



Bardfield Cinema Club

Friday, July 8th
Great Bardfield Town Hall

Doors Open 7.30pm Film Starts 8.00pm
 Members free, Non members £6



BARDFIELD CINEMA CLUB - FRIDAY 8TH JULY

July
 2022

50p
 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 to edit any material received for publication. Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the management team.

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Front cover: Jubilee celebrations by Doug Joyce, Sharon Alford, Paul Boon, Kate Fox, Jackie Newton and Anna Steinbauer

Above: Ride London Event through the village by Andrew Collins

Editorial

The cover and photos throughout this month's issue show what a great variety of events took place over the Jubilee weekend and beyond. From a special church service and the planting of a Jubilee oak tree to the PTA's children's fun day, and the elegant afternoon tea party organised by the Horticultural Society, there was something for everyone. My eye sight is sometimes unreliable these days but I'm sure I saw a Queen taking a turn on the Karaoke stage at the Bell's Family event! And I'm sure Her Majesty was waving graciously from the upper window of Place House! The creative, imaginative window displays all around the village were a particular delight. Congratulations to the Goldsmith family at North Place who were awarded first prize, and to organiser Flora Olney.

Thanks to everyone who sent in photographs. Please keep sending them although we can't guarantee that we'll always have enough space. There is a reminder about our policy on taking and publishing photographs on page 2.

We all benefit from businesses that bring visitors to our village and it's good to see a new business starting as Spencer Hewitt takes over the Vine – we wish him and his team every success, see Village People, page 20.

It's sad to hear of the deaths of two long-term residents, Gwyn Arthur and Peter Whitby. We will miss them and send condolences to their families.

A reminder that the next issue is a double one covering August and September so make sure you send publicity for any events in good time. And don't forget the Horticultural Society's Summer Show on August 6th.

Janet Dyson



An important message to photographers

Following a recent incident we wish to make it clear that we do not have any designated 'Bardfield Times Photographers'. However, we do welcome photographs from our readers. During the two years of Lockdown there have been few village events and so most of the photographs received have not featured people, however, now that village events are happening again we need to remind you of our policy regarding photographs of people, particularly children. It is perfectly permissible to take photographs in a public place but we expect anyone attending an event who wishes to take photographs with the intention of submitting them to the Bardfield Times to have the courtesy to speak to the organisers and to behave considerately and in a friendly manner, not intrusively. It is not acceptable to take photographs of children without parental/carer permission and the Editors check that all photographs in the BT have such permission. This is a Safeguarding issue and should be considered whether you intend to publish photographs or not. Even at an event where there are many people it should be possible to make it known that photographs are being taken.

Bardfield Times Committee

Dear Editor,

There are countless stories in the media about the doom and gloom of the crumbling N.H.S and our G.P system. Friends tell me of the impossibility of getting through on the phone, let alone booking an appointment with their G.P. An incident this week has once again reminded me of how lucky we are being patients of Freshwell Health Centre. The phone is answered by friendly helpful people and all types of advice and appointments are available. My Granddaughter was poorly and from an 8 a.m phone call she was seen that morning and left with the required medicine and advice. This caught the problem in time which I am sure avoided a trip that day to an overcrowded A & E department. I don't suppose our doctors and staff are paid more than elsewhere but they still manage to do a great job within an efficiently run practice. Long may our good fortune continue.

Chris Maidman

COMPLETION OF BARDFIELD BRIDGE MAINTENANCE WORK

Early notification of proposed road closure for maintenance works at Great Bardfield Bridge

We would like to make you aware preparations are being made to carry out brickwork repairs to both wingwalls at the eastern end of Great Bardfield Bridge located on B1057 Bridge Street in Great Bardfield.

We have an anticipated start date for the repairs of **Monday 25 July 2022**. The works are expected to take approximately six weeks to complete and it will be necessary for the bridge to be fully closed to all vehicles, including motor bikes, 24 hours a day.

A letter drop for resident will be carried out similar to that undertaken previously.

Tuesday Club

In June, Peter Regelous entertained us with his talk "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Life" about his time in TV and the entertainment industry which he illustrated with amusing anecdotes.

Next month we are visiting **Hyde Hall**, and in **August** we will welcome **Carl Merry to talk on "Brave Men and Clever Women"**. We hope to see you all at these events.

New members are always welcome.

**Please contact Adrienne Poulson
if you have any queries (01371 811401).**

Great Bardfield Parish Council report

Platinum Jubilee Events

The Parish Council wish to thank all those who organised some really special events to mark the Platinum Jubilee in early June. All of these took place to mark Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth's 70 years reign and will bring us good memories for the years to come. We intend to keep the bunting up for the time being as it is a Jubilee year rather than just for one weekend, and of course will be able to enjoy the special floral planting on a number of our village greens throughout the summer.



Congratulations to those that took part in, and won prizes for, their special Jubilee window displays, and particularly to Flora Olney for organising this competition, for judging and making the awards. The Town Hall Committee organised a great band night with music from across the decades, a beacon was lit on the edge of the village, a successful street party organised by the Friends of Bardfield School and a spiffing royal afternoon tea by the Horticultural Society (with fizz!!). St Mary's Parish Church held a celebratory service, the planting of a Jubilee Oak in the churchyard and a tea party. Thanks again to all who contributed and participated in these events.

The Parish Council is also funding the repair and reinstatement of

two plaques on the footbridge over the River Pant which were originally installed when this bridge was first built during the Queen's Silver Jubilee Year in 1977, plus a new plaque to mark the repair of this bridge in 2022, her Platinum Jubilee Year, 45 years on. An event will be arranged to mark the installation of the plaques so watch this space.

Other Business of the Council in June

Bardfield Bridge Closure – 25th July for 6 weeks

Essex County Council have informed us that they will close our road bridge over the River Pant for 6 weeks from the 25th July. This planned closure is necessary to complete the works on the bridge started in 2019. We are in communication with the Highways department regarding diversions, access to the footbridge for pedestrians and protection from illegal access by motorbikes. Clearways are to be provided to enable farm vehicles to have access for harvest work. We have asked that signage be sufficient and informative, making it clear that Bardfield is accessible and open to visitors. Please be patient and consider your journeys. Local narrow lanes will, undoubtedly, be busier over this period.

Planning Applications & Tree Works

Nurture Barn (Montessori School), Braintree Road: erection of single storey rear extension to house a separate baby unit: no objections

Tree works at The Stables, 6 Northampton Meadow; Alban House, Bendlowes Road and Greenacres, Brook Street: no objections

Tree at The Corniche: the Parish Council confirmed their continued support to residents in their application to remove a tree preservation order from a tree in The Corniche as this is causing damage to property and the access road.

New Pavilion

Thank you to those that have helped us with physical help on preparing for our new pavilion and particularly to Piers and Nicholas Reed for helping remove rubble and overgrowth, and to Jamie Naughton and the Bardfield Men's Football team for helping sort out the contents of the storage containers and clear the old pavilion.

Also many thanks for the financial contributions we have recently received from residents for the new pavilion project.

Intruders at the Pavilion

It is obvious that the new safety fencing around the building work at the playing fields is attracting attention, with some young people entering and using the enclosed space for ball games. Though this highlights the need for a multi-use games area (which is part of our future plans for the playing fields) we must also point out that for health and safety reasons this area should not be entered. The fencing is to protect people from the work and equipment currently on site.

Unfortunately we have also experienced a number of break-ins and vandalism of the old pavilion over recent weeks with items belonging to Bardfield Men's Football Club (who still use the pavilion) having been stolen. Please note that this area is covered by CCTV and images of have been sent to the police.

Please speak to your children to ensure that they understand that they are breaking the law by causing damage to property and taking items. We will continue to advise the police of any further incidents.

Please do enjoy our playing field, it is great to see people playing football, using the play equipment and enjoying the space but also do so appropriately and safely with respect for all the facilities (old & new) and other users.

Grants Received

We are grateful to District Councillor Peter Tattersley and the Braintree District Council's Community Fund for a grant of £250 towards the cost of a new Jubilee plaque for the footbridge over the River Pant (see Jubilee item above).

We are also grateful to County Councillor Graham Butland and the Locality Fund for a grant of £3000 towards the installation of showers in the new pavilion building.

Next Parish Council Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 6 July 2022 at 7.00pm, in the Committee Room at the Town Hall.

To help us to operate in a Covid-safe and socially distanced way, we ask that you contact the Clerk at least 24 hours before the meeting if you wish to attend, on 810111 or by email at clerk@greatbardfield-pc.gov.uk.

Carolynne Ruffle
Chairperson

BARDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

JOIN US ON A COACH TRIP TO

HYDE HALL GARDENS

SATURDAY 9TH JULY

LEAVING GREAT BARDFIELD 10.30am

RETURN APPROX 4.30pm



BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

DETAILS FROM

IRIS 01371810088 /LINDA 01371811641

OR LYNNE 01371810524

Horticultural Society

Royal Jubilee Afternoon Tea in June

What a truly memorable, happy and sociable afternoon 61 of us shared at our Jubilee Tea Party. Our President Peter Morris began the proceedings with a toast to our Queen followed by the national anthem.

Each table depicted a decade or memorable event from the last 70 years ie.1952 had flag half-mast and black edging for the King's death, 1982 had poppies for the Falklands war and sweet williams for Prince William's birth year.

The tables all had vintage china and a superb array of foods all home prepared including coronation chicken vol-au-vents, sausage rolls, sandwiches, scones and even mini buns decorated with a jubilee theme. The apricot almond fingers were exceptional!! Tea pots were refilled many times.

The prosecco flowed freely too, thanks to a generous donation from our Parish Council. The lucky ticket prize was a rose tree and clematis won by Alfred Wheater. We had a royal quiz and a heads and tails game.

To end our afternoon we all joined together in a roaring chorus of Land of Hope and Glory with much flag waving.

Whilst we cannot celebrate such an amazing anniversary ever again we are planning our Harvest Supper event in October and would invite you to join us for that too. Look out for posters, facebook and Bardfield Times for future information.

Coach Trip on Saturday July 9th to the RHS Gardens at Hyde Hall

for our trip in association with the Tuesday Club, the coach will be leaving Great Bardfield from the Town Hall at 10.30am and returning by approx. 4.30pm. Tickets are £16 each-includes garden entry. Still some tickets available.

Hyde Hall started life as a working farm. Originally owned by Helen and Dick Robinson, the garden was bequeathed to the RHS in 1993 to ensure its future survival. It is now a garden for all seasons:

Winter Garden and Lake Walk-Although designed as a winter garden with a multitude of radiant stem colours, peeling bark, luminous leaf colours and berries. Still has year round interest.

Clover Hill- vast sweeping borders filled with grasses and perennials.

Hilltop Garden-Quintessentially English with lush green lawns, roses, ponds and herbaceous borders.

Global Growth Vegetable Garden with lots of different vegetables from

around the world.

Robinson Garden a sunken dell with oak bridges and striking gabion wall.

Dry Garden a Mediterranean style garden with a vast range of drought tolerant plants.

Courtyard Gardens two courtyards showing traditional and modern planting schemes.

Floral Fantasia displays and trials of annual plants originally managed so well by the late Peter Seabrook.

There is a café, restaurant and picnic area. Plant centre and gift shop.

For details please contact Iris Couldridge 01371 810088 or Linda Prior 01371 811641.

Summer Show on Saturday, August 6th in Town Hall

We love to welcome new and regular exhibitors and visitors to our shows. It is a great family friendly activity with classes for so many different skills and plenty of children's classes. This year the children can decorate a biscuit, put summer flowers and foliage in a mug or colour the picture.

The domestic section includes baking bread, cake and biscuits, jam making and more.

Did you take up a new handicraft or flower arranging?

You probably put more flowers and vegetables into the garden this year - so please consider entering into classes of your choice.

Entries to the classes is free.
Entries should be registered before 10.15am and
be staged by 10.30am as judging starts at 11am.
The show will be open at 2.30pm until 4.30pm.
Admission 50p- Members free.
There will be a raffle, plant and produce stall and refreshments
with homemade cakes

If you would like a schedule they are available in some of the village shops and the Blue Egg or please call Linda Prior 811641 or Lynne Joyce 810524

Here is another one of the recipes for you to try.

All-in-one fruit cake (class 42)

- 150 gm (5 oz) plain flour
- 75 gm (3 oz) self-raising flour
- 175 gm (6 oz) light brown muscovado sugar
- 175 gm (6 oz) soft margarine
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon mixed spice
- 275 gm (10 oz) mixed dried fruit
- 50 gm (2 oz) glace cherries halved
- grated rind of 1 lemon
- 2 – 3 tablespoons milk

- Heat the oven to 170°C (Fan 150°C), 325°F, Gas mark 3.
- Grease and line a 2lb (900 gm) loaf tin.
- Put all the ingredients into a bowl and mix until thoroughly blended.
- Put into the tin and bake for approx. 1½ hours or until a skewer inserted comes out clean. Leave in tin to cool.

**For any information about the Society please contact
Linda Prior 01371 811641**

Great Bardfield Charities

The Trustees are very pleased to welcome Nick Holland (Secretary) and The Rev Fr Alex Shannon as Trustees for The Great Bardfield Charities from May 2022.

If you are in need of financial help you can contact the Trustees either by telephone, letter or email GreatBardfieldCharities@gmail.com

Pat Coles – Nominative Trustee & Chair

Linseys, Bridge Street, Great Bardfield 01371 810995

Debbie Rogers – Minutes Secretary

01371 811083

Mick Gell – Nominative Trustee and Treasurer

3, Mill Close Great Bardfield 01371 810113

Annika Woodcock – Co-opted Trustee

Yew Tree Cottage Dunmow Road Great Bardfield 07900491636

Nick Holland - Co-opted Trustee and Secretary

33 Bendlowes Avenue, Great Bardfield. 07776031144

The Rev Fr. Alex Shannon - Ex -Officio Trustee

Music in the Garden

Sunday 10th July 2022
2 – 6pm

Music begins at 2.30pm

Whinbush Farm, Walthams Cross
Great Bardfield CM7 4QJ

Music by Bardfield Brass, the Community Choir,
Heartsong, Bardfield Young Soloists and
the Bardfield Handbells

Refreshments available

Admission £4 per person,
U16s free

Parking available

Please bring chairs or rugs to sit on

All proceeds to charity

Town Hall Happenings

A Bunch of Amateurs (Bardfield Players production) was a great success and then we entered into the Platinum Jubilee weekend. Music and dancing were the order of the evening on Jubilee Thursday. It was great being entertained by The Beavers helped along by two of the Town Hall Committee!!



Town Hall Yard: Edward Bawden



The Horticultural Society afternoon tea by Doug Joyce

The Horticultural Society afternoon tea was a sell out and from all reports was much enjoyed by all. I understand many bottles of Prosecco were involved and the food was a triumph.

The annual Village boules competition is now in full swing. If you are involved, please do try and arrange your matches as otherwise Madame Boules will be chasing you. If you are not talking part pop by and watch a game one evening, you may catch the bug and want to take part next year.

On a practical note, the CIP and caretaker's cottage are being externally redecorated which we hope will brighten up things.

John Maidman, Chair, Great Bardfield Town Hall

Finchingfield Community Library

We are delighted to inform you that we will be running the annual Summer Reading Challenge again at our library. This year the theme is:

Summer Reading Challenge 2022

GADGETEERS

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP

IGNITING IMAGINATION INSPIRING INNOVATORS

20 YEARS THE READING AGENCY

Illustrations by Julian Beresford and © The Reading Agency 2022

All children are invited to join in with this challenge. Just join the library - if you are not already a member and start reading!

The challenge runs from **Saturday 16th July** until **Saturday 3rd September**

Children completing the challenge will receive a certificate & medal.

We look forward to seeing you at our library which is open on **Wednesdays 2-4 and on Saturdays 10.30-12.30 & 2-4**

From the Vicarage...

I was once asked what I thought the most important foundation was for a life of faith. After a little thought, the answer I gave was 'imagination'. I can't claim that it's an original answer – plenty of other people have written about how vital imagination is for faith – and there are several different ways of seeing why it's so important.

The most obvious, perhaps, is that the questions which lead to faith often relate to things which we can't know about directly: what happens when we die, what heaven is like, or what God is like. The aim of worship is to try and give us a taste of heaven, even to get us used to aspects of what it might be like, but there is always going to be a gap to bridge between anything we can create on earth, and the reality of what lies beyond it.

Less obvious though, is the way in which our faith affects how we live our lives. Faith is not supposed to exist in isolation, but should affect how we behave towards one another, and should have a transformative effect on the world. Imagination is important because it allows us to conceive of the world as it could be. It is the means by which we begin to see how things can be done differently – more justly, fairly, sustainably or peaceably – and so how faith can be a tool to change things for the better.

I have a resolution for the summer: to spend more time reading. The reason is that our imagination needs feeding, and losing yourself in a book is a brilliant way to nourish both sides of our spiritual imagination. A good book both sheds light on the world, and points us to something beyond it. I hope that, whatever holiday time you are able to have over the summer, you are able to accompany it with a good book. And I also hope that our churches will be places for locals and visitors alike where our imaginations can be stretched – where we can all discover new possibilities for earth, and new insights of heaven.

Rev'd/Fr Alex



Reverend Alex Shannon dedicates the jubilee oak with Lady Rosemary Ruggles-Brise and Keith Farnfield by Jackie Newton

Services for July 2022

in the Pant Valley Churches

Services on Sundays and Principal Holy Days

Sunday 3 July

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield
 9.30am Parish Communion – Shalford
 10.30am Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End
 10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield
 5pm Time to Be – Wethersfield

Sunday 10 July

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford
followed by breakfast
 9.30am Sung Eucharist – Little Bardfield
 10.30am Morning Service – Finchingfield
 11am Family Service – Wethersfield
 5pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

Sunday 17 July

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield
 9.30am Morning Service – Shalford
 10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield
 10.30am Morning Service – Finchingfield
 5pm Words and Music – Cornish Hall End

Sunday 24 July

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield
 9.30am Morning Service – Shalford
 10.30am Morning Service – Finchingfield
 11am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield
celebrating the feast of St Mary Magdalene

Sunday 31 July

10.30am Benefice Communion Service – Cornish Hall End

Services for August 2022

in the Pant Valley Churches

Sunday 7 August

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield
9.30am Parish Communion – Shalford
10.30am Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End
10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield
5pm Time to Be – Wethersfield

Sunday 14 August

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford
followed by breakfast
9.30am Sung Eucharist – Little Bardfield
10.30am Morning Service – Finchingfield
11am Family Service – Wethersfield
5pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

Sunday 21 August

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield
9.30am Morning Service – Shalford
10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield
*celebrating the feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
and followed by a picnic in the churchyard*
10.30am Morning Service – Finchingfield
5pm Words and Music – Cornish Hall End

Sunday 28 August

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield
9.30am Morning Service – Shalford
10.30am Morning Service – Finchingfield
11am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield
5pm Flower Festival Service – Finchingfield

Regular Services and Events during the week

Monday

8.30am Morning Prayer – Finchingfield

Tuesday

8.45am 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

11am (3rd weeks) Coffee Morning – Wethersfield

Children's and Youth Activities

please contact Sarah Pilgrim
(pilgrim511@btinternet.com) for more details

Saturday 16 July

10am Children's Church – Wethersfield

Sunday 24 July

3pm Youth Group (age 10+) – Wethersfield

*In August we take a break for the summer holiday
before returning in September.*

GREENFINGERS

After a hot June you may have struggled to keep the precious plants happily growing so thinking an apt name for this month is Hints from the Hothouse!

Most of our temporary planting or as we call them, bedding plants, are permanent in the country of origin. They thrive if dead headed regularly, watered in the evening. So, how to conserve this moisture? The method is simple, water well around the roots of all thirsty plants and then keep that moisture longer by heaping some 'mulch' over the wet earth. The mulch is compost, or simply a trowel or two of soil.

Turning to roses, those called the Bourbon group are from an island off the coast of Africa so the hothouse theme is appropriate. The island is now the Reunion Islands but guess what! It was Ile Bourbon. These roses abounded as hedges and thrived in the heat with humidity. Two types grew together and mated to produce the Bourbon group. The 'bastard' was dug up, grown on and over two centuries bred to produce such beauties as Charles de Mills, Madame Plantier and Blairi No. 2 (no political connections). The drawback is they only flower to mid-July, so 'What next?' you ask. Simple! add a clematis of the type Viticella. They flower in profusion late June to beginning of September, great clambering through your climbing rose or behind your shrub rose up the fence, hedge or wall. There are several to choose: purple Polish Spirit, my favourite; white, tinged with green Alba Luxurians. Remember to water in well if you buy and plant now to give you this continuous appeal in your garden.

Jobs for July

- Trim your evergreens on cloudy days, laurels, holly; and the infamous caterpillar-ridden box, box moth infestation needs spraying,
- Sow some flowers for Spring 2023 in a shady spot: wallflowers, foxgloves, stocks etc.
- Water wisely as advised above and dead head all flowers that have finished to stimulate new blooms.
- Feed those roses with the granular fertiliser specially produced for roses or spray with my favourite - Uncle Tom's.
- And off with their 'heads' and I'm off now, guess where? The Tower of London to amble through the flowering moat!!
- Do feed your roses!

VILLAGE PICNIC

To take advantage of the peace & quiet while Bardfield Bridge is closed all residents are invited to a

picnic/street party in Bridge Street/Pipers Meadow on Saturday 30th July from 4pm.

Please bring chairs, blankets, food & drink and join us at a community get-together.



Carolynne Ruffle
Great Bardfield Parish Council

Village People – Spencer Hewitt

Spencer Hewitt always knew he wanted to be a chef. Born and raised in Saffron Walden, he began helping out in the kitchens of the Swan Hotel in Thaxted when he was only 13. When he was old enough, he served an apprenticeship at the Cricketers in Clavering, run by Trevor and Sally Oliver, Jamie Oliver's parents. He spent ten years honing his craft in London, working in a variety of situations, before returning to the area and settling in Bishops Stortford, where he and business partner Spencer Martin – another local lad from Ridgewell – opened their own restaurant: "Host."

Their next project was the restaurant "Dish" in Dunmow, again pairing Spencer Martin's business acumen with Spencer Hewitt's skill in the kitchen. They later changed its name to "Square 1" and quickly made a name for themselves for high quality, locally sourced food.

When Spencer first opened the restaurant, he and his family lived in Dunmow; after a little while they moved out into the countryside near Stebbing, but Spencer really wanted to be in a small community – a place where people know you, where you can walk to the shops or the pub. Great Bardfield fitted the bill, and a house which was for sale on Crown Street seemed the exact thing. So ten years ago Spencer found himself living in Great Bardfield and he's been here ever since. His two children Freddie (12) and Katie (7) have grown up here and started their education at Bardfield School.



Meanwhile, Square 1 became a national sensation in 2020 when its young chef Alex Webb won the Masterchef title. Since then, says Spencer, people come from far and wide to eat at Square 1. "It took the restaurant to a new level," he says – including being awarded two AA Rosettes. As you can imagine, it's a high-pressure environment; it's exciting and gratifying, but Spencer had begun to think that his next venture should be "a bit more relaxed." So when he heard that Bardfield's Vine pub was empty, a plan began to take shape in his mind.

When I spoke to him, he was in the middle of a thorough renovation. The interior fixtures were all rather old and worn; all the kitchen fittings and the old, cracked flooring were being torn out and replaced. Jamie Oliver (who Spencer knows from his days at the Cricketers) has a vast store of furniture some of which will be finding its way into the Vine. Spencer is moving into the flat above the pub, which means Freddie and Katie will have somewhere to stay while their Dad is working at the pub, and Spencer's Mum, Jane, already lives next door, behind Bank House. "It all just fell into place," he said.

So what are his plans for The Vine? At the moment, they are fairly open-ended. "We're listening to what people want," he says. But Bardfielders worried that it's going to become just another fancy restaurant can relax. It will still be a village pub – but with really good food. "You can come here to eat or you can come here to drink," says Spencer reassuringly. He's going to set it up with "good staff, good food and good furnishings – and let it evolve. We might specialise," he adds tantalisingly – but he hasn't decided how. There will be events – concerts and fundraisers. Spencer will be in the kitchen – and his longtime co-conspirator, the "other Spencer," will have a hand in the organisation. "We've both been doing hospitality for over 30 years," he says, explaining why he has high hopes for the venture. The plan is to open sometime this month.

Between this rich reserve of experience and Spencer's links to the village, the outlook seems positive. "Long-term, it would be lovely to own it," he says, and there are plans in his mind for even more renovations and improvements – but for now, "I just want to put some love into the place."

Anna Bass

Nature Notes: the Fieldfare

It was nice to see Peter Jones writing to the Shalford magazine about his sighting of the Fieldfares. He also had a long chat with me about them in church one Sunday morning some time ago. He found them a very interesting little bird, quite different to most other birds in their family group, which is the thrush family which includes the robin, blackbird, all the thrushes and the redwing. In fact, the British Trust for Ornithology list over 300 species in the group, they even include small chats and flycatchers, but let's not get out of our depth; we can't all have a master's degree in ornithology. In fact, most of my limited knowledge comes from observations and looking up a few facts. It is very difficult to say that the fieldfare is a native of any country, in fact it is a migratory bird, always on the move, although it does nest and rear its young in Scandinavia. They nest in trees often in colonies as large numbers offer some protection from predators. They usually lay 6 eggs, both parents feed the young and the chicks leave the nest at two weeks. In some southern nesting sites, they rear two broods in a good season. As soon as the young are strong enough, they stay with their parents and join a flock to start their migration. This is done in short hops which is easy for young birds. First stop northern England, they don't stay in one place more than a couple of weeks but keep going south following good weather. They never fly great distances like swallows and swifts do.

When I was at the farm at Oxen End, we would see the fieldfares for about two weeks, late each autumn they loved feeding on the fields where we had livestock. Wikipedia on the internet tells me fieldfares breed in Scandinavia but one or two nest in England so I feel extremely privileged, as one pair stayed and nested on the farm. They only stayed just the one year but they even came to the bird table when the weather was bad, One of the parents was quite bold and would come very close to me, I was sorry to see them leave with the flock which paid us a visit in the autumn but that was where they belonged. The flocks often have redwings mixed in with the fieldfares and coexist without a problem. Twitchers and other enthusiasts go to a lot of trouble identifying birds by their plumage and although it is easy to get good pictures and detailed descriptions from bird books and the internet, I find it almost impossible to get a fieldfare to stay still for long enough to compare the plumage. They are much more easily identified by other unique

features only found in the fieldfare; one is the mode of flight they flap their wings two or three times then glide and just keep repeating it. They also have a very distinct call as they are in flight, it is described by some experts as 'tsak tsak'; very out of character for a member of the thrush family. I am referring to the song thrush, blackbird, robin, and nightingale, to name a few, They all have wonderful songs although we are told the male fieldfares do have a very nice mating song, we don't have the pleasure of hearing it as they are miles away at mating time. They are very restless birds, the flock moves at high-speed landing on the fields. They start feeding, take two or three beaks full and suddenly take off, fly for a few meters then land again, they are never still for more than a few seconds. Their diet changes throughout the seasons. When they come to the UK in the autumn, they concentrate on seeds berries and fruit especially hawthorn berries blackberries etc. They like fallen apples as do other thrushes but as these become scarce, they concentrate on open fields where livestock have been grazing looking for worms, grubs and beetles. It always seemed to be at this stage in the Autumn when they paid me a visit at Frenches Farm.



Mac Beanland

TABLE TENNIS IN FINCHINGFIELD

Following the easing of Covid-related restrictions on our activities, the group who come to the village hall on Monday evenings to play table tennis have been able to re-start the regular weekly sessions. We would welcome new members to join the group. Sessions start at 7.30pm each Monday and run for 2 hours.

The group has 3 tables and mainly play doubles matches during the evening. All equipment is provided. Currently, to provide most protection for each other, everyone brings along their own refreshments.

The standard of play is varied. Most of us had not played since our school days! The key point is that we have a lot of fun whilst aiming to help us keep in shape. Well-being has been realised as a major need following the last 2 years experiences. Table Tennis definitely provides an uplifting and enjoyable exercise for all who attend the weekly sessions.

Why not consider a new venture as the world tries to return to some normality and come 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

CARRIAGEWAY POTHOLE REPAIR PROGRAMME

The latest ECC pothole scheme includes the Three Fields and we have been asked to put forward details of those that give most concern. Although we report all the pot holes on a regular basis the list across the District is very long – this is one way of hopefully moving them up the list. Ideally, if you could send photos of (i) the offending pothole and (ii) a photo indicating location OR ‘three little words’ reference to clerk@greatbardfield-pc.gov.uk

We can compile a list for submission. This can include exposed metal – manhole covers – but not pavements or gulleys (even though some are pretty dreadful).

Thank you - Parish Clerk.

Flower Festival

St. John the Baptist Church

27th – 29th August Bank Holiday Weekend



An appeal from St John the Baptist church Finchingfield

Are you have a tidy up, clearing out a few things?
Please can we ask: Do you have any bric-a-brac?
Items suitable for a tombola prize?
Then we would love it if you could donate them to us.

Items can be left in the basket provided inside the church (at the back near bell tower) or left at Finchingfield Library on Wednesday pm or Saturday am or pm

Would you be willing to bake a cake or make a few sausage rolls for us so we can offer refreshments over the flower festival weekend? Please get in touch, we would be most grateful for your support.

Commemorative Board

As in previous years, we will be including a commemorative board. Anyone wishing to have a dedication in remembrance of loved ones, can do so by sending details & donation to:

Linda Turner 1 Hall Villas Great Bardfield Braintree CM7 4RY or
Email: Linda.turner1@outlook.com or Telephone 01371 810542

Payments can be by cheque to Finchingfield PCC or by BACS (please ask for details)

River of flowers

Our popular river of flowers will also be available for anyone to participate in. For a small donation you can choose a flower (provided) write a message then add this to our display

Last but by no means least, please do come along to see our amazing floral displays over the weekend church open from 11.00am – 4.30 Entry £1 per adult

Our theme this year is: A-Z of Occupations and Pastimes

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

There are thousands of village halls in England, owned and run by local councils, churches or independent trustees for the benefit of local communities. The Hundred Parishes has its share, with a great variety of buildings and history.

Probably the oldest is in Hunsdon: it dates from the 15th century and was once a school. Barley's 16th-century building - once a guildhall - still looks ancient, while Westmill has a converted 17th-century barn. Ashdon claims to have the only local thatched village hall: that element of the building, once a house, dates from the 17th century. Radwinter's hall is part of village redevelopment in the arts-and-crafts style after a disastrous fire in 1874.



Hunsdon village hall

Many purpose-built village halls appeared after the First World War, funded either by public subscription or a generous benefactor and often built as a lasting memorial to those who died in the conflict. Ugley's hall was built in 1920, funded largely by the local Tennant family, while Blackmore End in Wethersfield benefited from the generosity of Samuel Courtauld.

Several halls have been converted from their original use: Wethersfield has a second village hall, part of what was once a brewery. Little Chesterford, Hempstead and Stocking Pelham have found new life for their old schools, while Chrishall and Stebbing re-purposed former churches. Hildersham's village hall started life as a First World War army surgical ward and was brought from Cambridge.

Our village halls are greatly valued and used by all manner of community groups for meetings, sport and exercise, pre-school activities, cultural performances, quizzes, exhibitions, farmers markets and so on. We see new village halls appearing quite regularly, for example at Great Hormead in 2015 and Duxford in 2020. Some are now referred to as "community centres" but we all know what they mean!

Ken McDonald, Secretary



Our own Town Hall is certainly a hub for village life. Built in 1859 with the purpose of 'continuing the education of the people' it has provided social, leisure and educational opportunities for people of all ages for the last 163 years. You can read about its history in the Historical Society's publication *From Vice to Virtue: the story of Great Bardfield Town Hall*, £5 from between the Lines, the Cottage Museum and the CIP.

Janet Dyson

Page Turners

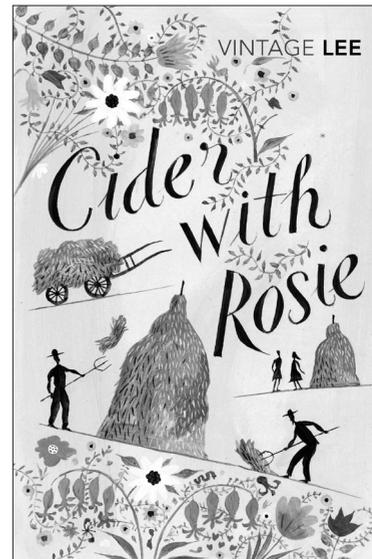
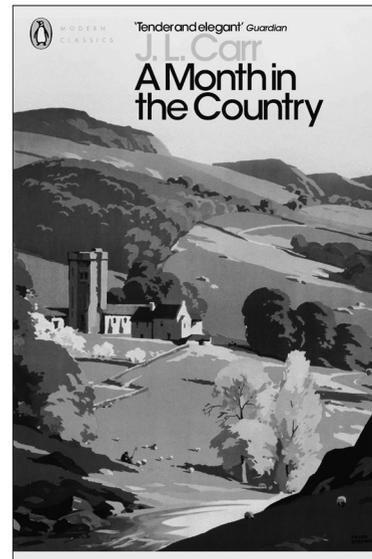
Whether you're staying at home or travelling further afield here are some suggestions for summer reading to transport you to other worlds.

A Month in the Country: J.L.Carr

In this short but beautifully crafted novella the narrator, Tom Birkin, reflects on a summer spent in a small Yorkshire village in 1920. Traumatized by his experiences in the first world war, destitute and coming to terms with the break-up of his marriage, he has been given the job of restoring a Medieval mural beneath white wash on the wall of the village church. As he carries out the intricate work of removing the layers of paint he develops friendships with local people, an archaeologist, Moon, another war veteran who is camping in the churchyard, and with Alice, the beautiful wife of the Vicar. Gradually the process of his own restoration to life begins. The author creates the sense of a gentle rural way of life now lost and evokes the sights and sounds of a warm and hazy English countryside summer.

Cider with Rosie: Laurie Lee

Even if you've read Laurie Lee's account of his childhood in a small village on the edge of the Cotswolds, before it certainly bears rereading for its recording of times past which are already beyond living memory. Lee was a poet and this is reflected in the lyrical nature of his prose as he describes the people, the special places, the countryside. Throughout the book Lee laments the end of the rural way of life. Growing up amongst the fields and woods and characters of this rural community Lee, like J.L.Carr, depicts a world that belongs to a long-distant past. The final words of the book convey this perfectly:



'The last days of my childhood were also the last days of the village. I belonged to that generation which saw, by chance, the end of a thousand years' life.'

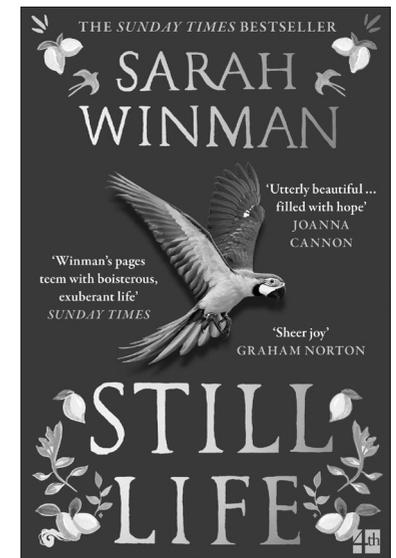
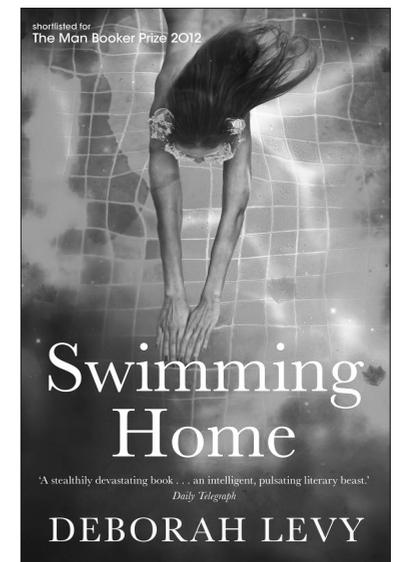
Swimming Home: Deborah Levy

Two families sharing a holiday villa in the hills above Nice sounds idyllic – but this turns out to be no ordinary holiday. Shortly after their arrival Joe, a famous, philandering poet, sees a naked body in the swimming pool. The body turns out to be a young woman who is very much alive. She is Kitty Finch, a botanist with red hair and green-painted fingernails. She walks out of the pool and proceeds to disrupt the supposed calm of their family holiday. Why is she there? What does she want from them all? And why does Joe's wife, war journalist Isabel, allow her to stay? As the story unfolds Levy explores the interior lives of her characters and how they are each haunted by their past. The ending is unexpected – a shock – but I won't spoil it!

Still Life: Sarah Winman

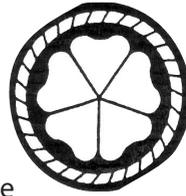
This is a novel about beauty, love and the power of family and friendship. Set in Italy in 1944, two strangers meet in the ruined wine cellar of a Tuscan villa as bombs fall around them. Ulysses Temper is a young British soldier, Evelyn Skinner a 64 year old art historian. She has come to salvage paintings from the wreckage of war and relive memories of her youth. Ulysses' chance encounter with Evelyn will transform his life and the lives of all those who love him, forever. Through the novel you will travel from the Tuscan hills to the piazzas of Florence and the grey smogs of London's East End. A joyful. Life-affirming book.

Bibliophile



Great Bardfield Primary School

The children had lots of fun celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a week of fun filled activities all leading up to our playground party on the Friday before half term. The children made decorations, a huge class collage painting of her majesty the Queen and also smaller portraits which you may have seen on the fence outside the school. Each class made food for the whole school party where everyone danced, sang and enjoyed themselves-it was a wonderful celebration!



It has been fantastic to return to some important summer traditions this term including Sports Day and swimming. We have managed to have our Key Stage Two sports day so far and are looking forward to our Key Stage One day which we sadly had to postpone due to bad weather. Every child has been on a school trip, Reception and Key Stage One have been to Colchester Zoo and Years 3, 4 and 5 visited the Science Museum in London. Year 6 have just returned from a brilliant residential week-long



trip to The Isle of Wight. We had a perfect trip with wonderful weather and great hosts at the guest house we stayed at. It felt good to get back to our usual programme of visits which included Portsmouth Dock Yards, Osborne House and The Needles. As always the children impressed us with their excellent behaviour and independence.

We have five weeks of this school year left and lots to pack in including our annual Summer Fete which FOBs are busy organising. Do please join us on Saturday 2nd July from 12-4pm for lots of fun and a dip in the pool! We will also make a whole school trip to Frinton in July, Year 6 will visit the Tower of London and we will have Proms in the Playground which is always great fun. We are looking forward to welcoming 17 new Unicorns and their families in the next few weeks as they begin their induction programme ready to start school with us in September. We wish them all lots of luck

Mrs Kerrell
Headteacher

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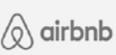
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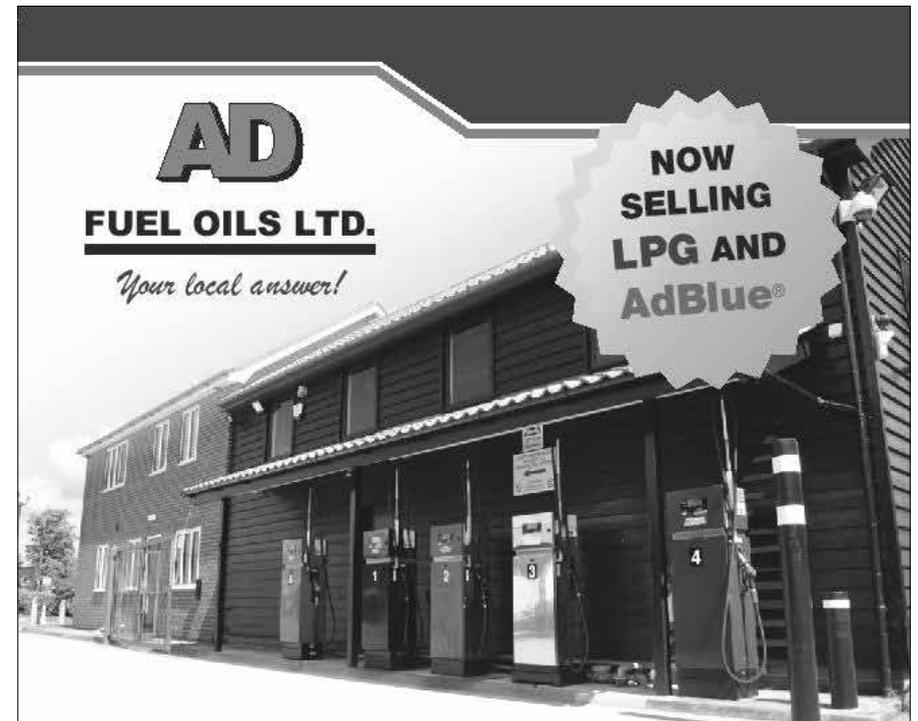
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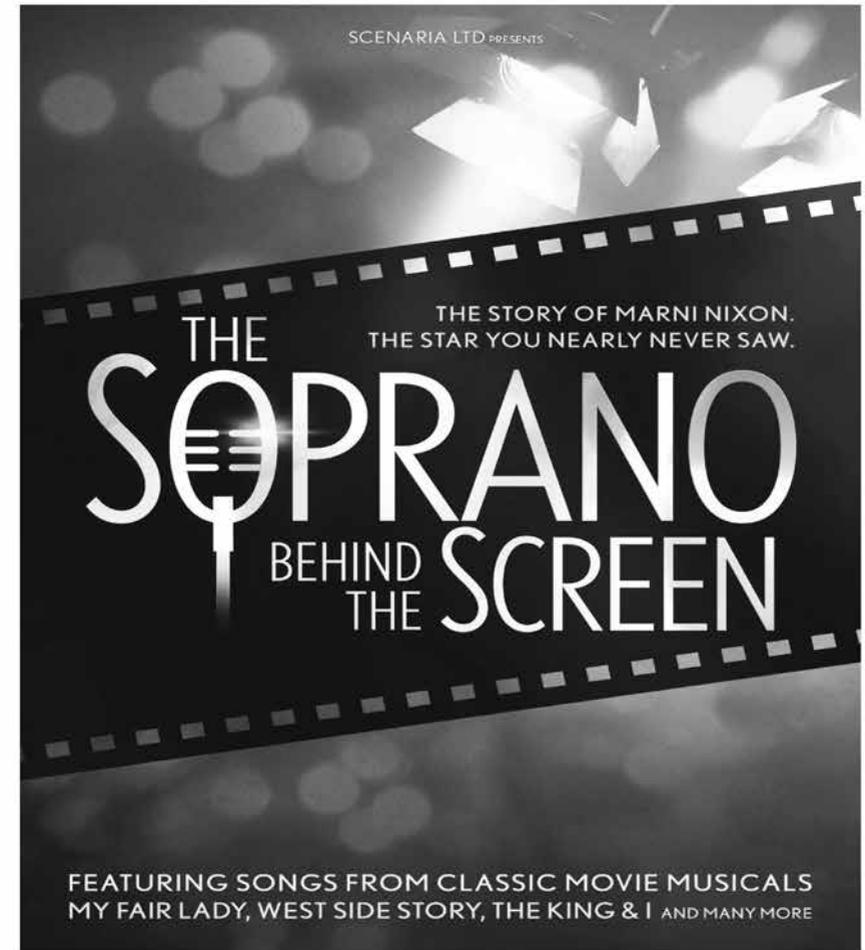
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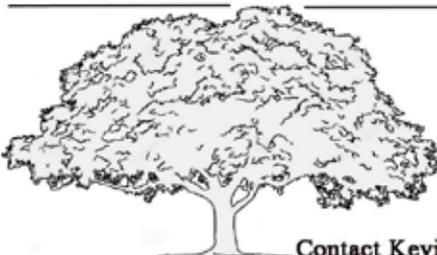
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For more information please contact one of the Trustees:

*Pat Coles (01371 810995), Debbie Rogers (01371 811083),
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Or email GreatBardfieldCharities@gmail.com

DO YOU NEED CHILCARE HELP BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL?



Following Covid, our plan is to reopen our Clubs with the new term after Easter, on Monday 12th April. We will be following Covid guidelines to make sure our Breakfast and Afternoon School Clubs are as safe as possible in our warm, safe building behind Great Bardfield Primary School. It has been a tough year as a Charity. The lack of grants available for Charities and the focus on Rates paid; (which we do not pay as a Charity) has meant we have suffered hard, plus our Insurance Co is refusing to pay the forced closure as Covid was not a listed reason.....

So, let us tell you some information about us and please note that children must be registered with us before any bookings can be taken. This is a quick process and will confidentially cover preferences, allergies and any medical info we need to know. All staff have First Aid and Safeguarding qualifications and our Managers are qualified in Early Years Foundation Stage.

Mary is the Manager of our Breakfast Club which is open 7.30-8.45am and we will drop them off at the top playground with their teacher. We offer a delicious Breakfast between 7.30-8am only (due to our ratios of qualified staff to children being affected when someone is needed to cook). This can be a hot cooked plate including; Sausage, Bacon, Eggs (scrambled, boiled or fried), Beans or Spaghetti or Hash Browns or Toast, Pancakes or Waffles. There is always cereal too and they will be asked on arrival what they prefer.

We cater for Gluten Free, Vegetarian and Pescatarian morning and afternoon.

Pat is the Manager of our After School Club and children can be picked up from their classrooms or from the School's Clubs and brought back to us. Tea is served at ours 4.15-4.30. Pick up, due to Covid is at the School Gate at 4,5 or 6 and pls make sure to be wearing a mask.

A Hot Tea is provided every day and alternatives are available, such as hot soup, salads, sandwiches or fruit. There is always a pudding after the meal and a snack when they arrive.

We have PlayStation, 'Monitored' Internet, X Box, Crafts, Board Games, a Football Table and Themed Days (see below) - everything is monitored to be age appropriate.

Here is an example of what we have running for kids to join in if they wish:

Monday - Group Games/Board Games
Tuesday - Crafts
Wednesday - Story Times for Early Years
Thursday - Art Club
Friday - Film & Chill

There are limited spaces available so please book up block bookings, as soon as possible. Odd days/adhoc bookings are available and can only be made 1 week in advance and will depend on space being available. All bookings are payable and there are no monies returned.

We look forward to seeing you and making your child feel really at home.

Stay Safe Always and follow us on Facebook 'Great Bardfield After School Club' for updates.

Pat & The Team

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TOWN HALL DIARY

July 2022

Tuesday 5 th	Young @ heart dance fit Choir	9.30am 8.00pm
Wednesday 6 th	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm
Thursday 7 th	Cycle Event	9.00pm
Friday 8 th	Cinema club	7.30pm
Tuesday 12 th	Young @ heart dance fit Choir	9.30am 8.00pm
Wednesday 13 th	Carpet Bowls Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm 7.00pm
Tuesday 19 th	Young @ heart dance fit	9.30am
Wednesday 20 th	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm
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Little Bardfield Parish

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Clerk to the Parish Council Liz Williamson 07866 400607

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