

August /
September
2026

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where sold

News and views from Great Bardfield and Little Bardfield

Bardfield Times



Ten editions of Bardfield Times are published each year by volunteers from Great Bardfield and Little Bardfield parishes. Articles, letters, etc. for inclusion need to be received by the editors by the **14th of the month prior to publication**. The management team reserve the right to refuse, postpone or edit any material received for publication. Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the management team.

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Back cover: The 1359 seal has been described as one of the most beautiful medieval seals. See The Clare College Seal & the making of the Seal Sculpture available from Clare College.





*The statutes of Clare College Cambridge were signed
by Elizabeth de Burgh, Lady of Clare
in March 1359 at her home near this church.*

*She wrote of the Precious Pearl of Learning, the development of talent
& meritocracy: a vision of education to benefit all of society.*

*This is an enlarged replica of the beautiful seal made then for
Clare College, & first used to ratify the statutes which it depicts.*

*The Lady is presenting the foundation charter & statute book to the
kneeling Master, Fellows, & Students. They stand under arches
of similar style to the magnificent rood screen here,
built around the same time.*

*The Virgin & Child keep watch from above,
with St John the Baptist & St John the Apostle.*

*Clare College, like this Church,
is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.
The text on the seal invokes
her protection.*



Editorial

I'm writing this on an unusually cool, breezy morning in this long, hot summer. The village is quiet, the silence broken only by the occasional gigantic tractor as harvest continues. Schools have broken up and many people have left for long-anticipated holidays. This is a double issue of the BT giving the team a well-deserved break. Look out for notices of events planned for September and early October.

We are celebrating the very special event held in St Mary's Church recently with some excellent photographs of the concert given by Clare College Choir to commemorate the 700th anniversary of the founding of the College. It was indeed a memorable evening and the audience will long remember the sublime singing of the young choristers conducted by Graham Ross in a programme of music which spanned the centuries. To mark the occasion a new memorial has been installed in the church to commemorate the Clare College statutes approved by the Lady of Clare, Elizabeth de Burgh, on 26th March 1359 at her home, beside the church.

A significant period in the history of Great Bardfield. Many of the photos highlight the famous stone screen, a feature of the church we often take for granted and which deserves more careful observation as it's easy to miss the fascinating carvings of strange and wonderful creatures imagined by the C14th stonemasons. Go and have a closer look some time. Another enjoyable event was Landscape Artists held in the shade of Brick House garden on a hot Sunday afternoon. It was a delight to see local artists capturing the scene as so many artists have done before them. Artists and visitors were refreshed by cool glasses of Pimm's served by Mike Brown, see report on p. 20. We send good wishes to the Year 6 children leaving Bardfield School to start their secondary education and also those leaving secondary school for work, higher education or travel. Enjoy the summer and don't forget to complete the local bus survey on p.13. Local bus services are very poor and constantly under threat. Remember you may need a bus one day!

Janet Dyson
Editor



Exquisitely carved strange creature on St Mary's stone screen

Great Bardfield Parish Council Report

Gravel Pit Proposal

As at mid-July, no application has been submitted for the threatened sand/gravel pit on Braintree Road. As soon as we are informed that an application has been submitted to Essex County Council (ECC) we will advise residents by poster, Facebook and email. It is at that point that objections or other comments should be made to ECC. It is best for residents to respond individually as the more objections the better, The Parish Council will provide support, if you need it, on how best to respond during ECC's consultation period.

We are aware of some activity on the site in June. We are told this was additional sampling by the applicant to provide more information on the geology of the site.

Wethersfield Asylum Centre

A member of the Parish Council attended a recent online meeting with the Home Office following the UK government's decision to continue the use of the Wethersfield airbase site beyond 2027 and to utilise it up to its full capacity of around 1200 people. Since it opened the numbers accommodated at the base have typically been around 700. The Home Office will continue to manage and monitor the site and members of local Parish Council and Braintree District Councillors continue to attend monthly online meetings run by the Home Office.

Planning Applications

- Land adjacent to Stable Retreat, Beslyns Road: the Parish Council objected to this request for 'permission in principle' for the erection of up to 2 dwellings outside the village development line.
- 1-2 St Johns Terrace, Brook Street: replacement windows and doors. The Parish Council agreed with the Historic Building Officer that UPVC is not an appropriate material within the village conservation area and that timber windows and doors should be used. Otherwise, no objections.

- St Mary The Virgin: there were no objections to the external works required in connection with improvements to the vestry of the parish church. This involved a new window to match the existing and new ventilation.
- Frenches Farm, Oxen End: hardstanding and stables for the equestrian centre. This was a retrospective application and cross-border as the site straddles the Braintree and Uttlesford District borders. The Parish Council felt the applicant should have made a proper application prior to undertaking these works and had concerns about the extent of the development and the continued impact of this site on neighbouring residents in terms of increased traffic, noise and light pollution. Conditions were requested to limit such impacts.

Highways

Recent damage to the road surface at the top of Brook Street, caused by an HGV attempting to turn right into Vine Street, has been reported to Essex Highways together with photos of this incident and details of car damage caused by another vehicle overnight at this junction. The Parish Council have also asked Essex Highways and our new County Councillor to consider how we can restrict lorries, that are not delivering locally, from passing through our villages where junctions and limited space make it difficult and dangerous.

We continue to participate in the '20 is plenty' campaign, lobbying for 20mph signage for locations in the centre of the village, particularly at the school and Co-op.

Next Parish Council Meeting

There is no full council meeting in August, the next Parish Council will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 9th September 2026, in the Committee Room at the Town Hall. Our meetings are open to the public. If you plan to attend, please contact Kate Fox, Parish Clerk on 810111 or by email at clerk@greatbardfield-pc.gov.uk.

Carolynne Ruffle
Chairperson

Great Bardfield Primary School

It is hard to believe we have reached the end of another school year. It seems only a short while ago that we were welcoming our new Reception children through the gates, and now we have said goodbye to another wonderful group of Year 6 pupils as they begin their next adventure.

As always, this time of year gives us the chance to pause and reflect on just how much has been packed into twelve months. It certainly hasn't been a year without its challenges. From the disruption caused by the repairs to the ceilings in our main building to navigating a rigorous, but very successful, Ofsted inspection during the summer term, there have



Zoya and Dolly enjoying Frinton Beach

been moments that have tested us all. Yet, looking back, it has also been a year full of learning, laughter, achievement and countless moments that have reminded me just how fortunate I am to lead such a special school. Every challenge has been met with resilience, teamwork and an unwavering commitment to doing what is best for our children, and I couldn't be prouder of our staff, pupils and wider school community.

This term alone has given us so many reasons to celebrate. Our Key Stage Two children absolutely stole the show with their production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Their

confidence, singing, acting and dancing were nothing short of incredible. Quite honestly, I enjoyed it every bit as much as a trip to London's West End. Every child performed with such enthusiasm and professionalism, and it was impossible not to leave with a huge smile on your face.

Another very special event was our Proms in the Playground. It was wonderful to see so many families gathered together while our talented children entertained us with such confidence and pride. Performing in front of an audience is never easy, but our children embraced the opportunity brilliantly and showcased just how much talent we have here at Great Bardfield.

Our ever-popular Colour Run, organised by our fantastic PTA, was once again one of the highlights of the year. Children (and quite a few adults) completed an obstacle course while being covered in brightly coloured powder paint and the occasional 'splash' of water, all to an energetic



Miss Moore embracing the Colour Run

soundtrack provided by Mr Humphreys as DJ. It was joyful, messy and full of laughter; the perfect way to let off some steam as we approached the end of term. A huge thank you goes to our PTA for organising another brilliant event.

Of course, these are just a few of the many experiences our children have enjoyed this year. Educational visits, a day at Frinton Beach, sporting competitions, swimming lessons, residential trips and countless enrichment opportunities have all helped to create lasting memories while supporting children's learning beyond the classroom.

None of these opportunities would be possible without the dedication of our incredible staff, the generosity of our PTA, the support of our governors and, of course, our wonderful families. Great Bardfield Primary

is very much a community school and I am continually grateful for the way everyone works together to give our children the very best experiences. As we say goodbye to another school year, I would like to wish all of our families a restful, happy and safe summer. Thank you for your continued kindness and support throughout the year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, ready for another year filled with learning, friendship and plenty more unforgettable memories.

**Liz Crow,
Headteacher**

Great Bardfield Cinema Club

Our current season of films ended on July 10th and we have a two-month break until our restart on October 2nd. As many of you are aware we have been running a membership scheme to enable people to invest in the whole season of 10 films, at a much reduced rate compared to the price paid on the door for individual films. We have tried to maintain these costs to a minimum so that our Cinema Club is available for all members of our community to enjoy a social evening together watching a broad range of popular films. Regrettably we have had to increase these charges in order that we cover our costs, and subsequently, from October, our Membership for the season of 10 films will be £40.00, and for non-members, £8.00 on the door. We hope you will understand the reason for this minimal increase and will continue to support us in the coming season.



We open in October with 'Michael', the story of the life and legacy of Michael Jackson. In the meantime, enjoy your summer break and we shall look forward to greeting everyone again in October.

Ray Coles

The Great Bardfield Charities

Can we help you?

If you live in Great Bardfield, are a group or organisation benefiting Great Bardfield residents then you are eligible to apply for financial assistance.

For more information please contact:

Cathy Stuttle 07711 880965

Mick Gell 01371 810113

email GreatBardfieldCharities@gmail.com

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH **Great Bardfield**



Sunday Mass 9.30am

Saturday Mass 5.00pm
(held at St. John's Thaxted)

Fr Michael Britto
07917 319811

All welcome

Artists of Great Bardfield: Nicola Rothero

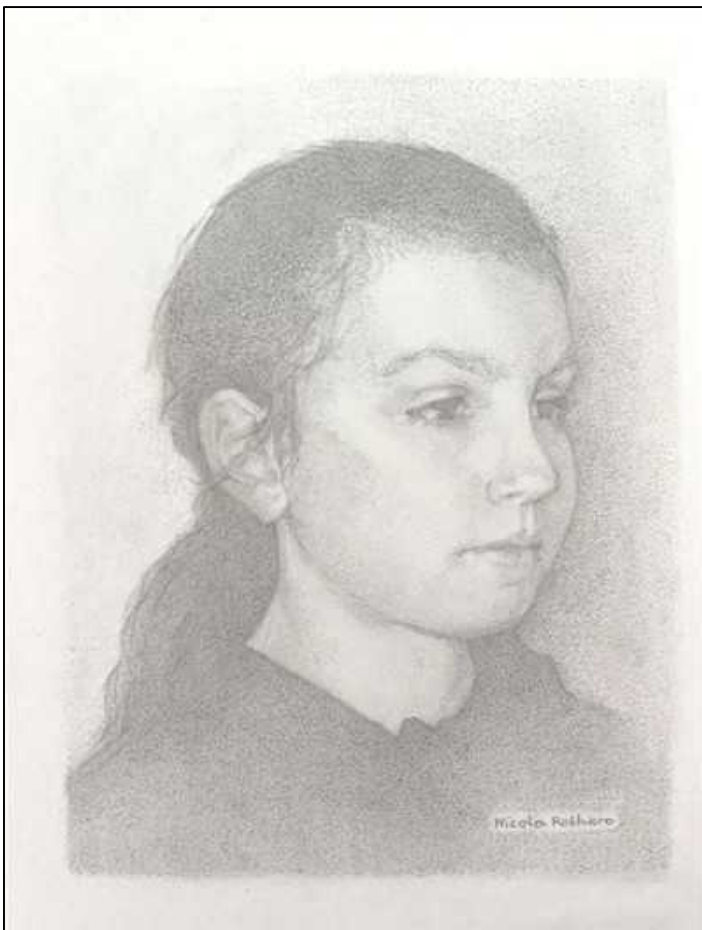


It seems inevitable that Nicola (Nicky) Rothero would become an artist. "My father was an artist and I always wanted to follow in his footsteps" she says. Nicky studied at Camberwell School of Art and, at her final degree show, her work came to the notice of visitors from the Medici Gallery who asked her to do some designs for them. Later she widened her expertise working with her father whose company designed letterheads and business cards and also became expert at drawing visualisations from estate agents' plans.

Nicky in her studio making pottery



The Hope, Dunmow Road, Great Bardfield



Nicky's daughter Ella as a child

She met her husband Bob, also an artist, at a local Adult Education Centre where he was Head of Art, and began teaching there including running pottery classes for children. Later she became Head of Art at the college. Life was very busy and she regrets that there was no longer time for her own work. In 2016 the Rotheros moved to Great Bardfield and at last Nicky found time to develop her own artistic interests including pottery which she loves. Nicky specialises in drawings of houses and portraits of people and animals two of which are included here. She takes commissions and may be contacted on nicolarothero@gmail.com

Janet Dyson

Historical Society

This June, the Great Bardfield Historical Society enjoyed a fascinating trip to the Gestingthorpe Roman Villa. Our host, Mr Ashley Cooper, showcased an impressive collection of artefacts recovered since his father first discovered the site in the 1940s. Decades of excavation have revealed a great deal about the people who lived here during the Roman period. Out on the site itself, crop markings highlighted the villa's original floor plan, and we learned how a nearby Roman road helped drive the local economy and trade.

Adding to the history, Mr Cooper's barns house a wonderful collection of old farm equipment that is well worth seeing in its own right. A cup of tea rounded off a highly enjoyable visit. We are grateful to Mr Cooper for sharing his knowledge and passion for this important historical site.



Kate Lloyd

GREAT BARDFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Thursday, 10th September 2026 at 8.00pm
Great Bardfield Town Hall

**What history tells us about
Russia today**



**An illustrated talk by writer and
historian Jennifer Antill**

Jennifer will look at themes in Russian history that
have resulted in the country that it is today.

Copies of her books will be on sale after the talk.

Everyone is welcome.

Members: £4 Non-members: £6

Bardfield Boules 2026

The busiest year ever for the Bardfield Boules Competition. 61 teams entered (the most ever) and the first round has just come to an end: 156 games over 12 weeks. We are now down to 20 teams that will need to play off against each other to find the 4 best teams for 2026. The semi-finals and finals will be played in front of an excited crowd at the spectacular Boules Finals Day in September. All welcome.

We have been really lucky with the Mediterranean weather, and with the shade provided by the Town Hall lime trees. It has all been very sociable and good-natured (despite some 'bombing' by the experts.) Very well done to all competitors. Hopefully you have enjoyed your games whatever the outcome. Thanks to Tom Grinstead and Ian Ruffle for providing training for new and developing teams.



"Do we need to measure? That is the question."

If you spot a game or 2 in progress, please come and watch as the competition continues through August and September.

Madame Boules

ARE YOU MISSING THE FOOTBALL WORLD CUP OR
WIMBLEDON?

BOULES FINALS DAY

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER
STARTING 2PM AT THE TOWN HALL
COME AND WATCH THE LAST 3 MATCHES OF THE
SEASON: SEMI FINALS AND FINAL

BBQ, MUSIC, SUMMER SPORT

ALL PROCEEDS OF THE COMPETITION GO TO TOWN
HALL FUNDS

BUS USER GROUP

Digi Go North Zone:

Finchingfield, **Great Bardfield**, Panfield, Rayne,
Salings, Shalford, Wethersfield

We need your feedback of this service.

Use the link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/zhiftfZrrb>

or

Scan the QR code >>>>>>>

Please complete surveys of
your journey experiences,
as many times as you like.



The Tuesday Club

In July we took a month off from our usual meetings and enjoyed a Summer Lunch at the Axe and Compasses in Aythorpe Roding. The weather was perfect, sunny but not too hot, and a pleasant drive through the Rodings brought us to our destination. The food and the service were very good, but above all it was about our members being together and having time to enjoy a leisurely lunch with plenty of time to chat.

On 11th August our speaker will be Roy Evans, Community Safety Officer with the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, with the talk focusing on prevention, detection and escape. This may be information we hope never to need, but if we ever do then we will be grateful for the knowledge.

On 8th September we welcome back Amanda Sutherland for a Styling Masterclass. She will talk us through the importance of identifying body shapes and choosing the best styles to make the most of your appearance. Are you a warm or a cool person and what colour choices are the best options to complement your skin and hair tones? Amanda will also demonstrate how to adapt, mix and match everyday clothing for amazing results. Why pay a fortune to have a styling session in a London store when you can just wander down to the Town Hall? We can guarantee that her presentation will be fun and interactive, and her gift shop will be open after the talk.

If you would like to join us on either of these afternoons, doors open at 2.00pm and the talk starts at 2.30pm, followed by refreshments. Visitors are very welcome and pay £5.

We look forward to seeing you all soon and meanwhile enjoy the summer.

Cherry Whitby

**For more details please contact the Club Secretary
Marilyn Edwards on 01371 810555**

GREAT BARDFIELD TUESDAY CLUB

HOME FIRE SAFETY

Presented by Roy Evans

A talk by Roy Evans, Community Safety Officer with the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service. Roy will focus on prevention, detection and escape. There will also be an opportunity to receive a totally free home safety visit.



TUESDAY, 11 AUGUST 2026 at 2.30pm



A STYLING MASTERCLASS

**Presented by Amanda
Sutherland**

We are delighted to welcome back Amanda, who will show us how to make the best fashion choices and look our absolute best! Her gift shop will be open after the talk.

TUESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2026 at 2.30pm

GREAT BARDFIELD TOWN HALL

Non-members of the Tuesday Club are very welcome

Visitors: £5 per talk

Town Hall Happenings

The Boules competition is progressing and as I write the First Round has just finished. Second Round matches will be completed by 30th August so it's worth popping up to the Boules Court to watch a game or two. The Boules Finals are on the 26th September. It's a fun afternoon with Boules, BBQ and Music.

As the Bardfield Times covers two months at this time of year I need to mention that on 24th October we welcome back Ben Waters and his Band to the Town Hall. Ben plays Rock 'n' Roll & Boogie Woogie. There will be a Licensed Bar. Those of you who remember Ben's last visit will no doubt wish to buy tickets. Those who don't remember will also be welcome to a fun evening. Tickets will be available via a link on our website. greatbardfieldtownhall.com See you in the Autumn.

John Maidman, Chairman Great Bardfield Town Hall





CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER
10AM - 4PM

GREAT BARDFIELD TOWN HALL



JEWELLERY • WOOD TURNING
GLASS FUSION • CANDLES
HANDMADE SOAP
DÉCOUPAGE & MORE

LUNCHES, TEA,
COFFEE & CAKE

For further info contact: mrspwalsh@aol.com



Ben is back!

Great Bardfield

Town Hall

October 24th 2026

*A familiar face to many in Great Bardfield.
Having performed many times at
High Barn and the Town Hall*

Ben Waters

With the Ben Waters Band



A night of Rock 'n' Roll & Boogie Woogie

Tickets **£15**
Licensed Bar
Doors open 19:30
Limited seating



Tickets will soon be on sale
via the GBTH Website
greatbardfieldtownhall.com

Enquires to: Sarah. 07368 503459
barfieldtownbookings@gmail.com
What3Words ///polite.torso.proper
Dunmow road, Great Bardfield. CM7 4SA

Please note this is a standing event.
However, some seating around the sides will be
available on a first come first served basis.
Licensed bar until 11:00 pm : Carriages 11:30pm

Great Bardfield Town Hall is a registered charity no. 301308

Royal British Legion

FINCHINGFIELD AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Upcoming Events

September 12 and 13. Battle of Britain 85th Anniversary Display. Finchingfield Guildhall. 11 am to 4pm each day. **If you have any suitable WW II artefacts you would like us to display, please contact Ivan.**

Saturday 12 September. A return visit of the fabulous Galaxy Big Band. Finchingfield Village Hall 7.30 to 11. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. Raffle. Tickets: £20 each or £30 for two. Dressing up welcomed.

18 November 7.30pm. Annual General Meeting at Finchingfield Guildhall. All welcome.

Saturday 5 December 3pm. We are again hosting our “C” Group Carol Service. Further details later.

Looking ahead.

November 9 2028 will be our Branch’s Centenary. We’d love you to help us celebrate this momentous occasion. Let us know if you have any ideas about events you would like to see.

Memories Are Made of This

We are hoping to compile a record of people’s memories, from the Second World War onwards. Have a think and let us know if there is anything you would like to tell us.

Our Branch would always welcome new members.

Membership is £22 per year and anyone can join.

RBL Membership Line is 0800-307-7773.

The Crafty Community Group meets every Tuesday from 2 to 4 in Finchingfield Guildhall. Our present project is making knitted or crochet poppies to decorate our War Memorials in Finchingfield and Cornish Hall End. If you would like to help, please drop in on Tuesday afternoons, or work at home. Patterns and wool can be provided. Please get in touch with Janet.

Contacts: Ivan Fleming (Chairman): 07525 751179
isskhs@googlemail.com
Janet Ridgewell (Secretary): 01371 810051
janet.ridgewell510@btinternet.com

*Finchingfield and District Royal
British Legion Proudly Presents*

Battle of Britain Dance

**with The Galaxy Big
Band**



Saturday 12th September

7:30-11:00pm

Finchingfield Village Hall

Tickets £20pp

or

2 for £30

Contact Ivan on 07525751179 or
Janet on 07986561442 to get your tickets now

Pavilion Hundred Club July Draw Winners

1 st Prize	£100.00	James Hatcher	No 30
2 nd Prize	£60.00	John Maidman	No 6
3 rd Prize	£40.00	Julia Morgan	No 31

Landscape Artist of the Year

On Sunday 5th July we held our annual Great Bardfield Landscape Artist of the Year. This year we had the pleasure of holding it at Brick House in Great Bardfield, home of the renowned Bardfield Artists. A huge thank you to Janet Dyson for so generously allowing us to use her beautiful home and gardens.

We had 13 talented artists painting different aspects of the gardens, each bringing their own unique perspective to this inspiring setting. Once the paintings were complete, we all voted to choose our winner. This year's winner was Jenny Rooney who painted a delightful gouache.



Thanks to Mike Brown for providing the Pimm's and Steve Snow for background support. The amount raised on the day was £315 for Great Bardfield Primary School. They were very pleased and it will be used for Art supplies.

A fantastic day filled with creativity, inspiration, and great company. Congratulations to our winner, and thank you to everyone who took part!

Amelia, Abi and Helene

Greenfingers

Much talked about, the excessive heat of summer 2026, so in our gardens will it be an irrigation system for plant survival in 2027 or simply a change to planting sun lovers of Mediterranean origin? Warning, bring on the gravel to cosset them from wetter winters!



A trip to view gardens be it National Garden Scheme or a magnificent garden like Great Dixter fills the mind with knowledge and ideas. Three for me:



Lavender takes up a lot of moisture, what a surprise as often associated with sunny countries and here planted with roses... removed from the rose border, and the roses flourished.



Use of pots where there are barren borders and new plants!



Woad! Tall, slender, silver leaves and yellow flowers who wants to try a bit of blue dying?

ADVICE



Got a greenhouse that is desperate for shade? The tomatoes and cucumbers lounge in a ghostly setting, ghostly as shrouded with flimsy curtains of fleece and the pots of basil love it. Not so other seedlings.



How to transform a barren border: three matching pots spaced across 3 metres of 'Sahara' soil. Anything you fancy but one big plant in each: achillea with silvery leaves and colourful flowers, agapanthus, a rose or even the damp loving red lobelia. *Cardinalis*, fine as the pots will be regularly watered. In between place three lavender and two salvias.



Isatis tinctoria, the woad plant grows wild on chalky soil in parts of Sussex, not invasive, a biennial and flourishes in sun. From seed sown last month they will be planted out in September for next year's display.



Have your roses avoided black spot? Yes, it is dry weather. Give a feed of the favoured Uncle Tom's - it's organic too.

Cheers to happy garden days and 'Bye till Autumn.'

Bardfield Horticultural Society

Garden visit to Porter's Lodge in Cavenham on June 16th.



What a wonderful afternoon 25 of us shared when we visited Porter's Lodge in Suffolk. The garden has taken almost 40 years of love, dedication and hard work; and it shows.

Every corner reveals something different and unique. Masses of flowers, shrubs and water features. A particular favourite of mine was the water fall with stepping stones over; a real joy. An amazing tree house too. Moving through a wooden gate you entered "The Secret Garden" an oasis of green and calm. Just magical!

We were served home-made cakes, tea in china teapots, cups and saucers, what more could you ask for? Oh, perhaps the weather...which was perfect!

You can always rely on Bardfield Horticultural Society, keep a look out for our upcoming events.

Many thanks to Sue Dennison for organising the visit and Linda Prior for this write up.



Summer Show Saturday August 1st in the Town Hall

The Summer Show in the Town Hall will be this Saturday as you read this. We look forward to welcoming existing and new exhibitors. You do not have to be a member to enter and entry to the classes is free. We have classes for all different skills:- flowers, vegetables, cookery, handicraft, flower arranging and photography. Children are very welcome as well; we cater for ages from under 5 to 16 years. Something for everybody!

We also have two novice classes; class 8 in the flowers section: "Any flower - 3 stems". The second novice class is 18 in the vegetable section: "Five dwarf beans with stalks attached". (Definition of Novice class:- an exhibitor who has not won at a previous Bardfield Show.) This year we have also added a class for allotment holders: class 39a, see schedule for full description of this class and all the classes.

Why not have a wander into your garden, we are sure you can find some lovely flowers to bring along, you might surprise yourself! If in doubt, there's always lots of help and advice available from our stewards.

Hopefully some of you will have tried the recipes published in previous issues of the BT and enjoyed the results, now you can bring along your efforts and you might win a trophy or a rosette.

The hall will be open to receive entries from 8am. Entries for the show should be registered before 10.15am, be staged and the hall vacated by 10.30am.

Even if you are not entering, please come along and visit in the afternoon to enjoy the show. The show will be open to all from 2.30pm until 4.30pm. Raffle draw and prize giving will be at 4.30pm. Admission is £1; members and children free. Refreshments with home-made cakes will be available at The Bell from 2.30pm. Cakes are made by our members.

Autumn Social

On **Saturday October 3rd** we are holding our “Autumn Social “, at 7pm in the Town Hall. It will include a lovely cooked supper - a meat or vegetarian lasagne with a choice of sweets; either pavlova or cheesecake plus a free glass of wine. Bring your own drinks for the evening. The wonderful magician Jack Blackburn will be our entertainer.

Members: £15

Non-members £18

Tickets to be ordered and paid for by September 14th

Payments to Bardfield Horticultural Society

Sort code: 09 – 01 – 55

Account no: 02585706

To book tickets please email bardfieldhortsoc@gmail.com, stating your name, the number of guests and choices of meat or vegetarian lasagne. Also please give any other dietary requirements and a contact number in your email. Or please phone Linda 07969 184845 or Helen 07710 768320.

Seating will not be allocated in advance, if you wish you can book a table of six by purchasing six tickets together and giving the choice for each guest at the same time. Please purchase your tickets by September 14th.

AGM

Our AGM will be held on **Tuesday October 20th at 7pm in the Town Hall** with cheese and wine. Our speaker will be Deb Hart who will give a talk and demonstration on willow weaving. Look out for posters, Facebook and Bardfield Times for future information.

For any information about the Society please contact Linda Prior 07969 184845.



Horticultural AUTUMN SOCIAL

— SATURDAY —
3 OCTOBER

— in the —
TOWN HALL

≡ STARTING AT 7PM ≡

MEMBERS PAY

£15

NON MEMBERS

£18

GET YOUR TICKETS BY
14 SEPTEMBER

Bardfield Horticultural Society

Ticket price includes a two-course meal,
a glass of wine and entertainment.

Please pay by 14 September.

Book your tickets now:

07710 768320
07969 184845

Hello from Little Bardfield Village Cricket Club!

Nestled in the heart of our beautiful village since 1919, Little Bardfield Village Cricket Club is a thriving community club with a proud history and exciting plans for the future. While we may be a small village club, we have a big heart, a fantastic group of members, and a passion for providing cricket and community spirit for all ages and abilities.

If you've driven through Little Bardfield from Great Bardfield towards Thaxted, you've probably seen the club sign, but you may not have seen that we have one of the most scenic cricket grounds in the area – and with a **fully licensed bar** on site, it's the perfect place to spend a summer afternoon, whether you're playing, supporting, or simply enjoying a drink with friends.

Senior Cricket Success

It's been an outstanding season for our senior side, who compete in the Herts & Essex Border League (HEBL). At the time of writing, the team sits proudly at the top of the league table, having remained unbeaten through the opening ten fixtures.

Our upcoming matches are:

1 August	Home vs Abridge
8 August	Away vs Dunmow
15 August	Home vs Broxbourne
22 August	Away vs Hockerill
29 August	Away vs Thorley

Junior Cricket Continues to Grow

Our junior section is flourishing, with coaching sessions taking place every Wednesday evening from 6.00pm to 7.30pm.

This season we have launched an exciting new Under-11s team, complete with professional coaching and upcoming summer fixtures. We also run a fun and welcoming session for children aged 5–8 years, helping young players develop skills, confidence and a love of the game. New players are always very welcome, regardless of experience.

Hundred Club Lottery

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported the club by purchasing tickets in our Hundred Club Lottery. The lottery runs monthly draws from May to October, helping to support the club's activities and facilities.

Congratulations to our winners so far:

<u>May Draw</u>	<u>June Draw</u>
1st Prize - £100 Frances Goodfellow	1st Prize - £100 Andy Barnard
2nd Prize - £50 Richard Hall	2nd Prize - £50 Rory Hitchcock
3rd Prize – £25 Debs Sheridan	3rd Prize – £25 Charlotte Bird

You can watch videos of all the draws on our Facebook page by searching Little Bardfield Village Cricket Club or by visiting @lbvcricketclub.

Get Involved

We would absolutely love to welcome more people to our little club, whether you want to play, help out with running the club, help our volunteers that maintain the ground, or just come and have a drink during a game, we would love to see you!

Stay Connected

For the latest news, fixtures and events, visit www.lbvcc.co.uk
Facebook & Instagram: @lbvcricketclub

For specific enquiries:

Will Slemmings (Club Captain) - 07961 947103

Mike Vivian (Club Chair) - 07825 969770

Keep an eye on future editions of the *Bardfield Times* for club updates, fundraising events and Hundred Club results.

In the meantime, why not come down to the ground, enjoy a drink from the bar and soak up the atmosphere? We can't promise sunshine (although it seems likely this year!), but we can guarantee a warm welcome and the chance to become part of a fantastic village community.

Little Bardfield Village Cricket Club

www.lbvcc.co.uk

contact@lbvcc.co.uk

From the Vicarage...

It's hot. At least, it is when I'm writing this, and high temperatures have been a (dare I say) hot topic of conversation for the past few weeks. Whether things have cooled down a little by the time August comes along and the print copies of our village magazines reach your letterboxes, or whether we're all still wilting in the heat, the weather phenomena of this year are likely still to be provoking some conversation – after all, even when the weather is unexceptional, it is one of our favourite topics!

We are told to expect that these high temperatures are likely to occur with a greater frequency, and whilst climate scientists and policymakers try to understand what is behind this, and what might best be done about it, another important question to face is how we should react to the fact of a hospitable environment becoming less so. This isn't a new question: although the longer-term trends of increases in average temperatures are something new, there have been exceptional occasions in the past when sudden temperature shifts have made life a lot less comfortable for people. And there are many parts of the world which have been feeling the destructive effects of human activity on their ecosystems for some years now.

If we look into prayer books of centuries past, we find many prayers for deliverance from adverse weather and its effects. It is tempting for us to think ourselves so much more enlightened, now that we understand the scientific principles behind what is happening. What these prayers do reveal, though, and what they remind us, is that we cannot take the hospitality of our natural environment for granted. And although not framed in scientific terms, they do recognise that our actions can be destructive, and that we often have limited power in undoing those destructive effects.

The power we do have, however, is the power which derives from compassion. If we recognise that more frequent heat waves are going to demand of us more concern for our vulnerable neighbours, perhaps we will also learn to recognise the vulnerability of our whole human condition.

Rev'd/Fr Alex

Services for August & September 2026

Sunday 2 August – Ninth Sunday after Trinity

9am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Cornish Hall End

9.30am Morning Prayer – Shalford

10.30am Family Eucharist – Great Bardfield

11am Prayer & Pilgrimage (Celtic Morning Prayer) – Wethersfield

Sunday 9 August – Tenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford

(with breakfast served afterwards in church)

10.30am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield

11am Family Eucharist – Wethersfield

5pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

Sunday 16 August – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

9am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield

9.30am Morning Prayer – Shalford

10.30am Sung Eucharist – Great Bardfield

(for the Patronal Festival, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

11am Morning Worship – Wethersfield

Sunday 23 August – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Parish Communion – Shalford

10.30am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield

11am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield

11am Songs of Praise – Finchingfield

5pm Sung Compline – Little Bardfield

(with cream teas served beforehand from 3.30pm)

Sunday 30 August – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Benefice Eucharist – Cornish Hall End

(followed by Benefice Lunch at the Horse & Groom)

Sunday 6 September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Cornish Hall End

9.30am Morning Prayer – Shalford

10.30am Family Eucharist – Great Bardfield

11am Prayer & Pilgrimage (Celtic Morning Prayer) – Wethersfield

Sunday 13 September – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford

(with breakfast served afterwards in church)

10.30am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield

11am Family Eucharist – Wethersfield

5pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

Sunday 20 September – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Benefice Eucharist – Finchingfield

4pm Benefice Harvest Celebration – Bardfield Vineyard

Sunday 27 September – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Parish Communion – Shalford

10.30am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield

11am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield

5pm Sung Compline – Little Bardfield

Regular Services and Events during the week

Monday

8.45am Morning Prayer – Finchingfield

1.30pm 'Faithful Fiction' book club –

Between the Lines, Great Bardfield (not meeting in August)

Tuesday

8.45am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield

10am Baby & Toddler Group – Great Bardfield

'St Mary's Munchkins' story & song time with refreshments

Thursday

8.45am Morning Prayer – Wethersfield

10am 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

Keep In Touch!

To receive weekly email news about what's going on across our churches, please sign up to our mailing list by following this link: <http://eepurl.com/ifMMHz> or using the QR Code:





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I look forward to meeting you soon!

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(by arrangement I am sometimes able to offer local home visits)

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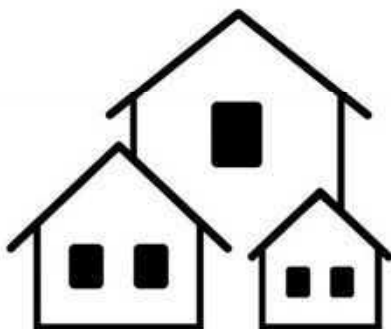
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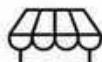
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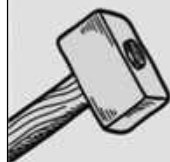


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Rebecca Jordan on 07961078522 or

Claire Gri ths on 07983 823388

Email: rebecca@greatlodge.co.uk

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Town Hall Diary

August 2026

Saturday 1 st	Horticultural show	2.30pm
Monday 3 rd	Pilates	6.30pm
Tuesday 4 th	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 5 th	Pilates	11.00am
Tuesday 11 th	Tuesday club	2.30pm
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 12 th	PC Finance Meeting	7.00pm
Thursday 13 th	Bardfield Players	7.30pm
Tuesday 18 th	Choir	8.00pm
Thursday 20 th	Bardfield Players	7.30pm
Tuesday 25 th	Choir	8.00pm
Thursday 27 th	Bardfield Players	7.30pm
Saturday 29 th	Private function	10.00am

September 2026

Tuesday 1 st	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 2 nd	Pilates	11.00am
Thursday 3 rd	Bardfield players	7.30pm
Monday 7 th	Pilates	6.30pm
Tuesday 8 th .	Mobility & Balance	9.45am & 10.45am
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 9 th	Pilates	11.00am
	Parish Council Meeting.	7.00pm
Thursday 10 th	Historical Society	4.00pm
Monday 14 th	Pilates	6.30pm
Tuesday 15 th	Mobility & Balance	9.45am & 10.45am
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 16 th	Pilates	11.00am
Thursday 17 th	Bardfield players	7.30pm
Monday 21 st	Pilates	6.30pm
Tuesday 22 nd	Mobility & Balance	9.45am & 10.45am
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 23 rd	Pilates	11.00am
Thursday 24 th	Bardfield players	7.30pm
Saturday 26 th	Boules final	11.00am
Monday 28 th	Pilates	6.30pm
Tuesday 29 th	Mobility & Balance	9.45am & 10.45am
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 30 th	Pilates	11.00am

Enquiries and bookings:

bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com

Great Bardfield Parish

Chair of the Parish Council Carolynne Ru le 810986
Clerk to the Parish Council Kate Fox clerk@greatbardfield-pc.gov.uk 810111
Councillors Janet Dyson 07957 483207
Iain Graham 07831 595555
Darren Hockley 810836
Peter Walmsley 07843 498253
Mark Wells 07788 318118
Richard Winsborough 07917462320

Little Bardfield Parish

Chair of the Parish Council Andrew Davies cllr.adavies@littlebardfield-pc.gov.uk
Clerk to the Parish Council Sophie Wolker clerk@littlebardfield-pc.gov.uk

Braintree District Council

Councillors Cllr Michael Staines 07922 487666
Cllr Mark Ault 07903 744481

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Councillor Cllr Mike Tayler cllrtayler@uttlesford.gov.uk
Police for non-emergency enquiries dial 101
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1st Finchingfield Scout Group Mark Wells 810447 mark.2millside@btinternet.com

Bardfield Charities Nick Holland 07795 280647

Bardfield Horticultural Society Linda Prior 07969 184845

Bardfield Players Ian Ru le 810986

Gt Bardfield Allotments Adrian Thomson

Gt Bardfield Bell Ringers Nick & Sarah Holland 810209

Gt Bardfield Historical Society tim_regan82@hotmail.com

Gt Bardfield Pre-School Kathy King 811580

Gt Bardfield Primary School admin@greatbardfield.essex.sch.uk 810252

Muddogs Youth Football Tony Clarke-Holland 07710 506007

www.muddogs.co.uk/tch@thebcf.co.uk

Tuesday Club Marilyn Edwards mazjedwards@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Priest Gt & Lt Bardfield Fr Alex Shannon 810309/07483 878659

Catholic Priest Fr Michael Britto 07917 319811

Town Hall Bookings bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com

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