



SHALFORD



Village Magazine September 2023
showcasing our community
Produced by the People for the People



SHALFORD
WE ARE PROUD OF OUR
COMMUNITY

At the heart of our Village
is its People. Our Family,
Friends, Neighbours and
even those we have yet
to meet.

- WHAT'S ON
- CHURCH NEWS
- PARISH COUNCIL
- LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
- ARTICLES
- NATURE
- GARDENING
- & MORE

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**KNOW WHERE
YOUR NEAREST
DEFIBRILLATOR
IS LOCATED**



Jaspers Green
CM7 5AU



Shalford Village
Hall Church End
ofCM7 5EZ



The George Inn The
Street CM7 5HH

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

**FRONT PAGE
ST ANDREW'S
CHURCH
SHALFORD**

**A very special THANK YOU to
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, SHALFORD**

For generously funding September's magazine

Shalford is so fortunate to still have such a beautiful ancient church forming an important part of our village life. Built circa 1300; it still retains many great attributes internally and externally. So many churches are lost every year partially due to lack of use and partially due to maintenance costs. 2006 a group of individuals interested in conserving St Andrew's formed FOSTAC (Friends of St Andrew's Church) and have since been working tirelessly to conserve all aspects of the church.

Below is the enormous list of projects FOSTAC has undertaken and completed.



June 2008 Kitchen & Toilet Extension

FOSTAC contributed, in conjunction with the Church PCC funds, to the planning & building of the Kitchen Meeting Room & Toilet.



July 2010 Church Yard Fencing & Gate

Donation received in memory of local resident, which enabled FOSTAC to manage replacement of Church Yard Fencing & Gate



October 2010 Meeting Room Furniture

Purchased 12 Cushioned Chairs and two long tables for Meeting Room...

March 2011 Oven

Purchased Oven for kitchen for use by All

April 2012 Chandelier

FOSTAC paid for the rewiring of the Chandelier in the church Nave



March 2015 Curtains & Glass

Purchased Curtains for Ringing Chamber, Main Door and Choir Changing Room



June 2016 Organ

Organ refurbishments all 745 pipes reshaped part funded by FOSTAC



March 2017 Curtains

Purchased Curtains for Meeting Room to improve sound proofing the room

September 2017 Guttering & Downpipes

Replacement of guttering and downpipes completed

2018

April/July After theft of lead, roof repaired and East Window Stonework and stained Glass Cleaned.

June Purchased Church Alarm at £7,300

2019 Roof Repairs again...

Again lead theft to main church roof costing over £44,000, non-lead materials agreed by Church Authorities, FOSTAC made a contribution

2020

Contributing to repair of the Stained Glass in the East Window. Also to be considered is the West Window and some fabric on the internal walls.

2023 Heating System

Contributed £4,000 to new electric under-seating heating (due to church oil boiler being condemned)

FOSTAC now in its seventeenth year has raised over £100,000 as gross income from various projects. Sadly the team has dwindled over the years from 12 to now just 5 and they would welcome with open arms new blood. So, if you have an interest in churches and/or listed buildings why not volunteer to become a team player. To learn more, visit FOSTAC's website www.fostac.co.uk. It will provide an insight into the many varied functions the church has been used for over the years. Our local churches, just like Village Halls, are the focal point of village life and if we are to preserve them we must put the effort in to use these wonderful facilities which often prove to be an absolute lifeline to those perhaps living a solitary and lonely existence in later life.

Please give this some thought and get in touch if you feel you can help either physically or perhaps by sharing a good idea or two to encourage more people to come into and enjoy this wonderful historic building.

LET'S ENSURE WE CONTINUE TO SAFEGUARD *ST ANDREW'S*

FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS OF SHALFORDIANS

DON'T HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH

Contact: Sue Morton email suebeazlevend@gmail.com or Tel 01371 850626

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: Sally
07785 235000

or visit
<https://shalford-essex-pc.gov.uk/history-society/>

SHALFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



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



MEET & GREET 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

SHALFORD
VILLAGE HALL

11 am to 2 pm

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

FOSTAC

Friends of St Andrew's
Church



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

WHAT'S ON - 2023/2024 DIARY DATES

Day	Date	Organisation	Event	Place	Time	Contact
	1-3 Sept		Gardeners World Show	Audley End		
Sat	9th Sept	FOSTAC	BBQ in the Churchyard Teas, Cake Stall	St Andrew's Church	12.30	suebeazleyend@gmail.com
Sat	23rd Sept	Caroline/Marianma	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Shalford V. Hall	10.00	07734140478
Sat	23rd Sept	SHS	Pumpkin Competition	Shalford V. Hall		
Sat	23rd Sept		Finchingfield Horticultural Show			
Sun	24th Sept		County Harvest Festival	Chelmsford Cathedral	15.30	
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	14th Oct		Encore A night of Operatic Opulence	Gt Lodge Gt Bardfield	18.45	www.greatlodge.co.uk
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		
	2024					
Sat	27th Jan	Shalford Horticulture	Quiz Night	Shalford V. Hall		
Sat	22nd June	Fete Committee	Shalford Village Fete	Shalford V. Hall		
Sat	7th Sept	Shalford Horticulture	Shalford Horticultural Society Show	Shalford V. Hall		



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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

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

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AT YOUR OWN PACE IN A FRIENDLY
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CONTACT: JAMES
TEL: 07704 070498



RE-ENGAGE (Formerly Contact the Elderly)

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



For more details:
Contact:

Sarah Cunningham
Sarah8750@hotmail.co.uk

Or

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

SHALFORD CRAFT GROUP

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

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

Caroline Ottley 07734140478
Marianna Marriott

WALKING GROUPS

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

From
FINCHINGFIELD
Green every Friday
at 10 a.m.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION POINTS

Tel: 01376 330694

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

WHAT'S ON

WEA Shalford Workers Education Association

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

HEDGEHOPPER S MODEL FLYING CLUB

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(BMFA)
visit:
<http://www.hedgehoppers.org.uk>

JOIN OUR FRIENDLY GROUP OF BELL RINGERS

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

FRIDAY at Shalford
Church, 7 p.m.

**FOR MORE DETAILS
CONTACT:**

ROY THREADGOLD

Tel: 01371 850481



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

10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

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



POST OFFICE EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON



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

ECC MOBILE LIBRARY 2022

**Saturday - 9th Sept, 30th Sept
21st Oct, 11th Nov**

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>**



FOSTAC

Friends of St Andrew's Church

Sir Roger Singleton OBE

President

BBQ and Table Top Sale

Saturday 9th September 2023

St Andrew's Churchyard

12.30-4.30pm

£10 for Table Top Reservations

Book Your Table Now!

(See Sue Morton 01371 850626)

Come Along and Enjoy the BBQ

Wine and Drinks Stall

Everyone Welcome

Bring your own chairs

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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

WETHERSFIELD FLORAL ART
NAFAS AFFILIATED

WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2023

NEIL BIRKS

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BRINGS US A
'CELEBRATION OF EARLY AUTUMN'



WETHERSFIELD VILLAGE HALL, THE GREEN,
WETHERSFIELD, BRAINTREE CM7 4BS

DEMONSTRATION 7.30 PM,

Guests £10.00, Members £5.00

Including wine and light refreshments

Tickets in advance from

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ESSEX COUNTY HARVEST SERVICE



at Chelmsford Cathedral

Sunday 24th September
at 3.30pm

Everyone welcome to the service
and afterwards for refreshments

Encore!

A NIGHT OF OPERATIC
OPULENCE

FEATURING SINGERS FROM OPERA LOKI

Saturday 14th October 2023

7:30pm (Doors Open 6.45pm)

Anne of Cleves Barn,
Great Lodge, Great Bardfield
Braintree CM7 4QD

Come in your sparkles if you wish!

£27 including a glass of fizz (or
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All abilities welcome. No need to read music.
No need to audition.

This is a great opportunity to discover the wonderful world of singing - to make new friends - and experience the uplifting joy of singing.

Weekly sessions held at:
Cornish Hall End Village Hall on Tuesdays at 7.30pm

A weekly charge of £2 to cover the costs of hall hire and admin is the only expense.

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

This new singing group, which is held every Tuesday at Cornish Hall End Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. has become very popular. It is a beautiful renovated Hall with a superb sound system.

It has undoubtedly helped so many people, especially with health issues and friendships have been made. Once a month, we have a SING and CHAT evening enabling the group to develop these special friendships, which makes a fun, relaxing atmosphere. Once a quarter, we have a bring and share food and drink evening. Again, this has been very popular amongst the members.

Only well known, popular songs are sung and are taught by myself, a professional opera singer and voice tutor. I decided to volunteer to help people discover the benefits that singing can provide and also the joy that it can bring.

Most people say....."I can't sing" when they join, but they soon discover the wonderful world of singing and confidence is gained. No need to read music either.

All this wonderful experience for just two pounds a session. This helps towards the hall hire and general admin costs etc?

If you would like to try out this special group or join, please call 07775 531 781

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Essex Bridleways Association

The Essex Bridleways Association was formed some years ago to protect and enhance Bridleways. Membership costs £15 to join and runs for a year. Under 16s can join free.

Flu Vaccination requirements for these rides are that all horses attending must be up to date with their annual flu injections (ie. the last booster is no more than a year old).

Random checks may be made, so please remember to bring along your horse passport.

Little Easton Manor, Park Road, Gt Dunmow CM6 2JN - Ride date 17th September

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 for further details.

Brooks Farm, Twitty Fee, Danbury CM3 4PG - Ride date 8th October.

A variety of hilly tracks through woods, country lanes, surfaced bridleways and field edges. A choice of 8 or 11 miles.

AGM

Keene Hall Galleywood CM2 8PT. **Date 9th November**

A chance to meet the committee, get an update on how we are doing and have your say. Further details to follow.

Mandy French

SHALFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

COACH TRIP TO ANGLESEY ABBEY

BY: CAROL PRAILL

The Horticultural Society organised a trip by coach to Anglesey Abbey on Thursday 22nd June. Anglesey Abbey is an interesting place to visit. It was converted into a priory of Augustinian canons but their way of life ended in 1536 due to Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries. It was then converted into a family home from the 17th-20th centuries. Lord Fairhaven lived in Anglesey Abbey until his death in 1966 when the management of the building was passed to the National Trust.

On arrival at the Abbey, some people went on a tour of the gardens which was very interesting. This included a tour of the Arboretum, the rose garden and the Lode Mill (not working on the day we were there) and other areas of gardens, planted for all seasons. There are also extensive pathways to walk around and enjoy.

The house itself has been left exactly as it was when it became under the management of the National Trust. All the rooms were very interesting and there were people able to answer questions. Our group particular liked being shown the signature etchings of some of Royal Family who used to visit.

Most people enjoyed visiting the shop and the garden shop as well.

A good day was had by all



CELEBRATING OUR HARVEST

Living in the countryside provides us with the opportunity to watch agricultural activity happening around us. At this time of year, it's especially noticeable with the work of harvesting and grain-carting stretching long into the night. There's something very special about seeing the grain leaving the fields of Shalford destined for our bread (or beer!).

The Church has a long tradition of celebrating harvest, recognising the importance of giving thanks for the land, the food it provides and the work of those who bring it to fruition.

You are very warmly invited to two Harvest Festival celebrations. The first is in Chelmsford Cathedral on Sunday **24th September at 3.30pm**. This service takes the countryside into the city with a grand harvest celebration, including animal as well as human participants! The preacher this year is the Rt Revd Roger Morris, Bishop of Colchester.

On **Sunday 1st October**, St Andrew's Church will host the Shalford Harvest Festival with all our treasured harvest traditions. Once again, I'm sure that the wonderful Shalford flower arrangers will amaze us with their creativity. More details will follow in the October magazine.

Everyone is welcome to both events.

In the meantime, my prayers are with everyone working on the land to bring in the harvest.

Revd Canon Janet Nicholls

Rural Adviser and Agricultural Chaplain, Diocese of Chelmsford.

jnicholls@chelmsford.anglican.org

WETHERSFIELD CLUB EVENTS

COME AND JOIN US THROUGH THE REST OF 2023,

WHEN WE HAVE A FULL DIARY

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US FOR ALL OR SOME OF OUR EVENTS!

Contact: Julia Broad, 0771 267 4929, broad.julia@yahoo.co.uk

Sunday 3rd September

3.00 pm Afternoon Vinyl Event, bring your vinyl down and hear it played through the Club's system for an afternoon of great music and memories.

Saturday 9th September

4.00-11 pm Club open for the Euro qualifier on the big screen between England and Ukraine, 5.00 pm kick off

Saturday 16th September

7.00 pm Club open for another fantastic DJ Jam Night with Tim and his fellow DJs. Great music and fabulous atmosphere.

Friday 22nd September- Sunday 24th September

Wethersfield Club Beer Festival with live music over the whole weekend

Friday 22nd September

5.00 pm Club Open, extensive range of local real ales available

8.30 pm Live Music with Chelsea Afton, who returns to the Club bringing her fabulous selection of Soul, Motown and Disco - get those feet ready to dance!

Saturday 23rd September – Beer Festival

2.00 pm Club Open for more real ales

4.45 pm England v Chile Rugby World Cup on big screen

8.00 pm Disco evening with Tim Harris

Sunday 24th September – Beer Festival

2.00 pm Club Open to complete the weekend of real ales

4.45 pm Scotland vs Tonga, Rugby World Cup

8.00 pm Wales vs Australia, Rugby World Cup - Both on big screen

Saturday 30th September

7.00 pm Club open for social evening

Saturday 7th October

7.00 pm Club open for John Barker's bingo night, has to be heard to be believed!
Eyes down at 8.00 pm

Saturday 14th October

7.00 pm Club open for social evening

Saturday 21st October

7.00 pm Club open for a Race Night with a difference, come and join the excitement!

Saturday 28th October

6.00 pm Club open for Family Halloween Party, fancy dress encouraged. DJ music
🎃 6pm - late

November The Club will open at 7.00 pm on Saturday nights throughout November

Saturday 2nd December

From 5.00 pm Christmas Light Switch On in Village Hall, with the usual stalls and fantastic raffle, plus a visit from Santa on his sleigh. Funds this year being raised for Wethersfield Church

7.00 pm Live music at the Club from Take Cover Come and join the party after the Switch On

Saturday 9th December

7.00 pm Club Open for social evening

Saturday 16th December

7.00 pm Club Open for social evening
Christmas opening hours to follow - then we have NYE!!

New Year's Eve

7.00 pm It's party time again at the Club, with live music from local band Revival to see in the New Year. Further details to come but mark it in the diary, let's make it a night to remember

EXTENDED OPENING - WETHERSFIELD SHOP

We are pleased to announce further opening times for the shop, including Sunday mornings 10.00-11.00am, and an early evening slot on Tuesdays, 6-8pm.

Monday	10 am – 1 pm	3 pm – 5 pm	
Tuesday	10 am – 1 pm	2 pm – 4pm	6 pm – 8 pm
Wednesday	10 am – 1 pm		
Thursday	10 am – 1 pm	2 pm – 5 pm	
Friday	10 am – 1 pm	2pm – 4 pm	
Saturday	10 am – 1 pm		
Sunday	10 am – 11 am		

Post Office Thursday 2pm to 4pm

Wethersfield Village Shop has now been up and running for 3 months, we are well stocked with all the usual items you might need, together with Newspapers to pre-order and Priors Hall Meat available, both in the Shop and to order (delivery on Thursday). We have extended the hours slightly to include a late night on Tuesdays, 6-8pm, and an hour on Sunday mornings, 10-11 am, plus we still have the Post Office Service on a Thursday, 2-4pm.

If you are able to or are interested in volunteering for a shift at the Shop then please do get in touch, we would be grateful to hear from anyone who has a spare couple of hours every so often! Dave Nightingale, 07712 545597, dave.nightingale@gmail.com, or Julia Broad, 0771 267 4929, broad.julia@yahoo.co.uk

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SHALFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

EVENING WITH DEB HART

WILLOW WEAVING

BY: Caroline Ottley



We thoroughly enjoyed our evening on the 28th June.

The talk during the first part was really interesting, with Deb showing us slides and photographs of various forms of weaving over the years, how it was used during the wars and in other countries using all kinds of material people could weave with. She then talked us through a large display of woven items she had either made or collected on her travels

The second half of the evening, Deb demonstrated how to make a willow obelisk (see photo left). This was to be the raffle price.....for a lucky winner!

All in all, a very enjoyable evening to remember.

THE 2023 STEBBING VINTAGE TRACTOR RUN

VISIT TO THE AIR AMBULANCE

BY: MAC BEANLAND

The run this year took place on May 14th and it almost seems a distant memory but in fact it has taken until August 3rd to finally bring it to its conclusion. There is a lot of hard work by a small dedicated team organising the route, getting permission to cross private land, trying to work out a time table, catering, making sure we all comply with the law and finally collecting sponsorship money and keeping accounts.

Once again we were blessed with nice weather on the day of the run although we did have to make last minute changes to part of the route as 80 tractors would have made a mess to some of the private land which was very wet and soft due to recent rain. Lots of people came to see the tractors when we had a very welcome comfort break at Shalford Hall Farm by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Stevenson and St Andrew's Church, and many more turned out to wave along the route and put money in the collection buckets.

The result of all this generosity, with collections and sponsors, we were able to give the Air Ambulance the grand total of £11,663.



A BENDLOWE'S DAY AT THE BEACH – 5 AUGUST 2023

BY: SALLY WELSH



When Marianna originally booked The Hut for the now annual Bendlowe's day trip to Felixstowe for a Saturday in August, there may have been concerns that it might be as hot as the summer of 2022. Well, we needn't have worried on that score! Despite concerns about the weather, over 40 of us set out on the coach with positive attitudes and umbrellas. The



journey there was very smooth and on arrival we soon settled in to the lovely little community centre called The Hut which is positioned perfectly in the middle of Felixstowe's Promenade and is very well equipped. After cups of tea, coffee and biscuits and lots of chatting, lunch soon arrived in the form of some delicious fish and chips which all enjoyed.

Unfortunately by now the weather had really deteriorated with strong winds and driving rain. We could have enjoyed the view from the large windows but they were

rather steamed up with all that chatting! Some brave souls ventured out for a walk but soon returned soaked through – more soggy bottoms than an episode of the Bake Off! The less hardy amongst us played scrabble, cribbage and other games.

Despite not really being able to get outside, time soon passed and we made our way back to the coach for the return journey, lashed together for fear of losing anyone in the crashing waves!

Many thanks to Marianna for organising the trip and to her glamorous assistant Derrick. Special mention for Marianna's granddaughter, Sienna for all her help in the kitchen. It has been suggested we ask her Mum if she can be available the first Friday of every month for Meet and Greet.



And Marianna... can you please book the right weather for next year please!

(Photos courtesy of Vic Goodey)

Shalford Parish Council by Samantha Batt

Introducing our District Councillors....



Mark and Michael will be running open surgeries at 7pm every third Wednesday of the month to coincide with our Parish meetings held at 7.30 pm. Please come along if you have an issue or concern that you would like to speak to them about.

(Please note as an exception September's meeting will be held on the 13th which is the 2nd Wednesday)

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

Speeding

Back in May Councillor Batt met with PS Matt Green and his team regarding speeding throughout the village. They visited a few 'hot spots' before deciding to set up by The George to begin checking the speeds of passing cars. Out of 100 cars that passed, 4 tickets were issued. Matt and his team plan to revisit the village soon so if you have any new areas of concern, please do let us know.



Ranger report Lol has been busy doing a lot of litter picking over the past month, he's certainly clocked up the miles across the whole parish. He has also been working on footpath 38 to clear access, as well as footpath 2 and 3. He has cut back overgrowing brambles in lots of locations around the parish too. If you see something that needs attention, do please get in touch and we'll get Lol on the case!

September's meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th September at 7.30 pm 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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*Fly tipping - Weeds - Littering - Pot Holes - Path
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AUGUST 2023

1 8 15 22 30
 WED

SEPTEMBER 2023

5 12 19 26

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 WASTE**
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- Grey bin and food bin
- Different collection day

- Clear sacks and food bin only
- Different collection day

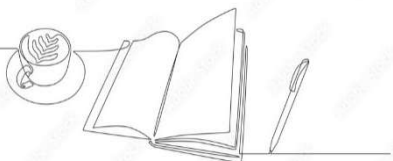
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BY 7AM





TAKE NOTE

For Gardeners, September is considered to be the start of the gardening year. It is a time for reflection and renewal. A time to consider the highs and the lows of the last twelve months of gardening.

It is also the time to take stock of how well the garden has performed for you. Were there colour combinations you loved or hated? Had a plant become a thug where once you loved it for its ease of growth and propagation but now, it is everywhere?

September is the month to take note

Start by making a list (or take photos) of the positive aspects of your garden. Use a dedicated notebook, so you have a reference point at a later date. Note the colour combinations you loved, whether contrived or by accident and perhaps you could add another plant to the grouping which has a different form be it foliage, flower and/or colour. Repeat this combination along the border which will give cohesion to your planting.

What about the lovely area where the foliage of the plants complimented each other – some spikey, others flat and open like a saucer, companioned with the feathery foliage of the nearby plant. Again, use this complimentary planting and repeat throughout the bed.

Now for the list of “failures”, although nothing in the garden is a failure. It is an area which gives you the opportunity to rearrange. Your main worry will probably be the “thug”. The thug is the plant which has become too successful. It may take a while to remove. However, remove as much as you can each time you garden and whatever else you do, **do not let it seed**, as you will never win.

My “thug” was *Geranium phaeum* Samobor, a very pretty plant with tall stems of dark purple flowers. It thrives in damp or dry shade and did it thrive!!

Try to keep on top of the weeds. If your garden is thriving, then so will the weeds. Consider the time you spent and the cost of planting your treasures, then letting them be overrun and deprived of light, water and nutrients by weeds. Weeds are thugs too, so do not let them seed and remove as soon as you see them.

September is a good month to consider taking stem cuttings from plants as soon as they finish flowering. The soil and weather have sufficient warmth to encourage root growth before winter sets in. Also, make a note of the large congested clumps of perennials such as phlox and various daisies which will need to be divided later or in the Spring. These plants grow from the centre out. The outside of the clump is where the new growth is and the centre becomes a mass of tangled roots. Note their eventual height and colour and where the new plants are to be used to fill in the inevitable gaps in the border.

Happy Note Taking

The Theoretical Gardener



Buzzing News from the Hives of Jillie & Gill



Hello Shalford. My name is Jillie Woolcock and I have been invited, along with my fellow beekeeper Gill Powell to write a bi-monthly article about beekeeping. In this, the first instalment, of which I hope will be many forays into my beekeeping adventure, I have been asked to introduce myself to you.

I lived on the outskirts of Wethersfield for a number of years until in 2000 I moved to Great Bardfield where I have remained ever since. I have always loved growing things and even my London balcony produced all sorts of edibles and flowers. Now, I have a modest garden whose lawn has become progressively smaller as the borders and beds have become bigger and bigger. My home-made bee hotel has always been well used and so it came as a natural progression for my love of all things “bee” to, well, I won’t say get out of hand, but it’s a close run thing! Yesterday, I watched a leaf cutter bee struggling into the hotel with a very large section of leaf. My hotel is a simple construction of an old tin with sections of bamboo cane wedged into it.



Anyway, It was a dark and cold night in January 2023 when, poring over a seed catalogue, I saw an advertisement for a bumble bee colony and one thing, as they say, led to another. I found Braintree Beekeepers Association’s website where they advertised their annual ‘Introduction to beekeeping’. If you are considering keeping honey bees you will be well advised to attend the course - it is incredibly informative. The tutors (all beekeepers, naturally) were professional and amateur alike and were more than happy to share their combined years of experience and knowledge with us newbies..... The great thing about beekeepers is that they are, like their charges, very sociable. They will natter away for as long as you’ve got about bees and the joys and pitfalls of keeping them. The course consisted of two days of mostly theory and a couple of practical sessions at the B.B.A. apiaries in Great Bardfield and Cressing. Having completed the course and clutching my certificate it was time to get some bees - or colonies as we beekeepers refer to a wooden box containing 1000s upon 1000s of stingy (occasionally grumpy) insects.



Firstly, I had to buy hives, the recommended number for my enterprise being two. Full explanation of a hive and it’s contingent parts in a future episode. Suffice to say you can buy hives two ways: assembled or flat packed. Carpentry is not among my many talents so I bought two fully assembled hives. Choosing which style of hive was yet another pitfall for the unsuspecting. There are a myriad of styles and designs. A hive is, after all, just a collection of boxes with no tops or bottoms into which you hang frames. So you’d be surprised how many variations of that concept you can buy. It all seemed so straightforward in January.

As I mentioned, my garden is a modest size and the proximity of neighbours precluded having my hives in the garden, much as I'd have loved the bees close at hand. Thankfully an old school-run friend and neighbour who happens to also keep bees offered me lodgings in one of his meadows. It's a short wheelbarrow push away from home and the bees have a river view - lucky bees, lucky me. The necessity of a wheelbarrow will become clear in a future instalment. Now it was time for the bees.



There are several ways you can obtain bees. Buying what is known as a nuc (nucleus) was my chosen route. Another is to capture a swarm which has its benefits as the bees don't cost anything! However, as an unknown quantity you won't know if the bees are bad tempered or if they are carrying disease, and as a complete beginner I wanted quiet, calm and, most important of all, tolerant bees. I was really lucky to get a nuc from a reputable beekeeper in Braintree - my bees are angels in bee suits, yes truly, angels. And now having got my nuc, kindly delivered by Mike, the bees were installed in their new quarters. And my adventure with my bees began.

We are now drawing towards the end of the season for the bees. In a few weeks we shall harvest the honey and by the end of September/early October we shall hunker the bees down for the winter and that will bring my first summer of beekeeping to a close. It's been great and I do truly love and delight in the bees and their enterprise. I shall return in October but in the meantime Gill will be here in September to entertain you.

And one last note: The reason we were invited to write about the bees was prompted by a nasty incident our esteemed editor read on Facebook about a swarm of bees being drowned. If you see a swarm don't be alarmed. Generally speaking a swarm of bees won't bother you. Keep your distance and contact Braintree Beekeepers. Their website has a list of beekeepers who will come and, conditions permitting, take the swarm away for you.



--o0o--

Hello everyone my name is Gill Powell. I would like to introduce myself by telling you a little about how I first got interested in bee keeping.

It has always been a dream of mine to keep bees, it started when I was about 10 and a neighbour of mine had a couple of hives at the bottom of his garden, I would watch intently as he opened up the hives and puffed in smoke. But for some reason I didn't ever pluck up the courage to ask him what he was doing.

So finally I took the plunge just before Covid by enrolling on a beginners bee-keeping course in Braintree.

After the six-week course had finished, lockdown hit so it was down to me to self-learn by reading, YouTube tutorials and zoom calls! But then the fun really started in 2021 when I picked up my first box of bees from Sussex. Traveling home with many thousands of bees in the boot of the car certainly focuses you're driving!

When the bees were safely installed in the apiary I began to wonder what we had let ourselves in for, the apiary is fenced off due to the many hungry and inquisitive badgers that visit our garden and would do anything for a lick of honey or a mouthful of grubs.

Three years later, I still have to pinch myself when I open up the hives and see all those tiny black eyes staring up at me as if to say 'now what do you want?'

You then go on to dismantle their home and pinch their food, normally without any complaint or fuss. On occasions we have had the odd militant bee who has chased us back up the garden to the house.

Luckily we have a largish garden so there is plenty of room for several hives at a safe distance from us. Having always been a keen gardener there is plenty for them to forage nearby most of which is bee friendly.



Last year the bees had a real treat, our local farmer planted Borage in the next door field which made it look like a sea of lilac, and all they had to do was hop over the fence. The bees absolutely loved it and produced many pounds of beautifully clear, golden honey.

Since starting beekeeping I have met many new friends who either belong to the BBKA (Braintree Bee Keepers Association) or people at events that promote the importance of local and National conservation of the

environment and thus enabling wild-life to continue to flourish and pollinate our crops and flowers.

It has been a steep learning curve for me since starting bee-keeping but I have enjoyed every aspect of it so far, I took my 'basic bee-keepers' exam in June. So now I feel I have my foot on the bottom rung of the ladder and am excited and determined to learn more.

Over the next few months we will introduce you to the amazing world of bees.

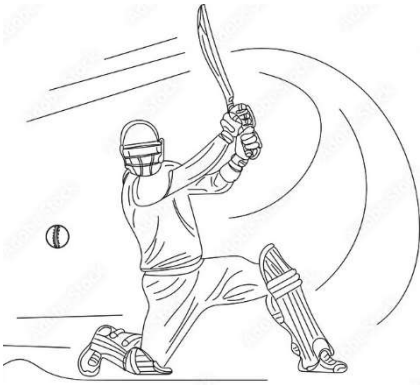
Thank you for reading this first article.

Fun fact... in a worker bees life time of just six weeks, she will produce just a teaspoonful of honey.



THE DAY I SAVED A TEST MATCH (WITH THE HELP OF ALLAN LAMB)

By Carl Muir



It's Cricket time, forget tennis!

In pubs next to village greens across the country on Saturday evenings in summer, there are heated arguments amongst the pundits whose bowling or batting was best that day. We all have stories.

Some years ago, I spent a day in a Birmingham area medical practice near Edgbaston where there was a cricket Test Match happening that day. England were batting. My surgery completed uneventfully, the building closed and while I packed up, the receptionist came in suddenly a bit flustered saying there was a young man outside who looked very healthy but he said "I would really like to see a doctor, please."

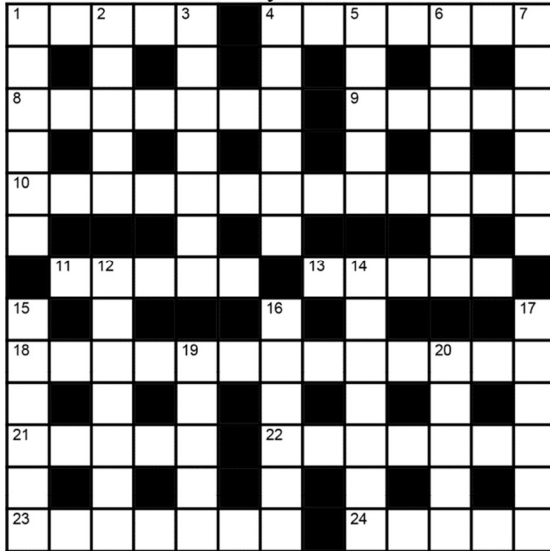
I called him in, he looked familiar, fit and sunburnt, apologising and holding up his right hand. I realised he was Allan Lamb, the best England batsman and I wondered what he was doing here instead of being on duty at the Test. He explained he was batting but his wrist and the base of his thumb had become so stiff and painful, he'd had to leave the field. I learned later the England innings was in a bad way, only a few left to bat and they had limited skills. "I was hoping for some cricket tomorrow, but this has got worse today" he said ruefully. I examined him. The slightest movements of those joints were acutely painful. In cricketing terms his right hand was useless, and the rest of his innings seemed doomed. I prescribed the most powerful anti-inflammatory drug available but cautioned that whilst there would be an improvement, it was doubtful there would be enough to enable him to grip a bat. However, next evening's papers were ecstatic. "Allan Lamb has played a momentous innings for England, scoring 43 by his powerful wrists and in spite of a sore thumb." The press was unaware of his continuous pain throughout, which became excruciating at every ball played.

Nearly a hundred years ago, there was a legendary match at Clifton College Bristol with the tension not unlike today's. The report began: "There's a breathless hush in the close tonight, an hour to play and the last man in..."

I think you'd agree that previous game's report matched, that Allan Lamb's tremendous courage in spite of adversity enabled him to "Play up, play up and play the game."

PS Allan Lamb wrote on Twitter recently he had won another battle, this time against prostate cancer. All that was needed, he said, was a simple blood test requested by his doctor, achieving early diagnosis and successful treatment. He urged any middle-aged man hesitating about the test, to go for it with no delay.

Crossword 69 by Robert Burrows



11 Some risk unknown animal (5)

13 Sounds like motor opener (5)

18 No mountain colour in this hamlet (8-5)

21 O Max, I sorted the principle (5)

22 Rapid sound of rat – goodbye! (7)

23 Early style Cy Green ordered (7)

24 Bridal wear said to have good effect (5)

Cryptic Down

1 Lawn is chopped, not by blood relatives (2-4)

2 French philosopher went back for tanning preparation (5)

3 Swine, i.e. makes wine from frozen grapes (7)

4 Call in to me, Coby maybe (4,2)

5 Mother and boy stoneworkers (5)

6 Lab duck upset – hard lines! (3,4)

7 Toned to E could mark it (6)

12 Kiln Gil ordered - final ending (7)

14 Ha, eight ordered afternoon meal (4,3)

15 Rip Mia might make worse (6)

16 Unclear if right and left are in Bury (6)

17 Put in list somehow (6)

19 With, um, a normal person inside? (5)

20 Film bit player (5)

Across

1 Produce (5)

4 Portable furniture (4,3)

8 Complete cost (4,3)

9 Enclosed car (5)

10 Village near Saffron Walden (6-7)

11 American animal (5)

13 Army colour (5)

18 Hamlet, home of The Three Horseshoes (8-5)

21 Accepted principle (5)

22 Rapid gun sound (3-1-3)

23 Architectural style (7)

24 Beneficial effect (5)

Down

1 Marital relations (2-4)

2 Tanning preparation (5)

3 Specially made wine (7)

4 Visit informally (4,2)

5 Stone craftsman (5)

6 Unfortunate state (3,4)

7 Indication of (6)

12 Terminating life (7)

14 Early evening meal (4-3)

15 Make worse (6)

16 Hazy in outline (6)

17 Enter drop by drop (6)

19 Relating to a person (5)

20 Bonus (5)

Cryptic Across

1 Bring out – Sue is organised (5)

4 Furniture could be intent! (4,3)

8 Bulky money (4,3)

9 Dean's car, maybe (5)

10 Nasty bone chunk twin found in this village (6-7)

FINCHINGFIELD – A VERY BRIEF HISTORY

BY: DOUGLAS WEST



People have lived in Finchingfield for thousands of years, living in the valley carved by the melting ice-age glaciers, which formed the village pond and deposited a boulder of Northumbrian dolerite (near Street Farm Barns). The oldest flint tool found in Finchingfield dates from around 12,000 years ago but the finest discovery is a Neolithic polished axe head, 3,000 years old. Archaeologists have excavated two Roman settlements in the parish revealing tiles, pottery, oyster shells and deer horns. A bee-hive quern for grinding corn was discovered in the garden of Cabbaches, thought to date to the period AD 50-150.

In Anglo-Saxon times, around AD 500, the Kingdom of Essex was founded – *East Seaxe – East Saxons*. Finchingfield's Saxon name was Phincinghefelda, which suggests that its early origin was 'land cleared by the people of Phinc'.

In 1086, Finchingfield was recorded as a settlement in the Domesday Book. Finchingfield's population was listed as having 124 households, which places the village in the largest 20% of settlements recorded. Before the Norman conquest in 1066, Finchingfield was the property of Earl Aelfgar, the Queen and other Anglo Saxons. After 1066, Finchingfield's land, livestock, woodland, homes and slaves became the property of the Normans, including King William 1, Count Eustace of Boulogne, Count Alan of Brittany and Hervy de Ispania. It was Hervy de Ispania who first built the house known as Spains Hall. Originally a moated wooden building, in 1585 it was built into a brick Elizabethan country house, home of the Kempe family and later Samuel Ruggles and his descendants, the Ruggles-Brise family.

The oldest building in Finchingfield, built of stone, is the Church of St John the Baptist. The large Norman tower dates from 1170 with other parts constructed in the late 13th and 14th centuries. The Guildhall dates from 1470, housing a priest, with shops and workshops on the ground floor and a large hall for Guild meetings, later used as a school for boys and almshouses. Throughout the village there are superbly preserved houses that date from around 1500, some with large flamboyant chimney stacks indicating a period of wealth which reveal a glimpse into pre-industrial England. Life was difficult for some Finchingfield residents though. The Parish Overseer, elected annually, made money and goods available to the poor and a Workhouse opened in 1767 to house the needy.

The 1851 census records the population of Finchingfield as 2,594 people. Many of these villagers would have been farm workers, living in cottages 'tied' to the Spains Hall estate. Farming was labour-intensive then and there were eight windmills in the parish. Only one windmill remains, which ceased working in 1890. It is a Post Mill and is the smallest one of its kind in Essex. An important local industry was straw plaiting, undertaken by women and children in the village to supplement incomes. The plaited straw was bought by merchants for weaving into bonnets and hats. In 1922, the village boasted: a Doctor, a Thatcher, a Plumber, a Carpenter, a Carrier, two Butchers, two Bakers, two Blacksmiths, two Boot Repairers, five Pubs, six Grocers, a Post Office, a Clothier/Furniture/Hardware dealer, a Fire Engine and Fire Station and a Garage for petrol and car repairs.

All this and more of Finchingfield's history can be explored in the Guild.

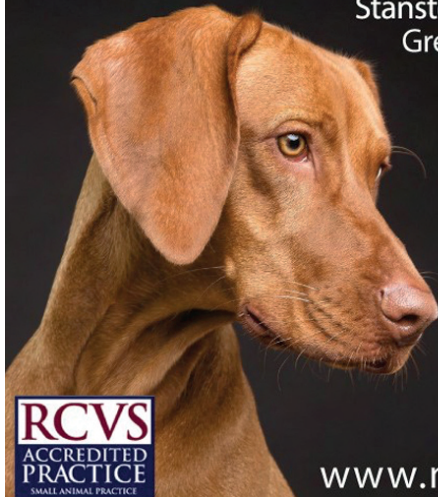
Next Month Douglas writes about Finchingfield Guildhall.

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THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

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**BY: KEN MCDONALD,
Secretary**



Conservation Areas were introduced in 1967. District councils are responsible for designating them. The area must have special architectural and/or historic importance that merits protection. The aim is to protect an area rather than single buildings. Within each Conservation Area, there will generally be individual buildings that have additional protection, classified as Listed Buildings. There may also be a Scheduled Monument, or trees with a Tree Preservation Order, or buildings or spaces that have been designated as Assets of Community Value. There are varying degrees of protection for each of these designations, all aimed at preserving our heritage for future generations.

Uttlesford District Council covers around half of the Hundred Parishes area. The Council has designated 33 Conservation Areas within the area. For each, it has published an appraisal that defines the area covered and explains the reasons for designation. (see <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/conservation-area-appraisals>) These appraisals are often a helpful source for the kind of information provided in the route descriptions for walks that can be downloaded from www.hundredparishes.org.uk.



East Hertfordshire has the second biggest representation within the Hundred Parishes and this district council has designated 26 Conservation Areas here. Their appraisals are also available and provide valuable insight. (see <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-areas>)



Similar appraisals are available from the other district councils which are represented within the Hundred Parishes: South Cambridgeshire, Braintree, North Herts, Chelmsford and Epping Forest. Within South Cambs, Linton has the only “Outstanding Conservation Area” designation, including Linton’s long High Street and some lanes on either side. Much of this area is explored on Walk 182 whose route covers less than 2 miles.



Our towns and villages are usually best explored on foot and each is included in at least one of the Hundred Parishes routes. If you are able to get out and about, I encourage you to try them.

Photos: 1. Finchingfield 2. Gt Bardfield 3. Gt Dunmow 4. Gt Easton 5. Hatfield Broad Oak 6. Hunsdon

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Roy - 01371 850481

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Horticulture

Mel - 07855 494624

Carpet Bowls

Vic - 07773 707404

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BE PART OF OUR COMMUNITY



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, JASPERS GREEN - PART 2

BY: TREVOR BEAL

Following on from my original article about the history of St. Peter's Church in Jaspers Green, which appeared in the seventh issue of Benlowe's Bugle back in November 2020, I have been trying to track down more information about the Church and can now share with you the whereabouts of two of the original items which were in the Church before it closed and was sold in 1952, namely, the bell and the organ.

The Bell

My first breakthrough came just a month after my original article was published when, in December 2020, Roy Threadgold wrote an article in Bendlowe's Bugle about bell ringing and listed all the bells at St. Andrew's Church, one of which, he described as a 'small bell labelled "unused" and now sitting in the ringing chamber', he went on to explain that it originally came from the former 'Tin Chapel' at Jaspers Green. I contacted Roy and he kindly said that we could meet up and he would let me see the bell. Sadly, what with Covid and various other distractions on my part, I wasn't able to meet up with Roy until August last year.



St. Peter's Church bell

It was very interesting to see the bell and to take some photos of it, however, unfortunately there are no markings on the bell which would help identify or date it and we did not know when the bell was removed from St. Peter's and placed in the ringing chamber at St. Andrew's.

The Organ

Having heard a rumour that the organ may have gone to a Church or Chapel in or around the village of Chappel (between Halstead and Colchester), I contacted the Parish Church at Chappel (St. Barnabas) but unfortunately they did not know anything about the history of their organ so it was back to the drawing board!

I am a volunteer at the Halstead Heritage Museum and mentioned my quest to them, we managed to find an old guide book for St. Barnabas Church in our archives and it mentioned that the organ was installed in 1952 to commemorate the 600th anniversary of the consecration of the Church, it also stated that it came from another Church, could this be the one? Following on from this, I made a visit to the Essex Record Office at Chelmsford and found the minute book for the Parochial Church Council at St. Barnabas Church and this did confirm that the organ did originally come from St. Peter's Church in Shalford in 1952.



The Organ in St. Barnabas Church in Chappel (originally in St. Peter's Church)

Having confirmed this, I carried out some research online and came across a website of 'The British Institute of Organ Studies' which had a register of listed historic organs and, luckily, it listed the organ at St. Barnabas and confirmed that it was restored and erected at Chappel in 1952 but had no prior history other than the fact that it was originally built in 1847 by Timothy Russell in London. This has led to another question, where was the organ before it came to St. Peter's? Where do I go to find out about that?

If anyone has any further information to add to this or any photos of the Church (I have not yet managed to track down a photograph of the Church), I would be extremely pleased to hear from you.

trevorbeal@googlemail.com



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400 YEARS OF WETHERSFIELD'S TENOR BELL

BY: ROY THREADGOLD



In St Mary Magdalene's Church on 20th May there was a celebration of the 400th anniversary of the tenor bell, which was cast in 1623 by the celebrated Colchester bellfounder, Miles Graye I. Many Miles Graye bells are still ringing regularly in East Anglian towers.

There was an exhibition of books, documents and all sorts of articles relating to bells and ringing.



Demonstration ringing on the tower bells was followed by the chance to "have a pull" on the tenor – under close supervision, as its half-ton weight is capable of doing great harm in inexperienced hands.

The ancient chiming barrel was mounted on a stand so that it could be rotated by hand for the first time in well over 100 years. Computers were on hand, one running "Abel" software to demonstrate the mathematics of ringing, and another with the details of all church bells in the Chelmsford Diocese.

A series of short talks on 17th century bellringing, the Colchester bell foundry and the bells of Wethersfield, was interwoven with handbell recitals – both change-ringing and tune-ringing with the "Bardfield Chimes".

The whole afternoon was rounded off with a Service of Celebration.

A goodly number of people attended throughout the afternoon and the event seems to have created great interest.

Although not specially a money raising event, it did net over £100 for the church funds.



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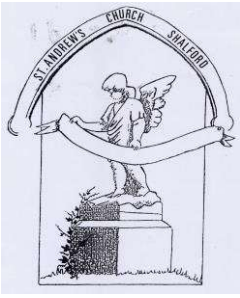
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FOSTAC

Friends of St Andrew's Church

President

Sir Roger Singleton, CBE.

JULY NEWSLETTER

Hello FOSTAC Members

After the very successful evening with Gary Matthews talking about the **Forgotten Gardens of Easton Lodge** which everyone must agree was very illuminating and interesting, many have suggested that we arrange a visit to see the Gardens.

The Gardens have **Open Days** also days when the Trustees are working on the projects and from what we understand, these are on **Thursdays** and they will arrange for Tours when they can explain the work they do and show the gardens with as much information they can offer and most likely answer questions.

So we are trying to arrange a visit. Thinking that we have car-shares for this we would like to know if you are interested (contact Sue Morton 01371 850626) then we can make the arrangements.

The next event we have planned is the BBQ and Table Top Sale on **Saturday 9th September** in the Churchyard.

For the Table Top Sale we welcome anyone who wishes to take a Table – cost £10 per table. We already have a number of people booking tables but we are hoping there will be more who wish to show their wares! Again contact Sue 01371 850626 to book a space!

We hope you had a good summer and we look forward to seeing you at our planned events.

FOSTAC
Committee

www.fostac.co.uk

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



**Shalford
St Andrew's**



**Wethersfield
St Mary
Magdalene**



**Finchingfield
St John the
Baptist**



**Gt Bardfield
St Mary The
Virgin**



**Little
Bardfield
St Katharine**



**Cornish Hall
End
St John the
Evangelist**

From the Vicarage...

It's the time of year that we have a few more occasions for the ringing of the church bells, particularly in celebration of a wedding day! It's a good opportunity to give a couple of reminders. Firstly, we are fortunate to have a very active community of bell ringers, and particularly lucky to have excellent teachers amongst them. We regularly welcome new ringers into our bands – contact details for our bell ringers can be found in all the village magazines.

It is also, however, a good opportunity to give a reminder of the criteria which make one eligible to be married in a parish church. Many people assume you have to be a regular worshiper, but there is a broad range of so-called qualifying connections which can establish your eligibility, apart from that of being resident in the parish. If your parents or grandparents were married in the parish, or if you or your parents have ever lived in the parish or worshiped at the church for a period of 6 months or more, or if you were Christened or prepared for confirmation there then that gives you a qualifying connection. There are some further legal preliminaries if you are not a UK citizen or you have been previously married, but these can usually be sorted out with some advice by talking things through with the Vicar.

If you have family members thinking about marriage in the coming year or so, maybe now is a good time to remind them about these connections, as marriage in a church not only provides a good spiritual and pastoral foundation for the marriage to come, but also gives a couple a sacred place where they can always go back and remember that significant day. Of course, wedding season also means a season of anniversaries, and it's a lovely opportunity for couples who have been married for however long to reflect on their commitment, and how their relationship continues to grow. On particular occasions, there might even be a desire to renew or recall one's wedding vows – something we welcome couples seeking to do in Church.

It's a reminder too that our churches belong to our communities, as places where people come at significant moments in their lives. This means that we are grateful for all the support we receive from our communities already in helping to keep them running and well kept; and we always welcome further offers from anyone wishing to be involved and to help in whatever way – they are, after all, your churches too!

Rev'd/Fr Alex

(please note slight change of schedule for Finchingfield & Cornish Hall End from this month)

Sunday 3 September – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield

9.30am Parish Communion Service – Shalford

10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield

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

3pm Children’s Church – Wethersfield

Sunday 10 September – Fourteenth 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 17 September – Fifteenth 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 Evensong – Cornish Hall End

Sunday 24 September – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield

9.30am Morning Service – Shalford

10.30am Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End

11am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield

Regular Services and Events during the week

(Morning Prayer subject to change – please check church notice boards for details.)

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**



**Shalford
St Andrew's**



**Wethersfield
St Mary
Magdalene**



**Finchingfield
St John the
Baptist**



**Gt Bardfield
St Mary The
Virgin**



**Little
Bardfield
St Katharine**



**Cornish Hall
End
St John the
Evangelist**

Even after all these years I am still conditioned to think of September as the “new year” so “Happy New Year” everyone! And I hope you enjoyed the summer, weather notwithstanding. To make it even more confusing, the Church’s New Year begins, this year, on 3rd December, Advent Sunday. And then, of course, there is Hogmanay in January So, many new beginnings on the horizon.

However, back to September in St Andrew’s – please don’t forget to come along to the churchyard on Saturday 2nd between 10am –1pm, armed with some gardening tools so that the grounds will look decent for the FOSTAC Bar-B-Que etc on the 9th and the possible arrival of “Ride & Stride” visitors to the church on the same day (see some more information about this in the July magazine). Light refreshments will be available. Even if you are not able to help with the more manual aspects of the day, do bring a bin bag with you and fill it with some of the windfall sticks that litter the churchyard; there are enough lying about to save the cost of kindling for your open fire or wood burner until Christmas at least!

Later in September I’m hopeful that work will start on the repairs to the masonry of the west window of the tower. These repairs have been on the church architect’s “to do” list for several years and we really must get on with it now. I’ve been applying for grants to help fund the work (which comes in at just under £20,000) and to date have had one positive response with hopefully more to come. With the aid of FOSTAC fundraising and the PCC’s own small reserves we can just about afford to meet half the cost without draining our funds completely but the more we can access from grant-making organisations and our local community the more secure I will feel, knowing that we have enough money in hand to cover any contingencies this winter. So, if a begging letter comes through your letterbox this autumn, please be generous! Many folk believe that the Church is partly funded by the State. Unfortunately, not so! Apart from a possible VAT rebate on some aspects of new work, the care, repair and maintenance of Grade-1-listed St Andrew’s is the sole responsibility of its worshipping and wider community.

You may have noticed a display case just as you go into the church, housing a Book of Remembrance with the names of departed loved ones inscribed in the month of their death. I’m delighted to say that we have found a local calligrapher to undertake this task again so if you would like a name or names to be added, please discuss the details with Mike Chumbley, who will then pass on the information to the artist. We are asking for a suggested donation of £10 per name.

The Harvest and Remembrance seasons are fast approaching and then it will be Advent and Christmas before we know it. Thank God that we have a beautiful building in our midst to mark the passage of the year, and know that you are always welcome in it.

Hilary Penney

SHALFORD CHURCH OF ST ANDREW'S PANT VALLEY CHURCHES CONTACTS



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5 Important Life Events A Financial Planner Can Help You Prepare For

In 1994, Brits first heard one of the most famous phrases about life. It came from the film *Forrest Gump*, in which leading actor Tom Hanks says: “*My mom always said life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you’re gonna get.*” Never was a truer word spoken. Life certainly has a way of taking you by surprise, with Covid being a case in point.

While some life events may be unexpected and unwanted, others are planned and provide huge amounts of joy. Whichever they are, life events can have significant implications for your finances, which is why it’s important to discuss them with your financial planner. Read on to discover five life events, how they may impact on your wealth, and how a financial planner could help you make the right decision when they happen.

1. Getting married or forming a civil partnership

As a married or civil partner couple, you have several benefits you would not have had as two single people – even if you lived together. For example, as a couple living together you do not automatically inherit the other’s nil-rate band (NRB), which is the amount your allowed to have in your estate on death before Inheritance Tax is due.

Your NRB increases from £325,000 per person to £650,000 when you marry or become a civil partner. If you are eligible for the residence nil-rate band, your joint NRB could rise to £1 million.

Another benefit is that you can typically split your assets with your spouse. This means that when you come to sell the asset, you and your spouse can both use your £6,000 Capital Gains Tax allowance (in the 2022/23 tax year), effectively doubling it to £12,000 before the tax is due.

Speaking with your financial planner could be a very shrewd move, as they could ensure you’re taking all the tax benefits you’re entitled to.

2. Having children

Having children is always a joyous occasion and could alter your priorities. The following are two ways this might happen and how your financial planner could help.

Ensuring your family’s financial welfare

Having a family who relies on you financially might mean you need to consider life cover or income protection, as it could help ensure loved ones can maintain their lifestyle if anything happens to you. A financial planner could help ensure the cover is cost-effective and appropriate for your needs.

Saving for your child’s future

You may want to create a pot of money that could fund your child’s studies at university or help them buy their first home. A planner could help confirm the best way to do this, perhaps

by using a tax-efficient Junior ISA, and how you might be able to expose the money to greater growth potential.

3. Going through a divorce

Divorce could significantly affect your short-term and long-term financial security. One way this could happen is if your ex-spouse does not share their pension with you.

While a pension pot could be one of the most valuable assets within a marriage, research by [Legal & General](#) shows that 24% of people waive their rights to their former spouse's retirement fund. This could deprive them of much needed income in retirement.

A financial planner could help you understand your marital assets, including pensions, and provide options to ensure you have a secure long-term future.

4. Receiving an inheritance on the death of a loved one

Research by [Hargreaves Lansdown](#) found that half of those who expect to receive investments as an inheritance don't know what to do with them. Worse still, of those questioned, 38% said they would cash the investments in and put the money into a savings account.

Given recent inflation rates, this could significantly reduce the long-term value of the inheritance in real terms.

A financial planner could help you understand the investments you've inherited, and ways you might be able to maintain their growth potential at a level of risk that's appropriate for you.

Another way your planner could help is if an inheritance increases the value of your estate, making it liable to Inheritance Tax (IHT). If this happens your planner can provide options around using gifts and certain investments to help reduce or negate your liability to the tax, which is typically charged at 40%.

5. Deciding to retire

According to an article by [Money Age](#), just 14% of retirees over 55 took regulated advice or guidance before switching on an income from their pension. This is despite the fact it could have resulted in them paying unnecessary taxes, and jeopardising their lifestyle in retirement. Working with your planner as you approach retirement could help you make sure you can afford the retirement lifestyle you want, as tax-efficiently as possible.

It could also prevent you falling foul of little known tax-traps, such as the Money Purchase Annual Allowance. This could affect you if you work part-time while taking an income from your pension.

Get in touch

As you can see, life events could have significant financial and tax implications. Speaking to your planner when they happen could help make sure you deal with them as effectively as possible, while taking the pressure off you at a potentially difficult time.

If you are experiencing a life event, or want to plan for one, please contact HarperLees Financial Planning who will be happy to discuss it with you. Alternatively email us on info@harperlees.co.uk or call 01277 350560 and we'd be happy to help.

Please note

This article is for information only. Please do not act upon it in isolation. Use this article to inspire you to contact your financial planner when facing life-changing events to ensure you achieve the best outcome possible for you and your family.

History of aviation (cont)

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World War II (1939–1945)

Main article: [Aviation in World War II](#)

See also: [Air warfare of World War II](#), [List of aircraft of World War II](#), [List of helicopters used in World War II](#), and [World War II aircraft production](#)

[World War II](#) saw a great increase in the pace of development and production, not only of aircraft but also the associated flight-based weapon delivery systems. Air combat tactics and doctrines took advantage. Large-scale [strategic bombing](#) campaigns were launched, [fighter escorts](#) introduced and the more flexible aircraft and weapons allowed precise attacks on small targets with [dive bombers](#), [fighter-bombers](#), and [ground-attack aircraft](#). New technologies like [radar](#) also allowed more coordinated and controlled deployment of air defense.



[Me 262](#), world first operational jet fighter

The first jet aircraft to fly was the [Heinkel He 178](#) (Germany), flown by [Erich Warsitz](#) in 1939, followed by the world's first operational jet aircraft, the [Me 262](#), in July 1942 and world's first jet-powered bomber, the [Arado Ar 234](#), in June 1943. British developments, like the [Gloster Meteor](#), followed afterwards, but saw only brief use in World War II. The first cruise missile ([V-1](#)), the first ballistic missile ([V-2](#)), the first (and to date only) operational rocket-powered combat aircraft [Me 163](#)—with attained velocities of up to 1,130 km/h (700 mph) in test flights—and the first vertical take-off manned point-defense interceptor, the [Bachem Ba 349 Natter](#), were also [developed by Germany](#). However, jet and rocket aircraft had only limited impact due to their late introduction, fuel shortages, the lack of experienced pilots and the declining war industry of Germany.

Not only airplanes, but also helicopters saw rapid development in the Second World War, with the introduction of the [Focke Achgelis Fa 223](#), the [Flettner Fl 282 synchronpter](#) in 1941 in Germany and the [Sikorsky R-4](#) in 1942 in the USA.



[D.H. Comet](#), the world's first jet airliner. As in this picture, it also saw [RAF](#) service

A 1945 newsreel covering various firsts in human flight

Main article: [Postwar aviation](#)

After World War II, [commercial aviation](#) grew rapidly, using mostly ex-military aircraft to transport people and cargo. This growth was accelerated by the glut of heavy and super-heavy bomber airframes like the B-29 and [Lancaster](#) that could be converted into commercial aircraft.^{[\[citation needed\]](#)} The [DC-3](#) also made for easier and longer commercial flights. The first commercial jet airliner to fly was the British [de Havilland Comet](#). By 1952, the British state airline [BOAC](#) had introduced the Comet into scheduled service. While a technical achievement, the plane suffered a series of highly public failures, as the shape of the windows led to cracks due to metal fatigue. The fatigue was caused by cycles of pressurization and depressurization of the cabin and eventually led to catastrophic failure of the plane's fuselage. By the time the problems were overcome, other jet airliner designs had already taken to the skies.

USSR's [Aeroflot](#) became the first airline in the world to operate sustained regular jet services on 15 September 1956 with the [Tupolev Tu-104](#). The [Boeing 707](#) and [DC-8](#) which established new levels of comfort, safety and passenger expectations, ushered in the age of mass commercial air travel, dubbed the [Jet Age](#).

In October 1947, [Chuck Yeager](#) took the rocket-powered [Bell X-1](#) through the [sound barrier](#). Although anecdotal evidence exists that some fighter pilots may have done so while dive-bombing ground targets during the war,^{[\[citation needed\]](#)} this was the first controlled, level flight to exceed the speed of sound. Further barriers of distance fell in 1948 and 1952 with the first jet crossing of the Atlantic and the first nonstop flight to Australia.

The 1945 invention of [nuclear bombs](#) briefly increased the strategic importance of military aircraft in the [Cold War](#) between East and West. Even a moderate fleet of long-range [bombers](#) could deliver a deadly blow to the enemy, so great efforts were made to develop countermeasures. At first, the [supersonic interceptor aircraft](#) were produced in considerable numbers. By 1955, most development efforts shifted to guided [surface-to-air missiles](#). However, the approach diametrically changed when a new type of nuclear-carrying platform

appeared that could not be stopped in any feasible way: [intercontinental ballistic missiles](#). The possibility of these was demonstrated in 1957 with the launch of [Sputnik 1](#) by the [Soviet Union](#). This action started the [Space Race](#) between the nations.

In 1961, the sky was no longer the limit for manned flight, as [Yuri Gagarin](#) orbited once around the planet within 108 minutes, and then used the descent module of [Vostok I](#) to safely [reenter](#) the atmosphere and reduce speed from [Mach 25](#) using friction and converting the kinetic energy of the velocity into heat. The United States responded by launching [Alan Shepard](#) into space on a suborbital flight in a [Mercury](#) space capsule. With the launch of the [Alouette I](#) in 1963, Canada became the third country to send a satellite into space. The space race between the United States and the [Soviet Union](#) would ultimately lead to [the landing](#) of men on the Moon in 1969.

In 1967, the [X-15](#) set the air speed record for an aircraft at 4,534 mph (7,297 km/h) or [Mach 6.1](#). Aside from vehicles designed to fly in outer space, this record was renewed by [X-43](#) in the 21st century.



[Apollo 11](#) lifts off on its mission to land a man on the Moon

The [Harrier jump jet](#), often referred to as just "Harrier" or "the jump jet", is a British designed military jet aircraft capable of Vertical/Short Takeoff and Landing (V/STOL) via thrust vectoring. It first flew in 1969, the same year that [Neil Armstrong](#) and [Buzz Aldrin](#) set foot on the moon, and Boeing unveiled the [Boeing 747](#) and the Aérospatiale-BAC [Concorde](#) supersonic passenger airliner had its [maiden flight](#). The Boeing 747 was the largest commercial passenger aircraft ever to fly, and still carries millions of passengers each year, though it has been superseded by the [Airbus A380](#), which is capable of carrying up to 853 passengers. In 1975, Aeroflot started regular service on the [Tu-144](#)—the first supersonic passenger plane. In 1976, [British Airways](#) and [Air France](#) began supersonic service across the Atlantic, with Concorde. A few years earlier the [SR-71](#) Blackbird had set the record for crossing the Atlantic in under 2 hours, and Concorde followed in its footsteps.

In 1979, the [Gossamer Albatross](#) became the first human-powered aircraft to cross the English channel. This achievement finally saw the realization of centuries of dreams of human flight.

Digital age (1980–present)

Main article: [Aviation in the digital age](#)



Concorde, *G-BOAB*, in storage at [London Heathrow Airport](#) following the end of all Concorde flying. This aircraft flew for 22,296 hours between its first flight in 1976 and final flight in 2000.

The last quarter of the 20th century saw a change of emphasis. No longer was revolutionary progress made in flight speeds, distances and materials technology. This part of the century instead saw the spreading of the digital revolution both in flight [avionics](#) and in aircraft design and manufacturing techniques.

In 1986, [Dick Rutan](#) and [Jeana Yeager](#) flew an aircraft, the [Rutan Voyager](#), around the world unrefuelled, and without landing. In 1999, [Bertrand Piccard](#) became the first person to circle the earth in a balloon.

Digital [fly-by-wire](#) systems allow an aircraft to be designed with [relaxed static stability](#). Initially used to increase the maneuverability of military aircraft such as the [General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon](#), this is now being used to reduce drag on commercial airliners.

The *U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission* was established in 1999 to encourage the broadest national and international participation in the celebration of 100 years of powered flight.^[114] It publicized and encouraged a number of programs, projects and events intended to educate people about the history of aviation.

21st century

21st-century aviation has seen increasing interest in fuel savings and fuel diversification, as well as [low cost airlines](#) and [facilities](#). Additionally, much of the developing world that did not have good access to air transport has been steadily adding aircraft and facilities, though severe congestion remains a problem in many up-and-coming nations. Around 20,000 city pairs^[115] are served by commercial aviation, up from less than 10,000 as recently as 1996.

There appears to be newfound interest^[116] in returning to the supersonic era whereby waning demand in the turn of the 20th century made flights unprofitable, as well as the final commercial stoppage of the [Concorde](#) due to reduced demand following a fatal accident and rising costs.

At the beginning of the 21st century, digital technology allowed subsonic military aviation to begin eliminating the pilot in favor of remotely operated or completely autonomous [unmanned aerial vehicles](#) (UAVs). In April 2001 the unmanned aircraft [Global Hawk](#) flew from Edwards AFB in the US to Australia non-stop and unrefuelled. This is the longest point-to-point flight ever undertaken by an unmanned aircraft and took 23 hours and 23 minutes. In October 2003, the first totally autonomous flight across the Atlantic by a computer-controlled model aircraft occurred. UAVs are now an established feature of modern warfare, carrying out pinpoint attacks under the control of a remote operator.

Major disruptions to [air travel](#) in the 21st century included the [closing of U.S. airspace](#) due to the [September 11 attacks](#), and the closing of most of European airspace after the [2010 eruption of Eyjafjallajökull](#).

In 2015, André Borschberg and [Bertrand Piccard](#) flew a record distance of 4,481 miles (7,211 km) from Nagoya, Japan to Honolulu, Hawaii in a solar-powered plane, [Solar Impulse 2](#). The flight took nearly five days; during the nights the aircraft used its batteries and the potential energy gained during the day.^[117]

On 14 July 2019, Frenchman [Franky Zapata](#) attracted worldwide attention when he participated at the Bastille Day military parade riding his invention, a jet-powered [Flyboard Air](#). He subsequently succeeded in crossing the English Channel on his device on 4 August 2019, covering the 35-kilometre (22 mi) journey from Sangatte in northern France to St Margaret's Bay in Kent, UK, in 22 minutes, with a midpoint fueling stop included.^[118]

24 July 2019 was the busiest day in aviation, for [Flightradar24](#) recorded a total of over 225,000 flights that day. It includes helicopters, private jets, gliders, sight-seeing flights, as well as personal aircraft. The website has been tracking flights since 2006.^[119]

On 10 June 2020, the [Pipistrel Velis Electro](#) became the first electric aeroplane to secure a [type certificate](#) from [EASA](#).^[120]

In the early 21st Century, the first fifth-generation military fighters were produced, starting with the [F-22 Raptor](#) and currently Russia, America and China have 5th gen aircraft (2019).^[citation needed]

The [COVID-19 pandemic](#) had a significant impact on the aviation industry due to [the resulting travel restrictions](#) as well as slump in demand among travelers, and may also affect the future of air travel.^[121] For example, the mandatory use of [face masks](#) on airplanes has become a common feature of flying since 2020.^[122]

Mars

On 19 April 2021, [NASA](#) successfully flew an unmanned [helicopter](#) on Mars, making it humanity's first controlled powered flight on another planet. The [Ingenuity](#) helicopter rose to a height of 3 meters, and hovered in a stable holding position for 30 seconds, after a vertical take-off that was filmed by its accompanying rover, [Perseverance](#).^[123] On 22 April 2021, [Ingenuity](#) made a second, more complex flight, which was also observed by [Perseverance](#).^[124] As a homage to all of its aerial predecessors, the [Ingenuity](#) helicopter carries with it a postage sized fragment from the wing of the 1903 [Wright Flyer](#).

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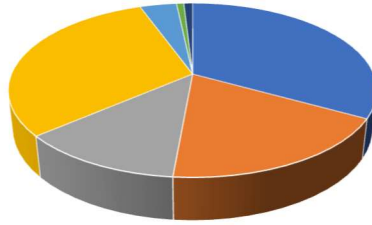
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