



# SHALFORD

Village Magazine July/August 2023

*showcasing our community  
Produced by the People for the People*



**Fete:** kids/adults dressed bike, unque, days, best ws

SUNDAY 11 AM

(Playing Field) (Alford Church)

## **10.00: Organised Village Walk from the Village Hall**

**14.00 – 16.00: Afternoon Tea & Games, taraet bowls.**

**2 PULL-OUTS INSIDE**

- SHALFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SCHEDULE
  - SHALFORD FETE SOUVENIR

**own or pre-order  
lose the week**

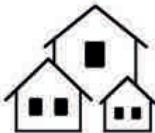
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- WHAT'S ON
  - CHURCH NEWS
  - HORTICULTURAL SCHEDULE
  - FETE SOUVENIR
  - PARISH COUNCIL
  - NATURE
  - GARDENING



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## INDEX

Page No.

- 4 Thank you to Brenda Alexander For Funding This Magazine – Alice Cox
- 4 Celebrating Our Life Together – Brenda Alexander
- 6 Local Organisations & Charities
- 7 What's On
- 13 Annual Parish Assembly – Alice Cox
- 13 Carpet Bowls Club – Vic Goodey
- 15 Shalford Village Hall – Colin Golding
- 17 St Andrew's Church – Hilary Penney
- 19 Shalford Local History Association – Sally Welsh
- 20 Bendlowe's – Alice Cox
- 21 Shalford Village Magazine – Alice Cox
- 23 Shalford Fete Committee – Mel Fray
- 24 We Did It Again – Vic Goodey
- 25 Shalford Fete Souvenir – Pull Out
- 29 Shalford Horticultural Society Schedule – Pull Out
- 41 Simple Science For Children – Sally Welsh
- 42 Essex Bridleways Association – Mandy French
- 42 Shalford Local History Association – Thank You
- 43 Hello All – Terrie – Police Community Support Officer
- 45 Grow Your Own Cocktail – The Theoretical Gardener
- 47 Nature Notes – Cricket Bat Willow – Mac Beanland
- 48 Shalford Parish Council – Samantha Batt
- 51 The Hundred Parishes – Ken McDonald
- 53 Crossword 68 – Robert Burrows
- 54 Bocking Windmill – Alison Gurnett
- 55 Crossword 68 Solution – Robert Burrows
- 57 From The Vicarage – Rev'd/Fr Alex
- 58 Services in the Pant Valley Churches – July & August
- 60 Church Warden's Report – Hilary Penney
- 61 Contacts – Church of St Andrew's
- 62 Pie Chart – Our Financial Supporters
- 64 Business Directory

**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

**FRONT  
PAGE**

**SHALFORD  
FETE**



Shalford Village Magazine is a non-profit organisation, run by volunteers and funded by advertising, the Parish Council, the Parochial Council, villagers, and donations. Contact by email: [shalford\\_village\\_magazine@btinternet.com](mailto:shalford_village_magazine@btinternet.com) Shalford Village Magazine can be downloaded or viewed from [www.bendlowe.co.uk](http://www.bendlowe.co.uk)

*JULY & AUGUST'S MAGAZINE IS KINDLY FUNDED  
BY BRENDA ALEXANDER IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF HER LATE HUSBAND PATRICK ALEXANDER*

### **CELEBRATING OUR LIFE TOGETHER**



Pat & Brenda travelling by ship to Vancouver 2006

*August is a rather special month for me. I was born on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, married on the 11<sup>th</sup> and, sadly, my dear husband, Patrick Alexander, died on the 9<sup>th</sup>. We had a very happy marriage and, had he lived, we would have been celebrating our golden wedding this August.*

Pat had been associated with Shalford village from birth. His grandmother Cora Alexander bought Hulls Cottage

and Hulls Farm in 1917. Cora handed the property of Hulls Farm to her son, Waldermar, Pat's father, from whom Pat inherited in 1955. Before then, the family had put a manager into Hulls Farm and kept Hulls Cottage as a holiday cottage – apart from WWII when they housed evacuees there. Pat spent many happy holidays here and grew very fond of the cottage and farmland. His work would not let him come to live here in 1955 so he spent holidays here whenever possible. By the time he left school, he was a convinced pacifist and when called up, applied to do alternative service with the Friends Ambulance Service. This was accepted and he served in France and Germany, basically helping with clearing and rebuilding war damage. He learnt a great deal at this time including driving and maintaining heavy vehicles and building works. He also learnt how barriers between different people such as language, race, cultures etc can be broken down when you are working together on work that is clearly needed. He trained originally as a forester and retained a love of trees all his life but became a “jack of all trades”. When he could, he would go down to Shalford and start to turn some of the old farmland, the orchard and a pasture field, known as the Hilly Field, into woodland, now known as Hulls Wood.

In his early years, Pat spent a lot of time volunteering to help after natural disasters with International Voluntary Service – the British branch of the Swiss Organisation Service Civil International. He went to various European countries and in 1960 spent a year working in Mauritius after the Island was very badly damaged by a cyclone. At that time, Mauritius was an impoverished, overcrowded little island very different from the tropical holiday island it is today.

I went out to Mauritius for two years nursing and met Pat for the first time before I went, Pat being someone who could prepare me for what to expect there. We met up again when I returned and, as things do, life gently proceeded until we married in 1973. We were both working in London at the time and stayed there for three years. At heart, we were both country people and when we found a suitable place in Suffolk, we started to run a smallholding there. Pat continued to volunteer when needed and found an outlet for his love of the sea and sailing by helping the Jubilee Sailing Trust. He helped at weekends with building a new ship in Southampton and on holidays looking after disabled travellers.

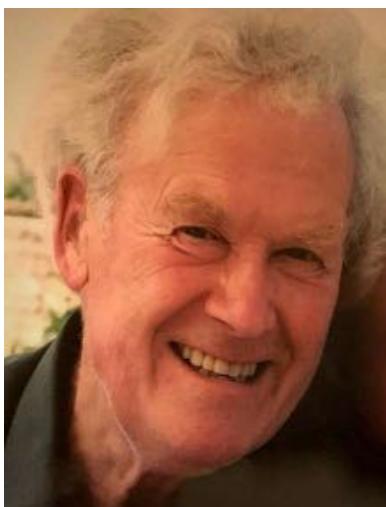
We planned to retire to the cottage at Shalford and eventually managed to do this in 2006. Hulls Wood was well established and Pat had become very concerned about climate change. He wanted to extend the wood but suitable land did not become available for sale.

Having taken up Bell Ringing for Lavenham Church around the year 2000, it was a natural progression for Pat to join Shalford's Bell Ringers shortly after moving to Shalford. He remained an enthusiastic member until his death.

Pat wanted to be buried in the wood and this has been accomplished. Together with his family, I would like it to be kept as a haven for wildlife. I do not know what will happen to the land eventually but hope it might be possible to join its management with other similar places in or around Shalford.

Pat was human and so he had his imperfections, but he had some very good qualities, kindness, generosity and concern for others, but I think the one I miss the most was his ability whatever happened to enjoy life. To me, the wood is a place of peace and sanctuary and I hope to be buried beside Pat. The wood is small but woods can be places of healing and comfort. I would like to think that anyone who felt it could help them would feel free to walk in it whilst respecting that it should be a haven for wildlife and peace for people, so keeping dogs well under control and not allowing children to play rowdy games.

**Brenda Alexander**



*Thank you so much Brenda for your generosity in funding July/August's edition of Shalford Village Magazine. I know that Pat was a well-liked, respected and cherished member of the community and is sadly missed. Your generosity is very much appreciated and I know for sure many still remember and think of Pat.*

**REST IN PEACE PAT**

## 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/>



### MEET & GREET 1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

SHALFORD  
VILLAGE HALL

11 am to 2 pm

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

### SHALFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



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

### FOSTAC Friends of St Andrew's Church



Contact: [www.fostac.co.uk](http://www.fostac.co.uk) or <https://shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk>

## WHAT'S ON - 2023 DIARY DATES

<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Sat	5th Aug		Bardfield Horticultural Show			
Sat	5th Aug	Bendlowe's	Coach Trip to The Hut, Felixstowe			Marianna 07450 251525
Sat	12th Aug	S.Horticultral Soc	Shalford Horticultural Annual Show	Shalford V. Hall		
Sat	9th Sept	FOSTAC	BBQ in the Churchyard Teas, Cake Stall	St Andrew's Church	01371 850390 suebeazleyend@gmail.com	
Sat	23rd Sept	Caroline/Marianna	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Shalford V. Hall		
Sat	23rd Sept	SHS	Pumpkin Competition	Shalford V. Hall		
Sat	Sept		Finchfield Horticultural Show			
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		Shalford Craft Fayre		11 am	
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
Sat	2nd Dec	Parish Council	Christmas Lights Switch On	Shalford V. Hall		

## WHAT'S ON

**WEA Shalford  
Workers Education  
Association**

For more info visit:

[https://  
shalford-essex-pe.gov.uk](https://shalford-essex-pe.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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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 - 8<sup>th</sup> July, 29<sup>th</sup> July,  
19<sup>th</sup> August,**

**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>**

## 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 4 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

### 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](mailto:Sarah8750@hotmail.co.uk)

Or

The Charity Website:

[www.reengage.org.uk](http://www.reengage.org.uk)

Freephone: 0800 716543

### 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](http://www.bdac.co.uk)

LEARN TO PLAY THE DRUMS  
AT YOUR OWN PACE IN A FRIENDLY  
ENVIRONMENT  
CONTACT: JAMES  
TEL: 07704 070498



### WALKING GROUPS

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

From  
FINCHINGFIELD  
Green every Friday  
at 10 a.m.

### SHALFORD CRAFT GROUP

Meetings are held on the  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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

### 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.

# Shalford Horticultural Society



Horticultural Show

12th August 2023

SAVE THE DATE

Schedule Online @ [www.bendlowe.co.uk](http://www.bendlowe.co.uk)

Or phone 01371 850390 for printed copy

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

## WHAT'S ON

### A DAY AT THE SEASIDE

#### "THE HUT" ON THE PROMENADE

Felixstowe IP11 7LR

<http://fopwa.onesuffolk.net/the-hut/>

SATURDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2023



*The Hut is an extremely popular venue situated on the promenade at Felixstowe.*

*Fitted with access ramps and disabled toilets in addition to standard WCs*



*Fully-equipped kitchen and comfortable lounge*



*Stay comfortably indoors with a sea view or take a walk in the sea air and visit the sea-front gardens.*

*The Hut holds a stock of 8 wheelchairs for those finding it difficult to walk.*

**Price**

- £25 including Fish & Chips

**Pick Up/Drop Off**

- Shalford Village Hall

**Times at Village Hall**

- Leave: 9.30 a.m. prompt Return: 4.30 p.m. approx

**Transport**

- Coach

**Contact**

- Marianna 07450 251525

**Bendlowe's - People Working For People**

# WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

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## The Bob Reiman Tankard

This Tankard will now be awarded for the  
Pumpkin with the Largest Circumference  
at a special Competition to be held at the

MacMillan Coffee Morning

23rd September 2023

## **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

**WEDNESDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2023**

**BY: Alice Cox**

Shalford's Annual Parish Assembly, organised by our Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at 8 p.m. It proved to be an excellent opportunity to meet our Parish Councillors especially those just joining the Council this year, together with our newly appointed District Councillors Mark Ault & Michael Staines and the many volunteers running local clubs, organisations and charities. So many people working tirelessly for our Community.



Eleven speakers were invited to talk about subjects relating to our specific area being:-

Braintree District Council - Mark Ault; Shalford Carpet Bowls - Vic Goodey; Shalford Village Hall - Colin Golding; St Andrew's Church - Hilary Penney; Shalford Local History - Sally Welsh; Bendlowe's - Alice Cox; Shalford Horticultural Society - Carol Praill; WASC Wethersfield Airbase Scrutiny Committee - Andrew Hull; Shalford Village Magazine - Alice Cox; Shalford Fete Committee - Mel Fray and SWAP Stop Wethersfield Airbase Prisons - Tony Clarke-Holland

Well – we could have easily continued all night but our Parish Council had provided a mouth-watering treat of sandwiches and wine. So proceedings were interrupted, momentarily, whilst individuals, craving for the treats on offer, collected their glass and plate of delights. Once everyone had in hand their just rewards, the hum of chatter in the hall continued - late into the night!

Wow! What an excellent opportunity to meet, speak, ask questions and learn about all aspects of our Community.

I would like to acknowledge how much work goes into arranging one of these evenings from the organisation by the Parish Council, especially Jill their Clerk, to the Speakers pondering over writing their Speech and then controlling their nerves whilst standing up in front of everyone delivering that speech. Your time and efforts were very much appreciated and we look forward to the Parish Assembly in 2024. For those of you who were unable to attend this year – make a note in your diary for next year. I include below some of the speeches delivered to give you a flavour of the evening. I hope you enjoy.

### **Shalford Village Hall Carpet Bowls Club – Vic Goodey**



#### **Introduction**

Good Evening my name is Vic Goodey and I have the pleasure of being the Chairperson of Shalford Village Hall Carpet Bowls Club.

#### **The Club**

Our club is affiliated to the English Carpet Bowls Association with an elected committee representing twenty four members. We have been in existence since 1992 sadly we lost the last two of the founding members when Peggy Leader and Sally Prime passed away earlier this year.

Many of us have fond memories of both. Peggy was superstitious and would always look for the Bowl with white inscriptions and Sally whose “Bouncing Bomb” delivery technique confounded everyone.

### **Club members**

Most members either come from or have a long standing connection with Shalford. We have attracted other bowlers from clubs that may have closed or also play on a different day.

We meet every Tuesday in the Village Hall and play between 7:30 and 9:30 pm. with Tea, Coffee, Biscuits and gossip halfway through the games. Not bad for a £2.50 Subscription and £2.00 Annual Subscription.

We have a membership of around twenty players with the odd social member dropping in for a chat.

### **The Game**

The rules of the game are simple. Up to four players per team take turns to roll their bowls to a target which is a small white ball called the “Jack” set at the opposite end of a 30 feet carpet. The team with bowls closest to The Jack on completion of an “end” has their points recorded on a scoreboard. The teams then bowl again from the other end of the carpet. After five ends the team with the highest recorded score is deemed the winners. The addition of an 18 inch diameter wooden block in the centre of the carpet helps increase interest. Aided by the design of the Bowls which curve as they are propelled down the carpet; players learn to control the bowl with positioning, placement and strength of delivery. It takes practice to develop the skill that gets the Bowl to arrive at its intended, final location.

### **The Hall**

The hall accommodates two carpets and we can play six games in one evening. Therefore, everyone gets two or three games. We have no waiting list at present.

### **Achievements**

We play friendly matches both home and away which are well supported and we have made friends in all the clubs we visit. Our friendly matches give us the chance to sport our team colours of Yellow and Black.

The standard of our game continues to improve and we win many more of our friendlies than we used to, it isn’t really about winning but it is nice when we do.

Shalford has been represented in Charity Tournaments as far away as Needham Market and as near as Braintree Leisure Centre. Four members were entered to compete in the Essex Singles this year with John Rankin getting through the knockout stage

Shalford Carpet Bowls Club has aspirations to play in the North East Essex League, and we now have fifteen Bowlers able to commit their time and skills. We shall now register the club and players with the ECCBA.

At the request of the Village Hall committee we have organised and run a Random Triples Tournament to honour the contribution to Village life by Diana Hulkes. The trophy is an inscribed shield kept at the Village Hall with an inscribed cup for the winner to take home. We hope to run further club competitions of Singles, Pairs and Fours in the future.

Please visit our website, there is a link from the Parish Council Site to our website where you can find our contact details, see when our matches are scheduled and view some pictures of the members in action. I hope to keep adding new pages to maintain an interest.

We fully support the efforts of the Village Hall committee and Parish Councillors and the work they do for Shalford. We have a club member on the Village Hall Committee, in accordance with the rules of the Trust, and the club is pleased to offer support in future events.

### **Finally**

If you fancy finding out what we are like in the flesh, come and have a go. We welcome anyone who wants to try. The game is challenging enough to make it interesting and accessible to people of many levels of ability. The first two visits are free and there are plenty of members to show you how to bowl.

Thank you, for giving me the opportunity to speak to you all.

### **Shalford Village Hall Committee – Colin Golding, Chairman**



The Hall exists thanks to the volunteer work carried out by the Committee members in particular in keeping the hall clean and tidy and overseeing the maintenance of the playing field both of which are a great asset to the village.

We started our financial year in a reasonably healthy state but soon the effects of rising oil and electricity prices, coupled with the fact we lost one of our most lucrative hirers along with the Parish Council support grant being withdrawn, meant we were eating into our reserves every month. So we had to make the unwelcome decision to put up our hire charges.

We then had two major problems firstly with the Hall electric circuits which seemed randomly to trip out and then secondly we noticed a large crack had appeared in the front wall of the building.

As a result of the first problem we had a full electric survey conducted and remedial work undertaken. It took a while but now everything is fixed.

In terms of the crack in the building, we notified our insurers who instructed a specialist company to investigate. The outcome was that it is subsidence but fortunately we are covered for it subject to a £1000 excess and the insurers have accepted liability.

The cause they believe are roots from the neighbouring conifer trees coupled with the long, hot, dry summer. They appointed an arborist to look at the trees and he concluded that the conifers will have to be taken down. Unfortunately the insurance does not cover the cost so that will be at our expense.

Earlier on in the year you couldn't help but notice the bare patch in the children's playground where the new basketball area was planned to be. It was to be funded by Section 106 money from Braintree District Council. We, and the Parish Council met with BDC last summer to try

to resolve the matter but it has taken until last month for them to Ok the works which are now completed.

Staying with the playground we were grateful to receive a bequest from the late Dorothy Gardner which allowed us to complete the renovation of the children's swings with two new baby cradles and a new sponge surface beneath the swings.

It was with great sadness that we lost two of our staunch supporters in the last year, Diana Hulkes and Lawrence Rawlinson. To recognise Diana's support we paid for a carpet bowls trophy to be played for each year in her memory.

Lawrence as most people know was our volunteer groundsman for more years than I can count. He was an institution and we were very grateful for his commitment to the Village Hall

I and the rest of the Committee were lost for words when we received a letter from the solicitors, who were his executors, saying that he had left his entire estate to the Village Hall in his will.

Having met with the solicitors we decided to set up a sub-committee to look into our options. The sub-committee have spent many hours deciding what was best for the Village Hall and what was a fitting legacy for Lawrence.

The decision the subcommittee came to was to retain his bungalow, do the necessary remedial works and rent it out.

The rental income should assure the viability of the Village Hall for many years to come and the asset of the bungalow will grow in value so if any time in the future there is a need for substantial cash injection it is there to secure the future of the Village Hall.

Looking forward we have put together a list of projects we would like to undertake in the coming years and in no particular order they are:

To install external electric points for use at the fete and for the Christmas tree.

To install some subtle lighting in the hall

To further improve the sound proofing in the hall

To redecorate the Rawlinson Room

To progress the installation of a hearing loop in the Hall

To install additional play equipment for younger children

To fence in the play area

To enlarge the parking area

To build a new storage shed for the tractor mowers etc.

To paint the exterior of the hall and to undertake some serious tree maintenance on the recreation ground.

So we look forward to continue to provide a facility we can all be proud of and continue to enhance it as funds allow.

## **St Andrew's Church – Hilary Penney – Churchwarden**



With the gradual reduction of Covid restrictions in the year since our last APCM the life of St Andrew's has returned to a more normal pattern, and we have taken a full part in the new, extended benefice of the Pant Valley churches after the lifting of the suspension of presentation in the autumn of 2022.

Monthly services in church on Sundays follow the now familiar pattern of one Eucharist with hymns at 9.30, one 8am BCP Holy Communion, two Services of the Word at 9.30 and Choral Evensong on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 4pm in winter and 5pm in summer.

We are grateful for the presence of singers from Felstead and across our wider benefice at this service, with the additional support of organist Andrew Beaton. Also, during British Summer Time, breakfast is served in church after the 8am Communion and is well supported!

We had a joyful celebration of Harvest in October and Shalford School held their own harvest thanksgiving in the church with many generous donations for the Food Bank. We joined our friends in Wethersfield for a Remembrance service in November and had a full house again for the Christmas Eve Carol Service, with the welcome assistance of singer Nancy May.

The Prayer Group continues to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month at 10am and on the other two Thursdays a Coffee Morning is hosted by Diana Farrow in the Meeting Room, everyone welcome.

In June we joined in the celebration of Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee, providing singers for a choir at the lighting of the beacon at the Village Hall. Our oldest resident, Miss Molly Wright, was invited to light the torch (at her home) and it was then carried to the Village Hall by an enthusiastic band of locals. The Jubilee weekend continued with a fete at which FOSTAC provided refreshments, and concluded with a special service in St Andrew's for the Shalford community on the Sunday evening. Sadly, in September St Andrew's was also the setting for a Service of Commemoration following the death of the late Queen, many local people having signed a Book of Condolence in the previous week.

In the year since last May one baptism and ten funeral or memorial services have been held in the church and the loss of so many well-known and faithful residents and worshippers, including Molly Wright in her 108<sup>th</sup> year, has been deeply felt by us all.

Matters relating to the church building include the retirement of our ageing oil boiler and the installation of electric under-pew heaters on a zoned system, which will bring us into line with the national church policy of cutting carbon emissions. The new system should be installed

next week.. Any remaining oil will be used up before the electric heaters are brought into commission. The fire extinguishers and fire blankets throughout the church have been brought up to current standards, the organ has been tuned and the new LED bulbs installed last year have improved the overall lighting of the church. I am currently awaiting confirmation of a date when Suffolk Masonry Services will be able to start work on the restoration of the west window masonry but it is likely to be mid-September.

In the churchyard, three ash trees were felled in October on the advice of the Diocese's arboriculture consultant and after confirmation from Braintree DC and the Bat Conservation Trust. Unfortunately, our part-time gardener who undertook grass cutting in the churchyard seems to have left the district but thanks to Alan Kemp the churchyard has now had a cut. As grants previously received from the Parish Council are no longer deemed to be legal (except for the maintenance of the Rights of Way through the churchyard), future care of the churchyard is likely going to be a considerable charge on our resources.

However, I am, as always, indebted to FOSTAC for its support in raising funds for the church. My special thanks to Sue Morton, the Committee and all helpers for their hard work and cheerful enthusiasm throughout the year, without them we should be so much poorer in pocket and in entertainment!

As sole churchwarden I cannot and could not undertake the care of St Andrew's without the unfailing support of so many of you in so many different ways. It is my intention always to make Shalford aware that this church belongs to the whole community, not just to those who worship here and so I am incredibly grateful to

- Our bell ringers who make our presence known so joyfully, Roy Threadgold the Ringing Master and Michael Mason the Tower Captain and all ringers, experienced and new;
- Our flower arrangers, under the leadership of Heather Smith, who beautify the building for all who come through its doors;
- Everyone who helps to look after the churchyard and the church avenue in any way;
- Jonathan Buckley, for supervising our donations to the Braintree Food Bank and unlocking the church regularly;
- Marketa, for her hard work in keeping a bat-ridden building clean and tidy;
- Michael Mason, who knows more about St Andrew's than I ever will and is ever on hand when I need assistance.

But above all, I must thank the Revd Alex, the Revd Canon Janet and the Revd Sheila for their loving and faithful commitment to our worshipping community; Michael Chumbley, Reader and Honorary Treasurer; John Burrow, Deanery Synod representative and Electoral Roll officer; Sylvia Lester, PCC Secretary; all other members of the PCC for their wise advice; all members of the congregation who undertake the routine tasks of coffee-making, lesson reading and anything else that needs doing; and, last but not least, my husband Stewart for his role as IT consultant, technical adviser and photographer, and his tolerant acceptance of my frequent disappearances "across the road".

## **Shalford Local History Association – Sally Welsh, Secretary**



The Association was 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 Shalford's 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 there was a presentation of the film and local residents were awarded medals posthumously for their bravery in attempting to rescue the crew. The event 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.

We continue to be busy in 2023. Unfortunately, a planned talk by Mike Bardell entitled The Only Way is Essex in March had to be postponed due to illness. However we were very pleased to host a fascinating talk by Rev Alex Shannon in the lead up to the Coronation about the Coronation Service itself – the meanings behind the symbols and rituals involved. Those who attended were very impressed with Alex's knowledge. I know that when I watched the Service on television that Saturday I felt very well informed.

Our biggest event this year 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 over 600 and have now bought the collection of these to an end. We hope to offer village residents the opportunity to make poppies and are also collaborating with Shalford craft group who are busy creating crocheted/knitted poppies to decorate the inside of the church. There will be an exhibition about the men of Shalford who lost their lives in both World Wars and we are currently looking into the service of 3 men from Shalford who served in the Royal Marines: Pat Waring, Bob Porter and John Tarbin. We have already received information through our articles in the Village Magazine and our Shalford Facebook group page. One of our members, 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.

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. The Landlord of The George has very kindly given us permission to use the pub for our monthly meetings for free. 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! We have also been asked if we have any photos of the back of the pub after recent excavations for a new patio revealed evidence of buildings that were once there.

Other projects that we are looking in to include the history of Stoneley Park, the location of water pumps about the village and the history of certain Shalford houses. In June we have a guided tour of Bocking Windmill followed by afternoon tea at Petersfield Antiques to look

forward to. At this year's Christmas lights event we will be organising children's craft activities based on our theme 'A Wartime Christmas'.

For the Shalford Summer fete on 10 June the Association will be giving villagers the chance to try out some vintage toys and games: everything from marbles to shove ha'penny as well as making poppies.

An email was received recently from an American gentleman asking if we had any information on the Foote family. Nathaniel Foote born in Shalford in 1592 was one of the party that founded Wethersfield in Connecticut with his wife also from Shalford, Elizabeth Deming. Again, thanks to the Village Magazine we were able to connect him with a chap in Braintree who knew quite a bit about the subject. It appears that other descendants of Nathaniel include Sigourney Weaver and John Wayne. Wouldn't that have been great if he'd been able to visit, maybe had a pint down at The George!

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 gentle!

Our biggest project and definitely the most difficult is the management of our archive. We have a small broom cupboard in the Village Hall which is crammed with all sorts of artefacts, books, maps, etc. A database to catalogue everything has been started and we are in the process of continuing this mammoth task. Our dream is to make the archive as accessible as possible to the people of Shalford but bear with us!

In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like more information please speak to a member of our group.

### **Bendlowe's – Alice Cox, Trustee & Chairperson**



As many of you will already know, Bendlowe's was formed by William Bendlowe in 1573 for 2 elderly gentlemen and 2 elderly ladies. 2020 saw the change in its purposes and objectives to promote social inclusion to combat loneliness and I think we are finally changing our Bendlowe's image from a Charity for the Elderly to a Charity for the Community.

Bendlowe's does not have any income and relies solely on donations or grants. Last year saw our hire charge for Meet & Greet double from £15 to £30.

Thankfully, Councillor Tattersley our District Councillor at the time knew and totally appreciated the benefits of Meet & Greet to the community and approved a grant of £500 to help.

Sadly last year saw the loss of three very special people indeed, namely Lawrence, Diana and Smudger. Three as large as life people who are greatly missed at Meet & Greet. I am pleased to report that Meet & Greet now attracts people from local villages such as Panfield, Wethersfield, Bardfield which fits in perfectly with William Bendlowe as his last Will & Testament mentions over 20 local villages.

Last year also saw Bendlowe's being targeted by Braintree District Council for a Hygiene Inspection. Rules and procedures were compiled when I took over the Chairperson's position in 2016 and so updating it proved to be an admin task rather than a re-write. I am pleased to report that we were awarded a 5-star rating. I would like to thank the team: Derrick, Marianna, Mel, Nora and Sally.

We are planning our third visit to The Hut at Felixstowe on 5th August this year and are looking to fill a 50-seater coach. For more information please talk to Marianna.

December this year marks the 450 anniversary of the Charity being formed by Deed. We will be celebrating – just no sure how yet.

I would also like to say thank you to Gary and David for managing Bendlowe's Community website which was launched in 2021.

Bendlowe's is currently in a good position to continue to do what it does best or, indeed, to expand if the opportunity arose.

### **Shalford Village Magazine – Alice Cox, Editor, Fund Raiser**



As Shalford Village Magazine is rapidly approaching its third year, I thought I would give a brief outline of the steps taken to get here – don't go to sleep – a questionnaire will follow!

Gary had come to my rescue during Covid lockdown when I was compiling and printing Bendlowe's Bugle at home. The Bugle had become extremely popular and my colour laser printer was struggling to cope. It was because of Bendlowe's Bugle that I was asked to take on the Editorship of the Magazine.

So, in the very early days, Gary and I discussed our vision and goals for a Village Magazine. Both he and I were on the same page looking for a quality, colour, magazine, representative of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century as we considered this would prove to be of far more interest and benefit to the community. After all, the only difference between printing a black and white copy or a colour copy is the capital outlay and subsequent annual write down cost of purchasing a black & white printer compared to a colour printer plus the cost of black ink compared to coloured ink. Both have been greatly reduced as colour printing which was developed in the mid-70s - 50 years ago - is now commonplace in both the workplace and at home. The main printing processes such as loading & checking the print file, print run, guillotining, collating, stapling, trimming, batching and boxing for delivery, delivery by courier; remain the same irrespective of being black & white or colour.

Gary's printing business is geared up to digitally printing all type of jobs, booklets, flyers, leaflets, banners and websites but being a professional he is fully aware that sourcing a Litho printer with the correct set up and capacity is likely to be a very competitive alternative and depending upon page number and run length, can work out at up to 50% of the cost of digital printing.

Gary set to work obtaining quotes from Litho Printers. Before long he had obtained an extremely competitive quote. Litho Printers are the "big boys" in printing - printing large runs but we were lucky that Shalford Village Magazine's run – 400 copies of a 60-page booklet -

sneaked into the lower end of their run scale. Another bonus was that Litho printers buy their paper by the tonne in large sheets as opposed to by the ream so we benefited from a higher grade of paper as that was their *regular* paper. To ask for a lower grade paper would necessitate their buying in a small quantity by the ream just for us resulting in a higher cost. Perhaps a downside though is that to reduce the number of pages in the run only saved the cost of a sheet of paper. An example being - I reduced the size of the Magazine to 56 pages down from 60 pages ie 1600 pages over the whole job and only saved £8. So the lesson I learnt is that simple statements such as “use lower grade paper”, or “cut the number of pages down” to reduce costs is not, necessarily, helpful – one has to do their research into the breakdown of the costing for the whole job!

So printing sorted, on to the next step – obtaining Shalford Village Magazine’s own bank account which quickly led onto its type of organisation. “A self-funding community organisation largely relying on volunteers. Operating on a commercial basis wherever possible. Any profits made over and above a working balance to be re-invested into the community of Shalford.”

I had plenty to do whilst waiting for the bank account to be opened. Writing the Magazine’s Objectives. Costing the amount to be charged for advertising space. Sourcing advertisers. Gary offered a free artwork and graphic design service to those businesses that needed it to create their advert.

Also, in readiness for the bank account to be opened, we needed to raise the Magazine’s correspondence templates such as an Invoice and Letterhead.

With the bank account open and invoices raised for advertising space, it was time to turn our attention to the Branding of the magazine. I came up with the idea of the heart, photos and narrative on the front page but Gary with his experience and equipment typeset it; greatly enhancing what I could produce using Word.

Next – what software package should we use to draft the magazine. I only have Word. We decided to give it a try and produce the draft copy using word. A PDF copy was then sent to Gary for him to enhance the front and back pages, plus adverts.

So we are now very close to compiling our first magazine but before that we need to write the Magazine Rules. The main rule being that the tone of the Magazine would be one of “uplifting” expressing appreciation and thanks wherever possible. There are other rules.

Magazine compiled and printed it is now time to batch ready to pass on to the distributors for delivery. The magazine has approximately 18 people willing to give up their time and shoe leather to deliver. Any organisation using volunteers which are unpaid employees of that Organisation should have Employers’ and Public Liability Insurance in place which we do have.

All of the above and more is detailed in the Magazine’s Constitution which I wrote on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and am now in the process of updating.

We are now trying to encourage more advertising by creating a Business Directory. Currently, Shalford Village Magazine is hosted and can be downloaded from Bendlowe’s website but Gary may well create the Magazine’s own website in the not too distant future.

Our reward for the many hours of work above has been the determination of villagers not to let the magazine fold. Many of them dipping into their own pockets to send donations simply because they *love* the Magazine.

Before closing, I just wish to express my appreciation and thank you to everyone involved in creating the magazine – from supplying content to distribution and, of course, the all-important funding which is now spread between Advertising, Villagers, Parish and Parochial Councils for the next 12 months - but most of all to Gary. Although being more than comfortable in carrying out all other tasks relating to the Magazine, without Gary's support and guidance on the printing side, I would not have said "Yes" to becoming its Editor.

I now understand the difference between Digital and Litho printing together with their cost implications. Reducing the size of the job does not necessarily reduce the cost. Thank you Gary.

### **Shalford Fete Committee – Mel Fray, Chairperson**



The 'Fete Committee' was set up in 2022 to organise the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Events. This four-day event went so brilliantly and was so well attended that everyone wanted to have an annual Shalford Fete. Somehow I was persuaded to continue as 'chair' for 2023.

Our meetings are held mainly on Wednesdays at the Village Hall when it's available or at The George Pub when the landlord Paul is happy for us to do so.

We do seem to have at least one 'representative' from all of the local groups and associations which means we are bringing the whole community together. Everyone is welcome; at meetings, just to give ideas, helping to set up, run a stall or loan an item.

We welcome each group to showcase themselves on the day (pretty much what we are all here this evening to do) hopefully to encourage others to join something they are interested in or being part of something that they have not tried before.

I may be 'in charge' of the meetings; but it really is a group of individuals coming together with great ideas and skills, volunteering their time to make a fabulous two-day event (this year).

We will be making the Committee more formalised later on in the year by confirming a constitution and opening our own bank account. We have to thank the Bendlowe's Chair Alice Cox for looking after our money, ensuring it is kept separate so that I can communicate our balance to all.

A large amount of money raised last year has been spent on a new Community Sound System which we have Vic Goodey to thank for investigating and purchasing what was needed.

After all our expenses, any monies raised this year will be discussed within the committee and hopefully put towards something that Shalford needs or improving something we already have.

We also have to thank all of our sponsors, donators and volunteers, for helping to keep outgoing costs down. We have some great local businesses in Shalford and nearby.

My personal thanks to all the team for making my job fun. Well, most of the time!



## WE DID IT AGAIN! - BY: VIC GOODEY



Some said we shouldn't!  
Many thought we couldn't!  
Some said we wouldn't!

*We said we should  
We knew we could  
We decided we would*

So we set our targets and we aimed a little high.  
But what's the use of a target if you don't have to try.  
We gathered up our forces and we started to plan.  
It was a slow start then we picked up our skirts and ran.

There were obstacles, of course, but our leaders were prepared.  
With at least eleven meetings the committee wasn't scared.  
We were bereft of Morris Men but dancing children took the brunt.  
Supported by two music bands we were definitely in the hunt.

Side Stalls were invited as in fetes gone by.  
But this time we required Risk Assessments and the blithering PPI.  
Food and drink were next, so for vendors our leaders looked.  
Our local favourites and some new, soon, all the places were booked.

Village organisations were high upon the list.  
Fostac, Parish Council, Dog show, History and Crafts, things not to be missed.  
With games like a twenty pence shove, guess the weight and fish for a duck,  
Name a Teddy and find all the yellow items you would need some luck.

We sourced charities, activities and events and we appealed,  
Bicycles to Africa, SWAP and a museum from exotic Wethersfield.  
With the St John's on hand to keep us safe and well.  
We deemed ourselves ready and the rest is for you to tell.

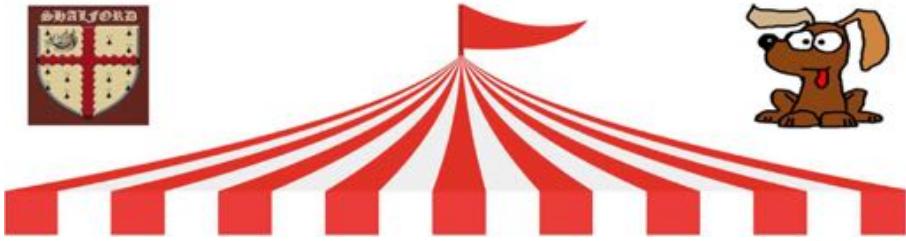
### *So the day came and went*

Some said we shouldn't!  
Many thought we couldn't!  
Some said we wouldn't!

*We said we should  
We knew we could  
We decided we would*

It could have been that we didn't!      *Aren't you pleased we did?*

**Congratulations to the Shalford Fete Committee and all who took part**



## SHALFORD FETE SOUVENIR

10<sup>TH</sup>/11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023



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## SHALFORD FETE 10<sup>TH</sup>/11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023



Many thanks to everyone who helped and our photographers John Smith & Kevin Welsh

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# Shalford Horticultural Society 2023

@ The Village Hall, Church End, Shalford CM7 5EZ



Schedule available Online @ [www.bendlowe.co.uk](http://www.bendlowe.co.uk)

Or call 01371 850390 for a printed copy

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

**The Committee**

President	Mrs H Smith	
Chairman	Jane Mills	01371 850390
Vice Chairman	Claire Taylor	01376 329405
Treasurer	Jane Mills	01371 850390
Secretary	Mel Fray	07855 494624
Social Secretaries	Caroline Ottley	07734 140478
	Carol Praill	07749 113756
Member for Press/Facebook	Mel Fray	07855 494624
Member for Bookings	Carol Praill	07749 113756
Member for Road Boards	Richard Monk	
Member for Schedule	Claire Taylor	01376 329405
Member for Trophies	Christine Packer	07956 364677

Committee Members: Ellie Perry, Margaret Sparks

**Honorary Vice Presidents:**

Mrs A Tanner, Mr G Sim, Mrs S Martin, Mr J Smith

**Judges will be appointed for the following: –**

Vegetables	Fruit & Flowers	Floral Art
Cookery	Handicraft	Photography

**Points for Vegetable Collections**

Beans	Broad	15	Courgettes	12	Peas		20
Beans	Dwarf French	15	Cress	10	Peppers/Chilli		15
Beans	Runner	18	Cucumbers	18	Potatoes		20
Beetroot		15	Garlic	15	Pumpkins/Squashes		10
Brussels Sprouts		15	Kohlrabi	12	Radishes		10
Cabbages		15	Leeks	20	Shallots		18
Carrots	Long	20	Lettuces	15	Spring Onions		12
Carrots	Stump rooted	18	Marrows	15	Tomatoes	Medium	18
Cauliflowers	Inc. White Broccoli	20	Onions	20	Tomatoes	Small Fruited	12
Celery		20	Parsnips	20	Turnips/Swedes		15

# The Awards

Page 3

The John Bahr Cup	Most Points for Horticulture	Classes 1 - 58	£
The Arthur Bright Cup	Longest Runner Bean	Class 21	
The Vera Smith Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most Points for Vegetable Collection	Class 31	£
The John Bright Cup	Best Exhibit for Potato Collection	Class 30	
The Jessie Hicks Tankard	Heaviest Marrow	Class 11	
The Peter Monk Cup	Best Exhibit for Salad Collection	Class 29	
The Aldworth Rose Bowl	Most Points for Fruit Section	Class 32-36	
The Nan Stevenson Trophy	Most Points for Flowers	Classes 37-52	£
The Goodchild Cup	Most Points for Floral Art	Classes 53-56	
The Sally Prime Cup	Most Points for Preserves & Honey	Classes 59-64	
The Hornsby Trophy	Most Points for Cookery	Classes 59-73	£
The Perry Cup	Most Points for Handicraft	Classes 74-79	
The Len Chinnery Trophy	Most Points for Photography	Classes 80-82	
Children's Prize	Most Points Age under 5	Classes 83 - 85	
Children's Prize	Most Points Age 5 - 7	Classes 86 - 88	
Children's Prize	Most Points Age 8 - 11	Classes 89 - 91	
The Bentley Cup	Best Exhibit in Vegetables (not Collections)		

## RULES & GUIDELINES

1. The Committee, whilst taking all possible care of exhibits, is not responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.
2. Every specimen exhibited in Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Classes must have been grown by the exhibitor.
3. Exhibitors to provide dishes or vases where necessary for presentation. No exhibitor may enter more than one exhibit in any class, neither can two or more persons exhibit separately from the same garden in any one class.
4. The Committee reserve the right to examine the garden or greenhouse of any exhibitor, either

- before or after the Show.
5. Pot plants should have been in the exhibitor's possession for a period of three months.
  6. Photographs must not exceed 18cm x 12cm and must be shown unmounted (i.e. not in or on a separate card).
  7. The Judge's decision is final.
  8. The number of prizes in each class is at the Judge's discretion.
  9. The Village Hall will be open for staging exhibits from 8.00 a.m. on the morning of the Shows and **STAGING OF ALL EXHIBITS MUST BE COMPLETED BY 10.30 a.m.**
  10. Read the Guidelines under each section carefully to ensure the correct quantity of specimens.
  11. Shallots for pickling must not exceed 3cm diameter.
  12. Wash but do not scrub vegetable roots.
  13. Tomatoes, peas, beans and cucumbers should be shown with stalk attached. Do not polish.
  14. By covering potatoes, cauliflowers and celery with thick paper until judging time, the exhibitor will prevent greening.
  15. The foliage of carrots and beetroot to be trimmed to 15cm. The foliage of onions and leeks must be trimmed to half-length and the roots trimmed to 3cm.
  16. Onions and Carrots may be tied. Remove the loose skin only from an onion.
  17. It is perfectly in order to remove damaged petals from your blooms, but do so cleanly and rearrange other petals to fill the gaps.
  18. Uniformity is most important. Do not spoil your exhibit by adding an odd size specimen.
  19. Cookery exhibits should have cooled before being placed for judging and covered with cling film.
  20. Check all bottles and jars for sealing. All exhibits should be well filled and perfectly clean.
  21. Jam & Chutney should be covered with a wax disc. Then either a cellophane top or a plain screw top at the time of bottling. All labels must be plain white.
  22. Any exhibit with vinegar should have a screw top or snap lid and be airtight.
  23. Home-made wines & fruit spirits must be shown in clear glass bottles and a tasting glass should be provided.
  24. Points are awarded for exhibits on the basis of: Condition, Size, Colour, Uniformity and Presentation. Avoid overcrowding your exhibits.
  25. Submit your Entry Form, Exhibit and Exhibitor's Ticket on the morning of the Show; prepare your exhibit in good time. Where appropriate small exhibits may be displayed on a plate or dish.

### THE RECIPE - UPSIDE-DOWN PINEAPPLE CAKE

#### **For the Topping**

50g softened butter

50g light soft brown sugar

7 pineapple rings in syrup

7 glace cherries

#### **For the Cake**

100g softened butter

100g golden caster sugar

100g self-raising flour

1 tsp baking powder

1 tsp vanilla extract

2 eggs



For the topping, beat butter & light soft brown sugar together until creamy. Spread over base & a quarter of the way up the sides of a 20cm round cake tin. Arrange 7 pineapple rings on top (reserving the syrup for later), then place 7 glace cherries in the centres of the rings.

For the cake, place butter, golden caster sugar, self-raising flour, 1 tsp baking powder, 1 tsp vanilla extract & 2 eggs in a bowl along with 2 tbsp. of the reserved pineapple syrup. Using an electric whisk, beat to a soft consistency.

Spoon mixture into the tin on top of the pineapple and smooth it out so it's level. Bake for 35 mins. Leave to stand for 5 mins, then turn out onto a plate.

### **HORTICULTURE -The John Bahr Cup-Classes 1-58**

#### *Horticulture - Vegetables - The Bentley Cup-Best Exhibit*

1. Beetroot	Three, round (guideline 15)
2. Carrots	Three, long, (guideline 15)
3. Carrots	Three, stump rooted (guideline 15)
4. Courgettes	Two, 10-15cm
5. Cucumber	One, with stalk
6. Dwarf Beans	Five
7. Edible Flowers	Three
8. Exotics	Three of one type of any of the following: aubergines, figs, gourds, passion flower fruit, peppers. Judged for quality
9. Garlic bulbs	Three, with roots
10. Lettuce	Two, with roots

#### *The Jessie Hicks Tankard-Class 11*

11. Marrow	Largest, judged by weight
12. Onions	Three, 250g or under (guidelines 15-16)
13. Onions	Three, over 250g (guidelines 15-16)
14. Peas	Five pods on a plate
15. Peas	Shelled, in a small ramekin dish
16. Potato	One, judged for quality
17. Potatoes	Five coloured, one variety on a plate
18. Potatoes	Five white, one variety on a plate
19. Rhubarb	Three Stalks, no leaves
20. Runner Beans	Five

#### *The Arthur Bright Cup-Class 21*

21. Runner Bean	Longest, tied to a baton, judged by length
22. Shallots	Eight large, for quality, displayed in dish of sand
23. Shallots	Six, for pickling, displayed in dish of sand (guideline 11)
24. Spring Onions	Five with foliage & 3cm of roots, grown where sown
25. The Most Amusing Home-grown Vegetable	
26. Tomatoes	Five, cherry, one variety with stalks
27. Tomatoes	Five, standard, one variety with stalks
28. Vegetable	Two of one kind not mentioned in Classes 1 – 27

*The Peter Monk Cup-Class 29*

29. Collection of Three Salad Vegetables from list:

2 x Beetroot, 1 x Cucumber, 1 x Pepper,  
 5 x Radishes, 5 x Spring Onions, 2 x Tomatoes,

*The John Bright Cup-Class 30*

30. Potatoes Collection      Three varieties, three of each, displayed in a tray

*The Vera Smith Perpetual Challenge Cup-Class 31*

31. Vegetable Collection      Six kinds, number as specified previously, displayed in a tray

**HORTICULTURE- FRUIT-THE ALDWORTH ROSE BOWL-CLASSES 32-36**

32. Blackcurrants	6 strigs (strings)
33. Collection of three outdoor grown fruits, in a dish, 3 of each fruit	
34. Gooseberries	12 x berries, with stalks
35. Plums	6 x fruit
36. Raspberries	12 x berries, with stalks

**HORTICULTURE-FLOWERS***Nan Stevenson Trophy -Classes 37-52*

37. Cactus or succulent	One
38. Cluster flowered roses	Three stems
39. Dahlias	Three blooms any variety
40. Flowering pot plant excluding orchids	One, See rule 5
41. Flowers	Eight different kinds
42. Flowers	Five of one kind
43. Fuchsia heads	Six of the same or mixed
44. Geranium	Three, any colour
45. Gladioli	Three spikes
46. My best bloom	One
47. Non-flowering pot plant	One, See rule 5
48. Pansies	Five
49. Perennials	Three kinds
50. Potted Orchid	One, See rule 5
51. Rose	One
52. Sweet Peas	Five stems, any variety or colour

**HORTICULTURE-FLORAL ART***The Goodchild Cup-Classes 53-56 - Flowers need not be grown by exhibitor*

- 53. An All Foliage Arrangement, accessories may be used
- 54. Do As You Please Exhibit of flowers and foliage
- 55. Miniature Exhibit not greater than 10cm overall
- 56. Bee Theme, an arrangement of flowers and foliage

## COOKERY

Page 7

### *The Hornsby Trophy-Classes 59-73*

*Preserves & Honey-The Sally Prime Cup-Classes 59-64 Please see guideline 21 for jams*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 59. Blackcurrant jam                    | One jar, 2023 - minimum 340g jar                         |
| 60. Fruit Curd                          | One jar, 2023 - minimum 340g jar                         |
| 61. Marmalade                           | One jar, 2023 - minimum 340g jar                         |
| 62. Raspberry jam                       | One jar, 2023 - minimum 340g jar                         |
| 63. Strawberry jam                      | One jar, 2023 - minimum 340g jar                         |
| 64. Honey                               | One jar, 2023 - minimum 340g jar                         |
| 65. A Cake using a vegetable ingredient | One, please list vegetable used                          |
| 66. A Decorated Cup Cake                | One  |
| 67. Bread Rolls                         | Three  |
| 68. Cheese Scones                       | Three  |
| 69. Dessert in a Glass                  | One  |
| 70. Homemade Wine/Fruit Spirit          | One bottle, dated<br>May be made from kit (guideline 23) |
| 71. Quiche Lorraine                     | One large (approx. 18cm)                                 |
| 72. Pineapple Upside-down Cake          | One (See page 5 for recipe)                              |
| 73. Victoria Sandwich                   | One (with raspberry jam filling)                         |

## HANDICRAFT

### *The Perry Cup-Classes 74-79*

*Please see guideline 7*

- |  |
|--|
| 74. A Mosaic Coaster                   |
| 75. Any crocheted article              |
| 76. Any drawing or painting            |
| 77. Any hand knitted article           |
| 78. Any handicraft                     |
| 79. A Poem about The King's Coronation |

## PHOTOGRAPHY

### *The Len Chinnery Trophy-Classes 80-82 Please see rule 6*

- |   |
|---|
| 80. A colour photograph, unmounted - Nuts                       |
| 81. A colour photograph, unmounted - Shalford Village Fete 2023 |
| 82. A colour photograph, unmounted – Wings                      |

## CHILDREN'S EXHIBITS - Age must be stated on all exhibits

### *Age: under 5 ..... Prize for most points*

- |  |
|--|
| 83. A Caterpillar Model – using recycled materials (max 30 cm) |
| 84. A Flower in a pot – grown yourself                         |
| 85. My Favourite Animal – a painting or sketch A4              |

### *Age: 5-7 years.....Prize for most points*

- |  |
|--|
| 86. A Caterpillar Model – using recycled materials (max 30 cm) |
| 87. A Flower in a pot – grown yourself                         |
| 88. My Favourite Animal – a painting or sketch A4              |

### *Age:8-11 years.....Prize for most points*

- |  |
|--|
| 89. A Caterpillar Model – using recycled materials (max 30 cm) |
| 90. A Flower in a pot – grown yourself                         |
| 91. My Favourite Animal – a painting or sketch A4              |

# ENTRY FORM

Page 8

Entry Forms together with Exhibits must be brought between 8.00 am &  
10.30 am on the morning of the Show.

**One Entry Form for each person in each household**

**Please put an 'X' against all classes you wish to enter**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91									

I have read the Rules and undertake to comply with them.

Please print

NAME ..... Age (if under 16) .....

ADDRESS.....

Phone/email.....

Signature.....

## SHALFORD FETE 10<sup>TH</sup>/11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023



Many thanks to everyone who helped and our photographers John Smith & Kevin Welsh

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# SIMPLE SCIENCE FOR CHILDREN

BY: SALLY WELSH

For those of you with children or grandchildren and are looking forward to the long, long summer holidays here are just a few science activities that I carried out at the recent Shalford Fete. Very little science equipment is used – mostly stuff from your kitchen.

## Drop of water on a coin

Ask children to simply use a small pipette (available from places like Amazon for a few pounds) to carefully put one drop of water at a time on a coin. They should start to notice a dome shape forming. They could try different coins. How many drops until the water spills off the coin? Try



different coins. The reason for the dome-shape lies in the structure of the water molecule itself. Water is a polar molecule, meaning that it has a positive end and a negative end. The negative end of one molecule is attracted to the positive end of another molecule (similar to a magnet), which makes the molecules stick together tightly. The molecules on the surface are pulled inward and they stick together so strongly that they form a dome. This is called surface tension. Eventually, though, gravity

overcomes this force and the dome breaks, spilling water over the sides of the coin.

## Blowing up a balloon – using the power of science

Measure out 100ml of vinegar into a plastic bottle. Using a funnel, place 2 teaspoons of bicarbonate of soda into the balloon. Shake the balloon so that all of the powder falls inside, away from the neck of the balloon. Carefully put the balloon over the top of the bottle. Take care not to knock the bottle over - it can be useful to have someone else hold the bottle whilst you attach the balloon. Lift the balloon to tip the bicarbonate of soda into the bottle and watch the balloon inflate. A chemical reaction has taken place when the two are mixed and created carbonic acid, then carbon dioxide (a gas) and water. As the balloon has created a seal on top of the bottle, the gas cannot escape and so inflates the balloon, as the pressure of the gas increases.



## Leakproof Bags?

Make sure you're outside or over a sink – just in case! Two thirds fill a polythene bag with water. Ask your child to say what they think will happen when they poke a sharp pencil through the bag. Push it through slowly through one side then out the other but not all the way through. It shouldn't leak! Try more pencils. Polythene bags are made up of polymer. A polymer is a substance that consists of chains of molecular units. These chains are so tightly bonded that when the pencil is pushed through the bag, the molecule lines will bend around the pencil to create a seal. This is why the water doesn't leak out! Now push the pencils all the way through. What happens?



There are lots of other simple science idea online and particularly on Pinterest.

[www.learning.science museumgroup.org.uk/learning-resources](http://www.learning.science museumgroup.org.uk/learning-resources)

[www.generationgenius.com](http://www.generationgenius.com)

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.

**Spains Hall, Finchingfield CM7 4NL - Ride date 13th August 2023**

A very popular ride on grassy tracks with little road work. Choice of 7 or 11 miles.

**Little Easton Manor - Ride date 17th September 2023**

**Park Road, Gt Dunmow CM6 2JN**

This ride was run for the first-time last year and was very popular. Starts and ends at Little Easton Manor. Ride across open fields for 8.5 miles. No shorter option on this ride. Food and drink available. Take the family for a day out, tea room will be open. See [www.littleeastonmanor.co.uk](http://www.littleeastonmanor.co.uk) for further details.

Mandy French

SHALFORD LOCAL  
HISTORY ASSOCIATION



Thank you so much to everyone who donated their used plastic bottles to us for our Remembrance event in November. We now have over 600 and are no longer collecting.

We look forward to sharing more details about the event with you in due course.

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## HELLO ALL

### LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF



We quickly put Terrie (a willing volunteer) to Work at Meet & Greet Coronation Special

My name is Terrie Johnson and I started within Essex Police as a telephonist answering calls that, back in the day, went directly to Braintree Police station service desk. Within weeks I realised that the role of Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) would better suit me as I do like to be out and about and talking to people; so I applied, was successful and took up the role and have been doing this for 19 years with Essex Police.

My first post was patrolling Great Notley. Even now, I bump into people young and old who regale the many great times we had and issues we managed to deal with. Policing is in my blood, my dad, my husband and our daughters, all served in the Metropolitan Police, one is still currently serving.

Before joining Essex Police, I worked as a secretary in a small family run firm of Solicitors before the lights of the big City attracted me and I worked in the City of London as a PA at a large insurance and Venture Capital company for many years.

I oversee 8 Parishes. These are Shalford, Wethersfield, Finchingfield, Great Saling, Great Bardfield, Bardfield Saling, Rayne and Panfield. I also cover Braintree town so have a lot to juggle. I have managed to meet some of the rural community in the Parishes at the fabulous Meet and Greet sessions and I plan to come along to as many of these as I can every month. I have changed some duties so I can get to meet you and can catch up on any Policing concerns and I can pass on any crime trends that may be useful for you all to be aware of.

Hopefully the summer weather will be kind and I can get some foot patrols in. As some will know I don't mind mucking in and helping out and I proved I am fairly good at washing up!!

Those that know, know 😊

My contact details are: email: [terrie.johnson@essex.police.uk](mailto:terrie.johnson@essex.police.uk) mobile: 07812 065122

Regards  
Terrie

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## GROW YOUR OWN COCKTAIL

This article is encouraging you to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs to make the quintessential summer cocktail - PIMMS.



### Measures per serving

Ice cubes	2 sprigs Lemon Verbena
50ml PIMMS no. 1	3 or 4 Borage flowers
150ml Lemonade	3 halved Strawberries
A slice of Orange, cut in half	A slice Cucumber

Place the ice cubes, 3 **strawberry** halves, half slice of orange and one sprig of **lemon verbena** at the bottom of a tall straight glass. Add the PIMMS and lemonade (1 part PIMMS to 3 parts lemonade). Garnish with the remaining **strawberries**, **lemon verbena** and orange. Finish with **borage flowers** and a slice of **cucumber**.

**Lemon Verbena** is a 60cm (2') tall clump forming deciduous perennial with edible leaves. The leaves have a distinct lemon smell and flavour. The fresh or dried leaves have several uses, including the basis of a refreshing tea and as a moth repellent in its dried form.

**Borage** is an annual herb with cucumber flavoured leaves and attractive edible bright star like flowers loved by bees. It can become a thug although the surface rooted seedlings are easy to remove. Plant borage as a companion to strawberries and attract pollinators to increase the yield of the fruit.

The **Strawberry** variety Gariguette, the French equivalent of Royal Sovereign, is suited to container growing. It has elongated, conical scarlet fruits with an aromatic, sweet taste ready in June - July. Grow the plants in a sunny spot and cover with netting or a cloche to keep the greedy birds at bay. Cut back to 5cm (2") before the winter sets in, although the plants are hardy to -20°C. Once you are in full fruit production, you could branch out and make a flavoured vodka or liqueur. Quarter the strawberries and steep in vodka for at least 6 weeks for a flavoured vodka. However, if you mix sugar to taste at the start of the process it becomes a strawberry liqueur.

By June, your **Cucumber** plants, either self-sown or bought in, should be settling into their grow bags or large pots furnished with a cane to assist the plant to climb to the wires attached to the roof of the greenhouse. Most varieties have only female flowers which can be recognised by the miniature cucumber forming behind the petals. Any male flowers should be removed as these produce bitter fruits.

It is possible to grow cucumbers outdoors and these are called ridge cucumbers as they have prominent ridges with tiny spikes along the length of the fruits. Allow the plants to sprawl along the ground removing the growing tip once seven leaves have formed. Side shoots will then develop and these should be pinched out at four leaves. Keep the soil moist and water around the plants to prevent the stems and fruit rotting. Feed fortnightly once the first fruits have formed and support the ripening fruits on pieces of tile or board to keep them clean.

Plenty of us grow our own food, but not many grow for our own drinks, so why not set a trend and try THE summer cocktail PIMMS.

**HAPPY GROWING, along with the odd tipple**

***The Theoretical Gardener***



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## NATURE NOTES

### CRICKET BAT WILLOW

BY: MAC BEANLAND



Some people were quite concerned to see a number of mature healthy trees being felled the end of April beginning of May in Shalford at a time of the year when birds are nesting and also of course at the loss of trees. Well there is no need for concern on either point. The species of tree grown especially for making cricket bats and grown as a crop are very open and birds don't like them for nesting purposes. Felling takes place all the year round each one which is felled is replaced with a new young tree. These are planted between the months of December and March, they are known as whip's and are approximately 12 feet tall when they are planted. They are very carefully looked after in the years which follow. Side shoots are removed to encourage a tall straight trunk and a watchful eye kept looking for diseases. They take 15 to twenty years to mature and reach the optimum diameter for cricket bat production.

The world's major producer of cricket bat willow is based right here in Essex, it is J S Wright and Sons Ltd at Great Leighs. 75% of the world's cricket bats are made from their willow. They typically plant 30,000 trees across Britain annually. This species of willow was first discovered in Norfolk in 1870, and it thrives in wet ground near rivers and streams. It is very nice to see here in Shalford and, the fact that the cricket bat willows are age staggered, we will always have a mixture of trees at various stages of size and age. We are constantly being told that trees help combat global warming by absorbing carbon. When trees are felled that carbon stays locked in the timber so by planting replacement trees at regular intervals I assume they are absorbing much more carbon than a tree that stays in the same spot for many years.

J S Wright and Sons like to emphasise the fact that their plant is run on environmental grounds; they have solar panels to supply their electricity, all the bark and wood trimmings are turned into bio mass and the saw dust is used for horse bedding and growing mushrooms. Although I am not a sporting person, I like to think of cricket as the rural sport. Lots of old books refer to the sound of leather on wood coming from the village green on a summer's day. I suppose cricket spread all over the world in the days of the British Empire but I think it's wonderful that it is so dependent on cricket bat willow and a family company based here in Essex.

Willow has many other uses as well, there are lots of types and strains of willow, weeping willow and other decorative willows, shrub willow which is grown for Biomass, Basket willow which is grown for weaving, to name a few. Willow has long been recognised for its medical powers for instance the sap under the green bark contains a substance which is similar to aspirin and has long been used to treat muscular pain.

# Shalford Parish Council by Samantha Batt

## Your Councillors....

We are delighted to be able to confirm a full council after co-opting to fill the remaining seats. Here are your councillors.



Samantha Batt



Neil Birks



Amanda French



Andrew Hull



Andrew  
Merryweather



Peter Mitchell



Kevin Welsh

The team are excited and raring to go to have a fantastic year ahead as a new Council. Please do get in touch or come along to a meeting to raise concerns or get involved. Please email [clerk@shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk) in the first instance and Jill our Clerk will be happy to help guide you.



## Village Magazine

At our last meeting we were able to agree a £2000 funding grant to support the village magazine. We'd like to thank everyone who is part of putting it together especially Alice, and long may we be able to all enjoy the benefits it brings.

## **Village Fete**

What an amazing day? Whilst we were lucky with the weather on the day, we are also blessed with wonderful parishioners. It was great to see and talk to so many of you who either helped or just came along to



support. As Councillors we were all there helping with various stalls, and we really appreciated the time to be able to chat to you all. We were also pleased to be able to support by contributing to the cost of the St John's Ambulance cover.

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

*Sam, Neil, Mandy, Andrew H,  
Andrew M, Peter, Kevin & Jill*



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## THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

[www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk)

BY: KEN McDONALD,

Secretary

Milestones have been part of our heritage for centuries. They were an important element of the Roman road network, positioned to indicate the distance travelled or to be travelled. In 1767, milestones were made compulsory on all turnpikes, the toll roads managed by turnpike trusts, although many local milestones were in place before then.

There are around 40 surviving milestones within The Hundred Parishes, mostly along three highways that run between London and Cambridge. These highways are now called B1383 (formerly A11), B1368 and A10. The milestones are marked on Ordnance Survey maps as "MS".

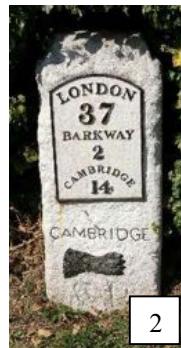
One of the earliest and most visible milestones can be seen in Barkway, a historic coaching village. It was installed in 1728, one of 16 milestones funded at that time by a trust established in 1586 by a former master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Additional milestones were added by the Wadesmill Turnpike Trust in 1742, some along the old Roman road, Ermine Street, now A10, and others along the alternative route, now mostly called B1368. Over time, the inscriptions became weather-worn and many stones were upgraded in 1804 by the addition of a cast iron plate.

Most milestones in Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire are listed but only one in Essex is included on the National Heritage List - the large, three-sided iron milepost in the centre of Stansted Mountfitchet on the B1383. This is probably the newest in the Hundred Parishes, having been installed in the early 1900s. The earlier milestones along the old A11 would have been installed by the Hockerill Turnpike Trust which was responsible from 1744 to 1870 for 28 miles of highway between Harlow and Stump Cross.

Some of the information for this article came from The Milestone Society, established in 2001. Their website is <https://www.milestonesociety.co.uk/>

### Photos:

- 1: Barkway      3: Stansted Mountfitchet  
2: Barley          4: Birchanger



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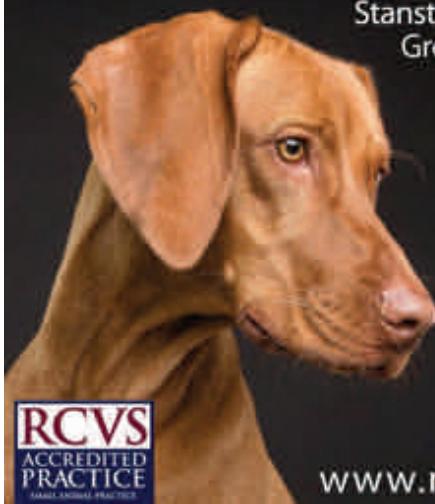
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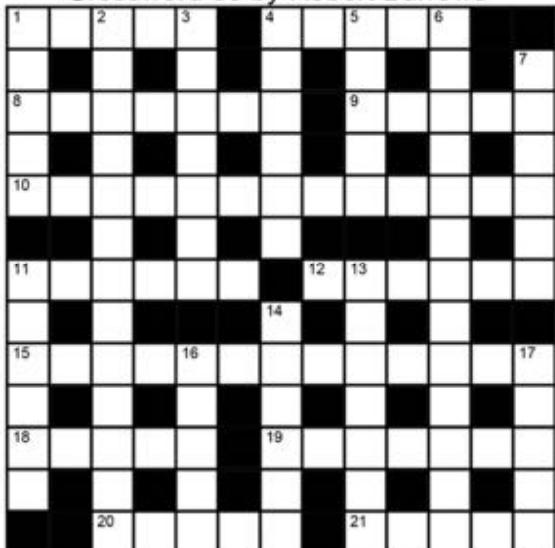
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Crossword 68 by Robert Burrows



**Across**

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1 Aromatic herb (5)            | 4 Alter (6)                              |
| 4 Choral composition (5)       | 5 Rubbish (5)                            |
| 8 Studied (7)                  | 6 Essex village (7-6)                    |
| 9 Action space (5)             | 7 Legal practitioner (6)                 |
| 10 Prevailing custom (5,2,3,3) | 11 Female riding garment (6)             |
| 11 Discordant sound (6)        | 13 Reveal (7)                            |
| 12 Racer (6)                   | 14 Narrow stretch of water (6)           |
| 15 Numbers people (13)         | 16 Son of Abraham (5)                    |
| 18 Turkish officer (5)         | 17 Timid man (5)                         |
| 19 Totals (7)                  | <b>Cryptic Across</b>                    |
| 20 Sailing boat (5)            | 1 Said to be faulty herb (5)             |
| 21 Odd (5)                     | 4 Broken totem for choral music (5)      |
| <b>Down</b>                    | 8 Prepared for exam (7)                  |
| 1 Male singer (5)              | 9 Maybe near a                           |
| 2 Essex village (7-6)          | 13 Strip Una, lock out! (7)              |
| 3 Pertaining to the side (7)   | 14 Stretch of water for artist maybe (6) |
| stadium (5)                    | 16 Boy has some Mt Isa account (5)       |
|                                | 17 Unmanly male (5)                      |

10 Schedule for Monday, e.g (5,2,3,3)

11 July first fish made jarring sound (6)

12 Carpet for athlete (6)

15 Their jobs do count (13)

18 Turkish officer in Pa's hat maybe (5)

19 Sun moat adds up (7)

20 You first chat badly on sailboat (5)

21 Having a bent? (5)

**Cryptic Down**

1 Fish ring for singer (5)

2 One mossy stand out near Brentwood (7-6)

3 All rate maybe on the side (7)

4 Part modern, if you alter it (6)

5 Sadly, hart's no good (5)

6 Youth garden? No, could be in Epping Forest village (7-6)

7 Wary, El, need attorney (6)

11 His coat was multi-coloured (6)

## BOCKING WINDMILL

BY: ALISON GURNETT

A group from the Shalford Local History Association recently had the pleasure of visiting Bocking Windmill, a Grade II listed, 18th-century post mill located in Bocking, Essex, England. Built c. 1721.

We were greeted by two exceptionally well-informed guides who shared detailed knowledge of the history and mechanical workings of the mill. It is the only remaining fully functional post mill in the country and the earliest known post mill to survive in its original form. It is the great Dame of Mills being the oldest surviving mill in the district of Braintree.

The mill is 4 stories high and was originally powered by four sails; a wooden stock was installed later, replacing the fourth sail. We climbed the steep narrow steps up the mill, at each floor looking at artifacts of the mill and the huge mechanisms. On each floor, we were greeted with incredible views of the countryside as far as the eye could see.



The machinery is partly wood and partly iron reflecting improvements in the iron industry which made possible the widespread use of cast and wrought iron. It retained its tail pole and two cloth-covered sails to the end of its working life, the other sails were spring sails (they were fitted with shutters) and opened and closed by levers attached to springs. Importantly these were safer and much easier to operate than cloth sails. Operators had to be fit and strong to work the machinery and agile enough to navigate the stairs.

Bocking windmill had governors which were invented in the 1780s to control the distance between the millstones as the wind speed changed the upper turning millstone will tend to speed up or slow down and rise or fall on its spindle. This meant that the gap between the two millstones varied adversely affecting the quality of the flour. Governors prevented this from happening. The steam driven machinery on the ground floor was installed in 1898. The Mill continued to work until the First World War though like other country mills, it depended increasingly upon processing animal feed grist, ground at the shortest notice, oats crushed.

With clunky, creaky mechanisms it gives a real insight into how things operated back in the days when it was in full swing.

The last Miller Henry Hawkins went to work at Crittalls during the Great War but still worked the mill occasionally until 1929 when it became the first Essex mill to be taken into public ownership.



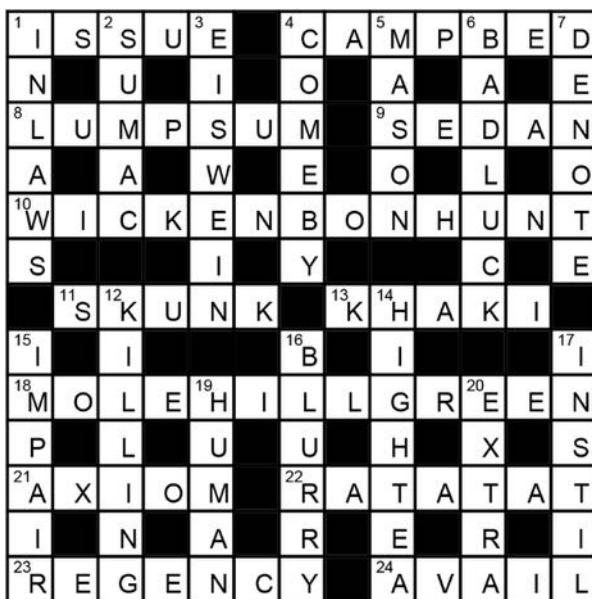


The mill was fascinating to explore, and really interesting to learn about its history and the importance of windmills in the area over the centuries.

In recent years, an extensive restoration of the mill has been undertaken in order to preserve it for future generations to enjoy. Thanks to generous grants, the mill's interior and exterior have been lovingly renovated to their former glory. Today, Bocking

Windmill is open to the public - to arrange a visit to the mill, contact the Friends of Bocking Windmill at: [Braintree.gov.uk/bockingmill/](http://Braintree.gov.uk/bockingmill/)

The visit wasn't all education and history though, having worked up an appetite climbing the stairs and exploring the mill we enjoyed a scrumptious afternoon tea at "fox in the stables" tea rooms @ Petersfield village, delicious cakes, sandwiches and truly enormous fruit scones with cream and jam – yummy!



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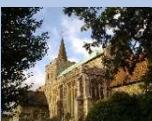
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## **IN THE UNITED BENEFICE of Finchingfield, Cornish Hall End, Shalford, Wethersfield, Little And Great Bardfield THE PANT VALLEY CHURCHES**

From the Vicarage...

One subject which has begun to appear on the news more and more frequently is Artificial Intelligence. I have resisted the temptation to ask ChatGPT to write this month's letter from the Vicar, but I nevertheless thought it would be interesting to find out what all the fuss is about!

Having challenged the computer to explain some delicate points of theology, I was impressed by the quality, and indeed clarity, of the answers. It is clear that we are witnessing the emergence of a powerful new tool for collecting and presenting knowledge.

Much of the media coverage of AI is, however, concerned with the potential risks it poses, and I have heard quite a few catastrophic scenarios described. It is undoubtedly true that humanity has a tendency to misuse the power we gain when technology enlarges our abilities. But at the heart of much of the anxiety which has been expressed is the worry of how we will be able to distinguish between the words of a real person and those of a machine.

We live in an age when we have been taught to view our ability to understand and control the world as our greatest asset. But having to think about the ramifications of artificial intelligence might make us stop and think about that again. What really makes us human is something more than just our intellect, and it's much harder to describe exactly what it is. One beginning of an answer is that it is our capacity to love – that involves something which goes beyond simply imitating words or behaviours, no matter how sophisticated a way we might find of doing so.

It is this capacity which lies at the heart of faith too – it opens to us the possibility that there is something more real than just our thoughts, something which more deeply makes us ourselves. For Christians, it is being loved and known by God, and this is what we celebrate when we gather together to worship and pray. Why not come and join us, and see what we believe will always – no matter what dystopian scenario we imagine – distinguish a person from a mere machine.

Rev'd/Fr Alex

## SERVICES FOR JULY & AUGUST 2023 IN THE PANT VALLEY CHURCHES

### JULY

#### **Sunday 2 July – Fourth Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield

#### **9.30am Parish Communion Service – Shalford**

10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield

10.30am Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End

11am Prayer & Pilgrimage (an alternative morning worship) – Wethersfield

3pm Children's Church – Wethersfield

#### **Sunday 9 July – Fifth Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford (followed by breakfast in church)

9.30am Sung Communion Service – Little Bardfield

10.30am Reflective Communion Service – Finchingfield

11am Family Service – Wethersfield

#### **5pm Sung Evensong – Shalford**

#### **Sunday 16 July – Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield

#### **9.30am Morning Service – Shalford**

10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield

10.30am Family Service – Finchingfield

5pm Words & Music – Cornish Hall End

### JULY (CONT)

#### **Sunday 23 July – Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield

#### **9.30am Morning Service – Shalford**

10.30am Morning Service – Finchingfield

11am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield

#### **Sunday 30 July – Eighth Sunday after Trinity**

10.30am Benefice Communion Service – Cornish Hall End

### AUGUST

#### **Sunday 6 August – Ninth Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield

#### **9.30am Parish Communion Service – Shalford**

10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield

10.30am Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End

11am Prayer & Pilgrimage (an alternative morning worship) – Wethersfield

#### **Sunday 13 August – Tenth Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford (followed by breakfast in church)

9.30am Sung Communion Service – Little Bardfield

10.30am Reflective Communion Service – Finchingfield

11am Family Service – Wethersfield

#### **5pm Sung Evensong – Shalford**

## SERVICES FOR JULY & AUGUST 2023 IN THE PANT VALLEY CHURCHES

### AUGUST (CONT)

#### **Sunday 20 August – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield

#### **9.30am Morning Service – Shalford**

10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield

10.30am Family Service – Finchingfield

5pm Words & Music – Cornish Hall End

#### **Sunday 27 August – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield

#### **9.30am Morning Service – Shalford**

10.30am Morning Service – 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

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



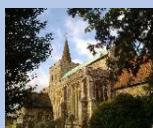
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Two men, three days .....and a lot of noise and dust, but our under-pew heating system is in, just in time for a June heat wave! We were able to pay for it without grant-aid due to careful stewardship of our finances, thanks to Mike Chumbley, our Treasurer, and a substantial donation from FOSTAC, so, again, many thanks to the FOSTAC committee and everyone who has attended their events and contributed so generously. We could not have done it without you.



Speaking of which, please keep the date of Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September for a community churchyard clear-up. 10am – 1pm, bring your own implements great and small and help us tackle some of the parts that are too awkward for big machinery to reach. Again, we can't do it without you! It will mean that the churchyard will look tidy for the FOSTAC barbecue the following Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> which is, coincidentally, the national "Ride & Stride" day, when many churches are visited by sponsored walkers, cyclists and riders to raise money for their local church grant-aiding charity, in our case, the "Friends of Essex Churches Trust". This charity has been extremely kind to St Andrew's in the past and I have approached them again this year for financial help towards the repairs to the masonry of the great west window of the tower. Hopefully, Ray Templeton, from Suffolk Masonry Services will be on-site from mid-month onwards to carry out these repairs, so it's all happening in September!

After being temporarily trashed for the under-pew heaters installation it was wonderful to see St Andrew's restored to normal calm and beauty in time for Sue Heavers' funeral and, later that week, the closing service of the Shalford Fete. The floral decorations for both occasions were quite literally jaw-droppingly awesome, so my thanks on behalf of everyone who enjoyed them go to Neil, Stephen, Heather and all her team of floral artists. Week after week you glorify God in our church and we are truly grateful for your skills and dedication.



The summer holidays approach so may I wish you all a happy, peaceful season and safe journeys if you are travelling.

**Hilary Penney**



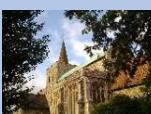
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