



THE BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL

**WESTMILL ART
EXHIBITION IS BACK!**
LAST WEEKEND IN MAY
30TH/31ST AT ST MARY'S
THE VIRGIN CHURCH MORE
DETAILS ON P.18

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

May 2026 Volume 51 | Issue 4

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WATER (Affinity Water)

SEWERAGE (Thames Water)

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Emergency (gas leaks) – Freephone 0800 111 999

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calls within 24 hours (except at weekends).

www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk

Buntingfordfoodhub@gmail.com | 07842 889 772



LETTER FROM

The Editor

How is it May already? Is it just me, am I getting older, or is this year zipping by? It seems like only a few weeks ago we were in the depths of winter and I was longing for those gorgeous May spring days and now they are here! I do hope that things slow down a little now so that we can enjoy them.

This month we have another packed Journal for you with lots to read about. I enjoyed reading the History Group article about utilities. I was surprised to learn that the invention of the flushing toilet was a long time coming. With the very first iteration being invented for Elizabeth I in 1592, but it was so complex that it wasn't until 1775 almost 200 years later that someone patented an idea, and even that wasn't widely adopted until Thomas Crapper came along in 1861.

We have a host of events for your entertainment again this month, from Buntingford Live!'s concerts and drag night to the fantastic Art Exhibition at Westmill Church at the end of the month, see p.18 for details. I was lucky enough to visit this last year and almost spent a fortune... the variety and quality of artwork there is very high, as you can see from our cover star this month. If you are looking for a new piece to adorn your walls then I highly recommend you go take a look.

We also have *Nuremburg*, our last film of the season from Buntingford Cinema, before they take a break for the summer.

Anne

BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL

MAY 2026

EDITOR

Anne Wright

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Journal Contributions
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Buntingford, Herts, SG9 9AB

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advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

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

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

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

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

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

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ON THE COVER

Summer Flower Meadow by Helen Day - available to see at the Westmill Art Exhibition see p.18



BUNTINGFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Graham Waite, Chairman

chairman@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Member of

CIVIC VOICE
talking civic sense

reg. Charity: 1014873

To those who managed to attend the Society's AGM on the 21st April, we hope you found the evening interesting and learnt a little about the activities undertaken by various Society members throughout the year. We are always looking for new ideas and welcome comments, ideas and projects to which, it is felt, the Society could add value. A prime example of member project involvement is the River Rib restoration project which is ongoing and the coming months should hopefully see a landmark in this long running project, but more about that in the Members Newsletter later this year. If you do have any ideas that you would like to share with the committee then please send them to the writer at chairman@buntingfordcivic.org.uk.

Following on from last month we hope all residents and businesses in the Town found the time to participate in the consultation on the HCC plans to "Improve Buntingford Town Centre". The consultation period ended at midnight on the 26th April and the results will probably be available sometime in the next couple of months.

Just a gentle reminder to all members that May is the month for renewing your membership of the Society. The membership fee is still £10 per annum which includes your Journal being delivered to your door. This year you will

not have to submit a renewal form unless your circumstances have changed since renewing for 2025 / 2026 or have joined the Society since October 2025, where renewal is not required until May 2027. If you do need to update your information, then please contact us at secretary@buntingfordcivic.org.uk.

The preferred payment method is by Bank Transfer as it saves admin costs, if made by Bank Transfer, the account name is Buntingford Civic Society, Account number 80209511, Sort code 20-73-26, and please quote your surname and first line of address as the payment reference. Alternatively, cash or a cheque made payable to Buntingford Civic Society can be sent to the Membership Secretary, c/o Buntingford Town Council, The Manor House, Buntingford, SG9 9JQ. Please add your name and address to the rear of the cheque or if paying cash a note with your details would be appreciated.

Now that we have lighter evenings and slightly warmer days it is so nice to see the spring bulbs, especially daffodils, brightening the verges, especially on Station Road, the daffodil fairies certainly did a good job over the Winter, let's hope they return this coming Autumn.

Graham Waite

Chairman, Buntingford Civic Society

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



BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk

01763 272 222

clerk@buntingford-tc.gov.uk

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

 @buntingfordtc  @BuntingfordTC

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

The ATF II Consultation closes on the 26th April 2026. The Engineers made many changes to the original plans as a result of the first consultation, removing most of the things people were objecting to. Once the responses to the second consultation have been reviewed, the next stage will be announced, together with the result on the 20mph question i.e. whether it should be a zone, or the whole town.

Anti-social behaviour in Layston Court Gardens continues, most of which seems to be centred around the gazebo. As a result the gazebo has become unstable and Councillors have to decide the future of the gazebo, whether to repair or replace, both at significant cost or to dismantle with a view to installing an alternative at a later date. The final decision on this will be made at the end of April.

A rare opportunity to rent a ground floor office at the Manor House has arisen. The office is 15.55sqm and rental is £380

per month to include all services except business rates. If you are interested, please call in and we can show you around.

The Annual Town meeting will take place on 28th May 2026 at the Seth Ward Community Centre. This is a meeting of the electorate not the Town Council. Please come along and find out what the Town Council has achieved over the past year, there will also be an opportunity to ask questions. The meeting will be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Council where the Mayor for the 26/27 year will be agreed.

Details of the May Council meetings below.

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

Jill Jones PSLCC Cert HE -Town Clerk

Town Council meetings for the month of May are:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--|
| Thursday 7th May | 7pm | Amenities Committee. |
| Thursday 14th May | 7pm | Planning and 7:15pm Resources Committee |
| Thursday 28th May | 7pm | Annual Town Meeting followed by the Annual Meeting of the Council and a Full Council meeting – all held at the Seth Ward Community Centre. |

All meetings held at The Manor House unless indicated otherwise.

BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY NEWS

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

May is a very busy month in the Hertfordshire Libraries calendar. We will be celebrating Explore Your Archives and Local History Month. We have some wonderful activities planned throughout the month and these will culminate on Monday June 1st when Buntingford Library will celebrate exactly 100 years of the Buntingford Branch.

The official opening of the Buntingford Library Branch was on June 1st, 1926, at 6pm. We will be holding a 1920's themed celebration at the library on June 1st from 6pm-8.30pm to mark this very special milestone.

We are planning a memorable evening, with the highlight being a talk about the history of Buntingford Library from its humble beginnings in the Parish Room to its current High street location. Carol, from the Local History Group, who has researched and written the talk, will deliver it on the night. The Buntingford Library History talk will also be delivered on **Thursday 28th May at 2pm**.

Celebrating 100 years of Buntingford Library

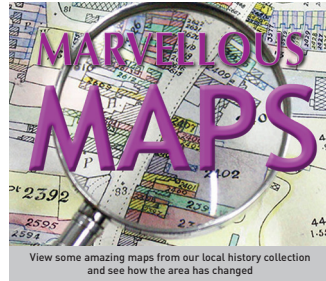
- **Monday 1st June 2026**
- Time: 6pm-8.30pm
- Tickets: Book in the Library as places are limited
- Price: Free, refreshments included

Explore Your Archives and Local History Month Events: Memories Of Buntingford

Come along to our HUB in the library for a cuppa, some sweet treats and chat about Buntingford and have a look at the photos

and documents that will be on display.

- **Thursday 7th May 10am-2pm**
- Drop in, Donations welcome



Marvellous Maps

We are opening our map cabinet and the map archive. Come along to see maps of Buntingford both past and present and compare the then and now on a side-by-side comparison. In the HUB room with refreshments.

- **Thursday 21st May 10am-2pm**
- Drop in, Donations welcome

Build Your Lego Town

We will be building Buntingford in Lego and will see where the three Buntingford Library locations were in Buntingford.

- **Tuesday 26th May, 2pm-4pm**
- Ages 5 and over
- £4.40 per child
- Book in the Library

Buntingford Library History Talk

Come along to hear Carol deliver the History of Buntingford Library.

Thursday 28th May, 2pm

Donations welcome, refreshments included.

Book in the library, as places are limited.

Herts Memories

BUNTINGFORD

Thursday 7th May
10am-2pm
The Hub, Buntingford Library

Join us for a morning of nostalgia, a chance to explore and share photos and memories of our town. Plus, an opportunity to discover our local stuides collection.

FREE drop in, donations welcome

ARCHIVE
EXPLORED

Further details 0300 123 4049
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/exploreyourarchives



Ready, Steady, Build



Town for Hertfordshire

Buntingford Library
Tuesday 26th May
2pm-3pm

Suitable for children aged 7-12

All children must be accompanied by an adult

£4.40 per child

Admits one adult free

Tickets available from: Book in the library

ARCHIVE
EXPLORED

#HertsLibraryLego

Further details 0300 123 4049
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/exploreyourarchives



Celebrating 100 Years of Buntingford Library

DATE: MONDAY 1ST JUNE 2026

TIME: 6PM-8.30PM

TICKETS: BOOK IN THE LIBRARY AS PLACES
ARE LIMITED

PRICE: FREE, REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED



BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY

77 High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AE

Telephone enquiries: 0300 123 4049

Follow us on Facebook

#BuntingfordLibrary

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

Opening Times:

Mon, Tue, Thur 10am – 5:30pm

Fri 2pm – 5:30pm

Sat 9am – 1pm

Regular events:

Baby Rhyme Time:

Mondays at 10:30 & 11:30

Jigsaw and Cards: Tuesday at 10:30

Chair Yoga with Kim: Wednesday at 11

Story Time: Thursday at 10:30

Lego Club: Second Thursday of the month at 4pm

The Friday Club: Friday 4pm-5pm

I'm becoming more aware of how much energy our household gadgets and appliances use, and it's making me think about our bills. Do you have any tips to help us cut down on energy use and save some money at home?

It's completely normal to worry about rising energy bills. The good news is that adopting a few simple habits into your daily routine can make a real difference. Here are some practical tips to help you take control of your energy use and save money.

In the bathroom

Reducing the length of your shower time can help. Try reducing the water temperature of your shower too, as cooler showers use less energy.

Doing your washing

Using your washing machine's 'eco' cycle takes longer, but uses less energy. For laundry that isn't heavily soiled, use a cold cycle (20 or 30 degrees Celsius).

If possible, hanging your washing outside is an effective (and free) way to dry clothes - weather permitting! If not, using a heated clothes airer instead of a tumble dryer is a good option as they are cheaper to run.

In the kitchen

Air fryers, microwaves and slow cookers usually use less energy than an oven or hob. Putting lids on pans while you're cooking and using the right size pan for the amount of food you are preparing will use less energy heating it.

When you boil the kettle, measure out the water you need. Boiling water in the kettle before adding to the pan will also help your food cook more quickly meaning you use less energy.

Defrost your fridge or freezer once or twice a year and don't hold the door open for extended periods of time - this will help use less energy to stay cold.

Your heating

Check the temperature on the thermostat - between 18 and 21 degrees Celsius is fine for most people.

Check your heating times - if you have a boiler, set the temperature two or three degrees lower, (or programme it to be off) when you're out or asleep.

Check the thermostatic radiator valves - some have numbers on them. You can set each one to the lowest number that keeps the room comfortable. Set them to 3 or 4 for rooms you want warmer and 1 or 2 for rooms you want cooler.

Install radiator reflectors behind radiators on external walls if your house isn't well insulated. These are easy to install even in rented homes, and will make rooms feel warmer.

You can find out more about energy saving tips here. If you're worried about paying your energy bills you can get advice on our website or contact Citizens Advice East Herts on 01920 459 944.

1984 - 2024



rats

Celebrating 40 Years of Animal Rescue

Anjuli Cooper

www.rats-animalrescue.co.uk

Meet Inga & Our Latest News

It's been a busy and exciting month here at RATS Animal Rescue, and we couldn't do any of it without our incredible team.

They're at the heart of everything we do, working tirelessly behind the scenes to make a real difference to the animals in our care. This month, we're delighted to introduce Inga, one of our dedicated Kennel Supervisors, who shares her journey into rescue work, what daily life at the kennels looks like, and the moments that make it all so worthwhile.

Ever wondered what it really takes to care for rescue dogs day in, day out? Inga is right at the centre of it all, helping to keep everything running smoothly and ensuring every dog receives the care, patience, and love they deserve. From morning feeds to keeping kennels clean and comfortable, her days are hands-on and full of purpose. She's also a huge support to our volunteers, helping to create a calm, safe space where dogs can begin to relax, rebuild trust, and start their journey to a forever home. You can read more about Inga's story on our website.



shelter, and second chances to animals who need it most. Whether you're browsing for a bargain or simply want to support a cause close to your heart, we'd love to welcome you in.

We're also really looking forward to our upcoming **Dog Show on 17 May 2026**, from 9:30am to 2:30pm at Bedfordshire Growers, Potton Road, Biggleswade SG18 0ER. Held annually, it's always a lovely day, bringing together our community of supporters and their four-legged friends for fun, laughter, and a shared love of dogs.

We currently have many dogs, cats, and small animals looking for loving homes. If you're thinking about adopting, or would simply like to support what we do, you can find out more about our work, the charity shop, and upcoming events on our website: www.rats-animalrescue.co.uk. Every visit, every share, and every bit of support helps us continue giving animals the second chances they deserve.



April has also brought some wonderful news for our rescue, with the opening of our brand-new charity shop at 77 High Street,

Ware, SG12 9AD. The shop is full of pre-loved treasures and unique finds, and every single purchase helps us continue our life-changing work - providing care,

WARE & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Barbara Norris

www.wareps.org.uk



Caracara - Christine Holt

This is our last report of the season. Several members of the Society have had work accepted in this year's Annual Exhibition of the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies. The exhibition opens on **Saturday 2 May** at Bury St.Edmunds for 2 weeks but check the opening times on the website.

Our season finishes on **27th May** and we recommence on Wednesday 9th September. The new programme will appear on the website wareps.org.uk.

Our Annual Exhibition is being held on **Saturday 10 October** at Thundridge Village Hall 10am-4pm. Tea/coffee and homemade cakes will be available. New members and visitors are warmly welcome to come along on Wednesday evenings 8-10pm at Thundridge Village Hall.

Low Tide at Eigg - Mark Sims



BRAUGHING GET TOGETHER DIARY DATES

Andy Ayres

Once again Braughing Get Together had a successful Whist Drive night with 7 tables of competing players. As with Bingo and Beetle Drive games evenings are a big hit.

On **Friday 1st May** we will host a Chilli Supper evening (Veggie option available) which will be accompanied the the film "The Duke" starring Helen Mirren and Jim Broadbent.

Kempton Bunton, a 60 year old taxi driver, steals Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London to campaign for social causes, whilst his wife, Dorothy, struggles with his actions and their strained finances. Cost is £10.

On **Friday 5th June** we have organised an exclusive trip to the Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey where we will receive a welcome talk, coffee and biscuits, a tractor tour and a sandwich lunch. This is a self-drive with some car seats with friends. Cost is £35.

We will take a break in July and August, but return in September with a talk about wines from our local sommelier James Shaw.

Look out for our posters, emails and social media for more details closer to the events.

Braughing Get Together events are held in the Braughing Church Hall and doors open at 7pm.

Our events are open to all, including those from outside of Braughing, to enjoy each others company and make new friends.

To reserve your places or for more information contact Cynthia Matthews:

Via email:

cynthia.matthews44@gmail.com

Via phone:

01920 822 230
or 07933 202 547

THE BUNTINGFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Bryan Jones

Had a busy month arranging our first trip to the coast for June as the days are getting longer and the nights are shorter. So why not join us for a game of Bingo plus tea/coffee and meet new friends.

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

For more information, please call Val on:- 01763 272 019.



Back: John Dewey, Keith Plummer, Roger Peacock, Chris Thurgill, Paul Clifton, Brian Tebbutt, Lyn Kendal-Archer, Keith Bradfield,

Front: Jennifer Gibbs, Beverley Peacock, David Hill, Tricia Hill, Jacqui Plummer, Monica Bird, Mike Murfitt (Group Leader), Gaye Murfitt, Veronica Dewey, Heather Jackson, Naomi Olley, Ann Griffin, Anne Franks, Fran Feek

Members of the London Walking Group enjoyed a lovely sunny day exploring the Inns of Court. The photo was taken outside the Lincoln Inns Field Chambers and Gardens.

Forthcoming Monthly Meetings:

Monday 11th May - Sue Thiedman – ‘Nepal Adventures’. Sue tells us about her Adventures trekking through Nepal and about the people she met along the way.

Monday 8th June – ‘Florence Nightingale & Mary Seacole’.

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

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

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

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

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

Gary Fisher made a return visit to us in April, this time talking about the Bayeux Tapestry which, Gary said, is technically not a tapestry as the design is embroidered into the cloth rather than woven. It is very long and, to put it into perspective, it would go two and half times round the URC Hall!

Gary told us that the tapestry was almost certainly embroidered by women in Canterbury and he described each of the scenes, culminating in the Battle of

Hastings and the death of King Harold. I hadn't realised that Halley's Comet which appeared in April 1066 is also featured!

Also in April, groups of us enjoyed lunch at The Green Man, a WI fashion show and we also took part in the Mayor's Quiz in Buntingford.

Our Meeting in May is our Annual Meeting when a new Committee will be appointed. We are proposing to have a bring and share supper and also an updated Beetle Drive.

If you would like further information about us, or would like to join us, please contact our Secretary Pat on 01763 271 305.

BUNTINGFORD GARDENER'S CLUB

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 6th May
At: The URC Hall, Baldock Road
Doors open: 7:45pm for 8pm start

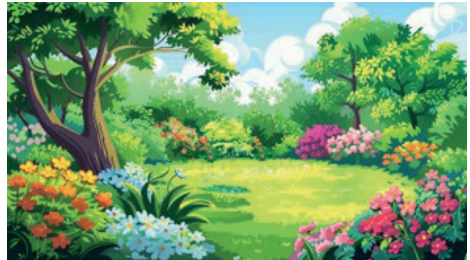
It's that time of year, start to plant out those summer bedding flowers, sow a variety of vegetables like runner beans, sweetcorn or carrots and finally care for your now finished bulbs. Tie those leaves back, don't cut them off and let them die back naturally.

This month at the Gardening Club we are pleased to have Gavin Vicary join us from the NE Herts Swift Group. He will be giving us a talk regarding the protection of the swift population in our region.

We also have our monthly competition which is: A Spring Flower so please bring along your favourite.

If you fancy joining our coach trip to **Kelmarsh Hall on Thursday 18th June**, payment is being taken at this meeting and spaces are limited. Prices are £38 for members and £42 for visitors.

Our club is a friendly club for gardeners of all ages and experience.



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

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

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

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

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

REED CHURCH EVENTS

Liz Jakeman

Strawberry Fayre

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

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

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

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

Jazz in the Churchyard

Our ever popular Jazz Event with the Rockin' Chair Band will be held in Reed Churchyard on **Sunday 14th June from**

12 - 4pm. In addition to a delicious lunch there will also be a Licensed Bar.

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

BOOK SALE IN REED

A very good quality second hand Book Sale will be held in Reed Church on **Friday 8th and Saturday 9th May.**

The Church will be open from 10am - 4pm on both days. Proceeds to St Mary's Church, Reed.

Light refreshments provided.

All very welcome.

FRIENDS OF REED CHURCH

Friends of Reed Church present a Murder Mystery Play with the Barkway Players on **Saturday 2nd May at 7pm for 7.30pm.** Join us for an evening of mystery, sleuth and cunning. Enjoy a Ploughman's Supper

and Licenced Bar whilst having the opportunity to solve a shocking crime!!

Admission £20 per person. To book please contact Liz - 07596 597 042 or elizabethjakeman@live.co.uk

REED GARDEN CLUB

Jenny Gottfried

The next monthly meeting is at Reed Village Hall from 2-4pm on Wednesday 13th May. Entry £4 including tea coffee and home baking.

We're going to start with a few fun rounds of bingo followed by a talk given by Kate Harwood. She'll be telling us all about the

work of the Hertfordshire Gardens Trust . She's on the committee for the trust and is their Conservation and Planning Officer.

New faces are always welcome; you don't have to be a Reed resident. Organised by Jane and Jenny (07753 267006)

N.B. There will be no meeting in June as we'll be visiting a garden instead.



Questions and answers about Buntingford Community Choir.

Where and when do you meet? Monday evening 7.30pm at Millfield School Buntingford.

Do you meet every Monday? We meet following the school term time table (13 sessions per term).

How much does it cost? Only £5 per week. There are no upfront subscriptions.

What type of music do you sing? Mostly popular songs and songs from Musicals. You probably will be familiar with most of them.

Do you have to read Music? Definitely not, some people do but the majority sing from pre-printed Lyric sheets.

Do you have to audition? No anyone (over 16) with any musical ability is welcome.

What is the new Musical Director like? She is really nice, a professional music and singing teacher. Every session is serious but light hearted and a lot of fun.

Do you sing in public performances? We haven't for a while as we were searching for a new Music Director, but hopefully we will performing again in the summer.

If you have a question that I haven't answered, please email me at:

info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk

or via the website

www.buntingfordchoir.co.uk

BUNTINGFORD SCHOOL of DANCE

BABY BOPPERS

Saturdays: 9.00-9.30am
Christ Church URC Hall
BOOK & PAY ONLINE
Scan QR code to BOOK & PAY FOR YOUR CLASS

BOOK YOUR CLASS HERE

ADMIN@BUNTINGFORDSCHOOLOFDANCE.CO.UK

The Buntingford Journal is delivered FREE to members of the Buntingford Civic Society, membership is just £10 per year. If you would like to join the Civic Society, you can download an application form from the BCS website: www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk or email the Membership Secretary, Peter Lohmeyer, at membership@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

or it can be purchased from:

THE CO-OP

LOCKS, STOCK & MORE

MARK DOEL BUTCHERS

BUDGENS/POST OFFICE

WESTMILL ART EXHIBITION 2026

Alex Savile

After the resounding success of last year's Westmill Art Exhibition, we're delighted to announce that—by popular demand—it will return once again for its 36th year.

Last year over 65 artists exhibited a total of 350 pieces, with the majority making at least one sale. We're pleased to welcome back many of those artists, along with introducing an exciting number of new exhibitors. The Exhibition continues to showcase both professional and amateur talent, predominantly from the local area. If you're interested in exhibiting your own work, we warmly encourage you to get in touch—please don't hesitate to contact the organisers at alex@alexphotos.co.uk or 07768 790 902 for more information.

Blessed with beautiful sunshine, last year's two-day event had an incredible atmosphere, and we're hoping for more of the same this year. Come along not only to enjoy the Exhibition, but also to experience the charm of the village of Westmill. While you're here, you can visit the Westmill Tea Rooms or the Sword Inn Hand pub—perfect additions to a lovely day out.

All funds raised will go towards supporting Westmill Church, helping to meet the significant costs that churches face these days of maintaining their history and beauty, in addition to the general running costs. Beyond that, the Exhibition is a fantastic community event, bringing together volunteers and encouraging local residents to take the exciting step of exhibiting their work for the first time.

Be sure to mark your calendar: **Saturday 30th May & Sunday 31st May**. Join us



Helen Day: Summer Flower Meadow



Jennifer Foulds: Puffin Billy

at St Mary the Virgin Westmill Church, SG9 9LJ to view—and perhaps even purchase—some inspiring artwork.

We look forward to welcoming you!



Laura Blight 2026 RACE



Lynne Lawrence: Anyone for a Martini

Westmill

Art

EXHIBITION 2026

FREE ENTRY

Sat 30th - Sun 31st May

10.00am - 5.00 pm

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH,
WESTMILL SG9 9LJ**

All proceeds go to
Westmill Church

Kindly Sponsored By
Poulton Building Supplies
Landscaping & Garden Materials

a showcase of
art by local artists,
for sale at
affordable prices

BUNTINGFORD WRITER'S GROUP

David Everett

Parker's Dilemma

The day PC Barney Parker retired from his regular job on the beat in our local police force was not a particularly happy one for him or his wife Vera.

Never a man to sit around watching television, particularly the daytime variety, he wandered round their little three-up two down semi in Leeds like some caged beast, thinking 'If this what retirement's all about they can definitely keep it!' But what exactly could he do about it? He'd never been in a situation like this before.

His life in the police force had been spent primarily 'on the beat' and he had been popular with the local community, representing law and order in an area, which prior to his arrival had been lacking for several years. The patch he patrolled was not one of the most salubrious of places in Leeds, but during his beat on the streets, things had been considerably better and safer than before his arrival ten years ago.

Nowadays, day after day, everyone was a boring replica of the one before which was a situation he could not tolerate long-term. Apart from the people he met, many of whom had become acquaintances over the years, he missed the hustle and bustle of a city waking up each day. The raucous voices of street traders and folk in general, going about their everyday work, kids chattering on their way to school, the constant sound of traffic noise etc. It had always been like virtual music to his ears.

In short, the rhythm of a life he never thought he would miss as much as he did today.

Unbeknown to him, as he sat each morning, reluctantly watching yet another

boring daytime TV programme, Vera realised she would have to take matters into her own hands. So she did..

Charlie Enfield, the neighbourhood greengrocer and Barney had become good buddies over the years. In fact, when Charley's brother Harold and business partner had had major hip surgery a few years back, Barney stepped in to help whenever his free time allowed, to give Charlie a hand.

Recently Harold had passed away, and Charlie, now in his eighties was struggling to keep the business going. Vera thus decided to pay Charlie a visit and put a proposition to him. Explaining Barney's fear of becoming a 'victim of weekday TV' would he like some help in the shop for a few hours a week? Charlie most certainly would and jumped at the suggestion!

The only person to convince now was Barney. And he didn't need much of that!

For him, this really was salvation and whilst Charley couldn't pay him much, the Parkers would never want for fresh vegetables in future!

And to add icing to the cake, Barney, a renowned ukulele player, was offered the opportunity, completely out of the blue, to give a couple of lessons a week to local pensioners via the U3A Music Appreciation Group. As George Formby would have once said 'Turned out nice!'

Add to this, the little list of odd household chores Vera would sometimes put together and weekday TV soon became a thing of the past.

Thus, the rhythm and meaning of everyday life returned to Barney quicker than he could ever have thought possible.



WARD FREMAN

COMMUNITY POOL
GROUP

Frazer Willett

fwillett@wardfremanpool.org

www.wardfremanpool.org

 [WardFremanPool](https://www.facebook.com/WardFremanPool)

At time of writing in mid April, we are still anxiously waiting for the freehold to complete, but the exciting news is that we have paid the deposit to our contractors to order the various pieces of hardware needed to repair the filtration and chemical dosing systems.

Whilst we never doubted ourselves, this step really makes the project feel like it's no longer a pipe dream but a reality. The tiling firm they are using has just completed work on the Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh, so we are in safe, expert hands!

A slight bump in the road (or wave in the water) concerns the water supply. The pool as many of you will know, was built in the 1970's as an addition to the Ward Freman School. It was never intended to be a stand alone facility. As such the water supply is complicated and we need to establish a new independent water supply. (Thankfully the gas supply, coming as a later addition to the original oil fired boilers is separately metered.)

A new water supply is an expense that we had not considered and therefore not budgeted for in our original plan (we had assumed a water meter could be fitted to the existing pipes, but this is not the case).

Whilst we have raised funds to reopen the pool through the support of individual donors, fundraising events and grants, we can't open a swimming pool without water!

An application has been made to Affinity Water to establish a new connection and the design is being finalised by them at the moment. We do

now though need to raise an additional £13,000 to fund this sub-project. I'm afraid we cannot take direct donations of water, so please scan this QR code to access our new Crowdfunder page!



Don't forget to get in touch through the website www.wardfremanpool.org if you can volunteer to help with cleaning or maintenance once we're open. Thank you to those who already have. There will of course be opportunities for employment as lifeguards as well as other voluntary roles on reception or in the café we hope to open.

Frazer Willett – Trustee.

BUNTINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Carol Emery

buntingfordlocalhistorygroup@hotmail.com

At this month's meeting the talk was on the remaining utilities within the town. We started with the sewerage system, although not the most pleasant of subjects one of the most vital utilities. Originally sewerage was allowed to flow into ditches or directly onto land, this was far from ideal as it would seep into the water courses and contaminate the water supply, hence the number of cases of infectious diseases. Toilets were primitive affairs either a hole in the ground over which would be placed a wooden seat of sorts this may drain into a cess pool. Once the hole or cess pool was full someone would have to empty it or another hole dug and the "toilet" moved to a new location. Many builders and plumbers would employ men to dig out the waste usually overnight when the temperature was lower and the smell then not as bad. The waste would then be taken to a field or in some cases a sewerage farm where it was spread on the ground and nature would take its course and rot it down. It would be sold to farmers for fertilizer.

In 1592 a gentleman called Sir John Harrington invented the first "water closet" for Elizabeth I however, it didn't catch on as it was too complicated and too expensive so people continued to use the earth closets. It wasn't until 1775 that a patent for a flushing WC was granted to a Scottish watchmaker called Alexander Cumming. Over the years this was improved upon but was still expensive and out of reach of the vast majority of the population.

In July 1840 a Hertford plumber called Thomas Crapper came up with a design where when you sat on the lightly spring-loaded seat it set in motion a series of

levers and pulleys and a hopper filled with water. When you rose up the seat lifted slightly and the water was released into the toilet bowl to flush it.

One of the best known flushing WCs was manufactured by Thomas Crapper who started his own company in 1861. His product was soon spotted by the Royal Family and he installed 30 of his toilets at Sandringham House, he also installed them at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. There are still manhole covers with his name on at Westminster Abbey where he also installed plumbing.



This is one of his designs

It appears from maps that Buntingford's sewerage farm started around 1876, it was located in Aspenden and was quite a rudimentary affair but served its purpose. Also on the site were some allotments presumably using the rotted waste as fertilizer. This was nothing new as even today farmers receive treated waste from



This map shows the site of the original sewerage farm and the piece of land sold to the council by C H Poulton

sewerage works which they use on the fields to enrich the soil.

By 1931 the sewerage works needed to be enlarged so the council came up with 2 solutions.

1. Buying more land adjacent to the sewerage farm to extend it
2. A modern filtration system at the cost of about £2000 plus the cost of pumping the sewerage at the works.

The council opted for the extension and Charles Poulton sold the council a plot of land adjacent to the existing sewerage farm for £225. They couldn't start work on the new acquisition as the ministry hadn't authorised the work.

At some stage the old sewerage farm was decommissioned and a new filtration system installed which is what we have now. This too became unable to cope with the volume of waste as the town grew in size. The site was updated very recently and by 2024 Thames Water who own and manage the site had spent £17.4 million to increase its capacity, whether this will be enough to cope with the additional housing planned for the town we will have to wait and see.

Prior to 1861 Buntingford had no gas or electricity, lighting, heating and cooking had to rely on coal, coke, wood and oil/paraffin to supply those things. In 1861 a company was formed by some of the wealthier people in the town to buy a piece of land at the southern end of the town and build a gas production unit. The lane leading to this was called Gashouse Lane now Downhall Ley. They raised £1000 and employed Mr Saggors and Mr Hamilton to build the works. This included a gas retort house in which coal, delivered from the railway yard, was burnt in a "retort" which was starved of oxygen. The gas given off in this process was collected and stored in a gas ohmmeter and then distributed via a



This 1897 map shows the site of the gas works

BUNTINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP CONT...

series of underground pipes to shops and homes throughout the town. The main byproducts of this process were coke, and coal tar. At the start the pipes were laid in London Road, High Street, Great Lane and Union Terrace where the bulk of the shops and houses were.

On the 1st February 1862 gas lamps situated mainly along the High Street were lit in the evening. They had to be lit and extinguished by hand and according to Philip Plumb a man called George Linsell not only did this but was in charge of running the gas works itself.

To start with the wealthier residents in the town had the gas laid onto their houses and used it to light the rooms and for cooking. In time more and more people had a supply connected and you could hire a cooker to replace the ranges people had been using. Hot water could be supplied using a gas geyser.

At first the company The Buntingford Gas and Coke Company Ltd made a good profit as more and more people signed up for a supply, the gas works had to expand with a larger retort house and a bigger gas ohmmeter and the pipes were extended into Baldock Lane, Newtown and Norfolk Road as more and more houses were built. Then disaster struck in 1922 electricity came to the town and people moved over to electric, the workhouse was one of the first to convert and they were the biggest customer the gas company had. The gas pipes

began to leak as they were not buried deep enough and with the advent of cars and lorries using the roads rather than horse and carts gas was escaping from them. The company called in an engineer to write a report about the whole system. His report was very thorough and the result was that to bring it up to a decent standard would cost £1623. The shareholders decided to wind up the company. The gas holder was removed and for a time the retort house was used as a squash court. Eventually all the buildings were demolished and the site sold along with Layston Lodge Downhall Ley housing development was built.



The retort house before it was demolished

The final utility was the electricity which arrived in 1922 from a company called Northmet. In 1900 the government had allowed companies to set up as electricity suppliers and the North Metropolitan Supply Company was formed. They built a power station at Brimsdown in Enfield and went about supplying electricity to Ware, Hertford, Hatfield, Welwyn, St Albans as well as towns in North London. They continued to build power stations and increase the towns and villages where they installed electricity. Buntingford's electricity supply arrived in 1922 and

NATIONAL FOOD CAMPAIGN

SPECIAL ELECTRIC COOKERY DEMONSTRATIONS AT YOUR NORTHMET SHOWROOM

High Street, Buntingford

2nd and 4th Thursday in each Month at 3 p.m.

Special Demonstration to Women's Associations can be arranged
if they will communicate with the nearest Northmet Showroom.

FREE SEATS - FREE ADVICE - FREE RECIPES



one of the first to change over from gas to electric was the workhouse. They advertised their connection service which in 1931 would cost 19/- down the rest payable over 1 to 5 years.

They continued advertising in all the local papers promoting electric cookers, hot water heaters and many household gadgets the modern housewife would want. They opened a shop in the High St, now the opticians, and the room at the back was used to give cookery demonstrations using electric cookers. This was very popular during the war years when they showed housewives how to make meals with the ingredients available during rationing.

In 1948 the government nationalised the electricity industry and 12 regional boards were set up to supply power, we then received our power from Eastern Electricity. The power stations, pylons, and infrastructure all came under the British Electricity Authority which in 1957 became the Central Electricity Generating Board. In 1990 the government

denationalised the 12 electricity boards and many new companies entered the market to supply our power. The CEGB was also broken up into Powergen, National Grid Company and National Power. Now all our coal powered power stations have closed to meet the net zero targets, and power is generated using wind, solar, nuclear, hydro, and bio energy. We also buy electricity from Belgium, Netherlands, France and Norway which arrives via undersea cables.

Our next meeting is on **12th May 2026** at United Reformed Church Hall at 2pm. Everyone is welcome it costs just £2 per person which includes tea or coffee.



BRAUGHING FAIR AND WHEELBARROW RACE

Saturday 11th July 2026 - 12 noon until 6pm

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

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

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

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

Prizes for Race Winners & 'Best Dressed Wheelbarrows'



DOG SHOW TIMETABLE

Sponsored by Pampered Pups

Saturday 11th July
2026

Entry Fee: £2 per class

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

1.15pm Beautiful Bitches

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

1.30pm Handsome Hounds

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

1.45pm Cutest Puppy

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

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

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

2.15pm Best Rescue Dog

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

2.30pm Dog The Judge Would Most Like To Take Home

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

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

Dogs entered at owner's own risk.

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

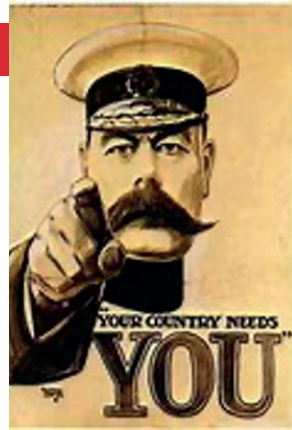
Any incident involving a dog is the owner's responsibility.

Sponsorship Opportunity

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

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

info@braughingwheelbarrowrace.com



Your Wheelbarrow Race Needs You!

Friday 10th July

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

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

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

Saturday 11th July

10-11am General help to do last minute jobs

6-7pm Help marshal vehicles leaving the fete field

Sunday 12th July

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

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

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

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

We would appreciate any time you can spare.

Thank you! - BFWR Committee



THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Ken McDonald, Secretary



The Romans introduced wine making to the UK and vines were cultivated to some extent until World War I when land was needed for growing food.

Viticulture (the process of growing grapes) began to revive in the 1970s with warmer summers and the development of grape varieties suited to English conditions. Today, we have several successful vineyards in The Hundred Parishes.

One of the first was Chilford Hall in Linton parish. It was run by the Alper family for 50 years before changing hands in 2024. The new owners continue to manage the 20-acre vineyard alongside their Grillo Outdoor Kitchen business.

In Great Bardfield, Great Lodge produces its own wines from six different grape varieties. The vineyard is open to visitors midweek from May to September and there is also a wedding venue on site. Website: www.greatlodge.co.uk/vineyard/

In Farnham, Hazel End Farm has been growing grapes for over thirty years. Their sparkling white wine is sold as Three Squirrels. This celebrates the fact that the Gosling family who own the land once had a bank in Fleet Street where a sign above the door read "Ye Three Squirrels". Website: www.corylet.com/

In Saffron Walden, the first vines were planted at Saffron Grange in 2008. The family business is now well established, producing white sparkling wines and offering vineyard tours for small groups from mid-April. Website: www.saffrongrange.com/

In Stansted Mountfitchet, a new vineyard was planted in 2021 on a south-facing

slope. The first grapes were harvested in 2023 and wine from the Gunyah Vineyard is now on sale. Website: www.thegunyahvineyard.com/. This vineyard can be seen across the valley from Hundred Parishes walk number 137.

Another vineyard has appeared in recent years in Henham – and there may be others. Please email hundredparishes@btinternet.com if you find any more.



Gunyah vineyard, Stansted Mountfitchet in September



Grapes in Henham vineyard in August



Hazel End vineyard, Farnham in June



The Vine pub in Great Bardfield



Vine Cottage, Much Hadham



United Benefice of
Aspenden, Buntingford
and Westmill

UNITED BENEFICE OF ASPENDEN, BUNTINGFORD & WESTMILL

Reverend Kirsty Wainwright



OUR SERVICES FOR MAY 2026

Sunday 3rd May	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Morning Worship	St Mary's Aspenden
	11am	Holy Communion	St Peter's Buntingford
Sunday 10th May	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	All Age Worship	St Peter's, Buntingford
Thursday 14th May	7pm	Ascension Day Holy Communion	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
Sunday 17th May		No Service	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 25th May Pentecost	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
		No Service	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Morning Worship	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 31st May		No Service	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Café Church	St Peter's, Buntingford

REGULAR EVENTS AT OUR CHURCHES



Little Lambs at St Mary the Virgin Westmill

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



Choc Stop at St Peter's

Every Thursday at 3:15 pm – 4:15pm.

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



Morning Prayer

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



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

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

CHOC STOP
Enjoy a hot chocolate on your way home from school
Outside St Peter's Church
Thursdays from 3.15pm

Hymnathon
Help us sing 100 Hymns!
If you like singing, come along and join us
St Peter's Church, Buntingford
Saturday 15th June 2020
10am - 4pm
Refreshments will be available throughout the day
Donations raised in aid of HomeStart, St Mary's, Aspenden, St Peter's, Buntingford, & St Mary the Virgin, Westmill.

plant sale
Saturday 2nd May
9:30am - 12pm
on behalf of
St Mary's Aspenden
outside St Peter's Church
Proceeds will support ministry in The Benefice for Aspenden, Buntingford and Westmill

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

Direct links to our 3 church Service and Event pages:

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

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

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

CONTACT DETAILS

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

email: unitedbeneficeabw@gmail.com | 07484 345 027

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

[unitededbenefice](https://www.instagram.com/unitededbenefice) | [UnitedBeneficeABW](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedBeneficeABW)

St Mary's Church Aspenden Website



St Mary the Virgin Church Westmill Website



St Peter's Church Buntingford Website





The
United
Reformed
Church

CHRIST CHURCH

Baldock Road, Buntingford. SG9 9AA

www.buntingfordurc.org.uk

 URCbuntingford

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

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

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

May

3	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
10	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Janet Tollington
17	Morning Worship	Allen Morton
24	Pentecost	Peter Godbert
31	Morning Worship	Rev John Procter

June

7	Holy Communion Rev	Sue Fender
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REGULAR EVENT

MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY

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

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

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

Next meeting 6th May

COFFEE & COMPANY

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

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BUNTINGFORD

The Revd Sarah Bagnall

During our Holy Week celebrations, Churches Together in Buntingford were delighted to be able to gather at Benson Hall to experience a Passover Meal.

Led by Rabbi Irit Shillor of the Harlow & Chelmsford Jewish Community we were taken through the biblical story of the Passover and how Jewish people remember this event annually at this time of year.

Passover and Easter along with Eid regularly fall at the same time of year and it was great to be able to understand how other faiths were celebrating the season with their own traditions and rituals as we walked through our own journey to Easter.

We were grateful to Rabbi Irit for her teaching, to St Richard's for the use of Benson Hall, to Mayor Duncan Wallace for his support and to all who came along to make this 'bring & share' meal such an enjoyable evening.

We hope that we will be able to host more interfaith learning events in the future as we continue to make Buntingford a place of inclusion, warmth and welcome.



Sarah Bagnall/ Paul O'Connor/ Irit Shillor/ Duncan Wallace / Peter Godbert

Those who gathered to eat



Hertfordshire's popular country show, Barkway Market, will return on Saturday 9 May 2026



If you're looking to spend a day in the country to enjoy a quintessential day out in an idyllic setting, Barkway Market on **Saturday 9 May**, is for you.

One of Hertfordshire's popular country shows, Barkway Market is held within the beautiful grounds of Manor Farm, one of the village's oldest houses, alongside a craft fair in the neighbouring Church. Manor Farm will once again be opening its formal gardens for visitors to enjoy this year.

The event, which is held in Barkway, is part of the old London to Cambridge coaching route, and is expected to attract over 4,000 visitors. The event dates back to medieval times in 1270. It was re-established in 1977 as a 'Street Market' when residents Molly Bruce, Mr Fidler and others wanted to raise money for a village party to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Barkway's Grade II Listed 'Carriage Wash', which can be found close to Manor Farm, is a monument to the coaching village's past, and was added to Historic England's National Heritage List in 2024.

The annual Market is organised by a team of volunteers on behalf of Barkway Village Hall, which is a registered charity and hosts many of Barkway's community groups. All proceeds go towards local good causes and in 2025, over £25,000 was raised for charitable benefit.

The Market is also an opportunity for local organisations to raise funds including the Barkway Church, The 7th Royston Barkway Scout Group, and Barkway School.

At this year's event, there will be over 180 stalls selling unique items ranging from ranging from antiques to bric-a-brac, artisan food & drink to homewares, garden wares to plants, clothing to jewellery, curiosities and more besides.

Entertainment will also be provided for all the family. Catering will include homemade sweet and savoury delights from Barkway Church as well as a food court with a licenced bar, fresh coffee and delicious food from local food vendors to satisfy all appetites. And ice cream too!

There will be a small entrance fee of £5 for adult visitors (there is no charge for children 16 and under) and a suggested donation of £2 for car parking, which goes directly to Barkway Scouts who marshall the car park. Parking is provided for in adjoining fields.

For more details about the Market, please visit www.barkwaymarket.org or follow them on Facebook @barkwayvillagemarket or Instagram @barkwaymarket.

Some stalls are still available, but are selling out fast – a link can be accessed via the website or for information, please contact bookings@barkwaymarket.org

Over the past couple of months, Louise has been busy visiting Freman College, Ralph Sadleir School, and Presdales School to give talks and attend career events. She's been helping students learn about careers in chiropractic, osteopathy, and physiotherapy, including what subjects they need to study to progress to university. Supporting young people as they explore future pathways is something we're always proud to be part of.

Supporting Local Sport & Community Events

Attend2Health continues to champion local clubs and events. Recently, we sponsored a player from Royston Town Football Club and once again will be supporting the Braughing Wheelbarrow Race. We're also pleased to continue our sponsorship of both the Buntingford Bowls Club and the Buntingford Cricket Club. Strengthening our local community through sport and shared activities is a core part of what we do.

Free Spinal Scans at Barkway Market

Our chiropractors, Homam and Ashleigh, will be attending the Barkway Market on 9th



May, offering Free Spinal Scans. They'll be on hand to chat about back health and provide advice on ways to improve mobility, and overall wellbeing.

Attend2health has a lot of different practitioners all under one roof. We offer a free 15 minute chat if you want to see



if we could help. Call 01763 87 80 87 for more information. Attend2Health 27 High Street, Buntingford SG9 9AB.



MILLFIELD FIRST & NURSERY SCHOOL

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

Laura Kennedy-Weeks, Headteacher

The Summer Term has already got off to a vibrant and exciting start. Over the past few weeks, children have taken part in a range of engaging activities designed to spark curiosity, build confidence and, most importantly, have fun while learning. From hands-on classroom experiences to whole-school events, it has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and energy of our children as they continue to grow and thrive. As we look ahead, we are excited about all that the Summer Term has in store and look forward to many more opportunities for learning, creativity and enjoyment for every child.

Therapy Dog News!

We are thrilled to share that, after two years of dedicated work with PAWS, Blue, one of our school dogs, has officially qualified as an accredited therapy dog. This wonderful achievement reflects the hard work, commitment and care shown throughout the training journey. We are incredibly proud of this milestone. We look forward to sharing the work that Blue completes with children across the school.



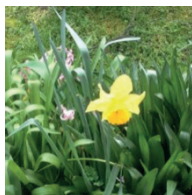
Nurse Visit to Year 2



It was lovely to be visited by Nurse Hill, who is a Children's Nurse. She shared with Year 2 children what her job involves and explained the training

and qualifications needed for her role. The children asked many thoughtful questions, one of them being, 'How many patients do you see each day?' Nurse Hill also showed the class some of the equipment she frequently uses, which the children found fascinating.

Nursery Walk Around Buntingford



Nursery children thoroughly enjoyed their Spring Walk around Buntingford. They were keen to explore nature, spot blooming flowers, listen to birds sing and enjoy the fresh air. It was a wonderful adventure full of curiosity and joy! Well done Nursery for being great representatives of Millfield.

Football for Years 3 & 4 Girls

It was wonderful to welcome Year 3 and 4 girls from Layston School to join Millfield for a morning of football. The coaches split the girls into groups. One group spent time improving their dribbling skills whilst the other groups played small sided matches. It was great to see the girls having so much fun and, for some of them, playing a football match for the first time. Thank you to Royston Football Club for supporting with this event.

Folk Band Concerts



Megson, a folk duo, performed two live concerts for Millfield children. Their performances featured Stu playing a guitar and

mandolin, and Debbie playing an accordion and tin whistle as backing to their vocal harmonies. Children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in these interactive concerts. It was great to hear children singing along and very quickly picking up the actions to Mego's songs.

PTA Dance Party

A big thank you to the PTA for arranging fantastic dance parties for both KS1 and KS2 children! It was great to see children enjoying the parties with their friends and showing off their dance moves. We truly appreciate all the efforts that went into making the events special!

Chestnut Room

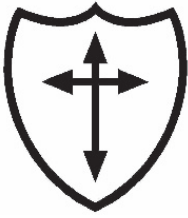
We are thrilled to share that a school meeting room is being transformed into an exciting new multipurpose space for both children and staff to enjoy. Designed with comfort, creativity and collaboration in mind, the room will offer a 'home away from home' feel, featuring a cosy soft sofa area that invites group learning, discussion and reflection in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Alongside this, there will be large tables at varying heights to support a wide range of activities, from collaborative projects and creative work to quieter, focused tasks.

One of the most exciting additions is the inclusion of woodwork benches, which will further enhance our Design and Technology provision and give children hands-on opportunities to design, build and problem-solve. With the support and guidance of staff, children will use the space both individually and in groups, exploring new skills, sharing ideas and, most importantly, having fun. We are incredibly proud to be developing this fantastic new facility and cannot wait to see it come to life as a place of learning,

creativity and enjoyment for our whole school community.

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





LAYSTON CE FIRST SCHOOL

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

www.layston.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Adele McMurrough, Headteacher

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

We started the second half of the spring term exploring the value of Reverence and Respect.

Children have been given opportunities to experience feelings of awe and wonder in their Forest School activities this term. They have also through our golden rules been encouraged to show respect for each other and adults in our school community.

Teaching and Learning:

In Forest School this term the children have been noticing signs of spring and talking about the spring equinox. The children have pointed out signs of growth in the forest - blossom, buds, insects and nest-building. The children have taken part in activities to celebrate spring and Easter such as bonnet decorating for younger groups, plant pot decorating for others. They finished with an Easter egg hunt in the forest!

For Science week Mrs Stamp organised KAPLA to visit our school and deliver a workshop for each class. This was a unique, wonderful, 3D hands on learning experience where every single child in the school participated. Each class worked on a specific construction together under the guidance of a KAPLA expert. At the end of the day, we had our own unique exhibition, showcasing each child's artistic contribution to a monumental masterpiece. Well done Layston Children!



The whole school walked to St Peter's Church to celebrate Easter with a special church service. Each class performed an Easter song and the worship group worked with Reverend Sarah and Reverend Kirsty to read a prayer at the service. Layston choir and the recorder group also filled the church with joy with their beautiful singing and recorder playing. We were so proud of all our Layston children.

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

Headteacher
Adele McMurrough





HOME START

Royston, Buntingford &
South Cambridgeshire
Registered Charity No. 1105385



- Teams of up to 6
- Tickets £15pp including traditional Ploughmen's Supper.

- Friday 15th May
- 7pm for 7:30pm start
- Town Hall, Royston SG8 7DA

QUIZ NIGHT



- Raffle
- Prize for winning team
- Bar (Cash and Card accepted).



HSRBSC: embedding diversity, equality and inclusion into everything we do in our community.



BUNTINGFORD CINEMA

Bringing Cinema back to Buntingford

David Woolcombe



Buntingford Cinema presents:

NUREMBERG

Saturday 9th May at 7.30pm at the Community Centre

Nuremberg is a handsomely crafted historical drama about U.S. Army psychiatrist, Douglas Kelley (Rami Malek) as he monitors the mental status of Hermann Göring (Russell Crowe) and others during the Nuremberg trials. Reviews have called it: "An incredibly good film about an incredibly important moment in history" and hailed Crowe's performance as "masterly" – "his best ever..." Others have called the film, "Important, thought-provoking and entertaining." The soundtrack is particularly spectacular: in the cinema, it makes you FEEL the historic weight and contemporary echoes of the events the film explores. You walk out with a pit in your stomach wondering if the perpetrators of our current wars might, one day, face the same kind of justice?

All Tickets: £9 (to include a glass of wine, soft drinks + crisps) at: www.tickettailor.com/events/buntingfordfilmclub

or in person at: Jonathan Hunt, 8 High St. Buntingford SG9 9AG

Buntingford Cinema AGM

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

Come help us choose films for our 2026/27 Season. Drinks and Refreshments will be served.

THANK YOU to everyone who made our 2026/26 season such a success! It started with WICKED in September,



moving on to Timothy Chalamet as Bob Dylan in A COMPLETE UNKNOWN in October; BRIDGET JONES – MAD ABOUT THE BOY in November and DOWNTOWN ABBEY – THE FINALE in December. January 2026 saw the Bond Champagne Gala with GOLDFINGER; the David Lean / Noel Coward classic, BRIEF ENCOUNTER in February, Brad Pitt in F1 – THE MOVIE in March, and in April, we've just had the brilliant Alan Bennet English Mill-town / Elgar drama THE CHORAL. Most have been close to sell-outs – with Downton being the most popular, and Goldfinger having the smallest (but very select) audience.

We also re-started our Classic Film Season at the beautiful Bowls Club with ANORA in January, PARASITE in February, JULES ET JIM in March and JEAN DE FLORETTE in April. There definitely appears to be an appetite for continuing that season in 2026/7. But we need your help in choosing what films to show – both at our monthly Screenings at the Community Centre on the 1st Saturday of every month – and at our Classic Film shows on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. So please come along to our AGM on 12th June and help us make what are always the most challenging of decisions for our small committee.

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12A



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SATURDAY 2ND MAY
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FOR TICKETS, SCAN THE CODE



As predicted our Acoustic Night was sold out and proved to be an excellent night of entertainment.



'The Second Best Bed' showcasing actress Liz Grand proved to be a spellbinding evening with a large audience. She gave a wonderful performance as she told the 'possible' story of Anne Hathaway with real passion.

Our very popular Comedy Night on Friday 10th April was once again very well supported with Tom Toal welcoming three new comedians. Erich McElroy, Alastair Barrie, now joined by Charmian Hughes who replaced Markus Birdman, all are experienced professional performers on the London Comedy Scene. A good night was had by all.

On **Friday 29th May** the doors open at 7pm to herald another **Drag Night**. Tickets are £15 and already selling fast. Get ready for a night to remember. Lots of fun and laughter to be had. We will keep the Prosecco flowing all night!

On **Wednesday 3rd June** at 7:30pm we are offering a very different event in Westmill Church. We are lucky to have an eminent viola player living in the village. Martin Outram is a professor of viola at the Royal Academy of Music. He



is bringing the Alvor Trio, comprising of himself (viola) Sarah Newbold (flute) and Imogene Barford (harp). Tickets £16.

They will be playing a variety of pieces from Mozart, Debussy, Bax, Ibert, Pickard and Vaughan Williams.

We are delighted that we have been able to organise for this professional trio to take their time and talent to Freman College the following day to offer a school workshop. This is a wonderful opportunity and we hope the students will benefit from the experience. This is another example of a BL initiative to encourage the young people in our community.

We have invited local charity Isabel's Hospice to launch an appeal for funds at the Westmill Concert and hope that people will be generous with donations at the end of the evening. This campaign will carry on at the June 7th Jazz event in The Stables Garden where a Raffle will be run to help boost the funds of this worthy, self-funded and much appreciated local charity.

Next, on **Sunday 7th June** from 1pm-3:30pm, returning by popular demand, The Peter Rudeforth Jazz Band, led by yet another well-known and experienced professional musician will be delighting us with an afternoon of toe-tapping jazz, blues and swing in the beautiful garden of The Stables in the heart of our town. Peter (trumpet) will be bringing his regular band with him. They are Julian Stringle (clarinet), Andy Flaxman (trombone) Tim Huskisson (piano) Sandy Burnett (double bass) and John Elmer (drums) Tickets £15. Licensed Bar open from 12.30pm. PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BAR, but bring a picnic, chairs & rugs and enjoy what hopefully will be a super summer event in the sunshine!

AS POINTED OUT EARLIER WE WILL BE RUNNING A RAFFLE, WHICH WE HOPE YOU WILL SUPPORT DURING THE AFTERNOON TO RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR LOCAL CHARITY ISABEL'S HOSPICE.



BUNTINGFORD LIVE!

the
ALVOR TRIO

Wednesday
3rd June
7.30pm

St Mary The Virgin Church
Westmill SG9 9LJ

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

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

We recommend bringing a cushion for your comfort.

TICKETS
£16

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

LICENSED BAR 18

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

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Please visit our website **buntingfordlive.org** for dates already booked through the autumn up to Christmas as well as possible other events we may organise in July/August. Watch this space!



BUNTINGFORD LIVE!

Drag Night

HOSTED BY
THE MARVELLOUS MISS GENDERED

AND FEATURING
THE BRILLIANT BIGG TAYSTEE
THE FABULOUS ABBEY TART

A fabulous evening of cabaret, vocal performance and a whole lot of fun... with space for dancing!

Friday May 29th
Come along from 7pm
Showtime is 8pm

Campbell Hall, Seth Ward Community Centre
SG9 9SG

TICKETS **£15**

LICENSED BAR 18

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

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

LICENSED BAR 18

Registered Charity Number: 121182



BUNTINGFORD LIVE!

Peter Rudeforth's JAZZ BAND

Back by popular demand!

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

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

TICKETS **£15**

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

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

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

LICENSED BAR 18

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WHAT'S ON - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY 2026

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Saturday 2nd	Friends of Reed Church: Murder Mystery Play p.13
Wednesday 6th	Buntingford Gardener's Club: Swift Talk p.15
Thursday 7th	Library: Memories of Buntingford p.8
Friday 8th / Saturday 9th	Reed Book Sale p.16
Saturday 9th	Buntingford Cinema: Nuremberg p.40
Saturday 9th	Barkway Market p.34
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Wednesday 13th	Reed Garden Club: Bingo and Herts Gardens Trust Talk p.16
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Friday 15th	Buntingford Railway & Local History Society: Cristina Harrison - The Doll Family, Hadham Towers, The Crown, Market Hill 8pm
Friday 15th	HomeStart: Quiz Night p.39
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Thursday 28th	Library: Buntingford Library History Talk p.8
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LOOKING AHEAD

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18th June	Gardener's Club: Kelmarsh Hall p.15

REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAYS:	TUESDAYS:	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS:	FRIDAYS:	WEEKENDS:
From 8.30am: Buntingford Market		Buntingford Meditation Online at 8 pm and once a month in Saint Peter's Church. To join the group the best way is to contact me via the website - www.mindful-worklife.com/buntingford-meditation New meditators are welcome and guidance is given on how to meditate in the sessions.	10.30am–12.30: Coffee & Company in the URC Church Hall		Sun, 9am: Norfolk Road Playing Fields Junior Parkrun
10–11.45am: Chatter Table at the Manor House – 1st & 3rd Mondays			2–3pm: Mind & Music at Standon & Puckeridge CC		Sat, 10am: Walking Football at the MUGA, Norfolk Road Playing Fields
Morning Coffee 10-12 St Peter's					
EVENTS IN THE LIBRARY:					
10.30–11am & 11:30 -12pm: Baby Rhyme Time (songs, rhymes, actions and puppets, for ages 6 weeks to 3 years)	10.30–12.30: Jigsaw & Cards club	11am: Chair Yoga with Kim	10.30 – 11am: Storytime ages 2-5 years Lego Club (every second Thursday) age: 5-8	4-5pm: The Friday Club age: 3-11	
11.45am–12.45pm: Forever Cycling Community Centre -1st/3rd		10-11am Chatter & Natter, Buntingford Coffee Shop			
1.30 for 2pm: Buntingford Senior Citizens' Club at URC Hall		12- 4pm Braughing Shed Group, The Barn at Brook Cottage Farm Fernaux Pelham SG9 OLL Contact: jacquithorne664@gmail.com or 07557 966 526			
7.30–9:15pm: Buntingford Community Choir at Millfield School					

BUNTINGFORD ACTION FOR THE LESS ABLE (BALA)

Registered Charity No. 1094426

MINIBUS TRIPS MAY 2026

DATE	TIME	DESTINATION	PRICE
MAY			
Wed 6th	10-2.30	St Albans	£8
Mon 11th	10-2.30	St Ives	£8
Thurs 14th	10-2	Bickerdikes Garden Centre	£6
Tues 19th	10.30-2	Saffron Walden	£6
Wed 20th	11.30	Pub Lunch	£5
Thurs 28th	10-3	Cambridge	£7.50
JUNE			
Mon 1st	9.30-3	Clacton on Sea (NB. Moved from 25th May)	£13

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

To book a seat or for more information: 07870 638 480
(please be prepared to leave a message)

AGM LUNCH

Friday 15th May, 12-1:15pm

at **URC Hall, Baldock Road**

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

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RS Property Lawyers - 01763 295096

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

Our Buntingford branch looks forward to welcoming you.

Church of Saint Richard of Chichester

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

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

Regular Services at St Richard's Buntingford

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

Services at St Thomas's Puckeridge

Mass - Sunday 11.00am
Mass - Thursday 12.30pm



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

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

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



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

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

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

Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service



Hertfordshire
Sensory Services Strategy
2020-2023

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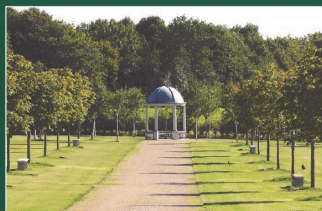
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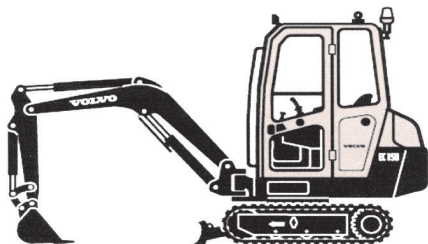


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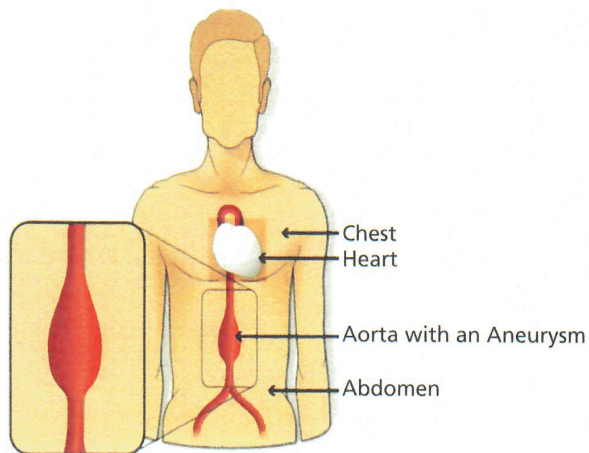
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WHO ARE WE?

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

WHAT HAVE WE DONE AND CONTINUE TO DO?

BCS have.....

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

BCS will continue to.....

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

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Buntingford 2026

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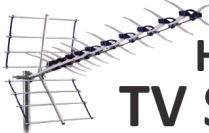
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For a full colour brochure contact :

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

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

www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk

Gareth White Electrical Services



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

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

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

WE SPECIALISE IN ALL ASPECTS OF ELECTRICAL WORK INCLUDING:

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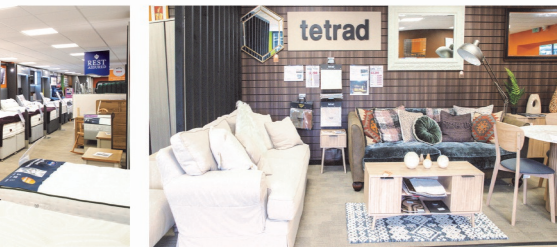
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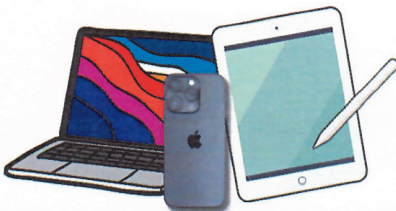
Location:

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

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

**No session in August 2026*

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



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


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


Call freephone 08 088 088 088

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

Or confidential email: kim@mailpurple.org

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