THE BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL



CLASSIC CAR SHOW
FULL REVIEW AND WINNERS ON P.10

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

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WATER (Affinity Water)	Emergency – 0345 357 2407
SEWERAGE (Thames Water)	Emergency – Telephone 0800 316 9800
FLOODLINE	Emergency – 0345 988 1188 or 0845 988 1188 Environment Agency Incident Line: 0800 80 70 60
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LETTER FROM

the Editor

Hello and welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely summer and didn't completely melt in those heatwaves.

I returned to a very full inbox of content for this October issue, full of returning clubs news and local stories. I was really happy to see the story about our very own local barber/author/psychologist/historian recognised with a uk publication of her book, which you can read about on p.9, what an incredibly talented lady!

I was also delighted to see the write up on the opening of our very own Men's Shed in it's own purpose built premises. Our mental health is such an important thing to nurture and for so many reasons we can find ourselves not feeling great mentally. The companionship and support of initiatives like this are a lifeline to many people suffering from isolation, loneliness, depression, anxiety and stress or people who just want to find a sense of purpose and feel more part of the community. Read all about it and how you can join or get involved on p.8.

We also have a write up on Buntingford's Premier event of the year... yes it was Classic Car Show time again! And thanks to the hard work of everyone involved, it was once again a huge success. Have a look at the winners on p.10.

We also have an interesting article on p.16 from the Swifts and House Martins group advising on how we can all play a part in preserving the dwindling numbers of these amazing birds.

Enjoy!

Anne

BUNTINGFORD JOURNAL

OCTOBER 2026

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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

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BUNTINGFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Graham Waite, Chairman

chairman@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Member of CIVIC VOICE talking civic sense

reg. Charity: 1014873

Welcome back, we hope you enjoyed the summer break, especially the weather, although some days were a bit unbearable due to the heatwave, however it is widely reported that this may become the norm. Maybe time to consider preparing for next summer, especially drought resistant garden plants for the garden.



Each year the Society donates a monetary gift to Freman College to be presented to a student that, in the opinion of the judges, was active in "Community Service". The winner for 2026 was Venedia Chen and the photo shows her being presented with the award on our behalf by our Town Mayor, Cllr Duncan Wallace. Venedia was recognised for her support for the local community through environmental work, including the planting of hundreds of daffodil and crocus bulbs, and for her service to the Freman Community through supporting other students and staff with many daytime and after-school events over the last 2 years. Our congratulations to Venedia on winning the award.

The Society is pleased to welcome a new executive committee member, Pam Hibberd. Pam has many years' experience in different forms of employment ranging from Finance, Engineering and Commercial Sales. She was, until recently, secretary to the Seth Ward Alms Trust, a position held for 10 years. We are sure that Pam will be an asset to the executive committee and the Society.

On the planning front, the Planning appeal by Hallam Land to build 600 dwellings on land west of the A10, north of the A 507, commenced on Tuesday 8th September and concluded on the 18th September. Buntingford was well represented at the Inquiry on Day 1 by our Mayor Cllr Duuncan Wallace, Chris Berry from CPRE, one of our District Councillors, Cllr Sue Nichols and Tracy Russ from Throcking. We await the Inspectors decision on the appeal which would normally be approximately 3 to 4 weeks.

By the time you read this, we will have had the by-election for the vacancy on the Town Council. We hope that the new councillor, whoever he/she is, enjoys their time serving on the council. A note for your diary, full Town Council election - 6th May 2027.

Finally just a gentle reminder that at the end of this month (October) the clocks go back 1 hour at 2am on the 25th, heralding the approach of Winter.

Please visit our website **www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk** and our Facebook page **www.facebook.com/buntingfordcivicsociety** .

We hope you enjoy this October issue of the Journal.

Graham Waite

Chairman, Buntingford Civic Society

BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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Further to our report in last month's Journal, we now know that 10 electors called for a by-election, this will take place on the 24th September at the Seth Ward Community Centre. There are four candidates to fill one vacancy. The new Councillor will serve until May next year when a full election will be held for all 12 places on the Town Council. To ensure everyone was aware of the by-election, the Town Council took the decision to send poll cards to all of those entitled to vote.

Following the opening of the new 3G facility at Freman College we are now able to offer regular slots at the Multi Games Area at Norfolk Road Playing Field. If your group or team would like to book, please give us a call and we can let you know what times are available.

Due to significant fly tipping of garden waste, the Town Council erected a fence between Hare Street Road Wildlife Area and Dray Gardens, closing unofficial access points into the area. This has not proved to be popular with residents and the fence has been dismantled on more than one occasion. We would ask residents to please use their brown bins when disposing of garden waste.

We will be planting a further 1000 bulbs at Layston Cemetery on 31st October at 10am, all volunteers to help with the planting would be most welcome.

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 1st October	7pm	Amenities Committee.
Thursday 8th October	7pm	Planning and 7.15pm Resources Committee
Thursday 29th October	7pm	Planning and 7.15pm Full Council

All meetings held at The Manor House unless indicated otherwise.

Buntingford Men's Shed

www.buntingfordmensshed.org.uk

Phil Ricketts, Trustee

Founded June 2025

A 'Shed' is a community focused, member led, charity space, designed to help reduce loneliness, combat social isolation and improve overall wellbeing.

Originally, Buntingford Men's Shed held their meetings at the Manor House. One of the first things discussed at these meetings from a growing membership, was to find suitable premises.

We set about looking for a location in or around Buntingford. Time was passing and we thought, like other 'Sheds' it could take a year or two, then, out of the blue we were contacted by the Anchor Group, owners of Layston Grove Care Home with an offer to lease a part of their Buntingford site. We set about raising funds, get planning permission and order a 'log cabin' that the Shed membership built together.

Donors include: Layston Grove Care Home. The Frank Litchfield Charitable Trust. The National Lottery Community Fund. The Buntingford Memorial Charity. UK government and East Herts District Council. Buntingford Town Council. The Herts Community Foundation. The Giving Machine, not forgetting all donations from town residents.

A special thanks too for all who have donated tools, I personally collected many of these tools, almost all, sadly, following the loss of a loved one. We have gratefully received them all.

Buntingford Men's Shed celebrated its official Grand opening on 20th August, marking an important milestone for the Charity and its members.

We were delighted to welcome Buntingford Mayor Cllr Duncan Wallace who officially opened the Shed, helping us celebrate the occasion alongside members, dignitaries, supporters, friends and the local community.

The event was kindly hosted by Layston Grove Care Home, welcoming everyone and laying on beer and burgers for the occasion. Needless to say, both went down extremely well!

A huge thank you to Cllr Duncan Wallace, Layston Grove Care Home and everyone who joined us to help make the day such a success.

For more information, please visit: **buntingfordmensshed.org.uk**







FROM BUNTINGFORD TO THE PAGES OF HISTORY

My name is Anna Klosinska, and many people in Buntingford may know me as one of the owners of Suave Barber Shop. Alongside my work as a barber, I am also a psychologist, a family-history researcher and, more recently, a published author.

My first historical novel, *The Road Home: Origins*, has now been released in English. It is a translation of my Polish book, *Z Tobą na koniec świata. Początki*, which was published earlier this year.

The novel was inspired by the true story of my great-great-grandmother, Julia Bielicka, and by more than ten years of genealogical and archival research. I spent many hours studying old documents, photographs and family records, as well as visiting the towns and villages connected with my ancestors.

Set against the dramatic events of the early twentieth century and the First World War, the book follows an ordinary family whose lives are changed by conflict, displacement and loss. At its heart, however, it is a story about love, resilience and the determination to find a way home.

Writing the book allowed me to bring together my interest in psychology, history and the experiences passed down through generations. It also gave a voice to people whose lives might otherwise have been forgotten.

Although I was born in Poland, Buntingford has been my home for many years, and much of the book was written here, often between working days at the barber shop and family life.

The Road Home: Origins is available to purchase on Amazon. Signed copies can also be bought directly from Suave Barber Shop in Buntingford.



I hope the book will introduce local readers to a personal story that began in Poland but explores universal themes of family, courage, love and belonging.



BUNTINGFORD CLASSIC 2026

Graham Bonner

The day dawned bright and sunny and by 8am helpers and stewards were going about their business.

There were the usual chancers trying to gain early access to the High Street – they were politely turned away.

On schedule at 9am entrant's cars were admitted and the Stewards were soon busy directing the entrants to their parking spaces.

A rare and unexpected vehicle arrived – a 1900 Winton. Built in the USA and running for the first time in 30 years. Powered by a 1 cylinder engine and producing 9 HP. 0-60mph never!!!

Live music on the central stage started at midday with the Peace Lillies followed by TJ, Lissie and the Shades and Studio Blues.

By10am the majority of the entrants were parked up and the ever increasing crowds were soon taking advantage of the sustenance on offer from hog roast and burgers to ice creams and paella – not forgetting drinks from local hostelries.

As usual prize giving took place with the following being awarded:-

Best Car	1969 Dodge Charger owned by Roland Anderson
Best Bike	1987 Yamaha TZR owned by Adrian Baxter
Car to drive home in	1963 Triumph TR4 owned by Gavin
Chairmans Choice	1900 Winton owned by Neil Burgess





Best Bike Winner: 1987 Yamaha TZR





Best Car Winner: 1969 Dodge Charger

Our thanks go to our sponsors and volunteers without whom the event would not happen. And also, to you the public who as usual turned up in droves to support us.

A final word to the lady who tripped and fell in the Isobel Hospice charity shop – she was taken to hospital by blue light ambulance – we wish her a speedy recovery.

See you all next year – God willing.



Chairman's Choice Winner: 1900 Winton







Car to drive home in Winner: 1963 Triumph TR4

BUNTINGFORD CLASSIC 2026 IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY: CHERY

BUNTINGFORD SCHOOL OF DANCE

BUNTINGFORD SCHOOL of DANCE

SCAN ME

Zoë Eaglesfield www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk

Buntingford School of Dance | buntingfordschoolofdance

September has seen us welcome lots of new pupils of all ages to a wide variety of classes. We still have some space if you would like to get in touch and come along to classes; it's never too late to start dancing.

Over the summer, we held a fun and challenging two-day 'Dance Fusion' course where pupils of all ages experienced a variety of dance styles and really got to challenge themselves, whether trying a dance genre for the first time or pushing themselves in a genre they were familiar with. Each afternoon a guest teacher came in to teach a musical theatre-based routine, one Michael Jackson themed and one from the musical SIX.

Following the success of the summer course we are re-introducing a Musical Theatre class to our timetable from the end of September. As well as being tremendous fun there are numerous benefits to Musical Theatre; Acting promotes speaking skills, communication and teamwork, and whilst taking on a different role a child learns to empathize and identify with others. The ability to speak confidently in public, in front of an audience, is a very valuable life skill. Singing promotes listening skills and trains the brain to remember timing, patterns, rhythms, and lyrics. Whilst Dance, apart from the obvious physical benefits, allows your child to express themselves creatively.

To register now for any of our classes, complete our registration form to book a two-week trial, or book one of our pay-as-you-go classes. Pupils can start Baby Boppers as soon as they are walking; most classes start at 3 or 5 years old; Adult classes 18 years +

WHAT WE OFFER: ACRO - BABY BOPPERS (pay as you go) – BALLET (including Pointe by invitation) – COMMERCIAL/STREET DANCE - CONTEMPORARY – MODERN/JAZZ - STRETCH & STRENGTHEN – TAP – HOLIDAY COURSES & WORKSHOPS – ADULT CLASSES (pay as you go) - new Sept 2026 MUSICAL THEATRE

Please use the QR code to take you to the CONTACT page of our website to register or book a Pay as you Go class, alternatively email us at **admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk** for more information.



BUNTINGFORD BOWLS CLUB

Dave Murphy

At County finals day, the Senior 4 team, Phil Josling, Dave Murphy, Tony Keeling and Gary Warrender, lost to a very strong Baldock four. Baldock went onto the semi finals at Leamington, losing by 1 shot, well done to them. Magnus Nyquist and Dave Murphy lost in the pairs and Matthew Murphy and partner won the Junior pairs to become county champions.

At the National Finals in Leamington, Gary Warrender, playing some of his best bowls in the singles, eventually losing 21-16, Dave Murphy and Magnus Nqyuist (pictured), after being 16-8 down, came back to 18-18, only to lose by 1 shot on the extra end to a Lincolnshire pair, who went all the way through to the final. In the Junior pairs, Matthew Murphy and his partner, lost 21-14.

We unfortunately lost our National 2 x 4s game against Ashford. A closely fought game but just pipped at the post.

In the National Top Club competition, we beat Garston, to become the Hertfordshire champions and went on to play Ashford again, at the Herts bowls club, a neutral green. Following defeat by them in the 2x4s, Buntingford were really up for the game, winning 3-2 and sending us into the last 16 in the country. On 9th August we played at Malden, a neutral green, against Bletchley Town. Winning this game would get the club to the National finals, the last 8 in England. Unfortunately, it was not to be, losing the match 3-2. We go again next year.

Buntingford are County Champions in the County Team Ten, beating Garston in the final.

In the County League, we are the East Area champions, beating Northaw and Cuffley 34-24 in the area final. At Herts Bowls Club, where all 4 area winners came together for the semi finals and



final on the 13th, we were drawn against Townsend in the semi final, where we won by 5 shots. In the final we played Mill End, losing 30-26 in a close game.

At The East Herts Bowls Association finals day, Buntingford won the New Lyndhurst Trophy for the 4th consecutive year. Ross Murphy won the John Simmons Trophy, Dave Murphy won the Officers singles for the second year running, Tony Keeling (subbing for Matthew Murphy) and Ross Murphy won the 2 wood pairs. Unfortunately, both the Triples, consisting of Bobby White, Richard Foster and Dave Murphy and the Fours, Brian Bushell, Arnie Manning, Zony and Richard Penton, lost.

At the East Herts Bowls League finals at Welwyn & District bowls club, on 12th September, Ross Murphy won the singles. Paul Vater and Dave Murphy won the pairs 25-5. In the mixed pairs, Michelle Whyley (Hertford) and Ross Murphy lost on the last end and the fours, Brian Bushell, Arnie Manning, Zony and Richard Penton unfortunately also lost.

The season is slowly coming to an end. The club finals will be played all day on the 17th, from 10am, culminating with the Ladies and Men's Championships games. The season will finish with a second Presidents day, hosted by Jennie Keeling, for a fun day of bowls games and importantly, to raise more money for the Isobel Hospice, Jennie's charity.

the WI
INSPIRING WOMEN



We made the most of the lovely summer (even though it was a bit too hot at times) and a group of us took a boat trip on the Great Ouse in Cambridgeshire. The Skipper told us lots about the wildlife and history of the area as we cruised along – a lovely relaxing afternoon. We also enjoyed our lovely cream tea in August in the beautiful gardens of Pigs Nose Cottage.

Geoff Lambert was our guest at our September meeting talking about his passion for walking along the English canals – all two and a half thousand of them! He told us that the oldest canal route connects the River Trent to Lincolnshire and dates back to the Romans. Most canal walks follow the lines of railways and Geoff thinks the 15 mile stretch known as the Peak Forest Canal is the most beautiful. Geoff does not walk on his own – he always takes his dog. He brought his current dog Archie along to our meeting and told us that Archie is also a Medical Detection Dog (specializing in urinary infections). Geoff raises funds for the Charity by doing his canal talks.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 8th October** at 7:15 for 7:30pm and our guest is Gary Fisher who will be talking about The Gunpowder Plot. 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.



THE BUNTINGFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Bryan Jones

Now the days are getting shorter and the night's are getting longer, why not come out in the afternoon to meet new friends and have Tea, Coffee and a game of Bingo.

We meet Mondays (except Bank holidays) 1:30pm for 2pm in the Church Hall opposite The Post office in Baldock Road.

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

BUNTINGFORD GARDENER'S CLUB

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

September is the ideal time for dividing perennials to ensure healthy, vigorous plants that will continue to perform year after year. It also offers the opportunity to multiply your plants. It is the time to collect and sow seeds from perennials and hardy annuals.

This month we are pleased to have David Hinkley from GrowMad who will be exploring garlic in depth. GrowMad is a comprehensive online resource hub for vegetable growing enthusiasts and professional growers. The website offers all gardeners advice and inspiration -- take a look at their website; **www.growmad.co.uk**

Our monthly competition is "an autumn flower" so don't forget to bring that along with you.

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



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

There is always time after the main event for a cuppa tea or coffee and a chat.

Annual membership cost is only £20 and visitors are always welcome at £4 per visit. Come and see what goes on – there is no upfront commitment.

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

Hope to see you there!

Buntingford Community Choir

Some of you might have seen us at Aspenden Summer Fete and seen how much fun we had. So now is a great time to join us at Buntingford Choir. We have only been back since the beginning of September and we have lots of new songs to learn and start preparations for some planned live performances. Hopefully I will have details for the next edition.

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

Paul Webster

As always if you want to come along to Millfield School any Monday evening, (not Bank Holidays), at 7.30pm you would be most welcome.

Further details please contact me at

info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk

or via the website

www.buntingfordchoir.co.uk

CAN YOU HELP BUNTINGFORD'S SWIFTS AND HOUSE MARTINS?

Gavin Vicary, North East Hertfordshire Swift Group

Buntingford is home to two native birds, swifts and house martins, that are now red listed for conservation concern as they have both undergone big declines in their numbers.

All is not lost however, as swift groups have sprung up all over the country and are installing specially designed swift boxes to try and reverse the declines. We also lobby for hollow bricks called swift bricks in new housing that give swifts and other birds a place to nest.

In addition, we install 3D printed house martin cups that mimic the nests that these birds make from mud under the eaves of houses and other buildings.

We are hoping to have an installation day in Buntingford and if you would like to take part then please contact us on our email at **nehswifts@gmail.com.**

We will visit beforehand to check that the location is suitable and advise on the best place for a box or cup to be situated. The cost is £40 for a swift box or £30 for a house martin cup, which includes the installation on your building.

Swifts are fast-flying, spectacular birds that only spend a few weeks in the UK as they come here to breed from Africa. They rarely land and fly continuously through day and night. They eat sleep and mate on the wing and in its lifetime, an individual swift, can fly as many as four million miles.

They nest in towns and cities, in small gaps in roofs and eaves but modern building methods are gradually excluding swifts from these spaces.

Swifts are relatively clean birds and should not cause a nuisance. House martins can make more mess and siting the cups in suitable locations can be more important, but we will be pleased to advise on this for anyone who is interested.



© Robert Booth





Buntingford Festival Choir Steps Out for First Ticketed Concerts



Following last month's introduction to the Buntingford Festival Choir, our members have been working hard in rehearsals ahead of an exciting milestone: our very first independent, ticketed concert series. Having previously performed exclusively for church services and free community events, we are incredibly excited to take this next step and look forward to sharing our music with a packed audience.

Centered in Buntingford, our choir brings together four-part harmony singers from across the town and the wider surrounding region. Because we operate without a permanent accompanist, we nearly always sing completely unaccompanied. Our weekly Thursday night rehearsals are highly focused as we craft our signature close vocal blend, but they are also a wonderful social highlight for our members who simply love singing together.

We want to make these upcoming performances a real celebration of regional music-making, and we would love for as many local residents as possible to come along and support us. Ticket sales are vital to our future, directly funding our sheet music and administrative costs, and we are proud to share that 50% of the profits will go directly back to our beautiful hosting venues.

Full details of the dates, times, and locations can be found on the above concert poster. Please do come along, enjoy a glass of wine or a soft drink during the interval, and share in this special milestone with us. If you are tempted to join our ranks, visit **www.buntingfordfestivalchoir.org** or email **sing@buntingfordfestivalchoir.org**.

BRAUGHING GET TOGETHER

Following our summer break, the Braughing Get Together team is back, fully refreshed and raring to so with a new block of events.

Friday 9th October: "Foul Murders in East Anglia". Just when you thought it safe to go out, we thought you may change your minds when you hear our guest speaker, ex policeman Mike Wabe. Cost is £7.50 to include table snacks

Friday 6th November: "There'll always be an England". Back by popular demand is a trip by coach to the Brick Lane Theatre, where we will enjoy a 3 course lunch followed by a flag waving sing-along show. Cost £85 pp to include your coach return trip. Early booking is essential to not miss out as seats are limited.

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

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

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

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

cynthia.matthews44@gmail.com

01920 822 230 or 07933 202 547

WARE & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Barbara Norris

www.wareps.org.uk

Ware DPS new season commences on Wednesday 2 September at Thundridge Village Hall from 8pm - 10pm. Details of the new programme will be available on the website. New members are always most welcome to come along.

The Annual Exhibition is being held on **Saturday 10 October** at Thundridge Village Hall from 10.00am - 4.00pm.

Free admission. Refreshments including homemade cakes available to purchase. The exhibition also includes an exhibition of hand embroideries by Standon Embroidery Group and Hertford U3A Group. Further information from Barbara Norris - T: 01920 822104 or see the poster in due course.



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Regular movement can help reduce stress, improve your mood, and boost your energy, helping you feel your best as we move into the colder, darker winter months.

HAPpy Children's Winter Camps: The application is in and soon we will know if we have a grant for running Christmas Holiday Camps.

Our next Buntingford Stretch & Sound Bath: Sessions scheduled for **6th October.** Donations of £10 to our charity to attend.

Our Ware 4 hour Stretch & Meditation workshops with breakfast and lunch all finished off with Sound Baths. Spaces available **14th November & 12th December,** due to moving to a new location. £35 Charity Event.

And as usual all our regular Dance, Mat Pilates and Strength exercise classes in Buntingford, Hertford, Bishop's Stortford and Ware for all ages and abilities.

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

CELEBRATE HARVEST IN REED ON 2ND OCTOBER

All are invited to Reed's St Mary's Church Harvest Festival on **Friday 2nd October at 7pm**. As part of our celebrations, we are pleased to receive both perishable and non-perishable donations. We will be holding a seasonal raffle of fruit and veg contributions. We will also support Jimmy's Night Shelter with donations of tins and packets to help stock their shelves and provide hot meals this coming winter.

Following the service, please join us in Reed Village Hall – (at approx. 8pm) for our Annual Harvest Supper of cold meats, baked potatoes and delicious homemade fruit crumbles, plus a licenced bar. Cost: £15 per person.

Everyone is welcome to join us either after the church service or just for the Harvest Supper.

Isabel Hospice
Together we care

Connor Williams isabelhospice.org.uk

Isabel Hospice Seeks Volunteers for Popular Christmas Tree Recycling Campaign

Isabel Hospice is already planning for its popular Christmas Tree Collection & Recycling campaign, which will return from 8 to 10 January 2027.

The annual initiative provides local residents with a convenient and environmentally friendly way to recycle their Christmas trees while raising vital funds for the hospice. The campaign generates around £27,000 each year, helping Isabel Hospice continue providing care and support for patients and families across eastern Hertfordshire.

To help deliver the collection, the hospice is looking for volunteers to support the campaign. People with access to their own van are needed to collect Christmas trees across the area, while volunteers are also being sought to distribute leaflets in their local communities to raise awareness of the scheme ahead of Christmas.

Grace May, Community Fundraiser at Isabel Hospice said: *"volunteers play a crucial role in making the campaign possible and helping it reach even more households each year."*

Anyone interested in supporting the Christmas Tree Collection & Recycling campaign can contact the Community Fundraising team by emailing **communityfundraising@isabelhospice.org.uk** or calling 01707 954 850 for more information.

HOME START
Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire

Angie Ward

Join Us At Our Annual General Meeting

Join Home-Start Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire for our Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday 21 October 2026.**

Learn more about the support Home-Start provides to families in our community, celebrate our achievements, plans for the future, and hear directly from a family who has benefited from our services.

Icknield Walk First School, Royston

Refreshments from 6pm | AGM starts at 6:30pm

All are welcome.

To help us plan for refreshments and distribute AGM papers in advance, please RSVP to **admin@hsrsc.org.uk by 14 October 2026.**

finished school in the summer and since then I've applied for countless jobs, but I'm not having any luck - most companies don't even bother getting back to me. It's really getting me down - what can I do to be more successful?

Navigating your first steps into the world of work can be really daunting. If you're struggling to find a job, you're not alone. Nearly one million young people aged 16 to 24 in the UK are not in education, employment or training. Clearly, there are some big structural and economic issues that are making it hard for young people to find work, but there are still things you can do.

When you're applying for a job, it's vital to do your homework. Make sure you've done your research about both the role and the employer, and adjust your CV to fit the position you're applying for. Employers will usually want to know why you're interested in working for them specifically, so take some time to look into who they are and their values as an organisation. Then discuss how they align with what you're looking for in a role in your application.

Be cautious about using AI. When you're feeling the pressure to get out as many applications as possible, it can be tempting to turn to AI to help you write your CV, cover letter or application form. But employers can usually tell when you've used AI, and some may use AI detection tools when screening your application. It might put them off wanting to progress your application, so it's best to always use your own words.

If you're worried about your lack of experience, one way to make your CV stand out from the crowd is to try volunteering. Not only will you gain vital skills and work experience but also make a positive difference to people's lives. For example, volunteering in your local Citizens Advice service can give you office experience and customer service skills – you can find out more about volunteering at Citizens Advice East Herts on our website **https://citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk/volunteer-with-us/** Or look at **www.govolherts.org.uk/** for other volunteering opportunities.

If you face barriers to work due to a disability, look at **www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/adult-learning/campaigns/connect-to-work.aspx** for information on support available from Step2Skills.

If you're unemployed you can get help with CV writing and interview skills from Community Alliance Broxbourne and East Herts – see **https://communityalliancebeh.org.uk/our-services/employment-and-skills/job-smart-and-job-club/** or call Sarah on 07487 245 992.

If you're struggling financially, you should check what benefits you're able to get. If you're over 18 (or in some cases 16 or 17), not in education or training, and you have less than £16,000 in savings or other investments, you may be eligible for Universal Credit. You might also be able to get 'new style' Jobseeker's Allowance for up to six months while you look for a job.You can check what benefits you can get on the Citizens Advice website **www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/benefits-introduction/what-benefits-can-i-get/.**

And lastly, job hunting can take a real toll on your mental wellbeing. Endless applications, back-to-back rejections or - worse - being ghosted entirely can all chip away at your self-esteem and affect your mental health. If you're finding it tough, there's help and support available. You can reach out to organisations like StudentMinds **www.studentminds.org.uk**/, try YoungMinds **www.youngminds.org.uk/** or get in touch with Mind **www.mind.org.uk/** - you don't have to face it alone.

For local advice in any area, call our Message Line on 01920 459 944, or visit citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk for other advice options. Or you can come and see us on Mondays between 10am and 12:30pm at the Manor House, High Street, Buntingford – we will find out more about your problem and help you find a way forward.

WARD FREMAN

COMMUNITY POOL GROUP

Frazer Willett
fwillett@wardfremanpool.org
www.wardfremanpool.org
WardFremanPool

Thanks to the generous support of volunteers over the summer pruning, scrubbing and painting; along with the professional work in the pool hall and plant room, we were really proud to show off progress at an open day on 5th September. Thanks to donations from Brewers Decorating Centres and Crown Paint via Wickes, the smell of fresh paint was still in the air. Pretty much every paintable surface has been refreshed to remove all traces of the old grey colour scheme.

Local businesses and trades people have also been very generous:

- Mark Addison donated his skill and time to replace broken tiles in the changing rooms
- Tim's Chimneys capped off the old chimney free of charge
- Stephen Newby donated and installed a new external sign
- Welwyn Garden Alarms upgraded the intruder alarm for free
- Attend21T upgraded the CCTV system free of charge
- Tony Willis and Jon Brears have helped with plumbing & electrical items.
- Robin Dussek "The Bespoke Wizard" really is a wizard and has managed to design and source materials free of charge to update the reception desk
- Doctor Heating will be back on site soon to fit the new showers at a reduced cost.

Before the summer, local schools had a non uniform day and between them raised £2222. This has been used to purchase new lifeguard equipment. We have started interviewing for Lifeguards but you can still apply. Send your CV to **jobs@wardfremanpool.org**

Thanks to a wonderful donation of £2000 and money raised from Mark Lewis's charity golf day, we have the funds to start work knocking through from the foyer to the staff kitchen in order to be able to sell refreshments. We are looking for volunteers to work here, so if you can make a cup of tea, serve a slice of cake and give change for a fiver, then you are the sort of person we are looking for! Contact us at **volunteer@wardfremanpool.org**

The last but most important thing to mention is water. Freman College has allowed us to use their water supply so far, but to be operational we must have an independent supply. Mistakes by Affinity Water mean this still hasn't happened. As soon as we know when we will be connected, we can plan the grand opening! We really hope it will be by the end of year but at the time of writing we just don't know.



Open day

STANDON & PUCKERIDGE TENNIS CLUB

Diana Foster

www.standon-ltc.co.uk

We have three all weather courts and new members are always welcome. Special rates for parent/child/family memberships, for details contact Sally Bradshaw 01920 821 152.

PAY TO PLAY is available to all if you just want to book a court. £8 per hour for adults or £5 for under 16's. We even have availability at weekends. Contact Sally Bradshaw on 01920 821 152.

Club Championship Winners:
Men's Singles: Kieron Debnam
Men's Doubles: Kieron & Fletcher Debnam
Mixed Doubles: Sue Stewart & Alister Clark

Junior Championship Winners:
Boys 18 and under Singles: Fletcher Debnam
Girls 18 and under Singles: Isabelle Gardner
Boys 18 and under Doubles: Fletcher Debnam & Tristan Parker
Boys 16 and under Singles: Mikolaj Nowicki-Polonski
Boys 12 and under Singles: Leo Kaplunov
Boys 12 and under Singles Plate: Austin Churchill
10 and under Mixed Singles: Wesley Kaplunov
10 and under Mixed Singles Plate: Oscar Martin
9 and under Mixed Singles: Alice Kaplunov
9 and under Mixed Singles Plate: Wesley Kaplunov

COACHING; In September 2026 we will be looking for the next generation of players to join our thriving junior programme.

The new classes will include;

Little Aces (Ages 4-5 yrs) Tuesday morning 9.30am (indoors).

Discover Tennis (for those born in 2018) - half price intro course, plus register with the LTA for free racket and tennis balls. Monday 4-5pm, starting 7th September.

Booking necessary. Full details of our junior and adult sessions, including holidays camps can be found at; Clubspark.lta.org.uk/cliffdevonshiretennis or contact Cliff at **cliffdevonshiretennis@gmail.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 winter we have a Men's and Ladies Team in the Essex Small Clubs League and a Mixed Team in the East Herts League.

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



STANDON AND PUCKERIDGE LTC | WWW.STANDON-LTC.CO.UK | PAY TO PLAY 07751 351111

BUNTINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Carol Emery buntingfordlocalhistorygroup@hotmail.com

The History of the Cattle Market.

Since our last meeting I have found within our local archives a large book that was kept by Ernest Thody on the history of Buntingford Cattle Market from 1921. Fortunately, Ernests handwriting is very easy to read and he kept meticulous records of all meetings and accounts so I have been able to answer a lot of the questions raised from the last meeting where I did a history of the market. The book starts with a full transcript of the market charter which was apparently hung in St Peters Church. Mr Nevett had made a frame for the charter but there was no ventilation and the charter had faded and got damp. William Minet a barrister living at Hadham Hall had offered to get the charter restored by the British Museum but much to Mr Thodys annoyance this opportunity had be missed because in his words "Alas what is everybody's job, is nobody's job, and no one appears to have the authority to enable the charter to be properly cleaned and preserved. He goes on to say that future inhabitants of the town may realise they have lost a valuable historical document. We think the charter may now be at Hertfordshire Archives for safe keeping.

Following locals asking if the market could be resurrected a public meeting was held at The George on the 24th January 1921. The market hadn't been held for at least 50 years, about 50 people attended and it was decided that the market should be re-established. A committee was formed with Mr H Marshall as chairman. The following people formed the committee:-

Frank Cannon, Archibald Day, Henry Fry, Percy Hamilton, John Holmes, Arthur Jackson, Edward Mildren, Stanley Pigg, Ernest Thody and Theodore Wedd. Mr Wedd was the Lord of the Manor of Corneybury at the time and they had to consult with his solicitor into the legalities of restarting the market using the charter.

Mr Thody was voted in as the secretary. Mr George Scarborough Taylor also attended the meeting. He was a local auctioneer and was keen to run the market. He currently had a market presumably in Buntingford but had been told by the Ministry of Agriculture that his current auction yard didn't conform to requirements so he was keen to move to Market Hill. If Mr Wedd's solicitor agreed to the market, then Mr Scarborough Taylor was to be granted a 7 year lease at £14 per annum, he would also have to pay the solicitors costs expected to be about £220. A loan was to be made available for the solicitor's fees which Scarborough Taylor would have to pay back in instalments with interest. It was decided to offer 22 people the chance to each give £10 which would be repaid with 8% interest. The following people paid £10 each,

Frank Cannon	Harry Clarke
Archibald Day	Claude Fraser
Henry Fry	Percy Hamilton
John Holmes	Herbert Marshall
Edward Mildren	Edmund Mildren
Edward Morris	Stanley Pigg
James Pigg	Charles Poulton
Jacob Prime	Thomas Rowley
Ernest Thody	Walter Wedd

However, 4 people who had promised to pay didn't so Ernest Thody ended up paying £50 in all.

It was agreed that part of Market Hill would need paving over and Mr Thody was tasked with preparing a specification to put out to tender.

Three tenders were received for the necessary works

Albert Monk (Lower Edmonton) - £218 0s 0d

Jacklin and Co (Buntingford) - £228 10s 0d

C H Poulton (Aspenden) - £128 8s 0d

C H Poulton was given the work and in addition to paving, oak posts be set into



iron sockets and sunk into the ground, rails would also need to be added to the posts this was to tie the cattle to.

Once all the work was completed George Scarborough signed the lease and the market opened for business on the 23rd May 1921. Business was brisk, pens were set up along Market Hill sheep and pigs were kept in those whilst cattle were tied to the new railings. Scarborough Taylor was to pay 4d a foot for stallage and a minimum of 2s per stall.

Mr Thody and Mr Henry Fry (the chemist on Market Hill) were made governors of the Market whilst the trustees consisted of Mr H C Marshall, Dr Dixon, Mr C Fraser, Mr P Hamilton, Captain A Alston and Mr H Fry.

In 1925 the Lee Conservation Board complained to Buntingford Rural District Council about water being used to wash down the market after the sales was polluting the River Rib as it entered the storm drain. It was after lengthy discussion agreed that the market area be tarmaced, a standpipe be installed and drains feeding into the main sewer be laid. The governors of the market agreed to pay £100 towards this work. Mr Thody was given a £10 honorarium in for the work he had done on getting the drainage sorted.

In 1928 Henry Fry resigned from posts he held and was replaced by Mr Fraser. Also, in 1928 George's lease was up for renewal. The rent was to be increased to £52 per annum, a huge jump from the £14 he had been paying. He was not pleased and wrote a lengthy letter saying that Buntingford had grown as a result of the market and could he have a meeting with the governors to discuss the lease. Judging by the comments Mr Thody wrote in the book he took exception to George's remarks, because he wrote that from Mr Scarborough Taylors attitude he is not prepared to carry on with the market, there has been no satisfactory proposal made and all he had offered on the 2 occasions Mr Thody had spoken to him was abuse. Mr Thody was very incensed that Scarborough Taylor had written "that he had made Buntingford by his exertions". "No, no, no," wrote Mr Thody "Buntingford has never been made, Buntingford grew and is still growing, and will continue to grow long after her present sons are passed away and forgotten."

Although Scarborough Taylor continued to run the market, he paid no rent or tolls in 1929 or 1930. Yet the accounts for December 1930 show rent of £106.14s6d had been paid and tolls of £80 14s 10d had been paid, had George conceded? The governors agreed that they would give the town council £57 towards a dust cart for the town and £50 towards the fire service of which Mr Thody was captain.

By January 1931 all the trustees had died apart from Mr Thody and Mr P Hamilton, this included Mr Wedd the Lord of the Manor. The Manorial rights had been bought by Mr Hartnett who lived at the Manor House on Market Hill. On 24th January 1935 a meeting at the George, Mr Maughan the local solicitor had been voted in as chairman. He asked any people who wished to become trustees or governors of the market put their names forward for Mr Hartnett to choose from.

Mr Hartnett chose Mr Maughan and Mr E Thody as governors, and Mr Barnwell, Mr Howlett, Mr B Thody, Mr J Lawrence, Mr H Piggott, and Mr Tyrwhitt-Drake as trustees. The new trustees and governors were told that Scarborough Taylor owed rent of £56

Continues >

and there was little chance he would pay. Mr Thody said that several other local auctioneers had approached him with a view to running the market. They were Messrs George Jackson of Hitchen, Messrs Sworder of Bishop Stortford, Messrs Norris and Duvall of Hertford, Messrs Kennedy and Son of Royston and Messrs Knowles and Rowley of Baldock. They picked Sworder and Rowley to be interviewed with a view to taking over the market.

Both auctioneers said they would run the market for a year and if all parties were agreeable then a new lease of between 7 to 21 years would be signed. No tolls would be paid for the first year but after that they would be calculated on the same as at other markets i.e per head of livestock and quantity of deadstock (poultry, etc.) A decision was made to award the contract to Messrs Knowles and Rowley. Notice was to be served on Scarborough Taylor who had once again not been paying the rent or tolls. The governors had to backtrack and told Messrs Knowles and Rowley they couldn't start running the market until Scarborough Taylor had relinquished the lease, he wasn't going down without a fight. Scarborough Taylor sent a letter in saying that many of the firms that had tendered to run the market had offered him money to hand over his market rights and he considered the trustees pay him £150 compensation and forget about the rent and tolls he owed. He would also move out of his Buntingford office but wanted money for the furniture and fittings. The trustees offered him £125 plus the value of the office fixtures and fittings. He appears not to have accepted as Messrs Knowles and Rowley gave Mr Thody £141 of which £135 was given to Scarborough Taylor. However, a newspaper cutting from the Buntingford Gazette dated 5th April 1935 painted a different picture.

By 1936 the market was so successful it was outgrowing its current location. 11,000 beasts had been sold within the last 48 weeks and lorries used to transport the animals were blocking the road (this was the A10, no bypass in those days). At a meeting primarily for users of the market it was said it would cost about £2000 to relocate the market and bearing in mind the government were looking into local markets and their viability was it worth spending that much money should the government decide to close small markets. The shops and other businesses within the town would also loose trade should the market close. However, Mr Hartnett said he didn't think Market Hill a suitable venue and he wanted notice to be served on the auctioneers. Mr Rowley said he was in negotiations to buy the old tannery site for the market so the trustees agreed to allow the market to continue. By 1939 the country was preparing for war and the government issued notification that all livestock normally being sold for slaughter would instead be collected on Mondays and taken to a slaughter house and then distributed by them. This came into effect in January 1940. The trustees said that in future all monies made at the market would be invested in war bonds. Whilst pigs, sheep and calves were still being sold, the rest went to Bell Barns, where graded and sent for slaughter. By the end of the war the trustees had £307 in their bank account.

By 1946 the council had written to the market trustees saying that Market Hill was in a filthy condition and they should contribute to cleaning and repairing it. Mr Thody replied saying the cattle market hadn't used the area in question for 6 years and the damage was caused by vehicles parking there, this included army tanks, lorries etc. He suggested the council ask Mr Hartnett to contribute to the cost of repairs. He also suggested perhaps the council should impose some sort of parking restrictions on Market Hill.

In 1950 Mr Thody resigned as governor of the market and Mr Hartnett appointed Mr Tywhitt-Drake and Mr Roff as governors. By 1956 Mr Hartnett had died and his daughter Mrs Banham had stepped into the role of Lord of the Manor. New governors and trustees had been appointed and it was

agreed that the market had ceased to exist and that money held at the bank needed to be distributed for the benefit of the inhabitants of Buntingford. Mrs Banham, like her father still complaining about the state of Market Hill but it was pointed out she needed to speak to Hertford County Council and the Highways department about that.

In March 1973 a total of £523.76 was given to the parish council, but after 38 years of complaints Market Hill had been repaired.

In May 1983 the council agreed with J Sainsburys the then Lord of the Manor as they had purchased the Manor House that a market be run on Mondays. A company was given a lease to run the market and stallholders began to appear on Mondays. The company gave up the lease in February 1984 and the council took over running it. Stallholders paid varying amounts in rent. Today the pitches are free and we have about 7 regular stallholders.

Next months meeting is on the **13th October at 2pm** in the United Reformed Church. It costs just £2 and includes tea or coffee. The talk will be the final part of the history of Market Hill.

BUNTINGFORD.

BUNTINGFORD MARKET. — After prolonged negotiations, due to legal formalities, the Trustees of the Buntingford Market have issued a statement to the effect that a lease of the Market has been granted to Messrs. C. S. Knowles and W. T. Rowley. The present arrangements are that the Market will re-open on Monday, April 15th. At a meeting of the Trustees, held on Monday la t, thanks were accorded the Chairman (Mr. C. W. Tyrwhitt Drake, of Little Court), for the able manner in which he had carried out negotiations with Mr. Scarborough Taylor and the incoming auctioneers. The news that the Market is to be re-opened has been received with much satisfaction throughout Buntingford and district.



Market in 1983

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Ken McDonald, Secretary



At the beginning of September, The Hundred Parishes Society held its twelfth Annual General Meeting. Each year we have chosen a different venue so that we can introduce members to another location they may not have visited before. Last year, for example, we went to the museum in Saffron Walden where we were given an informative guided tour.

In 2026, it was the turn of Great Waltham, one of our largest parishes and in the far south-east corner of The Hundred Parishes. Before the meeting, I took some of our members on a short walk around the centre of Great Waltham village, pointing out a few of its many ancient buildings.

We passed the fascinating 16th-century private house called Badynghams, with four spectacular original chimney stacks, and then the war memorial where the 36 men from the parish who died in the first world war and nine in WWII are remembered.

We moved on for a brief excursion into the Langleys estate, enjoying a view from the footpath of its magnificent Grade I listed Georgian mansion, built in 1719 by the Tufnell family who still own it today.

We then made our way to the parish's Norman church, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Lawrence. Church warden David Williams introduced the group to some fascinating features, especially the splendid Everard memorial which is 400 years old. Church historian Peter Wells was unable to join us but several members purchased copies of his excellent book about Great Waltham and its church, published within the last year.

Just a short walk took us back to the village hall for refreshments and the formal part of the AGM where I and our chairman Douglas Kent were re-appointed. Where do you think we should go next year?



Badynghams



Langleys gatehouse



Langleys



Dragon on church lychgate



Everard memorial



Great Waltham church: Reredos



Great Waltham church

UNITED BENEFICE OF ASPENDEN, BUNTINGFORD & WESTMILL

United Benefice of Aspenden, Buntingford and 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

St Mary's Church Aspenden Website
St Mary the Virgin Church Westmill - Website
St Peter's Church Buntingford Website

OUR SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2026

Sunday 4th October	9:30am	Harvest All Age Worship	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Harvest Morning Worship	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11am	Harvest Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 11th October	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11am	All Age Worship	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 18th October		No Service	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 25th October	9:30am	Sung Eucharist	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
		No Service	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11am	Morning Worship	St Peter's, Buntingford
Sunday 1st November	9:30am	All Age Worship	St Mary the Virgin, Westmill
	9:30am	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Aspenden
	11am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Buntingford

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.

REGULAR EVENTS AT OUR CHURCHES

Little Lambs at St Mary the Virgin Westmill

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

Morning Prayer

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

Choc Stop at St Peter's

Every Thursday at 3:15 pm – 4:15pm

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

Monday Morning Coffee at St Peter's Church

Held every Monday (except bank holidays) A chance to meet up with old friends and meet new ones.
All ages welcome.





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/

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

4	Harvest festival	The Elders
11	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Robert Pope
18	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
25	Morning Worship	Rev Sue Fender

November

1	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

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

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, and chat.

All are welcome. Just turn up and give a small donation for the refreshments.

ST MARY'S ASPENDEN CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

We are delighted to announce that St Mary's Church in Aspenden will hold its annual Christmas Tree Festival again this year.

Over the weekend of **Saturday 12th to Sunday 13th December,** the church will be transformed into a magical forest of twinkling Christmas trees.

We have been thrilled at the support we have received by local community groups, schools and businesses. Though we have also had many individual people create a Christmas Tree for display. Why not have a go yourself? These last two years we have had several hundred people coming to the church to visit the tree festival and expect this to continue to grow this year.

It is amazing to see the creativity and fun behind these trees. We have seen trees made entirely of recycled materials, knitted trees, a tree created of stacked presents, a tree made of books, and local shops making a festive tree to promote their business. Those who have created trees have aged from tots to our elders in the community.

It has been a real community effort and an opportunity to bring people together. We couldn't do this without our volunteers organising behind the scenes and over the course of the weekend. If you think you could help too, we'd be grateful to hear from you.

There is no admission fee to the Tree Festival to ensure everyone can come along and feel the Christmas joy! We are grateful to accept any donations, and these will go to the upkeep of St Mary's Church.

We hope everyone will be able to come along and enjoy the festive ambiance, be inspired by the creativity, catch up with friends over a cuppa and a slice of cake.

For more information please contact

Rev'd Kirsty Wainwright
vicarabw@gmail.com

or

Nina Kingsley, Benefice Administrator
unitedbeneficeabw@gmail.com

Scan the QR code to book your entry:



'Gill and Rev'd Sarah with a couple of the residents from Layston Grove Care Home'

Supporting Our Community and Expanding Local Healthcare Options

Attend2Health has had a busy and rewarding few weeks, with new clinic availability, community events, and upcoming training opportunities that continue to support the health and wellbeing of Buntingford and the surrounding villages.

More Appointments Now Available with Ashleigh:

We're delighted to share that Ashleigh has extended her clinic hours, giving patients even more flexibility when booking treatment. Ashleigh will now be available Monday mornings, Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday afternoons, Thursday mornings, all day Friday, and one Saturday each month.

Ashleigh is passionate about helping people reduce pain, improve movement, and get back to doing the things they love. Whether you're dealing with back or neck pain, recovering from an injury, or simply feeling the effects of everyday stiffness, Ashleigh offers supportive, evidence based care tailored to each patient's needs.

Appointments are available now — simply contact our reception team to book.

A Fantastic Day at the Buntingford Car Show

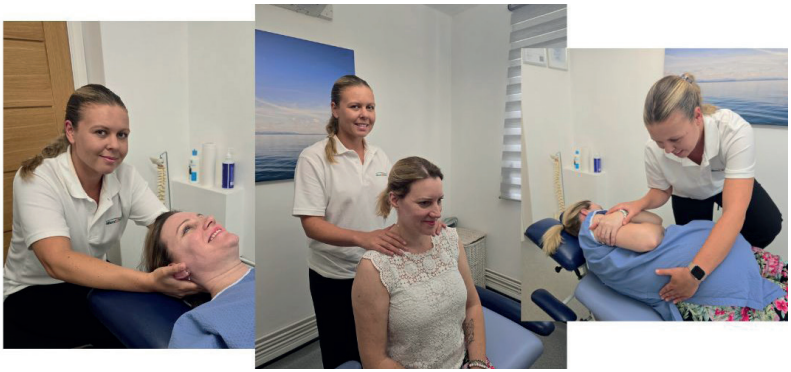
It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces at the Buntingford Car Show on 5th September. The event once again brought the town together, filling the High Street with energy, conversation, and community spirit.

We were thrilled to meet so many families, and we hope the children enjoyed the balloons we handed out. Thanks to everyone who stopped by — together, we were able to raise a little money in support of the Ward Freman Swimming Pool, a facility that means so much to local families.

Emergency First Aid at Work Course – Spaces Available

Our next Emergency First Aid at Work Course will be held on **Monday 12th October, 9am–4.30pm**, priced at £150. This accredited course is ideal for local businesses, community groups, and individuals who want to feel confident responding to emergencies.

We have a couple of spaces remaining. If you'd like to join us, please call 01763 87 80 87 for more information.



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!



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 2027, please come and visit us.

If you would like to know more about our school please visit our website: **www.millfield.herts.sch.uk** or contact us via email (**admin@millfield.herts.sch.uk**) or telephone (01763 271 717).







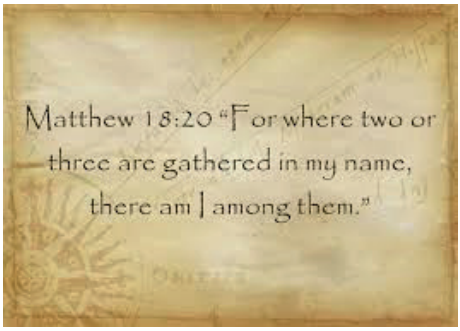
LAYSTON C OF E FIRST SCHOOL

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

www.layston.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Adele McMurrough, Headteacher

Our new value for the first half of the Autumn term is 'Community'. This Christian Value comes from a Greek word 'Koinonia' which means 'that which is in common'. In school we will ensure that everyone feels included, children support one another, and everyone makes a contribution and knows that they are valued and important. The values of the school have an impact on the community and beyond. We will be thinking about how we can involve the wider community in our harvest fundraising by supporting the Buntingford Food Support. In our classrooms, we will be working together to make things easier so we can achieve great results!



Community we are stronger together

A warm welcome to all of our new families and those returning to us after the summer break. We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready for the Autumn term. The children are settling in well to their new classes and are excited to learn new skills. There will be lots of opportunities in Forest School and through our creative curriculum this half term to enrich their learning and promote belonging and community.



We are already thinking about our Reception intake for next September 2027. We would like to invite prospective parents to our open morning on **Tuesday 6th October at 9:30am** for a tour of the school. To find out more about our school, please visit our website at **www.layston.sch.herts.uk**. You are also welcome to telephone the school with any specific queries.



We currently have vacancies for School Governors and are looking for enthusiastic individuals who would like to help shape the future of our school. Volunteering as a School Governor is a rewarding opportunity to make a lasting difference to children's education, support the school's development, and help every child reach their full potential. If you are interested in joining our governing body and supporting the Layston School community, please contact the school office on 01763 271 235 or email **admin@layston.herts.sch.uk** for further information.

From all of us here at Layston we would like to thank you for your continued support.


Layston C of E First School
BUNTINGFORD • HERTFORDSHIRE
OPEN MORNING
Tuesday 6th October 2026
From 9.30am
Come and discover Layston C of E First School
Come and see our school in action
Nurturing
Friendly
Welcoming
Inclusive
Forest School
Strong Parent Partnership
We look forward to welcoming you.
The Causeway, Buntingford, Herts SG9 9EU
www.layston.herts.sch.uk


125 YEARS OF JAZZ
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Featuring World Class Musicians
PIANIST JAMES PEARSON - ALONG WITH HIS TRIO - BRINGS TO LIFE THE INCREDIBLE MUSIC AND STORIES BEHIND THE EVOLUTION OF JAZZ PIANO
WEDS 7th OCT 7.30PM
Beam Theatre Hertford


JAZZ
in Braughing
BRAUGHING OLD BOYS SCHOOL
Community
TRUST
Registered charity number 1204031
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
presents
THE SAVOY SUPER SIX
Saturday 24th October 2026
Braughing Village Hall
Doors open 7.00pm
Start 7.30pm
Tickets £25
Fish and Chip supper bar and raffle
For tickets
call 01920 822026
e: braughinghall@gmail.com
Raising funds for Braughing Village Halls, updating and modernising the Old Boys School and main Hall for the benefit of the local and wider community.
Reserved seating
Booking is essential

EDWINSTREE MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

Jo Gant, Headteacher | www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

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

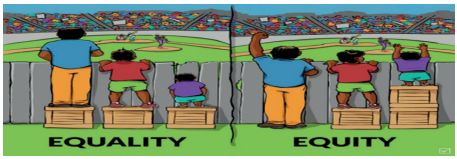
It was lovely to welcome our year 5 on the 2nd of September to the new school year and then the rest of the school the next day. Students arrived a little nervous as to be expected but were soon caught up in the energy of the school and the joy of meeting up with friends. I am very grateful to my team of support staff who come in two weeks early each year to support our most anxious and vulnerable students to visit the school before we formally start, to familiarise themselves and allay any worries. This has real impact in ensuring all students return well.

Our first job in school is to introduce and/or remind students of the work of our Church of England School what makes it different and special? We begin with our biblical quote that drives all our work:

"Live in me. Make your home in me, just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me." — John 15:4–6

This means our community lives and learns with God. As a Christian school we recognise the unique and wonderful in everyone. As a community we support one another to flourish, and live life in all its fullness.

At the school we use a vine tree metaphor from this quote to help us to explain to our students the work we are doing. The vine trunk is our vision with four key words, unique, wonderful, flourish and fullness. In the first two weeks we support students to understand that our role is to help them to find their "wonderfuls" and this begins on the first of October with a talent show. We explain that as individuals it is our role as a school to help all of them by the end of year 8 to be ready for their next stage of education but to get there we will treat them differently and individually.
We use this slide to help them to understand equity:



Our students are given different levels of support at the times when they need it over the four years they are with us, to ensure all are ready to leave us and successful in their last stages of education.

The branches of our tree our Christian values which support our community, staff, students to flourish, our values are displayed at the back of the hall on this cross.

Each value is explored over a half term and students visit these values at least twice in their life at the school. We have begun with the value of creation and are celebrating the joy and power of music currently and how song and dance can help us shape, manage and change our thoughts and feelings.

Finally, we spend time with our student's exploring life in all its joys and sadness, this we believe is living life in it's Fullness. For joy this term we will explore a nature



walk, hug a tree and a role down the Aspenden Hill as we introduce and remind students of the National Trust's challenge to 50 things to do before you are 11¾. During our walk we will stop to spend time in Aspenden Church at a service to Thank God for our harvest and for the beauty that surrounds us in our parish and Buntingford as a whole.

In supporting our students to build strength and resilience in managing the sadness of Life in all it's Fullness, the last part of our Vine tree metaphor talks to students about the fruits that if we get this work correct they will bear. These are what we consider to be our virtues, respect, empathy, commitment and lastly courageous advocacy.

BUNTINGFORD HOCKEY COACH AWARD NOMINEE

A HOCKEY coach from Buntingford has been nominated for an award that last year was won by global media giant Warner Bros. Discovery for its ground-breaking live coverage of the Paris Olympics.



Jack Childs is hoping he will scoop this year's innovation award with Hockey Mentors, the organisation he founded in 2020 to give talented state school and / or ethnic minority hockey players the opportunity to excel.

"I feel incredibly honoured just to be among the eight shortlisted," he said. "To win it would be amazing."

When Jack founded Hockey Mentors, he wanted to level the playing field for children from state school and / or ethnic minorities in a sport dominated by those from private schools.

And that is what he has done to date for more than 1,000 young players.

The UK Sports Business Awards celebrate commercial excellence, leadership, and visionary thinking across 25 distinct categories.

Being named a finalist highlights how Hockey Mentors' disruptive, inclusive model is catching the attention of industry leaders across the country.

If Hockey Mentors wins the award for innovation in November, he will also follow in the footsteps of England Golf's iGolf, which provided non-club members access to official handicaps, and Fulham Reach Boat Club's Boats Not Bars, founded by World Champion rower Imogen Walsh to reduce re-offending through prison rowing programmes.

Both initiatives proved that true innovation in sport isn't just about hi-tech solutions.

"Sometimes it is about opening doors where none existed before," said Jack.

BUNTINGFORD FILM CLUB

Bringing Cinema back to Buntingford

David Woollcombe

Buntingford Cinema is pleased to announce its Films for October and November 2026 at the Community Centre and at the Bowls Club on Wyddial Road for its Classic Film season



I SWEAR

Saturday 3rd October at 7:30pm at the Community Centre

Robert Aramayo won the British Oscar playing Tourette syndrome advocate, John Davidson in a brilliant film about his life from his childhood and teenage years in 1980s Scotland to his adulthood as a tireless campaigner for the condition he suffers from — work which eventually earned him an MBE. Tourette Syndrome is a medical condition that about 300,000 people in the UK (mostly male) suffer from. It makes them make sudden involuntary movements or barks or other sounds. It is hugely embarrassing for the sufferer, his / her family and all those around them.

Aramayo beat our stars like Leonardo di Caprio and Timothy Chalamet to win the BAFTA. His performance is touching, vulnerable and profoundly moving. The film hinges completely on his believability which is never in doubt. It's a difficult and, for most audiences, an unfamiliar subject for a film - but in the early scenes where Davidson is bullied and misunderstood through to his final triumph - the film keeps you on the edge of your seat. As Peter Bradshaw wrote in the Guardian: "There are many feelgood, true-life heart-warming films about courageous people overcoming medical conditions but, in this one, the condition zaps and jabs at the genre itself, piercing the carapace of sentimentality while surreally commenting on the form and on the demure niceties of polite society, in which we all keep our thoughts to ourselves. An absorbing, compassionate film…." Several of our regular patrons who've seen the film, urged us to include it in this season's programme - and we are proud to bring it to Buntingford Cinema's big screen.

Jessie Buckly in:

HAMNET

Saturday 7th November at 7:30pm at the Community Centre

Hamnet is a historical drama that reimagines the life of William Shakespeare and his wife, Agnes Hathaway, focusing on their passionate romance and their devastation in losing their only son, Hamnet, to the plague - the event which, in O'Farrell's imagination, inspires Shakespeare to write Hamlet. The film features brilliant performances by Jessie Buckley as Hathaway and Paul Mescal as Shakespeare earning Buckley well-deserved UK & US Oscars + a Golden Globe. But it is their children who will



make you cry - through the sensitive direction of Chinese-American, Chloe Zhao. Definitely one of the stand-out films of 2025/26, US Reviewer, Will Phelan, praised Hamnet as "absolutely my favorite movie of 2025. It's the most emotional I've been watching a movie in years. The performances from Jessie Buckley and Paul Mescal are some of the best performances this decade. It also includes some of the best child acting I've ever seen. It's a beautifully scripted story about love and loss that hits all the right notes perfectly and even manages to have some really funny moments as well. The cinematography is beautiful, the editing smooth, and the score - phenomenal. Chloe Zhao knocked it out of the park. 10/10!!"

All Tickets: £9.00 (to include a glass of wine, beer or soft drink + crisps) at: **www.tickettailor.com/events/buntingfordfilmclub**

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

Buntingford Cinema is also proud to continue its Foreign Film Season with:

Emmanuel Béart in:

MANON DES SOURCES

Monday 12th October @ 7:30pm at the Bowles Club, Wyddial Road

Manon des Sources ("Manon of the Springs") is the sequel to Jean de Florette, the film we showed in April – at the end of which Manon's father played by Gerard Dépardieu, was killed in an explosion he set to open up a water source. As a child, Manon had seen the spring blocked up by the evil Ugolin, who – in this film – seeks her hand in marriage. Manon, played by Emmanuel Béart, plays him to seek revenge for her father's death and for ruining her family's life. Often remembered as the most expensive film ever made in France, this beautiful film has a timeless majesty that never fails to compel attention and admiration.

Vittorio de Sica's Masterpiece:

BICYCLE THIEVES

Monday 16th November @ 7:30pm at the Bowles Club, Wyddial Road

Vittorio da Sica's Bicycle Thieves (1948) is widely considered one of the greatest films ever made and should be seen and re-seen by anyone interested in the craft of cinema. It tells the story of an unemployed man who finally lands a job hanging posters in war-torn Rome, only to have his essential bicycle stolen on his very first day. What follows is a heartbreaking yet deeply human odyssey as he and his young son search the unforgiving city to recover it. The film launched the concept of neorealist cinema, giving a poignant look at post-WWII history. Entirely made with unprofessional actors and real life sets, De Sica and Zavattini had no idea this film could become such a masterpiece. It was banned in the US due to delusional McCarthyist politics, which deemed anything this realistic as "left wing propaganda"!!

No Booking necessary: Entrance to all Classic Films is FREE – Suggested Donation: £5

Many thanks to the Bowls Club for hosting this important addition to our Annual Programme

BUNTINGFORD LIVE!

Christine Stuart-Taylor

www.buntingfordlive.org | support@buntingfordlive.org

By the time this month's issue is published our first two events will have happened...so watch this space for reviews of both the Haileybury Concert at Westmill on 17th September and the sellout ABBA Angels gig on 26th September.

Next on Friday **2nd October** is another popular **Comedy Night** in the Bunters Suite. Tickets are still available at £15. Tom Toal, the regular host will be introducing three fantastic comedians from the London circuit to entertain in style. They are Andre Vincent, Pierre Hollins and Carey Marx.

I'm delighted to report that the **Sea Shanty Folk evening with Fish & Chips** at Seth Ward on **Saturday 24th October** is completely **SOLD OUT!**

Tickets are already going very well for **Saturday 7th November. 'Strings by Candlelight'** at `Alswick Barn.Tickets £15. Bar opens at 6pm for a 7pm start. This renowned quartet Bowfiddle Strings will perform a selection of well-known classics by candlelight in the beautiful surroundings of The Barn at Alswick.

The players have worked with the likes of Joan Armstrade, Take That, Alesha Dixon and others as well as well known orchestras such as the Royal Philharmonic and with West End Shows like Les Miserables and The Lion King and are clearly established as part of the music scene around the country. So book your tickets now to avoid disappointment.

We're excited to be welcoming the return of the author & cellist, **Kenneth Wilson**, for his performance on **Saturday 21st November at 7.30pm** in St.Peter's Church. Entitled 'Pilgrim Cello' Kenneth will be recounting tales of his bicycle tour of all 42 cathedrals in England and playing the cello music he performed along the way - Tickets availabl: £15 - 7.30pm

Friday 4th December Guy Masterson returns to Seth Ward with 'A child's Christmas in Wales' more stories by Dylan Thomas. Tickets £15. Book now to get you tickets to experience this wonderful actor deliver another amazing one man show.

Friday12th December A Celebration of Christmas in the Catholic Church with Andrew O'Brien and his choir from St.Edmund's. Mulled wine and mince pies served afterwards in Benson Hall. Tickets only £3 Donations will be gratefully received to support the Food Bank.

Only just arranged for: **SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER**

A 3 HOUR DAYTIME CLASS OF WREATHE MAKING IN THE BUNTERS SUITE. ONLY AVAILABLE FOR 12 PEOPLE. MORE DETAILS IN NEXT ISSUE!

Already booked for 2027

Friday 29th January Bunters Suite 7.30pm Nell Phoenix returns with **'Downright Rude Folk Tales!'**

Wednesday 24th February Young Musicians from Freman College will be giving a concert in St.Peter's Church at 7.30pm Tickets £5

Saturday 20th March 'Blues Review'. Seth Ward

Friday 2nd April Comedy Night Bunters

Saturday 24th April Liz Grand one woman show as Enid Blyton at Seth Ward

Friday 7th May St. Edmund's Musicians with Andrew O'Brien at Westmill Church









Friday 28th May Another **Drag Night** at Seth Ward

Sunday 13th June **Peter Rudeforth's Jazz Band** returns to The Stables Garden

Please use our website buntingfordlive.org for Ticket Tailor payments and more information.

WHAT'S ON - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER 2026

Friday 2nd	Buntingford Live! Comedy Night p.42
Friday 2nd	Celebrate Harvest in Reed: p.19
Saturday 3rd	Buntingford Festival Choir: p.17
Saturday 3rd	Film Club: I Swear p.40
Wednesday 7th	Buntingford Gardener's Club: David Hinkley from GrowMad, garlic talk p.15
Thursday 8th	WI'.The Gunpowder Plot p.14
Friday 9th	Braughing Get Together: Foul Murders in East Anglia p.18
Saturday 10th	Buntingford Festival Choir: p.17
Saturday 10th	Ware & District Photographic Society: Annual Exhibition p.18
Monday 12th	Film Club Classics: Manon Des Sources p.40
Tuesday 13th	History Society p.24
Friday 16th	The Buntingford Railway & Local History Society: Andy Grovestock - Railways today
Friday 16th	BALA: Coffee Morning p.46
Saturday 17th	United Benefice: Quiz Night p.31
Wednesday 21st	HomeStart AGM p.20
Saturday 24th	Buntingford Live! Sea Shanty Folk & Country Night p.42



LOOKING AHEAD

6th November	Braughing Get Together: They'll Always be an England p.18
7th November	Buntingford Live! Strings by Candlelight p.42
7th November	Film Club: Hamnet p.40
16th November	Film Club Classics: Bicycle Thieves p.40
21st November	Buntingford Live! Pigrim Cello p.42
28th November	Buntingford Live! Wreathe Making Workshop p.42
4th December	Buntingford Live! A Child's Christmas in Wales p.42
12th December	Buntingford Live! A Celebration of Christmas p.42
12th & 13th December	St Mary's Aspenden Christmas Tree Festival p.33

REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAYS:	TUESDAYS:	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS:	FRIDAYS:	WEEKENDS:
From 8.30am: Buntingford Market	**Mini Millfield Stay & Play** at Millfield First & Nursey School. 9-10am. For children aged 0- 4 years. Messy play, music, stories & a snack – £2 per family. No booking required – just come along.	**Buntingford Meditation** Online 8pm & once a month in Saint Peter's Church. To join 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 **Morning Coffee** 10-12 St Peter's			**2–3pm: Mind & Music** at Standon & Puckeridge CC		**Sat,10am: Walking Football** at the MUGA, Norfolk Road Playing Fields
EVENTS IN THE LIBRARY:					
10.30–11am & 11:30 -12pm: Baby Rhyme Time (songs, rhymes, actions and puppets, for ages 6 weeks to 3 years)	**10.30–12.30:** Jigsaw & Cards club	**11am:** Chair Yoga with Kim	**10.30 – 11am:** Storytime ages 2-5 years Lego Club (every second Thursday) age: 5-8	**4-5pm:** The Friday Club age: 3-11	
11.45am–12.45pm: Forever Cycling Community Centre -1st/3rd		**10-11am** Chatter & Natter, Buntingford Coffee Shop			
1.30 for 2pm: Buntingford Senior Citizens' Club at URC Hall		**12- 4pm** Braughing Shed Group, The Barn at Brook Cottage Farm Fernaux Pelham SG9 0LL Contact: jacquithorne664@gmail.com or 07557 966 526			
7.30–9:15pm: Buntingford Community Choir at Millfield School					

BUNTINGFORD ACTION FOR THE LESS ABLE (BALA)

Registered Charity No. 1094426

MINIBUS TRIPS OCTOBER 2026

DATE	TIME	DESTINATION	PRICE
October			
Thurs 1st	10-3	Cambridge	£7.50
Wed 7th	9.30-3	Bury St Edmunds	£12.50
Mon 12th	10-2.30	St Ives	£8
Thurs 15th	9.30-1.30	Biggleswade A1 Retail Park	£6.50
Wed 21st	11.30	Pub Lunch	£5
Fri 23rd	10-2	Bickerdikes Garden Centre	£6
Wed 28th	10-2.30	St Albans	£8
November			
Tues 3rd	9.30-1.30	Harlow Market Day	£7
January			
Thurs 21st	13.30	PANTO -Snow White @ Gordon Craig, Stevenage Book by 31st October,	Ticket approx. £25 (tbc)

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)

If you are interested in using our vehicle or you know an organisation that might be interested please get in touch with us by emailing buntingfordaction@outlook.com

COFFEE MORNING

Friday 16th October, 10-11:30am

(sausage rolls, cakes, raffle)

at **URC Hall, Baldock Road**

ADVERTISERS INDEX

Ace of Herts, Cumberlow Compost..... A12
Anchor Care Homes - Layston Grove..... A27
Andrew Coates - Garden Design..... A8
Apple Computer Specialist..... A15
A R Services..... A9
Attend2Health..... A36
Austin's (Funerals & Memorials)..... A10

Bookkeeping Services..... A23
Buntingford Civic Society..... A21
Buntingford Dancing School..... A13
Buntingford Festival Choir..... A24
Buntingford Heating..... A6/7
Buntingford Laser Clinic..... A23
Buntingford Taxis..... A8
Byson Leather..... A24

Carers in Hertfordshire..... A25
St. Richard of Chichester Catholic Church..... A4
Ceramic Tiler (Mark Addison)..... A23
Christopher The Locksmith..... A12
Church Lane Creative..... A8
The Clinic, Podiatry & Acupuncture..... A29
Andrew Coates Garden Design..... A8
Computer Services (Reboot IT Solutions)..... A13
Country Maids..... A31
Curwens Solicitors..... A26
CW Electrical..... A18

Deans Furnishers..... A33
Design Nation..... A18
Digital Skills Group Buntingford..... A34
DQR Wills and Probate..... A13

East Herts Foot Health Clinic..... A15
Eileen's Fitness Classes..... A12
P S Eveleigh, Plastering Contractor..... A9

Gareth White Electrical Services..... A32

Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline..... A17
Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service..... A9
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RB Taxation Services..... A8
Reboot IT Solutions (Computer Services)..... A13
Reed First School..... A5
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Royston Ramblers..... A19

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Tees Law..... A11
TNN Executive Chauffeurs..... A2
SJ Tokely Ltd, Mechanical Engineers..... A4
Touch of Glamour..... A8

The Veterinary Physiotherapist..... A9

Philip Walker- Motor Vehicle Engineer..... A30
Westmill Garden Centre..... A23
Gareth White Electrical Services..... A32
Wood Bros..... A35

Yewtree Alpacas..... A28

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/

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Servicing & Repairs
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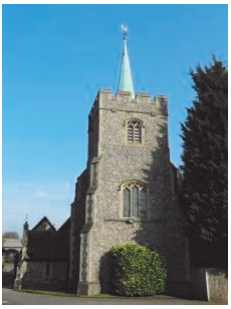
OPENING HOURS
MON - 8.00 - 6.00
TUES - 8.00 - 6.00
WED - 8.00 - 6.00
THUR - 8.00 - 6.00
FRI - 8.00 - 5.00
SAT - BY APPOINTMENT

01763 274260

Collection & Delivery Available

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/**

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






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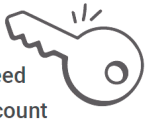
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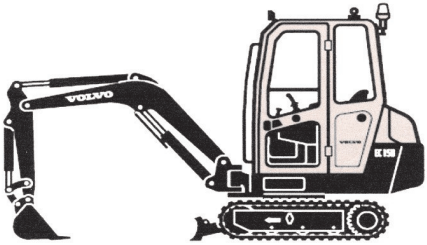
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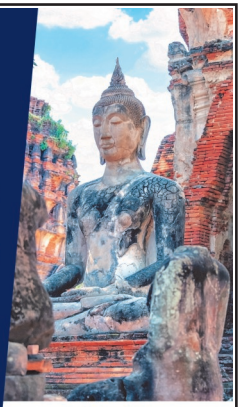
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If you are interested, come along and see how you get on, with no obligation to join. You can view our walks programme and contact the walk leader, at www.ramblers.org.uk/royston and they will be pleased to welcome you or tel: 07734 111225 for further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

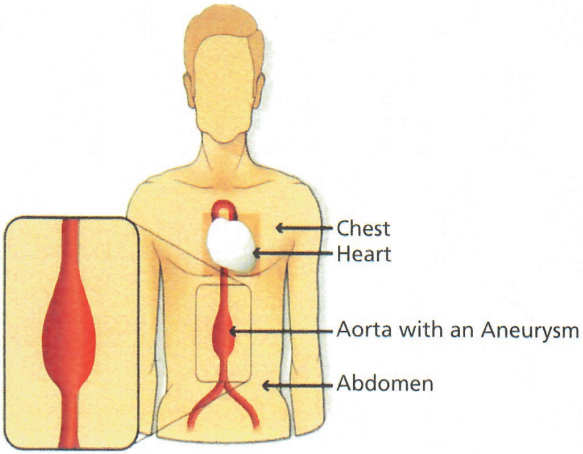
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Buntingford Civic Society

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WHO ARE WE?

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

WHAT HAVE WE DONE AND CONTINUE TO DO?

BCS have.....

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

BCS will continue to.....

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

To join the Society download a Membership Form from www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk or collect one from the Manor House on Market Hill

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Buntingford 2026

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

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28th Jul	**25th Aug**	**29th Sept**	**27th Oct**	**24th 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.

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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.

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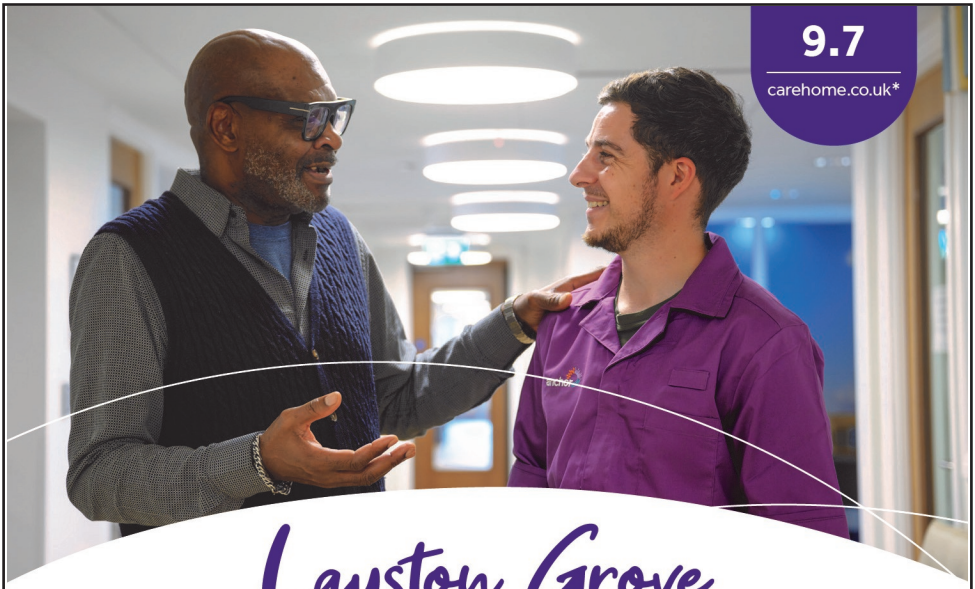
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