

THE BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL



**THE EVER POPULAR CLASSIC CAR SHOW
RETURNED TO BUNTINGFORD THIS SEPTEMBER**

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

October 2025 Volume 50 | Issue 8

£1.25



JOHN D KILBY & CO

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & REGISTERED AUDITORS

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

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

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

Meeting House Boarding Kennels and Cattery



Family run kennels and cattery in 2 acres.

Fully trained staff.

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

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

Vet on call 24/7.

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

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

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

Website: www.meetinghouse-kennels.co.uk

USEFUL LOCAL INFORMATION

POLICE STATION:

Baldock Road, Buntingford

GAS

ELECTRICITY

WATER (Veolia)

WATER (Affinity Water)

SEWERAGE (Thames Water)

FLOODLINE

DOCTORS:

Buntingford Medical Centre,
White Hart Close

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

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

LOCAL COUNCILS

BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY

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

CITIZENS ADVICE EAST HERTS:

BUNTINGFORD FOOD SUPPORT

Non-emergency telephone: 101

In emergencies dial 999

Emergency (gas leaks) – Freephone 0800 111 999

Emergency (power loss) – Freephone 0800 7838 838

Emergency – Freephone 0800 376 5325

Emergency – 0345 357 2407

Emergency – Telephone 0800 316 9800

Emergency – 0345 988 1188 or 0845 988 1188

Environment Agency Incident Line: 0800 80 70 60

Tel: 01763 271362 (24 hours)

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

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

Buntingford Town Council: 01763 272 222

East Herts District Council: 01279 655 261

Housing – 01279 714 714

Benefits – Freephone 0800 373 852

FOR EMERGENCIES out of office hours:
01279 655 261

Adult Care Services: 0300 123 4042

Children's Services: 0300 123 4043

Hertfordshire Highways: Report faults online:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/highwayfaults

Tel: 0300 123 4047

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

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

Telephone enquiries – 0300 123 4049

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

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

More info: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

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

www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk

Buntingfordfoodhub@gmail.com | 07842 889 772



LETTER FROM

The Editor

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely summer break? It really felt like someone had flicked a switch on the 1st September and said right, it's autumn now. As I write this mid-September it is blustery and cool and I have already dug out my winter woollies and sheepskin boots and am trying to remember how the Hive app works for the heating!

It was a gorgeous summer though, and we have lots of lovely reviews of events we enjoyed in the sunshine, including, on p.10 a write up of the unveiling of a statue to pay tribute to Finn, our very own Buntingford local hero police dog. And you can read a review of the ever popular Braughing Wheelbarrow Race on p.39. And of course our Classic Car Show on p.8.

This issue is also absolutely packed with news of events to keep you entertained as the seasons change and we head into autumn, including the Drama Societies Spooky Ghost Walk on the 25th October, p.20, the Photographic Society's Exhibition on the 11th October, p.22, and Film Club is back with a great programme of films lined up for the season, p.40.

We also bring you news of what's been happening around the town the past few weeks, and an interesting dive into the history of our Community Centre from our Local History Society on p.28.

I suggest you make yourself a nice warming cup of tea, grab a biscuit and cosy down for a good read.

Anne

BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL

OCTOBER 2025

EDITOR

Anne Wright

journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

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

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES

Keith Edwards

01763 272 032
advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

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

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

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

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

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



WHAT'S ON

- 12 Library Events
- 13 Jacqui Smith's Fitness Events
- 22 Foxton Scarecrow Trail
- 22 Photography Society Exhibition
- 24 Reed Garden Club Event
- 26 HomeStart Events
- 41 Barkway Literary Festival
- 42 Buntingford Live! Events
- 44 What's on Roundup

FEATURES

- 8 Buntingford Classic Car Show
- 10 Finn the Police Dog Tribute
- 14 RATs update
- 25 Ward Freeman Pool Update
- 27 Arts in East Herts
- 28 Local History Group
- 32 The Hundred Parishes Society
- 39 Braughing Wheelbarrow Race Review

REGULAR ARTICLES

- 6 Buntingford Civic Society
- 7 Town Council News
- 15 Citizen's Advice
- 16 U3A
- 17 Gardening Club
- 18 Community Choir
- 18 WI
- 19 Buntingford School of Dance
- 20 Buntingford Dramatic Society
- 20 Buntingford Senior Citizen's Club
- 23 Tennis Club News
- 24 Bowls Club News
- 34 Church News
- 35 Attend2Health News
- 38 School's News
- 40 Film Club
- 46 BALA Minibus Trips

ON THE COVER

Chairman's Choice Winner at the Classic Car Show in September 2025



BUNTINGFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Graham Waite, Chairman

chairman@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Member of

CIVIC VOICE
talking civic sense

reg. Charity: 1014873

Well, the Summer is over, and we are now well into Autumn, the nights are drawing in and there is a distinct chill in the mornings. We hope our members enjoyed reading our first Newsletter and we would welcome any feedback on its content. The Newsletter gives the Executive Committee more of an opportunity to elaborate on some of the issues that may be of concern to our members. Looking back over the Summer we experienced some really hot days and we hope that all of our Journal readers had a chance to get away for a holiday and returned safely. Quite a few events took place in the Town during August and September, one of which was the Buntingford Classic Car Show which, due to family commitments, the writer could not attend. Reports are that the day went off without a hitch and attendance was again very high and the weather was kind to us, see p.8 for details.

One event that must be mentioned was the unveiling of a commemorative statue to celebrate the life of Finn, an extremely brave police dog who lived in the town with his handler, Dave Wardell and family. The ceremony took place on Sunday 27th July in Layston Court Gardens, one of Finn's favourite places to walk. You can read all about the event on p.10.

Just a gentle reminder that at the end of this month, October 26th, British Summer Time ends, and the clocks go back.

If you have purchased this Journal from one of our retail outlets, why not join the Society. Membership is £10 per annum which guarantees a copy delivered to your door. A membership application form can be downloaded from our website, www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk/membership.php.

Graham Waite

Chairman, Buntingford Civic Society

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

The Buntingford Journal can also be purchased from:

THE CO-OP, BUDGENS/POST OFFICE
LOCKS, STOCK & MORE, MARK DOEL
BUTCHERS, THE CHEESE PLATE, KIM
on the CARD STALL



BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk

01763 272 222

clerk@buntingford-tc.gov.uk

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

[x](#) @buntingfordtc [f](#) @BuntingfordTC

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

It's the time of year when we start to take bookings for the **Annual Seniors Citizens Christmas lunch**. This year the event has been funded by The Town Council, the Buntingford Memorial Charity and the Buntingford Civic Society.

The event will be held on **Tuesday 16th December at Whitehills Golf Club**. The coach will leave the Manor House at 12pm sharp, returning around 3:30pm.

If you would like to attend, please contact the Clerk's Office either in person or by telephone (01763 272 222). Numbers are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

The Family Fun Day organised and funded by the Town Council was the best attended yet. The day was extremely hot and unfortunately we had to cancel the planned dog show. Despite this, everyone had a good time and the laser show was spectacular. It's planned to make this a bi-annual event.

There is currently a consultation underway on the proposed local government re-organisation. The proposals are to have unitary authorities i.e. one Council covers all services as opposed to the current County Council plus 10 District Councils.

This could mean dividing Hertfordshire into either two, three or four unitary authorities, this is the aspect that they are consulting on. There is a planned event at Buntingford Market on Monday 22nd September, where officers will be available to answer your questions. Further information and the link to the survey is available on www.hertfordshire-lgr.co.uk

The Manor House is licensed for Civil Ceremonies and many local residents have held their marriage ceremonies in the Grade II Listed Building. Ideal for small ceremonies of up to approximately 30 guests. All enquiries to the Clerk's office where we will be happy to show you around and answer any questions. The management of the Multi Games Area is now back with the Town Council. If you wish to hire the MUGA, please contact the Clerk's office and we will check availability. Layston Cemetery is owned and managed by the Town Council, please call us if you have an enquiry.

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

Jill Jones PSLCC Cert HE -Town Clerk

Town Council meetings for the month of October are:

Thursday 2nd October 7pm	Amenities Committee.
Thursday 9th October 7pm	Planning and 7:15pm Resources Committee
Thursday 30th October 7pm	Planning Committee and 7:15pm Full Council.

All meetings held at The Manor House unless indicated otherwise.

BUNTINGFORD CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Graham Bonner

The morning started as usual before 7am with Rob Ginn getting all of the road closure paraphernalia together ready for the big day.

9am saw the road opened for entrants (a bit earlier if truth be told) and as usual it was organised chaos!!! But the stewards did a grand job and eventually all vehicles were safely parked. Approximately 200 vehicles in total!!! The High street, Church street and Market Hill were all full.

Music was soon heard from all parts and the crowd were tempted by the food offerings from several eateries. It was clear that the weather was, once again, going to be perfect,

Prize giving was soon upon us and trophies presented by Mayor Duncan Wallace awarded as shown on this page.

As usual the day was a great success and thanks must go to the stewards who did a superb job. Also to our 2 major sponsors Norton Way Group Letchworth and Buntingford Town Council. And of course to all the exhibitors and the Buntingford residents who turned out in force to support the event.

All being well we will do it all again next year – first Saturday in September as usual so put in your diaries now.

Buntingford Chamber of Commerce

Best Bike: 1965 Ariel Arrow 250
2-stroke - Terry Cooper



Best Car: 1971 E-Type Jaguar V12 - Darren Grieve



Chairmans Choice: 1961 Triumph Tr3A - Simon Ansell



Car To Drive Home In: 2000 Subaru Impreza P1 - James Mcelhome



MEMORIAL UNVEILING FOR FINN THE POLICE DOG

Duncan Wallace



Sunday 27th July saw the realisation of a project and the conclusion of a journey which captured the hearts and imagination of the nation. With the weather holding firm, significant crowds gathered to witness the formal unveiling of a statue in memory of police dog Finn.

Finn, a police German Shepherd dog lived in Buntingford with his handler Dave Wardell and his family throughout his operational career. In 2016, Finn received horrific injuries in the line of duty and his story is well documented.

Finn crossed the rainbow bridge in 2023, aged 14 years at his new retirement home with Dave and the family in Cornwall, and what was to follow was unforeseen. Donations to the Blue Paw Foundation, a charity committed to improving the welfare of service and retired police dogs, and in which Dave Wardell was heavily invested, flooded in from far and wide. This prompted the commission of the statue which is now erected to his memory.

Of course, the legacy left by Finn is not merely a statue, a visual representation of an animal held so dear by so many. The legacy is what he came to represent, a canine champion who became so instrumental in elevating the status of service dogs within the judicial system. This resulted in 2019, in all service dogs rightfully being afforded the right to fair and objective justice and recognition of which they are so deserving with the introduction of the Animal Welfare (Service Animals) Act 2019. Indeed, the case involving Finn had brought to national attention that despite the affection and gratitude given operationally by emergency services and public alike, their value had been deemed somewhat insignificant when a court process adjudication was applied.

In June 2019, at their annual civic reception, the Town Council bestowed upon Finn, the Freedom of Buntingford in recognition of his service and his contribution towards elevating the status



and true value of service dogs. That evening, despite the presentation being made to rapturous applause within a crowded Manor House garden, post presentation, Finn quietly retreated with Dave to play with his treasured tennis ball behind the marquee, taking it all in his stride, almost bemused at what all the fuss was about!

Duncan Wallace, Town Mayor said "The Town Council are delighted, that this, Finn's home town, and in particular, these gardens, one of his favourite places has been chosen to site this wonderful statue and in some way there is a sense of his story having come full circle, and he is, once again, home. We hope that this representation will serve to remind us all of his story and what he helped to achieve for service dogs across the country"



BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY EVENTS

Kathleen Beale, Library Manager



Club for children Buntingford Library Fridays 4pm-5pm

Places limited - please book at the library

LEGO builds STEM skills!
Come along for fun challenges
which build problem solving, spatial
awareness and creative thinking



Suitable for children ages 5+
Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult

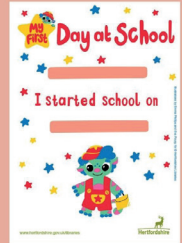
Note - children below the age of 5 will not be able to attend this session

#HertsLibraryLEGO

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/legoclubs



Celebrate your
little one's first
day at school by
collecting a free
certificate from
your local
library



Illustrations by Emma Phillips and Sue Pease © Hertfordshire Libraries

Poetry Open Mic night

Thurs 2nd Oct 6.30-8.00pm

Buntingford Library

£3 per ticket

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries
0300 123 4049



HERTS LIBRARIES - 100 YEARS
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Slipper Swaps

Prevent slips and trips by picking up FREE slippers and get lots of advice about staying safe and well in your home.

Buntingford Library
Thursday 13 November
10am to 1pm

No booking needed. Come for a cuppa and a chat!
FREE event but donations for refreshments welcomed

For more information visit
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/slipperswap
or call 0300 123 4049





Teaching fitness since 1998

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



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

WWW.JACQUI-SMITH.NET

07956 647806

We have had an amazing summer with adult workshops and our children's HAPPY Camps, along with all our regular classes in town.

I was going to mention our Stretch & Sound Bath on 28th October but as I write this article, we only had 3 places left, so I bet by the time this goes to press, all 20 spaces will be booked. Please follow on Facebook as we will try to run another workshop in November

We will be running HAPpy Camps over the Christmas School Holiday's and Community Initiative is also subsidising a Halloween Workshop for children

Please do refer to our community initiative website below for more information and other workshops we are running.



Want to come to an Exercise Class or fancy one of our FREE workshops then contact me on: 07956 647 806
 Jacqui Smith Personal Trainer & Chair of Community Initiative Charity
www.communityinitiativecharity.com | www.jacqui-smith.net



Thanks to the generosity of our amazing supporters, we were able to fund the surgery Nala so desperately needed. She has now fully recovered and is finally able to enjoy life without pain. Nala is a much happier girl and is now looking for her forever home!

It's been a busy month here at RATS!

We've welcomed lots of new faces into our care, and it's been heartwarming to see others heading off to their forever homes. One of the highlights has been receiving updates from some of our past residents who are now thriving in their new lives - these messages mean the world to us and are published on our social media channels every Friday.

One dog who has really stood out in our training sessions recently is Amber. She arrived in our care back in February via a Cyprus-based rescue, and at first, she was extremely frightened and unsure around people. But over the past few months, Amber has been making fantastic progress. She's gradually coming out of her shell and is beginning to show much more confidence around human interaction.

One of Amber's biggest challenges has been her fear of vehicles. With time, patience, and consistent training, she's made huge strides - she can now jump into the back of a van and stay there calmly, even with the engine running. We are so proud of how far she's come!

Nala's journey is a true testament to resilience and the power of community support. When Nala arrived at the kennels in May, she was in a very poor state and suffering from a painful condition called entropion - a disorder where the eyelids roll inward, causing the lashes to rub against the eyes. Left untreated, it can lead to serious discomfort and even blindness.

If you would like more information about the animals in our care looking for new homes, head to our website: rats-animalrescue.co.uk



I'm starting to book tickets for Christmas events, but I've seen lots of stories in the news about people being left out of pocket if these are cancelled at the last minute, which is making me nervous. How can I get a refund if this happens to me?

Kee an eye on the organiser's website and social media profiles for all the latest updates. You won't be entitled to a refund if you change your mind about going or realise you can't go anymore - but if an event is cancelled, your refund rights will depend on how you bought the ticket.

If you bought your ticket from an official seller and the organiser cancels, moves, or reschedules the event, you should get a refund. The official seller is the best point of contact to ask about how to get your money back.

If you're having no luck getting a refund, check to see if the seller is a member of the Society of Ticket Agents and Retailers (STAR). If they are, you can use STAR's complaints procedure. STAR members should receive a refund at face value if the event is cancelled and the organiser has agreed to refunds.

You'll probably only get the face value of the ticket back - the amount printed on it. Some sellers might refund postage if, for example, the event is cancelled before the tickets are sent. If you had to pay any booking or card fees, you might not get those back.

If the official seller isn't a member of STAR, check how you can solve an ongoing consumer problem with a

business seller. You may also be able to get your money back another way, such as through your credit card company.

If you bought your ticket from a ticket-reselling website, refunds will depend on the site's terms and conditions.

If you bought from a private seller and the event is cancelled or rescheduled then it is unlikely you will be able to recover your money. We still recommend you contact the seller.

Be aware of scams. Unfortunately, we've found that in these situations, scammers can prey on those who are affected.

If your event is cancelled and people or companies get in touch to offer their services to try to recover money on your behalf, be alert and make sure that you're looking out for the signs of a potential scam.

For more information on getting a refund, take a look at the Citizens Advice website.

What should I do if I have an urgent problem?

If you need advice, the quickest way is to call our Message Line 01920 459 944 anytime (we aim to return calls within 24 hours, except weekends) or visit **www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk** for our advice options.

If you don't have phone or email or need extra support, Citizens Advice Contact Centre in Manor House, Buntingford, is open every Monday from 10am to 12.30pm, where our friendly staff will listen to what's happening and help you work out what to do next.

Our speaker last month was Chris Eley, Head of Conservation Education at Hertfordshire Zoo.

The zoo was originally established in the early 1960s as Broxbourne Zoo. By the 1980s, it had become infamous for poor animal welfare standards and was even dubbed “the worst zoo in Britain” by animal rights groups and the press.

In 1984, the Sampson family purchased the site and began a major overhaul to improve animal welfare and facilities. It was closed for renovations and then reopened as Paradise Wildlife Park.

The zoo has continued to modernise and expand its conservation focus. In 2017, the Zoological Society of Hertfordshire was founded as its charitable arm. To mark its 40th anniversary, the zoo was rebranded again in 2024, officially becoming Hertfordshire Zoo.

Chris explained that there is also a Paradise Park in Cornwall (unrelated to Hertfordshire Zoo), and work experience have occasionally turned up at the wrong one, a memorable mix-up!

Conservation is central to the zoo’s mission, and Chris highlighted some of the ongoing projects supported by Hertfordshire Zoo including organisations such as the Red Panda Network and the Snow Leopard Trust.

Alongside his education role, Chris is also a talented wildlife photographer. In 2024, he won the prestigious Bird Photographer of the Year Conservation Award, chosen from over 23,000 entries across 70+



countries. His winning work focused on vultures, raising awareness of the threats they face and the work of dedicated conservationists protecting them.

Hertfordshire Zoo was recognised closer to home too, receiving the “Experience of the Year” award at the East of England Tourism Awards for its visitor engagement, knowledgeable staff, and interactive programmes such as Feed a Big Cat.

And of course, we can’t forget the dinosaurs! Hertfordshire Zoo is home to one of the UK’s biggest and most spectacular animatronic dinosaur attractions. The “World of Dinosaurs” features more than 30 life-size moving and roaring dinosaurs, set in acres of natural woodland.

The Sampson family also run the Big Cat Sanctuary in Kent, which works to protect endangered cat species through conservation breeding, research, and

education. The sanctuary is home to over 50 cats, from tigers and leopards to smaller species, and plays an important role in international conservation programmes as well as crucial big cat rescues.

Our meeting on **Monday 13th October** will be our AGM.

Our Speaker for Monday 10th November is Richard Thomas "Flanders Fields to the Tower" – a topical talk around Remembrance Day.

BUNTINGFORD GARDENER'S CLUB

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 1st October

At: The URC Hall, Baldock Road

Doors open: 7:45pm for 8pm start

Hope you have all been loving the sun this summer, but not all the watering! Many plants have finished early, even pumpkins ready in September! Time to start pruning those perennials, collecting seeds, weed/ feed and aerate that lawn. Fear not if it's brown, it will bounce back.

If you enjoy spending time in the garden and want to learn more about gardening, then why not come and join us one evening?

In October we are pleased to welcome Judith Large, who will be talking of the work she does at the Hedgehog hospital at Shepreth Wildlife Park. The Shepreth Wildlife Conservation Trust cares for hedgehogs brought in by the public, so they can be released back into the wild.

In November there will be a wreath making demonstration given by one of our members who is a qualified florist. We anticipate this being a popular event and

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

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

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

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



as spaces are limited at £5 per head, we ask all visitors to book early.

Visitors, please phone Rose on: 07757 259 689 or email: rosie.austin@icloud.com

Our meetings are monthly and always on the 1st Wednesday of the month, (Except January and August).

We have speakers throughout the year, giving talks on relevant subjects, as well as demonstrations, outings and socials with quizzes. With a cup of tea or coffee in hand, we make new friends, catch up and help each other with gardening tips, whilst sharing common interests.

Annual membership costs £20 and visitors are also welcome at £5.00 per visit.

If you would like any more information, please contact our secretary: 07757 259 689.

Hope to see you there.

How can it be Autumn already – how time flies when you’re having fun! We certainly enjoyed our lovely cream tea in August in the beautiful gardens of Pigs Nose Cottage!

We were very lucky in September when Gary Fisher stepped in at short notice and gave such an interesting talk on the history of Hatfield House. The present house was built in 1611 on the site of an older Royal Palace where King Henry VIII sent his children, Mary and Elizabeth, to live. Gary told us a sad little anecdote that once his marriage to Catherine of Aragon was annulled Henry refused to see Mary, even though she begged him to see her, and she was subjected to neglect in as much that the lady looking after her had to write and beg for clothes for her.

Membership of Buntingford WI isn’t just about coming to monthly meetings; in September a group of us enjoyed a WI day at Audley End House and Gardens,

a free event just for members, and we also enjoyed a

group lunch at the George IV pub in Baldock. Regular events are put on by the WI Hertfordshire Federation which all members can go to, such as a Golf Taster Day, Fashion Show, Walking Netball and a Craft Workshop to name a few currently available.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 9th October at 7:15** for 7.30 and one of our members, Joan Hathaway, will be talking about Mexico. Visitors are welcome to all our meetings so if you are new to Buntingford (and even if you’re not!) just turn up on the night and come to see what Buntingford W.I. is all about.

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



Summer break is now over and we are back to rehearsals on Monday evenings. As always we are looking for new people to join us.

We start at 7:30 and we normally finish at around 9:15pm.

Subscriptions are £5 per week, new starters get a try-out week for free.

Rehearsals are at;

Millfield School
Monks Walk
Buntingford
SG9 9DT

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

Paul Webster

Our only stipulation is that you must be over 16 years old.

There are no auditions and no requirement to read music. Anyone who wants to sing is welcome to come along. We have a wide range of music, from musicals to popular artists old and new.

It’s all very relaxed and sociable, so if you are interested please email me at this address: info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk

Or you can just come along on a Monday evening and join in. For more information go to our website: www.buntingfordchoir.co.uk

BUNTINGFORD SCHOOL OF DANCE



Zoë Eaglesfield

www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk



Buntingford School of Dance



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

We are excited to get back to classes after our Summer break and introduce some new classes. During the holidays pupils on our 'Dance Fusion' summer course got to try a variety of dance styles as well as working on stretch and strengthen exercises to support their dancing. The course finished with an inspiring workshop with professional dancer Charlie Bruce.

This term we have reintroduced our Stretch & Strengthen classes. Range of movement, coupled with the strength to sustain positions, is vital in all genres of dance. A dedicated stretch and strengthen class will provide the opportunity to develop these skills which will in turn enhance dance performance. Later this term we are introducing Acro Dance classes, keep an eye on our social media for more information about our trial classes/open day.

Places available for the Autumn Term

To register for classes please do so via the QR code below or visit our website contact or Join US page. We take pupils from toddlers upwards and have classes for all ages. We offer a two-week trial period for £15 and pupils can try as many suitable classes within the two-week period to see what they like.

Our classes include Baby Boppers, Ballet, Contemporary, Commercial/Street, Modern/Jazz & Tap classes, with classes suitable for all ages from toddlers to adults.

Baby Boppers: Pay As You Go

Baby Boppers class for toddlers to 3-year-olds and their parents is available on a pay as you go basis, once registered you

can book and pay online for the classes you wish to attend.

Adult Classes:

Whether you're a complete beginner or returning to dance after years away, our Adult Ballet and

Tap Classes are designed to help you move, express, and feel amazing—no pressure, just pure enjoyment.

Why Join?

- **Get Fit, Stay Active:** Improve flexibility, strength, and stamina in a fun, low-pressure environment.
- **Boost Confidence:** Learn new skills and routines that make you feel empowered and accomplished.
- **Stress Relief:** Let go of the day's worries and lose yourself in the music and movement.
- **No Experience Needed:** Our classes are welcoming, supportive, and tailored to all levels.
- **Make New Friends:** Join a community of like-minded adults who love to move and have fun.



SCAN ME

THE BUNTINGFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Brian Jones



Our last trip to the coast this year for members was a great success, good weather and a very nice day. Now the dark nights are coming why not come and spend some afternoon time at the club to meet

friends to join us for tea coffee and Bingo every Monday (expect Bank Holidays) 1:30pm for 2pm in the Church Hall opposite The Post office in Baldock Road.

For more information please call Val on 01763 272 019.

BUNTINGFORD DRAMATIC SOCIETY - GHOST WALK

The nights are drawing in. Grey clouds scurry fearfully across the moon. The streets are almost empty. The only sound that can be heard is a solemn voice and slow heavy footsteps... It can mean only one thing. By popular demand, Buntingford Dramatic Society will once again perform the highly acclaimed Ghost Walk. Come with us as we pace the darkened streets of Buntingford to explore tales of hostile happenings, odd occurrences, ghostly ghostliness and murders most malevolent.

Accompanied by our knowledgeable tour guide, you will be led through the streets to the very sites where things most unexplained occurred and where foul deeds took place. Perhaps you will hear

phantom voices, see mysterious spectres, feel an ominous presence or hear blood curdling screams and wails from the troubled past.

Be warned: this is not a night out for those weak of heart or fragile of disposition.

The event will take place starting at **8pm on Saturday 25th October 2025**. Tickets are strictly limited. Our last event sold out in under 24 hours. Dress warm for there may well be more than just a deathly chill in the air. Join us...if you dare.

For more information and for tickets go to our new site at **buntingforddrama.org.uk**

BUNTINGFORD DRAMATIC SOCIETY

PRESENTS

Ghost Walk

25th October 8pm



**A 90 minute guided tour
exploring Buntingford's dark past.**

Places strictly limited.

Ticket holders will be informed of the meeting point nearer the date.

Tickets £10 available from buntingforddrama.org.uk

FOXTON SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Saturday 4th October, 12 to 6pm

Buy a programme on the day and find all the music-themed scarecrows around the village. Children's quiz and activities, raffle and games. Stop at various venues for refreshments (bacon butties, home-made soup or tea and cakes) and enjoy live music at the Barn, the Church and the Village Hall. Vote for your favourite scarecrow! This fun event for all ages will finish with prize giving and the raffle draw.

Fund-raiser for St Laurence Church, Foxton School and Pre-School.

For further information, email us on the details below.



foxtonscarecrow@gmail.com or browse our website www.foxtonscarecrow.org.

WARE AND DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY ANNUAL EXHIBITION

11th OCTOBER 2025

10am-4pm

Free Admission

Thundridge Village Hall
Cambridge Road Thundridge SG12 0SY

Prints and Projected Digital Image show

And a Display of Hand embroidery by Standon Embroiderers and Hertford U3A Embroidery Group



PHOTO KATHY SHARMAN B PAGE

TEA/COFFEE AND HOME - MADE CAKES

Disabled access Available

SUPPORTED BY

www.wareps.org.uk



P
H
O
T
O
E
X
H
I
B
I
T
I
O
N

REED CHURCH

Liz Jakeman

On Saturday, 15th November, 7pm at St

Mary's Church, Reed, our very own Reed Beekeeper, Pam Chambers is giving an informative Talk on the importance of bees and the products of the hive. Fiona, Honey Sommelier will then focus on honey and honey tasting followed by some Mead and food/ honey tasting.

There will be a licensed Bar and light refreshments. This promises to be both a fascinating and fun evening. Do join us if you can.

Admission £10. To book please call Liz Jakeman 07596597042 or email elizabethjakeman@live.co.uk. All proceeds to Friends of Reed Church.

STANDON & PUCKERIDGE TENNIS CLUB

Diana Foster

www.standon-ltc.co.uk

We have three all weather courts and new members are always welcome.

It has been a busy time with the Memorial Cup, Junior Championships and Club Championships being held.

Memorial Cup: This was held on 9th June in memory of Vic Hubbard who was our President. It was run as a Dutch Doubles tournament and was won by David Wright and Katy Moran.

Junior Championships: These were held on 12th July and the winners were:

11 and under singles: Leo Thompson

12 and under singles: Ben Howard

14 and under singles: Ben Howard

16 and under singles: Mikolaj Nowicki-Polonski

18 and under singles: Fletcher Debnam

14 and under doubles: Anton Kaplunov and Jacob Wilson

18 and under doubles: Mikolaj Nowicki-Polonski and Fletcher Debnam

Club Championships: These were going to be held on 19th July, but due to bad weather were postponed to 26th. Unfortunately, not all the finalists were available that day and so some matches were played outside this time. Many thanks to Cliff for organising it.

Men's Singles: Kieron Debnam beat Cliff Devonshire, who had to retire.

Ladies Doubles: Mandy Minichiello & Holly Beckley beat Diana Foster & Sue Stewart

Men's Doubles: Ali & Kyle Buckling beat Kieron & Fletcher Debnam

Mixed Doubles: Mandy Minichiello & Ali Buckling beat Diana Foster & Kieron Debnam

We also held a Plate Competition.

Men's Singles: Paul Howard beat David Wright

PAY TO PLAY is available to all if you just want to book a court. £8 per hour for adults or £4 for under 16's. We even have availability at weekends. Contact Sally Bradshaw on 01920 821 152.

Times available are:

Monday 9am to 2.30 pm

Tuesday 9am to 2.30pm

Wednesday 12 to 2.30 pm

Thursday 9am to 6 pm

Friday 9am to 12.45 pm

Saturday 9am to 6 pm

Sunday 12 to 6 pm

Please note Saturday and Sunday are only available if there is not a match.

COACHING: our Head Coach is Cliff Devonshire, who is an LTA level 4 performance coach. Cliff has introduced programs for all types of players from junior to experienced club members, these are run term time only. For more information please contact Cliff on 07709 355 655 or email him at clifforddevonshire@hotmail.com

ADULT TENNIS: Wednesday morning 10 – 12 and Friday afternoon from 1.45pm. Contact Sally Bradshaw on 01920 821152. These sessions usually attract around 8 players of varying ability. We play doubles and change round regularly which gives an opportunity to play with different people.

CLUB NIGHT: Tuesday 6pm also Sunday morning from 10am. All members are welcome. There is a WhatsApp group to ensure there will be players there.

TEAMS: In the summer we have two Men's Team in the Hertfordshire Hot Rackets League and a Mixed Team and Ladies in the Essex Small Clubs League. The Men's 1st Team are in the Premier Division, the Ladies are in Division 2 and the Mixed in Division 1. In the winter we have a Mixed, Ladies and Men's Team in the Essex Small Clubs League, and a Ladies over 60's in the Hertfordshire League.

Contact Diana Foster 07778 031 430 for more information on any of these.

We also have junior teams in a Hertfordshire tournament. Contact Cliff Devonshire for more information on 07709 355 655 or email him at clifforddevonshire@hotmail.com

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME: Special rates for parent/child/family memberships, for details contact Sally Bradshaw 01920 821152.

Follow us on Facebook: /standonpuckeridgeltc or check out our website: standon-ltc.co.uk

REED GARDEN CLUB

Hazel Hewett

Reed Garden Club will be enjoying a talk on 'The Japanese Gardens at Cottered' with lovely colour slides.

Open to everyone and tea/coffee and biscuits.

Wednesday 1st October 2-4pm in Reed Village Hall.



BUNTINGFORD BOWLS CLUB

Dave Murphy

ENGLAND CROWNED

CHAMPIONS AT 2025 BRITISH BOWLS UNDER 18 SERIES

England's Under 18 squad produced an astonishing, unbeaten display to claim the 2025 British Bowls Under 18 Series title at Ayr Northfield BC in Scotland.

The two-day event, contested by England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, featured six sessions of action across Pairs, Triples, and Fours, and saw England rise to the occasion in style, winning all six of their matches and finishing top of the table with 57 points.

Local boy Matthew Murphy, 15 (pictured) who plays at Buntingford Bowls Club, played in 3 of the 6 sessions, winning all 3.

England team manager Nicola Bowe said 'What's most exciting is that for many of these players (eight new caps) this is just the beginning of their international pathway. With the character, skill, and togetherness they've already shown, the future of Team England is incredibly bright. Mal and I have no doubt



that this group will go on to achieve great things in the sport."

The members of Buntingford Bowls Club are very proud of Matthew and his achievements at such a young age.

Dave Murphy, Chairman

I feel like a broken record reporting that we are still waiting for Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) to make a decision on the lease. But we are still waiting!

We are grateful to Chris Hinchliff our local MP, who has written directly to the HCC Chief Executive expressing his continuing support for our cause and asking for a prompt decision to be made. We have now been told the matter should be reviewed prior to the Cabinet meeting on the 13th October.

The delay is of course hugely frustrating but with continued fundraising and positive visits by new contractors, we might just be able to open the pool in September 2026 if the lease is agreed this October.

We do plan to start work on the building as soon as possible, seeking early access whilst the legal team finalise the lease. Whilst we have raised funds to replace the outdated equipment in the plant room, our phased approach to reopening means that we will have to use the old changing rooms for a few more years. We will therefore be asking for volunteers to help give the old changing rooms a thorough clean and maybe a lick of paint. If you could help either by donating

cleaning materials and equipment or volunteering an hour or two of your time we would love to hear from you.

Phase 4 (the final phase) of the master plan is to open a café and social space to diversify our income. Whilst this is several years away, initially we want to utilise the small staff kitchen, to sell simple refreshments and increase the pools income. If you are planning a kitchen refurbishment at home and have some old kitchen cupboards and equipment that still has some life and could be recycled we would love to give it a new home at the pool. Just get in touch!

Meanwhile, we are busy preparing for another Table Top Sale, Christmas Jumper Swap Shop, Race Night and the Buntingford Christmas Market. Dates are still to be confirmed but keep an eye out in future Journal editions, on our website **www.wardfremanpool.org/how-you-can-help/** or **Facebook**. Alternatively sign up to our pool supporters newsletter by emailing me or **wardfremanpool@gmail.com**



Royston, Buntingford
& South Cambridgeshire

BINGO NIGHT FUNDRAISER

♦ **£15 per person, includes food and 2 Bingo sheets**

Extra bingo sheets £2

 **Refreshments available**

Raising funds to help give local children the best start in life.



Friday 3rd October
from 6:30pm, eyes down 7pm
at Seth Ward Community Centre, Luynes Rise,
Newtown, Buntingford, SG9 9SG
Please use this link to purchase your tickets:
<https://buytickets.at/homestartroystonbuntingfordandsouthcambridgeshire/1842944>

Home-Start Royston, Buntingford and South Cambridgeshire Incorporated as Home-Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire
Unit 6, Valley Farm, Station Road, Meldreth, Royston, Herts SG8 6JP T: 01763 262262 E: admin@hsrsc.org.uk www.hsrsc.org.uk
Charity No. 1105385 Company No. 05183873



Royston, Buntingford
& South Cambridgeshire

HOME-START LITERARY LUNCH

with author...

in conversation with Jude Simpson

**Join us on the 14th October 2025 at
The Old Bull Inn, Royston, SG8 9AW**

Freya North is the author of **16 bestselling novels** which have been translated into several languages.

Her most recent novels include the **Richard and Judy pick Little Wing** and **The Unfinished**

Business of Eadie Browne which was published to great critical acclaim in 2024. Freya is patron of **Society of Women Writers & Journalists** and also Refuge in Literacy. She is editor of The Book Lover's Journal and has **judged the Costa Book Awards**.

She has degrees in Art History from the University of Manchester and the Courtauld Institute and leads creative writing workshops. She lives on a small farm in Hertfordshire.



Freya North

Buy your tickets here:
<https://buytickets.at/homestartroystonbuntingfordandsouthcambridgeshire/1686508> or

Scan the QR code:

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

HOME-START ROYSTON, BUNTINGFORD AND SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Incorporated as Home-Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire

Unit 6, Valley Farm, Station Road, Meldreth, Royston, Herts SG8 6JP T: 01763 262262 E: admin@hsrsc.org.uk www.hsrsc.org.uk
Charity No. 1105385 Company No. 05183873



ARTS

IN EAST HERTS

Corinna Hartwig

Dear Creatives

My name is Corinna and I am writing on behalf of East Herts Council to invite you to take part in Arts in East Herts and list a low cost event, activity or performance on the Arts in East Herts showcase programme.

Arts in East Herts, now in its second year, is an initiative to boost participation in arts and cultural activities. Running through September and October 2025, it will showcase the rich artistic and cultural tapestry of East

Herts through a series of exhibitions, performances and workshops.

This cultural extravaganza promises to inspire, educate and entertain, enabling local arts organisations to connect with a wider audience. Arts in East Herts will give residents of all ages and all backgrounds the opportunity to enrich their lives with creativity this Autumn.

To find out more and to take part, take a look here www.eastherts.gov.uk/arts-and-culture-east-herts/arts-east-herts

Please submit your free entry as soon as possible as we are firming the programme up right now.

With kind wishes

Corinna

Community Builder

Community Alliance Broxbourne & East Herts

**HOME
START**

Royston, Buntingford
& South Cambridgeshire



Home-Start Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire

would like you to

SAVE THE DATE

for our next

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on

Wednesday, 15th October 2025 at 6:30 pm*

arrive by 6pm for a 6.30pm start

at Icknield Walk School, Royston



BUNTINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Carol Emery

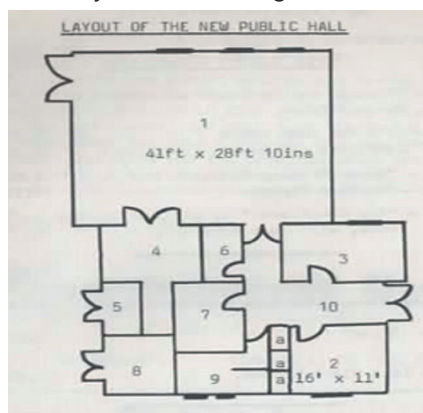
buntingfordlocalhistorygroup@hotmail.com

Our first meeting back after the summer break was all about the history of a community hall in Buntingford. The story started during the WW2 when everyone in the country was asked to help raise funds towards the war effort. The town and surrounding villages held dances, auctions, sports days and many other events. Money was to go to War Weapons Week, Wings for Victory, Salute the Soldier week and other funds but it soon became obvious that these events were so well attended that they were making a profit, so it was decided that the profit was to be set aside in War Bonds to build a community hall at the end of the war.

Mrs Campbell who at the time lived at Layston Court very generously gave a piece of land at the end of her large garden for a hall to be built on. Annie Campbell was originally from Australia; born in 1860 she married another Australian Thomas Oliver Lascelles Cadell in 1882. They had one child a girl called Lily the following year. They left Australia and by 1891 were living at Bedfont, Hounslow. Thomas died in 1901; Lily had died in 1900. Annie carried on living in the house called Watonga, in Bedfont and was joined by her widowed mother. However, in 1912 she married William Campbell MD and they moved to his ancestral home Wadsley Hall, in Sheffield. William died in 1927 and at some stage she moved to Layston Court. She is shown on the census of 1939 living there with her housekeeper/gardener.

Although her bequest was very generous there were problems as there was no access to the land. In 1974 there was still no hall, but the people of Buntingford

were asked what they would require from a hall. It was decided that a small hall able to seat about 150 people, with smaller rooms for committee meetings would suffice. The committee looked around the town to see if any property could be turned into a hall rather than start from afresh. The only option appeared to be Layston Court as at the time it was empty. A local fire officer gave a report on its suitability and deemed it in need of drastic improvements to make it safe. It was then decided that it would be cheaper to build from scratch and easier to maintain than an old building. Plans were drawn up and by 1978 it was decided that the hall should be built on land at Norfolk Road playing field. Money would come from selling the Campbell land, a grant from the County Council and the money collected during the WW2.



Revised plans for the layout of the hall.

- 1 - Main Hall
- 2 - Committee Room
- 3 - Kitchen
- 4 - Store
- 5 - Boiler Room
- 6 - Disabled Toilet
- 7 - Ladies Toilet
- 8 - Store
- 9 - Gents Toilet
- 10 - Foyer
- a - Cupboards

The committee decided to apply for planning permission to build houses on the Campbell land as this would increase its value when sold. Three times the planning permission was denied, eventually at a public enquiry permission was granted for 8 houses to be built. Then another problem arose, whilst there was no access to the land, Mr Handy had sold his yard and most of the buildings, but retained the Cage. On his death Mrs Handy decided to give the Cage to the town council but she didn't realise that she didn't own the land it sat upon. This land had been claimed by the developers that had bought the Campbell land for the paltry sum of £33,000. People in the town were up in arms at the amount raised as they felt it should have been worth far more than this, but without access they had no choice, in fact the developers then only agreed to give the council the Cage if they got planning permission for their houses.

It then became obvious that with £33,000 from the sale and £7,000 with savings from the war events which included

interest, there was no way they could build a hall.

In 1988 Bovis homes applied for planning permission to build houses on Mill Field, as part of the approval they were to build a community centre and a sports field which would be given to the town council to run. Whilst there was a lot of local opposition to the whole development, building on the hall started in 1991 and was due to be completed by the autumn of 1992. The council decided to form a charitable trust with a management committee to run the hall and possibly the sports facilities as well. Local groups who felt they would like to be included in the management committee were asked to let the council know. As a result, a committee was formed: -

The late Bob Dingley -chairman

Bill Hooper – vice chairman

John Froggett – treasurer

Julia Peacock

Ken and Sylvia Clifford

Marilyn Cantor.



As with most building works things didn't go to plan and it wasn't until 2nd September 1993 that the centre was officially handed over to the council at an opening ceremony.

Bovis arranged for Bobby Charlton to fly in

BUNTINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP CONT...



by helicopter to do the official opening. He spent time chatting to members of the cougars and then played a bit of football with them in the hall. Unfortunately, Bob Dingley was ill on the day so missed his son Christopher saving a goal by Bobby Charlton. After that Bobby took the ball threw it into the air and as it came down, he kicked it into the empty goal with such force that it rebounded off the walls of the hall as members of the audience all ducked in an attempt to avoid the ball.

For months the committee had been preparing for the launch of the centre, now known as Buntingford Community Centre. They had very little money to fund the launch so spent time persuading people and companies to donate, lend or give things to help. The Red Arrows were doing a display on the south coast on the launch day and agreed to detour from their normal route home and fly over the centre. There was to be a falcon display, local live bands would be performing on a stage which was a flat bed trailer loaned by a local firm in Buckland. Morris dancers, classic cars, and side shows were all lined up to attend. On the day of the launch at 11.00am on Sunday 12th September everything was ready and people began arriving, the weather

had other ideas and by the afternoon it was pouring with rain. The falcons refused to fly, no one could see if the Red Arrows flew past, people either went to take cover in the beer tent or inside the centre. As a result, after they all left the committee spent Monday on their hands and knees cleaning up the mud that had been walked into the centre.

Despite all the initial problems the centre began hosting many different clubs and events such as comedy nights, quiz nights etc. A liquor licence was granted and the bar was opened in the evenings and weekends for members to use. In 1994 the Campbell Trust used some of their money to provide curtains, lighting and a sound system for the main hall. As a result, it was agreed to name the hall The Campbell Hall.

After several changes of committee members by April 1996 it was apparent that the hall wasn't self-funding and management was handed back to the council. They appointed a centre manager to deal with bookings and the day to day running, but by May 1997 the council decided to close the bar, get rid of the centre manager and take over bookings via the town council offices.



Residents of the town were outraged at these actions but the council pointed out that the centre ran at a loss of £23,000 for the last year.

By July 1998 things hadn't improved and a group of local people formed a group called Action to Benefit the Community (ABC). They had permission to run the centre and began to attract new clubs and events to improve the revenue. Between themselves and a group of "Buddies" they managed to improve the number of events being held, until someone claiming to be acting on behalf of the residents of Mill Close wrote into the council complaining about the noise from the centre. As a result, their licence was revoked and it wasn't until February 1999 that they were granted a Public Entertainment Licence. It came with stipulations about the noise so with profits from bookings a system to control the noise levels was installed. It was this group that decided to name the remaining rooms in the centre. The Scott Suite, named after the farmer Ralph Scott who had owned the land it was built on, the Charlton Suite after Bobby Charlton, and the bar was to be called Bunters.

Although ABC were successful and bookings had increased, they decided to step back in March 2001 and running the centre was handed back to the council.

What no one seems to know is when the Buntingford Community Centre changed its name to The Seth Ward Community Centre. It may have been around 1999 which is when the name Ward was dropped from Ward Freman College despite huge opposition from many people in the town. The headmaster considered Freman College to better represent the school's image and aims.

The Seth Ward Community Centre is still under the control of the town council but bookings are done through Jackie Smith. It continues to host many different meetings and events and is now the home of Buntingford Amateur Dramatics group and Buntingford Film Club.

Our next meeting is on the 14th October 2025 at the United Reformed Church Hall in Baldock Road. The meeting starts at 2pm and its £2 per person which includes tea or coffee.

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Ken McDonald, Secretary



Recently, I was privileged to watch two bats flying around my garden. They were so quick and acrobatic it was difficult to keep them in view. Bats and their roosts are legally protected so must not be disturbed. Bats are mammals, giving birth to live young. It reminded me of how lucky we are in The Hundred Parishes to have so many wild mammals in our mainly rural area.

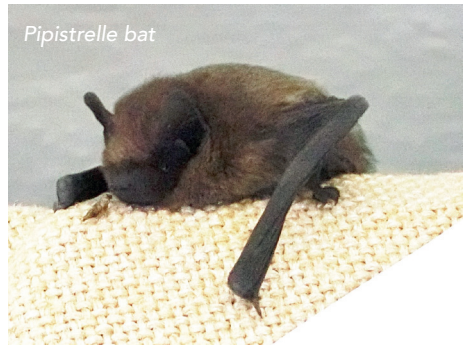
There are several kinds of deer locally, mostly Fallow, Roe or Muntjac.

Larger herds are usually Fallow deer which have "palmate" antlers, shaped like the palm of a hand. The smaller Roe deer may be seen in smaller groups – they have a white rump and no visible tail. Muntjac are smaller still and tend to be solitary; they have horns and "tusks" - downward-pointing canine teeth.

Out enjoying our latest walk, number 188, my wife and I surprised two hares who disappeared at great speed when they spotted us. They can run up to 45mph over short distances.

We regularly see foxes in our garden, usually courtesy of our inexpensive night vision camera. In the spring, we enjoyed watching the young cubs playing. Foxes seem to be a more common sight now, even during daylight, and regularly venture into built up areas. The camera occasionally spots a badger; he is usually looking for peanuts.

Anyone lucky enough to see hedgehogs in their garden should look after them as their numbers are in decline. They are nocturnal, so at dusk we should put out a shallow bowl of fresh water (not milk as it is bad for their digestion) and perhaps some dog or cat food. They may repay you by eating slugs and insects although our experience has been that they prefer commercial hedgehog food like Spike's Dinner. Enjoy them all.





Fallow deer



Fallow deer



Fox



Hare



Hedgehog



Muntjac deer



The
United
Reformed
Church

CHRIST CHURCH

Baldock Road, Buntingford. SG9 9AA

www.buntingfordurc.org.uk

 URCbuntingford

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

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

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

October	5	Harvest Festival	Rev Sue Fender
	12	Morning Worship	Graham Watson
	19	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	26	Morning Worship	Rev Sue Fender
November	2	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender

Regular Events

MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY

We are holding an Ecumenical Bible Study usually on the first Wednesday of each month. We meet for lunch from 12:30 and our bible study will run from 1 – 2 pm.

Entitled Influential Women we will look at the stories of the women of the New Testament. Some only get a brief mention and we may not remember them, others have played a significant part in the life of the early church.

All of them have story to tell us.

The next meeting will be on the 8th October

COFFEE & COMPANY

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

We were delighted to see so many of you at the Car Show on 6th September! Thanks to your generosity, Attend2health raised £188.48 for the Ward Fremen Community Pool Group by giving away car balloons in exchange for donations.

Looking ahead, our next Emergency First Aid at Work Course will be held on 3rd October. With just a few spaces left, this is a fantastic opportunity to gain a valuable qualification that lasts for 3 years—all for only £120.

We're also very excited to welcome Rosa, our new ADHD Coach, to the clinic. Rosa specialises in supporting clients navigating life with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Whether formally diagnosed or exploring ADHD traits, she helps individuals understand themselves better, create personalised strategies for everyday challenges, and build on their strengths to achieve meaningful, lasting change.

Her support may include guidance on focus, emotional regulation, time management, and developing routines that work with—rather than against—unique ways of thinking. Rosa offers classes for teens (14+) and their parents, as well as one-to-one sessions for adults.

For more information or to book, please call us on 01763 87 80 87.

We raised
£188.48



We couldn't have done it without your support.



ADHD Coach - Rosa Cives



United Benefice of
Aspenden, Buntingford
and Westmill

UNITED BENEFICE OF ASPENDEN, BUNTINGFORD & WESTMILL

Reverend Kirsty Wainwright



CONTACT DETAILS

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

email: unitedbeneficeabw@gmail.com | 07484 345 027

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

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



OUR SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2025

Sunday 5th	9:30am	Harvest All Age Worship	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Harvest Morning Worship	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Harvest All Age with Holy Communion Service	*Edwinstree Middle School
Sunday 12th	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	All Age Worship	*Edwinstree Middle School
Sunday 19th		No Service	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Holy Communion	*Edwinstree Middle School
Sunday 26th	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
		No Service	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11:00am	Morning Worship	*Edwinstree Middle School

*Please note whilst St Peter's will be closed during the restoration works are being carried out, our ministry and mission will continue. St Peter's weekly Sunday services will relocate to **Edwinstree Middle School, Norfolk Road, SG9 9AW**. Regular events have also changed please note overleaf.

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

Direct links to our 3 church Service and Event pages:

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

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

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

NEW REGULAR EVENTS SCHEDULE



Prayer for Buntingford Walk

A time of open, informal prayer for the town and local community. Held 8:15am – 8:45am weekly on Fridays.

Meeting at 8:15am outside St Peter's Church, join us for a Prayer Walk around Buntingford.



Little Lambs at St Mary the Virgin Westmill

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



Morning Prayer

9am Every Tuesday at St Mary the Virgin Westmill and Thursdays at St Mary's Aspenden mornings.

We pray together using the Church of England Daily Prayer book, with bible readings, a reflection and a psalm. It is a quiet, gentle gathering to prepare for the day ahead. Please contact us for the link.



Monday Morning Coffee at The Crown Pub

10am – 12pm (except bank holidays). The Crown Pub has kindly offered St Peter's the space

to continue offering Tea, Coffee and biscuits whilst our restoration works are being carried out. All welcome.

Harvest Festival Services

United Benefice of Aspenden, Buntingford and Westmill

Sunday 5th October 2025
9:30am St Mary the Virgin Westmill
9:30am St Mary's Aspenden
11:00am Edwinstree Middle School

This will be subject to Restoration Works taking place at St Peter's, please check our website for further update and our relocation

Little Lambs
at
St Mary the Virgin Westmill

Every Wednesday in term time 10-11.30am for pre-school children and their grown-ups. Songs, a bible story and prayer along with activities and playtime. We can't wait to see you there!

Service of Memories

Sunday 2nd November 3pm

St Mary the Virgin Westmill with Reverend Kirsty Wainwright

You are welcome to bring a flower for each person you would like to remember.



MILLFIELD FIRST & NURSERY SCHOOL

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

Laura Kennedy-Weeks, Headteacher

A Great Start to the New School Year

What a fantastic start to the new academic year we've had! It's been wonderful to welcome all children to school and to see so many happy, smiling faces as they've settled into their new classes and routines. We're incredibly proud of how confidently the children have started the year. Their enthusiasm, kindness and eagerness to learn have already set a positive tone for the term ahead. We're looking forward to a year filled with growth, learning and lots of exciting experiences!

School Developments

During the summer holiday our Nursery space has had a wonderful revamp. The refreshed environment was thoughtfully designed to create an inspiring, welcoming and engaging setting for our children to learn, explore, and grow.

The photos below show the bright, inviting spaces and new resources that will support curiosity, creativity and play every day. Our children and families have enjoyed using the new environment with us!

EYFS Provision at Millfield

We offer an Early Years Foundation Stage provision for both Nursery (2 and 3 year olds) and Reception (4 to 5 year olds) children. We are proud to provide nurturing and enriching indoor and outdoor EYFS learning environments, which help to motivate and develop a love of learning. If you are looking for a Nursery or Reception place for your child for September 2026, please come and visit us.



We are holding the following school tours for prospective parents/carers this term:

Tuesday 30th September at 9:15am

Thursday 9th October at 9:15am

Monday 13th October at 9:15am

Tuesday 4th November at 9:15am

Thursday 20th November at 9:15am

Monday 1st December at 9:15am

Thursday 8th January at 9:15am

Please book a place following the link from our website www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/millfield-open-mornings-tickets-1416955414789



BRAUGHING FAIR AND WHEELBARROW RACE

“Phew, What A Scorcher”!

That must have been one of the hottest Wheelbarrow Race days in its 61 year history!

We are not complaining though as its better than rain and didn't deter the crowds from coming to support this wonderful day for our village once again.

Although we had to cancel the dog show due to the hot weather, the falconry display, by Fens Falconry, was spectacular. Very informative and entertaining at the same time.

The wheelbarrow races that followed were more popular than ever. Both the children's race and the adult's races had to be split to accommodate so many entries. The fancy dress costumes never disappoint – take a look at the photos and videos on our website (braughingwheelbarrowrace.com) Facebook and Instagram pages.

As a Committee we would like to thank the owners of the fields and car parks for their generosity. A massive thank you to our Sponsors for their financial support and local companies who give their time and expertise for free.

We are only a very small Committee and rely heavily on help from people setting up during the two days before the event, and clearing up afterwards. If you were able to give us some of your time (you know who you are), we are truly very grateful. However, next year we will need more volunteers to keep this traditional event going, i.e, to help set up on the Friday, on the day itself and after the event next year. If you can spare a couple of hours next year, please let us know via info@braughingwheelbarrowrace.com.

This year's local charities and clubs who benefitted from the day include:



Jenyns School Bar and Raffle - £8,800

Braughing Cricket Club BBQ - £640 (who give 50% of their profit to The Alzheimer's Society)

Buntingford Scouts Car Parking- £1,500

Standon and Puckeridge Rainbows Coconut Shy - £197

St Mary's Church Teas, Coffees and Cakes- £645

Ward Freman Swimming Pool's Book Stall - £234

Parkinson's Society Tombola - £577

Although we had to cancel the dog show due to the hot weather, we have given the Animal Rehoming Charity (RATS) in Buntingford a donation of £50.

Therefore over £12,500 raised for charity.

We estimate 2,500 people attended the day and entered the wheelbarrow races. This means a total profit this year of £4,500 to put towards Braughing village amenities. So, a grand total of £17,000 was raised which is a brilliant result for having a fun day. Thank you to everyone who came.

Date for next year is Saturday 11th July 2026 – put it in your diaries!



BUNTINGFORD FILM CLUB

Bringing Cinema back to Buntingford

David Woollcombe



Saturday 4th October @ 7:30pm

Timothée Chalamet is Bob Dylan in

A COMPLETE UNKNOWN

The next film in Buntingford Film Club's 2025/26 Season is the Dylan biopic, *A Complete Unknown*. Starring Timothée Chalamet as the iconic Bob Dylan, it was nominated for 8 x Oscars but sadly won none. Chalamet did win the Screen Actors Guild award for Best Actor – which shows that his peers reckoned he gave the best performance of the year!

The film received very positive reviews, and great praise for Chalamet's immersive portrayal of Bob Dylan, singing and playing every song live to camera. Ed Norton got equally strong reviews for his portrayal of Pete Seeger, and Monica Barbaro got a Best Supporting Actress nomination for her portrayal of Joan Baez. It was named one of the top 10 films of 2024 by the American Film Institute and took over \$140m at the Box Office.

It tells the story of 19-year old Bob Dylan's arriving from Minnesota on to the effervescent New York music scene in the early 60s. It follows his meteoric rise to fame from small folk clubs to top the charts and concerts in New York's most prestigious concert halls. His songs

and mystique became a worldwide sensation. The film's climax is Dylan's groundbreaking performance at the Newport Folk Festival in 1965 when, to the horror of some of his most ardent folk fans, Dylan "went electric!"



Some will remember the standing ovation that greeted Mick Jagger when he arrived to present the Best Song Oscar this year and revealed that Bob Dylan had been the Academy's first choice to do the presentation. Mick explained that Bob didn't want to do it because, of course, "... Bob felt that all the best original songs were in a *Complete Unknown!*" Mick added that Bob had told the Academy "to find somebody younger! Well, I'm 2 years younger than Bob – so here I am!!" And he then announced that the award had gone to El Mal from Emilia Pérez! Bad luck, Bob! – You may have won a Nobel Prize – but you'll have to wait for your second Oscar!



Monica Barbaro as Joan Baez with Chalamet



Bob Dylan's 1st Album



Elle Fanning as Silvie with Chalamet

"THE BEST BRIDGET EVER"

★★★★★

BRIDGET JONES MAD ABOUT THE BOY



NEXT UP

Saturday 1st November @ 7:30pm

BRIDGET JONES: MAD ABOUT THE BOY

starring: Renée Zellweger, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Emma Thompson and Leo Woodall

[Leo is the grandson of Westmill & Hormead residents, Anthony & Deirdre – and thus almost local!]

FOR TICKETS

£9.00 (to include a glass of wine or beer & snacks!)

at: www.tickettailor.com/events/buntingfordfilmclub

or our new in-person ticket source: J Hunt Estate Agents, 20 High St. Buntingford



BARKWAY LITERARY FESTIVAL

Thomas Wornham

www.barkwaylitfest.co.uk

The 4th Barkway Literary Festival takes place on the **4th of October, between 9.30am and 8pm**. Tickets are £10 per session or £40 for the day. Children's events are £5 and an adult enters for free.

Our event is supported by local Independent Book retailer, Bow Books of Royston. With 13 sessions to choose from including the promotional tour of the BBC's Walking with Dinosaurs,

Addenbrooke's Hospital Deputy Medical Director Dr John Firth or the cosmically informative; Astrophysics for Supervillains by Dr Matthew Bothwell of the Institute of Astronomy in Cambridge, there will be something for everyone.

You can purchase your signed book after each event and enjoy some refreshments throughout the day. For ticket sales and more information go to www.barkwaylitfest.co.uk. We look forward to seeing you soon

At the time of writing we had two events in September, another sold out Comedy Night and a delightful concert featuring talented young musicians, including their Scholar Cantorum Choir, from Haileybury College in Westmill Church. Reviews of these will feature in the next issue of the Journal.

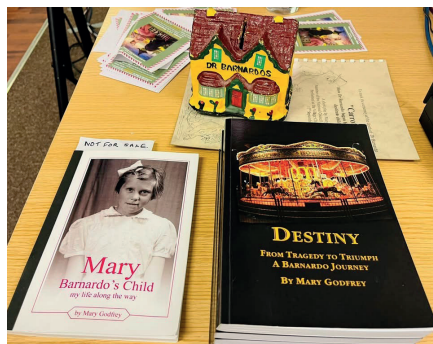
Looking back to 8th August, we collaborated with the Buntingford Writers' Group to hold a most successful **'Somebody's Child'** evening in the Bunters' Suite in the Community Centre.

A most appreciative audience of some 60 people listened intently as Chris Kell introduced and interviewed, very expertly, 3 very different guests.

Firstly Mary Godfrey, a well-known local who is seen regularly on stage performing with the Drama Group in the town.

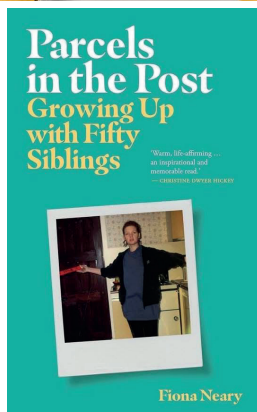
She told her story of life in a Barnardo's home from a young age due to tragically changed family circumstances. There were many stories and adventures along the way and it was on the whole a very positive experience and prepared her for a happy and fulfilling life.

As you can see from the photo she has written two books about her life but these were written for her family and friends and



not for public sale.

Next came Suzanne Shearing, who showed her extremely effective 20 minute short film, 'Nobody's Child' about adoption and a teenage girl's search for own mother, helped in her mission by her best friend. A touching story.



Last on stage was Fiona Neary, to talk about and read extracts from her book, 'Parcels in the Post'. This tells us about her life in Ireland, growing up with her own brother and fifty foster siblings. Fiona's great sense of humour and wit shines through this account, as well as her great love of her entire family. Sales of her book at the end of the evening went very well!

So... an altogether thoughtful-provoking, fascinating yet very different evening.



Coming up very soon is another Jazz Event.

Saturday 11th October at Seth Ward Main Hall. Doors open at 7:30pm for an 8:15pm start.

Tickets: only £10 This is a bargain price due to the generous support of Arts in East Herts.

Licensed bar (18).

We are delighted to be featuring the Miss Jones Jazz Band. Some of you may have been at the town's Summer Family Day in glorious sunshine on Saturday 12th July where Alex and her talented musicians were part of the entertainment.

They specialise in the sounds of jazz and swing from the 1920s-1960s, with a slight influence of the old American rhythm and blues. They provide an eclectic mix of vintage music which you'll remember from Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong , Bing Crosby, Nat King Cole et al which may get you up on your feet and swinging to the music.

Tickets are already selling quickly so don't miss this chance to come along and enjoy a wonderful evening of nostalgic jazz & swing.

Guy Masterson (of Under Milk Wood fame) performing Dickens ' Christmas Carol'.

Friday 21st November 7:30pm
Seth Ward

Tickets £15, Licensed bar (18)

Rhythm and Booze

Saturday 29th November 7pm for 8pm
Seth Ward Community Centre
Tickets: £12, Licensed Bar (18)

BUNTINGFORD LIVE!

THE MISS JONES JAZZ BAND

Alex and her band will be thrilling us with vintage classics from the 1930s - 1960s which may well have you up on your feet and swinging to the beat!

Saturday 11th October
Seth Ward Community Centre

LICENSED BAR 18
Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8.15pm start

ARTS
IN EAST HERTS

Tickets only £10 as this event is being supported by Arts in East Herts

Available online at buntingfordlive.org or scan the code

Featuring The Blues Review and harmonica player Keith Parker.

A Celebration of Christmas

Friday 12th December, 7pm
St. Richard of Chichester Church
SG9 9HT

BUNTINGFORD LIVE!

THE BLUES REVIEW
PLUS HARMONICA PLAYER
KEITH PARKER

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER
SETH WARD COMMUNITY CENTRE

THE RHYTHM AND BOOZE!
OVER 18s ONLY

LICENSED BAR 18

TICKETS £12

Featuring St. Edmund's School Choir with Andrew O'Brien. Carols, solos, poems with audience participation.

Tickets: £3 to include mulled wine & mince pie to be served in Benson Hall afterwards. Donations to be requested for Homestart.

Visit our website to book tickets at:
buntingfordlive.org

WHAT'S ON - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER 2025

Wednesday 1st	Gardener's Club: Hedgehog Hospital p.17
Wednesday 1st	Reed Garden Club: Japanese Garden in Cottered p.24
Thursday 2nd	Library Poetry Open Mic p.12
Friday 3rd	Homestart: Bingo p.26
Saturday 4th	Film Club: A Complete Unknown p.40
Saturday 4th	Foxton Scarecrow Trail p.22
Saturday 4th	Barkway Literary Festival p.41
Thursday 9th	WI: Mexico p.18
Saturday 11th	Bunts Live! Jazz Evening p.42
Saturday 11th	W&D Photographic Soc Exhibition p.22
Monday 13th	U3A: AGM p.16
Tuesday 14th	History Society: see p.28
Tuesday 14th	Homestart Literary Lunch with Freya North p.26
Wednesday 15th	Homestart AGM p.27
Friday 17th	BALA: Coffee Morning p.46
Saturday 25th	BDS: Ghost Walk p.20
Fri 31st - Sat 1st	Yew Tree Alpacas Early Bird Christmas Shop p.A29



LOOKING AHEAD

1st Nov	Film Club: Bridget Jones, Mad About the Boy p.40
10th Nov	U3A: Flanders Fields to the tower p.16
13th Nov	Library Slipper Swap p.12
15th Nov	Reed Church Honey Bees Talk p.22
21st Nov	Bunts Live! A Christmas Carol with Guy Masterson p.42
29th Nov	Bunts Live! Rhythm & Booze Evening p.42
12th Dec	Bunts Live!: A Celebration of Christmas p.42
16th Dec	Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch p.7

REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAYS:	TUESDAYS:	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS:	FRIDAYS:	WEEKENDS:
From 8.30am: Buntingford Market	7.30–9pm: Braughing Sing Community Choir in Jenyn's School Hall	Buntingford Meditation Online at 8 pm and once a month in Saint Peter's Church. To join the group the best way is to contact me via the website - www.mindful-worklife.com/buntingford-meditation New meditators are welcome and guidance is given on how to meditate in the sessions.	10.30am–12.30: Coffee & Company in the URC Church Hall		Sun, 9am: Norfolk Road Playing Fields Junior Parkrun
10–11.45am: Chatter Table at the Manor House – 1st & 3rd Mondays			2–3pm: Mind & Music at Standon & Puckeridge CC		Sat, 10am: Walking Football at the MUGA, Norfolk Road Playing Fields
Morning Coffee 10-12 St Peter's					
EVENTS IN THE LIBRARY:					
10.30–11am & 11:30 -12pm: Baby Rhyme Time (songs, rhymes, actions and puppets, for ages 6 weeks to 3 years)	10.30–12.30: Jigsaw & Chat club	11am: Chair Yoga with Kim	10.30 – 11am: Storytime (storytelling with props, for ages 2-5 years)	4-5pm: Lego Club for children	
11.45am–12.45pm: Forever Cycling at the Community Centre -1st & 3rd		10-11am Chatter & Natter, Buntingford Coffee Shop			
1.30 for 2pm: Buntingford Senior Citizens' Club at URC Hall		12- 4pm Braughing Shed Group, The Barn at Brook Cottage Farm Fernaux Pelham SG9 0LL contact: jacquithorne664@gmail.com or 07557 966 526			
7.30–9:30pm: Buntingford Community Choir at Millfield School					

BUNTINGFORD ACTION FOR THE LESS ABLE (BALA)

Registered Charity No. 1094426

MINIBUS TRIPS OCTOBER 2025

DATE	TIME	DESTINATION	PRICE
Fri 3rd	9.30-3	Bury St Edmunds	£12.50
Mon 6th	10-2.30	St Ives	£8
Thurs 9th	11-1	Café Amigo, Fowlmere	£5
Tues 14th	10.30-2	Saffron Walden	£6
Thurs 16th	11-2.30	Burston Garden Centre, St Albans (gifts, clothing, food and cookshop, café serving hot and cold lunches and light bites)	£8
Tues 21st	9.30-1.30	Biggleswade Town Centre Market Day	£6.50
Wed 22nd	11.30	Pub Lunch	£5
Thurs 30th	10-2.30	St Neots	£8
NOVEMBER			
Wed 5th	10-2.30	Freeport Shopping Village, Braintree	£8

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

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

COFFEE MORNING

Friday 17th October, 10-11:30am

(sausage rolls, cakes, raffle)

at **URC Hall, Baldock Road**

ADVERTISERS INDEX

A ce of Herts, Cumberlow Compost.....	A12	J acks Dog Behaviour and Training.....	A23
Andrew Coates - Garden Design.....	A8	Journal Advertising.....	A26
Apple Computer Specialist.....	A15	J P Services.....	A13
A R Services.....	A9		
Attend2Health.....	A17	John D K ilby & Co.....	A2
Attend2Health.....	A23		
Austin's (Funerals & Memorials).....	A10	L ayston Grove Care Home.....	A27
		Layston Pre-School.....	A16
B ookkeeping Services.....	A6	Locks Stock and More.....	A28
Buntingford Civic Society.....	A21	The Luxury Brand Watches and Jewellery.....	A36
Buntingford Dancing School.....	A13		
Buntingford Festival Choir.....	A24	The M anor House.....	A32
Buntingford Food Support.....	A19	Marketing Zone.....	A9
Buntingford Heating.....	A15	Meeting House Boarding Kennels.....	A2
Buntingford Karate Club.....	A6	Mentley Farm Lavender.....	A16
Buntingford Men's Shed Group.....	A28		
		N HS Aortic Aneurysm Screening.....	A20
C arers in Hertfordshire.....	A25		
St. Richard of Chichester Catholic Church.....	A4	O venClean.....	A18
Ceramic Tiler (Mark Addison).....	A8		
Christopher The Locksmith.....	A12	P aul Wainwright Painting, Decorating and Handyman....	A8
Church Lane Creative.....	A8	Personal Trainer (Jacqui Smith).....	A29
The Clinic, Podiatry & Acupuncture.....	A29	Poulton's - Building Materials & Aggregates.....	A22
Andrew Coates Garden Design.....	A8		
Computer Services (Reboot IT Solutions).....	A13	R B Taxation Services.....	A8
Country Maids.....	A31	Reboot IT Solutions (Computer Services).....	A13
Curwens Solicitors.....	A26	Reed First School.....	A5
CW Electrical.....	A18	Riverside Taxis.....	A6
		Rome Joinery Ltd.....	A23
D eans Furnishers.....	A33	Royston Ramblers.....	A30
Design Nation.....	A18		
Digital Skills Group Buntingford.....	A34	S .J.S.Plumbing & Heating.....	A31
DQR Wills and Probate.....	A13	Stenfield Solicitors.....	A4
E ast Herts Foot Health Clinic.....	A15	T &C Services.....	A5
Eileen's Fitness Classes.....	A12	Tees Law.....	A11
P S Eveleigh, Plastering Contractor.....	A9	SJ Tokely Ltd, Mechanical Engineers.....	A14
		Touch of Glamour.....	A23
G areth White Electrical Services.....	A32		
Genie Lamp Repairs.....	A8	Philip W alker- Motor Vehicle Engineer.....	A18
		John Littleford - Web Designer.....	A6
H ertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service.....	A7	Westmill Garden Centre.....	A23
Hertford TV Service.....	A29	Gareth White Electrical Services.....	A32
Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline.....	A28	Willow Landscapes.....	A14
Anthony Howes - French Polishing.....	A31	Wills & Power of Attorney - Kate Bennett.....	A5
Humbleline Graphic Design.....	A16	Wood Bros.....	A35
		Y ew Tree Alpacas.....	A29

To advertise in the Buntingford Journal email advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk
or call 01763 272 032

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

45 High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AD

Tel: Stenfield Solicitors - 01763 295099
RS Property Lawyers - 01763 295096

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

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

S | STENFIELD
SOLICITORS

RS | PROPERTY
LAWYERS

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

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

RS Property Lawyers is dedicated exclusively to residential conveyancing.

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

Our Buntingford branch looks forward to welcoming you.

Church of Saint Richard of Chichester

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

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

Regular Services at St Richard's Buntingford

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

Services at St Thomas's Puckeridge

Mass - Sunday 11.00am
Mass - Thursday 12.30pm



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

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

Securing, Lifting & Vehicle Recovery Equipment

OPEN TO TRADE AND PUBLIC TO VIEW
OUR EXTENSIVE PRODUCT RANGE



9am - 4pm, Mon-Fri



Unit 9, The Firs Watermill Ind
Estate, Aspenden Road,
Buntingford SG9 9JS



01763 271156

RECOVERY-EQUIPMENT.CO.UK



REED FIRST SCHOOL
WELCOMES YOU & YOUR FAMILY

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

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

REED FIRST SCHOOL, JACKSON'S LANE, REED, SG8 8AB
admin@reed.herts.sch.uk | 01763 848304

www.reed.herts.sch.uk

WHERE THERE'S A WILL

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



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

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

Kate Bennett
07525 454160
kbennettlegal@gmail.com

KARATE AND SELF DEFENCE

AT BUNTINGFORD'S BEST
KARATE CLUB

OPEN TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 7:30PM
EDWINSTREE SCHOOL GYM

AGES 10 -110 YEARS BOTH SEXES
INSTRUCTION BY BLACK BELTS

TEL: **BILL HOOPER**
01763 273123

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



BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

*All Aspects of Bookkeeping and
Office Management Undertaken*

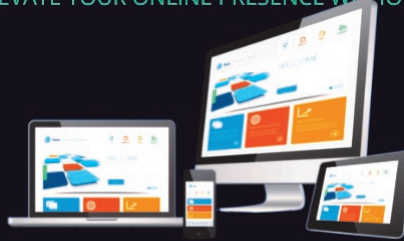
*VAT Return Submissions-Monthly Payroll
Management Accounts*

*Experienced with various Accounts Systems
Self-Employed and flexible to requirements
References Available*

CHRIS STIGWOOD 07814 096789
chrisstigwood@hotmail.com

AFFORDABLE WEB DESIGN

ELEVATE YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE WITHOUT BREAKING THE BANK



Prices start from £395

Phone: 07931 989 998

hello@johnlittleford.co.uk

www.johnlittleford.co.uk



Call **01763 43 43 43**

Buntingford & Surrounding Areas

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

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

www.riversidetaxis.co.uk





Hearing Advisory Service

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

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

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

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

Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service



Hertfordshire
Sensory Services Strategy
2020-2023

healthwatch
Hertfordshire



NHS
Bedfordshire Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust





For all your design & print requirements

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

CREATIVE THAT CARES



GENIE LAMP REPAIRS



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

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

ANDREW COATES B.Sc GARDEN DESIGN

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



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



RB TAXATION SERVICES

ACCURATE ANSWERS....

E: enquiries@rbtaxation.com
T: 01763 847222

 www.rbtaxation.com

Mark Addison

Wall and Floor Tiling Specialist

M: 07768 105 851 • T: 01763 272 126

E: addison.mark1@sky.com



Painting, Decorating and Handyman Works

Friendly, Professional and Reliable

Paul Wainwright

07816 964372

paulwainwright42@googlemail.com

Free no obligation quotes

TOUCH OF glamour

Beauty Salon & Skin Specialists.

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

38 High Street • Buntingford T: 01763 271122

www.touchofglamour.co.uk

@touchofglamourbuntingford

A R Services

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

Prompt, trustworthy and reliable service

competitive rates free estimates

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

P.S.EVELEIGH

PLASTERING CONTRACTOR



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

Free Estimates

Over 30 Years of Experience

Call 01763 272569
or Mobile 07772 366587

Marketing
ZONE

Websites, design and marketing

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

www.marketingzone.co.uk

T: 01763 274440

Established 1997

Personal, caring and independent.

*The complete
funeral service*



24 hour service

Private Chapels of Rest

Bespoke Funeral Plans

Own Crematorium

STEVENAGE • 01438 316623

HITCHIN • 01462 438422

KNEBWORTH • 01438 812365

BUNTINGFORD • 01763 274111

WELWYN GARDEN CITY • 01707 390018

WELWYN • 01438 714686

HERTFORD • 01992 582052

WARE • 01920 468551

LETCHWORTH • 01462 684292

HODDESDON • 01992 471709

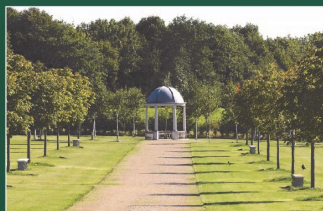
HARWOOD PARK • 01438 812515

HARPENDEN • 01582 762570



Harwood Park

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



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

www.crematorium.co.uk

AUSTIN'S

FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

www.austins.co.uk

Serving the local community for ten generations



Before you act, it's
good to know the risks
as well as the rewards.

At Tees, we combine legal and financial expertise
to help you make informed decisions.

Giving you the full picture

teeslaw.com

0800 013 1165



Christopher THE LOCKSMITH

ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?

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



Specialist in UPVC & Wooden Doors



No Call Out Charge



No Fix No Fee



All Work Fully Guaranteed



10% Senior Citizen Discount



For More Advice & Help Call Christopher:

07772 111 222

www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk

Eileen's Fitness Classes

Qualified RSA Instructor with over 25 years
teaching in the community

CIMSPA registered

Phone 07966 222272 Email: eilenseaerobics@hotmail.com

CLASSES HELD AT BUNTINGFORD SETH WARD
COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

To help improve posture, balance and strengthen your core.

THURSDAY 11am – Older Adult Fitness Aerobics

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

CLASSES HELD AT REED VILLAGE

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

Follow me on



Eilensefitnessclasses

Ace of Herts

Recycling green waste to preserve the environment

♥ Soil conditioning composts

♥ Top Soils

♥ Blended Soils

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

Cumberlow Green Farm
Buntingford
Herts. SG9 0QD

Tel: 01763 281223

Mob: 07884 408529

Fax: 01763 281424

email: sales@aceofherts.co.uk

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

You can collect or ask for deliveries to
your door

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

REBOOT IT SOLUTIONS

**Computer HELP
In your Own Home**



**Contact Tracy
07521 977 997**

www.rebootitsolutions.co.uk



**TRUSTED
STANDON BASED
WILL WRITER**



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

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

Member of The Society
of Will Writers

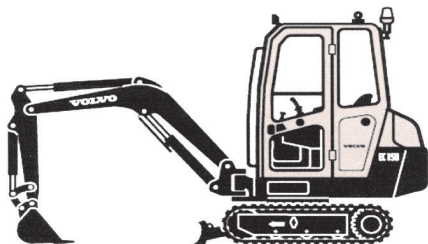


www.dqrwillsandprobate.co.uk

01920 747208 | emma@dqrwillsandprobate.co.uk

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

J P SERVICES



Mini Digger & Driver Hire

**Groundwork & Demolition
Landscaping
Drainage & Septic Tanks**

Call James on:

**07900 104223 or 01920 822888
or email jp-services@live.com**

Website: www.jplandscapeservices.co.uk



BUNTINGFORD
SCHOOL of DANCE

**BALLET
MODERN/JAZZ
TAP
STREET/
COMMERCIAL**

**enROLLING
NOW!**



ADMIN@BUNTINGFORDSCHOOLOFDANCE.CO.UK

Willow Landscapes

Garden Services

Over
25 years
Experience!

Find us in the
Buntingford Journal!!

- Tree surgery
- Hedge cutting
- Fencing
- Shed & fence preserving
- Patios / Paving
- Pressure Washing
- Garden tidy

Call Sid on 07925273773

Office: 07936360652

willowlandscapes1983@outlook.com

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

Waste Carriers Licence available on request
14 Day cooling off period



SJ TOKELY LTD

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS



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

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

01763 274260

Collection & Delivery Available



OPENING HOURS

MON - 8.00 - 6.00

TUES - 8.00 - 6.00

WED - 8.00 - 6.00

THUR - 8.00 - 6.00

FRI - 8.00 - 5.00

SAT - BY APPOINTMENT



BUNTINGFORD
— H E A T I N G —

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

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

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

Tel: 01763 772017 / 07968 752393

www.buntingfordheating.co.uk

Email : info@buntingfordheating.co.uk

We are a local company with a great reputation

East Herts Foot Health
Clinic

home visiting foot healthcare

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

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

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



Naughty Apple Mac?

We fix All Mac problems

Apple specialist since 1990

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



www.rawpaw.com (Buntingford)

Call for an Onsite Engineer

07968 272 923

01763 272 575

Seasons Greetings from Mentley Farm Lavender



Artisan
Gifts

Discover our Seasonal Workshops
Unique and inspiring workshops
throughout the lead up to our festive
season.

Online
Store

Out & About Festive Markets
Find us at festive markets across
Hertfordshire. Come and say
hello, we would love to see you.

Festive
Markets

For more information on booking
Workshops or visiting Markets
please visit our website or scan the
QR code.

Sustainable
Workshops

Mentley Lane West, Great Munden, Ware,
SG11 1TW
07768 010167
info@mentleyfarmlavender.com



For more info, visit www.mentleyfarmlavender.com where you
can also sign up for Louise's regular newsletter, Ramblings from
Mentley.



Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline

08 088 088 088



THE FIRST STEP IS TO TALK,
WE ARE HERE TO LISTEN.

FREEPHONE 08 088 088 088
weekdays 9am-9pm weekends
9am-4pm
or email in confidence -
kim@mailpurple.org

f @HertsDomesticAbuseHelpline
@hdahelp
in herts-domestic-abuse-helpline
d Domesticabusehelpline

DO YOU NEED A GRAPHIC DESIGNER?

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

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

Follow me on instagram
@thehumbleline to see
my latest projects,
design tips & more.



www.thehumbleline.com | anne@thehumbleline.com

the **humble** line
graphic design

Layston Preschool and Nursery CIC

The Causeway
Buntingford
Herts.
SG9 9EU

01763 271 235



We offer places for both fee-paying and Government-funded children aged 2 to rising 5, providing morning and afternoon sessions and all-day wraparound care.

We are open:

Monday-Friday mornings (08:45-11:45)
Monday-Thursday afternoons (12:45-15:15)
Monday-Thursday - Lunch Club (11:45-12:45)

We are non-profit making with any surplus funds reinvested into the setting.

Contact us to arrange a visit. Application Forms available on our website.

Email : laystonpreschoolandnursery@gmail.com
Web : www.laystonpreschoolandnursery.com
Facebook : Layston Preschool and Nursery CIC

attend2health

- Chiropractors
- Physiotherapy
- Osteopathy
- Chiropody & Podiatry
- Sports Massage
- Acupuncture
- Hypnotherapy
- Reformer Pilates
- Audiology
- Counsellors

**£20
OFF***

YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT
WITH THIS ADVERT



01763 87 80 87

www.attend2health.co.uk

27 High Street Buntingford SG9 9AB

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

Award-winning Clinic



Walkers Garage Ltd

Car servicing and repairs
at very reasonable prices

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

Over 25 years car mending experience

Free collection / delivery etc

2 Owles Lane, Buntingford, SG9 9JA

Telephone 01763 272 125

All work is fully insured

OVENCLEAN®
The original oven cleaning specialists

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

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

We can also repair your electric oven or hob.

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

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

07445 073 648 or 0800 840 7127

www.ovenclean.com



DESIGN NATION

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

www.dnation.co.uk

01279 777279

enquiries@dnation.co.uk

Local Specialist - Free Consultation & Planning Service



C.W. Electrical (Herts.) Ltd.

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

Part P registered

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

NICEIC registered

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

Help Us Fight Hunger Today!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY
WITH EVERY MEAL YOU GIVE

At Buntingford Food Support, we are committed to ensuring that no one in our community goes hungry. By providing essential food supplies to individuals and families in need, we bring hope, relief, and a sense of security. With your help, we can continue to make a lasting impact.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- **Donate non-perishable food items** like canned goods, rice, and pasta.
- **Contribute financially** to support our operational costs and food purchase efforts.
- **Host a food drive** at your workplace, school, or community center.
- **Volunteer your time** to help sort and distribute food to those in need.
- **Spread the word** by sharing our mission on social media and in your community.
- **Partner with local businesses** to sponsor events or donate surplus food.

**Together, we can fight hunger and
build a stronger, healthier community!**

Phone: 07842 889772

Email: buntingfordfoodhub@gmail.com





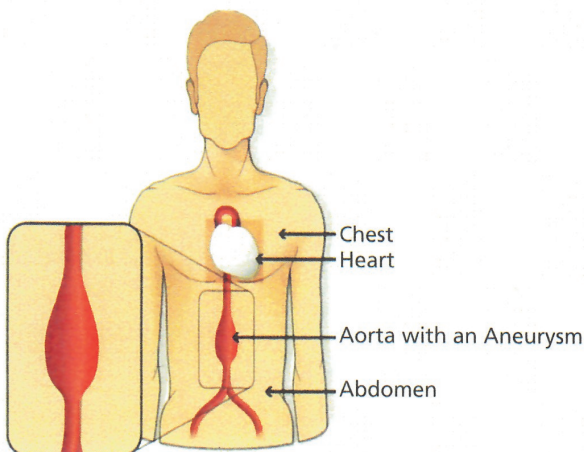
Hertfordshire Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Screening Programme

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

1 in 70 men will have an Aneurysm.

Can you spare 10 minutes?

It could save your life



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



eQUALITY

for people with learning disabilities



Buntingford Civic Society

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



WHO ARE WE?

We are your local amenity group, established in March 1971 initially as a conservation group covering the ancient parishes of Buntingford, Layston, Aspenden, Wyddial and Throcking.

We obtained charity status in 1993.

Our main aims are to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic and public interest within the locality and endeavour to promote high standards of planning and architecture while our archives are a source of reference on local geography and history.

Over the years, the Society has broadened its interests within the community. Whilst conservation issues will always be important to us, we now try to take a greater interest in many other local organisations and activities.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

Publish the Buntingford Journal

Restored the town pump twice and Town Cage once

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

Present an annual school civic award

Updated the set of Town Trails with the Discovering Buntingford booklet.

Erected a Town Sign and replaced it on a like for like basis in 2018

Installed a seat on the hill to Layston Cemetery and paid for works at the Layston Cemetery

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

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

Buntingford Carnivals, Summer Arts in Buntingford 2022 weekend, and gave a grant to the

Friends of the River Rib and Quin

Paid for the Local History Group competition prizes in 2023

Done River Rib and town cleans

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

Were actively involved with the production of the Neighbourhood Plan

Arranged Buntingford in Bloom competitions

Updated the circular walks on local footpaths leaflet in 2017

In 2024 paid for roses and a plaque in memory of Queen Elizabeth II and for the Coronation of

King Charles III at the new cemetery

Hosted 2 annual Civic Day walks

WHAT ARE WE PLANNING TO DO?

Monitor future housing development and continue to work with local organisations for the benefit of Buntingford, including the River Rib Project. Are now sourcing a replacement plaque for The Cage. Are looking to host a third Civic Day Walk, arrange a fifth Buntingford in Bloom competition and be part of a D Day commemoration event in May

TO JOIN PLEASE SEE THE MEMBERSHIP FORM ON OUR WEBSITE

www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Poulton Building Supplies

Landscaping & Garden Materials

GRAB/MUCK AWAY SERVICE



Small enough to care... Large enough to cope

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

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

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

Tel 01763 273932

www.jackpoulton.co.uk

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

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



Grab Hire



Aggregates



Drainage



Bricks & Blocks



Insulation



Landscaping

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



27 High St 01763 87 80 87

TOUCH OF *glamour*

Beauty Salon & Skin Specialists.

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

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

JACK'S DOG BEHAVIOUR AND TRAINING



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

Coached by a qualified professional

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



M Rome Joinery Ltd

Throcking, Buntingford

Your local established
Joinery company

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

Mat Rome

Tel/Fax: 01763 287507

Mobile: 07814 838460

email: mat@mromejoinery.co.uk

website: www.mromejoinery.co.uk

WESTMILL GARDEN CENTRE

Westmill Farm, SG12 OES

Web: www.westmillgardencentre.co.uk

Tel: 01920 465026

A gardener's paradise. Home grown seasonal plants, good quality soft fruit and vegetables. Gorgeous hanging baskets, perennials, shrubs, herbs, composts, fertilisers, garden tools, seeds, wild bird food, locally grown Christmas Trees, irrigation systems, and coal.



BUNTINGFORD FESTIVAL CHOIR

is actively seeking
TENOR and BASS SINGERS

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

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

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

buntingfordfestivalchoir.org

Carers in Hertfordshire

Support Hub

Buntingford 2025

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

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

A community for unpaid carers

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

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

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

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

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

To contact us:

Call: 01992 58 69 69

Email: contact@carersinherts.org.uk

Visit: www.carersinherts.org.uk



making carers count

Advertising in the Buntingford Journal

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CURWENS

We are your local expert Solicitors

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



Residential Property

Family Law

Dispute Resolution

Wills, Probate and Lasting Power of Attorney

Commercial Property

Business Law

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

www.curwens.co.uk



9.7

carehome.co.uk*

Layston Grove

CARE HOME

Keen Avenue, Buntingford, SG9 9SU

We're welcoming new residents

We're proud to provide residential care and support for older people living with dementia tailored to each individual residing at Layston Grove. We're here to help and answer any questions you may have.

Layston Grove offers:

- First class care environment
- Tea room
- Hair and Beauty salon
- Engaging activities

For more information,
please contact a member of our
friendly team on **01763 580 069** or visit
www.anchor.org.uk/LaystonGrove



*carehome.co.uk scores are based on independent reviews with a maximum score of 10.
Rating correct as at 11/06/2025.



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



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

Room 1:

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

Room 2:

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

Room 3:

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

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



In the country
 no one can
 hear you
 scream.

But we can and we are here to help.

Victims of domestic abuse in more rural areas are often unprotected and isolated from help. A 2019 report¹ into domestic abuse in Yorkshire highlighted a number of shocking facts, including that the more rural the setting, the higher the risk of harm to the victim.

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



08 088 088 088

hertsdomesticabusehelpline.org

Call freephone 08 088 088 088
 Monday to Friday: 9am-5pm Weekends: 9am-4pm
 Or confidential email: kim@malpurple.org

Follow us
 @HertsDomesticAbuseHelpline
 @HDA_Helpline
 @hdahelp

Supported by charity no. 1040799 ¹ 'Gender and Control', commissioned by Julia McSpiegel, Chair of the National Rural Crime Network & Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire.

NEW!

Buntingford Men's Shed Group

NEW!

Tuesday 24 June
 2.00pm-4.00pm

The Manor House, Buntingford
 - then every Tuesday -

We are starting a **Men's Shed** in Buntingford. Whilst we are looking for a suitable venue we are going to hold regular weekly meet ups.

Come and join us to hear about our plans, share ideas for projects and meet other 'shedders'.

A Men's Shed encourages people to come together to make, repair and repurpose, supporting projects in their local communities.

UK Men's Sheds Association

Contact Phil for more information:

email: philricketts@btinternet.com
 phone: 07896 860769



part of
 The Buntingford Community Project



The Clinic

Leah Claydon

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

Podiatrist & Acupuncturist

01763 772502

www.leahclaydon.com

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



EARLY BIRD CHRISTMAS SHOP

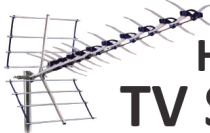
FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER
SATURDAY 1st NOVEMBER
10.30am - 4.30pm

**Meet our lovely Alpacas and
shop early for Christmas!**

Relax and enjoy a coffee and one of our
home-made cakes and bakes!

Yew Tree Alpacas
Anstey
Buntingford
Herts, SG9 0DA

www.yewtreealpacas.co.uk



HERTFORD TV SERVICE

Please call: 01992 552955

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

www.hertfordtvservice.co.uk

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

**Buntingford
& Stortford
Hybrid
Studio**



WWW.JACQUI-SMITH.NET
07956 647806

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

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



Keeping people fit since 1998

Fitness Pilates

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

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

Variety Full Body Workouts

Cardio HIIT Mon 6:30pm Layston School (£6 / £10 with Pilates at 7:15)
HIIT Wednesday 6pm / Sunday 10am via ZOOM
Strength HIIT Wed 6:30pm Layston School (£6 or £10 with Pilates)
Full Body Friday 11am The Scout Hut (£6 or £10 with Pilates at 10am)

Cardio (non impact or impact), Strength, Toning & Balance, each week a different class

Dance Fit

Thursday 9:15am Seth Ward Community Centre (£6)

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

All equipment provided, just bring yourself and water.

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

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

Buntingford U3A –Monday Circuits 10:30am (spaces available) & Thursday Seated Full Body 1pm £4 with full membership

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

FUN, FITNESS & FRIENDSHIP WITH ROYSTON RAMBLERS



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

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

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

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

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

COUNTRY MAIDS

DOMESTIC CLEANING SERVICES

Let us take Care of your Housework

- Spring Cleans
- Weekly or 2 Weekly regular Cleans



- Carpet Cleaning

Telephone: **01763 272908**



PLUMBING & HEATING LTD

24 HOUR
EMERGENCY CALL OUT

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

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



Anthony Howes Ltd

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

Mobile : 07790 696631

E-mail : howespolishing@gmail.com

Website : www.ahowespolishingandflooring.co.uk

The Manor House



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

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

For a full colour brochure contact :

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

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

www.buntingford-tc.gov.uk

Gareth White Electrical Services



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

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

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

WE SPECIALISE IN ALL ASPECTS OF ELECTRICAL WORK INCLUDING:

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

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

gareth@garethwhiteelectricalservices.co.uk



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



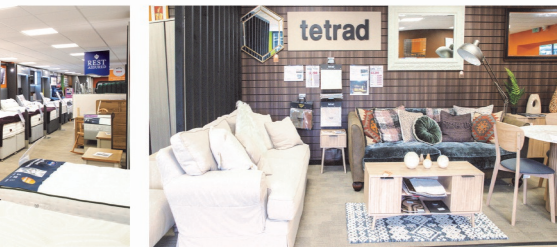
Deans Furnishers.com



Looking for a perfect night's sleep?

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

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



Beyond Beds

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

We Make It Easy

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

Recycling service
for old furniture

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

Convenient Opening
7 days a week inc bank holidays

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

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



Community Alliance

BROXBOURNE & EAST HERTS

Digital Skills Group in Buntingford

Booking is essential!

Call 0300 123 1034 to join

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

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

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

Location:

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

Mondays

10:30am to 12:00pm

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



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





100 YEARS
WOOD BROS
ENGLAND 1924

Invest in Style* Great Savings

VISIT OUR WARE SHOWROOM or WOODBROS.CO.UK



Spend and save with your exclusive vouchers...

Save
£100

when you spend
£1000 or more
Expires 30.09.25

Save
£300

when you spend
£2000 or more
Expires 30.09.25

Save
£500

when you spend
£3000 or more
Expires 30.09.25

Save
£800

when you spend
£4000 or more
Expires 30.09.25

* Terms and Conditions. Voucher valid on all full priced Wood Bros items within the Upholstery Collection including Armchairs and Sofas. Includes Chatsworth and Old Charm cabinet. Excludes Accessories, Footstools and Clearance items. One voucher permitted per customer or household, valid for a single transaction only at our Ware Showroom. Cannot be combined with any other discounts, promotional offers, or sale items. Must be presented and redeemed at the time of purchase. Offer ends 30th September 2025. Wood Bros reserves the right to change or withdraw the promotion without prior notice.

THE LUXURY BRAND WATCHES & JEWELLERY

BESPOKE JEWELLERY

ENGAGEMENT RINGS

WEDDING RINGS

JEWELLERY REPAIRS

WATCH REPAIRS

**LUXURY WATCH SALES
& SOURCING**

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

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