

GRAPEVINE

Church of England | Diocese of Chelmsford
Parish of Takeley with Little Canfield

The Monthly Magazine for
Church and Community



Photo: Parish Pump

Takeley, Priors Green, Little Canfield, Molehill Green
Takeley Street, Bambers Green, Takeley Park

March 2021

Published by: PCC of Takeley with Little Canfield (TLC Church)

Grapevine is also available as a pdf file on our website:

www.tlcchurch.co.uk

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Please submit articles for inclusion to: grapevine@tlcchurch.co.uk

Articles should be sent as a Word document, images JPEG, PNG, not PDF

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CIRCULATION:

Published online 10 times a year

The parish includes: Takeley, Priors Green, Little Canfield,



...rumours that we would be giving out easter eggs are unfounded - er, there aren't any left!

Church Services during the pandemic, and looking forward

At the present time, the diocese has advised that churches should be closed again for public worship. When it is safe to reopen, we will be holding a said service at Holy Trinity Church at 9.30am each Sunday, alternating between Communion and a Service of the Word.

Until then we continue to join with Stansted Church for a **Zoom service at 9.30am on Sunday mornings** – you can find the direct link for that in our weekly email and on our website www.tlcchurch.co.uk. And we are also posting a video on our Facebook page [tlcchurches](https://www.facebook.com/tlcchurches) at 11am each Sunday.

Currently these services are jointly led by Hugh Mascetti, our Licensed Lay Minister, and Helen Flack, Curate at Stansted, but we are happy to say that the Reverend Dr Colin Fearweather will be starting in post soon! His licensing will take place at St John's on Tuesday 13th April at 7:30pm.

Meanwhile, **All Saints Church is open every day for private personal prayer**. Using both our buildings in this way means we avoid having to engage in a vast amount of cleaning, for which we neither have the effort (volunteers) nor the money (paid cleaner).

We have a weekly sheet of thoughts and prayers based on the main Sunday Bible reading – if you'd like to be added to the mailing list, please let us know by email at admin@tlcchurch.co.uk or by phone 07766 444873.

On the next two pages there is a grid showing the services through March until Easter day.

PLEASE NOTE that this information may well change as Government guidance dictates and as the Church Council responds - the latest information will always be on our website: **www.tlcchurch.co.uk** and our Facebook page: **[tlcchurches](https://www.facebook.com/tlcchurches)**.

Church Services for March & Easter 2021

Sunday of Month	Date	Sunday	Time	Church	Service	Minister
1st	7th March	3rd Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Online, Zoom	Holy Communion	Rev'd Helen Flack and Jenny Salisbury
2nd	14th	Mothering Sunday	9.30am	Online, Zoom	Online Holy Communion	Rev'd Helen Flack and Hugh Mascetti
3rd	21st	5th Sunday of Lent Passion Sunday	09.30am	Online, Zoom	Service of the Word	Rev'd Helen Flack and Hugh Mascetti
4th	28th	Palm Sunday	9.30am	Stansted	Liturgy of the Palms/ Passion Holy Communion	Rev'd Helen Flack
		Palm Sunday	11.00am	Birchanger	Holy Communion and blessing of the Palms	Rev'd Helen Flack
		Palm Sunday	11.15am	Farnham	Morning Prayer	Lay Led
		Palm Sunday	9.30am	Takeley	Palm Procession and SoW	Hugh Mascetti

March 2021

HOLY WEEK						
Monday	29th	<i>Monday of Holy Week</i>	9.00am 8.30pm	Online, Zoom	Online Morning Prayer and Compline	
Tuesday	30th	<i>Tuesday of Holy Week</i>	9.00am 8.30pm	Online, Zoom	Online Morning Prayer	
Wednesday	31st	<i>Wednesday of Holy Week</i>	9.00am 8.30pm	Online, Zoom	Online Morning Prayer	
Thursday	1st April	Maundy Thursday	8.00pm	Stansted	Liturgy of Maundy Thursday	Rev'd Helen Flack
		Maundy Thursday	8:00pm	Ltl Canfield	Service of the Word	Hugh Mascetti
Friday	2nd	Good Friday	2.00pm	Takeley	Hour at the cross	Helen & Hugh
Saturday	3rd	Holy Saturday	7.30pm	Farnham	Vigil	Helen & Hugh
Sunday	4th	Easter Day	9.30am	Stansted	Holy Communion	Helen
		Easter Day	11.15am	Birchanger	Holy Communion	Helen
		Easter Day	9.30am	Takeley	Holy Communion	Rev Ian Elliott and Hugh Mascetti

From the Lay Minister



Hatfield Forest, Winter 2021

I don't think I can ever remember winter having changed into spring so quickly. On Sunday 1th February, Barbara and I walked from our home near the Four Ashes to the Shell House at Hatfield Forest. The ground was frozen; we crossed what would otherwise have been waterlogged or churned up ground on ridges of frozen mud or inch-thick patches of ice. When we got to the lake we could not believe our eyes. The entire lake was frozen apart for a small patch near a jetty where a few confused ducks and a couple of swans were swimming. Some even more confused-looking ducks were walking around on the ice. While we were there, someone threw a sizeable stick onto the ice - it landed with an audible "thunk" and not a hint of a crack. This was solid, thick ice.

By Monday afternoon the weather had changed. I did not go to the lake, but the ground near our house, frozen solid on Sunday, had totally thawed and it was a warm, sunny day. As I write February has only a couple of days to go: our first daffodils are blooming and Takeley churchyard is full of snowdrops. Spring seems to be here, right on time.

It all seems to have happened quite suddenly. We have had a lot of sudden changes over the last year, most of them not as pleasant as the one I have just described. Sudden changes are difficult, unnerving. You can't prepare for them and it's harder to adapt. They are unsettling. With slow changes it is different, one can prepare,

adapt, and change, even get used to them so they become as people have been saying a “new normal”.

It is, however, surprising how quickly we can adapt to sudden changes. The first anniversary of lockdown is almost here and it is amazing how many adaptations we have made over the year. Throughout the world people have learned to live in much more difficult conditions. For some it has been very hard: there has been mourning for loved ones, the suffering of those who have caught the disease, the loss of livelihoods and real financial hardship for some. Our high rate of infection and fatality has been tragic. We have, however, adapted. We have learned to do things in different ways, we have created new industries. A year ago, journalists were warning that Britain’s lack of a vaccine manufacturing capacity made it ill-prepared, but the capacity to manufacture was created, and new factories were built. Human ingenuity, in a whole host of ways, adapted to meet the crisis.



Prior’s Wood, Takeley, Winter 2021

For many of us the loss of face-to-face worship has been a hard thing to cope with. Churches that have served their congregations for eight hundred years or more have been closed for worship, possibly for the first time in their history. But we too learned to adapt and found new ways to worship and to stay in contact. New friendships and contacts were made, and much of what we have learned during this year

will, I hope, be taken into the future, with a new partnership with Stansted and a new rector.

We are now looking forward to a gradual change; a planned end to the current lockdown over a period of months. The plan, the "road map", has been published and we can see a slow, gradual climb back to something like the life we can remember. As we adapted to lockdown, so we will learn to adapt to these changes too.

Over the long period of conquest by other powers, occupation, resistance, precarious independence and finally incorporation into the Roman Empire, the Jewish people found ways to adapt, to live with their conquerors and still preserve their integrity and the laws given to them by Moses. But by the time of Jesus, this long period of gradual change meant that something had been lost. Many of the people of Israel



had become caught up in the outward observation of the law demanded by the Pharisees, or the compromises by which the High Council sought to live with the Romans. Gradual change had worn away at who they were and what they believed.

Jesus brought a sudden change, which many were not ready to face, but which others wel-

comed. The change was overwhelming; even His closest disciples were sometimes terrified by it. Indeed, when he was arrested all of them fled, and only one, John, was present at His crucifixion. But after the resurrection they returned to him, for this, the conquest of death, was the greatest change of all. They, changed by their faith in him, would go on to change the world after his ascension. One phrase however he left them with, to remind them that amid all changes, His love is changeless: *"I will be with you forever more"*. Whatever challenges we face in the months to come, that remains true.

Hugh Mascetti is the Lay Minister for Holy Trinity Church, Takeley

Church Finances

Even as we re-open our church buildings, the lockdown and its aftermath has had a really detrimental effect on church income. The absence of collections and other donations means that we are currently losing out on about £200 per week. Additionally, most of our planned fund-raising events for the whole year (which amount to an additional £150 per week) have also had to be cancelled.



Even though worship things are not normal, most of the bills continue at the same rate as before. Our largest outgoing is the Parish Share which we pay to the diocese in order to pay the clergy, and we have had to significantly reduce our contribution to this. Next largest is the cost of insuring our two buildings.

If you come to a church service and would like to help us by making a donation to church funds, we can now accept card payments.

If you would like to help us by making a donation to church funds, please go to our website: www.tlcchurch.co.uk, where you can make an online donation.

Alternatively, if you would like to contribute regularly, please donate either by direct debit or standing order.

Natalie Hildyard, Treasurer – 07772 862142 – treasurer@tlcchurch.co.uk

Katherine White, Planned Giving Organiser – giving@tlcchurch.co.uk

From the Churchwarden of All Saints

This will be my first article for the new online edition of the Grapevine. The first one online was a great success and thanks must go to Barbara Mascetti. Did she get any help from Hugh, I don't know the answer to that! Either way you did a very good job, Barbara!

We are all still in the position with the lockdown, however I feel we are beginning to win the battle: the vaccine has been rolled out very efficiently which gives us hope for the future. As I write this we are now into the Fifties being called up to receive the vaccine.

The churches have been closed and services have been in Zoom. All Saints remains open and people can go in and have a quiet time to reflect on life, which has been a useful experience for those who have been into the church for a visit. It remains open to all so please do make use of it. I am sure I have said this before but it is *your* church and is a great asset to both villages. You can appreciate we have been unable to raise a lot of money this year and costs of running the buildings remain, so if an opportunity arises to donate money to your local church please see the details in this magazine on how to go about it!

We will be welcoming our new vicar on April 13th. He is very keen to work in this largely rural community and from my experience he is very approachable.

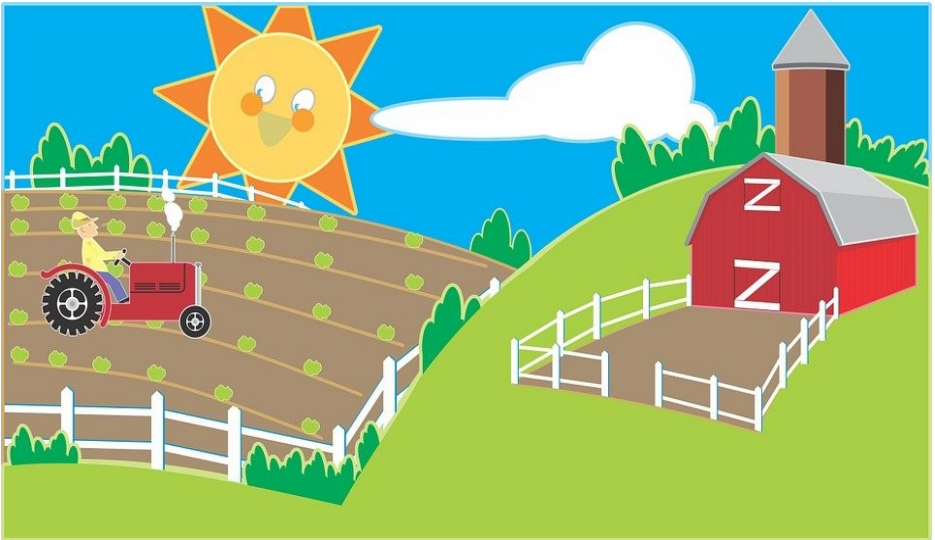
He will be looking after five parishes and will be living in Stansted. Five churches seems a lot to be looking after, but is becoming normal these days. The work of the PCC carries on regardless and it is a fair representation of the community that we are now in a position where we are trying to stop the local diocese from selling the vicarage in Takeley. We all feel the vicarage is an asset to Little Canfield and Takely and see selling it as a short term fix for a long term problem of cash flow. Basically, if you have any views on this do not be afraid to comment to this magazine or even comment to the local diocese in Chelmsford - details can be found on Google.

To finish on a farming note, we are now moving into March and it is slowly getting warmer and drier so we can actually get onto the land. It has been the wettest winter in many years with us almost receiving our annual average rainfall in the last five months - things can only get better. "Farming is fun" has been one of my mottos, however recently this has not been the case. We have just started spraying and putting fertiliser on the crops. This is essential to feed a nation at an affordable price before the whole countryside is covered in concrete and yet more houses. Clearly we are becoming a soft touch in Uttlesford for yet more developers!

Thanks for reading this,

Stretch

Stretch Fulcher is the Churchwarden of All Saints Church, Little Canfield.



Contributing to TLC Church by Debit Card

We use an organisation called Give a Little to card giving. You can find out more at: www.givealittle.co

Please just bring your card to church with you when you come to a service.

Contributing to TLC Church by Online Donation

We use an organisation called Give a Little to handle online giving. You can find out more at: www.givealittle.co

Just go to our website: www.tlcchurch.co.uk, where there is a donation link on the homepage.

Contributing to TLC Church by Direct Debit

We use an organisation called Parish Giving Scheme to handle giving by Direct Debit. You can find out more at: www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk

The easiest way to set-up a Direct Debit is to call PGS between 9am – 5pm on their dedicated phone line 0333 002 1271.

You'll need our parish details:

Parish name: Takeley with Little Canfield

Parish code: 080608527

Village: Takeley

Diocese: Chelmsford

Contributing to TLC Church by Standing Order

You can set-up or amend a Standing Order using online banking if you have it, or by contacting your bank directly. Our bank details are:

Santander Bank

Account name: TLC Church

Sort Code: 09-01-29

Account number: 16013946

If you'd prefer to complete a paper form, please let one of us know.



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Tuesday – Thursday 7.30pm – 11.00pm Friday 7.30pm – 11.30pm

Saturday 3.00pm – 11.30pm Sunday 12.00pm – 11.00pm

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Located behind the Silver Jubilee Hall the club is a great place to meet
and enjoy reasonably priced drinks.

If you are not already a member why not join now.

For more information visit our website www.takeleysasc.com



Bennet Canfield, Little Canfield, Dunmow, Essex, CM6 1YE

The first half of the Spring Term at Takeley Primary School has been very strange, with only a quarter of the children actually attending school, and the other children being home schooled by a combination of our teachers and our wonderful families. No one underestimates how hard this has been for everyone! We are delighted with the news that our children will be returning to school on 8th March 2012 and look forward to welcoming them back safely!

Our Year 2 children have been working hard and learning about the events of 1666 and the Great Fire of London. The children both at home and school have been linking their history to a variety of areas across the curriculum; creating moving fire engines for design technology, London silhouettes in art using hot colours, map reading and coordinate skills in geography and writing newspaper articles in English. As a finale for such a wonderful topic and a celebration of all of the hard work from the children, we hosted an exciting Project Day where children became architects, designers, bakers, diary writers and much more.

Here are some examples of the work that was produced:



Artwork by the children of Takeley Primary School.

All Saints Church is Open for Private Prayer

All Saints Church is open during the day for
personal private prayer only.

Visitors are asked to follow the guidelines on display in the church.

Roseacres Primary School



**Roseacres Primary School Roseacres, Takeley Bishop's Stortford. Herts,
CM22 6QY. 01279879599**

During Lockdown, the Reception pupils have been enjoying some STEM learning activities at home.

They have investigated floating and sinking - choosing objects to test and making predictions for themselves. The Reception topic was all about finding out about animals that live in cold climates, so linked to this they carried out lots of investigations using ice.

The children conducted an investigation to find out how polar animals keep warm by having a layer of blubber beneath their skin. They also found out how to 'grow' ice and how to pick up ice using only a piece of string! Many of the younger children were able to share their science learning with older siblings.



Sophia's blubber investigation



Harry's 'growing ice' investigation



Rita & Eva 'sticky ice' investigation

Thyri wanted to share her results of her floating and sinking investigation. She enjoyed doing it so much that she encouraged her sister Aurelia to complete one of her own!



FLOAT OR SINK			
OBJECT	Float	Sink	WERE WE RIGHT
PLASTIC CAT	✓		✓
PLASTIC CUP	✓		✓
GLASS BOTTLE		✓	x
MAGNETIC SHEET		✓	x
HEAD MASSAGER	✓		✓
SINK			
SOCKS		✓	✓
RIBBON		✓	✓
PENCIL	✓		x
BATTERY		✓	✓
PLASTIC PIZZA SLICE	✓		x

Both St David's Day and St Patrick's Day come this month, and so we offer the following in honour of those great saints who did so much to bring Christianity to the British Isles:

Be joyful and keep your faith and your creed. Do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about; I will walk the path that our fathers have trod before us.

– *St David*

Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus, or Happy Saint David's Day.

He [God] watched over me before I knew Him, and before I learned sense or even distinguished between good and evil, and He protected me, and consoled me as a father would his son.

– *St Patrick*

For daily I expect to be murdered or betrayed or reduced to slavery if the occasion arises. But I fear nothing, because of the promises of Heaven; for I have cast myself into the hands of Almighty God, who reigns everywhere. As the prophet says: 'Cast your burden on the Lord and He will sustain you.'

– *St Patrick*

May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us, may the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us. Be always ours this day and for evermore.

– *St Patrick*



A Message from the Chairman of Takeley Parish Council

(Please note that the Grapevine is editorially neutral on political questions, but is happy to pass on the views of the Parish Council.)

Dear Residents,

The Council and the parish feel under siege from proposed developments in and around our village. We have for many years had a very hard working planning committee and together with a number of professional consultants we have made our views known the planning authorities who make the ultimate decisions.

Recent proposals which could result in an additional 500 new homes in our locality have caught the attention of many residents. Takeley Parish Council has posted help and advice on our website (takeleyparishcouncil.co.uk) so that residents can respond in planning terms to both Uttlesford District Council and to developers when appropriate.

The parish does not have the infrastructure to sustain what we already have. Any money proposed by developers to support education, health and highways does not necessarily benefit us at local level. Proposed new developments will place additional pressure on all of these aspects as well as eroding the countryside around us affecting the wildlife and biodiversity.

We are working with a group of residents to develop a strategy to oppose any planning proposals that will have a negative impact on Takeley and our way of life. Please be assured that the Parish Council will do whatever we can to assist this process.

- Councillor Carol Pratt, Chairman of Takeley Parish Council

A update from Peter Hewett giving further information on the Parish Council's response to the proposed Warish Hall Development follows:



TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

LARGE SCALE PLANNING APPLICATIONS: AN UPDATE.

Peter Hewett updated the Parish Council at the meeting on the 10th February. As a parish Takeley has, for many years has been the focus of very large scale planning applications. It still is the focus for many developers, with the latest proposal to build 180 new homes to the north of the village towards the A120. Currently there is the potential for over 500 new homes to be built around the village

The information that has been placed on the TPC website and the Facebook Group, “STOP The Warish Hall Development” was written towards the end of January and it is intended that it will be updated to keep residents informed on a regular basis.

Mike Marriage, Simon Robinson and Peter Hewett established the Face book Group and over 470 residents have signed up. On a broader scale the petition about the Countryside Protection Zone has attracted about 750 signatures. There is clearly a significant groundswell of opinion about these particular causes.

It has been agreed that a core group of local people will work together with the Parish Council to drive this campaign forward by:

- Developing a clear strategy which relates to the key elements of the planning process.
- Garnering expertise relating to aspects such as heritage assets, making links with the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Essex Wildlife Trust.
- In addition this group will look at how best to communicate in the most effective ways with residents
- The group will also be the focus for processing information and drafting documents ready for transmission to TPC, UDC and the Planning Inspectorate as appropriate.

Although there are a number of hurdles to jump we must have a united front otherwise things will fragment and we will lose our focus. The three banners from the “Enough is Enough” campaign have already been placed in strategic places. The design for additional posters and leaflets is currently being considered.

At some stage we will be exploring possible funding sources such as a Go Fund Me page on the internet to help this quest. It is likely that at some stage we will have to explore the use of professional help. At the moment we need to make a list of all the valid reasons for objecting to a planning proposal and select those that are particularly relevant to each specific application.

Peter Hewett: 17 February 2021

The website for Takeley Parish Council is at:

<https://www.takeleyparishcouncil.co.uk/>

Further information about the proposed development at Warish Hall can be found at:

<https://www.takeleyparishcouncil.co.uk/local-information/warish-hall-proposed-development.html>

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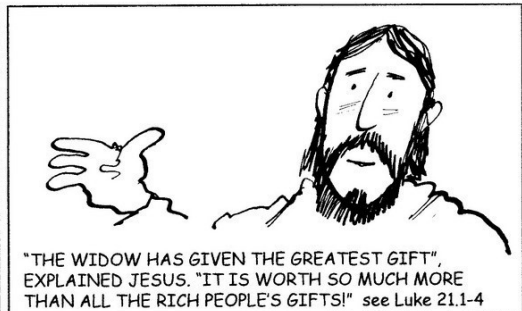
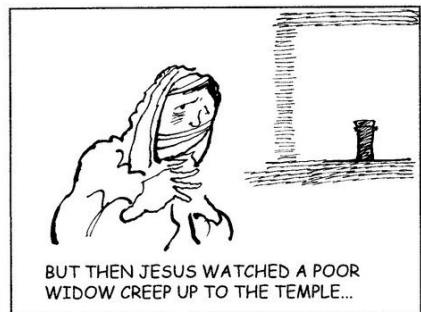
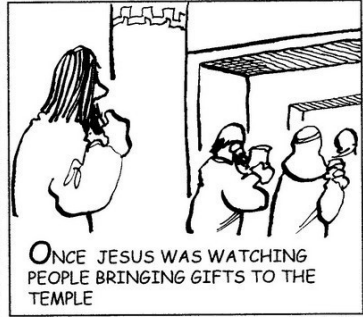




Photo: A thatched horse portrayed mid--gallop on a roof at Great Bardfield.

Some of our astonishing local thatched buildings

By Ken McDonald of The Hundred Parishes Society

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

At this difficult time, we are fortunate to live in such a lovely area where we can take exercise close to home in attractive and interesting surroundings. One of the local delights is the number of thatched buildings.

Thatch was once the roofing choice of the poor as it was locally sourced, inexpensive and sustainable; now it seems that only the better-off can afford the necessary regular servicing and replacement. Most roofs are thatched with long wheat straw and many are topped out with a decorative straw feature on the apex. These are called straw finials.

Pheasants and foxes are still among the favourites for this tradition that goes back centuries. These finials may once have been installed to keep away birds or even witches, while some may have been the trademark of the individual thatcher. Today, they are more likely chosen by the customer from an online catalogue. They seem to be more abundant and varied than ever.

I have spotted some fine examples around The Hundred Parishes such as the two running hares on a cottage at Ashdon. In Finchingfield and Radwinter you may find families of ducks and there is a large thatched cow on the barn of the Red Cow pub at Chrishall.



You may see a hare on Dick Turpin's Cottage at Hempstead or a galloping horse at Great Bardfield. High Roding has a delightful cat stretching up the chimney stack and a fox chases a hare in Brent Pelham. An eagle has landed in Aythorpe Roding and there is a flying pig in Ugley.



The 16th-century Thatchers pub at Hatfield Heath is appropriately situated on a road that was once part of the route for horse-drawn cartage of wheat from Suffolk to London.

Do keep looking up!

Ken McDonald, Secretary.



Photos:

Great Bardfield – horse

Chrishall – cow

Ugley – flying pig

Hatfield Heath – Thatcher's pub

Brent Pelham – fox and hare

Aythhorpe Roding – eagle



Our Community Groups in Lockdown

The 23rd March 2020 will be remembered as the beginning of Covid – 19 lockdown, with strict limitation on where, and if, we could venture out, depending on our living circumstance and health.

The freedom many of us were used to was taken away, temporarily to slow the spread of the pandemic and keep us safe.

What's next for Takeley

Our doors will open again, don't now when but we know will meet again some time this year.

The Community café at the Old School has not gone away, just resting. My coach trips out with the Happy Circle will be back on the road once a month again heading out for a fun day. The Ladies' circle will resume with more gossip than ever before (they will have a lot to time to make up) We will look forward to the 10K running again ,and fireworks will light up the sky once more.

And I have it on good authority that Santa will return to his grotto at the Christmas bazaar.

And I'm sure I can speak on behalf of all the other groups in Takeley that I'm not involved with...

We will return!

Let's look to a brighter year ahead.

Pat Burnett, Committee Organiser

March 2021

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

Bored during lockdown? Steps for Helen could be the answer!

Are you doing more walking during lockdown to keep yourself busy and improve your fitness? Why not do it in aid of Helen Rollason Cancer Charity and support local people living with cancer!

It's free to take part; challenge yourself to walk to some or all of our Cancer Support Centres in the region; simply set your target to walk, jog or run and then get your family and friends to sponsor you as you aim to achieve your goal.

Why take part?

- Keep fit – walking can help you burn calories and maintain a healthy weight; more important now than ever.
- Walking can reduce stress, lower blood pressure and give you an energy boost.
- Stay motivated - our challenge is a great way to keep motivated to stay active, by helping you strive for a consistent daily exercise target.
- Steps for Helen is free to take part and you can complete however many steps you like per day.
- The money you raise from this challenge will help us to continue enabling quality of life while living with cancer.

Helen Rollason
Cancer Charity

STEPS FOR HELEN



Aiming to walk, jog or run
10,000 steps per day?



Are you doing more walking during lockdown to keep yourself busy and improve your fitness? Why not do it in aid of Helen Rollason Cancer Charity and support local people living with cancer!

It's free to take part; challenge yourself to walk to some or all of our Cancer Support Centres in and around Essex; simply set your target to walk, jog or run and then get your family and friends to sponsor you as you aim to achieve your goal.

LONDON TO HARLOW

A to B = 16 miles (32,000 steps)

HATFIELD PEVEREL TO COLCHESTER

C to D = 18 miles (36,000 steps)

HARLOW TO HATFIELD PEVEREL

B to C = 26 miles (52,000 steps)

COLCHESTER TO SOUTHEND ON SEA

D to E = 40 miles (80,000 steps)

SOUTHEND ON SEA TO LONDON

E to A = 39 miles (78,000 steps)



Helen Rollason Cancer Charity Community Fundraiser Karen Mitchell explains:

"Our Steps for Helen initiative is a fun and interactive way to get us all moving more whilst supporting those living with cancer. The challenge suits everyone from families, support bubbles, couples living together or just on your own. Of course, we encourage everyone to make sure they follow the latest coronavirus rules and regulations in your area to keep you and your community safe.

It's completely free to sign up and at the end of your challenge you will receive an exclusive Helen Rollason Cancer Charity champion medal to say thank you! So why not sign up today and download your sponsorship form; visit our website to find out more!"

Steps for Helen is free to take part with no fundraising target, however we'd encourage every participant to aim for £100 to earn their medal. This amount would cover the cost of 6 telephone counselling sessions for those living with cancer;

"The counsellor has given me back my joy for life. She has taught me how to deal with my own concerns using methods enabling me to deal with worries and fears as they come along. I have hope again and even look to the future with plans that I had long shelved. Cancer will be here long after Covid-19. Please help to ensure the Helen Rollason Cancer Charity is also still here."

Track your distance using your phone, smart watch or other device. You can link your Strava app to your JustGiving fundraising page to keep your friends and family up to date.

For more information visit helenrollason.org.uk/event/steps-for-helen/ or call our Fundraising Office on 01245 380719 – we'd love to hear from you!

Holly Butler

Marketing & Communications Co-Ordinator

Please note I am working reduced hours so it may take longer than usual to receive a response.

T: 07732 385431 www.helenrollason.org.uk

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

Yvonne Stewart House

The Street

Hatfield Peverel

Essex

CM3 2EH



Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity Winter Raffle

Winner Announced!

We are very pleased to announce that the Helen Rollason Cancer Charity Winter Raffle has raised an incredible £3,400 for the charity!

The raffle was drawn on Friday 29th January and the first prize of £500 was awarded to Ms Joanne Guy from Hockley in Essex.

Ms Guy said "I can't tell you how delighted I was when I found out I had won first prize in the raffle! I never usually win anything so to win whilst supporting a fantastic charity really feels amazing! I plan to spend the money on a short break somewhere nice as soon as it's safe to do so.

I have had personal experience of the great work the Helen Rollason Cancer Charity does when I was recovering from breast cancer in 2019. The ladies at their Southend Support Centre made me feel so welcome and I can't emphasise how much it helped with my recovery; mentally and physically. I also now have a new love for reflexology! I would urge anyone considering using their services to do so, you won't regret it."

Our second prize winner of the Wine Tasting Voucher went to Ms Gwen Pocock from Althorne.

Third prize of the Tiptree Hamper went to Ms Christine Snazell from Braintree.

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity Marketing Coordinator Holly Butler said; *"Congratulations to Ms Guy and our other raffle winners and a huge thank you to everyone who took part in our Winter Raffle and bought a ticket."*

We are delighted to have raised over £3,400 which is enough money to fund 68 reflexology appointments. The work we do really does make a difference;

"I am so grateful for being introduced to this wonderful service and charity and I would not hesitate to recommend it to others facing cancer." – client quote.

Our Raffle draw is a fun and yet valuable way in which to help our charity enable quality of life while living with cancer. We are delighted for Ms Guy and our other winners and we would like to thank them for taking part and supporting us.

Make sure to mark October 2021 in your diaries, when we will be releasing details for our 2021 Winter raffle draw where there'll be another £500 top prize up for grabs!"

Holly Butler

Marketing & Communications Co-Ordinator

Please note I am working reduced hours so it may take longer than usual to receive a response.

T: 07732 385431 **www.helenrollason.org.uk**

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THE
FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF
EASTON LODGE

NEWS FROM THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE



My optimism last month has been dashed – as you will appreciate, Covid restrictions meant we were not able to open the Gardens in February to let visitors enjoy the snowdrops. The upside of this was not worrying about hundreds of people tramping over grass that has struggled with the record amount of rainfall in recent months and this year's Beast from the East. But it was so sad not to be able to share the joy of the snowdrops looking better than ever: pooled under trees at the front of the Gardens; covering the banks at the side of the glade; and colonising the grass in the walled kitchen garden.

March 2021

It is not yet clear what will be possible in March. Last year I was naïve about the looming impact of the pandemic and we didn't start getting volunteers back into the Gardens until May, with visitors first allowed in July. This year, we remain hopeful that the roll-out of the vaccine will mean we will be well ahead of those dates, but you will need to keep an eye on our website or Facebook pages to get the up to date news on when we will be open. You will also find there our latest pictures of the Gardens.



In the meantime, we have managed to get a little essential winter work done, between the storms, and by March the early spring should be lifting our spirits. We

should have finished our planting of new fruit trees in the walled kitchen garden and the pruning of the older apples and pears; the blossom should be coming out on the peaches and nectarines; and the bees should be settling into their new home. We should also have the stonemasons on site, restoring the balustrade in the Italian garden. And of course we will have a host of daffodils in the lime walk and the glade.

So, we keep on smiling and hope you can too!

Jill Goldsmith

Canfield Coffee Pot

Missing our happy Tuesday mornings at All Saints and Yvonne's cakes!

No prospect of meeting in church again yet, but please let me know if you want early notice when we know we can start up again.



In the meantime is anybody up for a walk, please?

Sue

01279 871 345 sueblatches@outlook.com



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From Susan Barker, Essex County Council

Dear Takeley and Little Canfield Residents,

I do hope that you are keeping safe and well. By the time you read this at the start of March we will know much more about how life is going to be for the next few months. We will be looking forward to pupils returning to school, to having a timeline for vaccinations and a timetable for gradually coming out of lockdown.

I must thank my Parish Clerks and Chairmen for all their work over the last few months with numerous flood issues, road closures, planning issues.. they all give so much of their time to keep residents informed and get problems sorted out. Many of them have children to be home schooled too! Road closures, particularly for Broadband installation have caused disruption across the area and very frustrating where residents already have alternative broadband provision. I have reported issues in Barnston and Dunmow and in White Roding where unfortunately the reinstatement of the pavement or verge has not been done well and we have instructed the company to return and make good.

Thank you too to all the volunteers. Across Essex in the latest shutdown 2500 people have volunteered to help at test and vaccination centres. Others continue to work quietly in the community making sure that young families, the elderly and vulnerable are alright. Thank you to you all.

The Highways Panel meets in early March and looks to allocate funding to projects across the District. There have been three issues put forwards in Takeley which are speed limit signage on the south bound side of the B183 approaching the bridge, the relocation of the Bus Stop on Hall Road serving Molehill Green and concerns over drivers not slowing down for the Roding Drive Roundabout where a “ build out” is being considered. In Little Canfield concerns have been raised about the speed and inappropriate overtaking on the B1256 as you leave the Dunmow West junction.

Council Tax meetings have been concluded at Uttlesford and at Essex. In Uttlesford the administration are looking to increase Council tax by the maxi-

mum of £5 per band D property. This equates to 3.61%. At Essex the Conservatives have not increased Council Tax but are looking increase the Social Care precept by 1.5%. It has been a difficult budget to set with so much uncertainty on Council Tax and Business Rates income.

May 6th will bring local elections and the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's election postponed from last year. Many will not have been vaccinated and I imagine there will still be social distancing measures in place. Councils are being given extra resources to assist with these. I am told you will be asked to take your own pen to the Polling Station! If you are concerned about voting in person you can, of course, apply for a Postal vote. These can be downloaded from the website <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote> and then need to be sent back to Uttlesford District Council. Postal vote papers will be sent out around 16th April.

If there are any issues I can help with then please do get in touch.

Susan Barker

Essex County Council

susan.barker@essex.gov.uk 01245 231250



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Spring Garden Crime Prevention

Hopefully by the time that you read this we will be moving into spring and the weather improving inviting us out into the garden. It is a good time to take a look around; are your fences and gates in good condition do you have good quality locks on gates, will they keep the unwelcome intruder out? To the front of your property where possible keep fencing, planting and hedges to about 1.5m in height so that an intruder is not hidden from view.

Defensive planting: Security does not have to be just about locks, bolts, and spiky fence toppings; nature provides some excellent plants to keep people away. There are a number of attractive, fragrant plants of a spiky nature such as climbing roses, pyracantha and berberis and other planting of a dense nature that can work quite well. Have a chat at your garden centre or with the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) for the right plant for the right location. We have worked with the RHS at Hyde Hall and there are a number of mature examples that can be viewed there, why not book a visit at <https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/hyde-hall>.

New plants: Larger plants etc. can be secured to land or rootball anchors or plant through chicken wire covering the area with soil. Cement or bolt down containers to the ground. The RHS or your local garden centre or DIY store should be able to help.

Working in the garden: It is easy to get engrossed in what you are doing when working in the garden, if the house is empty it is wise to close and lock the door (don't forget the key though!). Remember when you stop for a break put your tools away, and at the end of the day as well as putting tools away put the wheelbarrow and wheelie bin away too. "It will add insult to injury" if your tools are used to break into your house, a neighbour's, nearby building such as a church, or provide a climbing aid or method of carrying things away.

New tools and lawn mowers: Be mindful of how you dispose of the packaging to your new purchases; don't advertise it to the thieves and burglars with your empty boxes on display outside for roadside collection. Fold boxes inside out or break them up and put them in bag for collection. If you are not using your lawn mower, jet washer or other put it away out of sight from prying eyes.

Property marking: It may deter a thief if your property or flower pots is visibly security marked with your house number and post code such as www.creproducts.co.uk or labelled if a forensic (hidden) property marking system is used such as www.smartwater.com or www.selectadna.co.uk. You can also record the serial numbers of any tools at www.toolwatchapp.com or www.immobilise.com/. If your property does get stolen with property marking and/or recording there is a greater chance of you getting it back.

For suitable security products look for the Secured by Design or Sold Secure logo's and for further garden security advice see the following webpages:

www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/

www.securedbydesign.com

www.soldsecure.com

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Redundancy

Help from Uttlesford Frontline

Job loss through redundancy confronts more and more of us in these uncertain times. And even if it comes as no surprise, its impact cannot be underestimated. More often than not, there will be severe financial consequences, an inevitable blow to self esteem and of course the million dollar question of What Next?

Redundancy is an extremely complex issue, and while employers have a legal obligation to follow correct procedures it is always advisable to make sure you fully understand all the in's and out's of what is happening and are satisfied that your employer is fully compliant with the law.

For instance if you decide to accept an offer of 'suitable alternative employment' within your organisation, your employer is obliged to offer you a four week trial period without affecting any of your statutory rights. And if there is a suitable alternative job which is not offered to you, then this could be classed as unfair dismissal by an employment tribunal.

If in doubt or unclear about any aspect of the redundancy procedure, then trusted organisations such as Citizens Advice can help. In addition to

employment issues, it can also advise on the inevitable money problems that accompany redundancy and with identifying and applying for available benefits as well as how best to handle debt problems..

Finding new employment is a challenge for anyone facing redundancy. Today's jobs market is highly competitive and you may feel you lack the necessary skills for success. Practical help with job search, CV writing, application letters and interview techniques are offered free of charge by The Transition Project in Saffron Walden and the new Employment Support Scheme from the CVSU (Council for Voluntary Service Uttlesford). Their volunteers are trained in negotiating the complexities of the job-seeking market.

Details about all these services plus more information relating to redundancy are instantly accessible from Frontline. This is **your** comprehensive online library of local resources giving you **direct access to specialist organisations** that can provide help with many of life's problems - in most cases with the opportunity to self refer

In addition Frontline has compiled a comprehensive 7-page fact sheet "**Preparing for Redundancy**" (with full contact details) downloadable free of charge.

Visit www.uttlesfordfrontline.org.uk



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You don't have to be on benefits to get help!

Are you short of money and struggling to pay for food or other essentials? Has your 'rainy day fund' been used up?

There are lots of reasons why people find themselves in financial difficulty and need help with money. It may be through losing a job or a reduction in income. If your outgoings have risen suddenly, it can become harder to cope with making all the usual payments.

Coronavirus has made many of these problems worse for a great number of people. Many have seen their income fall. If this has happened to you, we can offer information, support and guidance. Our advice is confidential and costs nothing.

We can help you to access:

- Local foodbanks and children's clothes banks
- Help to pay utility bills or top up oil tanks
- Emergency funds for prescriptions and other household essentials
- Cold weather payments
- Budgeting and debt support
- Grants to improve the energy efficiency of your home

- Support with job hunting and small grants for education and training
- Universal Credit and Disability Benefits
- Benefits for working families
- Support for carers
- Help from your local council, such as council tax support

If you're worried about money, don't wait to get help.



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Braintree Area Foodbank

Shopping List

February/March 2021

Thank you for your continuing support during the Coronavirus crisis.

Foodbanks within the Trussell Trust network have seen unprecedented increases across our network and by continuing to support us with your donations you are continuing to support those most in need.

We are very thankful for any donations you can give.

We currently need:

Food Items

UHT long life milk

Other Essentials:

Hair Conditioner

Shampoo

Our food parcels are made up of specific food groups so that those in need have enough food for at least nine meals. **The list above shows what we**

March 2021

are in need of as we currently have good stocks of pasta, pasta sauce, biscuits, rice, fish, soup, baby food and cereals.

We also ask for small packs of food as larger packs do not fit in our parcels, making it difficult for our clients to carry home.

Thank you

We are grateful for your donations to the Braintree Area foodbank. However, we can only accept donations of freshly-bought, unopened and undamaged goods which are still well within their “use by” date (no less than 6 months). We cannot use items which do not meet these requirements, and the donation is wasted.



News from St Clare Hospice

St Clare Hospice 10k



It's time to get your running shoes out once more for the annual St Clare 10k, taking place starting from the Hospice on Sunday 11th April 2021 (subject to the Coronavirus restrictions being lifted).

Hundreds of runners are expected to join us once again for the yearly Essex 10k road race. The event is ideal for regular running club members looking to boost their training, as well as those who are new to running but looking for a challenge!

Advance entry is £14 (£12 for affiliated runners), or an additional £3 on the day (£17 non affiliated runners and £14 for affiliated runners). Please note, participants must be aged 15 years or above.

For more information on taking part in this fun event visit the Hospice website at stclarehospice.org.uk/stclare10k2021 or get in touch with St Clare Hospice

Events Fundraiser Emma Broadbent on 01279 773754 or email emma.broadbent@stclarehospice.org.uk

Compassionate Neighbours celebrates three years of friendship



West Essex and East Hertfordshire charity, St Clare Hospice, is celebrating the third anniversary since the launch of its social movement project, Compassionate Neighbours – a project which is connecting communities, building community resilience and helping to prevent social isolation.

Compassionate Neighbours is an award-winning project which aims to help tackle loneliness within local communities. Since the project started at St Clare Hospice, in 2018, it has trained 166 volunteers to become Compassionate Neighbours, who each give an hour a week to offer social and emotional support to others who are isolated.

“When I look back to the beginning of the project, in March 2018, I never thought that the initial group of volunteers would make so much difference,” reflects Stacey Towler, Compassionate Neighbours Project Manager. “I always knew this project was important, but I didn’t realise how vital it would grow to be in just three years, but it fills me with great pride to



Stacey Towler

have played a part in bringing friendship into the lives of people who are nearing the end of their lives and are lonely.

“I’m so glad that our project was already established and was able to easily adapt to support more people during the pandemic, as rates of isolation and loneliness increased – especially amongst older people, and those who are already frail and vulnerable from their conditions.

Stacey adds: “The beauty of this project is that it brings mutual benefits to everyone involved; it’s been such a delight matching people and seeing their friendships flourish over the last three years.”

The Compassionate Neighbours are ‘matched’ based on common interests, lifestyles and experiences and both parties benefit from a mutual, supportive relationship as friends.

The Compassionate Neighbours project has become a vital scheme during the pandemic, when instances of isolation and loneliness have increased with lockdown and the restrictions, especially in relation to those who are clinically vulnerable. To date, the project has already matched more than 150 Community Members (socially isolated individuals in the local community) and the project is open to people to self-refer to the service or for professionals to make referrals.

The project is actively recruiting volunteers who are able to spare time to bring friendship to the lives of people who are lonely and socially isolated. Regular training sessions are being run, currently via online meeting platform zoom and volunteers are DBS checked prior to becoming Compassionate Neighbours. Volunteering as a Compassionate Neighbour is a rewarding role where people can build genuine friendships by calling or meeting a local, socially isolated person every week.

For more information on how people can access support, through friendship, and to find out more about becoming a Compassionate Neighbour visit: <https://stclarehospice.org.uk/wellbeing-hub/compassionate-neighbours/>

Rebecca Cussens

Communications Manager (PT)

Mobile: 07795 568742

rebecca.cussens@stclarehospice.org.uk

Please note my working days are Monday and Friday and I am currently working remotely.

To refer a patient to our services please click here.



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St Clare Hospice Compassionate Neighbour volunteer Carolyn offers support to local individuals via the telephone.

GETTING IN TOUCH

MINISTER: Our new minister, the Reverend Colin Fairweather will start in post in April. Our Lay Minister is Hugh Mascetti, telephone 01279 871606. Email: hughm@tlcchurch.co.uk

CHURCHWARDENS: For **Holy Trinity, Takeley:** Alan Parkinson 01279 879373

For **All Saints, Little Canfield:** Stretch Fulcher 01371 872168.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Lisa Chambers 07766 444873.

Email: admin@tlcchurch.co.uk

For enquiries about baptisms, weddings, funerals, visits, church groups & activities please contact the administrator.

The next Grapevine will be an online edition in April 2021.

Contributions should be sent to the editor, Barbara Mascetti by **Friday 19th March 2021**.

Email: grapevine@tlcchurch.co.uk.

Grapevine ensures that, as far as possible, information in the magazine is correct. Nothing anonymous is published. Publication of an article does not imply any form of approval or recommendation. Grapevine cannot accept responsibility for any product advertised.