

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

# Buntingford Journal

*King's Coronation*  
**Family Funday**

**LIVE MUSIC**  
**LICENSED BAR**  
**FOOD OUTLETS**  
**LASER SHOW FINALE**

**CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS**  
**CHILDREN'S FUN FAIR**  
**FACE PAINTING**

Come and enjoy a free Family Funday on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May  
at the Seth Ward Community Centre in Buntingford to  
celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III.

**70p**

May 2023  
Volume 48, No.4



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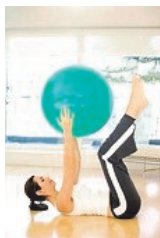


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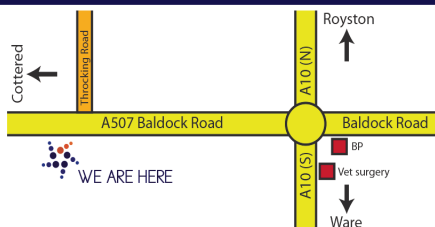
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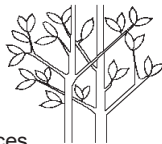


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Wednesday 7:15pm Layston School, (£6 or with strength HIIT £10)  
Thursday 10am Seth Ward Community Centre  
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Full Body Friday 11am Cotteder Village Hall (£6 or £10 with Pilates at 10am)

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### Dance Fit

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

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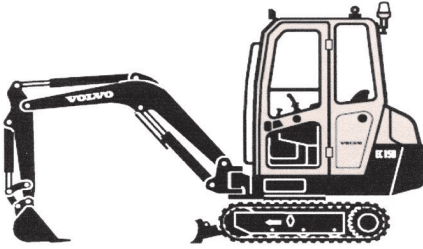
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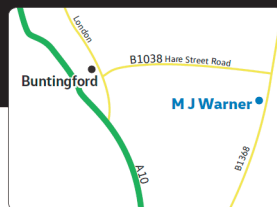
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**2.00PM - 10.30PM**

**SETH WARD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

*Why not bring your own picnic*



**FREE ENTRY**



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# USEFUL LOCAL INFORMATION

<b>POLICE STATION:</b> Baldock Road, Buntingford	Non-emergency telephone: 101 In emergencies dial 999
<b>GAS:</b> <b>ELECTRICITY:</b> <b>WATER (Veolia):</b> <b>WATER (Affinity Water):</b> <b>SEWERAGE (Thames Water):</b> <b>FLOODLINE:</b>	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
<b>DOCTORS:</b>	<b>Buntingford Medical Centre</b> – White Hart Close Tel: 01763 271362 (24 hours)
<b>B A S H (Buntingford Action For Social Help):</b>	Providing transport for hospital and doctors appointments. Tel: Colin Horgan 07733 091731
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, RAPE, RACE or HATE CRIME:</b>	Confidential Information Helpline: 01992 554440 (in emergency, dial 999)
<b>LOCAL COUNCILS:</b>	<b>Buntingford Town Council</b> – 01763 272222 <b>East Herts District Council</b> – 01279 655261 Housing – 01279 714714 Benefits – Freephone 0800 373852 For emergencies out of office hours: 01279 655261 Adult Care Services – 0300 123 4042 Children’s Services – 0300 123 4043 <b>Hertfordshire Highways</b> – Report faults online: <a href="http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/highwayfaults">www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/highwayfaults</a>
<b>BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY:</b> 77 High Street Buntingford, SG9 9AE. Tel: 01763 272396	<b>Opening times are:</b> Mon, Tue, Thur 10:00–17:30 Fri 14:00–17:30 Sat 9:00–13:00 <b>Telephone enquiries</b> – 0300 123 4049 Option 1 – Renewals 03:00–23:45 every day Option 2 – All other enquiries Mon–Fri 08:00–20:00, Sat 09:00–18:00 <b>More info at:</b> <a href="http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk">www.hertfordshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>CITIZENS ADVICE EAST HERTS:</b>	<b>Call the CAB Message Line</b> on 01920 459 944 at anytime and they will call you back. They aim to return calls within 24 hours (except at weekends). <a href="http://www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk">www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk</a>

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, please email: [membership@buntingfordcivic.org.uk](mailto:membership@buntingfordcivic.org.uk)

## EDITOR'S LETTER

There can be little doubt about the main event this month. Coronations don't come around very often and I suspect even the most ardent anti-royalist will be just a little bit curious about the first Coronation to take place in the UK in 70 years, and the first of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In Buntingford the event will be marked by a Civic Service at St Peter's Church at 5pm on the day itself, then the following day there's a Family Funday at the Community Centre, courtesy of the Town Council, along much the same lines as last year's very enjoyable event to celebrate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Fingers crossed for fine weather and another successful day.

The four-day Bank Holiday weekend also sees the massively popular Living Crafts event at Hatfield Park, where members of Herts Visual Arts will be displaying their work and talents alongside literally hundreds of other craft-makers and artists (p.35). Another big event this month is the annual Barkway Market, which this year is on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May (p.8-9). I have heard great things about both these events and I'll be making a special effort to take in both before I hang up my Journal editor's hat next month.

I was getting a bit worried about lack of Journal material this month, I think due to the Easter holidays and several regular contributors being away. But miraculously something always turns up. An email arrived from Barbara Norris of the Ware & District Photographic Society with photographs by their members that have been accepted for the annual exhibition of the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies. In most months I would have been forced to choose only one or two of these fabulous photos to feature, but I have been able to include most of them, reproduced across pages 21-26. They are by turns atmospheric, powerful, revealing and quite simply beautiful. I hope you enjoy them and a huge thank you to Barbara for sending them in.

Buntingford School of Dance have their annual show at the Gordon Craig Theatre in Stevenage on 7<sup>th</sup> May (p.41). The Film Club moves outdoors with a screening at Layston School on the 19<sup>th</sup>, then at the end of the month they are showing 'Matilda' to raise money for Westmill Church (p.28-9). And there's a new cycling fitness class now taking place twice a month at the Community Centre, costing just £2 per session (p.39). Elsewhere in these pages, Christine Stuart-Taylor of Buntingford Live reports on a performance by the Maggini String Quartet at Freman College. Jean Cook tells us about a U3A trip to 'Guys and Dolls' at the Bridge Theatre in London. And Vyse shares some cautiously optimistic thoughts on the accession of Charles III. *Long live the King!*

**Christine Noble**

**Editorial copy deadline for the June 2023 Journal  
is Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**Editorial submissions:** Christine Noble – 01763 273095  
68 Hare Street Road, Buntingford SG9 9HN  
**email: [Journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk](mailto:Journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk)**

**Advertising enquiries:** Keith Edwards – 01763 272032  
**email: [Advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk](mailto:Advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk)**

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



# Buntingford Civic Society

(Reg. Charity No. 1014873)

[www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk](http://www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk)

Member of



The local elections are looming and candidates for the District Council are starting to put their credentials forward. I do hope that the new Photo ID rules are fully understood by the electorate. Voting numbers at local elections are normally low and it would be a great shame if they were compromised even further by people being unaware of the Photo ID requirements.



The Coronation of King Charles III takes place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May and the whole country is gearing up for it with celebrations and street parties planned. Fingers crossed for good weather!

To mark the occasion, Buntingford Town Council have organised an outdoor **Family Funday** on the following day – **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May** – and everyone is invited!

This event is taking place on the playing fields at the Seth Ward Community Centre, Luynes Rise, from 2pm and it will close with a laser light show at around 10pm.

Entry to the event is FREE and highlights of the day include:

- Live bands from 2 to 10pm
- Licensed bar
- Food outlets
- Laser light show finale
- Free Kiddies Funfair rides
- Face painting
- Kiddies fancy dress competition
- FREE entry

Please make sure you come along to join in with the festivities. A tremendous amount of effort has been put in by the organising committee so let's make sure their efforts are rewarded with a good turnout and that everyone has a fun day!

**Graham Bonner, BCS Chairman / [graham\\_bonner123@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:graham_bonner123@yahoo.co.uk)**

**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 or email the Membership Secretary, Peter Hay, at [membership@buntingfordcivic.org.uk](mailto:membership@buntingfordcivic.org.uk)

King's Coronation  
**Family  
Funday**

LIVE MUSIC  
LICENSED BAR  
FOOD OUTLETS  
LASER SHOW FINALE



CHILDREN'S  
FANCY DRESS  
CHILDREN'S  
FUN FAIR  
FACE PAINTING

**SUNDAY 7 MAY 2023**  
**2.00PM - 10.30PM**

**SETH WARD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

*Why not bring your own picnic*



**FREE ENTRY**



## *Erithacus rubecula*

### **Herald to a Brighter Future**

As the Chinese curse goes “May your life be interesting” and like so many peoples we hear of and experience ourselves, in this world today life can indeed be very interesting. What with all the wars and disasters that fill our screens and newspapers, there appears to be so little to be joyful for each morning. Life seems to have taken a turn for the worse and for those especially who have been around for a while we know and often remark that we miss what has transpired over these past seventy years plus. Our generation



appears to have seen a golden age which commenced when we grew out of the wreckage of two world wars and depression and became determined to make things better. Indeed we made steady progress in so many aspects of our lives and I am sure there were times when we didn't realise how well off we were, but most strived to improve our particular lot. In fact the UK had made many inroads that benefited not only our country but the world in general. We had made our land an example that triggered peoples from across the globe to want a share of our efforts. Of course along the way we made mistakes and there were those who suffered as our peoples tried to make things better, but there were those who felt they had been left behind through the freedoms we all fought for, while some thought it was never enough and wanted more and quicker.

What with the world in crisis and the pandemic raging, all we thought about was gloom and doom, and it all culminated with the loss of the one person who despite many trials and tribulations remained steadfast until the end – Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She was a guiding light and example to us all and the gap she left behind may never be truly filled. But we now have an opportunity to lift ourselves and continue with the advances that have been made by the many, especially those who have cared for those in need. This month we see the coronation of our King Charles III and looking at what has been happening of late will we see a new path to follow perhaps?

To dwell too long on these thoughts might be counterproductive as some events in our lives might never be resolved, but there are moments when the equilibrium might be restored. We might consider, perhaps, that what we aspire to may not be what we need. The 52” TV dominating the living room, or the car on the drive which we rent, may impress the neighbours for a day or so, while the obligatory holiday in foreign climes is something to boast about at work, even the latest device that we are told puts all to rights and the nightly bottle of wine to dull the senses. But there are many things that do not cost a fortune and will, if allowed into our lives, do more to improve our well-being and perhaps even dissipate the much-hackneyed expression ‘mental health’.

Hereabouts we are blessed with the countryside and an almost idyllic town, and perhaps we may not have the opportunity to continue with all the free aspects that it offers if we expand our dwellings any further. Let us enjoy what we have and do all we can to inhibit the greed that is the developers' creed. It doesn't mean we have to dress like the local squire or country

bumpkins, or have leads full of dogs trekking across the fields disturbing all the wildlife. Take a moment to sit and listen to the birds that frequent our gardens and when they come you will know that there is still a lot to be thankful for. We are a small town, not a mini-city, where congested traffic occupied by drivers who have temporarily lost the use of their legs clog up the High Street and yearn for a drive-through Co-op or Sainsburys and the daily visits by white van man for those essential items sent express from the other side of the world which may not last long and only give some temporary relief in satisfaction for a moment.

Consider the long-lasting effect the emerging buds upon the bough might have on the senses, or watching the newly arrived robin as it waits in anticipation of what can be found in the cracks of the less than pristine terrace. These will give more entertainment than any streaming or mindless rubbish upon our screens or A.I. kit that creeps its malevolent dark intent upon the generation to come.

Let us take our lead now from a new monarch who has shown that he cares about the environment and all peoples who live on this small island. Meanwhile I will return to my gentle observations of the tiny bird with a bright red waistcoat. ***Long Live the King.***

Vyse

Dear Residents of Buntingford

Royal British Legion | Buntingford Branch | [rbl.org.uk](http://rbl.org.uk)

Registered charity number: 219279

**The Buntingford Branch of the Royal British Legion urgently needs your help**

During the course of their work, members of the Armed Forces will miss time with their own family to protect yours, they can face life-long challenges, they risk injury, and some make the ultimate sacrifice.



From providing expert advice and guidance to recovery, through to transitioning to civilian life, we are a lifelong friend and support to every member of the Armed Forces community. We're here through thick and thin, ensuring their unique contribution is never forgotten. The Legion was formed in 1921 and the Buntingford Branch followed in 1923. We want to be here for as long as they need us, but **we need your help.**

The number of local volunteers has fallen in recent years and if we cannot find new members the branch may be forced to close. So, regardless of whether you have served or not, or know anyone that has, we need you to join us. **We need new members who would be happy to help organise and run local events** – from hosting a quiz night, to running a coffee morning or cake stand.

For those who could **help on the administrative side**, we have Branch positions including Chair, Secretary and Treasurer which may become vacant later this year and several committee member vacancies.

**If you feel that you could help, or want to know more about what is involved, please contact me, Andrew Huggins, on 07495 388819 or by email at: [Buntingford.MemSecretary@rbl.community](mailto:Buntingford.MemSecretary@rbl.community)**

Yours sincerely – **Andrew Huggins**, Branch Secretary

# Barkway Market



Saturday 13th May 2023  
10am-4pm

180 stalls, craft fair, food and drink and childrens' entertainment.

£4 per adult, children 16 and under are free.

The pedestrian entrance is off Barkway High Street.

For car park please use postcode SG8 8BT, suggested donation £1.00 to 7th Barkway Scouts.

Facebook: Search for Barkway Market.

# Barkway Market

## Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 10am–4pm

It's a maximum score for Barkway Market – one hundred and eightytyy! This year we are fully booked with over 180 stalls which will be selling unique items ranging from antiques to bric-a-brac, artisan food & drink to homewares, garden wares to plants, clothing to jewellery, curiosities and more besides.

Catering will include a bar from Barkway's own Tally Ho pub and delicious food from local chefs to include pizza, paella, pulled pork and Indian street food, as well as fresh coffee and barbeques provided by the Church, Preschool & First School. There will be ice cream and cakes aplenty.

Our market is a quintessential English day out with a strong community spirit and we welcome you to join in; we're confident you'll find something to suit your taste, your home, your style and your pocket too!

Royston Town Band will be playing and we will have an organ and a piano recital in the Church. We have the miniature steam train from Royston & District Model Engineering Society and Squirry Wirty children's entertainer will be conjuring up some magic with two shows and circus tricks included. Also, Royston Fire Station and community police should be in attendance with their vehicles.

**Car parking** is available with a suggested donation of £1 to the 7th Barkway Scouts who kindly marshal it for us. **Entry** to the Market is £4 per adult, free for children aged 16 and under. 'Like' us on Facebook for regular updates: [Barkway Village Market](#)

If you would like to advertise in the *Buntingford Journal*, please contact Keith Edwards on 01763 272032 or by email at: [Advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk](mailto:Advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk)

### **Braughing Get Together – “A right Royal Cluedo”**

Following a sell-out of our Murder Mystery, we are following up with a variation on the game of Cluedo – “A right Royal Cluedo”. Just a week after the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Consort Camilla, join us as we delve back into the past and see if you and your team can solve an historic murder. Who was murdered by whom, with what and where? Was it with the Royal Orb at Warwick Castle?

Or was it a Duke in a vat of Malmsey in the Tower of London?

Come and try out your detective skills on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May** in Braughing Church Hall, with doors opening at 7.15pm. Of course, this type of evening deserves a juicy Coronation chicken supper and as usual there will be a licensed bar serving alcoholic (with the exception of Malmsey) and soft drinks.

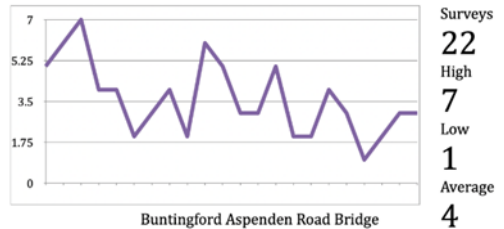
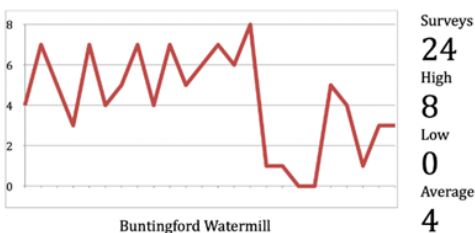
**Pre-booking is essential. Please contact Cynthia Matthews via email at [cynthia.matthews44@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia.matthews44@gmail.com) or call 01920 822230 or 07933 202547**

I am sure we have all been enjoying David Attenborough's 'Wild Isles' series, the BBC's latest epic nature series focussed on the British Isles. Many of those watching may have been intrigued by the fascinating scenes on the lifecycle of *ephemera danica*, the

burrowing mayfly. This is one of the key species counted as part of the ARMI (Anglers' Riverfly Monitoring Initiative) Scheme – a key element in FORQ's monitoring of the health of our chalk streams. We often record burrowing mayfly at our monitoring sites, particularly at Standon and Cold Christmas.

With this in mind, and as our monitors approach the magic 100 surveys, FORQ Chairman Mark has looked at the results from all the sites we monitor and analysed them to see if there are any specific trends developing. After each monitoring session the site is given a 'score', derived by counting invertebrates from specific species or groups. The higher the score, the greater the diversity and volume of target invertebrates. Sharp drops in the score may indicate a pollution event, or in the case of Buntingford Watermill last summer, a significant absence of water.

Two sites have been monitored in Buntingford by John Hood, Derrick Guy and the late David Edwards. We have surveys on these sites dating back to May 2021. One site is off Luynes Rise, which we reference as Buntingford Watermill, and the other in Aspenden near the industrial estate (Buntingford Aspenden Road Bridge). This means we have one site above the sewage treatment works (STW) and one below. The charts indicate the number of surveys carried out at the two sites, with the high, low and average scores:



The Watermill site was dry at some stages last year, hence the 0 scores. The Aspenden Road site doesn't dry out, as this is the one below the STW and fed by the STW output.

An average score of 4 for each site is poor. The Aspenden Road site also always has the highest phosphate scores, again due to its proximity to the STW, which has no phosphate stripping equipment. Further down the Rib we get average scores of 10, 11 or 12. On the Quin, in and around Braughing, the average scores are 6, 8 or 11, but we haven't been monitoring these sites as long as those in Buntingford, so the average is from fewer sessions. Mark's full report on all our monitoring sites is in the blog section of the FORQ website. We have now done 90 surveys in total, with a highest score of 15 and an average score of 6.

This a fantastic effort by all the monitors and adds significantly to our knowledge of the invertebrate and therefore general health of our two chalk streams. There are large stretches of the rivers unmonitored. We hope to add two further sites in the lower stretches of the Rib in the first half of 2023, training courses permitting, and would welcome additional volunteer help, either at existing or new sites across the catchment. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch. We're waiting to find out when the

next training sessions will be held. We also hope that the Riverfly Partnership and Environment Agency will soon be able to establish 'trigger levels' for each of our locations and officially accept them as full ARMI monitoring sites.

The plight of the country's rivers remains a hot topic across the country, with the government's record and its response to the continued pollution of our seas and rivers by the water companies under considerable scrutiny. Recently, two national newspapers (*The Times* and *Independent*) along with *New Scientist* have announced campaigns to rid Britain's waterways of raw sewage. Closer to home, the River Chess – chosen by Thames Water for special attention in recent months and a flagship in river water quality monitoring – has been blighted by detergents emanating from the Chesham Sewage Treatment Works. The last time we checked, the source still had not been identified.

**Pauline Ayres, Communications FORQ**

[forqcomms@gmail.com](mailto:forqcomms@gmail.com) <https://friendsoftherib.wordpress.com/>

## **St Mary's Church, Reed**

Firstly, thank you to all who were able to support our very successful **Quiz Night** held in collaboration with the Village Hall in March.

Secondly, a gentle reminder that our next **Soup Lunch** will be held in Reed Village Hall on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May**, from 12–2pm. *All very welcome.*

### **English Clarinet Concert in Memory of Peter Lawrence in St Mary's Church on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May from 7pm**

The concert is being given by Claire Stevenson (Peter's daughter) on clarinet and Ann Reece, accompanist. The musical choices include Victorian Kitchen Garden suite, Five Bagatelles by Finzi, and Suite for Emma by John Dankworth. Victoria Stevenson (Peter's granddaughter) will play a piece on her double bass plus another on piano. There may also be a little poetry by John Betjeman and Dylan Thomas, hopefully read by Sophie Harrison.

**Admission £15, Children free**

**To book please contact Liz Jakeman – 01763 848398  
[elizabethjakeman@live.co.uk](mailto:elizabethjakeman@live.co.uk)**

*All proceeds being very generously gifted to the Church*

### **Coming events**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June:** An Afternoon Cream Tea in the Churchyard, from 2–5pm with children's activities. The 'The Tea Time Trio' comprising Paul Harrison, Ros Holbrow and David Jackson will be providing musical entertainment. *Please do join us for what we hope will be a very sociable and convivial occasion.*

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June:** A Concert by The Reed Choir in the Church, beginning at 6.30pm. *Further details nearer the date.*



United Benefice of  
Aspenden, Buntingford  
and Westmill

## United Benefice of Aspenden, Buntingford & Westmill Reverend Kirsty Wainwright

[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7839/benefice/32-012BK/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7839/benefice/32-012BK/)

Email: [admin@unitedbenefice.org.uk](mailto:admin@unitedbenefice.org.uk)

Telephone: 01763 271552 or 07484 345027

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

### Our Services for May 2023

<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup></b>	5.00pm	Civic Service to mark the Coronation (see right)	St Peter's, Buntingford
<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup></b>	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
<b>Sun 14<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9.30am	All Age Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11.00am	All Age Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford
<b>Thur 18<sup>th</sup></b>	7.00pm	Ascension Day Service	St Peter's, Buntingford
<b>Sun 21<sup>st</sup></b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford
<b>Sun 28<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
<b>Pentecost</b>	11.00am	Morning Worship	St Peter's Buntingford

#### Our Social Media links now include:



<https://Instagram.com/unitededbnefice>

<https://www.facebook.com/UnitedBeneficeABW>



And you can scan the QR code to reach our website

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-012BK/>

## ST RICHARD OF CHICHESTER Catholic Church

3 Station Road, Buntingford. Telephone 01763 271471

**Parish Priest:** Reverend Father Cyril Chiaha

**VIGIL MASS for Sundays is at 6pm every Saturday**

**SUNDAY MASS is at 9.15am and 11am every Sunday**

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES, SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES**

**& OTHER PARISH NEWS are available on the parish website:**

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/buntingford/>

All Masses will take place at St Richard of Chichester in Buntingford until the works on the parish church of St Edmund of Canterbury & English Martyrs, Old Hall Green, and St Thomas of Canterbury, Puckeridge, have been completed.





THE  
CORONATION  
KING CHARLES

III  
2023

Reverend Kirsty Wainwright  
On behalf of St Peter's Church,  
Buntingford

Invites you to a Civic Service  
to mark  
The Coronation of King Charles III  
On

**Saturday 6th May**  
**5pm**

Refreshments will be served  
following the service





The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

# Christ Church

Baldock Road, Buntingford SG9 9AA

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

**Secretary:** Peter Godbert  
buntingford.urc@talktalk.net  
Tel: 01763 281359

## Services at 11am / Junior Church in the Hall at 11am

May	7	Morning Worship	Penny Flynn
	14	Morning Worship	Faith Paulding
	21	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	28	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Janet Tollington
June	4	Morning Worship	Penny Flynn

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BUNTINGFORD

### Regular Events

**'Lunch, Laughter & Light'** Topical discussion group meets on the first Wednesday of each month in the hall. Lunch 12.30pm – bring your own lunch, hot drinks will be provided. Discussion 1–2pm.

**Morning Prayers** Every Tuesday and Thursday, 9–9.30am  
at St Peter's Church – *all are welcome*

**Coffee and Company** meets every Thursday, 10.30am to 12.30pm, in the URC 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 refreshments.

**Website:** [www.buntingfordurc.org.uk](http://www.buntingfordurc.org.uk)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/URCBuntingford](http://www.facebook.com/URCBuntingford)

## BUNTINGFORD WRITERS' GROUP

We are a small group of about 8 local writers, some published, some not. We write our own individual material and make use of the group to review, edit, practise and advise. Some of us write poetry and fiction, others non-fiction. We meet monthly and have occasional Writing Mornings in the Library to work alongside each other.

If you write for pleasure and think a Writers' Group might be supportive to you, do contact us:

[chriskell37@gmail.com](mailto:chriskell37@gmail.com)



# BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

## A QUALITY TOWN COUNCIL

As a result of insufficient candidates, there will not be elections to the Town Council this month. Nine residents were nominated for 12 places. The Town Council will co-opt to the vacant three seats as soon as possible.

Polling will take place for the District Council election at the Seth Ward Community Centre on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The Polling Station will open at 7am and close at 10pm.

This year, for the first time, voters will need photo ID to vote. Details of what is acceptable ID is available on the East Herts Council website.

Work on the new Pump Track at the Norfolk Road playing fields is now complete. The official opening of the track is on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 11am to 1pm, but the facility is already open for public use. It seems to be used by all age groups and it's pleasing to see the older children helping the younger ones. We do recommend that helmets are worn whilst using the track.

There will be a Civic Service to mark the Coronation at St Peter's Church on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm. The following day an all-day event at the Seth Ward Community Centre has been arranged by the Town Council to celebrate the Coronation. Starting at 2pm, the event will feature live music throughout the day, a bar and variety of food outlets, with free fair rides for the children and a fancy dress competition. The event will culminate with a laser light show at 10pm.

The popular Chatter Table continues on the first and third Monday of the month at The Manor House, 10am to 11.45am. Details of the Council Meetings in May are below.

**Jill Jones, Town Clerk**

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

**Office hours: Monday–Thursday 9am–5pm; closed Friday**

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

**Tel: 01763 272222 Email: [clerk@buntingford-tc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@buntingford-tc.gov.uk)**

**Twitter: [@buntingfordtc](https://twitter.com/buntingfordtc) Facebook.com/BuntingfordTC**

**Website: [www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk](http://www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk)**

### Town Council meetings for May 2023

Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> May

7:00pm – **Annual Town Meeting** followed by the **Annual Council** meeting at the Seth Ward Community Centre

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> May

7:00pm – **Planning Committee** meeting followed by the **Full Council** at the Manor House

Meetings are in the Council Chamber at The Manor House, unless otherwise stated.  
Members of the public are welcome to attend.

# Buntingford Community Choir



**As with every other organisation in our town, the Community Choir can only exist with the help of a fantastic group of volunteers.** We are so lucky to have a fabulous Musical Director in Leigh, who has been with the choir since its inception in 2011. To assist Leigh we have a

marvellous supportive committee, who can be relied upon to organise choir activities. We have supported the Buntingford community on many occasions with performances at Car shows, Carnivals, Christmas parties and other civic events. As a Community Choir we have never asked for or received any money for performing. In fact we give money every year to Charity.

We are always looking for new members. There are no auditions, and you don't need to be able to read music. Anyone over 16, with or without any singing experience, will be made welcome. We meet on a Monday evening from 7.30pm at Millfield School. If you are interested in joining the Choir or would like to come along for a free trial evening please contact us via email at: [info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk](mailto:info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk) Or for more information go to our website: [www.buntingfordchoir.co.uk](http://www.buntingfordchoir.co.uk)

**Paul Webster**



## **Buntingford Gardeners' Club**

***Come and make new friends!***

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023**

**Doors open at 7.45 for 8pm start**

**At the United Reformed Church Hall,  
Baldock Road**

If you're new to Buntingford, or fancy meeting people with similar interests, whether in flowers or vegetables, join us to share the pleasures and pitfalls of the plant world. We are not all green fingered, with some members just appreciating a well-kept garden, so whatever your gardening interest, please come along.

For our May meeting, our speaker will be Jaqueline Aviolet talking about hardy geraniums, their history and propagation, with useful tips on how to grow them. Jaqueline runs a plant nursery in Aylesbury and will be bringing some plants for sale.

At our June meeting we have Anup Devlia from the Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust coming to talk on "A Wilder Future for Herts & Middlesex" which makes me think of the summer poppies and cornflowers on the main roundabout as you enter Buntingford.

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, we are having a coach trip to Barnsdale Gardens, created and made famous by the late Geoff Hamilton from Gardener's World. These trips are always very popular and are also open to non-members (space permitting).

Meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month (no meeting in August or January). Annual membership costs just £17.50. Visitors pay £3 per meeting. For more information, please contact the Club Secretary on 01763 271885.

**Kathy Roper**

## Buntingford W.I.

Lloyd Crowley (below) visited us in April to entertain us and tell us a little bit about the history of the ukulele. It is popularly thought that the instrument originated in Hawaii, but



this is not so. It is an adaptation of an instrument called the machete which was brought to Hawaii by Portuguese immigrants who settled in Madeira. It has since been adopted as the national instrument of Hawaii and they now produce some 600 handmade ukuleles a month.

Lloyd brought along with him some of the ukuleles in his collection – he has about 60, of which you can see four in the photograph, including some unusual examples. He entertained us with a variety of songs, ranging from George Formby's 'When I'm Cleaning Windows' to a faultless rendition of 'Susie Sitting in a Shoe Shine Shop', which he invited us to sing along to but we failed miserably!

By the time this edition of the Journal is published you will see that once again our talented craft ladies have been decorating Buntingford, this time to celebrate the King's Coronation. We are also planning a celebratory afternoon tea for members (any excuse to have cake!).

**Our next meeting** will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May, from 7.15 for 7.30pm start, at the URC Hall (opposite McColls). This will be our Annual Meeting when our new committee is appointed, but there will also be discussion of this year's W.I. resolution which relates to a campaign for clean rivers to benefit people and wildlife. There will also be a plant sale. Visitors are welcome to all our meetings so if you are new to Buntingford (or 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. contact Pat on 01763 271305.

Val Hume

### Reed Garden Club in Reed Village Hall

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2–4pm, entrance £2

This month's speaker is Roger Gomm on "FLINT – not just a load of old stones"

**ALSO ..... Reed Garden Club PLANT SALE**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May – starts 10am**

Adjacent to Reed Village Hall / Cash only / Lots of unusual plants



## The Hundred Parishes Society

[www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk)

Milestones have been part of our heritage for centuries. They were an important element of the Roman road network, positioned to indicate the distance travelled or to be travelled. In 1767 milestones were made compulsory on all turnpikes, the toll roads managed by turnpike trusts, although many local milestones were in place before then.

There are around 40 surviving milestones within The Hundred Parishes, mostly along three highways that run between London and Cambridge. These highways are now called the B1383 (formerly A11), B1368 and A10. The milestones are marked on Ordnance Survey maps as "MS".

One of the earliest and most visible milestones can be seen in the historic coaching village of Barkway (below left). It was installed in 1728, one of 16 milestones funded at that time by a trust established in 1586 by a former master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Additional milestones were added by the Wadesmill Turnpike Trust in 1742, some along the old Roman road of Ermine Street, now the A10, and others along the alternative route, now mostly called the B1368. Over time, the inscriptions became weather-worn and many stones were upgraded in 1804 by the addition of a cast iron plate, as on this milestone in Barley (below right).

Most milestones in Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire are listed but only one in Essex is included on the National Heritage List – the large, three-sided iron milepost in the centre of Stansted Mountfitchet on the B1383 (opposite, top left). This is probably the newest in the Hundred Parishes, having been installed in the early 1900s.





The earlier milestones along the old A11 would have been installed by the Hockerill Turnpike Trust which from 1744 to 1870 was responsible for 28 miles of highway between Harlow and Stump Cross. This one (right) is at Birchchanger.



Of course, the local milestone that will be most familiar to Journal readers is the one right here in Buntingford, in front of St Peter's Church (left) on what used to be the A10 before the bypass was built.



Some of the information for this article came from The Milestone Society, established in 2001. Their website is:

[www.milestone-society.co.uk/](http://www.milestone-society.co.uk/)

Ken McDonald  
Secretary

## ***BUNTINGFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB***

**We meet every Monday afternoon (except Bank Holidays) at the United Reformed Church Hall in Baldock Road at 1.30 for 2 pm.**

**Come and enjoy BINGO. TRIPS. LUNCHESES. COFFEE/TEA. plus fun and laughter with like-minded Senior Citizens!**



Home-Start would like to congratulate the 10 new Home Visiting Volunteers who have recently completed the initial training course for becoming a Home Visiting Volunteer (photo below). The course, which took place over 6 weeks, helped the new volunteers to understand their role as a Home Visitor and prepared them to feel confident in being matched with their first families. Senior Co-ordinator Jackie Cotton said: "It is really rewarding to work with a new group of volunteers and watch them learn about Home-Start and themselves, as they work through the course. Our Home Visiting support acts as a lifeline to so many of the families that we work with, so having 10 new volunteers will

help us to reach lots more families in our community that need our support."

Being the parent of young children can be very hard work. Most parents have periods when they feel exhausted and overwhelmed by family life stresses and strains. For some, additional challenges – such as post-natal depression, relationship breakdown, a child's disability, or money worries – make coping day-to-day feel unachievable.

Asking for help isn't easy, especially when you need it the most. But Home-Start can help at times like this and their support is FREE, confidential and will take place at your pace in the way you need it most. Did you know that any mum, dad or carer can refer themselves to Home-Start? If you are a parent or carer of children aged 9 or under, live in the SG8 and SG9 postcode areas, and would like to have a free, non-judgemental conversation about the support we may be able to offer – get in touch today.

**There are a number of ways you can contact us:** ✉ Email [admin@hsrsc.org.uk](mailto:admin@hsrsc.org.uk)

☎ Phone **01763 262262** 🌐 Website [www.hsrc.org.uk/contact-us](http://www.hsrc.org.uk/contact-us)

💬 Facebook Messenger (button found at top of our website page)



## Ware & District Photographic Society

The Society has recently had some acceptances for the Annual Exhibition of the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies. Members who have had work accepted are Mark Sims, Christine Holt, David Morement, Hugh Milsom, Bob Norris and Barbara Norris. Copies of some of the accepted photographs are reproduced here. The one below, of Trebarwith Stand Beach in Cornwall, is by Mark Sims showcasing evening light.

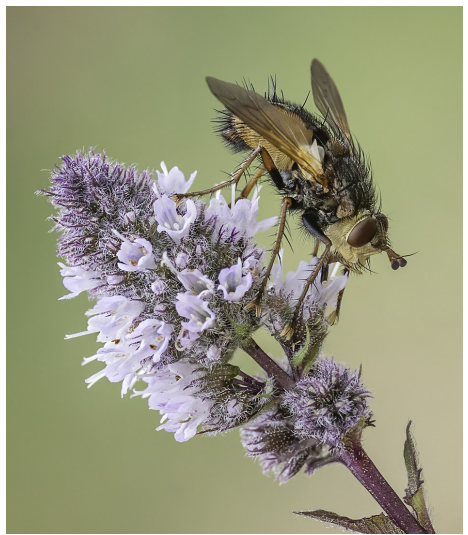
The EAF exhibition opens on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April at Wingfield Barns near Diss in Suffolk and closes on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May. It will be open every day except on Tuesdays and on the day of the Coronation. Opening hours are 11am to 4pm daily, except on the final day when the exhibition will close at 1pm.

No doubt some of these images will also be on display at the W&DPS's own annual exhibition on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November in Thundridge Village Hall, details of which will follow nearer the date. The Society meets on Wednesday evenings, 8 to 10pm, at Thundridge Village Hall. The first three evenings are free to new members.





*Above: Starling Argument by David Moremont. Below: Bonnet Mushrooms and Nectaring Tachinid Fly by Christine Holt. Top right: Timid Fallow Deer by David Moremont. Bottom right: African Darter by Christine Holt*





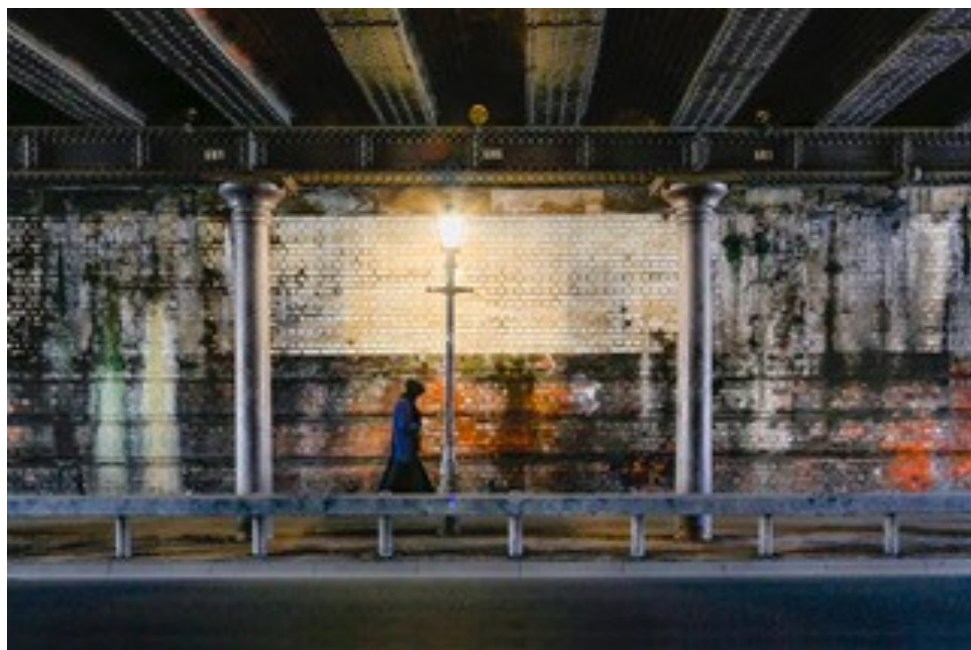


*Above:* The Thames Barrier by David Moremont. *Below:* Figure under the Bridge.

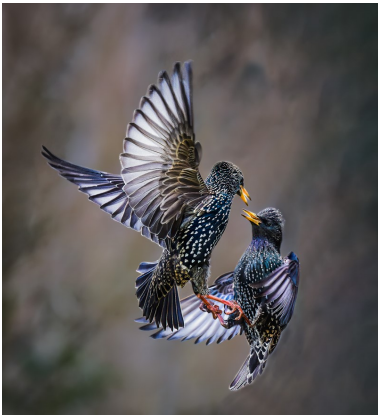
*Top right:* Gritted Teeth Determination by David Moremont.

*Bottom left:* Bude Sea Pool by Mark Sims.

*Overleaf (page 26):* Homestead in Winter by Bob Norris;  
Winning the Battle by David Moremont; and Snowy Owl by Barbara Norris.







## Ramblers – A short story

“Hi, I haven’t seen you here before. I’m Jeff.” He didn’t offer a hand, sunk as it was in both a glove and a pocket. Besides, shaking hands on a walk seemed a bit formal.

“Oh hi, yes I’m just down here visiting my parents. Home from Uni.” She didn’t know what else to say, rather overwhelmed that anyone had noticed her amongst the other similarly clad, rain-prepared, walkers.

“What are you studying at university then?”

“Oh, er, Maths,” said Charlotte. “What do you do?”

"I'm a farmer around here, or at least my father is. I'm just learning, hoping to take over the farm one day."

So there they were, hitting conversation buffers, nothing in common. And yet something moved in the air between these two people, as though even this faltering conversation were precious, delightful. They tried again, talking over each other, laughing and apologising.

"I'm...", she said. "So...", he said.

Charlotte noticed that they were strangely in step as they walked, even though he was a good six inches taller than her. She'd glanced at his face – beard, dark hair, slightly tanned, must be his open air life. His outer clothes were the olive green of countryside management. Aware of a city-girl attempt to blend in on a walk with her parents, she'd pulled wellies over her jeans that morning and borrowed her Mum's grey anorak – hardly her most alluring self.

They walked for a few moments in silence. The branches of early spring were brown, naked still, the grass only just emerging from the mud. Jeff heard the sound of songbirds beginning to call and nest again in the trees, the seasons so perfectly predictable. He stopped to isolate the sound of a chaffinch, and she stopped too.

"What are you listening to?" she asked, and he told her. They stood together gazing up into the branches of a tree, she really not sure what she was looking for.

"See, there! It's a female. They're not as colourful as the male chaffinches but they sing beautifully."

All Charlotte could see was a small brown bird that could easily have been a sparrow or a wren. But she found herself smiling up at it, pleased to be invited into this man's world.

And suddenly they found a language. She talked of her love of piano music when it sounded like birdsong – Chopin, Vivaldi – and he spoke of a childhood out in the fields learning the names of animals, insects and birds, sometimes taking a nest into school to show the other children. He loved that she didn't know a chaffinch from a sparrow – he would teach her. She loved that he thought playing a musical instrument was highbrow and exotic. She would play for him.

They had fallen behind in the walk, of course they had. The muddy path was still slushy from winter and Jeff occasionally put out a hand to help her up a bank. She felt his warmth through the glove and hoped her excitement at this physical contact wasn't too obvious. *This is mad* she thought. *I only met him half an hour ago.*

Jeff was trying to work out who her parents were amongst the other rambles, familiar as he was with all of them. They'd be stopping at a pub for lunch – he would find out then. Along this path they would soon come to a waterfall. Would Charlotte find it as magical as he did? Could he express that to her? Suppose she didn't really feel anything, couldn't see what he saw. Would that be a deal-breaker? He was amazed to find that it mattered so much.

They fell into silence, each preoccupied with the other, a collision of pleasure and concerns making it difficult to find words. The noise of the other walkers hovered comfortingly in the background until it was overtaken by the rushing sound of several tons of water crashing down a rock face. Charlotte smiled: this must be the waterfall her parents had wanted her to see.

"Look", Jeff said. "Come with me." And so she did.

# BUNTINGFORD FILM CLUB NEWS

*Masses of good news from the Buntingford Film Club!*

In April, we had a sell-out screening of Steven Spielberg's excellent autobiography, 'The Fabelmans'. For the first time we were using our New Projector which delivers a wonderfully sharp picture. Come and check it out – you'll be impressed!

On the same night, we launched the Winners Programme of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Buntingford International Short Film Festival, aka Buntingford Shorts. The winners were selected from more

than 1200 entries from all around the world and the quality is higher than ever, so give yourself a treat and watch this year's Festival Finalists at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TN4wcGikCKs>. The Buntingford Shorts Festival has made Buntingford a byword for excellence in youth short film-making the world over.



## Movies for May include two GREAT family films!



On **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May**, at 7.30pm, we're showing '**The Greatest Showman**' in the open air at Layston School on The Causeway (satnavs SG9 9EU) in aid of the School Fund. This is one of cinema's great success stories: the film was given a lukewarm reception by the critics, but the public loved it and made it one of the biggest-grossing musicals of all time. It has a glorious cast of quirky characters, a stunning central performance by Hugh Jackman, and a beautiful score with memorable songs including *Never Enough* and *A Million Dreams*. It's a perfect film for an early summer evening! And you also get to enjoy a barbecue and other fun things on the School playing fields.

**Family Ticket £20**  
(2 adults, 2 children)

**Adults £8**

**Children £5**

Available from: KEITH IAN, 42 High Street, Buntingford

On **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May** at 7pm, we're showing '**Matilda the Musical**' at Westmill Parish Church in aid of the Church Improvement Fund. Another great family fun musical, this tells the story of one of Roald Dahl's most memorable young heroines as she gets saved by the charming Ms Honey (and a little bit of her own magic!) from the clutches of her terrible parents, Harry and Zinnia Wormwood, and the appalling Miss Trunchbull, Headmistress of Crunchem Hall, played by Emma Thompson. It's set in a Hogwarts-like school which



becomes a musical stage! Come along and see this big-grossing musical on the big screen in the beautiful setting of Westmill Church. **But do remember to BRING A CUSHION – the pews are quite hard!**

**Family Ticket £25** (2 adults, 2 children)

**Adults £10** (to include a glass of wine!) **Children £5**

Available from: The SWORD INN HAND and the WESTMILL TEA ROOM

### Another date for your diary:

Our **Annual General Meeting** is on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June** at The Crown on Market Hill in Buntingford. Come along to elect new officers, to discuss how we can improve our Club, and to suggest films to be shown during the 2023-24 Season

## Buntingford Dramatic Society



After the phenomenal success of 'Calendar Girls' we are pleased to announce our next production for 2023, which will be 'Trivial Pursuits', a delightful comedy by Frank Vickery.

A summer evening's barbecue is the setting for a meeting of the Trealaw and District Operatic Society. Outdoor food and refreshments await everyone attending and the air is crackling with excitement. Next season's production is to be announced but Nick, the society's business manager, has promised a different show and plum roles to four different people. As the evening progresses each character's foibles and talents are revealed: Joyce, once talented and well meaning, is a lush; Teddy is alternately sweet and strident; Derek is pathetic but lovable. The complex relationships between players emerge as moments of pure slapstick and farce alternate with ones full of real drama and pathos.

There will be four evening performances, and one matinee, on 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July at the Seth Ward Community Centre. **Tickets go on sale on 1<sup>st</sup> May** via our website [www.buntingforddrama.uk](http://www.buntingforddrama.uk) and, as usual, at Keith Ian Estate Agent on the High Street. Put the date in your diary and set your alarm as tickets are likely to go faster than cucumber and tomatoes off the supermarket shelves!

As with all our shows, there are many things that need to come together to make the performances so successful. The door (back stage and front of house!) is always open to new people. Please make contact if you are interested in participating – as a Performer, Techie, Set-builder, Decorator, General Helper, Front of House Service, Catering, Bar Staff and Support ... You will be made most welcome as part of a wonderful team.



## The Maggini String Quartet at Freman College



As mentioned in the report on the Battle of the Bands in last month's Journal, Buntingford Live have been involved in another exciting musical event at Freman College. In total contrast to the BOTB final, the prestigious Maggini String Quartet, renowned for championing the British repertoire, visited the college on 28<sup>th</sup> March for a classical music recital and workshop with some of the students.

A member of the Buntingford Live team, Rosey Woolcombe, is a friend of the Maggini's viola player, Martin Outram, who lives in nearby Westmill. This connection, along with funding from the Quartet's Education Programme, secured a booking with these famous players to come and perform for us in Freman College. Freman's new Head of Music Leon Barclay (on the far left in the photo below), along with Ryan Meekins, Head of Music at Edwinstree School (on left above), assembled around 50 of their music students for the thrilling experience of a first-class performance by the Maggini's.





*Above, left to right: the Maggini Quartet – Julian Leaper (violin), Ciaran McCabe (violin), Martin Outram (viola) and Michal Kaznowski (cello). Top left: An enrapt audience listens intently. Below left: the Quartet players with A Level Music students (centre, left to right) Harry Tysome, Freddie Brown and Megan Eaglesfield,*

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For most of these young students, this was their first opportunity to witness such a delight at such close quarters. They were completely spellbound as they listened to the whole of a Beethoven quartet played impeccably right in front of their eyes! How I wished that more of the students as well as people from the wider Buntingford community could have joined us in the Howard Carter Centre that day to enjoy such a wonderful event. After this initial performance the students were invited to ask questions of their visitors. Ryan Meekins of Edwinstree set the ball rolling, and this gave some of the pupils confidence to put their own questions which were answered ably and amiably by the friendly musicians ... and everyone relaxed!

Next came the fruition of a brilliant idea that Leon Barclay had proposed and which had been accepted, initially with some trepidation, by the Quartet's members. He suggested that three of Freman's A Level Music students, as part of the requirements of their syllabus, should each compose a piece for the Maggini to play. Megan Eaglesfield, Freddie Brown and Harry Tysome duly composed their pieces which were sent in advance to the Quartet so they could rehearse. On the day, the three pieces were performed with all the expected skill and artistry of the Maggini's seasoned and superbly accomplished musicians. The exercise was a great success, and how lucky were those three students to hear their compositions performed by such a prestigious ensemble.

Hopefully, because of such a successful occasion, Buntingford Live will continue to work with Freman College to develop further opportunities for the benefit of the school and the wider community, not only in the field of music but exploring other areas of the curriculum. If you would like to help Buntingford Live bring interesting and varied entertainment to our town, please get in touch:

**Christine Stuart-Taylor – 01763 272990 or 07990 572543**  
**Neil McDougall – 07721 939646 Or contact: [buntingfordlive.org](http://buntingfordlive.org)**

# Buntingford Local History Group

## Project High Street

The High Street project is coming on in leaps and bounds. We have now managed to put together a comprehensive record of the history of each shop, showing previous occupiers. It's been quite hard to establish in some cases who was in each property in the 1840s, due in part to there being four different parish records to check. Another thing hampering our efforts is that many of the buildings fronting the actual High Street also had buildings at the rear. Some of these were just barns or outbuildings but quite a few were used as either accommodation or for other businesses. The lack of numbering on properties until after about 1920 also makes life very hard in trying to match up what and who was in each building.

Wouldn't it be lovely just to hop into a time machine and go back through the years to see what things were like then? I don't think I would actually want to stay very long as life was so hard for those with limited funds, living from day to day, hoping to get work and not get sick as there was no NHS, and with the threat of the workhouse always hanging over them. In contrast, the likes of Charles Heaton Ellis who lived at Wyddial Hall had 10 servants in 1891, looking after him, his wife and one child, and that was only the servants who lived in – he may have had others who lived elsewhere and came in daily. It must have been a bit like Downton Abbey.

At our last meeting we went through all available old photos of the shops in the High Street. There are quite a few photos of most properties showing different businesses that traded there at different times. Our Group members spent a long time studying the photos and reminiscing about the different shops. What was quite strange was that several people could not recollect Mr Feasey's old house and shop falling into such disrepair in the 1970s and being demolished to make way for what is now Sainsburys.

We have now chosen the best photos portraying what the High Street looked like in previous years. It's interesting to see how little the buildings have changed – with a few exceptions, such as Sainsburys, Days Bakers, Kings Kebabs and the Buntingford Fryer. Although a lot of the buildings have had ground floor windows or shop fronts altered, generally very little has been done to the main structure or the upstairs facade.

We have discovered that the library building isn't that old. In an auction catalogue from 1887 that I found at the archives, there was one lot for sale that described a wooden seven-bedroomed house with a shop showroom occupied by a Mrs Wenham who rented it. As some of the town's older residents may remember, the alleyway between the library and Crazy Daisy used to be referred to as Wenham's Alley, and the census results show Mrs Wenham trading at the library address. Her property must have been demolished when Moss opened a store there. Photos show that store as a single storey building with the same sort of frontage as the library.

We are hoping to stage our **High Street Exhibition** towards the end of September/beginning of October. More of the details will be available nearer to the time.

### **'A Potted History of Buntingford' – a Local History Group talk on 25<sup>th</sup> May to mark History Month**

In the meantime, apparently May is history month and the library are putting on a series of events to mark this. Library staff have asked if our group would do a talk on local history, so we are going to talk on 'The Potted History of Buntingford' and give an overview of how the town has grown through the years. The talk will be in the library on 25<sup>th</sup> May, starting at 7pm. The library are hosting the event and are also in charge of

selling the tickets, which will include wine and nibbles at a cost of £5 per person. We hope to see as many of you as possible there, especially anyone who may be new to the town, as it's a chance to learn a bit more about the history of Buntingford and how the town has evolved.

Now that the library has reopened, we are returning there for our meetings. So the next **Local History Group meeting** is on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm** in the newly refurbished magnolia room – although it may have to be renamed as the room is no longer magnolia in colour! As usual, it costs just £2 per person to attend our meetings, which includes tea and coffee.

**Carol Emery  
Buntingford  
Local History Group**

# Layston Church

## Open Day

Saturday 8th July, 12 ~ 5pm

A great opportunity to see this beautifully restored church (now a private home) and its surroundings

**FREE** entry with donations welcome ~ all proceeds will go to Isabel Hospice

No booking required, simply turn up on the day! Parties of up to 10 people at a time will be taken on a guided tour

Refreshments will be available

**St Bartholomew's Layston Church  
Buntingford SG9 9EZ**





Isabel Hospice provides palliative support to the 370,000 people who live in eastern Hertfordshire. Hospice care is about helping people to live well for as long as possible and to be able to pass on peacefully in the place of their choice when the time comes.



**Buntingford Library** has reopened and has lots of events planned for the summer. More details in next month's Journal, or call in and ask the helpful Library staff.



# Fart Food and Art Exhibition 23-25 June

**Get ready for your senses to be challenged in June when Gravelly Barn holds its first Food and Art Exhibition – Fart for short!**

Over three days, it will fuse visual art and culinary creations and feature work by some of the best local artists. There will also be demonstrations by chef Clive Marshall, showing how food presentation can be seen as an artform in its own right. During the weekend there will be live music and a performance by the Razed Roof Inclusive Performance Arts Group. “We are really excited at trying something new at Gravelly Barn and hope that it will appeal to all tastes – literally,” said artist and one of the organisers, Jane Davalle.

All the money raised will go to Haematology Cancer Care at the University College London Hospital, a charity supporting patients, staff and research. The latest development is the ground-breaking CAR T-cell therapy which

uses the patient’s own immune system to fight cancer and is now available on the NHS. We look forward to welcoming you to this exciting and innovative exhibition.

**Fri & Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> June, 10am-5pm, & Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 10am-4pm**

**EJD STUDIO, Gravelly Barn, Braughing SG11 2RD**

**[www.gravellybarn.com](http://www.gravellybarn.com)**

## ***32 years on and still going***

The inspiration for this exhibition was at least in part my own health and that of my daughter, Holly, and the life-saving treatment we both received from the University College London Hospital. In 1990 I developed Hodgkin’s disease and was treated locally with chemotherapy. However, I relapsed in 1992 and then found the centre of excellence for treatment was, and is, UCLH. Oncologist Prof David Linch treated me with BEAM Autograph (bone marrow transplant) and chemotherapy. All appeared fine until I relapsed again in 1993 and was treated for 9 months with EVAP chemotherapy. This left me mentally in tatters and I had yearly checks just to be assured I was still OK. My last check was on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015, then Dr Sajir Mohamedbhai wrote to me, and I quote: “Given that he is now 22 years on, for all intents and purposes we believe that he is effectively cured. Further review: DISCHARGED.”

Then, in 2020, our daughter Holly was diagnosed with the same condition and started chemotherapy in UCLH. Like me, she relapsed and needed more chemo and radiotherapy to prepare her for a Stem-Cell transplant. Following that her WBC count was very low and she developed lesions in her brain. This caused her to become non-responsive and her oncologist took the brave step to start CAR-T cell treatment. At first she did not respond but then began to ‘wake up’. She is now at home with her husband and we are so thankful to Dr Panagiotis Kottaridis and his team for saving her life.

*We hope to see you at the exhibition and thank you for your support.*

**Clive Marshall**

**Herts Visual Arts** is the largest volunteer-run arts organisation in the county with more than 300 individual members, all artists and artisans based in Hertfordshire and working in a wide range of creative and



**At Living Crafts, Hatfield Park**  
**5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> May 2023, 10am to 5pm**



craft disciplines. Some of those artists will be showcasing their work and talents at **Living Crafts**, a great festival of creativity taking place over the Coronation Bank Holiday weekend at Hatfield Park.

Each day, in the centrally located HVA marquee, six different artists will share their work, demonstrating their skills and explaining their techniques to visitors. As one artist described it: "Spending the day in a tent brings back memories of childhood holidays – and I'm not really an outdoors person! But, like most artists, I welcome opportunities to display my paintings, demonstrate the techniques I use, and talk about the work I create to people who appreciate original handmade artwork."

Visitors to the HVA marquee will be able to see work in progress as well as finished pieces for sale. And, of course, there is so much more to be discovered and enjoyed at **Living Crafts**. In addition to all the craft displays and stalls of the event itself, entry also includes admission to the West Garden surrounding The Old Palace at Hatfield, the childhood home of Queen Elizabeth I.

You can find more details of the event, including ticket prices on the day and in advance, on the Living Crafts-Hatfield House website.

The Buntingford Journal is delivered FREE to members of the Buntingford Civic Society, or it can be purchased from:  
**THE CO-OP • LOCKS, STOCK & MORE • MARK DOEL BUTCHERS  
McCOLL'S • KIM on the CARD STALL on Buntingford Market**



**East Herts**

Citizens Advice East Herts operates a unique Messageline service. Call **01920 459 944** at anytime and leave a message (we aim to return calls within 24 hours, except at weekends) or visit **[www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk](http://www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk)** for our other advice options.

**[citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk](http://citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk)**

## **I've just had my bathroom retiled, but I'm not happy with the work**

**At first, things seemed to be going well, but then the tradesperson left to do another job and I had to chase them for updates. They did eventually come back and finish the job, but the work was pretty rough around the edges. They also left all the old tiles and plaster for me to dispose of, which I wasn't expecting. I've now got the invoice, but I don't think the price reflects the work done or the service I received. Can I challenge this?**

It's always frustrating when you run into problems with home improvements.

You mention that the job looked "rough around the edges". If this is to a degree that you could consider the job unfinished or unsafe, you should be able to get the tiler to come back to fix it. You could also suggest that removing the old tiles might be considered as part of finishing the job.

If the tiler considers the work complete, it's worth knowing that you're protected by the Consumer Rights Act 2015, which says the tiler should have completed the work with "reasonable care and skill". If they haven't done this, they've broken the law.

The Act means you're legally entitled to ask the tiler to fix the problem (if they provided the tiles as well as the service) or get money refunded (if they just provided the service and you bought the tiles). They should fix the problem or refund you in a reasonable amount of time, without causing too much inconvenience. As you've received the invoice for the work but not paid yet, now would be a good time to ask them to fix the issue or you can negotiate a lower price for the work.

Let the tiler know that you understand what you're entitled to. Speak to them in person, or contact them in writing/over email – there are template letters on the Citizens Advice website. Make sure you keep a written copy of anything agreed. Before you contact them, it's a good idea to take photographs to use as evidence of the problem. Make notes about what happened, including dates and times. You should also gather any paperwork and receipts – was there any prior written agreement about who would dispose of the old tiles? Was the final cost in line with estimates or quotes given to you at the outset of the work? If not, there is advice on the Citizens Advice website about steps you can take.

If you're struggling to come to an agreement with the tiler, there are other steps you can take to solve your problem. These include using 'alternative dispute resolution', which is a way of solving disagreements without going to court. There are full details about how to do this on the Citizens Advice website.

**[www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk](http://www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk)**

*Citizens Advice East Herts is a registered charity.*

# BALA Buntingford Action for the Less Able

Registered Charity No. 1094426

## Minibus Trips May 2023

MAY	Time	Destination	Price
Wed 3rd	10-2.30	St Albans	£8
Fri 5th	10.30-12.30	Mill End Plants and Tea Rooms, Rushden	£3.50
Tues 9th	9.30-3	Southend	£13
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30-1.30	Biggleswade (A1 Retail Park)	£6.50
Mon 15th	10-2.30	St Ives	£8
Wed 17th	11.30	Pub Lunch	£5
Wed 24th	9.30-12.30	Hitchin Garden Centre	£6
Thurs 25th	10.30-3	Welwyn	£7
Tues 30th	10.30-2	Saffron Walden	£6
<b>JUNE</b>			
Wed 7th	10-3	Letchworth	£6
Thurs 8th	10.30-2	Frost's Garden Centre, Willington	£7.50
Tues 13th	9.30-3	Southend	£13

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

**To book a seat or for more information ring 07870 638480**

**(please be prepared to leave a message)**

### **BALA AGM Lunch**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023, 11.30am–1pm**

### **Coffee Morning**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 10am–11.30am**

Sausage rolls, cakes, raffle

**Both at  
URC Hall,  
Baldock  
Road**

**The BCAT bus is running trips to Royston every Thursday,  
10am pick-up at Market Hill bus stop, £2 return.**

Stopping at M&S Foodhall/Aldi (approx.10.30–11.45), then Tesco Extra (approx.11.45–1.30). There is Costa Coffee opposite Aldi and instore at Tesco.

# u3a learn, laugh, live

## Buntingford

**The tea and cake afternoon** held in the Seth Ward Community Centre at the end of March was a great success with a full house. This was another successful day with new members able to meet and chat to other members.

Town Mayor, stepped in to help his wife Jane do the raffle. Here he is folding raffle tickets (right). Reports are good and he may be asked to do it again if needed!

**Members of the LETs Group** enjoyed a trip to see the revival of 'Guys and Dolls' at the Bridge Theatre in London. This was quite an experience! The Bridge is a commercial theatre near Tower Bridge that opened in October 2017 and was reported to have cost £12 million to build. It was developed by Nick Starr and Nicholas Hytner as the home of the London Theatre Company, which they founded following their tenancy as, respectively, executive director and artistic director at the National Theatre. The Bridge Theatre is 'in the round' and seats 900 in a flexible space that can accommodate different productions.



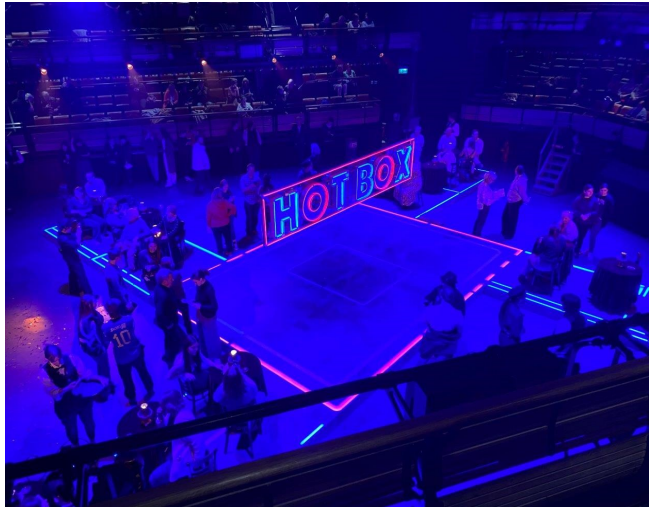
The show has received rave reviews in the press and on TV. The staging was quite something, with the bear pit turned into Broadway's Times Square and the NYPD



marshalling the standing audience around rising and falling sections of hydraulic floor. The show itself differs slightly from the classic 1955 film version but personally I think it beats the film! The whole experience was brilliant.

Our speaker for **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May** is Lucy Blunden on 'Violins' – a history of the violin, how the differing sounds are made, the different parts of the instrument and various styles of folk music.

**Jean Cook**



Membership of the u3a is open to anyone not in full-time occupation. We meet monthly, at the Seth Ward Community Centre, on the second Monday of the month – doors open at 1.30pm. ***New members are always welcome.***

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

[www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford)



CONTACT: [VIKTORIA.HUSZAR@AITC.ORG.UK](mailto:VIKTORIA.HUSZAR@AITC.ORG.UK)

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# Buntingford & Stortford Hybrid Studio



WWW.JACQUI-SMITH.NET  
07956 647806

As well as all the exercise classes our team run on a weekly basis in town, here are some of the other projects I am involved with.

April saw the success of another **Move, Meditate & Relax** session (photo below left). There are more sessions coming up on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July and 12<sup>th</sup> September. These 2-hour workshops are run under

the Community Initiative and cost just £5 to attend.

Our **Arts & Crafts Workshop** this summer will be a Candle Holder Making Session. More information coming on this next month

Our **EASTER HAPpy Kids Camps** were attended by many children from the local schools. We will be running these camps again on Thursdays, 1pm to 5pm throughout the summer holidays.

Our monthly challenge for May is all about bottoms, which will be popping up in all our classes!



Full Class Listings



[theteam@jacqui-smith.net](mailto:theteam@jacqui-smith.net) / 07956 647806

Jacqui Smith, Personal Trainer & Chair of Community Initiative Charity



ONLY £5

## DANCE FITNESS CLASSES FOR OVER 50S

FRIDAYS 10:00AM - 11:00AM

SOUTHERN MALTINGS

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DANCE  
YOUR WAY  
TO A SOCIAL  
AND MORE ACTIVE  
LIFESTYLE



'Love to Dance' is a dance class for the over 50s run by the **Saracens Foundation**, a charity that works in local communities in north London and Hertfordshire to increase physical activity, reduce social isolation and improve the health and wellbeing of the over 50s. Classes are fun as well as good for you and you will learn a variety of dance styles as you get fitter and dance your way into a more active and social lifestyle! The Foundation currently runs classes in Royston, Hertford, Letchworth, Ware and High Cross. Full details and how to book are on the Foundation's website:

<https://bookwhen.com/saracensfoundation>



BUNTINGFORD  
SCHOOL of DANCE

## 'Take a Bow' Performances

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023

1.30pm & 5.30pm

Gordon Craig Theatre  
Stevenage

BSD offers ISTD syllabus classes in Ballet, Tap & Modern, and recreational classes in Commercial Dance and Tap & Ballet for adults.

*If you wish to register with us to join classes please use the QR code below or email us on [admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk](mailto:admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk) for more information.*

*All new pupils get a NO OBLIGATION TRIAL in the classes they wish to join.*



Take a Bow will showcase our classes, from our 3 year olds to our teenagers, and incorporate Ballet, Modern/Jazz, Tap and Commercial dance. We aim to give everyone an opportunity to perform. Tickets are on sale from the Gordon Craig Theatre: [www.gordon-craig.co.uk](http://www.gordon-craig.co.uk)

***Our aim at Buntingford School of Dance is for pupils to aspire to be the best they can be, whether dancing recreationally or aspiring to a career in dance.***

If you would like to sign up for classes and attend a trial class please use the QR code to register or visit the contact page of our website. We will be taking new pupils from week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> May.

Email: [admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk](mailto:admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk)

Website: [www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk](http://www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk)



## Songs to aid memory and wellbeing

Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, SG11 1TF

**Each Thursday 2.00–3.00pm**

Bringing people together to sing a variety of well-known and loved songs, in a fun and friendly environment. Mind & Music welcomes everyone, especially those affected by dementia and their carers, and those concerned about their memory.

Contact David Ranford: [ranfordd@gmail.com](mailto:ranfordd@gmail.com) / 07888 398336 / 01920 739762



## Emergency First Aid at Work First Aid Course



Thursday 11th May  
£120 a person

We will be holding another **Emergency First Aid at Work Course on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May**. Our instructor Roy Porteous is very experienced and makes the course enjoyable as well as informative. We have had some excellent feedback on our previous courses, and at £120 per attendee it is significantly cheaper than most courses elsewhere.

Attend2Health's services continue to expand. As well as chiropractors, physiotherapists, an osteopath, an acupuncturist, reflexology, massage, foot care and podiatry, hypnotherapy, a counsellor, an audiologist and nutritionist, we also now have an advanced nurse practitioner offering botox and B12 injections, as well as other aesthetic treatments. Our GP offers skin tag removal, mole checks, blood tests and hair loss treatment and we also have a speech therapist.

More information is on our website [www.attend2health.co.uk](http://www.attend2health.co.uk) or give us a call on **01763 87 80 87**. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Louise Hampton**

## BUNTINGFORD ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY (BACCS)

### GREEN DRINKS

Come and meet us in the back bar of the Crown on Market Hill every second Thursday of the month. Our next get-together is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm.

We have had some interesting discussions on local environmental issues over the last few months. Come and see what is happening locally, make some suggestions or just air your views. Learn more about the world we live in and how you can live more sustainably via an assortment of books and DVDs available to borrow through our 'Green Library'. Everyone is welcome.

**Madela and the Team**

Facebook: @BACCSBuntingford / Email: [baccsbuntingford@gmail.com](mailto:baccsbuntingford@gmail.com)



WHAT DO YOU WANT  
BUNTINGFORD  
TO LOOK LIKE IN  
**2050?**





Buntingford resident Chris Candler knows what he's talking about when it comes to protecting yourself against infection. In his day job he is Head of Operations for BioSure Global, a UK company that made its name developing and manufacturing highly accurate medical self-testing diagnostic tests that are used worldwide to help manage human infectious disease. The company's innovation made it a winner of Pitch@Palace in 2018.

Chris, who often works from home, moved here with his wife some years ago after an extensive property search convinced them that Buntingford was a good place to put down roots in their 'forever home'. He worked throughout the Covid pandemic and understands the importance of social safety, particularly for people who are vulnerable and living with health conditions and the increased risk of exposure to various viruses.

In October last year Chris was part of the team that launched the company's latest product – the new **BioSURE PRO Protective Nasal Spray** to prevent infection by airborne viruses. The spray's patented formula is proven to prevent airborne viruses, including colds, flu and COVID-19, for 6 hours after application. BioSure's products are stocked in more than 1,000 pharmacies in the UK and their aim is to reach people who are looking for an extra layer of protection and peace of mind when going to social events and travelling – whether that be going to work or abroad on holiday.

### The **BioSURE PRO Protective Nasal Spray**:

- Creates a **physical barrier** in the nose and nasopharyngeal passages to block airborne viruses from attaching to the cells in your nasal passages.
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- Clinically proven safe and effective against various human RSV (**common cold**), **influenza, COVID-19** (delta and omicron variants) & **rotavirus A**.
- **Drug-free** – can be used continuously for **ongoing protection** without risk of overdose or dependency and without degradation in effectiveness.
- The key ingredient is **ELAH**, which has been used for decades in certain mouthwashes to block bacterial growth. The same award-winning team of scientists developed the **patented formula** of BioSURE PRO.
- **600 hours of protection** (400 sprays) per bottle = 3 months protection if used daily.



So, wherever you are going, **BioSURE PRO** can block colds and flu before they start! Take control of you today and simply **spray, protect, go**.

<https://sprayprotectgo.com/>

# WHAT'S ON – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## MAY

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup> (& 30<sup>th</sup> Apr)** 10am–1pm: **Open Days** at Buntingford Bowls Club, Wyddial Rd
- Wed 3<sup>rd</sup>** 7.45 for 8pm: **Buntingford Gardeners Club** at URC Hall (p.16)
- Thur 4<sup>th</sup>:** **Local Elections** – polling in Buntingford is at the Seth Ward Community Centre and photo ID is required (p.15)
- Fri 5<sup>th</sup>–Mon 8<sup>th</sup>** 10am–5pm: **Living Crafts** at Hatfield Park (p.35)
- Sat 6<sup>th</sup>:** **The Coronation of King Charles III** (p.4); 5pm **Civic Service** (p.13)
- Sun 7<sup>th</sup>** 2–10.30pm: **Coronation Family Funday** at the Community Centre (p.4 & 5)
- Sun 7<sup>th</sup>** 1.30 & 5.30pm: **'Take a Bow'** Buntingford School of Dance show (p.41)
- Mon 8<sup>th</sup>** 1.30 for 2pm: **u3a Monthly Meeting** at Seth Ward Community Centre (p.39)
- Tue 9<sup>th</sup>** 2pm: **Buntingford Local History Group** in the Library (p.33)
- Wed 10<sup>th</sup>** 2–4pm: **Reed Garden Club** in Reed Village Hall (p.17)
- Thur 11<sup>th</sup>** 7pm: **Green Drinks with BACCS** at the Crown (p.42)
- Thur 11<sup>th</sup>** 7.15 for 7.30pm: **Buntingford W.I. Annual Meeting** at URC Hall (p.17)
- Sat 13<sup>th</sup>** 10am–4pm: **Barkway Market** in Barkway (p.8 & 9)
- Sat 13<sup>th</sup>** 7.15pm: **'A Right Royal Cluedo'** in Braughing Church Hall (p.9)
- Thur 18<sup>th</sup>:** **Menopause Café** at the Seth Ward Community Centre; contact [clairebudd1@googlemail.com](mailto:clairebudd1@googlemail.com) or call 07841 758577
- Fri 19<sup>th</sup>** 11.30am–1pm: **BALA Lunch and AGM** (p.37)
- Fri 19<sup>th</sup>** 7.30pm: **Buntingford Film Club** outdoors at Layston School (p.28)
- Thur 25<sup>th</sup>** 7pm: **'A Potted History of Buntingford'** talk in the Library (p.32)
- Fri 26<sup>th</sup>** 12–2pm: **Soup Lunch** in Reed Village Hall (p.11)
- Sat 27<sup>th</sup>** 7pm: **Concert in Memory of Peter Lawrence** in Reed (p.11)
- Sun 28<sup>th</sup>** 7pm: **Buntingford Film Club** at Westmill Church (p.28)

## LOOKING AHEAD

- 7<sup>th</sup> June:** **Buntingford Film Club A.G.M.** at the Crown (p.29)
- 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June:** **Cream Tea & Choir Concert** at St Mary's Church, Reed (p.11)
- 23<sup>rd</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> June:** **Food & Art Exhibition** at Gravelly Barn (p.34)

- Mondays:** From 8.30am: **Buntingford Market** on Market Hill  
10am–12noon: **Coffee Morning** at St Peter's Church  
10–11.45am: **Chatter Table** at the Manor House – 1st and 3rd Mondays  
11.45am–12.45pm: **Forever Cycling** at the Community Centre – 1st and 3rd Mondays (p.39)  
1.30 for 2pm: **Buntingford Senior Citizens' Club** at URC Hall  
7.30–9pm: **Buntingford Community Choir** at Millfield School (p.16)
- Tuesdays:** 7.30–9pm: **Braughing Sing Community Choir** in Jenyn's School Hall
- Wednesdays:** 8–10pm: **Ware & District Photographic Society** in Thundridge Village Hall  
**Buntingford Meditation** at St Peter's Church, except the 1st Wed in the month which is online: [www.mindful-worklife.com/buntingford-meditation](http://www.mindful-worklife.com/buntingford-meditation)
- Thursdays:** 10.30am–12.30: **Coffee & Company** at the URC Hall (p.14)  
12.30pm: **Functional Movement Class** in Reed Village Hall; contact Jessie Skeggs on 07977 146 380 / [www.peacefulchangePilates.com](http://www.peacefulchangePilates.com)  
2–3pm: **Mind & Music** at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre (p.41)
- Saturdays:** 10am: **Walking Football** at the MUGA, Norfolk Road Playing Fields



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# Buntingford Civic Society

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



## WHO ARE WE?

We are your local amenity group, established in the early 1970's 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.

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 and paid for works at the Layston Cemetary.

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

Contributed financially to the Freman College sports hall, Buntingford Film Club, previous Buntingford Carnivals, and to the planned Summer Arts in Buntingford 2022 weekend, and given a grant to the Friends of the River Rib and Quin Done River Rib cleans

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

Were actively involved with the production of the Neighbourhood Plan

Arranged four Buntingford in Bloom competitions our fifth in 2020 cancelled due to the pandemic.

Updated the circular walks on local footpaths leaflet in 2017

Hosted 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.

**TO JOIN PLEASE SEE THE MEMBERSHIP FORM ON OUR WEBSITE**

**[www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk](http://www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk)**

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## Carers in Hertfordshire's Carers Support Hub Groups and Peer Led Groups



The main purpose of the groups is to bring carers together so they can offer each other practical and emotional support in a friendly and welcoming support setting.

**If you would like to join in a group, we request that you book a place.** If the group nearest the area you live is at a time you cannot make, you are welcome to enquire about booking a place at another meeting. Please note the meetings may be subject to change so please contact us to check details.

If you would like to join in a meeting, please email [contact@carersinherts.org.uk](mailto:contact@carersinherts.org.uk) or phone **01992 58 69 69** and let us know which group you are interested in. If you are booking by phone it would be useful if you could confirm your email address so that we can send you the relevant details or login information.

### Carers in Hertfordshire Hub groups meeting face to face in community venues.

**Please do not attend if you are feeling unwell (such as coughing or sneezing) or are displaying any Covid-19 symptoms.**

Name of Group	When Meeting
Bishops Stortford	First Wednesday of the month, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Bishop's Stortford Baptist Church, Twyford Road, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 3LJ.
Buntingford	Last Tuesday of the month, 10.30am - 12.30pm. The Manor House, High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AB
Royston	First Thursday of the month, 10.30am – 12.30pm. Royston Town Hall (Heritage Hall), Melbourn Street, Royston, SG8 7DA.
For information regarding other groups in Hertfordshire, please contact Carers in Hertfordshire	

In addition to our Carer Support Hubs we have a couple of Peer Led Groups as follows:

- ❖ **Men's Carers Group**, which is meeting on Zoom on the **third Tuesday of the month, 10.30am – 11.30am**. Please contact us if you'd like to join the meeting.
- ❖ **Evening Carers Group**, which is meeting on Zoom on the **second Wednesday of the month, 7pm - 8pm**. Please contact us if you'd like to join the meeting.
- ❖ **Morning Carers Group** which is meeting on Zoom on the **second Friday of the month 10.30am – 11.30am**. Please contact us if you'd like to join the meeting.
- ❖ **Reading Carers Group** which is meeting on Zoom currently on the **Second Thursday of the month 10.30am and 11.30am** (The frequency of these meetings is still to be confirmed so please do contact us for more details if you would like to join this meeting.)
- ❖ **Our Carers' Camera Club** also meets monthly. The group has a mix of online and in person meetings, so please contact us for details.

Our Carer Support Advisors are available if you would like more information about various other groups that are meeting. You can contact them 9.30am – 5pm Monday to Thursday and 9am - 4pm on Fridays for advice or support related to your caring role.

**To contact Carers in Hertfordshire: Call: 01992 58 69 69**

**Email: [contact@carersinherts.org.uk](mailto:contact@carersinherts.org.uk)**

**Visit: [www.carersinherts.org.uk](http://www.carersinherts.org.uk)**

# 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.

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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 website with a link to your website.

For more information call Keith Edwards on 01763 272 032 or email [advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk](mailto:advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk)

For one-off adverts or to advertise a specific event, contact the Journal editor, Christine Noble, on 01763 273 095 or email [journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk](mailto:journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk). Adverts for charitable or community events are normally free of charge.

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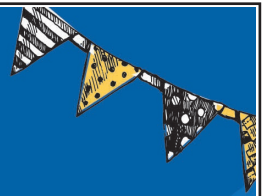
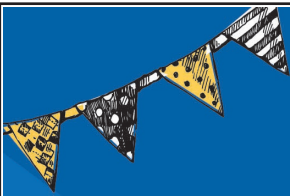
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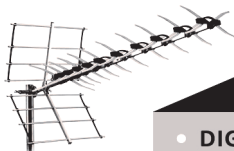
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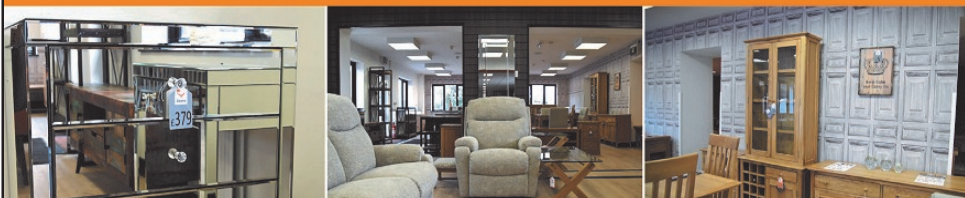


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The logo for Buntingford Food Bank features the word "BUNTINGFORD" in a dark green, sans-serif font at the top. Below it is a horizontal orange line. The words "FOOD" and "BANK" are stacked in a large, bold, dark green font with a white outline and a slight shadow effect. Another horizontal orange line is positioned below "BANK". The background is filled with various colorful icons of food items like fruits, vegetables, and bread.

BUNTINGFORD

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