



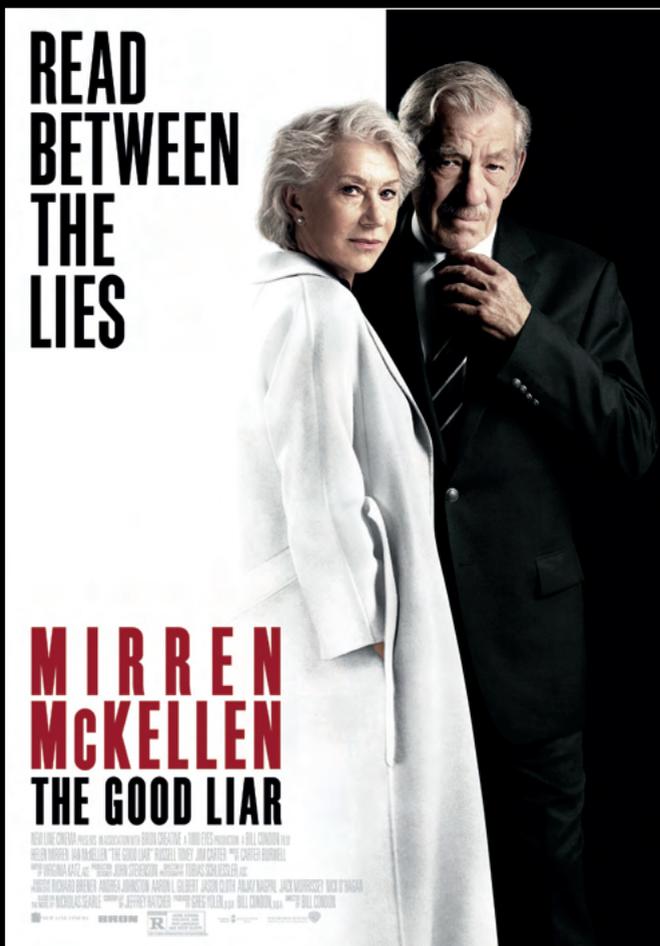
**Bardfield Cinema Club**

**Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Great Bardfield Town Hall**

Doors Open 7.30pm Film Starts 8.00pm

Members free, Non members £6



BARDFIELD CINEMA CLUB - FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Oct  
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 **14<sup>th</sup> 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:** In memory HRH Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022

**Above:** Bardfield Horticultural Society Summer Show by Doug Joyce

## Editorial

It seems fitting that this issue of the *Bardfield Times* should be a tribute to her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Like many people in our community I have lived through the whole of the Elizabethan Age. Children growing up in the 1950s were described as 'Young Elizabethans'. Rationing was still in place and the Queen's Coronation heralded a time of hope and possibility after the austerity of the war years. One of my earliest memories is watching the Coronation on television. There was only one family in our street with a TV.

The screen was tiny and every-one packed into the room to watch the black and white images on this magical box. I remember my mother shedding tears as the heavy crown was placed on the head of the young Queen, a symbol of the weight of responsibility that she would carry for the next 70 years. Her funeral was watched by 4 billion people around the world and 2 million lined the streets of London. In our villages the bell ringers tolled the solemn passing bell, church services were held, books of condolence signed and flowers were laid on the Memorial Green.



The ringing of the bells prompted much interest on the Community Facebook page, particularly how bells are 'muffled'. You can read more about bell ringing in an article on page 26. We are fortunate to have an excellent team of ringers. The bells will ring out again in a few months' time for the Coronation of King Charles III – welcome to the new Carolian Age.

Welcome also to two people who have taken on important roles in our community this month. First to Mrs. Liz Crow, newly appointed Headteacher of our Primary school. And to Father Celestine, Catholic Priest who will be living in the Presbytery. We wish them success and happiness in their new roles.

**Janet Dyson, Editor**

## Dear Ed,

In response to the article in June's issue by Mac Beanland, and his comment about the lack of rotting badger corpses at the side of the road, North East Essex Badger Group would like to point out that this is probably due to our dedicated band of volunteers who respond to calls to our Hotline about dead badgers.



We do our best to check and remove badger corpses for several reasons - we're checking to make sure the victim isn't a lactating sow with cubs that could be rescued, we're checking to make sure it's a genuine road casualty and hasn't been shot or snared. By removing it we aim to protect sett locations as much as possible - a deceased badger is a "dead giveaway" that there's a sett not too far away - useful information for those who seek to harm them.

In August of this year alone, we dealt with 48 RTAs compared with 28 in August 2021. This is likely due to the hot dry weather, and Badgers having to go further afield in search of food and water.

The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 gave badger setts, as well as the mammals themselves, protected status. For hundreds of years badger persecution was rife and with the introduction of the act badger groups were formed across the country - all operating under the banner of the national charity, Badger Trust (formerly The National Federation of Badger Groups) and the whole of Essex is covered by four local groups. Sadly in recent years persecution has once again increased mainly due to misinformation doled out by certain sections of society.

Badgers are omnivorous which means they have a very varied diet, although their staple food is the humble earthworm which provides both water and protein. The claim that they predate hedgehogs is perhaps an over reaction - they don't go out hunting anything, they merely consume whatever they happen to come across. If food is hard to come by they may take a hedgehog but that is by no means an easy meal and should be seen as a last resort. Badgers and hedgehogs have co-existed for thousands of years, both animals seeking the same source of food. Now, however, with the change in farming practices and more and more land being developed the species are squeezed into a closer

co-existence and the resulting competition for food.

As for badgers taking poultry - yes it may happen. But as a keeper of farmed or domestic animals and birds it is incumbent on the owner to provide secure and predator proof accommodation. Wild species have no idea where their next meal will come from and if we provide an opportunity for an easy meal then we have failed in our duty to look after our stock.



It's a hard life out there in the wild and all that most of our native wildlife are looking for is a quiet and undisturbed life. They were here before us and we owe them that.

NEEBG, as with all badger groups, works with farmers, landowners, police and statutory bodies to protect this Ancient Briton. **BADGER HOTLINE: 07751 52175.**

**Renee Hockley-Byam, Chairman of North East Essex Badger Group and J. Sowden, member**

## CHRISTMAS HAMPER Hello neighbour,

Do you know anyone within Great and Little Bardfield who will (or will you yourself), be alone this Christmas and would appreciate a Christmas Hamper? If so, please could you contact me with their name and telephone number so that we can contact them and offer them one.

Like previous years, a group of people within the village are looking at putting this all together to let those people know that they are not forgotten at Christmas.

As people's circumstances change, if you have received a hamper in previous years and would like another this year you will also need to contact me to confirm this.

Please call Joanne Magro-Andrews on 07590397178 by Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

Best wishes,  
**Joanne Magro-Andrews**

## Great Bardfield Parish Council report

### Adjournment of Parish Council Meeting

Under Section 243 of the Local Government Act 1972 we were not permitted to hold our Parish Council Meeting planned for 14<sup>th</sup> September as it was during the Mourning Period following Her Majesty's death. Following a minute's silence, this meeting was therefore adjourned until Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

### Next Parish Council Meeting

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 5 October 2022 at 7.00pm, in the Committee Room at the Town Hall.

**Carolynne Ruffle**

**Chairperson**

## Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



Great Bardfield Parish Council express their deepest respects and condolences at this very sad time, following the death of Our Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Her Majesty put duty and loyalty to her Country, the Commonwealth and her peoples, at the forefront of her life, and after 70 years' service has built a deep and fond respect from many across the world.

Her wisdom, gentleness and constancy were an example to all.

Our prayers and best wishes to King Charles III as he ascends to the throne.

**God Save The King**

## Eric Ravilious, designer of Coronation Mugs

In anticipation of the coronation of King Charles III I was prompted to research the history of the coronation mugs designed by Eric Ravilious for Wedgwood. There are three. The first was designed for the Coronation of Edward VIII which was expected to take place in 1936 but was withdrawn on the King's abdication and the design revised for the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1937. Ravilious was a war artist who was tragically lost aged 39 on a reconnaissance mission over Iceland in 1942. However, his coronation mug design was revised by Wedgwood and used for Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. I have one of these mugs shown here photographed against Edward Bawden's wallpaper in Brick House. These are still available but quite costly. I imagine that the Edward VIII mugs would be rare and highly collectable. It is recorded that Wallis Simpson bought one.

The 1953 design is printed in sepia with a pink lustre band and lemon yellow decoration. The design shows cascading fireworks which were often featured in the work of Ravilious including his wood engravings where he shows the moving linear curves and starry patterns of fireworks. In her memoir of Ravilious, his lover Helen Binyon writes that firework designs gave 'life and sparkle to many of the intricate designs he made for publishers; these are quite distinctive and unlike the work of any other artist – a kind of abstract art.'

However, by some, Ravilious was considered ahead of his time with the Wedgwood designs. In a letter to Helen Binyon written from the Potteries



in August 1936 he wrote: 'You will be sorry that the {Wedgwood} family think my beautiful designs above the heads of their public and that to begin with something should be done safer and more understandable. I argued about this most of the afternoon.' He adds, 'I'd better think of some new designs ... so I must go back and see if I am clever enough to do this.'

Fortunately many of his designs for Wedgwood were accepted and can still be found today – at a price!

**Janet Dyson**

## Neighbourhood Plan Update

**T**hank you to all those that completed the Neighbourhood Plan Community Questionnaire and indicated your opinions about the future of Great Bardfield. We were pleased to receive an above average response rate. The initial findings were presented at a Drop-In Session held at The Town Hall on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September, well attended by a constant stream of residents. Display boards presented the work done so far on this project, extracts of reports we have commissioned on Landscape Assessment and Building Design Codes, and the initial findings of the Community Survey. A link will be placed on the Parish Council website to access the displays shown at this event.



There is still a way to go with this process. Our Neighbourhood Plan will be based on all the information we have gathered from the community and from specialist consultants and you will have other opportunities to consider and vote on acceptance of the Plan before it is adopted.



**Carolynne Ruffle**  
**Neighbourhood Plan Group**

## Great Bardfield Tuesday Club

*“Stained Glass -a world of light,  
colour, art and inspiration”*



A talk by Sue Tracey

**Great Bardfield Town Hall**

**Tuesday, October 11th at 2.30pm**

Non-members of the Tuesday Club are very welcome

## Horticultural Society

The Bardfield Horticultural Society Summer Show was held in the Town Hall on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the Show, we wondered how many exhibits we would receive as the drought had had a devastating effect on many of our gardens. However, on the day we were absolutely amazed and delighted to see so many wonderful entries. There were lots of flowers and vegetables, floral art, domestic items, handicrafts and a lovely display of pictures coloured by children from Bardfield School. We had several new exhibitors which was refreshing. Thank you all for your entries. The Judges were very complimentary saying it was one of the best shows they had been to this year.



We had plenty of visitors in the afternoon who enjoyed benches full of colourful flowers including some amazing dahlias and pot plants, vegetables, floral art displays depicting "Mardi Gras", interesting handicrafts, and cakes and other edible items in the domestic section, plus a number of delightful children's' entries. There was a well populated plant stall and raffle. Tea and homemade cakes were served at The Bell Inn in a marquee next door to the hall. Thank you, Sharon, it was very much appreciated. Donations were given to the Horticultural Society.

A huge "Thank You" to everyone who entered and visited the show. Here is a list of the winners of the Cups, Trophies and Shields for the Summer Show 2022: Congratulations to you all – well done!

<b>Exhibition Perpetual Challenge Cup</b>	
Highest points in the Flower Section	Mr P.G. Morris
<b>Brunwin Perpetual Challenge Trophy</b>	
Best Flower Exhibit in Show	Mr P.G. Morris
<b>The Cecil Monk (Toot) Cup</b>	
Best Gladiolus Spike in Show	Mr P.G. Morris
<b>Coronation Perpetual Challenge Cup</b>	
Highest points in the Vegetable Section	Mr P.G. Morris
<b>P.G.Morris Perpetual Challenge Cup</b>	
Second highest points in Vegetable Section	Mr A. Ripley
<b>Worshipful Company of Gardeners Diploma in Horticulture</b>	
Best Vegetable Exhibit	Mr A. Ripley
<b>Bob Gray Trophy</b>	
Best Potato	Mr A. Ripley
<b>Banksian Medal</b>	
Highest points in Horticultural Sections	
Flowers and Vegetables	Mr P.G. Morris
<b>Domestic Perpetual Challenge Cup</b>	
Highest points in the Domestic Section	Mrs J.T. Morris
<b>Domestic Shield</b>	
Best Exhibit in Domestic Section	Mrs J.T. Morris
<b>Palmer Perpetual Challenge Trophy</b>	
Highest points in the Floral Art Section	Ms A. Boon
<b>Worshipful Company of Gardeners Certificate of Merit for Floral Art</b>	
Best Floral Arrangement	Ms A. Boon
<b>Clucas Perpetual Challenge Cup</b>	
Highest points in the Handicraft Section	
Joint winners:	Mrs S. Holland and Mrs C. Whitby
<b>Ian Holmes Shield</b>	Alfie Holland
<b>Evelyn Swift Challenge Shield</b>	
Children ages 5 – 8 years	Edie Brockwell
<b>Tony Hayward Challenge Shield</b>	
Most points in Spring and Summer Shows-Childrens	
Joint winners:	Harry Walmsley and Sam Yarrow

**Bardfield Horticultural Challenge Trophy**

Highest points in Spring (sections 2,3 & 4) and Summer (sections 3,4 &5) Shows Mrs J.T. Morris

**Reg Dent Perpetual Challenge Cup**

Most points in Spring and Summer Shows Mr P.G. Morris

**President's Award**

For Outstanding Services to the Society Mrs D. Willett

Our next event will be the return of our very popular **Harvest Supper** on **Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Town Hall.**

Tickets will be £12.50 each to include a glass of wine or fruit juice.

The entertainment will be the magician: Jack Blackbourn.

There will be a raffle.

**Tickets are available from Linda Prior 811641 or Lynne Joyce 810524.**

Please don't forget to come to our AGM in the Town hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. After the formal meeting we will have cheese and wine followed by a talk by Barbara Segall entitled "The Secret Gardens of East Anglia".

Barbara Segal is a member of the Garden Media Guild, an award-winning horticulturalist and freelance garden writer. She wrote "The Secret Gardens of East Anglia" in 2017. This will be a talk with a tour of 22 private gardens. The photographs will be excellent having been taken by Marcus Harpur. There will be raffle and you will be able to renew your membership as well.

It is with great sadness that we report that Pip Chapman has passed away. Pip was a local man, so good natured, kind, helpful and enthusiastic. A keen gardener, he so loved his plants and vegetables. He was a member of the Horticultural Society and an active and much valued Committee member for many years though sadly not able to come to our Summer Show this year. He won the President's Award in 2020. Pip was always a regular exhibitor and ran our raffles at various events. He will be greatly missed by us all.

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

# HARVEST SUPPER

**BARDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**CONTACT LINDA PRIOR 811641 OR  
LYNNE JOYCE 810524 FOR TICKETS**

Saturday 8th October –You are all invited to join us for a supper and entertainment in the Town Hall Gt Bardfield. As well as a wonderful selection of home cooked food, entertainment for the evening will be by a magician Mr Jack Blackbourn a local conjurer of distinction .

Your ticket will entitle you to a glass of wine or juice and supper with the dessert selection that is always talked about around the village.

Come join the fun -





**8 OCTOBER 2022**

**TIME: 7.00PM**



Town Hall, Great Bardfield

**£12.50**

## Town Hall – How it Happened

Recently I have spent time outside the Town Hall checking the redecoration and have met people who did not know about the Hall, where it was or what it was used for. I thought an update would be useful and interesting.

The Town Hall (next door to The Bell Inn) was built in 1859 by Henry Smith a local farmer, Quaker and

benefactor for the use of the residents of Great Bardfield. In 1911 the Hall was purchased by Thomas Smith (a relative of Henry).

In 1947 Thomas Smith agreed to sell the Town Hall to the Parish for £1,150 (equivalent to around £50,000 in 2022) which was raised by public donation and fundraising within a year! The purchase also included 4 cottages now used as the Community Information Point, The Bawden Room and the Caretaker's Cottage. Also, a shed which had previously been used to house the village Fire Engine.

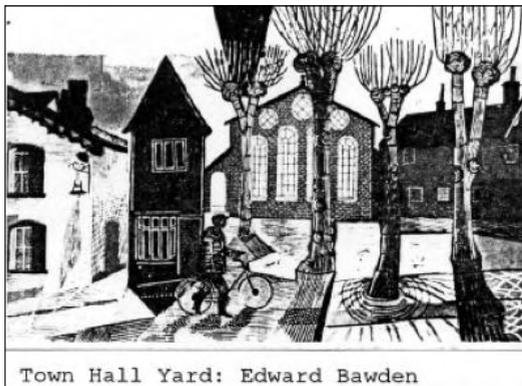
The purchase contract in 1947 set up the current Management Committee (a Charity) which runs the buildings "for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Great Bardfield". Over the years additions have been built to provide the Committee Room, kitchen and Ladies' toilets.

Day to day the Hall is looked after by Sarah our caretaker and the Management Committee (which includes representatives of local organisations) who have regular meetings. Currently users of the buildings include: Community Information Point (Parish Council), Community Fridge, Horticultural Society, Historical Society, Tuesday Club, Carpet Bowls, Cinema Club, Bardfield Community Choir and The Bardfield Players.

The Town Hall, Committee Room, Bawden Room and all facilities are available to hire so please do make use of this wonderful facility.

### **John Maidman, Chair – Management Committee**

*Editor: You can read more about the history of our wonderful Town Hall in From Vice to Virtue: The Story of Great Bardfield Town Hall, Published by Great Bardfield Historical Society and available from the CIP, Cottage Museum and the Bookshop.*



Town Hall Yard: Edward Bawden

## BOULES FINALS DAY

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October - 2pm onwards

Come and see the last 3 games of the season  
Semi Finals and Grand Final



**BBQ, Music, French Vibe,  
Undercover Seating (but bring a brolly just in case)**

**All Proceeds to Town Hall Funds**

## From the Vicarage...

As you come to read this, and we enter the month of October, memories will still be fresh of the death of her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and of all the services and other ceremonies in commemoration of her life and service. One of the things I have heard people say about these events is that they have brought back to mind memories of their own departed family members and friends. This past year is one in which many of our villages have said farewell to a number of well-known figures, and the end of life, as we encounter it both personally and as a community, naturally provokes all sorts of questions in our minds.

I have been heard to say before that much of what we do in church would be pointless if there were no such thing as death. This is not to say that it wouldn't be worthwhile then to worship, praise and thank God for the blessings he gives us – after all, we believe that to be the greatest joy of what is done in heaven. Rather it is the reality of the end of our earthly lives which colours the way in which we worship and pray when we gather together in church. The forms of service and prayer which have been passed down from one generation to another through the church are all fashioned in such a way as to prepare us for the end of our earthly lives, and the beginning of a new life to come.

There are seasons when we emphasise this to a greater or lesser degree, and month of November is one where the questions around our mortality are given more prominence. Well known of course is the commemoration of those who have died in war around Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday, but at the beginning of the month is the commemoration known as All Souls, focused around 2<sup>nd</sup> November, when we remember all who have died, and reflect on the significance of this for our own lives. As this recent time is one when bereavement has been brought to the forefront of our minds, I would like to leave you with a few advance details of the services we will be holding for All Souls, in the hope that you will feel welcome to any of them, and that they may help with any questions, uncertainties, or feelings of grief that you are carrying. Above all, although they are solemn occasions, they are times when we can proclaim our hope in the infinite love and mercy of God.

Wishing you every blessing,

**Rev'd/Fr Alex**

## All Souls Services

### Wednesday 2 November

4pm Shalford – Service of Remembrance  
7pm Great Bardfield – Requiem Eucharist (a celebration of Holy Communion with a focus on God's love for the departed)

### Thursday 3 November

10.30am Little Bardfield – Our regular Thursday Communion service will also be a Requiem

### Sunday 6 November

10.30am Cornish Hall End – Sunday Café (an opportunity for gentle discussion around the subject of dying and bereavement)  
4pm Finchingfield – Service of Remembrance  
4pm Wethersfield – Our regular reflective service 'Time to Be' will have remembrance as its theme

## Services for October 2022

in the Pant Valley Churches

### Services on Sundays and Principal Holy Days

#### Sunday 2 October

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

#### Sunday 9 October

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford  
followed by breakfast  
9.30am Sung Eucharist for Harvest – Little Bardfield  
10.30am Contemporary Morning Service – Finchingfield  
For this service we will be joined by a worship and music group from Cornerstone Church in Black Notley, and local instrumentalists and singers are particularly welcome to join

**Sunday 9 October**

11am Family Service for Harvest – Wethersfield  
5pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

*We are always looking for more members of our Evensong choir – there will be a rehearsal for this service on the previous Friday evening*

**Sunday 16 October**

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

**Sunday 23 October**

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield  
9.30am Morning Service – Shalford  
10.30am Morning Service – Finchingfield  
11am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield  
*Instrumentalists also particularly welcome to join for this service too!*

**Sunday 30 October**

10.30am Benefice Communion for the feast of All Saints

**Regular Services and Events during the week**

**Monday**

8.45am 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, including the following feast days:

**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 15 October**

10am Children's Church (pre- and primary school age) – Wethersfield

**Sunday 23 October**

3pm Youth Group (age 10+) – Wethersfield

**FLOWER FESTIVAL ST.JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH  
FINCHINGFIELD**

We were delighted to welcome nearly 400 people to our festival over the bank holiday weekend in August. 26 amazing floral arrangements were on display throughout the church, depicting our theme of A-Z of Occupations & Pastimes which were enjoyed by everyone who visited.

We wish to sincerely thank everyone who helped make this event such a success, from our dedicated team of arrangers, stewards, helpers, sponsors and advertisers.

Although we are still awaiting a final total we have raised in excess of £1500 for our church.

Thank you

**Linda, Dawn, Catherine, Liz & Jenny  
Flower Festival coordinators**

## The Holy Spirit Catholic Church

Many of you will know of the passing of Fr Richard Rowe who had been our parish priest since 2014. He will of course be sadly missed by his parishioners in Great Bardfield and Thaxted where he had served as Vicar from 1989 to 1999. Therefore, we are especially fortunate that Bishop Alan has been able to appoint a new priest who will reside in the village, and we welcome Fr Celestine as our new Parish Priest. Fr. Celestine was born and studied in Nigeria and has a degree in Philosophy, Theology and Religious Education. He was ordained on 24 August 2002 and has worked in Nigerian parishes for some years before coming to the UK when he was appointed Parish Priest at St Thomas More & St Edward's church, Waltham Abbey where he has been for the last 8 years. As our resident parish priest, in addition to Sunday Mass he will be offering the following services:



Sunday Mass: 9.30am

Weekday Mass: Tuesday to Friday 9.30am

Holy Hour – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – following Friday Mass

Confessions – after Sunday Mass

Holidays of Obligation – Mass at 10am

Saturdays – will be free for baptisms and weddings.

In addition, following Mass on Tuesdays, until 12 noon, Father Celestine will be free for anyone who wishes to speak to him.

He can be contacted on 01371 810428



**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER**

**10.00 AM – 4.00 PM**

**GREAT BARDFIELD TOWN HALL**



**Ceramics - Jewellery - Wood Turning**

**Honey - Glass Fusion Art**

**Musical Instruments - Needlecraft & More**



**TEA, COFFEE & CAKE**

**For further info contact:**

**[mrspwalsh@aol.com](mailto:mrspwalsh@aol.com)**

## Village People – The Hollands

The Holland family – Nick, Sarah and 14-year-old son Alfie – might have ended up living on the other side of the world. Nick and Sarah met when they were both studying at the University of East Anglia in Norwich. Nick, having a break from his computing course and wanting to impress his then-girlfriend, joined the University bell-ringing society. Sarah, a biology student who had been bell-ringing since she was ten, was not – at the time – the girlfriend in question; but when Nick became single, the situation changed. They ended up running the society together, and teaching bellringing to a diverse range of students from the UK and all over the world. Nick got a job



almost immediately after he graduated, and moved to Berkshire but Sarah continued her education, completing a Ph.D in Breast Cancer Research. They maintained their relationship in spite of the distance, and when Sarah finished her Ph.D she got a job at Porton Down and joined Nick in Newbury. They started saving for a house, but Sarah, whose parents had lived in Australia before she was born, had long

wished to see the country for herself. They decided to take their nest-egg and spend it all on an extended visit Down Under. They spent three months having a good look around, wondering if they would want to stay and settle there, but in the end they both realised that it was too far from friends and family. "It cemented what we wanted," said Sarah – and one of those things was to move back to East Anglia, the area where Sarah grew up and which Nick had come to love during his years at UEA. They found jobs in Cambridge and Harlow and a place to rent in Debden Green, fairly close to both. They started saving (again) to buy a house, and went to look at one in Cornish Hall End. Their drive home took them through Great Bardfield, a village they had previously not been aware of. They both immediately felt that familiar pull that many people reading this will relate to. "We thought, 'This is a nice village!'" And they decided to focus their search here. They found a house on Bendlowes Road that was within their budget and have lived there now for 20 years. "We haven't wanted to move, ever," says Sarah with a smile. Nick, and Alfie, who has grown up in Bardfield, nod in agreement. "It has provided everything we needed," they add, listing the butcher's shop, Co-op, schools (Alfie went to the village pre-school and then to Bardfield School), the pubs ... "the bookshop!" adds Alfie, who was an enthusiastic member of the children's book club. He also benefitted from the after-school club, and Nick also got involved, ending up running the club for seven years. All three sing in the Bardfield choir, and music is a key part of Alfie's life. He began playing trombone when he was seven under the tutelage of Martin Wilson in Waltham's Cross. He has been a member of Bardfield Brass for many years. He also plays in a school ensemble and when we met up for our chat, they had just returned from a tour of Belgium, playing three concerts in Bruges, Ghent and Oostduinkerke. Fortunately the schedule also allowed time for the purchase of an adequate supply of chocolate!

And of course, there is bellringing. Sarah and Nick organise the bellringing at St Mary's church in Great Bardfield and Alfie is a keen participant. You can hear them all practising on Thursday evenings. A year ago they also began a handbell group; the rehearsal sessions for that, in case any readers are interested, run from 6:30pm to 7:30pm with tower bells immediately afterwards from 7:30 to 9:00. Anyone over 10 is welcome to come and learn either or both! The family says

they enjoy “the opportunities that Bellringing gives you to meet people from all walks of life who you wouldn’t normally come into contact with.” They also attend the Cinema Club and have great fun entering various classes at the Horticultural Show. At the last show, Alfie won the handicrafts trophy (11 – 16 age group) and Nick got the Men’s Baking award. They also coordinated the village Garage Sale for many years. Nick is Secretary and Trustee of Bardfield Charities.

When they first arrived in Bardfield Sarah was working in Chelmsford analysing data for Essex Police, but when Alfie came along, she decided she needed more family-friendly hours. She now works as a Teaching Assistant for children with special needs at Stebbing Primary School where she uses the knowledge she gained when working for a higher education national disability team and her experience of helping Alfie, who has Tourette’s Syndrome. The arrangement works well. “It suits us,” says Alfie, adding, “it’s nice to spend time with family.”

Alfie, who achieved the honour of being named School Ambassador in his last year at Bardfield School, now attends Saffron Walden County High School and is full of enthusiasm about it. He participates in school plays and also enjoys the excellent facilities for science and technology, and the school’s connection with music venue Saffron Hall. Among his GCSEs he’s studying Drama, History, Music and Graphics, and is leaning towards graphic design as a career option, although music remains a very important aspect of his life. He started learning piano a year ago, although the trombone remains his main instrument, hence the aforementioned tour of Belgium.

During the various lockdowns and periods of Covid-related isolation of the past two years, the family has been spending even more time together, and they used the opportunity to re-invent their garden, with really lovely results! “Me and Mum designed it, but Dad’s the one that does the planting,” explains Alfie. The family has been making the most of the fact that Nick now works from home much of the time.

It’s clear that the Hollands have gained a great deal from being part of the Bardfield community, but they have given back in equal measure, and the result is a win not just for the family but for the community as a whole.

**Anna Bass**

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## Nature Notes Working Animals

I have always featured wild creatures in my nature notes, but throughout history man has used a host of creatures for numerous different purposes other than food, my own favourite being my faithful Collie Jill who along with her mother Kim worked very hard herding sheep and free-range turkeys. Moving 2000 turkeys is no fun on your own but it becomes a very pleasant job with very little stress for the turkeys if you have two fast but gentle collies doing the job. Both dogs retired when I did and although I have since lost Kim Jill has adapted well to being my constant companion, and like most animals which have become domesticated, all she wants to do is please her master. The bond which is formed between a good working animal and its master is unbelievable, so very different to the relationship between man and a pet. Most pets are trained using treats but working animals only want to please. One animal which I am sad I missed out working with is the draft horse, although I am not sorry that I never had to spend day after day following a single furrow plough in all weathers. The bond between a man and a working horse is indescribable, if a beast weighing a ton and a half doesn't love and respect you are not going to get much work out of it. My experience with draft horses was limited to two days in the school holidays working on a farm carting sheafs of wheat, with horses pulling the trailers on the fields, and tractors taking over to pull the trailers for the long journey on the road to the farm. These days the only draft horses we see are the magnificent animals which are taking part in local shows and ploughing matches. I have included one of my favourite pictures of two such horses which I had the pleasure of watching, a young lady was making a fantastic job of ploughing at the world ploughing match in Lincolnshire in 2017. The bond that she had with those two horses was so evident that I could cheerfully have stood and watched them plough all day. There were several teams of men with two horses who had to have an extra person leading their horses as the bond was lacking.

So, let's take a closer look at the working horses. Surprisingly the largest ones were not developed for draft work but for carrying knights in shining armour who were defending King, country and honour so considerable funds would have been available for breeding and selection. They had to be immensely strong and fast not only able to carry the knight and his armour but many had their own heavy armour as well. According to early records oxen were used more than horses for land work. I haven't been able to pin-point when the horse became the popular choice for draft work both

on the land and for transport. Many different breeds and strains developed most of which have disappeared. Some of the most popular ones in the UK are the ones we see at shows today are mainly Shire, Clydesdale, and Suffolk Punch, all of which are on the endangered species list, and were it not for the dedication of a few people the future would look very bleak.



At the other end of the spectrum of draft horses as far as size is concerned is the Shetland pony – yes, the Shetland pony! There were hundreds of them living and working down our mines. It seems dreadful now but I can remember it well when I lived with my grandparents in a colliery village during the war. The mines all closed for a week's holiday each August, known as 'pit week', and the ponies were brought up from the mine and turned out into a field. We used to go and see them running about kicking their legs in the air and having the time of their lives. Shetland ponies are the one breed of working horse which is still retaining its numbers because it is so popular as pets, children's ponies, and companions to lonely horses. The truth of the matter is that, if an animal is not part of the food chain and it no longer has a use for other purposes, it will become extinct and the world will be a sad place.

**Mac Beanland**

## Thoughts on bellringing

The sound of bells ringing is deeply rooted in British culture. Throughout the centuries, bells have been used to make announcements and to draw people together. Bells call people to prayer, to work, to bear arms. They are used in remembrance and to mark celebrations. In a world before 24hr news and social media, bells were the way to inform people that something significant had happened. During World War II, bells were silent throughout the conflict until the day that peace had returned.

Our family have been privileged enough to be a small part of another historic occasion recently. As organisers of the bellringing at St. Mary's Great Bardfield we have been ringing, according to the national protocol, to announce and mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II and to celebrate the accession of King Charles III.

There are 8 bells which we ring at St. Mary's. The oldest two bells were made in 1602 and so it is likely that these were used to announce the death of Queen Elizabeth I in 1603. We find it humbling to think of all the changes these bells have marked over their 420 year history, and we are proud to be part of a British tradition which has gone relatively unchanged for all these years.

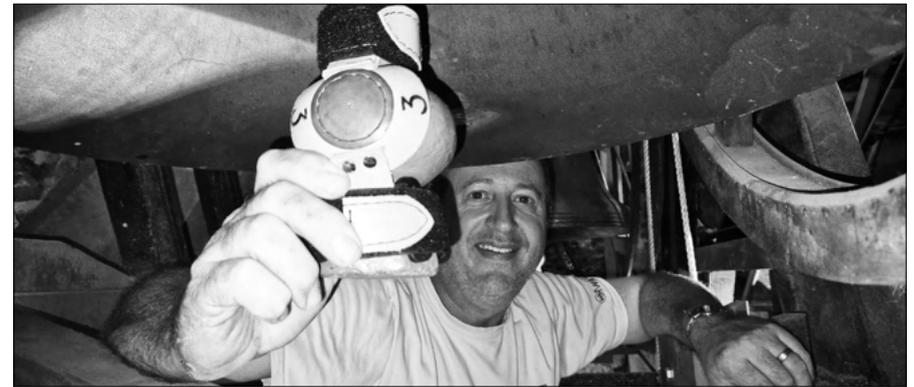


*The heaviest Bell Made in 1602*

Different pieces of ringing require a different bell sound and a different number of bells to be rung. Mostly we ring in celebration of a church service about to take place or an event like a wedding. Celebratory bells are rung 'open'; this is where the metal clapper - the bit that hangs down in the centre of the bell - hits the metal side of the bell making a loud and clear sound. We rang 'open' to announce the accession of King Charles III. Interestingly, we could not announce the accession at our parish level until the announcement had been made in London, then at county and district level. That's historic protocol for you!

When we ring in remembrance, such as on Remembrance Day or for

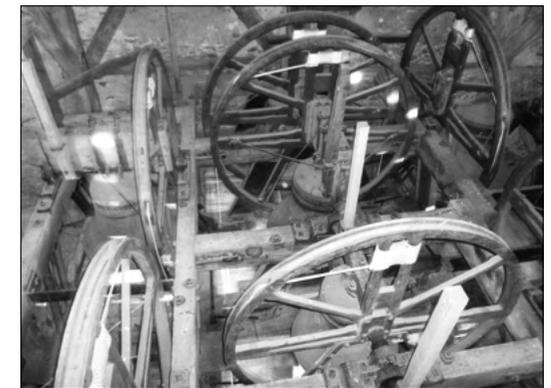
funerals, we change the sound of the bell by covering one side of the clapper with a piece of leather called a muffle. This creates an echo effect where the bell rings loudly then softly. We may also ring or 'toll' just one bell - often donging once for each year of a person's life. When we mark the death of a monarch, as during the recent ringing for Queen Elizabeth II, we add a muffle to both sides of the clapper so that the bell sounds very soft and mournful.



*The bell with the muffle on the clapper*

We are keen to ensure the historic tradition of bellringing in our country continues to happen for at least the next 420 years. For every bell that rings we need one bellringer and so, with lots of events to ring for, we are always looking for more people to join our merry ringing band. We teach ringing for free every Thursday evening from 19:30 - you just need to be over 10 years old, be able to grip a rope and to lift your arms above your head. You don't need to be strong - it's all about the technique! Perhaps you could ring for the coronation of King Charles III or be part of history by announcing the accession of our next king?

**Nick, Sarah & Alfie Holland  
(810209)**



*A view of st Mary's bells*

## GREENFINGERS

**W**OW! How our desert gardens revived after a downpour or two. Phlox suffered but revived, asters and dahlias perked up and are truly floriferous. Nature is amazing. The flowers that did well in the heat were annuals and Mediterranean plants, of course. So get more salvias, a wide colour choice from black to white and every colour in the spectrum.



Think you've lost some plants and even shrubs?

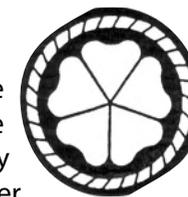
Don't be too hasty replacing them. If you like them give them a chance by waiting until spring. If you weren't too keen it is a prompt to bring on the new and it is the perfect time to plant these desirables.

A few suggestions: in a shady place, the popular hydrangea Annabel with its huge white flowers, but if you prefer perennials then put in thalictrums, there are Spring and Autumn varieties. In a sunny spot, use the above mentioned salvias, cistus and hibiscus. Think of October as the New Year of gardening and get planting.

### Autumn Jobs

- Did you know roses are easily increased by cuttings? Take stems 45cms long, cut off the growing tip and make a hole in good soil in semi-shade. Push in the stem so two thirds are buried and leave them until they need watering, say April. Note I write 'them' as allowance for failure so push in 3 or 4. By next autumn, hey presto, a new rose to plant.
- Irises may need a tidy, remove unsightly leaves and cut off one third of longer leaves, add a sprinkle of bonemeal.
- Naturally, the gardener knows to plant bulbs now and redo pots for winter interest.
- Next job will be sweeping up leaves!!

## Great Bardfield Primary School



**T**he month of September is always a very special one in school; full of anticipation and optimism for the new academic year. This September is a particularly exciting one as I embark on my new role as Headteacher.

I have worked at Great Bardfield for twenty-three years and have seen many children pass through our wonderful school. My own two children were pupils at the school and there are currently children within our school community whose parents I have had the pleasure of teaching in previous years. Our unique school, and village, truly hold a very special place in my heart.

At Great Bardfield we have a hugely committed team of staff and governors and incredible children, which of course, is a great place for any new head to start! I feel extremely privileged to be in a position from which I can build upon the successes we have already achieved, along with leading our village school into the future.



One of the priorities of my team and I is the development and expansion of links with the wonderful community of Great Bardfield beyond our school gates. We hope to see everybody at our events



throughout the year and we would love to hear from you if you wish to share any of your knowledge of the local area or have any areas of expertise you would like to share with our children. Our door is always open. We are all extremely excited about the journey ahead and I am looking forward to upholding some of our most important traditions whilst creating some new ones. Our children will continue to be at the heart of everything we do at our school.

At the beginning of this new academic year we welcome back our children after the long summer break and there is a keen sense of anticipation around the school. This year we have welcomed sixteen new reception children to our Unicorn Class who are proving to be an absolute delight! I can hear their squeals of joy from their new outdoor classroom as I type this from my office. We have also welcomed Mr Singh, our new Year 4/5 teacher and Mrs Mills, our new Learning Support Assistant to the team. We are also very glad to welcome Anna in her new role as our school cook and Natalie who has joined us as our catering assistant.

This term has been a busy one already. Our newly appointed School Ambassadors from Year 6, Martha and Dylan, are excellent representatives of our school. We were very proud of them as they carried out their first

duty of laying flowers at the village memorial to mark the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The entire year group showed the utmost respect and spent some time reflecting whilst reading the messages from the community.



The children have already voted in their School Councillors who have attended their first meeting of the year this week. They will have an important role in improving our school as the year continues. House Captains have also been voted in and they carried out their first task this week which involved organising and supporting with our Reception and Key Stage One 'Teddy Runs'. They worked alongside a coach from the Uttlesford School Sports Partnership and are to be commended on their professional conduct throughout the activities.

Finally, at long last, the building work on our new purpose-built classrooms began over the summer holidays. Our children are enjoying watching the progress of the project and have quickly settled into their new temporary home on the playground.

**Liz Crow**  
**Headteacher**

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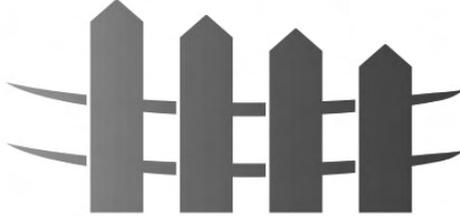
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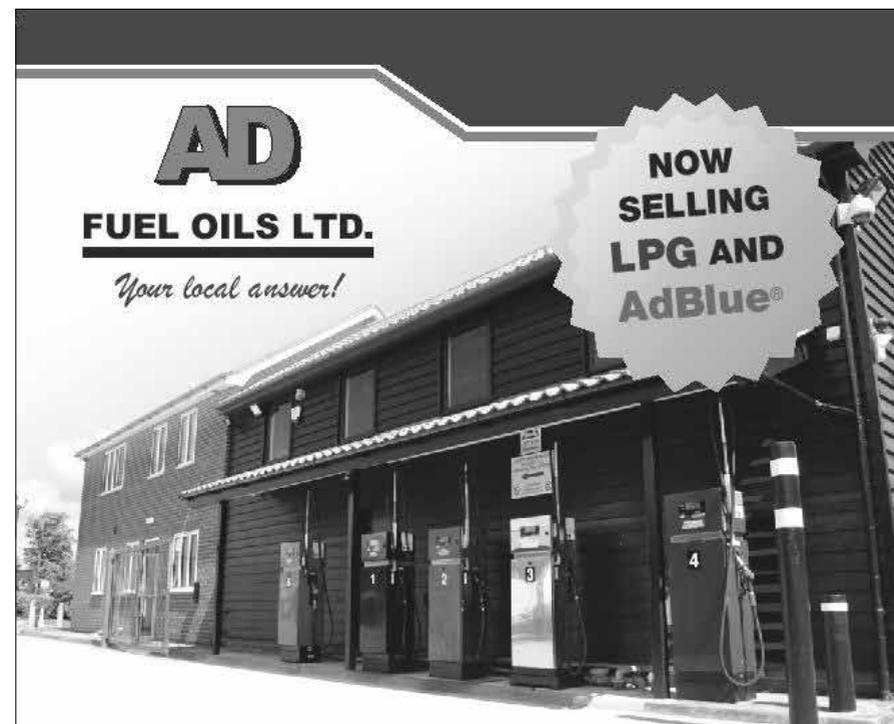
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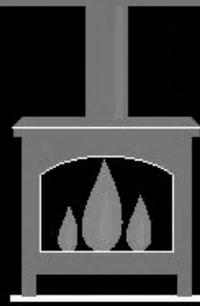
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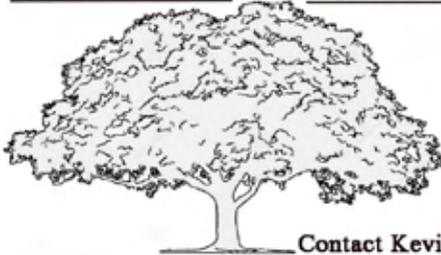
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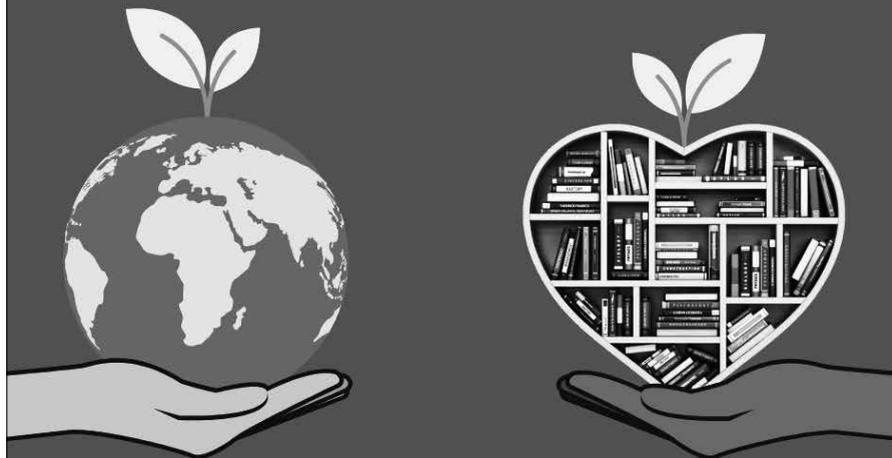
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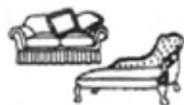
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### October 2022

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Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bardfield Players	2.00pm
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Young @ Heart Fitness Fun	9.30am
	Stability & Mobility class	10.45am
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting	7.00 pm
	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	7.30pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Cinema Club	7.30pm
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Horticultural Society	7.00pm
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	2.00pm
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Young @ Heart Fitness Fun	9.30am
	Stability & Mobility class	10.45am
	Tuesday Club	2.00pm
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	7.30 pm
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	11.00am
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	2.00pm
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	8.00pm
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Young @ Heart Fitness Fun	9.30am
	Stability & Mobility class	10.45am
	Horticultural Society Meeting	7.00pm
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	7.30pm
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Craft Fair	12.00pm
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bardfield Players	2.00pm
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	7.30pm
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	12.00pm
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Bardfield Players	2.00pm

**Enquiries and bookings** [bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com](mailto:bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com)

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### Braintree District Council

**Councillors Cllr Peter Tattersley** [Cllr.ptattersley@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.ptattersley@braintree.gov.uk) 07938 930003

**Cllr Vanessa Santomauro** [Cllr.vsantomauro@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.vsantomauro@braintree.gov.uk) 07740 348528

**Police** for non-emergency enquiries dial 101

for emergency enquiries dial 999

### Little Bardfield Parish

**Chairman of the Parish Council** [LittleBardfieldParishClerk@gmail.com](mailto:LittleBardfieldParishClerk@gmail.com)

**Clerk to the Parish Council** Andrew Davies [davies@farmline.com](mailto:davies@farmline.com)

Kate Rixon 01371 404 321

**Uttlesford District Council** [LittleBardfieldParishClerk@gmail.com](mailto:LittleBardfieldParishClerk@gmail.com)

**Councillor**

Cllr George Smith

**Bardfield After School & Breakfast Club** [Cllrsmith@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:Cllrsmith@uttlesford.gov.uk) 07896 618944

**Bardfield Carpet Bowls Club** Pat Moore 07767 413055

**Bardfield Charities** Clifford Richardson 810782

**Bardfield Players** Nick Holland 07795 280647

**1st Finchingfield Scout Group** Ian Ruffle 810986

Mark Wells 810447

**Muddogs Youth Football** [mark.2millside@btinternet.com](mailto:mark.2millside@btinternet.com)

Tony Clarke-Holland 07710 506007

**Gt Bardfield Primary School** [www.muddogs.co.uk/tch@thebcf.co.uk](http://www.muddogs.co.uk/tch@thebcf.co.uk)

**Gt Bardfield Pre-School** [admin@greatbardfield.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@greatbardfield.essex.sch.uk) 810252

**Gt Bardfield Historical Society** Kathy King 811580

**Horticultural Society** Marilyn Edwards 810555

**Parish Priest Great & Little Bardfield** Linda Prior 811641

**Catholic Priest** Fr. Alex Shannon 01371 810309/07483 878659

**Town Hall Bookings** Fr Celestine 810428

**Tuesday Club** [bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com](mailto:bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com)

**Great Bardfield Bell Ringers** [adriennepoulson@btinternet.com](mailto:adriennepoulson@btinternet.com) 811401

**Refuse Collections** Nick & Sarah Holland 810209

Gt. Bardfield Tuesdays from 7am,

L. Bardfield Thursdays from 7am.

Little Bardfield, Styles,

Thursday 10am fortnightly

Gt Bardfield Town Hall,

**Museum and Cage** Thursday 11.15am fortnightly

Every Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holiday from Easter to the last Sunday in

**Community Information Point (CIP)** September 2.-5.30pm.

**The Samaritans** Thurs and Sat 10am – 11.00am 811327

01245 357357