANCE

MOVEMENT

and

MUSIC

for young children and an adult to enjoy together

For more information, including prices please contact us

Website: www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk

Email: admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk

RIVERWATCH BUNTINGFORD

Dr Derrick Guy

Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust,
- Living Rivers Champion
love.your.chalk.stream@gmail.com

RiverWatch is a group of citizen volunteers based around Buntingford, interested in restoring our section of the River Rib back to the rare and valuable fish-filled chalk stream that it used to be for centuries, right up to the 1960's. Following very heavy rain and major flooding of the High Street in the mid 1960's, (that may or may not have been caused by wood and straw bales coming adrift), flood relief work eventually started in the 1980's – which confined the river to a culvert of brick walls and concrete bases, solely designed to get any further flood waters out of the town asap. 30 years later, it still ran overwidened, shallow and slow, overhung by decaying trees, suffering annual cycles of spate in winter and drying up in the summer. No fish. No mayflies. No aquatic weeds. And privatised water companies being allowed to dump under-treated sewage straight into the river – recently revealed to be a nationwide problem, still yet unresolved.

Then just over five years ago, enter the BF Town Council and Civic Society with an ambitious vision – to restore the function and appearance of the BF Rib to what it was 50 years ago. That means cleaning up the water, preventing silt and nitrate/phosphate contaminants washing down from upstream farmland and water treatment plants, a return to natural all year-round flows, reducing abstraction for drinking water, and increasing the biodiversity befitting a chalk stream. Visibly that means healthy green aquatic plants, mayflies and dragonflies, minnows and sticklebacks, coarse fish and trout, and iconic birds like Kingfishers and Egrets.

Since we started this project, serious central government funding has been made available nationwide, mainly delivered to ourselves here via the Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust, who are the designated catchment (river basin) leaders for these counties. Such funding covers planning, permissions and hiring the engineering contractors for the work we have started on the Rib. The government insists that funding also covers support to volunteers in terms of training, organisation etc – Sarah Perry (Rivers Officer, HMWT) is our main adviser to the BT Town Council, my supervisor, and hugely supportive of our volunteer efforts. Affinity Water (responsible for delivering drinking water only, not sewage disposal) also have biodiversity funding schemes including invasive species eradication, from which we RiverWatch volunteers have directly benefitted.

'RiverWatch Buntingford' is a closed WhatsApp group (over 50 members) for announcing and organising volunteering events, and also a closed Facebook group (over 100 members) of the same name for those interested to know what is going on but less likely to join in with active events (- still very welcome of course).

If you feel you would like to get more involved in whatever capacity, even if it is just to be able to look at the river and understand better what you are looking at - do feel free to drop a request to join either or both groups.

Derrick Guy, Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust, - Living Rivers Champion (volunteer)

Contact me via email : love.your.chalk.stream@gmail.com



Hello my lovelies

Well, if I can use a baseball term from 'over the pond', Buntingford Dramatic Society hit it out of the park!

They delivered another fine, fun show, full of interesting characters with interesting stories to tell. Admittedly, their stories were a little conflicting, but that's what makes good drama, my dears.

The team delivered a barnstorming little show called "Out Of Focus" written by the talented playwright Peter Gordon about mayhem in a village hall where there was a massive conflict with bookings, but everyone eventually came together to put on a rather naff panto. The set was a lovely touch, with the paint and decor matching that of the Seth Ward Community Centre. All in all, it was a great night of fun that was thoroughly enjoyed by the attending audiences.

What is even more exciting news is that they are already planning their next

show, so if you enjoyed Out Of Focus or couldn't get hold of a ticket to the show, keep your eyes glued to their website, **buntingforddrama.uk** for more information.

Ghost Walk

It would seem that the people of Buntingford want more tales of ghostly ghosts, strange happenings and murders most horrid.

That being the case, we are returning with our legendary ghost walk, where we will share with you chronicled tales of murder, misdemeanours and the history of spectres as we walk through the town.

Accompany our highly knowledgeable tour guide through the dark streets and alleyways, along the lamplit riverside, and peer into places inhabited by phantoms and manifestations.

Tickets go live at www.buntingforddrama.uk on **Monday 3rd March**. This much sought-after experience sold out in the blink of a bat's eye last time.

Continues >

The Ghost Walk will take place on **28th and 29th of March**, and ticket holders will be notified of the time and meeting

place nearer to the date.

If you are brave enough, join us. Pay the price... or pay a price.

Buntingford Dramatic Society

presents

Ghost Walk


&

Murder Most Horrid!

28th & 29th March, 8pm

Tickets £10

Adults only!



A 90 minute guided tour exploring Buntingford's dark past. Ticket holders will be informed of our meeting point nearer the date. Places are strictly limited!

For tickets visit buntingforddrama.uk

CAT BETRAYAL

This morning as I sat in my usual place on the sofa, I noticed a new addition to the room - some kind of miniature house in the middle of the rug. I was only vaguely interested at first, morning being a fairly sleepy time of day for me, but I eventually stretched and descended to the carpet in what I hope was an elegant glide.

The thing on the rug had a pleasant cat smell to it, so I presumed it was not one of the things from which I have been inexplicably forbidden. Having given it a bit of a sniff and a stroll around its outside, I could see that it was a netted box with a cushion inside - how inviting! Nevertheless, slow and naturally cautious, I entered the dark opening with whiskers fully extended, prepared to leap back should there be some kind of danger ahead. But there was nothing, and I resolved to spend a few moments investigating further.

I must have been sleepier than I'd thought because, a second later, the opening zipped closed behind me. Who'd have thought that my pesky owner, usually trustworthy, would creep up behind me like that? I squawked an unmentionable word and hissed

at her, but she only mouthed some soothing platitudes and then picked the wretched box up with me inside, and I was swung helplessly in the air. WTF?!

My humans think I don't understand their language, but it was clear to me that the word VETS was used. I could feel myself shiver with panic, not helped by nearly falling over as I stalked up and down the box in the air. Soon enough, with much cheerful calling between humans, the box with me in it was plonked onto the back seat of that vibrating metal box outside the house. There was nothing for me to do but emit a continuous howl of alarm and humiliation, for which I only got a shushing sound from the treacherous human on the front seat. Really, the indignity, the betrayal... and my nerves!

After the vibrations stopped and the door was opened, I could smell the ghastly Vets from a hundred metres away: a horrible mixture of dog, cat and rabbit. I was swung unceremoniously onto the floor across from some mangy dog on a lead (how can you take seriously an animal that subjects itself to being led around by the neck?) so I gave it a hiss and raised my fur to its greatest

height. Then we were called in to the Vet and the flap to my box unzipped. A man's hand grasped me by the neck so I couldn't hop and skip out of there, and placed me on a cold table. SHE just stood by and let it happen - what greater betrayal than to let some stranger put his hands all over me? Inside my mouth he went, all over each side of my body, squeezing here and poking there. And then to finish me off completely, something like a pen was pushed up my bum. He crooned away, Good Cat, Nearly Finished Now, but I can tell you I did not enjoy that one bit. And then back into the zipped up box whilst my owner said THANK YOU! Thank you for what? It's me they should have been thanking for not tearing that man's skin apart or gouging out his eyes.

Anyway I'm back home now, recovering. She gave me some extra food when we returned, some small compensation I suppose. But I am not going to be petted, oh no, not for a long time. I am barely going to look at her today. I might just try to sleep on her bed tonight whilst she's regretting what she's done, and then I'll reconsider our relationship tomorrow.

We always welcome new members to Buntingford Writers group. There is no membership fee, and no demand except to join in and contribute. In the summer we meet at Mill End Garden Centre and in the winter in each other's homes.

About three times a year the Writers Group meets in the back room of Buntingford library to write together for a couple of hours. As writing can be a solitary activity, getting together with laptops, paper and pens, checking in to see how we're doing every now and again, can be a treat. It usually results in a whole lot of writing getting done.

We've now added Author Talks to our activities. Some of you may have heard Lucy Lewis last summer talking about *Lighting the Fuse* and Phillipa Sage talking about Jeremy Clarkson at Seth Ward Community Centre, both excellent speakers and an opportunity to hear published authors speak about their work.

Contact Chris Kell at **chriskell37@gmail.com** if you think you might be interested in attending a Writers Group meeting. We'd love to meet you.



This map dated 1923 shows Hare Street Road and the old clay pits.

Last month I wrote about the various builders who used to work in Buntingford; this was prompted by a ledger I found in the items the Heritage Centre had stored in the basement of the Manor House.

The ledger gave no clue as to who it belonged to; all we knew was that the first entry was dated 7th May 1870 and the last entry was 23rd November 1872. So, by a process of elimination the ledger must have been William Gibbons who had purchased the business from Nathan Warren in 1855.

The book sets out the name of each employee, how many days they had worked on each job, who was to be billed for the work, and how much each man was paid per week. Much of the work was for the big property owners of the time such as Leader, Greg. Hobson and Mickley. In addition, there was lots of work done at different churches, local schools and for the county council.

It appears that Mr Gibbons had a lime burning business, Mr Roblett, one of his employees frequently spent a week making lime. Lime was used in the building trade to make mortar, lime wash for painting buildings and render for buildings. Lime or chalk was burnt in either kilns or in pits like charcoal. The limeburner, as the person in charge of the process was called needed to make sure it didn't get too hot as then it would turn to quicklime which wasn't any use in the building trade. Lime was also used in the agriculture business to improve acidic soil.

In addition to producing lime William was said to have his own brick making business. When Handy's yard was demolished some of the buildings in it contained bricks with WG impressed in them. The bricks would have been made by putting clay into moulds and then left in the sun to dry before being fired in kilns. Ware had a large brickmaking business which was mostly a summer job as it relied on the sun drying the bricks.

The whole of the new work (with the exception of the admirable oak seating in the nave), has been most satisfactorily and successfully carried out after the designs of Mr. Butterfield, by Mr. Gibbons, builder, of Buntingford, under the superintendence of Mr. Nash, clerk of the works.

Taken from the Hertford Mercury dated 22nd June 1872.

From the very start of the book many of the men were employed on a new house in the High Street. The work was for Mr Leader who owned lots of properties in Buntingford and local villages. It didn't state where the house was but in one entry it stated Market Hill which narrowed it down quite a lot.

From the 20th November 1870 entries started to appear on a building a temporary church at Barley. Newspaper reports show that part of the church had become unsafe so an eminent church architect Mr Butterfield had drawn up plans to demolish most of the church and rebuild it. Mr Gibbons had got the job and a temporary church was to be built on land next to the church yard. It took 15 months to rebuild the church and it was re consecrated on the 13th June 1872. The work cost £5,385 of which the vicar Rev Robert Gordon, contributed £4700 of his own money.

No sooner had they finished work at Barley church then they then started work on Great Hormead church in the chancel. At the same time as this works another big project started at Sandon vicarage.

Almost every week work was carried out on roads. Lots of time was spent on Wadesmill Road, this was the first toll road in the country and was run by the Wadesmill Turnpike Trust. The road went from Wadesmill to Royston and tolls were charged at various points along the road. The upkeep of the road was down to the trust up until it disbanded in 1872. The ledger shows some of the work was billed to "County" others to Blue. I think Blue refers to Robert Blew, who was living in Buntingford High Street and was described in the 1871 census as a Highways and civil engineer. As well as repairing the road during the hot summer days the road was "watered" to stop the dust from rising, as the roads were not asphalted like they are today.

One poor employee seemed to have the job of emptying cesspools. His name was Thogy Miles, on the 13th August 1870 he spent 3 nights clearing the cesspool at Westmill Cottage, he had the use of a horse and cart for 3 days and used 4lbs of candles whilst doing the work. For this work he earned an extra £1 17s plus beer in addition to his 61/2 days of normal work for which he earned only 13s.

BUNTINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP CONT...

Other sorts of work that Mr Gibbons took on included helping people prepare for family weddings. Sometimes this involved erecting and taking down a wedding tent, which he did for Mr Pigg the farmer at Bandon Farm near Anstey when his daughter Alice married William Overell in September 1870. Another service the firm offered was funerals. Many builders acted as undertakers as they had men to dig the graves, carpenters to make the coffins, and transport to get the coffin to the churchyard. This could be horse and cart or for the poorer people possibly a hand cart or bier to grave. Mr Gibbons had a building in which to keep the bodies until the day of the funeral which would have been done quite quickly following a death.

Men were also employed to help out at harvest time, either working on cutting the crop of carting it to the barns using the businesses horses and carts. Mr Clarke at Hyde Hall Farm frequently paid for men to do "jobbing" at his farm and brewery.

Whilst searching the archives index at Hertford archives I found an index for a ledger for Thomas Nevett so I order the item and went to view it. It was exactly the same as the one I had in my possession except it started on 15th September 1866. The book had been attributed to Thomas Nevett but it should have been under William Gibbons name as Thomas Nevett didn't take over the business until 1879 when William died.

Again, there were lots of entries for work on local churches, Westmill, Albury and Clavering all had work done on them.

In February 1867 there was mention of a brickfield but it gave no further details which was a shame.

Poor Thogy Miles was again clearing the cesspool at Westmill Cottage, this time 1/-

was allocated for beer. Work for Heaton Ellis at Wyddial Hall was also done. A new fence was installed at the White Hart for Mr Leader who must have been the owner of the property although not he was not the occupier.

There were lots of entries for Royston Hospital, I did some further research on this as the current hospital at Royston was built in the 1920's. It appears that Mr Gibbons firm built a hospital in Barkway Road, Royston which opened in 1870. In 1925 it was turned into a house called Ivy Hedges, it is now known as The Old Cottage Hospital and is hidden away at the beginning of Barkway Road. This is a picture of the old hospital.



Most of the men and boys he employed worked 6 days a week, a few occasionally worked 7 days. Wages varied depending on their skills, people like Mr Bunce senior who must have been a carpenter earned £1 3s 10d for 6 1/2 days work week commencing 1st July 1871 where as Mr Nicholls only earned 13s 10d for the same hours. The men also had to walk to the jobs which could mean many miles a week as not all jobs were in Buntingford where most of the men lived. Sometimes lodgings were paid for if they

were working on a big job such as Barley church, were presumably about 6 of the men lodged for the week whilst working on the church.

I added up how much the wage bill was for the year 1st January 1871 to 31st December 1871. It came to £3358 the equivalent to £335,591 in today's money. It is a shame we don't have access to the book that records the invoices raised in this period. If we had we could have calculated how much profit Mr Gibbons was making, it was obviously a large business, certainly the largest one in Buntingford, and employed a large number of local men. The ledger has given us a very good insight into the workings of a firm in the 1800's.

CAN YOU HELP?

Please look at the photo below of a Buntingford wedding party which looks like it is dated in the late 20's or early 1930's. No one knows who the people are in the photo.

Can anyone recognise any of the people and shed any light on whose wedding it might have been? We have to say the groom doesn't appear to be ever so happy!

It's a little bit blurry so if anyone wants to look more closely at the photo it will be in the library in March.

Next months meeting is about the Music scene through the ages in Buntingford. It is on the **11th March at 2pm** in the library, everyone is welcome it costs £2 per person which includes tea or coffee.



THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Ken McDonald, Secretary



One of the main crops of the rich agricultural area covered by The Hundred Parishes is barley, the main ingredient of traditional ales and beer. In the past, much of the barley was malted locally before being taken to a nearby brewery to be combined with water, hops and yeast for fermenting into beer.

Brewing was initially a domestic activity in the home for family consumption, on farms and estates for the landowner's family and workers, and in various institutions such as religious communities for those who lived in and visited them. As the demand for beer grew (safer to drink than 'fresh' water at the time) so did the brewing industry: public houses having their own brewhouses, commercial brewers working out of stand-alone breweries, and then the development of industrial scale brewery complexes.

Evidence of all these different types of breweries is to be found within the Hundred Parishes in the form of place names such as Brewery Lane in Stansted, Brewery House in Little Hadham; Little Brewers, a cottage in Matching Green; Brewery Cottage in Swards End; and Brewers House in Dunmow.

There are also surviving examples of the breweries from each of the various phases of the development of the industry. At Audley End House the estate's brewhouse survives although the internal features have been lost. An example of a public house brewery

survives as The Old Brewery in Radwinter, now a private house. In Hatfield Heath the former stand-alone brewhouse was converted to a corn mill before becoming commercial offices. Three examples of brewhouses which were a part of industrial brewery complexes survive in Furneux Pelham, Wethersfield and Hartford End in Felsted. All three have been renovated and converted to private residential use.





Little Hadham – Nags Head and former Brewery House



Stansted Mountfitchet – Brewery House



Hatfield Heath – former brewery



Felsted – former brewery at Hartford End 2013



Felsted - former brewery at Hartford End - 2022



Celebrating Meghan Carolan's Achievement in Paediatric Osteopathy!

Attend2Health is delighted to congratulate Meghan Carolan, osteopath, on successfully completing her Postgraduate Certificate in Specialist Paediatric Osteopathic Practice. Meghan has been helping babies and children for a couple of years, and this well-earned qualification is a testament to her dedication and expertise. This specialist course takes over a year to complete with lots of coursework and exams so Meghan has done really well to achieve this whilst still working at Attend2Health.

Adding to this incredible achievement, Meghan was awarded her certificate by Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, further recognising her commitment to providing high-quality care for little ones.

If your baby is experiencing discomfort Meghan may be able to help. Book a FREE 15-minute chat to discuss your child's needs and receive expert guidance on the best approach.

Call 01763 87 80 87 to find out more.





Teaching fitness since 1998

Personal Training, Venue Exercise Classes, Online Exercise Classes and Pre Recorded Workouts



Fitness Pilates, Circuits, Dance Fit, HIIT, Hooping, Boxing & Mindfulness Classes and workshops

WWW.JACQUI-SMITH.NET

07956 647806

We have had some wonderful classes and workshops so far into 2025

FREE Workshops

Online FREE Breath & Mediate sessions (1 per month) please follow my facebook page for information @communityinitiativecharity

Move Meditate & Relax

dates are set for 2025

Ware Priory - 17th May, 6th September & 20th December: 9.30am-1.30pm

Includes entry drinks and Danishes and a cold buffet lunch - £30 opening offer

Please do refer to community initiative website below for more information

Local Fee Classes £6 per session

Dance Fit:

Thursday 9.30am Seth Ward Centre

Pilates:

Monday 7:15pm | Wednesday 7:15pm
Layston First School | Friday 10am Scout Hut

Full Body Workouts:

Monday 6.30pm Cardio HIIT Layston First School | Wednesday 6:30pm Strength HIIT Layston First School | Friday 11am Scout Hut – a different class each week

Classes also available on zoom

So, let's keep people fit and healthy during 2025

Craft Club
Easter Baskets & Easter Egg Holders

Tuesday 8th April
Bunters Suite, Seth Ward Centre
1pm

£10 towards costs of materials

A Community Initiative Charity Event
Charity No 1109106

Move Meditate & Relax

Saturday 17th May / 6th September / 20th December
9.30am - 1.30pm
Ware Priory, High Street, Ware

Strength, Stretch, Breathwork, Tapping & Meditation
Includes pastries on arrival, hot drinks, snacks & a Cold Buffet Lunch

£30.00

This workshop is being subsidised by Community Initiative Charity
Reg No 1109106

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





It has been a joy to see the school continue to grow into the Spring term as we have welcomed many new families.

Neal Zetter Visit

The children in KS1 and KS2 were lucky to have a visit from a famous author and poet – Neal Zetter. He came in and shared some of his incredible work with us. We heard some of his classic poems as well as some new ones – what an inspiration!

Extra-Curricular Activities

It is a pleasure to provide a range of opportunities for our children and see them thrive in a variety of areas. We believe in nurturing the whole child and want to ensure opportunities are given across the curriculum.

In Music, we are now offering string sessions as well as our existing piano and choir sessions.

We are very grateful to St. Edmund's for hosting a special music day for our KS2 children this month - they loved every second!





Next month, we will be attending Dunstable Grove Theatre again where our choir will perform on stage with other schools from Scholars' Education Trust.

We love adding more to our club offer all the time! The children can currently attend Happy French, Multi-Skills, Eco-Club, Arts and Crafts, Speed Stacking, Tiger Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Netball, Labtots Science and Forest Fun to name a few!

Road Safety

We have been busy learning about Road Safety at school. Our Nursery children led the way using role play to discuss important ways to stay safe as a pedestrian. It was lovely to see these real life skills being developed from an early age.



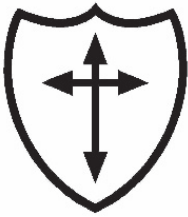
Isabel Hospice

Just before Christmas, the school took part in a Rudolph Run to raise money for Isabel Hospice. The support seen from our community was incredible, we raised over £1000 and know how much this money will be appreciated.

If you want to learn more about our school, our social media pages on Facebook and Instagram have regular updates which really reflect the breadth and depth of our learning.

Education for a Changing World.





LAYSTON C of E FIRST SCHOOL

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

www.layston.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Adele McMurrough, Headteacher

Continuing with this half term's value of 'Community' we have been reflecting upon how we as a community can look after God's world for future generations to enjoy and cherish. We have also given thanks for the harvest.

We continue this first half term exploring the value of Courage and Resilience. To celebrate Christingle, the children made their own Christingles. We welcomed Reverend Kirsty and Reverend Norman to Layston to deliver the Christingle service for the children and our Y4 children led the prayers. Our YR children joined for their first whole school collective worship and were a credit to the YR team.

In Forest School the children have been talking about new beginnings and growth in nature. They have been on the lookout for buds around the forest and signs of growth. The children have identified twigs, selected from Ash, Cherry, Rowan, Hawthorn, Sycamore, Oak, Horse chestnut and Hazel by looking carefully at their buds.

The children have been identifying birds on the school field and in the forest. They have also been making bird feeders from apple slices and sunflower hearts, or wire wreaths.

Y1 have had a visit from History off the Page to explore the history of toys and how they have changed. They enjoyed making their own traditional toys and were fully engaged in the day.

We are a friendly Church of England First School and welcome visits.

For information call 01763 271 235 or visit our website at www.layston.herts.sch.uk.



LENT REFLECTIONS

David Woollcombe



A series of reflections for people of all faiths and none to explore sources of HOPE in our lives - 8pm to 9:30pm every Tuesday in Lent (coffee and biscuits from 7.30pm) at the home of the Woollcombes, 57 Wyddial Road, Buntingford SG9 9AX

Tuesday 11th March: The Rev. Kirsty Wainwright – Hope in Community: Kirsty has been a happy beacon of hope to the parishes of Buntingford, Aspenden and Westmill since her arrival two years ago. To start our series, Kirsty discusses the endless sources of hope she finds in our community's schools, institutions & individuals.

Tuesday 18th March: Reverend Tayo Wale-Falope – Hope in Joy: Tayo follows a lineage of Anglican clergy. Ordained in 2011 in Nigeria, he started his C of E ministry in Watford and now is loving rural ministry. Join us to share in his joy & faith.

Tuesday 25th March: Rev. Dave Tomlinson – Hope for Bad Christians: author of OMG! A Bad Christian's Book of Prayers, Dave returns to talk about his role as chaplain to St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation & Peace & his 'Holy Shed' video podcasts. He is married to Pat with whom he shares a passion for Liverpool FC – a great source of hope for all of us!

Plus 3 more in April, details next issue.

Directions: Call: 01763 271 459 for directions or if you get lost!

Park where-ever you can, and look for slate signs with white letters: "The Stables The Barn". Follow the path or the drive up to our grey-green Front Door.

If you have mobility issues, please let us know and we will tell you how to get to us without having to walk

"Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." – Isaiah 40:31





MILLFIELD FIRST & NURSERY SCHOOL

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

Laura Kennedy-Weeks, Headteacher



Our Children Need You



Why not become a governor at our school

Millfield First & Nursery School are looking for new co-opted governors to join our friendly Governing Body.

Our Governors come from many different backgrounds with a range of skills and experiences, but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children in our school and are willing to commit time and energy.



We would be delighted to hear from you
No educational background is required
All skills are valuable

Please contact during term time for further information



Millfield First & Nursery School
Monks Walk, Buntingford, SG9 9DT
☎ 01763 271 717 ✉
admin@millfield.herts.sch.uk



ST RICHARD OF CHICHESTER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Reverend Deacon Paul O'Connor

During Lent we will be gathering in small groups to follow a programme of reflection called 'We Dare to Hope'. Please contact the parish office if you would like to take part.

WE DARE TO HOPE

A resource for faith-sharing groups on Christian Hope



We Dare To Hope is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions on the theme of Christian Hope. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. The relationship between the virtue of hope, our lives and the source of all hope, Jesus, is explored. Wisdom from the saints is offered for the spiritual growth of group participants and individuals alike.

My God, I believe most firmly that You watch over all who hope in You, and that we can want for nothing when we rely upon You in all things - St Claude de la Colombiere

- 1 / CHRISTIAN HOPE
- 2 / THE DECISION TO HOPE
- 3 / THE PRAYER OF HOPE
- 4 / HOPE AGAINST HOPE
- 5 / CHRIST, OUR HOPE

Lent and Easter Services	Date	Church Time	
Ash Wednesday	March 5th	St Richard's	6.30pm
Maundy Thursday	April 17th	St Richard's	6.00pm
Good Friday	April 18th	St Richard's	3.00pm
Holy Saturday	April 19th	St Richard's	8.00pm
Easter Sunday	April 20th	St Richard's	9.15am
		St Thomas's	11.00am



United Benefice of
Aspenden, Buntingford
and Westmill

UNITED BENEFICE OF ASPENDEN, BUNTINGFORD & WESTMILL

Reverend Kirsty Wainwright



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](#)

OUR SERVICES FOR MARCH 2025

Sunday 2nd	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 9th	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 16th		No Service	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 23rd	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
		No Service	St Mary's Aspenden
	11:00am	Morning Worship	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 30th	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
Mothering Sunday	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary's Aspenden
	11:00am	All Age Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford

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/

REGULAR EVENTS HELD AT ST PETER'S CHURCH



Prayer for Buntingford

Held weekly every Friday 8:15am
– 8:45am at St Peter's Church
Buntingford

A time of open, informal prayer for the town
and local community. All welcome.



Morning Prayer

9am Every Tuesday and Thursday
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.

***We have moved this to Zoom during the
cold months please contact us for the link.***



Monday Morning Coffee

Held weekly, every Monday
(expect Bank holidays)

10am – 12pm
@ St Peter's Church Buntingford.

A chance to meet up with old friends and meet
new ones. All ages welcome.

Pancake Day Event

Tuesday 4th March

4pm

St Peter's Church



Calling all children and their
parents/grandparents/carers



To register please scan the QR code

MOTHERING SUNDAY All Age Worship

30th March 2025

Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate as we explore the
meaning behind this special day

9:30am - St Mary the Virgin Wesmill

9:30am - St Mary's Aspenden

11am - St Peter's Buntingford

There will be a shared Communion in the Service





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

March	2	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
	9	Morning Worship	Richard Lewney
	16	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	23	Psalm Sunday	Rev Dr Janet Tollington
	30	Mothering Sunday	Peter Godbert
April	6	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender

LENT BIBLE STUDY COURSE

Will be held in the Church Hall Wednesdays – 12.30 for Lunch and Bible Study from 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm on 12th, 19th, 26th March and 9th; 16th April (no meeting on 2nd April) This year our study will be based on Jane Williams York Lent Course – The Sacraments Here is what has been written about the course: Acknowledging that the sacraments can seem confusing, divisive or (frankly!) incomprehensible, she reveals them to be a glorious expression of God's love for the world in all its beauty and brokenness. The sacraments invite us to enter into the mystery that the world has meaning and purpose and that all things come together in Christ. If we are willing, in loving response, to become part of the action ourselves, we will surely find ourselves not only refreshed but re-enriched. All Welcome!

BIBLE STUDY

After Easter we will be holding a new Ecumenical Bible Study at Christ Church URC Buntingford on Wednesday lunch time. We will meet for lunch from 12.30 and our bible study will run from 1.00 – 2.00 pm. Entitled Influential Women we will look at the stories of the women of the New Testament. Some only get a brief mention and we may not remember them, others have played a significant part in the life of the early church. All of them have story to tell us.

Dates to be announced

REGULAR EVENT

'Coffee and Company' Meets every Thursday, 10:30am to 12:30pm, in the URC 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.

HOME-START

Tracy Aggett,

tracy@hsrsc.org.uk | www.hsrsc.org.uk



HELP LOCAL FAMILIES —

Partner with Home-Start

Local businesses play a crucial role in helping Home-Start Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire support families facing tough times. Whether through a Charity of the Year partnership, regular donations, or sponsoring a project, your support makes a real impact. You could match employee donations, host fundraising challenges, donate raffle prizes, or offer gifts in kind—there are plenty of ways to get involved!

Supporting Home-Start isn't just good for families—it's great for business, too. You'll strengthen your community, boost staff engagement, and enhance your reputation while making a lasting difference.

Let's work together to give local children the best possible start in life. Call Paula on 01763 262 262 or email paula@hsrsc.org.uk to find out how your business can get involved.



BUNTINGFORD FILM CLUB

Bringing Cinema back to Buntingford

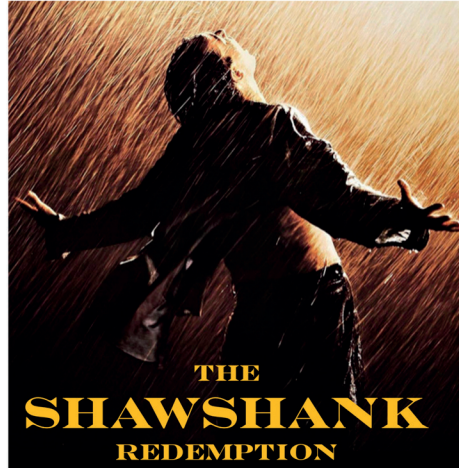


David Woollcombe

After a pretty much sold out screening of Tom Hanks in the wonderful *Man Called Otto* in February, there's still time to get tickets for the classic **Shawshank Redemption** starring Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman which we're showing on **1st March**. Regularly featured in critics' Top Ten Films of All Times, the film is a fantastic, edge-of-your-seat thriller with many twists, turns and surprises. It also got two-time British Oscar winner, Sir Roger Deakins, the first of his 10 Oscar Nominations for Cinematography – so it will look brilliant on the Community Centre's brand new drop-down screen and sound equally brilliant with the Centre's new acoustic tiles. Though it had a weak opening at the box office, the film was re-released after getting 7 Oscar Nominations and has since become a major Box Office and critical success with a total of 21 Awards from 41 nominations.

Worth seeing for Morgan Freeman's deeply moving performance as the friend and sidekick of Tim Robbins central character. A classic!!

On **5th April**, we're showing Ridley Scott's "hugely entertaining and spectacular" **Gladiator II**. Starring Paul Mescal and Denzel Washington, it is famous for the gladiators' Coliseum fights with actual Rhinos and – when they flood the arena – with live sharks! You have to wonder at the courage and resilience of 86-year old Ridley Scott who continues to turn out Box Office gold decades beyond when most of us retire! *Gladiator II* has already taken \$460 million which just about covers its \$300 million budget. So if you enjoyed the



original 25 years ago, come see the new one: you won't even miss Russell Crowe (- who, as you may remember, died in the original.) Paul Mescal plays his son, Lucius – who follows a remarkably similar journey as his father did through Roman intrigues and corruption. This is led by the brilliant Denzel Washington who pretty much steals the film. He plays Macrinus - an arms dealer and wealthy businessman who supplies food and wine to the Roman armies across Europe, and who also makes and sells steel, spears, cannons,

catapults and other weapons – and runs a team of Gladiators as a sideline. It's all masses of fun. Come see it for a great night out in Buntingford. (Gladiator enthusiasts might like to check out the Gladiators in Britain exhibition which launched in Dorset this month: www.dorsetmuseum.org/whats-on/gladiators-of-britain/)



All Films are at the Community Centre on Luynes Rise, starting at 7:30pm

All Tickets: £10 [to include a glass of wine or beer + snacks] - available online at: www.tickettailor.com/events/buntingfordfilmclub/

Or in person from: SANCTUARY, 42 High Street, Buntingford

BUNTINGFORD SHORTS

Short Film Festival Update – April 12th – 13th at the United Reform Church & online –

Since our last article our dedicated team behind the scenes of Buntingford Shorts has watched over 1600 submissions from around the world. We have shortlisted 3 films in each of the international categories, namely animation, comedy, documentary, drama, horror and music for film.

We now turn our attention to the bumper number of films in the local category. We shortlist five or six films which will

be reviewed by a panel of judges before being screened at the local showcase.

The local showcase is a **free event** which takes place on **Saturday 12th April** at 19:30 at Christ Church URC on Baldock Road in Buntingford. This is an invaluable opportunity to watch the shortlisted local films and meet their directors.

Each film is critiqued by a panel of judges and the directors are invited to share an insight into their production. Two local judges and two international judges have been booked: Louis Holder, Henry Fish, Lukas Weishaar and Eleonore Aguillon – all of whom, apart from Louis, are past Festival competitors.

Drinks and nibbles are provided.

The international event will be broadcast on YouTube on **Sunday 13th April**.

For more information go to www.buntingfordshorts.com/

We are proud to announce the return of our well-received **Comedy Night on Friday 21st March 7.30pm** in the Bunters Suite Seth Ward Tickets £15, Licensed Bar. It will be hosted by the now familiar and popular Tom Teal introducing three well-known Stand-up Comedians from the London Circuit. They are:

Robin Ince

Robin is a multi-award winning comedian, author, broadcaster and a populariser of scientific ideas. He is probably best known as the co-host of the BBC series, The infinite Monkey Cage with Professor Brian Cox.

Philip Simon

Philip is an award-winning stand-up comedian, writer, actor and podcaster. He also created his lockdown children's joke show, 'School's Out Comedy Club' and is "...never less than hilarious"

John Ryan

The irresistibly amiable John Ryan uses his acerbic wit and seemingly encyclopaedic knowledge of the world around him to keep any audience on their toes. His East End/ Irish upbringing gives him the rare ability to connect with people from diverse backgrounds. He is "... a five star performer"

TICKETS ARE SELLING OUT FOR THIS!

Update on **Buntingford Music Live** on **Saturday 26th April 2025** at Seth Ward.

Over the past few months, we have been receiving submissions from 11-18 year olds in East Herts for our Buntingford Live Music Event. A number of these talented singers and instrumentalists will be selected to perform at a live public event here in Buntingford on Saturday 26th

BUNTINGFORD LIVE!
COMEDY NIGHT

Robin Ince
"When someone writes a history of modern comedy, they should make room for Robin Ince" *Time Out*

Philip Simon
"Never less than hilarious" *The Stage*

John Ryan
"A five star performer" *LAB Radio*

Plus your host
Tom Teal
"Infectious wit and great audience interaction" *Fringe Review*

ADULT HUMOUR!

TICKETS £15
Tickets available from buntingfordlive.org or scan the code with your smart phone

Friday March 21st
Bunters Suite, Seth Ward
Community Centre

Entry 7.30pm.
Performances
8pm - 10pm
with intermission
Licensed Bar

BUNTINGFORD LIVE!
Maytime Music

Featuring students from
St. Edmund's
College

Friday
May 2nd, 7.30pm
in the Church
FREE ENTRY

Director of music
Andrew O'Brien is bringing a group of talented young musicians to entertain us with a variety of solo and ensemble works.

There is limited capacity in the church so please book your **FREE** seats on our website buntingfordlive.org.
Donations will be gratefully received at the end of the evening, which will be shared by the Church and Buntingford Live to cover our costs and help us do it all over again.
Alcoholic and soft drinks will be available from a paid bar.
You may find the benches a little hard so it might be worth bringing a cushion!

April. This will be a fantastic musical showcase and we will share details of how you can buy tickets and attend in next month's Journal.

Friday 2nd May 7.30pm at St. Mary the Virgin Church, Westmill

We are delighted to welcome Andrew O'Brien, Director of Music at the College and his talented young musicians for a return visit. Entry is free but we advise you to book your seats on our website buntingfordlive.org as capacity is limited.

There will be a pay bar serving wine, soft drinks and snacks.

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT!

DRAG QUEEN NIGHT

Friday 23rd May in the Bunters Suite, Seth Ward Community Centre
Tickets £15.

Come along from 7pm. Showtime is 8pm.

A FABULOUS EVENING OF CABARET, VOCAL PERFORMANCE AND A WHOLE LOT OF FUN!

Miss Lightening

The UK's most electrifying Cabaret Queen. She's shockingly talented and has dazzling vocals. Singing cabaret classics, theatre and movie tunes and party anthems,... she's ready to create a storm wherever she goes.

Magenta Slipperz

All Live singing with scream-along classics, maximum cheese and dance floor fillers. A drag queen you can safely hug and bring your granny to see!

Abbey Tart

Serves up a deliciously camp performance, packed with fun, sass and cheeky twists. Like the perfect Tart, she's

sweet, sharp, and leaves you wanting more. She brings a playful mix of bold humour, infectious energy and a touch of fabulousness.

TICKETS ARE ALREADY SELLING WELL SO DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO BOOK NOW.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We're happy to announce that we have another concert in Westmill Church featuring students from Haileybury College.

This is booked for **Friday 26th September 7.30pm**

We are delighted to say that we have secured a booking of **'A Christmas Carol 'with Guy Masterson!**

This will be on **Friday 21st November**

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR NEWS OF MORE EVENTS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL

Please use our website: buntingfordlive.org

WHAT'S ON - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH 2025

Saturday 1st	Film Club: The Shawshank Redemption p.40
Wednesday 5th	Gardener's Club AGM: p.13
Friday 7th	Braughing Get Together: Murder Mysteries - "The Jewel of the Ocean" p.15
Saturday 8th	Royal British Legion Quiz Night
Monday 10th	U3A: Simon Keable Elliot Talk p.12
Tuesday 11th	History Society Meeting: Music scene in Buntingford p.22
Wednesday 12th	Reed Garden Club: Adrian Tindall " Bury St Edmunds -A handsome little town" p.11
Thursday 13th	WI: Kay Goddard with her talk 'The Patterned Path to Freedom' p.14
Friday 21st	Buntingford Live!: Comedy Night p.42
Friday 21st	BALA Soup Lunch p.46
28th /29th	BDS Ghost Walks p.19



LOOKING AHEAD

4th April	Braughing Get Together: Whist Drive p.15
5th April	Film Club: Gladiator II p.40
12th April	Buntingford Shorts Film Festival p.41
26th April	Buntingford Music Live p.42



Saturday March 8th
7.00pm for 7.30pm start

The Seth Ward Community Centre
Luynes Rise SG9 9SG

Tickets Only £15

Fish & Chips or Pie & Chips included

Bring along a team of up to eight or simply join a table on the night

Licensed Bar

Get your tickets now from

The Manor House, Market Hill, Buntingford
Or online at <https://rblquiznight.eventbrite.com>

REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAYS:	TUESDAYS:	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS:	FRIDAYS:	WEEKENDS:
From 8.30am: Buntingford Market	7.30–9pm: Braughing Sing Community Choir in Jenyn's School Hall	Buntingford Meditation Online at 8 pm and once a month in Saint Peter's Church. To join the group the best way is to 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		Sun, 9am: Norfolk Road Playing Fields Junior Parkrun
10–11.45am: Chatter Table at the Manor House – 1st & 3rd Mondays			2–3pm: Mind & Music at Standon & Puckeridge CC		Sat, 10am: Walking Football at the MUGA, Norfolk Road Playing Fields
Morning Coffee 10-12 St Peter's					
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 & Chat club		10.30 – 11am: Storytime (storytelling with props, for ages 2-5 years) 11am: Chair Yoga with Kim	4-5pm: Lego Club for children	
11.45am–12.45pm: Forever Cycling at the 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			
7.30–9:30pm: Buntingford Community Choir at Millfield School					

BUNTINGFORD ACTION FOR THE LESS ABLE (BALA)

Registered Charity No. 1094426

Minibus Trips March 2025

	TIME	DESTINATION	PRICE
MARCH			
Thurs 6th	10:30-2	Scotsdales	£6.50
Mon 10th	10-2:30	St Ives	£8
Thurs 13th	10:30-2	Frosts @Willington / A1 Retail Park Biggleswade	£7.50
Mon 17th	10:30-12:30	Café Amigo, Fowlmere (coffee and cake or an early light lunch)	£5
Wed 19th	10-2:30	St Albans	£8
Wed 26th	11:30	Pub Lunch	£5
Thurs 27th	9:15-12	Bishops Stortford Town Centre	£5
APRIL			
Thurs 3rd	9:30-3	Southend	£13

Any suggestions for future trips gratefully accepted

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)

Soup Lunch

Friday 21st March, 12-1:15pm

(soup and a roll, cakes etc)

at **URC Hall, Baldock Road**

Calling all Artists!



By popular demand

THE WESTMILL ART EXHIBITION IS BACK!

to take place in St Mary the Virgin Church, Westmill, SG9 9LJ

on Saturday 31st May - Sunday 1st June 2025

For further information and entry form please contact:
alex@alexphotos.co.uk or 07768 790902 with your name and details

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/

COUNTRY MAIDS

DOMESTIC CLEANING SERVICES

Let us take Care of your Housework

- Spring Cleans
- Weekly or 2 Weekly regular Cleans



- Carpet Cleaning

Telephone: **01763 272908**

AFFORDABLE WEB DESIGN

ELEVATE YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE WITHOUT BREAKING THE BANK



Prices start from £395

Phone: 07931 989 998

hello@johnlittleford.co.uk

www.johnlittleford.co.uk



REED FIRST SCHOOL
WELCOMES YOU & YOUR FAMILY

Are you looking for a Nursery or First School place?
Nursery places can start the term children turn three.

Set in beautiful grounds, we are proud of our caring and inclusive environment. Our parents and children, staff and governors love being part of Reed First School and we would be pleased to welcome you too!

REED FIRST SCHOOL, JACKSON'S LANE, REED, SG8 8AB
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

**Learn
My Way**

Learn how to use the internet

Learn My Way has free learning for you to gain digital skills to stay safe and connected.

<https://www.learnmyway.com/>

KARATE AND SELF DEFENCE

AT BUNTINGFORD'S BEST
KARATE CLUB

OPEN TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 7:30PM
EDWINSTREE SCHOOL GYM

AGES 10 -110 YEARS BOTH SEXES
INSTRUCTION BY BLACK BELTS

**TEL: BILL HOOPER
01763 273123**

"RUNNING SINCE 1983"
www.hertfordshirekarate.co.uk



**Painting, Decorating and
Handyman Works**

Friendly, Professional and Reliable

Paul Wainwright

☎ 07816 964372

✉ paulwainwright42@gmail.com

Free no obligation quotes



Call 01763 43 43 43

Buntingford & Surrounding Areas

Airport transfer specialists
Executive Mercedes estate available
All major credit/debit Cards Accepted
Local or long distance
Accounts welcome
Four, six and eight Seater vehicles

All Cars Licensed by E.H.D.C and Fully Insured.

www.riversidetaxis.co.uk





BUNTINGFORD FESTIVAL CHOIR

is actively seeking
TENOR and BASS SINGERS

If you love singing, have at least a basic knowledge of musical notation and can reliably hold a tune then we'd love to hear from you

We rehearse in and around Buntingford on
THURSDAY EVENINGS between **19:00 and 20:30**

Please get in touch via the contact form on our website:-

buntingfordfestivalchoir.org

CHURCH
LANE
Creative

For all your design & print requirements

E design@churchlanecreative.com
T +44 (0) 1763 793290
churchlanecreative.com

CREATIVE
THAT
CARES



GENIE LAMP REPAIRS



*ELECTRICAL REPAIR TO ALL
TYPES OF LAMPS,
STANDARD, TABLE, CEILING
ETC.,
SPECIALIZING IN OLDER
FITTINGS,
EG: VINTAGE AND ANTIQUE.
PLEASE NOTE SOME MODERN
FITTINGS ARE UNSUITABLE
FOR REPAIR*

PLEASE RING FOR FREE ADVICE AND ESTIMATE.
TEL: 01763 273 398
MOBS: 07444 214 983 07792 894 091

ANDREW COATES B.Sc GARDEN DESIGN

- Creative Garden Design & Project Management
- Consultations and Advice
- Maintenance, Planting, Pruning & Turfing
- Tree Surgery, Fencing & Garden Construction Services



01462 896902 Mobile: **07718 426613**
www.ac-gardendesign.co.uk

Sanctuary

Buntingford

42 High Street, Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9AH
01763 273355 hello@sanctuarybuntingford.co.uk

Over 40 years experience in local property sales, lettings
and management



- Free Market & Probate Valuations
- Unrivalled Service
- No Sale, No Fee
- Accompanied Viewings
- Mortgage & Conveyancing Advice
- NAEA & ARLA PropertyMark Protected
- Property Open Days

A R Services

*carpentry
kitchen/bathroom installation
kitchen worktops mitred and fitted
tiling/flooring
flat packed furniture assembly
painting & decorating
general property maintenance
garden maintenance
wooden climbing frames*

Prompt, trustworthy and reliable service

competitive rates free estimates

Call Andy Ricketts
on 07941 078069 or 01763 274868
arservices69@gmail.com

P.S.EVELEIGH

PLASTERING CONTRACTOR



*All aspects of plastering covered:
Ceilings
Walls
Reskimming
Skimming over Artex
Rendering and Coving
Quality Workmanship*

Free Estimates

Over 30 Years of Experience

Call 01763 272569
or Mobile 07772 366587

Marketing
ZONE

Websites, design and marketing

Logos • Leaflets • Brochures • Websites
Social media • Google AdWords

www.marketingzone.co.uk

T: 01763 274440

Established 1997

Personal,
caring and
independent.

*The complete
funeral service*



24 hour service

Private Chapels of Rest

Bespoke Funeral Plans

Own Crematorium

STEVENAGE • 01438 316623
HITCHIN • 01462 438422
KNEBWORTH • 01438 812365
BUNTINGFORD • 01763 274111
WELWYN GARDEN CITY • 01707 390018
WELWYN • 01438 714686
HERTFORD • 01992 582052
WARE • 01920 468551
LETCHWORTH • 01462 684292
HODDESDON • 01992 471709
HARWOOD PARK • 01438 812515
HARPENDEN • 01582 762570

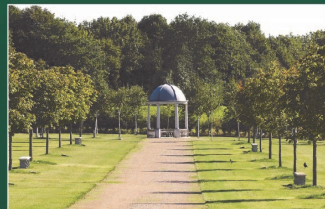
AUSTIN'S

FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

www.austins.co.uk

Harwood Park

*The perfect setting to commemorate
the life of your loved one*



Crematorium and memorial
gardens created and managed by
the Austin family in the beautiful
Hertfordshire countryside.

www.crematorium.co.uk

Serving the local community for ten generations



Hearing Advisory Service

Do you wear NHS Hearing Aids? We run
monthly local clinics for hearing aid
maintenance and battery dispensing.

Call 01707 324582 or email info@hhas.org.uk to
book an appointment

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



Christopher THE LOCKSMITH

ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?

We Value Old Fashioned Customer Service
A Local Trusted Family Business Since 1989



Specialist in UPVC & Wooden Doors



No Call Out Charge



No Fix No Fee



All Work Fully Guaranteed



10% Senior Citizen Discount



For More Advice & Help Call Christopher:

07772 111 222

www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk

Eileen's Fitness Classes

Qualified RSA Instructor with over 25 years
teaching in the community

CIMSPA registered

Phone 07966 222272 Email: eilenseaerobics@hotmail.com

CLASSES HELD AT BUNTINGFORD SETH WARD
COMMUNITY CENTRE

TUESDAY 10.30am – Pilates (Bunter's room upstairs)

To help improve posture, balance and strengthen your core.

THURSDAY 11am – Older Adult Fitness Aerobics

A fun class with movements to help with mobility and conditioning.

CLASSES HELD AT REED VILLAGE

Full Timetable and booking on
<https://gymcatch.com/app/provider/1355/event>

Follow me on



Eilensefitnessclasses

Ace of Herts

Recycling green waste to preserve the environment

♥ Soil conditioning composts

♥ Top Soils

♥ Blended Soils

- ♥ Improves all round soil condition
- ♥ Introduces organic matter
- ♥ Feeds your plants
- ♥ Increases worm populations

Cumberlow Green Farm
Buntingford
Herts. SG9 0QD

Tel: 01763 281223

Mob: 07884 408529

Fax: 01763 281424

email: sales@aceofherts.co.uk

- Bulk orders bagged or loose
- Soils blended to your needs
- Quality top soils
- Composted bark
- Bark chippings

You can collect or ask for deliveries to
your door

For information how Ace of Herts is made, please visit our website www.aceofherts.co.uk

REBOOT IT SOLUTIONS

Need a helping hand?

We provide a wide range of IT services and solutions all tailored to your individual needs.

From system set up and virus management to repairs and up skilling on the latest technology.

Offsite and home support available.

Tracy Walker - IT Consultant

07521 977997

www.rebootitsolutions.co.uk



**TRUSTED
STANDON BASED
WILL WRITER**



- ◆ Will Writing & Trusts
- ◆ Lasting Power of Attorneys (LPA's)
- ◆ Probate Administration
- ◆ Inheritance Tax and Estate Planning

Providing a professional, friendly service, I offer free advice and will guide you through your options.

Member of The Society of Will Writers

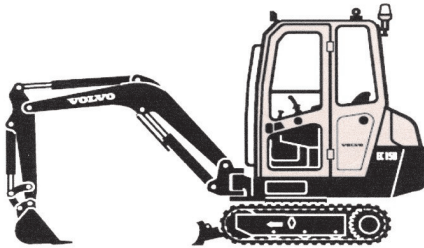


www.dqrwillsandprobate.co.uk

01920 747208 | emma@dqrwillsandprobate.co.uk

See my recent reviews on Facebook: [@dqrwillsprobate](https://www.facebook.com/dqrwillsprobate)

J P SERVICES



Mini Digger & Driver Hire

Groundwork & Demolition
Landscaping
Drainage & Septic Tanks

Call James on:

07900 104223 or 01920 822888

or email jp-services@live.com

Website: www.jplandscapeservices.co.uk



BUNTINGFORD
SCHOOL OF DANCE

Ask about our no
Obligation Trial Classes!



**Ballet, Tap, Modern/Jazz
Commercial & Adult Classes**

admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk



Willow Landscapes

Your local area specialist - lowest rates

Tree Surgery
Stump Grinding
Hedge Cutting
Fencing
Turfing
Garden Tidy



Leaf Clearance
Patio Work
All Paving Work
undertaken
and much more...
All work guaranteed

Office: **07936 360 652**

Call Sid on **07925 273 773**

willowlandscapes1983@outlook.com

Willow Tree Farm, London Road, Barkway, Herts SG8 8EY

SJ TOKELY LTD

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS



Units 12/13 Park Farm Industrial Estate · Buntingford · SG9 9AZ
sjtokelyltd@btinternet.com

Servicing & Repairs
MOT's and Pre-MOT Checks
Engine Diagnostics
Air Conditioning Re-Gas
Tyres - New Budget & Branded
Any Type of Repair Undertaken

01763 274260

Collection & Delivery Available



OPENING HOURS

MON - 8.00 - 6.00

TUES - 8.00 - 6.00

WED - 8.00 - 6.00

THUR - 8.00 - 6.00

FRI - 8.00 - 5.00

SAT - BY APPOINTMENT

DEBORAH LOWETH MSSCh DIP POD MED MBChA



VISITING CHIROPODIST/PODIATRIST
HPC REGISTERED. ALL ASPECTS OF FOOTCARE
Mob 07748152538

ACCOUNTING SERVICES

All Aspects of Bookkeeping and Office Management Undertaken
VAT Return Submissions-Monthly Payroll Management Accounts
Experienced with various Accounts Systems Self-Employed and flexible to requirements
References Available

CHRIS STIGWOOD 07814 096789
chrisstigwood@hotmail.com

Dean Bye

Private Hire Taxi & Chauffeur

Mobile - 07768 174045
Email - dean@hormeadcars.com

East Herts Foot Health
Clinic

home visiting foot healthcare

Corns, Callus, dry/
hard Skin, Nail
Trimming &
Shaping,
Verrucas, friendly
professional
service

**OVER 60's
DISCOUNT,
CALL NOW..
07733233044**

"East Herts Leading Mobile Foot
Health Service"
easthertsfoothealthclinc@yahoo.co.uk



Naughty Apple Mac?

We fix All Mac problems

Apple specialist since 1990

Refurb Mac Sales
OS X • Hardware • Tuition
iCloud • iPad • iPhone • Wifi



www.rawpaw.com (Buntingford)

Call for an Onsite Engineer
07968 272 923
01763 272 575



FOR YOUR SCAFFOLDING NEEDS

Get in touch via phone or email for a free quotation for any Scaffolding requirements.

CONTACT US:

M: 07929 077481 - Mark

E: enquiries@webbscaffolding.com

@Webbscaffoldingltd

DO YOU NEED A GRAPHIC DESIGNER?

Hello! I'm a local graphic designer. I specialise in helping small businesses reach their full potential and attract new audiences.

- Branding & Logo Design
- Brochures, Leaflets, Posters, Reports
- Packaging
- Adverts & Marketing
- Web Design & Social Media
- Copywriting & Typesetting

Follow me on instagram
[@thehumbleline](https://www.instagram.com/thehumbleline) to see
my latest projects,
design tips & more.



www.thehumbleline.com | anne@thehumbleline.com

the humble line
graphic design

Layston Preschool and Nursery CIC

The Causeway
Buntingford
Herts.
SG9 9EU
01763 271 235



We offer places for both fee-paying and government-funded children aged 2 to rising 5 with sessions in the afternoon for Preschool children.

We also provide wraparound care for Nursery children from 08:45-15:15.

We are open Monday-Friday mornings (08:45-11:45) for Nursery and Monday-Thursday afternoons (12:45-15:15) for Preschool children and those having wraparound care. We also offer lunch club (11:45-12:45) for Nursery Children.

We are non-profit making with any surplus funds reinvested into the setting. We have recently used this money to improve our outdoor area and to decorate the room.

Facebook: Layston Preschool and Nursery CIC

Email: laystonpreschoolandnursery@gmail.com

Web: www.laystonpreschoolandnursery.com

attend2health

- Chiropractors
- Physiotherapy
- Osteopathy
- Chiropody & Podiatry
- Sports Massage
- Acupuncture
- Hypnotherapy
- Nutritional Therapy
- Yoga, Pilates & Tai Chi
- Counsellors
- EMDR Therapy
- GP Services:
Botox, Skin Tag Removal & Hair Loss Treatments

**£20
OFF***

YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT
WITH THIS ADVERT



01763 87 80 87

www.attend2health.co.uk

27 High Street Buntingford SG9 9AB

*Valid for Chiropractic, Osteopathy & Physiotherapy
New Patients only.

Award-winning Clinic



Walkers Garage Ltd

Car servicing and repairs
at very reasonable prices

Servicing • MoT presentation / repairs •
Welding • Timing belts • Clutches •
Brakes checked / replaced • Engines
replaced / overhauled etc • Airbag /
Emission warning lights
and much more

Over 25 years car mending experience

Free collection / delivery etc

2 Owles Lane, Buntingford, SG9 9JA

Telephone 01763 272 125

All work is fully insured

OVENCLEAN®
The original oven cleaning specialists

**Ovenclean will transform your oven and
put the sparkle back into your kitchen!**

- ✓ *Friendly, professional and reliable*
- ✓ *Completely safe, eco-friendly cleaning system*
- ✓ *No fumes, no mess, no bother*
- ✓ *Removes grease, fat and burnt on carbon deposits from:*
 - Ovens • Filters • Hobs • Grills • BBQ's • Ranges
 - Extractors • Microwaves • AGA's

We can also repair your electric oven or hob.

***Repairs include, element replacement,
thermostats and fan motors.***

**Call Owen Rowlands today to book
your oven clean/repair on:**

07445 073 648 or 0800 840 7127

www.ovenclean.com



DESIGN NATION

We don't just sell kitchens & bedrooms -
we tailor unique designs & bring them to life

www.dnation.co.uk

01279 777279

enquiries@dnation.co.uk

Local Specialist - Free Consultation & Planning Service



C.W. Electrical (Herts.) Ltd.

- Rewires
- Alterations
- Additions
- Domestic
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Testing
- PV Solar Systems

Part P registered

Telephone: 01763 271 647
clivewebb@cwelectric.co.uk

NICEIC registered

Mobile: 07968 493 364
www.cwelectric.co.uk

Melodies Music Education

"Join our music community"

We are passionate about music and we love to teach:

- Piano
- Vocals
- Music production
- Composition

Our new Studio in Buntingford is open and we would love you to join us !

melodiesmusiceducation.com
01768 273011

Calling all Artists!



By popular demand

THE WESTMILL ART EXHIBITION IS BACK!

to take place in St Mary the Virgin Church, Westmill, SG9 9LJ

on Saturday 31st May - Sunday 1st June 2025

For further information and entry form please contact:
alex@alexphotos.co.uk or 07768 790902 with your name and details



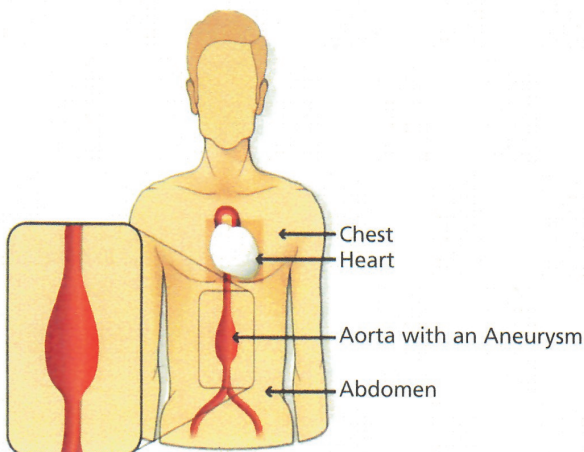
Hertfordshire Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Screening Programme

Men of Hertfordshire don't miss out on **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm** screening.

1 in 70 men will have an Aneurysm.

Can you spare 10 minutes?

It could save your life



If you are over 65 and have not had this scan please call 01727 897 719 for an appointment at a clinic near you





Buntingford Civic Society

Reg. Charity No. 1014873
<http://www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk>



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 and 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?

Publish the Buntingford Journal

Restored the town pump twice.

Previously restored the Town Cage

Initiated erection of Christmas lights in the High Street and Market Hill

Present an annual school civic award

Updated the set of Town Trails with the 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 Cemetary and paid for works at the Layston Cemetary

Erected Town Gateway signs complete with Planters and currently pay for the plants

Contributed financially to the Freman College sports hall, Buntingford Film Club, previous

Buntingford Carnivals, and to the Summer Arts in Buntingford 2022 weekend, and gave a grant to the Friends of the River Rib and Quin

Paid for the Local History Group competition prizes in 2023

Done River Rib and town cleans

Fitted a sign in the Police Station Community Garden and paid for new plants there in 2019.

Were actively involved with the production of the Neighbourhood Plan

Arranged four Buntingford in Bloom competitions

Updated the circular walks on local footpaths leaflet in 2017

In 2024 have paid for roses in memory of Queen Elizabeth II at the new cemetery, with a plaque to follow

Hosted 2 annual Civic Day walks

WHAT ARE WE PLANNING TO DO?

Monitor future housing development and continue to work with local organisations for the benefit of Buntingford, including the River Rib Project. We are now sourcing a replacement plaque for The Cage, and a tidy up at the Community Garden at the Police Station

TO JOIN PLEASE SEE THE MEMBERSHIP FORM ON OUR WEBSITE

www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Poulton Building Supplies

Landscaping & Garden Materials

GRAB/MUCK AWAY SERVICE



Small enough to care... Large enough to cope

When you are looking to make improvements to your home it's vital you pick a supplier that's got all the credentials you need to get your materials to site on time, every time.

We provide a delivery service which is second to none working for large national house builders, construction firms right down to self builders throughout the Hertfordshire area.

We are happy to supply to the trade and retail customers.

Tel 01763 273932

www.jackpoulton.co.uk

Poulton Building Supplies is a trading name of Jack Poulton & Sons Ltd

Poulton Building Supplies, Home Farm Haulage & Storage Depot, Aspenden Road
Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9FG email: enquiries@jackpoulton.co.uk



Grab Hire



Aggregates



Drainage



Bricks & Blocks



EcoTherm
Insulation

BBA
CERTIFIED
UK

Insulation



Landscaping

Chiropractors
 Osteopaths
 Physiotherapy
 Massage
 Audiology
 Podiatry
 Hypnotherapy
 Speech Therapy
 Nutrition
 Acupuncture
 GP Services
 Pilates & Tai Chi
 EMDR



27 High St 01763 87 80 87

TOUCH OF *glamour*

Beauty Salon & Skin Specialists.

Elemis, Murad, CACI Synergy, Microneedling,
 Cryotherapy, LVL Lashes, Massage,
 Manicures & Pedicures.

38 High Street • Buntingford T: 01763 271122
 www.touchofglamour.co.uk
 @touchofglamourbuntingford

JACK'S DOG BEHAVIOUR AND TRAINING



- Behaviour Consultancy
- 1-1 training
- Group classes
- Fully insured

Coached by a qualified professional



Contact: Jack BSc (Hons)
 jack.oetting@outlook.com
 07824 903618
 www.jacksdogbehaviour.com



M Rome Joinery Ltd

Throcking, Buntingford

Your local established
 Joinery company

Quality bespoke
 Kitchens, Conservatories, Doors,
 Windows, Staircases, Barn
 Conversions, Listed Buildings
 etc ...

Mat Rome

Tel/Fax: 01763 287507

Mobile: 07814 838460

email: mat@mromejoinery.co.uk

website: www.mromejoinery.co.uk

**Learn
 My Way**

Learn how to use the internet

Learn My Way has free learning for you to gain digital skills to stay safe and connected.

<https://www.learnmyway.com/>



We carry out service, repair and installation of all central heating systems and gas appliances.

Boiler annual service (with discount for customers within the SG9 post code)
Hive smart thermostat installation
Powerflushing
Breakdowns and repairs
Carbon monoxide detector installation
System filters installed
Boiler replacement

For further details , free quotation or to book an appointment, give us a call

Tel: 01763 772017 / 07968 752393

www.buntingfordheating.co.uk

Email : info@buntingfordheating.co.uk

We are a local company with a great reputation

RB TAXATION SERVICES
ACCURATE ANSWERS...
E: enquiries@rbtaxation.com
T: 01763 847222
www.rbtaxation.com

Mark Addison
Wall and Floor Tiling Specialist
M: 07768 105 851 • T: 01763 272 126
E: addison.mark1@sky.com

Complete Garden Service

Block paving driveways,
Patios, Decking,
Brickwork, Fencing,
Garden Maintenance,
Grass and Hedge Cutting.



Please contact Greg Pettitt for a free quotation

Mob: 07947 960 783

Email: gregpettittcgs@aol.co.uk

Carers in Hertfordshire Support Hub

Buntingford 2025

Where: Buntingford Town Council (The Manor House),
High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AB

When: Last Tuesday of each month,
10.30am-12.30pm

A community for unpaid carers

Come along and meet other family and friend carers, share your views, and find out what help is available locally.

28th Jan	25th Feb	25th Mar	29th Apr	27th May	24th Jun
29th Jul	26th Aug	30th Sept	28th Oct	25th Nov	No meeting in Dec

One of our Carer Support Advisors will provide 1:1 appointments at some meetings.

A programme of speakers will be planned as requested - find out about these on the Carer Support Hubs page on our website or contact us.

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

To contact us:

Call: 01992 58 69 69

Email: contact@carersinherts.org.uk

Visit: www.carersinherts.org.uk



making carers count

Advertising in the Buntingford Journal

Your advert can be full colour, black and white or plain text. We can accept most common file formats including png, jpeg, pdf, doc, docx or plain text. There is no additional charge for updating or changing your advert. If you do not have any suitable advertising copy then we can usually produce something for you based on a sketch or business card.

Advert size is a multiple of a $\frac{1}{8}$ page, where a $\frac{1}{8}$ page is 6.4 cm wide by 4.75 cm high.

The current cost is £6.00 per $\frac{1}{8}$ page per issue
e.g. one half page for a year (10 issues) = $4 \times \frac{1}{8}$ pages @ £6 x 10 issues = £240.

Most advertisers take a full year but shorter periods are available with costs on a pro rata basis.

For a small additional charge, your advert can be placed on the Civic Society and Buntingford Journal websites with a link to your website.

For more information call Keith Edwards on 01763 272 032 or email advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

For one-off adverts or to advertise a specific event, contact the Journal editor, Anne Wright, email journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk. Adverts for charitable or community events are normally free of charge.

CURWENS

We are your local expert Solicitors

Whatever your requirements we provide specialist legal services tailored for the individual needs and circumstances of you or your business



Residential Property

Family Law

Dispute Resolution

Wills, Probate and Lasting Power of Attorney

Commercial Property

Business Law

17 High Street, ROYSTON. SG8 9AA | Tel 01763 241 261 | Enquiries Royston@curwens.co.uk
Offices also in Enfield and Hoddesdon

www.curwens.co.uk





9.7

Layston Grove
Review score 2024
carehome.co.uk**

*T&C's apply. Please see website for details

**carehome.co.uk scores are based on independent reviews with a maximum score of 10. Rating correct as at 13/11/2024

Rated Feb 21

Good



This truly is an
exceptional home.

Layston Grove relative carehome.co.uk review quote

In a recent survey of all our care homes, when asked if
'I feel supported to look and feel my best',

94% of residents agreed.



Who Cares? We do, and we always will.

3 weeks for 2 on shorter stays*

**Considering care? We're only a friendly
call away 01763 580 069**

or visit www.anchor.org.uk/LaystonGrove

Layston Grove care home
Keen Avenue, Buntingford SG9 9SU



Locks Stock & More
your local friendly Hardware & Locksmith Service
45a, High Street, Buntingford SG9 9AD



Our shop is bigger than you think so please pop in and have a look

Room 1:

Light Bulbs, sealants, plumbing, electrical, glues, cleaning items, batteries, bits and pieces...and more

Room 2:

Paint: Interior, exterior, metal, Frenchic (furniture paint), paint tools/cleaning items, hardware tools, hinges, door décor, body protectors...and more

Room 3:

Key Cutting, locks, bird seed, pet food, kindle, fire lighters, craft items, candles, garden, pest control...and more

01763 448170 info@locksstockandmore.co.uk  Locks Stock & More



Providing specialist legal advice and representation to households in Hertfordshire for over 20 years

**Practical Wisdom.
Caring Advice.
Results.**

Offices in Buntingford & Hertford

- Conveyancing
- Family
- Inheritance disputes
- Probate

www.judkins-solicitors.co.uk | mail@judkins-solicitors.co.uk

T: 01763 448152 | Judkins Solicitors, Manor House, Buntingford SG9 9AB

CALL NOW FOR A CONFIDENTIAL FIXED FEE APPOINTMENT



For all your design & print requirements

E design@churchlanecreative.com
T +44 (0) 1763 793290
churchlanecreative.com

CREATIVE
THAT
CARES



The Clinic

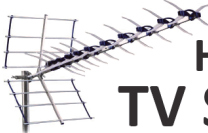
Leah Claydon

BSc, MRCoP, MRCoP, MFPM RCPS
BSc (Hons) Lic Ac, MBAcC

Podiatrist & Acupuncturist

01763 772502
www.leahclaydon.com

30+ years experience
HCPC Registered
Two Twits Barns, Anstey SG9 0FD



HERTFORD TV SERVICE

Please call: 01992 552955

- AERIALS & SATELLITE INSTALLATIONS/REPAIRS
- TV REPAIRS (OLED, LCD, LED)
- TV WALL MOUNTING & SOUNDBARS
- WIFI SYSTEMS & DATA NETWORKING
- CCTV & WIRELESS BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEMS
- STARLINK INSTALLATIONS 

www.hertfordtvservice.co.uk

Unit 1B, Foxholes Avenue, Hertford SG13 7JG
LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS EST 1979
ALL WORK FULLY GUARANTEED

Buntingford & Stortford Hybrid Studio



WWW.JACQUI-SMITH.NET
07956 647806

Personal Training, Venue Exercise Classes, Online Exercise Classes and Pre Recorded Workouts

Fitness Pilates, Circuits, Dance Fit, HIIT, Hooping, Boxing & Mindfulness



Keeping people fit since 1998

Fitness Pilates

Tuesday 10am / Tuesday 6:30pm / Thursday 10am via ZOOM
Monday 7:15pm Layston School, Buntingford (with Cardio HIIT £10)
Wednesday 7:15pm Layston School (£6 or with strength HIIT £10)
Thursday 10am Seth Ward Community Centre
Friday 10am The Scout Hut (£6 or with Full Body Workout £10)

A class that increases muscular balance and strength, improve posture, core and back strength

Variety Full Body Workouts

Cardio HIIT Mon 6:30pm Layston School (£6 / £10 with Pilates at 7:15)
HIIT Tuesday 6pm / Sunday 10am via ZOOM
Strength HIIT Wed 6:30pm Layston School (£6 or £10 with Pilates)
Full Body Friday 11am The Scout Hut (£6 or £10 with Pilates at 10am)
Cardio (non impact or impact), Strength, Toning & Balance, each week a different class

Dance Fit

Thursday 9:15am-10am Seth Ward Community Centre (£6 or £10 with Pilates at 10am)

Dancing is great for losing weight, maintaining strong bones, improving posture & muscular strength, increases co-ordination and beats stress

All equipment provided, just bring yourself and water.

ZOOM classes available as pay £5 or £20 per month subscription
All classes are £6 pay as you go

Personal Training on a one to one basis using a variety of equipment in your Home. One to One Pilates also available.

07956 647806 www.jacqui-smith.net theteam@jacqui-smith.net

FUN, FITNESS & FRIENDSHIP WITH ROYSTON RAMBLERS



Do you enjoy the outdoors and have recently found yourself with more time on your hands? How about joining the Royston Ramblers?

We are a friendly group who enjoy walking, making new friends, and seeing beautiful countryside and wildlife throughout Hertfordshire & Cambridgeshire.

Our year-round Tuesday and Thursday morning walks are 5- 7miles, while Sunday's range from 9-12 miles. During the summer we also organise shorter walks of 3-4 miles on Wednesday evenings.

Royston Group is led by a band of experienced leaders, so all you need to do as a member, is turn up at a set time and location, generally within 20 miles of Royston, and enjoy the walk.

If you are interested, come along and see how you get on, with no obligation to join. You can view our walks programme and contact the walk leader, at www.ramblers.org.uk/royston and they will be pleased to welcome you or tel: 07734 111225 for further details.

COUNTRY MAIDS

DOMESTIC CLEANING SERVICES

Let us take Care of your Housework

- Spring Cleans
- Weekly or 2 Weekly regular Cleans



- Carpet Cleaning

Telephone: **01763 272908**



PLUMBING & HEATING LTD

24 HOUR
EMERGENCY CALL OUT

- Boiler servicing • Underfloor heating • Hot water cylinders
- Complete central heating systems including gas, LPG & oil
- Complete bathroom refurbishments including tiling

Call: 01763 274717 Mobile: 07966 078371
jamie@sjsplumbingandheating.co.uk
www.sjs-plumbingandheating.com



Anthony Howes Ltd

French Polishing ~ Floor Sanding Services
~ furniture ~ staircases ~ panelling ~ floors ~

Mobile : 07790 696631

E-mail : howespolishing@gmail.com

Website : www.ahowespolishingandflooring.co.uk

The Manor House



Set in the heart of the historic market town of Buntingford, the 18th Century Grade II Listed Manor House is a perfect setting for weddings and civil ceremonies. Seating up to 40 people, the Council Chamber is a perfect venue for your wedding ceremony.

There are ample photo opportunities outside the classic Georgian frontage, on the staircase, in the garden or in the stunning Layston Court Gardens across the road.

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.

WE SPECIALISE IN ALL ASPECTS OF ELECTRICAL WORK INCLUDING:

DOMESTIC AND COMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS
OZEV APPROVED INSTALLERS OF EV CHARGERS
FULL OR PART REWIRES
NEW CONSUMER UNITS
EXTRA SOCKETS OR LIGHTS
SOLAR PV AND ELECTRICAL ENERGY STORAGE SYS-
TEM
FAULT FINDING AND TESTING
MAINS FIRE ALARMS
ALARMS, CCTV, AND ACCESS CONTROL

SECURITY LIGHTS
GARAGE & GARDEN POWER
KITCHEN AND COOKERS
NEW BUILDS AND EXTENSIONS
BATHROOMS AND SHOWERS
LANDLORD CERTIFICATES
PAT TESTING
CAR CHARGERS

gareth@garethwhiteelectricalservices.co.uk



Visit the **largest independent bed showroom** in Herts & Essex



Deans Furnishers.com



Looking for a perfect night's sleep?

For over 45 years, our family-run business has been your go-to destination for beds and mattresses.

Whether you need a traditional pocket sprung mattress, the latest in foam technology, or even a customized size, we'll help you find the perfect solution for a restful night.

We stock the leading brands like Relyon, Sealy, Dunlopillo, Rest Assured, Silentnight and Sleepzeeze, ensuring you get the best quality and comfort.

Beyond Beds

Explore our extensive collection of home furnishings, from bedside tables and wardrobes to dining tables and sofas, featuring renowned brands including Tetrad.



We Make It Easy

At Deans we treat our customers like family. Our knowledgeable team will help you select the best furniture or mattress for your needs. Plus, our free delivery service is always to your room of choice and includes unwrapping, assembly and removal of packaging.

Recycling service
for old furniture

Handy Location & Parking
Just off the A602 in Stonyhills
with **FREE PARKING** on site

Convenient Opening
7 days a week inc bank holidays

Deans Furnishers
Stonyhills, Ware SG12 0HJ
01920 468887 • deansfurnishers.com

Open Mon-Sat 9am-5pm
Sun 10am-1pm
Bank Holidays 10am-3pm



Community Alliance

BROXBOURNE & EAST HERTS

Digital Skills Group in Buntingford

Booking is essential!

Call 0300 123 1034 to join

Want to master your computer, tablet or phone?
Join our **FREE, friendly, and volunteer-led** group
to build your digital skills today!

Our Digital Champions will teach you how to do simple things such as:

- Navigate your devices with ease
- Online shop
- Access virtual appointments
- Stay connected with friends & family

Location:

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

Mondays

10:30am to 12:00pm

13th January, 10th February,
10th March, 14th April, 12th
May, 9th June, 14th July, 8th
September, 13th October, 10th
November, 8th December 2025



**All you need is your
charged device!**



INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

A ccounting Services.....	A14	Jacks Dog Behaviour and Training.....	A22
Ace of Herts, Cumberlow Compost.....	A11	Journal Advertising.....	A25
Andrew Coates - Garden Design.....	A7	J P Services.....	A12
Apple Computer Specialist.....	A14	Judkins Solicitors.....	A27
A R Services.....	A8		
Attend2Health.....	A16	John D K ilby & Co.....	A2
Attend2Health.....	A22		
Austin's (Funerals & Memorials).....	A9	L ayston Grove Care Home.....	A26
		Layston Pre-School.....	A15
B untingford Civic Society.....	A20	Learn My Way.....	A5
Buntingford Dancing School.....	A12	Locks Stock and More.....	A27
Buntingford Festival Choir.....	A6	Deborah Loweth Chiropodist.....	A14
Buntingford Heating.....	A23	The Luxury Brand Watches and Jewellery.....	A36
Buntingford Karate Club.....	A5		
		The M anor House.....	A31
C arers in Hertfordshire.....	A24	Marketing Zone.....	A8
St. Richard of Chichester Catholic Church.....	A3	Meeting House Boarding Kennels.....	A2
Ceramic Tiler (Mark Addison).....	A23	Melodies Music Education.....	A18
Chiropodist (Deborah Loweth).....	A14		
Christopher The Locksmith.....	A11	N HS Aortic Aneurysm Screening.....	A19
Church Lane Creative.....	A7		
The Clinic, Podiatry & Acupuncture.....	A28	O venClean.....	A17
Andrew Coates Garden Design.....	A7		
Complete Garden Service (Gregg Pettitt).....	A23	P aul Wainwright Painting, Decorating and Handyman....	A5
Computer Services (Reboot IT Solutions).....	A12	Personal Trainer (Jacqui Smith).....	A28
Country Maids.....	A4	Poulton's - Building Materials & Aggregates.....	A21
Curwens Solicitors.....	A25		
CW Electrical.....	A17	R B Taxation Services.....	A23
		Reboot IT Solutions (Computer Services).....	A12
D eans Furnishers.....	A32	Reed First School.....	A4
Design Nation.....	A17	Riverside Taxis.....	A5
Digital Skills Group Buntingford.....	A33	Rome Joinery Ltd.....	A22
DQR Wills and Probate.....	A12	Royston Ramblers.....	A29
E ast Herts Foot Health Clinic.....	A14	S .J.S.Plumbing & Heating.....	A30
Eileen's Fitness Classes.....	A11	Sanctuary Estate Agent.....	A7
P S Eveleigh, Plastering Contractor.....	A8		
		SJ T okely Ltd, Mechanical Engineers.....	A13
F inancial Services - Chris Stigwood.....	A14	Touch of Glamour.....	A22
G areth White Electrical Services.....	A31	Philip W alker- Motor Vehicle Engineer.....	A17
Genie Lamp Repairs.....	A7	John Littleford - Web Designer.....	A4
		Webb Scaffolding.....	A15
H earing Advisory Service.....	A10	Westmill Art Exhibition.....	A3
Hertford TV Service.....	A28	Gareth White Electrical Services.....	A31
Hormead Cars - Dean Bye.....	A14	Willow Landscapes.....	A13
Anthony Howes - French Polishing.....	A30	Wills & Power of Attorney - Kate Bennett.....	A4
Humbleline Graphic Design.....	A15	Wood Bros.....	A35



100 YEARS
WOOD BROS
ENGLAND 1924

EASTER FACTORY SALE

At our Ware Showroom

Huge discounts
on our Sofas,
Furniture and
Accessories

Thurs 10th April
(9am -5pm) till
Sat 12th April
(9.30am-5pm)

UPHOLSTERY | CABINET | FABRIC | REFURBISHMENT

Come and visit our **Ware showroom** to see a huge range of our bestselling cabinet and upholstery

Choose from a wide selection of upholstery designs in tweeds, velvets, leathers and more...

Online woodbros.co.uk Showroom in Ware

01920 469241

Marsh Lane, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 9QH

THE LUXURY BRAND WATCHES & JEWELLERY

BESPOKE JEWELLERY

ENGAGEMENT RINGS

WEDDING RINGS

JEWELLERY REPAIRS

WATCH REPAIRS

**LUXURY WATCH SALES
& SOURCING**

**WE BUY UNWANTED & BROKEN
JEWELLERY AND WATCHES**

**37 HIGH STREET, BUNTINGFORD
07833757229
LAURENCE@THELUXURYBRAND.CO.UK
WWW.THELUXURYBRAND.CO.UK**