

PS News

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March 2025

Articles or advertising queries: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Issue 195

DRIVERS REQUIRED for the local Hospital Transport Scheme.

We offer a valuable and much appreciated service to patients registered at the Puckeridge Surgery, taking them to and from medical appointments that they couldn't otherwise access.

We cover trips ranging from appointments at the Surgery to out-patient visits at our local, and not so local, hospitals.

Drivers receive a contribution towards their costs of approximately 45p/mile.

We are very short of drivers. If you are interested in finding out more please contact me on 07922 519174

Thank you, Wendy Smith

Stansted Airport – Local Resident Discount Scheme

If you live within a 10-mile radius of Stansted Airport (e.g. in Puckeridge, Standon and Braughing) you can apply for Express Set Down Local Resident Discount Scheme, which reduces the charge as follows:

Residents living within 10 miles of the airport (e.g. Puckeridge, Standon and Braughing) pay £1.00 for up to 10 minutes.

Normal charges apply if you stay longer than 10 minutes, as does the £20.00 fee if you return within half an hour.

You can apply by completing the application form on their website - search 'Stansted airport drop off resident discount scheme'

Do you have difficulty reading PS News?

If so try the online edition at www.psnews.org.uk. Click on the link on the right hand side for the latest edition and increase the size of the print on your tablet, computer, etc.

Do you recognise these postcards?

Here are two postcards of unknown locations both produced by J. Williams, Puckeridge Road, Standon. On the back of the one with two sets of semis it wishes a bright new year to Mr. and Mrs. Parker or Packer. Could you please include them in P.S. some of the local oldens might recognize them? Please contact 01763 289516 or claireruff1@sky.com.

Stephen Ruff

Domestic Abuse Silent Calls

Cambridge Constabulary had 43 silent 999 calls last November where we were needed at the scene immediately – that's more than one every single day

Most of these calls were from people suffering domestic abuse, who couldn't say much but urgently needed our help to escape a desperate situation or confide in officers what had happened to them

Did you know? Dialling 55 after calling 999 alerts police operators that you need help but are in a situation where you can't talk.

Pressing 55 lets the 999 operator know your call is genuine, and they will try to track your location. If you can't speak, listen carefully to the questions and instructions from our demand hub call agents so they can assess your call and arrange help.

Find out more on our dedicated web page: https://orlo.uk/Silent-999_X6IL6



Standon & Puckeridge Community First Responders:

First Aid and Defibrillator Training

The Community 1st Responders have very kindly offered to provide first aid and defibrillator training free of charge in the Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre for Standon Parish. Residents.

Sessions will take place on Saturdays 12 and 19 April between 11am and 6pm. Each day will cover the same information so please book the day you can attend through the clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk email, or telephone 07854 916404.

Donations would be welcomed to support the Community 1st Responders.

Hertfordshire Holly

Our New Year's Day gathering continued in the same way as for much of 2024, in the rain! Fortunately on this occasion the pub had a marquee over part of the car park which kept us dry.



We were guests of Etcetera Morris from Enfield and several other local dance teams were also represented. There was a good crowd watching despite the weather and, as always, it was a cheerful event to welcome in the New Year.

Before Christmas we entertained at the care home in Enfield that we visit regularly (which was warm and dry), we braved Storm Bert to participate in "Hoddesdon Loves Christmas" then it was Storm Darragh at Ware Dickensian evening and finally, unnamed rain at Mill Green watermill, near Hatfield for their "Magic of Midwinter celebration" which was held to coincide with the solstice.

This tradition is all about encouraging fruitfulness from the orchards and involves singing and dancing, blessing the trees and scaring away evil spirits. Wicket Brood, another Hertfordshire dance side shared the dancing and we all agreed that it had been a really enjoyable afternoon.

We practice at High Cross village hall, 8 to 10pm Thursdays. For more information go to hertfordshireholly.org.uk Or contact Mary 01920 822905 mideeks@yahoo.co.uk

Were you a member of Round Table?

Hello to all you guys who have been past members of Round Table in any location.



41 Club
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Ware and District 41 Club would welcome you at one of our monthly dinner meetings where you will enjoy good food, good company and the occasional speaker.

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We meet on the third Wednesday of each month. (6.30 for 7pm) Alternately at the Star at Standon or the Golden Fleece at Braughing.

Interested? Then email david.tomlin419@btinternet.com

East Herts Aviation Society

We completed our 2024 programme with a very well attended talk on the Hawker Hunter (pictured), given by Society member, Philip Birtles.

In January Rod Dean, ex-military and display pilot presented the North American P51D Mustang, the long range, single seater fighter used during the Second World War and the Korean

War. This was followed in February when Jason Webb gave an insight into the operations and various incidents of the National Police Air Service including the Essex and Herts police helicopter.

Next meeting

On 31 March Ivor Warne will tell the story of Duxford from 1917 through to its closure as a RAF airfield in 1961.

Meetings are held at the Church Hall, Braughing and start at 8pm. Beforehand, most members enjoy supper and a pint at the Brown Bear pub and then make the short walk to the Church Hall. All are welcome to attend our meetings - if you would like to come along, please contact me in advance at

stevemorgan125@btinternet.com

To find out more about the Society, please visit www.Braughing.org.uk and click on village organisations where you will find further information.



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Bringing the curriculum alive at Roger de Clare!

Children love learning at Roger de Clare! Staff have worked hard to use the expectations of the EYFS Framework and the National Curriculum alongside our local context to build an exciting and engaging curriculum. In this issue, we take a look at what the children in EYFS have been up to recently.

EYFS have been looking at Goldilocks and the Three Bears so have had porridge and oats for children to explore through touch and smell. They have carried out food tasting of porridge and of bear toast, talking about their sense of taste and discussing whether they liked the porridge or not. Outside there has been a lot of ice due to the very cold weather. The children have been exploring the ice, touching it, breaking it on the floor, and leaving some to see what happens to it when it warms up (observing that it melts when brought into the class!)

As part of The Gingerbread Man story the children are leaving some gingerbread in different food sources to see what happens e.g. water, oil, milk, flour, salt, so that they can see whether the Gingerbread Man could have got over the river without using the fox. They have talked about how they think the gingerbread will go 'mouldy' or 'soggy' in water so this theory is being tested. The unit will finish with the children making their own gingerbread men!

As well as the planned units of work, we also take time to learn about different

celebrations. We have had a lovely time finding out about Chinese New Year. The food tasting proved very popular!

In addition, we are grateful for all the visitors that come into school to enhance our learning and bring the curriculum to life. We have been very lucky to have visits from the oral hygiene team at Buntingford Dental Practice and were pleased to take home some more toothbrushes and toothpaste. We also had a very exciting visit from some puppies that belong to one of our families!

Interested to find out more? We have spaces in most year groups for now and September. Why not come and see the school in action by joining a tour with our Headteacher, Mrs Woods. Please call 01920 821363. We look forward to meeting you.

Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club

The days are getting longer and hopefully the weather is improving so come along and have a game of tennis. We have three all-weather courts and new members are always welcome.

PAY TO PLAY is available to all if you just want to book a court. £8 per hour for adults or £4 for under 16's. We even have availability at weekends. Contact Sally Bradshaw on 01920 821152.

COACHING: our Head Coach is Cliff Devonshire, who is an LTA level 4 performance coach. Cliff has introduced programs for all types of players from

junior to experienced club members, these are run term time only. For more information please contact Cliff on 07709 355655 or email him at clifforddevonshire@hotmail.com

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

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

TEAMS: This summer we have two Men's Teams in Hertfordshire Hot Rackets, the first team are in the Premier League for the first time. We also have a Ladies and Mixed in the Essex Small Clubs Leagues and 7 junior teams in the Hertfordshire League. Contact Cliff Devonshire for information on the men's and junior teams on 07709 355655 and Diana Foster on 07778 031430 for the Ladies and Mixed teams.

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

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Standon Parish Council

Parish Council meetings usually take place on the 4th Thursday of each month, except August and December, held in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre usually commencing 7.30pm and are open to the public. Please ensure you review the website for any changes.

Contact with Standon Parish Council should only be via the Clerk Belinda Irons. She is available on 01763 838732, mobile 07854 916404, email clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website

The website <https://www.standonparishcouncil.gov.uk/> is the official Parish Council information distribution point.

Councillor Vacancies

Standon Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Pat Foot and Mrs Maureen Wren for outstanding service to the community. Both ladies are a severe loss to the Parish Council and would be welcome back at any time.

We have 4 vacancies for Parish Councillors. It is important that these vacancies are filled as the Parish Council is a statutory consultee to a number of organisations operational in the Parish, and we must represent the community.

There are currently no residents of Puckeridge on the Parish Council. This is the biggest village in the Parish. 5 of the 6 Councillors are Standon residents. Whilst all Councillors have a duty to represent the whole Parish, the lack of Puckeridge Councillors means there is no local community knowledge to support decision making.

If you wish to serve the community as a councillor, please contact the clerk,

Belinda Irons
clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Annual Parish Meeting:



Standon Parish Council is delighted to announce that our MP, Mr Chris Hinchliffe, will attend the Annual Parish Meeting to be held in the Williams-Davies Hall on Thursday 24 April commencing 7.30pm. If you have a question you want Mr Hinchliffe to answer, please email the clerk so that he has time to research a response, or come along on the day.

Puckeridge Tributary Main River

The Puckeridge Tributary has been running very high again and, when combined with the constant flow from the Pumping Station in Cambridge Road down to Station Road and into the river for over 3 months now, there is concern from residents who live alongside the Tributary that there is increasing risk of flooding (in 2014 flooding was caused by a blockage to the Tributary) and erosion of the banks. Those living alongside the Tributary have Riparian Ownership and this means they must maintain the bank

their side and up to the centre of the Tributary. Residents are asked to ensure that no loose objects are kept close to the river bank, and that any buildings in close proximity to the river bank are regularly inspected, including the ground beneath the buildings, as bank erosion may undermine a building and it may then get washed away and create a blockage.

This is not a ditch – it is a main river and must be treated as such.

Allotments:

There are a number of vacant allotments, many of which need to be cleared. If you want to take on an allotment which needs to be cleared before you can cultivate it, you will be entitled to a significantly reduced rent in the first year. Please contact the Clerk for more details.

Allotment tenants are reminded that produce cannot be sold – it can only be used by your own family and friends. No commercial activity is allowed.

People who go to the allotments are reminded that dogs must be kept on leads, and the produce is only available to those who are allotment holders. Produce is not grown for anyone to take. If you want fresh vegetables, please contact the Clerk and rent your own plot.

Burrs Meadow: Horse Chestnut Tree

The Parish Council's arborist has inspected this important tree. He has said that it is not at risk at the moment. The Parish Council has agreed to plant another tree now which will replace the Horse Chestnut tree in the street scene when it eventually fails. It will have to be planted further into the meadow to ensure it will not be impacted by the Horse Chestnut, and will be a mature specimen when the Horse Chestnut is removed.

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Community Centre

The Parish Council is in the process of installing an automated entry system to ensure that access is maintained.

Football: Use of the football pitches:

The football pitches are used by S & P Vets and Hares football clubs. They manage the surface of the pitches to ensure that they are fit for their use. Others wishing to use the field for organised sporting activities (i.e. commercial activities, organised training, etc) need to obtain PC permission.

Playground At The Community Centre

A weekly inspection is carried out at the playground of the equipment, fences and gates and litter removed. Thank you to Cllr Ralph Granville for carrying out this important work. Emergency works have been carried out by our contractor, Broadmead Leisure and thank them for their rapid response. Please report any issues to the Parish Council clerk so that remedial action can be taken.

Multi-Use Games Area

The MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area) is due to be installed in the spring. It will be open to all to play football, netball, basketball etc. Commercial use is restricted and will only be permitted by

licence at specific times. This is a community facility only.

Planning

All planning applications can be seen on the EHDC website <https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk/online-applications/>

Any Parishioner can present their plans to the Parish Council at a Parish Council meeting. Whilst the Parish Council is a statutory consultee on planning applications, EHDC takes the final decision. The Parish Council has no opportunity to appeal decisions.

Do you have something you want to raise?

If so, please contact the Clerk, Belinda Irons clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk or Tel: 07854 916404 and it will be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Barbara Cartland: The Art of Romance

15 February – 1 June

From aviation to activism, discover the real story of the woman behind over 700 romantic novels and the artist who brought her book covers to life.

Barbara Cartland's name is synonymous with romance, and this year marks the

centenary of the publication of her first novel, Jig-Saw. With collections loaned by Barbara's family, Hertford Museum will explore the fascinating life of this true original, who made her home outside Essendon, from 1950 until her death in 2000. These collections include original artworks produced by celebrated fashion illustrator Francis Marshall for Barbara's book covers.

"My Mother brought us up to say, "You've got to do something in the world, you've got to give something". – Barbara Cartland

Writing 723 books, and selling over one billion copies, Barbara used her platform as the world's most prolific novelist to champion many issues, particularly those affecting women and children, from the rights of traveller children to attend school to women taking part in motorsport.

Curator Sara Taylor said, "Barbara Cartland's name usually conjures up ideas of romance, glamour and very traditional ideas of womanhood, so we are absolutely delighted to be able to shine a light on her very practical efforts to enrich and improve the lives of others."

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Our recently opened Buntingford branch looks forward to welcoming you.

Roger de Clare C. of E. First School and Nursery

Governor vacancies

We are currently looking for new governors to join our friendly governing body.

As a governor you will be a volunteer who makes a vital contribution to the success of the school.

Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children in our school community.

We would particularly like to recruit a governor with experience of finance.

For information please contact the school office: 01920 821363 or email admin@rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk

Much Hadham Arts Society

www.muchhadhamartsociety.co.uk

Do you like making art?

If you do, how about joining the Much Hadham Art Society which has members from a wide area. We meet every third Friday of the month for a demonstration/talk from practicing artists in various media – oils, watercolours, acrylics, photography, etc. Guests welcome.

On two Tuesdays a month there is a practical afternoon for you to bring your 'work in progress'. We have an annual Exhibition in December of Members' work for sale, which is well attended.

An opportunity to sell your work!

All this takes place in The Green Room at Much Hadham Village Hall at 7.30 on Fridays and 1.30 on Tuesdays. Refreshments included!

Want to know more? Contact muchhadhamartsociety@gmail.com or just turn up!

Braughing Parish Paths Group

Meet in The Square (opp the Axe) ready to depart promptly at 2.00pm. Our walks last approx. 2 hours and cover 5-7 miles at a reasonable walking pace. We try and ensure we walk all the Public Rights of Way in the Parish every year. Well-behaved dogs are welcome on our walks.

For now the paths are still muddy so please wear boots and be prepared for some slipperiness under foot.

Most of our walks are followed by tea and cake in Marion's Green Shed.

Everyone is most welcome to join us.

Next walks:-

- Sun 2 March
- Sun 6 April
- Sun 4 May

For more information please contact Paula or Paul (paulaandpaul1@outlook.com)



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News From Braughing Parish Council:

Highways:

Flooding remains a huge issue in the village and several more vehicles have ended up in Gravelly Lane Ford. We are discussing with Highways how to improve safety, specifically replacing the depth indicator by the ford (which is pretty much illegible). We are pleased that the drains along Hay Lane have been cleared out however with the mud and the traffic along there it won't be long before they block again (already the bus stop at Hay Street is flooded because of the drain). We are trying to find a solution to parking in the Street especially the narrow part opposite the Brown Bear where the houses are being damaged by large vehicles (many agricultural vehicles) which are struggling to get through.

Planning:

We still await the outcome of the retrospective planning request at Riversmeet. We have also opposed a new development at Larks Hill.

Speeding:

Thanks to Cllr Ayes for an excellent presentation on the results of our Speeding Survey in the village. We will now be sharing the results with highways,

County Cllr Jeff Jones and the Police to try and find a way forward to improve the safety of our village.

Pentlows:

We are still awaiting the visual representation of Pentlows Meadow. Hopefully we will be able to share this at our next Meeting.

Pudding Stone:

This will be re-sited under the willow tree by the main ford

Allotments:

Several allotments (full, half or quarter) are available for rent. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested.

Stolen Lamp:

The street lamp by the main ford which was stolen last year has been replaced. We recently found out that the probable culprit has been apprehended by police.

Next Meetings

(all 8.00pm in the Old Boys School unless otherwise stated)

- Thursday 13 March
- Thursday 10 April
- Thursday 15 May to include APM & AFC 6pm in Church Hall

Contact: clerk@braughing.org.uk

Mid-Morning Mingle

Our group has just had its first birthday which we celebrated with one of our attendees having his 94th birthday. Candles and cake went down well.

This small and friendly group is enjoying learning new crafts, playing bingo, doing jigsaws together, or just chatting about activities and events going on in the area over a cuppa in a warm and safe space.

In December Year 6 of Ralph Sadleir School came and sang songs and carols. It was lovely and both children and audience benefitted from the experience. The children were happy and confident about performing, and so well behaved. We look forward to a return visit.

We have a raffle every month and in March we will send the money raised to Isabel Hospice. I know this is a cause dear to a lot of locals. Why not support the raffle and try out our group at the same time?

Next meeting 12 March from 10.30 till 12.30 at the Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre. All future dates for this monthly group are at the back of PS in the diary section.

We look forward to meeting you.

Helena Spencer 07974583832



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Little Angels' at St Mary's Church, Standon

On a Friday morning between 9.30am and 11am, St Mary's transforms into an exciting playground! Think mega blocks, ride-on cars and bikes, rocking horses, role-play kitchen area and toys aplenty! Running (or scooting in a toy police car) around the church is encouraged and children can be as noisy as they like!

A warm welcome awaits for children aged 0-5 along with their parents or carers (tea, coffee and baked goods on-tap!). Little Angels runs in term time only and - alongside lots of play - includes a snack, story, instruments, and songs. And the best part? It's completely free!

So come and join us on a Friday morning - your Little Angel can let off some steam and have fun whilst they learn about God and Jesus in the beautiful setting of St Mary's church. We would love to see you there!

We also run occasional Saturday sessions during the school holidays that older siblings can join in with. Our next event is 'Little Easter Angels' on Saturday 5 April 10am-12pm. A free event to which all are welcome.

For more information, please email Cate: littleangels@ubsms.org.uk

Jenyns First School is turning over a new leaf

Literally - with a bright new library project



Amidst mammoth fundraising efforts from the school and Friends of Jenyns (School's Parents Association), the library has now been brightened up with exciting new books, shelving and seating - all aimed at inspiring a love for reading in young people.

Speaking at the opening in December, headteacher James Sadler said: "There is nothing more rewarding than giving young children the gift of reading, and we wanted to create a warm and vibrant space in which we could do just that. I know that the new space will inspire and challenge our children in equal measure, giving them a lifelong love of reading."

Members of the school council, who had their say in the designing of the new library, shared what they loved about the

new space: Oliver in Year 2 said "My favourite part of the library is the tree and the little cubby-holes." Ben in Year 3 said "Our new library is very special and it's important that we learn to read. We are very thankful for having such a special place to read."

Local Hertfordshire author Alice Hemming officially cut the ribbon and led an assembly to the whole school, talking about her passion for books and writing stories. The school partnered up with local bookshop The Book Nook in Ware, where children had the opportunity to get their books signed by Alice Hemming afterwards.

Headteacher, Mr Sadler would also like to thank the residents of Braughing and the surrounding community of the school. "We could not have installed this library without the money raised from the Braughing Wheelbarrow race. The amount raised through raffle tickets sales and drinks sold from the Jenyns bar contributed a huge chunk of the funding needed. Your involvement and generosity truly make a difference, and we are deeply grateful to be part of such a wonderful and supportive community."

Please keep an eye out for future events to help celebrate the school entering its 20th year being at the new site, including an open morning celebrating the history of the school/village (15 March - 9:30-12:30); Quiz night (21 March from 7:30pm); and a Summer Bounce event (Date TBC)

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PLEASE CONTACT ME TO BOOK AS PLACES ARE LIMITED

Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe

It has been great to see everyone at the Community Cafe over the past months, and we look forward to seeing you over the coming months, hopefully with some brighter weather.

We are open 9.30am to 11.30am on the first Wednesday of every month: 5 March, 2 April, 7 May, 4 June, 2 July, 6 August, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November and 3 December.

If you haven't been along before, please pop in for a cuppa and a chat. All ages are welcome, from pre-schoolers to pensioners. We even have a box of toys to keep toddlers amused!

As those that come along regularly to the Community Cafe will know, we hold a number of Cafes each year in support of various charities.

In December the Community Cafe was in support of The Alzheimer's Society and we raised an amazing £208.50.

And in February we supported World Cancer Day, with a fantastic £237.50 donated to Cancer Research UK.

Thank you so much to everyone who supported these events. Our donations make such a difference to these charities.

In April, our friends from the Oasis Academy will be selling their spring designs.

Our May Cafe will be in support of Parkinson's UK, with a raffle.

And in August we will be supporting a Cystic Fibrosis charity.

There will be a 'Recycling for Good Causes' Box at each Cafe, for old jewellery; coins & currency and stamps; mobile phones; cameras and gadgets. Proceeds will be donated to Cancer Research UK.

BUT PLEASE, NO CABLES OR PLUGS, CASES OR BOXES, AND PLEASE, NO USED BATTERIES. THANK YOU

We also have a separate box for recycling your old printer cartridges, so please bring those along too.

We look forward to seeing you in the coming months.

For more details contact Alison on 07813 702375.

Midweek Music at St Mary's

Thank you to all who support this popular event in St Mary's Church, Standon, held on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Refreshments are served from 11.30 along with tea and coffee giving everyone a chance to catch up with friends and make new ones.

At 12.30 there is a short concert given by local musicians and school students. We have a variety of genres and performers who give freely of their time and talents.

There is no charge, but there is a chance to donate towards the work of all three churches in our Benefice if you would like to: St Mary's Standon, All Saints Little Munden and St Catherine's Sacombe.

Do come and join us, you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Forthcoming dates are: 26 March; 23 April; 28 May; 25 June; 23 July; 24 September; 22 October and 26 November.

Please note there is no concert in August or December.

For more information or if you would be interested in performing in one of the concerts, please email: music@ubsms.org.uk

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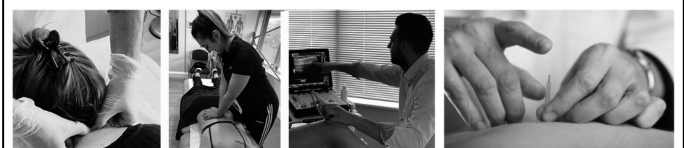


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Standon and Puckeridge Bowls Club



The season gets ever closer

As the days get longer and the temperatures rise, outdoor bowlers start to count the days until the green opens for use – THIS YEAR WE START on SATURDAY 26 APRIL – when we are holding our annual OPEN DAY – if you have always wondered if you would enjoy playing Lawn Bowls, why not come down to the club and give it a try. – We have

Bowls for you to use – you just need some flat shoes, and you are all set!!

What do we do during the season?

We have regular roll up for club members (Wednesday afternoon and Monday nights). We play friendly fixtures (mostly at weekends) against other clubs and we take part in the East Herts Bowls League. We are also members of the East Herts Bowls Association and the East Herts Ladies Bowls Association. This allows our members access to a range of other competitions. Later in the summer we run our popular knock out competitions leading up to our Finals weekend in September.

We are also very active in the clubhouse – regular crib nights have extended to crib competitions against other bowls clubs, and the Wednesday social nights are continuing with a variety of activities such as darts, table tennis and carpet bowls being played. So, if you want an introduction to the club – search for Standon & Puckeridge Bowls or email standonandpuckeridgebowlsclub@gmail.com for more information

So will we see you on Open Day? We do hope so. To find out more visit: <https://standonpuckeridgebowlsclub.wordpress.com/>.

We are a small and friendly club with room for all of you who want to enjoy everything that Lawn Bowls has to offer.

Lawn Bowls is a sport which is open to everyone, and it is one of the only sports where age is no barrier, and anyone (male or female) can contribute to the success of the team. Our club house and ground set in the Station Road Playing Fields, close to the Community Centre is a great place to play with 4 rinks that see a lot of healthy competition over the summer months.

We are always looking for new members and would encourage ANYONE (young or old) who enjoys competitive sport to think about trying Bowls. Like golf it is a game where hand and eye co-ordination play a vital part in ensuring that you can get the bowl close to the jack, and it's just as addictive as golf!!

If you are interested in playing bowls, we would love to hear from you – and we can always set up a taster session – just contact us through our website <https://standonpuckeridgebowlsclub.wordpress.com/> or email standonandpuckeridgebowlsclub@gmail.com or why not write to us at Standon and Puckeridge Bowls Club, The Playing Field, Station Road, Standon SG11 1TF

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Standon Mayday 2025

Standon MayDay will take place on Monday 5 May on Standon High Street and preparations are now underway. We will be updating a little this year with new ideas, and the usual favourite children's entertainment, Crowning of the May Queen procession, the Choir will be performing in the Church, tea and cake at the Village Hall, the Dog Show was very well received last time, and we hope for even more support this year. Programme details will be on boards on the High Street and on social media. Please remember to bring cash/change on the day £1 entry per person.

Parking is very limited and we are working hard to find more space.

Could you help?

We are in need of helpers - could you help shape Standon MayDay? We need people to help from 5pm till 7pm for clear up or if you can spare an hour to help man a pay desk, please use this number: 01920 821446 to volunteer or Facebook/email.

The Committee have approved a donation to Standon Village Hall Lunches.

If any local clubs would like to perform in our arena please contact us via Facebook/email.

Standon MayDay is a unique charity event cherished by the people of the village and visitors alike. Our MayDay is one of the longest established traditional festivals in the country. It is a fantastic occasion for local groups to fundraise and advertise.

Thanks to everyone in Standon and Puckeridge for their support of May Day, I know that it disrupts the people who live on the High Street for the day and we all appreciate their forbearance.

We do really hope the weather will be kinder to us this year and ask you all to get involved by supporting us on the day and volunteering so we can keep MayDay going into the future. Thank you!

Sue Spalding
standonmayday@outlook.com

Music for a Summer Evening St. Mary's Church, Standon High Street.

A date for your diary....

Standon Sing, Rib Singers and Imperial Male Voice Choir will be presenting a midsummer concert in St. Mary's Church, Standon, on Saturday 12 July at 7.30.

Standon Sing has quickly established itself as a popular and active choir in the area and has performed several concerts and events. This mixed choir welcomes everyone, aiming to provide a place for people to enjoy support, company and enjoyment by singing together.

Rib Singers is a small chamber choir of experienced singers, based in Standon.

Imperial Male Voice Choir was founded in the 1970s and has enjoyed success performing countless concerts in and around London, engaging in many competitions and overseas tours.



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Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club

The days are getting longer and hopefully the weather is improving so come along and have a game of tennis. We have three all-weather courts and new members are always welcome.

PAY TO PLAY is available to all if you just want to book a court. £8 per hour for adults or £4 for under 16's. We even have availability at weekends. Contact Sally Bradshaw on 01920 821152.

COACHING: our Head Coach is Cliff Devonshire, who is an LTA level 4 performance coach. Cliff has introduced programs for all types of players from junior to experienced club members, these are run term time only. For more information please contact Cliff on 07709 355655 or email him at clifforddevonshire@hotmail.com

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

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

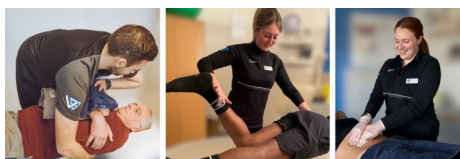
TEAMS: This summer we have two Men's Teams in Hertfordshire Hot Rackets, the first team are in the Premier League for the first time. We also have a Ladies and Mixed in the Essex Small Clubs Leagues and 7 junior teams in the Hertfordshire League. Contact Cliff Devonshire for information on the men's

and junior teams on 07709 355655 and Diana Foster on 07778 031430 for the Ladies and Mixed teams.

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

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Puckeridge Karate Club

End of Year 2024 Kyu Gradings
(Coloured Belts)

During December we graded 20 students (Juniors & Adults) from Beginner (White Belt) up to 1st Kyu (Brown Belt with 2 white stripes). Congratulations to everyone that took part and who were successful in gaining their next belt.

To commemorate Hanshi Michael Billman, we're pleased to announce that we now have a Memorial Shield in his name that will be awarded to the student who has shown consistent determination and karate 'spirit' over the year.

For 2024 this has been awarded to Sara Sherlock, a very deserving first recipient.

In January we welcomed back our Chief Instructor Sensei Mark Durham 8th Dan to the Puckeridge Club where he taught both the Junior and Senior lessons. Both lessons were very different to our normal training and very enjoyable.

We had a visit from another 8th Dan instructor Sensei Odysseas (Tone) Christou in February, it's been many years since Sensei Tone last visited the Puckeridge club to teach, we're certain it's going to be a lot of fun.

Sensei Clive Bowen 6th Dan now looks after the running of the club and will strive to maintain the high standards that Hanshi Mike instilled in the club.

Puckeridge Karate Club has a great instructor: student ratio and a huge depth of knowledge that the black belts are keen



to pass on. If you would like to try something different and get fit at the same time, contact us.

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

Training times are:

Mondays: 20:00 – 21:00 Seniors -
Standon & Puckeridge Community
Centre

Thursdays: 19:00 – 19:55 Juniors -
Standon & Puckeridge Community
Centre

Thursdays: 20:00 – 21:00 Seniors -
Standon & Puckeridge Community
Centre

email: puckeridge.karate@ntlworld.com

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/
PuckeridgeKC](https://www.facebook.com/PuckeridgeKC)

For further information contact Clive
Bowen on: 07395 404396

60th Diamond Wedding Anniversary



A chance meeting for teenagers Ted and Doris Tyson at open air Finchley swimming pool led them to their 60th Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

They celebrated their Anniversary with their 2 children and partners, four grandchildren and partners and two Great Grandchildren, along with other members of their family. Celebrations were held at The White Horse, Hertingfordbury.

Ted and Doris wish to thank everyone for joining them and making their celebration so special.



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We make an average of 1,500 bottles per year of English Sparkling Rose and Blanc de Blancs wine which we sell locally. Most small vineyards send their grapes away for the wine to be made by specialist winemakers, we wanted to make our wine here at Four Acres and enjoy and control every part of the process which is very satisfying.

As I am writing this article in January we are pruning the vines and to date (23rd January) have pruned over 1,000 vines. We are also working in our winery. At the moment we are hand riddling 720 bottles of Blanc de Blancs ready to complete the final stage of the sparkling wine process which is disgorging (removing the yeast from the bottles).

We normally do two tasting tours per annum and if you are interested in attending and seeing how the wine is made please email us at info@fouracresestate.co.uk.

Platon and Sharron Loizou

Friends of St Marys – FOSM

What we do? – FOSM is the local charity set up to raise funds for the preservation and restoration of the fabric, inside and out, of St Marys our ancient and beautiful parish church in Standon. We run a number of fundraising events each year and would always welcome additional help from folks who want to get involved. You would be most welcome.

Below are our events scheduled for the first half of 2025..

May Day – 5 May

FOSM will once again be offering teas, coffees, soft drinks and home-made cakes at Standon Village Hall. We will need lots of cakes and helpers. Please get in touch if you can spare an hour to help out on the day.

AGM - Friday 16 May - in St. Mary's Church, Standon at 7:30 pm

There will be a short meeting (about 15 minutes) followed by refreshments. You are most welcome to attend if you want to find out about our activities in 2024 and plans for 2025. We are always happy to welcome more people who are interested in helping to preserve and restore the fabric of our beautiful church building.

Open Gardens Standon and Puckeridge - Saturday, 14 June.

The biggest event in our calendar. Once again this hugely successful local venture will take place allowing visitors from near and far to wander around some of the most beautiful gardens in Standon and Puckeridge. A huge thankyou to all Gardeners who have agreed to open their garden this year. FOSM will be laying on entertainment, lunches in St Mary's church, a plant sale at The Star, teas in the village hall and refreshments at Standon Lordship.

We need lots of helpers on Open Gardens day. Tasks might include selling tickets in the High Street, helping with the teas in the village hall, selling plants on the plant stall etc. If you could spare an hour or two to help out on the day you would be most welcome, please contact David Goldstraw on 07841 150054

Safari Supper – Friday, 11 July

Fancy a Starter, Main Course and Pudding at different Houses/locations around the village? If so a Safari Supper could be for you. For more information please contact Diana on 07718 734897.

We look forward to seeing you at these events, and if you want to know more and to help out don't hesitate to contact us.

Liam Connolly

07974 209 001

01992 639 492

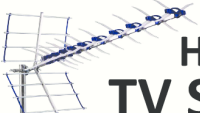
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Sadleir Drama Club



The Sadleir Drama Club Spring Production from Wednesday 2 April – Friday 4 April will soon be upon us, and we will be presenting two short plays. During the interval there will be a fish & chip supper and a licensed bar will be available. Doors open at 7.30pm and the plays will start at 8pm.

The Politics of Bendy by Jim Pinnock.

Set in a grand country house, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, together with his very bossy, manipulative wife, is hosting the Leader of the Party to dinner and stay the night. An unannounced visit by an American Diplomat adds to the Machiavellian goings on, and shenanigans, fights between minders and surprises ensue.

Murder In Little Grimley by David Tristram.

Anxious to cash in on the public's appetite for detective dramas, the Chairman Gordon writes a whodunit. But in a bizarre twist he then finds himself embroiled in a real-life murder mystery that threatens to put him behind bars. The quarrelsome quartet have been in some sticky situations over the years. But can they possibly get away with murder?

A link to purchase tickets via Ticket Tailor, priced at £22 including choice of food, will be available soon on our website and Facebook page – see details below.

Website

Please check out the Sadleir Drama Club website where you can keep up with all our news, find information on upcoming productions, book tickets via our ticket provider Ticket Tailor, and see photos of previous productions. We intend to update the page regularly so please add it to your bookmarks and keep checking in for the latest news.

<https://sadleirdrama.wixsite.com/sadleir-drama-club>

You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram

<https://www.facebook.com/SadleirDrama>

<https://instagram.com/sadleirdramaclub>

If you enjoy coming along to our plays or are new to the area, you might like to join our 'Supporters List'. Once you are on this list, we will let you know, in plenty of time, about our productions, when and where to buy tickets and generally keep in touch. If you would like to be included on this list, please contact me, and let me know your email address. We will not share or pass on your details without your consent.

Liz Pickup
Secretary, Sadleir Drama Club
01763 289446 or info@sadleirdrama.com

Braughing Get Together

Following the great success of our recent events, we have the following offerings over the coming months:

Friday 7 March we present another in our series of Murder Mysteries - "The Jewel of the Ocean"

Join the captain for a dinner while a mystery unfolds (formal attire is optional). There will be a choice of fish, chicken or a vegetarian option with chips. Booking is essential and the price is £15.

Friday 4 April join us for a sociable Whist Drive.

No previous experience needed, as an explanatory session will be given before the games begin.

Like our Beetle Drives, this is an opportunity to mix, mingle and make new friends.

In May, we are intending to hold a talk about the 4 Acres Estate vineyard of Little Hadham, hopefully with some tastings. Date and format to be confirmed.

All our events are held in Braughing Church Hall unless otherwise stated. To book or for any information about our events contact:

Cynthia at email:
cynthia.matthews44@gmail.com phone:
01920 822230 or 07933 202547
or Marion at email:
marionjsaunders@gmail.com phone:
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Men - Setting the scene

Overall, more men (69.2%) than women (58.6%) are classed as living with overweight or obesity (Obesity Profile: short statistical commentary May 2024).

Waist circumference is a good measure of fat around your middle. This type of fat builds up around your organs, and is linked to high cholesterol, high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes (British Heart Foundation). Men with a waist circumference between 94–102cm (37–40in) are 'high risk', and more than 102cm (40in) is 'very high' (NHS Trust).

A study found that fear motivates men to engage with weight-loss programmes, and negative perceptions about female-dominated commercial weight-loss services deter men from participating with them.

Slimming World statistics

Around 9% of members are men although this rises to 14% of members who join

through Slimming World on Referral (as of January 2025).

Men who are overweight report taking around two-and-a-half years to realise they are overweight and another three years to talk to someone about their weight worries. It's then around another year before they do anything about it, meaning that overall it takes more than six years for men to act to tackle their weight

90% of men said that they wanted to lose weight to improve their health. Just 21% rated their health good, very good or excellent before joining Slimming World. Our survey showed that after losing weight with Slimming World, men felt more energetic, happier with their physique and more confident to have sex. In fact, they have more sex since joining Slimming World! (Slimming World's 'Machobesity' report).

Men who join Slimming World lose weight and attend just as well as women (in fact better in some cases)

Slimming World information

Slimming World's powerful combination of group support, a generous flexible eating plan (for man-sized portions that satisfy!) and an incremental physical activity support programme, is just as effective for men as for women. Our male slimmers often say that, while they were nervous at the idea of joining a group, once they joined, they were surprised by the food they could enjoy and overwhelmed by the warm and friendly support from their fellow members – whatever their gender!

The Standon & Puckeridge group has a lot of members who are male, and are very successful. Our leading legend has lost 12 stone and kept it off for nearly 8 years!!!

Come along and be part of an amazing group,

Every Tuesday @7pm, Community Centre, Station Rd, SG11 1TF

Call Sophie on 07855 079070 for info.

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24 HOUR
EMERGENCY CALL OUT

New website guide to this area of The Barleywolds



A new website has been launched - Barleywolds.com - as a guide to the countryside and villages between Royston, Stevenage and Bishop's Stortford, including Standon, Colliers End, The Mundens, Little Hadham and Westmill.

The Barleywolds is the name given to this area of chalk "hills" on the borders of Hertfordshire, Essex and Cambridgeshire. Barleywolds.com is a free, non-commercial guide to the History, Myths, Nature, People, Villages, Towns, Attractions, Restaurants, Cafes, Pubs, Walks and Accommodation in and around the Barleywolds area.

One motivation for creating this website was to point out the special character of the area, so that it may potentially be protected from further development. There is increasing pressure to build more

houses, businesses and golf courses, and for farms to become more industrial, removing hedgerows, meadows and woodland, and polluting chalk streams. Stevenage, Bishop's Stortford and other towns are expanding into the Barleywolds. All of this is a threat to the character and wildlife of the area.

Potential means to protect the area would be: increase the Nature Reserves, extend the Green Belt, or extend the Chilterns AONB/National Landscape.

But the website is mainly a guide to the area, including: Local Restaurants, Cafes and Pubs; Local Children's activities, Adult activities, Golf courses, Museums, Cultural activities, and Nature Reserves; Local Flora and Fauna; Local People from the Anglo-Saxon King Beorhtwulf to the Naked Chef Jamie Oliver; Local History from the Romans to sequencing the Human Genome; Local Myths, from the Blind Fiddler of Anstey to the Miracle of the Ring at Clavering; Local walks, and the story of the local villages and towns.

Visit the Barleywolds today @ Barleywolds.com, and find a walk, a pub or a story.

Standon Village Lunch

Here we are preparing already for the second Village Lunch of 2025! But let's just stop and glance back at the 2024 Christmas lunch: we were thrilled to host the biggest number of guests ever including new names and faces we hadn't seen for a long time. The hall was beautifully decorated; everyone enjoyed the festive food and joined in the carol singing David Ranford kindly led. Our thanks to all our volunteers who helped in many ways to make this such a happy time.

At the lunches for the remaining wintry months, we will be serving soup but look forward to changing to a summer menu when the warmer weather arrives.

Just a reminder that if you, or anyone you know who lives in Standon or Puckeridge, would enjoy a simple lunch once a month in Standon Village Hall for £3 please do contact us for more details.

Dates for the next few months are:
Wednesdays – 19 March, 16 April, 21 May, 18 June.

Helena: 07974 583832 Brenda: 822293

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Doorstep Crime Increases

Trading Standards is seeing an increase in doorstep crime incidents, especially driveways and roofing/guttering work.

The rogue trader can contact you in many ways:

- a cold-call/'working in the area',
- a leaflet through the door, or
- in response to a post on a trader matching website.

Alarm bells should ring when a small job turns into a bigger one or if there are unexpected price increases. A common example is a simple job such as cleaning the gutters that is 'bounced' by identifying more work that the trader says needs doing urgently, like loose tiles, compromised felt or rotten timbers. Or, a price is agreed for a new driveway, but later the trader tells you that the price did not include materials or VAT.

Be suspicious if an expensive quote is quickly reduced, on condition the work is carried out straightaway. Beware if the trader claims the job is urgent and pressure is put on you to agree.

Another warning sign is a lack of paperwork before work starts. Look for full information about the trader: their legal entity, address, contact details, company status, full description of works and materials to be used, full cost including whether VAT is included, how long the job will take,

and proper cancellation rights given at the right time.

Don't feel trapped into using the same trader, even though it seems to make sense while they are on your property. The law protects you in this situation by giving you a 14-day cancellation period for work that is agreed at your home. Only you can agree for the work to commence within the cancellation period if you want it to.

Our advice is to make use of the cancellation period to reflect:

- speak to someone you trust about what has happened,
- seek a second opinion from a trustworthy, local trader via www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/goodtrader, and
- seek advice about your consumer rights from the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

If you have any concerns, you can report them to the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133. Report frauds to the Police by contacting Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040. Call 999 if the trader is aggressive or starts work without your agreement, these are 'crimes in action', do not feel that it is a waste of anyone's time. Please look out for any vulnerable neighbours and report concerns to us.

Strength To Strength For Standon Sing

Standon and Puckeridge Community choir

Standon Sing has quickly established itself as an active and friendly community choir. The choir has performed a number of well-received concerts, raising considerable funds for local and national charities, and has become a regular feature leading carol singing at the Standon Christmas tree and at local pubs. It has also been a pleasure to sing with other people at Northfields and Roundhay.

Grant money has helped to buy new music and the choir is now set to use its developing skills to tackle more ambitious repertoire.

As a true community choir Standon Sing welcomes all new members, especially those who would like to try a new social group. Singing experience is not necessary!

With almost fifty members Standon Sing is a great place to try out your vocal chords (no one hears your mistakes and it's sometimes useful to hide in a crowd!) Why not give us a try? Either simply turn up or ask for information first – ranfordd@gmail.com

Standon Sing. Every Wednesday 7.30 – 8.30.

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The 'New Seasons' Group for bereaved partners

New Seasons is a group of ladies and gentlemen whose partners have all passed away. We meet on the third Thursday of each month from 2 till 4pm in Standon village hall. This group has been going for 8 years and we are supporting each other through a difficult time but we also enjoy a chat and a laugh over a cup of tea and cake.

Whether you have been bereaved recently or many years ago you will always be very welcome to join us. If you need transport please let me know.

Heather Jackson 07909 065550

Ware Choral Society Spring Concert

7.30 Sat 5 April at the Drill Hall, Ware:

- Vivaldi Gloria
 - McDowall Magnificat
 - Pergolesi Stabat Mater excerpts
- Come and join us!

Advance Notice: Summer concert, Sat 5 July at Ware Drill Hall

- Mendelssohn hymn of Praise
- Brahms Song of Destiny

Riparian Ownership Properties Forming a Boundary To The Puckeridge Tributary

If you own land alongside a watercourse, you are legally termed a Riparian owner.

A riparian owner is the person, or people, with watercourses on, next to or under their property. Riparian owners have the responsibility for maintenance of these watercourses.

Riparian responsibilities usually lie with the person who owns the land or property. Sometimes it is the tenant depending upon the agreement in place.

Where a watercourse forms a boundary, the riparian ownership responsibilities are shared equally with the owners of the land on the opposite bank. This is unless property deeds or land registry show other arrangements.

You have the right to protect your property from flooding and erosion, but you must:

get permissions to build anything in or around the watercourse

NOT build anything which could divert water and increase flood risk to other people's property, or you may have to pay damages

The Puckeridge Tributary, northern reach, upstream of the A10, is not owned or maintained by the Environment Agency. Maintenance of in channel and bank vegetation is the responsibility of the riparian owner, (person(s) who own the land bordering the river).

More info can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>

The Environment Agency are responsible for providing 24/7 incident response in which they can attend to clear blockages presenting an immediate flood risk.

All reports of potential issues can be reported via their incident hotline: 0800 80 70 60 or [Report an environmental incident](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-an-environmental-incident) - GOV.UK

Calling all Artists!

By popular demand The Westmill Art Exhibition Is Back!

In St Mary the Virgin Church, Westmill, SG9 9LJ on Saturday 31 May & Sunday 1 June

For further information and entry form please contact: alex@alexphotos.co.uk or 07768 790902 with your name and details

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Secretary: Peter Goddard

buntingford.urc@talktalk.net 01763 281 369

Services at 11am / Junior Church in the Hall at 11am

March

2 Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
9 Morning Worship	Richard Lewney
16 Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
23 Psalm Sunday	Rev Dr Janet Tollington
30 Mothering Sunday	Peter Godbert

April

6 Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
13 Psalm Sunday	Rev Allen Morton
18 Good Friday	Rev Sue Fender
20 Easter Day – H.C.	Rev Dr Janet Tollington

27 Morning Worship	Rev Sue Fender
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May

4 Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
11 Morning Worship	Penny Flynn
18 Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
25 Morning Worship	Rev Dr Robert Pope

June

1 Holy Communion	Rev John Proctor
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Lent Bible Study Course

Will be held in the Church Hall

Wednesdays – 12.30 for Lunch and Bible Study from 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm on 12, 19,

26 March and 9 & 16 April (no meeting on 2 April)

This year our study will be based on Jane Williams York Lent Course – The Sacraments Here is what has been written about the course: Acknowledging that the sacraments can seem confusing, divisive or (frankly!) incomprehensible, she reveals them to be a glorious expression of God's love for the world in all its beauty and brokenness.

The sacraments invite us to enter into the mystery that the world has meaning and purpose and that all things come together in Christ. If we are willing, in loving response, to become part of the action ourselves, we will surely find ourselves not only refreshed but re-enchanted. All Welcome!

Bible Study

After Easter we will be holding a new Ecumenical Bible Study at Christ Church URC Buntingford on Wednesday lunch time. We will meet for lunch from 12.30 and bible study from 1.00 – 2.00 pm.

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

Regular Event

Coffee and Company meets every Thursday, 10.30am to 12.30pm, in the Church Hall. If you're elderly, living alone, new to the area, perhaps working

from home, and would like some company, come along to share

Coffee, Cake, Company and Chat. All are welcome. Just turn up and give a small donation for the refreshments.

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St Mary's Church, Braughing

We have now entered Lent: the season which leads up to Easter. We are hoping to build on the success of our Nativity Service by holding a half-hour Mothering Sunday Service on Sunday 30 March at 3.30. It will be especially aimed at children and families with songs, a story, a short play and of course flowers for mum. The service will be followed by tea and cake so children, do bring your mums along (dads welcome too!).

We will be holding our usual Palm Sunday Service on 13 April at 10.30. This will be a non-communion service – do come along to the Square and follow the pony to church.

Easter Sunday falls on a 3rd Sunday, 20 April which would normally be Café Church at Furneux however as it is a big feast day, we will also be holding a Holy Communion at Braughing that morning at 11.00am led by Rev'd June Knight.

We say goodbye to the Rev'd Tayo Falope who has been our interim Rector for the past year. His last service will be at Braughing on Sunday 6 April. Do come along and wish Tayo and Yvonne well for the future. From then on, our services will revert to 10.30 on a Sunday and we have been lucky to have the services of a number of local priests to come and take our services. Of note, Archdeacon Janet will be leading our Service at Braughing on 9 March and the Bishop of Hertford will lead the service at Braughing on 4 May. Thanks to Chris Stead for his

sterling work in finding cover for our services.

On a positive note we have an applicant for our House for Duty Post. It is early days but hopefully this will be the answer to our prayers.

Services from March to May (all services subject to change at short notice – please check church notice board of our Facebook page)

- Sun 2 March, Holy Communion, Braughing 11.00am Rev'd Tayo
- Sun 9 March, Holy Communion, Braughing 11.00am Archdeacon Janet
- Sun 16 March Café Church Furneux Pelham 9.30am Luke
- Sun 23 March, Holy Communion Furneux Pelham 11.00am Rev'd Tayo
- Sun 30 March (Mothering Sunday) Holy Communion Stocking Pelham 11.00am Tayo
- & Half hour Family Service with tea and Cake 3.30pm Braughing
- Sun 6 April (Tayo's last service) Holy Communion 11.00am Braughing
- Sun 13 April (Palm Sunday) Non Communion Service Braughing 10.30am (meet the pony in the Square) Rev'd Sonia Falaschi
- Fri 18 April (Good Friday) Hymns and Readings Furneux Pelham 6.30pm Rev'd Tim Weeks
- Sun 20 April (Easter Sunday) Café Church 9.30 Furneux Pelham Luke
- Holy Communion 11.00am Braughing Rev'd June Knight
- Sun 27 April tbc

- Sun 4 May Holy Communion Braughing 10.30am Bishop Jane
- Sun 11 May Non Communion Braughing 10.30am tbc
- Sun 18 May Café Church Furneux Pelham 9.30am Luke
- Sun 25 May Holy Communion Furneux Pelham 10.30 Rev'd Sonia Falaschi

Quarterly Quotes

'A mind is like a parachute. It doesn't work until it's open' Frank Zappa

The happiest 'winners' are those awarded the Bronze. Gold winners will be too preoccupied with 'Umm, what next?'. Silver winners will humbly resent not getting gold. Meanwhile Bronze winners will be just happy to get on the podium and be seen!!'

Handyman Services Building /Landscaping Now is the time to be sure you prepare for summer.

We have had some very hard winters recently. This seriously affects mortar / paint-work.

Replace Soffits /Fascia's with plastic cladding. It lasts for years and looks clean and fresh so makes the house look like it has had a make-over

Check for Damp/Mould as they will most likely be a sign of something worse that will need investigating before it worsens

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April is the time to get that Conservatory/ Wooden windows /Doors and frames rubbed down, undercoated, filled and painted and gutter channels cleaned and any re-glazing issues resolved.

Also now is good to repair Roof tiles / Patio /Paving and even reface damaged bricks.

If you think there may be more serious problems we can commission a Drone Survey which will give you a clear understanding of what is needed.

Also if you have found that you are spending more time outside then it is an ideal building period to add the Patio Extension or even E-Decking, a resin decking which is non slip. Resin decking looks just like wood but is non-slip, doesn't rot and needs no maintenance.

We can Design and quote for that special Garden Room /Orangery, or even a separate Studio.

Studios, well built, can really enhance the use of a home. Giving Office space, study space and somewhere for guests to stay independent from the main house.

Increasingly we are also finding the 'boomerang' generation of kids who come back to live at home after University. So the studio gives them and you that much needed 'own space'. Many of these can be installed under permitted development

Also soft outdoor lighting well thought out as a scheme, can really enhance your garden, not only in Summer but through the Winter too.

Start by asking yourself how you want to live/who uses what and where, not what you want to buy. This will help you make better decisions.

Lots of low-profile lighting can really make for an overall warmth in a garden and home and doesn't cause 'light pollution' or disturbance to others.

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Your Home and when it needs Your Help

Water bills have doubled to £400 on average. Be smart with your water and for any new extensions/driveways think about harvesting the rainwater (see 'Greywater' harvesting in the Internet).

Also a handy trick is to put aerated taps and shower heads in place. They greatly reduce water consumption.

Extra items to budget for:

Replace loose roof tiles. Addressing the problem now before it becomes a whole area of new roof membrane and batons will save you a lot of money

Repair guttering. A guttering run with a disconnected joint will direct water to the lowest point, and if that is your rendering frost action will soon damage that. The same with brick work. Frost action on constantly wet brickwork will cause it to blow and fall apart. Once this happens the damp quickly makes its way into the building causing serious damp issues.

Mould and Damp are ever increasing problems particularly with old/poorly maintained buildings. Very often fixing the render or poor outdoor drainage can have a very quick result. Let us advise on the best course of action and repair. As we know inhaling mould spores is not good for our health.

Spruce up your house with a good paint job. Professionally painted, it genuinely makes so much difference and for wood it seriously prolongs the life. When we undertake a painting job 75% of the time is the preparation. That is what makes the difference.

Have Trees (and hedges) cut now. When trees are in full leaf they act like a giant sail and when they come down the damage to you and your neighbour's properties can run into many thousands, and cause ill feeling if you have neglected them. Now is the time to have them reduced. We will advise you on whether to seek permission from the Council for tree works.

Decide now if you want that new Patio/ Fence /Path. At this time of year it causes a lot less inconvenience and come the spring you will not have to worry about your garden, just enjoy it instead!

For further details contact Handy Man Services 01279 842874/07930 285126

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From the Rector

Dear friends,

That's another fine mess...

Some of the old Hollywood black and white comedies are still hilarious; one such is Laurel and Hardy. Like many comedies, they had a catch-phrase: "That's another fine mess you've gotten me into, Stanley". As I look around our situation it seems to feel like that the whole time. Our rivers are polluted; the kind of houses we want aren't build, but the kind we don't want are; our health service is, to put it mildly, struggling; discrimination and racism seems to be on the rise; we cannot control the effects of social media; our young people are increasingly without hope; economic growth appears impossible. There are, of course, some good things happening, but overall, it appears we are on the slide.

What can we say about all these "messes"? I think it all points to a much deeper malaise. Commentators, thinkers and historians are all suggesting that we are in the twilight years of western civilisation and, as one indication of that, we have lost our unifying "story". That story was, of course, the Christian story. We can see how much that is lost by our collective ignorance of the story but also by the loss of the values that were held. Of the 10 commandments, only theft and murder remain as values we aspire to, and even those two are under threat. Of the so-called seven deadly sins, perhaps only sloth is still seen as negative. The others are pride, greed, envy, wrath, lust, gluttony. Pride is celebrated (e.g. you must have pride in yourself...); without greed and envy our economy would soon collapse; wrath is everywhere on the internet, and the primeval urges of lust and gluttony are celebrated in advert and

film. This diagnosis is now commonly accepted, to the extent that there is a call for a return to Christian values without the faith and the content of the story behind it. But it is not enough just to return to the values; we also need to accept the story and spiritual life for

In this context, the words of Jesus of Nazareth are truly revolutionary. Your old medieval church may seem old-fashioned and reactionary, but in fact we follow a transforming belief. Our founder said, "Love your neighbour". "Love your enemy". "Lay down your life for your friends". "Give away your wealth". "Seek first God's Kingdom". "Do to others as you would have them do to you". "Whoever wants to be first must be slave of all". "Do not store up treasures on earth". No sign here of greed, or envy, or gluttony. Naturally we Christians fail, and fail often. (And the institution of the church has recently failed even more). But to these values we aspire. And to the story we hold true.

As Easter approaches the old story that Jesus died and rose again, and sent his Holy Spirit gives us both hope and power to carry on. To some it looks as though the church in the West will die. To me, when I see people hold to the words of Jesus and keep to the story, I know that is impossible. For it is a sign, in the messes around us, that God is in our midst, transforming our community. He will not leave, because he loves us. He died for us and rose to new life. In your old medieval churches, we still hold to the stories and to the words of Jesus. Indeed, in the words of another old film, "The Greatest Story ever told". You are always welcome!

John Chitham
Rector, St Mary's Standon

Barkway Market

Hertfordshire's popular country event, Barkway Market, will return on Saturday 10 May.

If you're looking to spend a day in the country to enjoy a quintessential day out in an idyllic setting, Barkway Market on Saturday 10 May, is for you.

One of Hertfordshire's popular country shows, Barkway Market is held within the beautiful grounds of Manor Farm, one of the village's oldest houses, alongside a craft fair in the neighbouring Church.

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

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

The annual Market is organised by a team of volunteers on behalf of Barkway Village Hall, which is a registered charity and hosts many of Barkway's community groups. All proceeds go towards the running of the Hall and in 2024, just under £10,000 was donated to local community groups and projects. The Market is also an opportunity for local organisations to raise funds including the Barkway Church, The 7th Royston Barkway Scout Group, and Barkway School.



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

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

There will be a small entrance fee of £5 for adult visitors (no charge for children 16 and under). To help reduce queuing times, organisers are encouraging online ticket sales only this year. Tickets will be available to purchase via www.barkwaymarket.org and via QR codes which will on display as you approach the entrance gate on the day. There will be a suggested donation of £2 for car parking, which goes directly to Barkway Scouts who marshall the car park. Parking is provided for in adjoining fields.

For more details about the Market, please visit www.barkwaymarket.org or follow them on Facebook @barkwayvillagemarket or Instagram @barkwaymarket. Some stalls are still available, but are selling out fast – a link can be accessed via the website or for information, please contact bookings@barkwaymarket.org

The Hundred Parishes Society

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



One of the main crops of the rich agricultural area covered by The Hundred Parishes is barley, the main ingredient of traditional ales and beer. In the past, much of the barley was malted locally before being taken to a nearby brewery to be combined with water, hops and yeast for fermenting into beer.

Brewing was initially a domestic activity in the home for family consumption, on farms and estates for the landowner's family and workers, and in various institutions such as religious communities for those who lived in and visited them. As the demand for beer grew (safer to drink than 'fresh' water at the time) so did the brewing industry: public houses having their own brewhouses, commercial brewers working out of stand-alone breweries, and then the development of industrial scale brewery complexes.

Evidence of all these different types of breweries is to be found within the

Hundred Parishes in the form of place names such as Brewery Lane in Stansted, Brewery House in Little Hadham; Little Brewers, a cottage in Matching Green; Brewery Cottage in Swards End; and Brewers House in Dunmow.

There are also surviving examples of the breweries from each of the various phases of the development of the industry. At Audley End House the estate's brewhouse survives although the internal features have been lost. An example of a public house brewery survives as The Old Brewery in Radwinter, now a private house. In Hatfield Heath the former stand-alone brewhouse was converted to a corn mill before becoming commercial offices.

Three examples of brewhouses which were a part of industrial brewery complexes survive in Furneux Pelham, Wethersfield and Hartford End in Felsted. All three have been renovated and converted to private residential use.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

Booking.com users targeted with scam messages

Insight from Action Fraud reports suggests the individuals were defrauded after receiving unexpected messages and emails from a Booking.com account belonging to a hotel they had a reservation with, which had been taken over by a criminal. Using this account, the criminals send in-app messages, emails, and WhatsApp messages to customers,



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deceiving them into making payment and/or requesting credit card details.

The specific account takeovers are likely to be the result of a targeted phishing attack against the hotel or accommodation provider, and not Booking.com's backend system or infrastructure.

Adam Mercer, Deputy Head of Action Fraud, said:

"With more than 500 reports made to Action Fraud, those who have booked a holiday on the Booking.com platform should stay alert to any unexpected emails or messages from a hotel using the Booking.com platform, as their account could have been taken over by a criminal.

"If you receive an unexpected request from a hotel's account you booked with using Booking.com, asking for bank details or credit card details, it could be a fraudster trying to trick you into parting ways with your money. Contact Booking.com or the organisation directly if you're unsure.

"Remember to report any suspicious emails by forwarding it to report@phishing.gov.uk, or if you

receive a fraudulent text message, you can forward it to 7726."

How can you protect yourself?

Booking.com and Action Fraud are providing the following advice on how to spot signs of fraud and protect your Booking.com account:

- No legitimate Booking.com transaction will ever require a customer to provide their credit card details by phone, email, or text message (including WhatsApp).

Sometimes a hotel provider will manage their own payment and may reach out to request payment information, like credit card details – before providing any information, always verify the authenticity of communication between yourself and the hotel's account.

- If you receive any urgent payment requests that require immediate attention, like a booking cancellation, immediately reach out to the Booking.com Customer Service team via the details on the official Booking.com website and/or app to confirm.

Any payment requests that do not match the information in the original booking

confirmation should also be double checked and confirmed with Booking.com Customer Service before proceeding.

- Any messages purporting to be from Booking.com that contain instructions to follow links and/or open/download files should be treated with caution.

If you have any doubts about a message, contact Booking.com directly. Don't use the numbers or address in the suspicious message and use the details from their official website.

If you receive any suspicious emails or text messages, report them by forwarding emails to: report@phishing.gov.uk, or texts to 7726.

Find out how to protect yourself from fraud: <https://stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk>

If you've lost money or provided financial information as a result of any phishing scam, notify your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud at <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report-phishing> or by calling 0300 123 2040.



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You are very welcome to any of these, as well as our regular 10.30 services. We look forward to seeing you!



For more information please contact Revd. John Chitham rector@ubsms.org.uk



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Jenyns First School and Nursery, Uplands, Braughing SG11 2QJ - 01920 821461

The Hundred Parishes Society

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Enjoying a winter stroll along any of the described walks in the Hundred Parishes is an opportunity to view the landscape. The spring of 2024 was rather wet, and this resulted in poor establishment of autumn-sown cereals. This, combined with the inclement conditions during harvesting, resulted in disappointingly low yields.

However, it seems that with dry weather in the autumn of 2024, the sown wheat, barley and oats have germinated well, with most fields now covered with fresh green shoots. Many farmers have decided to cut back on growing oil seed rape, and may choose to plant alternative niche crops such as sunflowers or borage once the weather is warmer.

These farmed landscapes have traditionally supported assorted wildlife including skylarks, rooks, ladybirds, bumble bees, butterflies, badgers and foxes. In addition, well-maintained soils contain not just beneficial fungi, but a variety of earthworms and beetles which in turn provide food for many other creatures. Sadly, other less-welcome creatures such as slugs and root-eating beetle or fly larvae are also present. Seeing a sizeable flock of birds following a plough demonstrates this plethora of food!

Recent concerns about the loss of insect life, especially pollinators or those that eat aphids, is encouraging farmers to find ways of enhancing habitats for insects by leaving marginal strips round fields for wildflowers, planting new hedges or creating beetle banks within their fields. These features may be visible from footpaths during the winter months so make a note of where they are and plan return visits during the summer to observe them full of flowers and other wildlife.

Tricia Moxey, Trustee

Plant sale at May Day

There will be a plant sale on May Day, Monday 5 May in for the Friends of St. Mary's Church, as usual. We look forward to seeing friends old and new, whatever the weather!

Helena Spencer 07974583832

ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE

Puckeridge : Doris Windsor 01920 822525

Braughing: Cllr Ruth Fleetwood 01920 822889 rfleetwood@braughing.org.uk

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	10:15 – 11:15	Orange development (8-9 yrs)
	11:15 – 12:15	Green Squad (10 yrs+)

More sessions to be added during school holidays.

COME ALONG AND GIVE IT A TRY!

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Regular services in our Benefice

First Sunday each month

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) St Mary's Standon
10.30am Morning Worship All Saints Little Munden

Second Sunday each month

10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's Standon

Third Sunday each month

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) St Mary's Standon
10.30am Holy Communion All Saints Little Munden

Fourth Sunday each month

10.30am All Age Morning Worship St Mary's Standon
6.00pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Standon

Any Fifth Sundays

10.30am Morning Worship St Catherine's Sacombe

Every Tuesday

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) St Catherine's Sacombe

Every Wednesday

9.30am Worship and Bible study St Mary's Standon



For more details of services and activities please
see our website: www.ubsms.org.uk



The United Benefice of St Mary's Standon and All Saints Little Munden with St Catherine's Sacombe

Holy Week and Easter services in the Benefice

Sunday 13th April (Palm Sunday)

10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's Standon

Thursday 17th April (Maundy Thursday)

7.30pm Holy Communion St Catherine's Sacombe

Friday 18th April (Good Friday)

10.30am Service at the Cross All Saints Little Munden

2.00pm Service of reflection St Mary's Standon

Sunday 20th April (Easter Sunday)

10.30am Easter Holy Communion St Mary's Standon

Sunday 27th April

10.30am All Age Morning Worship St Mary's Standon

6.00pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Standon

Dates for your Diary!

7th March 2.30pm World Day of Prayer St Mary's Standon

29th March 10.00am Coffee Morning and posy making All Saints Little Munden

5th April 10.00am 'Little Easter Angels' St Mary's Standon

5th May Mayday Standon High Street

16th May 7.30pm FOSM AGM

14th June 11.00am – 5.00pm Standon Open Gardens

28th June 12.00pm – 5.00pm Dane End Open Gardens

29th June 5.00pm Cantate Picnic Concert St Mary's Standon

Wednesdays in termtime 3.00pm Café and Lions All Saints Little Munden

Fridays in termtime 9.30am Little Angels St Mary's Standon

For more details of services and activities please see our

website: www.ubsms.org.uk

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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

7:30-8:30am WASPS Breakfast Club at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre (term time only). For more details visit www.waspsclub.com or Nicola on 07904 391133 nicola@waspsclub.com

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. 07881 533339.

3:15-6:15pm WASPS After School Club at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre (term time only). www.waspsclub.com or Nicola on 07904 391133 nicola@waspsclub.com.

Monday

10am - 11.30am Iyengar Yoga at Standon Village Hall, Hadham Road, Standon, SG11 1LE. Contact Sarah on 07427 596961 or www.TowardYoga.com.

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

1.30 - 2.30 Movement to Music for Over 60s, Standon Village Hall, Imagination Dance 07394 934911

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

Starlight Stars: Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

3.45 Twinkling Stars (4-6 yrs)

4.30 Shooting Stars (7-10 yrs)

5.30 Bright Stars (11-13 yrs)

6.30 Rising Stars (14-18 yrs)

Ali Latchford 01279 966 466

4 and 5.05pm Yoga-nastics @ Edwinstree School, Buntingford Andrea Allen 07989 980038 yoga-nastics@outlook.com www.yoga-nastics.co.uk

5pm 1st Standon & Puckeridge Rainbows. Term time in Standon. sandprainbows1@outlook.com

7 Braughing Bridge Club, Old Boy's School, Braughing. 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. Mandy Challis 07766 086 137 waredistricttrefoil@gmail.com

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

7.30 Dance JAM Academy - Standon Village Hall, Adult Tap (all levels) julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk Julie 07971 699615

8 First Monday of the month, East Herts Aviation Society meets at the Sword Inn Hand, Westmill, Buntingford (optional special pre-talk pub dinner menu from 6.30pm). Steve Morgan 07712 145146.

8.00 Puckeridge Karate Club meets at Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre. Clive Bowen 01763 231132

Tuesday

9am Traditional Flowing Ashtanga Yoga, Puckeridge Community Centre. Ian 07553 285453.

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP), St Catherine's Sacombe.

10am - Noon The Listening Place (a drop in centre for bereavement advice and support). Tuesdays at Leaside Church and Community Centre, High Street, Ware SG12 9BT. Alison 01763 232673.

10:00-11:00am Vinyasa Flow Yoga (for all) - Braughing Community Centre 11:15-12:15pm Postnatal Yoga - Braughing Community Centre

10am - 1pm CAB North Entrance, Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford.

Tel: 0844 848 9700.

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

11 Accessible Yoga. Standon and Puckeridge community Centre. Penny Constantinou 07944 416572

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

12-2pm Citizens Advice Contact Centre at Bishops Stortford Methodist Church. Messageline 01920 459944

2-4pm Second Tuesday of the month, Standon Hand Embroidery Group in Standon Village Hall. Barbara Norris 01920 822104.

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, contact.braughingscouts@gmail.com

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

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

6.15 1st Standon & Puckeridge Brownies. Term time in Standon. Sarah Howitt 01920 822342

6.30 Cubs - (8-10½ years, Scouts), term-time only. Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. contact.braughingscouts@gmail.com

6.30 Tennis Club evening (continues under floodlights throughout the winter). Diana Foster 07778 031430

7pm Slimming World at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Sophie 07855 079070.

7pm Yoga at Braughing Community Hall. info@annieknapmanyoga.co.uk

7.30 Bell Ringing Practice, St Mary's Church Tower, Standon. Interested? - Come along or Tracey Coley 01920 823886.

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



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- 3,100 copies distributed quarterly
- Every house in Puckeridge, Standon, Braughing, Colliers End, The Mundens and Westmill get a copy.
- The cost for delivering 3,100 leaflets is only £170
- Call John to book your slot as this is a very popular option!

Contact John Harris at 07740 306189 or
john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Wednesday

- 8.30 Under 1's Children's Group, Standon Village Hall. Kelly Brightman 01920 463949
- 9.30 Worship and Bible Study at St Mary's Standon, followed by refreshments (No service in August)
- 9.30 Gentle Therapeutic Hatha Yoga, Braughing St Mary's Church Hall. Ian 07553 285453.
- 9.30 Pilates at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Clare 07966 213880
- 9.30-10.30am Vinyasa Flow Yoga (for all) - Furneux Pelham Village Hall
- 10am Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club Adult Tennis. Sally Bradshaw 01920 821152
- 10am - 1pm CAB North Entrance, Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford. 0844 848 9700
- 10.30am Brughing Shed Club at Braughing Community Centre. Details Ruth Fleetwood 07437 994895
- 11am Pilates Group Standon Village Hall. Judy Coward 01920 822812
- 11-1pm Citizens Advice Contact Centre at Hertford Sele Community Hub. Messageline 01920 459944
- 11.30 Kettleball Exercise Classes, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Sue 07854 316628
- 12.30 Bramble Hill Children's Centre young parents group. (Term time). 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.
- 4 - 8pm Dance JAM Academy - Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Ballet, Tap and Freestyle classes from age 3. Contact: julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk
- 4.15-6.15 Gymnastics Edwinstree School. Andrea Allen 07989 980038 email: ribvalleytc@live.co.uk
- Starlight Stars: Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre
- 2pm Dance Fit (18yrs). Ali Latchford 01279 966 466
- 5.45-6.15pm Scout and Guide Band, Braughing Church Hall Term time only. braughingscouts@gmail.com
- 6.15 Punchline Boxing (juniors) at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Adam Davidson 07903 657146
- 6:30 Scouts (10½ - 14½ years old), term-time only. Braughing Church Hall contact.braughingscouts@gmail.com
- 6.30 pm Third Wednesday. Ware and District 41 Club meet alternately at the Star, Standon and The Golden Fleece. Braughing. Contact:- david.tomlin419@btinternet.com
- 7pm Braughing Tennis Club night. Karen Gore 07860 484878
- 7pm Guides during term time in Braughing. Louise 07971 800443
- 7pm Much Hadham Table Tennis Club details andyfurze@aol.com or 01279 842358.
- 7.15 till 8.45pm Ranger Girl Guides (14+ years), Cotted Guide Centre, SG9 9QP. Rosanne Kenealy 01920 821304
- 7.30 Explorer Scouts (14-18 yrs) Bowling Green Lane, Buntingford. Meets throughout the year Christine Pestle 07711 506281
- 7.30 Standon & Puckeridge Community Choir, details from ranfordd@gmail.com
- 8pm Ware Photographic Society meets at Thundridge Village Hall, September to May. Barbara Norris 01920 822104 www.wareps.org.uk
- 8pm First Wednesday of the month, East Herts Aviation Society meets at the The Sword Inn Hand, Westmill. Steve Morgan 07712 145146.
- 9pm Braughing Tennis Club Night at Braughing Community Hall. www.braughtingtennisclub.co.uk/contact-us/

If you or someone close to you is dying, you can talk to us

We know that facing the end of life can leave you feeling isolated and alone. The Anne Robson Trust helpline volunteers are here to listen and support you.

Call us on
0808 801 0688

We're here for you, if you or a loved one are facing the end of life at home, in a hospital, care home or hospice.

To find out more, please visit
www.annerobsontrust.org.uk

AnneRobson
Trust

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

If it isn't and you need help finding support, call us.



f @HertsDomesticAbuseHelpline

X @HDA_Helpline

o @hdahelp

in herts-domestic-abuse-helpline



Thursday

- 2pm Carpet Bowls at Braughing Community Centre
Mikebennett12@aol.com
- 2pm Mind & Music - Songs to Aid Memory at Northfields. David Ranford ranfordd@gmail.com
- 2pm Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club Ladies Tennis. Claudia 01920 821272
- Starlight Stars:
Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre
- 3.45 Mini Movers (4-6 yrs)
- 4.15 Street Jazz Dance (7-11 yrs)
- 5pm Freestyle Dance (11-14 yrs)
Ali Latchford 01279 966 466
- 6pm Junior Table Tennis at Thundridge
Details imrothg@talktalk.net
- 6.30 Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club - Club night 6.30pm. Diana Foster 07778 031430.
- Puckeridge Karate Club
Juniors: 7-8pm, Adults 8-9.30pm, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. 01763 231132 or at TG's Convenience Store.
- 7 Puckeridge Karate Club meets 7pm at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Clive Bowen 01763 231132
- 7 Junior Table Tennis at Thundridge
Details imrothg@talktalk.net
- 7 Keogafit at Braughing Community

- Hall. Details 07950 934024 .
- 7 Benefice Choir meets at St Mary's Church, Standon. Michael Smith 01920 821281
- 7 Punchline Boxing (adults) at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Adam Davidson 07903 657146
- 8 Hertfordshire Holly, Mixed Clog Morris Dance Side. High Cross Village Hall. New dancers and musicians welcome. Mary Deeks 01920 822905
- 8 Prayer and Life Group, A10 Christian Mission. 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) 07808 969379

Friday

- 9.30 - 11am Little Angels Baby and Toddler Group at St Mary's Standon in term time
- 11am Traditional Flowing Ashtanga Yoga, Puckeridge Community Centre. Ian 07553 285453.
- 2pm Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club Adult Tennis. Sally Bradshaw 01920 821152
- 3.30 Accessible Yoga at home (via Zoom) 3.30pm. Penny 07944 416572.
- 4.15-6.15pm Rib Valley Gymnastics @

Edwinstree School, Buntingford.
Andrea Allen 07989 980038 email: ribvalleytc@live.co.uk

- 7.30 Explorer Scouts (14 - 18 yrs old), Christ Church, Ware. Meet throughout the year. Jim Campbell 01920 461134.
- 7.30 Tai Chi and Qi Gong at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Details Sarah Baker 07740 701102
- 8 Ware Swimming Club Trials evening. All welcome. Training evenings are Monday and Friday. Mr Vanner 01920 464439.
- 8 The Braughing Get Together meets most months in the village hall on the second or third Friday. See events under monthly calendar. Marion Saunders 01920 821530.

Saturday

- 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 HIIT with Jacqui Smith at Braughing Community Hall. 07956 647806
- 9.30 Pilates at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Clare 07966 213880
- 12.30-2pm Contessa Vaulting Group training sessions and competition

Community Cafe

at the.....

Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

Join us for a drink and a chat on the following

Wednesdays
9.30am to 11.30am**5th March****2nd April****7th May**Charity Café supporting
Parkinson's UK, with raffle**4th June****2nd July**

For more details contact Alison on 07813 702375

Recycling
FOR GOOD CAUSESFind us: Recycling for Good Causes
14 Amber Business Village
Amington
Tamworth
B77 4RPcall 0800 633 5323
email info@recyclingforgoodcauses.org
visit www.recyclingforgoodcauses.org**Items we recycle****Jewellery**Unwanted gold & silver
including damaged items
Costume jewellery
Watches**Coins & Currency**Banknotes & Coins
Any currency UK or foreign
of any age/unchangeable
currency**Mobile Phones, Cameras & Gadgets**Mobile Phones . Video Cameras
Old Film Cameras . Digital
Cameras . Sat Navs
Game Consoles . Games &
Accessories . iPods
MP3 Players . Tablet Computers**Stamps**Loose / Single Stamps
First Day Covers
Presentation Packs

Please place your items in the sack provided
at your designated drop off point:
Community Café @ The Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre
First Wednesday of each month
9.30am to 11.30am

practice. All welcome. Tina Layton
01920 821792

6pm Evening Mass at Puckeridge
Roman Catholic Church. 01763
271471.

Sunday

10am Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club
- Club morning . Diana Foster 07778
031430.

Braughing, St Mary the Virgin Services:
1st and 2nd Sunday at 10.30am.

St. Mary's Church Standon: The United
Benefice of St Mary's Standon and
All Saints Little Munden with St
Catherine's Sacombe:

1st Sunday: 8am Holy Communion
(BCP), St Mary's Standon; 10.30am
Morning Worship, All Saints Little
Munden.

2nd Sunday: 10.30am Holy
Communion, St Mary's Standon.

3rd Sunday: 8am Holy Communion
(BCP), St Mary's Standon; 10.30am
Holy Communion, All Saints Little
Munden.

4th Sunday: 10.30am All Age
Worship, St Mary's Standon; 6pm
Choral Evensong, St Mary's,
Standon..

5th Sunday: 10.30am Morning
Worship, St Catherine's Sacombe.
Please see the benefice website,
www.ubsms.org.uk for up-to-date
information or contact Revd. John
Chitham on 07945 504433.

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

March

- 2 Braughing Parish Paths group walk,
meet at 2pm sharp in the Square opp
the Axe).
paulaandpaul1@outlook.com
- 5 Community Café at Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre, 9.30,
details Alison 07813 702375
- 7 Braughing Get Together Murder
Mystery dinner. Details
cynthia.mathews44@gmail.com
07933 302547
- 8 Braughing Repair Café at Braughing
Community Centre, 2 - 4pm.
- 12 Mid Morning Mingle, 10.30-12.30 at

- Puckeridge & Standon Community
Centre. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 15 Jenyns First School open morning
9.30 - 12.30
- 19 Standon & Puckeridge Village
Lunch. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 21 Jenyns First School Quiz Night
7.30pm
- 26 Midweek Music at St Mary's,
Standon. 11.30am. Details
music@ubsms.org.uk
- 31 East Herts Aviation Society talk on
Duxford 1917-1961. Details
stevenmorgan125@btinternet.com

April

- 2 Community Café at Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre, 9.30,
details Alison 07813 702375
- 2-4 Sadleir Drama Club plays at Standon
Village Hall 7.30pm Details
[sadleirdrama.wixsite.com/sadleir-](http://sadleirdrama.wixsite.com/sadleir-drama-club)
[drama-club](http://sadleirdrama.wixsite.com/sadleir-drama-club)
- 4 Braughing Get Together Whist Drive.
Details
cynthia.mathews44@gmail.com
07933 302547
- 5 Little Easter Angels at Standon
Church, 10-12, Free.
- 5 Ware Choral Society Spring Concert
7.30pm at Ware Drill Hall.
- 6 Braughing Parish Paths group walk,
meet at 2pm sharp in the Square opp
the Axe).
paulaandpaul1@outlook.com
- 9 Mid Morning Mingle, 10.30-12.30 at
Puckeridge & Standon Community
Centre. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 12 First aid training, free, at S&P
Community Centre. Details
clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk
or 07854 916404
- 16 Standon & Puckeridge Village
Lunch. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 19 First aid training, free, at S&P
Community Centre. Details
clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk
or 07854 916404
- 23 Midweek Music at St Mary's,
Standon. 11.30am. Details
music@ubsms.org.uk
- 24 Standon Annual Parish meeting 7.30
at S&P Community Centre

May

- 4 Braughing Parish Paths group walk,
meet at 2pm sharp in the Square opp
the Axe).
paulaandpaul1@outlook.com
- 5 Standon Mayday
- 7 Community Café at Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre, 9.30,
details Alison 07813 702375
- 14 Mid Morning Mingle, 10.30-12.30 at
Puckeridge & Standon Community
Centre. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 16 Friends of St Mary's AGM at the
Church in Standon 7.30pm
- 21 Standon & Puckeridge Village
Lunch. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 28 Midweek Music at St Mary's,
Standon. 11.30am. Details
music@ubsms.org.uk
- 31 Westmill Art Exhibition at St Mary
the Virgin Church Details
alex@alexphotos.co.uk or 07768
790902

June

- 4 Community Café at Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre, 9.30,
details Alison 07813 702375
- 11 Mid Morning Mingle, 10.30-12.30 at
Puckeridge & Standon Community
Centre. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 14 Standon & Puckeridge Open
Gardens. Details David Goldstraw
07718 734897
- 18 Standon & Puckeridge Village
Lunch. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 25 Midweek Music at St Mary's,
Standon. 11.30am. Details
music@ubsms.org.uk

July

- 2 Community Café at Standon &
Puckeridge Community Centre, 9.30,
details Alison 07813 702375
- 5 Ware Choral Society Summer
Concert 7.30pm at Ware Drill Hall.
- 9 Mid Morning Mingle, 10.30-12.30 at
Puckeridge & Standon Community
Centre. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 12 Braughing Fair & Wheelbarrow Race
- 12 Music for a Summer Evening at St
Mary's Church, Standon 7.30pm.
Details music@ubsms.org.uk

Defibrillators in the PS News area

Automated External Defibrillators are located at:

Furze Cottage, **Barwick.**

Phone box opp The Axe & Compasses, **Braughing**
The Golden Fleece, Green End, **Braughing**
Community Centre. Playing Fields, **Braughing**
KB Tyres, High Street, **Puckeridge**
Outside St Thomas School High Street, **Puckeridge**

Standon Village Hall,

Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre
Soon at the former telephone box at **Colliers End**
Village Hall Entrance, **Little Hadham**
In the former BT phone box just off the Village Green,
Westmill

- 23 Midweek Music at St Mary's, Standon. 11.30am. Details music@ubsms.org.uk

August

- 6 Community Café at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, 9.30, details Alison 07813 702375
- 13 Mid Morning Mingle, 10.30-12.30 at Puckeridge & Standon Community Centre. Details Helena 07974 583832

September

- 3 Community Café at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, 9.30, details Alison 07813 702375
- 10 Mid Morning Mingle, 10.30-12.30 at Puckeridge & Standon Community Centre. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 24 Midweek Music at St Mary's, Standon. 11.30am. Details music@ubsms.org.uk

October

- 1 Community Café at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, 9.30, details Alison 07813 702375
- 8 Mid Morning Mingle, 10.30-12.30 at Puckeridge & Standon Community Centre. Details Helena 07974 583832
- 22 Midweek Music at St Mary's, Standon. 11.30am. Details music@ubsms.org.uk

No space for more this edition!



Mind & Music – songs to aid memory and wellbeing

NORTHFIELDS, Puckeridge SG11 1TJ

Each Thursday 2.00 – 3.00

Bringing people together to sing a variety of well-known and loved songs, in a fun and friendly environment.

Mind & Music welcomes everyone, especially those affected by dementia and their carers, as well as those concerned about their memory.

For information contact David Ranford
ranfordd@gmail.com 01992 976762



CHRIST CHURCH

Baldock Road, Buntingford. SG9 9AA
www.buntingford.urc.org.uk
URCbuntingford

Ministerr: Rev Sue Fender
revsuefender@gmail.com
01223 375588

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

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

December	1	Children's Service	Rev Sue Fender
	8	Holy Communion	Rev John Proctor
	15	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	22	Carol Service	Rev Sue Fender
	25	Christmas Day Service	The Elders
		At 10.00am	
	29	Morning Worship	Graham Watson
January	5	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
	12	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	19	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Janet Tollington
	26	Morning Worship	Penny Flynn
February	2	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
	9	Morning Worship	Abigail Perrow
	16	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	23	Morning Worship	Rev Sue Fender
March	2	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
	9	Morning Worship	Richard Lewney
	16	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	23	Psalm Sunday	Rev Dr Janet Tollington
	30	Mothering Sunday	Rev Sue Fender
April	6	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender

Regular Event

Coffee and Company meet every Thursday, 10.30am to 12.30pm, in the Church Hall. If you're elderly, living alone, new to the area, perhaps working from home, and would like some company, come along to share Coffee, Cake, Company and Chat. All are welcome. Just turn up and give a small donation for the refreshments.

Roger de Clare C. of E. First School and Nursery



Roger de Clare C. of E. First School and Nursery are delighted to announce that we still have spaces in some year groups.

We are a first school and Nursery with an excellent reputation. We cater for children from 3-9 years old. Our vision and values centre around 'maximum achievement for all in a happy, caring and Christian environment.' Our Early Years creates a strong foundation for active and lively play-based learning that is continued throughout the school. We enjoy strong links and partnerships with our Middle and Upper Schools as well as with all schools within the Rib Valley.

We have spaces in some year groups!

Please contact the school office for a tour with our Headteacher, Mrs Woods.

Please look at our most recent OFSTED report for further information.

Contact Information:

Station Road
Puckeridge
Hertfordshire
SG11 1TF
01920 821363

admin@rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk

Website:
www.rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk

Local Charity Shops

Barnardo's

9 Bridgefoot High Street, Ware, SG12 9BS
01920 462615
Mon-Sat 09:00-17:00, Sun 10:00-16:00

British Heart Foundation

31 Maidenhead Street, Hertford, SG14 1DW
01992 537908
33 Potter Street, Bishops Stortford, CM23 3UH
01279 461875
Both open Mon-Sat 09:30-17:00, Sun 10:00-16:00

Isabel Hospice

34a High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AQ
01763 274904
44 High Street, Ware, SG12 9BY
6 Bridge Street, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2JY
01279 659551
All open Mon-Sat 09:30-16:30

Keech Hospice Care

11 Maidenhead Street, Hertford, SG14 1DW
01992 503670
Mon-Sat 09:00-17:00

Mind

42 High Street, Ware, SG12 9BY
01920 318615
Mon-Sat 09:00-17:00, Sun 10:00-16:00

Oxfam Bookshop

2b Maidenhead Street, Hertford, SG14 1DR
01992 583221
Mon-Sat 09:00-17:00
3-5a North Street, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2LD
01279 504627

RSPCA Charity Shop

2 The Dells, South Street, Bishops Stortford CM23 3AB
Tel: 01279 300038

St Clare Hospice Music and Bookshop

10 Devoils Lane, Bishop's Stortford, CM23
01279 755990
Mon-Sat 09:00-17:00, Sun 10:00-16:00

Outlet Shop, Unit 2A, St James Centre, East Road, Harlow CM20 2BJ
01279 639752
Mon-Sat 09:00-17:00
Sunday 10:00-16:00

St Elizabeth's

69 High Street, Ware, SG12 9AD
01920 466855
7 Florence Walk, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2NZ
01279 466892
Both open Mon-Sat 09:30-16:30

Salvation Army Charity Shop

31a South Street, Bishops Stortford CM23 3AZ
01279 506548

Scope

15 Railway Street, Hertford, SG14 1BG
01992 550902
Mon-Sat 09:00-17:00, Sun 10:30-16:00

Jackson Square Shopping Centre, 1 Devoils Lane, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 3XH
01279 504 463
Mon - Sat 9 - 5.30, Sun 10 - 4pm.

Let us deliver your leaflets for you!

3,100 copies delivered for just £170
(virtually all of the SG11 postcode)

Contact: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

LOCAL POP-UP VENDORS

CROWN & FALCON CAR PARK, PUCKERIDGE.

Wednesday: Ronnies Kitchen, 4-8pm 07946 418939
Friday: Vanpizza 5-9pm 07799 226515
Sunday: Famous Bagels 11 - 3pm 07802 481484

THE BELL CAR PARK, STANDON

Tuesday: FishMyChips 4.30-8pm 07890 611372
Wednesday: Cheeky Pizza 4-8pm 07377 585896
Thursday: FishMyChips 4.30-8pm 07890 611372
Friday: Ronnies Kitchen 5-8pm 07946 418939
Saturday: Rolling pop-ups 4 - 8pm 07946 418939
Sunday: Bagel Van 11am - 3pm 07802 481484

THE GOLDEN FLEECE, BRAUGHING

Thursday: Fresh Fish Van 9-10am

THE BROWN BEAR CAR PARK, BRAUGHING

Tuesdays: Fresh fish/seafood 12pm 07772 391509
Missed vendor? Email me at john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Check details if possible before travelling!

Published: 4/5/23

Need to CONTACT THE POLICE?

Which one IS BEST FOR YOU?

Follow the 5 STEPS

1. RIGHT SERVICE?
Is it a police issue or is another service better suited?

2. CHECK ONLINE?
Is the information already on our website?
Check online: www.herts.police.uk

3. REPORT ONLINE?
Has a crime already happened and you want to report it?
Report online: www.herts.police.uk

4. LIVE CHAT/CALL 101
Do you want to share some information with us or speak to someone specific? Use live chat, otherwise call 101.

5. CALL 999
Is it an emergency? Is a crime happening right now, or is a life or property at risk? Call 999.

HELP US TO HELP YOU
SCAN THIS CODE TO GET ONLINE QUICKLY

HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Prevention First

Bulky Waste, abandoned vehicles & Flytipping

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

Bulky waste details: One household item - £46.04 (for up to 6 items.)

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

Report abandoned vehicles: www.mysociety.org/wehelpyou/report-abandoned-vehicles-to-your-local-council

Car batteries, engine oil, Fridges and Freezers

All are recycled at::

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

Ware Household Waste Site, Westmill Road.

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.

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

- Local Recycling Centres.

Computers

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

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

Postcards

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

Furniture

Furniture Recycling Scheme for Hertfordshire <http://www.fresch.org.uk/> or 01707 395635.

Stamps

- Puller Memorial School in High Cross collects used stamps to 'Save the Albatross'. Drop them into school or 32 Batchelors, Puckeridge.
- Standon Post Office collects stamps for Against Breast Cancer.
- 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. Specsavers will recycle old glasses for the developing world. Drop them in to any branch.



Hertfordshire
ageUK ...Local Charity.
Local Impact

Could you be our Next Volunteer?

Looking for friendly and caring volunteers to visit older people once a week.
To Find out more, please contact Age UK
07772 173659
visiting.eh@ageukherts.org.uk





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 from 07922 519174

Can you spare a few hours a week?

You could make a big difference in the life of a disabled child and their family by helping to share the care.

please call us on
0800 917 0925
to find out more

Shared Care

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.

Potholes & Faulty Traffic Lights

Go to Hertfordshire.gov.uk or call 0300 123 4047

Trading Standards

Citizensadvice.org.uk or call 0800 223 1133

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

Waste Disposal

For further information, call WasteAware on 0300 1234 051

All Household Waste sites are closed on 25 & 26 Dec and 1 Jan.

Westmill Road, Ware SG12 0EL

Open: Every day: 10am - 6pm

Woodside Industrial Estate off Dunmow Road (A1250) Bishop's Stortford CM23 5RG

Open: Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 8am - 4pm.

Community Events 2025

	Community Café	Midmorning Mingle	Village Lunch	Music at St Mary's
			(booking essential)	
Mar	5th	12th	19th	26th
Apr	2nd	9th	16th	23rd
May	7th	14th	21st	28th
Jun	4th	11th	18th	25th
Jul	2nd	9th	16th	23rd
Aug	6th	13th	20th	—
Sep	3rd	10th	17th	24th
Oct	1st	8th	15th	22nd
Nov	5th	19th	12th	26th
Dec	3rd	10th	17th	—

Community Café 9.30am to 11.30am

Usually 1st Wednesday

Lancaster Suite, Community Centre, Puckeridge, SG11 1TF Alison 07813 702375

Mid Morning Mingle

10.30am to 12.30pm, Usually 2nd Wednesday

Williams Davies Hall, Community Centre, Puckeridge, SG11 1TF Helena 07974 583832

Village Lunch, £3 per person, Booking essential, 12.00 noon to 2.00pm

Usually 3rd Wednesday, Standon Village Hall, Hadham Road, SG11 1LE

Helena 07974 583832

Music at St. Mary's

11.30am Refreshments, 12.30pm Music

Usually 4th Wednesday (not Aug or Dec)

St. Mary's Church, Standon, SG11 1LA

music@ubsms.org.uk

St Thomas of Canterbury School

High Street, Puckeridge SG11 1RZ

admin@stcanterbury.herts.sch.uk



Extensive playing field and grounds



Spacious hall and dining room

Private lettings and hirings available - negotiable rates, enquire at the School Office 01920 821450

Let us deliver your leaflets for you

- 3,100 copies distributed quarterly
- Every house in Puckeridge, Standon, Braughing, Colliers End, The Mundens and Westmill get a copy.
- Virtually all of the SG11 postcode!
- The cost for delivering 3,100 leaflets is only £170
- Call John to book your slot!

Contact John Harris at 07740 306189 or john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Colliers End Clay Pigeon Shooting Club

Established 50 Years.

We meet on the 1st Sunday (Hillside) 100 Clays .

3rd Sunday (Hunsdon) 9am for 9:30. 100 Clays. We also run a Friendly league & monthly Competition.

We are a Club run by people who enjoy Shooting Clays.

Please call Chris Lynch for Membership Details.

07836 711336

Police Contacts:

Number for NON 999 calls: 101

Crimestoppers: crimestoppers-uk.org or call 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

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.

Victim support

0300 303 0165

Age UK Hertfordshire Information Line

Offers you information on a wide range of issues that are relevant to older people. We can also put you in touch with other organisations that can help you.

Information Line: 0300 345 3446

We listen...

InTouch is a team of 5 working within Age UK Hertfordshire.

We can support you emotionally and practically through whatever challenging situation you are facing. We don't judge or tell you what to do, we help by listening to your worries, pain, concerns and support you through it.

Call us on 01992 629358 and 01992 630623

Abandoned Vehicles

01992 655261

Herts Society for the Blind Sight Line

The Sight Line telephone number is: 01707 324680, Monday to Thursday between 10 - 1pm.

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)

Animal Warden

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

Trading Standards

03454 040506, 9am - 5pm Mon to Fri.

Traveline

0871 200 2233 www.traveline.co.uk

Post Office Times

Braughing, at The Golden Fleece.

Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

Dane End

Mon - Sat 9.00 - 7.00

Sunday 9.00 - 8.00

Standon

Monday - Friday 9.00 - 5.30

Saturday 9.00 - 1.00

Aircraft noise

Stansted Airport Noise Unit.

0800 243 788 email:

stanstednoiseline@stanstedairport.com

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 - 7pm

Tuesday - Friday 10-6pm

Saturday 10-5pm

Sunday 12-4pm

Buntingford Library:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 - 5.30pm

Friday 2 - 5.30pm, Saturday 9-1pm

Ware Library:

Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 10 - 5.30pm,

Wednesday 2-5.30pm.

Saturday 10-5pm

Parish Council Contacts:

Braughing

clerk@braughing.org.uk

Little Munden

Clerk: Geraldine Ward 01920 438145

clerk@littlemundenpc.org.uk

Standon

Clerk: Belinda Irons 01763 838732

clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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:

Highways Fault Reporting

www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults

Home Safety and Security Checks

0300 123 4046

hhss@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Trading Standards 0345 404 0506

report.fraud@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Waste Aware 0300 123 4051

General Enquiries 0300 123 4040

Textphone Users: 0300 123 4041

Other help and support hertshelp.net or

0300 123 4044

Halls for hire

- Braughing Church Hall and Old Boys School, (up to 120 with kitchen facilities) – contact sallyannehow@gmail.com 07824 446531
- Braughing Playing Field Association Community Hall - Contact Graham Frary grahamfrary@tiscali.co.uk
- Colliers End Village Hall (40 people comfortably, with kitchen) - Contact Sandra Chadwick 07976 254379
- Dane End Memorial Hall David Hart 01920 438976 dane-endhallbookings@Outlook.com
- High Cross Mrs. J. Handy 318752
- Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre - Contact clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk
- Standon Village Hall, Hadham Road, Standon – Contact Denis or Beverly Olliver on 01279 842625
- Thundridge Pauline Mortlock 01920 467152

Local Churches:

- A10 Christian Mission: Contact Revs Colin & Teresa Marks 01920 821684
- Old Hall Green & Puckeridge Roman Catholic Churches: Father Cyril Chiaha 01763 271471
- The United Benefice of St Mary's Standon and All Saints Little Munden with St Catherine's Sacombe: Please see the benefice website, www.ubsms.org.uk for up-to-date information or contact Revd. John Chitham on 01920 739483
- St Mary's Church, Braughing: Mr Don Varley, Churchwarden, Church Office - 01920 823832
- www.achurchnearyou.com/braughing-st-mary-the-virgin/

LOCAL DIRECTORY

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

1st Braughing Scout Group
boys and girls (6 - 14 years old),
contact.braughingscouts@gmail.com
Albury Seedlings Preschool & Albury
Primary School: 01279 771253
Allotments:
Braughing: Ruth Fleetwood
rfleetwood@braughing.org.uk
Puckeridge: Doris Windsor 822525
Baby-sitting Circle:
Sylvia Pinnington 822216
Bat Helpline 01992 581442
Bell Ringing: Braughing: Paul Currie
822026 , Standon: Tracey Coley
823886.
Bowls Club: Andy Mansfield 07976
237050 or
standonandpuckeridgebowlsclub@gmail.com
Braughing Birdwatching Group
Paula Moore 07983 326163
paulaandpaul@btinternet.com
Braughing Cricket Club & Colts: Peter
Hobson 07874 868691
braughingcricketclub@yahoo.co.uk
Braughing Get Together: Marion
Saunders 821530
Braughing Local History Society:
Sheila White
chairbraughinglhs@outlook.com
07931 256612
Braughing Playing Field Association
Trust: Graham Fray 07855 834862
grahamfray@tiscali.co.uk
Braughing Tennis Club
www.braughingtennis.uk
denis.clough@btinternet.com
Braughing WI: Kate Fish 822397
Brownies: Register your daughter's
interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk -
general enquiries to: (Roger de Clare
lunch club): Louise 07971 800443.
(evening unit):
firstsandpbrownies@gmail.com
Budding Babes: Tracy 01920 824041
Buntingford Bird Club: Tim Robinson,
01763 243143

Buntingford Choir:
info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk
Buntingford Heritage Centre:
Jenny Dingley 01763 273002
Carols Round the Tree (Standon):
Caroline Franks 822723
Carpet Bowls:
Mike Bennett
Mikebennett12@aol.com
Church Choir Braughing: Church office
823832
Church Choir, Standon with the Mundens
and Sacombe: Michael Smith 821281
Conservative Assn:
David Andrews 823836
Dance Classes - Rhythm & Poise School
of Dance: Ballet: Karen Howarth -
01279 651535 & Tap, Modern &
Jazz: Kate Dutton - 07969 362224
Dance JAM Academy:
Julie McPartland 07971 699615
julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk
Dog Training: Jan Mann 823475
Dominoes: Axe & Compasses, Braughing
- Graham Fray 821715
East Herts Aviation Society: Steve
Morgan
stevemorgan125@btinternet.com
East Herts Geology Club Secretary Diana
Perkins 463755
Embroidery Group: Barbara Norris
822104
Folk Music Club:
Stortfolk 01279 656664
Friends of Braughing Church:
Clive Marshall Trustee:
chef@marshallclan.com
Golf Club (East Herts):
Secretary 821978
Guides: Register your interest at
www.girlguiding.org.uk - general
enquiries to Louise 07971 800443.
Hares Football Club:
01763 848449
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
High Cross & Thundridge WI: Marilyn
Pritchard 01992 553414
Hospital Transport for the Elderly:
Wendy Smith 07922 519174
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
Mercury Correspondent: Braughing:
Clive Marshall 822167
Much Hadham Table Tennis Club
andyfurze@aol.com
Pantomime Group, Braughing: Peter
Walsingham 823265
Parish Paths Partnership: Braughing -
Paul Moore 07785 762748, Standon -
John Harris 07740 306189
Penny Constantinou Accessible Yoga,
Pre, Post Natal & Baby Yoga, Baby
Massage. 07944 416572
penny@yogaforallherts.com
Pet Care: Mrs Harvey 822814
Petanque: Brown Bear, Braughing - Steve
Banfield landlord@brownbearbraughing.co.uk
Pets TLC: 822705
Phoenix Moon Productions
enquiries@phoenixmoonproductions.co.uk
Photographic Society (Ware): Barbara
Norris 822104

Low Cost, One Bedroomed, Centrally Heated Almshouses for Local People.

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 one-bedroomed unit with it's own kitchen, bathroom and living room.

Write to put your name on the waiting list to :
Helen Surridge , Clerk to Standon Charities,
clerk@standoncharities.org.uk
www.standoncharities.org.uk

Braughing Housing Association

The Braughing Housing Association was established in 1965 for elderly Braughing residents finding themselves in need of a home.

There are six flatlets consisting of bed/sitting room, kitchen and bathroom, suitable for single tenancy.

Enquiries can be made by emailing
braughinghousingassociation@gmail.com

Railway & Local History Society
(Buntingford): Stephen Ruff 01763 289516

Rainbows: Register your interest at
www.girlguiding.org.uk - enquiries
to sandprainbows1@outlook.com

Red Yoga: 07590 964016

Royal British Legion:

Standon: Ron Edwards 464218

Ralph Sadleir Assn:

sandie@sandibevents.co.uk

Ranger Girl Guides (14+ years),

Wednesday, Rosanne Kenealy 01920 821304

Rib Valley Gymnastics 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

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: Contact

clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Standon Village Hall - Denis Olliver
01279 842625

Swimming Club (Buntingford): David
Carr 07966 508156

Tai Chi: Mrs A Manwaring 822041

Tennis Club:

Braughing:

denis.clough@btinternet.com

Standon:

Keith Bradshaw 01920 821152

Three Villages Eco Group:

Trish Street 01920 821069

Thundridge Table Tennis club

imrothg@talktalk.net

Ware District Trefoil Guild

Mandy Challis (Chairman),

WareDistrictTrefoil@gmail.com
07766 086137

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:

David Tomlin.

david.tomlin419@btinternet.com

Ware Swimming Club:

Chris Buck 07947 322808

Ware U3A:

Chris Beeton, Membership Secretary
07952 066748

WASPS Out of School Club Nicola

English, 07904391133,

nicola@waspsclub.com

Young Farmers :

Linda Watts 07831 894840

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.

3100 copies are distributed to every house in:

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

and many of the houses in:

High Cross Little Hadham.

Copies available from local Pubs, Vintage Service Station in Puckeridge, plus Standon Convenience and Post Office.

Advertising in PS

The cost of advertising is:

- From £88 per year—details www.psnews.org.uk
- **You have to advertise for a year (4 issues) minimum and pay in advance.**
- Advert design, logos and illustrations scanned, all free of charge.
- **Leaflet inserts** are £170 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: 07740 306189 or email john@walkinginengland.co.uk

By email

March Issue	10 Feb
June Issue	10 May
Sept Issue	10 Aug
Dec Issue	10 Nov

Please send your articles and photographs by these dates.

If you would like an email reminder a couple of weeks before you need to get the article to me, just email me the request and it will happen.

Emailed articles, deliveries & advertising:

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

Tel: 07740 306189

E-mail: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Visit our 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 as above.

When can I advertise?

NOW! To reserve your place or for more information, please call John on 07740 306189 or email john@walkinginengland.co.uk

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BUNTINGFORD • 01763 274111
WELWYN GARDEN CITY • 01707 390018
WELWYN • 01438 714686
HERTFORD • 01992 582052
WARE • 01920 468551
LETCHEWORTH • 01462 684292
HODDESDON • 01992 471709
HARWOOD PARK • 01438 812515

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