

**EASTWICK AND GILSTON
PARISH MAGAZINE**



HARVEST FESTIVAL

followed by

HARVEST SUPPER

SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

6.00PM

ST MARY'S, GILSTON



all contributions to the supper most welcome

SEPTEMBER 2024

GILSTON AND EASTWICK VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



See below a calendar of all clubs and classes that take place at our hall.
For more information about booking the hall go to www.eastwickgilston.org.uk

MONDAY	Sculpt Fit with Sam	Sam Tucker – samtucker76@gmail.com (trampoline based exercise class)	9.15am – 10.15am
	Parish Council	Parish Clerk – Christine Law 01279 411646 Meet on the 2 nd Monday of January, March, May, July, September & November	8.00pm – 10.00pm
TUESDAY			
WEDNESDAY	Mother & Baby Group	ONE YMCA Herts family Services Visit: www.hertsfamilycentre.org Drop in mother and baby classes	10.00am – 11.00am Drop In
THURSDAY	Irish Dancing	Amanda Hennigan – 07713974077 For more information	6.30pm – 8.30pm
FRIDAY			
SUNDAY	Harlow Church of God	Contact: Church Minister: Pr Shijau Thankachen - 07957630450	Sunday School 9.15am – 10.00am Sunday Service 10.00am – 12.30pm

Chair: Janine Bryant

Vice Chair: Trevor Brown

Treasurer: Linda Harvey

Bookings Officer: Erin Reilly 07710271611

Holding Trustee: Keith Harvey & Mary Jackson

Booking enquiries: gevillagehall@gmail.com For any bookings and queries about the Village Hall please contact: gevillagehall@gmail.com. Or go to www.eastwickgilston.org.uk, then village hall to use the calendar to view when the hall is available to book and use the booking form facility to book your event and to read the terms and conditions required.

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USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

EASTWICK & GILSTON PARISH COMMUNITY WEB SITE: eastwickandgilston.org.uk

HUNSDON EASTWICK & GILSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP WEBSITE:
hegnp.org.uk - For all regular updates and information from the group you can subscribe to the mailing list at this link: <https://tinyletter.com/gilston>.

EAST HERTS DISTRICT COUNCIL: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk>. Telephone 01279 655261

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk>. Telephone 030012234040

FLY TIPPING

Report all Fly Tipping to East Herts Council on 01279 655261 or enquiries@eastherts.gov.uk, eastherts.gov.uk/flytipping. In an emergency situation contact the Police on 999.

HIGH WYCH POST OFFICE

Located at the rear of High Wych Memorial Hall. Open **Mondays** 9.30am – 12.30pm .
Wednesdays 1.00pm – 3.15pm. **Thursdays** 9.30am – 12.30pm.

KNOW YOUR COUNCILLORS

EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH COUNCILLORS



CHAIRMAN
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VICE CHAIR
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ERIC BUCKMASTER
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**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY
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eric.buckmaster@hertfordshire.gov.uk

COUNCILLORS RESPONSIBILITES

- Cllr Orson – Neighbourhood Planning Group & Footpaths Officer
Cllr Bryant – Neighbourhood Planning Group &
Village Hall Management Committee
Cllr Harvey – Highways
Cllr Marx

EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH COUNCIL

NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON

MONDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER – 8.00PM

PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

VILLAGE HALL, PYE CORNER

All residents are most welcome to attend our council meetings.

CHRISTINE LAW - PARISH CLERK

01279 411646

christine.law2@btinternet.com

WE HAVE TWO VACANCIES TO BE FILLED FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS IF YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH CLERK

The Parish Council business meeting of Monday 8th July 2024. Village Hall , Pye Corner, Gilston 8.00pm

PRESENT: Cllr's Bryant, Harvey, Marx, Orson, Wightwick, Eric Buckmaster (CC), John Dunlop (DC), 3 members of the public. Christine Law (Clerk) in attendance.

Cllr Buckmaster and Cllr Dunlop's reports are attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPANTION

- a. Footpaths – Concerns were raised that the footpaths in our parishes are not being maintained. Knight Frank are responsible for Estate Management on behalf of the landowner Places for People, Hertfordshire County Council [HCC] employ contractors to mow and strim some footpaths, but this work is now carried out only twice a year. Cllr Orson is following up a range of footpath maintenance issues with both Knight Frank and HCC and will report at our next meeting.
- b. School bus service – The lack of a school bus service for children within our villages who are or will be attending Leventhorpe School was raised. Cllr Buckmaster will follow up with HCC and investigate other options and costs for provision of a school bus service and report at our next meeting.

BUSINESS MEETING STARTED AT 8.15PM

17) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- a) None.

18) RECEIVE COUNCILLOR'S DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- a) None

19) MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

- a) Minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting of 13th May 2024 proposed by Cllr Bryant and seconded by Cllr Marx.
- b) Minutes of the Parish Council Business Meeting of 13th May 2024 proposed by Cllr Harvey and seconded by Cllr Marx.

They were then signed as a true record by chairman Cllr Orson.

20) ACCOUNTS

- a) Clerks report to the Council of accounts summary. (attached).
- b) Revision of the Councils Financial Regulations were discussed and then approved by whole council. These will now replace the original regulations on the web site with the revised 2024 ones. All items proposed by Cllr Wightwick and seconded by Cllr Bryant.

21) PLANNING AND ASSOCIATED APPLICATIONS

- a) Grassland, Pye Corner, Gilston – 3/23/1110/FUL – Retrospective change of use of buildings A (Class e). B (class B8), c (Class B8), D (Class B8), E (Class B8) and F (Class E). Awaiting decision.

- b) The Old Rectory, Gilston – 3/24/0068/FUL – Installation of 100 ground mounted PV Cell Solar Panels on the paddocks to the north of the Old Rectory. Awaiting decision.
- c) 20 Terlings Avenue, Gilston – 3/24/0794/HH – Conversion of loft to habitable roof. With insertion of 2 dormer windows to front and insertion of roof lights to front and rear. Has been granted.
- d) 2 Gilston Park House, Gilston – 3/24/0829/LBC - Removal of partition walls of two rooms adjacent to the cellar kitchen and re-open a doorway to provide access between the cellar kitchen and the basement of the main house. Has been granted.
- e) 2-7 Kirkpatrick Place, Gilston – 3/24/0882/FUL – Replacement of 6 number Juliet balcony’s with new aluminium frame and fully glazed cantilever balcony’s – Awaiting decision.
- f) 95 Pye corner, Gilston – 3/23/2463/HH – Has been refused by planning but applicant has gone to appeal. Awaiting decision.

22) COMMUNITY FORUM/ NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- a) These two items have been combined. Cllr Bryant report –
 - i) There has been little contact with either the developers (Places for People & Taylor Wimpey) or EHC since our last Parish Council meeting in May. They tell us they are committing most of their resources to the Section 106 negotiations.
 - ii) EHC have assured the HEGNP that an overview of the Section 106 will be presented to Eastwick & Gilston and Hunsdon Parish Councils (date as yet unknown).
 - iii) Places for People (PFP) have created a new “mailbox”, gilston@meeting-place.uk which they want all communications to be addressed to. Their aim is this single email address will bring all streams (day-to-day estate management, pre-construction works, the master planning process and general Gilston enquiries) into one central email address so that they can assign the enquiry to the correct member of the team. We have concerns that PFP’s communications consultants, Meeting Places, have not yet completed the necessary preparation lacking any target response times, how it will be monitored, how residents and other stakeholders will be able to access nor, as far as we are aware, has it been publicised beyond the NPG and Parish Councils.
 - iv) PFP have scheduled a 4th Master Planning site visit & workshop for members of the HEGNP group & Parish Councils afternoon & evening 18th July.
 - v) <https://www.gilstonparkestate.com/> for PFP’s vision, latest news, FAQs, etc.
 - vi) The proposed schedule of EHC Community Forums has not happened as initially planned. Both EHC & the developers are focused on progressing the Section 106 agreement (You can learn more about S106 agreements from the link supplied by EHC <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/planning-and-building/section-106-agreements-and-funding-projects>)
 - vii) Information on past and future forums can be found at <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/planning-and-building/community-forums/gilston-area-community-forum>
 - viii) The next Community Forum is likely to be held during September. EHC currently anticipate that masterplanning will be on the agenda, providing an update on the Strategic Landscape Masterplan and masterplans for Village 1 and Village 7. As before, if there are any specific topics that you would like to learn more about, please share these topics with us by emailing them to: Community.Forum@eastherts.gov.uk .

23) PARISH PATHS

- a) Cllr Orson reported:
 - i) We have range of problems with access to the Eastwick and Gilston Footpaths and Rights of Way. Many of the paths crossing cropped fields are grown over with whatever crop has been planted or the land had been prepared with no marking of the footpath route. Others have section overgrown with nettles and undergrowth that has thrived in the wet weather conditions One of the paths has a trench dug across it for preparatory construction survey work without any means of crossing.
 - ii) These matters have all been raised with Knight Frank who manage the estate on behalf of Places for People the landowner. Knight Frank have said that they are investigating matters, and a review is scheduled.
 - iii) Nicholas Maddex the HCC Access Project Officer for Countryside and Rights of Way is informed, and a further review will be made with Nicholas to determine whether any further action should be taken by HCC to return our footpaths to good order. This will include waymark maintenance and the path cutting / strimming that HCC manage.

24) HIGHWAYS

- a) Cllr Harvey reported:
- i) Remaining issues on Gilston Lane and left towards High Wych were reported in April - still no action or feedback.
 - ii) No progress has been made by highways alongside Eastwick Hall Lane - despite repeated reports by villagers. The pond to the top of the lane has been dredged by PFP. Water continues to spill onto the lane from the fields and has no access to existing drains- as has been frequently reported. A dangerous drop into the drain along the lane with no barrier still has not even a temporary barrier despite having been noted.
 - iii) The lack of adequate signage to Eastwick from the A414 was reported by phone to the dept as was the inadequate lighting over the yellow box junction in May. No action taken or contact made by them since. Further to that the grass verges at this junction - despite the fact that it was frequently reported- remained dangerously high obscuring the road until a local cut it. This was apparently frowned upon by highways who'd felt it might be dangerous. The villagers are grateful that this was done and that highways dealt with the remaining grass a week later.
 - iv) I have not been given any information on Terlings Park .
 - v) Current works in Harlow and numerous diversions to A414 have contributed to regular congestion at the A414 roundabout by Eastwick Lodge Farm. This affects everyone in 6. Plans are scheduled throughout the year for ongoing surveys of the roads prior to works. These may result in lane closures and will create backlogs of traffic around Pyle Corner, the entrance to Terlings and of course the roundabout and the A414 and entrance to Eastwick.
 - vi) I have to say that using the recommended portals for highways seems to result in no action. It would be good if this failing system could be reviewed.

25) NEW HOMES BONUS / INVESTMENT INTEREST

- a) Aerial Photographs –Cllr Marx reported that the aerial photos of our parishes have been successfully uploaded onto the Eastwick and Gilston Community Website eastwickandgilston.org.uk The photos can be viewed in the Photo Gallery section and are grouped by area. This is still a work in progress and the next stage will be to make the photos available as high-definition downloads for residents to print and to identify some potential photo print services that residents might wish to use..

26) VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- a) Cllr Harvey reported:
- i) As Treasurer I can say that the Hall's finances remain in balance.
 - ii) Car park - the lighting issues have been dealt with as well as three lights that had been
 - iii) reversed into.
 - iv) The hall will have a free survey to assess energy efficiency on July 12th. This may give us
 - v) access to suitable grants.
 - vi) The probation service has made progress with decorating the hall. Hopefully it will be completed at their final visit on September 12th.
 - vii) We have secured a grant from East Herts for Adam Howard to arrange new classes for the hall - these should begin in September and will be Chair Pilates and Golden Zumba
 - viii) We may need to conduct some fund-raising activities. Though apart from those mentioned there are no huge bills expected in this year.
 - ix) Our bookings clerk has started a face book page and following a meeting with Hunsdon Village Hall Erin has begun work on the web page. This will have minimal cost and increase our booking and advertising efficiency.

27) CORRESPONDENCE

- a) None.

28) ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

- a) None.

29) ITEMS COUNCILLORS WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO THE NEXT AGENDA.


- a) None

30) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a) Date of next meeting is Monday 9th September 2024 – Parish Council Business Meeting.

Benefice of High Wych and Gilston with Eastwick
Church website: stjameshighwych.org.uk
Facebook: Gilston & Eastwick church's
For all recorded church services go to the Facebook page above.

SEPTEMBER SERVICES

1 st September	14 th Sunday after Trinity	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St James, High Wych
		9.30am 10.00am	For Breakfast Family Service	St James, High Wych
7 th September	Saturday	10.00am- 5.00pm	SCARECROW FESTIVAL	St James, High Wych
8 th September	15 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am	Holy Communion	St James, High Wych
		11.15am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Gilston
		11 am – 5.00pm	SCARECROW FESTIVAL	St James, High Wych
15 th September	16 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am,	Holy Communion	St James, High Wych
22 nd September	17 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am	Holy Communion	St James, High Wych
		11.15am	Family Service	St Botolph's, Eastwick
29 th September	18 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am	Holy Communion – Harvest Service	St James, High Wych
		6.00pm	HARVEST SERVICE FOLLOWED BY HARVEST SUPPER	St Mary's, Gilston

The services in all our churches are all back in person, they are also livestreamed on the **Gilston & Eastwick Churches Facebook page**.

Benefice churches will be open for private prayer. St James, open every day 9.00am to 4.00pm. An information notice is displayed outside the church. St Mary's open every day 8.00am to 4.00pm and for advice on opening of St. Botolph's for private prayer, please contact Rev. Alison Jackson.

PRIEST IN CHARGE: Rev'd Alison Jackson

revajacksonhwge@outlook.com

1 Dovedale, High Wych, Sawbridgeworth CM21 0DT

READER: Judith Denton, Path Cottage, High Wych Lane, CM21 0JP

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Cath Sharples

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA)

HIGH WYCH PARISH

LAY LEADER OF WORSHIP: Jan Bellingham

CHURCH WARDENS:

Janet Bellingham

Sam Clark

GILSTON WITH EASTWICK PARISH

CHURCH WARDENS:

Michael Shaw

We have a vacancy for a Church Warden

LAY LEADER OF WORSHIP / MISSION ENABLER:

Rosemary Davis

PCC SECRETARY:

Mrs Christine Law

PCC TREASURER:

Werner Marx

01279 790145
07833 667707

01279 723714

01279 600996

01272 818107

01279 724247

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September Letter

Time flies when you are having fun

When you read this I will have been your Priest for 2 years! That feels like the fastest two years of my life.

The saying 'time flies when you are having fun' is the English translation of 'tempus fugit' coined by Virgil in the first century BC and it is thought to come from the idea that time moves faster when people are happy. (thank you google).

How is time going for you?

Is there something you need to change or get involved with so that time will not hang heavy with you?

Or are you too busy and need to lay something down if you can, to create a little 'spare' time?

Things are definitely speeding up as the Scarecrow Festival in our village of High Wych approaches again this year. There are so many things planned that we did not have last year. This year we will have a toddler and children's area thanks to the toddler team (it's not too late to volunteer to do a stint of your time to make this happen throughout the Festival for the children, just give me a ring), we also have lots of toys for the children to play with because of Jimmy's Toddler Group. We will also be running some children's games and the church itself will be decked out with a whole amazing exhibition around mini beasts and bugs – I am in awe of the creativity and all that is being produced by the people who live in our villages, I love how we can all come together and enjoy each other's company, and I know that this comes with many people working hard in the background to make all this happen.

One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is the 'gift of helps – or service', working for the good of others and is one of the main strengths of any church community as well as a village community. As I write this I am particularly aware that the churchyard at St Botolph's in Eastwick looks better than it has done since I arrived, thanks to the help of a few good people in our village of Eastwick. We also have a great team who keep the churchyard at St Mary's in tip top condition for all to enjoy and it always looks beautiful – so thank you for that amazing team too. We have a great team of dedicated volunteers who help with St James churchyard and we are hoping that before the Scarecrow Festival we can encourage all who enjoy our churchyard to come and bring their garden tools and give us a hand to get it in tip-top condition for the many visitors who will experience it over the weekend of 7th/8th September. We have planned this for the 1st September at 11.15 am (please see flyer for details), if you are able to come along and help.

Romans 12 is an amazing encouragement in living and working together and is too long to print out here but this is just a snippet.....

'So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking around life – and place it before God as an offering..... if you help, just help, don't take over..... Keep a smile on your face. (extract from the Message version of the Bible).

The Bible is full of wisdom about how to live in community with each other, to share what we have and to love those around us, and it is very relevant for us today as it speaks into our 21st century living. If you would like to know more, why not join us as we discover the full wisdom of Romans through our services and our bible study groups through September and October.

Looking forward to seeing you soon. If you see me around, please say 'Hello' I would love to get to know you.

Your Priest

Alison

[Online prayer sessions - Tuesday mornings at 9.30 am – link below](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84557900182?pwd=MDhIR2ZBSFc4RXdxWW4zL3FJRkx0dz09)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84557900182?pwd=MDhIR2ZBSFc4RXdxWW4zL3FJRkx0dz09>

Meeting ID: 845 5790 0182 Passcode: 640464



Nature Notes by the late Cynthia Howe, long-time nature lover and resident of Gilston

We awoke on the morning of 9/11 ready to enjoy our Golden Wedding Anniversary. We were soon to realise that the Twin Towers were down. What a horrible coincidence. The following are Cynthia's Nature stories for the next Parish Magazine.

Friday 16 September 2011

Autumn Changes

It is September and everywhere is still relatively green, no doubt due to the amount of rain there has been.

The trees although green are no longer fresh looking but rather a tired yellow/brownish green. It has been a strange summer, cooler and wetter than we would have expected or than most of us would have liked, for me the greatest difference this summer has been the reduced number of butterflies in my garden. Interestingly, not as many wasps about either although bees and hornets have been plentiful.

The fruit this year has been overwhelming in its quantity and quality. Years ago, housewives would have been so busy: bottling fruit, making jam, collecting sloes and elderberries to make wine, blackberries and damsons from the hedgerows for jam. A glut of autumn produce not only kept them busy but also kept the family in tarts, fruit pies and tasty spreads for bread and butter or toast at tea time. The flavour of home produced jams etc., cannot be compared with its modern mass produced counterpart, which most of us collect from shops.

At one time most people kept chicken in their back garden; the eggs would be used in cooking and as a welcome treat for children's tea, for cake making for Sunday teatime and any left over would be laid down in a solution of isinglass to provide eggs for when hens went off the lay. Meanwhile the chickens which would have been loved, cuddled and named by the children were destined for the pot when they had outgrown their usefulness as egg providers.

Day-old chicks soon replaced the others to be stroked, cooed over and in their turn named and so the cycle went on. How very different our lives were then to the lives of children today.

Gone are most of the roadside flowers, the grasses have grown taller and we are still enjoying clumps of blue hardy geraniums. Taking the place of other flowers are drifts of Michaelmas daisies mostly a gentle calm, pale mauve colour with here and there white ones to be seen. Pretty scatterings of bright yellow Oxford ragwort seem to frequent most verges, I have mixed feelings about this escapee that is so eye catching, seeds so readily and yet is so dangerous to horses.

Joy of joys, I have just found my first conker of the year, it is as perfect as every other conker I have ever found: round, brown and shiny with its own unique patterning made by various shades of brown on its shiny surface. A smile on my face, I clutch it to me, a symbol of the continuity of life. I admire it and show it to my elder granddaughter who also finds one and immediately points out to me that hers is better as it has a flat side and is much better for playing conkers with. Something I have never ever thought of!

I always think of September as a golden month; this year it truly is for Mike and I, as our Golden Wedding Anniversary falls this month. We shall be having a family reunion and a blessing and renewal of our vows all in aid of Cancer Research UK. Having cancer has made me more aware of many things and I have become a registered collector for Cancer Research UK, which has truly added another dimension to my life.

Friday 23 September 2011

Taking our son to the airport and on to Reading

This morning we drove John to Heathrow for his return flight to Seattle. I shall miss him, I wish he wasn't going, he has been such a support to me through the last several months, not least of all during my chemo and radiotherapy, but perhaps it is right he goes, he needs to pick up his life, but my heart is heavy to see him go. My falling silver tears were mirrored by autumn's falling golden leaves as I hugged my dear son goodbye, not knowing when I shall see him again.

It was a bright autumn morning, blue skies, endless sunshine which highlighted the golds oranges and reds on some trees. It is still a little early for most trees but together with the bright red hips, pillar box red haws, and the wonderful fruit of the rowan trees, whose berries are white, orange or vermilion, from the car, the passing countryside is colouring up well and the next few weeks promise to be eye catching.

Warm coats, scarves and wellington boots will soon be the order of the day for tramping in the woods and rustling feet through drifts of golden, crispy leaves.

We continued our journey to Reading along the M4, the verges are now almost bereft of flowers, although one stretch was filled with tall yellow evening primroses. I have noticed in my own garden how the bees and moths love these flowers. I too love them their perfect flowers held high above other plants and every day more opening until they reach above my head, I also love the randomness of these plants, they suddenly appear, sometimes near to the parent plant other times quite a distance away. Wherever they show up I am pleased to see them and regard it as a bonus.

Through the car window everywhere is calm and serene, some fields are awaiting harvesting, others already harvested and yet more already ploughed, seeded and showing fresh green shoots.

Just before the A33 turning, we always look out on the right hand side for the fields of white horses, they are sturdy creatures and as I write I realise they may not be horses but ponies. We always wonder about them and their reason for being there, are they for breeding or just for someone's pleasure? Seeing them always gives us pleasure, occasionally they escape onto the M4 and cause traffic delays.

Shortly afterwards on our left we pass large lakes devoid of wildlife and next to them fields of scattered sheep, and then more lakes. I wonder if these lakes are the result of gravel extraction. We pass a river and are at our junction.

The leaves on the horse chestnut trees are curling at the edges and turning brown, some of these trees are starting to shed both their leaves and their fruit, commonly called conkers. These shiny, round, beautifully marked, brown delights are to be found in their dozens at the foot of the tree, some still locked in their prickly green cases, others boldly brown waiting showily to be gathered up, and sometimes they are shyly hiding in their partly opened cases or even coyly peeping out of a pile of leaf litter, however they are there, there are few things more pleasing than gathering some up and taking them home to place in a bowl in order that their beauty can be enjoyed, before they fade and are put outside on the lawn for the squirrels.

Saturday 24 September 2011

Three Foxes

We put the fox food out as usual, but as often happens now we were busy and only looked occasionally, interestingly we saw more of the foxes tonight than we have for a long time.

Several times I glanced out and saw nothing then suddenly the young female was there, she is very nervous and we don't see her as often as her brother. She timidly comes from behind a bush and looking about her slowly approaches the food and delicately takes a piece before backing off to stand and eat it. This is very different from her brother who boldly marches in lays down by the food and steadily eats it all.

Tonight the young female had barely started eating, just three mouthfuls, when she suddenly started looked up and tore away. It was her brother, his fur is much darker, his tread much more certain and in build already larger and stronger looking than his sister, who is paler, smaller and timid. Unfortunately she has good reason to rush away as he sets about her making her whimper and yelp.

Once her brother shows up she rushes away and we don't see her again, tonight she must have been extra hungry because after a few minutes she crept back very slowly and low, her belly almost brushing the lawn. She managed to sneak a piece and slowly moved back into the bushes with it, but the second time the young male chased her off and we didn't see her again.

After the young male had finished feeding and left, I still kept an eye on the lawn wondering if his young sister would return. She didn't, but I was surprised about ten minutes later to see the older vixen ---their mother sniffing around the area where the food had been. She must have been hungry because she spent a long time going over the lawn and although there was nothing visible she was clearly finding something.

BRIGGENS ESTATE IN WW2

A few years ago, Des Turner published his book about the vital war work at Briggens. Working in complete secrecy, elite forgers produced essential documents to keep British spies safe from Nazi capture. More than 275,000 forgeries, including passports, ration cards and cash, were created by the team at Briggens. Their work during the Second World War financed and fed resistance movements and agents, including the legendary Violette Szabo, and helped spies work undetected behind enemy lines. The Official Secrets Act kept the truth about Briggens hidden for decades.



The forgers were first assembled in 1941 as part of Britain's Special Operations Executive (SOE), a "ministry of ungentlemanly warfare" Churchill had created to "set Europe ablaze". At first the team comprised just three Polish resistance fighters — only one of whom spoke English — but they were soon joined by Morton Bisset, a Scottish printer who rallied his fellow tradesmen. Before long, Briggens boasted a staff of 50 including printers, draughtsmen, technicians, a Scotland Yard handwriting expert and a team of women from the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (FANY) volunteers.



Forgers and their FANY assistants at Briggens in Roydon. Commanding officer Captain Morton Bisset is in the middle. Sergeant Dennis Collins is wearing glasses on the left. (Image: Pen News/Des Turner)

Speaking to Des Turner, author of *Briggens: SOE's Forgery and Polish Agent Training Station*, the late Captain Bisset described the pressure to make sure the forgeries would pass inspection. He recalled: "With this team of highly skilled craftsmen we were able to forge all types of documents for the various resistance movements. We went to infinite pains to ensure that they were as authentic as possible, as we knew that our agents' lives might depend upon them."

Newly-discovered images show their mock-ups of exit visas to Spain and Portugal, fiscal stamps from Germany and Hungary, and identity cards from Poland and France. Often the forgers raced against the clock, with their work based on real documents that had to be smuggled back into Nazi-occupied Europe before their absence was noted.

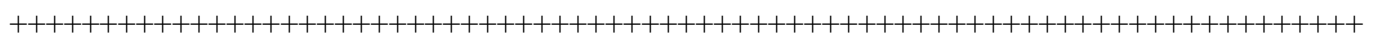


“A genuine original document would be smuggled out of France,” Captain Bisset said. “Possibly transported by a Lysander aircraft, submarine or a fast motor torpedo boat. Then it would be delivered to us as quickly as possible. We had to copy it and produce the forgery and return the original in a similar manner and just as quickly.”

But they handled the pressure well — on one occasion issuing forgeries of a new French ration card on the same day that the genuine article came out. One Nazi study of Briggens’ work lamented that “the forged ration cards are such deceitfully good copies that single coupons cut from them cannot be recognised immediately as forgeries”. Sergeant Major Arthur Gatward, a handwriting expert tasked with forging signatures, saved a whole spy ship when he fooled a close comrade of the Nazi he was imitating.

Text and Photos: Hertfordshire Mercury – Michael Havis/Pen News – 27th February 2018

Continues next month:



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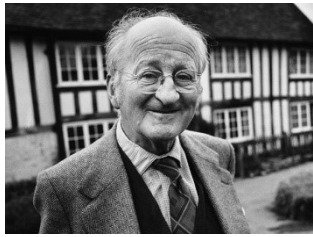




THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The Hundred Parishes has an exceptional depth of ancient buildings. More than 6,000 are “listed”, meaning that they appear on the National Heritage List for England. Each property listing includes a description and many of these descriptions take their text from the guide books produced by one exceptional man, Nikolaus Pevsner.



Pevsner, an architectural historian, was born in 1902 in Leipzig, Germany, the son of a Russian-Jewish fur merchant. In 1933 he moved to England and settled in Hampshire. Following the outbreak of World War II, he was taken to an internment camp but was released three months later.

Work on his series of architectural guide books, The Buildings of England, began in 1945. The edition covering the whole of Hertfordshire was published in 1953; Essex and Cambridgeshire followed in 1954.

Most of the ancient architecture in The Hundred Parishes is mentioned by Pevsner in these three editions, either in general terms or in great detail. One example in Essex is Manuden, which he describes as follows: “Manuden has a specially pretty, short village street with timber framed cottages with oversailing upper floors near the church and a small assortment of Georgian houses a little further west”.

In Cambridgeshire, he described the Norman interior of Ickleton’s parish church as having few equals in the country.



In Hertfordshire, the 17th-century almshouses in Buntingford were described by Pevsner as “the stateliest almshouses in the county”.

Nikolaus Pevsner was granted British citizenship in 1946, appointed CBE in 1953 and knighted in 1969 “for services to art and architecture”. In total, he was responsible for 46 county-wide guides. He died in Hampstead, London in 1983.

The website www.hundredparishes.org.uk has more than a hundred walk routes that can be freely downloaded. The route descriptions draw attention to some of the listed buildings that are passed.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

+++++



FAULTY ROAD SURFACE?



To help us keep Hertfordshire’s roads up to scratch we need YOU to let us know when things are not right! So whether it’s a pothole, pavement problem, faulty streetlight, icy road or any other highway fault, go to: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/highwayfault or call: 01432 261800 or General Enquiries 0300 123 4040 – Hertfordshire Highways Fault line.

Newsletter from your Patients' Group – September 2024

Email: patientgroup4sawbosurgery@gmail.com

If you are unable to see this Newsletter, or the attach-

ments within it, clearly on your phone or tablet, you can also find it on the Surgery's website at:
<https://www.centralsurgerysawbo.nhs.uk/patients-group-newsletter-january-20201/>

The 'Flu Vaccination Programme for Autumn-Winter 2024/25

Eligibility for flu vaccination is based on the advice and recommendations of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). This includes a vaccination programme for children, using live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) which provides individual protection to the child and reduces transmission in the wider population.

The following groups are to be offered flu vaccination in line with the announced and authorised cohorts:

From 1 September 2024:

- pregnant women
- all children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2024
- primary school aged children (from Reception to Year 6)
- secondary school aged children (from Year 7 to Year 11)
- all children in clinical risk groups aged from 6 months to less than 18 years

From October 2024 (exact start date to be confirmed by NHS England in due course):

- those aged 65 years and over
- those aged 18 years to under 65 years in clinical risk groups
- those in long-stay residential care homes
- carers in receipt of carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- frontline workers in a social care setting without an employer led occupational health scheme including those working for a registered residential care or nursing home, registered domiciliary care providers, voluntary managed hospice providers and those that are employed by those who receive direct payments (personal budgets) or Personal Health budgets, such as Personal Assistants

****Please look out for information about the Covid Booster programme, Autumn 2024****

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccination Programme): From 1 September 2024, a new vaccination programme will be introduced for RSV.

What is RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)?

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is spread through close contact with someone who is infected via coughing and/or sneezing.

RSV causes respiratory illness and is quite common.

It is not usually serious, but some babies and adults have a higher risk of getting seriously ill, particularly:

- babies under 6 months old
- children who were born prematurely
- adults over 75 years
- babies, children and older adults with a weakened immune system, or long-term lung or heart conditions

In babies, RSV is a common cause of a type of chest infection called bronchiolitis. This can cause breathing problems and may need to be treated in hospital.

RSV can also cause a serious lung infection (pneumonia) in babies and older adults.

Who is eligible for the RSV vaccine?

You will be able to get the vaccine if:

- you're aged 75 to 79
- you're 28 weeks pregnant or more – this will help protect your baby for the first few months after they're born

If you're aged 75 to 79, your GP surgery will contact you about getting vaccinated. Please wait to be contacted.

From September, you can speak to your maternity service or GP surgery about getting your RSV vaccination if you're 28 weeks pregnant or more.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv/>

IT Digital Skills at Sawbridgeworth Library – We live in an age where Digital Skills are an essential part of life. This could be anything from the car parking machine to ordering your shopping online to accessing your GP surgery via the Online Consultation or your NHS App. For some, this may still be a daunting exercise. Now, there is help at hand in the form of the monthly Digital Skills Sessions at our two local Libraries in The Forebury, Sawbridgeworth and in The Causeway, Bishops Stortford. If you would like to gain confidence in finding your way around a computer, tablet or phone and the Digital World, go and join the friendly, FREE volunteer-led group and improve your digital skills now! The Digital Champion volunteers will show you how to do simple things online such as how to use your devices, shop online, access virtual GP appointments and overall stay better connected with your friends and family.

All you need are your charged devices – phones, tablets or laptops.

Booking is essential. Phone: **0300 123 1034** to book your place

Times and venues are as follows:

<u>Sawbridgeworth Library, The Forebury, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9BD</u>	<u>Bishops Stortford Library, The Causeway, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2EJ</u>
All sessions are 10:30 – 12:00	All sessions are 10:30 – 12:00
Monday 16 th September	Monday 2 nd September
Monday 21 st October	Monday 7 th October
Monday 18 th November	Monday 4 th November
Monday 16 th December	Monday 2 nd December

Share For Better Care: focuses on reaching people who are often overlooked by services. Sharing experiences of care is crucial, as it provides vital intelligence to the Care Quality Commission – CQC - on what services need to improve and what practices are working well. Our dedicated helpline team is available to support any patient or carer in sharing their care experiences with the CQC. Simply call 0800 345 7115, and one of our team members will assist you in providing your feedback. Our helpline team also offers information, guidance and signposting on health and care matters. Calls are free and confidential, and we can provide translators for those whose first language is not English.

If you are a Carer, please make sure that you let the Surgery know that you are.

Jim's Cafe Session

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phone: 07833667707 or 01279790145**



Every Thursday morning
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3. REPORT ONLINE?
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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

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WHEN USING OUR PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY PLEASE BE AWARE

Please make sure your dogs are under control and if not on leads in your sight.

Always clean up your dog's poo because it can cause illness in people, livestock and wildlife

Never leave bags of dog poo around, even if you intend to pick them up later.

Deodorised bags and containers can make bags of dog poo easier to carry. If you cannot find a public waste bin, you should take it home and use your own bin.



Run by the churches of High Wych & Gilston with Eastwick
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2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Wednesday Welcome

1st May, 5th June, 3rd July

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2-32 Mabeys walk, High Wych
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For more information contact:
revajacksonhwge@outlook.com
07833667707
or: 01279 790145

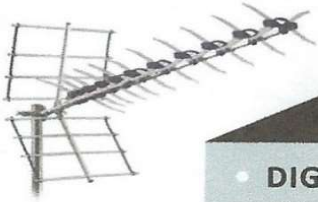


Are you struggling with your energy bills?

If you live in Sawbridgeworth, High Wych, Gilston, Eastwick or Spellbrook and your financial situation meets the criteria, you may be eligible for assistance from **The Sawbridgeworth Charitable Trust**.

For more information, please contact our clerk:
Di Kitson on 01279 723212 or email: diana.kitson@btinternet.com





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Gilston & Eastwick Village Hall, Pye Corner – CM20 2RB

Can be found on the outside at the front of the building by the notice board.



The Lion Public House, Eastwick – CM20 2QP

Can be found in the covered area to the right of the pub courtyard.

St Mary's Church, Gilston Lane, Gilston – CM20 2RJ

Can be found in the porch as you enter the church on the right-hand side.

Terlings Park, Kirkpatrick Place – CM20 2FX

Can be found outside of the entrance gates beside the intercom.

The defibrillator is designed to be very easy to use and talks you through what you need to do step by step.

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christine.law2@btinternet.com

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