

PS NEWS

March 2017

email: psnews@walkinginengland.co.uk

Issue 163

Standon Mayday on Monday 1 May

Entertainment will be provided by The Standon Morris, Mr Marvel, Doody the Clown and The Braughing Scout Band. There will be music from Neil Bullen and The Bullenbush Band and the arena displays will be compered by Steve Deeks. The arena items will include dancing by the children of The Roger De Clare School, a Zumba display and the Crowning of the May Queen.

Entry for adults will be by programme on the gate at a cost of 50p and children are admitted free, the lucky programme entitles you to entry into a prize draw for £50 donated by our local Standon Post Office.

Standon Mayday is a unique charity event cherished by the people of the village and visitors alike. This year is the 42nd on the High Street, making it one of the longest established traditional festivals in the country. It is a fantastic occasion for local groups to fundraise and advertise.

Lastly I would like to thank everyone in Standon and Puckeridge for their continuing support of MayDay, I know that it disrupts the people who live in the High Street for the day and we all appreciate their forbearance.

We are a fresh team this year and I would like to thank all the new committee for their enthusiasm, hard work and support.

If anyone would like a stall or space on the day or would like to volunteer to help that would be great please contact our secretary Rachel at rachelaw79@yahoo.co.uk

Please visit our new website at: www.standonmayday.org

Sue Spalding Standon MayDay
sue.spalding4@gmail.com

Guest Edited by: Maddy Johannessen

As part of her Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Programme

A 'Concerned Resident' worries about woodlands:

"If you go down to the woods today"

You had better make it today to see the woods and copses of East Herts, because tomorrow may well be too late.

Chaldean Estates owned by Gordon Morrison, has begun a new venture called C-Logs. C-Logs supply quality hard wood logs to homes, pubs and businesses, and the logs are harvested from trees which are grown and managed sustainably in their own woodlands in East Hertfordshire; as proclaimed on the www.chaldean.co.uk website. They were also accepted onto the Government's Approved RHI Biomass Supplier List. Chaldean owns approximately 3000 acres of East Herts. Sounds good so far.

However take a closer look at the woods they own and manage and you will see more destruction and desolation, than sustainability. One copse opposite the Old Duke of Wellington pub in Barwick has all but gone. All that remains is a thin circle of trees and a scene reminiscent of the battlefields of World War 1. The whole is surrounded by electrified deer fencing effectively preventing the movement of wildlife.

Walk anywhere on the permitted paths that cross Chaldean land and you will see this scene repeated over and over. From Much Hadham to Latchford and Cold Christmas to Barwick the enclosure of the woods and the removal of old and irreplaceable hardwoods is continuing apace.

In the past the majority of these woods were coppiced sympathetically and sparingly. This encouraged a wide variety of Fauna and Flora to grow and flourish and to choose which habitat suited their needs best. This is no longer an option for many species. Deer need woods for cover, to give birth and hide young, to feed and to protect them from inclement weather; and I doubt old Brock Badger enjoys stubbing his nose on an electric fence every time he heads out to feed.

To add to the utter desecration is the grubbing up of hedgerows. No farmer

worth his salt will destroy a hedgerow. It provides a corridor for wildlife and is a hugely important contributor to the biodiversity of the countryside. Not so Chaldean. They are happily erasing hedgerows all across the estate.

In these times of environmental awareness and compassion for wildlife, it is unbelievable that a Landowner of such a large acreage, has so little regard or care for the land he owns. After all he is but a caretaker of the land for future generations.

Regards
Concerned resident.

But the answer is not so simple. Coppicing makes for healthy woods

We were saddened and a little frustrated to read the anonymous article submitted to PS News about how we manage the Estate woodlands. Chaldean has a very open approach and positively encourages engagement with our neighbours. To demonstrate this, we produce a quarterly News Letter to keep local residents and neighbours in touch with our activities, sometimes featuring articles or ideas suggested by our readership.

When the owners purchased the Estate the whole of the woodland area had been unmanaged for decades. An unmanaged wood is typically a 'cold' wood, with very little, or no, bio diversity, and is also a wasted resource; many areas were planted with non-native species.

In considering ways to better manage the woodland the first step we took was to employ the services of a Rod Pass, who has over forty years' experience in woodland management. Rod spent several months producing our Woodland Management Plan in liaison with the Forestry Commission. This document sets out the future management of all of the Estate's woodlands in a way that produces a good balance of bio-diversity, preservation of good quality existing trees, new native species and a commercially productive hard wood resource. It is approved by and lodged with the Forestry Commission.

Putting the Management Plan into action began some five years ago with coppicing approx. one hectare blocks of woodlands. These areas now have undergrowth that is very dense and a canopy that's starting to form from the stools that have regenerated. Some are over 15 ft tall and are very strong, healthy trees. These coppiced woods are now providing a wonderfully diverse environment for wildlife in contrast to many of the local woods which are semi-ancient, with little diversity of species and very little undergrowth.

One area raised by the anonymous contributor is Furze Ground Wood. This wood was recently coppiced; it now has an electric fence around it to enable the coppiced stools to regenerate as quickly as possible. The fence is there solely to exclude the deer from the wood which would otherwise graze new growth and stunt any regeneration from the stools. The electric fence here – and around all newly coppiced areas - will be in place for about three years and will then be removed to allow the deer back in to naturally thin the dense undergrowth.

This wood did have a number of non-native trees which, with their greater vigour, out-compete the native species. We have removed these to favour our native hardwoods. Coppicing the area has allowed light to reach the forest floor

helping flora to thrive that previously wouldn't have seen the light of day due to the dense canopy above. A previously overgrown ride has also been opened up, restoring access for woodland maintenance and helping providing a wildlife corridor.

The correspondent talks about 'irreplaceable hardwoods'. Our log business harvests this hardwood - a renewable resource – to sell as wood fuel, thus helping the drive to reduce fossil fuel usage. Our Woodland Management Plan is based on a 25-30 year harvesting and regeneration programme and is fully renewable. Growing native hardwood trees is a slow business!

As part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the Woodland Trust launched an initiative to create hundreds of Jubilee Woods and 60 special Diamond Woods. To demonstrate our commitment to enhancing the environment for future generations, we worked for several months with the Woodland Trust with a view to creating two new woodlands totalling over 60 acres. These are now well established at Latchford and Cold Christmas and have been designated as 'Diamond Woods'.

The Estate benefits from over 30km of hedgerows which we regard as a valuable countryside feature. A small

number have been removed across the estate; these had become mainly dead woods and were thin and sporadic. We have left a number of significant trees within the hedgerows as these have cultural significance to the area.

Future planned work will involve reducing the height of some of the hedgerows across the Estate to bring them back to a manageable level; many have become trees rather than hedge rows.

We are a working agricultural Estate. We employ many people and produce crops for food; as with any business we also need to make a profit. Our wood fuel business – C-logs – helps achieve this. However, we actively look for ways to improve the environment for both people and wildlife, now and for future generations.

We would urge anyone interested in how we farm generally, and how we manage our woodlands, to sign up to our News Letter by emailing: sbond@chaldean.co.uk asking to be added to our circulation list.

Many thanks.

Regards,

Anne Peacock, Property Manager
Chaldean

Tel: 01279 843861

Email: apeacock@chaldean.co.uk

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Make Your Voice Heard – Stansted Night Flights Consultation

Following the publication last week of Government proposals for the regulation of night flights at Stansted Airport over the next five years, Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) is urging local district, parish and town councils and individual local residents to make their voice heard and help reduce the noise impacts of night-time flights in and out of Stansted.

Stansted currently has permission for 12,000 night flights a year, more than twice as many as are permitted at Heathrow. SSE has long argued to the Government that night flights have a far greater impact on local residents around Stansted because of its rural location where background noise levels at night are generally very low.

Furthermore, the 12,000 annual limit applies only to the 6½ hours from 11.30pm to 6.00am whereas the normal definition of 'night' is the 8 hours from 11.00pm to 7.00am. Moreover, a large number of Stansted's night flights are large, noisy cargo aircraft, many of which are very old. Unsurprisingly, these give rise to a disproportionately high level of noise complaints.

The Government proposes to maintain the present night limit on aircraft movements at Stansted whilst at the same time removing the current exemption for less noisy aircraft and adjusting the movements limit

accordingly. This aspect of the Government's proposals is welcome since the number of exempt aircraft has been increasing at Stansted Airport in recent years and all aircraft movements at night – the least noisy as well as the most noisy – create noise nuisance and cause widespread sleep disturbance for local residents.

SSE's main criticism of the Government's latest night flights proposals is that they do not go nearly far enough to tackle the very serious impacts of night flights in terms of sleep disturbance for local residents around Stansted and under flight paths.

SSE is calling for:

An unequivocal Government commitment to phase out all night flights at Stansted by 2030, except in the case of genuine emergencies;

In the meantime, for the annual limit on Stansted night flights to apply, not just from 11.30pm to 6.00am, but from 11.00pm to 7.00am, so that 'night' truly means 'night', as defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s Guidelines on Community Noise;

A radical overhaul of the current 'averaging' method for measuring aircraft noise so that the official Government noise statistics start to represent what people have to endure;

An immediate ban on all night time aircraft landings at Stansted from using reverse thrust, except in the case of genuine emergencies.

Pamper evening in aid of Cancer Research uk

Tuesday 28 march - 6.30pm to 9.00pm

@ inspires health & beauty salon,

Hertford Regional College, Ware
Campus, London Road, Ware SG12 9JF

CRUW (the local volunteer fundraising group for Cancer Research uk -

Ware & Hertford) is organising a pamper evening in conjunction with inspires hair & beauty salon on the 28 march.

Indulge yourself in an evening of treatments and shopping in aid of Cancer Research uk - the perfect mother's day gift.

Treatments include manicures, massages and blow-dry's or discover beautiful gifts from local retailers.

£10 tickets include entry and one pre bookable treatment. £5 tickets for entry only.

Additional treatments can be purchased on the night subject to availability.

To purchase tickets visit inspires salon reception or go online at www.cruw.org/pamper

If you are a local retailer interested in booking a stall, please email info@cruw.org or call Alison on 01920 822872

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Isabel Hospice

Ware Group Fundraising News

Our end-of-year fundraising results show that in total Jumble Sales raised £3,248: Ware Week & Events £340: Dickensian £700: Tins in shops, garages and public houses £398: Collection Boxes £40: Coffee Mornings £1,082: donations from the Miniature Railway, The Maltings, and individual £9,250.

Grand total: £15,115. We would like to thank our team of volunteers who work so hard and the generous donors who continue to contribute to these excellent results for 2016.

Place House Coffee Mornings. The last Coffee Morning was held in December, with customers joining us to celebrate raising over £26,000 in 34 years.

Our first Jumble Sale was held in January and raised £495. Our thanks to our hard-working volunteers and to donors of jumble items. We sort everything received, and send on to the Hospice warehouse or shop goods which will achieve more money

The next Sales are on Saturday 25 March and Saturday 20 May, both at 2pm at Thundridge Hall, Admission 20p.

Ann Davey Hospice Volunteer. 01920 462992

Isabel Hospice Make a Will Week - Are your family provided for?

6 – 10 March

This is the perfect opportunity to ensure that your wishes are recorded and to support Isabel Hospice at the same time. Local solicitors will prepare or amend your existing Will, and instead of charging a fee, they will invite you to make a donation to the Hospice. Find your local solicitor on our website to

make an appointment. Be sure to do this in good time, as appointment slots fill up fast. Go to www.isabelhospice.org.uk for a full list of local solicitors.

Square Dance

Another great Pete Skiffins square dance!

10 March 8pm - 11:30pm, Presdales School, Hoe Lane, Ware, SG12 9NX,

The Royston Lions Club invites you to their Square Dance in aid of the Lions and Isabel Hospice. There will be a licensed bare and raffle. The ticket price of £13 includes a fish and chip supper and a choc ice. Doors open at 7:30pm, ready for dancing at 8pm. For tickets, phone on 01763 231492.

Swing in the Pink - Swing & Rat Pack tribute + Cabaret + Disco

An evening of swing music, cabaret and a disco!

24 March 8pm - 11:30pm, Wodson Park, Wadesmill Road, Ware, SG12 0UQ,

An evening of entertainment including swing and cabaret music as well as a rat pack tribute to raise money to support Isabel Hospice and the breast cancer unit at Lister Hospital. Wayne Morgan and Dominic Kaye will performing tribute hits, followed by a live cabaret performance with a variety of genres such as Rock & Roll, reggae, 60's and 70's pop. This will all be followed by a disco to finish the evening. Tickets are £15, available from Hot Pepper Entertainments. Call 0844 8125644.

Jumble Sale for Isabel Hospice

Come along to find some bargains!

25 March 2 pm—4pm at Thundridge Hall, Cambridge Road, Thundridge, SG12 0TU,

Adult and child admission 20p

The summers nearly here - Anyone for cricket??

Braughing Cricket Club Colts are actively recruiting for our third season.

We offer a varied program of events during the summer for Girls and Boys from the age of 5. This includes training, matches, tournaments, family socials and a summer training camp.

Indoor nets from 2 April, and each Sunday morning until the 23 April.

Outdoor training sessions from 29 April are held on Saturday mornings at Braughing Playing Fields run by our ECB Level 3 Head Coach Thomas Fulk

9.15 – 10.15 for the under 7's, and 10.30 – 12.00 noon for +7 years old

This season Braughing Colts will compete in three Hertfordshire leagues in the under 10, 12 and 14 age groups.

Last year all the children improved significantly over the summer whilst also having fun and keeping fit – additionally the girls had great success with 5 going onto be selected for Hertfordshire Girls cricket squads.

We welcome adults who want to play cricket. We play in the Herts and Essex summer league 2, having been promoted last season, with league games on a Saturday afternoon, as well as friendly Sunday games and evening league games and winter indoor cricket.

For further details please contact Peter Hobson, braughingcricketclub@yahoo.co.uk

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Roger de Clare C. of E First School and Nursery

We are delighted that our 'train carriage' additional learning space is now up and running and supporting learners. As the weather improves, we look forward to opening up the bi-fold doors and using the decking area. We would like to thank the many members of our community have supported the fundraising of this build. We are looking forward to a grand opening during the summer term – perhaps we will see some of you there?

We have also been busy introducing a new community initiative. Roger de Clare is now offering local elderly residents lunch at the school alongside the children. We launched this at Christmas, receiving coverage from ITV Anglia. If you are interested in coming for lunch or know someone who would like to please contact the school office (admin@rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk or 01920 821363). We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

We will soon be out and about in our community too with the arrival of our annual May Day celebrations in Standon. Please come along and support this wonderful community event. Roger de Clare are delighted to provide a cake stall, Tombola and popular Duck Race as well as organise the traditional country and maypole dancing. Our school have been involved for many years and this long standing tradition is one we are very proud to support.

Puckeridge WI

Puckeridge WI is now 4 years old and we've already welcomed a number of new members in 2017. Last year we heard from inspirational speakers, went on a photography walk, crafted for charity, made chocolates, camped with 700 fellow WI women from across the country, and hosted our successful annual Craft Fair.

We continue to run our monthly Craft Club at the Something Lovely Tea Room, and our Film and Theatre Club will be going to The Girls musical in the West End later this year, as well as to several films more locally.

Programme:

14 March - Book Folding
11 April - Gardening
9 May - Annual Meeting
13 June - Hearing Dogs
11 July - Garden Party
No meetings in August
12 September - Charity Crafting
10 October - Speaker tbc
14 November - Christmas Card making
12 December - Christmas Meal

New members are always welcome. We meet at Roundhaye Lodge, Roundhaye, Puckeridge, SG11 1SW, and you don't need to be from the village to join. Your first meeting is free so come and see what we are all about. More information can be found on our website www.puckeridgewi.org

Buntingford Twinning Association

Forthcoming French Visit

Saturday 8 April to Wednesday 12 April. (weekend before Easter). Our French guests will arrive by coach, on Saturday evening and leaving early Wednesday. The family day will be on Sunday and the soiree on Tuesday evening. They will be out all day on Monday and Tuesday. Any offers to host always appreciated.

Spanish visit.

We will fly to Olvega, the dates are yet to be confirmed because they depend on the Ryanair timetable but the visit will be over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Apart from air fares and coach travel when we are visiting places of interest, the costs are minimal.

Fundraising

A '60'S Hop will be held on Saturday 13 May in the Seth Ward Centre. This will be our 3rd such event and we hope that everyone who enjoyed the previous ones will spread the word.

We always welcome new faces so if you would like to find out how to become involved with the exchanges between Buntingford and Olvega and Luyes then please contact one of us.

Trevor Reedman 01763 272135

trevor@reedmanfamily.co.uk

Mary Deeks

mideeks@aol.com

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THE THREE TUNS

"I was made redundant and I've already started to fall behind on my bills."

I'm looking for work, but is there anything else I can do so I don't end up in debt?

There are steps you can take to avoid your bills from building up.

First, check that you've been paid any redundancy money you're entitled to - you might get statutory redundancy pay and possibly contractual redundancy pay if you've been in the job for two years or more. This should be evident on your final pay slip, but if it's not contact your employer.

Then look at ways to boost your income. See if you're eligible for benefits like Jobseeker's Allowance with Citizens Advice's [benefits calculator](#). You could also check if you can make savings on your bills, for example by switching to a cheaper gas or electricity deal.

Now look at how much money you have coming in and compare it to your essential spending. Priority bills include your rent or mortgage and council tax, and should be paid first as there can be serious consequences for missing payments.

If you own your home, contact your mortgage lender to see if you can negotiate on your monthly repayment. You could also see if your credit card provider will negotiate on repayment amounts to give you some breathing space.

The Money Advice Unit at Herts County Council have produced a useful factsheet called "Making the Most of your Money". A copy can be obtained by calling 0300 123 4042 or downloading it from <https://beta.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/adult-social-services/money-advice-factsheets/making-the-most-of-your-money.pdf>

For further help, contact your nearest Citizens Advice.

SPINS Pre-School

SPINS Pre-School have had a very busy start to the New Year. We have enjoyed learning about different ways of transporting quantities of water and numeral recognition. To finish the term the children enjoyed baking valentine heart shaped cookies.

We welcome two new staff members, Mrs Ranford who has made a warm impression on the children by introducing new learning activities,

whilst Mrs Adams has enjoyed her first half term and has attended an Introduction to the EYFS recently.

We are open from 9.15 am – 12.15 pm (2.15 pm lunch club), term time, five mornings a week at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre.

Spins Pre-School also run a weekly Toddler Group on a Monday morning, 9.30 am – 11.00 am. This is also at the Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, small hall. We welcome parents and their children, from birth until they reach 5 years. You can attend as often or as little as you wish, tea/coffee available and a drink and healthy snack for your child. Why not come along and make some new friends whilst your little one plays. On offer is painting, craft table, playdoh, baby area, games, puzzles and so much more.

We are currently registering rising 2 year olds for our September 2017 intake. If you would like to visit the nursery or are interested in registering your child please book an appointment early to join our waiting list, Tel: 07881 533339.

If you have any enquiries or would like to discuss your requirements please feel free to contact either Sam Christie or Paula Smith. Tel: 07881 533339, email: spins.nursery@tesco.net



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SENIOR CITIZEN'S LUNCH

TUES-FRI 12-2PM



NEW MENU

TUES-FRI & SUN 12-2PM

TUES-THURS 7-9.PM. FRI & SAT 6-9PM



Black Belt Grading News

In December three club members were successful in gaining their next belts, congratulations to Ashleigh Goldspring who is now our newest black belt (1st Dan) and to Dana Bowen and Oliver Neagus who both passed their 2nd Dan gradings. Their commitment and dedication to training over the last couple of years has paid off.



The grading was conducted by Mick Billman, 8th Dan, President of the English Karate Federation & European & World Technical Commissions, and visiting instructor Mark Durham, 7th Dan.

They received their certificates at a presentation evening.

Visiting Instructors

Puckeridge Karate Club is pleased to announce that we will be having a couple of very special instructors in the next few months.

First is Jonathan Mottram 5th Dan, he's currently the English Karate Federation (EKF) Senior National Kata Coach, he's a former English Champion and has represented England at both European and World level.

Secondly is Aimee Sell 2nd Dan, who is the EKF Junior, Cadet & U21 National Kata Coach.

The club is a traditional Shotokan club and focuses heavily on discipline, fitness, and technique.

Training times are:

Tuesday: 20.30-21.30 Higher Grades (Brown Belt and above)

Thursdays: 19.00-20.00 Juniors All grades

20.00-21.00 Seniors All grades

email: puckeridge.karate@ntlworld.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PuckeridgeKC

For further information, contact Clive Bowen on: 01763 231132

Introducing the Mustard Seed Singers

1 April at 7:30pm at St Peter's Church, Market Hill, Buntingford

A choral extravaganza celebrating a variety of styles and eras of choral music both sacred and secular. This new choir based in the United Benefice of Aspenden, Buntingford and Westmill, welcomes you to our inaugural concert in aid of the restoration fund for St Peter's – take a look at the outside brickwork and you'll see the need!

Tickets are £6, available from Toby at The Cheese Plate, 26 High Street, Buntingford or alternatively call 01763 273207. A complimentary glass of wine or juice will be available during the interval.

Our choir name is taken from the parable of the mustard seed in the New Testament where a small seed grows into a large tree – we hope the small seed of an idea to form this choir will grow into a great choral tradition presenting concerts in all of our churches, and elsewhere, raising money for good causes, celebrating wonderful music and drawing our community together.



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Standon Parish Council News

Meeting Dates:

Main Parish Council Meeting: 4th Thursday of the month excluding August and December in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, Station Road, Puckeridge, commencing 8.00pm

Planning meetings

2nd Tuesday of the month excluding August and December in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, Station Road, Puckeridge, commencing 7.00pm

Parish Council vacancies

I am sorry to announce Dick Rainbird MBE has resigned from the Parish Council. Dick has provided the Parish Council with excellent professional assistance on legal and highways issues. Dick has thrown himself wholeheartedly into the work of Parish Councillor, and has been a real help with everything he has been involved with. We are, however, pleased that Dick will remain on the Neighbourhood Plan group which is fantastic.

We now have two vacancies. If you feel that you would be able to make a

contribution to the community by taking on the role of Councillor, please let me or a Councillor know. Please come along to a meeting to see what we do.

Planning

If you want to keep updated with current planning applications, please contact me and join the confidential email list which receives planning applications, agenda, minutes, road closures, and other items of interest.

Cafe Field, Puckeridge

East Herts District Council Development Management Committee refused this outline application at the meeting held on the 8th February. Please do take the opportunity to look at the web cast of this meeting, which shows the Parish Council planning consultant speak on behalf of the Parish Council, and Councillors Andrews and Boylan speaking against the application. I trust that you support a vote of thanks to the Councillors, the planning consultant, and the Neighbourhood Plan group who have worked tirelessly to protect the rural areas from speculative development. Thanks to everyone involved in this excellent decision.

East Herts Council District Council:
Peter Boylan was elected to represent

the Puckeridge Ward as a District Councillor. Peter has already very ably demonstrated that he is a very conscientious and 'hands on' District Councillor, and Standon Parish Council is very pleased that he is supporting the Parish on the District Council.

Neighbourhood Plan:

The Standon Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan (SPNDP) Advisory Committee is close to finalising the draft Neighbourhood Plan document. Please see separate article for important information.

Business use of the Recreation Field

Licences are available on application for fitness businesses to use the recreation field. Please make application to me.

Dog Fouling

You are strongly urged to pick up after your dog in all public places, which includes the playing field, Burrs Meadow, and all footpaths and verges in the Parish.

Litter Please report anyone littering to East Herts District Council.

Parish Lights

Standon Parish Council is still in the process of getting the lights upgraded but is having issues getting the

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Please call 01279 843041 or 07766 411503 or email alexdenison@btinternet.com for a chat about lasting powers of attorney and/or to arrange an appointment.

Alexandra is married with teenage children. She was a partner in a London law firm for 14 years before leaving the city to spend more time with her family.

contractor to commit! Watch this space. 31 July.

Allotments

If you would like to take on an allotment, please let me know.

Highways reporting

You can report highways faults directly to Herts County Council by telephone on 0300 123 4047, or through the Herts Direct web site at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/highways/hhonline/services/hfr/>

It is more efficient if faults are reported directly to Herts Direct. There is no benefit to report faults to the clerk unless a fault has been reported and no action has been taken to rectify the problem. It is helpful to forward any updates received from Herts Direct to the clerk advising of action to be taken. These can then be monitored, and escalated as appropriate.

Ditches, drains and hedges

A quick reminder that the maintenance of ditches, drains and hedges is the responsibility of the landowner. Hertfordshire County Council will not cut hedges, or carry out remedial works to ditches, which border a highway. Please be aware that it is an offence to cut hedges during the bird nesting season which runs between the 1 March and the

Parking in the parish

Parking in the parish is very difficult because the village streets were not designed to take the number of cars that are now in the area. It would be really appreciated if you could park with care and consideration taking particular care not to obstruct turning circles, driveways, and footpaths. Parking on yellow lines is prohibited

Car parking on Burrs Meadow

The Parish Council has developed a new regime to ensure that safety is paramount. If you are considering using the Meadow for car parking for your event, please contact me for more information.

Do you have something you want to raise? If you do, please contact me and I will put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Belinda Irons, Clerk email: clerk@standonparishcouncil.co.uk

Tel: 01763 838732
Mobile: 07548 673472

Promoting gentle physical activity and sport in East Herts

Are you a member of a management committee of a village hall or community centre? Would you like to see your venue being used to provide sports and physical activity classes for the over 50s and generate extra income? If so, we would like to hear from you! We are encouraging not-for-profit organisations that manage venues – and even those that don't – to apply for financial support from the Council to host classes for the local community. The grants include the cost of activity-related equipment, instructor fees and free publicity. All income from fees goes to the venue.

The Forever Active project now has 31 classes up and running, hosted by village halls, churches, charities and sports clubs – but there is still room for more. Go to www.foreveractiveeh.org.uk to find a class near you.

East Herts Council has set up a project to encourage participation in physical activity among sedentary and non sporty people aged 50 to 75. For information contact Nigel on 01992 531695

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Ralph Sadleir Report

It never seems to take our pupils and staff long to settle back in to work mode after the Christmas break, and they all do it with smiles on their faces.

The school is in full swing with the pupils making promising progress and producing some excellent work. The School Council have decided that the Ralphie Value for this term is 'Determination' and pupils have stickers that they give to fellow class mates if they feel that this value has been demonstrated.

Another challenge set by Mr Spong for the New Year is to 'make 2017 the year I will...' and he offered suggestions like:

- Return everything you borrow
- Live beneath your means
- Don't argue
- Get organised
- Learn from the past
- Live for the future

Please feel free to follow our school Twitter feed @RalphSadleir as we welcome responses to these challenges from everyone.

Volunteers Welcome

We are very proud to be a community school and serve the many families that live in the immediate area as well as welcoming families from further afield. What you may not know is that we welcome volunteers from the community that may be interested in supporting our pupils. If you have a skill, interest or craft that you may want to teach our pupils during a lunch or after school club, or if you feel you have expertise to help support learning then we would be interested to hear from you. Please feel free to call in at the school and speak to

Miss Hurren, Business Administrator. Alternatively, please email: businessadministrator@ralphsadleir.herts.sch.uk All that we would need to do is apply for a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check to enable you to work within the school and with our pupils to support our commitment to keeping our pupils safe in school.

Hall and playing field for Hire

The school also has excellent facilities that outside of the school day and term are not used as much as we would like them to be. We have a large hall that could be used for exercise classes, parties or brownie/guide/scout groups for example, classrooms that could be used as group meeting rooms, clubs or craft groups and large playing fields that could be used for any sports activities. We have comfort facilities and changing rooms to support a group if required. If you would be interested in letting any of our facilities, then please email: businessadministrator@ralphsadleir.herts.sch.uk or speak to Miss Hurren or Miss Devine at the school.

Our Ralph Sadleir Association, who raise monies for our school are always on the lookout for volunteers to either help the groups with new ideas or to just help on the day of an event. If you feel that you have some time to spare then please email:

rsa@ralphsadleir.herts.sch.uk

With a bit of luck we will all start to see the spring weather and lighter evenings, and hopefully holiday plans for the summer starting to be formed. Our pupils will continue to strive for the best that they can, leaning on the growth mindset skills that they been taught, aiming for strong feedback at their Pupil Progress Days and reports. And for our Year 6 pupils, solid SATs results. Best of luck to all as they begin the second half of the school year.

Tea Time Talks

We had a very successful talk on the River Stort in January by Richard Thomas, and by the time this issue of PS comes out, we will have had the second talk on Literary Hertfordshire.

The last talk in our present series is on Saturday 11th March – The History of St Edmund's College, The story of the oldest Catholic school in the country, by Headmaster Paulo Duran, in Standon Village Hall at 3.00 pm. Talk followed by tea and cakes. £5 payable on entrance. We look forward to seeing you there. For more information contact Trish 01920 821069 or Helena 01920 822177

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Sadleir Drama Club

In November Sadleir Drama Club embarked on a new venture in collaboration with Much Hadham Drama Group (MHDG). Both Clubs share a number of members and MHDG were planning to put on a production that required a cast of 10 people so auditions were opened to members of both Clubs with a view to putting on the production at MHDG's usual venue Much Hadham Village Hall. Three members of Sadleir Drama Club were cast; Gerald Dale, Penny Wheadon & Amanda Woodrooffe and the production of "Rumours" by Neil Simon was a great success attracting good audiences. This collaboration allowed members of both Clubs to get to know one another better as a number of social events were also opened up to members of both Clubs.

Dates for the Diary – Future Productions

Sadleir Drama Club will be back in our usual venue of Standon Village Hall for our forthcoming Spring Production of "Baby Sparklers" by Frank Gibbon - a nostalgic One-Act comedy play set in an industrial town in the 1970s. We meet Rachel, Susan and Tommy who are collecting firewood for the bonfire and preparing for Guy Fawkes night. They

have to arm themselves with dustbin lids and iron railings to guard their modest bonfire pile against an expected raid by the dreaded Dawson twins but a hidden danger lurks in the shadows...

The play will run for three nights from Wed 29 - Fri 31 March. The performance of "Baby Sparklers" will be followed by a Fish & Chip Supper and further entertainment.

Tickets priced at £12 to include food are from Standon Post Office.

We are also planning ahead for the Autumn Production from 28 November to 2 December. Details will be in the next edition of PS News.

If you like to come to our plays you might like to join our 'Supporters List' and we will let you know about our productions, when and where to buy tickets and keep in touch. If you would like to be on this list, please contact me, and let me know your address or, preferably, your email address.

Liz Pickup
Secretary, Sadleir Drama Club
01763 289446 or
pickupl@btinternet.com

Colliers End Village Hall

Colliers End Village Hall has hosted various events over the years. Past events include everything from barbecues and village walks in the summer; to party nights to celebrate Halloween, Burn's Night and New Years Eve. Sometimes, the hall is used for more educational purposes with slide shows and book clubs on the agenda. We have also been host to a number of live music events which are always popular.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 15 April - quiz night with a fish and chip supper for £10. This is always a fun occasion and you can book a place, or a whole table, for any potential eggheads.

Saturday 17 June - We will be holding a barbecue, put that in your diary now!

This delightful hall can be booked for your events, with a fully working kitchen with crockery, kettle, urn, oven and microwave. The main hall will comfortably seat 41.

For more information or to book to attend an event please contact Suzanne Anderson (Secretary) on 01920 821836 or Sandra Chadwick (Bookings) on 07976 254379.



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SPNDP Report

Firstly, we would like to thank all the people who commented on the pre-submission plan. The Advisory Group for the Standon Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan are now working on the issues that were raised to bring the Plan forward for submission.

The application for development on Café Field, Standon Hill went before the East Herts Development Committee in February.

Objections to the development were put forward by Planning Consultant Jacqueline Veater on behalf of Standon Parish Council, East Herts Councillor Peter Boylan for the Puckeridge Ward and Councillor David Andrews for the Standon Ward. Thereafter much discussion from Members which resulted in a unanimous decision to **refuse** the development on ecological/landscape issues.

Thank you to all the residents that turned out in support of the objections.

The following applications have also been recently decided by the East Herts Development Committee:-

29 Dwellings at Glantons and Chestnuts, Cambridge Rd, Puckeridge - **Granted**

Change of use from B1a (Office) to C3 (1 Residential unit). Kings Yard Shelton Green Buntingford Road Puckeridge Ware Hertfordshire SG11 1RT - **Refused**

Change of use from B8 (Storage) to C3 (1 Residential unit). Kings Yard Shelton Green Buntingford Road Puckeridge Ware Hertfordshire SG11 1RT - **Refused**

Erection of 6 No. dwellings with associated landscaping, access and parking. Land North Of St Marys Church Ermine Street Colliers End Hertfordshire - **Granted**

Outline application for 7 dwellings. All matters reserved except for access. Land Adjacent To Buntingford Road/A10 and Clements Close Puckeridge Hertfordshire - **Granted**

The Advisory Group are preparing information on traffic issues at Cambridge Road junction with A120 and would be grateful to receive information regarding incidents at this junction. Details to crchalkley@gmail.com who will collate this information.

The Newsletter is being prepared by the Advisory Group and will shortly be available. Residents can register on the SPNDP website www.spndp.org/ for a copy. Comments or questions can also be sent via e-mail at info@spndp.org or by post to SPNDP Steering Group, c/o Belinda Irons, Parish Clerk, Standon Parish Council, 14 Crawley End, Chrishall, Herts, SG8 8QL

Don't forget to check our Facebook page and also Spotted at Standon & Puckeridge for updates and information.

Strictly Come Bowling!

What is the first thing you think about when winter ends and spring approaches?

Outdoor bowling, of course

Getting out onto a well-clipped green with friendly folks of all ages and taking some quiet exercises while enjoying a competitive and most valued British tradition.

The Standon and Puckeridge Bowls club will welcome you warmly as valued members.

Join us for the fun on Open Day, May 13, 10am to 4pm

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Hertford Museum Events
Stay and Play Saturdays

Saturdays: 4 March, 1 April and 6 May (10.30am- 4.30pm)

On the first Saturday of each month, The Andrews Room at Hertford Museum will be open for families to enjoy a free play session. Come along and play with traditional wooden toys, make something crafty and read a book. Whilst you are here why not use the discovery station toys to explore the galleries too? Free entry, just drop in

Knit and Natter

Second Thursday of the month 10.30am - 12.30pm

Whether you're a seasoned knitter or just a beginner bring your projects along to Hertford Museum. This is a chance to share ideas and patterns in a comfortable setting over a cup of tea or coffee.

Hidden Hertford Walks

Why not take a leisurely stroll to work up an appetite on a Sunday morning? All walks begin at 11am. Booking is essential.

Sundays 12 and 19 March, 9 and 23 April

There is a £2 charge per person to take part. Pay in person at the museum or by credit/debit card over the telephone.

Signed, Sealed, Delivered!

Until 18 March

Discover East Herts' Postal Heritage at Hertford Museum. Explore the rich

history of East Hertfordshire through the Post Office, letters, the telegraph and more!

Food, Glorious Food!

Saturday 18 March, 1.30 pm – 4.30 pm (last entry 4.00 pm)

Drop in to this free family event and discover the amazing world of Victorian food. Taste recipes made by food historian Jan Fullwood, try your hand at serviette folding, handle real Victorian household objects and more! Donations welcomed. The museum is open as normal: 10 am - 5pm.

Braughing Local History Society Programme

Thursday, 23 March 8.15 pm

St Mary's Church Hall, Braughing
AGM followed by a short talk from Peter Boylan: Understanding Braughing's manorial records & an update on our plans to transcribe & digitise them. Wine & nibbles served

No meeting in April

Thursday, 25 May 8.15 pm

St Mary's Church Hall, Braughing
Jottings of two Buntingford vicars - the Layston Parish Memorandum book

Speaker: Heather Falvey

Hertfordshire Holly

Every year in December we dance to raise money for charity so last December we entertained the shoppers in Hertford and raised £252 for the Isabel Hospice. Two other local sides joined us for the morning; Baldock Midnight Morris and Pumphouse Clog from Watford

Our events for the 2017 are still being organised but we will definitely be performing at Standon Mayday on May 1st. Hopefully some of you will be so impressed with our display that you will want to join us for our Thursday evening practice sessions in High Cross Village hall.

New faces are always welcome and there is a social side too; it's not just good exercise.

If you would like to know more please contact

Mary Deeks 01920 822905
mideeks@aol.com

Or look at the Hertfordshire Holly web site, www.hertfordshireholly.org.uk and we can also be found on Facebook.



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Starlight Stars

Our Performing Arts, Musical Theatre and Street Dance Classes have been preparing for our big show, High School Musical Jr. It will be performed at 1pm and 3pm on Thursday 13 April at Hertford Theatre which is during the school Easter holidays so everyone is welcome to come along and watch our local, talented students who have worked so hard to make this a very dynamic, lively and fun production.

Our Theatre Trips have been very successful. We have been to see Disney's Aladdin, Matilda and School of Rock. Our tickets and coach prices are great value for money, allowing families to afford the West End's best seats and luxury transport from the Community Centre. If you would like to join us please contact jane@starlightstars.co.uk or call our office. You do not have to be a member of our classes to book a trip. Why not just email Jane to be added to our distribution list so you can find out what our next trips will be?

Our private singing and acting classes are as popular as ever and some of our students recently gained incredible results in their exams with The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

Lessons are taught one-to-one or as a duo so if your child is interested in having some lessons do get in touch. Each year we have a recital to celebrate the work of our individual and duo students and it is always lovely to see how far each child has progressed. Thank you to everyone who supported our recital in November at the Community Centre.

Thank you, as always, to the helpful committee at the Community Centre and to WASPS after-school club for your support. With your help we can continue to provide our classes in great facilities and with the best care for our students.

For further details of any of our classes please visit www.starlightstars.co.uk or call us on 01763 287691. Our doors are always open to new students who would like to come and watch or have a trial session with us.



High School Musical Jr Cast

Much Hadham Drama Group

Our next production on 11/12/13 May will be the classic comedy 'The Ladykillers' by Graham Linehan, to be directed by Maggie Smith in Much Hadham Village Hall. Tickets will be available from mid-April from nclarke167@aol.com and at Londis village stores, Much Hadham High Street.

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These old ways have moved people and goods over many hundreds of years, thousands of past footprints and wheel ruts beneath your feet as you walk.

The OS Map shows footpaths on the high point of the Rib valley ridge near Kings Wood to the lowest point of the valley bottom at Barwick Ford. From the tight cluster of footpaths around Bromley in the east to the three separate paths that cross the Parish boundary in the west, this web of ways is earth beneath your feet instead of asphalt. You go where cars cannot. On a silent still day you can hear the clatter of a green woodpecker or the mew of a buzzard.

I think of the origins of these old ways as I meander. Each footpath had a purpose. Several paths linked together form a nearly straight line from Standon to Latchford and paths radiate from and

to Puckeridge and Standon, the main trading places in the Parish. The web also links the farms. There is still a bridleway to Bartrum's Farm which was mentioned in the 13th century but the farm has long gone.

All land is 'owned' these days, common land was stolen by landowners over many years which stopped people grazing their animals. Footpaths are what's left of common land (I'm not suggesting you can graze your animals on the paths!). Maintained by the landowners, who in Standon Parish maintain them well, you have the right of way without being told 'Oh, you are trespassing on my land!'

Want a short walk? Try the couple of hundred yards footpath across St Edmunds College playing fields and see the various sports. Or a longer walk of 6 miles in the south of the Parish from Standon Green End through Colliers End to Wellpond Green.

And don't rush. Robert Louis Stevenson in his walking tour of 1881 took his walking slow and easy. He did not approve of 'leaping and running. Both of these hurry the respiration, they both shake up the brain out of its glorious open air confusion'

Standon Parish paths pass bits of industrial landscape left over from the railway, paths which go through ancient Plashes Wood to emerge on a high point where you can look south and see Canary Wharf and The Shard on a clear day, paths that pass the majestic Tudor Standon Lordship house.

In spring take the footpath out of Puckeridge and see the mass of bluebells in Kings Wood or take the paths from Standon along the river Rib to the Lordship then up to Barwick Road and look south at the view down the Rib valley towards Latchford.

Paths need to be walked, they are our heritage - otherwise they get overgrown or lost to field crops. Parish Paths Partnership which is linked to the Parish Council, keeps an eye on our web of paths making sure they are accessible and with the right signage. They also publish a book of walks in the Parish available from Westwoods in Standon High Street.

So it's early spring, grab a copy of an OS map or get a copy of the Parish book of walks and maybe our paths will cross some time.

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Buntingford U3A

The U3A is a self-help learning organisation for people who are no longer in full employment. We are different from most other adult learning organisations in that rather than paying people to teach, it encourages members to share their knowledge with other members and to this end they reflect the individual wishes of their members – but they all deliver a life-enhancing experience.

Buntingford U3A has over 430 members and there is a monthly meeting with a Speaker at the Seth Ward Community Centre at 1.30pm on the second Monday of the month (no meeting in August).

There are 35 Groups at the moment - including 4 walking groups for different abilities, French, Spanish and Ukulele! - with several more in the pipeline. Our subs are £11 a year reduced to £7.50 if you already belong to another U3A.

Our monthly meetings for the rest of the year are:

- 13 Mar Tom Mason 'Talking about Bears'. Tom is a young wildlife photographer who was a "wow" before and returns by request.

- 10 Apr Gary Fisher 'St George'. Gary runs Living History at Hatfield House amongst other historical things.
- 8 May Bill Hamilton 'Man on the Spot'. Based on over 50 years' experience as a well-known broadcaster and BBC Television News Correspondent.
- 12 Jun Maggie Radcliffe 'Spitfire Woman'
- 10 Jul Paul Whittle 'River Kwai River' The many differences between fact and film making.
- Aug No meeting
- 11 Sep Susannah Charlton - Ex BBC weather presenter talking about that and the 1966 World Cup memories with her father and uncle playing.
- 10 Oct AGM
- 13 Nov Richard Selby 'From Barter to Barclaycard. The History of Money.
- 11 Dec Martin Sirot Smith 'Tudor Christmas'

Please visit our new website at www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford for an application form and information on our groups.

Braughing Parish Paths Group

Village walks this Spring

We lead walks on the first Sunday of each month departing promptly from the Square, Braughing at 2pm. Walks last approximately 2 hours and cover 5-6 miles. Please wear boots or wellies as the footpaths can be muddy. Everyone welcome including well-behaved dogs and children who can manage the distance.

Sundays - 5 March, 2 April, 7 May and 4 June.

We are planning to organise a couple of "awaydays". The first of these will be on Sunday 9 April when we will be leading a "Pasque Flower" walk. Meet outside Fox and Duck, Therfield ready to depart at 2.00pm. Walk for approx. 2.5 hours

The second is on Monday 22 May when we will be leading a walk through the Lee Valley Park and hope to hear a Nightingale sing – meet at Cheshunt Station Car Park at 6.30pm. Walk lasts approx. 2.5 hours. (Don't use Lee Valley Park car parks, they close at 8.30pm).

Further information from Paula or Paul:-
01920 822748

(paulaandpaul@btinternet.com)

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Rogation Walk

On 20 May there will be a walk connecting all the churches in the Beniface of Great Hormead including Anstey, Brent Pelham, Little Hormead, Meesden and Wyddial about 13 miles in total

The walk starts at Little Hormead Church at 9.45am and finishes at Great Hormead Church.

Bring your own lunch at eat at Anstey Village Hall.

There will be water and biscuits at each church where a short prayer will be said.

Walkers may start and finish at any point on the walk but will need to provide their own transport if not completing the route.

For more details contact Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club

Come on down to the Tennis Courts at the Community Centre.

Pay to play is available to all, if you just want to use the courts, £5 ph or £2.50 for juniors. Contact Keith on 01920 821152.

Children's group coaching every Tuesday, Mini Red 5-8yrs from 4 - 5pm and juniors 9 yrs+ from 5 - 6pm.

For information on coaching and summer holiday courses, please contact Tracy Llewellyn on 07985 183796.

Adult tennis for all, Wednesday from 10am and Friday from 2pm. Contact Keith 01920 821152.

New members welcome, special rates for parent/child/family membership, for details contact Sally 01920 821152.

We have Ladies, Ladies 50+, Ladies 60+, Mens and Mixed teams and are always looking for new players

Local Open Gardens in aid of British Red Cross

From late March onwards full listings on www.redcross.org.uk/opengardens

21 May Fanhams Hall Hotel SG12 7PZ 12 pm -5 pm, £4 per adult children free Visit this 27 acre site incorporating Japanese designed gardens.

11 Jun Dassels Bury SG11 2RW 2pm - 5 pm, £5 per adult children Free Beautiful 20 acres including a wild flower meadow, woodland and terracing.

Any queries regarding BRC Open Garden programme please contact Cathy Curtis 01992 585969

Race Night

Saturday 20 May 7pm Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

Tickets £5 per adult, £1 per child Call 07770 786097

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Puckeridge High Street 1905

In the past the number of its mills denoted the wealth of a town or village. Standon had two. A 12th century document describes "The mill which is outside the gate of Standon towards the south". It was situated at the bottom of Papermill Lane, Standon, and it was a corn mill. Then it became a fulling mill, which would beat wool fibres into finely matted cloth, and then by 1713 it had become a paper mill owned by Matthew Norfolk. Some remnants of the paper mill can still be seen today.

Hertfordshire can claim to be the birthplace of British papermaking. The first paper made in the country that was suitable for printing was made at Sele Mill on the river Beane near Hertford in 1491. The raw material used for papermaking in the 18th and 19th centuries was linen rags, originally made from flax or hemp. We know that some of the rags for the paper mill in Standon came from Cambridgeshire but there was also a local rag man called Richard Gott doing the rounds collecting rags locally between 1763 and 1773. Before the rags could be made into paper it was the women and children's job to remove the buttons. It is said that when the mill pool at Papermill was drained 'a very large number of buttons was found'.

The next stage of production was converting the rags into pulp or 'stuff' (which is where we get the word

'stuff' from) then beating them with wooden stamping hammers which were driven by the water wheel, until the rags were reduced to a milk like consistency. This mix was then put into wooden mesh moulds to dry and the resulting sheets were finally hung in the tall drying building which is still there today. Possibly some were also pegged out to dry in Laundry Meadow – the field opposite the mill.

The process from rags to finished paper was very labour intensive. We know that in the early 19th century between 30 to 50 people were employed at Papermill and the whole production process from start to finish could take up to six months.

As we all know, things change – sometimes not for the better. By 1809 a London stationer called John Dickinson (remember Dickinson's envelopes?) had invented a highly mechanised papermaking machine which could make continuous lengths of paper very fast with less labour.

My guess is that the Standon mill carried on in the old ways until it finally stopped making paper in 1855 with the loss of many jobs. The age of steam had arrived

and waterpower alone was not sufficient to make the mill profitable. There are still in existence some specimens of creamy-white paper made at the mill – it was used for music scores and dates from 1829. Brown paper wrappers and white and blue paper for wrapping groceries were also made at the mill.

In 1865 the mill was used as a sawmill, then an engineering works owned by Mr Gauldie of Gauldie Way. It is now a private residence.

A few years back at the start of the computer age we were promised a paper free society. I think paper is going to be around for a good time yet.

Rob Street

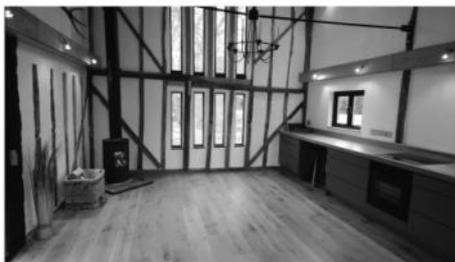


A view looking the opposite way down the High Street from the picture in the last issue of PS. You may notice the passageway through the centre of the Crown and Falcon.

Photo and information supplied by Mike Jackson.

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Friends of St Mary's Standon

Quiz Night - Saturday 11 March

At Puckeridge Community Centre. 7:30 for an 8 pm start. £10 per person to include a ploughmans supper. Teams of no more than 8 people. There will be a bar. Please contact Caroline Franks on 01920 822723 for tickets.

Easter Egg treasure hunt

10am Friday, 14 April until 5pm Monday, 17 April.

One for the younger members of the family. Collect a trail card from the church porch in Standon on any day and follow a simple set of clues to find hidden egg letters. A small prize for all participants to be collected 3-5pm on Easter Monday. Entry only £1.

Standon May Day - Monday 1 May.

FOSM will be offering teas, coffees, soft drinks and home-made cakes at Standon Village Hall and healthy, home-made salads to take away from a stall on the High Street. Also visit the teddy bear zip wire to be held in the churchyard.

AGM - Friday 5 May at 7:30

There will be a short meeting (about 15 minutes) followed by a talk by a local historian to be held in Standon Village Hall. Refreshments will be provided.

Open Gardens - Saturday 10 June from 11am - 6pm

Once again this hugely successful local venture will take place allowing visitors

to wander around some of the most beautiful gardens in Standon. FOSM will be laying on entertainment and refreshments in various locations on the route.

Braughing Women's Institute

Braughing W.I. welcome new and old members to their meetings at The Church Hall on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m.

For more information contact Secretary Kate Fish 01920822397

The Great British Spring Clean

Groups from around the UK are coming together again to clean up their local patch.

If your group would like to take part in this national campaign, East Herts Council has some litter picking kits you can borrow. You could also gather up a group of friends or neighbours to take part.

The main event weekend is Friday 3rd March to Sunday 5th March but you can do your clean up any time in the run up to that weekend and throughout March.

To register your litter pick and agree a collection point and time for the council to collect your bags of litter email operations.admin@eastherts.gov.uk or telephone 01279 655261, option 4.

To find out more about the initiative visit www.greatbritishspringclean.org.uk

where you can also buy litter picking kits at a discounted rate if required.

Braughing Women's Institute Programme

- April 20 Nursing at Gt Ormond Street. Jane Davalle
- May 17 Annual Meeting
- June 15 Grandmas London. John Neil
- July 20 The River Lea. Richard Thomas
- August 17 Cream Tea Afternoon
- September 21 Humorous Police Career. David Wass
- October 19 Tripe and Trotters. Brian Carline.
- November 16 Bingo Night.
- December 7 Christmas Party.

The Community Café

At Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre on the following Wednesdays, 8.45-11.30am

- 1 March Charity Cafe supporting Cancer Research UK with stalls and a raffle.
- 5 April
- 3 May Charity Cafe supporting Multiple Sclerosis Cake Break with stalls and a raffle.
- 7 June
- 5 July

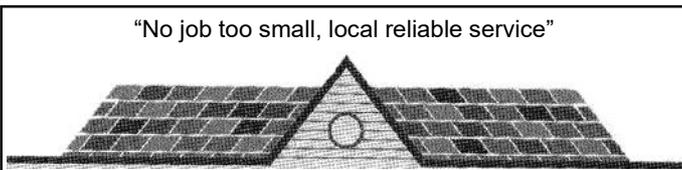
Join us for a drink and a chat. All ages welcome, pre-schoolers to pensioners! For more information contact Alison on 01920 822872



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Every single SW consultant has to have been a member at some time, and for me it was a wonderful experience. My journey started in August 2012, when a friend and I decided we wanted to lose weight. For me, it was a means to an end - that I would finally fall with my second child. After many tests, at the GP's surgery, and the hospital, it was suggested that I seek more information from the doctors at the Herts & Essex Fertility Centre. We were given a huge amount to think about regarding procedures, tests, and ultimately egg donation. I was sent away having been asked to lose two stone.

Puckeridge was half way between me and my friend's addresses, and more importantly, the best night for me as my social life was full on!! My journey was exciting, easy, and group made my Tuesday another social gathering!. I would not be anywhere other than learning, swapping recipes, supporting fellow slimmers, and celebrating losses with these wonderful people. I lost that two stone in 10 weeks, and all I did was follow the Extra Easy Food Optimising Plan- so simple, so filling, so tasty; and furthermore my family could enjoy the same meals.

Unfortunately, my results came back that I could not have another child, and the early miscarriages I had suffered, were all a sign.

This was devastating news, but I had to remember, I still had my perfect little boy.

My weight loss journey continued, a couple of slower weeks here and there, but in the end I lost a total of four and a half stone by December 2013. I felt incredible! I looked fabulous! (if I say so myself!) By now, my consultant was leaving, I had been encouraged to look into becoming a consultant myself, and on 31st December 2013, I took over my group.

In these amazing 3 years, I can honestly say I am so glad it was suggested I could do this as a career, because it is so incredibly rewarding. Being the person who gets the ball rolling for all these lovely members to become the person they truly want to be, happier and healthier, is so heart warming. Of course, as happened to me, I too have members attending meetings to find out more about becoming consultants. As one said, 'I want to help people like you have helped me.'

Last year, this group lost almost 270 stone!! The first 3 weeks of January alone, this year, has hit almost 25 stone lost.

If you would love to be part of this wonderful, caring, sharing, fun gang, please come along to Puckeridge Community Centre, Station Rd, SG11 1TF, where a warm welcome awaits each and every one of you every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. Call me, Sophie on 07855079070 for more

details. Also, please look out for any offers, magazine/newspaper vouchers to get you started at a reduced rate- these can be found on my public Facebook Page. Sophie SlimmingWorld Standon Puckeridge.

I look forward to meeting you.

Buntingford Railway & Local History Society Programme

- 17 Mar The US Air Force at Nuthampstead – Malcolm Osborn
- 21 April Waterway Wonders – Richard Thomas
- 19 May The Enfield Railway Part 3 – David Cockle
- 16 Jun The Soham Rail Disaster – Donna Martin
- 21 July Meet at Braughing Station for a Social Evening (7pm)
- 18 Aug Social at Standon Green End Farm (7pm)
- 15 Sept The Saffron Walden Railway Company – Malcolm Ewen
- 20 Oct Mixed Bag – Stepehn Ruff
- 17 Nov Talk on Furneux Pelham – Linda Bratt
- 15 Dec The Cambridge to Bedford Line – George Howe
- 19 Jan AGM

All meetings held in the Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. Start 8pm (except Jul & Aug) for details contact Stephen Ruff 01763 289516.

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Braughing Aviation Society

The Society got off to a good start for 2017 with a superbly illustrated talk on flying in Alaska by aviation historian Peter Davison on 4th January when 22 members and visitors from far and wide joined us at the Axe and Compasses for a convivial meeting.

In recent times the Society has dropped in numbers, resulting in a move from more formal meetings in one of the village halls to less formal events at a local pub. Most of us meet from around 6.30pm for a chat and supper before an 8.00pm start. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month from September to May at the Axe. There is no cost other than optional supper and drinks, since landlord Brian generously makes no charge for room use, although we do try to give him some idea in advance of likely numbers.

In February we had former RAF engineering officer and historian, Group Captain Bill Taylor, talking about agricultural flying with the emphasis on crop spraying. In March member Gordon Stringer will talk about his time on detachment in the 1960s with a Victor V-bomber squadron (1st March) and in April local historian and author, Vic Flintham, will describe the Desert Air Force's part in the victory at el Alamein in WW2 (5 April). The 2016-17 meetings programme completes with well-known historian and past editor of Aeroplane magazine, Richard Riding,

giving a talk about the Air Transport Auxiliary in WW2 – the gallant band of (mostly past operational service age) men and women who ferried aircraft around the country from factories to squadrons and maintenance units (3rd May).

If you might be interested in joining us the process is simple: phone or e-mail either Ray Hankin (01920 832191, rayhankin@hotmail.co.uk) or Vic Flintham (01920 822155, vf@flintham.org). We will note your name and contact details and keep you abreast of the meetings programme through regular e-mails. To repeat, there is no membership subscription and you will be assured of a warm welcome whenever you feel able to join us. Simply turn up on the night and ask for Andrew, Ray or Vic!

Legislative changes around the usage of mobile phones whilst in a vehicle

On 1 March there will be legislative changes around the usage of mobile phones whilst driving, or whilst sitting with the engine running. The key difference is that the penalty will rise from 3 points to 6 points on a driving licence, and from £100 to a £200 fine.

Please be aware that these legislative changes will be robustly enforced.

Hundred Parishes Society

Have a look at www.hundredparishes.org.uk. We hope that those with an enquiring mind will dip in from time to time and see what we have to say about a particular parish or a local 'celebrity'.

We like to challenge your local knowledge with the photo that appears at the top of each web page. The picture changes every couple of weeks and on the Home page we explain where the last one was taken. Sometimes the image is seasonal. For example, in November we showed the war graves in Saffron Walden cemetery. In December there was a view of the Rib valley from Cold Christmas in the parish of Thundridge. Currently . . . sorry, I'm not allowed to tell you! But if you think you know please feedback a response.

Many of the photos on the website will appear in a guidebook to the area which the Society plans to publish later this year. We will be sure to let you know when it is available.

In the meantime, we encourage you to get out locally. You don't have to travel far to discover another parish, an untried lane or footpath, a new listed church, or somewhere new for lunch or tea. Please check out the parish introduction on the website before you set off – it may help with ideas, phone numbers, etc.

Ken McDonald, Secretary



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Labour Party **East Herts Rural Branch**

In the last three months, our main task has been to prepare for the County Council elections on 4 May 2017. We have only one Labour target seat in our constituency, Letchworth North. This division is new, following boundary changes for these elections, but is almost the same as Letchworth North West, which is held for Labour by Cllr Lorna Kercher. Lorna, who has served for many years on the North Herts District Council and for quite a number of years on the County Council, is moving away to be closer to her family.

We have, however, selected an excellent candidate for the division, Doug Swanney. His canvassing has begun and members from our branch have been over to Letchworth to help with this. This canvassing has been combined with Labour's national campaign to "Care for the NHS". I do not believe that the majority of voters realise the problems that the NHS is currently facing.

As I write, the selections for the two divisions wholly or mainly in our

branch area will take place shortly. These are Buntingford (formerly called Braughing), which includes Puckeridge, and Hertford Rural. Selections for Ware North, which includes Standon and Thundridge, and for Bishop's Stortford Rural, are being arranged by the Hertford and Stortford constituency party, in whose area they largely fall.

Behind the scenes, work has been going on to produce a Labour manifesto for the County and this is close to being ready as I write. This has to acknowledge that the County Council has had its budget cut by a considerable amount by the government, but will set out how Labour would make different choices on how to spend the money that is available.

The branch has had some lively discussion on local and national issues. The County's Transport Vision 2050 is important to our area, since it offers no change in transport arrangements whatsoever for us in Standon, Puckeridge and Buntingford in the whole of that period, apart from improvements to the A414, which might have some "knock-on" benefits for Standon. We also discussed and

submitted comments on the District Plan, concentrating on proposals for our area. We are now turning to the national aspects of housing provision and anticipate a good discussion on this as well.

At constituency level, Sara Hyde, a member of the board which appoints magistrates, is coming to give us a talk with the rather telling title of Prison Reform: Imagining Positive Outcomes for Offenders and Society.

Summer Activities Grants Fund 2017

East Herts Council has £25,000 to allocate to community groups and not-for-profit organisations that would like to organise activities for children and young people over the summer holidays. The maximum grant is £3,000 and match funding is required. Administered by the Council's for Voluntary Service Broxbourne and East Herts, applications forms will be available in mid February. Contact Fay Turner for more information on 03001231034. The deadline to apply is 31 March at 5 pm.

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Beware Scams and Spoof Microsoft cold calls

I wanted to warn about an increasing pattern of fraudulent cold calls purporting to be Microsoft technicians.

This ongoing fraud results from cold calls from Cybercriminals purporting to be Microsoft Support technicians or on some occasions recently, pretending to be officials from broadband and telecom Providers e.g. TalkTalk or BT.

I have been involved in trying to sort out the results of this scam, which has been inflicted on a number of residents. These calls sound genuine and are very convincing particularly if you are having a few niggles with your PC. Many victims were regrettably duped into allowing access to their PC.

Often the calls are from a supposed call centre in India. The caller announces that you may have a problem with your PC and offers to fix it remotely. The scam is to convince you to give them money for their time "repairing" your computer and obtain your personal information whilst also damaging your computer with malicious software including viruses and spyware.

These fraudsters often introduce a virus that encrypts each file with a code making them inaccessible, which will prevent you from accessing your PC normally and may even prevent recovery of your data at all. Many people have lost valuable electronic photos or documents as a result of these heartless scam.

While they often use email to trick you, they sometimes use the telephone, instead.

Common scams that use the Microsoft name are

- Someone from "Microsoft Tech Support" calls to fix your computer
- "Microsoft" requires credit card information to validate your copy of Windows"
- "Microsoft" sends unsolicited email messages with attached security updates
- "You have won the Microsoft Lottery"

Microsoft do not send unsolicited email messages and don't make unsolicited phone calls about technical problems with your IT. No reputable company would request personal or financial information or fix your computer.

If you receive an unsolicited email message or phone call that purports to be from Microsoft and requests that you send personal information or click links, delete the message or hang up the phone.

If possible report the fraud to the Police and also visit www.actionfraud.org.uk/ or ring 0300 123 2040 to report the telephone call.

If for any reason you have been taken in by these very convincing fraudsters please do the following.

Change any passwords and pin numbers for e-mail and online shopping accounts

Contact the security section of your bank and credit card companies and notify them of the scam. You may have to freeze and change credit cards as a precaution

Update and run a full scan of your computer using your installed Virus Scanner

If you are still worried that your computer is infected contact a local IT technician such as myself

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Volunteers needed for new Essex & Herts Air Ambulance shop in Royston

The Essex & Herts Air Ambulance Trust (EHAAT) has opened their charity shop in Royston and need volunteers.

Whether you have retail experience, or you're just looking to spend a few hours a week on a good cause – the Charity needs you to help get this new shop up and running.

EHAAT's shops are run by dedicated and passionate volunteers. There's no task too big – whether it's serving customers, sorting stock or liaising with Head Office about exciting new campaigns – our volunteers are a vital part of the EHAAT family, and the Charity is proud to have such hardworking brand ambassadors.

Whether you're from Royston or the surrounding areas, any time you can provide is appreciated. 2017 marks the start of an incredibly exciting time for EHAAT – so why not get involved?

For more information, please visit our website: www.EHAAT.uk.com

Royston & Buntingford Children's Centre Group

Made up of Bramble Hill Children's Centre based in Buntingford and Royston & Villages Children's Centre based in Royston. Both centres offer access to services for children under five years old and their families.

Our Spring 'What's on Guide' includes details of all the sessions we run. Let us know if you would like one sent to you by email or post.

We are currently looking for volunteers to help at our sessions. If this is something you may be interested in then please give us a call.

There are loads of ways you can keep up to date with what's happening at the centres - search for us on Facebook and 'like' the pages, call us on 01763 273008 (Bramble Hill) or 01763 243338 (Royston & Villages) or email us at roystonbuntingford.cc@oneymca.org to be included on our mailing list.

There's info on our web pages too at www.oneymca.org

We look forward to seeing you

The Puckeridge Congregational Chapel

Hi you may have passed by the chapel and thought is it: (A) Closing, (B) Being converted into housing, (C) or opening as a carpet warehouse. Well the answer is none of the above. My wife (Jan) and I (Bill) moved into the village a little over six months ago to reopen the chapel.

I am an ex-soldier though some would say you never become an ex. I served for almost 20 years as a mechanic travelling a good part of the globe. I became a Christian after I finished my time and then subsequently went to college in South Wales to train for the ministry.

Jan was an Air Force nurse and we met when we were both serving in Cyprus. It was not long before we were married and we lived mostly in Germany. Jan took up nursing again as we settled back into civilian life. We had a number of jobs before I went to college and fortunately Jan was able to support us both with her nursing skills.

Once I had finished in college Jan had some retraining. She upgraded her qualifications and took a course at The Tropical School of Medicine, Liverpool. Then we packed up once again and

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moved out to Zambia to plant a church and start a clinic, feeding program for children and skill school. It was on the outskirts of Ndola in a township called Mushili.

We eventually moved back here leaving everything in the hands of a Zambian Pastor and his team. After a brief spell working in The South Wales Bible College we moved to a pastorate in Kent just south of Maidstone. We were there for nine years good years but then it came time to take on a new challenge, Puckeridge.

What are we going to do? That is a question I have asked myself many a time. The answer in its simplest form is to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. The real question is how do I interact with you? We have a wonderful resource in the Century Hall, so we want to make the best of what we have. Our intention is to have coffee mornings, tea afternoons, Mothers and Toddlers, lunch clubs, Children's clubs, Men's

breakfasts, and NAAFI breaks.

What do you expect from a church? Have you been made to feel unwelcome in one before? Do you feel "Church" is irrelevant in today's society? Does the formality of a service frighten you? Could I walk in without an invitation? How much will it cost me? Will I be embarrassed because I don't know when to sit or stand? Well to most questions you can be assured of an informal setting and a warm welcome.

It can be really confusing to figure out what a church is for. You might be thinking that church is irrelevant and a waste of time. Or church is good in time of trouble but now? Maybe you're someone who often wonders; what is the meaning of life? Is there a God? What happens after death? Maybe you are simply confused about all the various religions: which one is true? Who can I trust to help me understand God, this world, myself and life?

I believe that Jesus and the Bible holds the key to the answers of all these questions.

Then (History): Jesus really came to earth. We can investigate his

existence and read eyewitness accounts of his life. He really lived, and He died and rose again. This shows us that God exists and what He is like. Have you ever examined the evidence yourself?

Now (Today): Have you ever wondered what life is all about? Jesus tells us he is the only way to know the God who made us. He is the only one who can make sense of our lives today. He offers us peace, forgiveness, satisfaction, strength, help and a fresh start. Jesus came to give us life to the full.

Forever (Future): Do you ever wonder what will happen after this life? Are you afraid of death? Jesus is the only person who's died and come back. He's the only one who can help us. With Jesus on our side we don't have to fear death, because he took the punishment we deserve when he died on the cross.

The time to find out the answer is now one day it will be too late. As I have said you can be assured of a warm welcome.

For more information please contact Pastor Bill & Jan, The Manse, 81, Station Road, Puckeridge SG11 1TF. Telephone 01920 821366 or 07960 773415. Email: billharrowpcc@btinternet.com Look forward to hearing from you soon.

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Nominations Now Open For Rural Living Awards

Hertfordshire's environment and community are under constant threat, which is why CPRE Hertfordshire's Rural Living Awards seek to recognise and reward work done by groups, individuals and businesses to improve life and enhance the environment in Hertfordshire's villages

With two categories, Community and Environment, the judges look for innovative projects that unite rural communities, benefit the community and promote access to the countryside. There are also awards for young people, adults and businesses that make outstanding contributions to rural life

Last year it was good to have 22 entries for these awards but we know that there is so much more happening across Hertfordshire that needs to be publicly acknowledged. If you would like to put a group, an individual or a business forward for consideration by our experienced judges then now is the time to think about downloading and completing a nomination form. As Judith Watson, one of the judges said "How lovely it would be to have many more nominations to judge in 2017".

If you do not feel able to complete the form yourself please pass details on so that the person, project or business can consider self nominating. You can also help by sharing the information with people you know as they may be aware of someone or something which deserves to be nominated.

A nomination form and criteria can be downloaded from the website www.cpreherts.org.uk/awards. deadline for nominations Friday 26 May.

What has your journey been like ?

Arriving at Theological College aged twenty six filled me with fear. Not that I let on of course. Learning to hide my fears over the previous twenty six years had prepared me for this moment and I was reasonably good at it by then. My fear of not being good enough was met by a frantic investment in the areas of my new life I feared most. I believed God had 'gifted' me to communicate, but my fears drove me to accept a placement preaching weekly in several villages on the outskirts of Cambridge, hoping to learn how to do it better. We are complex beings aren't we? Nothing is simple and the best we are often grows out of uncertainty and questioning.

I wonder what your journey has been like. I thought I was complicated until I met a new student who would become my friend during College years. Peter Owen-Jones arrived as a successful advertising guru from London, leaving behind city life and a massive salary to pursue a 'calling' that he didn't seem to understand at all. Wearing his cowboy boots and smoking little cigarettes, he was a man who had seen and experienced much of this world but found few answers in it. His was a daily search for meaning and purpose. You may have seen one of his BBC programmes like 'Around the World in 80 faiths', or read one of his books as his journey continues today.

Peter Owen-Jones' sometimes painful search for God showed me back then that the greatest gift God had given

me was a clear sight of who His son Jesus was. Despite all my insecurities, I knew then and still know today that knowing God is simple; that looking beyond Jesus' life, death and resurrection takes us further away from God rather than closer. It is certainly my experience that trusting Jesus brings truth and hope into my life, despite the tiredness and occasional confusion. He leads me day by day. He equips and deepens my reserves to face those days. He gives me hope now, and promises this will last forever. Looking back over 20+ years of being a Vicar and the many tragic and unimaginably sad moments of people's lives, I have always believed that without God I would be hopeless.

So faith is not a ticket to the good life, removing any possibility of sadness or failure. Yet, faith is real, just as life is real, offering real hope sometimes against the odds. With Lent having started on 1st March, may I ask where your hope is found? If you have real questions, I would love to listen and talk where welcome. After three years with Peter Owen-Jones, I learnt that a determined search is worth pursuing. Why not try our next Alpha Course starting after Easter, lasting ten weeks and looking at the central themes of the Christian faith in a relaxed 'no question is too silly' atmosphere. Just ring 01920 318864 to find out more.

Alan (Rector of St. Mary's Standon)

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We meet every Sunday afternoon from 4.45pm to 6pm in Roger de Clare School, in Station Road, Puckeridge, apart from the fourth Sunday in the month when they join the Family Worship service at St Mary's Church, Standon at 10.45am.

The children then enjoy their Messy Church activities in Standon Village Hall as part of the service. Come and join us, whether families or adults without children, for worship, music, crafts and fun.

For more information, please see our website, www.ubsms.org.uk or email the church administrator, Marion Smith, on marionbenefice@btinternet.com

Celebrating Holy Week and Easter

In the United Benefice of Standon and The Mundens with Sacombe

- Thursday 13 April, Maundy Thursday Communion 7.30pm, at St Catherine's Church, Sacombe.
- Friday 14 April, Good Friday, Service by the Cross, 11am, at All Saints Church, Little Mundens. Reflective Hour, 2pm, at St Mary's Church, Standon.
- Sunday 16 April, Easter Day, Communion, 8am at All Saints Church, Little Mundens. Family Communion 10.45am at St Mary's Church, Standon.

For up to date information, please see our website, www.ubsms.org.uk

I am healed

On a daily basis we hear reports of the terrible plight of innumerable people, young and old, living in the most appalling conditions of fear and deprivation, people living in countries where there seems to be very little hope and for whom the world at large appears powerless to provide meaningful help.

A few years ago and in one such region, a group of local Christians formed an organisation, under the umbrella of a state-recognised union of churches, to work in their communities with one overarching objective: to show Christian love and compassion.

In 2007 they launched a 24/7 radio broadcast called Radio MCC (Mission of Christian Compassion) that has a potential audience of 2.5 million people, including prisoners. The radio show connects inmates to their families who can call during broadcasts, and it enables Christian greetings to be sent those who are listening in jails and prisons. This is now also available on the internet. The response has been overwhelming.

A lady, whom we shall call "Selima", became a Christian nine years ago through listening to Radio MCC. This resulted in her community, including her relatives, turning against her, even threatening her life. They burned her bible and her Christian literature, but Selima kept her faith, sharing it with her husband, her children and her daughter-in-law, all of whom became Christians. For many years this isolated Christian

family worshipped secretly, listening to Radio MCC. They even had to hide their bible in the garden in case their house was searched.

One day, a Christian children's choir that was touring several countries in the region, came to Selima's town to put on a concert. Selima listened with tears in her eyes as the choir sang Christian songs. Afterwards she approached the concert host, who happened to work for Radio MCC, to ask her about the welfare of one of the radio's staff members, a young woman called "Aysha" who had advanced cancer and for whom Selima had been praying for a long time.

Deeply moved, the MCC presenter smiled and said, "I am Aysha. I am healed." It was a miracle – and for Selima and her family, the joy at meeting Aysha was beyond their wildest dreams; the living testimony of God's love and power stood before them.

Many listeners stumble upon Radio MCC's bandwidth. One such, a non-Christian woman who had already started reading the Psalms, asked the station, "Is an ordinary person allowed to read the bible, or are only priests allowed to do so?" A number of messages that Radio MCC receives are addressed directly to God: "Lord, forgive my sins. Help me go on the right way, give me an opportunity to survive." appealed a man called Sergej.

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The station says, "Of course, we try to respond to each of the listeners who contact us, but it is not always possible. But God hears our prayers for everyone. And therefore, we pray ..."
Radio MCC fulfils a vital need across the region in spreading the Word of God, reaching out in areas that are otherwise remote and inaccessible, strengthening the faith of Christians under pressure as well as bringing the hope and compassion of the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who don't yet know Him.

Easter is just a few weeks away, the season when life bursts forth from winter's grip and is a reminder that, just as Jesus broke free from the grave, we are all offered resurrection life through faith in Him. Whether in the relative safety of our own country, or for those living in much harsher conditions in other parts of the world, God is alive and well and longing to make a real difference in our lives and in our families. As Jesus said in John's gospel, I have come to give you life in all its fullness... and my peace that I give to you is a peace beyond anything this world can offer.

For the coming season, we wish you all a very Happy Easter
Revs Colin & Teresa Marks
Pastors, A10 Christian Mission, 821684

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- Pot of tea & Sparkling Rosé Wine

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Help Required from Local Artist

I am building a scale model of the railway line that passed through Standon many years ago.

I am looking for a local artist to create a background scene depicting the views of Standon and Puckeridge as seen from the railway line.

The scene will be approximately 12ft long x 1ft high and representing views from the bridge on the Braughing road to the east end of Standon High Street. Timescales and a modest reward are all subject to discussion.

If you are interested in helping with this project please contact Ian Smith on 01920 822421 or smithfamilypuckeridge@hotmail.com

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Sell.. or Makeover?

In this time of recession we need to evaluate the best way of spending the funds we have available to improve, or even completely overhaul our homes.

Moving and re-mortgaging is a lot of stress and relocating is hassle and inconvenience when, just maybe, the home you already have could be in actual fact, what you really seek.

Firstly ask yourself what is ideal for you and your family. The list will be of what you Need and what is Desirable.

From here we can give you an idea of what can be achieved with/without Planning Permission or even better can be carried out under Permitted Development. With this you can extend your property by 4m if it is detached or 3m if semi-detached. This could be making a glass extension to allow for a restaurant style bench seat/table and bi-fold doors onto the garden, then maybe freeing up a dining room for a study instead

Think outside the box too: such as merge your dining room into a large kitchen/diner creating a great family/social space. This can even include your Garden. This is your living space and how you make best use of it is how it 'performs' for you and your family.

In the garden, how about following a theme to give a sense of flow. ~Themes such as Japanese for peace, solace and minimalist landscapes and low maintenance ~Water, in ponds, features, and even containers to connect with the outdoors and nature.

We have numerous clients in the local area who continue to use our services for building painting /repairs/maintenance and Gardening Services,.. Recommendations that one can't buy!

Latest trends ~

Pantry: 40% of renovations are installing pantry cabinets (floor to ceiling) or small walk-in pantry again floor to ceiling

using all space, This frees up the Kitchen space giving a more open, airy feeling where great mood lighting can be utilised (different day/night colours)

The introduction of a utility room in in the Top 30 search criteria in Buying Homes search engines. Driers/ Dishwashers can be mounted on the wall for easier access and storage space above and below. A complete walking Utility area and downstairs W/C is a great space saver.

Don't think of a renovation or building project without really researching a good Project manager. It saves confusion. Try to use local Builders where projects can be seen of past work. If budgets allow rather than move think along the lines of Studio/ Garden Room. This will pay dividends in the future. Teenage Den/

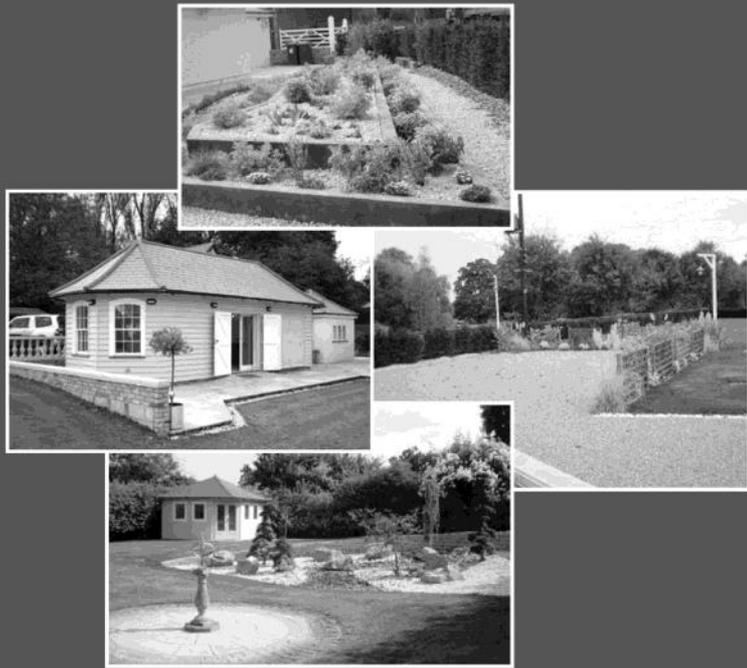
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Painting ~ be sure to think carefully on this. The higher quality paints often have a ground mineral base. This helps to stop colour fade and reduces absorption of air condensation and stains

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In aid of
Child Bereavement UK
REBUILDING LIVES TOGETHER

Snowdrop Walk

Sunday 12th March 2017
11am - 3pm, Brew House, Kents Lane, Standon, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG11 1PJ

Thanks to the generous support of Judi Smith, Child Bereavement UK supporters Kate Weldon and Emily Leigh-Dugmore will be holding their 4th annual Snowdrop Walk. It is a special day to remember the babies and children who have died and the children who are bereaved each year.



Snowdrop Planting
Individual snowdrops are available for you to purchase on the day where you can plant them within the grounds of the Lordship.

There will a Book of Remembrance in a quiet corner for your individual entries should you wish to do so.

Rhyming Creature Hunt
Join in the fun, find the missing rhyming creatures throughout your walk, there will be an activity sheet for children when you arrive on the walk with a map to follow or a route for a longer walk for the more energetic walkers.

Refreshments and Cakes
Refreshments and cakes will be served in Brew House at the end of your walk and all proceeds donated go to the charity. There will also be some children's activities taking place including colouring and a tombola.

Arrival and pay:
£5 a family of up to 5
£2.50 Per Adult
£2.00 Per Children
Under 3's are Free

For more details please search for 'Emily and Kate's Snowdrop Walk for Child Bereavement UK' on Facebook

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Child Bereavement UK, Clare Charity Centre, Wycombe Road, Saunderton, Bucks HP14 4BF
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Are you affected by Parkinson's?

Did you know that there are Parkinson's support groups all over the country. Your local support group was set up 3 years ago by a wonderful man called John, suffering from Parkinson's. Now in his late 70s, he needs younger, more able people to get involved with the group.

Can you give a little time?

Just come along, last Friday in the month (1.30-3.30pm) to Valley Court, Piggotts lane in Bishops Stortford, where the group get together for tea, cake and support. You may have something really useful to talk to them about that will make them laugh or feel inspired. For example a musical talent or particular hobby you love to share about, or simply to offer a friendly ear and chat.



- Or help organise an event, an afternoon tea or an outing.
- Or if you like numbers, help them with the treasury duties.
- Or if you cycle or run, help raise awareness wearing a Parkinson's shirt
- Or offer a couple of hours respite care for their partners/families



So please get involved in any capacity you can, however small, as this is so appreciated by those with Parkinson's
Contact claire.uwins@mac.com

Or just sign up as a "CAREbanker" to be part of community care via theCAREbank.org or contact claire.uwins@mac.com 07595674241

Your details will never be passed on other than to the local organisations you choose to connect with. TheCAREbank.org supported by Community Initiative (Bishop's Stortford) Reg charity number 1109106

Starts Wednesday 26 April 7.30-9.30pm at the Vicarage

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ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE

Puckeridge : Brian Durrant 01920 822331

Braughing: Tricia Lilley 01920 821700

AGE Concern
The Apton Centre

Realise that childhood ambition -drive a bus!
You can help Bishop's Stortford's frail and elderly. An hour or so of your time (weekly, fortnightly or monthly), to bring them to Age Concern's New Apton Centre in Apton Road, will put a smile on their faces. And you get to drive our bus!

Interested? Then let us know and one of our drivers will show you the ropes. Our drivers include retired photographers, IT professionals and police officers. Perhaps you are, or have been, an emergency driver – we'd love to have you join us. You'll have a D1 licence entitlement if you passed your driving test before 1997 (most over 35's), so you can drive our bus. This is a vital and rewarding volunteering activity - do please come and help.

Would you give an hour to help, chat or teach your favourite hobby or skill on a day that suits you?
The Apton centre folk want to have fun and be distracted from the loneliness of not having family & friends around them. Join our small band of volunteers.
Contact Jaq at agecobs@waitrose.com or Claire as below



 **BritishRedCross**

Spring Sale

Tuesday 25 April 2017
10.30am – 3.00pm

Entrance including coffee / tea and biscuits £3.50
Sandwiches will be served at lunchtime

**At Cottered Village Hall,
Cottered
SG9 9QR**

All proceeds to British Red Cross

The British Red Cross Society is a charity registered in England and Wales (220949), Scotland (SCO37738) and Isle of Man (0752)



We Need You!

To strengthen our local fundraising team, we are looking for volunteers in the Ware & Hertford area who enjoy organising events. Our team helps fund vital research which will find more cancer cures sooner.

Volunteer to Save Lives. Visit our website for more information:
www.cruk.org/CRUW

For an informal chat, please call **Rebecca West**, Local Fundraising Manager at 07766902004 or email at rebecca.west@cancer.org.uk

 **CANCER RESEARCH UK**

Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1089464), Scotland (SC041666) and the Isle of Man (1103).

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Contact: **John Felstead** Office: 01279 841145 (preferred)
e-mail: john@villageitservices.com Mobile: 07900 248284

Village Diary

Club Secretaries: Please keep us up to date with any changes to your regular meeting days and events.

We will take details of events as far ahead as you like to try to stop two events clashing and spoiling the day.

NB Some activities will be seasonal or in term time only, please phone the contact to check before turning up and possibly being disappointed.

Every Weekday

7.45-8.30am WASPS Breakfast Club at Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre (term time only). Trained staff currently take children to Roger de Clare, Ralph Sadleir and St Thomas of Canterbury Schools for registration. For further details please contact Nicola on 07904391133 or email on nicola.re@virgin.net.

9.30 - 12.15 or 2.15 (lunch club). Term Time only SPINS Pre-School Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Fun and friendly atmosphere with qualified staff. Visits welcome. Details 07881 533339.

3.15-6.15pm WASPS After School Club based at Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre (term time only). Trained staff currently collect children from Roger de Clare, Ralph Sadleir, St Thomas of Canterbury and Jenyns Schools. For further details please contact Nicola on 07904391133 or email on nicola.re@virgin.net.

Monday

9.30- 11.00 SPINS Toddler Group at Puckeridge & Standon Community Centre. Term time only. Details 07881 533339

10.00am - 11.30am Iyengar Yoga at Standon Village Hall, Hadham Road, Standon, SG11 1LE. Contact Sarah on 07427 596961 or visit www.TowardYoga.com for info.

10am – 4pm CAB North Entrance, Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford. Tel: 0844 848 9700.

1.45 Kettleball Exercise Classes, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Details Sue 07854 316628

2pm Second Monday of the month - Buntingford & District U3A, 2pm at the Seth Ward Community Centre, Buntingford.

Rib Valley Trampoline Club

Classes for children aged 5 upwards, Monday evenings during term time. Freman College

4.30pm, 5.30pm, 6.30pm. Details

Andrea Allen 07989 980038

email: ribvalleytc@live.co.uk

website: www.ribvalleytc.co.uk

4pm Dance Jam Academy at Standon Village Hall. Details Julie 07971 699615

Starlight Stars:

Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

3:45 Performing Arts Class 4-6yrs

4:45 Performing Arts Class 7-9yrs

5.45 Drama Class 10+yrs

6:15 Street Dance 11 - Adult

Call Alex 01763 287691

6pm 1st Standon & Puckeridge Brownies. Term time in Standon. Details Naomi Divall 01920 822169

6pm 2nd Buntingford Brownies. Term time in Buntingford. Email for details jill228374@hotmail.co.uk

6.35 Zumba Fitness at Standon Village Hall. Details 07578 994221

7 Braughing Bridge Club, Old Boy's School, Braughing. Details Sue 01920 823692

7.15 4th Monday of the month: 7.15pm Ware District Trefoil Guild, St Mary's Church Hall, Ware. Guiding

for adults. Details Alex Chapman 01920 465726

7.30 Braughing Bridge Club in the Old Boys School, Braughing. Details Sue 01920 823692

8.15 Dance JAM Academy - Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre Adult Tap (All levels). Tel Julie: 07971 699615

Tuesday

10am Bizzy Bodies Exercise Class for the over 60's. Standon Village Hall. Details Denise Sallows 01920 823072

10am – 1pm CAB North Entrance, Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford. Tel: 0844 848 9700.

Third Tuesday Colliers End Village Walks followed by refreshments. Details Suzanne Anderson 07896 699844

11.15am Chair-Aside exercise. Standon Village Hall. Details Denise Sallows 01920 823072

11.30 Punchline Boxing (adults) at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Details Adam Davidson 07903 657146

Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club

4pm Mini Red (5-8 yrs).

5pm Mini Orange/Green (8-10 yrs)

6pm Junior Club night

7pm Senior Club night

Details Tracy Llewellyn 07985 183796

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Starlight Stars at Standon & Puckeridge
Community Centre

4pm Hip Hop 7-11 yrs

4.30 Advance Street Dance(UDO)
12+yrs

Call Alex 01763 287691

4.30 -7.45 Ballet at Braughing Church
Hall: Karen Howarth - 01279
651535

5.30 Beavers (6-8yrs Scouts) Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre,
Term time only, Angie Adamson
01763 849902

6pm Tap, Modern & Jazz at Braughing
Community Centre: Kate Dutton -
07969 362224

6pm 2nd Buntingford Brownies. Term
time in Buntingford. Email for
details jill228374@hotmail.co.uk

6.30 Cubs - Puma Pack (8-10 years,
Scouts), term-time only. Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre.
Details Jackie Andrews 01763
247675

6.30 Cricket Club practice night, Colts
and Adults. Details Kai Michael
01763 273127 or Dave Bantick
01763 273205

7 Tennis Club evening (continues
under floodlights throughout the
winter). Details Diana Foster 01763
274244

7.30 Bell Ringing Practice, St Mary's
Church Tower, Standon. Interested?
- Come along or: Details Trevor
Chapman 01920 821341.

7.30 Embroidery Group. Second
Tuesday in the month, Sargeant
Room, Standon Village Hall.
Details Barbara Norris 01920
822104

8 Puckeridge WI, Roundhaye,
Puckeridge. 2nd Tuesday of the
month. Details info@
puckeridgewi.org

8.30 Puckeridge Karate Club meets
7pm at Standon & Puckeridge

Community Centre. Details Clive
Bowen 01763 231132

Wednesday

8.30 Under 1's Childrens' Group,
Standon Village Hall. Details Kelly
Brightman 01920 463949

9.30 Pilates at Standon & Puckeridge
Community Centre. Details Clare
07966 213880

9.30 (term time) Little Hadham Parents
& Toddlers group. Held Little
Hadham Village Hall

10am Standon & Puckeridge Tennis
Club Adult Tennis. Details Tracy
Llewellyn 07985 183796

10am Adults coffee morning. Standon
& Puckeridge Tennis Club. Details
Keith Bradshaw 01920 821152

10am - 1pm CAB North Entrance,
Manor House, 21 High Street,
Buntingford. Tel: 0844 848 9700

11am Pilates Group Standon Village
Hall. Details Judy Coward 01920
822812

11.30 Kettleball Exercise Classes,
Standon & Puckeridge Community
Centre. Details Sue 07854 316628

12.30 Bramble Hill Children's Centre
young parents group. (Term time).
Details 01763 273008

2pm Second Wednesday of the month
- Ware U3A, Wodson Park, (doors
open 1.30pm). Pat Davidson, 01920
438309

2.15 - 4.30pm Little Munden Cafe at All
Saints Church, Little Munden. April
- October.

3pm Friendly club bowls game. New
members and interested people
welcome. Standon & Puckeridge
Bowls Club, Station Road,
Puckeridge. Details John Simmons
821282

Dance JAM Academy - Standon
Village Hall

4.00pm Baby Ballet (3+ Years)

4.30pm Prep/Primary Ballet (5-
7years)

5.00pm Grade 1 Ballet (8+ years)

Tel Julie: 07971 699615

Starlight Stars at Standon & Puckeridge
Community Centre

3:30 Mini Street Dance 4-6 yrs

4pm Junior Street Dance 7-11 yrs

5pm Private Acting Lessons

Call Alex 01763 287691

6.15 Punchline Boxing (juniors) at
Standon & Puckeridge Community
Centre. Details Adam Davidson
07903 657146

6.30 Cubs - Cheetah Pack (8-10 yrs,
Scouts), term-time only. Braughing
Church Hall. Details Derek Goodall
01763 273149.

6.30 Braughing Aviation Society
meetings. First Wednesday of the
month at the Axe and Compasses,
Braughing. Details Ray Hankin
01920 832191

7pm Braughing Tennis Club night.
Details Karen Gore 07860 484878

7pm Zumba classes, Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre.
Details Diana 01920 822667

7.15 till 8.45pm Ranger Girl Guides
(14+ years), Cotted Guide Centre,
SG9 9QP. Details Rosanne Kenealy
01920 821304

7.30 Explorer Scouts (14-18 yrs)
Bowling Green Lane, Buntingford.
Meets throughout the year Details
Christine Pestle 07711 506281

7.30pm 1st Standon & Puckeridge
Guides. Term time in Braughing.
Details Louise Jenkins 07971 800
443

7.30 Worship and Bible School, A10
Christian Mission. Details Rev
Colin Marks 01920 821684

7.45 Third Wednesday Ware and
District 41 Club, Meet at White
Horse. High Cross. Book in with
Melvyn Cousins 01920 420197.

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8pm Kettleball Exercise Classes,
Standon & Puckeridge Community
Centre. Details Sue 07854 316628

8pm Ware Photographic Society meets
at The Arts Centre, Kibes Lane,
Ware, SG12 7ED, September to
May. Details: Barbara Norris 01920
822104 www.wareps.org.uk

8pm Last Wednesday of the month,
Braughing Aviation Society meets
in the Old Boys School, Braughing.
Details Terry Gilroy 01920 822296

Thursday

Starlight Stars at Standon & Puckeridge
Community Centre

3:45 Performing Arts Class 4-6yrs

4:45 Performing Arts Class 7-9yrs

5:45 Singing Class 7-9yrs

5:45 Musical Theatre Class 10-14
yrs

6:45 Youth Theatre Class 14-18 yrs

7:45 Cheerobics Adults

Call Alex 01763 287691

4.45pm 1st Standon & Puckeridge
Rainbows. Term time in Standon.
Details Karen Evans 07425 134 363

Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club
5.15 Mini Orange/Green (8-10 yrs)
6.30 Club evening. Details Tracy
Llewellyn 01920 823677

6 Cricket Club Practice Session.
Details Kai Michael 01763 273127
or Dave Bantick 01763 273205.

Puckeridge Karate Club

Juniors: 7-8pm, Adults 8-9.30pm,
Standon & Puckeridge Community
Centre. Details 01763 231132 or at
TG's Convenience Store.

7 Puckeridge Karate Club meets 7pm
at Standon & Puckeridge
Community Centre. Details Clive
Bowen 01763 231132

7 Church Choir meets at St Mary's
Church, Standon. Details Michael
Smith 01920 821281.

7 Punchline Boxing (adults) at
Standon & Puckeridge Community
Centre. Details Adam Davidson
07903 657146

8 Hertfordshire Holly, Mixed Clog
Morris Dance Side. High Cross
Village Hall. New dancers and
musicians welcome. Details Mary
Deeks 01920 822905

8 Prayer and Life Group, A10
Christian Mission. Details 01920
821684.

8.30 Standon Morris practice nights,
Standon Village Hall, Oct to Apr.
Meet in The Star from 8pm - new

male & female dancers & musicians
welcome (aged 12 and over)
Tel: 07808 969379

Friday

10am Third Friday Digital Photography
for Beginners, Ware U3A Standon
Village Hall. Details Barry Jackson
01920 821356

2pm Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club
Adult Tennis. Details Keith
Bradshaw 01920 821152

6.30 Scout & Guide Band, Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre.
Term times only. Details Garry
Edwards 01920 823163

7:30 Scouts (10½ - 14½ years old), term
-time only. Standon & Puckeridge
Community Centre. Details Karl
Adamson 01763 849902

7:30 Explorer Scouts (14 - 18 years
old), Christ Church, Ware. Meet
throughout the year. Details Jim
Campbell 01920 461134.

8 Ware Swimming Club Trials
evening. All welcome. Training
evenings are Monday and Friday.
Details Mr Vanner 01920 464439.

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Saturday

Dance JAM Academy – Standon Village Hall

- 9.00am Grade 3 Tap
 9.30am Grade 3 Freestyle
 10.00am Grade 2 Tap
 10.30am Grade 2 Freestyle
 11.00am Choreography
 11.30am Musical Theatre
 12.30pm Dance JAM Mini's (Tap and Freestyle for under 5s)
 1.00pm Grade 1 Freestyle
 1.30pm Grade 1 Tap
 2.00pm Prep/Primary Tap
 2.30pm Prep/Primary Freestyle
 Tel Julie: 07971 699615
- 9am - 1pm at Jenyns School Braughing:
 Ballet: Karen Howarth - 01279 651535 & Tap, Modern & Jazz: Kate Dutton - 07969 362224
- 9.30 First Saturday of the month - help with work in Standon Churchyard.
- 9.30 Pilates at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Details Clare 07966 213880
- 12.30-2pm Contessa Vaulting Group training sessions and competition practice. All welcome. Details Tina Layton 01920 821792
- 6pm Evening Mass at Puckeridge Roman Catholic Church. Details 01763 271471.

Communion with Junior Church

5th Sunday no service in Braughing - shared Holy Communion service 10.30am in Stocking Pelham.

8am Holy Communion service in St Mary's Church, Standon. (1st and 5th Sundays)

St. Mary's Church Standon: Please see the church notice board or service cards or the monthly church newsletter for up-to-date information. Details: Rev Alan Comfort 01920 318864

11.15 Mass at Old Hall Green Roman Catholic Church. Details 01763 271471.

11am Main service at The Methodist Church, Braughing. Details Revd David Mullins 01279 654475.

2.45 -5pm Braughing Sunday Teas. Every Sunday May - 14 October (excluding 3 June). Home-made cakes and teas in the Church Rooms, plus homemade jams.

4.45-6pm St Mary's at the School (with Messy Church), at Roger de Clare School during term time. 4th Sundays 10.45am at St Mary's Church. Details Rev Alan Comfort 01920 318864 and on our website: www.ubsms.org.uk

- 5 Braughing Guided Walk, meet opposite the Axe & Compasses, Braughing. 2pm. Details Paul 01920 822748 or Graham 821715.
- 10 Square Dance, Presdales School. 8-11:30pm. Tickets 01763 231492
- 11 Teatime talk 'The History of St Edmunds College' at Standon Village Hall. 3pm. £5 at the entrance.
- 11 Friends of St Mary's Standon Quiz Night at Puckeridge Community Centre. 7:30pm. Tickets 01920 822723
- 12 Hidden Hertford Walk. Booking essential 01992 582686
- 13 Talking about Bears for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford
- 14 Book Folding. Talk for Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org
- 16 Flower Arranging talk at Braughing WI, 7.30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 17 The US Airforce at Nuthamstead, talk for Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

Sunday

Braughing, St Mary the Virgin Services:

- 1st Sunday: 11am Holy Communion
 2nd Sunday: 9.30am Family Service
 3rd Sunday: 11am Holy Communion
 4th Sunday 9.30am Family

March

- 1 Victor V-bomber squadron talk for Braughing Aviation Society. 6:30pm at the Axe and Compasses, Braughing Details Ray Hankin 01920 832191
- 1 Community Café at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, 8.45-11am. Details Alison 01920 822872.

3-5 Great British Spring Clean

4 Hertford Museum. Stay and Play Saturdays 10:30-4:30pm

- 18 Food Glorious Food! Hertford Museum 01992 582686
- 19 Hidden Hertford Walk. Booking essential 01992 582686
- 23 Braughing Local History Society. AGM at St Mary's Church Hall, Braughing. 8:15pm
- 24 Swing in the Pink, Wodson Park, Ware. 8-11:30pm. Tickets 0844 812 5644
- 25 Jumble Sale for Isabel Hospice at Thundridge Village Hall, 2pm.
- 28 Pamper evening in aid of Cancer Research. 6:30 - 9pm @ inspires health & beauty salon, Herts

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 M: 07545 696819
 Email: swood@swlocums.com

- Regional College, Ware Campus, London Road, SG12 9JF. Details Alison on 01920 822872
- 29 Sadleir Drama Club. Baby Sparklers at Standon Village Hall. Tickets from Standon Post Office.
- April**
- 1 Hertford Museum. Stay and Play Saturdays 10:30-4:30pm
- 1 Introducing the Mustard Seed Singers. 7:30pm at St Peter's Church, Market Hill, Buntingford. Tickets 01763 273207
- 2 Braughing Guided Walk, meet opposite the Axe & Compasses, Braughing. 2pm. Details Paul 01920 822748 or Graham 821715.
- 5 Community Café at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, 8.45-11am. Details Alison 01920 822872.
- 5 Desert Air Force's part at el Alamein talk for Braughing Aviation Society. 6:30pm at the Axe and Compasses, Braughing Details Ray Hankin 01920 832191
- 8-12 Buntingford Twinning Association. French visit. Details Trevor Reedman 01763 272135
- 9 Braughing Guided Walk, meet outside the Fox and Duck, Therfield. 2pm. Details Paul 01920 822748 or Graham 8217159
- 9 Hidden Hertford Walk. Booking essential 01992 582686
- 10 St George, a talk for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford
- 11 Gardening. Talk for Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org
- 13 Starlight Stars High School Musical Jr. 1pm and 3pm at Hertford Theatre. Details 01763 287691
- 13 Maundy Thursday Communion, 7:30pm at St Catherine's Church, Sacombe
- 14 Good Friday, Service by the Cross, 11am, at All Saints Church, Little Munden. Reflective Hour, 2pm, at St Mary's Church, Standon.
- 14-17 Friends of St Mary's Standon Easter Egg Treasure Hunt. Collect a trail card from the church porch.
- 15 Quiz Night at Colliers End Village Hall. Details Suzanne Anderson 01920 821836
- 16 Easter Day, Communion, 8am at All Saints Church, Little Munden. Family Communion 10.45am at St Mary's Church, Standon.
- 20 Nursing at Great Ormond Street talk for Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 21 Waterway Wonders, talk for Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516
- 23 Hidden Hertford Walk. Booking essential 01992 582686
- 3 Air Transport Auxiliary in WW2 talk for Braughing Aviation Society. 6:30pm at the Axe and Compasses, Braughing Details Ray Hankin 01920 832191
- 5 Friends of St Mary's Standon AGM. 7:30
- 6 Hertford Museum. Stay and Play Saturdays 10:30-4:30pm
- 7 Braughing Guided Walk, meet opposite the Axe & Compasses, Braughing. 2pm. Details Paul 01920 822748 or Graham 821715.
- 8 Man on the spot, a talk for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford
- 9 Annual Meeting for Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org
- 11-13 Much Hadham Drama Group. 'The Ladykillers' at Much Hadham Village Hall. Tickets nclarke167@aol.com
- 13 Standon and Puckeridge Bowls Club Open Day, 10-4pm.
- 13 Buntingford Twinning Association. 60'S Hop. Details Trevor Reedman 01763 272135
- 17 Annual Meeting for Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 19 The Enfield Railway Pt 3, talk for Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

May

- 1 Mayday in Standon High Street.
- 3 Community Café at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, 8.45-11am. Details Alison 01920 822872



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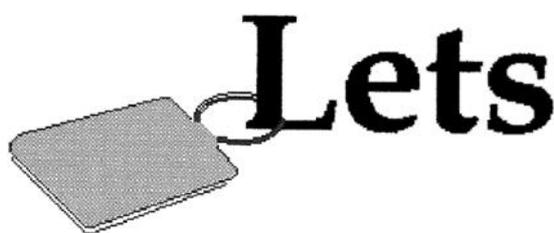
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To apply please visit our website in order to download an application pack at www.stedmundscollege.org/About/Job-Opportunities or contact:

St Edmund's College & Prep School, Old Hall Green, Nr Ware, Herts, SG11 1DS
Tel: 01920 824335 or hr@stedmundscollege.org

The College is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children. Therefore, all candidates will be required to undergo an Enhanced DBS check.

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- 20 Rogation Walk. Up to 13 miles. Start at Little Hormead Church at 9:45am. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516
- 20 Jumble Sale for Isabel Hospice at Thundridge Village Hall, 2pm.
- 20 Annual Meeting of Braughing WI, 7.30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 20 Race Night at Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre. 7pm. Tickets 07770 786097
- 21 Open Gardens in aid of British Red Cross at Fanhams Hall Hotel SG12 7PZ. 12-5pm.
- 22 Braughing Guided Walk, meet Cheshunt Station Car Park. 6:30pm. Details Paul 01920 822748 or Graham 8217159
- 25 Braughing Local History Society. Jottings of two Buntingford Vicars at St Mary's Church Hall, Braughing. 8:15pm
- 10 Standon Open Gardens. 11-6pm.
- 11 Open Gardens in aid of British Red Cross at Dassels Bury SG11 2RW 2-5pm.
- 7 Community Café at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, 8.45-11am. Details Alison 01920 822872.
- 12 Spitfire Woman, a talk for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford
- 13 Hearing Dogs. Talk for Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org
- 15 Grandma's London talk for Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 21 The Soham Rail Disaster, talk for Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516
- 10 River Kwai River, a talk for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford
- 11 Garden party with Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org
- 20 River Lea talk for Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 21 Buntingford Railway & Local History Society Social Evening at Braughing Station. 7pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

August

- 17 Cream Tea Afternoon with Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 18 Buntingford Railway & Local History Society Social at Standon Green End Farm. 7pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

September

- 11 Susannah Charlton talk for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford
- 12 Charity Crafting with Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org

June

- 4 Braughing Guided Walk, meet opposite the Axe & Compasses, Braughing. 2pm. Details Paul 01920 822748 or Graham 821715

July

- 5 Community Café at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, 8.45-11am. Details Alison 01920 822872.



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Mortgage & Money Management Ltd is directly authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority No. 452616.

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage or any other debt secured on it.

- 15 Saffron Walden Railway Company, talk for Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516
- 21 Humorous Police Career talk for Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397

October

- 10 Talk for Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org
- 10 AGM for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford
- 19 Tripe and Trotters talk for Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 20 Mixed Bag, talk for Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

November

- 13 From Barter to Barclaycard, a talk for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford

- 14 Christmas card with Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org
- 16 Bingo Night with Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 17 Furneux Pelham talk for Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

28-2 Dec Sadleir Drama Club Production

December

- 7 Christmas Party with Braughing WI. 7:30pm at Braughing Church Hall. Details Kate Fish 01920 822397
- 11 Tudor Christmas, a talk for Buntingford U3A. Details www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford
- 12 Christmas meal with Puckeridge WI. Details www.puckeridgewi.org
- 15 The Cambridge to Bedford Line, talk for Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

January 2018

- 19 Buntingford Railway & Local History Society AGM at The Crown, Market Hill, Buntingford. 8pm. Details Stephen Ruff 01763 289516



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RECYCLING INFORMATION

Bulky Waste, Unwanted / abandoned cars & Flytipping

Contact East Herts Council on www.eastherts.gov.uk or phone 01279 655261.

Bulky waste details: One household item - £23.50 (£10.00 per item thereafter (maximum 4.))

The Council will remove **flytipping**: use the on-line form.

Car batteries, engine oil, Fridges and Freezers

All are recycled at::

Bishops Stortford Household Waste Site, Woodside Road (off Dunmow Road).

Buntingford Household Waste Site, Aspenden Road.

Ware Household Waste Site, Westmill Road.

Cameras & Photography Books

The Disabled Photographers Society always welcome good serviceable cameras to adapt for disabled persons use, also photography books.

Disabled Photographers Society:
www.the-dps.co.uk/

Foreign Coins

Isabel Hospice collects foreign coins (and notes!) drop them in to their Charity Shop in Buntingford or Ware High Street.

Ink & toner cartridges

- Roger de Clare School is now recycling ink jet and toner cartridges, original manufacturers only, from printers, fax machines and photocopiers. They can be dropped off on any school day between 8.30 and 11.00 am
- Puller Memorial School - drop them in to the School.
- Isabel Hospice collects toner cartridges, drop them in to their Charity Shop in Ware High Street.

Computers

Only fully working PCs. Please telephone first. www.computeraid.org
Tel: 020 7281 0091

Another site worth checking is www.donatepc.org.uk

Domestic Batteries

Standon Post Office & supermarkets

Postcards

Please save your postcards and take them to St Mary's Church, Standon or All Saints Church, Little Mundon. They are collected for Church work in Sudan.

Furniture

The Furniture Re-use Service in the county are listed at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/envplan/waste/wasteaware/yrservices/furniture/furniture/>

Knitting wool

Unused wool which will be turned into baby clothes etc., for children in Uganda can be left in the collection box at the back of St Mary's Church, Standon.

Stamps

- Gwen Duckett collects used stamps for the Leprosy Mission. Drop them in to 5 Vicarage Close, Standon.
- Puller Memorial School in High Cross collects used stamps to 'Save the Albatross'. Drop them into school or 32 Batchelors, Puckeridge.
- Isabel Hospice collects used stamps, drop them in to their Charity Shop in Ware High Street or post them to the Hospice at Great Barmingham Lane, Luton LU3 3NT.

Mobile phones

Loads of charities recycle old mobile phones. Just search 'donating mobile phones'.

Sunglasses & Spectacles

The large chains of opticians, e.g. Boots or Specsavers will recycle old glasses for the developing world. Drop them in to any branch.



Ralph Sadleir School
PROUD TO ACHIEVE
An Academy Trust for 9 - 13 year olds

Station Road, Puckeridge, SG11 1TF. Tel: 01920
Give your child the opportunity to be part of a middle school community that offers specialist teaching facilities similar to that of a secondary school, but with smaller year groups, personalised learning and a supportive environment.

THE SCHOOL IS A CALM AND ORDERLY COMMUNITY, PUPILS' BEHAVIOUR AND RELATIONSHIPS ARE EXCELLENT.
OFSTED

Come along and see us in action – we promise you won't be disappointed!

RALPH SADLEIR SCHOOL PUPILS' BEHAVIOUR AND GENERAL ATTITUDES TO EDUCATION ARE EXCELLENT.
OFSTED

PUPILS ARE EXTREMELY WELL PREPARED FOR THEIR FUTURE STUDIES.
OFSTED

Please visit our website at:
www.ralphsadleir.herts.sch.uk

SPINS PRE-SCHOOL

(Community Centre, Puckeridge, SG11 1TF)
SPINS is a safe and caring environment where your child can learn, grow and develop.
Open Mon – Fri Term Time, 9.15am- 12.15pm (or 2.15pm lunch club)
Visits Welcome. Tel: 07881 533339



Hares Youth fc
formerly Hormead Hares
Registered Charity no. 1122647



Now permanently relocated to Ralph Sadleir & Roger de Clare Schools, Puckeridge & Braughing Playing Fields.

Providing football for boys & girls of all abilities.

ACADEMY – for boys & girls age 3 to 6 years at Roger de Clare School, every Thursday 4pm - 5.15pm starting on March 5th 2015, cost £3 per session.

Appropriate clothing for the weather & shin pads must be worn. Sessions will be run by an FA Level 2 qualified coach. Further information please contact Rob Cavill on 07816 215378.

Mixed teams from U7–U13, Girls & Boys teams from U14–U18 email HHFC2000@gmail.com

Waste Disposal

For further information, call WasteAware on 0300 1234 051
All Household Waste sites are closed on 25 & 26 Dec and 1 Jan.
Aspenden Road, Buntingford.
Open: Mon - Fri 5pm - 8pm,
Sat & Sun 10am - 1pm.
Westmill Road, Ware
Open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Saturday, Sunday
Oct 1 - Mar 31: 8am - 4pm,
Apr 1 - Sep 30: 10am - 6pm
Closed: Thursday and Friday

Report a Water Leak

www.affinitywater.co.uk/report-a-leak.aspx

Environment Agency

For reporting all environmental incidents relating to air, land and water: 0800 80 70 60.

Stop junk mail, phone calls and faxes

Register and junk mail and phone calls will miraculously reduce!

Mailing Preference Service

0207 291 3310
www.mpsonline.org.uk/mpsr/

Telephone Preference Service

0845 070 0707
www.tpsonline.org.uk/tps/number_type.html

These services are free (apart from the cost of the call). Do not respond to anyone asking for money for these services.

Do you need help paying your council tax bill?

If you are on a low income and currently pay Council Tax, you may be eligible for Council Tax Benefit. Even if you receive other benefits, you may still be entitled to help. For an application form or advice, contact East Herts District Council's Benefits Service on 01279 655261 or www.eastherts.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=8772



Much Hadham Pre-School



We offer a fun, stimulating, supportive, safe and caring environment for every child. We're Ofsted registered.

We have limited places available from April 2016 and there is funding available. It would be our pleasure to show you round. Please ring us on 01279 842614 between 8.45am and 12.15pm in term time and ask for Maria. Follow us on Facebook. Much Hadham Pre School, Oudle Lane, Much Hadham, SG10 6DQ

Westmill Nursery

Offering a secure family-friendly environment for children from 2 to 5 years old. Open Monday to Friday during term time.
Tel: Sarah or Sandra 01763 273005 or 07934 195812
Email: westmillnursery@btinternet.com

www.westmillnursery.co.uk



Roger de Clare First School & Nursery

Station Road, Puckeridge, SG11 1TF

A very successful friendly and caring village school with a Church School ethos.

OUTSTANDING in all 7 OFSTED categories (February 2007)
Experienced, happy and caring staff and supporting governors and parents.
High expectations of behaviour and achievement.
Happy and motivated pupils.
A well established outdoor area for the Foundation Stage.
A separate, exciting and recently developed outside learning area for the whole school.
Achieved Herts Quality Standards Award for excellent Early Years practice.
Investors in People and Healthy Schools accreditation.
Opportunities for Maypole Dancing at Standon May Day.
Meeting point for WASPS After School Club (3.15 – 6.30 p.m.)

Aim: Maximum achievement for all in a happy, caring and stimulating environment.

Visits warmly welcomed. Come and share the fun and join our family.

Headteacher Mrs. Laura Woods Telephone 01920 821363
www.roglerdeclare.herts.sch.uk e-mail admin@roglerdeclare.herts.sch.uk

One to One Tutor

(I come to you)

Friendly, patient, very experienced and local.
Help & support for Key Stage 1 to G.C.S.E.

Ages 6 to 16

(SATS, 11+, 13+, Entrance Exams & GCSE, etc)

References, Enhanced CRB

07835 193854



Would You like the best possible education for your child?

Village School - Excellent Nursery Facility
Smaller Classes - High academic achievement
Good results (SATS)

A caring, friendly, stimulating environment - Good parental support
The ethos of a church school

Puller Memorial C of E Primary School
High Cross, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG11 1AZ

Phone 01920 463178 for further information

www.puller.herts.sch.uk

St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

High Street, Puckeridge, Herts, SG11 1RZ

Tel: 01920 821450 www.stcanterbury.herts.sch.uk

"We learn, love, respect and accept our responsibilities through our faith in Jesus Christ"

- "An outstanding, caring school offering an excellent education and outstanding opportunities for pupils' personal development" Ofsted 2007
- Welcomes girls and boys from Nursery to Year 6
- Achieved Herts Quality Standards Award for excellent Early Years practice
- Experienced and dedicated staff and governors
- Promotes strong values and discipline offering a secure and stimulating learning environment
- Extensive fields and playground area

Visits warmly welcome – please contact the office on:
01920 821450 and visit our website

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Isabel Hospice Shop

We would be pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in helping to run our shops. Half a day a week is the usual volunteers' stint.

Please call the Shop Manager on the appropriate number: Buntingford 01763 274904, Hertford 01992 504401, Bishop's Stortford 01279 659551, Ware 01920 463959.

Our van driver also needs help with collections and deliveries 01707 395002.

Do you feel needed and valued?

Might you have some time to spare? Would you like to help other people maintain independence and dignity in their homes and communities, particularly in later life?

If so, call Pauline on 01992 552069 to find out about volunteering for the WRVS Good neighbours scheme locally."

Hospital Transport Scheme needs Volunteer Drivers

- Do you drive your own car?
- Can you spare one morning/afternoon a month?
- Do you live in the area bounded by High Cross, Dane End, Dassels and Little Hadham?

Then please consider being a volunteer driver for the local Hospital Transport Scheme. (You are paid a mileage allowance)

Details: Robin Chalkley 01920 822156

Riding for the Disabled

We need help now!

Sessions held weekly, term-time only, at The Contessa Riding Centre, Colliers End.

- Mondays 2pm – 3pm
- Tuesdays 9.45am – 10.45am
- Tuesdays 10.45am – 11.45am
- Fridays 10am – 11.30am

For more information contact: Boo Williams – 01279 842805

Registered as a Charity No 244108

Age UK Volunteers needed

Age UK Hertfordshire is always on the look out for Volunteers to help support its many projects. A variety of interesting roles are available so no matter how much time you have available or what your level of skills and knowledge are, then we probably have something just right for you.

For further information please contact 01707 323 272 or e-mail: info@ageukherts.org.uk

Talking Newspaper for the Visually Impaired

Hear all about it!

Do you know someone who would like to keep in touch with local events?
www.bstalkingnewspaper.co.uk
01279 651270 or 651313

Do you want to play chess?

Hertford Chess Club is a small friendly club with players of all strengths and ages. We meet in the Hertford Club, Lombard House, Bull Plain, Hertford with oak beams and a private bar!

Contact Alan 01920 463698 or www.hertfordchessclub.com

Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

is now available for hire.

Meetings/Parties/Regular Bookings.

Call Sally on 07854 916404

Email: communitycentre@tesco.net
www.standonandpuckeridgecc.co.uk

Westmill Village Hall

Available to rent for functions

To enquire about costs and availability please contact:

Mike McRae on 01763 272147

or email mjismcrae@aol.com

 New members needed for "Braughing Sing" - a community choir for all ages and abilities covering a range of musical styles.

Come along in **September** and join our fun-filled Tuesday Evenings at the Jenyns School, Braughing 7.30-9.00 pm. *No audition required!*
www.braughingsing.com

Contact Elaine:
07501 495940 ~ 01763 289 738

Organising a Party?

Child's? (Up to 14 years), Anniversary? Xmas function? Retirement? Works get-together? Even a wedding?

Why not hire the lovely Standon Village Hall for the event?

Very reasonable rates! (Maximum 80 persons)

Ring Denis on 01279-842625
For further details!

Standon Village Hall
Hadham Road, Standon SG11 1LE
www.standonvillagehall.org

Police Contacts:

Number for **NON 999** calls: 101
Crimestoppers: 0800 555111.

Please remember: **ALWAYS DIAL 999**
IN AN EMERGENCY.

www.herts.police.uk

Hertfordshire Police Authority, Freepost
 ANG 6281, Hertford SG13 8YS.
 Telephone: 01992 556600.

Puckeridge Health Centre

Drs. Partington, Foster and Nicolson.
 The Surgery, Station Road, Puckeridge
 SG11 1TF

Tel: 01920 823860 (*inc out of hours*).

Surgery is open:

Mon – Fri 8.30am – 6pm

Minor Injuries Unit

Herts and Essex Hospital, Haymeads
 Lane, Bishop's Stortford CM23 5JH

Staffed Mon - Fri, 9am - 4.30pm. Ring
 01279 655191 ext. 4298 to ensure that
 the unit can help.

**NHS Non-emergency
Number**

If it is not a 999 emergency but you
 need medical help fast, Call 111.

**Domestic Violence/Abuse
Help Line**

08 088 088 088 (Freephone)

Confidential helpline open 9-9 Mon-
 Fri, 9-4 Sat & Sun.

Traveline

0871 200 2233
 www.traveline.co.uk

Victim support

0300 303 0165

Abandoned Vehicles

01992 655261

**Herts Society for the Blind
Sight Line**

The Sight Line telephone number is:
 01707 324680, Monday to Friday
 between 9:00am and 4:00pm

**Age UK Hertfordshire
Information Line**

Offers you information on a wide range
 of issues that are relevant to older
 people. Our trained Information Workers
 provide information you can trust that
 will enable you to make the right choices
 and decisions for you. We can also put
 you in touch with other organisations
 that can help you.

Information Line: 0300 345 3446

CABx

East Herts Citizens Advice Service:
 0844 848 9700

www.ehcas.org.uk

Bishops Stortford: 74 South Street.

Buntingford: Manor House, 21 High
 Street.

Hertford:

Yeoman's Court,
 Ware Road, Hertford
 (opposite Tesco).

Home visits are
 available by
 appointment please
 phone the Ware or
 Buntingford office.

www.adviceguide.org.uk.

Consumer Direct: 08454 04 05 06 or
 www.consumerdirect.gov.uk

Trading Standards

03454 040506, 9am - 5pm Monday to
 Friday .

Post Office Times**Braughing**

Mon - Fri 9.00 – 5.30

Thursday early closing 1.00pm.

Saturday closing 12.30pm

Standon

Monday - Friday 9.00 - 5.30

Saturday 9.00 - 1.00

Local Library Times**Home Library Service:**

If you can't reach your local library
 because you are housebound, have a
 disability or care for someone at home
 this service will deliver books free of
 charge. Details 0300 123 4049

Bishop's Stortford Library:

Monday	10.00 - 19.00
Tuesday	10.00 - 18.00
Wednesday	10.00 - 18.00
Thursday	10.00 - 18.00
Friday	10.00 - 18.00
Saturday	10.00 - 17.00
Sunday	12.00 - 16.00

Buntingford Library:

Monday	10.00 - 17.30
Tuesday	10.00 - 17.30
Wednesday:	Closed
Thursday	10.00 - 17.30
Friday:	14.00 - 17.30
Saturday:	09.00-13.00

Ware Library:

Monday:	10.00 - 17.30
Tuesday:	10.00 - 17.30
Wednesday:	14.00-17.30
Thursday:	Closed
Friday:	10.00 - 17.30
Saturday:	10.00 - 17.00

ALBURY SEEDLINGS

Within the beautiful small setting of Albury School we are now able
 to offer "Albury Seedlings", caring for children from the age of two,
 developing young minds through play. Led by our qualified
 teacher who is a Specialist Leader of Education for Early Years.

We have flexible sessions, 9 am to 3 pm Monday to Friday. We
 are registered for funding for children aged 2 to 4 years.

If you would like to come and visit our newly refurbished learning
 environment or to find out what places we have available, please
 call 01279 771253.

Shotokan Karate

Come and give it a try. Self defence and physical
 benefits for everyone from age 6 years upwards.

6.30 - 7.30pm every Monday

Community Centre, Luyne Rise, Buntingford

Information: Mr P Deacon 01462 642922

GRANTS AVAILABLE

Standon Charities can offer grants (typically £50-100
 for school trips, special equipment for a disabled
 person, etc) to meet the needs of individuals or groups
 in the ancient parish of Standon
 (which includes Colliers End and Wadesmill).

If you think that you, or someone you know, could be
 eligible for a grant, write to the Clerk (including a
 phone number) John Harris on 01920 822887

Aircraft noise

Stansted Airport Noise Unit.
0800 243 788 email:
stanstednoiseline@stanstedairport.com

Animal Warden

To report incidents re: dog faeces, stray dogs and an identichipping service.
01279 655261

East Herts District Council

The Causeway, Bishop's Stortford or Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford. Both are open 9.00am - 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. Tel: 01279 655261.
www.eastherts.gov.uk.

Herts County Council

Contact details:

Adult Care Services 0300 123 4042
Children, Schools & Families 0300 123 4043
Fire Safety 0300 123 4046
Highways Fault Reporting 0300 123 4047
www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults
Trading Standards 0345 404 0506
Waste Aware 0300 123 4051
General Enquiries 0300 123 4040
Textphone Users: 0300 123 4041

Halls for hire

- Braughing Church Hall and Old Boys School, (up to 120 with kitchen facilities) – contact Phil Firmin 01920 823120, email phil.firmin@outlook.com
- Braughing Playing Field Association Community Hall - Contact Sue Fox - suefox1@hotmail.co.uk
- Colliers End Village Hall (40 people comfortably, with kitchen) - Contact Sandra Chadwick 07976 254379
- Dane End Memorial Hall Johanna Wheeler 01920 438875 dane-endhallbookings@Outlook.com
- Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre - Contact Sally Sperring 07854 916404 communitycentre@tesco.net
- Standon Village Hall, Hadham Road, Standon – Contact Denis or Beverly Olliver on 01279 842625
- Westmill Village Hall. Contact Mike McRae on 01763 272147 or email mjismcrae@aol.com

Power cut helpline

Text POWER and your postcode to 80876
ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut
0800 31 63 105
0333 32 32 105 (if calling from a mobile)

Local Churches:

- A10 Christian Mission: Contact Revs Colin & Teresa Marks 01920 821684
- Congregational Church, Braughing Chapel: Secy: Mrs M Page 01920 822274
- Methodist Church, Braughing: Minister The Revd. David Mullins 01279 654475
- Old Hall Green & Puckeridge Roman Catholic Churches: Fr. John White 01763 271471
- Puckeridge Chapel, Century Hall, Station Road. Pastor Bill Harrow 01920 821366 pastorbill@puckeridgecc.co.uk
www.puckeridgecc.co.uk/index.html
- St Mary's Church Standon: Rev Alan Comfort 01920 318864 alancomfort11@googlemail.com
www.ubsms.org.uk/
- St Mary's Church, Braughing: Rev. Julie Gawthrope 01920 823531 vicar@braughing.org.uk
www.achurchnearyou.com/braughing-st-mary-the-virgin/

New Bellingers Welcome

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on 01920 821341



Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

100 Club

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For details and subscriptions please call:

Helen on 01920 823977

Disclaimer

PS News is written by many people from the villages who report for themselves or a club or society they represent.

The production team do not necessarily agree with the opinions aired in the articles printed here. We are always happy to print another point of view in the newsletter.

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LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

MEP's

Patrick O'Flynn (UKIP) email:
patrick.oflynn@europarl.europa.eu
00 322 284 5337

Vicky Ford (Conservative)
office@vickyford.org
01954 211 722 www.vickyford.org

Alex Mayer (Labour)
01353 644045 email:
contact@alexmayer.eu
www.alexmayer.eu

MP

Sir Oliver Heald QC MP, House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA
Phone 01462 486074
E-mail:
oliver.heald.mp@parliament.uk
www.oliverhealdmp.com

County Councillors

Braughing, including Puckeridge and Standon up to the A120

Rose Cheswright 823742
rose.cheswright@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Ware North (Standon from the A120 into Ware)

David Andrews 823836
Fax: 821194
david.andrews@hertfordshire.gov.uk

District Councillors

Braughing

Cllr Ben Harris-Quinney 01920 821446
ben.harris-quinney@eastherts.gov.uk

Little Hadham

Cllr Geoffrey Williamson 01279 771272
geoffrey.williamson@eastherts.gov.uk

Puckeridge

Vacant

Standon

Cllr David Andrew 01920 823836
david.andrew@eastherts.gov.uk

Parish Council Meetings

Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend. *Please check local notice boards to confirm details.*

Braughing

Meetings: The Old Boys' Schoolroom, Braughing, 8pm, second Thursday of the month (for planning applications, contact the Clerk).

Little Hadham

Meetings: Lt. Hadham Village Hall, 8pm, first Monday every month except January & August.

Standon

Meetings: Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, fourth Thursday of the month (except August & December). Meetings start at 8pm.

Parish Councils

Braughing

Clerk:
Belinda Irons, 14 Crawley End, Chrishall, Royston, SG8 8QL Tel: 01763-838732 email: chrishall@uwclub.net

Chairman:

Peter Boylan 01920 822026
pboylan@braughing.org.uk
Web site: www.braughing.org.uk

Lt Hadham

Clerk:
Mr B M Evans 01279 842803
clerk.little.hadham@ntlworld.com

Standon

Clerk:
Belinda Irons 01763 838732
clerk@standonparishcouncil.co.uk

Chairman:

Richard Boxall 01920 822335
email: james@cartwright.net
Web site: standonparishcouncil.co.uk

Westmill

Clerk:
Marty Kilby 01763 289191
marty@martykilby.co.uk

Chairman:

Mike McRae 01763 272147
mjmcrae@aol.com



cubs



Your Scout Group needs You

Braughing Scout group is looking for more adult helpers in all sections.

If you can help out please contact: braughingscouts@tiscali.co.uk or one of the Scout, Cub or Beaver contacts on page 51 for more details

We need help now!

Sessions held weekly, term-time only, at
The Contessa Riding Centre,
Colliers End.

Mondays 2pm – 3pm, Tuesdays 9.45am – 10.45am
Tuesdays 10.45am – 11.45am, Fridays 10am – 11.30am

For more information contact:
Boo Williams – 01279 842805

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LOCAL DIRECTORY

All phone No's are 01920 and clubs in Puckeridge or Standon unless shown otherwise

- Albury Acorns Preschool:
Sue/Kim on 07826 303560
- Allotments:
Braughing:
Tricia Lilley 01920 821700
Puckeridge: Brian Durrant 822331
- Art Club: Joan 822758
- Aviation Society:
Vic Flintham 01763 289636
- Baby-sitting Circle:
Sylvia Pinnington 822216
- Bat Helpline 01992 581442
- Beavers: 6-8 years old,
Angie Adamson 01763 849902
- Bell Ringing:
Braughing: Peter Glazebrook
821554, Standon: Stephen Coley
823886.
- Bishop's Stortford Railway Society:
Barry Bridges 438586
- Bowls Club: Jean Maslin, 01920 423273
or Fred Barnard, 01920 821214
- Braughing Cricket Club: Peter Hobson
01920 438361
- Braughing Local History Society:
Mary Cockburn
mary.cockburn@btpopenworld.com
- Braughing Cricket Club Colts: 438361
07774 961829
- Braughing Playing Field Association
Trust: Sue Fox -
suefox1@hotmail.co.uk
- Braughing Society:
Sandra Lynch 823500
- Braughing WI: Kate Fish 822397
- Bridge Clubs:
Sue Dailly 823692,
Brownies: Register your daughter's
interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk -
general enquiries to Naomi Divall
01920 822169
- Budding Babes: Tracy 01920 824041
- Buntingford Choir:
Mandy or Gareth 0781 491 2595
- Buntingford Heritage Centre:
Jenny Dingley 01763 273002
- Caged Bird Society (Buntingford):
Norman Riddle 01920 870307
- Carols Round the Tree (Standon):
Caroline Franks 822723
- Carpet Bowls:
Mick Brown 01763 274114
- Church Choir Braughing: Helen Carter
823873, Standon: Michael Smith
821281
- Conservative Assn:
David Andrews 823836
- Cubs: Wednesday Cheetah pack Derek
Goodall 01763 273149,
Tuesday Puma Pack: Jackie
Andrews 01763 247675
- Dance Classes - Rhythm & Poise School
of Dance: Ballet: Karen Howarth -
01279 651535 & Tap, Modern &
Jazz: Kate Dutton - 07969 362224
- Dance JAM Academy:
Julie McPartland
01920 822488 or 07971699615
- Dog Training: Jan Mann 823475
- Dominoes: Brown Bear, Braughing -
Graham Fray 821715
- Drama Group (Braughing):
Sandy Varley 822589
- Embroidery Group:
Barbara Norris 822104
- Folk Music Club:
Stortfolk 01279 656664
- Veterans Football Club (Braughing):
Keith Mardell 822133,
- Friends of Braughing Church:
Ned Dailly 01920 823692 or email:
nedailly@btinternet.com
- Golden Age Club (Braughing):
Rita Langley 821340
- Golf Club (East Herts):
Secretary 821978
- Guides: Register your interest at
www.girlguiding.org.uk - enquiries
to Louise Jenkins 07971 800 443
- Health Centre: 823860
- Hertford & Ware Railway Society:
Stuart Moye 467132
- Hertfordshire Holly: Mixed Clog
Morris: Mary Deeks 822905
- Herts & Essex Architectural Research
society:
Kath Pollard 01708 473646
- Hormead Hares Football Club:
01763 848449
- Horticulture Society (Braughing):
Marion Saunders 821700
- Hospital Transport for the Elderly:
Robin Chalkley 822156
- Jenyns First School & Nursery: 821461
- Karate Club: Clive 01763 231132
- Kettlebell Exercise Classes: Sue Prior
07854 316628
- Labour Party:
Frederick Perkins 822454
- Liberal Democrats:
David Albinson 822640
- Lipreading classes:
Louise Reed 821401
- Little Hadham Primary School: 01279
771285
- Mayday Committee:
Sue Spalding 821624 or
Rachel Law
rachelaw79@yahoo.co.uk
- Mercury Correspondent: Braughing:
Clive Marshall 822167
- Music at St Mary's Braughing:: Vicky
Clough 821434
- NSPCC: Alex Lang 822209
- Pantomime Group, Braughing: Peter
Walsingham 823265
- Parish Paths Partnership: Braughing -
Christine Flintham 01763 289636,
Standon - John Harris 822887
- Pet Care: Mrs Harvey 822814
- Petanque: Brown Bear, Braughing -
Graham Winter 821373
- Pets TLC: 822705

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Almshouses become available from time to time for people with a connection to the Parishes of Standon and Thundridge. Each almshouse is a self contained unit with it's own kitchen, bathroom and living room.

Write for details and an application form to:
John Harris, Clerk to Standon Charities,
4 South Road, Puckeridge SG11 1TH.
www.standoncharities.org.uk

Braughing Housing Association

The Braughing Housing Association is responsible for seven flatlets at Orchard House, The Street, Braughing. Each property consists of kitchen, hallway, bathroom and bed/sitting room, suitable for singles tenancy only.

Enquiries concerning possible vacancies and tenancy should be directed, in writing, to The Chairman, Braughing Housing Association, East View, Hay Street, Braughing, Ware SG11 2RG

Should any become available, preference would be given to the elderly, most needy and those with a connection to Braughing.

- Photographic Society (Ware): Barbara Norris 822104
- Puckeridge WI: info@puckeridge.wi.org
- Railway & Local History Society (Buntingford): Stephen Ruff 01763 289516, (Bishop's Stortford) Barry Bridges 438586, (Hertford & Ware) Stuart Moye 467132
- Rainbows: Register your interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk - enquiries to Karen Evans 07425 134 363
- Ramblers (Royston & Dist): David Allard 01763 242677
- R.N.L.I.: Paul Howitt 822342
- Royal British Legion: Braughing John Haworth 821757, Standon: Ron Edwards 464218
- Ralph Sadleir Assn: sandie@sandibevents.co.uk
- Ranger Girl Guides (14+ years), Wednesday, Rosanne Kenealy 01920 821304
- Rib Valley Trampoline Club: Andrea Allen 07989 980038
- Roger de Clare School Association: Sarah Gillingwater 823129 or Sam Risley 823477
- Sadleir Drama Club: Liz Pickup 01763 289446
- Explorer Scouts: 14-18 year olds, Wednesday Buntingford Unit Christine Pestle 07711 506381, Friday Ware Unit: Jim Campbell 01920 461134
- Scout & Guide Band: Garry Edwards 01920 823163
- Scouts: 11-14 years old, Panther Troop Karl Adamson 01763 849902, Jaguar Troop Jackie Andrews 01763 247675
- SPNDP (Standon and Puckeridge Neighbourhood Development Plan) Belinda Irons 01763 838732
- S.P.I.N.S. Pre-School: 07881 533339
- St. Thomas of Canterbury Primary School PTA: C/o School 821450
- Standon Morris: Catherine Ward 07808 969379
- Standon & Puckeridge Health Centre: 823860
- Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre: Sally Sperring 07854 916404
- Swimming Club (Buntingford): David Carr 07966 508156
- Tai Chi: Mrs A Manwaring 822041
- Tennis Club: Braughing: Karen Gore 07860 484878 Standon: Keith Bradshaw 01920 821152
- Three Villages Eco Group: Trish Street 01920 821069
- Trefoil Guild: Guiding for adults - Alex Chapman 01920 465 726
- Twinning Assn (Buntingford): Mary Deeks 822905
- University of the 3rd Age: Barbara Norris 822104
- Veterans Football Club: Paul Mayne 822615 Craig Gardner 823805
- Ware and District 41 Club: Melvyn Cousins 01920 420197
- Ware Swimming Club: Chris Buck 07947 322808
- Ware U3A: Chris Beeton, Membership Secretary 07952 066748
- Wasps Out of School Club: Nicola Re 07904 391133
- Women's Institute: Braughing: Kate Fish 822397 Puckeridge: info@puckeridge.wi.org
- Yoga in Pregnancy, Baby massage and Baby yoga: Penny Constantinou 07944 416572
- Young Countrysiders: Linda Watts 821393

PS News - The idea

Everyone is welcome to write, there is no charge for articles on any subject of interest to our communities.

PS is written and delivered by volunteers, it is paid for by the advertisers.

3000 copies are distributed to every house in:

Puckeridge	Standon	Braughing
Colliers End	Nasty	The Mundens
Old Hall Green	Wellpond Green	Westmill

and many of the houses in:

High Cross Little Hadham, etc.

Copies available from local Pubs, Vintage Service Station and Westwood's in Puckeridge, The Raj Villa Restaurant in High Cross plus Standon and Braughing Post Offices.

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The cost of advertising is:

- From £80 per year—details www.psnews.org.uk
- **You have to advertise for a year (4 issues) minimum and pay in advance. Cheques payable to PS News.**
- Advert design, logos and illustrations scanned, all free of charge.
- **Leaflet inserts** are £140 per leaflet. Contact me before getting them printed as we limit the number of inserts in each issue. Book early to ensure we can take your insert when you want it.

Copy dates

Copy dates are as shown below. If you want to advertise, contact John Harris: 01920 822887 or email john@walkinginengland.co.uk

	<i>typed or written</i>	<i>email</i>
March Issue	1 Feb	10 Feb
June Issue	1 May	10 May
Sept Issue	1 Aug	10 Aug
Dec Issue	1 Nov	10 Nov

Please send your articles and photographs by these dates.

Emailed articles, deliveries & advertising:

John Harris, 4 South Road, Puckeridge SG11 1TH.

Tel: 01920 822887

E-mail: psnews@walkinginherts.co.uk

Hand written or typed articles for publication:

Jim King, 12 South Road, Puckeridge, Ware SG11 1TH.

Tel: 01920 821704

Website for the latest issue and advertising details:

www.psnews.org.uk

Delivery query?

If you would like to volunteer to deliver PS or for some reason you get missed please contact John.

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