

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

Buntingford Journal



**The Cougars were blessed with a fine day for their
50th Anniversary Celebrations at The Bury.**

***Inside this month:* The Cougars' 50th Anniversary Celebrations &
Sponsored Walk; the return of the Buntingford Classic Car Show;
In Memory of Bob Jackson; and the BALA minibus is back.**

70p

**October 2021
Volume 46, No.7**



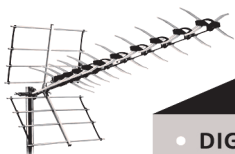
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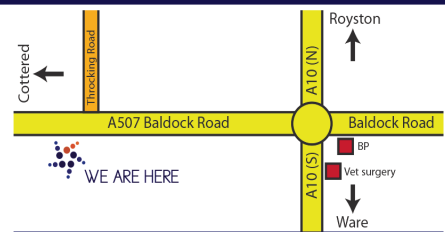
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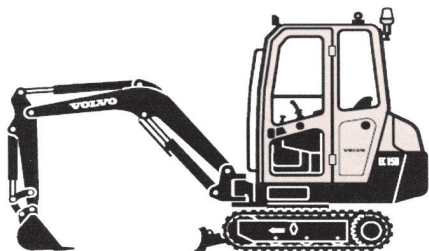
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We are non-profit making with any surplus funds reinvested into the setting. We have recently used this money to improve our outdoor area and to decorate the room.

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Buntingford Dramatic Society

We are delighted to announce that after eighteen months of meeting via zoom rehearsals we are back ! Our next production is underway with performance dates due to be confirmed shortly.

Entertaining our local community, whilst having fun along the way, has always been the focus of our activities and we are particularly looking forward to welcoming back our loyal audiences.

Look out for more information in the next issue of the Journal or check out our website : www.buntingforddrama.uk

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BUNTINGFORD Swimming Club

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Buntingford Swimming Club is a coaching club and is now looking for new members of all age groups from September 2021.

With things hopefully settling following long periods of closure due to covid restrictions, we are looking to recruit new members of all ages (8 and over) to our small, friendly & competitive swimming club (currently we have 45 junior members) based at the Ward Freman pool in Buntingford, and we are affiliated with Swim England Hertfordshire.

The aims of our coaching club are to develop swimmers' skills and strokes, participate in competitive events at other clubs and impart good practice and safety in the water. We meet weekly with training split into 3 sessions for either 45 mins or 1 hour on Thursday evenings between 6.30pm and 9.15pm, in term time only.

The club enters a number of local galas each year, and the club hosts its own annual internal club championship each autumn. Coaching is provided by trained volunteers and older club swimmers help out with the younger ones.

New swimmers who would like to join us need to be at least Swim England Learn to Swim stage 7 or equivalent. For further information or to arrange a trial, please visit our website at www.buntingfordsc.co.uk and on the home page please click on the link "register for a trial" and we will be in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

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USEFUL LOCAL INFORMATION

| | |
|--|---|
| POLICE STATION: Baldock Road, Buntingford | Non-emergency telephone: 101 In emergencies dial 999 |
| GAS: ELECTRICITY: WATER (Veolia): SEWERAGE (Thames Water): FLOODLINE: | Emergency (gas leaks) – Freephone 0800 111 999 Emergency (power loss) – Freephone 0800 7838 838 Emergency – Freephone 0800 376 5325 Emergency – Telephone 0800 316 9800 Emergency – 0345 988 1188 or 0845 988 1188 Environment Agency Incident Line: 0800 80 70 60 |
| DOCTORS: | Buntingford Medical Centre – White Hart Close Tel: 01763 271362 (24 hours) |
| B A S H (Buntingford Action For Social Help): | Providing transport for hospital and doctors appointments. Tel: Colin Horgan 07733 091731 |
| DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, RAPE, RACE or HATE CRIME: | Confidential Information Helpline: 01992 554440 (in emergency, dial 999) |
| LOCAL COUNCILS: | Buntingford Town Council – 01763 272222 East Herts District Council – 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 Hertfordshire Highways – 0300 123 4047, or report faults online: www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults |
| BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY: High Street, Buntingford | Opening times: Mon, Tue, Thur 10:00–17:30 Fri 14:00–17:30 Sat 9:00–13:00 Telephone enquiries – 0300 123 4049 Option 1 – Renewals 03:00–23:45 every day Option 2 – All other enquiries Mon–Fri 08:00–20:00, Sat 09:00–18:00 More info at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk |
| CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU: The Manor House Market Hill, Buntingford | Offices are currently closed due to Covid. For telephone advice call 0800 144 8848 (Mon to Fri 10am–4pm) or call the local Messageline on 01920 459 944 for a call back |
| HOUSEHOLD WASTE & RECYCLING SITE: Watermill Industrial Estate Aspenden Road | Currently closed. Our nearest alternative recycling sites are in Royston, Letchworth and Ware. |

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

EDITOR'S LETTER

Several contributors this month comment on events, big and small, that seemed to bring a feeling of normality back to Buntingford life. One such, back after a year's absence, was the Classic Car Show, which I hope you all enjoyed. I missed it this year as I was on holiday, so I wasn't out there snapping photos as usual, which means this month's cover doesn't feature a photo of one of my favourites! Fortunately, Graham Bonner brings us a report on the day and all the prize-winners, which you will find on page 25.

Someone who was far better at photography than me was Bob Jackson, who died a few weeks ago. Bob was a true gentleman who excelled at everything he put his mind to and he dedicated much of his time and talents to helping local community organisations, including the Civic Society. I am pleased to have an 'In Memory' article about him on pages 6 to 10, produced with the help of his daughters, Catherine and Helen.

This month Carol Emery, of the Buntingford Local History Group, tells the fascinating story of the Buntingford Union Association, a local precursor of National insurance which was so successful it was debated in Parliament as an example of good practice. I have also been notified of a correction to the Layston House part of last month's article on Buntingford's vanished mansions: when Mrs Cornes left Layston House she moved into Layston Court, the former Grammar School, and not into the Gatehouse nextdoor to it.

This month Vyse sets his sights on charity, in particular on the exorbitant salaries that some CEOs receive for heading up charities that are household names. I can recall my John cancelling a regular payment to one particular charity when he discovered how much the CEO was paid, so Vyse is not the only one to get worked up about this. Thankfully there are no such worries about our local charity the Lynsey Ivison Trust, where every pound and penny raised goes directly to support its cause. Last month Buntingford Cougars raised a magnificent sum for the Trust through a very well-attended sponsored walk. To find out just how much, read the report on their 50th Anniversary celebrations on pages 44-5. And I must also mention Crossfit, whose Watermill Games were in aid of SOFT UK supporting children affected by Trisomy 13 and 18 (pages 32-3).

Finally, BALA is back, offering minibus outings to the less able in our community. But they have a problem – they need more volunteer drivers. Please read their message on pages 36-7 and consider whether you might be able to help.

Christine Noble

Many thanks to Brian Austen for proof-reading

**Editorial copy deadline for the November 2021 Journal
is Saturday 16th October 2021**

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**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

Member of



Well at the time of writing the Indian summer I was hoping for in the last issue looks to have arrived – the trouble is it is only forecast to last for 3 days. Grateful for small mercies, I guess.

It was good to see the Car Show back – another small step back to normality for our Town and as usual a great event. Well done to the organising team.

As reported last month, I had emailed the leader of Herts County Council regarding the town's refuse/recycling site off Aspenden Road which remains closed and allegedly will not reopen. I have received a reply which outlines the reasons for not re-opening the facility. The major reason is that some of the land occupied by the current unit is actually owned by another landowner and said landowner wants his land back! Herts County Council are actively reviewing alternative sites in Buntingford and will report back at a later date on their findings. I do not believe it is a given that an alternative Buntingford site will be found.

An early warning that our Christmas Lights this year may be compromised. The lights along the High Street are installed via fixings on the buildings and in the last couple of years several of the fixings have failed. A recent survey of all the fixings has shown that many need replacing. We await a survey report from our Christmas lighting contractor to see what needs to be done to put the fixings back in a useable state. Depending on what the survey says, it could be that the remedial work may not be complete in time for Christmas this year. We will, of course, install what units we can.

CPRE, the Countryside Charity (formally the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England), are reporting that the government is set to 'abandon' its damaging proposals to deregulate the planning system. Along with other agencies, CPRE have mounted a long campaign opposing the Government's plans which were looking to carve up neighbourhoods and green spaces into zones – where a community's say over what gets built would no longer exist. Basically a developer's charter. We await government confirmation of this change in policy.

Graham Bonner

BCS Chairman, graham_bonner123@yahoo.co.uk

Buntingford Civic Society was established in 1972 with the aim of improving the fabric of the Town. It has led or been involved in many restoration and enhancement projects and in planning, communication and financial support to improve aspects of life in Buntingford.

Annual household membership of the Civic Society is just £10 and includes delivery of the Buntingford Journal (10 issues a year) to your door. If you would like to join the Buntingford Civic Society, you can download an application form from the website www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk or you can email the Membership Secretary, Peter Hay, at membership@buntingfordcivic.org.uk



Garden and Shed Security

As we near the end of summer, we have seen an increase in thefts from sheds and allotments across the area. Here are some tips and reminders of how to make sure you are not a victim of Shed and Garden crime:

- Site your shed as close to your house as possible. This will make it harder for a thief to break-in without being noticed.
- Add a perimeter of crunchy gravel around the shed or garage, and plant some nice thorny plants under the windows – Pyracantha, Berberis and Common Hawthorn are popular and effective.
- Obscure shed and garage windows with net curtains or whitewash. A burglar seldom steals what he cannot see.
- If your garage has a rear door, fit it with a 5-lever mortise lock certified to BS 3621. Try to do the same for your shed, but if the door is not suitable, fit a 'close-shackled' padlock instead and ensure that the fittings are bolted into the shed, not just screwed. For sheds, if the door isn't suitable for hinge bolts, make the hinges harder to remove by bolting them to the door or by drilling out the screw heads.
- If your garage has an up-and-over door, you can secure it from the inside by drilling a hole in each runner, just above the wheel (with the door in the closed position). Snap a padlock through each hole and you now have a simple device to block the wheel's movement and stop the door opening.
- Fit an alarm. If you have a house alarm, you should extend it to cover your garage or outbuilding. Otherwise, you can always invest in a simple battery-operated alarm to protect your shed, garage, caravan or boat. Most have a volume of around 130db and few burglars will be able to stay in the protected area for more than a few seconds.

A New Safer Neighbourhood Team Inspector for East Herts

The East Herts policing team has a new Safer Neighbourhood Inspector following the retirement of Chris Hunt. Inspector Mark Collins took on the role in August. A married father of two, Mark joined Herts police as a constable in 2006. His previous employment involved managing a number of licensed premises, which had enabled him to build a working relationship with the police. He began his policing career with the Intervention response team in North Herts, but the majority of his time has been spent in the east of the county, with both the response and Safer Neighbourhood teams. After passing his Sergeant's exam, he spent some time as an 'Oscar two' in the control room, dealing with calls and dispatching resources to incidents. He then became the Neighbourhood Sergeant for Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth, before being promoted to Inspector.

As SNT Inspector, Mark will oversee the work of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams across East Herts, helping to keep East Herts a safe place to live, work and visit. Mark, who lives in the local area, said: "The SNT role is crucial to policing. It presents opportunities for my team to make a real difference to people's lives and also gives me an input into directing how policing is delivered to the local community. The team at East Herts are fantastic and we are lucky to have such dedicated officers and staff ... I am keen for the team to be visible and to carry out regular engagement activities across the area."

In Memory of Robert 'Bob' Jackson 1933 to 2021



Bob Jackson passed away on the 15th August, at home, after a brief period of ill health and just 15 months after the death of his beloved wife, Joyce. He was able to spend his final weeks at home with his two daughters by his side, as were his wishes, and though his illness was unexpected, he did not suffer long.

Bob was born on the 30th April 1933 in Dovercourt, Essex, to parents Peggy and Frank, a customs' officer. In 1940, during the war, he moved with his Mum to stay with relatives in Chesterfield, Dovercourt having been identified as a potential enemy landing site. It was in Yorkshire, at the age of 7, that he had an unsuccessful eye operation that led to him having to stay in Sheffield hospital for 3 months. This left him with

a squint and very poor eyesight in one eye – it also gave him a lifelong aversion to rice pudding, a thin, watery version having been served every day for lunch!

In May 1941 the family moved, with his father's job, to Barry in South Wales, which was an important port of entry for foodstuffs being sent from the U.S. to support the British population. This was where Bob completed most of his secondary education. It will not surprise anyone who knew him that he passed his 11+ when he had just turned 10 and in 1943 he went to Barry County Grammar School, where his favourite subjects were maths and physics. He was always curious – he liked to understand how things worked, especially electronics, and he loved spending time learning by doing. He had already built his first radio set by this age.

In 1944 Bob's Mum became seriously ill and, with his father often working unsociable hours away from home, Bob found himself spending a lot of time on his own. So in the summer holidays he was sent to spend time with his Aunt Isabelle (his father's aunt) and her family in Marston-on-Dove near Derby. He loved helping on the farm opposite his Aunt's house, particularly with the harvest. Also, they were not far from an airfield in Nottinghamshire and he used to hear strange noises that turned out to be testing the first Rolls Royce airplane engines at the Gloucester Aeroplane Company. Often he would borrow a bike and go cycling, but one day he skidded on a cow pat and badly grazed both knees. Aunt Isabelle had been a nurse and cleaned him up, but back at school in Barry in September, boils developed on both legs and his knees became so septic that he couldn't walk. With his Mum still in hospital, Mrs Lloyd, the next-door neighbour, took Bob in. He missed the rest of the Autumn term at school but he didn't want to lose out on his maths, so he got some books from the library and taught himself. When he returned to school, he found he was much further advanced than the rest of the class.

Bob's parents left Barry in January 1948 when his father was promoted to a Customs and Excise role at Northolt Airport, then used by British Airways for European flights. At the time Bob was in his second year of 6th Form, so he stayed on in Barry with a local family

until he sat his Higher Certificate (the equivalent of A levels). His parents didn't have the money to pay for university so Bob needed a scholarship, but with them living in Middlesex while he took his exams in Glamorgan, he didn't qualify for a county-sponsored scholarship. When he came to live with his parents in Middlesex he retook his second 6th Form year at Greenford Grammar School so he could apply for a scholarship. His chosen subjects were Physics, Pure Maths and Applied Maths.

Bob liked it in Greenford. There were two other boys doing a third year in 6th form and they formed a cycling group. He used his Post Office savings to buy the parts to build a bike (this saved a significant amount as you avoided Purchase Tax, today's VAT equivalent). He built his bike in a week and the next weekend rode 60 miles through West Wickham, Marlow, Slough and back to Greenford. Despite a sore backside, he was hooked and from then on often spent Sunday afternoons cycling 70 or 80 miles down into Surrey. Between 1951 and 1955, he covered large swathes of the country, cycling round Cornwall in the summer of 1951, before going up to Leeds University. He financed his trips by working, loading and unloading lorries at Joe Lyons Coffee Bar in Greenford. He and a friend also cycled to Chesterfield to stay with his Uncle Jim and spent an enjoyable week exploring Derbyshire. Bob loved the countryside of Derbyshire and Yorkshire.

Leeds University had offered Bob a place based on his results from Barry. However, he did so well at Greenford Grammar, achieving 95% in his Maths exam, that he won a State Scholarship. He chose Physics as his degree subject because he already knew he wanted to go into engineering. His grant for the year was £180, which was to pay for accommodation, books and food, and he lived in Headingley, near to the cricket ground. He would send his washing home each week as there weren't many washing machines or laundrettes in those days and the Post Office offered a parcel service for half a crown (12½p). His mum would often put in an orange, dates or a Penguin biscuit when she returned the clean laundry.

When Bob graduated in 1954, most young men had to do National Service, but you didn't have to if you worked in the Defence Industry and stayed until you were 26 years of age. Bob was offered three different jobs and chose English Electric because they offered him the most money – £540 a year. He moved to Luton but would cycle home to Harrow at weekends to see his parents.

At English Electric, Bob specialised in noise problems – weak radar signals and how to pick them out from background noise. In 1955 he was sent to the Government's radar establishment in Malvern to learn the techniques used there, and in the autumn of 1957 he took part in flight trials from Malvern's Defford airfield, sitting in the rear gunner turret of a Shackleton airplane (a bit like a Lancashire Bomber) working out radar ground reflection measurements. He remained fond of the area around Malvern ever after and loved walking in the Malvern Hills at weekends. 1957 was also the year that he saved enough to buy a Lambretta scooter and in 1960 he went on a scooter tour of Suffolk and Norfolk – this was the first time he visited Buntingford.

In 1960 Bob met Joyce. He had, in fact, seen her once before, in 1959, when he went to a concert performed by Luton Girls' Choir. While waiting in the entrance hall for friends to arrive, he saw this girl wearing a blue coat and thought she was very attractive. They didn't meet then, but in late 1960 one of the girls at work, Susan, invited him to a party. He didn't really like parties but decided to go. Good decision! Susan introduced him to Joyce and he recognised her instantly. A couple of weeks later, in January 1961, Bob invited her to a concert at the Royal Festival Hall in London. It was here, exactly a year later, that he proposed over a glass of Green Chartreuse. Joyce never drank it again!

Their marriage was a very happy one – as Bob always said, his favourite place in the world was wherever Joyce was. They married in October 1962, honeymooned in

Somerset and started their married life in rented accommodation in Stopsley where, in 1964, their first daughter Catherine was born. They moved to Buntingford in 1965 after Bob got a promotion, attracted to the town for its size (a quarter of what it is now), good schools, surrounding countryside and because, with a couple of new estates being built, lots of young families were moving in. It was here that their second daughter Helen was born in 1966. The third addition to the family came in 1983 with the arrival of Henry, a golden retriever. In 1987, following the death of Bob's mum Peggy, his father Frank came to live with them and remained with them until Autumn 1995.

At work in the early 60s – the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis – Bob was heading a team analysing data on Russian missiles for GCHQ, and soon after getting married he had to go America for a month to work with the NSA. He worked with GCHQ for about 4 years on a team known as the 'Secret Seven', but left because he decided that no one really knowing what you were doing was not good for career progression. He moved into training, teaching people at the British Aircraft Corporation (as English Electric was now known) how to design automatic control systems – for cars as well as missiles. In 1969 a new engineering research department was established and he was selected to head up one of the teams. After 1973 he worked more on weapon system collaboration with European partners – notably Thomson CFF (now Thales) in Paris – in preparation for which he was sent on an intensive Berlitz language course and so learned to speak and understand French to a reasonable level. In the late 70s, Bob became Executive Director of Strategy and Forward Planning at British Aerospace (yet another change of name for English Electric). By the time he took early retirement, on 1st August 1991, he had worked for the same company (under its various names) for 37 years. He felt that the timing was right – the Gorbachev era meant the defence industry was under review.

Bob had travelled a lot with work – to Japan, the USA, France, Germany, Norway, Italy, Egypt – but now he was looking forward to travelling with Joyce and exploring his interests in birds, wildflowers, nature, photography and history. Little did he know that grandchild number one was only 8 months away! Their first trip in retirement was four weeks touring France. They enjoyed the food, the wine, and the time together. Their travels took them to many places – some touring, such as in Canada in 1995, possibly Bob's favourite holiday when they spent 3 weeks in the Rockies, and in the USA, Spain, Jordan and the Middle East, Alaska, South Africa, Greece, Sicily, Italy, Portugal's Douro Valley, Morocco, Germany; some with family, such as in Florida, Dorset, Tuscany and Barcelona; and many times to France. In 2002, for their Ruby Wedding anniversary, they went to New England to see the trees changing colour in the Fall.

After retiring, Bob got more involved in local organisations in Buntingford. He believed in community and the power of society. He was Treasurer of the local Citizen's Advice Bureau in the late 90s before serving on the Buntingford Civic Society committee for over 12 years. He worked hard on local planning issues and even after he resigned from the Civic Society committee in 2012, he served on the Neighbourhood Planning Committee, being instrumental in putting together the local Neighbourhood Plan, which was approved in 2016. Derek Cooper, a former chairman of the Civic Society, appreciated his talents: "Bob was the most valuable contributor in a variety of issues during my chairmanship of Buntingford Civic Society. I recall a number of occasions when we examined planning proposals and responded at East Herts Council and it was Bob's analysis which contributed to a significant impact ... Bob's professional career was very senior and in an area which he chose never to discuss which I came to recognise was national security. There was an occasion when we spoke of our regular working trips to the USA and Bob told me that one flight gave him two sunsets – he was a Concorde passenger!"

In the early 2000s Bob became a footpath warden for the Parish Paths Partnership, working with others to ensure local footpaths were maintained, and leading local walking

groups. And he was part of the setting up of the Buntingford Journal, for many years organising the advertising that supports it, and until very recently delivering it to local homes. After 2015 he devoted himself to looking after Joyce who had been diagnosed with dementia and had become increasingly frail. His care and devotion were inspiring.

Bob was the most remarkable man – unassuming, steady, reliable, gentle, quietly adding to the lives of people around him. He was a real gentleman – inherently polite, well-mannered and gracious, always opening doors, walking on the road side of the pavement, letting other people have their say. Quiet (except when he sneezed!), reserved but attentive. Private. Understated. Modest – and yet he was invited to a Buckingham Palace Garden party in 1980 and received an OBE in 1991 for services to British Industry. They don't make many like him anymore.

He was kind, considerate and fair – always willing to help, naturally curious, and happy to accept a challenge. Being an engineer, he could make anything he set his mind to – his daughters remember being the only kids in the street to have a go-kart, which he'd fashioned out of old bits of wood and pram wheels found in a ditch, and they had the fastest sledge in town. He could fix or build anything. Complicated instructions were no problem. His self-discipline (except when it came to second helpings of crumble!), determination and focus were admirable. He had the patience of a saint – helping his kids and grandkids (and other people's kids) with their GCSE and A Level maths and physics. He was generous with both his time and money – he donated regular monthly sums to more than 25 charities, ranging from the Woodland Trust to St John's Ambulance, the RSPB, British Red Cross and Oxfam to McMillan and Cancer Research.

Bob was fiercely intelligent and his general knowledge was vast. He was well read and highly literate. He loved mental stimulation and would set himself mathematical problems to solve in his head. Super fiendish sudokus were no problem! He also had the most



Bob loved walking in the countryside and was a footpath warden for the Parish Paths Partnership.

phenomenal memory – he could remember dates and details from the past as though they were yesterday, as when the family recently ate an Indian meal and Bob recounted that the last time he had been out for a curry was in 1967! He was always open to learning and kept up to date with new technology – from his iPhone and Apple Mac to all the equipment, cameras, printers and software that he used for his photography. Bob had a keen interest in photography throughout his life. In pre-digital days, he converted the downstairs loo into a dark room so he could develop his own prints – as you might imagine, Joyce was happy when he embraced the new digital technology. In 2020 he joined the Ware and District Photographic Society and became programme secretary. He organised their programme for 2021/22 and was sad not to be able to see it come to fruition.



Bob loved good food and wine. Here he is enjoying a glass of red in Arles in southern France. Cheers Bob!

Bob had lots of interests and remained mentally and physically fit until the end. In the 1970s and 1980s, despite his demanding career, he had two vegetable allotments that he tended at weekends. He loved nature, birds and the countryside and visiting gardens with Joyce. He knew the names (both Latin and modern) of so many plants and trees. He was a keen supporter of the National Trust and English Heritage. He was also passionate about classical music and enjoyed attending concerts in London and Cambridge. His team sport was cricket, playing when he was younger and then an avid watcher of Test matches in later life – an interest he enjoyed sharing with his two grandsons.

Bob was a family man – his family was very important to him and he loved them all. He had a strong bond with all four of his grandchildren. He also loved good food and wine and Catherine and Helen remember many memorable family meals. His favourite everyday wine was Brazin and now, they say, every time they drink it they will be thinking of him. Of course they will remember him and miss him for so much more – as a loving Dad, as a fount of knowledge, a point of reference, a crossword solver and for his weather forecasts. “Whenever we are in doubt about a decision in life, we should think to ourselves: what would Dad do? We are all lucky to have had him in our lives. The world has lost a great human being. We will remember him with love and respect and think of him forever. Cheerio Dad.”

Bob Jackson will be fondly remembered by all those in Buntingford and elsewhere who knew him. Rest in peace, Bob.

This article was based on the funeral eulogy for Bob written by his daughters, Catherine and Helen. My thanks to them for sending me their text and photos. Christine Noble

Don't just settle for life getting back to normal – come and sing with Royston Choral Society!

As Covid 19 hopefully comes under control, many of us are thinking about resuming activities we were enjoying before March 2020. But why not try something new as well? Much has been said and written about the health – including mental health – benefits of singing. For example, Healthline's website lists the following '10 Ways that Singing Benefits Your Health':

- Relieving stress
- Improving immune system
- Improving pain threshold
- Reducing snoring
- Improving lung function
- Developing sense of belonging
- Enhancing memory in people on the dementia spectrum
- Helping with grief
- Improving mental health
- Improving speech in people with neurological problems

Royston Choral Society welcomes new members – without putting them through the ordeal of an audition. Come along for 2 or 3 sessions to see how you get on. For this Autumn term we will be preparing our first concert since the pandemic, being held in December and featuring Part 1, the joyous 'Christmas section', of Handel's 'Messiah' along with carols.

Our rehearsals and most concerts are normally held in Royston Parish Church, but since the unfortunate fire there in December 2018, we have been meeting in Royston Methodist Church. We rehearse on Tuesday evenings, from 7.45 to 9.45pm. Our committee has been working hard to develop protocols for a safe, Covid-compliant resumption of singing, with half the choir meeting in alternate weeks. New members are welcome but please contact our Chairman Huw Jenkins first. Lots of information on our website www.roystonchoralsoc.org.uk

Buntingford Meditation

will be running two online events per week from the beginning of October:

Mindful Mondays – 12 noon every Monday from 4th October. Half an hour of online mindfulness and meditation to refresh your day. Bookings via:

www.mindful-worklife.com

Buntingford Christian Meditation – online every Wednesday evening, from 8pm to 9pm. Meditation and mindfulness practice in the Christian tradition.

Anyone interested in joining, please contact Martin for details at:

info@mindful-worklife.com



Christ Church

Baldock Road, Buntingford SG9 9AA

Minister: Rev. Sue Fender
revsuefender@gmail.com
Tel: 01223 375588

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

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall following the services

| | | | |
|----------|----|-----------------|------------------|
| October | 3 | Holy Communion | Rev Sue Fender |
| | 10 | Morning Worship | Faith Paulding |
| | 17 | Morning Worship | Rev Allen Morton |
| | 24 | Morning Worship | Penny Flynn |
| | 31 | Morning Worship | Rev Robert Pope |
| November | 7 | Holy Communion | Rev Sue Fender |

People attending will be directed to seats to maintain social distancing.
Masks must be worn at all times. Singing has now been authorised by the National body of the URC as long as masks are worn.

REGULAR EVENTS

Coffee and Company will be meeting on **Thursdays, 10.30am to 12noon**, 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 and Chat. **All are welcome.** Just turn up and give a small donation for the refreshments.

Plans are afoot to re-start Junior Church at 11.00am in the Church.
Please await further information as to dates.

Website: www.buntingfordurc.org.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/URCBuntingford

The Ash and Quin Valleys Group

Rev'd Julie Gawthrope – 01920 823531

Continued
opposite ...

Services for October 2021

St Mary the Virgin



St Mary's, Braughing

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|---------------------------|
| Sun 3 rd | 11.15am | All Age Worship – HARVEST |
| Wed 6 th | 9.30am | Holy Communion (said) |
| Sun 10 th | 10.00am | All Age Morning Worship |
| Wed 13 th | 9.30am | Holy Communion (said) |
| Sun 17 th | 11.15am | Holy Communion |
| Wed 20 th | 9.30am | Holy Communion (said) |
| Sun 24 th | 9.30am | Holy Communion |
| Wed 27 th | 9.30am | Holy Communion (said) |



United Benefice of Aspenden, Buntingford and Westmill

Website: unitedbenefice.org.uk

Email: admin@unitedbenefice.org.uk

Postal address: C/O St Peter's Church, Chapel End,
Buntingford SG9 9AL Telephone: **07484 345027**

October 2021

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|---|------------------------------|
| Sun 3 rd | 9.30am | Sung Eucharist, Harvest Festival | St Mary the Virgin, Westmill |
| | 11.00am | Family Worship | St Peter's, Buntingford |
| Sun 10 th | 9.30am | Morning Service | St Mary's, Aspenden |
| | 11.00am | Holy Communion | St Peter's, Buntingford |
| Sun 17 th | 9.30am | Sung Eucharist | St Mary the Virgin, Westmill |
| | 9.30am | Holy Communion | St Mary's, Aspenden |
| Sun 24 th | 10.00am | Benefice-wide Holy Communion <i>Please join us at Aspenden</i> | St Mary's, Aspenden |
| Sun 31 st | 11.00am | Holy Communion | St Peter's, Buntingford |

Service of Memories

*Join us at one of our lovely services to remember those we have lost.
To remember family and friends, sharing memories and
celebrating their lives.*

Sunday 31st October 2021

3:00pm at St Mary the Virgin, Westmill

4:00pm at St Peter's Church, Buntingford

*If you wish to share a flower for each person you would like to remember,
we will make an arrangement to display at the end of our services.*

For further information please contact our Benefice Office:
Email: admin@unitedbenefice.org.uk Tel: 07484 345027

**ST. MARY'S
FURNEUX
PELHAM**

St Mary's, Furneux Pelham

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| Sun 3 rd Oct | 9.30am | BCP Holy Communion |
| Sun 10 th | 11.15am | Holy Communion |
| Sun 17 th | 9.30am | Café Church |
| Sun 24 th | 11.15am | Morning Worship |

**St. Mary's
Stocking Pelham**

St Mary's, Stocking Pelham

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Sun 31 st | 10.30am | Benefice Holy Communion |
|----------------------|---------|-------------------------|

Buntingford Gardeners' Club

Our monthly meetings restarted with a social evening. Members enjoyed a glass of wine, gardening tips, a quiz, a flower competition and a raffle. It was lovely to be back, more like old times.

This month, on **Wednesday 6th October**, Anne Luder returns to talk about 'The Rose, from Wilderness to Wonder', a journey around the ancient world of the rose from the age of the dinosaur to about 2,000 years ago. Although one talks of the 'English Rose', that's not quite the case! Anne is a horticulturist, garden designer and a past lecturer at Capel Manor Horticultural College.



If you are new to Buntingford and interested in gardening, come and give us a try. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month (excepting January and August) at 8pm in the United Reformed Church Hall (opposite McColl's). Annual subscription is £15 (reduced to £7.50 this year); visitors pay £3 per meeting. We have speakers on various subjects, organise visits to gardens and have an annual inter-club quiz against Reed Garden Club.

For further information please contact The Secretary, Lesley Lowers,
telephone **01763 271885**

**Buntingford
Community
Choir**



Finally, after 18 long months of Zoom meetings and some half a dozen outdoor get-togethers, we can officially announce that The Buntingford Community Choir is able to resume Monday evening rehearsals.

We are most grateful to Millfield School, who have agreed to allow us back into their School Hall for our rehearsals. There are, of course, Covid precautions that we must still adhere to, including social distancing, hand sanitising and adequate ventilation of the hall.

Our first rehearsal was at the beginning of September, and are now looking forward to meeting every week. I am sure we were a bit rusty, but the smiles and enthusiasm were evident in abundance. We start promptly at 7.30pm and sing through without a break until around 9pm. Subs are still only £4 per session, but we have had to dispense with the cup of tea.

If you are thinking of joining us please contact me, Paul Webster, on the email address below or via our website.

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

Why is my joint pain worse in cold weather?



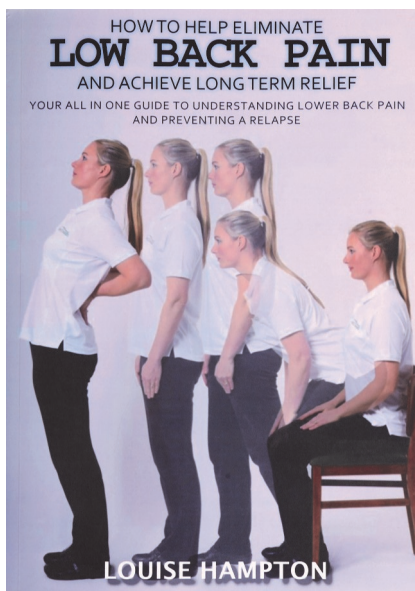
As the weather starts to change, you may find pain in your joints seems worse. Some people even say they can feel when a storm is coming. Although the evidence is not that clear, people with joint pain, especially arthritis, may be sensitive to changes in barometric pressure because the cartilage that cushions the bones inside a joint is worn away, causing nerves in the exposed bones to pick up on changes in pressure.

Cold temperatures cause changes in blood flow. The body naturally wants to keep us warm, so when cold weather strikes, some blood flow is rerouted from the limbs to important organs, such as the heart and lungs. This takes warmth away from the joints, which can cause discomfort. Low temperatures can also make the fluid inside joints thicker, so they feel stiffer.

Once the clocks go back and it is darker in the evenings, we tend to stay indoors more and spend more time sitting. Being less active has the biggest impact on our joints. Our bodies love movement – without it the muscles become weaker and this can lead to pain. Try to plan some physical activities to do in the winter to keep your body moving as this should really help. Mood can also suffer in the winter with the lack of sun, so having activities where you meet people can also help.

Gentle exercise such as Tai Chi, Yoga or Pilates can all be great for people who have aches and pains as they are low impact. We have a range of classes at Attend2Health – give us a call on 01763 87 80 87 to find out more. If you find your pain is limiting your ability to keep moving, why not have a free chat with one of our chiropractors or physiotherapists? You may find that with just a little bit of treatment you are able to move a lot more freely.

Chiropractor Louise Hampton has written a book about low back pain, including techniques and exercises that can help with back pain, as well as things to avoid. The book can be purchased from Attend2Health and is also available on Amazon.



Reed Gardening Club

20th October, 2-4 pm in Reed Village Hall

£2 admission per person, to include tea/coffee and biscuits

This month's talk is on 'Beekeeping'. There is also a bookstall.

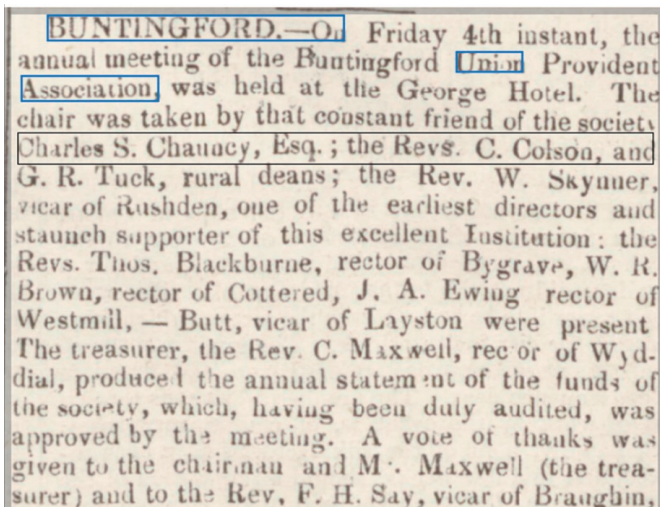
Buntingford Union Association

In today's society we are fortunate enough to be able to obtain free health care, from seeing our local GP to hospital care when needed. If we are unable to work due to illness then we can claim sickness benefit from the government to help us pay the bills until we recover. This wasn't always the case. Prior to the establishment of the National Health Service you would have to pay to see a doctor, and many people could not afford to seek medical help. If you were unable to work, before long you stood the chance of losing your home and your family could end up reliant on the workhouse. This would be a last resort, as most people would do anything to save ending up in a workhouse.

Following my article some months back on Buntingford's Workhouse, I was contacted by Sandra Wyatt who asked if I had ever heard of the Buntingford Union Association. I had to admit I never had, so she gave me a brief explanation about the group and how it worked. I assumed that it had started in the 1900s and was amazed to discover that it actually went back to the 6th January 1832. Jennie Keeling lent me a rule book for the Association and after checking the archives at Hertford I found that they had the minute books dating back to 1832.

Although the minutes were quite scant, I managed to get the gist of it. The local vicars were instrumental in getting the association started. They proposed that if parishioners joined the Association and paid a small amount each week or month, if they became ill then they could ask to receive a weekly amount to help cover their living costs. The first entries in the books gave the names and parishes of members as they joined the scheme. In addition to paying to cover periods of sickness, they could also pay to cover the cost of a funeral.

The meetings took place every few months at The George in Buntingford High Street, with the annual general meeting held in May each year. This article (right), which appeared in the Herts Guardian of 12th May 1855, gives an account of that year's AGM, listing the members of the clergy present at the meeting. From what I could establish, the following parishes joined the scheme (there could have been more, I could not find a definitive list):



BUNTINGFORD.—On Friday 4th instant, the annual meeting of the Buntingford Union Provident Association was held at the George Hotel. The chair was taken by that constant friend of the society Charles S. Chauncy, Esq.; the Revs. C. Colson, and G. R. Tuck, rural deans; the Rev. W. Skyner, vicar of Rushden, one of the earliest directors and staunch supporter of this excellent Institution: the Revs. Thos. Blackburne, rector of Bygrave, W. R. Brown, rector of Cottered, J. A. Ewing, rector of Westmill, — Butt, vicar of Layston were present. The treasurer, the Rev. C. Maxwell, rec or of Wyddial, produced the annual statement of the funds of the society, which, having been duly audited, was approved by the meeting. A vote of thanks was given to the chairman and M. Maxwell (the treasurer) and to the Rev. F. H. Say, vicar of Braughing.

Anstey, Baldock, Braughing, Buckland, Buntingford, Clothall, Cottered, Furneux Pelham, Great Hornead, Kelshell, Little Hornead, Meesden, Rushden, Sandon, Throcking, Wallington, Westmill, Weston and Wyddial.

The minutes gave lists of new members and they also started to include details of how many people they had paid and for how long. Names were not recorded, just membership numbers. Number 323 was obviously a very sick man as he received over 13 weeks full pay in 1846, dropping to half pay in 1847 and continuing until 1849. He died in November 1849 and they paid £4 towards his funeral. A report in November 1845

stated that Samuel Smith of Baldock was expelled for making false demands according to rule 28. Unfortunately, there was no clue as to what the rules were, and the rule book I had been lent was from 1951.

Membership continued to rise each year. By 1849 the Association had 570 members and they had paid out to 60 people. Each parish had a director, who was the person who collected the subs from and paid out the benefits to their members. At first it appears that most of the directors were clergymen, but gradually they were joined by local dignitaries and landowners. In 1850 two directors suggested that it would be a good idea to pay local doctors to administer to the sick members for a pre-arranged flat fee. This idea was adjourned to be discussed at a later meeting; it was eventually adopted, but I couldn't find a record of when.

In January 1867 there was a report in the minutes over an arbitration by the Rev Brown and a Mr Mickley. Frederic Hurry, member 847 of Buckland, had been paid sickness benefit even though he was in arrears with his subs. Rule 24 stated that if you were in arrears, you could not claim sickness benefit. Buckland's director had interpreted the rule differently to everyone else. It was decided that there should be greater uniformity of the way the rules were interpreted. This was done at the AGM in 1867.

In 1875 the government brought in The Friendly Society Act. This allowed societies considerable self-management "but ensured the adoption of sound rules, effective audit, and rates of payment sufficient to maintain solvency." They had to have their books audited by the registrar general every 5 years. Buntingford joined the Friendly Society and became member 231 (Hertford). This newspaper cutting from the Royston Crow in 1881 shows the Association was duly audited and had a capital value of over £25,000, equal to £3 million today.

In the minute book dated 1887, William Brown of Wallington, member 1930, had requested a payment of

Buntingford Union Association

It is many years since the **Buntingford Union Association** was established by the Clergy of the neighbourhood, and for a considerable time the conduct and management of the club has been under the able direction of the Secretary, the Rev. Charles Maxwell. To give some idea how the club has increased and prospered since the year 1847, we find on referring to that date, in the report of the annual returns signed by Rev. C. Maxwell, Sec., that the capital was £2,002 Os. 4d., and at the close of last year 1880, the statement bearing the same signature of the Rev. C. Maxwell, the capital amounted to £16,157 13s. 9d., making an increase of £14,005. By the Act of 1875, relating to the Friendly Society, it is compelled every five years to have its assets and liabilities examined by Government Actuary. This has been done, and the subjoined report of Mr. Finlaison cannot but give satisfaction to the members of the **Association** and must also be gratifying to Mr. Maxwell, as being the main result of his supervision and control.

[Copy.]
19, Old Jewry, London,
31st May, 1881.

Rev. Sir.—In accordance with your request I have made a valuation of the assets and liabilities of the Buntingford **Union Association** as they are reported to have stood on the 31st December, 1879.

The final result of the examination shown in the forms prescribed for the return under the Friendly Societies Act of 1875, is as follows:—

| | |
|--|---------|
| Present value of Benefits Assured by the Association | £20,847 |
| Surplus | 4,850 |
| | £25,697 |
| Funds of the Association | £15,546 |
| Present value of future Contributions applicable to Benefits | 10,151 |
| | £25,697 |

sickness benefit for a disease of the knee. It transpired that he had concealed this complaint when joining, but you had to be in good health when joining so he forfeited the right to any benefits.

By 1908 the chairman was Major Heaton Ellis and the treasurer was Cllr Nevitt. In 1910 meetings had moved to the Technical Institute on Baldock Road. It was around this time that the government started to discuss the National Insurance Act. This was to be a national scheme to pay a weekly amount, depending on the level of a person's wages, should that person be unable to work due to sickness. The Act came into force in 1911, with sickness benefit payable for up to 26 weeks at the rate of 10/- (50p) a week for men, and 7/6d (37p) for women.

This had quite an impact on members of the association wondering how it would affect them. Major Heaton Ellis spoke at several meetings held for members. He explained that if Buntingford's Union joined forces with other local groups they could then register as a collector of the National Insurance scheme. Members would still be entitled to claim sickness benefit locally and would be no worse off. Those not in the Buntingford scheme would have to become a member of the Post Office scheme. I expect a lot of you can remember getting your National Insurance cards stamped each week. Your employer had to contribute as well as the government.

The Buntingford Scheme was so highly regarded that it was debated in Parliament in 1912, with Lloyd George and Lord Robert Cecil getting into an argument over a leaflet obtained from the Buntingford Group. Neither wanted to back down and it was reported in many newspapers including *The Times*.

In 1948 the NHS came into force with free medical care for all UK citizens. Membership of the Association started to dwindle as a result of this, although you could still claim funeral costs and help with spectacles, dentures and other medical appliances.

The rule book that Jennie lent me gave the registered address of the Association as at Chalmers-Hunt and Maughan, local solicitors, at 22a High Street. It stated that members must be of sound body and mind, free from natural infirmities and constitutional diseases, and not following any unhealthy occupations or businesses. Anyone found breaking this rule would be excluded and forfeit all claims on the society. Another rule stated that anyone convicted of a felony or larceny would be excluded from the society. The list below shows the trustees and officers as of February 1957:

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- | | |
|---|--|
| * Rev. W. E. Mills, Benington, Stevenage, Herts. Trustee 1920-1950. Secretary 1950. | * Miss A. M. Boniwell, Director of Aspendon and Layston. |
| Major M. E. Barclay. Trustee 1938. | * Miss D. H. Deane, Director of Anstey and Wyddial. |
| Lt. Col. H. W. Faure-Walker. Trustee 1951. | Mr. L. Hatchett, Director of Sandon. |
| R. H. Luckcock, Esq. Trustee 1951. | * Rev. A. B. Lea, Director of Meesden. |
| Major T. E. Dimsdale, M.C. Trustee 1951. | * Mr. G. H. Maughan. |
| * Mr. C. Hummerstone. Treasurer & Director of Westmill. | * Mr. W. Plumb |
| Miss M. Barnes, Director of Clothall. | Mr. A. C. Shepherd, Director of Buckland. |
| | * Mr. G. C. Wilson, Director of Horstead. |

* Also members of the Management Committee

By 1975 National Insurance contributions were collected by the government along with income tax through the PAYE scheme. This, together with the NHS, meant that the number of members in the Association dropped considerably. In 1977, after 145 years, the Buntingford Union Association was wound up and ceased to be. The final balance

DISSOLUTION STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

| <u>REALISATIONS</u> | £ | p | <u>DISBURSEMENTS</u> | £ | p |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------|------------------|
| Cash at Bank 1st. January 1976 | 29,657.24 | | Secretary's Salary & Expenses | 362.50 | |
| Interest Received: | | | Fidelity Insurance | | 4.50 |
| Deposit Account - Barclays | | | Audit Fee & Accountancy Charges: | | |
| Bank Ltd. | 2,927.66 | | 1975 Accounts | | 102.60 |
| Other Investments | | 26.80 | Dissolution Accounts | | 81.00 |
| | | | Printing, Stationery & Postages | | 109.69 |
| | | | Annual Fee to Registrar of | | |
| | | | Friendly Societies | | 3.12 |
| | | | Telephone | | 5.00 |
| | | | Bank Commission | | 26.00 |
| | | | Hire of Room for Meeting | | 1.00 |
| | | | Secretary's Travelling | | 18.00 |
| | | | Registration of Instrument of | | |
| | | | Dissolution | | 10.80 |
| | | | Advertisements: London Gazette | | 2.55 |
| | | | Local Newspaper | | 7.50 |
| | | | Actuaries Fees | | 432.00 |
| | | | Death Benefits | | 72.00 |
| | | | Balance available for | | |
| | | | distribution | | 31,373.44 |
| | | | | | <u>32,611.70</u> |
| | | <u>32,611.70</u> | | | |

TO THE BUNTINGFORD UNION ASSOCIATION OR BENEFIT SOCIETY AND SICKNESS CLUB

In our opinion the above Dissolution Statement of Account gives a true and fair view of the Realisations and Disbursements of the Society during the period of dissolution.

Keens, Shay, Keens & Co.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Cardiff House,
Cardiff Road,
LUTON, Beds., LU1 1QB

14th. February 1977

DISTRIBUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUMENT OF DISSOLUTION

| | | £ | p |
|-----|---|---|------------------|
| 71 | Widows £8 each | | 568.00 |
| 4 | Trustees £25 each | | 100.00 |
| 9 | Committee Members and Parish Directors £25 each | | 225.00 |
| | Secretary | | 1,200.00 |
| 193 | Full Members in proportion to the total contributions paid by each member | | 29,280.44 |
| | | | <u>31,373.44</u> |

sheet is shown above. Sandra, Ruth and Bert wrote out cheques to each of the remaining members and as Ruth didn't drive Sandra drove her round to each member's house where they handed over a cheque in final settlement.

Carol Emery, Buntingford Local History Group



BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

A QUALITY TOWN COUNCIL

Saturday 4th September saw the re-introduction of the Classic Car Show and the organisers were gratified to see such a huge turnout. The Town Council would like to thank Graham Bonner and his team for organising such a successful event. It takes a lot of hard work to organise something like this and it's really appreciated.

The Council continues to hold socially distanced meetings at the Seth Ward Community Centre. Although restrictions have been lifted, the Council has a duty of care to its members, staff and the public. We will continue to review the situation and resume meetings back at The Manor House as soon as it is considered safe to do so. In the meantime, members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings at the Community Centre in Luyes Rise.

The Town Council has reluctantly had to take the skate ramps out of action. We are actively seeking quotes to re-build the ramps at the earliest possible opportunity. The re-build will be part of the Outdoor Sports provision which will include many other new facilities as identified in the survey undertaken last year.

A small Service of Remembrance will be held at the War Memorial in November with a similar format to 2020.

Jill Jones MILCM Cert HE, 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

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

Website: www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk

Town Council meetings for October 2021

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Thurs 7 th October | 7:00pm – Amenities Committee |
| Thurs 14 th October | 7:00pm – Resources Committee |
| Thurs 28 th October | 7:00pm – Full Council |

Meetings to be held at the Seth Ward Community Centre unless advised differently on the Agenda. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

If you would like to **advertise** in the *Buntingford Journal*, please contact **Keith Edwards** on **01763 272032** or email **Advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk**



Second grants funding round opens 18th October

East Herts Council is looking to support projects that strengthen the community and lead to the improved health and wellbeing of residents and recovery after Covid. We were pleased to fund 17 organisations earlier this year and are keen to find more projects – especially those in areas of disadvantage and those that support people who are vulnerable. East Herts' priorities this year are

- Health for all
- Community issues, including engaging and consulting
- Arts and cultural activities that increase residents' wellbeing
- Environmentally sustainable and accessible community buildings and green spaces

Contact Claire on claire.pullen@eastherts.gov.uk to discuss your ideas. Or you can check eligibility and apply online at <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/community-and-wellbeing/funding-community-organisations-and-individuals>

Past projects supported by EHC include a community garden, a new fitness trail, new playground, new Changing Places facility in a local church and drama workshops for adults with learning difficulties. For a list of previous grants awarded go to <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/about-east-herts-0/grants-awarded-and-commissioned-services-not-profit-organisations>

Individuals and informal groups are also eligible to apply for up to £300 at any time.

BUNTINGFORD ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY (BACCS)



WHAT DO YOU WANT
BUNTINGFORD
TO LOOK LIKE IN
2050?



As you read this, we shall be less than a month away from the make-or-break Climate Summit in Glasgow, aka COP26. You may know this – but may think: *“Why should I be bothered? It’s a government meeting and governments will decide what they want and then tell me what to do?”* And you’d be right – but also wrong. For several reasons.

The UN Charter set the United Nations up in the name of “We, the Peoples...” NOT “We, the Governments...” Because governments pay the costs of the UN, it has – generally – been answerable only to governments, but on the issue of climate change, We the Peoples, some businesses and, to be fair, some governments are way ahead of most governments. That is why we, in Buntingford Action on Climate Change and Sustainability, are encouraging everyone to get involved in some way.

BACCS are supporting the Eco-Church initiative: our three Church of England churches – Buntingford, Aspenden and Westmill – have joined it to help the C of E meet its

commitment to becoming carbon net zero by 2030. Everyone is doing their bit:

- Norman Jones gave a wonderful sermon dedicated to God's Earth on Sunday 8th August at St. Mary's, Aspenden, alerting us to the need to do more.
- Caroline Wilson is giving a sermon on the subject on 3rd October at St Mary the Virgin, Westmill.
- Madela Baddock joined the Young Christian Climate Network's (www.yccn.uk) relay pilgrimage to COP26 in Glasgow, walking from St Albans to Hemel Hempstead and enjoying the fellowship of like-minded Christians.

And, of course, on 1st September Pope Francis and Archbishop Justin Welby issued their call for the "Protection of Creation" under the rubric of "CHOOSE LIFE!" In it, they call on *"every belief or worldview to listen to the cry of the Earth and people who are poor and make meaningful sacrifices for the sake of the Earth...."* They call on us to *"repent our generation's sins – to stand alongside our younger sisters and brothers and, for their sake, choose to eat, travel, spend, invest and live differently..."*

Before we all reach for our hair shirts and sandals, what exactly does that mean? For many years now, most of us have recycled, tried to use our cars less, eat less meat, done *"50 things to save the planet..."* But has it done any good? Well some, obviously, but we have to reduce our emissions by 6% a year, and even last year they rose by 2%. So, we're not yet doing nearly enough.

What to do? Well, of course, we have to intensify our local/personal efforts, but what more? I took part in a Climate Conference in Estonia in August which produced a Declaration, also entitled "CHOOSE LIFE!" In it, we agreed that, as UN Secretary-General Guterres said in launching the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report, *"The era of fossil fuels is over...."* he must request the UN's member state governments to legislate for the fossil fuel era to be ended. There is no other way: fossil fuel companies and countries with fossil-fuel-based economies will not voluntarily liquidate themselves; either or both may demand compensation. Which raises the question: "Can we afford to save ourselves from Climate Change?"

All of this requires us to think very carefully about the people and parties we elect to govern us, as well as the institutional infrastructures we put in place to protect our global assets and natural capital. The UN is NOT a World government: no one can stop Bolsonaro from tearing down what remains of the Amazon rain forest – even though we all depend upon it to breathe. It is time to think afresh about the kind of UN we need, about a Citizens' UN – and about electing politicians who don't just talk about prioritising climate change but actually do something to halt and reverse it.

Want to learn/discuss more? Come to the BACCS Town Hall Meeting in November to discuss what we should be Thinking Globally and how we can all do more to Act Locally.

David Woollcombe

Find us on Facebook: [@BACCSBuntingford](https://www.facebook.com/BACCSBuntingford) Email us: BACCS@tutanota.com
Website: <https://BACCS.uk>

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 (The Post Office) • RILEY'S FAMILY BUTCHERS

BUNTINGFORD WRITERS' GROUP



Greetings from the Buntingford Writers' Group! This is us, guzzling tea and cake at Pearce's and enjoying a moment of sunshine.

We thought Journal readers might like to know something about the Writers' Group.

We began in 2013 and there are currently eight regulars. A few more turn up occasionally. Most of us joined because we appreciate the support of other writers. As with any creative endeavour writers need to be inspired, encouraged and self-disciplined to get the work done. So, it is with a mixture of pain and joy that we meet up to share our work, participate in writing exercises, and encourage each other to write.

Some of us are published authors, others are on their way. Some prefer fiction, whilst others are doing their memoirs or writing articles for magazines. One of us has a Creative Writing degree and another is just starting her course. Pre-Covid, we attended Writers' Days in Cambridge and held our own writing mornings at the library in Buntingford. We've done Story Strolls across the fields around Buntingford, listening to each other's stories and poems. And, of course, we submit our stories to the Buntingford Journal.

Whilst we've mostly met online over the last 18 months, we are now meeting in person at outdoor venues. If you think you would like to join us, do get in touch. You don't have to commit yourself and there's no joining fee. Writing beginners are very welcome.

Chris Kell

07816 935 396 / chriskell37@gmail.com / www.essaysonageing.com

Introducing The Humble Line



Hello, my name is Anne and I have been a freelance graphic designer for 6 years and my business is called The Humble Line. You may have spotted my advertisement over the past few months, and this is a lovely chance to introduce myself properly and tell you a little bit about my background and how I came to be advertising in the Buntingford Journal.

I've lived in Little Hadham for almost 10 years and love being in the countryside, taking my doggy Redford on walks and being around for my children (even though they are now big independent teens!). I am also editor of the Little Hadham Parish News which I enjoy immensely. My in-laws recently moved to Buntingford, and they love it with all its great amenities and activities and it being such a lovely friendly and vibrant town.

I wasn't always a graphic designer but I have always loved sketching and drawing and making things look beautiful. I started as a web designer in Edinburgh where my husband and I decided to settle after university. It was too cold up there though, so we relocated to London where I worked for English Heritage in the Digital Team. Two babies and 12 years later I was head of department, which was great, but I missed the hands-on creative work that I used to do. So I left English Heritage and retrained as a graphic designer at Shillington College in London, polishing and honing my skills and then setting up on my own as a freelance graphic designer.

The thing that really drives me is helping local businesses to reach their full potential and to attract new customers with beautifully designed branding and marketing materials that reflect their personality and ethos. It is important to me to really listen to my clients and find out what it is about their business that is important to them, what makes them unique, and then translate this into their branding or packaging or marketing materials etc. I feel that I have much to offer my clients as I bring a wealth of experience in web, marketing, and copywriting, as well as graphic design skills.

You can see from the testimonials on my website at www.thehumbleline.com that my clients and I enjoy great working relationships. I am not afraid to question things and make suggestions where needed, but I also know the value of actively listening to their needs, to make sure the end result is on brief and makes them truly happy.

I would be delighted to hear from anyone who needs help with their design project, big or small, so do feel free to email me on the address below to set up an initial, no-obligation chat about your requirements. Also, if you would like to read regular tips and tricks on how to make your own design jobs look polished and professional, or just see what projects I have been working on recently, then you can follow me on Instagram [@thehumbleline](https://www.instagram.com/thehumbleline).

Anne Wright / anne@thehumbleline.com



The Buntingford Classic Car Show 2021

Well it was certainly good to be back! After last year's show had to be cancelled it was fantastic to see how well the show this year was supported. More than 150 cars, plus countless motorbikes and scooters were on parade. Tractors, lorries and our good friend the Green Goddess were also present – we even had a group of rare Dawes bicycles in the Manor House car park.

The public were out in force to support the event and everyone seemed to be thoroughly enjoying themselves. As usual there were no untoward incidents apart from an elderly lady who took a tumble and had to be taken to hospital in an ambulance. I have since heard that she is recovering well.

Live music was played from two stages – one at the top of Church Street and one at the north end of the High Street, opposite the Tile Shop. Some great bands put on a superb show. As usual huge credit goes to the stewards without whom the show simply could not go ahead – they ensured that everything ran without a hitch and 2 hours after the show had finished the High Street was clear, clean and back to normal.

All in all a great day – it brought a much needed air of normality back to Buntingford.

There was the usual prize-giving, with Town Mayor Graham Waite (bottom right) handing out the trophies. This year the awards were as follows:-

Best Car – Yellow Chevrolet Corvette (below), PB02VET, owned by Pete Bowles



Best Bike – 1972 Yamaha 750, owned by Simon Druce (right)

Car to Drive Home In – Mitsubishi Evo 6 Tommi Makinen, W187UAF, James McElhone

Chairman's Choice – TVR Tuscan, V28TVR, Tim Kett

We hope to see you all again next year.

Graham Bonner



Buntingford Film Club

Our Summer screenings at The Woodman and The Sword Inn Hand were very successful and enjoyed by good audiences. The Woodman is a new venue for us and we were very happy to generate such an enthusiastic response for a location that is rather more out on a limb. The Sword Inn Hand is, of course, one where we have entertained previously. The support for *Dirty Dancing* did not disappoint and it was encouraging to see how our new outdoor screen performed so well.

After such a good experience in August, it was extremely disappointing that we had to cancel our film show in September, *Le Mans '66*, for lack of support. Everyone who had booked has had a full refund, but it does leave us to wonder what Buntingford residents really want? Perhaps, with cinemas being closed as a result of lockdown, people have become more wedded to viewing films on Netflix and Amazon Prime. But, however excellent the films they show, it cannot compare with seeing those films on the big screen and enjoying the experience of a night out which we have been missing so much.

I do recommend the film we are showing in October: **Nomadland**. I gave a synopsis of the film in the September edition of the Buntingford Journal, so I hope you have already marked this down as 'must see'. A major Oscar-winner at this year's Academy Awards, taking the awards for Best Director, Best Female Actor and Best Film, it was only released in 2020 but with cinemas closed as a result of Covid-19 lockdowns, opportunities to see it have been very limited. So **Saturday 2nd October at 19.30** is a unique opportunity to see this much-praised film on the big screen. Covering the experiences of a woman who becomes homeless as a consequence of personal loss and economic problems, it is very much a film of today, but it is not downbeat and features brilliant shots of the vast landscapes of the American West.



Next month, being November, will see the Service of Remembrance at the War Memorial, albeit in a downscaled version, as last year. It has been our practice to choose an appropriate film for the occasion and this year we will be showing **1917** on **Saturday 6th November at 19.30**. We originally selected this film to screen in May 2020 to mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day, but Covid-19 put paid to that. Now we have the opportunity to repair that loss. The film, directed by Sam Mendes, was released in December 2019 and is based on stories told to Mendes by his paternal grandfather about his experiences in the First World War. It received 10 nominations in the 2020 Oscars and went on to win Best Cinematography, Best Visual Effects and Best Sound Mixing. The action takes place after the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line and follows two British soldiers on a mission to deliver an important message to call off a doomed offensive.



The Hundred Parishes Society

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Climate change is creating examples of extreme weather all over the world. Part of the solution to global warming is to use natural energy. Our ancestors harnessed the natural power of water by means of watermills, thought to have been invented by the Greeks. The Domesday Book of 1086 recorded no fewer than 5,624 watermills in England. Most were used to grind wheat. They continued as a prime source of energy until the Industrial

Revolution. The Hundred Parishes has a wealth of these mills, many retained through conversion into private homes. Several may be seen on our walks whose descriptions can be freely downloaded from our website.

Hinxton, on the River Cam, once had three water mills. One remains (right), a 17th-century mill built on the site of an older one mentioned in Domesday as worth 8 shillings. It ceased to operate commercially in 1955 but now works again on days when it is open to the public – the final opening in 2021 is on 3rd October from 2:30 to 5pm. It can be seen at any time from the outside and is on our walk number 14.



Linton's watermill on the River Granta (left) dates from the early 18th century, although there has been a mill on the site since the 13th century. It stopped working in 1972 and has now been converted into apartments. Walk 109 passes it.

Weather-boarded 18th-century Kings Mill (below left) in Littlebury was originally powered by the River Cam and then by steam until it stopped working in 1924. Walk number 165 passes Kings Mill during its short (1.4 mile) exploration of historic Littlebury.

What remains of Great Bardfield watermill (below centre) can be seen on walks 103 and 104, while the remains of Tilty watermill (right) are on walk 120.

Ken McDonald
Secretary



It is nice to see things starting to get back to something like normal and FORQ were delighted to be present at the Braughing Fair and Wheelbarrow Race on 4th September (photo below). FORQ Members discussed the issues facing our chalk streams



with many people there, with the River Quin gently flowing in the background. We also gave a Riverfly monitoring demonstration, which was very popular, particularly with the many children who stopped by. They found it fascinating to see what lives in their local river and learn what the bugs then grow into.

Recording the wildlife of our rivers is key to our work. You can help us by recording the plants, trees, animals, birds and fungi that you see via the

iNaturalist smartphone app. Your sightings will automatically be added to our project page. We have more than 1200 observations already, covering more than 530 species from nearly 60 observers. The more data we can generate the better, so please add the things you see when you are out and about along our rivers.

Riverfly Monitoring at the two sites in Buntingford will resume in September; it wasn't possible to monitor them in August due to holidays. A site in Standon has been added to those monitored regularly and it is hoped sites in Braughing will be included soon. Landowner permission has been received for one site in Braughing whilst another has been identified and the landowner contacted. The results of all the Riverfly monitoring sessions are added to the FORQ website where you can see what is living in your river.

Useful Links:

- <https://friendsoftherib.wordpress.com/blog/>
- <https://chalkaquiferalliance.wordpress.com/events/>

Pauline Ayres, Communications FORQ



SUMPTUOUS SOUPS

*Homemade soups delivered to your door!
Individually frozen for your convenience.*

2 soups and 2 homemade bread rolls – £7

Cauliflower with Roquefort • Red Pepper and Tomato
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To order please ring: m: 07501 495 940 / t: 01763 289 738

Recipe for October

Pumpkin Soup

During October and around Halloween, pumpkins are for sale almost everywhere!

Ingredients

- 1 pumpkin weighing 3–3½lbs (1.35–1.6kg)
- 1 tbsp oil
- 1 oz (25g) butter
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1½ pts (850ml) veg or chicken stock
- 15fl oz (425ml) whole milk
- 4oz (110g) Gruyere cheese, diced, plus 2oz (50g) grated
- 6 tsp crème fraîche
- salt, fresh pepper and nutmeg

Method

1. Heat the oven to 240°C/475°F/Gas mark 9.
2. Cut the pumpkin in half through the stalk, then cut each half into 4. Scoop out the seeds using a spoon. Brush the cut surface of each section with the oil and place on a baking sheet. Season with salt and pepper and put in oven to roast for 25–30mins.
3. Melt the butter in a large saucepan, add the chopped onion and cook on medium heat, stirring occasionally, for 20 mins.
4. Remove the pumpkin from the oven and leave it to cool. Add the stock and milk to the onions and simmer on a low heat.
5. Scoop out the flesh of the pumpkin and add to the stock, together with some salt, pepper and grated nutmeg. Simmer gently for 15–20 mins.
6. Allow the soup to cool, then liquidise. Re-warm gently to simmering and add the diced cheese. Serve in warmed bowls, garnished with a tsp of crème fraîche and the grated cheese.

Elaine – Vintage Cakes and Sumptuous Soups

Tel: 01763 289 738 / m. 07501 495 940

Facebook – Sumptuous Soups and Country Cakes

Citizens Advice East Herts' offices are currently closed to drop-ins due to Covid, but you can contact them by phone – call the local Message Line for a call back on **01920 459 944** or the Herts Advice Line on **0800 144 8848** (10am-4pm, Mon to Fri). Or see the online options at:

citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk



The Costs of School

I'm a single parent and lost my job during the pandemic. My local Citizens Advice helped me apply for Universal Credit which has been really helpful to cover some of the income I've lost. But I'm very worried about the upcoming £20-a-week cut to Universal Credit – I don't know how I'll be able to pay for the school uniforms and shoes, especially as they grow so fast! Is there any other support out there to help plug the gap?

If you're on a low income or unemployed, you might be able to get help with some of the costs of sending your child to school, including school meals, transport and uniform. It's always worth talking to your local education authority to see what support is available as some of their resources and offerings can differ. The following information is for England.

Free school meals

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically get free school meals. If you have older children you can apply for free school meals if you get certain benefits. If you're on Universal Credit and applied after 1st April 2018 you would be eligible if you earn less than £7,400 a year without benefits. You can see the full list of eligibility requirements on the Citizens Advice website (below).

To apply for free school meals you need to contact your local authority; you can check the details at www.Gov.uk by typing in your postcode.

Transport

If your children are aged between 5 to 16 years, your local education authority might offer free or lower cost transport if you don't live near the school or your child is unable to walk there. You need to apply to your local education authority for help.

Uniforms and other costs

Your local education authority might also be able to help with some other costs, such as uniforms, music lessons, or trips and activities. There may also be local charitable schemes to help with these costs – it's worth checking with the school to see if it knows of any. Schools can also sometimes advise on finding secondhand uniforms.

What's next?

If your child is staying in education after year 11, you must tell HMRC's Child Benefit Office if you want to continue receiving child benefit and any extra support for children within means-tested benefits. When your child turns 16, HMRC will send you a letter asking whether your child will be staying in full-time education or training. You must reply to this letter to keep getting Child Benefit.

Citizens Advice East Herts is a registered charity that offers free advice on all issues. You can call us on 0800 144 8848 or leave a message for a call back on 01920 459 944. For further information on advice options see:

www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk



CrossFit Buntingford Raises over £500 for the SOFT UK charity in support of families with children affected by Trisomy 13 and 18

On 5th September, the CrossFit Buntingford community came together for the inaugural Watermill Games: 13 Teams (same sex pairs), including entries from Corps Fitness and Buntingford Runners, competed for the bragging rights of being the **Watermill Games Champions**. We had a ball!

The day was taken up with challenges such as the Sandbag run, Land Rover push, Sledge pull and Rowing challenge. Then there was a ski off for the finals between the top two teams in both categories. The competition was made up of low-skill, hard-work workouts that were accessible to all abilities. We followed up with a BBQ. The community spirit that came together for this fundraiser was something to behold. Since opening we've been blessed with a great community and it's still growing as we make friends across other groups in the town.



The honours went to:

Sarah Lidsmith PT & Michelle Cunningham from Corps Fitness

Leigh Nolan & Jack Oetting (alias Justin Maderos) of CrossFit Buntingford





Fancy joining us next year? Email me on the address below to go on our mailing list. It will be different next year (possibly mixed teams of 4) but always accessible to all! The fun is guaranteed! A big thank you to our friends from Corps Fitness and Buntingford Runners for their support and also to CSK Automotive for lending us the vehicle to push. £500 raised – not a bad afternoon's work!

Mick Nolan / mick@crossfitbuntingford.co.uk
www.crossfitbuntingford.co.uk / 07912 653164

We hope you will be glad to hear that the 'Tea Time Talks' team is at last arranging future events! The first of these will be:

'A Year in the Vineyard'

**On Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th December,
at 6pm, in Standon Village Hall**

Tickets £5 (booking essential – see below)

On both dates Platon Loizou of Four Acres Vineyard in Little Hadham will give a talk on his experiences as a winemaker, followed by a tasting of his blanc de blanc and rose sparkling wines and his cider. We found all these delicious when we sampled them at the vineyard in the summer. We will start at 6pm in Standon Village Hall, but unlike at our usual talks numbers will be limited, so tickets need to be booked in advance and will not be available on the door. Tickets cost £5, which includes nibbles, with profits to local causes. **To book a place please phone Toby or Helena Spencer on 01920 822177.**



Further good news is that we are lining up three speakers for January, February and March next year, and we haven't completely forgotten how to make cakes! More details to follow in the December issue of the Journal. We look forward very much indeed to seeing you all again and welcoming you to our next Tea Time Talk.

**Trish & Rob Street, Toby & Helena Spencer
The Tea Time Talks Team**

Monday 13th September 2021 was the day we almost returned to full normality. We had our first monthly meeting in the Seth Ward Community Centre since lockdown, but with the necessary social distancing in place for seating and Zoom for those at home. Of course there were a couple of hiccups but our chief IT engineer, Dave Austin, soon solved them!

Instead of welcoming new members at the entrance to the building, the Greeters now wait inside the hall. In order that they

can be seen, June Fairbrother kindly made sashes out of the green snooker and yellow tennis ball material that was donated to us recently (see last month's Journal).



Above: Our speaker Clare Mulley, with Dave Austin sorting out some IT issues . Above right: Greeters Brian Tebbutt and Lesley Stevens. Top, opposite: Jan Baker and Lesley Stevens at the potter's wheel, and the new pottery group, with tutor Trevor at the back in the red apron.

Our speaker was Clare Mulley who told us the fascinating story of Eglantyne Jebb. One hundred years ago, Eglantyne Jebb was arrested in Trafalgar Square for campaigning to help the children of Britain's former First World War enemies. In 1919, few in London were sympathetic to her cause. Nevertheless, within weeks the audacious Jebb secured

the first donation to her 'Save the Children' fund from the public prosecutor at her trial. Never fond of individual children – 'the little wretches' as she once called them – Jebb was unconventional, driven by passion, compassion and a pioneering humanitarianism. *The Woman Who Saved the Children*, Clare's biography of Jebb, won the *Daily Mail* Biographers Club Prize. All author royalties are donated to Save the Children.

Many of our Groups are now returning to live meetings – the Photography Group and Church Crawlers restarted last Friday and Bridge and Mah Jong this week. We have one



new Group – Pottery – which has been going a few weeks now. They meet every Thursday morning in Puckeridge. The Group is full but if you are interested please contact Gill Alderton, Group Co-ordinator.

We have a special talk on Zoom on Monday 27th September at 2pm – ‘Composting and Green Waste.’

This is a new waste reduction project by Garden Organic who are delighted to announce an exciting new collaboration with the Shared Waste Partnership of East & North Hertfordshire District Councils to help reduce the region's waste. Our next meeting at Seth Ward is our **AGM on Monday 11th October**. Doors open 1pm.

Jean Cook

Buntingford WI

It was good that we were able to get together again for our September meeting and we were delighted to welcome several visitors. Our Speaker was Elizabeth Hamilton from the CPRE and her slides took us along The Hertfordshire Way, a 194-mile circular walk around our county. The walk links various towns and villages and is divided into 14 sections of between 9 and 15 miles so you don't have to walk it all at once (unless you want to!). Elizabeth pointed out various items of interest, including

George Orwell's former house at Wallington (left – photo from Hertfordshire Archives & Local Studies, Herts Memories website).



Our next meeting is on **Thursday 14th October** when our speaker will be Amanda Sutherland talking about 'Trends of a Decade'. We meet at the URC hall in Baldock Road (opposite McColls) at 7.15 for 7.30pm. Visitors are always very welcome – your first visit is free. You can just turn up on the night or, if you prefer, phone Pat on 01763 271305.

Val Hume

BALA

Buntingford Action for the Less Able

Registered Charity No. 1094426

Minibus Trips October / November 2021

| Date | Time | Destination | Price |
|-----------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| October | | | |
| Wed 13th | 11.30am | Pub Lunch | £5 |
| Mon 18th | 10.30–3pm | Welwyn Garden City | £5 |
| Tues 26th | 10.30–2pm | Scotsdales Garden Centre, Cambridge | £6.50 |
| November | | | |
| Wed 10th | 11.30am | Pub Lunch | £5 |
| Wed 17th | 10–2.30pm | St Albans (Market Day) | £8 |
| Sat 27th | 10.30–3pm | Hertford Castle Christmas Market | £5 |

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

Prices shown are for the minibus fare only.

PASSENGERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A FACE COVERING.

HAND SANITISER WILL BE PROVIDED.

To book a seat or for more information: 01763 271909 or 07870 638480

A Message from BALA...

BALA (Buntingford Action for the Less Able) is a small local charity set up many years ago by two determined ladies, Enid King and Liz McNamara, both sadly no longer with us. Their aim was to provide a purpose-built minibus for the use of residents of Buntingford and the surrounding areas who, through disability, ill-health or advancing years, are unable to access opportunities to travel. To cover the requirements of our charitable status, on each trip we must carry at least one wheelchair user and/or a passenger over the age of 75. The charity is now on its 4th minibus and undertakes shopping trips to local towns, pub lunch trips, garden centre visits, theatre trips and occasional trips further afield to destinations such as Southend, Bury St Edmunds and Milton Keynes.

But while we have managed to survive the Covid pandemic and now have the minibus back on the road, we have a problem brewing ... **WE NEED DRIVERS.**

Are you semi-retired or retired, work part-time or flexible hours? Can you drive? All our drivers are volunteers. We only ask as much or as little as you are able to give, a morning a month makes all the difference. Most trips start around 10am from the Benson Hall in Buntingford and return by mid-afternoon. Passengers are required to be independent or to travel with a carer if needed. Drivers need a license that includes Category/Group D1 entitlement (this was automatic for licenses prior to 1997). All training will be given, but don't panic! This just means that we'll show you how to use the minibus tail lift and wheel-chair restraints.

If you can spare a little time to help us continue this charity that means so much to so many and truly offers something unique and personal to its customers, please get in touch. I am happy to have a no-obligation chat and give more information. Please contact Ruth on **07870 638480**.

BALA Coffee Morning

Wednesday 20th October 2021, 10.15–11.30am

Tea/Coffee, Cakes, Sausage Rolls, Raffle

AT THE BENSON HALL, OPPOSITE THE CO-OP

The *Buntingford Journal* does not charge charities or local community organisations to advertise their events. So if you would like to see your event in these pages, please contact either **Christine Noble** on **01763 273095** / email **Journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk**, or **Keith Edwards** on **01763 272032** / email **Advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk**

Macmillan Coffee Morning

East Herts Golf Club is hosting a Macmillan 'coffee morning' on **Wednesday 6th October** between **11am and 4pm** and we would love to see you there!

Organised by one of our lady members who has seen first-hand the amazing work Macmillan nurses do to support people living with cancer, we hope to raise much needed funds for this great cause.



The format is very simple, just turn up for a fun coffee with your friends and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of East Herts Golf Club. Our dedicated team of staff and volunteer members will be on hand to provide you with servings of tea, coffee and cake, whilst you relax in our lounge bar or on the balcony terrace ... should the weather play its part.

We look forward to welcoming you to East Herts Golf Club for a fun social event and to give those who haven't visited Hamels Park an opportunity to enjoy the views of its magnificent ancient trees set in the tranquil, rolling parkland around Hamels Mansion.

East Herts Golf Club Ladies Section



Layston C of E First School

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

We start our first term of the new school year by exploring our value of Creation and Stewardship. We have been discussing the importance of Creation and Stewardship in our collective worship and circle time. We talked about creation from a Christian perspective, that life is a gift, entrusted by a loving creator God to all of us. In forest school sessions children are encouraged to be creative and to value and explore the world around them and to celebrate and enjoy our world. With this gift comes a mutual responsibility to ensure the creation is not spoiled, but rather sustained by all.

A warm welcome to all of our new families and to those returning to us after the summer break. We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready for the autumn term.

The children are settling in well to their new classes and are excited to learn new skills. They will be spending lots of time together, having fun learning, playing games and sharing experiences. There will also be lots of opportunities in Forest School and through our creative curriculum this half term to enrich their learning and promote our value of Creation and Stewardship.



To find out more about our school, please visit our website at:

www.layston.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Adele McMurrough, Headteacher

Reed First



School

Reed First School OPEN DAY

Saturday 9th October, 11am-2pm

Contact the school office to book a tour

Tel: 01763 848304

Email: admin@reed.herts.sch.uk



MILLFIELD FIRST & NURSERY SCHOOL

www.millfield.herts.sch.uk



Millfield children have started the new academic year with enthusiasm and motivation; it has been a pleasure to see them all back in school so happy and engaged.

EYFS Provision at Millfield

At Millfield First & Nursery School we offer a highly effective Early Years Provision for both Nursery (3 to 4 year old) and Reception (4 to 5 year old) children. We are proud to provide indoor and outdoor learning environments that are nurturing and enriching, which motivate and help develop a love of learning. At Millfield each child is valued as an individual, allowing them to grow, develop and thrive. Our dedicated and passionate staff team are committed to working with parents/carers as partners, to build the foundation for their children's future life.

We are holding the following visits and tours of our Early Years environments for parents/carers with children starting Nursery or Reception in September 2022:

| | |
|--|---|
| Tuesday 12 th October 2021 | 3:45pm Prospective Nursery Applicants 2022-23 |
| | 4:45pm Prospective Reception Applicants 2022-23 |
| Tuesday 30 th November 2021 | 3:45pm Prospective Nursery Applicants 2022-23 |
| | 4:45pm Prospective Reception Applicants 2022-23 |



Laura Kennedy-Weeks
Headteacher

Millfield First & Nursery School

If you would like to know more about our school please phone us on **01763 271717**, contact us via email on

admin@millfield.herts.sch.uk

Or visit our website at: www.millfield.herts.sch.uk



Edwin Tree Middle School



A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

*As a Christian school, we recognise the unique and wonderful in everyone.
As a community, we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

As we begin the new academic year, we are delighted to welcome our new students to the next stage of their educational journey at Edwin Tree Middle School

We were pleased to welcome our new Year 5 students when they attended their Induction Day on Friday 3rd September. Despite not having had the normal Transition during the summer term due to Covid, they arrived at school with big smiles on their faces, ready to make new friends and start their learning.

Thank you to our KS3 Parents for their support in ensuring their children attended the two Lateral Flow testing sessions at school, as requested by the Government. We hope the testing programme will keep our school community safe and as Covid-free as possible.

What did we do last term to try to create memories for students who had missed out on school trips, competitions, theatre and dance in the past 18 months?

We are very aware that all generations have been impacted by Covid. Many students have lost the confidence to make friends because they have not had opportunities to be together to create shared memories. These memories are normally made through school trips, concerts and sporting competitions etc. and we are really clear that, along with the important academic catch-up programme, we needed to plan for some fun. Here are some of the activities from last term. We will continue to build more opportunities for our students this year.

Fullness Day in July celebrating our BAME community:

Our Diversity Group, led by Year 8, planned a day of activities, based around sharing an understanding of the BAME community and celebrating diversity. All BAME students and their parents were given an opportunity to take part in the planning. Students designed lessons based around music, food and hair in relation to their culture. Students were



also encouraged to wear traditional dress. Our BAME parents prepared some traditional foods including delicious Jolef rice (left), which they brought into school to share. To start the day, all students took part in a lesson on the history of slavery. Our Diversity Group will continue this year. We are looking forward to celebrating 'All Saints and All Souls Day' Jamaican style!

Farewell to Year 8 Leavers July 2021:

Due to Covid-19, we were unable to hold the formal celebrations we would normally offer our Year 8 students. They missed out on so much this year, including the residential visit to Normandy which has become a 'rite of passage' event for Year 8 students at Edwin Tree. However, they were treated to a day trip to the seaside, so they could swim, crab and explore the various arcades. Then they returned for an all-night sleepover and the opportunity to camp out on the school field! This culminated in a midnight celebration



ceremony, toasted with hot chocolate and marshmallows, takeaway pizza, games and songs around the fire pit. We were very fortunate that Sarah Cockerton, a professional photographer, volunteered her services. She captured some great photos and secured some

wonderful memories, especially when students had the chance to dress up in some crazy props from the drama cupboard! Each student received a complimentary photograph and further prints were available to purchase. Thank you Sarah Cockerton for helping to make this a truly memorable event.



Wildlife area and pond update at Edwinstree

It has always been a dream to utilise the beautiful space that we have at Edwinstree as an outside teaching and wildlife area that we can use as a whole school. The use of outdoor space has become even more important with the threat of Covic. However, before the school can benefit from this resource we have to build it. To start with, we are focusing on two main areas: a meadow to attract pollinators; and a wildlife area with a pond to encourage birds, hedgehogs and lots of invertebrate wildlife.



When we first looked at the area it was mostly grass (above left), but over late spring it turned into a nettle field. Luckily, some parents had donated gloves, which were very much needed. Another had kindly donated three wheelbarrows, so we were able to start clearing the area where we wanted to site the pond. We were further blessed when one of our parents arranged delivery of a digger and has donated his time to dig out our pond out for us.



We are currently making compost bins from donated pallets (some of the children are very handy with power tools) and we are continuing to clear out the nettles to prepare the ground before we start to plant our collection of native wild plants ready for September. We will keep you updated on our progress.

Jo Gant, Headteacher

Charity begins at... But where should it end?

It is reported that the UK population is amongst the most giving people in the world and many people are engaged in raising monies for various good causes. Indeed, not a day goes by when extravagant advertising campaigns are not saturating our television screens asking us to give to any one of the current good causes. All this is exemplary and thousands of people give of their time and energy for free. Every town, and ours is no exception, have charity shops where recycled items raise funds for one of the deserving causes and long may it be so, and we should recognise all the input these good citizens make on a daily basis. Alongside these shops I am sure that contributions towards many charities flow from the people of the town by other routes.

However, I have been concerned of late by the trend whereby organisations are 'raising funds' by promoting prizes for people who contribute to their particular charity. The most recent toe-curling announcement offers multimillion-pound luxury homes and supercars. The narrator of that particular television promotion is a saccharin-spewing woman who insults the viewer's intelligence with the script and concentrates more on what the 'winner' will receive. Furthermore it adds insult to injury when in the small print at the base of the screen it guarantees £100,000 to the charity.

My point is, would it not be better to give such charities the cash instead of these luxury goods? But perhaps more interesting would be to know the amount of money spent on the promotion and how much the charity organisers are paid. It is well reported how much the so-called CEOs of charities and their admin staff receive. A quick check on available data shows that some of these charity organisers and head office staff receive more cash and benefits than our prime minister! Indeed ex-politicians can be found heading up charities around the world and receiving thousands of £s and \$s for services rendered.

Yet on those same TV screens each day we see the terrible images of hurt and starving people and animals, most of all the distressing images of children, all of whom really need help. I think the people who profit from working for these charities would show more commitment if they made fewer sanctimonious utterances and took less from the pot of their particular good cause. Senior characters who are paid for their jobs will no doubt get the anticipated 'gong' when the lists are made up. Surely that should be sufficient additional reward for their efforts?

A recently issued list of 100 UK charities showed an average CEO salary of £80,000 with their individual income being £5 for every £1000 of charity income. Of course there are glaring anomalies in the wider global arena where salaries of some executives run to well in excess of a £100,000, even into multiple millions. But surely this cannot be right in the case of charities. Especially when we have seen how some big and small charities can abuse their position for their own benefit rather than helping the people who need it.

Usually in these offerings to the Journal I try to input a measure of humour into the writing, but there is no humour in this subject, only suffering which is a disgrace. On the positive side, there are many workers in place in charities doing whatever they can to

(Continued)

If you have something you would like to contribute to the *Journal* – a news item, a story, an opinion piece, poem, photograph or memory – please contact the editor, **Christine Noble**, on **01763 273095** / email **Journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk**

resolve or repair these endless tragedies and it is to them and their teams that all funds raised should be directed. Not some self-important do-gooder sitting in an office who if they were really charitable would carry out their so called duties for free. I believe that charity organisations have now become a major industry where the costs of promotion and a hierarchy of staff take a large slice of any monies given in good faith.

In conclusion, we appear to be turning a blind eye to an aspect of Government that is perhaps our largest charity. Specifically foreign aid and aspects of the Foreign Office. The misuse and direction of funds abroad makes our charity CEOs look like amateurs. One does not have to look far to see that monies are not necessarily reaching the intended recipients. It is time for a big shake up and we should all start asking those in receipt of any donated money: How is it spent? And by whom?

Vyse

Yew Tree Alpacas
Early Bird Christmas Shop

Meet our lovely Alpacas and shop early for Christmas

**SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER
 10.30am - 4.30pm**

**ONE DAY ONLY
 10% OFF**
 all our alpaca products*

*excludes all non-alpaca products, e.g. chutneys, preserves cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount

Our range of alpaca products and other Christmas gifts include:

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BUNTINGFORD UNSUNG HERO AWARDS 2021

**Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to help others?
 Then why not nominate them for this year's Unsung Hero Awards?**

Now in their third year, these awards are sponsored by the Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce and Buntingford Civic Society. Two awards are made, each of a cash prize and trophy, to two local people who have made a significant, positive, voluntary contribution to the community in the past year. One award goes to a person aged 20 or over, the other to someone aged 19 or under.

So come on and tell us who you think deserves to win!

Nomination forms are available from the Manor House, the Cheese Plate and various other outlets around the town, or an online version is available at www.b-hero.co.uk
 Completed forms can be handed in at the Manor House or they can be emailed to unsung@buntingfordchamberofcommerce.co.uk

The closing date for nominations is Monday 1st November, and the winners will be announced at the Lights of Love ceremony outside the Manor House on Friday 26th November.

Buntingford Cougars 50th Anniversary Celebrations & Sponsored Walk

After all the build-up and planning, it was time for the big day! The organising team had planned a full day of fun and excitement to mark 50 years since the founding of Buntingford Cougars. We wanted a day that the whole club would remember. The scene was set – Sunday 5th September. Happy Birthday Cougars!



The club has a long history of using sponsored walks to raise money and so the committee decided to revisit that. From 9:15am through to arrival at The Bury at midday, progressively more and more Cougars players joined in with three loops around Buntingford. The older age groups did all three, younger age groups one or two. Safe to say, it was an incredible sight! By the end of the walk, over 200 players and as many parents, siblings and even a few dogs were in a line that stretched the length of London Road! It was an incredible spectacle – one that will live long in the memory. And all in aid of an incredible local charity – The Lynsey Ivison Trust, supporting the families of children with life-threatening illnesses by providing holiday breaks.



Once at the Bury it was full on party time. There was plenty of entertainment for the kids – bungee run, climbing wall, inflatable obstacle course, bouncy castle – and plenty of food from local vendors including Cheeky Pizza, Horsebox Coffee Shop, Between Buns and Sukhanya Thai Food. We had stalls with cakes, sweets, candyfloss, a teddy tombola and a great raffle – we must say a huge thanks to the generous businesses up and down the High Street that donated to that.

And it was also lovely to see a number of former managers, players, committee members and supporters including Margaret Addicott (right), wife of Eric Addicott, one of the Club's founding coaches, who was on hand to cut a special 50th Anniversary cake.



At the time of going to press we still don't have a final total in terms of money raised for the Lynsey Iveson Trust but it looks likely to end up somewhere around £15K, perhaps even higher. We hope it will make a difference to so many families.

So, all our players are now kitted out in their new 50th Anniversary kits, our birthday has been truly celebrated and we are up and running again with the business of youth football. Enjoy the season Cougars!

David Deane, [Buntingford Cougars](#)



BUNTINGFORD TOWN FC

www.buntingfordtownfc.com

I don't know about you but, for me, August seemed to shoot by in the blink of an eye and the summer feels like a long, long time ago! All four of our teams are now back in League action and flying high.

First Team

Since their 6-1 win in the opening game, the First Team have registered two victories and two narrow defeats. That opening day success was followed by a 3-4 loss away at Hinton, a game where an even first half (1-1) was eclipsed by a pulsating second where we were always chasing an equaliser. Then came two good 3-1 wins at home against Evergreen and Tring Athletic Reserves (in the Aubrey Cup) which shot the Firsts up the Division 1 Table. Unfortunately, we then succumbed 3-4 to a good Hertford Heath side who sit unbeaten at the top of the table. As we look to our next game, against bottom placed Old Parmiterians, we are 7th, 12 points off top spot but with two games in hand!

Reserves

The Reserves have fared better and are on a four-game unbeaten run in Division 3 of the Herts Senior County League. Having started the season with a 3-1 win away at Oxhey Jets, their next two games saw the honours being shared with a 2-2 draw against Bovington A and a goalless game away at Tring Corinthians AFC Reserves. As with last season, the Reserves seem to be hitting the road a lot at the start of the season as their



The Buntingford Town FC Ladies squad

next two games saw them travel to Chorleywood Common (2-0 win) and the return trip to Tring Corinthians (2-1 win). As it stands, The Reserves sit 4th in Division 3, only four points of the leaders Hemel Hempstead Rovers.

Ladies

A few weeks before the league got underway we were informed that we would be placed in Division 3 of the Beds and Herts Women's Football League despite beating a number of the teams that had been given promotion to Division 2 – a strongly worded query was dispatched with the gratifying result that, when the league constitution was finally confirmed, the Ladies had been promoted!

The Ladies were unable to arrange any pre-season fixtures so went into their first league game without any real match practice but, fortunately perhaps, our first opponents were BSC Ladies, a team we faced in last season's 'Covid Cup' and whose pitch is somewhat narrower than our stomping ground. An even but frantic first 25 minutes soon passed and after the first drinks break (I assume the Referee needed a breather!) Buntingford started to dominate. The backline never really looked troubled as the midfield started to grow in stature, winning every ball (even if at times it was on the second bounce) before releasing the forward line. Whilst BSC were able to score one goal against the run of play, Buntingford were never behind and goals from Becky, Georgia and Paige (x2) ensured that we ran out 4-1 winners. There are some tough opponents in Division 2, but if we continue to play as we did on Sunday, then there is every chance that we can finish in the top half of the table and, who knows, perhaps even challenge for promotion.

Vets

The Vets completed their pre-season with two friendlies against Royston Vets (2-2) and Walkern Vets (4-3 win) and went into their first league fixture against reigning champions Broxbourne Vets full of confidence. Broxbourne are always strong at home, often fielding players who turn out for first team football on Saturdays. Despite a determined effort from our Vets, Broxbourne ran out 2-1 winners – it could have been worse had the opposition not missed two penalties! The Vets second league game saw local rivals Standon and Puckeridge come to The Bury and return down the A10 empty-handed after a 2-0 loss. It's too early in the season to know whether The Vets have what it takes to improve on last season's 2nd place in the Premier Division but, so far, the signs are good!

Matchday Programmes!

Those of you who frequent The Black Bull on a Friday evening or pop up to The Bury over the weekend will have noticed that we have reintroduced our matchday programme. At the moment it's just a baby at eight pages long, but as we move deeper into the season we plan to introduce more content and, hopefully, advertising for local businesses who would like to sponsor the club. It's packed full of photos and match reports, so why not grab hold of a copy and catch up on what's been going on and what's coming up.

Players, Sponsors and Volunteers wanted!

We have a plan and a vision of offering high-quality, exciting football at a higher level, but we can only do so much and go so far without the support of the local community whom we serve. We are blessed with a small, dedicated group of volunteers and enthusiastic players within the club, without whom there would be no Buntingford Town FC, but we would love to see that dedicated group increase in size. If you would like to join us on the next stage of our adventure, either as a player, sponsor or supporter, please contact me on chair@buntingfordtownfc.com or **07976 869 532**. You can follow us on facebook @BuntingfordTownFC, Twitter @BuntTownFC, or Instagram @buntingford_town_fc for details of upcoming games.

Mark Cotton, Chairman, Buntingford Town FC



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Summer 2021 has seen excellent class attendance both for my online and venue classes. My Pilates classes at the Attend2Health Studio are very popular; they have added another matwork Pilates session at 1pm on Wednesdays, but this is now also full. At my Buntingford U3A Exercise Classes, there are a few spaces still available on the Monday 10.30am session at the Seth Ward Community Centre. Holding the U3A classes at Seth Ward gives us more space, so I can keep classes safe and social distanced.

We ran an online Absolute Beginners Club for Pilates in September, specifically for those who want to try it but are afraid to come to a class not knowing what to expect. We will be running another introduction – for details see <http://jacqui-smith.net/abc-for-pilates/>

Wednesday 22nd September was National Fitness Day and I ran a series of free mini classes throughout the day on zoom and various social media platforms. **Coming up in October** we have World Mental Health Day on the 10th and World Osteoporosis Day on the 20th. We will be running free workshops with information available both in classes and via social media. Lastly, if anyone, whatever your age, wants some help with getting into fitness, please contact me.

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Buntingford Dramatic Society

We are delighted to announce that after 18 months of meeting via zoom, we are back! Rehearsals for our next production are underway with performance dates due to be confirmed shortly. Entertaining our local community, whilst having fun along the way, has always been the focus of our activities and we are particularly looking forward to welcoming back our loyal audiences. Please look out for more information in the next issue of the Journal or check out our website:

www.buntingforddrama.uk / email : admin@buntingforddrama.uk

Dates for Your Diary

- Mon 27th Sept** 2pm: **u3a Zoom talk on 'Composting & Garden Waste'** (see p.35)
- Sat 2nd Oct** 7.30pm: **Nomadland** with **Buntingford Film Club** at Seth Ward CC (p.26)
- Wed 6th** 11am–4pm: **Macmillan Coffee Morning** at East Herts Golf Club (see p.37)
- Wed 6th** 8pm: **Buntingford Gardener's Club** in URC Hall (see p.14)
- Sat 9th** 11am–2pm: **Reed First School Open Day** (see p.38)
- Sat 9th** 12noon–5pm: **Foxton Scarecrow Festival** (see p.27)
- Tues 12th** 3.45 & 4.45pm: **Early Years Parent/Carer Tours** at Millfield School (p.39)
- Wed 13th** 8pm: **Buntingford Branch of the Royal British Legion** in The Crown
- Thur 14th** 7.15pm: **Buntingford WI** in URC Hall (p.35)
- Mon 11th** doors open 1pm: **u3a monthly meeting & AGM** at Seth Ward CC (p.35)
- Wed 20th** 10.15–11.30am: **BALA Coffee Morning** in Benson Hall (see p.37)
- Wed 20th** 2–4pm: **Reed Gardening Club** in Reed Village Hall (see p.15)
- Sat 30th** 10.30am–4.30pm: **Yew Tree Alpacas Early Bird Christmas Shop** (p.43)
- Sun 31st** 2am: **British Winter Time begins** – don't forget to put your clocks BACK by 1 hour
- Sat 6th Nov** 7.30pm: **1917** with **Buntingford Film Club** at Seth Ward CC (see p.26)
- Mondays** 7.30–9pm: **Buntingford Community Choir** at Millfield School (see p.14)
- Mondays** 12noon–12.30pm: Online **Mindfulness & Meditation**, booking via www.mindful-worklife.com (see p.11)
- Tuesdays** 7.45–9.45pm: **Royston Choral Society** rehearsals at Royston Methodist Church (see p.11)
- Tuesdays** 7.30–9pm: **Braughing Sing Community Choir** in Jenyn's School Hall
- Wednesdays** 8pm: **Ware & District Photographic Society**, Thundridge Village Hall
- Wednesdays** 8–9pm: Online **Meditation in the Christian tradition**, contact Martin at info@mindfulness.com (see p.11)
- Thursdays** 10.30–12noon: **Coffee & Company** at the URC Hall (see p.12)

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The food bank is run by a voucher system. These can be obtained from GP surgeries, schools, children centre, CAB and churches. Further advice can be found by emailing buntingford.foodbank@gmail.com

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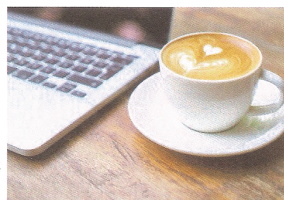
Carers in Hertfordshire Online



Due to the situation with the coronavirus most of Carers Support Hub groups are meeting online via Zoom. The main purpose of the groups is to bring carers together so they can offer each other practical and emotional support.

If you would like to join in a group online we request that you book a place. If the group for the area where you live is at a time you can't make, or is not yet running online, you are welcome to book a place at another meeting. Please note the meetings may be subject to change so contact us to check details.

To book email contact@carersinherts.org.uk or phone **01992 58 69 69** and let us know which group you are interested in. Once you've booked a place we will send you confirmation and the meeting login details. If you're booking by phone it would be useful if you could confirm your email address. **Please do let us know if you have any other technical issues or requirements, as we may be able to help.**



Carers in Hertfordshire Hub groups meeting online via Zoom

| Name of Group | When Meeting |
|--|--|
| Berkhamsted (a joint meeting with Hemel Hempstead) | Second Tuesday of the month, 10.30am – 11.30am. |
| Bishop's Stortford | First Wednesday of the month 10.30am – 11.30am. |
| Borehamwood | Second Thursday of the month, 10.30am – 11.30am. |
| Buntingford | Last Tuesday of the month, 10.30am – 11.30am. |
| Chorleywood & Rickmansworth | Third Monday of the month 10.30am—11.30am |
| Harpenden | Third Thursday of the month 10.30am – 11.30am. |
| Letchworth Garden City | Third Wednesday of the month 10.30am – 11.30am. |
| Potters Bar | Last Wednesday of the month 10.30am – 11.30am |
| Royston | First Thursday of the month 10.30am – 11.30am. |
| Stevenage | Last Thursday of the month 10.30am – 11.30am. |
| Ware | Third Friday of the month, 11am – 12pm noon. |
| Watford | Second Monday of the month, 10.30am - 11.30pm. |

Our Men's Carers' Group is also meeting online on the **last Tuesday of the month, 1.30pm – 2.30pm** and twice a week we have some informal meet ups on Zoom for any carers to join in with so they can have a chat. Please contact us for more details or if you'd like to join any of these meetings.

Our Carer Support Advisors should also be able to advise you of other groups for carers that are meeting online during the coronavirus pandemic. You can contact them 9.30am – 5pm Monday to Thursday and 9am – 4pm on Fridays for advice or support related to your caring role.

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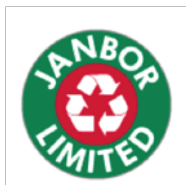
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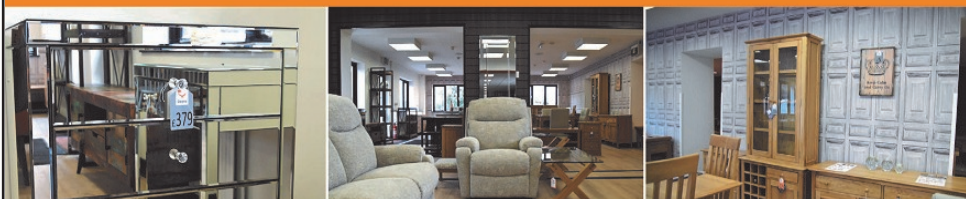


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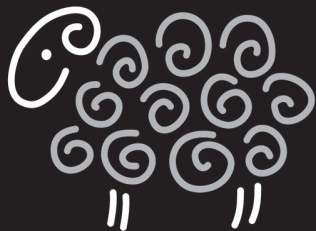
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