

The Link

Quendon & Rickling

Parish

and Church

NEWS

December 2022 - January 2023

The Link is available on-line at
www.quendonandrickling.co.uk

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*My Cheerful Nerines!
by Wendy Stannard*

Priest in Charge of the parish of Quendon and Rickling, Coordinating Chaplain Stansted Airport (2 days per week)

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

Telephone: L: 01799 732059; M: 07878176551

Day off: Friday

Churchwardens - **Quendon:** Mrs Christine Osbourn 01799 543367 and Mrs Maureen Hawkins

Rickling: TBA

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

From the Vicarage Study

Rev. Peter Allen,

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

Pete's Letter for December

As a small boy still full of wonder at the world, I remember well my dad pretending to not have any teeth telling me a funny story of the members of a family who couldn't blow out a candle, supposedly, because they hadn't any teeth and were unable to purse their lips to be able to do so. In the end after two sons, two daughters, mum, and dad had all had a go, grandad decides to wet his thumb and a finger with his tongue and does what none of the others had managed to do and extinguish the

light by squashing the flame between his thumb and finger. It wasn't the story itself that made this fun for a five year old lad but the voices and actions employed in the telling of the story, and the way we were plunged into darkness as dad extinguished the light and flame of a candle he had been using for a prop. Light and dark

remain powerful images, and not just for wide eyed little boys.

Throughout Advent and the run up to Christmas lights will play a big part in our national and secular celebrations, and in the darkness of mid-winter, it is great to be able to brighten up our homes, shopping centres and churches with dazzling lights. But it is also good to think about the true light of the world, Jesus of Nazareth, whose birth changed the course of history.

Recent years of facing a deadly pandemic and national and international events have meant many of us have felt we are living in troubled times. In this world, light and dark coexist but sometimes it feels as if there is more dark than light. History tells us human beings have always had a terrifying capacity for evil, or actions that come out of the dark side of human nature, but in today's world with 24 hour TV news, we can be overwhelmed by what we hear. But of course, darkness is not confined to the lives of other people who are presented to us on our TV screens, it comes to us all at some stage or another.

How many of us will be facing Christmas for the first time without a loved one? How many will be lonely, feeling that everyone else is having fun and a good time? How many parents will struggle to provide what their children are expecting, mindful that some of their friends are getting the best of everything? There is no doubt that for a significant proportion of people, Christmas is not an easy time and there doesn't seem to be much light amongst the darkness.



OH HOLY NIGHT!

One of the traditions of Christmas the churches will be maintaining this year will be a reading from a passage of John's gospel when,

'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it'.

That is the good news of this season, and indeed the good news of our faith. Christ's light will never go out, and He is with us though all the ups and downs of life, although we sometimes don't realise it until we look back on events. And, if we live by His light, the world will notice. A true faith brings forth deeds, and where churches, inspired by the love of Christ, get involved in their communities sharing with others in helping those in need, a difference can be made. As I write, one such community and church collaboration to host and provide meals for people during these difficult times is in the planning. My hope and prayers are that it is up and running by the time you are reading this.

Finally, as we prepare once again to sing heart-warming carols and recount the glorious and hope filled story of the nativity, let us remember that once the light and joy of Christmas has passed, we are called to continue to reflect the good news: Christ is born for us all. It is a timeless message, an all year round message, and one that can change every life for the better.

A Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year,
Rev Pete

On behalf of all the volunteers involved with the production, printing and distribution of *The Link*, I wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and successful and healthy year of 2023.

Robert Arnold, Editor

Church Services in the Benefice

Sunday 4th December

11.15am Christingle Widdington

Sunday 11th December

10am Messy Church Christingle Newport

6.30pm Carol Service Newport

Sunday 18th December

9.30am Sunday Club Nativity Service Newport

3pm Carol Service Widdington

7pm Carol Service Quendon

Sunday 24th December

3pm Crib Service Widdington

4pm Crib Service Rickling

5pm Crib Service Newport

11.30pm Midnight Communion Newport

Christmas Day

9am Christmas Communion Quendon

10am Celebration Service Newport

11.15am Christmas Communion Widdington (Lloyd)

Death of Richard Burn (1934 - 2022)

The Reverend Richard Burn, who died on the 16th of October, was our vicar from 1987 to 1995 in the then parishes of Quendon and Rickling, when the benefice included Wicken and Widdington.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Janet, and their sons William and Tom. The funeral took place at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Lydbury North, south Shropshire, on the 28th of October.

Reporting Crime

For Crimes and suspicious activity NOW phone 999

For other non-urgent contact and reporting a crime that has already happened **101**

Alternatively you can report non-urgent incidents or suspicious activity and crimes online at <https://www.essex.police.uk/> and click on the appropriate button

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>

0300 123 2040

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> or, if the attempt was by Email, by forwarding it complete to: report@phishing.gov.uk

CRIMESTOPPERS To give information anonymously phone or report it online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org **0800 555 111**

The information you provide is very important to us, so please make sure that we can use it effectively, by reporting it correctly through the proper channels. Thank you.

The Link

Historically few events took place in September and a separate issue of *The Link* for the month would have contained little. The issue delivered for August therefore covered two months.

This pattern of activities seems to be changing, with various events, including "Autumn Daze", the pumpkin competition and "Quickling" (the portmanteau word should really be "Quenling" shouldn't it!) and the community run being arranged for early autumn, while January tends to be lean on activities to promote.

The Parochial Church Council, publisher of *The Link*, has raised no objection to a change to its pattern of issues for the forthcoming year.

There will be no separate issue of *The Link* for January 2023, but it is intended that there will be one for September 2023 as well as August. The accounting season for regular advertisers will continue to run from October each year to the following September.

Rickling/Quendon Community Café

Quendon & Rickling Village Hall,
Quendon CB11 3XQ

Christmas Dinner
12.30 for 1.00pm



This is just to inform you that our Christmas Dinner is on the 21st December in the Quendon Rickling Village Hall. If you are a member, we will require a £5.00 deposit before the 3rd December and this will be returned on the day.

If you would like to become a member it is £3.00 for the year and please phone Angie on 01799 218061 or Carole on 01799 543807 to secure a place.

However if you would just like to come along for the meal it will be £12.50 and we will need to know your dietary requirements.

Look forward to seeing you there.



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Parish Information

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 provided. If an e-mail address is provided the pack can be sent digitally.

Allotments (part of the Quendon Hall Estate):

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

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.

Contact our Parish Council

Details of Parish Council meetings may be found on the village web-site <https://www.quendonandrickling.co.uk> and on village notice boards. All are welcome to attend.

The Parish Clerk is Keith Williams

Email: quendonandrickling.clerk@hotmail.com

Telephone: **01279 814473**

Contact our District Councillors

Email: cllremanuel@uttlesford.gov.uk

Telephone: **01799 543487**

Mobile Telephone: **07801 039550**

Email: cllrhargreaves@uttlesford.gov.uk

Telephone: **01799 540411**

Mobile Telephone: **0745 4687748**

See also monthly report in every issue of *The Link*.

Contact our County Councillor

Cllr Raymond Gooding

Essex County Council

County Hall, Duke Street

Chelmsford, CM1 1LX

Email: cllr.ray.gooding@essex.gov.uk

Telephone: **01279 813103**

Mobile Telephone: **07778 643759**

Contact our Member of Parliament

Kemi Badenoch, MP

House of Commons,

London, SW1A 0AA

Email: kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

Telephone: **0207 219 1943**

From the Parish Council Chair

Hello Villagers,

Here we are at the tail end of a fast-disappearing year - hasn't it gone quickly?!

Well, before it vanishes completely, do come along and join the **Christmas tree lights switch-on** on Friday 2nd December from 6:30pm at The Cricketers Arms. As well as a mulled wine or other drink, we'll be welcoming a special seasonal visitor who'll arrive in style to light up our BIG tree from Tom's Trees - it'll be a grand way to bring the Christmas season in, here in the village.

You should also look out for the beautiful **winter floral display** at the Fountain - fast becoming the arena of choice for displaying the talents of our local enthusiastic flower-arrangers and lighting-decorators - it promises to be a lovely display both before and after dark.

On the subject of seasonal greenery we have been tackling the state of the **Pond on the Green** and the one on Brick Kiln Lane recently. Having a lot of reed growing in them is actually generally beneficial for wildlife and the health of the pond, but we are planning on clearing some to increase the area of clear water, clearing some of the scrub around the edges of the ponds, and a minor dredging operation, in order to make the ponds look more attractive and increase diversity.

Trucks - there's been a lot of them zooming noisily along Cambridge Road recently, hasn't there! We're tracing the source and destination of these trucks in order to remind the operators that they must stick to the speed limit in order to reduce the impact on road-side residents and reduce the risk of accidents. We've identified one firm with whom we are engaging so far. It's a problem that has been noticed in a number of villages along the B1383 recently.

One response to speeding has been to reawaken the **Community Speedwatch** team. We have a small team of volunteers but we need more! If you can spare an hour or two perhaps monthly in order to bring some pressure to bear on speeding motorists and to provide the police with tangible evidence to drive their own efforts, please get in touch with Ljiljana Ortloja-Baird (ljiljana.editor@gmail.com) or through the clerk to join our band.

We have found out more information about the Local Plan and Call for Sites this month. Partially owing to a dwindling staff pool, the initial assessment of sites by UDC was not regarded as of robust enough quality, so the Local Plan team is reassessing all the sites on offer for development, resulting as you might expect in a significant delay.

The timetable now is:

Late Summer 2023 - Draft Local Plan Consultation (Reg. 18)

Mid 2024 - Pre-Submission Local Plan Consultation (Reg. 19)

Autumn 2024 Submission of Local Plan for Examination

Winter 2024 - Independent Examination

October 2025 - Adoption

Once the Reg 18 list of sites is published, typically developers dive in with planning applications, having been given the green light for development of those sites.

On the subject of planning, you (particularly those at the north end of Rickling Green) may have seen the proposals for Permitted Development (ClassQ) of Bradleys Barn into five two/three bedroom properties for rental. Had this been a planning application we would have objected on strong grounds of (1) location being outside the development limits in the NhP and (2) unsustainability of the location, reliance on private transport and the danger to foot traffic along Brick Kiln Lane and (3) that the development of the barn stretches to the limit the ClassQ (agricultural-to-residential conversion). Under Permitted Development neither the PC nor any residents have a voice in the decision. We will however strenuously raise our concerns with UDC once the application has been made, in the expectation that the officer will question whether the development is faithful in its application for ClassQ development, and seek for it to be converted to a planning application.

As mentioned last month, we are revisiting the **Neighbourhood Plan**. Please come forward if you are able to help with the updating of the plan, or even if you have some ideas about how it can be improved or suggestions of anything else to be included. Contact any councillor or the clerk. Whilst a lot of the focus has been on Newport in it we do not wish to lose our own voices or be unable to raise our own concerns in the new Plan. For reference the current plan can be found at <https://nqrplan.org>

How about 2023 becoming the year you peek above the parapet and let your voice be heard on our friendly **Parish Council**! There are two vacant positions on the Council and we welcome fresh faces with fresh ideas - please do approach any councillor or drop a line to the Clerk to find out more.

Finally then for 2022 - may I wish you all a peaceful season and an opportunity to reconnect with family and friends.

Keep up the good will!

Tom Duncan.

Contact details for the PC at

<https://www.quendonandrickling.co.uk/parish-council/>

District Councillors' Report

UDC grants for biodiversity and climate change projects

Grants of between £1,000 and £35,000 can be applied for from the council's Zero Carbon Communities Fund. This is to provide funding for community projects in Uttlesford which will deliver carbon emission reduction, or ecological restoration and enhancement, or community engagement on climate change, and preferably all of these things.

Parish councils and community groups can apply and the deadline is 5th January 2023. There will be two tranches of funds; £150,000 in this financial year and the same again in 2023/24. Funding for this comes from the council's commercial investment income which allowed us to create a £1m Climate Change budget to be spent over three years.

The remit is quite wide and examples suggested are:

- community buildings - for example, energy conservation or efficiency measures
- sustainable transport - for example, community cycle parking or electric vehicle charging points
- nature and biodiversity projects - this could include community allotment projects, or the restoration, creation or enhancement of a community nature area
- other projects - such as waste reduction projects, or community initiatives that promote sustainable lifestyle choices
- energy surveys - if you are not able to deliver a carbon reduction project you can carry out an energy survey of your community building or buildings in order to identify energy efficiency measures

There was significant interest at the November parish council meeting and so if you are interested, have suggestions (and are keen to participate!), then the PC is probably the best place to start.

Full details are here: <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/zero-carbon-communities-grant>

Digital business grants

Another grant opportunity is for up to £2,500 for businesses to develop or improve their website and social media platforms, online booking systems, mobile apps and e-commerce platforms. The trend towards using the internet for researching and buying products and services online has been growing for years, and accelerated during the pandemic. Examples of what may be funded are:

- a new business website or an upgrade to an existing website
- an online booking system for the business
- an e-commerce platform for online sales
- creation of a mobile app
- support to establish social media platforms and develop skills to maximise their use

- digital skills training courses

The fund is £40,000 and the deadline is 31st January, and details are on here: <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/business/digital-boost-grant>

Water Levels

We get updates from time to time from Affinity Water on what they are doing to reduce leaks, and water consumption, and the current stat of the aquifers. Their report as at mid November says that, "The heavy rainfall in October has helped to dampen dry soils, but more rain is needed to saturate soils, before rainfall can seep through to reach groundwater.... Groundwater levels in our central and southeast regions have now reached 'drought zone 2', but they are likely to recover back into 'drought zone 1' if we receive the average amount of rainfall over the winter." They don't define what the drought zones mean, but it looks like if the winter rain is not substantial there may be restrictions imposed next year. Affinity intends to cut per capita use by 12.5% by 2025, but the government have mandated a 40% increase in the population of Uttlesford.

Good housing design

On brighter news, subsequent to a very interesting recent visit with the Urban Design Officer to Cambridge to view several new developments at Knightly Park, Ninewells and Trumpington Meadows, Judy helped organise a second trip for members of the planning committee, the urban designer and an officer from the local plan team to see a new development at Eddington (which is just outside Cambridge) and Beaulieu Park in Chelmsford. It was a fascinating day. The development in Eddington is on land owned by the University of Cambridge and the residential use is spilt into three types - key worker, university accommodation and market rate housing. As part of the development there is a brand new primary school which is highly sought-after - the university owns and manages the school. It is the first university training school in the UK.

The accommodation was a mix of housing and apartments. As we explored we all discussed the design and organisation components that we liked/disliked. There was much to admire - there is a wonderful arts and music community space, a supermarket and bakery with spaces for more retail units available as the development progresses. There are also hi-tech communal underground bins that are only emptied when a sensor indicates that is needed.

At Beaulieu Park we saw a development that is much further on in the development life cycle. The housing and retail components are well established with very attractive and well-cared for landscaping throughout. There is a brilliant community square with a new through school with a nursery next door, community centre/church and numerous retail units containing everything

District Councillors' Report (cont.)

from a supermarket, cafes, vet, pizza takeaway and fish and chip shop. A train station is under way for the development! It was an impressive development that really fired our imagination about what we could achieve in Uttlesford if we are prepared to be innovative.

Season Greetings!

A very Merry Christmas to everyone, and best wishes for 2023!

Among the many things which could be better in 2023, let us hope for a rapid end to the evil war being waged by the Russian dictator, eviction of the invader, and relief for the people of Ukraine.

Councillor Surgeries

These are in Dorringtons every Friday from 10.30 to 11.30. If we have to cancel these, we will post on the

village facebook.

Cllrs. Judy Emanuel and Neil Hargreaves

Our contact details are:



cjlremanuel@uttlesford.gov.uk
01799 543487 or 07801 039550

cjlrhargreaves@uttlesford.gov.uk
01799 540411 or 0745 4687748



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.

07874-385541



www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted

Stansted Mountfitchet U3A

In September members of Stansted and Thorley u3as spent a most enjoyable and interesting week in the North East. They visited Holy Island, Bamburgh, Seahouses, Beamish Open Air museum, Durham, Hexham and the “Angel of the North” statue. We thank Thorley u3a for inviting us and for the photo.

At October’s General Meeting Martin Lloyd, a former immigration official, traced the development of the passport from a hand written note to today’s bulkier format. This proved an intriguing probe into the passport stories which shaped their history, assassins who, in the nineteenth century, caused the rules to be changed forever, a spy with a mysterious passport and a traitor, William Joyce, “Lord Haw Haw,” hanged by the passport he should never have had.



The General Meeting on December 15th is the Christmas Lunch at Bury Lodge. The Speaker Programme for 2023 General Meetings, although still to be confirmed, is complete and available on the web. At the General Meeting on January 19th Peter Maggs’s talk will be called “The Murder in the Red Barn”. He has comprehensively researched a long ago murder in deepest rural Suffolk, specialises in this kind of historical investigation and is the author of several books.

Good News, the Saturday Seminars will return in 2023. The first will be on 25rd February, timed to coincide with the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine. The topic is “Old Russia to European State- a History of Conflict between Ukraine and Russia” and we are delighted that David Morson, who has led several previous excellent seminars, will be presenting. The Seminar will be at the Free Church Hall, on Chapel Hill Stansted, starting at 9.30 am pre-booking only. Tickets, costing £7, will be available from 9th January via the Events page on our website or at the General Meetings in January and February.

Learn, Laugh, Live!

Mobility equipment available free to loan

As many people know, Wendy Stannard stores mobility equipment in her garage for anyone to use free of charge. She has wheelchairs, Zimmer frames, crutches, walkers, walking sticks, toilet raisers and bed handles to assist getting out, etc.

Those uncomfortable using the Internet may not already know of these facilities.

Wendy can be contacted by telephone on **01799 541869**.

Quendon & Rickling 100 Club

Congratulations to the November 2022 Winners

1st	P Ball	£32
2nd	W Stannard	£21
3rd	R Hackwell	£10

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.



Object of the Month

The Museum's 'Object of the Month' provides an opportunity to explore interesting and unusual objects from our stores.

November's Object of the Month was a selection of objects from 'The Arkesden Hoard', chosen and researched by volunteer Joanne Pegrum.

Dating to the Late Bronze Age (1000 – 800 BCE), the hoard is a collection of bronze objects discovered in Arkesden, Essex in 1872. The hoard was originally found buried in a bucket-shaped hole by workers during land draining works. It was initially shared out between them but subsequently recovered by antiquarians.

The hoard consists of mostly broken or damaged pieces of axes, spearheads, sword blades and bronze ingots.

November's Object of the Month highlights three of these objects: a socketed axe, part of a 'palstave' which is an axe more typical of the Middle Bronze Age and a bronze ingot.



© Saffron Walden Museum

Bronze is an alloy of copper and tin, both of which were mined in Britain during the Bronze Age, tin in Cornwall and copper in North Wales and Cheshire. The objects on display today are mostly dull and tarnished but originally they would have been a shiny, yellow-gold colour. They exemplify the technologies and trade of the Bronze Age: the smelting of metals, the manufacturing of implements in moulds and the trade of raw materials.

Other similar hoards have been found in Essex and across the South-East. It is thought that the hoards were buried by travelling smiths but why were they buried and not collected again? Could the hoards be evidence for ritualistic burial?

Recognition by Buglife charity

We're thrilled that our initiative to improve the biodiversity of the Museum and Castle grounds have been accepted by the charity invertebrate conservation Buglife as a contribution to its B-lines scheme.

B-lines aims to create a patchwork of sites where pollinators and other insects can feed and breed, on corridors drawn between existing major wildlife sites. You can find out more about B-lines and their other work at <https://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/>.

Visiting the Museum!

Our standard opening hours are:

Wednesday-Saturday 10-4.30pm*

Sundays & Bank Holidays 2-4.30pm*

*Please note the earlier closing time over Winter

Closed Mondays (apart from bank holidays)

Tuesdays are reserved for pre-booked group visits by schools and other parties in term time.

Help Us

We are always looking for new volunteers to join our team on a regular basis. We would also be delighted to hear from volunteers who are able to provide adhoc 'cover' for our regular shift volunteers when they have planned absences such as holidays, hospital appointments, etc.

To find out more about these and 'Learning and Support' volunteer opportunities please contact the museum using the details below.

For full details of our opening times and to book online:

Website: www.saffronwaldenmuseum.org

Email: museum@uttlesford.gov.uk

Phone: **01799 510333**

Editor's Note

As stated in the publication details panel in every issue of *The Link*, its publisher (Quendon & Rickling Parochial Church Council, not the Parish Council) does not necessarily share or endorse the opinions expressed by contributors or advertisers, and that applies to me as editor as well.

As I have mentioned before, I send an e-mail each month to our representatives at parish, district, county and national (Westminster) levels, as well as to other regular contributors, inviting articles in time for the forthcoming issue. Not all respond. Where they are received, I include as much as I can, provided that the material is timely and appropriate. In other words I edit with a "light touch", trying to ensure that our parish magazine is interesting and informative without being unnecessarily partisan.

Robert Arnold, editor

Quendon & Rickling Golf Society

On Friday November 4th we had our annual meeting at Bishop's Stortford Golf Club hosted by Susie and Richard Hartley. The weather was with us and in warm sunshine 14 players gathered for the morning game. The course looked fantastic and we were spoilt by the stunning autumn colours.

But it didn't detract from our game and the added challenge of playing for our once-yearly Bandit Trophy.

On return to the clubhouse we were treated to a late lunch of ham, egg and chips and washed it down with a few glasses of everyone's favourite drink!!

Points scored mean prizes awarded of course, and they were duly announced by Susie. The Bandit Trophy was won by Tony Knight with Brandon Chapman a close

second, followed by Malcolm Chambers in third and Alan Price and Anthony Gold sharing 4th place. The nearest the pin prize went to Jaine Fieldhouse.

Our Chairman, Tony Jones, thanked Susie and Richard for their great organisation and the Club for their hospitality. Tony invited all to join the upcoming AGM, which will take place soon, where we shall review another successful year and plan the way forward. If you want to join us please contact any one of us via *The Link* or email janewaite@hotmail.com



Not the best picture but certainly the best day!

Bowling Club News

Outdoor Bowling

The work we carried out on the green in October is now paying dividends, the dressing and overseeding is producing good results and the green has been mowed twice in the past couple of weeks to promote growth. Also, the green has had an Autumn feed applied and had an Iron treatment to keep down any moss. The quality of the club green is especially important, it is one of the best in our league and is inspected every year by representatives of the North West Essex League to ensure it is up to the required standard.

Next season we will again have teams in the Steeple Bumpsted League and the North West Essex League; these are early evening games usually starting at either 6.15 or 6.30. Both these leagues are mixed triples matches. We have not arranged any Ladies' friendlies this year as we do not have enough lady bowlers to cover these games and both the mixed and ladies' matches. In addition, this year for the first time, we will also be entering a team into the Essex and Herts seniors league that will play on either a Tuesday or Thursday afternoon.

Friendly games are played usually on a Saturday or Sunday to give those who cannot play in the week an opportunity to play.

We are always looking for new members, especially for the ladies section, either experienced bowlers or newbies. One of our members is hoping to get his coaching qualification before the new season, so we hope to improve the performance of not only the existing members but also to lead in gently any novices.

Indoor Bowling

We have been playing in the Thursday indoor league at Turpin's in Saffron Walden with little success; although there have been some close finishes, we always seem to be coming second.

On Wednesday evenings at 7.00 we have carpet bowls in

the Clubhouse - usually on two "rinks": a very light-hearted and social way to get introduced to bowling and the club members.

Social Evenings

We are now opening the Clubhouse on the second and fourth Fridays in the month (excepting December as the fourth Friday is the day before Christmas Eve). We have had a few new faces join us but would like to see a few more. We are open to constructive criticism and having been advised that some thought a few of our bar prices were a little expensive, we have carried out a pricing review. Briefly our bar prices are now similar to or are lower than local clubs with bitter/IPA/Non-premium lager at £3.00. Single spirits are at £1.50 and a large wine (187ml, so bigger than a standard large glass) is £3.50. These are very competitive and much lower than pub prices.

Our race night was well attended by club members and a few of our "new village friends", and a good time was had by all - with some very vocal support for the runners during the races! One lucky punter achieved a £19.00 win for his £1.00 stake (he was the only person to bet on the winner).

We are open to suggestions to any other events you think you would like us to put on. Contact Ray on **07973 632923** or e mail ray-janice@hotmail.co.uk

Our Friday social on the 9th of December is the Club's Christmas get together and will be a festive one open to all. Apart from our usual facilities, there will be festive music and nibbles, a raffle and we will be including a mini fun Christmas quiz. A chance to air your Christmas Jumpers or if you are brave enough your elf costume!

Looking forward to the new year, our first social of 2023 will be Friday 13th January.

Ray Hart



Quendon Estate & Maces Farms



Sugar Beet Harvester



Sugar Beet Maus



Sugar Beet Haulage

As we approach December and say goodbye to a wet November, at Maces Farms we saw our sugar beet crop being harvested.

Unfortunately like most other growers the sugar beet suffered as a result of the incredibly dry conditions earlier in 2022, but overall we were happy to see a decent tonnage and sugar content. For those who may not be aware, sugar beet is the only root crop we grow at Maces Farms. What we produce is sent to British Sugar in Bury St Edmunds where the crop is refined into a variety of sugars including granulated sugar, caster sugar, decorative sugar and pharmaceutical sugars. You can find out more about British Sugar, using the

Alongside our sugar beet crop being harvested, when the weather permitted, we have applied post emergence treatments to our 2023 crops to safeguard against competitive weeds over the winter months. Our focus also turns to machinery maintenance to ensure all is in good order and everything is cleaned down.

On the 2nd November we hosted a meeting at Bradleys Barn to present our proposal of converting the barn into five terraced residential dwellings to offer two/three bedroom accommodation which will be retained and rented out. Thank you to everyone who attended and we appreciate your feedback. Following our conversations, we noted the main concern was that the conversion could create the opportunity for wider development on the adjacent field. We can provide assurance that this is not in scope and is not being considered. As we propose to undertake the conversion via permitted development avenues, we will provide updates in due course once we have heard back from Uttlesford District Council.

As a reminder, if anyone would like to meet with us to ask a question or learn more about the Quendon Estate and Maces Farms, our first community surgery meeting will be on Wednesday 7th December 2022 starting at 10am and finishing at 6pm at Maces Farm office. If you would like to call in to us, please book a time in advance

following link: <https://www.britishsugar.co.uk/>

Quendon Estate & Maces Farms (cont.)

by emailing Robert Timmins: RTimmins@pegasi.co.uk. Please do also keep an eye out for our new information boards which are due to arrive in the near future.

From all of us at the Quendon Estate, Maces Farms and

Pegasi, we would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Robert Timmins
Resident Agent & Company Surveyor*



www.hundredparishes.org.uk

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

Within each of our hundred or so administrative parishes, the parish church is nearly always the most significant heritage feature. The majority of our Grade I-listed buildings are churches and each of them has fascinating architecture, memorials and memories. Today, I would like to focus on one particular aspect, the church clock.



Felsted

Before the middle of the twentieth century most people did not have watches; they relied on public clocks which could be seen at railway stations, post offices and other public buildings - and on church towers. This reminds me of the lines written in 1912 by the homesick poet, Rupert Brooke:

*“Stands the church clock at ten to three
And is there honey still for tea?”*

Firstly, I must report that only half of our parish churches have a clock. All listed buildings have a formal description, but the details for a listed church rarely mention the clock, albeit that it is often a distinctive element of the church's appearance.



**Furneux
Pelham**

The Hundred Parishes has a variety of interesting church clocks. In Furneux



Hinxton

Pelham, St Mary's clock is topped by Old Father Time and the words, "Time Flies, Mind Your Business". One wonders what prompted those words to be included.

Hinxton possibly has our oldest church clock, believed to date from 1700 AD, albeit extensively renovated in 1809 when a new face was fitted.

Most clocks are mounted on the church tower. Many churches have just one clock, some two or three. I have found only three churches with four clocks, one on each side of the tower: Newport, Radwinter and Steeple Bumpstead.

The bell tower at Sheering has two clock faces which were installed in the 1940s to remember those who served in the War. The north-facing one tells us to "Work and Pray" whilst the west-facing proclaims "Today Is Yours".



Sheering

The majority of clocks are round, but a few are lozenge or rhombus shaped, like Felsted and Great Waltham.

Most clocks have a solid face although a few, like those at Steeple Bumpstead, consist of metal framework and numerals through which the brick or flint wall can be seen. Solid faces are usually either blue or black. Numerals and the hour and minute hands are almost always golden.



**Steeple
Bumpstead**



Widford

The hands generally point to Roman numerals (I, II, III, IV, etc – although several have IIII instead of the usual IV). Widford breaks the mould with Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, 4, etc). Great Canfield has just a single hand, pointing to the hour.

Some clocks are inscribed with a date and occasionally a royal cipher, for example Great Waltham celebrates Queen Victoria.



Great Canfield

Hatfield Broad Oak appears to display the oldest date locally, 1797, although the clock looks in pristine condition following recent conservation.



**Hatfield Broad
Oak**

The church at High Wych was built in 1861 to the design of local architect George Edward Pritchett. Its clock is almost as wide as the thin flintstone tower on which it is mounted.

Artist Eric Ravilious lived in Great Bardfield and his wood engraving of the church of St Mary the Virgin clearly shows the enormous clock that was added to commemorate the coronation of King George V in 1912. One assumes the residents of Great Bardfield are never late for work or church. The engraving has been adopted as the logo of The Hundred Parishes.



High Wych



Great Bardfield

I hope you will keep an eye open for the variety of clocks to be found around the Hundred Parishes.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

Rickling /Quendon Community Café

Rickling and Quendon Village Hall
Cambridge Road, Quendon, Essex.CB11 3XQ

Sale and jumble

Just to let you know we had a very successful Sale and Jumble in the Village Hall on Saturday 5th November 2022.

I would like to thank everyone who came in the rain, and also all the helpers. We raised £500.00 towards the Christmas dinner and a coach trip in the spring. So much to look forward to.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 18th January 2023 10.00-12.00.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Love Angie and Carole and the team

CRIME PREVENTION from Neighbourhood Watch Rogue Traders

Following the extremely hot and dry summer, the return of strong winds and heavy rain can expose damage to roofs and gutters. The extreme heat can cause cracking to tiles, shingles and gutters and dead moss and leaves can block gutters. Now we need to get the damage fixed and find suitable builders/tradespersons.

Rogue Traders are dishonest tradespeople who often turn up unannounced. They may leaflet the area before making doorstep calls and often offer roofing, gardening and handyman jobs. The work may be unnecessary, done to a poor standard and overpriced. They will use any opportunity to prey upon unsuspecting victims. They will often go to an area and look for signs of elderly residents, such as key-safes, door ramps and decor. They will then call on those vulnerable residents and offer to carry out either unnecessary work or heavily overpriced and substandard work.

How to stay safe from Rogue Traders?

Remember to "Take Five" before acting:

STOP - Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

CHALLENGE - Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you. Get other quotes to compare prices.

PROTECT - Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

So how do I find a trust worthy tradesperson?

Rogue Traders do often prey on elderly people as they see them as more trusting and more likely to allow them into the house.

We are urging elderly people to be alert to the dangers but also asking sons, daughters and neighbours of elderly people to watch out for them.

Our advice includes:

- Where possible use a trader recommended to you by someone you know, or use a trusted trader scheme such as Trading Standards Buy With Confidence - www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk
- Never agree to any work on the doorstep - remember to "Take Five" and do as much research as you need to in order to feel comfortable choosing a tradesperson.
- Display a 'No Cold Calling' sticker outside your door.
- Install a video doorbell.
- Never pay cash up front.
- If a suspected rogue trader is at the door and you feel threatened or a crime is in progress call 999.



How to report possible offences, concerns or to give information?

If you are a victim of, or have any information in relation to 'rogue traders', please report this via one of the below methods:

Essex Police via **999** for offences **being committed at that time** or online at www.essex.police.uk

CrimeStoppers in order to give information anonymously **0800 555 111**

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on **0808 223 1133**

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



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. Another is sited outside Reception at the front of Rickling School. Anyone can save a life by using one of them until an ambulance arrives.

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

For further information see www.communityheartbeat.org.uk/. In addition you can seek help from any of the volunteers listed below.

Name	Home Telephone	Locality
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
Paul Carrol	07889 344869	Southern end - Cambridge Road
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



What's On

Where no organiser is shown for any event in Q&R Village Hall, contact the Hall Manager, Christine Osbourn on 01799 543367 for details

Event	Date	Time	Place	Notes
Saffron Searchers	1st Monday in month	20.00-22.00	Q&R Village Hall	
Pilates	Mondays	09.00-10.00	Q&R Village Hall	Jan Crawley 07742 182272
Dog Training	Mondays	20.00-21.30	Q&R Village Hall	Pauline Everton
Dance Exercise	Tuesdays	10.30-11.30	Q&R Village Hall	Christine Alexander
Dance Exercise	Tuesdays	14.30-15.30	Q&R Village Hall	Christine Alexander
U3A Choir	Wednesdays	11.15-13.15	Q&R Village Hall	
Carpet Bowls	Wednesdays	19.00	Quendon Bowls Club	David Edwards 07804 954095
Buffy Playbus	Fridays	09.15-10.30	Rickling Green	Term-time
Tree Unveiling	2nd December	18.30	Cricketers Arms	
Maces Farm	7th December	10.00-18.00	Farm Office	See p10
Social Evening	9th December	Evening	Bowling Club	See p9
Carol Service	18th December	19.00	Quendon Church	
Community Café	21st December	12.30	Q&R Village Hall	Christmas Dinner See p4
Crib Service	24th December	16.00	Rickling Church	
Christmas Service	25th December	09.00	Quendon Church	Christmas Communion

The Link is produced on behalf of Quendon & Rickling Parochial Church Council, who do not necessarily share or endorse any opinions expressed by contributors or advertisers. Advertising supports the maintenance of our church buildings and their grounds.

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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: <https://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

Please supply copy by the 19th of the preceding month to allow for editing, printing and delivery.

Picture Gallery



Peter Warwick - Cold Frosty Days
(to come?)



Hero Rats detecting
tuberculosis and explosives



Sandra Arnold - Yew Berries

SOME DON'TS AND DOS FOR YOUR SINKS AND LOOS

Ever finish cooking, then tip oil from the pan down your sink? Or finish dinner, then rinse food scraps and grease from your plate? Just like flushing sanitary products, wipes or cotton buds, it's easily done.



The problem is, this stuff **doesn't disappear**. It sticks to the walls of our sewers and blocks them up.

The end results are sewer flooding, bad smells and a repair bill that **costs us millions**.

Money that could be better spent on improving the services we bring to you.

There's also an **environmental cost**. All this waste can pollute our rivers and damage wildlife, while cleaning it up uses energy and carbon which contributes to climate change.

READ WHAT'S HERE TO KEEP IT CLEAR



IN THE KITCHEN

Fat, oil and grease - recycle small amounts at home through your council's doorstep food waste collection service or in your own composting. Larger amounts can be taken to a household waste recycling centre. Where a council's waste collection policy allows, cooled oil and grease can be poured or scraped in to a suitable container and put in the bin.

Use sink strainers - they'll catch any tiny bits of food that haven't already gone in the recycling box or bin.



IN THE BATHROOM

Use a bin - keep it next to the loo, so nobody's tempted to flush rubbish.

Wipes and cotton wool - chuck them in the bin along with floss and cotton buds.

Sanitary products - use bags or toilet paper for discreet disposal into the bin.



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