

The Link

Quendon & Rickling
Parish
and Church

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

NEWS

May 2020

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*Hellebore at Chippenham
Brad O'Reltron*

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.

As I write this the government are preparing to meet to review the current situation with regard to the Covid-19 pandemic. It is widely expected that the government will choose to extend the lockdown by a further three weeks. So we can expect a further three weeks of self-isolation, of an hour's daily walk and more telephone calls or messages on social media keeping in touch with family and friends. Even at the end of this additional three weeks of lockdown we have no guarantee of what is going to happen. Today there has been news of Pret-a-Manger, Burger King and KFC reopening for delivery services, but it is widely expected that some social distancing measures will have to continue. It is the unknown that is so disconcerting.

As I write this that we have just marked the Easter festival albeit very differently. I held online services via Zoom on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, and I wrote reflections on the village Facebook page for those days as well. You may also recall the one I wrote for Palm Sunday which began Holy Week and the build up to Easter itself. But what about Saturday?

When Jesus was arrested on the Thursday evening in the garden of Gethsemane the disciples scattered, in fear for their own lives. Even Peter, who had followed close by, had denied Jesus three times, just as Jesus said he would. The shame must have hit him hard. We know that by the time Sunday arrives they are gathered together. We don't know about Saturday. The disciples' world had revolved around Jesus for the past 3 years. They had travelled with him. They had eaten with him. They had been taught by him. Apart from the times when Jesus went off by himself to pray, there probably wasn't a moment when they were not together. Yet now they had seen their master and their friend arrested, and then crucified. They had either seen Jesus die on the cross or they would have heard about it as news spread throughout Jerusalem. Their world had come crashing down around them. Jesus has spoken about being handed over to the authorities, about dying and about his resurrection. Did the disciples truly understand? Maybe in some small way they may have been holding onto some small piece of hope. On the Saturday they just waited! For what they didn't really know.

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.

I take comfort that God is with us in our waiting. He is with us when we have questions that have no easy answers, or possibly no answers at all. He is with us and he knows the outcome of everything. He is the Alpha and Omega. The beginning and end. And he is with us through all the points in between.

Stay safe, and God Bless.

Revd Neil McLeod

Church Services in the Benefice

As reported here last month, 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 me 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 not 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

Quendon & Rickling Parish Council News

As the Parish Council has been unable to meet formally, the Parish Clerk has nothing to report.

From the Chairman of the Parish Council

Dear Fellow Villagers!

What a time we are all going through at the moment, hopefully never to be repeated! An aura of calm has definitely befallen the villages except every Thursday evening when the villages come to life! The noise of clapping, sirens, bells, saucepans, singing and howling dogs supporting our wonderful NHS and carers!! Every time it brings a tear to my eye! Otherwise they seem so quiet but it is lovely to see everyone out for their walks or doing their exercises! We have been so lucky with the most amazing weather, long may it remain although a bit of rain wouldn't go amiss!! I hope you have seen teddy bears in people's windows and rainbows around the villages on your travels!

When this lock down is over, hopefully some of the summer will still remain and we will have the opportunity to gather together and celebrate getting through such a difficult time. Perhaps a gathering on the green so all the villagers could congregate, probably with social distancing still in place, but it would be lovely to catch up with people who you haven't seen or spoken to for

months! The Cricketers may even have opened by then!! Bring your own rug, chairs and picnic, it would be an ideal opportunity to continue the community spirit - as we now know it is definitely there!!

What a lovely surprise walking past the allotments a few days ago, they are looking amazing compared to this time last year! I am presuming that everyone has decided to grow their own vegetables, which is such a great idea and the taste of home grown produce is unbeatable! Perhaps next year we could hold a vegetable growing competition - potatoes, marrow, best tasting carrot?!!

The Parish Council meetings are on hold for the time being but rest assured all of the councillors are still working in the interests of the villages!

Please remember your help sheets and that help is always at hand. Do not worry about lifting the phone to ask for help, everyone is very happy to help in whatever way they can!

Please stay safe!

Sally Kitcat

Report from District Councillor Neil Hargreaves

Local Plan

There is an officer recommendation to Council to withdraw the draft Local Plan and start again. An Extraordinary Council Meeting has been provisionally scheduled for 30th April for a decision. The current draft document for the meeting lists the advantages of

withdrawal, and the next steps, but fails to assess the very large increase in housing numbers which will be involved. I have been working with officers and Cllr John Evans (who is chair of the Plan Working Group) to get this included so members can see a balanced picture.

Report from District Councillor Neil Hargreaves (Cont.)

To fulfil the current draft Plan to 2033 would need 'only' about another 4,500 housing permissions. For reference, Saffron Walden is about 8,000 houses. On withdrawal, higher government mandated housing numbers will start to apply, and the Plan period will need to be extended to about 2,040 because it must have at least a 15 year life span. The consequence of this is the new requirement rises to about 13,500 houses using the current calculation method. The government's current figures are based on affordability (so areas like ours are told to build large numbers, whereas for example Barrow-in-Furness, where my father was born, is told not to bother building anything at all). The annual local housing numbers are also capped at 40% above the projected household growth for the area over the following 10 years from 2014. Subsequent government population projections have shown a continual downward trend, and it may be that Brexit and the economic and social damage from coronavirus will add to this. As the reduction is inconvenient for the government which is still pushing for more houses to be built, they have stuck with the higher and out of date figures.

I responded to the original White Paper consultation on the government's new housing numbers. I considered it a crude and poorly designed model, as did other respondents. When I inserted the totals on to their data for the houses to be built on the current system, (which they had oddly omitted from their spreadsheet) it showed their new version gave only a small increase in house building. It burdened small London boroughs with utterly unattainable targets. When these were discounted, the new method delivered no more than the old one. All it does is move house building from poorer areas to richer ones. So it is not surprising that the officials who made it up failed to consider that large population growth might not carry on forever. The White Paper was implemented with no significant change to the method, despite the criticisms.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Plan is now entirely with the examiner and we await his report and alterations to it. We forwarded to him the appeal result documents for Joyce Frankland Academy (permitted to build 24 houses on their cricket ground) and Bricketts (a refusal for 20 houses at the southern tip of Newport). In response he said he would be working on his report 'before Easter'. It is most encouraging that the inspector who refused to allow the 20 houses at Bricketts gave 'substantial weight' to our policies HA1 'Coherence of the Villages' and HA4 'Building in the Countryside'. It is unusual to give such weight to a Plan not yet adopted. He also agreed with our criterion of 800m being the maximum distance to local facilities beyond which vehicle commuting happens. This would be of note for any application in Quendon.

A consequence of withdrawing the Local Plan is that the non-spatial policies in the Plan are also withdrawn. These

are ones, for example, defining protections of the countryside and supporting retention of businesses. The good news is that the Neighbourhood Plan has incorporated and adapted text from the Local Plan to ensure early implementation of relevant and useful policies. We were told by UDC we should not duplicate Local Plan policies, but the Steering Group is now glad it ignored this advice. In particular the 2005 adopted Plan has no protection for existing businesses at all.

Ward Member Initiative

Previously known as the New Homes Bonus, funds have been allocated to:

- Quendon & Rickling parish council to replace damaged posts on the Green and to restore the village notice boards
- A payment towards the cost of the Quinquennial architect's inspection of Newport church
- Provision of two new planters for the main road in Newport. These will be of the same cast iron design as those at Thaxted, to replace wood ones which have rotted.
- Widdington for an event to mark 20 years since the village hall was built (the event is of course on hold)
- Uttlesford Citizens Advice Bureau. The implementation of Universal Credit and Coronavirus has caused a significant increase in the work load, and an increase in the complexity of the help requests.

Coronavirus

Numbers in the UDC office have been cut to about 20 people, and council meetings switched to video – the first full council video is on 22nd April. The government has asked councils to do extra functions such as making grant payments to businesses (£20m for UDC, of which as of mid April £11.5m has been paid to around 950 small businesses). UDC is also the government's storage and distribution arm for delivering food and essentials to vulnerable residents. Switching of council tax payments to bring the forward the two 'free months' has also been done for those in need making the request. This is being covered as well as keeping core council services operating. The good news is that the garden waste collections have restarted, which should reduce the nuisance bonfires which were being reported.

The council is losing significant revenue from parking charges, and planning fees, as well as reductions in business rates and council tax collections.

Councillors Surgeries

These are currently suspended as are the parish council meetings

However, I will be available still every Thursday morning from 10.30 to 11.30 on 01799 540411. Or any time really, and on the village Facebook group.

Neil Hargreaves

Update from Kemi Badenoch, MP for the Saffron Walden constituency regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Thank you to everyone working not just on the frontline but also in the background for your efforts during this extraordinary time. Whether you are in the NHS at Addenbrooke's, The Princess Alexandra or Broomfield Hospital, working in Waitrose in Saffron Walden, the Co-op in Stansted, delivering mail in Quendon and Rickling, part of the local policing team or are in the Essex fire service, the risks you are taking to deliver vital services, I know we are all so grateful for.

I must also commend my brilliant parliamentary team who are working on an unprecedented number of cases raised by constituents.

I want constituents to know that I and my office are in regular contact with Essex County Council and Uttlesford District Council, as well as with Chief Inspector Janette Rawlingson at Essex Police, the Mid Essex NHS Trust, West Essex CCG and other relevant local organisations and charities. I am reassured the work they are doing and the difficult decisions they are making are keeping residents informed and safe. They have come together to set up various initiatives in line with the Government's guidance as well as continue to provide services, and I would like to thank them all for what I imagine is months of work squeezed and delivered in such a short period of time.

The uncertainty at this time is worrying but as a Treasury Minister, I know the steps the Government have and will continue to take are guided by medical professionals and the various industry bodies representing each one of you. I have been working flat out to ensure funding is allocated where it is needed and many people have written to me, the Chancellor and other Ministers regarding their difficulties, and this has helped inform the Treasury's view of where financial support is best targeted.

It is absolutely vital that people go to verified sources for information and not rely on social media alone to find out what is going. This is a rapidly-developing situation and government will continue to publish guidance at www.gov.uk/coronavirus and the Government will continue to deliver daily briefings at 5pm and I would encourage you to tune in to stay informed.

If you would like to find out how you can help locally, I have a dedicated coronavirus information page on my website, please visit www.kemibadenoch.org.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-and-guidance.

My team and I are on hand to assist where necessary as our top priority is ensuring constituents get the urgent support and attention they require.

If you do require assistance please do contact me via email at kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk or call my office on **0207 219 1934**.

Kemi Badenoch, MP



Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust

Don't forget that as well as "Clapping for Carers" you can give valuable support by making donations to the many health-related charities such as Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust

Please support Addenbrooke's and its staff during the Coronavirus crisis.

Your donation will aid the wellbeing of staff through this difficult time, provide vital equipment needed to support the Intensive Care Unit and much more.

Please note - we recently sent out a direct mail appeal in the post. The return address is Slough and is legitimate - we are outsourcing our mail handling during this crisis. If you have any questions please contact us.

Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust
Box 126, Addenbrooke's Hospital
Hills Road, Cambridge
CB2 0QQ

<https://www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk/>

Call us during office hours on
01223 217757

Email us at
hello@act4addenbrookes.org.uk



Bluebells

We learn that people have been digging up bluebell plants from our woods. Legislation under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) makes it illegal “to uproot any wild plant without permission from the landowner or occupier” in Britain.

Whilst it is not generally against the law to pick wild flowers for personal, non-commercial use, it is selfish to do so since it deprives others of the pleasure of seeing them.

It is specifically an offence to pick wild flowers - or any other parts - from Sites of Special Scientific Interest (such as in Quendon Wood) and it is also forbidden to take flowers or other parts from certain protected species.

In Memoriam

We have learnt of the death of Jean Stokes, widow of Chris.

Jean and her family lived near Rickling Church for many years where she and Chris were deeply committed to the life of Rickling Church and also the village.

We offer our sympathy to her family.

Stansted Mountfitchet U3A

So not the usual style of article from us this month. For some reason, we have not been getting out much!!

The U3A, motto Learn, Laugh and Live, is a nationwide grouping of independent U3As under the umbrella of the Third Age Trust. Our U3A, a registered charity, has been in existence for 10 years now and, with over 300 members and around 30 interest groups, there has been a lot of opportunity for people to make friends locally in Stansted and the surrounding villages. This has paid off dividends in these difficult times of self-isolation. People have been telephoning and using social media to keep in touch. In particular, some of our members have been phoning those few who do not have email or internet to make sure they can keep in touch with what is happening in our group.

We have extended the time that people need to re-join from the end of April to the end of July as so many of our members need to self-isolate, and our AGM has been put back from May to August. All our other face to face meetings are cancelled until at least the end of June. If new members want to join, just email us at stanstedu3a@gmail.com and we will let you know how to do that despite the lockdown.

We have set up a closed Facebook group for members. Just search for Stansted U3A on Facebook and request to



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INFO@ALLASPECTSTREESERVICES.CO.UK

join. People have been posting up ideas there for online free theatre plays and musicals plus music and an online exercise class and just generally sharing news of what they have been doing.

Many of our interest groups have been making sterling efforts to keep going via WhatsApp and Zoom and emails – new technology for some, but being embraced by many.

Our popular Saturday Seminars will be slightly different for a time. The seminar for April was a YouTube video from Carolin Crawford, the Astronomer that has visited us a few times now. A link to her lecture at the Gresham Institute, **The Sun our Nearest Star**, can be found on the News page of our website www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted and a new talk should also be on there by the time you are reading this.

Let's hope this self-isolation does not keep going for too long, but while it does, let's try and use the time it is giving us to find new ways to connect with friends and loved ones and maybe find new interests or re-connect with old ones.

*Sally Rich, Vice Chair
Stansted Mountfitchet U3A*

07874-385541

www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted



THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY



www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Many of us are familiar with pillboxes: those squat concrete buildings dotted around the countryside, often overgrown and merged with the landscape. Many will be aware of their connection to the Second World War but their origins go further back.



A view from inside one near Littley Green

The purpose of the pillbox was to protect a gunner while offering him a good line of vision. The concept was developed in the First World War and first used in 1917. Early constructions were of a circular shape, hence the term pillbox. In the Second World War they were first used by the British Expeditionary Force in Flanders.

The last batch of pillboxes was built almost 80 years ago to resist a possible invasion of this country. Thousands were installed in 1940-41, many in coastal locations or in defensive lines across the south and east of England. Others were built to form a

box around London, but stray examples appear in other places.



At Wendens Ambo beside Fighting Cocks pub

Pillboxes varied from the one-man Tett Turret to big emplacements for two pounder anti-tank guns. The most common shape was hexagonal. The Royal Engineers decided on the



Between Newport and Audley End House

sites and they were built to government specifications by local contractors, although in practice the work was often carried out by volunteers who were paid a "dole". It is

thought that about 15,000 were constructed, of which perhaps two-thirds survive.

Within the Hundred Parishes about 45 were built, mainly as part of a line stretching between Chelmsford and Cambridge, often



In Great Waltham near Littley Green



Near Littley Green

beside the Chelmer and Cam rivers which formed a natural anti-tank barrier. In Great Waltham parish a "World War Two Trail" of around 4 miles passes thirteen surviving pillboxes around Hartford End with informative interpretation panels.



WWII trail at Great Waltham - interpretation panel at GR687169, S of Hartford End

The pillboxes were virtually obsolete as soon as they were built, being designed for an invasion that never came.

Mike Young, Trustee



Quendon & Rickling - Hedgehog Villages?

Sadly I've seen my first hedgehog of 2020. Killed on the road. There are lots of reasons why hedgehog numbers have declined. Surprisingly they need to travel around a mile every night through our gardens, along paths and across roads, looking for food. We now know that one of the main reasons why they are becoming so rare is because garden fences and walls are becoming more and more secure.



Ensuring hedgehogs can pass freely through your garden is the most important thing you can do to help them.



If your garden is surrounded by fences please think about making a small hedgehog sized hole 13cm x 13cm.



If gardens were linked together by a hedgehog highway it would increase the land available to them and hopefully keep more of them away from roads.

For more information on how to help hedgehogs see www.hedgehogstreet.com

Suzanne Hawkins

Perhaps not all of us routinely look at our district council's web-site so here are some items there that you might have missed

Latest message from Cllr John Lodge, Leader of Uttlesford District Council

As I write this message, the government has announced that the lockdown measures currently in place will be extended for at least another three weeks. It was not an unsurprising announcement by any means, but all the same it will have an impact.

These strict limits on daily life remain the 'norm' for now. From the council's perspective, I can assure you that we're well prepared and remain committed to keeping essential services running as best we can, and to supporting our communities, particularly those most vulnerable and at risk. We can also keep positively in mind the community spirit that we're continuing to see in Uttlesford - the response to the Covid-19 outbreak here has been nothing short of remarkable. We will need this united effort more than ever in the weeks ahead.

There is evidence that people are avoiding seeking health advice or treatment when they need it. Much of this is due to a misunderstanding that normal NHS services are not operating, or because of self-isolation, social distancing or fear of catching the virus in hospitals. These delays could result in people becoming more poorly than they should do. It is really important that anyone with a health condition seeks medical help when they need it. Parents and carers can find advice on when to seek help for their child and which service they should contact on the Essex Safeguarding Children Board website.

The current lockdown is stressful for many people and it is important to look after our mental wellbeing. Staying active both physically and mentally, drinking plenty of water, maintaining contact with family and friends, or focusing on a new hobby, for example, are all simple but effective ways to improve health and mood. I personally find that trying to stick to a daily routine works for me. There's lots of advice, information and resources out there to help during the pandemic - there are online tools such as NHS Every Mind Matters, and guidance for people to manage their mental health at home from the likes of Public Health England, Mind and the Livewell Campaign (this is the countywide local councils health and wellbeing hub), to name a few.

Of course, the single most important thing we can do to look after ourselves and others at this time is to follow the government guidance and stay at home. The advice remains to only go out for food, health reasons or work (and only when you can't work from home), and if you must go out, to stay two metres away from other people at all times. If you are a 'good neighbour' and are checking on friends or family who are isolating, that's great, but please remember the rules around social distancing - the government has guidance on how you can help safely on its website, www.gov.uk/safehelp. It's vital that we continue to do what is right in order to protect the NHS and save lives.

Let us all keep up the good work and get through this together.

17 April 2020

Bonfires

We often receive complaints regarding smoke and smells from bonfires. Smoke can ruin peoples enjoyment of their garden, prevent them from opening their windows or hanging washing out.

Bonfires during the Coronavirus outbreak

Please avoid having any bonfires whilst the Coronavirus controls are in place if smoke or smell from them might affect neighbours or aggravate any health conditions.

If you are experiencing issues with smoke from a bonfire, you can report it to the Environmental Health Team. When reporting an issue please provide as much information as possible, such as an address, the time of reported burning, an indication of the items being burnt and the duration and frequency of burning.

[Report a bonfire https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/article/5634/Environmental-Health-Enquiries](https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/article/5634/Environmental-Health-Enquiries)

Bonfire guidelines

If you really must light a bonfire, try to ensure that the material you need to burn is dry. This will minimise the amount of smoke produced. Here are some guidelines to help:

- Only burn dry material
- Never burn household rubbish, rubber tyres or anything containing plastic, foam or paint
- Never use old engine oil, meths or petrol to light the fire or encourage it
- Avoid burning when the wind will carry the smoke over roads or into other people's property



- Avoid burning at weekends and on bank holidays when people want to enjoy their gardens
- Avoid burning when the air quality in your area is "poor" or "very poor"
- Take care to keep children away from a bonfire
- Heaps of garden refuse provide a haven for small animals such as hedgehogs. Remember to check before you light the fire
- Never leave a fire unattended or leave it to smoulder - douse it with water if necessary

Alternatives to a bonfire

Your garden waste can be composted at home or taken to your local recycling centre (please note that recycling centres are currently closed). You should never burn household rubbish, rubber tyres or anything containing plastic, foam or paint. Find out how to dispose of things at <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/recycleit>.

Our Garden Waste Service will be starting again from the week beginning Monday 20 April, after a short break to ensure the health of the public and staff, and so that the teams could prioritise the remainder of the waste and recycling service. We'll start by collecting bins on the 'North collection' round and, on the following week, we'll be collecting bins on the 'South collection' round. To find out which round you are on just look on your confirmation letter which you should have received in February.

We would like to thank residents for being patient at this difficult time. If you have already paid for the service this year, your collections will start immediately. If you have not yet made payment for the year, you will need to do so in order for your collections to recommence. You can sign up for the service using our online form and make a payment online, or by calling our Customer Service Centre. See <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/pay-for-garden-waste>.

We are aware that due to the coronavirus situation we missed a few collections at the end of March. We will extend your garden waste subscription automatically to cover the time the service was not running to ensure that you get a full 12 months worth of collections for your annual payment.

Sky lanterns warning



The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) has warned a campaign encouraging the public to light sky lanterns in a show of solidarity for NHS workers is 'misguided'.

At a time when all emergency services are currently under increased pressure due to Covid-19, the NFCC believes the suggestion that people should set off highly flammable lanterns should be highly discouraged.

We support this advice – sky lanterns may look pretty but they are a fire risk to buildings, cause damage to farming machinery and are harmful to livestock and wildlife. They are also a litter nuisance.

Respect

Being substantially "confined to barracks", quiet enjoyment of our gardens is now especially important to us all. As I wrote towards the end of last year, irrespective of religious affiliations, many of us regard Sunday as a day of rest, relaxation and recreation, when if it's not raining, the outside should be pleasant. Even if you do not share this view, please have regard for your neighbours in your activities by reserving noisy activities such as hedge-cutting, strimming and chain-sawing for days other than Sundays.

Editor

Mark Williams



With immense sadness we announce that Mark Williams tragically and unexpectedly passed away on 26 March, aged 52. Living in Quendon, he was a well-known character in the village and he loved living here. Always generous with his time (avidly supporting the pub, village events, and generally being happy to chat to and help anyone who met him), always with his trademark humour and big smile, he leaves a gaping hole in our community. A celebration of Mark's life will be held later this year, once restrictions have lifted. In the meantime his wife, Carrie, wishes to sincerely thank friends and villagers for the kindness and support she has received in these already trying times for us all.

Famous Foliotts

Some very famous families have lived in Quendon, this one came to my attention last year. In the earlier part of the year, an email came via the Parish Council, requesting help with tracing a family grave. This had come from Jenifer Watts who is the researcher and biographer for Patricia Cohen (nee Foliott) who lives in Adelaide, Australia. They were looking for the graves of William Foliott and his wife Sarah, both buried at Quendon, who are her great Grandparents. After some basic research and a look round the old graveyard, we found the grave, which held four people. The other two being children of William and Sarah, (although there were fifteen children in all) this was somewhat over grown and the inscriptions were at ground level and difficult to read. We did our best to expose them and sent photos. Several emails later, Pat and Jenifer had set a date to visit us at Quendon. Three of us spent some time clearing the grave and then met the two ladies in August. William was a renowned silk weaver, originally from Spitalfields area of London. His designs were used to decorate the rooms of Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace, receiving his orders direct from Queen Victoria. When Pat and Jenifer arrived they had just come from Sudbury where Williams's looms are in a private collection with his names on them. While at Sudbury Pat was shown a picture of the house where William lived in Quendon and asked if I knew it. I did and we were able to visit, which they were thrilled about. I took them to lunch at the pub and they then left for an appointment at Windsor Castle to view his work; to be followed by an early morning trip to the Victoria and Albert museum, where they hold examples of his work.

When this book has been written, I have been promised a copy. It is for family only and not for general sale. I am looking forward to learning more about the family.

While at lunch Pat told me about 'her dolls' house and book. Her first dolls house was given to her in 1941 when she was age six. They were living in Singapore and the house was looted by the Japanese, and for safety she and her family went to live in Australia. 25 years later she bought a dolls house and did it up and furnished it herself. She is a very accomplished needle woman and did it all in miniature, (knitting a baby jacket with fine sewing needles). She then travelled the world seeking out miniature items for the house and has documented it all in a book. She kindly gave me a signed copy.

Christine Osbourn

The Link

In the current virus-focused milieu, I have tried especially hard to include a few unrelated items this month. In considering this, I thought that it might be of interest to explain some of the history of *The Link* and how it gets to your doormat.

The Link was conceived as a purely church publication, written by the then vicar, the Reverend Anthony (Tony) Lindsay. He intended it to be a means for the Churches to communicate with all members of the parish, whether or not they were church-goers. It normally consisted of a single A3 sheet, folded in half, often with another page or two within. The front cover was the same each month carrying the title and a graphic design. The back page had advertisements for local trades-people, largely to support the cost of its production. Inside were details of church services, a message from the Vicar and other announcements. The inside text was typed by a volunteer and it was all photocopied in monochrome on different coloured paper each month. I understand that Tony regarded it as fundamental that *The Link* should reach every household in Quendon and Rickling free of charge and this is a view that I certainly share.

As time went on, it was felt that it could be used for wider purposes and I offered to take on the job of editing it. Gradually it was found to be valuable for wider village matters and became a larger publication,

attracting more advertisers. It received a huge bonus by Simon Bridgewater's most generous offer on behalf of his company Alternative Managed Services to undertake its printing in colour, and as you see, it contains much more than just church matters! However, it is still published on behalf of our joint parish of two churches and all of its advertising revenue supports them, especially for the contributions they make to the Diocese of Chelmsford to pay for the Vicar. It may come as a surprise to some readers that the Church of England receives no support from central government apart from Gift Aid on qualifying donations. It is entirely supported by its own endeavours. Yet the Vicar must be always available to everyone for christenings, weddings and funerals, as well as for spiritual guidance if required.

The Link is still entirely produced, printed and delivered by volunteers, free of charge, enabling its entire revenue of over £1,300 last year to support the church.

Originally its advertisements, announcements and other items were printed, laid out on a platter and photocopied. I sometimes wonder whether some people think that it still is! Others may think that it is produced on a word processor, such as Microsoft Word. It isn't. I use a fully featured desktop publishing application. Unlike a word processor, this provides freedom to place and resize elements such as text boxes and images exactly where

they are wanted, and they stay there!

This difference means that when I receive material for *The Link*, I take it to pieces as far as possible, separating images from text, identifying formatting details such as bold, italics, underlines, paragraph spaces, bullets, indents and all the rest that goes to make a readable document, and recreate it in the DTP.

Contributors can help me by sending their material by e-mail and the simplest way is to include the required text in the body of the e-mail, leaving it to me to set it out to fit.

If a you want a particular layout by all means send it as a word processor file and I can generally match it. I am happy to receive documents produced in any editable format other than Apple/Mac's Pages, which is restricted to use on an Apple/Mac machine, but .pdf is a printer's format, and hard to use.

I can use graphics formats for pictures, but please bear in mind that they cannot be edited apart from resizing and they must be of reasonable resolution, otherwise they look fuzzy and horrible in print.

I try to make it possible for *The Link* to be pushed through letterboxes in time for the start of the month. It's usually ready for printing by about the 21st of the previous month and is available then to read on-line on the village web-site.

Being produced on folded A3 sheets, its number of pages is always a multiple of 4. Sometimes it is a struggle to fit it all in and other times it's hard to fill the pages! Sometimes something that needs to be especially eye-catching must be on a right-hand page.

It is always my hope that readers find *The Link* informative, interesting and attractive. Please feel free to send any material that you think could be of interest to its readers. For example, recipes, puzzles, jokes, short stories, historical notes and pictures you are proud of are always welcome. Recently I have received images for the front cover and I hope that you have enjoyed them. There may not always be space for immediate inclusion, but it's grand to have pieces available!

Robert Arnold, Editor

CRIME PREVENTION

PHISHING EMAILS/FAKE TEXT MESSAGES

There are currently numerous bogus emails and text messages circulating, appearing to come from official bodies, such as the Government, World Health Organisation and US Centre for Disease control. They contain links which are designed to download malicious software (i.e. viruses) to your device, or to take you to a website that will collect your personal and financial details.

There are a variety of forms these emails can take, some of which are shown here. These can include:

- Offering a tax rebate
- Demanding payment of a fine
- Asking for donations
- Linking to a map of the spread of Coronavirus

The advice remains the same – if an email is unexpected do not click on any links, simply delete the email.

Use the ABC approach:

Never **A**ssume they are legitimate; Never **B**elieve they are legitimate; Always **C**onfirm using a trusted number or asking friends and family.

Please see the official government response to messages such as these:

“The Government has only sent one text message to the public regarding new rules about staying at home to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Any others claiming to be from UK Government are false.

Criminals are able to use spoofing technology to send texts and emails impersonating organisations that you know and trust. We would remind anyone who receives an unexpected text or email asking for personal or

financial details not click on the links or attachments, and don't respond to any messages that ask for your personal or financial details.”

If you receive any such messages, report them to Action Fraud - www.actionfraud.police.uk/report-phishing

A message from our Chief Inspector, Terry Balding, Head of the Local Policing Support Unit

Dear Partner,

We are continuing, as you are, to work to support our colleagues in Public Health England and the NHS to play our part in the response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

On behalf of police officers in all districts, I would like to reassure you of some of the measures we have put in place to ensure we can continue to operate efficiently and effectively during this unprecedented time for the country.

We are following national events closely and adhering to Government advice and guidelines while at the same time planning around all contingencies – something which policing is well-practised at. You may be aware that a Strategic Coordination Group is sitting, currently chaired by Chief Constable BJ Harrington, and is coordinating the work being done by organisations across the whole county to keep residents in Essex safe and informed.

Your local police stations remain fully operational without any significant changes, which continues to enable anyone to come in to our operational front officers to engage with us in person if necessary. This not only enables us to continue to provide a 24/7 policing response to emergency and priority incidents but also in delivering a highly-visible policing presence where needed most through our Community Policing Team. You

CRIME PREVENTION (cont.)

will however appreciate that some of the ways we will be visible to our communities will need to change for a while.

Our priorities remain the same: to help people, keep them safe and to catch criminals, and we are keen to show positive examples of business as usual policing across the force.

We are encouraging our staff and officers to post on Facebook and Twitter about what they are doing as part of their everyday roles. These will be accompanied with appropriate pictures where possible to further reassure our communities. Some events will be postponed, like our Coffee with Cops engagements, but we encourage everyone to contact us in the usual way by email or via **101**.

At a time where there's a lot of uncertainty, it's really important we can provide reassurance to our communities, letting them know that we're still there to protect them and keep them safe and emphasise the message to criminals that they cannot use COVID-19 as an excuse to commit crime.

We are proud of the way our staff have responded to working within an ever changing and challenging environment and we are working hard to ensure you still have the support and resources you need.

Requests for our assistance should continue to be made in the usual way.

• To report a non-emergency incident report it online at <https://www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/report-a-crime/> or call **101**.

• To report an emergency dial **999**.

If you require further information regarding the current situation please contact your local Community Policing Teams by email or **101**.

Terry Balding, Chief Inspector 3027
Head of Local Policing Support Unit
Essex Police HQ
PO Box 2
Chelmsford Essex. CM26DA

Fake Products/Websites

A man has already appeared in court for making fake coronavirus testing/treatment kits and selling them worldwide. These kits contain harmful chemicals, and police are warning anyone who had bought one of these kits not to use it. Report to Action Fraud, quoting "Trinity CV19 treatment kits".

During this time, be aware of fake websites and

suspicious links. Criminals will advertise products they know to be in short supply, such as hand sanitiser, face masks and 'treatments'.

Claims like '100% safe', 'No side effects' and 'Quick results' should be warning signs.

Elderly individuals targeted by doorstep scammers.

The elderly are being increasingly targeted by doorstep scammers due to their increased isolation from family and friends. Criminals are posing as police and health officials, sometimes offering to carry out a coronavirus test on their doorstep in exchange for cash.

Be vigilant. As always, do not accept offers on the doorstep.

Always confirm who the person is using a trusted number – genuine officials will always wait.

Thieves offering to shop for the elderly and then keeping their money.

Thieves posing as good Samaritans are offering to complete shopping trips on behalf of the elderly, before keeping the money or bank cards that are handed over.

Treat such invitations with caution.

Never hand over your bank card or details.

If vulnerable people are using others to do their shopping, ensure it is someone they know or from a trusted source.

Pension Exploitation

Pension savers have been warned to be extra vigilant of criminals seeking to prey on people's anxieties amid the pandemic. As markets are affected and people seek to increase their savings, it may make people look to make snap decisions that could have serious consequences.

As always, the advice remains – do not respond to cold callers.

Take your time to think things through carefully and do your own research (even if you are being offered a 'limited time deal').

If something is too good to be true – it usually is!!

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud, please call Essex Police on **101**.

Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call **0300 123 2040**.

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. Thanks)

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

Quendon & Rickling 100 Club

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.

Congratulations to the April 2020 Winners

1st	C Mackrill	£35
2nd	J Tissot	£24
3rd	M Tissot	£14

Security News and Advice from Stephen Armson-Smith, Braintree & Uttlesford Crime Prevention Officer - 090819

Paul Harris's Crime Prevention article above gives wisdom about scams and the like, but I would like to draw your attention to something that is **not** a scam:

ESSEX WELFARE SERVICES

Essex County Council has established the Essex Welfare Services as part of PROVIDE (a health and social care service). EWS has been set up to assist the most vulnerable in the community to allow them to access shopping, medicine and other support.

This week and going forwards, GP surgeries will be calling, sending out SMS text messages or posting letters to those who are 70 or older or are offered a flu jab due to pre-existing medical conditions. This is because these people are identified as being vulnerable and having to self-isolate for prolonged periods of time and therefore potentially require additional support.

You may potentially receive a call from the National Shielding Helpline on **0333 3050466** – this is NOT a scam. However, the phonenumber is not live and you may receive a message saying they will try again soon.

When they call back, the caller may ask for some details such as your name and NHS number to confirm they are speaking to someone who is deemed as vulnerable, but they will never ask you for details such as you National Insurance Number or bank details.

There are concerns that this service has not been widely publicised and therefore people are leaving reviews on trust sites saying that this is a scam due to the caller asking whether the person is vulnerable or not. It is important that this misinformation is not spread as it could lead to vulnerable individuals missing out on essential support.

www.essexwelfareservice.org.uk/

Kind regards

Stephen Armson-Smith 74324

Crime Prevention Tactical Advisor; Designing Out Crime Officer

Braintree and Uttlesford Districts Heritage Crime Prevention Lead

Telephone 101 extension 407110; Mobile 07525 409720

Essex Police, The Police Station, Blyths Meadow, Braintree, Essex CM7 3DJ

School News

Beech Easter Play

Beech Class have worked really hard to pull the Easter Play together two weeks early. Miss Harley and Mrs Snelling are extremely proud of all the children for their hard work and dedication; a constant relearning of lines and stepping in for absentees at the last minute. Some children (Edward and Cameron) had changes right to the

end and were amazing! Here are a few pictures taken at our dress rehearsal by Mrs Bushnell. A huge thank you has to go to Mrs King, without whom the play just would not have happened. She did all scenery, costumes and music and just kept us all going! "She is the glue which keeps Beech Class together", to quote Miss Harley!

Mrs Snelling and Miss Harley



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

Copy for each month is normally required by the 19th of the preceding month to allow for assembly, printing and delivery.

The Link is assembled using Scribus software and is printed through the generosity of

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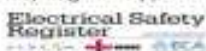
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