

NOVEMBER CONTENTS

Ashfords and Carters Close Christmas Bazaar	16
BALA Minibus Trips	44
BALFF – New course: British Art Pottery 1870–1940	30
BARD – Have Your Say on the Taylor Wimpey Planning Application	12
Barkway School Open Morning	31
Boxes for Soldiers	11
Bramble Hill Children’s Centre	23
Braughing Drama Group / Braughing Music Society	41 / 48
Buntingford Bowls Club	17
Buntingford Civic Society – Longmead / Membership application form	10 / 48
Buntingford Cougars	40
Buntingford & District Cage Bird Society Annual Show	11
Buntingford Dramatic Society	39
Buntingford Gardeners Club	45
Buntingford Relief in Need Charity	13
Buntingford Scouts – Santa Run	15
Buntingford Social Club	38
Buntingford Town Council / Open Day	22 / 23
Buntingford Town Football Club / Firework Display at the Bury	46
Buntingford WI	47
Carols by Candlelight – St Mary’s Church, Aspenden	14
Christmastime @ Gravelly Barn in Braughing	41
Church Services / Remembrance Sunday	18
Curwens – So you want to be your own boss?	28
East Herts Citizens Advice Bureau – Problems with Booking Online	29
Editor’s Letter / Letters to the Editor	7 / 8
Edwinstree Middle School	20
Freman College	37
Friends of Orchard Surgery – Annual Craft Fair	16
Hertfordshire Constabulary	47
Isabel Hospice	31
Late Night Christmas Shopping and Lights of Love	14
Layston C of E First School	32
Lost Ark Games	45
Lynsey Ivison Trust – Christmas Quiz Night	33
Martin & Mandy – Planning	24
Meldreth Christmas Tree Festival	27
Memories of Buckland Village Life – Part 3	26
Millfield First and Nursery School / PTA Evening: ‘Toria’ live at the Bury	34 / 35
Millfield Christmas Fair and Shopping Event	13
Reed Autumn Quiz 2012 / The Book Sale in Reed	16 / 28
Royal British Legion Quiz Night – Poppy Appeal 2012	11
Royston and District Model Railway Club – Annual Exhibition	27
Royston and District Ramblers – Walks for November	30
Teresa Bonner – Bubble and Squeak	27
Useful Local Information	6
U3A Buntingford	36
Vyse – Bittersweet and Bonfires – Forever Autumn	42

DIARY OF EVENTS – NOVEMBER

MONDAYS

- 10:00am – 12 noon Multi Activity Group at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact Dave Austin on 01763 272066.
- 10:30am – 12 noon Iyengar Yoga Classes at URC Hall – term time only. Contact Jen Harris on 01920 821288.
- 10:00 & 10:45am Stretch'n'Grow – 10:00am session for 18 months to 2 yrs; 10:45 for over 2s. At Seth Ward Community Centre. £2 per family. 01763 273008
- 1:30pm – 3:00pm Stay & Play at Jenyns First School, Braughing. £1 per family. 01763 273008.
- 1:30pm – 3:30pm Senior Citizens Club at URC Hall, Baldock Road. Bingo and an afternoon of socialising. For more information contact Jeanne Clark on 01763 274631.
- 5:30pm – 6:30pm Cougars Under 7s training, Norfolk Road. Andy on 07941 078069.
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Shotokan Karate at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact Peter Deacon on 01462 642922.
- 7:00pm Play Bridge for experienced players at Buntingford Bowls Club. £2.50 per session. Contact Gwen on 01763 272775 or Eddie on 07976 896718.
- 7:00pm – 8:00pm Pilates at Benson Hall. Contact Jacqui on 01763 274681.
- 7:30pm – 8:15pm Abs (body toning) session at Fit Together Gym, Buntingford. Contact Al on 07739 131694.
- 7:30pm – 9:00pm Buntingford Community Choir at Edwinstree School, Bowling Green Lane. No need to read music, no auditions, just bring your enthusiasm! For more details call 07814 912595 or email buntingfordchoir@gmail.com.
- 7:30pm – 9:45pm Buntingford & District Youth Club for young people aged 13–19 years, held at the Technical Institute, Baldock Road. Contact Nick Howell on 07789 92764 or email nick.howell@hertscc.gov.uk.
- 8:00pm – 9:30pm BALFF 6-week course (started 17 Sept), 'Exploring Cambridge', at the Community Centre, Luynes Rise. For further details phone Julia on 01763 272584 or Joan on 01763 273341.
- 8:15pm Circuit Training at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact 01920 823677.

TUESDAYS

- 9:15am – 10:15am Badminton at Seth Ward CC, £2.50 per session. 01763 273712.
- 9:30am – 11:00am Tuesday Toddlers at URC Hall, Baldock Road. £1.50 includes drink and snack. Term time.
- 10:00am – 11:00am Under 1s Group at Buntingford Bowls Club. £1 per family. 01763 273008.
- 11:15am – 12:15pm Musical Minis at Seth Ward Community Centre. £2 per family. 01763 273008
- 1:30pm – 2:30pm Musical Minis at Seth Ward Community Centre. £2 per family. 01763 273008
- 3:30pm – 9:00pm Buntingford Dancing School – Dance classes at Layston School. Contact Philippa on 01763 271010.
- 5:30pm – 6:30pm Cougars Under 12s Blues training, Norfolk Road. Shaun on 07836 214129.
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Cougars Under 14s training, Norfolk Road. Frank on 07768 078167.
- 7:00pm – 8:15pm Grade 5 Ballet Lessons, Layston School. Contact Philippa on 01763 271010.
- 7.30pm Buntingford Karate Club, Edwinstree School Gym. Contact Bill Hooper 01763 273123.

WHAT'S ON

WEDNESDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:15am Hornead Baby and Toddler Group at Hornead Village Hall. Term time only. From birth to 4 years. Lots of toys, activities, arts and crafts and singing. £1.50 per child, includes a drink and snack; 50p for additional children. Contact Liz Pickup on 01763 289446, or just turn up.
- 10:00am – 11:00am Story Sacks at Jenyns First School, Braughing. £1 per child. 01763 273008.
- 10:30am BALFF 10-week course (started 26 Sept), 'Volcanoes & Vikings: Introducing Iceland', at the Community Centre, Luyne Rise. For further details see page 33 or phone Julia on 01763 272584 or Joan on 01763 273341.
- 5:30pm – 6:30pm Cougars Under 10s training, Norfolk Road. Martin on 07834 318518.
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm Circuit Training for 50+ at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact Rita on 07957 558782.
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Cougars Under 11s training, Norfolk Road. Sean on 07860 365681
- 6:00pm – 8:00pm Shinto Judo Club. Two 1-hour sessions for Juniors: 6:00–7:00pm & 7:00–8.00pm. Now at the Howard Carter Centre, Freman College. Contact Mark Teal 07974 458127 or Gavin Shand 07958 797005. Email: shintojudoclub@gmail.com. Or visit www.shintojudo.co.uk.
- 7:30pm – 8:30pm Body Circuit classes at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact Rita on 07957 558782.
- 7:30pm – 8:15pm Boxercise/Tae Bo session at Fit Together Gym, Buntingford. Contact Al on 07739 131694.
- 8:00pm – 9:00pm Cougars Under 16s training, Norfolk Road. Mike 01763 271750.
- 8:00pm Horizon Divers at Freman Pool. Contact 01920 823955.

THURSDAYS

- 9:30am – 11:00am Anstey Toddlers at the Old School House, Anstey. Activities for toddlers and babies with their carers. Arts and crafts, free play and singing. £1 per family. Term time only.
- 9:45am – 11:00am Jumping Jacks Stay & Play, Herts County Guide Headquarters, Cottered. £1 per family. 01763 273008.
- 10:00am – 12:00pm Carpet Bowls at The Bowls Club, Wyddial Road. Julia 01763 272584.
- 11:00am – 12:00pm Fitness for 50+ at Seth Ward Community Centre. £4 per person per class. Contact Eileen Dixon 01763 257474 or 07966 222272, or email: eileensaerobics@hotmail.com
- 1:00pm – 3:00pm Baby classes run by the Best Start Club at the Scout Hut, Bowling Green Lane. Magical Musical Playdays, for 1 to 3 years olds, start at 1:00pm; followed by Baby Signing classes, for 0 to 16 months, at 2:00pm. Contact Laura Sheriff on 07801 796334. Email: laura@thebeststartclub.com.
- 4:30pm – 6:30pm Drama workshops for 15 to 18 year olds with Stagefrights Theatre at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact Dave on 01438 232181 or email stagefrights2009@yahoo.co.uk
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Cougars Under 9s training at Norfolk Road. Kevin 07930 192079.
- 5:30pm – 10:00pm Buntingford Swimming Club at Ward Freman Pool. Contact Adelaide Boon on 07710 550050.
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm Cougars Under 8s training at Norfolk Road. Matt 07814 838460.

... Continued

DIARY OF EVENTS – NOVEMBER

THURS (cont.)

- 6:15pm – 7:00pm Jazzercise Class at Seth Ward Community Centre.
- 7.30pm Buntingford Karate Club, Edwinstree School Gym. Contact Bill Hooper 01763 273123.
- 7:45pm – 9:45pm Buntingford Badminton Club at Seth Ward Community Centre. Contact Liz James on 01763 274010.

FRIDAYS

- 9:30am – 10:30am Badminton at Seth Ward Community Centre – term time only.
- 9:45am & 11:00am Baby & toddler 'Rhyme Time' at Seth Ward. £1 first child, 50p for additional children to include tea & coffee. Contact Bramble Hill 01763 273008.
- 11:00am – 12:00 Drop-in Breastfeeding Support Group at Bramble Hill Children's Centre, Mill Close. Led by the health visiting team. 01763 273008.
- 3.30pm – 8:00pm Buntingford Dancing School – dance classes at Layston School. Contact Philippa on 01763 271010.
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Cougars Under 15s training at Norfolk Road. Darren 07764 573696.
- 5:30pm – 8:00pm Friday Project, Buntingford & District Youth Club for young people aged 13–19. A range of activities, held at the Technical Institute, Baldock Road. Contact Nick Howell on 07789 92764 or email nick.howell@hertsc.gov.uk.
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm Cougars Under 10s Stripes training at Norfolk Rd. Dave 07836 231915.
- 6:30pm – 8:00pm Cougars Under 12s Whites training at Norfolk Rd. Dave 07786 933963.

SATURDAYS

- 8:30am – 2:45pm Buntingford Dancing School – dance classes at Layston School and United Reformed Church Hall, Buntingford. Contact Philippa on 01763 271010.
- 9:15am – 2:00pm Musical Theatre School for 4–14 year olds at Seth Ward Community Centre. New students needed. Call Anna 07545 788433 or email stage-door@brilliantmusicaltheatre.co.uk.
- 10:00am – 11:30am 3rd Sat in the month, Dad's/Male Carers Group at Buntings Nursery. £1 per child. 01763 273008.
- 2:15pm – 4:15pm Drama workshops for 6–15 year olds with Stagefrights Theatre at URC Hall, Baldock Road. Telephone Dave on 01438 232181 or email stagefrights2009@yahoo.co.uk.
- 2:00pm – 4:00pm Police Surgery at Buntingford Police Station, Baldock Road.

SUNDAYS

- 2:45pm – 5:00pm Until 14th Oct. Tea at St Mary the Virgin Church, Braughing (see page 18).

MON–FRI

- 9:00am – 5:00pm Buntingford Heritage Centre in the Manor House.

If you would like to have your event in the Diary of Events pages, please contact **Christine Noble** 01763 273095
email: Journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCT 2012

- Fri 26th 5:00–6:30pm. Oliver Heald MP surgery at the Manor House
- Sat 27th 1:00–4:30pm. Buntingford & District Cage Bird Annual Show at Benson Hall (see page 11).
- Sat 27th 8:00pm. Royal British Legion Quiz Night at Benson Hall. All profits to the Poppy Appeal 2012 (see page 11).
- Wed 31st 2:00pm for 2:30pm St Richard's Church – Bingo at Benson Hall.
- Wed 31st 7:30pm. Buntingford & District Flower Club – Carole Johnston presents 'Curves, Lines and Shapes'. At Benson Hall; parking at rear of hall, entrance through Rib Way. Visitors welcome. Doors open 7:00pm.

NOV 2012

- Sat 3rd 10:00am–3:00pm. Friends of Orchard Surgery Annual Craft Fair (page 16).
- Sun 4th 10.00am–4.00pm. Antiques & Vintage Fair at Barkway Village Hall, SG8 8BS. Entry £1. Homemade cakes & refreshments. All enquires Rosei Frost 07912322538 or email info@flapperfortunes.co.uk
- Sun 4th Fireworks at the Bury (see page 46)
- Tues 6th 8:00pm. Buntingford & District Cage Bird Society at Benson Hall.
- Thurs 8th 7:45pm. Buntingford W.I. at URC Hall (see page 47).
- Fri 9th Reed Autumn Quiz (see page 16)
- 9th & 10th 9:00am–2:00pm. The Book Sale in Reed (see page 28)
- Sat 10th 11:00am–2:00pm. Ashford & Carters Close Christmas Bazaar (page 16).
- Sat 10th 2:00pm for 2:30pm St Richard's Church – Bingo at Benson Hall.
- Sun 11th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY. Service at War Memorial (see page 18).
- Fri 16th 8:00pm. Buntingford Railway & Local History Society at the Crown PH. Stephen Ruff – 'A Mixed Bag.
- Tues 20th 10:00am–8:00pm. Buntingford Town Council Open Day (see page 23)
- Wed 21st 2:00noon–1:30pm. BALA Lunch Break at Benson Hall (see page 44).
- Wed 28th 7:00 for 7:30pm. Buntingford & District Flower Club at Benson Hall. AGM followed by Christmas demonstration – Anne Bell presents 'Christmas Celebrations'. Visitors welcome. Please note: no meeting in December.
- Fri 30th 4:00–6:00pm. Millfield Christmas Fair & Shopping Event (see page 13)
- Fri 30th 4:00–9:00pm. Christmas Market & Late Night Shopping (see page 14)
- Fri 30th 5.50pm Lights of Love Ceremony at the Manor House (see pages 14 & 31)

DEC 2012

- Sat 1st 7:00 for 7:30pm. The Lynsey Ivison Trust Christmas Quiz (see page 33)
- 5th–13th 6:00pm onwards, except Sunday from 5:00pm, Santa Run (see page 15)

USEFUL LOCAL INFORMATION

POLICE STATION:	Baldock Road, Buntingford Non-emergency telephone: 101
Saturday Police surgeries:	Every Saturday, 2:00pm – 4:00pm at Buntingford Police Station
GAS:	Emergency (gas leaks) – Freephone 0800 111 999
ELECTRICITY:	Emergency (power loss) – Freephone 0800 7838 838
WATER (Veolia):	Emergency – Freephone 0800 376 5325
SEWERAGE (Thames Water):	Emergency – Telephone 0845 920 0800
DOCTORS:	The Medical Centre – White Hart Close Telephone 01763 271362 (24 hours) Orchard Surgery – Baldock Road Telephone 01763 272410 & 272411 (after hours)
B A S H (Buntingford Action For Social Help):	Providing transport for hospital/doctors appointments, telephone Jane Winter 01763 271484
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, RACE, HATE or RAPE CRIME:	Confidential Information Help-line: 01992 554440 (in an emergency, dial 999)
LOCAL COUNCIL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:	East Herts District Council – 01279 655261 Housing – 01279 714714 Benefits – Freephone 0800 373852 Buntingford Town Council – 01763 272222 Hertfordshire Highways – 01438 737320
BUNTINGFORD LIBRARY:	All enquiries including renewals call 0300 123 4049 Select option 1 (renewals) 03:00–23:45 every day Select option 2 (all other enquiries) Mon–Fri 08:00–20:00, Sat 09:00–6:00 Mondays: 09:00 – 18:00 Tuesdays: 14:00 – 18:00 Wednesdays: CLOSED ALL DAY Thursdays: 09:00 – 18:00 Fridays: 14:00 – 18:00 Saturdays: 09:00 – 13:00 Sundays: CLOSED ALL DAY
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU:	The Manor House, Market Hill, Buntingford Mondays: 10:00am – 4:00pm Tuesdays: 10:00am – 1:00pm Wednesdays: 10:00am – 1:00pm Telephone advice available Monday to Friday 10:00am – 4:00pm on 08444 111 444
HOUSEHOLD WASTE & RECYCLING SITE:	Watermill Industrial Estate, Aspenden Road Open: Mondays – Fridays 5:00pm – 8:00pm Saturday & Sunday 10:00am – 1:00pm

EDITOR'S LETTER

The Journal is so full this month, I'm still not sure how I managed to squeeze it all in. I did have to cut some pieces down to fit, so apologies if any contributors feel I have lost some of their individual 'voice' in the process, and please don't let that put you off submitting items for publication in future. Too much material is the best problem an editor can have!

Not surprisingly given all the building proposals around Buntingford, there is rather a lot on planning this month. On the Civic Society page, we reproduce the BCS objection letter to East Herts Council (EHC) concerning Longmead. Martin (of Martin & Mandy fame) shares some of his experiences from dealings with various planning bodies in rescuing Layston Church, as well as his thoughts on the current Taylor-Wimpey proposals for a new housing estate off Hare Street Road. And the article from BARD sets out exactly who to write to if you want to respond to the Taylor-Wimpey planning application, now lodged with EHC. The final date for receiving objections is 8th November.

I am sure many of you attended the excellent exhibition staged by BARD in Benson Hall. As Elaine Norman, one of the co-founders of BARD, put it in a recent email: 'For me, [it] is not about a bunch of NIMBYs (Not In My Back Yard) complaining about the view, it's about keeping Buntingford a small, unique, thriving town and stopping huge developments destroying the very heart and soul of it.' If you agree, then the thing to do is get involved and Buntingford Town Council are offering us all an opportunity to engage with them and the future development plan for the town at an Open Day on 20th November (page 23).

You'll find many early signposts to Christmas within these pages – details of the Santa Run in support of the Scouts; the Lights of Love Ceremony and Late-Night Shopping evening; the Boxes for Soldiers initiative collecting welcome treats for our serving troops; the first glimpse of the Pantomime; and notices of Christmas carols, bazaars and quizzes. But first, there is Halloween and Bonfire Night to celebrate. The annual Firework Display will be at the Bury on Sunday 4th November (page 46), and Adam Frame, Buntingford PCSO, offers some words of wisdom on staying safe at this time of year (page 47). To end on a sombre note, Remembrance Sunday this year falls on 11th November, so when we stand together in silent reflection around the war memorial, we will mark to the day, hour and minute the anniversary of the guns falling silent at the end of the First World War.

Christine Noble

Many thanks to Debbie Lemay for proofreading

**Editorial copy deadline for December 2012/January 2013
Journal is 12.00 noon on Tuesday 20th November 2012**

Copy and diary entries: Christine Noble – 01763 273095
68 Hare Street Road, Buntingford SG9 9HN
email: Journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Advertising enquiries: Keith Edwards – 01763 272032
email: Advertising@buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Letters to the Editor

Dear Christine

Would you please pass on a huge thank you to all who attended, supported and helped out at the Wilkestock Charity Music Festival this year. We could not do it without this support and it is hugely appreciated. Thanks go also to all those who performed over the three days – we hope to make Chas an annual appearance at future Wilkestock festivals.

Wilkestock didn't quite reach its £10,000 target for 2012 but came very close! We want to assure everyone that 100% of the proceeds go direct to Keswick Mountain Rescue and Leukaemia Research, two charities that became very close to our hearts in the wake of personal family tragedies. We will be aiming for the same target again next year, so would like to encourage the same enthusiasm and support for 2013. Look out for the new family features, line-up and other news for 2013 @ <http://www.wilkestock.com/> or follow us on Facebook. Hope to see you there next year.

Tom Wilkes, Wilkestock Manager & Founder

Dear Christine,

Just a quick update regarding the Shinto Judo Club. Due to the success since opening in Buntingford in April this year we have re-located to the Howard Carter Centre at Freman College. I am attaching a photo of the club, which shows



just how popular we are! Classes are on Wednesday evenings from 6-7 and 7-8. For more information please contact shintojudoclub@gmail.com. Many Thanks to Sam Allan and Paul Dyson for their help and support.

Kind regards, Mark Teal

Dear Editor

I wonder how many Journal readers are aware of a planning application submitted for a permanent single-pitch traveller site near Broadfield, Throcking? I have been trying to coordinate objections to this application, not so much about the proposal as it stands, but for what it might lead to in the future. Although I realise that by the time the November Journal is published the date for objections will have passed, I am still keen to raise awareness of the issue. Anyone interested to know more is welcome to contact me.

Kind regards, Angela Rigg
Greenfield Farm, Broadfield, Nr Buntingford SG9 9RD
Tel: 01763 281432

The views expressed in the letters and articles in the Buntingford Journal are not necessarily those of the editor.

Dear Editor

I recently had the 'experience', if that's the right word, of delivering leaflets, door to door for a good cause round Monks Walk. I now have more respect for our postmen & postwomen and professional leaflet deliverers. I have adapted the following to describe my experience. With apologies to Lewis Carroll, The Jabberwocky & Alice!

Brian Lemay

A Leaflet Distributors Lament

'Beware the Letter Box, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
That hideth behind frontdoors, and shun
The frumious draft excluder!'

He took his BARD leaflet in hand:
Long time the Monks Walk foe he sought,
So rested he by the vandalised tree,
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as on frontdoor step he stood,
The family dog, with eyes of flame,
Came whiffling through the hallway,
Barking furiously as it came!

Leaflets One, two! One, two! And through
and through
The letter box went snicker-snack!
He left it dead (I wish), and with its head
He went on arthritic knees home back.

'And, has thou slain the Letter Box?
Come to my arms, my fingerless boy!
O Bardy day! Callooh! Callay!
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, on the slithy steps
Did slip and gimble in the way:
All mimsy were the frontdoor paths,
With knuckles sore and raths outrabe.

Editor's Note: Elaine has asked me, on behalf of BARD, to thank all the volunteers who laboured long and hard to deliver leaflets all over Buntingford to advertise the BARD Open Day.

Ode to a better life

Here I am sitting on my allotment, drinking a beer and looking over the other allotments. Having just reached retirement age after working for myself part-time for the past 25 years, I recall an American coming up to me years ago and asking me how long I spent up at the allotment. I told him that I was here as much as I wanted to be. Why don't you spend more time at work to earn more money, he asked? I replied that the money I earned was sufficient to meet my needs.

The American then asked what I did with the rest of my time. I explained that I spend time with my family, go out to shows and play with the grandchildren. I also work in the garden, am on several committees, go out to see friends and have a few holidays.

The American interrupted. I have an MBA from Harvard, he said, and I can help you to a better life. If you worked more hours you would earn more money and you could then employ people to help you do your job. With the extra money you would be making you could buy luxuries like cars, houses and boats. When you have made enough you could buy houses in New York, Paris and Rome. I asked how long all this would all take. He said about 20 to 25 years. And then what, I asked. Then it gets really interesting, he said. When the business gets really big you can sell shares in it and make millions. Millions, I said. And then what?

After that you would be able to retire and sit on your allotment drinking a beer, spend time with your family, play with your grandchildren, go out to shows. With your spare time you can visit friends, have a few holidays and maybe serve on a few committees...

AJC



Buntingford Civic Society

(Reg. Charity No. 1014873)



HAVE A VOICE – LONGMEAD

Reproduced below is the our response to the planning application submitted to East Herts District Council for permission to build new houses at Longmead

25th September, 2012

Ms Faye Morley,
East Herts Council,
Wallfields, Pegs Lane,
Hertford. SG13 8EQ

Dear Ms Morley,

PLANNING APPLICATION 3/12/1417/RP

On behalf of Buntingford Civic Society I am writing to ask that East Herts District Council refuse to grant permission to proceed with the proposals set out in the above application. Our reasons are as follows:

1. The proposals do not comply with policy ENV1 because they do not:
 - demonstrate compatibility with the structure and layout of the surrounding area,
 - relate well to the massing (volume and shape) and height of adjacent buildings,
 - respect the amenity of occupiers of neighbouring buildings and those of future occupants and ensure that their environments are not harmed by noise and disturbance or by inadequate daylight, sunlight or privacy or by overshadowing.
2. Because Longmead is narrow and construction traffic will need access to the site (probably by way of Monks Walk), it is important for the developer to show how this is to be achieved safely and without undue disruption to traffic flows especially when children are travelling to and from Millfield School. This the developer fails to do in the submission made.
3. There is no Waste or Storm Water management Plan.
4. The drawings provided are of a low standard, containing errors and inconsistencies. The Location Plan drawing is out of date; e.g. it does not show the true extent of existing property near the site.

Yours sincerely,
Derek K Cooper
Chairman, Buntingford Civic Society

www.buntingfordcivic.org.uk

Boxes for Soldiers

Buntingford Town Council is once again repeating this successful community initiative, headed by Buntingford Youth Council.

Fill a shoe box with essentials and small treats for one of our front-line soldiers in Afghanistan and bring it to the Town Clerk at the Manor House by:

Friday 23rd November 2012

Ideas for inclusion: Shower gel, disposable razors, lip salve, sweets, socks, blank greetings cards, tooth brush & paste, Vaseline, wet wipes, Pringles, chewing gum, pens, emery boards, hand lotion. **Please DO NOT include chocolate or aerosols.**

Add a personal note and email address if you wish.

Maximum weight 1.8kg (4lb) – Mark your box 'Male' or 'Female' but please **do not** seal it: we will tape the boxes up and label them.

Your gift will mean a lot to a British Soldier

The Royal British Legion Buntingford Branch

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday October 27th at Benson Hall 8.00pm

Fish / Chicken & Chips / Licensed Bar / Raffle

Please contact Di Bamford Hon Sec on 01763 848481

Tickets £10 – ALL PROFITS TO POPPY APPEAL 2012

***BUNTINGFORD & DISTRICT
CAGE BIRD SOCIETY 1956-2012***

ANNUAL SHOW – Saturday 27th October

At Benson Hall, Buntingford, 1:00 to 4:30pm

ENTRY FREE / TEAS / RAFFLE / BIRDS FOR SALE

The Buntingford Journal is published by, but is editorially independent of, the Buntingford Civic Society.

Buntingford Action for Responsible Development

**‘Your last chance to
have a say on Taylor
Wimpey development
before Nov 8th!’**

Taylor Wimpey Planning Application out NOW!

Taylor Wimpey and their agents DLP are proposing to build 160 houses on farm land and allotments to the north of Hare Street Road, North East Buntingford. BARD are concerned for many reasons – here are a few:

- **It’s in the wrong place** – the landscape and natural habitats that DLP are proposing to destroy are outside the defined settlement boundary of the current Local Plan and Taylor Wimpey have ignored calls from Buntingford residents to wait for the new East Herts District Plan, expected to be ready in early 2013.
- **We don’t need the houses now** – East Herts Council forecasts in 2012 have suggested that Buntingford needs only 11 new houses per year up to 2031 – a total of 220 houses over 20 years. And over 250 new houses are already permitted, under construction or recently completed.
- **The community will suffer** – this will negatively impact the local community with pressure on schools, police, health services, and town centre facilities, as well as more parking problems, increased traffic and use of ‘rat runs’.

What can you do to have a say?

**Send your comments BEFORE 8TH NOVEMBER to
Hazel Izod of the East Herts Planning Team**

Address: East Herts Council, Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8EQ

Email: planning@eastherts.gov.uk **Phone:** 01279 655261

**Share your views with your District Councillors
Stan Bull and Surjit Basra**

Address: The Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford, Herts SG9 9AB

Email: btc.manorhouse@btclick.com **Phone:** 01763 272222

On behalf of your BARD and the people of Buntingford

THANK YOU!

What is BARD?

Buntingford Action for Responsible Development (BARD) is a grass roots response to rapid development in the town. BARD members are all residents of Buntingford. We accept that new developments are important to sustain every thriving town, but we encourage strict scrutiny on the impact of such developments on the existing residents and the infrastructure of Buntingford.

Further information on BARD and its action on local developments is posted at www.bard-group.org.uk. Or you can contact us at info@bard-group.org.uk or phone 07969 835 877.

Buntingford Relief in Need Charity

A vacancy has arisen for a new Trustee for the above Charity.

Applicants must have lived in Buntingford or Aspenden for at least 10 years. A reference will be required.

Please apply to the Chairman, Eunice Woods, on 01763 271974.

MILLFIELD CHRISTMAS FAIR AND SHOPPING EVENT

Friday 30 November 4-6pm

Santa's Grotto Christmas Crackers Games

Chocolate Tombola Refreshments Cakes

Christmas Shopping Area including: Cards, Jewellery, Candles, Knitted Dolls Clothes, Manicures & Pamper Vouchers, Knitted Crafts, Cosmetics & Fragrances and more.

So come along and join us for our Christmas Celebration. Millfield School and PTA really appreciate your support.



Late Night Christmas Shopping and Lights of Love – Friday 30th November

Once again we are looking forward to our annual Lights of Love ceremony and Late Night Shopping evening – and this year it will also incorporate the switching on of our refurbished Christmas Lights.

The Lights of Love ceremony will take place in the grounds of The Manor House, starting at 17.50 with the lighting of the Lights of Love Tree in aid of the Isabel Hospice. Traditional Carols are sung in this special ceremony.

The High Street will be closed to traffic from 16.00 to 21.00 to enable the townspeople to enjoy visiting stalls. This year we are expecting upwards of 40 stallholders selling Christmas gifts and fayre.

We are expecting a mini roundabout ride for the kiddies and of course Santa and his sleigh with Christmas music and lights. For those seeking sustenance there will be a hog roast and barbecues evening – mulled wine and mince pies will also be available.

Buntingford Dramatic Society will be performing in The Manor House car park and the Buntingford Choir will also be performing a festive set.

Make sure that you don't miss this traditional curtain raiser to the Christmas festivities – come along with family and friends and enjoy what promises to be a great evening. Provisional timings are:-

16.00 - High Street closed to traffic and Christmas Market opens

17.50 - Lights of Love ceremony at the Manor House

18.30 - Buntingford Dramatic Society perform at the Manor House

19.00 - Buntingford Choir

21.00 - Event ends

St. Mary's Church Aspenden Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 18th December 2012

At 7:30PM for 7:45PM

Tickets FREE but must be obtained in advance from

Mrs Jean Pitts 01763 272109



Santa Claus is coming to town!



**5th to 13th
December**

**Santa will
hopefully set off
from 6.00pm**



Raising money for the Buntingford Scout Group

WEDNESDAY 5TH

Paddock Road
The Causeway
Church Street
Archers
Dell Spring
Riverside
Bridewell Close
Wyddial Road
Norfolk Road
High Street

**Saturday
8th December
Santa is resting**

WEDNESDAY 12TH

London Road
Layston Meadow
Owles Lane

THURSDAY 6TH

Bowling Green Lane
Bowlers Mead
White Hart Close
Tylers Close
Greenways
The Pyghtle

**SUNDAY 9TH
(STARTS 5PM)**

Freman Drive
Chequers Close
Vicarage Road
Honey Lane
Bridge End
Porters Close
Wood Close

FRIDAY 7TH

Bovis estate
Nutslip

MONDAY 10TH

Market Hill
Rib Way
Snells Mead
Hare Street Road
The Tannery
Sunny Hill

TUESDAY 11TH

Baldock Road North
Monks Walk
Longmeads
The Folly

THURSDAY 13TH

Fairfield
Downhall Ley
Station Road

High Street
St Francis Court
Olvega Drive
Crouch Gardens

Friends of Orchard Surgery
ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 3rd November, 2012

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

At Benson Hall, Buntingford

* Crafts * Bric-a-Brac * Cakes * Cards * Refreshments *
* Tombola * Raffle * Entrance FREE

REED AUTUMN QUIZ 2012

In Reed Village Hall on Friday 9th November

Bar and Raffle

**Fish and Chips £10.00 – ring Di to reserve your
supper (essential) 01763 848481**

ASHFORDS AND CARTERS CLOSE

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday

November 10th

11am until 2pm

Entrance in Garden Road

**SOUP AND A ROLL NEW AND NEARLY NEW
CAKE STALL TOMBOLA RAFFLE REFRESHMENTS**

BUNTINGFORD BOWLS CLUB

Buntingford Bowls Men's Captain had a surprise up his sleeve for the last game of the season. For the traditional Ladies v Men's match he had invited Philip Goodall of London Road who had been chosen to carry the Olympic Torch. Philip, dressed in the Torch Bearers' all-white outfit and carrying his Torch, arrived with mum Margaret at half-time and instead of the usual tea and biscuits the Captain had laid on sumptuous cakes – a special treat in honour of Philip's visit and to celebrate the Club's 90th anniversary.

Members were given an insight into Philip's learning difficulties and how he has responded by becoming a valued member of the community, raising money for orphans in Romania, helping with Cub Scouts and taking part in the Special Olympics held at Wodson Park and organised by dad Derek.

The Captain presented Philip with the club's 90th anniversary bannerette, a card signed by all those present and some club souvenirs, before he received a standing ovation from the members and kindly posed for pictures.



Above: The line-up for the annual Ladies V. Men bowls match, with Olympic torch-bearer Philip Goodall centre stage. Below: Philip tries his hand at bowls.

The weather was glorious and the green was filled to capacity with the maximum of 48 members taking part (the event had been oversubscribed!). Following the successful 'Lessons for Beginners' every Sunday in May, the club had an intake of 14 new members taking the membership to just under 100. Members enjoy friendly home and away matches at the weekend, with a cooked meal at the end; they can take part in club and outside competitions and enjoy a winter social programme. Bowls is a 'Sport for All', whether you want a relaxing game or competitive sport all the way up to National level – either way it's friendly and sociable, with Buntingford Bowls Club being a hive of activity and proudly boasting this year's county Under 30s Champion.

Jean Cook





CHRIST CHURCH

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH BALDOCK ROAD BUNTINGFORD

MINISTER: Rev Duncan Goldie
The Manse, Meeting Lane, Melbourn, Cambs SG8 6AN
Tel: 01763 260747

MORNING WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY AT 11:00AM

October	28	Morning Worship	Rev Duncan Goldie
November	4	Morning Worship	Dr Jeffrey Barham
	11	Remembrance Service	Rev Duncan Goldie
	18	Morning Worship	Rev Derek Newton
	25	Morning Worship	Rev Duncan Goldie
December	2	Morning Worship	Rev Prof D M Thompson

A Church meeting will be held on Sunday 28th October following the morning service. This will take the form of a bring and share lunch with the meeting itself being held after the meal.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Junior Church meets at 11:00am every Sunday during term time and welcomes all children and young people.

The Bright Hour – a time for fellowship with prayers, hymns, activities and occasional visiting speakers – meets on alternate Tuesdays at 2:30pm in the Church Hall.

Coffee & Company, organised by 'Churches Together', is held in the Church Hall every Thursday from 10:30am for anyone wanting fellowship and time for a chat.

Lunches organised by Christian Aid are held in the Church Hall from 12:30 to 2:00pm on the first Friday of the month.

Visit our website at www.buntingfordurc.freeserve.co.uk

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

11th NOVEMBER 2012

Service of Remembrance

at Buntingford War Memorial – 10:45am

The Remembrance Day Parade starts from the Red House at 10:25.

The outdoor Service of Remembrance will be followed by a church service at the United Reformed Church in Baldock Road.



United Benefice of

St. Mary's – Aspenden
St. Peter's – Buntingford
St. Mary the Virgin – Westmill
Church of England



Reverend Ian Hill – Telephone 01763 274072

There is a full and varied pattern of worship across the three churches: St. Peter's in Buntingford has a more contemporary style; St. Mary's in Aspenden has a more traditional style; St. Mary the Virgin in Westmill has a more liturgical style.

Everyone is welcome at any of the churches.

Services for November

Sun 4 th	9:30am	St. Mary the Virgin, Westmill	Sung Eucharist
	10:00am	St. Mary's, Aspenden	Family Service
	11:00am	St. Peter's, Buntingford	Family Worship
Wed 7 th	9:30am	St. Peter's, Buntingford	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
Sun 11 th	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY		
	9:15am	St. Mary's, Aspenden	Family Communion with Act of Remembrance
	9:30am	St. Mary the Virgin, Westmill	Act of Remembrance
	10:45am	St. Peter's, Buntingford	Act of Remembrance followed by service in Christchurch URC
Sun 18 th	9:30am	St. Mary the Virgin, Westmill	Sung Eucharist
	11:00am	St. Peter's, Buntingford	Family Worship
Sun 25 th	9:30am	St. Mary's, Aspenden	Holy Communion
	9:30am	St. Mary the Virgin, Westmill	Morning Worship
	11:00am	St. Peter's, Buntingford	Holy Communion

ST. RICHARD OF CHICHESTER

Catholic Church

3 Station Road, Buntingford Telephone 01763 271471

Parish Priest: Father Ian Dickie

HOLY MASS is celebrated each Sunday at 9:30am and 6:30pm

Holy Days at 10:00am and 8:00pm

Weekdays at 9:15pm; Saturdays at 10:00am

Saturdays at 6:00pm at Furneux Pelham

CONFESSIONS are each Saturday from 10:30am – 11.15am





Edwinstree Middle School

October was another busy term at Edwinstree. There was great excitement when the Hertfordshire Air Ambulance landed on the school field, with the whole school dressed in red waiting to greet them. We were lucky to win a local competition to have this visit. Pupils and staff raised £550.00 to go towards this great facility.

A wonderful day was celebrated by the whole school on October 18th to commemorate 40 years of being a Church of England school. We all attended, together with parents and friends, a special service at the Cathedral and Abbey of St Alban. In the afternoon a 'stained glass' window in the school clock tower was officially dedicated by the new Bishop of Bedford. Many contributions to this project have already been received, but further donations are warmly welcomed as well as visits!

Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their week away in Shropshire at the Manor Adventure Centre. The inclement weather did nothing to dampen their enthusiasm trying out the various activities: abseiling, mountain biking, kayaking, among many others. They also paid a visit to Blists Hill Victorian Town as part of their Humanities studies.



The whole school, dressed in red for 'Go Red' week, turned out to watch the Herts Air Ambulance helicopter come in to land on the school playing field.





Edwinstree's Year 6 having a great time in Shropshire

Year 7 had a visit from author Pete Johnson who talked to pupils about his work and how he started writing at the age of eleven, sending stories to publishers. He has now written more than 40 books, his latest, *The Vampire Fighters*, being a very popular addition to our library shelves.

Looking ahead, Year 7 are busy planning their annual Action Aid fete, raising money for our sponsored children in India. Year 5 are looking forward to going to Cambridge Corn Exchange in December to see a production of Roald Dahl's *George's Marvellous Medicine*.



Our school association are organising a 'Pamper and Christmas Shopping' evening on the 9th November to which everyone is welcome; please contact the school (admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk) if you would like further information.

Rehearsals are also under way for our annual 'Celebration of Christmas' concert, more details next month.

Diane George



BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

A QUALITY TOWN COUNCIL

The Annual Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday 11th November at the War Memorial. The service will start with a parade at 10.25am from the Red House.

Once again we are appealing for boxes for soldiers in Afghanistan, please bring your filled boxes to the Manor House by 23rd November (see page 11 for more information).

We will be holding an open day on Tuesday 20th November (see box, right). Come along and have your say about the Town Plan and how you would like to see Buntingford develop in the next 20 years. Councillors will be on hand to answer your questions.

The annual Lights of Love Ceremony will be held on Friday 30th November at 5.50pm at the Manor House. This is the same evening as Late Night Shopping.

The Town Council now Tweets via Twitter, please follow us on [@buntingfordtc](https://twitter.com/buntingfordtc).

Jill Jones MILCM Cert HE

Town Clerk

Office hours: Monday–Thursday 9:00am–5:00pm; closed Fridays

Tel: 01763 272222

email: btc.manorhouse@btclick.com

website: www.buntingfordtowncouncil.co.uk

Town Council meetings for November 2012

Thursday 1 st	7:30pm – Amenities Committee
Thursday 8 th	7:30pm – Planning Committee 8:00pm – Resources Committee
Thursday 29 th	8:00pm – Full Council

All meetings will be held at The Manor House unless indicated otherwise.
Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Buntingford Journal is delivered FREE to members of the Civic Society or it can be purchased from:

**A CUT ABOVE • BASRA'S SUPERMARKET • BUDGENS
CO-OP SUPERMARKET • COUNTRY FLOWERS • DELISSIMO
FLUTTERBY'S • HARE STREET SHOP & FILLING STATION
MARK DOEL • PEARCE'S FARM SHOP • PIGGOTTS
QUILLER BOOKS • THE FOX AT ASPENDEN • WESTMILL TEA ROOM**



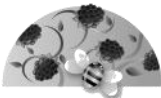
BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL OPEN DAY



At the Manor House
20th November 2012, 10am to 8pm

Have your say

On the Town Plan and Future Development in
Buntingford – *Housing, Traffic, Transport, Business,
Amenities, Health, Education, Crime & Safety*



Bramble Hill
Children's Centre

Bramble Hill Children's Centre is based in Mill Close in Buntingford and our main purpose is to offer access to services for children under 5 and their families.

Come along to a **Family Learning Activity** for expectant parents or parents with a baby aged 0–3 months, on Monday 12th November from 2pm–3pm at the Children's Centre. Find out how even newborn babies love books and how you can support your baby's development whilst having fun together. Please call us to book a FREE place.

We are running a **Family First Aid Course** for parents and carers on Wednesday 21st November from 7pm–9pm at Seth Ward Community Centre, Luynes Rise, Buntingford. Booking is essential as places are limited: £5 per person.

Our **Children's Nearly New Sale** is on Thursday 29th November from 1pm–3pm at the Seth Ward Community Centre in Buntingford. Tables for sellers cost £5 and the sellers keep all of their proceeds. There is a 50p entrance fee for buyers. Please call us if you would like to book a table.

Local photography company **Pret-a-Portrait** will be coming along to our **Under Ones Group** on Tuesday 27th November from 10am–11am and our **Rhyme Time** sessions on Friday 30th November from 9.45am–12noon. No need to book, please just turn up.

If you would like to be included on our mailing list and receive regular updates from the Children's Centre please call us on 01763 273008 or email us at:

bramblehill@ymcacentralherts.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you ☺

Planning

Martin & Mandy – Part 34

Sorry about this – normally I manage to fit a picture or two into our articles, but this month I'm hard pushed to find an appropriate picture, and I need the space for words. I do promise you that normal service will be resumed next month.

Some time ago I asked the conservation officer at the council who was looking after the St Bartholomew's project whose side she was on, and she said to me 'the buildings'. I replied that this was fine as so were we, and we should get on like a house on fire, which is just what has happened. She's helped us along the way and on several occasions I've used her as a bounce board for ideas – she's independent of trades people and so has no interest in one person or another doing work, and she certainly does not care about the cost of an activity, but she definitely has the interests of the building at heart.

Before we started this project you could find people who would tell you tales of woe about listed buildings where English Heritage caused all sorts of trouble. Again this has not been our experience, and the case officer for the project was and still is deeply interested in what we are trying to do, and proved more of a help than a hindrance.

Recent events made me think about this and our experiences of the planning system, and the thing that's made it work for us from the start is that we have considered ourselves merely custodians of the building. OK, we will add a layer of modernity to it – the roof was missing before we started – but we will also add 300+ years to the life expectancy of the building. We have revived Roger Hale and his story, along with all the other personal histories we've been able to bring to light. We have tried not to commit any conservation crimes in the process, and in general I believe we have done well by the building. We have certainly spent more money than any sane people would and we will leave our stamp on the world when we are gone in St Bartholomew's. This is the reason why our experiences with English Heritage and the conservation officer have not matched the rumours in the world; we are basically not a 'Developer'.

The other side of the coin landed on my doormat this week in the shape of a letter from Hertfordshire council about the Hare Street Road development asking us for our comments since we are basically a neighbour to the site. Now let's get one thing out of the way first, turkeys never vote for Christmas and neither do home owners want airports, waste processing plants, oil refineries, supermarkets, sky scrapers or 160 houses next to their homes – and we are no exception to this rule. However, we do accept there is the need for growth as the population is growing, and this requires houses, but I'd like it to be part of a planned process.

The thing that's missing at the moment in Buntingford is a county-wide plan for housing and a Buntingford plan for development, both these I understand are in hand and due for publication. However, in the meantime Buntingford has already seen the development opposite the Sainsbury depot of Kingfisher Park, this was in the region of 150 homes, a fair chunk of which are still under construction, with a number of those already completed remaining unsold. It's a large development of houses one on top of another and driven by a developer who's frankly in it for the money and who has tried to get as many houses in as possible. Whenever I drive past I can't but help think of Pottersville from the film *It's a Wonderful Life*, where Henry Potter's aspirations of densely packed but profitable (for him) housing is imagined, rather than the idyllic world of Bedford Falls and the long-suffering George Bailey. In the film Potter's nemesis is George Bailey who runs the

Building and Loan savings company, which provides comfortable houses for the benefit of the community, as part of a plan for the community – most certainly not for profit, and it's a striking difference in the end result that's portrayed.

Another example of this is the Railway Inn site, where 8 little houses are being crammed into a tiny site, each having a garden barely the size of a family car from what I can see. Thank goodness there's countryside in walking distance – for now.

The Hare Street Road proposal is from a different developer to Kingfisher Park, or the Railway Inn site, but the principle is identical, trying to get in quick on the planning angle before the release of a town or county plan which may block their scheme.

As I mentioned, turkeys don't vote for Christmas and I accept the need for more housing but I really cannot understand why this is not being accomplished once a plan has been created for Buntingford, rather than simply letting random developers pick off parts of the Town that they have access to because people are prepared to sell. To those that say there's an immediate need ... not so! If there were an immediate need then the Kingfisher Park development would have been sold long ago, and that's not happened.

We all have a chance here to influence the world we live in; Mandy & I are lucky enough to be able to do our bit in helping some of our history survive, but we can all voice our views on the way our Town grows. I want to live and retire in Bedford Falls (aka Buntingford) and not in Pottersville (the result of developers circling ready for the kill) and if you feel the same way I'd urge you to look at the Hare Street Road proposal (either on the website or at the Manor House) and object to it before it's too late (Nov 8th). Write to Hazel Izod, the planning officer for development at East Herts Council planning department quoting application number 3/12/1657/FP, and to Councillors Surjit Basra & Stan Bull at the Manor House in Buntingford and make your feelings known.

It's not constructive to object to all housing development in Buntingford, remember we are all like turkeys on this one, but it is sensible to object to housing that does not benefit the town, merely provides profit for a company who have no care for an overall design. Far better to produce a plan that covers the Town's growth over the coming years and then allow developers to produce the houses that provide us with a coherent and functioning town, rather than a patchwork of homes scattered across the area, causing congestion and overcrowded spots, which will just line the pockets of people who don't even live in Buntingford.

Rant over, but please think about acting on this topic, as Hare Street Road might not be the right place for new development. Next month we will introduce you to the Green Man!! Sounds scary, but we are firmly back on track with a stunningly nice act from a person who we had never met till a few weeks ago.

For more history and information related to St Bartholomew's, visit:

www.layston-church.org.uk

If you have views on any of the articles in the Journal, or on any issues affecting Buntingford, why not share them with other readers in the 'Letters to the Editor' pages? Send your comments by letter to **Christine Noble** at 68 Hare Street Road, Buntingford SG9 9HN.
Or by email to: **Journal@buntingfordcivic.org.uk**

Memories of Buckland Village Life – Part 3

A Response from Sandra's 'long-suffering' brother

As usual, my sister Sandra got it all wrong. Ernie Bailey showed his plunge pack, which he developed with British Visqueen (a subsidiary of ICI), at a packaging exhibition at Alexandra Palace in London. He didn't patent it but somebody who picked his brains there did. He was a very inventive man and I spent many hours helping in his workshop. We built a machine to hold the polythene bag open while it was filled automatically and then check-weighted and sealed. This was in 1950 – a man ahead of his time.

Ernie was one of the first in the country to do prepacked fruit and vegetables. He had two depots in London, one in Wood Green and one in Kensington, and from there the prepacks were delivered to customers using ex-milk floats. I ran the packaging plant with the help of several ladies (what a job for a 17-year-old!). I remember two Buntingford ladies working there, Flo Pledger and Mary Smith, as well as Janet Shepherd and Eunice Lamb from Reed, and my Mum to keep an eye on me. We had some good times. Ernie also bred chickens which were plucked and cleaned 'table-ready' for John Lewis by the same gang of ladies. And he had one of the first farm shops just outside Buckland.

I passed my driving test in one of Mr Bailey's lorries and at 17, the day I passed, was told 'there's a lorry, you're in Covent Garden tonight'. He had his own stand in the Jubilee market – it was at the back, so you had to be there for midnight when the gates opened to get to it. Once in, your lorry was unloaded and the stuff sold, then it was reloaded with what had been bought for delivery all over London before coming home. No limited hours in those days, or HGV licences, and so started my driving career.

His farm was also home to some cottage industries. In a corrugated tin garage at the top of the yard John Tojero built racing cars. Famous for the 'Tojero Jaguar', John did a lot of development work on the monocoque chassis and also designed the Berkley Bandit. There was a car upholsterer, Archie Allen. Buntingford people might remember him and his band 'The Beverly Boys' playing at dances in the hall at the back of The Chequers (now Brambles) at the top of the High Street. Also run from there was Buckland Body Works, which built lorry bodies and cabs and also, under licence, the 'AC Buckland Tourer' and the 'AC Petite', a three-wheeler with one model that was an invalid car.

There were two other farms in Buckland, both run by two Mr Hodges, and the boys in the village all worked for one or the other. Milking the cows and cleaning out the cowsheds was okay unless you happened to be behind one when it coughed! Weekends during the winter we got to drive the tractor and went stoning (clearing stones from the fields), and also pulling and trimming mangolds (a sort of beet) for cattle food. At harvest we would double-stack two and a quarter hundredweight sacks of corn on our backs and we got to drive the combine while the men had their tea. Health and Safety would have had a field day. The reward for all this? Twelve shillings and six pence, or 52.5p in new money.

I can just remember, as a child, the winter of 1947. The men from the village cut the snow from the road north of Buckland and put it over the bridge into the river between Chipping and Parkside. The winter of 1963 was much different. I was working in Royston and had to walk to work during that winter: no taking a day off – no work no pay. Lorries got stuck on the hill coming out of Chipping and the villagers took supplies to the drivers, who were burning old bits off the lorries to keep warm (lorries didn't have heaters in those days). I started work in Royston when I left school at 15, working for Fred Heasel winding electric motors five and a half days a week. I biked 4 miles each way and worked 44 hours for

44 shillings (£1.80p). How many kids nowadays would do that? I had to work, as the 'bank of mum and dad' was non-existent in those days. I lasted a year then went back to work for Mr Bailey until I was 20. But they were good times to grow up in. Added to the concerts we had a youth club and also ballroom dancing lessons by a championship dancer who worked at Bailey's. Oh how I miss village life!

Colin Bullard

Royston & District Model Railway Club

2012 Annual Exhibition on Saturday 17th November

This year, our 26th show, the exhibition will be held in Bassingbourn Village College, SG8 5NJ. The display will include around 25 superb model railways and there are also specialist traders offering new and second-hand models, books, DVDs, tools, materials and other items. Demonstration stands, charity and preservation groups add further interest. Depending on the weather, we hope to have the Royston Model Engineers set up their ride-on trains in the college grounds, for the young and the young at heart.

Entry is **£4 per adult with accompanying children free**, making this an economical family fun day out. There is free parking, good disabled access and refreshments will be available (thanks to our 'better halves'). A first for the club this year is a preserved 'heritage' bus, run by volunteers, that will provide an hourly service from the college to Royston bus and train stations. Full details on our website: www.roystondmrc.co.uk

Even if you're not into model railways there is plenty to enjoy so hope to see you there. Or you'd be very welcome at one of our club evenings held most Fridays from 8:00 to 10:00pm at the Townhouse in Barley. Please call beforehand (**Barry 01763 271031**) as we sometimes have to switch evenings due to other Townhouse bookings.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
MELDRETH

SATURDAY 1ST and
SUNDAY 2ND DECEMBER

11:00am to 5:00pm

ADVENT SERVICE
5.30pm SUNDAY 2ND DEC



The Book Sale in Reed

Friday 9th & Saturday 10th November, 9.00am–5.00pm
at St Mary's Church in Reed

FREE ENTRY. Come and have a cuppa and browse the books, new and not so new, fiction and non-fiction, paperbacks and hardbacks.

An opportunity to add to your book collection, or to buy a present or two.

BELOW IS THE LATEST IN AN OCCASIONAL SERIES OF ARTICLES DISCUSSING LEGAL ISSUES THAT AFFECT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES, PROVIDED BY CURWENS, A LOCAL FIRM OF SOLICITORS WITH OFFICES IN ROYSTON, HODDESDON, CHESHUNT AND ENFIELD.

So you want to be your own boss?

There always seem to be programmes on television lately on how to be your own boss and what you can achieve with only a small amount of start-up investment. With redundancies an unfortunate everyday reality in the current economic climate, starting up your own business can be an exciting and challenging alternative to updating your CV. However, there are also the terrifying statistics of how many new businesses close within their first year. The mantra is 'be prepared'.

Here are a number of basic points it is important to consider:

- Where is your funding coming from?
- Have you done a realistic Business Plan?
- Are you going to be a sole trader, or work in partnership with one or two others, or even set up a limited company?
- Do you need premises and/or staff?
- Have you got a friendly accountant to provide you with tax advice?
- Have you taken any legal advice?

On the last point, it is really important to get any paperwork organised early on – for example, drawing up an agreement between business partners to spell out who does what and who gets what. Sometimes Shareholder's Agreements and Director's Service Agreements are useful as a point of reference if things start to get a little bit shaky, as sometimes happens in business. We think that getting the basics right from the start gives you a stable foundation for your business from which to succeed and make a decent profit – which is really what you want.

You may be employing staff and if so you need to deal with Employment Contracts. You may need to deal with landlords regarding Commercial Leases for premises – without proper legal advice you might be signing up to something far beyond what you had intended, which could end up costing a lot of money. You may decide to take on a franchise, which again needs careful consideration and good legal advice.

At Curwens, we are always happy to have an initial chat on the telephone to run through exactly what help you need. So if you have any questions, so just give us a ring on **01992 463727** or have a look at our website **www.curwens.co.uk**

EAST HERTS CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Manor House, Buntingford

Drop-in:

Monday 10:00am – 4:00pm

Tuesday 10:00am – 1:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am – 1:00pm

Telephone:

08444 111 444

Monday – Friday

10:00am – 4:00pm



Problems with Booking Online

My son bought a festival ticket online. It wasn't the official website and I'm a bit concerned that he may have been sold a fake. How can I tell if it is a counterfeit and what can we do about it?

There are a few ways to check if your son has bought a ticket from a safe website. Check to see if the site has a red, black and white kitemark provided by the Society of Ticket Agents and Retailers (STAR) www.star.org.uk with the words 'secure tickets from authorised retailers' as this will help you identify it if it is a legitimate website. If you are still unsure you could contact the Association of Secondary Ticket Agents (ASTA) www.asta-uk.org to see if they know if the site you are looking at is genuine or not. You could also contact the official website and explain the situation – they may be able to check the serial numbers of the tickets.

After this, if you think your son's ticket is from a scam website, you should report it to the police and also action fraud website, at www.actionfraud.police.uk. You may not get his money back, but you can try to prevent the site being used by others.

If he paid for the ticket by credit card, the credit card company may be jointly responsible if the ticket seller breaks their contract with you. As long as the ticket cost over £100, you may be able to claim your money back from the credit card company. If he paid by a Visa or Mastercard debit card, you may be able to ask for a refund under their **chargeback** scheme. You will need to contact the card company to make a claim.

I've recently booked a holiday online. I booked the flights one day and the hotel the next morning but both through the same website. Now the hotel has gone bust and I'm struggling to find a suitable alternative. What can I do?

The company you booked your hotel and flight with, even if it is just an online company, might be responsible for sorting this out – depending on how long it was between when you booked the flights and hotel. If it was within 24 hours you will be covered. So in this instance, the company needs to either offer an alternative hotel of the same price or provide a full refund for everything you booked with them.

That's because in April this year Flight-Plus holidays (this is when you book a holiday through a company where you buy the flights, accommodation or car hire separately from them but all within 24 hours of each other) are now covered under the ATOL (Air Travel Organisers Licence) scheme. That means if the company you booked through or the airline, hotel or car hire company goes bust – either before you go on holiday or during your trip – it is up to the company to sort it out for you.

'Copyright Citizens Advice'. For the most up-to-date version, please visit their Adviceguide website at www.adviceguide.org.uk

BALFF 10-WEEK COURSE

BRITISH ART POTTERY 1870-1940

Tutor Virginia Brisco

Starts: Wednesday 16th January 2013 – 10.30am

Do you watch all those antique shows on TV and wish you knew more? Do you wonder if that pot you inherited is an antique or worthless junk? Do you know Art Nouveau from Art Deco? This course will unravel some of these mysteries. We shall study the effects of the Arts and Crafts Movement and how it led to familiar companies such as Doulton and Moorcroft, as well as the innovative designs of Christopher Dresser. We shall look at a range of pottery styles which culminated in the 'Bizarre' creations of Clarice Cliff.

Wednesday Lectures start at 10.30am at The Community Centre. Coffee is served from 10.00am. For further information phone Julia Peacock on 01763-272584 or Joan Jones 01763-273341. If you are interested in joining us just come along, you will be made very welcome.

**Royston and District Ramblers Group
Walks for November 2012**

- Thur 1st** Furneux Pelham, 5 miles, led by Mike 01763 274679
- Sun 4th** Cottered, 9.5 miles, led by Mike 01763 274679
- Tues 6th** Benington, 6 miles, led by Tricia 01438 880553
- Thur 8th** Weston, 6 miles, led by David 01763 247572
- Sun 11th** Great Chishill, 11 miles, led by Janet & Graham 01763 838300
- Tues 13th** Heston and Pegsdon Hills, 5.5 miles, led by Linda 01462 453752
- Thur 15th** Ashwell, 6 miles, led by David 01763 247572
- Sun 18th** Ashdon, 11 miles, led by Paul 01763 244038
- Tues 20th** Duddenhoe End, 5 miles, led by Mark 01763 838409
- Thur 22nd** Newton, Cambridgeshire, 5.5 miles, led by Marion 01223 871524
- Sun 25th** Preston, 9.5 miles, led by Linda & Roger 01462 453752
- Tues 27th** Ashwell, 5 miles, led by Roger 01763 281368
- Thur 29th** Barley and Great & Little Chishill, 5 miles, led by David 01763 242677

**Unless otherwise stated, all Tues & Thurs walks are morning walks,
all Sunday walks are all day.**

For meeting points and starting times, contact the walk leader or visit the website:

www.ramblers-herts-northmiddlesex.org.uk

Barkway School Open Morning

In the village of Barkway, 5 minutes from Buntingford

Friday 9th November 2012, 9:00–10:30 am

Come and see our wonderful school in action, starting with the 'Golden Assembly', then have a tour of the school.

Parents and children welcome, no need to book, just come along between 9am and 10.30am on Friday 9th November. Ages 3–9 years, small class sizes, excellent teachers and a lovely friendly atmosphere.

Please call Tami Wornham on 01763 849900 for further information.

ih Isabel Hospice
Local Care for Local People since 1982

Isabel Hospice is celebrating
its **30th Anniversary** year.
Thank you to all our supporters.

NOVEMBER 2012

Tues 13th Nov – COFFEE MORNING 10:30–12:00

Held on the second Tuesday of the month at Markwell Pavilion, Bishop's Stortford.
All welcome. Enquiries 01279 755320.

Thur 15th Nov– NETWORKING LUNCH 12:30–14:00

At Grill 55, 55 South Street, Bishop's Stortford CM23 3AL. A monthly networking lunch run by Isabel Hospice in association with Marketing Kinetics. We welcome companies from all over Herts & Essex. Cost £15 includes buffet, glass of wine, soft drinks, tea and coffee. £100 sponsorship of monthly lunch includes promotion on website and email invites, display of literature & banners and a 10-minute presentation. For details contact Fundraising 01707 382500.

Sun 25th Nov – CHRISTMAS FAIR 10:30–16:30

A great Christmas Fair for gifts, decorations and festive food in our new, expanded venue at Wodson Park, Wadesmill Road, Ware, SG12 0UQ. Entry £3 per person, free for accompanied children. Stallholders contact Renee Friend on 01279 755320.

Fri 30th Nov – LIGHTS OF LOVE, BUNTINGFORD 17:50–19:00

The annual 'Lights of Love' ceremony will take place at The Manor House. We would like to invite you to join us in remembering loved ones and friends who will not be with us this Christmas. Lights on the tree are symbolic in remembering and celebrating the lives of loved ones at this special time of year. There will be a short service of remembrance, carol singing and a countdown to lighting the tree. You will be able to take home a small star to hang on your own Christmas tree. Names will be entered in a Book of Love, which following the ceremony will be at the nearest Isabel Hospice shop.

www.isabelhospice.org.uk



LAYSTON C OF E FIRST SCHOOL



Our 'Time Travellers' project saw pupils visit the Celtic Harmony Camp (above) ...

With the start of the new term, our children have flown back in time on a historical journey, through our 'Time Travellers' topic. Each class got off to a great start with a special event or trip to bring their chosen historical period to life. Year 3 visited Celtic Harmony Camp to learn how the Celts lived, whilst Year 2 returned to a Victorian schoolroom and Year 4 to a wartime schoolroom at Duxford. All the children agreed that they'd had a brilliant time and had learnt a great deal. However, they were all relieved and happy to come back to their 21st century lives at the end of the day!



... and classrooms in the Victorian age (above) and World War Two (below)



The Harvest Festival Service held in St Peter's Church



On a beautiful sunny morning at the beginning of October, the whole school walked down to St Peter's Church for our Harvest Festival service. The children celebrated with songs, poetry and drama. Our new Reception children entertained their parents with 'Old MacDonald' whilst our oldest children presented a drama about a Christian Aid project to support honey gatherers in India.

We decided to raise funds for the Christian Aid project this year by being 'Busy Bees' ourselves. Children helped out at home in

return for donations. They recorded their jobs on a decorated bee template which has made a great hall display. We hope that parents are pleased by all the tidy bedrooms and well fed pets!

This term we have introduced a new lunchtime award. Each week, two children are chosen for their good manners and good behaviour in the dining room. Their reward is to bring a friend, on the Friday, to a special table. The table is laid for them and decorated with our new star award. They are then waited on by our midday supervisors. As you can imagine this is proving very popular and everyone is very keen to win!

If you would like to find out more about our school, please take a look at our website at:

www.layston.herts.sch.uk

Or phone 01763 271235 to arrange a visit.

Gill Langley
Headteacher



Our 'Busy Bee' display (above) and the Friday lunchtime 'Star Table' (below)



THE LYNSEY IVISON TRUST **CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT**

DECEMBER 1st 2012
7.00 for 7.30 PM START

AT THE NEW SCOUT HUT BUNTINGFORD

TICKETS £7.50 INCLUDES PLOUGHMANS SUPPER
LICENCED BAR, MINCE PIES & MULLED WINE!!!

CALL 01763 271878

Please support us in raising money to send children with life-threatening illnesses on special holidays with their family to Centre Parcs, where they can create long lasting memories.

Reg Charity No.1003404





Millfield First and Nursery School



This has been a very busy month at Millfield. Since the last article several of the events which were up-coming have now taken place. Mr Hall, our caretaker, left the school and enjoyed a very special last day when he was presented with a set of art equipment and we held a special lunch with the staff and met some of his former colleagues. We wish him well in his retirement. Mr Clive Alexander has now become our School Caretaker and we hope he will be very happy with us.

We are delighted to tell you that the school has heard that we have achieved the International School Award. In order to achieve this award the school organised a number of events with an international theme including our International Week when the children visited a different country in each class. The Rowan Class have also been in communication with a Welsh speaking school in Caerphilly, sending them letters and emails. Thanks go to one of our teachers Mrs Gooding and all the staff in helping our school to achieve this prestigious award

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to our Harvest Assembly on Thursday 18th October at 9:05am in the School Hall which will have an international theme. We will be having a collection at the end of the assembly for Christian Aid to support honey collectors in India. This helps local people support themselves. By then, we will be almost through our annual Autumn 'Walk to School Week', which began on Monday 15th October. We ask everyone to try really hard to walk to school throughout the week and each class completes a wall chart with stickers showing if they have walked or come by scooter to school.

The Eco-Action Team collects any jewellery and mobile phones that are no longer wanted and the money raised is used for eco-projects around the school. Please bring in any items that you no longer need and either place them in the collection box in the School Hall or take them to the School Office.

As mentioned in last month's journal, we are once again taking part in a Bag2School clothing collection. Please bring any unwanted items of clothing in to school on Monday 5th November ready for collection. This collection also raises funds for our eco-work. Thank you.

KS1 had a fantastic day when they came to school dressed as palaeontologists and experienced the excitement of the Dinosaur Dome, a giant inflatable dome which was put up in the School Hall. The children undertook a range of activities including seeing



KS1 go fossil hunting in sand trays.

3D dinosaurs and looking at dinosaurs through 360 degrees. They also dug for fossils in sand trays! Thanks to Mrs Wagstaff and the rest of the KS1 staff for arranging the day.

KS2 visited the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge last week and had a wonderful time exploring the Ancient Greek collection of statues and artefacts. The children learnt so much during the visit. Thanks go to Miss Lord and the KS2 staff who arranged the event and to the parents who came along to help.



KS2 pupils outside the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

If you would like to know more about our school please visit our website www.millfield.herts.sch.uk or contact the school on 01763 271717.

Kathy Willett, Head Teacher

Millfield PTA Presents an Evening of Live entertainment by Toria

Singing a selection of hits
old and new!

Friday 7th Dec 2012

At The Bury From
7pm till late!



Tickets £7.50 from Kirkhams in Buntingford High Street.

P.S. **Adults only** so book your babysitters now!!

Tickets are available until Friday 30th November 2012

For more information contact **Jo Garner 07739 515 364**

The AGM was well attended, all the committee agreed to stand for the coming year and Dave Austin remains Chairman. Subs for 2013 remain at £12.50, or £9 for members of another U3A. Our next meeting is on Monday 12th November at the Seth Ward Community Centre, when Georgie Perrott's talk is entitled, 'My 39 years at Covent Garden'. Doors open at 2pm, visitors welcome £2. Enquiries to:

Christine Jeffries 01763 273466 or Jean Devenish 01763 271783

3 rd Tuesday, 20 Nov Contact Carol McKimmie	Walking Group (2 hours plus) 01763 271054	9:50am –12:00noon TBA
Last Thursday, 29 Nov Contact Dave Austin	Wine Appreciation 01763 272066	8:00pm at Seth Ward CC £5pp, bring 2 glasses each
4 th Wednesday, 28 Nov Contact Hilary Curtis	Shorter walks (1 hour plus) 01763 272323	10:30am TBA
Individual sessions Wednesdays Contact Colin Gibbons	Family History 01763 271398	In Buntingford
3 rd Thursday, 15 Nov Contact Alan Rumble	Computers (all levels) £3 01920 823608	2:00–4:00pm Seth Ward Community Centre
2 nd Friday, 9 Nov Contact Jeremy Burr	Digital photography £2 01920 823209	2:00–4:00pm URC Hall, Buntingford
2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays, 13 & 27 Nov Contact Christine Jeffries	Singing for Pleasure 01763 273466	2:00–4:00pm Wyddial
Every Tuesday Contact Alan Smith May start a new Beginners' class	Bridge 01763 287657 Phone him if you're interested	10.00am–12.00noon Homes
Various Contact Val Lohead	Out to Lunch 01279 658069	Various
Varies Contact Evelyn Smith	Social Outings 01763 272241	Sunday Lunch 4 Nov Panto December
Mondays Contact Dave Austin	Keep Fit £2 01763 272066	10:00–11:30am Seth Ward Community Centre
Last Wednesday Contact Anne Austin	Book Club 01763 272066	2:30pm Fairfield
Every Friday Contact Rosemary Poulton	Pilates: £20 for 6 sessions or £5 per session 01763 271598	1:30–2:45pm Seth Ward Community Centre
Every Wednesday Contact Dave Austin	Table Tennis £2 01763 272066	2:00–3:00pm Seth Ward Community Centre
Every Wednesday Contact Roy Ellard	Badminton £2 01763 271578	3:15–4:15pm Seth Ward Community Centre
Every Monday Contact Vidyut Sharma	Yogic breathing £5 01763 271779	10:00–11:30am Monks Walk
Last Tuesday Contact Mick Westwood	Strollers 01763 272594	Depends on weather – phone for details
Contact Ron Brighten	Quizzes 01763 273175	Teams for local quizzes – 2 or 3 planned for Autumn
Every Tues NEW GROUP	Seated Exercises £3.50 01763 271783	Standon Village Hall 10:00am, includes tea
Contact Anne Smith	Wednesday lunches 01763 271565	TBA
Restarting in October Contact Julia Peacock	Carpet Bowls 01763 272584	Possible Thursday 10:00am, to be confirmed

Celebrating Great Results

It has been a really positive start to the new academic year at Freman College. The summer holidays brought well earned and richly deserved exam success to our A level students and also last year's E years (Year 11). A greater proportion of our students achieved A* and A grades at A level

than ever before: a quarter of all A level grades achieved by students were A* or A, while 54% were grades A*-B. More than 10% of the year group achieved 3 or more A or A* grades and almost without exception students are now embarking on the next career step that they had hoped to, whether to university, college, work, or a gap year.

Meanwhile a new college record was set by last year's E Year with students achieving a higher average GCSE point score per student than ever before, despite results falling overall nationally. The average point score per student was 504, which means on average students achieved the equivalent of over 9 GCSE A grades. Of the 206 students taking their GCSEs this year, 91% achieved 5 or more A*-C grades and 65% per cent of students achieved 5 or more A*-C grades including English and mathematics. With 100% of students passing at least 5 GCSEs, another record result, students of all abilities shared in the college's success.

We could not be prouder of the success of our students this summer. They worked really hard to achieve the fantastic results they did and in the case of GCSE students, did so despite the fact that, as has been widely covered in the media, in some subjects the grade boundaries had been raised without any warning.

To add to the college's sense of achievement, our I Year boys' football team (right) covered themselves in glory, bringing home the Under 14 County Cup, having patiently waited for the rescheduled final after it was rained off at the end of last term. In a superb match they beat Roundwood Park 2:1, scoring the winning goal in extra time.

It has also been great to return to college with the prospect of a new Sports Hall a step closer to reality. By careful budgeting and also successful bids, we have secured the funding to build a four-court sports hall with changing rooms, space for a fitness suite and also four classrooms. Our application for planning permission for the £1.1 million project has been submitted and we are waiting with bated breath. The Sports Hall will be at the northern end of the school buildings on what is currently wasteland, so will not reduce the amount of playing fields we currently have but will add much needed indoor PE space to our facilities. We plan to make the Sports Hall available for let to local groups and anticipate that it will be ready for use by September 2013. It will be great to watch the building take shape over the coming months.



Helen Loughran, Headteacher



Buntingford Social Club

C I U affiliated

6 Church Street, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 9AS

Telephone 01763 271889

www.thebuntingfordsocialclub.co.uk



* EVERY MONDAY BIG CASH BINGO *

Guaranteed £150 minimum snowball prize. ALL WELCOME. Start 8:00pm

ALL MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS SHOWN (times permitting)

Live entertainment Saturdays, except 2nd Saturday in the month (unless otherwise announced)

AND DON'T FORGET, WE SELL THE CHEAPEST PINT IN BUNTINGFORD! WE ALSO HAVE HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY FROM 5:30PM TO 6:30PM

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

27th Oct - HALLOWEEN SPECIAL DISCO - fancy dress optional, but PRIZES for best dressed adult, child, couple and family



25th Nov - OPEN DARTS TOURNAMENT WITH CASH PRIZES. ENTRANCE FEE: £5 PRE-REGISTERED, £6 ON THE DAY

Doors open 10.30am, last registrations 11.45am. Contact the club or see facebook for entrance form. £200 for WINNER



CHECK OUT THE CLUB NOTICE BOARD FOR MORE DETAILS

ENTERTAINMENT FOR NOVEMBER

- 3rd - NITE FLYTE - A bit of Blues Brothers and more
- 10th - NO ENTERTAINMENT (free jukebox, pool, snooker)
- 17th - MOVIE STARS - Club favourite
- 24th - SATURDAY SPECIAL: MICHAEL JACKSON TRIBUTE plus Premonition Duo

1st Dec - ABUKUS - Great rock band

MEMBERS FREE / GUESTS £1 or £4 Saturday Special night

Don't forget to check out our page on facebook.

New Members always welcome and for any of you lapsed members you are always welcome to rejoin at anytime. Membership only £12 per annum.

Buntingford Dramatic Society

Buntingford Dramatic Society would like to extend a big THANK YOU to everyone who came to see *Trouble & Strife*.

Our next show will be the pantomime:

Old Mother Hubbard

by Tony Nicholls

1st / 2nd and 8th / 9th February 2013

For more information about the Buntingford Dramatic Society and future productions, please visit our website: www.buntingforddrama.org



Gladys Aman – Your
Drama Correspondent

Oh, hello there, I hadn't noticed you. I was engrossed in the gripping adventure novel I've been reading – *Fight with a Lion*, by Claude Bottom – have you downloaded it onto your Kindle yet? Oh, you really should, you know.

Anyway, I wanted to update you on activities down at the Buntingford Dramatic Society. Well, we had a ~~victim~~ volunteer (I always get those two confused) come forward to direct our annual pantomime extravaganza and following scrutiny of various scripts, he has selected *Old Mother Hubbard* by Tony Nicholls. Auditions were then employed to determine the suitability of society membership for the requisite roles and luckily this year we won't have to drag Thomas, Richard or their mate Harold off of the street to make up the numbers! So now we are busy with rehearsals, set building and the like, but I think we'll leave learning lines until after Xmas (just kidding Mr Director, Sir, if you're reading this)!

Hopefully, I'll see you down the High Street on Friday 30th November, but before I go I'll leave you with this thought: when is the worst time to have a heart attack?

You don't know? Then, I'll tell you – during your turn in a game of charades! Oh, yes it is. Did you say, 'Oh, no it isn't?' Don't start that now, dear reader, better save it for 1st/2nd and 8th/9th February! Check out the website www.buntingforddrama.org for details.



Affiliated to Hertfordshire County Youth Football Association

www.buntingfordcougars.com

Cougars Under 8s

The new football season in Buntingford saw the addition of two new coaches for the under 8s, Phil Allen and Barry Tokeley, who joined forces with the existing manager, Darren Wennington. At the end of last season, the under 8s were struggling with numbers for the team, but that has all changed this season, and we now have some fantastic players. The fifteen strong squad of boys have played some brilliant matches in Division C South, Royston Crow League, including a 13-0 win against Stevenage Boro Vipers.

With the new season, and new parents, the team has had a renewed vigour in ensuring that the boys are well kitted out. Having secured a donation last year for the kits, the boys were still in need of rain jackets and tracksuit bottoms. Local company J&R Carpentry Limited have agreed to sponsor the rain jackets and the under 8s parents are organising fundraising activities to buy the tracksuit bottoms. Parents have also clubbed together and put in money to get the boys a portable shelter to keep them dry and out of the wind while waiting to play in matches.

The managers have been very open about how they would like the team to progress, and this long-term plan has given the team a real drive to continue to be a 'dream team'.



Thirteen of the Cougars 15-strong Under 8s squad, photographed at training

Christmastime @ Gravelly Barn in Braughing

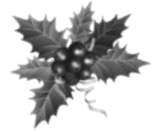
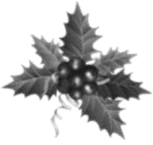
10.30am–4.30pm on Friday 30th November,
Saturday 1st December & Sunday 2nd December

This year we are raising money for Mesothelioma UK in memory of Ann Smith and for Breakthrough Breast Cancer in memory of Norma Adams.

The exhibition will include paintings, textiles, ceramics, jewellery, glass, hats, Boris' piano and festive refreshments. All are welcome to come and enjoy the fine art and inspirational Christmas presents, whilst raising money and awareness for these worthwhile charities. Please contact

J Davalle or G Bainbridge for further information: 0790 5184619

www.gravellybarn.com



BRAUGHING DRAMA GROUP

The new season of the **Braughing Music Hall Variety Show** starts on **23rd November**, organised by Derek Goodall. There will be four shows before Christmas and eight in the New Year. Most are booked out to local charities and organisations to help them raise funds. For dates and details of where to buy tickets please see the village website: www.braughing.org.uk

Bubble and Squeak

When I was a child, on Mondays we had bubble and squeak for tea,
with cold cuts of meat from Sunday's joint, it was comfort food for me.
And now as days grow shorter, and we need a hearty dish ...
humble squeak and bubble, cooked fresh, is what I crave and wish.

Cabbage and 'taters', onions or leeks...

whatever you have makes your bubble and squeak!!!

I said to Graham: 'About what shall I write?'

'Bubble and squeak' he replied, dishing up Tuesday night.

For a fantastic supper, use up what you've got.

Far better than leaving leftovers to rot!

It's time to get back to wintery dinners.

And bubble and squeak is one the winners!!! Enjoy.

Teresa Bonner

Bittersweet and Bonfires – Forever Autumn

The scent of burning leaves from the bonfire beyond the laurels still dripping with morning condensation reaches me on the small eddies of air through the pines. To my left two younger members of the beating line are scrabbling around in the fallen leaves whilst waiting for the off, in hope of finding stray golf balls from the course next door. Over to my right along the line I can just see Steve the gamekeeper, passionate promoter of the countryside, his ear pressed to the walkie-talkie getting reports back from the various members of his team standing with the guns and at other strategic points. This is the first drive of the morning and as always the level of tension is around Gas Mark 8, for it is always important to get a good start and if something goes wrong at this stage of the proceedings Steve will not be a happy camper!

As we enter the month of November we have a whole month or so of the shooting season behind us and to date we have enjoyed good weather and all has, for the most part, gone according to plan. This traditional field sport that returns each autumn is very much part of the local scene and yearly calendar and is always eagerly anticipated. To stand beneath golden and red adorned trees shot through with sun beams, in the company of best pals is without equal. Flasks filled with interesting concoctions are handed round to ward off any malevolent zephyrs that might trouble an unwary soul, whilst stories and jokes are swapped and comments on the ability of each gun are given sage-like consideration.

'Right lads off we go!' Steve gives the call and we move in line forwards beating out the undergrowth, some members stumble and disappear from time to time, into ditches and branches that grab one unkindly, tug at coat and hat. Then those that were momentarily lost now re-emerge covered in mud and bits of detritus much to the amusement of the team and encouragement from Steve to 'keep the line straight'. Soon we hear the loud reports of the guns ahead and Steve takes it up to Gas Mark 9 with the pressure valve just short of lift off, then, when he feels the moment's right, he blows on his whistle and the guns fall silent and his blood pressure drops to some where near normal.

Back on the beaters cart liquid intake is supplemented by copious quantities of confectionary and on one spectacular day the youngsters and some oldies rose to the challenge and demolished a whole tin of Roses in between drives. However, these golden days are often tinged with sadness as every year brings a vacant seat on the tractor or in the beaters cart when one of our friends either cannot any longer join us or they have gone on ahead to the Happy Hunting Grounds. These pals will never be forgotten and slip gently into legend.

Indeed it always seems that this prince of seasons, and my favourite, reminds us of those friends and family who have left the field but remain within our thoughts. Especially in the early days of the month when the town, in ever increasing numbers, will stand in solidarity before the memorial, thinking for a while about those who were called to defend our shores.

A time of reflection when we question that most human of traits that prompts us to try and destroy each other, either in defence or under some idealistic and often materialistic crusade. Governments barely concealing the true reason for sending men and women into a war theatre where they are often required to carry out their task with inadequate support, intelligence or equipment. Moreover, when the dust has settled

and when those same people who despatched those brave youngsters decide 'that was all in the past', they insult the fallen and injured by apologising for our part in the atrocities, overlooking what terrible things that that particular 'enemy' wreaked upon us or upon the innocents who always take the brunt of such expeditions. One is tempted to recall that evocative line from the so-called protest anthem of the 60s: 'When will they ever learn, when will they ever learn?'

Meanwhile we prepare for the festivals of the season, both home grown and imported, like Halloween which has grown in favour recently in a form from across the pond. One is minded to speculate if its introduction was orchestrated by retail giants greedy to exploit the insatiable appetite for the retail consumer. But children enjoy it, so perhaps we shouldn't be cynical.

For me I remember with affection the days of yore when children built bonfires (unsupervised) and father's old trousers were hijacked for the guy for whom we begged 'penny for the guy mister' to buy fireworks. In the days following the 5th November the central grass area and tarmac of the road on our estate, destroyed by the bonfire, was repaired by the council without whining about 'budgetary allocation' or accompanied by heaps of forms or interfering Elf and Safety Gestapo.

Obviously and tragically there were accidents as a few members of the public went off piste. However, there were reputable companies ensuring that if fireworks were handled correctly then you would be very unlucky to suffer any damage to the person. Whatever happened to Brock Fireworks? And who controls these current imported pyrotechnic creations which have the ferocity of a small arsenal, now favoured by those who have more money than sense and wish to impress their neighbours!

But when the rocket sticks are swept away and the last of the pumpkin lanterns are condemned to the brown bin, lady autumn spreads the folds of her cloak across mist-laden meadows where cows seem to float in the golden haze of morning. These are truly uplifting moments to be enjoyed before the cold winds come in with the winter solstice and the woodcock, heralding dark days and snow.

Vyse

Copies of 'The Stick' by Vyse, telling of a local country character and many stories of the countryside, are still available from the A10 farm shop, good stocking fillers!



B A L A

Buntingford Action for the Less Able

Registered Charity No. 1094426

Minibus trips for November 2012

Thurs 1 st	9:30 – 12ish	Tesco at Bishop's Stortford	£4
Mon 5 th	10:30 – 3pm	Welwyn Garden City – John Lewis, M&S, Debenhams, WHSmith, Boots etc.	£6
Tues 6 th	10:30 – 2:30	Country Gardens and Bury Lane Farm Shop, Melbourn – Cotton Traders, Shoes, Edinburgh Woollen Mills, Bulbs, Plants, Deli etc.	£4.50
Thurs 8 th	9:30 – 12ish	Bishop's Stortford Town Centre – Market Day	£4
Sat 10 th	2:30pm	Hertford, 'St Swithuns'	Tckts £11.50 Bus £4
Mon 12 th	10:30 – 2:30	Letchworth – drop off at Morrisons	£5
Thurs 15 th	9:30 – 12ish	Tesco at Bishop's Stortford	£4
Sun 18 th	2:30 – 8ish	London Xmas Lights, incl. coffee/toilet stop	£10
Tues 20 th	10:30 – 2:30	Van Hage Garden Centre	£5
Thurs 22 nd	9:30 – 12ish	Bishop's Stortford Town Centre – Market Day	£4
Sat 24 th	3:00pm	Hertford, Agatha Christie's 'The Hollow'	Tickets £10 Bus £4
Mon 26 th	10:00 – 4:30	Milton Keynes Shopping Centre	£12
Tues 27 th	10:30 – 3pm	Brookfield Centre – Boots, M&S, Argos, Next, Tesco etc.	£6
Wed 28 th	10:00 – 4:30	Milton Keynes Shopping Centre	£12
Thurs 29 th	9:30 – 12ish	Tesco at Bishop's Stortford	£4
December			
Wed 5 th	9:30 – 12ish	Bishop's Stortford Town Centre	£4

To book a seat or for more information phone 01763 273623 or 01763 271708

Lunch Break – Soup & Bread Roll £1.50

at Benson Hall, Buntingford

Wednesday 21st November – 12.00noon to 1:30pm

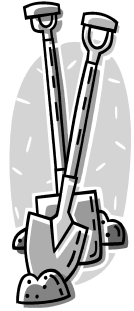
Savouries / Coffee / Cakes / Raffle / Marmalade

Proceeds for the B.A.L.A. MINIBUS

BUNTINGFORD GARDENERS CLUB

Church Farm, Ardeley

Our speakers are often booked a year in advance and sometimes this can cause a bit of a problem, as was the case in October. Due to a breakdown in communication, confirmation of the speaker did not arrive until just a week before the meeting. However, all turned out well and Rick Humphrey arrived despite the inclement weather, as did our dogged members all set for another enjoyable evening.



In a very informal, chatty way, Rick told us the what, where and how of the various vegetable and fruit crops that he grows for Church Farm, on organic criteria, with the support of a team of interns and volunteers. The vegetables, fruit and hens eggs produced are destined for use either in the farm cafe or pub kitchen, or for the farm shop. With a bit of prompting by questions from the audience, Rick gave us a good insight into the running of a very busy horticultural department. I will pass on one of the tips he told us: when setting beer traps for slugs, make sure that the container remains slightly above the earth, otherwise beneficial insects could get trapped, too.

Why not come along to Buntingford Gardeners Club? Having a garden is not essential – just an interest in plants. Please note: the November meeting is the Inter Club Quiz and December is our Christmas party, both of which are for members only, but we hope to see you in the New Year.

Heather Pope

Club enquiries to Janet Murrells, Chairwoman, 01763 274341

LOST ARK GAMES

Celebrates one year on the High Street

Lost Ark will be celebrating it's 1st Birthday on the High Street at the end of October. In that short time it has already become a real social gathering place for young and old alike who share an interest in games. Forthcoming events there include:

Every Friday – 4pm The Gathering Tournament (Friday Night Magic) Entry £3

Every Wednesday – 4pm Dungeons & Dragons Encounters, Entry Free

Thursday Nov 8th – 5pm to 9pm Games Night, Gears of War, Entry Free

Saturday Dec 1st – 11am Magic Booster Draft, Entry £25

Thursday Dec 6th – 5pm to 9pm Games Night, Lord of the Rings Battle of Five Armies, Entry Free

Thursday Dec 20th – 5pm to 9pm Games Night, D&D Castle Ravenloft, Entry Free



BUNTINGFORD TOWN FC

www.buntingfordtownfc.com



In the last issue I spoke about the great character shown by our First Team when, at 3-0 down with 30 minutes on the clock, a 5-3 victory at Bushey Rangers was secured. Well it was almost deja-vu the following week, when the team went 3-0 down on 60 minutes at Kimpton Rovers in the Albury Cup. Scott Caine struck twice and Ross Barker stroked home a penalty in the 90th minute, levelling the scores at 3-3. Unfortunately, despite going ahead in extra time with another Barker goal, 2 strikes from Kimpton put us out of the cup. In the league the First Team followed the cup exit with a 2-2 draw at Hatfield Town Blues and a 3-1 away defeat at Hatfield RBL. A clean sheet would be most welcome!

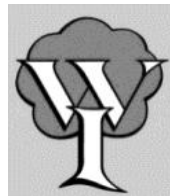
The Reserves have had a frustrating time due to no fault of their own. The League's new computer system has been problematical all season and one consequence was that Croxley Guild turned up at The Bury one fine Saturday afternoon to find the place shut and no-one around. They had been told of the game, but we hadn't! The League has now moved to a new system which hopefully will be more reliable. The other frustration was that Hatfield RBL Reserves, who we beat 17-2 a few weeks ago, have now dropped out of the League and their record has been expunged – this has not helped our goal difference! The good news is that the side has progressed in the Herts FA Junior Cup, beating Offley Cab Reserves 3-2 in a game which saw 3 red cards for the opposition and 1 for us; we look forward to the next round where we will face Croxley C&H Reserves at The Bury on 3rd November. Hopefully the referee will have an easier time of it!

Following their long-awaited tour victory, the Vets proceeded to lose their next 2 matches, going down 2-1 to Waltham Abbey Vets followed by elimination (3-0) from the Herts FA Veterans' cup to Dun Cow from Stevenage. To give our boys some credit, the opposition were a very good team, and Buntingford's second half clean sheet was well-deserved and hard-earned. Dun Cow will play the holders Garston Vets in the quarter-final; we will then see just how good they really are as Garston are arguably the best Veterans team in the County. The lads bounced back in their next match with a 5-2 victory at Enfield Vets, so with luck their season is back on course. Finally, please see below details of our Fireworks Evening, our eighth year of staging this event. As always your support is appreciated.

Chris Thurgill, Chairman, Buntingford Town FC

Buntingford's Only Annual FIREWORK DISPLAY – SUNDAY 4th NOVEMBER		
At The Bury	Doors Open 5:00pm	Display Starts 7:00pm
		
<p>ADVANCE TICKETS (from The Bury, 01763 271522) – £3 Child, £4 Adult, Family (of 4) £12 ON THE DAY (after 5.00pm) – £4 Child, £5 Adult, Family £15 <i>In the interests of safety, no sparklers allowed</i></p>		

BUNTINGFORD W.I.



It was lovely to see so many visitors (and, hopefully, new members) brave the downpour to come to our October meeting. The speaker was Richard Pople and he brought along lots of pictures of his trips to India. He had visited the Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur, which is a bird sanctuary, and he showed us a huge variety of exotic birds. I was amazed that he could put a name to them all without referring to any notes (although I suppose he could have made some of them up and I would have been none the wiser!). Two species have been seen in the wild in England: the ring-necked parakeet and the monk parakeet.

He also showed slides which illustrated the chaotic conditions on the roads and the primitive living and working conditions. All the people in the photos seemed happy though and whenever Richard stopped to take a picture of them they would stop what they were doing in order to smile and wave at the camera! By way of contrast, the slide show ended with some lovely pictures of the Taj Mahal, including one taken at sunset which turns the building pink.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 8th November at 7.45pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, when Lyn Croot is our guest speaker. The title of her talk is 'I had a dream'. Sounds intriguing! Visitors are welcome. If anyone is interested in joining us, just come along to one of our meetings or phone Pat on 01763 271305.

Val Hume



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

Winter is almost upon us so I would like to remind everyone of a few things to consider at this time of year. Summer seems a distant memory and most gardening equipment will be stored away for next spring! Can we all please make sure that sheds and garages are properly locked and secure and all equipment is stored out of sight – let's not make it easy for burglars to steal your belongings. If you require advice on crime prevention tips contact me by phone on **101, our non-emergency** number. Or you can talk to me or another local PCSO at one of our beat surgeries – times are on the Hertfordshire police website: www.herts.police.uk

With Halloween and Bonfire Night fast approaching, can I remind everyone please keep safe. The East Herts Community Safety Partnership (CSP) takes many extra complaints about Halloween-related activities, so parents/guardians, make sure you know where your children are; and children, never go 'trick-or-treating' alone, take an adult with you, and keep Halloween 'tricks' safe – damage to property or hurting someone is a crime.

The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend an organised display and keep a safe distance. Only adults over 18 should buy or handle fireworks and remember, it is an offence to let fireworks off between 11.00pm and 7.00am, except on 5th November when the curfew is midnight. We all like to have fun, but we have to be sensible around fireworks. **If anyone suffers from anti-social behaviour, please phone us on 101, or if a crime or an emergency is taking place dial 999.** Do not suffer in silence.

Adam Frame, Buntingford PCSO

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

Braughing Music Society -

Saturday 1st December 2012 at 7.30pm

at St Mary's Church, Braughing

A cabaret evening with

Instant Sunshine

Music and comedy for an evening to remember.

Tickets Prices £15, £12 or £10. Children free.

Telephone Box Office : 01763 289073

bookings@braughingmusicsociety.co.uk

www.braughingmusicsociety.co.uk

Are you a resident of Buntingford and District?

Would you like a voice on major issues concerning the Buntingford area?

Join Buntingford Civic Society and as part of your subscription all ten issues of the Buntingford Journal will be delivered to your door throughout the year.

I / We* wish to apply for family membership of the Buntingford Civic Society, at the annual subscription rate indicated below.

Name/s: _____

Address: _____

Post code: _____ Tel: _____

Email: _____

I / We* enclose £7 door delivery subscription / £18 postal (UK) subscription*
(Please make cheques payable to Buntingford Civic Society)

Signed: _____

Send to: Chris Eagle (Membership Secretary)

5 Monks Walk, Buntingford, Herts SG9 9EE

*delete as appropriate