

The Link

Quendon & Rickling
Parish
and Church

You can find *The Link*
and much more at
www.quendonandrickling.co.uk

NEWS

June 2020

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David Lockwood
Rhododendrons in our garden



Visits: If you would like the Vicar to visit you at home or in hospital, or know of anyone who would like him to visit them, please let the Vicar know.

The Rev'd. Neil McLeod, The Vicarage, 5, Meadowford, Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3QL

Telephone: 01799 540339 **E-mail:** vicar4nqrwchurches@gmail.com

From the Vicarage Study Rev. Neil McLeod, Priest-in-Charge of Newport with Widdington, Quendon and Rickling.



This is a copy of a photograph that hangs in the front hallway of the vicarage. The reason I got it is that it reminds me of my relationship with God; that of father and child. In the photograph mine would be the smaller hand, whilst the larger hand – the adult hand – would be that of God, my heavenly Father.

Why have I included it here? It's because it shows what we may be missing at the moment – human touch. Certainly that is how it is for me, and I suspect many others because family members live elsewhere.

Of course I go out to the shop when I need to but I keep the regulation 2 metres apart from other people. When I conduct a funeral one of the hardest things is that I cannot shake hands with any of the bereaved families either before or after the service. A handshake is a form of greeting or parting. Before Covid-19 I wouldn't have thought anything of it, but now I miss it. That's before I get to hugs from my brothers, sister-in-laws, nephews and nieces. Recently I live-streamed a family funeral and it was heart-breaking to see my niece sitting there on her own. When my instinct was to be there to hug her, I had to watch it on the laptop in my study.

I am conducting regular bible studies with members of the churches, and this morning we were thinking about the wilderness. Isaiah 53:1 states, 'For the Lord will comfort Zion, he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.' A wilderness need not be like a desert wasteland; one of things that we discussed was that a wilderness is a place of no hope. Is that where we are at the moment? We cannot see a way of out where we are; we cannot see hope of the future. When will I not just get to see my family, but when will I able to hug them?

We now have a further three weeks of waiting. Up till now we may have thought we were coping, but another three weeks!!! Like the disciples we have no idea when anything is going to happen. Like the disciples we don't know what is going to happen. Yet even in the darkness there is hope! By the time Sunday came the disciples had hope once more as Jesus rose from the dead. We must have hope that a vaccine for Covid-19 will be found. We have to have hope that the number of deaths and number of people contracting the virus will fall. We hope that one day this will be all be over and life will restart.

Proverbs 23:18 states, 'There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.' I hold onto the hope that there is a future – a good future – for us. We may not know what it will look like, but it will be. As it said in Isaiah the wilderness will become like Eden (the garden) and deserts like a garden of the Lord. This pandemic will come to end, and it will be overcome.

Stay safe, and God Bless.

Revd Neil McLeod

Church Services in the Benefice

As reported here previously, all church services in this parish have been cancelled until further notice. If people wish to join our Zoom Sunday services, could they please email Neil on vicar4nqrwchurches@gmail.com for details.

Priest in Charge of Newport with Widdington and Quendon and Rickling.

The Rev'd. Neil McLeod, The Vicarage, 5, Meadowford, Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3QL

Telephone: 01799 540339 E-mail: vicar4nqrwchurches@gmail.com

Churchwardens - **Quendon:** Mrs Christine Osbourn 01799 543367 and Mrs Maureen Hawkins
Rickling: Lisa Huxtable 07771 541944

Treasurer - **Quendon and Rickling:** Mrs Sandra Arnold 01799 543075

Police contact information

For crimes and suspicious activity NOW phone	999
For non-urgent incidents and reporting a crime that has already happened	101
Alternatively you can report non-urgent incidents or suspicious activity and crimes on-line at https://www.essex.police.uk/do-it-on-line/	
Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime where you should report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cyber-crime in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. If you have been defrauded i.e. lost money phone or report online at https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime If someone has tried to defraud you but you have <u>not</u> lost money, phone or report online at https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report-phishing	0300 123 2040
To give information anonymously phone CRIMESTOPPERS or report it on-line at www.crimestoppers-uk.org	0800 555 111

From the Chairman of the Parish Council

This is the Chairman's Annual Report, which is usually read out at the Parish Council's AGM in May, summarising the events of the year, but this year's meeting was cancelled so we thought you might be interested to read it in The Link instead. Happy Reading!

At the start of the Parish Council year, May 2019, Brandon Chapman stepped down as Chairman after leading the PC in a very successful year following over 10 years of service to the villages. I have attempted to step into his very capable shoes despite being very reluctant to do so, but someone had to do it!

As we all know, construction work of Foxley 2 has begun. The Parish Council and the developer, Stonebond, worked together to achieve the best that we could for the villages. A contribution was given to the villages, one part of this to cover a Highways Survey to come up with a plan to reduce the speeding on the B1383, to install traffic calming measures, solve the problem of off street parking and a potential pedestrian crossing and the other part to cover recreational activities. The Highways Survey has already begun so we are hoping that this will eventually lead to a very successful outcome.

The Neighbourhood Plan, working alongside Newport, is nearly completed and will be put to the villages in a referendum. I believe this referendum has now been delayed until May 2021 because of the Covid-19 pandemic but once the Inspector alterations have been done and it has been passed through a process at UDC cabinet and full council, it will be given substantial weight immediately as legislation has now been altered to allow for this delay.

The football pitch has had a very successful first season, thanks to the magnificent effort put in by Ted Crow, our Vice Chair! The pitch would not go amiss for an FA cup final, so much attention has been bestowed on it and we

look forward to the start of an even better season with 3 clubs currently showing interest. Thanks to the initial fund raising efforts from Quickling, the pitch income has totally covered the expenses and next year it will hopefully make a profit!

The broadband coverage in the village is now nearly complete, 95% covered either by Gigaclear or BT and hopefully the remaining 5% will be completed very soon. From reports I have heard, Gigaclear was definitely worth the wait.

Two of our councillors, Carrie Williams and Katherine Nuthall, have invigorated this community through their creative love of hosting events. This year we have had Quickling, the festival held in August, despite one of the windiest days of the year attempting to dull our enthusiasm, it was an enormous success, community-wise and financially, with the idea of hosting this festival on a regular yearly basis. Unfortunately this year, for obvious reasons, it will not happen! There has also been an Apple Pressing Afternoon, a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony outside the Village Hall and a Christmas tree on the Green for the first time and a Wine and Waffle Evening. There had been a Saffron Screen Pop up planned at the end of March showcasing Grease and a Violets and Velvet Pop up was also planned in April but all up and coming events have now either been cancelled or postponed.

The arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lock down was completely unexpected but hopefully some good will come out of it, we will wait and see! I hope everyone has been well looked after and had all their needs catered for. The community spirit in the villages is definitely alive and kicking and long may it remain! The Cricketers Arms, having just got into its stride, had to close its doors so we look forward to them opening again and being able to watch a game of cricket

From the Chairman of the Parish Council (Cont.)

with a pint in hand!

Of course, one very memorable event this year was Sheepgate! I don't think there was one person in the villages who wasn't affected by these white woolly occupants and their "shepherd"! It definitely kept Facebook very busy! These sheep crept in almost overnight, much to the surprise of everyone and despite the uproar they caused, they also brought a certain amount of joy, seeing them in our midst and the villagers being involved in shepherding them along the B1383! It was certainly one way of slowing down the traffic! It seems such a shame that it all ended in tears!

I would like to thank everyone who contributes to the running of the parish! None of whom we could do without! Those who are co-opted onto the Parish Council; those who run the Village Hall; those who produce *The Link* on a monthly basis; those who run clubs; those who offer their services when volunteers are needed to run events; those who bake numerous cakes, cookies and produce delicious jars of jam and chutney; those who run the allotments; those who help out on the Speedwatch team; those who help water the newly

planted trees by the fountain; those who help mow the footpath pitch; those who mow the footpaths without being reminded; those who help with the upkeep of the churches and those who help keep our villages looking beautiful. As you can see, the list is endless and everyone has a part to play!

I would also like to thank Ray Gooding, our County Councillor and Neil Hargreaves, our District Councillor, who is a constant source of knowledge and a massive support to the Council whether it is advising on planning applications, speeding limits, keeping us up to date with the machinations of UDC or attempting to get our choice of replacement trees! Also thanks are due to Keith, our Clerk, who is an expert on what we are allowed to do or not to do and who keeps us all on the straight and narrow!

And finally, I would like to thank my fellow councillors! They are the best team that I could wish for, every one of them a pleasure to work with and all so diligent, enthusiastic and dedicated to doing their best for the villages. I couldn't do this "job" without them!

Sally Kitcat



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07940 231964

INFO@ALLASPECTSTREESERVICES.CO.UK

SAVE OUR BLUEBELL WOOD!



This season the bluebells have been beautiful but

People seem to have forgotten how vulnerable bluebells are to interference. Once these flowers are walked on, they never return. People have been seen running through the bluebells, making new paths through them to select the best photo shot, setting up dens in their midst and even digging them up!

Bicycles and motorbikes have also been seen racing through and the main footpath through the centre of the wood has also increased considerably in width!

Here you can see the damage which has been done! PLEASE ensure that you all appreciate how special these woods are, treat them with respect and use the



designated footpaths only, we would hate to lose them!

We must remember this is a private wood and we are privileged to be able to have the most amazing carpet of blue every year so we must protect this wood and save it for the future generations so bluebells won't just be a memory!

Sally Kitcat

Quendon & Rickling Parish Council News

News from the parish council meeting

Well, that was an interesting if not to say surreal experience. A virtual parish council meeting on the 13th May via the ubiquitous Zoom. My first experience of this media and I have to say I was very impressed. I guess this is the way ahead for the foreseeable future.

So what to report? It was hoped that the council would be able to announce the replacement of the VAS sign by now but, as you will see from the minutes, the contractor is in lock down which means no action for a while. Which pretty much sums up most the actions that the council was hoping to be undertaking by now.

The Highways survey has started and a first draft has been received by the council for comments.

It was commented that help within the village for vulnerable people during the Covid-19 crisis has been great which I think shows how lucky we are that when a crisis arises so do lovely people arise to the occasion.

I have given a date for the next meeting and I think it is fair to assume that it will also be via Zoom. Any member of the public who wants to sign in to the meeting should contact me after the agenda has been published to obtain the log in ID.

In the meantime stay safe.

Welcome Packs

The Parish Council provides a Welcome Pack of information for new residents to the Village. If any newcomers to the village have not received a copy of the

pack, do please let the Clerk know on the contact details below and a welcome pack will be dropped off to them.

Allotments (part of the Quendon Hall Estate):

- Peter Warwick, No.5 Thistley Crescent, Green Road, Rickling
- Telephone: 01799 543526

Next Parish Council Meeting

Will be on 10th June 2020 at 7.30pm.

Highway Problems

The Essex Highways website is available for anyone noticing a problem to report it: <http://www.essexhighways.org/Report-a-problem.aspx>
A tracking facility for all reported faults is available.

Police/Crime

The Essex Community Messaging Service provides useful information to the public about policing and safety issues. It is free to register and information is given relative to your postcode, thus providing accurate and up-to-date community safety information and crime prevention advice. Users can choose to receive information via e-mail, text or voice-recording and can select what information to receive – based on where they live and work and on issues of interest. For further details and to sign up, visit www.essex.police.uk/ecm

Contact the Parish Council

The Clerk, Keith Williams can be contacted by e-mail quendonandrickling.clerk@hotmail.com or by telephone 01279 814473

Report from District Councillor Neil Hargreaves

Local Plan

The Local Plan was withdrawn at the end of April following heavy criticism by the inspectors. The council now has to create a plan for the new Plan to build around 14,000 houses. In 2014 the plan inspector rejected distributing more housing onto existing settlements and suggested having new settlements. And in 2020 the inspectors rejected the new settlements and say we should revert to the option refused in 2014. The inspectors in 2020 made no reference to the 2014 decision.

The Newport parish council submission to UDC concerning the Local Plan tabulated a long list of the weaknesses of key infrastructure. This includes having no major hospital and over stretched GP surgeries, only one motorway junction and one dual carriageway, no free-to-use country parks, limited public transport, limited employment (the airport recruits largely from out of the district), limited school places, limited water supplies, only one substantial cycle route and limited opportunity to extend existing historic settlements due to landscape, heritage and local infrastructure constraints.

The report, authored by PC deputy chair Judy Emanuel,

concluded:

There has been an explosion in speculative development in the district since the last local plan period ended. What there has not been is any investment in infrastructure to support those homes. Mitigation of those shortfalls must be at the heart of any future plan for Uttlesford. This is a rural district and any planned development in a new Local Plan must address the long-term sustainability and infrastructure provision within the district – the absence of a plan to achieve this has been at the heart of the failure of the last two draft Local Plans.

Neighbourhood Plan

We have received the examiner's draft report for internal fact checking. Although he recommends deleting or significantly altering some policies, other parts he supports and has, we think, strengthened some policies. The draft is not public, but I would say he is a tad more enthusiastic than our Local Plan inspectors. The next stage is he will send the final letter and if we accept his alterations then UDC will put the plan forward for a referendum. As this is not possible at present, the

Report from District Councillor Neil Hargreaves (Cont.)

government have amended the regulations so that the plan will carry 'significant weight' once it is ready for referendum

Political changes at UDC

Just after the last report was written Anthony Gerard resigned from the council. Elections are not allowed at present, so for the time being I will carry on looking after ward matters on my own. Also, the two councillors for Thaxted ward have left the Libdems to form an Independent group. This means that the political make up of the council is now R4U 23 seats, Libdems 5, Conservative 4, Chesterford ward Independents 2, Greens 2 and Thaxted ward Independents 2, with one vacancy. May is when the 'annual' council meeting takes place at which a new council chair is elected. The new chair is traditionally the current deputy chair and so will likely be Cllr Martin Foley, who is one of the two newly independent Thaxted councillors. And the nomination for the new deputy chair is Saffron Walden R4U Cllr Arthur Coote. He has just recovered from coronavirus. He was very ill and his description of it was of a frightening and excruciating experience. As he was starting to recover his wife then caught it. The good news is they are both fully recovered

Coronavirus

The council has received a phone call from Amanda Solloway MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at

the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. It is unusual for a Government Minister to personally call a local authority in this way, but she took the time to speak to our Director of Finance Adrian Webb about the grants schemes available to businesses. The government provided £20m in grant aid and UDC has been administering the payments. During the call she congratulated the council for the speed at which it has administered the scheme, ensuring local businesses receive the money they were entitled to as quickly as possible. This contrasts with several other Essex councils which have received letters from the Government requiring them to improve their performance.

Councillor Surgeries

These are currently suspended but I'm available on 01799 540411 and on the village facebook. I'm attending the parish council meetings which are now Zoom video conferences. All three parish councils in the ward are meeting by video and it works well, as do the UDC meetings. In particular at full council meetings it seems to reduce political grandstanding and fosters a business rather than a political atmosphere

Neil Hargreaves

Other News from Uttlesford District Council

You can get email newsletters and alerts on a whole range of topics via Keep me posted – sign up and find out more at www.uttlesford.gov.uk/keepmeposted.



Dear Residents

It's a pleasure to be officially back at work as maternity leave ends following the birth of my daughter.

Of course being an MP means that one can never completely switch off work, but this has certainly been the most extraordinary period for so many reasons. I cannot thank my parliamentary and constituency offices enough for the work they have done keeping the office running during this period, allowing me to do more in my ministerial roles.

The world is a very different place from September 2019 when I first signed off, parliament had been prorogued and MPs were openly discussing the possibility of the government falling and a national unity government being formed. A busy election period, a new government and a change of role for me from the Department of Education to the Treasury just 2 months ago pale in significance to the once-in-a century challenge of the global pandemic we are facing now.

The COVID19 lockdown has had a huge effect on all our families in various ways, personified most recently by the

Prime Minister himself having to go into intensive care. Given the novelty of this disease, there will undoubtedly be some decisions and actions that could have been better. There will be many lessons learned over the coming months and years. However, it is important to recognise that everything is being done in good faith.

The difficulties have been tempered by the outpouring of community spirit and various kind acts across the country and the knowledge we're all in this together. There has been a concerted effort to support one another, especially our elderly and vulnerable members.

From a Treasury perspective, I cannot fully convey just how much work we have put in to minimise the impact on families, jobs and businesses. I've received many letters from across the country thanking the government for the financial support. There are some who feel that what they have received is not enough. Conversely, there are others concerned about the economic impact from the scale of government interventions.

None of these decisions are taken lightly. Every single one has significant risks and we make them in the

Our Member of Parliament (Cont.)

knowledge that they will have the most profound effect on people's lives.

Since the crisis began my team and I have received an unprecedented level of correspondence. We've worked tirelessly on a variety of issues from council tax, food deliveries, waste disposal to health complications. We have also been assisting local businesses to get the help they need during this difficult time. I'm very proud of how we have been able to use our local knowledge to link up different types of support within our community, for example putting GP surgeries in Saffron Walden in touch with PPE suppliers in Great Dunmow or tailoring the business support schemes following direct feedback from local businesses on how they could be enhanced.

The stakeholders we liaise with daily are continuing to grow and include Essex, Uttlesford and Chelmsford councils. Uttlesford and Chelmsford Chief Inspectors, the various NHS Trusts for Addenbrooke's, The Princess Alexandra and Broomfield hospital, West Essex clinical commissioning group and a number of local organisations and charities.

The Government will continue to be guided by leading medical advisors and scientific experts. We are focused on protecting the health of the nation, in order to safeguard our economy.

I have put together a page on my website for constituents that includes the links to the most up to date information from all the various bodies I am in touch with. This includes the Government, local authorities such as Essex County Council, Uttlesford District Council and Chelmsford City Council, as well as information from local organisations and charities across the constituents, you can find this page at <https://www.kemibadenoch.org.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-and-guidance>

While most of us are staying at home to minimise our risk of contracting or spreading this virus, our essential workers are continuing to go to work each day to deliver vital services.

Whether they are in the NHS working at Broomfield hospital, working in the Tesco Superstore in Great Dunmow, Walthambury stores in Great Waltham, delivering mail in Stansted, part of the policing Town Team in Saffron Walden, a Teacher at Thaxted Primary School, or are in the Essex fire service, the risks our frontline workers are taking, I know we are all so grateful for.

Last week I wrote to the major supermarkets and as many local stores as possible across the constituency to thank them for their hard work during these extraordinary times and for continuing to provide us with the essentials we all need. I have also written to the relevant NHS Trusts and West Essex CCG to share my gratitude.

It is also important to recognise everyone who isn't working on the frontline but in the background, whether they are the civil servants helping to construct Government guidelines for the public, farmers, those conducting research for a vaccine for COVID-19, or those working in local councils, they are making difficult decisions and have squeezed and delivered months of work in a short period of time in order to keep residents informed and safe.

Although most of my correspondence is related to Coronavirus, I am also continuing to receive emails from constituents regarding a whole range of issues such as Abortion, pubs and trophy hunting, as well as general casework involving Universal Credit and infrastructure.

I look forward to the end of the lockdown and being able to see you all again soon.

If you require urgent support, my team and I are on hand to assist. For enquiries please send an email, kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk or telephone **0207 219 1943**

Kemi Badenoch, MP
House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA



See You Under The Two Trees.

Remembering my childhood in the 1940's, I was at Rickling School and at that time there were two beautiful Elm trees standing on the edge of the Green, where the road forks off to the school and pub. A misshapen Elder stump remains these days. The trees were a focal point where children would meet their friends. Occasionally on beautiful summer days we were taken as a class from school to sit under them to do our work. Sadly in 1982 the trees succumbed to the dreaded Elm disease and were taken down. No times were given for these meetings. Someone would always turn up. So as school ended for the day, you would hear 'See you under the two trees'.

Maureen Hawkins

07874-385541



www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted

I am pleased to report that Stansted Mountfitchet U3A is still alive and well thanks to the efforts of many of our members to keep going and keep in touch despite the lockdown.

Thanks to our Group Leaders, many of our Groups are still active, albeit with a different format. Some are using Zoom to have regular meetings – the Art Group members are even painting and drawing together via Zoom on a weekly basis and our committee are holding their meetings on Zoom. Other groups that are having active Zoom meetings are Poetry, Literature, French, Creative Writing and the Singers. Apologies to any that have been missed out of this list. Many members are also staying in touch via email and phone and we are sending out weekly newsletters to share news and information. People have also been sharing photos of their lovely walks around the area.

Some managed to have VE Day celebrations, either with family at home or with neighbours, but always being careful to maintain their social distancing. You can see



VE Day Tea

the lovely photo that Pat B sent us of her special VE Day tea that she had at home with family.

Despite the problems of getting out, over 60% of our members have already renewed this year, although we have given people until the end of July to do so, an extension of 3 months. We are still taking new members. If you are thinking of joining us, just go on to our website and download a form, or you can email us at stanstedu3a@gmail.com and we will contact you.

Our virtual **Saturday Seminar** for May was What We Cannot Know by Marcus du Sautoy. “Is it possible that we will one day know everything? Or are there fields of research that will always lie beyond the bounds of human comprehension?” You can find this Royal Institution lecture on You Tube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reeU09R4TIA>.

Keep safe and well everyone.

Sally Rich, Vice Chair
Stansted Mountfitchet U3A

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY



www.hundredparishes.org.uk

One of the features of The Hundred Parishes website is a section on famous people from our area. There is a short account of each of 21 past and present celebrities, from Dick Turpin to Jamie Oliver. Gustav Holst is one of these and I make no apology for repeating text from our website here:

While teaching and composing in London, Gustav Holst began a love affair with Thaxted after a walking holiday in the area led to his taking a weekend cottage nearby. A great attraction must have been its cathedral-sized church with spacious, white-painted interior, where he became involved with local music-making, encouraged by the town’s socialist vicar, Conrad Noel. Holst himself was an active socialist.



Gustav Holst
(1874-1934)

In 1916, Holst invited some of his London pupils to spend four days of music-making in Thaxted in the town’s first Whitsuntide festival. Sadly, this was repeated for only two more years before being

moved to London to avoid Holst’s pupils, especially those from St Paul’s School, becoming associated with Noel’s controversial extremist left-wing sermons. It was 1980 before the highly successful Thaxted Festival was re-established.



Thaxted Church

Holst stayed in Thaxted for several years working, amongst other things, on his acknowledged masterpiece, The Planets. He adapted the big melody from “Jupiter” to accompany the poem “I vow to thee, my country”. This

became a popular hymn and Holst named the tune “Thaxted”. It has since been used for no fewer than fourteen other hymns worldwide as well as the anthem of the Rugby World Cup. Holst also composed the music for a popular Christmas carol, “In the Bleak Midwinter”.

During these days of social distancing we are not able to travel and enjoy our beautiful area as much as before, but we can remind ourselves of what is out there and read about our rich local history on the Society’s website.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

The Grange Care Home

At The Grange, our care is the kind we'd want all of our loved ones to receive. In these difficult times the elderly population is particularly vulnerable at home. If you're concerned about how your relative will cope and would like them to have more support, The Grange provides family-led care delivered by highly trained staff in a warm homely environment.

- Brand new luxury home
- Daily meaningful activities
- Daily fine dining
- Luxury en-suite bedrooms
- Spacious secure garden



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Fallow Drive, off Bury Water Lane,
Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3NZ

Saffron Screen in Lockdown



The cinema may be closed, but we've got lots of ways to help fill the cinema-shaped hole in all our lives during these strange times:

Saffron Screen Film Club

Every week we share our chosen Film Club film and let you know where you can view it. Then we all get together every Monday at 7pm on Twitter using the hashtag #SaffronScreenFilmClub to discuss the film and share our thoughts.

Tuesday 10

Every Tuesday we share our recommended list of 10 films that are easily available on streaming platforms and are ideally free. Sometimes we follow a theme or sometimes we just recommend some good films we think you will enjoy, but there's always something for everyone!

Free 90 day MUBI subscription

We're offering Saffron Screen customers a free 90 day subscription to the MUBI film streaming service where you can find an ever-changing range of new and old arthouse titles. Visit saffronscreen.com/free-mubi-film-subscription/ for more information.

Get involved

We're also sharing film-related quizzes, #ThrowbackThursday memories, information about new films available on paid streaming platforms, a weekly Saffron Screen blog and more. If you'd like to keep up with our news or get in touch (we'd love to hear from you!), go to www.saffronscreen.com, sign up for our weekly email or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram (@Saffronscreen).

We hope all our customers are keeping safe and well, and we thank all those doing front-line jobs.

CRIME PREVENTION

Delivery Scams

We are warning residents to stay vigilant following an increase in reports of people receiving unexpected packages from couriers.

There have been a number of victims in Hertfordshire, and more recently in Bishop's Stortford, where victims have received deliveries they had not ordered. A short while later a woman wearing a DPD courier uniform has arrived to collect the packages, claiming they had been delivered to the wrong address. In the reported instances the packages have contained either iPhones or laptops and have been despatched by AO.

Detective Chief Inspector Sam Khanna, from Hertfordshire Constabulary's Serious Fraud and Cyber Unit said: "If goods are delivered that you have not ordered and are marked with your address you should inform the company that sent it and wait for them to send a courier. Always check with them which courier company is making the collection and when they will arrive. If someone knocks on the door claiming to have come to pick it up after it was delivered by mistake, think twice about handing it over. Are they from the same company that just delivered it? Can you see a company vehicle? Just because they are in a uniform does not mean they are from the company as they claim.

"If someone tries to deliver a parcel you've not ordered, refuse to accept it so that it goes back to the depot or the sender. If you have handed a parcel over please report it to Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040** or via www.actionfraud.police.uk. If someone is at your door claiming to have come to pick up a parcel you never ordered ring **999**."

Courier Fraud

I would like to draw your attention to a large number of

these offences that are occurring across Essex, from Epping to Tendring to Leigh on Sea, and even spreading into bordering counties.

The criminals are contacting elderly victims claiming to be from the bank, then within a very short time frame they attend the victims home purporting to be a courier to collect the victims bank card and to replace with a new card.

They leave the victim with an envelope containing what feels like a bank card but transpires to be a gift card. The offenders then leave to withdraw victim's money.

Unoccupied Business Premises

Are you are a business owner within the Essex Police District, with your business premises unoccupied at this time due to the lock down measures?

If the answer is yes to both and you would like to register your key-holder details on our database, please email us at business.crime.unit@essex.police.uk

Hot topics

A new flight refund scam that attempts to exploit the ongoing coronavirus outbreak has been reported. The phishing email includes a fake refund form which if filled in would provide scammers with personal information including names and card details.

Reporting

Reporting to Action Fraud can be done online or by calling **0300 123 2040**.

To report offers of financial assistance from HMRC, contact phishing@hmrc.gov.uk.

If you require any further information, assistance or guidance please contact the ERSOU Protect Team CyberProtect@ERSOU.pnn.police.uk or your local Force protect team.

Paul Harris, Essex Police Staff No 42077939

Essex Watch Liaison Officer for Brentwood, Epping Forest, Harlow and Uttlesford districts

Tel: **07738 736687** (Please avoid leaving phone messages and email me instead. Paul.Harris@essex.police.uk

Thanks)

You can also find me on TWITTER: Paul Harris EWLO@PaulEssexWatch

Quendon & Rickling 100 Club

Congratulations to the May 2020 Winners

1st	C Clark	£35
2nd	J Tissot	£24
3rd	T Deriziotis	£14

Quendon & Rickling 100 Club generates a source of funds for the Village Hall and both our two churches, All Saints, Rickling and St Simon & St Jude, Quendon.

Rickling/Quendon Community Café

A big hello to all our members of the Community Café. I hope you all keeping safe and that your family and relatives are as well.

Unfortunately just before lock down we lost our dear member Mrs Hazel King and she will be greatly missed by us all.

When we are all able to meet up again we are holding a Tea Party in Vicki Harris's garden and everyone is welcome. Look forward to seeing you all again soon xx.

Love Angie and Carole

01799 218061/543807



ASB Help is a small charity that seeks to help and advise victims as to their rights about anti-social behaviour, who they should report it to and how to cope with its effects. It champions the effective use of the Community Trigger, a legal power designed to allow victims to hold their local agencies to account.

TIPS FOR GETTING EVIDENCE

The problem starts. You call the police or other agency. When they arrive everything is calm. No one else has seen or heard the problem. Sound familiar? You are not alone. This can be very frustrating but agencies also need evidence to act. Here are some tips to getting it.

Courts are busy. Applicants need good quality evidence. Without good evidence, the judge will not act.

Here are some suggestions to help you build up a case against the perpetrator(s). Please note that your initial report of the incident is still the foundation of the case.

Diary sheets

are a great way to record what is happening and how often over time. This is particularly effective in the case of issues with noisy neighbours. Don't just expect to remember it. **Write it down.**

We recommend a simple diary with the date, time and place the behaviour happened, what you were doing at that time, and also how you felt. This all helps to build up a picture for the agencies that get involved. Most Councils will have a template ASB monitoring form – if the issue is noise, call the Council and ask to speak to the ASB officer. They should be able to supply you with official forms (but in the meantime you can use your own diary or notebook. This will still be accepted in court). The agency investigating your complaint should collect these forms from you regularly.

Written proof of threats

Keep everything if you have received threatening emails, letters, text messages or anything on social media. Written evidence is so powerful and even if it is distressing to see, you should keep it. If you have voicemail or answerphone messages that prove the anti-social behaviour you should keep them indefinitely or, if this is not possible, we would recommend asking a Police or Council official to listen to it and give you a statement proving what was heard. If the message is something posted on a social media site which the person posting it could later remove, we would recommend you print it out and again ask an independent person (preferably in an official capacity) to sign it and confirm they saw it live on the Internet.

Petitions – evidence that you are not the only person suffering.

Noise monitoring equipment (DAT machines) should be available from the Environmental Health officers at your Local Authority (or possibly at your Housing Association). These can be placed in your house to record the noise you are hearing. The agencies can then measure the decibels and times of the noise. This allows them to decide whether it is a statutory nuisance (affecting your health and/or normal lifestyle). This is necessary to get an abatement notice, which asks the offender to stop making the noise, or limit it to certain times of the day.

Noise monitoring equipment is brought in a small suitcase by someone not in uniform. It cannot be seen once it is installed inside. Therefore you should not need to be afraid that the anti-social neighbours will see it. Always worth stressing this though with the official bringing the equipment.

The other 2 main ways of getting evidence if this is not enough are:

1. CCTV surveillance and other filming

CCTV surveillance equipment has been very effective in showing evidence for crime and anti-social behaviour. However, there are strict rules for how you install and use it which we would advise you consult these rules carefully first.

2. Professional witnesses

There is great news here, particularly for those suffering intimidation and living in fear – you don't have to be the one giving evidence against those making your life a misery. Someone else can testify to what they see or hear – this could be someone from your Local Council or there are Professional Witnesses who offer a service to come and witness the behaviour and give that evidence in court. Professional Witnesses charge a fee for this service.

Advice from the Information Commissioner's Office

Working from home securely during coronavirus

By now, many of you will have transitioned to home or remote working during the coronavirus pandemic. We've compiled ten top tips to help you operate securely if you're working from home

- Follow your organisation's policies, procedures and guidance.
- Only use approved technology for handling personal data.
- Consider confidentiality when holding conversations or using a screen.
- Take care with print outs.
- Don't mix your organisation's data with your own personal data.
- Lock it away where possible.
- Be extra vigilant about opening web links and attachments in emails or other messages.
- Use strong passwords.
- Communicate securely.
- Keep software up to date.



Find more at <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/working-from-home/how-do-i-work-from-home-securely/>

Staying one step ahead of the scammers

We're working alongside security and finance agencies across the UK and beyond to help you stay safe online during the coronavirus outbreak.

Our latest Your Data Matters blog provides steps you can take to avoid falling victim to scams, as well as links to guidance and tools offered by other agencies, such as the National Cyber Security Centre and Action Fraud.

Find more at <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/your-data-matters-blog/>

Quendon & Rickling's Parish Magazine

I've mentioned The Forum before in these pages. It was a parish magazine published to the best of my knowledge in 13 issues from Autumn 1991 to Christmas 1996 by the parish council of the time. Reading them makes clear that its various editors faced the same problems then as I experience now, editing *The Link*, of trying to find interesting material to put in it!

Given the persistent hazards we face on our doorsteps, our telephones and our computers, the Police, via Neighbourhood Watch, are also persistent in offering me advice to include in The Link, and I confess that it is often too convenient to include some of it to fill the pages! Trying to limit that a little this month (successfully?), I would like to present a few more snippets from The Forum.

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

Recently some of the swings and other equipment have been misused and damaged. Whilst they have been on the present site for some fifteen years it is far from an ideal place for our children to play if only because the access is so far removed from the village green as to render the area remote and out of the public eye. A satisfactory alternative however is not immediately apparent.

There has been a suggestion that the pieces should be moved and offered to the school to be re-erected adjacent to the school building on the edge of the green. Such a move would involve permission from the Lord of

the Manor, even if the school actually agreed to have them.

It is clear that most parents are not happy with the present arrangements and as the initial cost was met by an appeal throughout the villages it is right that alternative ideas are sought from our current residents.

To this end, will anybody with ideas, suggestions or objections please make them known to any Parish Councillor or voice them at the public part of the next Parish Council Meeting in November.

The date will be posted on the Parish Council notice-board.

Ivor Bunster, Parish Councillor

KEEP UP THE GOOD FIGHT....

One of the most important tasks of the Parish Council is to fight off developers who from time to time have threatened to turn our villages into something else entirely, notably a continuation of Stansted. Offices, large car showrooms, a motorway interchange, to name but a few, have all been topical in the past year and have had to be given much thought and deliberation by the Members of the Parish Council.

...and more from The Forum...

DOG FOULING

I have just received an article from Community Hygiene Concern which has been very enlightening! Did you know there are one million kilos of dog faeces deposited in public places every day? This fact would even be amusing if we didn't have to scrape the stuff off our shoes and stop our children from freely enjoying the village green because of it.

The same article gave some interesting statistics about toxocariasis (toxocara). Every year 100 children in the UK are made blind in one or both eyes from the disease and another 16,000 children are infected but make their own antibodies. Dogs and cats carry the toxocara larvae (roundworm) in their faeces and the larvae once

in or on the ground can survive for up to 2 years. It is obvious that the more responsible that dog/cat owners are towards their fouling pets the more protected our children will be. I can't help thinking it would enhance everyone's life if this one million kilos of fouling was less public! Since there is a strict new byelaw due to take effect from April '92 outlawing dog fouling in public areas, grass verges and 4 metres either side of footpaths, surely people could start now. Wouldn't time and money be well spent providing people with information on toxocara as well as discussing with dog/cat owners the best ways of disposing of the foulings. P.S. Where are the litter bins in the village?;

Mrs Mary Greenwood

The Protection Racket

Anyone who has lived in a village for any length of time soon realises that its beauty and timelessness are under constant threat from the activities of developers, a few landowners, including some who farm on a grand scale, and from other sources. This threat is often allowed to continue because of helplessness or in some instances lack of desire to become involved in contentious issues. It is assumed that "They" (being the authorities) will look after our interests on our behalf, and that, where necessary, action will be taken to put matters right. Sadly that is not always the case.

The "Protectors" of the rural scene and way of life have a formidable array of legislation to bring down upon the heads of those who attack the village communities by infringing their rights. A good example of the latter is the subject of footpaths where the maintenance, access and, in some cases, their very survival is threatened. There can be few villages in Great Britain where infringements are not taking place, and the villagers who care enough contact the County Councils for help.

Recently there has been an increase in the legislation to give protection to public footpaths and, at first glance, it appeared that it would now be possible for the County

Councils to get to grips with the problem. However, convincing any Authority that there is a problem is one thing, but getting them actually to take action to put it right is another. According to a member of staff, Essex County Council has not taken any landowner to Court during the last ten years because of footpath infringements. Now it could be that there have been no cases brought to their attention, but that is hardly likely.

There is no provision in law for individuals to take legal action, and indeed, why should they have to, when already there are those empowered to do the job for them. In short, if the established protectors fail to protect in the appropriate manner on the grounds of expediency or other reasons, the villagers must just stand by and watch the erosion of much of what they love and enjoy. This is just one issue. There are many more. The problem of noise nuisance is another classic example where authorities are loathe to act, and I am sure many of you could supply more. One way forward may be for residents to act as a team when complaining to the Authorities on a given subject. It might jog the conscience (or memory) of those who have the means, if not the will, to give protection where it is needed. This article was written by a bureaucrat! Hopefully that will not detract from the value of my argument.

Mrs Susan Lydamore

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Emergency Life-saving

Should someone suffer a cardiac arrest or show symptoms of a heart attack e.g. pains in the chest, then your first action should always be to phone the ambulance service on 999. The service will refer you to our Automated External Defibrillator which is at the front entrance to Quendon & Rickling Village Hall. Anyone can save a life by using it until an ambulance arrives. In addition you can seek help from any of the volunteers listed below.

Name	Home Telephone	Locality
Alan Price	01799 542527	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Jane Price	01799 542527	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Robert Arnold	01799 543075	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Sandra Arnold	01799 543075	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Andrew Thomson	01799 543253	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Karen Thomson	01799 543253	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Thelma Wilson	01799 543313	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Chris Phillips	01799 542351	Middle - Cambridge Road
Sue Phillips	01799 542351	Middle - Cambridge Road
Nigel Ackerman	01799 540678	Middle - Cambridge Road
Wendy Stannard	01799 541869	Middle - Cambridge Road
Anne Howes	01799 543545	Southern end - Cambridge Road
Pat Turner	01799 543314	Rickling Green
Joanne Hales	07903 596011	Rickling Green
Janice Hart	01799 541196	Rickling Green/Brick Kiln Lane/Rickling
Clare Willoughby	01799 543637	Rickling Green/Brick Kiln Lane/Rickling



For further information see www.communityheartbeat.org.uk/

Remember: Using the defibrillator can't cause injury. Doing nothing can.

The Link is produced on behalf of Quendon & Rickling PCC, who do not necessarily share or endorse any opinions expressed by contributors or advertisers.

The Link is delivered free of charge by volunteers to every household in the villages of Quendon and Rickling. It is also available by post and online at: <http://www.quendonandrickling.co.uk>

All correspondence for *The Link* should be addressed to the editor,

Robert Arnold: **preferably by e-mail with attachments if necessary: robert@arnold-q.uk**, or at Talbots, Cambridge Road, Quendon, CB11 3XJ; otherwise telephone 01799 543075

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