



**Friday, April 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> APRIL**

April  
2023

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:** Louisa Ruthven, repairing the Aldridge cope by Julia Collins

**Above:** Bardfield Windmill by Alfred Wheater

## Editorial

It seems that this corner of North West Essex is significantly under threat from development of various kinds at the moment. What a brilliant response from residents to the proposal by Three to position a 15 m Telecom mast adjacent to the village greens in the heart of the Conservation Area. Our story has featured in the local and national press. See pages 2 and 3 for a record of the campaign so far. We await the decision of BDC Planning Officers regarding whether this should be allowed as 'permitted development'. If the answer is 'No' then a full planning application may be submitted – there is much further to go in our resistance to this desecration of our beautiful village. Don't give up!

Many events are planned to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III including a 'Big Lunch' street party, activities for children, a window decorating competition and a talk by our Vicar, Rev'd Alex Shannon on the meaning behind the rituals that take place at a Coronation (see details on p21). For many people it will be the first Coronation in their lifetime so let's make it a memorable occasion.

I noticed on the Community Facebook someone was complaining that nothing is organised for young people in the village 'like it used to be'. I didn't wish to get involved in an argument on Facebook but as this issue shows there are in fact good opportunities including the Little Bardfield Cricket Club's project for training young players, the recently started Badminton Club in the Town Hall; the many events organised by Scott Forbes and the activities planned for the Coronation. The new pavilion will open up further possibilities. If you want something that's not on offer how about organising it yourself?

Also in this issue Mac Beanland recalls the devastating East Coast floods of 1953 and Julia Collins tells the story of the beautiful Bardfield Cope which is being restored with great skill by Louisa Ruthven, featured on our cover.

Thanks to those who have offered support for a campaign to get a bus to Dunmow that takes in Thaxted and Little Bardfield. It would be a great asset for those who are no longer able to drive. It's easy for drivers to dismiss the importance of a good public transport system but remember – it could be you one day! We are on the case!

**Janet Dyson**  
**Editor**

**Dear BT,**

I just wanted to express my thanks for the show of community support for the campaign to stop the 15m 5G mast proposed for the conservation area.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> March a group of us delivered 200 written objections to Causeway House and as I write this there are already over 200 objections registered on the website too.

We await the decision of the planning officer. We must bear in mind that if they apply for full planning, we must pull together again. We can do it. Keep Bardfield Great!

**Anna Steinbauer**



*Anna Steinbauer, John Dennison, Michael Barry, Jade Nolan-Bradford and Janette Chapman deliver 200 objections at Causeway House*



*Residents protest on School Green photo by Mike Brown*



*Showing what the mast would look like photo by Chris Goddard*

## Great Bardfield Primary School

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the Spring Term at Great Bardfield Primary School. With the icy rain lashing at my office window as I write this, it certainly feels more like mid-winter today!



This term has been a typically busy one here at school. Our new classrooms are nearing completion and we are looking forward to finally moving in after the Easter break. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our community for the financial contributions you have made, and continue to make, towards helping our school. When managing such an extremely tight budget, every additional pound we receive makes a difference to the children and the resources we are able to provide them with. We hope to hold a 'grand opening' of our new build later in the year which will be an opportunity for the community of Great Bardfield to see how some of your kind donations have been spent.

This term we have continued to take part in a variety of activities and competitions both within and outside school. I was extremely proud of our Year 5s and Year 6s who represented us at a USSP football tournament



*Girls' Team take 2nd place*

in Great Dunmow last week. The boys' team achieved a respectable fourth place and the girls' team came a very impressive second! More importantly, our children were praised for their teamwork and resilience during some tough games. I am so very proud of them and how they demonstrated

the key skills which run through everything we do here at Great Bardfield Primary School.

Another highlight of the term so far has been World Book Day. Children dressed 'ready for bed' and brought along their favourite bedtime reading books to share. With the ever increasing availability of technology within our homes, we want to ensure that our children understand the importance and benefits of reading books at bedtime. World Book Day was an opportunity to highlight this and the children had a wonderful day sharing their books with each other. Linked to the theme of all things technology, our children were very lucky to take part in some excellent online safety workshops presented by students from Rom Theatre Arts in Great Dunmow. These were great fun and included some helpful safety tips about staying safe online.



*Leprechaun Class celebrate World Book Day*

Our School Council and Eco-Council are enjoying their new roles. They hold regular meetings to discuss how we can improve and develop our school and the eco-monitors can often be seen around school switching off lights and reminding staff to turn off their teaching boards when not in use. We have recently signed up to a project called 'Plastic Free Schools'. Look out for council members in and around the village as they take part in their first mission to collect discarded plastics and other rubbish.

As we approach the Summer Term we look forward to the celebrating the Coronation, Sports Days, swimming lessons, the Year 6 trip to the Isle of Wight and much more. The third, and final term of the year is always the busiest and promises many opportunities for our children to shine.

We are looking forward to welcoming some of you to our Spring Concert on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm. It promises to be a lovely afternoon full of singing, cups of tea and delicious cake.

**Liz Crow**  
**Headteacher**

# BARDFIELD COMMUNITY CHOIR

PRESENTS

*A Concert of Words  
and Music*

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup> AT 5PM

IN LITTLE BARDFIELD CHURCH  
FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS

DONATIONS TO LITTLE BARDFIELD CHURCH ARE WELCOME!

## THE GREAT BARDFIELD ART SHOW

We're pleased to announce that The Great Bardfield Art Show in aid of the Town Hall will be back again in 2023.

The show will be held over the Late May Bank Holiday on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

Great Bardfield has a rich art heritage and we wish to continue celebrating this by providing the current artists of Great Bardfield and beyond with a setting for displaying their work. There will be refreshments available in the Town Hall.

If you are interested in showing any of your work please contact us for an entry form or collect a paper copy from *Between the Lines* bookshop in Great Bardfield.

*Peter Keynton and Katrina Ralston*  
Art Show Organisers  
bardfield.art.show@gmail.com



# WANTED!

We are looking for donations of the following items for our **NEW** Reception classroom at Great Bardfield Primary School:

- Tea Pots, tea cups and saucers (china or metal)
- Plates and bowls (china or metal)
- Pots and pans
- Kitchen utensils
- Seagrass and wicker baskets
- Sand and water play accessories (buckets, spades, jugs, sieves, funnels...)
- Gardening accessories (spades, forks, trowels, brushes...)
- Small world play figurines (people, animals, dinosaurs...)
- Small world play buildings
- Cars and car accessories (preferably wooden)
- Musical instruments

**All donations will be gratefully received. Please drop them at the school office for Mrs Whittaker. We look forward to welcoming the village to see our new classrooms when they are complete.**

## Great Bardfield Parish Council report

### Coronation Events May 2023

The Parish Council have applied for the closure of Vine Street on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May so that the village can celebrate the King's Coronation with a street party, as part of The Coronation Big Lunch. All residents are invited from 12 to 2pm – see item in this edition of the *Bardfield Times*.

We are also supporting other activities such as the Window Dressing and Children's Crown Competition being managed by Flora Olney and her creative crew.

Other events are also being organised by the Church, the School and other groups so keep your eye out for all the different activities to mark this historic occasion. I wonder how many of our residents have experienced a Coronation before.

### Planning Applications

- Telecommunications Pole - Mill Road, Great Bardfield: This proposal for a 15 metre high 5G telecoms mast, and ancillary cabinets, on a green within the conservation area of Great Bardfield has caused a high level of concern among residents and the highest objection response rate to BDC than has been seen for any application for many years. Many residents have undertaken their own research on the siting of such masts, public meetings were arranged and help has been offered to those who wished to object. 200 letters were delivered by a group of residents to the District Council offices, in addition to those that had been submitted on line or by post. The story has attracted the attention of the press and has been featured in The Dunmow Broadcast and The Daily Telegraph. We await the decision of the Planning Department of Braintree District Council. If the applicant, Three UK, are required to make a full planning application, objections will be required to be made again.
- Land at Braintree Road (also known as Deer Park View 2): The official notice of the expected appeal has not been submitted to BDC yet.
- 2 Maltings Terrace, Bridge Street, Great Bardfield: No objection to tree works
- Wedgewood Grange, Bridge Street, Great Bardfield: No objection to the removal of a mulberry tree if approved by BDC, Landscape Services

### Wethersfield Airbase

We have recently been advised that Braintree District Council has been

approached by the Home Office regarding the use of the airbase to house those seeking asylum in the UK. The Parish Council have written to BDC to raise concerns that this site is not appropriate to meet the needs of people who find themselves in such difficult circumstances, being too remote, with poor access to public transport and the necessary support and services required. We are also concerned that the Home Office have not undertaken consultation with the community and plan to rush this proposal through with little care or investigation into the suitability of this site. We are in communication with other local Parish Councils which also share our concerns.

### Parking at Junctions

Following recent chaos caused by vehicles parked inappropriately at junctions around the centre of the village causing access problems and traffic we are following up our applications for restricted parking and yellow lines at those junctions most badly affected particularly the junction of Crown Street and Brook Street and at Bell Lane and High Street. It is not always easy to find somewhere to park in the centre of the village but we ask that these junctions are left clear for better sightlines and manoeuvrability.

### Elections

The Parish Council and District Council elections take place on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Annual Parish Meeting

Advance notice that our Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May in the Town Hall. The Parish Council will present their annual report for 2022/23 and reports will be given by other village groups and societies. The meeting is open to all residents of Great Bardfield.

### Next Parish Council Meeting

Our next full meeting will be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00pm, in the Committee Room at the Town Hall.

Members of the Public are welcome to attend and to raise any issues at the Public Forum which is held at the beginning of the meeting.

### Carolynne Ruffle Chairperson

## Your Local Cricket Club Needs New Players (and Scorers)!

Last year I took the reins as Chairman of Little Bardfield Village Cricket Club after decades of service from Mick and Alan Kemp for which we are incredibly thankful! With this refresh, we have some very exciting plans of where we would like the club to progress to, which began with the successful reintroduction of junior cricket to the club last season. Our hope is that some of these juniors discover a hobby for life at these junior sessions and stay with the club for years to come - as was the case for most of our senior side (including myself!). But we know that this will take some time.

Which brings me to the club's main issue - senior players. In a nutshell... we need more!

From having multiple senior teams in the past, we now find ourselves regularly struggling to get 11 players together for a game. So we are now actively seeking new players to join the club's senior side this summer.

A bit about the club: Our league side play in the second division (of 11) of the Marshall Hatchick Two Counties Cricket League (just two promotions below the East Anglian Premier League!). In addition to our league cricket we also offer social cricket opportunities for anyone wanting to play a more relaxed form of the game. We play our home games at a picturesque ground in Little Bardfield and our away games around North Essex and into Suffolk (away fixtures include playing against Dunmow, Braintree, Witham, Maldon, Haverhill etc).

So, could you help? Whether its yourself, family members, neighbours, someone you're chatting to in the pub, anyone that fancies playing a bit of cricket this summer would be very welcome! Players must be 14 years+

In addition to our need for players, we are also in dire need of a scorer (or scorers)! Our league stipulates that we must have a 'non-playing scorer' or we face fines (monetary and league points). Currently we have to give up a potential player to do this so we would absolutely love to meet someone (or some people) that would be interested in scoring our games (beer tokens can be arranged for over 18s!).

Finally, even if you don't want to play we would love to welcome as many of the local community to the club as possible. We run a number of annual community events at the club and have a fully licensed bar which is also open every matchday through the summer. Why not pop down and say hello?

If anyone would like to get in touch with us, or find out more about the club and why you should join, you can visit our website at [www.lbvcc.co.uk](http://www.lbvcc.co.uk). Alternatively if you want to have a chat about how you might like to be involved in the club you can contact me directly on 07961947103 / [contact@lbvcc.co.uk](mailto:contact@lbvcc.co.uk)

**Will Slemmings**

**Chairman of Little Bardfield Village Cricket Club**

## The Tuesday Club

At our March meeting Graham and Mary Brace, who are wildlife photographers and conservationists, came to talk to us about "The Wildlife of Brazil". I had no idea that Brazil is 65 times the size of England and has 69 National Parks, so the native birds and animals are well protected within these areas. Their photographs were amazing, from tiny birds to jaguars and crocodiles. They assured us crocodiles didn't much like to eat humans, although it was best to remember not to trail your hand in the water on a hot day, when travelling in a boat which sat just a few inches above the waterline. Their love of wildlife was infectious and I suspect some of the audience may now be looking at travel brochures. They are off on their travels again soon, so perhaps they will come back and talk to us again when they return. I will settle for that!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April, when Janet Dyson is giving us a talk on

Tirzah Ravilious, who was "not just the wife of an artist". Tirzah and Eric lived in Brick House with the Bawdens for the first three years of their marriage. While the name and work of Eric Ravilious is well known, his wife Tirzah and her work is not always as familiar, despite being a talented artist herself, so this will be a chance to learn more about Tirzah.

Hope to see you there, doors open 2.00 and talk starts at 2.30  
Everyone is

welcome, free to members, £5 to non-members.

**Cherry Whitby**

**For more details please contact the Club Secretary,  
Marilyn Edwards on 01371.810555**

## GREENFINGERS

... is overwhelmed as in April there is so much to do in the garden after such a chilly Winter and start to the Spring. A list here of the numerous tasks:

1. Now cut to the base penstemons just in case they regrow, but sadly, many have succumbed to December's exceptional cold.
2. Quick - finish pruning roses. The Peter Beales expert at the recent talk on Roses said 'be brutal, prune hard'. If you use chemical sprays do it now including the surrounding soil. A feed and heavy mulch gives them a good start.
3. Split big clumps of plants to make more. Three of that plant you bought 3 years ago will be a candidate.
4. Make more of the daisy family: asters – never mind the complicated new rename. Erigeron and any others make simple cuttings now. Put 10cm snippets into a small pot or sandy soil and, Hey Presto, you will be putting them in individual pots by the beginning of June. Plant out these established new plants in the Autumn.
5. Buddleja require severe pruning in April. Take a saw if necessary to cut your shrub down to 30cm unless you like it touching the clouds!
6. After weeding enjoy 'tickling' the soli with a hoe. Sprinkle over Grow More or similar general feed and mulch the lot. No homemade compost? Acquire well-rotted manure, mushroom compost and blanket all borders.
7. Now introduce some Summer bulbs. Yes to gladioli but there are others: galtonia, acidanthera, anemone corms and lilies. Yes, visit garden centres or order but supermarkets stock many.
8. Last call for sweet peas, seeds straight into position be it pot, border or the vegetable plot, you won't regret it.

Now, be imaginative. Rethink planting like the garden geniuses who introduced prairie style and wild flower meadows. We've all lost plants this last winter so an opportunity to mix roses with grasses, perennial geraniums and those late summer gorgeous verbena and gaura. Add sprinkle of mixed wild flowers – think of the display at the Tower. Believe me it makes an interesting plot.



## Great Bardfield Tuesday Club

### Tirzah Ravilious



**Not just 'the wife of an artist'!**

**A talk by**

**Janet Dyson**

**Great Bardfield Town Hall**

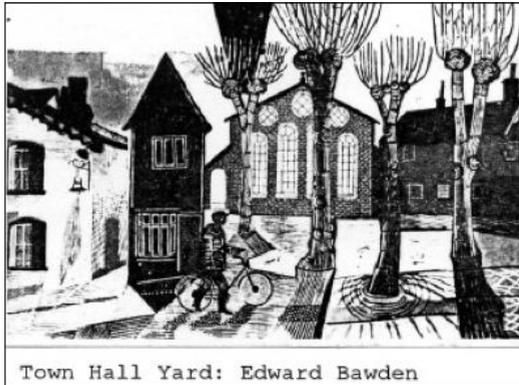
**Tuesday, April 11 at 2.30pm**

Non-members of the Tuesday Club are very welcome

Visitors - £5 per talk

## Town Hall Happenings

**M**arch has been a busy month at the Town Hall. On the 11<sup>th</sup> March 80 quizzers were interrogated by the village Quizmaster (aka Iain Graham) and after 10 rounds two teams were tied so we had a tie break. The evening raised £685 which goes to help run the Town Hall. Thanks to all those who took part and helped organise.



Town Hall Yard: Edward Bawden



We now have a badminton group which has attracted a good following on Wednesday evenings thanks to Ryan French who is organising.

Maintenance work to the Community Information Point has been completed, pop in on a Thursday or Saturday between 10am and noon to have a look.

Bardfield Players have their spring production on 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April. The next planned event is our Art Show which takes place 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May. It's good to see the Town Hall being used, long may it continue.

**John Maidman**  
**Chair Great Bardfield Town Hall**

## IT'S TIME TO ENTER THE BARDFIELD BOULES COMPETITION 2023

**Enter your team by April 30<sup>th</sup>**



Photo: Boules Finals Day 2022

**Come and join our annual boules competition**  
 A great & sociable way to meet new people  
 Two players per team - any age, gender, ability, etc.

**Competition runs May to September**  
**Finals Day – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September**  
 (keep this date free if you intend to be in the last 4)

**£10 per team – Proceeds to Town Hall Funds**

**FURTHER DETAILS,**  
**Madame Boules (or Carolynne Ruffle)**  
**[caruffle@gmail.com](mailto:caruffle@gmail.com)**

**ENTRIES & FEES TO**  
**Between The Lines Bookshop, Vine Street**

## From the Vicarage...

As we reach April, we are drawing close to next month's Coronation celebrations, and below you can find details of how we will be celebrating the event in our churches. One thing which stands out about the Coronation service is that, as well as being a national event, it is also a religious one. For some, this might simply be a product of history and tradition, but it reminds us that, at the heart of the coronation, there is an act of dedication. The newly crowned monarch is set apart for a life of service, a concept which lies at the very heart of the Christian faith.

Before we reach the Coronation, we will be celebrating Easter in our churches, the most important feast of the Church's year. At the heart of Easter is the message of Jesus' act of self-dedication. He not only dedicated his life to the love of his people, but was prepared to lay it down for them. The feast of Easter celebrates how this has a transforming effect on all who choose to share in that pattern of life. As King Charles approaches his coronation, we pray that the same spirit of service which characterised the reign of his mother will continue to inspire the people of our nation and beyond. We all need reminding of the fact that living for the sake of others is what gives us the fullest life for ourselves.

Rev'd/Fr Alex

### Services for April 2023

#### Palm Sunday (2 April)

10am Procession of Palms through Wethersfield, beginning at the church  
10.30am Benefice Communion Service – Wethersfield  
5pm Service of Hymns and Readings for Holy Week – Great Bardfield

#### Monday 3 April, Tuesday 4 April, Wednesday 5 April

8pm Compline with reflection from the Passion - Wethersfield

#### Maundy Thursday (6 April)

7.30pm Benefice Eucharist of the Last Supper – Great Bardfield

#### Good Friday (7 April)

2pm Meditations on the Cross – Shalford  
2pm Solemn Service of the Lord's Passion – Little Bardfield  
9pm Tenebrae – Cornish Hall End

#### Holy Saturday (8 April)

3pm Children's Church *Easter Garden Making* – Wethersfield  
8.30pm Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter – Little Bardfield

#### Easter Day (9 April)

Sung Family Communion Services:  
9am – Cornish Hall End 9.30am – Shalford  
10.30am – Great Bardfield 10.30am – Finchingfield 11am – Wethersfield  
5pm Festal Evensong – Shalford

#### Sunday 16 April – Second Sunday of Easter

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

#### Sunday 23 April – Third Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield  
9.30am Morning Service – Shalford  
10.30am Scouts' St George's Day service – Finchingfield  
11am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield

#### Sunday 30 April – Fourth Sunday of Easter

10.30am Benefice Communion Service – Shalford  
3pm Children's Church *Coronation Theme* – Wethersfield

#### Coronation Services

##### Thursday 4 May

10.30am Eucharist – Little Bardfield

##### Friday 5 May

7.30pm Service for the eve of the Coronation – Finchingfield

##### Saturday 6 May

9am Said Eucharist for Coronation Day – Great Bardfield

##### Sunday 7 May

10.30am Festal Eucharist – Great Bardfield  
10.30am Commemorative Service – Cornish Hall End  
11am Commemorative Service – Shalford

**Coronation Services cont...**

**Monday 8 May**

6pm Coronation Songs of Praise – Wethersfield

**Regular Services and Events during the week**

**Monday** 8.45am Morning Prayer – Finchingfield

**Tuesday** 9am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield

**Thursday** 8.45am Morning Prayer – Wethersfield

10am Prayer Group (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)

Coffee Morning (2nd & 4th weeks) – Shalford

Coffee Morning (3rd week) – Cornish Hall End

10.30am Eucharist – Little Bardfield

**Friday** 8.45am Morning Prayer – Shalford

**Saturday** 10.30am (3rd weeks) Coffee Morning – Wethersfield

## HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Braintree Road, Great Bardfield**  
E mail [celestineiheme2016@gmail.com](mailto:celestineiheme2016@gmail.com)

**Sunday Mass - 9.30 am**

**Weekday Services**

**Tuesday to Friday 9.30 am**

**Rosary and Holy Hour – following Friday Mass**

### Easter Services

**Maundy Thursday 6pm**

**Good Friday 3pm**

**Holy Saturday Vigil 6pm**

**Easter Sunday 9.30am**

**All welcome**

# "Ring for the King"

## Coronation 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023



Have you ever wanted to learn to ring church bells?

or

Maybe you have rung before.

If you would like to be part of the nationwide coronation celebration join our bellringing training sessions at St. Mary's Great Bardfield 19:30 on Thursdays.

Contact Sarah & Nick Holland for more information:



01371 810209 / 07795 280647



[BardfieldBellringers@gmail.com](mailto:BardfieldBellringers@gmail.com)

## Horticultural Society

**W**e would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came to our first meeting of the year in February - a talk by Simon White who is the Garden Centre Sales Manager at Peter Beales Roses "Climbing and Rambling Roses for every situation".

Simon and his wife brought an amazing array of roses to tempt us - along with companion plants and lots of useful garden sundries to purchase he had plenty of customers!!

It was an interesting and very informative talk with lots and lots of lovely roses in various situations.

There were plenty of catalogues - A Treasury of Timeless Roses - 224 pages to take home and enjoy at leisure including sundries and companion plants.

The lucky ticket draw prize was a rose kindly donated by Simon and a very well supported raffle. There were refreshments along with the usual array of tasty homemade cakes. Memberships were renewed and we recruited 8 new members.

Hopefully by the time you read this you will have entered or visited and enjoyed our Spring Show towards the end of March.

As this is being written there are lots of different daffodils that will be ready on the day plus hellebores, tulips, muscari, primroses and lots of flowering shrubs showing promise of lovely blossom.

On **Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup>** we will be holding our **Spring Tea** at 2.30pm in the Town Hall.

For those of you who attended our Jubilee tea last year you will know what a treat that this will be. There will be lovely homemade sandwiches and cakes with quiz as entertainment.

Come along and enjoy a very social afternoon.

Tickets are available from Linda Prior 01371 811641 or Lynne Joyce 01371 810524: Price £8.00 members £10 non members

We are holding **"a get your hands dirty"** morning on **Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>** at the Quaker Meeting House 10am until 1pm.

Come with the family or a friend to plant up a pot for summer interest, it can go on a door step, a patio or snuggled into a flower bed.

We will have to charge of course but will have some free sunflower starter pots for the children. Look out for posters and details in *BT* nearer the time.

We are planning garden visits locally in the coming months. See future *Bardfield Times* and posters for information.

### Additional BHS Membership benefit

As Bardfield Horticultural Society is affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society we are now able to offer members of the Bardfield Horticultural Society an additional benefit-an RHS Garden Entry Discount card to share with members-this offers two adults a 50% discount off entry to any RHS Garden (Bridgewater, Harlow Carr, Hyde Hall, Rosemoor and Wisley (not for Flower Shows or Glow Illumination events).

**Please contact Lynne Joyce 01371 810524 if interested (I hold the card!!)**

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

## Great Bardfield Historical Society

Thursday, May 4th at 7.30pm in the Quaker Meeting House  
Rev'd. Alexander Shannon



### Royal Rites

An exploration of the symbols and rituals of the Coronation  
The talk will be preceded by a short AGM followed by refreshments

**Everyone welcome!**

## The Story of the John Aldridge Cope

St Mary's church owns a wonderful cope designed by John Aldridge and made by his wife Lucie. It is a vibrant patchwork made from furnishing silks collected from around the village and many of the women in the village contributed to its production. Much of the sewing is by hand, but some areas have been machine stitched. It was made for Reverend Masheder in the mid 1950s, and displayed at the 1958 Open House exhibition in Great Bardfield. The Evening Standard described it as, 'a magnificent clerical cope of multi-coloured silk patchwork'. Revd Masheder had admired a cope he saw at a conference in Lambeth and Lucie offered to make him an equally decorative one. The cope was used extensively by Revd Masheder and later by Revd Clift. The cope includes the words of the prayer for divine protection against the plague, which was discovered by John Aldridge in 1937 in the peg hole of one of the timbers in Place House: 'O mitis Jesu libera nos'. (O gentle Jesus deliver us).

It is a beautiful garment but over the years a combination of sunlight and time has affected some of the patches of silk and they have disintegrated. Over the years segments have been replaced, but now the damage is more extensive. Our brilliant local dressmaker and textile expert, Louisa Ruthven, has come to its rescue and inserted new patches where needed. This involved inserting diamonds of silk fabric to overlay 25 of the patches, which was difficult and precise work, and very tough on the fingers as it meant hand sewing into layers of strong furnishing fabric. The patches used are small pieces of silk left-over from dressmaking commissions, many for people in the village. So, for instance, if you search closely, you can find patches made from the amazing pink/orange fabric that was used to make Jenny Wright's outfit for her daughter Lucy's wedding. Come and see if you can find your own fabric included.

The cope is being loaned by the church to the Fry Art Gallery. It is going to be included in the exhibition 'Art and Design' that will be opening at **The Fry Art Gallery in Saffron Walden on 2 April 2023** – do go along and take a look. The cope should be among the many stars of the exhibition.

**Julia Collins**

*Historical details for this article are taken from Artists of Great Bardfield by Janet Dyson.*

## BARDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### SPRING TEA



**SATURDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL**

**TOWN HALL 2.30pm**

**Members £8.00 each**

**Non-members £10.00 each**

**Tickets: Linda 01371811641**

**Lynne 01371810524**

## Nature Notes - Butterflies and Moths

**B**utterflies and moths a fascinating subject and very complex. There are clever people who have made a lifetime study of these beautiful creatures and still have a lot to learn. My own knowledge is limited to the basics but as I was asked a few questions about butterflies recently I thought I would try to learn a bit more and pass on what I do know. When I moved to



Oxen End there was a dear old lady, The Hon. Mrs Tennant who lived at Grove House. She had a very extensive collection of butterflies mounted in display cases they filled a large room layer upon layer of drawers with glass tops. There were thousands of different butterflies more than I have ever seen in the Natural History Museum, so this gives you some idea of the scale of the subject.

Butterflies have very delicate wings. They are so thin they are transparent but are covered in small, coloured scales. Some of the scales have ultraviolet markings which we can't see but it helps them to find their mates. They have very good eyesight but are short sighted. Butterflies are cold blooded and are not able to fly if they are cold. Most live for about two weeks but the different species vary tremendously, some only live a few days but others like monarchs and morning cloaks live for as long as nine months and can overwinter. There are four stages to their life cycle eggs, larvae, pupa also known as chrysalis, and adult butterfly. Butterflies have taste sensitive glands on the soles of their feet. They dance on leaves until the leaf releases some fluid they then taste it and if it contains the correct proteins they uncoil a straw like organ from under their chin and suck the juice into their mouth. They only feed on liquids. These can include plant juices nectar and even juices from rotting carrion. Male butterflies drink from mud puddles to collect minerals which they pass on to the females through their sperm to enrich the eggs. The length of time of the egg stage varies tremendously. Some breeds turn into caterpillars in few days but others take months and

can overwinter. As most gardeners know, caterpillars have big appetites and grow rapidly but their skins don't stretch so every few days they shed their skin and eat it then return to eating leaves. Once fully grown they pupate, again the length of time that they remain at this stage varies. Most overwinter, they don't feed just lay dormant but if you gently stroke them they will move within the outer shell. When they are ready they emerge as the adult butterfly. One of our most common butterflies apart from the gardener's enemy the Cabbage White is the Painted Lady. This is quite a remarkable butterfly. It comes from North Africa, emigrates and arrives in the UK during May and June. It feeds and lays its eggs on nettles and thistles which the caterpillars then feed on. They pupate in a rolled-up leaf. The adult butterfly emerges in August and September and then flies back to North Africa to hibernate. I think this rates with putting a man on the Moon!

It has been on the news this week that the first week in August there is a record hatch of Painted Lady butterflies. This is a phenomenon which takes place on average about every ten years.

**Mac Beanland**

**CORONATION  
BIG LUNCH**

All residents are invited to celebrate the  
**Coronation of King Charles III**

**at a Community Street Party**  
**on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 12 noon to 2pm**

Vine Street, Great Bardfield (or the Town Hall, if wet)  
Featuring musical entertainment  
by Bardfield Brass  
Bring a plate of goodies to share and  
join our village celebration

## LOCAL ELECTIONS 4 MAY 2023

Parish and Town Councillors are elected to serve for a period of four years. Ordinary elections therefore occur every four years and are usually held in conjunction with District Council elections. This year there is a specific requirement for all voters to have photographic ID (although we took part in a trial some 5 years ago)

### Which forms of ID can residents use to vote?

Residents may already have a form of photo ID that is acceptable which include:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional license)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards

They do not have to be current as long as they are a good likeness. Full details can be obtained from [electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](http://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID)

If a voter does not have suitable ID they can apply to the District Council or Electoral Commission for a **Voter Authority Certificate**. However, applying for a postal vote at Braintree District Council will save you the need to attend the voting station.

### Standing for Election?

In order to stand for election, you need to be:

- at least 18 years old on the day; and
- a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen, or a citizen of a member state of the European Union

You must also meet at least one of the following criteria:

- be registered as a local government elector for the parish in which you wish to stand
- have been owner or tenant of any land or premises in the parish for 12 months before standing
- have had your principal place of work in the parish for 12 months before standing
- have lived in the parish area or within three miles (4.8 Km) of it during the whole of the 12 months before standing

So, if you are thinking of becoming a Parish Councillor, [The Local Government Association](#) and [The National Association of Local Councils](#) has some additional general advice and information which you might find useful.

**PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR POSTERS DISPLAYED IN THE NOTICE BOARDS AND INFORMATION ON THE GREAT BARDFIELD PC WEBSITE IN THE COMING WEEKS**



**Great Bardfield  
Coronation Window Competition  
Treasure Hunt  
Crowning Ceremony**

After the success of the Jubilee windows in the village last year we are excited to announce new plans to mark the Coronation in May. We have two arts and craft activities for you and your family to get involved with – so join our buzzing creative community here in Great Bardfield!

**Celebration Window Competition**

1. Using a street view window, create your own **Coronation Stamp**.
2. Your window must look like a postage stamp and **celebrate King Charles** in some way – e.g his interest in nature and the environment.
3. **To enter, please email [floraolney@icloud.com](mailto:floraolney@icloud.com)**, giving your house address for judging purposes. Then get creative!
4. **Judging** will take place on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May**.
5. **Award ceremony: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm in the Quaker Meeting House**. Refreshments will be served.

---

**Coronation Letter Hunt**

Some of the Coronation Stamp windows will contain a hidden 'letter'. Find all the letters to make a coronation-themed phrase. Email your answer to [floraolney@icloud.com](mailto:floraolney@icloud.com) or bring this phrase to the award ceremony (see details above) - there will be a prize for the first pulled out of a hat.

---

**Crowning Ceremony**

Children are invited to make their own crowns and bring them to a ceremony on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm in the Quaker Meeting House**. They will each be crowned on a throne – a fantastic photo opportunity for a special day!

## 1953 The East Coast Floods

The News of the last few days of the 70th anniversary of the East Coast floods has brought a lot of memories back to me, I was born and reared in the suburbs of Nottingham which in those days were very industrial and not the healthiest place to live, with poor air quality, smoke and grime. 70% of my pals at school suffered from asthma, bronchitis and other problems. My brother and I were no exception and our father was most concerned about it. We had very little money, he was a fitter in a garage but he also worked evenings and weekends repairing cars for people in the garage at the side of our house so that we could have a small caravan on a static site at Ingoldmells near Skegness on the East coast. Every school holiday Dad would pack mother and us two boys off to the caravan so that we got the sea air and sunshine, and he would come and spend Saturday night and Sundays with us. My brother was 7 years younger than me and I soon got fed up keeping him amused, building sand castles, so, aged 11, I managed to get a holiday job helping at the riding school which was part of Butlins Holiday camp. The following year I started to go to work on local farms with the two grown up sons of the owner of our caravan site Derek and Louis. Derek, he taught me to drive a tractor and his boss gave me some tractor driving jobs and I loved it. I never got paid but that didn't bother me. August 1982 I left school coming up to my 14th birthday in November. I did go to the caravan for the last time and started work on the farm close to home straight after the holiday. In January 1953 the big storm struck. It was a few days later we got news



*Wrecked caravans at a flooded Ingoldmells holiday campsite*

to say our caravan was floating but still in the field, so at the weekend Dad borrowed the firm's van which had a drawbar on it and he and I drove down to Ingoldmells to collect the caravan. Derek had one of the tractors from the

farm and winched it out of the field which by that time was a sea of thick brown mud and we got it hitched onto the van. He then asked would I stay and help with flood relief work? I went to a phone which was still working and rang my boss to ask for time off work and he said 'Stay as long as they need you.' So there I stayed. For me it was a bit of an adventure. Yes, it was hard the first week; I didn't have a change of clothes; the WRVS kept us fed all day with as many WD survival tins as we wanted. These contained chocolate, Horlicks tablets, cigarettes, and self-heating tins of instant hot malted milk drinks. I swapped all my cigarettes

for chocolate. I spent the whole time driving a big old Minneapolis-moline tractor with a winch on the back dragging caravans and other obstacles out of the way of Wimpey's contractors who were trying to create a temporary sea wall to keep the sea out. The damage and destruction was unbelievable but unlike other parts of the East Coast there was very little loss of life: only one couple of elderly people who were sleeping in a bungalow which was supposed to be only for summer occupancy perished. The whole of that stretch of coast for about five miles was either Butlins Holiday camp, static caravans, or holiday bungalows. The sea wall consisted of narrow sand dunes with large concrete steps with a concave solid concrete top, that one spring tide completely demolished it. Massive concrete sections tossed about like bits of Lego. I witnessed the joint effort of two large D8 bulldozers and a 30 ton dragline fail to move one section of concrete back in line. I will always respect the power of the sea and never take it for granted. For me the whole thing was a wonderful experience. I was the only youngster working there and I was treated as an adult member of a team except for a few perks from the WRVS ladies.

**Mac Beanland**



*Canvey Island one of the most devastated areas.*



### ESSEX HORSE RIDER VOLUNTEER SCHEME

With two thirds of Essex being classed as rural and with over 14,000 listed buildings, monuments or other heritage assets within the county, Essex Police has the task of policing these often quieter locations as well as the busy urban areas.

Horse riders have the unique ability to see over hedges and go where the usual patrol cars cannot. As well as narrow country lanes, horse riders have access to the countryside via bridleways, byways and private land with permission of the landowners.

**AIMS**

The Essex Horse Rider Volunteer (EHRV) scheme is aimed at urging horse riders to be our extra eyes and ears in the countryside and report any suspicious activity or crimes to the Police as soon as possible.

Examples of your help with these crimes could be spotting signs of unlawful digging or damage at a historic site (inc. isolated churches), a stolen agricultural machine hidden up in woodland, or even signs of wildlife crime such as hare coursing in progress.



## CALLING ALL ESSEX HORSE RIDERS! CAN YOU HELP?

We encourage everyone who joins the Essex Horse Rider Volunteer scheme to report any suspicious activity or behaviour you see.

**HOW DO I REPORT INCIDENTS TO ESSEX POLICE?**

**DO NOT CONFRONT ANY SUSPECTS**  
**DO NOT PUT YOURSELF AT RISK FROM HARM**

- For crimes in progress now or if life is in danger, always call 999
- For all non-urgent crime call 101 or report online at [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)
- Alternatively call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or online at [crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org)

**WHAT DO POLICE NEED WHEN REPORTING AN INCIDENT?**

- Report the incident as soon as possible.
- Incident location inc. landmarks or 'What3Words'.
- Provide as much detail as possible about what you have seen and heard.
- Descriptions of persons seen.
- Descriptions of vehicles inc. make, model, colour, registration, and direction of travel.
- Any helmets cam or photographic evidence.

\*What3Words is a free smartphone app that uses a combination of three unique words to pinpoint your location anywhere in the world. Visit [what3words.com](http://what3words.com)

**DATA PROTECTION**

I consent for my details to be held for the purposes of this scheme and to be used by the Essex Police Data privacy policy which may be viewed online at [www.essex.police.uk/data-privacy-policy](http://www.essex.police.uk/data-privacy-policy) and understand it will not be shared with third parties.

Note that police crime data documents must not be shared with non-members.

Membership can be cancelled at any time by contacting your local Essex Watch Essex Officer or by emailing the EHRV team at [essex.watch liaison@essexpolice.police.uk](mailto:essex.watch liaison@essexpolice.police.uk)



**ESSEX HORSE RIDER VOLUNTEER SCHEME**

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Full address (inc postcode): \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of your stable (inc postcode): \_\_\_\_\_

Area in which you generally ride: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: by signing above you are consenting to the data protection terms as described on the back page

To join please return the completed by email to [essex.watch.liaison.officers@essex.police.uk](mailto:essex.watch.liaison.officers@essex.police.uk) or by post to Horse Rider Volunteers, c/o LPSU, Essex Police HQ, PO Box 2 Springfield, Chelmsford, CM2 8DA.

**HOW DOES THE SCHEME WORK?**

You do not have to own your own horse but can use a horse if you have permission of the owner and the usual appropriate personal and public insurance for riding.

By completing and returning the attached expression of interest form you will be invited to an introduction session which will provide some basic knowledge of the types of things to look out for and how they can be reported to Essex Police. This introduction can take place either in person or online.

If you feel that you can help, we will arrange a visit to check your horse is fit and healthy and check on your insurance. You will then be asked to confirm your membership of the EHRV scheme and be provided with a fluorescent Horse Rider Volunteer Tabard to wear if you wish.

As a member of the EHRV scheme you will be added to the Essex Watch database to receive two weekly reports from the Essex Watch Liaison Officers one regarding crimes relating to heritage assets and another relating to rural areas. This is to update you with the types of crimes happening in your area and around the county, and help you look out for similar crimes or related matters, which you may come across during your rides.

As a volunteer it is up to you how many rides you undertake for us. However, in order to help us evaluate the scheme, we ask that a very brief return is completed and forwarded to us after each ride.

There is no commitment to join at this stage, but you can express your interest in joining by completing the attached form and returning it to us or by using the QR code.



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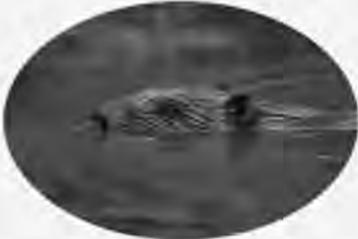
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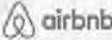
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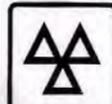
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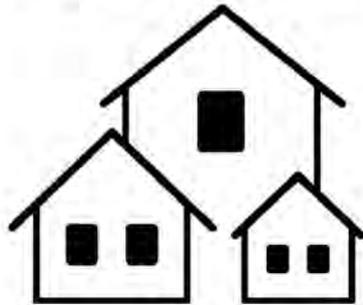
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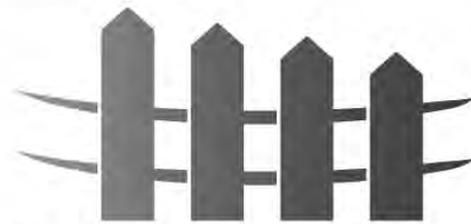
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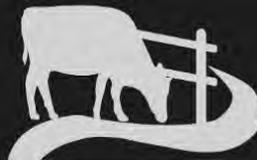
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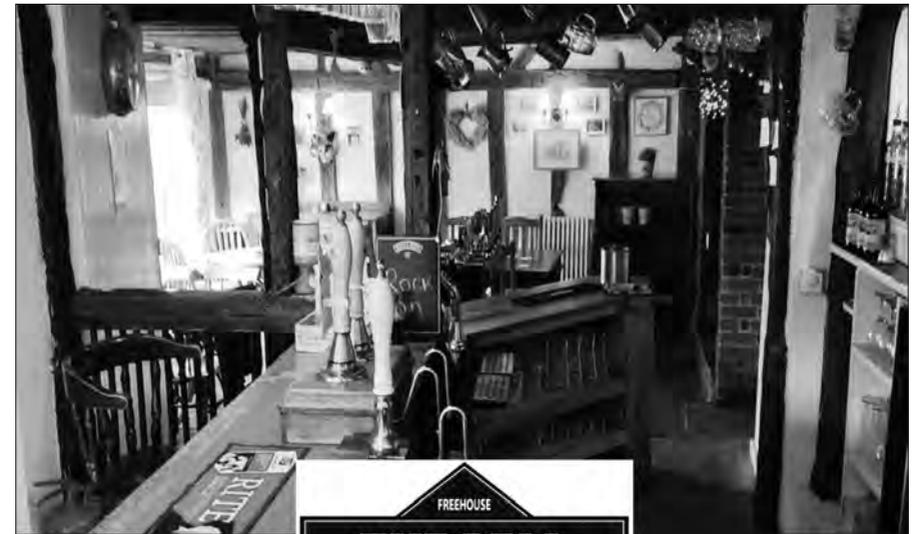
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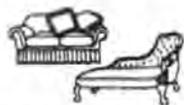
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**April 2023**

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Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bardfield Players	10.00am
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	7.00pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Cinema Club	7.30pm
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday Club	2.00pm
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	7.00pm
	Parish Council Meeting	7.00pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Cycle Event	9.00am
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Young @ Heart Fitness Fun	9.30am
	Stability & Mobility class	10.45am
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	7.00pm
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Horticultural Society Spring Tea	10.00am
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Young @ Heart Fitness Fun	9.30am
	Stability & Mobility class	10.45am
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Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Badminton	7.00pm
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**Enquiries and bookings [bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com](mailto:bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com)**

**Great Bardfield Parish**

**Clerk to the Parish Council** clerk@greatbardfield-pc.gov.uk 810111

**Councillors** Carolynne Ruffle (Chair) 810986

Paul Kennedy 810540

Darren Hockley 810836

Simon Walsh 810451

Lynsi Hayward-Smith 07515 398402

Janet Dyson 07957 483207

Iain Graham 07831 595555

**Braintree District Council**

**Councillors Cllr Peter Tattersley** Cllr.ptattersley@braintree.gov.uk 07938 930003

**Cllr Vanessa Santomauro** Cllr.vsantomauro@braintree.gov.uk 07740 348528

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

for emergency enquiries dial 999

**Little Bardfield Parish** LittleBardfieldParishClerk@gmail.com

**Chairman of the Parish Council** Andrew Davies davies@farmline.com

**Clerk to the Parish Council** Kate Rixon 01371 404 321

LittleBardfieldParishClerk@gmail.com

**Uttlesford District Council**

**Councillor** Cllr George Smith

Cllrsmith@uttlesford.gov.uk 07896 618944

**Bardfield After School & Breakfast Club** Pat Moore 07767 413055

**Bardfield Carpet Bowls Club** Clifford Richardson 810782

**Bardfield Charities** Nick Holland 07795 280647

**Bardfield Players** Ian Ruffle 810986

**1st Finchingfield Scout Group** Mark Wells 810447

mark.2millside@btinternet.com

**Muddogs Youth Football** Tony Clarke-Holland 07710 506007

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

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

**Gt Bardfield Pre-School** Kathy King 811580

**Gt Bardfield Historical Society** Marilyn Edwards 810555

**Horticultural Society** Linda Prior 811641

**Parish Priest Great & Little Bardfield** Fr. Alex Shannon 01371 810309/07483 878659

**Catholic Priest** Fr Celestine 810428

**Town Hall Bookings** bardfieldtownbookings@gmail.com

**Tuesday Club** adriennepoulson@btinternet.com 811401

**Great Bardfield Bell Ringers** Nick & Sarah Holland 810209

**Refuse Collections** Gt. Bardfield Tuesdays from 7am

L. Bardfield Thursdays from 7am

**Mobile Library** Little Bardfield, Styles, Thurs 10am fortnightly

Gt Bardfield Town Hall, Thurs 11.15am fortnightly

**Museum and Cage** Every Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holiday from

Easter to the last Sunday in

September 2.-5.30pm.

**Community Information Point (CIP)** Thurs and Sat 10am -12 noon 01371 811975

**The Samaritans** 01245 357357