

SHALFORD

Village Magazine March 2023

Produced by the People for the People



SEPT 2022 TO
APRIL 2023
SHALFORD
VILLAGE
MAGAZINE
DELIVERED TO
ALL
HOUSEHOLDS
MONTHLY

A COMMUNITY DECISION
YOU HAVE A VOICE
HAVE YOUR SAY
IT MATTERS!
IT COUNTS!
PAGES 30 - 31

MAY 2023
HAS THE
MAGAZINE A
FUTURE
?

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***KNOW WHERE
YOUR NEAREST
DEFIBRILLATOR
IS LOCATED***



Jaspers Green
CM7 5AU



Shalford Village
Hall Church End
CM7 5EZ



The George Inn The
Street CM7 5HH

Shalford Village Magazine is a non-profit organisation, run by volunteers and funded by advertising, the Parish Council, donations and fund raising events. Contact by email: shalford_village_magazine@btinternet.com Shalford Village Magazine can be downloaded or viewed from www.bendlowe.co.uk

A couple of Thursdays ago, I met Alice in St Andrew's, after she had been practicing on the organ. We chatted for a while and she told me how the magazine is in danger of being discontinued. Shock Horror! John and I love getting it, finding out what is going on and absorbing all the interesting tales which are printed each month.



Well, after our brief conversation, John and I proceeded to the coffee morning. When we arrived home later, I had an idea, a brainwave actually! Alice had mentioned how much it costs per month to publish the magazine and without a good number of advertisers to prop it up, where can the £450 monthly come from?? John and I were married in 2021 in June and to celebrate our

anniversary we take our nearest and dearest out to a posh lunch! It costs roughly £50 a head and there would normally be nine of us. Can you believe it comes to £450!! Coincidence or what?!!

We have decided rather than eat out to celebrate we will celebrate by donating that amount to pay for June's magazine. Also I would like to nominate Alice as the hidden heroine of the month, as not only does she look after her horses, dogs and Keith, but is also a founding trustee of the Bendlowe's Trust which has been re-invented, but also edits and produces the magazine to an amazingly high standard.

Thanks for reading this, which I hope might make a few of us donate a little each month to keep the pride and joy of our village magazine to remain a monthly thing to be popped through our letterboxes.

Susan Brunskill

Editor's Comment: *An incredible, selfless, gesture from an amazing couple. Thank you so much – which seems totally inadequate but nevertheless comes from the heart. You two are special!*

DEERSBROOK FARM BUTCHERY & FARM SHOP

Tucked away down Littles lane, Shalford Green Deersbrook is a hidden gem, offering the an array of local produced food and drinks.

The full butchery is a showcase of their own award winning 100% pasture fed, dry aged beef and rare breed pork alongside local free range lamb, poultry & wild game.



DEERSBROOK FARM
Littles lane
Shalford green
CM7 5AZ

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Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday
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www.deersbrookfarm.com

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LOCAL ORGANISATIONS & CHARITIES

INDOOR CARPET BOWLS

**EVERY TUESDAY AT
SHALFORD VILLAGE
HALL**

FROM 7.30 p.m. to 9.15 p.m.



All ages are welcome to our friendly club. Come along and enjoy a game of bowls, a chat, plus tea, coffee and biscuits

Contact: Vic 07773 707404

SHALFORD LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION



Meetings take place monthly
For date and more information contact: Barbara
01371 851519
or visit
<https://shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk/history-society/>

SHALFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



For more information
<https://shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk/horticultural-society/>



MEET & GREET 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

3rd March 2023
7th April 2023
5th May 2023

SHALFORD
VILLAGE HALL

11 am to 2 pm

*William Bendlowe Charity
People Working For People
It's good to talk!*

FOSTAC

Friends of St Andrew's
Church



Contact: www.fostac.co.uk
or
<https://shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk>

NEW MEMBERS/VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

WHAT'S ON - 2023 DIARY DATES

Day	Date	Organisation	Event	Place	Time	Contact
16-18th Mar		WAP	Show Time Comedy Music and Drama	Wethersfield V. Hall	19.30	keith.shilling@btinternet.com
Wed	22nd Mar	S. Local History	Talk by Mike Bardell	Shalford V. Hall	19.30	
Wed	29th Mar	W/field Floral Art	The Rose Garden Florists Spring Time	Wethersfield V. Hall	19.30	Julia 07712674929
Sun	2nd Apr	W/field Concerts	Jaren Ziegler Viola & Lynn Arnold Piano	Wethersfield Church	16.00	
Fri	7th Apr	For 2 - 3 weeks	Easter Lily Display	St Andrew's Church		09.00 to 16.00
Thurs	13th Apr	W/field Theatre	Wethersfield Theatre Trips - Dirty Dancing			07975 735882
Sat	15th Apr	W/field Parish Church	Plant Share & Coffee Morning	Wethersfield Church	10.30	07939 030 833
Sun	16th Apr	W/field Concerts	Ewan Miller Oboe & Will Harmer Piano	Wethersfield Church	16.00	
Wed	26th Apr	W/field Floral Art	NAFAS Demonstrator Floral Cavalcade	Wethersfield V. Hall	19.30	Julia 07712674929
Sun	7th May	W/field Concerts	Martin James Bartlett Piano	Wethersfield Church	15.00	
Sun	14th May		Tractor Run			
Wed	17th May	W/field Theatre	Wethersfield Theatre Trips - Matilda			07975 735882
Sat/Sun	10/11 Jun	Fete Committee	Shalford Fete	Shalford V. Hall		
Sun	11th Jun		Deersbrook Open Farm Sunday	Deersbrook Farm		
Tues	27th Jun	S.Horticultural Soc	Trip to Anglesey Abbey			07749113756
Wed	28th Jun	W/field Floral Art	NAFAS Demonstrator Box of Delights	Wethersfield V. Hall	19.30	Julia 07712674929
Sat	1st July	FOSTAC	Talk on Women's Land Army	St Andrew's Church	19.00	suebeazleyend@gmail.com
Sat	5th Aug	Bendlowe's	Coach Trip to The Hut, Felixstowe			Marianna 07450 251525
Sat	12th Aug	S.Horticultural Soc	Shalford Horticultural Annual Show	Shalford V. Hall		01371 850390
Sat	9th Sept	FOSTAC	BBQ in the Churchyard Teas, Cake Stall	St Andrew's Church		suebeazleyend@gmail.com
Sat	23rd Sept	Caroline/Marianna	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Shalford V. Hall		
Wed	27th Sept	W/field Floral Art	NB Florists, Covent Garden Open Meeting	Wethersfield V. Hall	19.30	Julia 07712674929
Sat	14th Oct	FOSTAC	Chelmsford Cathedral Choir	St Andrew's Church		suebeazleyend@gmail.com
Sat	25th Nov	FOSTAC	Interesting talks by local guests	St Andrew's Church		suebeazleyend@gmail.com
Wed	29th Nov	W/field Floral Art	Local Florist-A Christmas Evening	Wethersfield V. Hall	19.30	Julia 07712674929

WHAT'S ON

WETHERSFIELD CHAMBER CONCERTS

www.wethersfieldchamberconcerts.org.uk



Sunday 2 April 2023, 4 pm.

JAREN ZIEGLER - viola (finalist BBC Young Musician 2022)

LYNN ARNOLD - piano

Bach, Brahms, Bridge, Bruch

=0=

Sunday 16 April 2023, 4 pm.

EWAN MILLER - oboe (finalist BBC Young Musician 2020/21)

WILL HARMER - piano

Bach, Franck, Musgrave

=0=

Sunday 7 May 2023, 3 pm.

MARTIN JAMES BARTLETT - piano

Third appearance for us by this now world-renowned artist!

Couperin, Debussy, Ravel, Scarlatti, de Falla

=0=

Ticket price: £17 (concessions £15)

Season ticket: £45 (concessions £39)

Children under 16: free

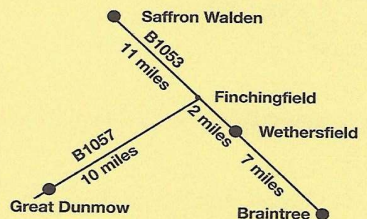
All seats unreserved

Complimentary refreshments during interval
and after concert

VENUE: WETHERSFIELD CHURCH

Further information:

www.wethersfieldchamberconcerts.org.uk



Shalford Local History Association

Presents

A Talk by Mike Bardell

The Only Way is Essex

Local historian Mike takes us on a magical mystery tour of our wonderful county looking at the people, places and general quirks and curiosities that make up our unique history and geography.



Wednesday 22 March 2023

7.30 pm

Shalford Village Hall

Tickets £2 on the day to include refreshments
at the end

The talk will be preceded by the SLHA AGM at 7pm to which all are invited.
This is a standalone talk ie no need to have heard Mike's previous talks. Talk lasts approx. 1 hour

WHAT'S ON

Wethersfield Amateur Performers
Present

SHOW TIME

An evening of Comedy,
Music and Drama

Featuring a short play

'Streuth'

By Michael Green *

16th, 17th and 18th March 2023
Wethersfield Village Hall

Book Tickets

Book online at:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/wap - where all information on seat type, availability and pricing can also be found.

Via Box Office

(look out for Box Office sign at top of High Street)

By phone or e-mail

Contact John Pearce on 01371 851019
or john_pearce50@hotmail.com)

Ticket prices:

Adults - £10
OAP - £7.50 on Thursday only
Under 18 - £7.50


For more information:

keith.shilling@btinternet.com

Performance starts at 7.30pm



*This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. (www.concordtheatricals.co.uk)

 Wethersfield

www.w-a-p.org

WHAT'S ON

WETHERSFIELD THEATRE TRIPS

We organise theatre trips to London from Wethersfield, with additional pick up points in surrounding areas. The price includes a top class seat plus luxury coach travel. So there's less hassle & more enjoyment when you book with us.

Upcoming Shows 2023 (January - May)



FRI 20TH JAN
FROZEN - £75



FRI 3RD MAR
MAMMA MIA! THE PARTY
- £145



THURS 13TH APR
DIRTY DANCING - £75

ROSLIND WISE
Matilda
THE MUSICAL



WEDS 17TH MAY
MATILDA - £65

CONTACT US FOR
MORE DETAILS OR TO
BOOK YOUR PLACE

T: 07975 735882

E: [WETHERSFIELDTT@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:wethersfieldtt@outlook.com)

f: WETHERSFIELD THEATRE TRIPS

Plant Share

& Coffee Morning

Sat 15 April 10:30_{am} - 12:30_{pm}

Wethersfield Parish Church



Want to share your love of gardening, and can spare some surplus plants, seedlings etc with our community?

Want to pick up some new plants? Optional donation

Like a cuppa and a slice of cake?

Don't really want to drive to an overpriced garden centre?



Want to help our Grade 1 listed Church?

Then this event is for YOU!

**Please bring any of the following:
yourself, plants, cakes**

Shalford

Horticultural Society



Horticultural Show

12th August 2023

SAVE THE DATE

Schedule Online @ www.bendlowe.co.uk

Or phone 01371 850390 for printed copy

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

WHAT'S ON



SHALFORD VILLAGE HALL

THE heart OF SHALFORD SINCE 1925

New Booking Tel: 07732 313530
Between 9am to 5pm

www.shalfordvillagehall.co.uk

SHALFORD TENNIS CLUB

Membership

Annual Family of 4
Adult

Junior (U17 or full-
time Education
U20)

Casual Hire Cost

To book the court
and for further
information:

Contact: 07732
313530 Between
9am to 5pm

SHALFORD FOOTBALL CLUB

Located at Shalford
Village Hall

For more information visit:

<http://www.cfcshalford.co.uk>

ADC Dance & Fitness

Shalford Village Hall
Every Monday
16.45 to 19.45

Tel: 07852 505153

PLAYING FIELDS

Football
Cricket
Tennis
Children's Playground
Petanque

ART CLUB

Shalford Village Hall
Every Tuesday 11.00 to
13.00

Tel: 07505 282374

PETANQUE
(BOULES)
LOCATED AT
SHALFORD
VILLAGE HALL



No Need to Book

SHALFORD PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING

EVERY THIRD
WEDNESDAY OF THE
MONTH
HELD AT SHALFORD
VILLAGE HALL

TIME: 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

For more information [https://
shalford-esssex-pc.gov.uk](https://shalford-esssex-pc.gov.uk)

TODDLER GROUP

Shalford Village Hall
Every Wed 9.00 to
15.00

Tel: 07764 204027

Meet & Greet
every 1st Friday of
the month 11am to
2pm

Indoor Carpet Bowls
every Tuesday Contact
Vic 07773 707404

PILATES CLASS

Shalford Village Hall
Every Thurs, 19.45 to
20.45

Tel: 07969 557845

WHAT'S ON

TABLE TENNIS IN FINCHINGFIELD



The group comes to the village hall on Monday evenings to play table tennis 7.30 pm for 2 hours. We welcome new members to come and join the group.

The group has 3 tables and mainly play doubles matches during the evening. All equipment is provided. Currently, to provide most protection for each other, everyone brings along their own refreshments. The standard of play is varied. Most of us had not played since our school days! The key point is that we have a lot of fun whilst aiming to help us keep in shape. Well-being has been realised as a major need following experiences during the last 24 months. Table Tennis definitely provides an uplifting and enjoyable exercise for all who attend the weekly sessions. Why not consider coming along and join us for some laughs and good exercise? We look forward to greeting you. If you would like to have a chat beforehand, please call me on 07775 531781 - Brian

SHALFORD ROADSIDE & CHURCH FISHING LAKES



are affiliated to Billericay & District Angling Club

The river Pant in Shalford is also covered by the Club

For further details contact:-
Fishery Officer: Derrick Marriott,
or www.bdac.co.uk

LEARN TO PLAY THE DRUMS
AT YOUR OWN PACE IN A FRIENDLY
ENVIRONMENT

CONTACT: JAMES
TEL: 07704 070498



RE-ENGAGE (Formerly Contact the Elderly)

Arranging monthly get
togethers over a cup of tea for
the elderly



For more details:
Contact:

Sarah Cunningham
Sarah8750@hotmail.co.uk

Or

The Charity Website:
www.reengage.org.uk
Freephone: 0800 716543

SHALFORD CRAFT GROUP

Meetings are held on the
3rd Wednesday of the month.
At 2pm onwards.
Please bring along any craft
projects you are working on.
Share ideas and learn new
crafts.

Chat and craft over tea/ coffee
and cake. For dates of when
and where please contact.

Caroline Ottley 07734140478
Marianna Marriott

WALKING GROUPS

From SHALFORD
The George Pub
every Wednesday at
10 a.m.

From
FINCHINGFIELD
Green every Friday
at 10 a.m.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION POINTS

Tel: 01376 330694

1 West Drive, Wethersfield - Anytime
St Andrews Church Last Friday of the Month - 9 to 11
a.m.

WHAT'S ON

SAVE THE DATE
10th/11th June 2023
Shalford Fete/Fun Day

WEA Shalford
Workers Education
Association

For more info visit:
[https://
shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk](https://shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk)
<http://www.wea-essex.org.uk>

HEDGEHOPPER
S MODEL
FLYING CLUB

Affiliated to the
British Model
Flying Ass
(BMFA)
visit:
<http://www.hedgehoppers.org.uk>

JOIN OUR FRIENDLY
GROUP OF BELL
RINGERS

WE MEET EVERY
MONDAY at Wethersfield
Church, 7 p.m. &

FRIDAY at Shalford
Church, 7 p.m.

FOR MORE DETAILS
CONTACT:

ROY THREADGOLD

Tel: 01371 850481



COFFEE MORNING –
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
EVERY 2nd & 4th THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH

10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

Come along for a friendly chat and
meet your neighbours.
Enjoy a selection of homemade
cakes and biscuits.



POST OFFICE

EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON



SHALFORD

Village Hall 3.00 – 3.30 pm
The George 3.30 – 4.00 pm

ECC MOBILE LIBRARY 2022

Saturday 4th Mar 2023 25 Mar 2023
15th Apr 2023

Wethersfield: 11.20 to 11.50 a.m.
Barryfields: 12.00 to 12.30 p.m.
Jaspers Green: 1.30 to 2.00 p.m.

For further information contact:
<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk>

SHALFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

COACH TRIP TO ANGLESEY ABBEY

TUESDAY 27TH JUNE 2023

The Shalford Horticultural Society is planning a coach trip to Anglesey Abbey on Tuesday 27th June leaving from the village hall at 9.30am.

It is a lovely place, there are beautiful gardens to explore, plus the Jacobean Abbey and Mill to visit. There's also a shop and restaurant but you can bring your own picnic lunch if you wish.

The price of our trip will be £28.00 which includes entry to the Abbey and the cost of our coach. It is a National Trust property so if you are a NT member, the price will be £13.00.

A form will be in the village shop shortly where you can pay for tickets. Tickets can also be obtained from both Caroline and myself (Carol) tel: 07749113756.

Any queries, please contact either Caroline Ottley or Carol Prail (Lambe). We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on what will be an excellent day out.

Carol Prail

VILLAGE HORTICULTURAL SHOWS

25 March	Great Bardfield
1 April	Finchingfield
1 April	Gosfield – <u>Floral Art Shield</u>
15 July	Gosfield
22 July	Finchingfield
5 August	Great Bardfield – <u>Veg Challenge Cup</u>
12 August	Shalford https://www.facebook.com/SHSEssex
19 August	Four Colnes at Earls Colne, www.fourcolneshorticulturalsociety.com
2 September	Great Yeldham (not sure who can enter this one)
2 September	Halstead and District http://www.halsteadhorticulturalsociety.uk/index.php
9 September	Rivenhall Annual show (open to non-members)
16 September	Gosfield
23 September	Finchingfield – <u>Festival Cup</u>
11 November	Halstead and District

Feering and Kelvedon Garden Club

<https://e-voice.org.uk/feeringkelvedongardenclub/>

A traditional Open Horticultural Show (August/ September all welcome to exhibit)



ST MARY'S, WETHERSFIELD

SATURDAY, 15TH APRIL, 2023

10.30 A.M. to 12.30 P.M.

PLANT-SHARE - COFFEE MORNING

Ben Walmsley: Tel. 07939 030 833

St Mary's is again hosting a community plant-share coffee morning on Saturday 15th April at Wethersfield Church from 10.30 am -12.30 pm. ***Do please*** come along and support, spread the word and the seed. Plants/seeds you can get sowing and you can bring along to share are very much needed. We should, I hope, end up with hundreds of plants on offer, *everything is free*.

Amongst many other things - blackcurrant bushes, strawberry plants, spider-plants, cacti, sunflowers, aloes, ferns, tomatoes, geraniums you've never seen the pews used like this before ... let's try and hit a thousand; and come - fill a pew with your plants to share. Why go to the garden centre when we can share for free??? Additionally, we will have professional gardeners on-hand to answer your horticultural questions. GQT. Let's sow share!!!! *Everything must go*.

Donations to the church would, of course, be so very welcome (contactless payment machine available), we are totally self-funded and receive no funding from the central church and it costs £80 a day just to maintain. Of note: we have monuments in the churchyard in dire need of repair, and a £20k bill coming up to replace the drains.



SINGING 4 ALL

Think you can't sing? Yes you can – with an experienced professional singer and qualified voice tutor, who will show you how! Singing has been proven to assist dealing with many health issues, including stress, memory, breathing, mental well-being to name but a few!

No need to read music. No need to audition. All abilities welcome.

This is a great opportunity to discover the wonderful world of singing – and to make new friends. Weekly sessions are being held at Cornish Hall End Village Hall on Tuesdays at 7.30pm. A small weekly charge of £2 to cover the costs of hall hire and admin will be the only expense. You would be welcome to join the friendly group who have already found pleasure from the weekly sessions.

To register or for further information, please contact Lorraine Patient on Mobile – 07775 531781 or Email – lorrainepatient@gmail.com



EASTER LILY DISPLAY IN REMEMBRANCE OF LOVED ONES LOST



The flower arrangers will be making arrangements with the sponsored "lilies in remembrance of loved ones lost" on **Good Friday (7th April)**.

At present, St. Andrew's Church is open for private prayer every day from 9-4.

In the light of the significance of the lilies, we are hopeful the people of Shalford will visit the Church during the Easter period, stay awhile to enjoy the display and have a moment of reflection.

The display will be on show for 2-3 weeks depending on the weather.

Learn To Paint Folk Art Style



**With Caroline
here in Shalford**

If you are interested in coming to classes

please phone 077341 40478

SHALFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY – QUIZ NIGHT



The Shalford Horticultural Society's annual quiz night took place on Saturday 28th January in the village hall.

Debbie and Gary our quiz masters did an excellent job. There was also a raffle during the interval.

Everyone enjoyed the different quiz categories. It was a close contest between all the teams

throughout the evening as there wasn't a lot of difference in terms of points for each round for most groups but finally, in the end, there was a winning team but only after two tie breaker questions.

An enjoyable evening was had by all.

We look forward to seeing you next year at the next quiz.

Carol Prail

Essex Bridleways Association

The Essex Bridleways Association was formed some years ago to protect and enhance Bridleways. Membership costs £15 to join and runs for a year. Under 16s can join free. **Flu Vaccination** requirements for these rides are that all horses attending must be up to date with their annual flu injections (ie. the last booster is no more than a year old). Random checks may be made so please remember to bring along your horse passport.

Middlewick Farm Livery Yard, Southminster, CM0 7JQ

Ride date 16th April 2023, entries close 9th April 2023.

Members only ride and restricted to 50 due to limited parking. A choice of 7 or 10 miles over flat grassy tracks around

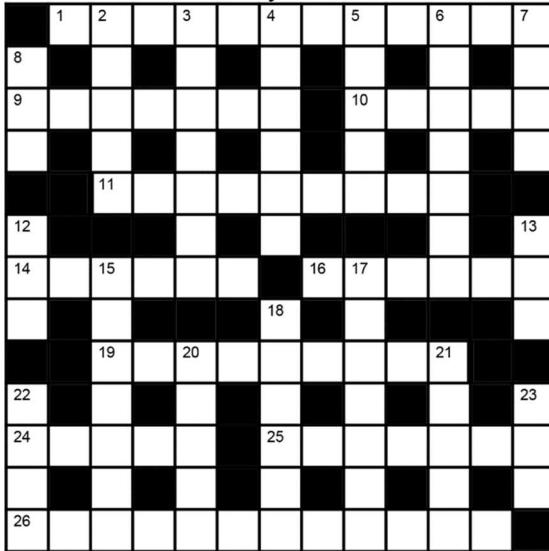
Middlewick Farm. Writtle Park estate CM1 3QF

Ride Date 14th May 2023. Entries close 7th May 2023.

A varied route on grassy tracks around Howletts Hall and Fingrith Hall with a choice of 9 or 13 mile route. Do not follow sat nav, only approach from A414, not by Ivy Barns Lane

Mandy French

Crossword 65 by Robert Burrows



Across

- 1 Town near Basildon (7-5)
- 9 Arise (5-2)
- 10 Deciduous tree (5)
- 11 Great whirlpool (9)
- 14 Worry persistently (6)
- 16 Conquer (6)
- 19 Village near Malden (9)
- 24 Superior monk (5)
- 25 Without reserve (7)
- 26 Horse race (12)

Down

- 2 Sleep spoiler (5)
- 3 Irreligious (7)
- 4 Confront (6)
- 5 Walker (5)
- 6 Excessive enthusiasm (4-3)

7 Moderately (2-2)

- 8 Tree (3)
- 12 Cry (3)
- 13 Openwork fabric (3)
- 15 Muddle (7)
- 17 Release (7)
- 18 Hint (6)
- 20 Upset (3,2)
- 21 Fundamental values (5)
- 22 Male singer (4)
- 23 Cereal (3)

Cryptic Across

- 1 Handing lolls out near Basildon (7-5)
- 9 Rise for comedy act (5-2)
- 10 Obscure friends' trees (5)
- 11 Lame storm creates

powerful eddy (9)

14 So Bess could worry a lot (6)

16 Fee must be paid, put it down (6)

19 Lashed ham, sadly, near Malden (9)

24 Second-grade boat maybe for church leader (5)

25 Butterfly loses two letters, totally (7)

26 Do horses aim for the spire? (12)

Cryptic Down

- 2 Fear it might awaken (5)
- 3 SE gold's not for the heathen (7)

4 Work and stand on the other side (6)

5 Long distance walker (5)

6 As crazy, keen (4-3)

7 Even emergency shout? No (2-2),

8 Tree after fire? (3)

12 Does Les O'Brien weep? (3)

13 Tennis item (3)

15 Singular York street (7)

17 Divorce? (7)

18 Refer everything to be paid (6)

20 Upset (3,2)

21 Basic values of Morse? (5)

22 Deep singing voice (4)

23 Grain for railway eaters? (3)

TOMATOES A' GROW GROW!



Growing your own tomatoes is economical and fun. If you are not confident with sowing seed then buy tomato plants from a garden centre. Choose healthy looking ones with deep green leaves and check carefully for signs of pests. Reject any with dead, yellow or broken leaves and any with blueish leaves – a sign that the plant has been kept too cold.

The advantage of growing from seed is a wider choice of shapes, sizes and colours as well as heritage varieties. However, tomato seeds and seedlings need lots of light and constant heat to grow well and the process takes around 9 weeks from sowing to planting out, as follows: -

- Sow the seed thinly on top of a tray of compost and top with a sprinkling of vermiculite (Vermiculite is a mineral which aids rooting)
- Place the tray in a shallow container of tepid tap water until the vermiculite becomes damp and darkens
- Drain and keep warm until the seedlings appear
- When the first pair of true leaves fully open (these leaves look like tomato leaves) lift each one by a leaf and transplant each seedling into its own 9cm/3.5" pot filled with fresh compost
- Plant the seedlings so that the lower leaves rest just above the level of the compost
- Firm gently and water by standing in a shallow container as directed above
- After the plants have been in pots for 4 weeks, start feeding with liquid tomato feed as directed on the container
- When the roots peep through the bottom of the pot it is time to consider planting in the final position

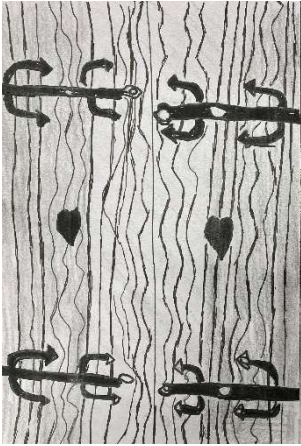
If the plants are to be grown outdoors, they need to be gradually introduced to outdoor temperatures. For 2 weeks before planting out, leave the pots outside in a sheltered sunny spot during the day and bring indoors/under cover at night. Wait for a spell of mild weather to plant outside.

If you are growing an indoor variety, pot on either into the greenhouse beds, growbag or large pots. Feed and water as required.

Tomatoes can be picked and eaten from the time they turn orange but the flavour develops more if you leave them to ripen fully on the vines. Wait until the tomato is a good deep red (deep yellow if yellow fruited).

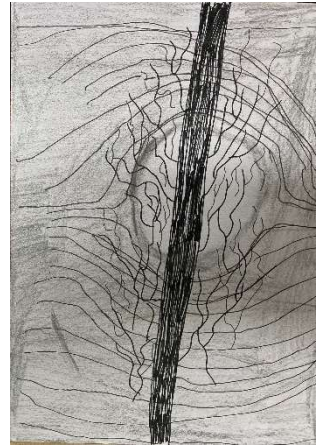
To pick a tomato, look for the "knuckle", which looks like a bent finger-joint on the stem just above where it joins the tomato. Put your finger on top of the bend and press it down flat. The fruit will snap cleanly away leaving the green leafy calyx attached to the fruit. Picked this way the fruit stays fresh for several days.

Happy Growing
The Theoretical Gardener



**SHALFORD PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

**By: JENNIFER PENNEY
HEAD OF SCHOOL**



The children in Chestnut Class have been studying the famous Poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. We have a beautiful copy of the poem in school with illustrations by Charles Keeping. The children were asked to write a sequel to the original poem. We hope you enjoy reading them - we were really proud of what they achieved. Casement artwork by DK in Year 5 and tree artwork by SB in Year 5.

Sequels to 'The Highwayman' poem by Alfred Noyes
'The Highway Ghost' written by ET (year 6)

- I The wind was a serrated knife-edge, cutting down ghostly trees.
The moon was a milky egg-white, whisked into cloudy seas.
The road was a gypsy's ribbon, draped on the purple moor,
And the highwayman's ghost came haunting – haunting – haunting,
The highwayman's ghost came haunting, up to the stable door.*
- II He'd a French-cocked hat on his forehead, some ghostly lace at his chin.
He'd a coat of wavering moonlight, and breeches of grey doe-skin.
An army he was not leading, and his ghost was eternally bleeding.
The vampire bats would be feeding, but not on his bleeding chest.*
- III Tim, the ostler, screamed and ran, as the ghost bore down on him.
The Highwayman glared on, from under his ghostly hat-rim.
Tim let out a guttural cry, as he tripped on a fallen log.
His body went tumbling down, into the marshy bog.*
- IV The ghostly rapier flashed, and life was done with Tim.
Vampire bats bore down on the carcass, slowly devouring him.
The ghost gave an unearthly cackle, as he galloped away to the west.
But as for tortured Tim, his spirit would never rest.*

'The Return of The Highwayman' written by JP (year 5)

- I *The sky was a sea of silver, among the flowers and trees.
The sun was a ball of fire, waking up the buzzing bees.
The field was a stretch of grassland, long and up to the thigh.
And the highwayman came floating - floating- floating.
The highwayman came floating, unaware that the end was nigh.*
- II *His skin was as pale as the moon, his eyes were brighter than white.
He had an aura of darkness and black, you can see him clear at night.
Over the field he floated, to the rickety old inn-door,
And who should be waiting there? George, the landlord's grandson,
Who was crying on the floor.*
- III *While the moon was dancing in the peaceful still of the night,
The highwayman crouched down and lay out the stolen prize.
The highwayman came floating – floating – floating,
Looking out for the ones who died.*
-

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LEST WE FORGET

By: Carl Muir

PILOT OFFICER JACK HAMAR R.A.F. DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS aged 26, killed accidentally during the Battle of Britain 24.07.1940, when his Hurricane Fighter Aircraft crashed on landing whilst approaching North Weald RAF Base, Essex.

Did you manage to get to a WW Remembrance Service recently, or maybe you saw it from Whitehall on tv? Ours at Shalford was held with Wethersfield's inside their Church. The Bugle sounding the Reveille and the loud recitation of the names of the local young men who died, echoed solemnly and poignantly along the high rafters. Through the summer of 1940, the air battle for Britain's survival was fought in the skies above Essex and Kent. The flat fields helped the rapid building of new runways across the countryside. At Stansted the excavations revealed the remains of a Stone Age village. North Weald was the main Fighter Base responsible for North London and the Thames Estuary, while the more famous Biggin Hill protected south of that line. The enemy sought out the location of the airfields rapidly to destroy our aircraft on the ground. There were many ground staff fatalities from their frequent bombings, in addition to the continuous daily death of the pilots. These were already outnumbered approximately three to one, and worse still, many of the aircraft that the RAF could muster, were grossly inferior in speed and manoeuvrability. That's saying politely that we sent up many brave young men to fight for us in aircraft approaching obsolescence. In fact, when the Battle of Britain commenced, the enemy's Messerschmitt 109 was more advanced than any of our aircraft. Dreadful things happened like the attack on the small maternity hospital in Epping. Suitable young RAF volunteer pilots were arriving in East Anglia after training in Canada, also coming from the Commonwealth and Poland. Jack Hamar from North Wales had joined up before the war. He had already shown prowess at speed by racing motorbikes and cars. When that fateful day arrived in July, he was already a Superman having shot down six Nazi fighters singlehanded. There had been a big party in the Mess the week before as the Powers-That-Be had messaged he'd been awarded the DFC for "conspicuous gallantry". The "gong" as they called it, arrived the day before the emergency. He must have had the reflexes of a cat or maybe a prize boxer in winning such battles requiring the ability to dodge, twist, dive, keep on looking in all directions and not lose concentration for a split second, and still react instantly when he succeeded in drawing an enemy aircraft into his line of fire. Late afternoon, the Observer Corps (who watched our coast 24/7 for intruders) reported an unidentified aircraft crossing the coast at Felixstowe. There was heavy rain, no I.D. lights. Two planes left North Weald at once – Squadron Leader Donaldson and P.O. Hamar who usually accompanied "his boss" when in a flight of twos. They had a habit of finishing their joint flights landing together with a flourish, including doing a rapid side roll. On this occasion, after only a few minutes, the mystery aircraft was identified as British, and the North Weald mission aborted, the RAF pair hurried home. P.O. Hamar came in first. His senior officer glanced across seeing the other fighter begin a side roll. He screamed on the intercom (the Squadron Leader's subsequent Personal Report) "YOU ARE COMING IN TOO SLOW AND TOO LOW!".

The young man's Hurricane stalled and crashed, killing the pilot at once. No one could offer why such a physically gifted and well experienced flyer lost his concentration. It was known that young men after repeated combat with people around them getting killed, were subject to sudden fatigue – may be that.

Three months later, his mother was presented the medal by the King at Buckingham Palace.

It's most unlikely anybody's heard of Jack Hamar in this area, but it's certain you've passed the crash spot many times. Picture the M11 going north after the M25 junction, first a mile long slope up, then a foot bridge, then a corrugated metal barn, left hand side. Just there.

In 2013, a charity - the Battle of Britain Trust - paid for a plaque to be made in memory of all the men who died, and presented to each man's entire school in an official ceremony

lest we forget





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About the Club

Welcome to Wethersfield Club – some of you may be familiar with the Club, but others may not. We thought you might like to know a bit more about us, with over 100 years of history in the Village of Wethersfield.



The Club is based under the Village Hall, a place that was first dug out in the early 1900's just after the First World War, then in 1922 it was shaped into the spacious place it is today. The space has been revamped several times over the years, and we now offer a warm and friendly atmosphere to come and have a drink. As the saying nearly goes 'we are the only pub in the Village'!

Because we are a 'not for profit organisation' we offer the best prices on drinks locally, and if you join as a Member you will receive even better prices! We currently have around 130 Members, some of whom have been with us for many years.

The Club is a Committee-run organisation, with Derek Martin currently acting Chair, Dave Price the Treasurer and Julia Broad the Club Secretary. They are supported by several residents of the Village to keep the Club moving in the right direction. Julia also organises the bar and bar staff who help provide a friendly environment for people to have a drink and socialise.

We welcome members and non-members, we are family and dog friendly, and offer many facilities available to use at any time, ranging from a full size snooker table, pool and two dart boards, to Scrabble, crib and chess amongst others.



Scrabble, crib and chess clubs actually meet on a Tuesday evening if you would like to join them.

Also on a Tuesday evening we have Ladies Night, (gents are allowed!), which provides an opportunity for a chat and drink for an hour or two. This is from 5.45/6.00 pm for as long as you would like to stay. Of course, ladies are also welcome at any other time!



We always try and support small local breweries for some of our ales, including Shalford Brewery, so another good reason to come and visit the Club! We do have 2 TVs so big sporting occasions and other events can be shown – many joined us for the World Cup games in December, even though we didn't get past France! We are currently showing the England games for the Six Nations Rugby, come and cheer on the team. As we move forward we are looking to bring Saturday nights back into play with entertainment, quizzes, etc. Two events planned at present are:

Saturday 11 March – eyes down for another bingo night – big prizes and lots of fun.
Saturday 29 April – another of our quiz nights, which are always popular.

We hope you can make a note of these dates and look forward to seeing you. More events are being planned so keep an eye on our Facebook page and Website for future events. We are also planning to offer food in the near future, again watch this space!

If you are looking to use the Club for a party, charity event, specialised theme night or anything else you think our venue would be suitable for then please get in contact and we'll be more than happy to work with you on your event. There is no charge for Members to use the Club for an event, with a small fee to hire the facilities for non-Members.

There's plenty of room so you won't be pushed for space and we also have a stage area if you're thinking of having a band or DJ for your party. Added side rooms are available if you wanted to serve food and obviously we have a well-stocked bar to keep your guests happy.

If you would like to join the Club as a Member then please see our website : www.wethersfieldclub.co.uk, and click on the link to complete your details and join us going forward. Our current regular opening times are shown below, we hope to see you soon!

MONDAY	5.00 – 11.00 PM
TUESDAY	5.00 – 11.00 PM
WEDNESDAY	CLOSED
THURSDAY	CLOSED
FRIDAY	5.00 – 12.00 PM
SATURDAY	CLOSED
SUNDAY	4.00 – 7.00 PM



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SHALFORD VILLAGE MAGAZINE

HAS IT A FUTURE?

A Community Decision

BY COMPLETING AND RETURNING
THIS PULL-OUT QUESTIONNAIRE

YOU HAVE A VOICE

HAVE YOUR SAY

WAYS OF RETURNING THE QUESTIONNAIRE

- **Email:** shalford_village_magazine@btinternet.com
- **Post/by hand:** Alice Cox, Farthings, Water Lane,
Jaspers Green, CM7 5BB
- **Collection Boxes:** Collections boxes have been placed at:
Shalford Shop
St Andrew's Church
The George Pub
- **By hand to:** Alice Cox, Mel Fray, Marianna Marriott,
Sally Welsh, Mac Beanland

VILLAGE MAGAZINE – HAS IT A FUTURE?

By: Alice Cox, Editor

March 2023 is my 16th issue of Shalford Village Magazine - approaching two years! Not surprisingly (in these difficult times); it is no longer feasible to fund the magazine from existing revenue streams and difficult decisions have to be made. Should the magazine fold, go online, target a specific smaller sector of the Community, or strive to continue by seeking other sustainable funding revenue streams? Before making these difficult decisions it is vital to gather sufficient relevant data so that the right decision is made and this is the reason for reaching out to you. To date, funding has been achieved by obtaining grants from Shalford Parish Council, District Councillors, receiving donations from various sources including St Andrew's PCC. In addition a large percentage of funding has been raised by selling advertising space in the magazine to businesses.

The printing cost per issue is less than the average cost of a cup of coffee but it does escalate significantly when 400 copies are ordered to cover every household. **SO**, when considering what the future is for the magazine – which direction it should take - the first questions that come to mind are:-

- Is the magazine wanted/valued by the **majority** or **minority** of villagers?
- What percentage is read and enjoyed and what percentage goes straight in the bin?
- Is the Magazine beneficial to the Community of Shalford?

and **only the villagers** can answer these questions. Let's be positive and assume that the magazine is wanted by the **majority**, the next questions to be answered are:-

How Will It Be Funded?

Unfortunately, the revenue gained from selling advertising space and securing grants no longer covers current printing costs. The only way to continue to deliver to every household in the village is to ask for a token donation of, say, £1.50 per issue (£15 per annum per household), and sourcing the difference from advertising, grants, fund raising activities etc. Shalford Village Magazine does have its own Community Bank Account and all monies received are credited to that bank account. The only withdrawals are to pay printing costs. All other costs are covered by Volunteers donating their time and expertise for free. If the Magazine did receive excessive funds (unlikely in the current economic climate) then the extra funds would be invested back into Shalford's Community.

Have We Enough Volunteers to cover?

Editing: Funding: Advertising: Marketing: Accounts: Admin: Content: – *I must say thank you here to everyone who sends in their valued contributions making the Magazine so varied.*

How Do We Distribute?

Currently, distribution is the strongest aspect of the Magazine and we are extremely grateful to every one of our distributors.

SO, with the foregoing in mind, I have devised the following short questionnaire and hope that a very **high majority** of you take time out to complete and return it. If you want the Magazine to continue - *have your say, it counts! This will allow us to make our decisions based on sound facts.*

SHALFORD VILLAGE MAGAZINE - HAVE YOUR SAY

	YES	NO
I value and enjoy reading the magazine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would like the magazine to continue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would be willing to contribute £15 per annum per household	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel the magazine is beneficial to Shalford's Community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would be willing to volunteer to help	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
to source advertising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
to source funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
to source content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
to help distribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

WAYS OF RETURNING THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE

- **Email:** shalford_village_magazine@btinternet.com
- **Post/by hand:** **Alice Cox, Farthings, Water Lane,
Jaspers Green, CM7 5BB**
- **Collection Boxes:** - **Collections boxes have been placed in:
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St Andrew's Church
The George Pub**
- **By hand to:** **Alice Cox, Mel Fray, Marianna Marriott,
Sally Welsh, Mac Beanland**

In order to give us sufficient time to analysis responses received before April's issue of the Magazine, we would appreciate it if you would return the completed questionnaire by **18th March 2023.**

PLEASE NOTE: The continuance of the Magazine does rely on a high percentage of villagers confirming they want it by responding to this request and are willing to contribute. *Please turn to the next page should you wish to comment further.*

***Many thanks for completing
this questionnaire***

Your Comments/Contact Details (optional)

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Zumba with Deanna



What is Zumba?

Zumba is a Latin dance-based fitness programme which features high and low intensity intervals that help improve cardio fitness. Each class is choreographed to upbeat and high energy music; and by moving to the beat of the music it also helps to improve endurance, co-ordination, and agility. It is a fun, full body workout, starting at your fingers, arms, shoulders and going right down to your feet.

When you are dancing with the group, you really don't feel like you're in an exercise class, but the calories and fat burnt would say otherwise. It really is such a fun way to work out and you are completely in control of the effort you put into it; you really can tailor each class to your own fitness and comfortability levels. Listen to your body and let the music guide you.

Zumba fitness also provides exposure to a great social and fun environment which helps you to make some new friends along the way. So, you can burn calories, enjoy the Latin fused dance moves and create new friendships all in one class; it really is a winning combination.

How I became a Zumba instructor:

I went to my very first class in 2012 and fell in love with it instantly, I was hooked and continued to go to weekly classes for the next 10 years!

After being made redundant from my Office Manager job of 29 years, I was at a loss as to where I wanted to go in my career, but I knew I didn't want to go back to the office 9 to 5. With Covid in full swing I decided to fill my time with an online course to help me decide where to go next but had no idea what to study or what I wanted that next step to be. Then it hit me, my love for Zumba was really what saved me during those Covid lockdowns, it brought me so much joy not just then but for all those years I've been going. What if I could help bring that joy to other people and find a job that allowed me to do what I loved? So I enrolled, I

trained hard and got that qualification ready for when the moment lockdowns eased up and face to face classes could start again. It was a scary move to make but I haven't looked back.

I instructed my first class on 18th May 2021 and have grown my classes since then, also helping to fill in and cover classes for other instructors in the local area. Currently instructing 3 classes a week. Monday at Lindsell Village Hall, Tuesday at Stebbing Village Hall and Thursday at The Millennium Hall in Great Saling all at 10.30am. Then from the 8th February, you can also find me running a class in Fritch Community Hall at 6.30pm on a Wednesday evening.

Zumba is great for your mind, body and soul and I can't wait to see you at my next class. You can find me on Facebook (Zumba with Deanna) and Instagram (Zumbawithdeanna) Or look me up on the neighbourhood website under Zumba Fitness with Deanna.

Alternatively for more information you can ring or text me on 07984 638502.



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Shalford Parish Council by Samantha Batt

Introducing.....Jill Boot

A huge warm welcome to our new Parish Clerk, Jill Boot. Jill has joined us after a short handover with Michelle and has previous experience from another local parish council. Please do contact Jill on the usual email address clerk@shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk



Elections are coming up....



Local elections are approaching fast (4th May) and we currently have a vacancy for someone to join our team as a Parish Councillor. If you think you might be interested then please contact Jill.

Ahead of the election, please remember that you will now need id in order to vote in person. If you don't have any id then you can apply for a free voter authority certificate by 25th April. If you plan to vote by post, then you need apply by 18th April. Further information can be found at braintree.gov.uk.

As the weather improves Lol will be out and about much more so please do raise any issues.



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Creating a transport strategy for Braintree

You may have read about Essex Highways and Braintree's future transport strategy. This is being approached in 'zones' and we in Shalford fall into Zone 3. You can read more about this at the address below. You can also share your views at the consultation address also below. Links to this will also be on our Facebook page.

Zone 3 (Strategic Corridors)

In Zone 3, there will be a focus on capacity improvements to support strategic growth within Braintree's wider area and promote sustainable travel alternatives for medium/long-distance trips. The Strategic Corridors should facilitate reliable and sustainable connections between the town centre and the wider suburban and rural areas of Braintree – given Braintree's strategic locations as a crossroads within Essex. There should be a greater shift towards public transport. Investment should be made for sustainable transport packages which could be implemented alongside road capacity improvements schemes to improve journey times on the roads and alleviate congestion and rat-running through the town centre.

<https://www.essexhighways.org/braintree-town-future-transport-strategy>

<https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/essex-highways/braintree-future-transport/>

Council meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mandy, Adrian, Sam, Andrew M, Andrew H, Neil & Jill

NATURE NOTES – HIBERNATION

BY: MAC BEANLAND



Have you ever stopped to think about Hibernation? It's something I have often marvelled over but never bothered to study in any depth, how can a living creature just go to sleep for a lengthy period and survive without food or water?

There are several states of hibernation, the true mammal hibernators which we find in the UK are all insect feeders and their food source disappears during the colder months so they have very little option but to feed to excess in times of plenty, put on extra body fat

then go to sleep through the lean times and live on their fat.

The classic examples are all the varieties of Bats. They can be found hanging upside down in dark sheltered places from September to April. Churches are well known roosts for bats along with old cottages, farm buildings and caves. They could even spend months in a fridge we can vouch for them in St Andrew's, the pews have to be swept regularly due to the droppings.

During hibernation, bats reduce their breathing rate to five breaths per minute. A hedgehog reduces its heart rate beat from 190 to 20, a dormouse's blood temperature reduces to 1 degree above freezing but even more remarkable are frogs, toads and some of the reptiles. Frogs hibernate at the bottom of ponds or sometimes like toads under a rock. They sometimes get frozen in a block of ice and thaw out - no problem! Toads hibernating in your garden can appear dead to the world but if disturbed will look at you with one eye, then close it and be fast asleep again. Bears are rather unique they live through the winter individually in their den living on body fat reserves. Brown bears even give birth in mid-winter without food or water and female polar bears go into hibernation with twin cubs and breast feed them right through the winter. But I can tell you from first-hand experience some of those poor old females are in very poor shape when they emerge and are extremely dangerous and ruthless in their hunt for food.

Getting back to more gentle creatures. Ladybirds creep into cracks in our window and cracks in tree bark where they huddle in hordes. Other flying insect retreat to sheltered places to see out the winter. They replace their blood with antifreeze of glycol. These include some of our most brilliant butterflies the peacock, small brimstone, and painted lady. Yet another group of hibernators including red squirrels some mice and even bumble bees build up a store of food then slow down their metabolism and go to sleep waking up from time to time for a feed just to keep themselves going. This seems to me as my favoured option as I get older and during the recent cold spell you could say I was almost there wrapped up keeping warm and moving to feed my face!



1953 THE EAST COAST FLOODS

BY: MAC BEANLAND



The News of the last few days of the 70th anniversary of the East Coast floods has brought a lot of memories back to me.

I was born and reared in the suburbs of Nottingham which, in those days, were very industrial and not the healthiest place to live, with poor air quality, smoke and grime. 70% of my pals at school suffered from asthma, bronchitis and other problems and, my brother and I were no exception; and our father was most concerned about it.

We had very little money, he was a fitter in a garage but he also worked evenings and weekends repairing cars for people in the garage at the side of our house so that we could have a small caravan on a static site at Ingoldmells near Skegness on the East coast. Every school holiday, Dad would pack Mother and us two boys off to the caravan so that we got the sea air and sunshine, and he would come and spend Saturday night and Sunday with us. My brother was 7 years younger than me and I soon got fed up keeping him amused, building sand castles, so aged 11, I managed to get a holiday job helping at the riding school which was part of Butlins Holiday camp.

The following year I started to go to work on local farms with the two grown up sons of the owner of our caravan site Derek and Louis. Mostly Derek, he taught me to drive a tractor and his boss gave me some tractor driving jobs and I loved it. I never got paid, that didn't bother me. August 1952 I left school coming up to my 14th birthday in November. I did go to the caravan for the last time and started work on the farm close to home straight after the holiday.

January 1953 the big storm struck. It was a few days later we got news to say our caravan was floating but still in the field, so at the weekend Dad borrowed the firm's van which had a drawbar on it and he and I drove down to Ingoldmells to collect the caravan. Derek had one of the tractors from the farm and winched it out of the field which, by that time, was a sea of thick brown mud and we got it hitched onto the van. He then asked me "Would I stay and help with flood relief work?". I went to a phone which was still working and rang my boss to ask for time off work and he said "Stay as long as they need you", so there I stayed. For me it was a bit of an adventure - yes it was hard the first week. I didn't have a change of clothes the WRVS kept us fed all day with as many WD survival tins as we wanted. These contained chocolate, Horlicks tablets, cigarettes, and self-heating tins of instant hot malted milk drinks I swapped all my cigarettes for chocolate.

I spent the whole time driving a big old Minneapolis-moline tractor with a winch on the back dragging caravans and other obstacles out of the way of Wimpey's contractors who were trying to create a temporary sea wall to keep the sea out. The damage and destruction were unbelievable but unlike other parts of the East Coast there was very little loss of life: only one couple of elderly people who were sleeping in a bungalow which was supposed to be for summer occupancy only perished. The whole of that stretch of coast for about five miles was either Butlins Holiday camp, static caravans, or holiday bungalows. The sea wall consisted of

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narrow sand dunes with large concrete steps with a concave solid concrete top. That one spring tide completely demolished it. Massive concrete sections tossed about like bits of Lego. I witnessed the joint effort of two large D8 bulldozers and a 30 ton drag line fail to move one section of concrete back in line. I will always respect the power of the sea and never take it for granted. For me the whole thing was a wonderful experience. I was the only youngster working there and I was treated as an adult member of a team except for a few perks from the WRVS ladies.



THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

BY: KEN MCDONALD,

Secretary

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) recently published analysis of the 2021 Census. Nationally, this showed that the population of England grew by 6% in the last 10 years and 14% over the last 20 years. Locally, the increase has been much faster. The population of The Hundred Parishes in 2021 was around 156,000, up 12% since 2011 and 24% since 2001. If roads seem busier, these extra 30,000 people are a major factor.

Half of the increase is accounted for by 6 parishes close to Stansted Airport. Elsenham, Flich Green, Great Dunmow, Little Canfield, Stansted Mountfitchet and Takeley have each expanded by more than 50% in the last 20 years. The next biggest growth has been in Buntingford: up from 4,300 in 2001 to 7,900.

The Census is the modern equivalent of the Domesday Book produced in 1086 AD when the national population was less than 2 million, compared to 60 million today.

Today, 8% of the Hundred Parishes population was born outside the UK (compared to 17% in the whole of England and Wales); 10% of homes are flats (v 22%); 36% of houses have 4 or more bedrooms (v 21%); 27% of homes are rented (v 37%); 40% of adults work at home (v 31%); 55% are in professional or managerial jobs (v 46%); 56% of households have 2 or more vehicles (v 35%). We have a different age mix to the UK average, with a shortfall of around 5,000 people in their 20s and 30s offset by around 5,000 extra people aged over 40.

While the previous paragraph highlights contrasts, some statistics are closely aligned with the national picture: 99% of households have central heating; 5% of households have a second home; 51% of the population is female and 49% male.

Each parish introduction on www.hundredparishes.org.uk has been updated to include the 2021 population. For more information, please go to <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census>

SHALFORD LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

By: Sally Welsh

The Association has been busy throughout 2022 and continues to be busy into 2023 with a number of projects and events.

Last year members of the Committee enjoyed putting on a presentation about different aspects of the 1950s as part of the Jubilee celebrations as well as having a table of curiosities at the Fete the next day. In September we were very pleased to welcome back Dr Vernon Williams with an updated version of his documentary film *Dry Gulcher Down* – the story of the B-17 that crashed in Shalford in 1944. The day began with a memorial service at St Andrew’s churchyard and included readings from local children. In the evening a presentation of the documentary at which local residents were awarded medals posthumously for their bravery in attempting to rescue the crew was very well attended. The year ended with a small exhibition about the festive season in Shalford at a lovely event to celebrate the switching on of the Christmas lights.



For 2023 we have a number of events and projects that we are looking forward to. Some of these are ongoing research projects and some are definite events, the biggest of which is our plan for Remembrance in November. You will have seen our appeal for plastic bottles which we will be using to make poppies for an ‘art installation’ in the church grounds. We already have around 300 but do please keep collecting as the more we have the more impressive it will look. Bottles can be dropped off at:

Barnsdale, The Street, Shalford
(Barbara/Alison)
Hawthorns, Jaspers Green (Sally)
Meet and Greet
Shalford Bowls Club, Tuesday evenings
7.30 – 9.15 pm



We hope to have 1 or 2 community days nearer the time to assemble them. Shalford craft group will be creating crocheted/knotted poppies to decorate the inside of the church. We will have an exhibition about the men of Shalford who lost their lives in both World Wars and are currently looking into the service of 3 men from Shalford who served in the Royal Marines: Pat Waring, Bob Porter and John Tarbin. Any help in researching these three men would be greatly appreciated. Sam has been busy researching the family of Thomas Rumsey, son of Thomas and Eliza Rumsey, who served in the Navy but died in a naval hospital from an appendicitis which is why he is buried in St Andrew’s churchyard.

An email was received recently asking if we had any information on the Foote family. Nathaniel Foote (1592 – 1644), born in Shalford was one of the party that founded Wethersfield in Connecticut with his wife also from Shalford, Elizabeth Deming. An ancestor of his is planning to visit this year and is looking for information about life in Shalford before Nathaniel's departure and any descendants.

Our committee meetings are now held every 4th Tuesday of the month (except August and December) in the George at 2 pm. Any one is welcome if they are interested in helping us to plan and organise events that celebrate the history of our village. We are currently looking at ways to improve the organisation of our archive and access to it. If you've any experience in this area please do let us know – we would love some help. We would also welcome anyone with IT skills to help set up and maintain a website for us. In the meantime, please consider joining our Facebook group which can be found by searching Shalford Local History Association.

As mentioned, the Landlord of The George has very kindly given us permission to use the pub for our monthly meetings. Landlord Paul has asked us if we can find out more about the pub's history and to see if it has always been called the George. We do love a history mystery! In the summer we have a guided tour of Bocking Windmill followed by afternoon tea to look forward to.



Other projects that we are looking in to include the history of Stoneley Park (watch this space for a possible resurrection of the Shalford Mile involving the Park), the location of water pumps about the village and the history of certain Shalford houses. For the Shalford Summer fete on 10 June the Association will be giving villagers the chance to try out some old fashioned games: everything from marbles to shove ha'penny. Again we would welcome help with this so if you have any games that we could borrow please do let us know.

Carol has been doing a sterling job in interviewing local residents about their memories of the late Queen and also about general Shalford memories. Carol is always looking to interview so do get in touch if you know anyone. She is very friendly!



Finally, on 22 March we have a talk by local historian Mike Bardell called The Only Way is Essex. Mike will be taking us on a magical mystery tour of our wonderful county looking at the people, places and general quirks and curiosities that make up our unique history and geography. The talk starts at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall and will be preceded by our optional AGM at 7 pm. Tickets are £2 on the door and will include a hot drink and biscuit afterwards.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like more information or think you can help, please e-mail us at

historyshalford@gmail.com or call Sally on 07785 235000 or Vic on 07773 707404



STOP WETHERSFIELD AIRFIELD PRISONS

REWILDING • RENEWABLES • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

NEWS FROM SWAP

ROADS DOCU-VIDEO HIGHLIGHTING DANGERS

We launched a new video highlighting the dangers of the rural road network in the area, most notably how impossible it is to mitigate the narrow, winding roads and blind spots, visit this link to watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FyPP_LqJ4kw.

At the Chorley prison appeal Chorley Council said this: “The issue of highway safety is one which national policy rightly highlights as an area of critical importance. An unacceptable impact on highway safety is one of the only times that a decision-maker is entitled to refuse an application without going any further (NPPF paragraph 111)”.

Time for Essex County Council/Essex Highways, Braintree District Council and James Cleverly to make this so obvious point, about highway safety on the rural road network miles around Wethersfield Airbase, to Dominic Raab and put an end to the blight hanging over our communities. Let the parishes decide on the future of the Airbase through their proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

INTO THE NATIONALS

The Sunday Telegraph focussed on the folly of the proposed prisons proposal online and in the paper on the 29th January, see the article here <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/01/28/mega-prisons-plan-threatens-idyllic-essex-villages/> or take a look on local Facebook sites.

“It’s not fair” ...well DO SOMETHING... Cleverly, Butland.

SWAP uncovered several interesting items that the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) had to reveal at the Harborough Planning Appeal (for a new prison next to HMP Gartree). Amongst which was the MoJ’s strategy on new prisons, particularly that Wethersfield Airfield was a back-up site, or for a “future programme” and that it would take 10 years to build two prisons up there!!!!

The last Braintree District Council Full Council meeting took place on the 3rd of January, held over from the 12th of December due to the snow.

Questions are provided to the Council before the meetings, so the Council had possession of this one in early December: “when did the Council first become aware of the fact that the Ministry of Justice was using Wethersfield Airbase as a “back-up”, or for a “future programme”?

Lo and behold, at last some action from our Council. In late December, the Leader said he would be sending a letter to the Secretary of State for Justice to ask for an update as soon as possible, “so we can understand their future plans and impress upon the Secretary of State the need to share those plans with the local community at the earliest opportunity.”.....”It is not fair for our local communities to continue to face the current uncertainty.” One could be unkind and ask who started all this uncertainty?

When the question was finally asked at the January meeting, the Leader of the Council, who always answers questions put down about the Airfield, said “this Council has never been formally notified as to the role of any proposal that Wethersfield Airbase plays within the MoJ’s prison program although we note the position expressed at its appeals by the MoJ and its specifically that approach which led me to write to the Secretary of State on the 22nd of December about these proposals to say it was putting an unfair blight upon the area and needs to be sorted.”

Our MP, James Cleverly is apparently doing similar. We are waiting for the replies, but not with bated breath.

Contaminated... but don’t tell anyone, it might affect future prison builds or getting value for money!!!!

The Chair of WASC talks more of contamination below. However, SWAP funded the testing of samples which were sent to an accredited laboratory in Europe for the testing of toxic per and poly fluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS, also known as “Forever Chemicals”, look the references up, it will make you feel pretty uncomfortable). The test on a pond fed by a ditch from the Airfield was more than 4x the regulatory limit – it is likely to have resulted from firefighting foam used all over the Airfield. Bearing in mind that the proposed prisons sit in the Pant Water Catchment Area and the River Pant feeds drinking water to millions of residents...

It is not just Forever Chemicals, napalm was made on the base and stored in drums, de-foliant was kept in drums (we understand these may have been buried on the Airfield) toxic degreasing agent (trichloroethylene) is also believed buried, whilst the base held nuclear weapons and other ordnance. A question was asked about contamination at the last Council meeting. It sounded like the Council was not much aware of what may lie up on the Airfield and the Ministry of Justice does not want to tell anyone what it has found so far in its surveys because, it says “This information is commercially sensitive, and release would prejudice the Authority’s negotiating position on the project. Release would also prejudice the Authority’s negotiating position and ability to achieve value for money in future prison builds. Release could also prejudice the MoD’s ability to achieve value for money should they choose to sell the land to another party.”

An appalling position to adopt and reflective of the MoJ’s approach so far to requests for information, or to engage in the slightest.

Alan MacKenzie
Chair, Stop Wethersfield Airfield Prisons (SWAP)

AN UPDATE FROM WASC (WETHERSFIELD AIRFIELD SCRUTINY COMMITTEE)

James Cleverly, MP

A small number of WASC representatives met with our MP, James Cleverly, before Christmas to update him on our work with the hope he will pass our concerns and findings on to relevant Government departments. It was reassuring to find he has a solid understanding, not only of the inadequate road network but also how the job market in the Braintree District is not in need of such a prison, it has some of the highest employment rates in the country. He was very interested in learning more about some of the possible alternative uses we have been investigating, from a community-owned solar farm to a mixture of community-owned housing and workspaces. Mr Cleverly could understand that some of the uses we are investigating could be used as a showcase or template that could be replicated throughout other parts of the country. Disappointingly, his constant approach to planning applications is not to get involved and his role as Foreign Secretary makes it unlikely we will ever hear any public disapproval for the plans from our MP.

TOXIC FOREVER CHEMICALS

SWAP have done an excellent job in testing the immediate water courses for PFAS chemicals or 'forever chemicals', their findings of extremely high levels of these toxic chemicals, 70 times higher than should be found, into our water courses is truly worrying. WASC have spoken to several experts on contaminated land, and it is clear there could be serious issues at Wethersfield from jet fuel, lubricants, PFAS chemicals to issues regarding the storage of nuclear weapons, plus of course anything else that could be buried up there. It seems inevitable WASC will have to engage a consultant on the matter. Having expert opinion will not only inform us of the possible threats our parishes may face but will also ensure we are able to hold the MoJ, Braintree District Council etc to account at every step of the way. WASC are currently clarifying the costings and scope of work with such experts now.

HISTORIC ENGLAND PROTECTION

Following preparation of a heritage report by consultants acting for WASC, an application has been submitted to Historic England (HE) seeking protection of some buildings/areas on the base through listing as buildings of special historic interest or scheduled monuments. This current application relates to the eight early Cold War Victor Alert hangars and associated weapons storage area (including several igloo structures used to store nuclear weapons) together with the American chapel. The application is currently under consideration by HE and does not preclude further measures at a later date seeking heritage protection on the base.

PLANNING FOR MEGA PRISONS AT OTHER SITES

The Technical Committee has been monitoring planning appeals involving mega prisons at other sites across the country. These have implications for Wethersfield both in terms of alleged need and the decision-making process. The Inspector for HMP Garth (Chorley) has issued his decision letter which recommends the Secretary of State to dismiss the appeal and refuse permission. The Secretary of State has decided to invite the MoJ to submit further proposals relating to highway safety on the basis that he is minded to grant permission, notwithstanding the Inspector's recommendations. This decision emphasises that a decision

will be based on a balance of competing harms/benefits (which itself is highly subjective and in the hands of the decision-maker) and illustrates the need for us to continue focusing on the work done on national interest (need) and socio-economic local interest as well as highway safety, ecology, heritage, landscape impact, countryside character, scale/design, alternative sites, contamination etc. The decision does at least demonstrate we're progressing on the right lines.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Meetings have been held with BDC to progress the Joint Finchingfield and Wethersfield Neighbourhood Plan (NP). As this would involve establishing planning policy for both parishes to include the base, Sible Hedingham and Toppesfield PCs were invited to become party to the NP to include the small elements of the base within those parishes. Whilst both had agreed this in principle Toppesfield have been advised to consider any resource/timing implications for their own NP which is currently well advanced. A meeting is to be arranged between PCs and BDC to discuss this issue and this has resulted in a delay in submitting the joint NP area application to BDC for approval until the precise NP boundary is settled.

Andrew Hull

Chairman, Wethersfield Airfield Scrutiny Committee (WASC)

--o0o--

LONGER HGVS ON OUR ROADS IMMINENT

Government is conducting a trial of the operation of longer semi-trailers (LST), articulated lorries. There are as many as 2800 such vehicles currently on our roads. While the trial continues projections suggest that in a decade's time about 16,000 LSTs could be operating - approximately 8 to 10% of the UK's domestic semi-trailer fleet.

The LSTs are about 6ft longer than the current maximum bringing a new maximum of about 61ft. There is no increase in the allowed weight. The government's view is that the additional capacity will result in fewer journeys and less pollution. This would of course be welcome but, these benefits might not be fully realised if the vehicles could not be filled to capacity for operational reasons.

However, there does not seem to be any recognition of the additional problems which could occur on narrow country lanes. As I understand it, LST use should largely be confined to major roads but 20% of a journey on other roads is allowable. Consequently, operators are permitted to visit sites distant from "A" roads. The prospect of these vehicles mixing on local roads with the existing substantial traffic levels, which include horses and riders and bicyclists is alarming. Essex Police in its document responding to the Wethersfield consultation makes the following comments:

Nationally rural roads have the highest level of loss of life through road traffic collisions. The Wethersfield site is in a rural part of Essex fed by B roads. Existing collision data on the B1053 highlights a high number of collisions involving injury over the past 5 years. The network of roads is not suitable to cope with the increased level of traffic during the construction or post-opening phase of the project without improvements.

Government believes that LSTs are no less safe than standard trailers. Whether this can be justified is debatable but there would be concern if they were allowed to operate on local roads, particularly in the event of the Wethersfield prison proposals being given the go ahead. Informed estimates suggest that there would be towards 3000 additional daily vehicle movements. On the B1053 there are a number of pinch points and narrow stretches of road where two standard HGVs travelling in opposite directions cannot safely pass. Any increase in traffic through these points would be potentially dangerous with the extra length of LSTs being a worsening factor: this will be of particular relevance where emergency vehicles are concerned.

While I am not aware that LSTs are operating or would be allowed to operate on local roads, I felt it advisable to try to ascertain the position of Braintree District and Essex County Council: I have written to them in this respect and am awaiting their replies. Suitable routes for LSTs should be identified by the Highways authority which should exclude country lanes and use by any access roads by Air base traffic.

Frank Easton

--o0o--

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you have a few hours to spare and would like to help WASC and SWAP fight the Mega Prisons proposal?

We are looking for people with a background in local planning, law, environmental issues, promotions, design, campaigning, research and everything in-between!

Please email swapmembership@outlook.com if you can help.

OTHER WAYS TO HELP

Spread the word (see social links at the bottom of this email).

Become part of the Fields Association and join as a [Community member](#).

[Donate](#) to the SWAP Campaign.

[Contact us](#) to offer any specialist expertise if you have it.

Write to your [elected representatives](#) and let them know your views.

DID YOU KNOW...

The traffic arriving from A roads to Wethersfield Airbase will travel along the B1053 from Braintree, or the B1053 from Finchingfield, or the Sible Hedingham Road and all routes have pinch points, narrowing of the road between ancient walls and buildings, where the roads cannot be widened. An HGV is three metres wide (including mirrors), so for two HGVs to pass on a road, 6 metres plus manoeuvring space of 0.8 metres - a total of 6.8 metres is required.

From data collected at construction sites of other prisons we can expect an increase in traffic of approximately 3000 vehicular movements each day, and a large proportion will be HGVs.

However, three examples in Wethersfield alone:

- The pinch point on Silver Street between Wethersfield School and Braintree Road is 5.3m wide.
- The High Street on the Sible Hedingham side of Wethersfield is 5.8m wide and with residents' cars parked there it is 3.9m wide.
- The narrowing of Braintree Road just south of Wethersfield, where the road rises and bends around a long, tall brick wall, is 5.5m wide.

None of these measurements reach the required 6.8 metres width.

The huge increase in numbers of HGVs that would be on these roads for the ten years of construction of two Mega Prisons would increase delays and dangers as traffic tries to move through each of these pinch points.



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History of aviation (cont)

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This article is about the history of aviation.

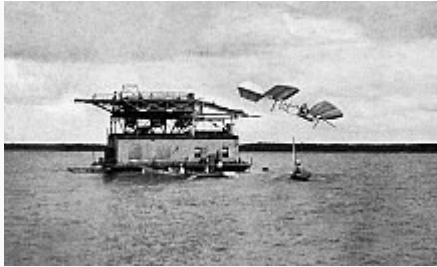
Frost

Main article: [William Frost](#)

William Frost from Pembrokeshire, [Wales](#) started his project in 1880 and after 16 years, he designed a flying machine and in 1894 won a patent for a "Frost Aircraft Glider". Spectators witnessed the craft fly at Saundersfoot in 1896, traveling 500 yards before colliding with a tree and falling in a field.^[71]

Langley^[edit]

Main article: [Samuel Pierpont Langley](#)



First failure of Langley's manned *Aerodrome* on the [Potomac River](#), 7 October 1903

After a distinguished career in [astronomy](#) and shortly before becoming Secretary of the [Smithsonian Institution](#), [Samuel Pierpont Langley](#) started a serious investigation into aerodynamics at what is today the [University of Pittsburgh](#). In 1891, he published *Experiments in Aerodynamics* detailing his research, and then turned to building his designs. He hoped to achieve automatic aerodynamic stability, so he gave little consideration to in-flight control.^[72] On 6 May 1896, Langley's *Aerodrome No. 5* made the first successful sustained flight of an unpowered, engine-driven heavier-than-air craft of substantial size. It was launched from a spring-actuated catapult mounted on top of a houseboat on the Potomac River near Quantico, Virginia. Two flights were made that afternoon, one of 1,005 metres (3,297 ft) and a second of 700 metres (2,300 ft), at a speed of approximately 25 miles per hour (40 km/h). On both occasions, the *Aerodrome No. 5* landed in the water as planned, because, in order to save weight, it was not equipped with landing gear. On 28 November 1896, another successful flight was made with the *Aerodrome No. 6*. This flight, of 1,460 metres (4,790 ft), was witnessed and photographed by [Alexander Graham Bell](#). The *Aerodrome No. 6* was actually *Aerodrome No. 4* greatly modified. So little remained of the original aircraft that it was given a new designation.

With the successes of the *Aerodrome No. 5* and *No. 6*, Langley started looking for funding to build a full-scale man-carrying version of his designs. Spurred by the [Spanish–American War](#), the U.S. government granted him \$50,000 to develop a man-carrying flying machine

for aerial reconnaissance. Langley planned on building a scaled-up version known as the **Aerodrome A**, and started with the smaller **Quarter-scale Aerodrome**, which flew twice on 18 June 1901, and then again with a newer and more powerful engine in 1903.

With the basic design apparently successfully tested, he then turned to the problem of a suitable engine. He contracted Stephen Balzer to build one, but was disappointed when it delivered only 8 hp (6.0 kW) instead of the 12 hp (8.9 kW) he expected. Langley's assistant, [Charles M. Manly](#), then reworked the design into a five-cylinder water-cooled radial that delivered 52 hp (39 kW) at 950 rpm, a feat that took years to duplicate. Now with both power and a design, Langley put the two together with great hopes.

To his dismay, the resulting aircraft proved to be too fragile. Simply scaling up the original small models resulted in a design that was too weak to hold itself together. Two launches in late 1903 both ended with the *Aerodrome* immediately crashing into the water. The pilot, Manly, was rescued each time. Also, the aircraft's control system was inadequate to allow quick pilot responses, and it had no method of lateral control, and the *Aerodrome's* aerial stability was marginal.^[72]

Langley's attempts to gain further funding failed, and his efforts ended. Nine days after his second abortive launch on 8 December, the [Wright brothers](#) successfully flew their *Flyer*. [Glenn Curtiss](#) made 93 modifications to the *Aerodrome* and flew this very different aircraft in 1914.^[72] Without acknowledging the modifications, the Smithsonian Institution asserted that Langley's *Aerodrome* was the first machine "capable of flight".^[73]

Whitehead[\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Gustave Whitehead](#)

Gustave Weißkopf was a German who emigrated to the U.S., where he soon changed his name to Whitehead. From 1897 to 1915, he designed and built early flying machines and engines. On 14 August 1901, two and a half years before the Wright Brothers' flight, he claimed to have carried out a controlled, powered flight in his [Number 21 monoplane](#) at [Fairfield](#), Connecticut. The flight was reported in the *Bridgeport Sunday Herald* local newspaper. About 30 years later, several people questioned by a researcher claimed to have seen that or other Whitehead flights.^[citation needed]

In March 2013, *Jane's All the World's Aircraft*, an authoritative source for contemporary aviation, published an editorial which accepted Whitehead's flight as the first manned, powered, controlled flight of a heavier-than-air craft.^[74] The [Smithsonian Institution](#) (custodians of the original *Wright Flyer*) and many aviation historians continue to maintain that Whitehead did not fly as suggested.^{[75][76]}

Pearse[\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Richard Pearse](#)

Richard Pearse was a New Zealand farmer and inventor who performed pioneering aviation experiments. Witnesses interviewed many years afterward claimed that Pearse flew and landed a powered heavier-than-air machine on 31 March 1903, nine months before the Wright brothers flew.^{[77]:21–30} Documentary evidence for these claims remains open to interpretation and dispute, and Pearse himself never made such claims. In a newspaper

interview in 1909, he said he did not "attempt anything practical ... until 1904".^[78] If he did fly in 1903, the flight appears to have been poorly controlled in comparison to the Wrights'.

Wright brothers^[edit]

Main article: *Wright brothers*



The *Wright Flyer*: the first sustained flight with a powered, controlled aircraft.

Using a methodical approach and concentrating on the controllability of the aircraft, the brothers built and tested a series of kite and glider designs from 1898 to 1902 before attempting to build a powered design. The gliders worked, but not as well as the Wrights had expected based on the experiments and writings of their predecessors. Their first full-size glider, launched in 1900, had only about half the lift they anticipated. Their second glider, built the following year, performed even more poorly. Rather than giving up, the Wrights constructed their own [wind tunnel](#) and created a number of sophisticated devices to measure lift and drag on the 200 wing designs they tested.^[79] As a result, the Wrights corrected earlier mistakes in calculations regarding drag and lift. Their testing and calculating produced a third glider with a higher [aspect ratio](#) and true three-axis control. They flew it successfully hundreds of times in 1902, and it performed far better than the previous models. By using a rigorous system of experimentation, involving wind-tunnel testing of airfoils and flight testing of full-size prototypes, the Wrights not only built a working aircraft the following year, the *Wright Flyer*, but also helped advance the science of aeronautical engineering.

The Wrights appear to be the first to make serious studied attempts to simultaneously solve the power and control problems. Both problems proved difficult, but they never lost interest. They solved the control problem by inventing [wing warping](#) for [roll](#) control, combined with simultaneous [yaw](#) control with a steerable rear rudder. Almost as an afterthought, they designed and built a low-powered internal combustion engine. They also designed and carved wooden propellers that were more efficient than any before, enabling them to gain adequate performance from their low engine power. Although wing-warping as a means of lateral control was used only briefly during the early history of aviation, the principle of combining lateral control in combination with a rudder was a key advance in aircraft control. While many aviation pioneers appeared to leave safety largely to chance, the Wrights' design was greatly influenced by the need to teach themselves to fly without unreasonable risk to life and limb, by surviving crashes. This emphasis, as well as low engine power, was the reason for low flying speed and for taking off in a headwind. Performance, rather than safety, was the reason for the rear-heavy design because the [canard](#) could not be highly

loaded; [anhedral](#) wings were less affected by crosswinds and were consistent with the low yaw stability.

MACHINE THAT FLIES
WHAT THE WRIGHT BROTHERS INVENTION HAS ACCOMPLISHED.

...solution seen in their solution of the problem of aerial flight—air sustained without aid of balloons, built on aeroplanes plan.

...of this machine is a flying machine that can fly without the aid of balloons or gas bags. It is a flying machine that can fly without the aid of balloons or gas bags. It is a flying machine that can fly without the aid of balloons or gas bags.

THE NEWARK ADVOCATE

Within weeks of the first powered flight, this Ohio newspaper described "what the [Wright Brothers'](#) invention has accomplished" — after years of glider tests, four successful flights in a powered flier that has "no balloon attachments of any kind, but is supported in the air by a pair of aerocurves, or wings", placing "[Santos-Dumont](#) and [Lebaudys](#), with their dirigible balloons... in eclipse".^[80]

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 1906

Another Attempt to Solve Aerial Navigation Problem

Flying Machine Invented by the Wright Brothers Sails Through the Air Without Aid of Balloon or Gas Bag—Working On It in Secret for Years.

...of this machine is a flying machine that can fly without the aid of balloons or gas bags. It is a flying machine that can fly without the aid of balloons or gas bags. It is a flying machine that can fly without the aid of balloons or gas bags.

WILBUR WRIGHT

This 1906 article describes how the Wrights' experiments were conducted in "strict secrecy for several years", with "not more than a dozen persons" being in on the secret.^[81] One insider stated that the brothers had "not sought for spectacular success", and instead described their "progressive accumulation of experiences", including gradual progression from gliders to powered flight, and from straight flights to circuits requiring turning the aeroplane.^[81] The account reported "some slight success in flying through the air at the end of the Summer of 1903".^[81] The Wrights were said to have solved flight control issues to achieve controlled turns on a one-mile circuit on 20 September 1904, followed by five-minute flights in the ensuing weeks, and a 24-mile, 38-minute flight in summer 1905.^[81]

According to the [Smithsonian Institution](#) and [Fédération Aéronautique Internationale](#) (FAI),^{[82][83]} the Wrights made the first sustained, controlled, powered heavier-than-air manned flight at [Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina](#), four miles (8 km) south of [Kitty Hawk, North Carolina](#) on 17 December 1903.^[84]

The first flight by [Orville Wright](#), of 120 feet (37 m) in 12 seconds, was recorded in a famous photograph. In the fourth flight of the same day, [Wilbur Wright](#) flew 852 feet (260 m) in 59 seconds. The flights were witnessed by three coastal lifesaving crewmen, a local businessman, and a boy from the village, making these the first public flights and the first well-documented ones.^[84]

Orville described the final flight of the day: "The first few hundred feet were up and down, as before, but by the time three hundred feet had been covered, the machine was under much better control. The course for the next four or five hundred feet had but little undulation. However, when out about eight hundred feet the machine began [pitching](#) again, and, in one of its darts downward, struck the ground. The distance over the ground was measured to be 852 feet (260 m); the time of the flight was 59 seconds. The frame supporting the front rudder was badly broken, but the main part of the machine was not injured at all. We estimated that the machine could be put in condition for flight again in about a day or two".^[85] They flew only about ten feet above the ground as a safety precaution, so they had little room to manoeuvre, and all four flights in the gusty winds ended in a bumpy and unintended "landing". Modern analysis by Professor Fred E. C. Culick and Henry R. Rex (1985) has demonstrated that the 1903 *Wright Flyer* was so unstable as to be almost unmanageable by anyone but the Wrights, who had trained themselves in the 1902 glider.^[86]

The Wrights continued flying at Huffman Prairie near [Dayton, Ohio](#) in 1904–05. In May 1904 they introduced the [Flyer II](#), a heavier and improved version of the original Flyer. On 23 June 1905, they first flew a third machine, the [Flyer III](#). After a severe crash on 14 July 1905, they rebuilt the Flyer III and made important design changes. They almost doubled the size of the [elevator](#) and rudder and moved them about twice the distance from the wings. They added two fixed vertical vanes (called "blinkers") between the elevators and gave the wings a very slight dihedral. They disconnected the rudder from the wing-warping control, and as in all future aircraft, placed it on a separate control handle. When flights resumed the results were immediate. The serious pitch instability that hampered Flyers I and II was significantly reduced, so repeated minor crashes were eliminated. Flights with the redesigned Flyer III started lasting over 10 minutes, then 20, then 30. Flyer III became the first practical aircraft (though without wheels and needing a launching device), flying consistently under full control and bringing its pilot back to the starting point safely and landing without damage. On 5 October 1905, Wilbur flew 24 miles (39 km) in 39 minutes 23 seconds."^[87]

According to the April 1907 issue of the [Scientific American](#) magazine,^[88] the Wright brothers seemed to have the most advanced knowledge of heavier-than-air navigation at the time. However, the same magazine issue also claimed that no public flight had been made in the United States before its April 1907 issue. Hence, they devised the Scientific American Aeronautic Trophy in order to encourage the development of a heavier-than-air flying machine.

**IN THE UNITED BENEFICE
of Finchingfield, Cornish Hall End, Shalford,
Wethersfield, Little And Great Bardfield
THE PANT VALLEY CHURCHES**



**Shalford
St Andrew's**



**Wethersfield
St Mary
Magdalene**



**Finchingfield
St John the
Baptist**



**Gt Bardfield
St Mary The
Virgin**



**Little
Bardfield
St Katharine**



**Cornish Hall
End
St John the
Evangelist**

From the Vicarage...

The last few weeks have seen the emergence of the first plans around the celebration of the coronation of King Charles. There will be much more to say about the coronation in the months to come, but as the Church year brings us this month into the season of Lent, there is an interesting connection to be made with these much anticipated celebrations.

A few years ago, there was an exhibition at Lambeth Palace Library celebrating the 350th anniversary of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, and its connections with successive monarchs. One of the exhibits was Queen Elizabeth's personal copy of the 1953 coronation service, annotated by the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Geoffrey Fisher. At the point of the crowning itself, the note in the margin reminded the Queen of the fact that Christ too wore a crown, but one made of thorns, rather than gold and jewels.

It is an opportunity for us to be reminded of how important it is for us to pray for our new King, and for all who hold offices of authority or status. So often, the grandeur and privilege of those roles are outweighed by their burdens, and one of the central messages of Jesus' teaching is that true leadership is always sacrificial in its nature. The outward gleam can often mask a painful reality.

At a moment in our times when challenges seem to be multiplying, it is easy for us to reach for judgement as our first reaction to events around us. Whilst it is right to speak out against injustices which need to be addressed, we should remember that the privilege of speaking out is accompanied by a responsibility for being part of the needed change. This is unlikely to give us a comfortable path to follow, but it is the path which offers up our comfort and convenience for the love of others. The greatest leaders are those who provide an example of this; may we live in such a way as to deserve such leadership.

Rev'd/Fr Alex

Friday 3 March

10.30am World Day of Prayer service –
Quaker Meeting House, Great Bardfield
2pm World Day of Prayer service –
Cornish Hall End

Sunday 5 March – Second Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield
9.30am Parish Communion – Shalford
10.30am Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End
10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield
11am Prayer & Pilgrimage – Wethersfield
(an informal service of reflection and discussion)
3pm Children’s Church – Wethersfield

Sunday 12 March – Third Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford
9.30am Sung Communion Service – Little Bardfield
10.30am Morning Service with Communion – Finchingfield
11am Family Service – Wethersfield
4pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

Sunday 19 March – Mothering Sunday

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield
9.30am Mothering Sunday Service – Shalford
10.30am Family Communion Service for Mothering Sunday – Great Bardfield
10.30am Family Service for Mothering Sunday – Finchingfield
4pm Healing Service – Cornish Hall End

Saturday 25 March – The Feast of the Annunciation

10am Sung Communion Service – Great Bardfield

Sunday 26 March – Fifth Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield
9.30am Morning Service – Shalford
10.30am Morning Prayer – Finchingfield
11am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield

Regular Services and Events during the week

- Monday** 8.45am Morning Prayer – Finchingfield
Tuesday 9am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield
Thursday 8.45am Morning Prayer – Wethersfield
10am Prayer Group (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)
Coffee Morning (2nd & 4th weeks) – Shalford Coffee Morning
(3rd week) – Cornish Hall End
10.30am Eucharist – Little Bardfield
Friday **8.45am Morning Prayer – Shalford**
Saturday 10.30am (3rd weeks) Coffee Morning – Wethersfield

**Come with your questions about faith...
... to The Finchingfield Lion at 8pm on Sundays, or The George, Shalford at 7pm on Mondays, all welcome to join our informal discussions about questions of faith.**

SHALFORD CHURCH OF ST ANDREW'S PANT VALLEY CHURCHES CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT



**Shalford
St Andrew's**



**Wethersfield
St Mary
Magdalene**



**Finchingfield
St John the
Baptist**



**Gt Bardfield
St Mary The
Virgin**



**Little
Bardfield
St Katharine**



**Cornish Hall
End
St John the
Evangelist**

I'm writing this in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in southern Turkey when all our news bulletins are full of images of despairing humanity, not only struggling with the loss of family and homes, but also cruel weather and, in Syria, war and added deprivation. Thank God for the rescue efforts of local people aided by specialists and volunteers from many nations. Thank God also for the knowledge that our lives here in this corner of rural Essex are unlikely to be disrupted so violently by such a natural disaster.

However, that is not to say that tragedy never touches us as individuals as recent experiences in the Covid pandemic have proved. The last episode I watched of Simon Schama's excellent series on BBC4 "The History of Britain" dealt mainly with the years of plague that virtually changed this country for ever in the 14th century – just around the time that St Andrew's was built – when roughly half the population of England died. Then, no-one knew what caused the terror; today, at least, we have modern medicine, technology and communications to mitigate the consequences. However, for someone who has lost a partner or friend in recent times these advantages carry small weight.

One of my churchwarden-ly "jobs" is filling in an annual statistical return to the Diocese of attendance at St Andrew's in a specified month, plus the numbers of baptisms, weddings and funerals that have taken place throughout the year. Not surprisingly, the number of funerals conducted in church or at the crematorium by our clergy far exceeds the baptisms and weddings but it does make me glad that so many families, whether churchgoers or not, choose the church for that final send-off. Indeed, many funerals, like that of Molly Wright recently, have been a triumphant celebration of, and thanksgiving for, the life of a dearly loved and significant member of the community. I try to be "on the door" of the church for any funeral when I can (mainly to point out toilet facilities to folk who have travelled a distance!) and I am always struck by the comments of the congregation as they leave, no matter what form the carefully tailored service has taken – usually along the lines of "What a lovely service! How he/she would have enjoyed it!" Now that, in my book, is customer satisfaction and very good to hear!

By the time you read this the Church's year will have reached the season of Lent, the six weeks of quiet and contemplation that lead up to Christ's death on the cross. But death did not have the final say and Easter is a springtime explosion of hope and joy. Of course, we have the benefit of hindsight. So, join us on the Lenten journey if you can and experience the victory of life over death for yourself when Easter comes. And in the meantime, do pray for all those whose lives have been torn apart by that dreadful earthquake.

Hilary Penney

Whatever life stage you are in, knowing how much money you need to maintain your lifestyle is crucial to you feeling comfortable and in control. By prioritising you and your objectives, we take the guesswork out of what tomorrow looks like – so you can go forward with confidence, knowing your financial strategy is there to support you.



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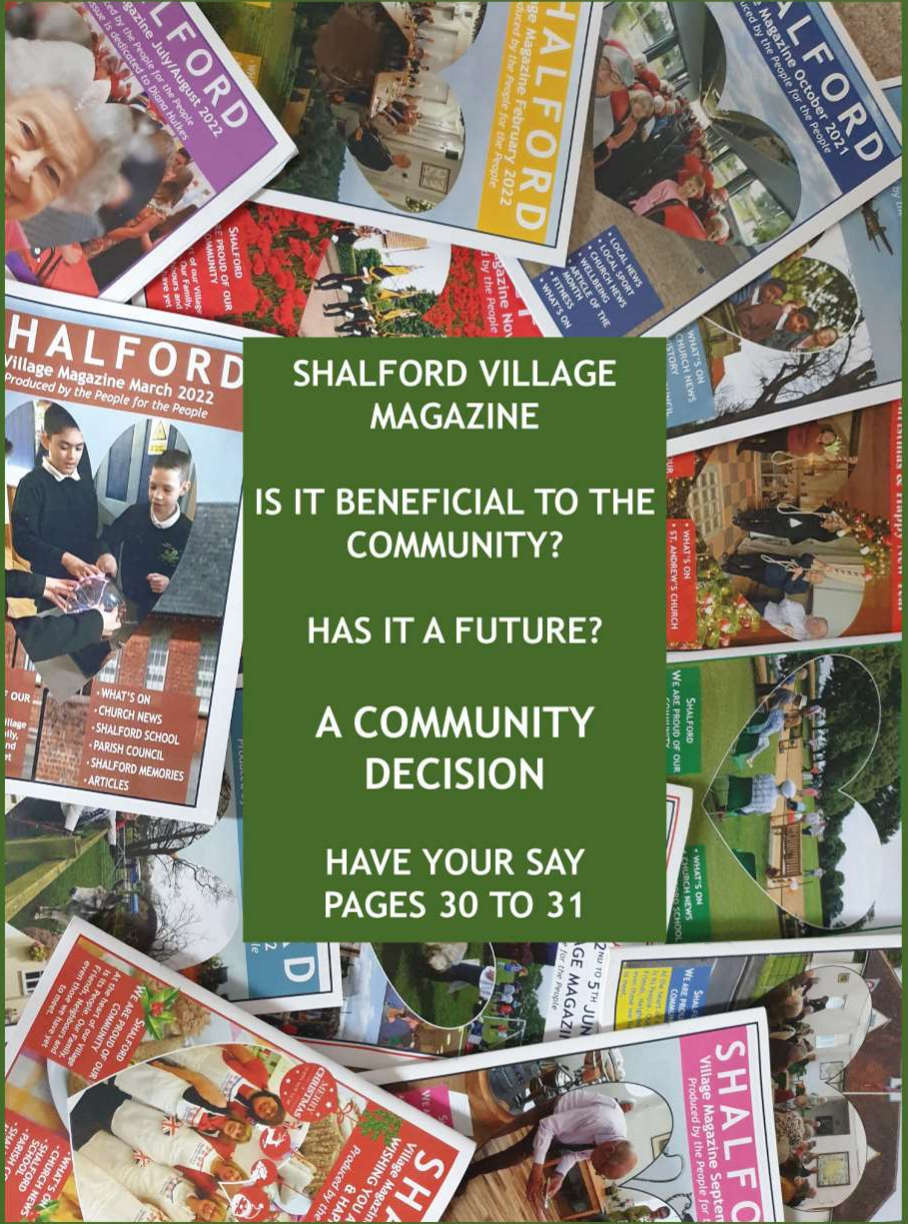
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**SHALFORD VILLAGE
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HAS IT A FUTURE?

**A COMMUNITY
DECISION**

**HAVE YOUR SAY
PAGES 30 TO 31**

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