

# PS News

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March 2026

Articles or advertising queries to [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

Issue 196

## **Parking by bus stops causes problems for disabled people**

*Can anyone explain how vehicles are under the impression that they can park wherever they want, and cause nuisance to others?*

I have lived in Puckeridge for over two years, and the number of cars and vans parked either inside the designated area allowed for busses, or right on the very edge of the markings. Simply astounds me.

This has occurred at three bus stops in particular, all on Station Road. Recently there has even been a big coach parked obstructing the bus stop outside the Chapel in Station Road. I don't know if you drivers are aware how inconvenient this is for the elderly, and also those with disabilities.

Vehicles such as coaches restrict the vision of those waiting for their bus, but also the drivers have to park beyond the stop which often means that the infirm are having to take a higher step up due to dropped kerbs.

It can be hard enough for traffic to travel up and down Station Road, but having large vehicles such as coaches and vans, just slows everyone down, and makes life tougher for the disabled.

I'm sure no one wants to bring pain to others, so please find somewhere more appropriate to park up, and stop being a hindrance.

Frank (Puckeridge)

## **Standon Mayday 2026**

Standon MayDay will take place on Monday 4 May on Standon High Street. We will be updating a little this year with new ideas, and the usual favourites, children's entertainment, Crowning of the May Queen procession, the Choir – Standon Sing will be performing in the Church along with a Rock Band and Ware Ukulele Group. Tea, coffee

and cake will be at the Village Hall as usual. The Dog Show is proving popular and will again take place in Burrs Meadow. The Air Show will be at 3pm – best place to view is at The Star. Programme details will be on boards on the High Street and on social media. Please remember to bring cash/change on the day.

Parking is very limited although we are working hard to find more space close to the High Street.

### **Could you help?**

We are still in need of helpers - this is your opportunity to help shape Standon MayDay and give something back to the community. We especially need people to help from 5pm till 7pm for clear up. If you can spare an hour to help man a pay desk, please use this number: 01920 821446 to volunteer or Facebook/email. Other specific volunteering opportunities will be posted on Facebook as we approach the day.

If any local clubs would like to perform in our arena please contact us via Facebook/email we are a Community based event open to all. Standon MayDay is a unique charity event cherished by the people of the village and visitors alike. Our MayDay is one of the longest established traditional festivals in the country. It is a fantastic occasion for local groups to fundraise and advertise.

I would like to thank everyone in Standon and Puckeridge for their continuing support of May Day, I know that it disrupts the people who live on the High Street for the day and we all appreciate their forbearance.

We do really hope the weather will be kinder to us this year and ask you all to get involved by supporting us on the day and volunteering so we can keep MayDay going into the future. Thank you!

Sue Spalding  
[standonmayday@outlook.com](mailto:standonmayday@outlook.com)

## **Braughing Village Walks**

Spring is nearly here so why not join us on one of our monthly village walks exploring the beautiful countryside in and around Braughing.

Walks usually take place on the first Sunday of the month, departing promptly from The Square at 2pm. Walks last approx. 2 hours and are across open countryside which can be muddy so please wear walking boots or wellies. Everyone welcome including well-behaved dogs. Walks are usually followed by tea and cake in Marion's Green Shed.

The first Sunday in April is actually Easter Sunday so our walk in April will be on the 2nd Sunday – 12 April and we will be visiting the Pasque flowers on Therfield Heath – see below for further information.

Walk dates:-

Sunday 1 March 2.00pm Village Square

Sunday 12 April 2.00pm – meet outside the Fox and Duck, Therfield for a walk to see the Pasque Flowers on Therfield Heath.

A slightly longer walk than usual – around 7 miles. We will have time to admire the Pasque Flowers on the way (did you know the Pasque Flower is the County flower of Hertfordshire yet this is the only place you will find it in the county, just a few hundred yards from the border with Cambridgeshire!)

Afterwards we can enjoy a drink at the Fox and Duck. If you would like a lift, please contact Paula (07983 326163)

Sunday 3 May 2.00pm Village Square.

### **Could you help deliver PS News?**

We have lost a couple of our team members recently  
Contact John Harris on 07740 306189  
[john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

## Ware & District Photographic Society

Our 2026 programme is now in full flight with our usual mix of speakers, presentations, competitions and member activities.

I am very pleased to announce that Ware came first in the Cambridge Inter-Club competition in January winning by 1 point from 29 other Clubs. The Roy Pitman Award was won by Simon Jenkins with his image "On the Naughty Step".

Two other members have had a print accepted in the Master of Print national competition. Towards the end of February, we will be participating in the St. Ives Print competition - a popular and well supported local event.

In March a number of members will be heading into London to participate in a professionally led "Street Photography" day. Our tutor for the day has presented at Ware several times in the last few years and his presentations have been extremely popular, so we are very much looking forward to a day in his company.

### Interested in photography?

Looking to learn, be inspired and meet like-minded local photographers? Then do take a look at our programme [www.wareps.org.uk](http://www.wareps.org.uk) or get in touch. We'd love to see you.

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## Braughing Get Together Diary Dates

Braughing Get Together goes from strength to strength. Following on from the Gunpowder Plot we had full houses for our Winter Supper in December and our famed Beetle Drive in January.

Friday 13 March is Whist Drive night. No previous experience needed, as tuition will be given. This is a great way to make new friends as the makeup of the tables changes throughout the night.

Friday 1 May is Supper with a film. We will show the film The Duke, a charming true-story comedy about a pensioner who steals a painting to campaign for free TV licences.

Look out for our posters, emails and social media for more details closer to the events.

Braughing Get Together events are held in the Braughing Church Hall and doors open at 7pm.

Our events are open to all, including those from outside of Braughing, to enjoy each other's company and make new friends.

To reserve your places or for more information contact Cynthia Matthews:

Via email: [cynthia.matthews44@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia.matthews44@gmail.com)

Via phone: 01920 822230 or 07933 202547

## Midweek Music at St Mary's, Standon

Thank you for supporting this popular community event in St Mary's Church, Standon, which continues on the fourth Wednesday of each month, except for August and December.

Light refreshments are served from 11.30 along with tea and coffee giving everyone a chance to catch up with friends and make new ones.

At 12.30 there is a short concert to enjoy, given by local musicians and school students. We have had a huge variety of genres and performers all of whom give freely of their time and talents.

There is no charge, but there is a chance to donate towards the work of all three churches in our Benefice if you would like to: St Mary's Standon, All Saints Little Munden and St Catherine's Sacombe.

Do come and join us, you can be assured of a very warm welcome.

### Upcoming dates are:

Wednesday 25 March David Ranford, voice with Michael Smith, Piano

Wednesday 22 April Heath Mount Scholars

Wednesday 27 May Performers to be confirmed

For more information or if you would be interested in performing in one of the concerts, please email: [music@ubsms.org.uk](mailto:music@ubsms.org.uk)



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## Puckeridge Karate Club

Puckeridge KC is very pleased to announce that Henry Aldridge recently took and passed his 2nd Dan black belt grading. Henry has been training with the club since 2013 and all of his hard work and dedication has paid off.

Henry is pictured here with Sensei Clive Bowen 6th Dan



The 2025 Hanshi Michael Billman Memorial Shield has been awarded to Steve Glasson who has shown consistent determination and karate 'spirit' over the last year.

Steve joined the club early in 2025 and is a very deserving recipient of the shield.



The Puckeridge club was started in 1994 by the late Hanshi Mike Billman 9th Dan, when he was a resident of Puckeridge, and has continued to grow in strength and experience ever since.

Sensei Clive Bowen 6th Dan now looks after the club and strives to maintain the high standards that Hanshi Mike instilled in the club.

Puckeridge Karate Club has a great instructor: student ratio and a huge depth of knowledge that the black belts are keen to pass on to the other students. If you would like to try something different and get fit at the same time, contact us to see if we have any spaces available.

The club is a traditional Shotokan club and focuses on discipline, fitness, and technique.

Clive is supported at the club by:

Alex Matthews 5th Dan

Lewis Matthews 5th Dan

Tracy Gardner 4th Dan

Dana Bowen 3rd Dan

Training times are:

Mondays: 20:00 – 21:00 Seniors - Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

Thursdays: 19:00 – 19:55 Juniors - Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

Thursdays: 20:00 – 21:00 Seniors - Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

email: [puckeridge.karate@ntlworld.com](mailto:puckeridge.karate@ntlworld.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PuckeridgeKC](https://www.facebook.com/PuckeridgeKC)

For further information contact Clive Bowen on: 07395 404396

## Roger de Clare Lunch Club Brownies

The 2nd Standon and Puckeridge Brownies meet at Roger de Clare school during lunchtime. We are a unique Brownie unit for girls aged 7+ until they leave the school. To register, speak to your current Rainbow leader or register at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk).

Last term, some of our older Brownies earned their first theme awards after we'd tried a new interest badge. They had a bring-a-friend party, made a box to keep their Brownie memories in and found out about family and leader memories of Guiding.

This term they have chosen activities around how they can make a change to the world around them including getting their opinions heard and respecting other people's views, and how they can improve the environment around them.

Our next event will be our trip to the zoo with Evening Brownies, Guides and Rainbows. They already have a list of all their favourite animals that they want to see.

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## Standon and Puckeridge Bowls Club

The days are getting longer and the season gets closer!! The start of spring always gets Lawn Bowlers excited – it marks the start of the countdown to the new season. What have we got to look forward to?

We will be welcoming potential new bowlers at our Open Day on

Saturday 25 APRIL – come and see us  
SATURDAY APRIL 25TH 2026 between 10 am and 2 pm and meet people who can talk to you about how to get involved with a great little Bowls Club!



If you can't make the OPEN DAY, just get in touch (see the information

below) and we can sort out an introductory session

For new bowlers we can provide trial bowls, and show you what bowls is all about – we offer everyone who joins the opportunity to play at whatever level you choose

Lawn Bowls is a sport which is open to everyone, and it is one of the only sports where age is no barrier, and anyone (male or female) can contribute to the success of the team. Our clubhouse and ground is in the Station Road Playing Fields, close to the Community Centre is a great place to play with 4 rinks that see a lot of healthy competition over the summer months.

We are going to have a full season: Friendly matches are played with clubs around Herts and Essex; This year we are playing in two leagues which means that league matches are a weekly occurrence (you don't have to play every week! or at all if you don't want to).

Last year we came 7th in Division 3 of the East Herts League – half way up the table), we aim

to try and beat that in 2026 and also put up a good showing in the Welwyn and Hatfield League in which we are new entrants

There will be a series of inter-club competitions culminating in our fantastic Finals Day in September It's also our 75th Anniversary and a number of special events are planned – keep an eye on the website for more details

We really are a great place to play – if you are new to the area or new to bowls you will be welcomed, and our social activities carry on throughout the winter as well.

What do you get in your membership? We have regular roll up for club members (Wednesday afternoon and Monday nights). We play friendly fixtures (mostly at weekends) against other clubs, and we take part in the East Herts Bowls League. We are also members of the East Herts Bowls Association and the East Herts Ladies Bowls Association.



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This allows our members access to a range of other competitions.

We are also very active in the clubhouse – regular crib nights have extended to crib competitions against other bowls clubs, and the Wednesday social nights are continuing with a variety of activities such as darts, table tennis and carpet bowls being played. So, if you want an introduction to the club – search for Standon & Puckeridge Bowls or email [standonandpuckeridgebowlsclub@gmail.com](mailto:standonandpuckeridgebowlsclub@gmail.com) for more information

To find out more about us visit: <https://standonpuckeridgebowlsclub.wordpress.com/> .

If you are interested in playing bowls, we would love to hear from you – and we can always set up a taster session – just contact us through our website <https://standonpuckeridgebowlsclub.wordpress.com/> or email [standonandpuckeridgebowlsclub@gmail.com](mailto:standonandpuckeridgebowlsclub@gmail.com) or why not write to us at Standon and Puckeridge Bowls Club, The Playing Field, Station Road, Standon Herts SG11 1TF

## New help for people with hearing problems

Residents of Ware and the surrounding villages now have access to a new, personal audiology service designed for those seeking clear hearing, continuity of care, and a familiar face. Audiology is a local, independent audiology practice offering comprehensive hearing assessments, hearing aid support, and Microsuction earwax removal, either in their state-of-the-art clinic or in the comfort of clients' own homes.

Appointments are deliberately unhurried, friendly, and focused entirely on individual needs. Whether someone is beginning to notice changes in their hearing, finding conversations more difficult, or needs support maintaining existing hearing aids, Audiology provides clear, honest guidance tailored to each individual.

The service is led by Mr Didi Lampert FdSc (Aud) BSc (Hons) RHAD MSHAA, an experienced audiologist with extensive experience working alongside leading ENT consultants and doctors in hospitals

and boutique clinics across London and Hertfordshire.

By bringing high-quality audiology services directly to the Ware community, Audiology aims to make hearing care more accessible, comfortable, and personal. Home visits are available.

Local residents are invited to enquire or arrange an initial discussion by calling 07342 976541 or emailing [hello@audiology.com](mailto:hello@audiology.com).

## Birdwatching Group

Tuesday 17 March, 7.45  
Golden Fleece



Do come along to our talk on "TOUCANS, EAGLES, and ANT-THINGS" – an illustrated talk by Paula and Jackie on their time in Panama with the Canopy Family

Everyone very welcome – you don't need to be a member of our birding group to come along and enjoy this talk!

No charge but please buy a drink (or 2) at the bar.

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Our recently opened Buntingford branch looks forward to welcoming you.

## The Village Lunch

Christmas! Yes, before it's too far behind us, let's report what a lovely Christmas lunch we had. Our guests entered to a beautifully decorated Village Hall with Christmas themed tables of crackers and flowers, as well as snowmen and Father Christmas figures, hand-knitted in Puckeridge by one of our very loyal helpers.

Everyone ate well - a choice of soup, then a cheese platter followed by seasonal cakes, and finally there were chocolates to take home.

Our thanks to Standon May Day committee for their generosity again in helping this happen. Thanks too to our great team of dedicated helpers, 25 in total who help at different times in the year, some behind the scenes and others out front.

At the end of the meal, everyone joined in carol singing, which David Ranford led again. To round off

everything, Jan Spelman ran a raffle as part of her fundraising for Isabel Hospice in memory of her husband, Andy - and raised a fantastic £400. (See Jan's report below for more about her fundraising for Isabel Hospice in the villages).

Here we are in February, back to our normal lunches - home-made soup until April and then sandwiches - not forgetting cake of course, whatever else we serve!

Sometimes, we worry we will have more guests at a lunch than there are chairs in the hall but so far this has never happened. So if you live in Standon or Puckeridge, or know someone who does, and would like to come to a simple lunch once a month in Standon Village Hall, in a friendly, welcoming atmosphere, please ring Helena or Brenda, as follows:

Helena 07974 583832

Brenda 01920 822293

## Jan's Village lunch report

Hi there. My name is Jan and I've been a helper at the Village Lunches for many years. It's a lively, lovely couple of hours with our local ladies and gents who attend these lunches.

This year, we held a Christmas raffle and also sold donated Christmas cards and homemade items, and raised a grand total of £400.

With money raised from our local community choir, Standon Sing's Christmas Cracker concert, and our local pub, The Star, raffling a hamper as well, we managed to raise a total of £2,220 for Isabel Hospice in Welwyn G.C.

A big Thank You from me for all the effort and donations that went towards raising this fantastic amount.

Jan



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## News from Braughing Parish Council

Alistair Dore, Civil Engineer for the Historic Railways Estate, attended our January Meeting to explain upcoming traffic management changes on the B1368 rail bridge. He explained that the South-east beam on the bridge has failed relevant structural assessments.

A speed limit and traffic lights will be installed on the bridge with one-way traffic, which will all cross on the Northwest side where the beam is still serviceable. In the longer term, the gap under the bridge will be infilled with retaining walls and foamed concrete, which will provide a long-term solution and enable the bridge to safely accommodate vehicles up to 40 tonnes.

The lights are likely to be in position for at least 2 years. This timescale reflects the necessary processes that the Historical Railways Estate must undertake, including technical assessments, discussions, approvals, planning permission, and the delivery of the infill works.

Braughing Parish Council has been assured that the situation will be monitored now the traffic

management measures are in operation, to ensure safety is maintained.

BPC has agreed a precept for 2026/7 of £44,325. This is the same as last year.

County Councillor Terry Smith assured BPC that the long-awaited white lining on the road humps along Malting Lane will finally be carried out in March

We are still waiting for HCC to produce a survey regarding attitudes towards putting yellow lines along the Street outside the Brown Bear to alleviate parking problems.

The streetlight outside Pentlows Farmhouse has been repaired. The replacement of the stolen lights along Church End is with our insurers.

## 1st Standon and Puckeridge Guides

Guides is for girls aged 10-14 and we meet on Wednesday evenings in term time in Braughing. If you'd like to become a member, contact your existing Brownie leader or register at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk).

After Girlguiding launched a new batch of badges last summer, the

Guides have been earning as many as they can, and we have a few girls almost ready to earn the Guide Gold award, the most prestigious award for Guides.

As usual, the Guides have contributed to the programme plans and have selected activities around communication, life skills and exploration for this term.

We are looking forward to our trip to Colchester Zoo soon. This is a joint event with the other Guiding groups in Standon and Puckeridge. We have a good connection with our local Rainbow and Brownie units, and recently went to the panto together.

Our fudge stall will be back for Standon May Day and the Guides will get a chance to show off their sales skills again. This is our main fundraiser of the year and I know lots of locals look forward to seeing which flavours we have.

We have two camps planned this year. The first is a local weekend event to take camping skills up a level, and then we are off to County camp for a week in the summer.

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## Lenten Thoughts

This Lenten season is one which provides us with an opportunity to reflect, to do something different by giving up or taking up something and to ready ourselves to join Jesus's final journey as he enters into Jerusalem.

The journey of the final week of Lent, of Holy Week, as we remember the final week of Jesus' life on earth, is a roller coaster of emotions.

We remember the excited crowds coming out onto the streets as the word goes around that Jesus is coming down the road and into Jerusalem. His reputation preceded him as people pulled down branches to lay on the road as a welcoming carpet and shouted 'Hosanna, Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!, Hosanna in the Highest' at the tops of their voices.

But how quickly things then change as the tide of popular opinion turns against Jesus and he knows his time is short. He meets for a final time with his closest friends and shares

the bread and the wine of the Passover with them one last time.

He gives added meaning to the meal as he uses the bread and wine to symbolise his own body and blood. And then it is time to walk the lonely and solitary path all the way to the cross.

The joyful shouts of the crowds are replaced by shouts of condemnation, the soft power that Jesus has enjoyed as people have clung to his every word is overtaken by the power of force and violence, and plots and threats win the day as Jesus is crucified.

How quickly things can change and how frightening and dark the world can suddenly feel.

As we look towards our Holy Week remembrance this year, we do so with the backdrop of worrying and frightening change and uncertainty in our world, where force and violence, plots and threats, so often seem to be present. It would be easy to join with the disciples in their despair and hopelessness as they watched Jesus

crucified and all their hopes for a positive and joyful future disappeared.

But we have the advantage of hindsight as we remember the disciple's despair. We know that only three days later what felt like the end of the world turned into the greatest joy as Jesus is raised from the dead and the disciples could live with hope again.

As we journey through our own troubled times may we hold the joy and hope of the resurrection firmly in our gaze, so that when force and violence, threats and plots, seek to overtake the positive and good in life, we may remember that our hope is to be found in the resurrected and ascension Christ who not even death could defeat.

The Right Reverend Dr Jane Mainwaring, Bishop of Hertford



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## Friends of St Mary's – FOSM

FOSM is the local charity that raises funds for the preservation and restoration of the fabric, inside and out, of St Marys our ancient grade one listed parish church in Standon.

Our latest project was supporting the repair and restoration of the Church Tower, which you can now see in all its restored glory following the removal of the scaffolding just before Christmas.

We have a full programme of events for 2026, which started with our annual Quiz Night on the 31 January when we had nine teams enjoying an excellent ploughman's supper and exercising their "little grey cells" in the battle to become the FOSM quizzing champions of 2026 and pick up the new coveted trophy.

Our 2026 programme is set out below. With dates for your diary.

Mayday - Monday 4 May -Tea, coffee and delicious Cakes served in Standon Village Hall.

Standon and Puckeridge Open Gardens – Saturday 13 June Gardens

in Standon and Puckeridge open to visitors. To include lunches available in Church, afternoon tea in the Village Hall, magnificent plant sale, live music entertainment in the gardens and a "Treasure" Hunt for children.

This is always a fantastic day which highlights our lovely villages and attracts visitors from near and far. Make it a date to come along this year!

A big thank you in advance to all the garden owners and all the helpers who work so hard to make this event a success. It really is a magnificent team effort.

If you have a garden, large or small, in Puckeridge or Standon that you would like to open on the 13 June we would be delighted to hear from you. Contact David Goldstraw at [silverhay@aol.com](mailto:silverhay@aol.com) for more information.

Candlelit Supper – Friday 2 October. In our ancient and beautiful church of St. Mary's, Standon. Come and share a delicious three-course meal and a glass of wine with family and friends and experience a wonderful candlelit atmosphere.

Christmas Market – Saturday, 5 December in St. Mary's Church, Standon. Enjoy coffee and a mince pie whilst buying Christmas gifts from stalls offering a lovely variety of products and gifts made by talented local crafts people.

We look forward to seeing you at these events. We always welcome new helpers and supporters. If you want to get involved or to know more contact David Goldstraw Chair FOSM - [silverhay@aol.com](mailto:silverhay@aol.com)

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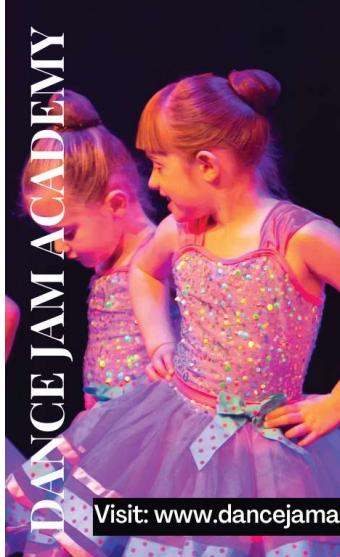
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## Buntingford School of Dance

We've had a busy few months. Following our show last June we have introduced Acro Dance classes and welcomed a lot of new pupils to the school. We held ballet exams in December and following exams in ballet, tap and modern in March everyone will start rehearsing for a Showcase on 20 June at Freman College, giving pupils a chance to perform to friends and family.

**WHY DANCE?** Dance is great for improving flexibility, core strength, posture, coordination as well as giving you a mental work out learning and remembering steps. Dance is also good for your social and emotional well-being; reducing stress and boosting self-esteem. It's a great way to meet new people.

We offer classes for all ages from our toddler Baby Boppers class, classes for children aged 3 – 18 years to our adult classes.

### TWO-WEEK TRIAL

For all our children's classes for 3 – 18 years we now offer a two-week trial period giving new pupils the opportunity to trial a variety of

suitable classes to see what each class is like before committing to the full term. Complete our registration form and we will send you details of suitable classes.



Photo: Ballet Exam Day

**PAY AS YOU GO CLASSES** – we are now able to offer our toddler class (Baby Boppers) and adult classes (ballet & tap) on a pay as you go basis, these classes can be booked online for single weeks, a few weeks or a full term.

**Baby Boppers:** Saturdays 9.00 – 9.30am, Christchurch URC Hall, Baldock Road, Buntingford - Have you got an energetic toddler who loves to dance? This class is the perfect start to your Saturday morning to burn up some of that toddler energy. The class is suitable

for toddlers of any age once they are confidently walking.

**Adult Classes** – Do you want to get fit or try something new? Then why not register for our Adult Ballet or Tap classes. We welcome pupils of all ages and abilities whether you have done any kind of dance before or not.

**ADULT TAP:** Tuesdays 7.00 – 8.00pm - Barkway Village Hall, Cambridge Road, Barkway.

**ADULT BALLET:** Wednesdays 6.15 – 7.15pm - URC Hall, Baldock Road, Buntingford.

### OUR CLASSES

**ACRO** - Acro is currently one of the most popular dance genres with more choreographers integrating basic Acro skills in Jazz, Modern, Contemporary and Neo-Classical choreography

**BABY BOPPERS** – Our toddler and parent class, now available on pay as you go, just register for the class once and pay by card/contactless payment each week you attend.

**BALLET** – from 3 years and adult classes – Adult classes available on Pay As You Go

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If you wish to register with us to join classes or book one of our pay as you go classes, please use the QR code to take you to the CONTACT page of our website or email [admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk](mailto:admin@buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk) for more information. [www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk](http://www.buntingfordschoolofdance.co.uk)

## Dates for your Diary!

*The United Benefice of St Mary's Standon and All Saints Little Munden with St Catherine's*

*Sacombe*

22 March 6pm Stainer's Crucifixion St Mary's Standon

24 April 7.30pm FOSM AGM

4 May 1 – 5pm Mayday Standon High Street – St Mary's Church open to visitors, live music in church, teas in the village hall provided by FOSM

13 June 11am – 5pm Standon Open Gardens

20 June 5pm Picnic Concert St Mary's Standon – including Standon Sing Community Choir and The Rib Singers directed by David Ranford

Wednesdays in term time 3.15pm Café and Lions All Saints Little Munden

Fridays in term time 9.30am Little Angels St Mary's Standon

For more details of services and activities please see our website: [www.ubsms.org.uk](http://www.ubsms.org.uk)

## Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club

We have three all weather courts and new members are always welcome.

PAY TO PLAY is available to all if you just want to book a court. £8 per hour for adults or £5 for under 16's. We even have availability at weekends. Contact Sally Bradshaw on 01920 821152.

Times available during school terms are:

Monday 9 am to 2.30 pm

Tuesday 9 am to 5 pm

Wednesday 12.00 to 2.30 pm

Thursday 9 am to 6 pm

Friday 9 am to 12.45 pm

Saturday 9 am to 6 pm

Sunday 12.00 to 6 pm

More times are available during school holidays.

Please note Saturday and Sunday are only available if there is not a match.

COACHING: our Head Coach is Cliff Devonshire, who is an LTA level 4 performance coach. Cliff has

introduced programs for all types of players from junior to

experienced club members, these are run term time only. For more information please contact Cliff on 07709 355655 or email him at [clifforddevonshire@hotmail.com](mailto:clifforddevonshire@hotmail.com)

ADULT TENNIS: Wednesday morning 10 – 12 and Friday afternoon from 1.45pm. Contact Sally Bradshaw on 01920 821152. These sessions usually attract around 8 players of varying ability. We play doubles and change round regularly which gives an opportunity to play with different people.

CLUB NIGHT: Tuesday 6pm also Sunday morning from 10am. All members are welcome. There is a WhatsApp group to ensure there will be players there.

TEAMS: In the summer, we have two Men's Teams in Hertfordshire Hot Rackets and a Ladies Team and Mixed in the Essex Small Clubs League and Junior Teams in the Herts Junior Leagues.

Contact Cliff Devonshire, 07709 355655, for information on the Men's and Junior teams and Diana Foster, 07778 031430, for the Mixed and Ladies teams.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME: Special rates for parent/child/family memberships, for details contact Sally Bradshaw 01920 821152.

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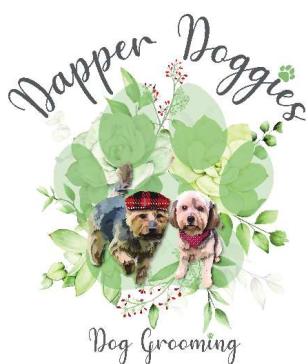
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## Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe

It has been great to see everyone at the Community Cafe over the past months, even in the cold, miserable weather. We look forward to seeing you into the Spring and Summer and the better weather!

We are open 9.30am to 11.30am on the first Wednesday of every month, in the Lankester Lounge at the Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre: 4 March, 1 April, 6 May, 3 June, 1 July, 5 August, 2 September, 7 October, 4 November and 2 December.

If you haven't been along before please pop in for a cuppa and a chat. All ages are welcome, from pre-schoolers to pensioners. We even have a box of toys to keep toddlers amused!

As those who come along to the Community Cafe regularly will know, we hold a number of Cafes each year in support of various charities.

In December, we held a charity cafe for Alzheimer's UK, and raised over £150.

Our February Cafe was supporting World Cancer Day and we raised an amazing £200 for Cancer Research UK.

Thank you so much to everyone who supports the charity fundraising

cafes. Our donations make such a difference to these charities.

Our April Cafe will be supporting Parkinson's UK with drinks, cakes and a raffle. In May our friends from Oasis will be selling their Spring card designs and in July we will be raising funds for a local charity, Isabel Hospice. We will have the usual drinks, cakes and charity raffle along with a Plant Sale, so please do come along and support us and these great charities.

There will be a 'Recycling for Good Causes' Box at each Cafe, for old jewellery; coins & currency and stamps; mobile phones; cameras and gadgets. Proceeds will be donated to Cancer Research UK.

**BUT PLEASE, PLEASE, NO CABLES OR PLUGS, CASES OR BOXES, AND PLEASE, NO USED BATTERIES. THANK YOU**

We also have a separate box for recycling your old printer cartridges, so please bring those along too, as these also realise funds for Cancer Research UK. Thank you.

We look forward to seeing you in the coming months and we'd like to thank the volunteers who lend a hand when any member of the team is unable to attend.

For more details contact Alison on 07813 702375.

Best wishes for the coming months Alison, Helena, Jenny and Lorraine

## Dance JAM Academy



We returned in January to weekly classes, with many new starters joining. The buzz and friendships formed at dancing is visible week in week out, with many not attending the same schools it really is lovely to see new connections. Many of our senior students are being prepared for their auditions for dance college and they are working incredibly hard. We are excited for them!

Our students continue to make us proud with their achievements and successful auditions for local productions mean they can enhance their training and experience as a performer.

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"Bella the Butterfly" has been introduced to our younger classes and they love seeing where her journey takes them each week. Imagination is so beautiful to see and our little ones thrive in their environment.

Our K-POP Demon Hunters themed workshop took place in February half term and was extremely popular! Dancing, singing and art & craft activities keeps the children entertained for an entire day, we even have a film club for those needing a longer day. Visit our website for our holiday workshops.

Looking ahead we have our bi-annual show this year. Art in Motion (AIM) takes place later this year at South Mill Arts Centre in Bishops Stortford. New starters can be part of this if joining by the end of March.

If you have a child age 3+ (rising 3) or older, whatever their ability and age, they too can be part of our Academy. We inspire, nurture and provide the perfect environment to let their imaginations soar. We are currently taking bookings for FREE no obligation trial sessions in March. Visit our website [www.dancejamacademy.co.uk](http://www.dancejamacademy.co.uk) or find us on Facebook/Instagram Dance JAM Academy to see what we offer.

Julie McPartland AIDTA  
Principal – Dance JAM Academy

## Enhancing the Curriculum at Roger de Clare

The National Curriculum has been in place for over ten years now and whilst we wait for a new curriculum to be agreed by government, we have found innovative ways to supplement the frameworks we are required to follow.

The first way is by following national and world celebrations or events throughout the year. Since September, we have learnt about Harvest, Remembrance Day, Anti-bullying Week, Christmas, Chinese New Year, Children's Mental Health Week, National Storytelling Week and Online Safety Day (to name a few!)

Another way is to welcome visitors to school to enhance provision or to widen our knowledge. In the absence of a Vicar, St. Mary's Church have provided a team of four (Caroline, Lizzy, Jane and Rob) to rotate Worship and to ensure that the links with the Church remain as strong as ever. St. Mary's also invited us to a special Christmas service before the end of the Autumn Term. We have also been blessed by Reverend Tayo (from Much Hadham) visiting and leading us in Worship. Curriculum focused visits from Hertford Museum and the North East School Sports Partnership have supplemented our learning in

History and PE. We remain grateful to all those who give their time to visit us at Roger de Clare.

However, one of the weekly ways in which we seek to enhance the learning of our children is by offering a 'Wellbeing' Curriculum in addition to the subjects listed in the National Curriculum. This timetabled session is constructed of four elements: teaching of growth mindset, mindfulness and spirituality, Woodland Wonder and Courageous Advocacy. These areas are teaching our children to be challenged in their learning and that it is okay to make mistakes, to appreciate the outdoor world and spend time in it, to reflect on the present moment and put thoughts to the 'big' questions of life and to see that we can make a difference in the world by taking action. Through these areas, children are developing their thinking skills and developing their oracy to communicate ideas. They are also learning about their place in the world and how everyone can do something, no matter how small, to make our communities and beyond wonderful places to live.

New to the area and looking for a school place? We currently have spaces and would love to welcome you for a tour with our Headteacher, Mrs Woods. Please contact the school on 01920 821363 or email [admin@rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk).

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## Westmill Village Hall wins Lottery Grant

Thanks to National Lottery players, the Trust responsible for the Village Hall and several other assets in Westmill is pleased to have received confirmation of a substantial grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund which uses money raised by National Lottery players to support projects that connect people and communities with the UK's heritage.

The restoration of the village hall roof, due to take place this summer, has been made possible with grants secured from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Fund, Bernard Sunley Foundation and Pilgrim Trust.

Originally a 17th century thatched barn used as a grain store, Westmill's Village Hall was created when the barn, part of Vine Farm owned by the Greg family, was converted and donated to the village in 1901 to be used for purposes such as dances, concerts, lectures and classes.

A library of books was also donated by the Gregs and at the opening, Thomas Greg said "... this hall is but the outward expression of that communal spirit which was so great a feature of our English villages and

the inward and propelling force which is to make it a living factor is to be found in yourselves ..."

As a keen follower of art historian and social reformer John Ruskin, renowned architect Charles Spooner worked with the Gregs and was keen to preserve village life in Westmill by improving the housing.

He converted the village hall, remodelled the green, altered Dial House, Vine House and the village shop, as well as designing the church lychgate, pulpit and lectern and building School Cottages. Thomas Greg began married life with Mary Hope in 1895 at Dial House and T and M Greg plaques can be found on houses throughout Westmill.

Mary Greg opened Westmill Museum in a cottage, formerly the blacksmith's forge and donated her collection of objects such as farming tools and cooking utensils, encouraging others to do the same, finding beauty in the ordinary.

Thomas Greg died in 1920 and Mary set up the T & M Greg Trust in 1923 in his memory. Today the Trust, run by volunteers, is responsible for the village hall and cottage; recreation and grazing fields; allotments and copse; children's playground;

Pilgrims Close almshouses; and Jackson's Meadow in Westmill. [heritagefund.org.uk](http://heritagefund.org.uk)

## Meet Your Local Consultant

Many of you have met me over the last 12 years of being a Slimming World consultant, and for that I am very grateful. Helping members lose weight, become healthier, and with that happier, is one of the best roles a person can have.

So let's start with how I first was introduced to Slimming World. This happened 20 years ago when my mum attended a group and lost over 4 stone, loved the comradery and became a social team member on Pay. By this point I had a beautiful little boy and had wanted another baby. In my head, I'd lose weight once I was pregnant, but as it was put to me that maybe I needed to lose it to fall pregnant. As it happened, through miscarriages and many tests, I was found to be unable to go full-term ever again. My perfect boy would be my only one, he's 19 this year and yes, still perfect!!!

In August 2012, along with a good friend, we joined the Standon & Puckeridge group held at the Community Centre on Station Road,



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and were greeted with such a warm, and friendly welcome, we were completely at ease, and I was so excited to learn how to food optimise my way to slim! Having someone with me was special, it was our night out, having lots of fun and very soon we made more friends. After 10 weeks, I had lost 2 stone, and was buzzing, becoming Slimmer of the Week and Month, and loving the group energy, care and support every week. I went on to lose over 4 stone, and when my consultant said she was leaving, and said we need someone to takeover, she looked directly at me! What a compliment! I took over the group in December 2013 and have loved it ever since.

Looking after members can mean a consultant takes their eye off the ball with their own journey, and that happened with me, so I joined another group just for me and lost 2 stone, and felt in control and happy again.

Recently I had let things slip again, no fault of the plan or Slimming World but my lack of loving who I was, and making the right choices. I also went to the Doctor in November 2024 as I knew something wasn't right with a strange sensation in my left cheek. He said a change of lifestyle would benefit, and I knew that, and this was the push I needed. I am now 3 stone lighter, look and feel fabulous, and determined never to go back again. Many scans, tests,

and hospital appointments later, last November I was diagnosed with a Facial Neuropathy disorder and its something I have to live with unfortunately.

So, I understand the ups & downs of losing weight, and can empathise, I also have a condition where I could easily have thought, stuff it! Many will use food to fill that pain, anxiety, or worry, but I am not now - it will not help in any way, shape or form.

So if you would love to come back to our fantastic group, or dip your toes for the first time, be assured you'll receive a warm welcome, make some gorgeous friends who'll share ideas, support your journey, laugh with you and celebrate every single success.

If this sounds like you, please come along; Every Tuesday @7pm

Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, Station Rd, SG11 1TF

And my name is Sophie, and you can reach me on 07855 079070.

Go on, what have you got to lose, other than weight!

## Hertford MuseumEvents

### Toddler Tuesday: Fishes!

**3rd March 2025, 10.30 – 11.45am**

Join us for crafts, singing, stories and fun for the Under 4s! £4.50 per child, includes a drink and a snack.

Booking Essential! Book at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk>

\*FREE places available for children of low-income families. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Please show proof of low income in the form of a benefits letter or tax credits award letter at the time of booking or on arrival. Thank you

### Easter Holiday Family Activities

**Tuesday 31 March – Thursday**

**2 April and Tuesday 7 – Thursday**

**9 April, 10am – 1pm**

Come and join us for crafts during the Easter holidays. Different crafts are available each week.

£4 per child, DROP IN

\*Free places available for children of low-income families. Contact the museum for more information. Proof of low income in the form of a benefits letter or tax credits award letter must be shown at the time of booking sessions or upon arrival at drop-in sessions.

### Half Term Family Activities

**Tuesday 26 May & Thursday**

**28 May, 10am – 1pm**

Drop in and take part in arts and crafts at the museum this half-term £4 per child, DROP IN

\*Free places available for children of low-income families. Contact the museum for more information. Proof of low income in the form of a benefits letter or tax credits award letter must be shown at the time of booking sessions or upon arrival at drop-in sessions.

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## Braughing Church Services

Now our new Vicar, Rev'd Lynn Hayler, is settling in, there will be a few tweaks to our Service Schedule over the next few months and especially around Easter. Our usual pattern of services (1st & 2nd Sunday Braughing, 3rd & 4th Furneux, 5th Stocking) will continue but please note a few extra services and time changes.

### March

1st 10.30 Braughing Holy Communion

8th 10.30 Braughing Holy Communion

15th MOTHERING SUNDAY

9.30 Café Church Furneux Pelham with flowers for mums

11.15 short informal family service Braughing with flowers for mums

22nd 10.30 Holy Communion Furneux Pelham

29th PALM SUNDAY

10.30 Stocking Pelham – Palm Procession and Family Communion

### April

3rd GOOD FRIDAY

10.30-12.00 Family Even Braughing

6.00pm Service of hymns and readings for Good Friday – this is a really beautiful service for the most solemn day of the Christian year so do come along

### 5th EASTER SUNDAY

6.30am Easter Sunrise Service – join us in Braughing Churchyard for a brief act of worship as we greet the risen Lord followed by hot cross buns

9.30 Informal Worship for Easter Sunday Furneux Pelham with Easter Egg Hunt

11.15 Family Communion for Easter Sunday Braughing with Easter Egg Hunt

12th 10.30 Holy Communion Braughing

19th 9.30 Café Church Furneux Pelham

26th 10.30 Holy Communion Furneux Pelham

### May

3rd 10.30 Braughing holy communion

10th 10.30 Braughing holy communion

17th 9.30 cafe church Furneux Pelham

24th 10.30 Whitsunday holy communion Furneux Pelham

31st 10.30 holy communion Stocking Pelham

Services subject to change. Please check noticeboard a church near you or our Facebook page (St Mary's Braughing)

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range from 300 litres to 1500 litres. Our vineyard has 2,300 vines and we use the tanks depending on how successful our harvest is.

Our harvests have ranged from a fantastic harvest of 4,000 bottles to less than 500 depending on the weather. Once the wine goes through the fermentation in the tanks it is bottled by hand and laid down for the second fermentation to take place in the bottle. This can take up to two years.

We then take the bottles, put them in racks and twice a day we riddle the bottles to get the spent yeast into the neck of the bottle. The necks of the bottles are then frozen, the crown caps are removed and the yeast comes out with the crown cap. Using plastic syringes, we put dosage (a small amount of wine and sugar) into the bottle and then put the cork and muzzle on the bottle.

Each bottle is then cleaned and labelled and the wine is ready to go

to market. From harvest to the finished product takes over 30 months. We have calculated that every bottle is handled over 80 times. It really is a labour of love and as a result of this care our English Sparkling wine is delicious and it is all sold locally.

Every summer we do several tours and tastings and we explain how our English sparkling wine is made, we do not charge for this. My wife and I do most of the work with volunteers who come up to help several times a year. The wine is made under the supervision of an award winning winemaker. We sell our sparkling rose and our blanc de blancs for £24 per bottle and our sparkling cider for £12 per bottle which as wine and cider lovers will tell you is amazing value.

If you would like to attend one of our tastings please email me on [info@fouracresestate.co.uk](mailto:info@fouracresestate.co.uk)

Platon and Sharron

## New Climbing Frame at Jenyns Thanks to the Wheelbarrow Race!



A brand new climbing frame was officially opened last term at Jenyns First School and Nursery. Ex-pupil and professional rugby player Daisy came in to cut the ribbon and lead an assembly with the pupils of Jenyns. A lot of the funding for this project came from the money raised at the Braughing Wheelbarrow Race as well as other fundraising events led



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by Friends of Jenyns. Thank you so much to residents of Braughing and the wider villages who helped support the school at this year's wheelbarrow race - this climbing frame is sure to provide many opportunities for active play as well as develop the confidence and resilience of pupils in many years to come!

Be sure to come and support the school at this year's Wheelbarrow Race on Saturday 11 July. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Mr James Sadler

Headteacher

## Attend2Health

Last year was a busy and rewarding one for us, with lots to celebrate and plenty of reasons to say thank you to our local community.

Over the past year, we have raised more than £327 for the Ward Freeman Community Pool Group, helping to support an important local facility, which will hopefully re-open this year. We were also proud to support the British Chiropractic Association in their fundraising efforts for the Darby Rimmer MND Foundation.

We were delighted to learn that the £116 we raised has triggered an additional £500 bonus donation for the charity, which was wonderful news and made the effort even more worthwhile. The British

Chiropractic Association gave the top 5 clinics the bonus donation and we were lucky enough to be one of them.

Alongside our fundraising, we are also celebrating the first anniversary of our Reformer Pilates classes. Over the past year, these classes have gone from strength to strength, with fantastic feedback from our clients. One recent 5-star review said:

"Sarah is a great Pilates Reformer instructor. I was a beginner nine months ago, but she helped me to understand and benefit from our weekly classes and I have progressed to intermediate level. I look forward to the weekly class and feel real improvements in both my core strength and flexibility."

We pride ourselves on keeping our Reformer Pilates classes small, with just four people per class, and grouping participants by ability. This means beginners start together, progress at the same pace, and everyone in the class is working on the same exercises, allowing for a supportive and tailored experience.

Our next Mental Health First Aid Course will take place on Friday 13 and 20 March 9.30am-4pm £200.

To book please call 01763 87 80 87. Attend2Health 27 High Street Buntingford SG9 9AB.

## Where the Iron Duke lived

The following is a transcript of a report in a local paper:

**WHERE THE IRON DUKE LIVED,**  
**—**  
**FIREMEN DIG A WAY THROUGH SNOW.**  
**—**  
**COUNTRY MANSION BURNED OUT.**  
**—**  
**FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.**  
**STANDON, Hertfordshire, Wednesday.**

**28 December 1927**

While firemen were making desperate efforts to fight their way through snow-bound roads, the ancient manor house of Standon Lordship, famous as the residence of the first Duke of Wellington, which has stood in lonely grandeur amid the hills of Hertfordshire, was burned out early today.

The property, the property of the present Duke of Wellington was built in 1545 and was the oldest manor house in the county, but the history of the manor itself dates back to the time of Edward the Confessor.

The house had been occupied since 1920 by Mr. Harold Swann, a member of the London County Council and vice chairman of the

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regional committee for Greater London, who, with his wife and only son, left it on Saturday to spend the holiday with his brother at Hatfield.

The heavy fall of snow cut off the mansion, and the three servants who had been left in the house were completely isolated. In the quarter-mile long drive the snow was between five and seven feet deep, and the nearest house – apart from the cottage occupied by the gardener, Mr Samuel Tuffs, and his wife, close to the mansion – was more than a mile away.

The three servants lived in the north wing of the house and it was shortly before two o'clock this morning that the parlourmaid, Miss Ivy Bird, who slept in a room facing the main part of the house, was awakened by a crackling sound.

Servant's Alarm  
Jumping out of bed, she found the south wing on fire. She roused the other servants, and all three, throwing coats over their nightdresses, picked up their clothes and ran out on to the snow-covered lawn, where they dressed.

Miss Bird roused the gardener and then telephoned to the police at Ware. The Bishop's Stortford Fire Brigade, six miles away, was also summoned, but was unable to reach the burning mansion, as the road was in places blocked with snowdrifts 7ft deep.

The Ware Fire Brigade, a volunteer force, with a tiny steam pump hauled by a motor-lorry, ran into a deep bank of snow on the narrow road two miles from the house. The lorry had to be dug out and another route was taken.

They reached the entrance to the drive – five and a half miles from Ware – in three hours, and then found it impossible to get to the house. By this time the roof had fallen in and the flames were shooting high into the air.

The fireman dug a passage through the snow, and after an hour they were able to haul the diminutive pump along the drive and across the lawn to the Rib, a tributary of the Lea.

By this time only the outer walls, cracked by the intense heat, remained, and all the fire brigade could do was to play on the burning timbers and massive oak beams inside the walls.

#### Few Pictures Saved

Only a few pictures and chairs from the dining room were saved. Everything belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Swann was destroyed.

Mr. Swann, who was informed of the fire by telephone, left immediately for Standon Lordship in a motor car, but the car became stranded in the snow and he did not reach the house until nearly noon.

As he walked round the ruins with me he said:

'It is tragic. I was proud to be the "caretaker" of this historic mansion.

My wife and I have lost everything, all I possess are the clothes I am wearing.'

Thanks to Megan Blay for supplying the cutting and, by sheer coincidence, to Stewart McRorie who found the photo of the fire-engine when clearing Angela Chapman's house after she sadly died.

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## Puckeridge Allotments

We had a good response to my last message in PS and several new allotment holders are now working on their plots.

Do you like Broad Beans, Runner Beans and French Beans ?

How about Lettuces, tomatoes, cucumbers and aubergines?

Or courgettes, sweet corn, leeks, cabbages and potatoes?

What about cauliflowers, Brussel sprouts, purple sprouting broccoli and Kale?

Not forgetting spring onions, garlic, shallots and onions?

These are all vegetables I have grown on my allotment this year and you could do the same.

The rent for a plot is £50 for a year So if you are thinking about having an allotment and growing your own vegetables please give me a ring or email and we can find a plot for you.

Gerald Dale Manager 07718734898 or [Gerald@geralddale.co.uk](mailto:Gerald@geralddale.co.uk).

## Do/Did you enjoy Table Tennis?

Thundridge Table Tennis Club is a friendly group of people of all ages who meet every Thursday evening to enjoy playing and socialising.

We have three tables and usually get around twelve members playing each week. We mostly play doubles but there are opportunities for singles during the evening.

We play from 6 - 8pm (with one table reserved for kids from 6 - 7pm, to encourage the next generation of players).

We meet at Thundridge Village Hall Ermine St, Thundridge, Ware SG12 0SY.

There is no need to book, just turn up and you will find a warm welcome. All abilities are invited from beginners to league players (we have both in the club).

The cost is £1 for kids and £4 for Adults.

Why not give us a go? it is very enjoyable and good exercise!

Need more information? call John Harris on 07740 306189

## Three P Flush

Although it seems the drizzle will never stop, recent hydrological reports state we are not out of the woods yet when it comes to water reserves.

Feb 2026, Southern Water have only just lifted their hosepipe ban. Water bodies have announced that unless we have a continuous weather pattern, much as we have this January right through March, our water reserves will not be healthy.

It takes more than we can possibly even begin to fathom just how much last year and 2022 took its toll on our rivers/lakes/reservoirs and even balancing ponds, which filter motorway pollutants .

So I pose to you, please don't recoil, it's not so bad - the 3 Pee flush. As a test, see how easy it really is to not flush your toilet for at least 3 pees. If you can go for 4, even better.

The way to test this and the impact it can make by way of water saving is - get a bucket of water, after one pee, a firm throw down of that water in the toilet pan. You will see that not all the 'yellow' water has gone, even after so much water.

This is roughly the equivalent of a

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cistern of water plus the added hydraulics of the mechanism in the cistern. It shows you just how much water we could easily save. Worse still, the flush this is pure drinking water!

Water Companies across the UK are struggling to meet our ever-increasing targets. Even to the point they are constructing HUGE pipelines to feed water from the Midlands to the East/South East of UK. Yes, really! This project is costing many millions (you can read about it on the Anglian Water site)

So please please ...think 3 Pee even more so if you are on a water meter! Being nice to the environment is a good energy for you and a great result for the environment.

## **The Hundred Parishes Society**

[www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk)

One of the pleasures of taking a stroll round any of the towns and villages within the Hundred Parishes is enjoying the variety of gardens which enhance the settings of homes. They are thriving testaments to those within these communities whose horticultural skills add to the local sense of pride.

Last October the RHS published its State of Gardening Report, which highlighted the many reasons why gardens are so important. Within the UK they cover almost a million hectares, more than three times the



area of National Nature Reserves. Many local gardens include a variety of trees as well as an increasing range of flowering plants, some from other parts of the world so that the flowering season is extended. This provides not just winter and spring colour but also pollen and nectar for any pollinating insects that are active at that time.

Well-vegetated gardens are havens for other forms of wildlife too including hedgehogs and many common birds, especially if supplementary food and nesting sites are provided.

Last spring the Essex Wildlife Trust asked residents to complete records of house sparrows visiting their gardens as these once common birds are now in serious decline. The reasons for the decline of urban populations include the reduction of invertebrate food such as caterpillars, which are essential for rearing nestlings, and a shortage of suitable nesting sites in modern houses.

501 gardens were surveyed and the information gathered suggested that older properties were more likely to provide nesting sites for these birds who also favoured gardens with a pond.

By growing a wide variety of flowering plants and installing clusters of nest boxes in your garden you may be able to provide a suitable habitat for encouraging house sparrows to thrive. For information about the project see <https://www.essexwt.org.uk/house-sparrow-project>

Tricia Moxey, Trustee.

## **A moment to process the positives**

As a Flood Drainage Engineer, as a key part of my work stream, Winter is challenging and difficult to find the 'Off' switch. Sometimes, our work stress gets to form a part of how we perceive daily life. It often skews reality due to our mindset. So it was very refreshing to read how we really should, at times, think about our own behaviour and how small things can make a real difference.

I was reading an article where a woman commuting home after a really fraught day almost missed her tube station exit from her commute. From one end of a heaving train she had, between the last station stop, gone through all the carriages to get to the far end for an easy exit.

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As the train pulled up, she got off. Then suddenly realised, she had left her case on the train. It contained her Laptop/Phone/Documents everything she needed for her job. Some doors had closed but one was still open where she had exited. She quickly jumped on this door, already fully knowing what the outcome would be.

Doors closed.

She slowly weaved through the still heaving carriages. Finally she got to where she had been sitting. There, by where she was sitting, was her carefully placed case.

She could not believe her luck. Faith restored in humankind.

It reminded her of a parable she once read about a grandfather, talking to his grandson. He was explaining there are two Wolves inside us all who are always at war with each other.

The Good wolf represents kindness, love and bravery. The Bad wolf represents greed hatred and fear.

The grandson takes a moment to think about this for a few seconds, then looks up and says "Grandfather, which one wins?" The grandfather softly replies, "the one you feed"

## **Hertfordshire's popular country show, Barkway Market, will return on Saturday 9 May**

If you're looking to spend a day in the country to enjoy a quintessential day out in an idyllic setting, Barkway Market on Saturday 9 May, is for you.

One of Hertfordshire's popular country shows, Barkway Market is held in the beautiful grounds of Manor Farm, one of the village's oldest houses, alongside a craft fair in the neighbouring Church. Manor Farm will once again be opening its formal gardens for visitors to enjoy this year.

Barkway is part of the old London to Cambridge coaching route, and the market is expected to attract over 4,000 visitors. The event dates back to medieval times in 1270. Re-established in 1977 as a 'Street Market' when residents Molly Bruce, Mr Fidler and others wanted to raise money for a village party to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Barkway's Grade II Listed 'Carriage Wash', which can be found close to Manor Farm, is a monument to the coaching village's past, and was added to Historic England's National Heritage List in 2024.

The annual Market is organised by a team of volunteers on behalf of

Barkway Village Hall, which is a registered charity and hosts many of Barkway's community groups. All proceeds go towards local good causes and in 2025, over £25,000 was raised for charitable benefit.

The Market is also an opportunity for local organisations to raise funds including the Barkway Church, The 7th Royston Barkway Scout Group, and Barkway School.

At this year's event, there will be over 180 stalls selling unique items ranging from antiques to bric-a-brac, artisan food & drink to homewares, garden wares to plants, clothing to jewellery, curiosities and more besides.

Entertainment will be provided for all the family. Catering will include homemade sweet and savoury delights from Barkway Church as well as a food court with a licenced bar, fresh coffee and delicious food from local food vendors to satisfy all appetites. And ice cream too!

There will be a small entrance fee of £5 for adult visitors (there is no charge for children 16 and under) and a suggested donation of £2 for car parking, which goes directly to Barkway Scouts who marshall the car park. Parking is provided for in adjoining fields.

For more details about the Market, please visit [www.barkwaymarket.org](http://www.barkwaymarket.org) or follow them on Facebook @barkwayvillagemarket or

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Instagram @barkwaymarket. Some stalls are still available, but are selling out fast – a link can be accessed via the website or for information, please contact [bookings@barkwaymarket.org](mailto:bookings@barkwaymarket.org)

## Rogue Traders

Trading Standards warns residents to beware of rogue traders following the recent poor weather as an opportunity to commit fraud.

Spells of wet weather can highlight areas of our homes that require attention, for example leaking gutters or an issue with the roof. Rogue traders are known to use the weather as an opportunity to take advantage of unsuspecting residents.

The rogue trader can contact you in many ways, such as:

- a cold-call/'working in the area',
- a leaflet through the door
- in response to a post on a trader matching website.

Alarm bells should ring when a small job turns into a bigger one or if there are unexpected price increases. A common example is a simple job such as clearing blocked gutters that is 'bounced' by

identifying more work that the trader says needs doing urgently, like loose roof tiles, compromised felt or rotten timbers. Or a price is agreed but later the trader tells you that the price did not include materials or VAT.

Be suspicious if an expensive quote is quickly reduced, on the condition the work is carried out straightaway, or if you are asked for a large deposit for 'scaffolding', 'materials' or the like. Beware if the trader claims the job is urgent and you feel pressured to agree.

Another warning sign is a lack of paperwork before work starts. Look for full information about the trader: their legal entity, address, contact details, company status, full description of works and materials to be used, full cost including whether VAT is included, how long the job will take, and proper cancellation rights given at the right time.

Don't feel trapped into using the same trader, even though it seems to make sense while they are on your property. The law protects you in this situation by giving you a 14-day cancellation period for work that is agreed at your home. Only

you can agree for the work to commence within the cancellation period if you want it to.

Our advice is to make use of the cancellation period to reflect and consider. Take the time to:

- speak to someone you trust about what has happened,
- seek a second opinion from a trustworthy, local trader via [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/goodtrader](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/goodtrader), and
- seek advice about your consumer rights from the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

If you have any concerns, you can report them to the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

Report frauds to the Police by contacting Report Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Call 999 if the trader is aggressive or starts work without your agreement, these are 'crimes in action', do not feel that it is a waste of anyone's time.

Please look out for any vulnerable neighbours and report any concerns.



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## Wood heating could be worse than thought for rural air, study suggests

We think of cities as the places with the worst air pollution, but studies are increasingly highlighting severe air pollution in rural towns and villages, mainly from wood heating. However, government measurement networks mainly focus on cities, overlooking the air breathed by the 20-30% of people in the UK and Europe that live in the countryside.

To plug this gap, a team of scientists moved to the village of Retje in Slovenia for the winter. Retje is home to 690 people, and located in a valley.

Dr Kristina Glojek, from the University of Nova Gorica, described a scene that could be on a Christmas card: "The scenery seems idyllic; a small village with a church on top of a hill surrounded by dense forest and frequently covered with snow. Yet, in the cold part of the year, the village is often enveloped in a brownish fog."

Public buildings in the village are connected to a district heating scheme but householders burn mainly wood.

Air pollution measurement equipment was installed in the village and on the nearby hillside. For two months, three times a day,

Glojek and colleagues set out on a 4-mile (6km) walk carrying a backpack full of measurement equipment. By the end of the investigations they had covered a total of nearly 400 miles.

Glojek explained some of the practicalities: "Low temperatures, early darkness, constant problems with the scientific equipment and also a lot of wildlife, including bears. These hibernate, but not the whole time. When air settled in the valley, particle pollution reached the level of the most polluted cities of the world. After walking for two hours, three times a day we could not wash off the smell. Out of 88 winter days, 34 of them exceeded the legal limits."

Despite this data, the local perception was quite different. Glojek said: "Seventy per cent believed that air quality in their area was good, and 89% believed that wood smoke did not have a negative effect on health. All the other culprits of local pollution were mentioned, although they are practically non-existent in the area."

Wood-burning is often portrayed as climate-neutral. In reality it is not. Cutting down trees leads to the loss of an active carbon-sink, and wood-burning also produces climate heating methane. In Retje, the researchers studied the smoke, which contained black soot and brown particles that could absorb

the sun's heat.

Andrea Cuesta, from the Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research and part of the research team, said: "We found that the forcing efficiency was positive [warming] and that bright surfaces, such as fresh snow, might be more susceptible to the wood-burning smoke, which could accelerate melting."

Studies in Ireland and Germany have shown that villages and small towns are especially affected by air pollution from wood and solid-fuel heating during winter.

In Scotland, a proposed ban on stoves as the main source of heating in new homes and extensions has been reversed. Prof Jill Belch, from the University of Dundee, said: "Instead of allowing wood-burning in new builds, rural exceptions, reliable grid expansion, with more generous solar, heat pump, and insulation grants for those off grid or with unreliable power could reduce the significant health hazard of wood-burning for all our people."

Original report from The Guardian.

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The Buntingford Railway and Local History Society  
Programme of Events 2026

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February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Emery – Buntingford Inns and Pubs
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To book tickets please visit:  
[www.hsrc.org.uk/event/home-starts-got-talent-hsgt](http://www.hsrc.org.uk/event/home-starts-got-talent-hsgt)  
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Slow-Flo Yoga (Adults)	Fridays	11.00-12.30	Diana 07786-713086
Reiki Drum Relaxing (ALL)	Fridays (Monthly)	7.00-8.45pm	Annette 07769-183286
Cheerleaders. (Children)	Saturdays	8.45-11.45am	Sophie (above)

The United Benefice of Standon and The Mundens with Sacombe



**MUSIC FOR PASSION SUNDAY**  
**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 at 6pm**  
St Mary's Church Standon

**THE CRUCIFIXION**  
By John Stainer

The Benefice Choir and friends conducted by Michael Smith  
Hugh Legg -Tenor  
Harrison Morton Deaville - Bass  
Huw Jenkins - Organ

*All welcome. Admission free. Retiring collection.*

## Village Diary

Club Secretaries: Please keep us up to date with any changes to your regular meeting days and events.

We will take details of events as far ahead as you like to try to stop events clashing.

NB Some activities will be seasonal or in term time only, please phone the contact to check before turning up.

## Every Weekday

7:30-8:30am WASPS Breakfast Club at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre (term time only). For more details visit [www.waspclub.com](http://www.waspclub.com) or Nicola on 07904 391133 [nicola@waspclub.com](mailto:nicola@waspclub.com)

9.30 - 12.15 or 2.15 (lunch club). Term Time only SPINS Pre-School Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Fun and friendly atmosphere with qualified staff. Visits welcome. 07881 533339.

3:15-6:15pm WASPS After School Club Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre (term time only). [www.waspclub.com](http://www.waspclub.com) or Nicola on 07904 391133 [nicola@waspclub.com](mailto:nicola@waspclub.com).

## Monday

10am - 11.30am Iyengar Yoga at Standon Village Hall, Road, Standon, SG11 1LE. Contact Sarah on 07427 596961 or [www.TowardYoga.com](http://www.TowardYoga.com).

10am - 4pm CAB North Entrance, Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford. Tel: 0844 848 9700.

1.30 - 2.30 Movement to Music for Over 60s, Standon Village Hall, Imagination Dance 07394 934911

2pm Second Monday of the month - Buntingford & District U3A, 2pm at the Seth Ward Community Centre, Buntingford.

Starlight Stars:  
Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

3.45 Twinkling Stars (4-6 yrs)

4.30 Shooting Stars (7-10 yrs)

5.30 Bright Stars (11-13 yrs)

6.30 Rising Stars (14-18 yrs)

Ali Latchford 01279 966 466

4 and 5.05pm Yoga-nastics @ Edwinstreet School, Buntingford Andrea Allen 07989 980038 [yoga-nastics@outlook.com](mailto:yoga-nastics@outlook.com) [www.yoga-nastics.co.uk](http://www.yoga-nastics.co.uk)

5pm 1st Standon & Puckeridge Rainbows. Term time in Standon. [sandprainbows1@outlook.com](mailto:sandprainbows1@outlook.com)

7 Braughing Bridge Club, Old Boy's School, Braughing. Sue 01920 823692

7.15 Ware District Trefoil Guild, St Mary's Church Hall, Ware. Guiding for adults. Mandy Challis 07766 086 137 [waredistricttrefoil@gmail.com](mailto:waredistricttrefoil@gmail.com)

7.30 Braughing Bridge Club in the Old Boys School, Braughing. Sue 01920 823692

7.30 Dance JAM Academy – Standon Village Hall, Adult Tap (all levels) [julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk](mailto:julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk) Julie 07971 699615

8.00 First Monday of the month, East Herts Aviation Society meets at the Sword Inn Hand, Westmill, Buntingford (optional special pre-talk pub dinner menu from 6.30pm). Steve Morgan 07712 145146.

8.00 Puckeridge Karate Club meets at Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre. Clive Bowen 01763 231132

## Tuesday

9am Traditional Flowing Ashtanga Yoga, Puckeridge Community Centre. Ian 07553 285453.

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP), St Catherine's Sacombe.

10am -Noon The Listening Place (a drop in centre for bereavement advice and support). Tuesdays at Leaside Church and Community

Centre, High Street, Ware SG12 9BT. Alison 01763 232673.

10:00-11:00am Vinyasa Flow Yoga (for all) - Braughing Community Centre 11:15-12:15pm Postnatal Yoga - Braughing Community Centre

10am – 1pm CAB North Entrance, Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford. Tel: 0844 848 9700.

11 Accessible Yoga. Standon and Puckeridge community Centre. Penny Constantinou 07944 416572

11.30 Punchline Boxing (adults) at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Adam Davidson 07903 657146

12-2pm Citizens Advice Contact Centre at Bishops Stortford Methodist Church. Messageline 01920 459944

1.30 - 3pm Little Blossoms Stay & Play group 07508707153

2-4pm Second Tuesday of the month, Standon Hand Embroidery Group in Standon Village Hall. Barbara Norris 01920 822104.

4.30 -7.45 Ballet at Braughing Church Hall: Karen Howarth - 01279 651535

5.30 Beavers (6-8yrs Scouts) Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, Term time only, [contact\\_braughingscouts@gmail.com](mailto:contact_braughingscouts@gmail.com)

6pm Tap, Modern & Jazz at Braughing Community Centre: Kate Dutton - 07969 362224

6pm 2nd Buntingford Brownies. Term time in Buntingford. Email [jill228374@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jill228374@hotmail.co.uk)

6.15 1st Standon & Puckeridge Brownies. Term time in Standon. Sarah Howitt 01920 822342

6.30 Cubs - (8-10½ years, Scouts), term-time only. Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. [contact\\_braughingscouts@gmail.com](mailto:contact_braughingscouts@gmail.com)

6.30 Tennis Club evening (continues under floodlights throughout the winter). Diana Foster 07778 031430

## HAVE YOU LOST YOUR PARTNER?

New Seasons bereavement group is a group of men and women whose partners have passed away. We meet the third Thursday of each month 2 till 4pm in Puckeridge Community Centre. We have been going for 8 years and support each other through a difficult time but also enjoy a chat and a laugh over a cup of tea and cake. Whether you have been bereaved recently or many years ago you will be very welcome to join us. If you need transport please let me know.

Heather Jackson 07909065550

## Advertising in PS News works!

3,100 copies are distributed to Puckeridge, Standon, Braughing, The Mundens and Westmill  
If you would like to advertise I accept anything from a Word document, Publisher file, jpg or pdf file to something jotted on the back on an envelope!

Contact John Harris on 07740 306189 or [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

7pm Slimming World at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Sophie 07855 079070.

7pm Yoga at Braughing Community Hall. info@annieknapmanyoga.co.uk

7.30 Bell Ringing Practice, St Mary's Church Tower, Standon. Interested? - Come along or Tracey Coley 01920 823886.

7.30 Embroidery Group. Second Tuesday in the month, Sargeant Room, Standon Village Hall. Barbara Norris 01920 822104

## Wednesday

8.30 Under 1's Childrens' Group, Standon Village Hall. Kelly Brightman 01920 463949

9.30 Worship and Bible Study at St Mary's Standon, followed by refreshments (No service in August)

9.30 Gentle Therapeutic Hatha Yoga, Braughing St Mary's Church Hall. Ian 07553 285453.

9.30 Pilates at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Clare 07966 213880

9:30-10:30am Vinyasa Flow Yoga (for all) - Furneux Pelham Village Hall

10am Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club Adult Tennis. Sally Bradshaw 01920 821152

10am – 1pm CAB North Entrance, Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford. 0844 848 9700

11am Pilates Group Standon Village Hall. Judy Coward 01920 822812

11-1pm Citizens Advice Contact Centre at Hertford Sele Community Hub. Messageline 01920 459944

11.30 Kettleball Exercise Classes, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Sue 07854 316628

12 Noon Braughing Shed Club at Brook cottage Farm Riding school, Barleycroft End, Furneux Pelham Buntingford. 07547966526 or email [jacquithorne664@gmail.com](mailto:jacquithorne664@gmail.com)

12.30 Bramble Hill Children's Centre young parents group. (Term time). 01763 273008

2pm Second Wednesday of the month – Ware U3A, Wodson Park, (doors open 1.30pm). Pat Davidson, 01920 438309

3.15 - 4.30pm Little Munden Cafe at All Saints Church, Little Munden. April - October.

4 - 8pm Dance JAM Academy - Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Ballet, Tap and Freestyle classes from age 3.

Contact: [julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk](mailto:julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk)

4.15-6.15 Gymnastics Edwinstreet School. Andrea Allen 07989 980038 email: [ribvalleytc@live.co.uk](mailto:ribvalleytc@live.co.uk)

Starlight Stars:  
Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

2pm Dance Fit (18yrs). Ali Latchford 01279 966 466

5.45-6.15pm Scout and Guide Band, Braughing Church Half-term time only. [braughingscouts@gmail.com](mailto:braughingscouts@gmail.com)

6.15 Punchline Boxing (juniors) at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Adam Davidson 07903 657146

6:30 Scouts (10½ - 14½ years old), term-time only. Braughing Church Hall [contact@braughingscouts@gmail.com](mailto:contact@braughingscouts@gmail.com)

6.30 pm Third Wednesday. Ware and District 41Club meet alternately at the Star, Standon and The Golden Fleece. Braughing. Contact: [david.tomlin419@btinternet.com](mailto:david.tomlin419@btinternet.com)

7pm Braughing Tennis Club night. Karen Gore 07860 484878

7pm Guides during term time in Braughing. Louise 07971 800443

**WCS** Ware Choral Society presents

# FAURÉ: REQUIEM

# LAURIDSEN: LUX AETERNA

Erin Alexander Soprano  
Tim Bagley Baritone  
Orpheus Sinfonia  
Conductor Rosie Howarth

7.30 pm Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2020  
The Drill Hall Ware SG12 9HP  
Tickets: £20, £10 Under 18  
From: [www.warechoralsociety.uk](http://www.warechoralsociety.uk) society members and at the door  
Discounts available from Members of all rehearsals until 1<sup>st</sup> March

Sponsored by Wood Bros Furniture



**Roger de Clare C. of E. First School and Nursery**





We have spaces in some year groups!  
Please contact the school office for a tour with our Headteacher, Mrs Woods.

Please look at our most recent OFSTED report for further information.

Contact Information:  
Station Road  
Puckeridge  
Hertfordshire  
SG11 1TF  
01920 821363  
admin@rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk

Website:  
[www.rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk](http://www.rogerdeclare.herts.sch.uk)

Roger de Clare C. of E. First School and Nursery are delighted to announce that we still have spaces in some year groups.

We are a first school and Nursery with an excellent reputation. We cater for children from 3-9 years old. Our vision and values centre around 'maximum achievement for all in a happy, caring and Christian environment.' Our Early Years creates a strong foundation for active and lively play-based learning that is continued throughout the school. We enjoy strong links and partnerships with our Middle and Upper Schools as well as with all schools within the Rib Valley.



2pm Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club Adult Tennis. Sally Bradshaw 01920 821152

3.30 Accessible Yoga at home (via Zoom) 3.30pm. Penny 07944 416572.

4.15-6.15pm Rib Valley Gymnastics @ Edwinstree School, Buntingford. Andrea Allen 07989 980038 email: [ribvalleytc@live.co.uk](mailto:ribvalleytc@live.co.uk)

7:30 Explorer Scouts (14 - 18 years old), Christ Church, Ware. Meet throughout the year. Jim Campbell 01920 461134.

7.30 Tai Chi and Qi Gong at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Details Sarah Baker 07740 701102

8 Ware Swimming Club Trials evening. All welcome. Training evenings are Monday and Friday. Mr Vanner 01920 464439.

8 The Braughing Get Together meets most months in the village hall on the second or third Friday. Marion Saunders 01920 821530.

## Saturday

9am - 1pm at Jenyns School Braughing: Ballet: Karen Howarth - 01279 651535 & Tap, Modern & Jazz: Kate Dutton - 07969 362224

9.30 First Saturday of the month - help with work in Standon Churchyard.

9.30 HIIT with Jacqui Smith at Braughing Community Hall. 07956 647806

9.30 Pilates at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre. Clare 07966 213880

6pm Evening Mass at Puckeridge Roman Catholic Church. 01763 271471.

## Sunday

10am Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club - Club morning . Diana Foster 07778 031430.

Braughing, St Mary the Virgin Services: 1st and 2nd Sunday at 10.30am.

St. Mary's Church Standon: The United Benefice of St Mary's

Standon, All Saints Little Munden and St Catherine's Sacombe: 1st Sunday: 8am Holy Communion (BCP), St Mary's Standon; 10.30am Morning Worship, All Saints Little Munden.

2nd Sunday: 10.30am Holy Communion, St Mary's Standon.

3rd Sunday: 8am Holy Communion (BCP), St Mary's Standon; 10.30am Holy Communion, All Saints Little Munden.

4th Sunday: 10.30am All Age Worship, St Mary's Standon; 6pm Choral Evensong, St Mary's, Standon..

5th Sunday: 10.30am Morning Worship, St Catherine's Sacombe. Please see the benefice website, [www.ubsms.org.uk](http://www.ubsms.org.uk) for up-to-date information or email [benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk](mailto:benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk)

11.15 Mass at Old Hall Green Roman Catholic Church. 01763 271471.

## March

1 Braughing Village walk, meet 2pm at the Square. Details Paula 07983 326163

4 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

3 Toddler Tuesday: Fishes! 10.30 - 11.45am at Hertford Museum. Booking essential [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk)

13 Braughing Get Together Whist Drive, 7pm, Braughing Church Hall. Details Cynthia 01920 822230

17 Braughing Birdwatching Group talk 'Toucans, Eagles and Ant-things. 7.45 at the Golden Fleece

25 Midweek Music at St Mary's, Standon. 11.30am, details [music@ubsms.org.uk](mailto:music@ubsms.org.uk)

31 Easter Holiday Family Activities at Hertford Museum 10 - 1pm, drop in.

## April

1 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

2 Easter Holiday Family Activities at Hertford Museum 10 - 1pm, drop in.

7 - 9 Easter Holiday Family Activities at Hertford Museum 10 - 1pm, drop in.

11 Ware Choral Society Spring Concert, Drill Hall, Ware

12 Braughing Village walk, meet 2pm outside the Fox & Duck, Therfield. Details Paula 07983 326163

22 Midweek Music at St Mary's, Standon. 11.30am, details [music@ubsms.org.uk](mailto:music@ubsms.org.uk)

24 Friends of St Mary's, Standon AGM 7.30pm.

25 Standon & Puckeridge Bowls Club open day 10 - 2pm at the Club, on the Playing Field, Station Road, Standon SG11 1TF.

## May

1 Braughing Get Together Supper with a Film 'The Duke, 7pm, Braughing Church Hall. Details Cynthia 01920 822230

3 Braughing Village walk, meet 2pm at the Square. Details Paula 07983 326163

4 Mayday

6 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

9 Barkway Market Details [www.barkwaymarket.org.uk](http://www.barkwaymarket.org.uk)

26 & 28 Half Term Family Activities at Hertford Museum 10 - 1pm, drop in.

27 Midweek Music at St Mary's, Standon. 11.30am, details [music@ubsms.org.uk](mailto:music@ubsms.org.uk)

## June

3 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am

in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

13 Standon Open Gardens 11 - 5pm  
20 Picnic Concert at St Mary's, Standon 5pm

## July

1 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre  
11 Braughing Wheelbarrow Race

## August

5 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

## September

2 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

## October

2 Candlelit Supper, St Mary's, Standon  
7 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

## November

4 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre

## December

2 Standon & Puckeridge Community Cafe, 9.30 - 11.30am in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre  
5 Christmas Market at St Mary's, Standon

The United Benefice of St Mary's Standon and All Saints Little Munden with St Catherine's Sacombe



Email: [benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk](mailto:benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk)

## Lent, Holy Week and Easter services in the Benefice

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March (Passion Sunday)

6.00pm Stainer's Crucifixion St Mary's Standon

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday)

10.30am Morning Worship St Catherine's Sacombe

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April (Maundy Thursday)

7.30pm Holy Communion St Catherine's Sacombe

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April (Good Friday)

10.30am Service at the Cross All Saints Little Munden

2.00pm Service of reflection St Mary's Standon

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Sunday)

10.30am Easter Holy Communion St Mary's Standon

All Welcome

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*

Matthew 11:28

## Advertising in PS News works!

3,100 copies are distributed

Contact John Harris on 07740 306189 or  
[john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

## HOME START NEEDS YOU!!

Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire

Are you a parent, grandparent, carer or have experience of caring for children and wondering what to do with your free time? We need local people with your experience to become a Volunteer for our scheme.

Our volunteers get involved in all aspects of our work, from being alongside parents in their own homes, helping them to cope with the stresses and strains of life to being part of the Trustee Board working on strategy and planning.

Our next Volunteer Preparation Course starts in February 2026. This training course will provide you with all the knowledge you'll need to support a family, and you will become part of the fantastic Home-Start team. For other volunteering opportunities get in touch now!

You could be part of the team that delivers vital support to families, helping to change their life, and while you're doing it, it might just change yours!

For more info visit [www.hsrc.org.uk/become-home-start-volunteer](http://www.hsrc.org.uk/become-home-start-volunteer) or email [admin@hsrc.org.uk](mailto:admin@hsrc.org.uk)

**HSRBC: embedding diversity, equality and inclusion into everything we do in our community.**



**Hertfordshire Age UK ...Local Charity, Local Impact**

## Could you be our Next Volunteer?

Looking for friendly and caring volunteers to visit older people once a week.

To Find out more, please contact Age UK  
07772 173659  
[visiting.eh@ageukherts.org.uk](mailto:visiting.eh@ageukherts.org.uk)



## Hospital Transport Scheme needs Volunteer Drivers

- ★ Do you drive your own car?
- ★ *Can you spare one morning/afternoon a month?*
- ★ Do you live in the area bounded by High Cross, Dane End, Dassels and Little Hadham?
- ★ Then please consider being a volunteer driver for the local Hospital Transport Scheme.
- ★ (You are paid a mileage allowance)

**Details from 07922 519174**

The United Benefice of St Mary's Standon and All Saints Little Munden with St Catherine's Sacombe

### Regular services in our Benefice

**First Sunday each month**

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's Standon
10.30am	Morning Worship	All Saints Little Munden

**Second Sunday each month**

10.30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's Standon
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**Third Sunday each month**

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's Standon
10.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints Little Munden

**Fourth Sunday each month**

10.30am	All Age Morning Worship	St Mary's Standon
6.00pm	Choral Evensong	St Mary's Standon

**Any Fifth Sundays**

10.30am	Morning Worship	St Catherine's Sacombe
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**Every Tuesday**

9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Catherine's Sacombe
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**Every Wednesday**

9.30am	Worship and Bible study	St Mary's Standon
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**For more details of services and activities please see our website: [www.ubsm.org.uk](http://www.ubsm.org.uk)**







### CHRIST CHURCH

Baldock Road, Buntingford SG9 9AA  
[www.buntingfordurc.org.uk](http://www.buntingfordurc.org.uk)  
 Fb URCbuntingford

**Minister** Rev Sue Fender  
[revsuefender@gmail.com](mailto:revsuefender@gmail.com)  
 01223 375588

**Secretary** Peter Goddard  
[buntingfordurc@talktalk.net](mailto:buntingfordurc@talktalk.net)  
 01763 281 359

**SERVICES at 11am / JUNIOR CHURCH IN THE HALL at 11am**

<b>March</b>	1	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
	8	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Janet Tollington
	15	Mothering Sunday	Rev Allen Morton
	22	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Robert Pope
	29	Palm Sunday	Graham Watson
<b>April</b>	3	Good Friday	Rev Sue Fender
	5	Easter Day	Rev Sue Fender
	12	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	19	Morning Worship	Richard Lewney
	26	Morning Worship	Rev Sue Fender
<b>May</b>	3	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
	10	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Janet Tollington
	17	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	24	Morning Worship	TBA
	31	Morning Worship	Peter Godbert
<b>June</b>	7	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender
	14	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Robert Pope
	21	Morning Worship	Rev Allen Morton
	28	Morning Worship	Rev Sue Fender
<b>July</b>	5	Holy Communion	Rev Sue Fender

**Lent Course**

We are holding an Ecumenical Course on the 25th February 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th March. We meet for lunch from 12.30pm. Bring your own lunch. Tea & coffee will be provided. The Lent Course will run from 1.00 – 2.00 pm.

**Regular Event**

**Coffee and Company** meet every Thursday, 10.30am to 12.30pm, in the Church Hall. If you're elderly, living alone, new to the area, perhaps working from home, and would like some company, come along to share Coffee, Cake, Company and Chat. All are welcome. Just turn up and give a small donation for the refreshments.

If you or someone close to you is dying, you can talk to us

We know that facing the end of life can leave you feeling isolated and alone. The Anne Robson Trust helpline volunteers are here to listen and support you.

Call us on 0808 801 0688

We're here for you, if you or a loved one are facing the end of life at home, in a hospital, care home or hospice.

To find out more, please visit [www.annerobsontrust.org.uk](http://www.annerobsontrust.org.uk)





### Mind & Music - Songs to aid memory and wellbeing

NORTHFIELDS, Puckeridge SG11 1TJ

**EACH Thursday 2 - 3pm**

Bringing people together to sing a variety of well-known and loved songs, in a fun and friendly environment.

Mind & Music welcomes everyone, especially those affected by dementia and their carers, as well as those concerned about their memory.

For information contact David Ranford [ranfordd@gmail.com](mailto:ranfordd@gmail.com) 01992 976762

## **Bulky Waste, abandoned vehicles & Flytipping**

Contact East Herts Council on [www.eastherts.gov.uk](http://www.eastherts.gov.uk) or phone 01279 655261.

Bulky waste details: One household item - £58.90 (for up to 3 items.)

The Council will remove **flytipping**: use the on-line form.

**Report abandoned vehicles:**  
[www.mysociety.org/wehelpyou/report-abandoned-vehicles-to-your-local-council](http://www.mysociety.org/wehelpyou/report-abandoned-vehicles-to-your-local-council)

## **Car batteries, engine oil, Fridges and Freezers**

All are recycled at:  
 Bishops Stortford Household Waste Site, Woodside Road (off Dunmow Road).

Ware Household Waste Site, Westmill Road.

## **Knitting wool**

Unused wool which will be turned into baby clothes etc., for children in Uganda can be left in the collection box at the back of St Mary's Church, Standon.

## **Cameras & Photography**

### **Books**

The Disabled Photographers Society always welcome good serviceable cameras to adapt for disabled persons use, also photography books.

Disabled Photographers Society:  
[www.the-dps.co.uk/](http://www.the-dps.co.uk/)

## **Foreign Coins**

Isabel Hospice collects foreign coins (and notes!) drop them in to their Charity Shop in Buntingford or Ware High Street.

## **Ink & toner cartridges**

Local Recycling Centres.

## **Computers**

Only fully working PCs. Please telephone first. [www.computeraid.org](http://www.computeraid.org) Tel: 020 7281 0091

Another site worth checking is [www.donateapc.org.uk](http://www.donateapc.org.uk)

## **Postcards**

Please save your postcards and take the to St Mary's Church, Standon or All Saints Church, Little Munden. They are collected for Church work in Sudan.

## **Furniture**

Furniture Recycling Scheme for Hertfordshire :// [www.fresch.org.uk](http://www.fresch.org.uk) or 01707 395635.

## **Stamps**

- Puller Memorial School in High Cross collects used stamps to 'Save the Albatross'. Drop them into school or 32 Batchelors, Puckeridge.
- Standon Post Office collects stamps for Against Breast Cancer.
- Isabel Hospice collects used stamps, drop them in to their Charity Shop in Ware High Street or post them to the Hospice at Great Barmingham Lane, Luton LU3 3NT.

## **Mobile phones**

Loads of charities recycle old mobile phones. Just search 'donating mobile phones'.

## **Sunglasses & Spectacles**

The large chains of opticians, e.g. Specsavers will recycle old glasses for the developing world. Drop them in to any branch.

## **Report a Water Leak**

[www.affinitywater.co.uk/report-a-leak.aspx](http://www.affinitywater.co.uk/report-a-leak.aspx)

## **Environment Agency**

For reporting all environmental incidents relating to air, land and water: 0800 80 70 60.

## **Potholes & Faulty Traffic Lights**

Go to [Hertfordshire.gov.uk](http://Hertfordshire.gov.uk) or call 0300 123 4047

## **Trading Standards**

[Citizensadvice.org.uk](http://Citizensadvice.org.uk) or call 0808 223 1133

## **Stop junk mail, phone calls and faxes**

Register and junk mail and phone calls will miraculously reduce!

### **Mailing Preference Service**

0207 291 3310

[www.mpsonline.org.uk/mpsr/](http://www.mpsonline.org.uk/mpsr/)

### **Telephone Preference Service**

0845 070 0707

[www.tpsonline.org.uk/tps/number-type.html](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk/tps/number-type.html)

These services are free (apart from the cost of the call). Do not respond to anyone asking for money

## **Waste Disposal**

For further information, call WasteAware on 0300 1234 051

All Household Waste sites are closed on 25 & 26 Dec and 1 Jan.

### **Westmill Road, Ware SG12 0EL**

Open: Every day: 10am - 6pm

### **Woodside Industrial Estate off Dunmow Road (A1250)**

### **Bishop's Stortford CM23 5RG**

Open: Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 8am - 4pm.

## **Police Contacts:**

**Number for NON 999 calls: 101**  
 Crimestoppers: [crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org) or call 0800 555111.

Please remember: **ALWAYS DIAL 999 IN AN EMERGENCY.**

[www.herts.police.uk](http://www.herts.police.uk)

Hertfordshire Police Authority, Freepost ANG 6281, Hertford SG13 8YS. Telephone: 01992 556600.

## **Puckeridge Health Centre**

The Surgery, Station Road, Puckeridge SG11 1TF  
 Tel: 01920 823860 (inc out of hours).  
 Surgery is open:

Mon – Fri 8.30am – 6pm

## **Minor Injuries Unit**

Herts and Essex Hospital, Haymeads Lane, Bishop's Stortford CM23 5JH

Staffed Mon - Fri, 9am - 4.30pm. Ring 01279 655191 ext. 4298 to ensure that the unit can help.

## **NHS Non-emergency Number**

If it is not a 999 emergency but you need medical help fast, Call 111.

## **Domestic Violence/Abuse Help Line**

08 088 088 088 (Freephone)  
 Confidential helpline open 9-9 Mon-Fri, 9-4 Sat & Sun.

## **Victim support**

0300 303 0165

## **Age UK Hertfordshire Information Line**

Offers you information on a wide range of issues that are relevant to older people. We can also put you in touch with other organisations that can help you.

Information Line: 0300 345 3446

## We listen...

*InTouch* is a team of 5 working within Age UK Hertfordshire.

We can support you emotionally and practically through whatever challenging situation you are facing. We don't judge or tell you what to do, we help by listening to your worries, pain, concerns and support you through it.

Call us on 01992 629358 and 01992 630623

## Abandoned Vehicles

01992 655261

## Herts Society for the Blind Sight Line

The Sight Line telephone number is: 01707 324680, Monday to Thursday between 10 - 1pm.

## Power cut helpline

Text POWER and your postcode to 80876  
[ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut](http://ukpowernetworks.co.uk/powercut)  
 0800 31 63 105  
 0333 32 32 105 (if calling from a mobile)

## Animal Warden

To report incidents re: dog faeces, stray dogs and an identichipping service. 01279 655261

## Trading Standards

03454 040506, 9am - 5pm Mon to Fri.

## Traveline

0871 200 2233 [www.traveline.co.uk](http://www.traveline.co.uk)

## Post Office Times

*Braughing, at The Golden Fleece.*  
*Wednesday and Saturday mornings.*  
*Dane End*  
 Mon - Sat 9.00 - 7.00  
 Sunday 9.00 - 8.00

## Standon

Monday - Friday 9.00 - 5.30  
 Saturday 9.00 - 1.00

## Aircraft noise

Stansted Airport Noise Unit.  
 0800 243 788 email:  
[stanstednoiseline@stanstedairport.com](mailto:stanstednoiseline@stanstedairport.com)

## Local Library Times

### Home Library Service:

If you can't reach your local library because you are housebound, have a disability or care for someone at home this service will deliver books free of charge. Details 0300 123 4049

*Bishop's Stortford Library:*  
 Monday 10 -7pm  
 Tuesday - Friday 10-6pm  
 Saturday 10-5pm

Sunday 12-4pm

### Buntingford Library:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 - 5.30pm

Friday 2 - 5.30pm, Saturday 9-1pm

### Ware Library:

Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 10-5.30pm,  
 Wednesday 2-5.30pm.

Saturday 10-5pm

## Parish Council Contacts:

### Braughing

[clerk@braughing.org.uk](mailto:clerk@braughing.org.uk)

### Little Munden

Clerk: Geraldine Ward 01920 438145  
[clerk@littlemundenpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@littlemundenpc.org.uk)

### Standon

Clerk: Belinda Irons 01763 838732  
[clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## East Herts District Council

The Causeway, Bishop's Stortford or Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford. Both are open 9.00am - 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. Tel: 01279 655261. [www.eastherts.gov.uk](http://www.eastherts.gov.uk).

## Herts County Council

### Contact details:

Highways Fault Reporting

[www.hertsdirect.org/highway-faults](http://www.hertsdirect.org/highway-faults)

Home Safety and Security Checks

0300 123 4046

[hhss@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:hhss@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Trading Standards

0345 404 0506

[report@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:report@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Waste Aware

0300 123 4051

General Enquiries

0300 123 4040

Textphone Users:

0300 123 4041

Other help and

support [hertshelp.net](http://hertshelp.net) or

0300 123 4044

## Halls for hire

- Braughing Church Hall and Old Boys School, (up to 120 with kitchen facilities) – contact [sallyannehow@gmail.com](mailto:sallyannehow@gmail.com) 07824 446531

- Braughing Playing Field Association Community Hall - Contact Graham Frary [frary.grahamfrary@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:frary.grahamfrary@tiscali.co.uk)

- Colliers End Village Hall (40 people comfortably, with kitchen)  
 - Contact Sandra Chadwick 07976 254379

- Dane End Memorial Hall David Hart 01920 438976  
[dane-endhallbookings @Outlook.com](mailto:dane-endhallbookings@Outlook.com)

- High Cross Christine Bosson 01920 467996 [hxvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:hxvillagehall@gmail.com)

- Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre - Contact [clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

- Standon Village Hall, Hadham Road, Standon – Contact Denis or Beverly Oliver on 01279 842625

- Thundridge bookings@thundridge.org

## Local Churches:

- The United Benefice of St Mary's Standon and All Saints Little Munden with St Catherine's Sacombe: Please see the benefice website, [www.ubsms.org.uk](http://www.ubsms.org.uk) for up-to-date information or [benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk](mailto:benefice.administrator@ubsms.org.uk)
- St Mary's Church, Braughing: Mr Don Varley, Churchwarden, Church Office - 01920 823832 [www.achurchnearyou.com/braughing-st-mary-the-virgin/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/braughing-st-mary-the-virgin/)

## MUCH HADHAM ART SOCIETY

Why not join us for...

Demonstration evenings, talks and workshops by artists and local arts organisations once a month

Practical painting afternoons to come and work on your latest art project alongside others, whilst enjoying a cup of tea and a chat

The opportunity to exhibit in our annual exhibition

Monthly newsletters, and more

Membership is £20 per year

Membership forms can be found on our website

[www.muchhadhamartsociety.co.uk](http://www.muchhadhamartsociety.co.uk)

connecting our community through art



Much  
Hadham  
Art  
Society

## LOCAL DIRECTORY

*All numbers are 01920 unless otherwise shown*

1<sup>st</sup> Braughing Scout Group  
boys and and girls (6 - 14 years old),  
[contact.braughingscouts@gmail.com](mailto:contact.braughingscouts@gmail.com)

Albury Seedlings Preschool & Albury  
Primary School: 01279 771253

Allotments:

Braughing: Ruth Fleetwood  
[rfleetwood@braughing.org.uk](mailto:rfleetwood@braughing.org.uk)  
Gerald Dale 07718 734898

Baby-sitting Circle:

Sylvia Pinnington 822216

Bat Helpline 01992 581442

Bell Ringing: Braughing: Paul Currie  
822026, Standon: Tracey Coley  
823886.

Bowls Club: Andy Mansfield 07976  
237050 or  
standonandpuckeridgebowlsclub  
@gmail.com

Braughing Bird Watching Group  
Paula Moore 07983 326163  
[paulaandpaul@btinternet.com](mailto:paulaandpaul@btinternet.com)

Braughing Cricket Club & Colts: Peter  
Hobson 07874 868691  
[braughingcricketclub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:braughingcricketclub@yahoo.co.uk)

Braughing Get Together: Marion  
Saunders 821530

Braughing Local History Society:  
Sheila White  
[chairbraughinglhs@outlook.com](mailto:chairbraughinglhs@outlook.com)

Braughing Playing Field Association  
Trust: Graham Frary 07855 834862  
[grahamfrary@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:grahamfrary@tiscali.co.uk)

Braughing Tennis Club [www.braughingtenns.uk](http://www.braughingtenns.uk) denis.  
[clough@btinternet.com](mailto:clough@btinternet.com)

Braughing WI: Kate Fish 822397

Brownies: Register your daughter's  
interest at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) - general  
enquiries to: (Roger de Clare lunch club): Louise 07971  
800443. (evening unit):  
[firstsandpbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:firstsandpbrownies@gmail.com)

Budding Babes: Tracy 01920 824041

Buntingford Bird Club: Tim Robinson,  
01763 243143

Buntingford Choir:  
[info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk](mailto:info@buntingfordchoir.co.uk)

Buntingford Heritage Centre:  
Jenny Dingley 01763 273002

Carols Round the Tree (Standon):  
Caroline Franks 822723

Carpet Bowls:  
Mike Bennett [Mikebennett12@aol.com](mailto:Mikebennett12@aol.com)

Church Choir Braughing: Church  
office 823832

Church Choir, Standon with the  
Mundens and Sacombe: Michael  
Smith 821281

Conservative Assn: 01462 684348

Dance Classes - Rhythm & Poise  
School of Dance: Ballet: Karen  
Howarth - 01279 651535 & Tap,  
Modern & Jazz: Kate Dutton -  
07969 362224

Dance JAM Academy:  
Julie McPartland 07971 699615  
[julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk](mailto:julie@dancejamacademy.co.uk)

Dog Training: Jan Mann 823475

Dominoes: Axe & Compasses,  
Braughing - Graham Frary 821715

East Herts Aviation Society: Steve  
Morgan  
[stevemorgan125@btinternet.com](mailto:stevemorgan125@btinternet.com)

East Herts Geology Club Secretary  
Diana Perkins 463755

Embroidery Group: Barbara Norris  
822104

Folk Music Club:  
Stortfolk 01279 656664

Friends of Braughing Church:  
Clive Marshall Trustee:  
[chef@marshallclan.com](mailto:chef@marshallclan.com)

Golf Club (East Herts):  
Secretary 821978

Guides: Register your interest at  
[www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) - general  
enquiries to Louise 07971 800443.

Hares Football Club:  
[www.haresyouth.com/](http://www.haresyouth.com/)

Health Centre: 823860

Hertford & Ware Railway Society:  
Stuart Moye 467132

Hertfordshire Holly: Mixed Clog  
Morris: Mary Deeks 822905

Herts & Essex Architectural Research  
Society:  
Kath Pollard 01708 473646

Hospital Transport for the Elderly:  
Wendy Smith 07922 519174

Jenyns First School & Nursery: 821461

Karate Club: Clive 01763 231132

Kettlebell Exercise Classes: Sue Prior  
07854 316628

Labour Party:  
Jo Linney 07710 319928

Liberal Democrats:  
Elaine Thatcher -  
[elaine@broxlibdems.org.uk](mailto:elaine@broxlibdems.org.uk)

Lipreading classes:  
Louise Reed 821401

Little Hadham Primary School: 01279  
771285

Mayday Committee:  
Sue Spalding 821624

Mercury Correspondent: Braughing:  
Clive Marshall 822167

Much Hadham Table Tennis Club  
[andyfurze@aol.com](mailto:andyfurze@aol.com)

Pantomime Group, Braughing: Peter  
Walsingham 823265

Parish Paths Partnership: Braughing -  
Paul Moore 07785 762748, Standon  
- John Harris 07740 306189

Penny Constantinou Accessible Yoga,  
Pre, Post Natal & Baby Yoga,  
Baby Massage. 07944 416572  
[penny@yogaforallherts.com](mailto:penny@yogaforallherts.com)

Pet Care: Mrs Harvey 822814

Pets TLC: 822705

Phoenix Moon Productions  
[enquiries@phoenixmoonproducts.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@phoenixmoonproducts.co.uk)

Photographic Society (Ware): Barbara  
Norris 822104

Railway & Local History Society  
(Buntingford): Stephen Ruff 01763  
289516

### Low Cost, One Bed-roomed, Centrally Heated Almshouses for Local People.

Almshouses become available from time to time for people  
with a connection to the Parishes of Standon and  
Thundridge. Each almshouse is a self contained one-bed-  
roomed unit with its own kitchen, bathroom and living  
room.

Write to put your name on the waiting list to :  
Helen Surridge , Clerk to Standon Charities,  
[clerk@standoncharities.org.uk](mailto:clerk@standoncharities.org.uk)  
[www.standoncharities.org.uk](http://www.standoncharities.org.uk)

### Braughing Housing Association

The Braughing Housing Association was  
established in 1965 for elderly Braughing  
residents finding themselves in need of a home.

There are six flatlets consisting of bed/sitting  
room, kitchen and bathroom, suitable for single  
tenancy.

Enquiries can be made by emailing  
[braughinghousingassociation@gmail.com](mailto:braughinghousingassociation@gmail.com)

Rainbows: Register your interest at [www.girlguiding.org.uk-](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk-) enquiries to@outlook.com  
 Red Yoga: 07590 964016  
 Royal British Legion:  
 Standon: Ron Edwards 464218  
 Ralph Sadleir Assn:  
[sandie@sandibevents.co.uk](mailto:sandie@sandibevents.co.uk)  
 Ranger Girl Guides (14+ years),  
 Wednesday, Rosanne Kenealy 821304  
 Rib Valley Gymnastics Club: Andrea Allen 07989 980038  
 Roger de Clare School Association:  
 Sarah Gillingwater 823129 or Sam Risley 823477  
 Sadleir Drama Club:  
 Liz Pickup 01763 289446  
 Explorer Scouts: 14-18 year olds,  
 Wednesday Buntingford Unit  
 Christine Pestle 07711 506381,  
 Friday Ware Unit: Jim Campbell 01920 461134  
 S.P.I.N.S. Pre-School: 07881 533339  
 St. Thomas of Canterbury Primary School PTA: C/o School 821450  
 Standon Morris: Catherine Ward 07808 969379  
 Standon & Puckeridge Health Centre: 823860  
 Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre: Contact [clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@standonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Standon Village Hall - Denis Olliver 01279 842625  
 Swimming Club (Buntingford ): David Carr 07966 508156  
 Tai Chi: Mrs A Manwaring 822041  
 Tennis Club:  
 Braughing:  
[denis.clough@btinternet.com](mailto:denis.clough@btinternet.com)  
 Standon: Keith Bradshaw 01920 821152  
 Three Villages Eco Group:  
 Trish Street 821069  
 Thundridge Table Tennis club john@walkinginengland.co.uk  
 Twinning Assn (Buntingford): Mary Deeks 822905  
 University of the 3rd Age: Barbara Norris 822104  
 Veterans Football Club:  
 Paul Mayne 822615  
 Craig Gardner 823805  
 Ware and District 41 Club:  
 David Tomlin. [David.tomlin419@btinternet.com](mailto:David.tomlin419@btinternet.com)  
 Ware Swimming Club:  
 Chris Buck 07947 322808  
 Ware District Trefoil Guild Yvonne Nice (Chairman), [WareDistrictTrefoil](mailto:WareDistrictTrefoil)

[@gmail.com](mailto:@gmail.com)  
 07958 996879  
 Ware U3A:  
[Members@wareu3a.co.uk](mailto:Members@wareu3a.co.uk)  
 WASPS Out of School Club Nicola English, 07904391133, [nicola@waspsclub.com](mailto:nicola@waspsclub.com)  
 Young Farmers : Linda Watts 07831 894840

## Midmorning Mingle

Second Wednesday of Every Month  
 10.30 - 12.30

Light Refreshments  
 Williams Davis Hall  
 Puckeridge & Standon Community Centre  
 SG11 1TF  
 Helena 07974 583832

### PS News - The idea

Everyone is welcome to write, there is no charge for articles on any subject of interest to our communities. PS is written and delivered by volunteers, it is paid for by the advertisers.

#### 3100 copies are distributed to every house in:

Puckeridge	Standon	Braughing
Nasty	The Mundens	Old Hall Green
Wellpond Green	Haultwick	

and many of the houses in:  
 High Cross                    Little Hadham.

Copies available from local Pubs and Standon Post Office.

### Advertising in PS

#### The cost of advertising is:

> From £96 per year—details [www.psnews.org.uk](http://www.psnews.org.uk)

#### You have to advertise for a year (4 issues) minimum and pay in advance.

- > Advert design, logos and illustrations scanned, all free of charge.
- > Leaflet inserts are £180 per leaflet. Contact me before getting them printed as we limit the number of inserts in each issue. Book early to ensure we can take your insert when you want it.

### Copy dates

Copy dates are as shown below. If you want to advertise, contact John Harris: 07740 306189 or email [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

#### By email

March Issue	10 Feb
June Issue	10 May
Sept Issue	10 Aug
Déc Issue	10 Nov

Please send your articles and photographs by these dates.

If you would like an email reminder a couple of weeks before you need to get the article to me, just email me the request and it will happen.

#### Emailed articles, deliveries & advertising:

John Harris, 4 South Road, Puckeridge SG11 1TH.  
 Tel: 07740 306189

E-mail: [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

Visit our website for the latest issue and advertising details: [www.psnews.org.uk](http://www.psnews.org.uk)

### Delivery query?

If you would like to volunteer to deliver PS or for some reason you get missed please contact John as above.

### When can I advertise?

NOW! To reserve your place or for more information, please call John on 07740 306189 or email [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)



**Oliver  
Minton**  
Village & Rural Homes



**The ONLY estate agent actually based in Puckeridge and dedicated to the sale & letting of rural & village property in the A10/M11 corridor.**



With further offices in Stanstead Abbotts and Roydon and promotion of our properties through the London Office, we are perfectly placed to sell or let your property.

Call 01920 822999 for more information and a free market appraisal.

## Appliance Care Genius

(Serving the Community for over 20 years)



**All Makes - Washing Machine, T/Dry, Electric Cooker & Oven Repairs**

Free Call Out - Free Estimates  
Reliable Repairs

I year guarantee, Uniformed Engineers

**Sawbridgeworth 01279 755244**

**Hertford 01992 306168**

**Co Mobile 07789658144**

Please check Website for  
more details at:  
[appliancecaregenius.co.uk](http://appliancecaregenius.co.uk)



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*The complete funeral service*

24 hour service • Private Chapels of Rest  
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**AUSTIN'S**

FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

[www.austins.co.uk](http://www.austins.co.uk)

STEVENAGE • 01438 316623  
HITCHIN • 01462 438422  
KNEBWORTH • 01438 812365  
BUNTINGFORD • 01763 274111  
WELWYN GARDEN CITY • 01707 390018  
WELWYN • 01438 714686  
HERTFORD • 01992 582052  
WARE • 01920 468551  
LETCHWORTH • 01462 684292  
HODDESDON • 01992 471709  
HARWOOD PARK • 01438 812515

**Harwood Park**

*The perfect setting to commemorate  
the life of your loved one*



Crematorium and memorial gardens created and managed by the Austin family in the beautiful Hertfordshire countryside.

[www.crematorium.co.uk](http://www.crematorium.co.uk)

*Serving the local  
community for ten  
generations*