

The Link

Quendon & Rickling
Parish
and Church

You can find *The Link*
and much more at

www.quendonandrickling.co.uk

NEWS

December 2021

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After the Mist
by Tony Jones

Parish Churches in Quendon and Rickling

Following the departure of the Revd. Neil McLeod, we are currently without a vicar. Our Parochial Church Council is negotiating for the appointment of a replacement, but this will take some time. Meanwhile if you have any pastoral needs please contact either of the Churchwardens (see box below for details).

We had a very successful and well attended Remembrance service and were joined by Newport and Widdington. The last post being played for us by a young student from Widdington.

Our next service will be our Carol Service on December 12th at 6pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies. We are delighted that this can go ahead this year. This is the traditional 9 lessons and Carols.

It is with great sadness, but we will be unable to have the Nativity service at Rickling on Christmas Eve; this is because after many phone calls and emails, we have been unable to find a leader or organist for the service. The School however will meet for their Christmas service in Quendon church on Monday December 13th.

Priest in Charge of the parish of Quendon and Rickling - post vacant

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

Rickling: TBA

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

Church Services in the Benefice

In the absence of a resident vicar, the PCC will try to hold as many church services as possible, using such clergy as are available. Details of fixtures are given below.

Sunday December 5th

9.30	Holy Communion	Newport
11.15	Holy Communion	Widdington

Sunday December 12th

3.30pm	Messy Christingle	Newport
6.00pm	9 Lessons and Carols	Quendon

Please note, no morning service at Quendon

Sunday December 19th

9.30	All-in Christmas	Newport
3.00pm	Carol service	Widdington
6.00pm	Carol service	Newport

Christmas Eve December 24th

3.00pm	Crib service	Widdington
5.00pm	Crib service	Newport
10.00pm	Holy Communion	Newport

Christmas Day December 25th

11.15	Holy Communion	Quendon
11.15	Holy Communion	Widdington

December 26th

10.30	Benefice Communion	Newport
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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

I wish all readers of *The Link*, and everyone involved with its production, our helpful contributors, our kind deliverers and our generous printer, as well as our loyal advertisers, a very happy Christmas and successful year of 2022.

Thank you all for your support in 2021!

Robert Arnold, Editor

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT SWITCH-ON AND CAROLS BY LANTERN LIGHT

RICKLING GREEN
Cricket Pavilion

5:30pm

SATURDAY
11th
DECEMBER

Join us around the tree
(supplied by Tom's
Trees) for our annual
Christmas Tree Light
Switch-On and Carols by
Lantern Light
(bring your own)

Mulled Wine
Hot Chocolate
Mince Pies
Sausage Rolls
on sale



Look out for the display at the Village Hall too!

Follow "Quendon and Rickling Events" on Facebook for more information on village events.

Rickling/Quendon Community Café

Quendon & Rickling Village Hall,
Quendon CB11 3XQ

Quiz and Fun Bingo



Wednesday 22nd December
10.00am-12.00pm

All Welcome to the Coffee morning - we
look forward to seeing you all again.

Please contact:

Angie and Carole 01799 218061/543807

Quendon & Rickling 100 Club

Congratulations to the November 2021 Winners

1st	C Osbourn	£33
2nd	M Atlee	£22
3rd	P Ball	£11

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.

Litter-picking

The Parish Council plans to make litter-picking a monthly event for everyone who is interested in keeping our villages clean and tidy.

The next one will be on Saturday the 4th of December. Meet at 10.00 on The Green by the Cricketers Arms.

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. It would help if an e-mail address could be provided to enable the pack to 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.

Police/Crime

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

Contact the Parish Council

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

Our Member of Parliament

Face to face surgeries for you to meet with me, your Member of Parliament, and seek advice or assistance on confidential issues are not currently possible. For all enquiries please send an email or speak over the phone.

How to contact me

Email: kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

Tel: 0207 219 1943

Write: Kemi Badenoch MP,

House of Commons,

London, SW1A 0AA

Kemi Badenoch, MP

Advertising in

The Link

reaches every household in Quendon and Rickling at attractive rates*

This space could be promoting YOUR business

Contact: Advertising **preferably by e-mail** at
sandra@arnold-q.uk, or telephone 01799 543075

***Non-profit community promotions are normally included without charge.**

TOM'S TREES

PREMIUM QUALITY NORDMANN FIR CHRISTMAS TREES

**& Christmas Shop
At Terrace & Garden
Rickling Green**

**Will be open daily from Saturday 27th November 11-4pm
while Tree stocks last**

01799 543289

info@terraceandgarden.com



**Action for
Family Carers**

Supporting Carers Across Essex

Dementia Activity Group in Dunmow

People living with dementia can benefit from a hugely popular weekly Activity Group in Dunmow run by Essex-based charity Action for Family Carers.

More than a dozen people attend the Dunmow group and a further 50 in West Essex attend similar groups mixing with others and participating in a variety of mentally and physically stimulating activities ranging from seated exercise, indoor bowling, reminiscence discussions and games often including music.

The Groups are led by a small team of professional and caring staff and a large number of dedicated local volunteers. Morning sessions, called Keeping Active, focus on physical activity and afternoon sessions, called Active Minds, focus on activities to stimulate the mind.

The Activity Group takes place in the Dourdan Pavilion in Dunmow on Mondays 10-12.30 pm and 1-3.30 pm and new members are welcome.

If you know of anyone who might benefit from joining the groups and for more information, please call **0300 770 80 90** and ask for Clare Savva or email clare.savva@affc.org.uk

Saffron Walden Dementia Café

Every Wednesday 10am-12pm

**Faircroft House, Audley Road, Saffron
Walden CB11 3HD**

Are you caring for or living with someone affected by Dementia/Alzheimer's or have you lost a loved one and would just like to chat?

Six months since we restarted, and the group is buzzing with chatter and laughter, a fulfilling sight.

Why not pop along to our Dementia Café and enjoy companionship, support, activities, information, advice and of course refreshments.

We meet weekly in Faircroft House, onsite parking available.

Why not drop in and see us or if you would like to find out more call

07900 123917 or email

saffronwaldendementiacafe@gmail.com



From the Parish Council Chair

Dear Fellow Villagers!

Hard to believe that we are approaching Christmas! How quickly 2021 has gone, despite the fact that a lot of it was in lock down and under Covid restrictions! Let us hope that we will be able to celebrate Christmas this year in style with lots of family and friends!

Hopefully a tiny piece of good news, we believe we may be moving on, very slightly, on the traffic calming scheme on the B1383! There were 3 Highways men spotted in high-vis jackets wielding a road measuring wheel, which is very exciting, especially as we thought Highways had gone into hibernation early! They were very shy though and not really open to any discussion about what they were doing but word has it they were measuring for a scheme - let us hope it is the same scheme as we are working on! We have been assured though by our County Councillor, Ray Gooding, that the money which has been set aside for this scheme is still available but they are just being a little reticent about when this work will commence.

We have requested two speed surveys, one along the B1383 in Quendon and one along Brick Kiln Lane. Highways have responded and confirmed that these will be arranged as soon as possible but as there is a backlog of requests, they cannot confirm when these will take place.

As requested in the October edition, Speedwatch volunteers are still very much needed. If you feel strongly about the current speeding the village is experiencing, please contact our Parish Clerk (see p4). We are looking for a Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator, as well as volunteers to help make a difference. Half an hour to an hour is all that is required to help monitor motorist speeds and raise awareness. The more helpers we have, the better, so the less time has to be committed by each person. The Police are only able to assist on a very limited basis so it really is the villagers who count!

As you will be aware, the VAS sign outside the village hall has only been working on an intermittent basis for the last few months. It had been reported to Highways a few times but with no response so we were very surprised a couple of weeks ago to see that the sign had disappeared completely! We have now discovered that Solargen, the manufacturers, have removed it for a little bit of TLC. Apparently the engineer (there are some around then!) has taken the equipment away for a full assessment, new optics and internal wires and a replacement battery. Let us hope that it will reappear again soon and will not languish in some Solargen cupboard for weeks!

We are in the process of writing up the response to the technical data assessment for the Call for Sites which has

been forwarded to Parish Councils for them to check for factual accuracy. We will definitely be pointing out that the two sites, the football pitch and Brick Kiln Lane are outside the development limits not within!

As many of you will have noticed, the verges around the village green are being slowly destroyed by impatient and uncaring drivers. This year seems to be particularly bad already and we are only at the beginning of the winter season, so if anyone sees any incompetent driving please take photographic evidence and send to the Parish Clerk so we can follow up.

We understand that a deer cull took place in Quendon Woods in mid November, we had no idea that this was due to happen so apologies for anyone and anyone's animals who were upset by the guns, we will ask for dates in advance so we can warn everyone when they are due to take place.

On this note, for your information, Strutt & Parker are no longer managing Maces Farm and the estate, this has now been taken on directly by Pegasi, who manage the estate on behalf of their client. Robert Timmins, the resident agent and company surveyor, who used to work for Strutt & Parker has now moved across to Pegasi and is a contact for any queries for the estate.

The second litter picking session took place at the beginning of November but unfortunately was not that well attended although quite a few bags were filled by the few who did turn up. There is going to be one every month now, the next one is on Saturday, 4 December.

We have had our first inquiry for hiring the village marquee, so we are hoping that it will be the first of many! If anyone is interested, the costs are £75 (for a weekend hire) plus a £100 refundable deposit. Advice for erecting it will be available! A section has been put onto the PC website (www.quendonandrickling.co.uk), under Local Information, so you can see when there is availability.

All 500 of the bluebell bulbs have now been planted under the new trees by the fountain so a big thank you to Paul Wilsher for all his help in purchasing and planting! They are planted behind and to the north of the fountain, under the newly planted trees. It has been suggested that the trees south of the fountain be allowed to grow a little and then we can plant some more bulbs in the shade that they cast. Bluebells planted from bulbs tend not to flower in the first year, so don't be surprised if there is no hue of blue in April/May next year but hopefully the following year, it will be a sea of blue!

The Green pond has become somewhat overgrown this year so our Wildlife Correspondent has approached the Essex Wildlife Trust for a quote for them to undertake a survey in the spring in the hope that it can be managed more ecologically in the future.

From the Parish Council Chair (cont.)

Approval has been given for the tulip tree, to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee, to be planted on The Green and the dying elder, at the entrance to the school/pub lane, to be cut back to a high stump, remaining a home for many "wee beasties". The tree will be planted slightly within the boundary of The Green so its roots will not damage the lane in the years to come. A tree protector will be placed around the tree to provide it with a level of security from cricketers, cricket balls and footballs! A plaque will be placed on it so the generations to come will know the reason for its planting.

There are plans afoot for a pop up florist to be positioned outside The Cricketers on a Friday afternoon between 2 and 4. Karen Atwood is in the process of converting a vintage VW campervan into a mobile florist and will be selling a mixture of pick your own and pre-made

bouquets. The campervan is nearly finished so Karen is hoping to be able to make one visit before Christmas. Please keep an eye on the village Facebook page for when that will be.

The lighting of the Village Green Christmas tree, which has been supplied by Tom's Trees, will be positioned by the Pavilion again and will take place on Saturday, 11 December at 5.30pm. There will be mulled wine, hot chocolate, mince pies and sausage rolls on sale. Please bring your own lanterns and your best singing voice for the carols! There will also be a Christmas display at the Village Hall, so do keep a look out!

Finally, the Parish Council would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas!

Sally Kitcat



Quendon Bowls Club

Six rink green plus indoor carpet bowls
Refurbished clubhouse with bar

We welcome new members - tuition and discount available

Clubhouse available to hire

Enquiries: Keith Woollard (07958 667347). Quendon Bowls Club, Cambridge Road, Quendon, CB11 3QR

Report from District Councillors Judy Emanuel and Neil Hargreaves

Local Plan and Call for Sites

As previously reported, the Call for Sites brought forward 299 sites across the district, with a capacity much greater than needed. So many of the sites will not be needed. The first fact checking review of each site by parish councils finishes on 28th November. This is of fairly mechanical non-subjective evidence such as how far to a shop selling fruit and vegetables, and proximity to say an SSSI, or Conservation Area. Then there will be a review by council officers factoring in more subjective matters such as landscape impact and accessibility. Early in 2022 there will be a second consultation for all to participate in and where tentative conclusions will be published. For sites that have previously been dismissed at appeal it is difficult to see how they could now be selected, but nothing is guaranteed.

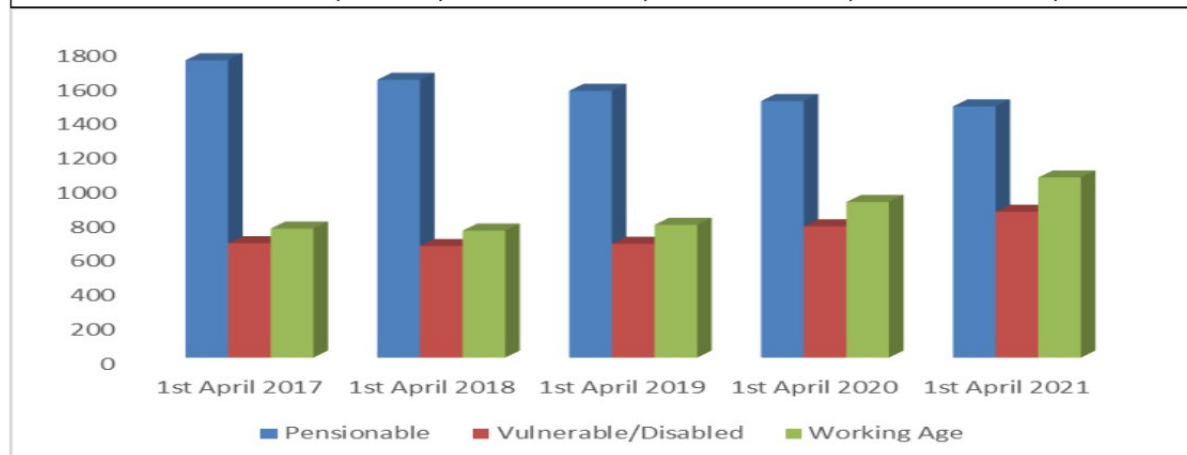
Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS)

This scheme reduces council tax for people on low incomes. A recommendation has been made by Cabinet, to the next full council meeting in December, to retain the contribution level at 12.5% of the full amount. This is the most generous discount scheme in Essex. In recent years the number of people claiming on the scheme has been falling, which is good news assuming this reflects a reduction in need. But the impact of Covid is seen in the increases in the last two years as shown in the table (overleaf). There are different categories of people who can claim and for example the 'Vulnerable/Disabled' in the table is disabled people, carers and blind people on a low income.

There is also an Exceptional Hardship Fund, which has greater flexibility as it does not relate to whether you are

Report from District Councillors Judy Emanuel and Neil Hargreaves (cont.)

	1st April 2017	1st April 2018	In year movement	1st April 2019	In year movement	1st April 2020	In year movement	1st April 2021	In year movement
Pensionable	1,735	1,621	-114	1,557	-64	1,497	-60	1,466	-31
Vulnerable/Disabled	667	651	-16	664	13	766	102	851	85
Working Age - Employed	334	341	7	323	-18	331	8	337	6
Working Age - unemployed	419	400	-19	452	52	577	125	714	137
Total Claimants	3,155	3,013	-142	2,996	-17	3,171	175	3,368	197



a council tax payer. This currently has £37k in the budget, including an unspent amount of £20k remaining from £325k of hardship funding from Government, to provide additional support to those on the lowest income during the Covid Pandemic.

The LCTS scheme was the subject of a statutory consultation. Despite lots of publicity the response rate is always poor, with 28 responses this time, which is one more than last year! The comments are however quite interesting, some a bit critical but most not, and some expressing huge thanks, which is nice to read, and some saying the scheme should carry on at the current rate.

One I particularly liked was a comment, which I paraphrase, as not particularly wanting to pay more tax to pay for a more generous scheme, but was frustrated by central government's attitude to local discretion. We agree!

Full details can be found using the following link: <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/eh> and for LCTS on <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/5075#LCTS%20Forms%20and%20Documents> (see QR), or phone 01799 510510



Water supplies

Lots more houses but no upgrade to water, sewerage and all other infrastructure is a recurring theme. In Newport the whole large north west quadrant of new building has been the subject of two years of complaints and various emergency and now permanent works to provide water supplies. This should all have been implemented before any house occupation, but it wasn't and supplies were low pressure, such that equipment would not work, or failed entirely.

Affinity Water have now largely, and no doubt very expensively, retro-fitted new pipe lines and equipment and made goodwill gesture payments. But it has been difficult for our new residents.

Development of a similar scale will now be going ahead just south of Gt Chesterford. In order to help our neighbours, Wicken Lea resident Nina Clark has documented the whole saga, and working with Judy this has been passed to the councillors for Chesterford. The intention is to invite the water company to review it with us and the councillors to ensure it doesn't happen again.

Ward Initiative

We have £2000 each to spend across the Ward on useful things for the community and for local organisations. So please get in touch if you have a request

Councillor Surgeries

These are in Dorringtons every Friday from 10.30 to 11.30. If neither of us are available and we have to cancel, which doesn't happen often, we post on the village facebook.

Our contact details are:

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



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



We wish everyone a Happy Christmas!!!

Cllrs Judy Emanuel and Neil Hargreaves

Other News from Uttlesford District Council

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



THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

As 2021 enters its final month, we anticipate seasonal celebrations to brighten the shortest days of the year. The ancient tradition of decking our houses with garlands of fresh green holly branches reminds us of the continuity of life, bringing us cheer when the days are short.

On reaching the age of 20, female holly trees bear red berries on branches covered with prickly shiny green leaves which can be cut to make decorative wreaths. Such wreaths featured in midwinter Celtic and Roman celebrations as symbols of good fortune, a tradition that continues thanks to the intervention of a local man, William Winstanley (1628 – 1698).

During the Commonwealth which lasted from 1649 to 1660, the Puritans under Oliver Cromwell proclaimed that it was illegal to celebrate Christmas, banning frivolities and feasting on mince pies. Winstanley, who lived in Quendon, believed in celebrating Christmas as a time for sharing joy, fun and good fortune with others. After restoration of the monarchy in 1660, using his influence as a writer, he encouraged a return to the

seasonal merrymaking which we still enjoy today.

Holly trees were frequently planted near houses to ward off a lightning strike; interestingly scientific research has revealed its spiky leaves can act as miniature lightning conductors! Holly also grows in hedges or as a shrub in woods where its berries provide nourishment for blackbirds, thrushes and wood mice. Its dense branches provide secure nesting sites. Deer and rabbits will eat its nutritious leaves.

Today, many homeowners plant variegated forms of holly to provide interest in their gardens and they can select a mixture of foliage to make seasonal decorations.

Yew is another evergreen with red coloured fruits (loved by birds and squirrels), but as its leaves are poisonous it is less suitable for indoor decorations.

Tricia Moxey, Trustee



Are you passionate about your community?

Would you like to become a voice for your community, with the potential of effecting real change and making a difference to your local neighbourhood?

Would you like to become a Parish Councillor?

The Parish Council is the local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people of the Parish.

Quendon & Rickling Parish Council is made up of 7 councillors, supported by the Parish Clerk, who are elected to represent the voice of the residents within the two villages and who volunteer their time freely. You will be involved collectively in the following:

- engaging with local residents to ensure their views are heard, understood and addressed
- have responsibility for managing local services, amenities and policies
- help make decisions regarding finances involved in delivering local services
- work to protect and improve the environment
- contributing to long term policy development or being part of the team that assesses and comments on local planning applications
- liaising with other organisations, agencies or other parishes, where necessary
- helping to foster community spirit and engagement by organising/endorsing local events

You will be joining a great team, who meet once a month and email regularly in between, but how much time you are able to commit is largely down to you and the level of involvement you would like!

The best way to discover if this is for you is to join one of our monthly meetings, meet the team and see us in action!

Please drop the Parish Clerk an email registering your interest at quendoneandricklng.clerk@hotmail.com.

Quendon & Rickling Golf Society

Autumn is here with mists and mellow fruitfulness and 18 Quendon and Rickling Golf Society members gathered at Bishop's Stortford golf club on November 5th for our annual meeting there. We were delighted to welcome a new member Geri, who has recently moved into the

village and Malcom who rejoins us after a few years away. I hope they both enjoyed the day.

The format of the competition was four ball better ball. For our non golfing readers it's basically a pairs game, whereby whoever gets the highest score on each hole,

Quendon & Rickling Golf Society (cont.)

scores the points for the team.

So in high spirits we all set off, the weather was glorious, warm and sunny with the many trees on the course putting on a fine display of their autumn hues. A few hours later the golfers returned with the usual tales of missed putts and if onlys!

Paul Fieldhouse swept the board winning both nearest-the-pin competition and, along with his partner Chris, having the winning score of 38 points, which was equalled by no less than three teams!

So after a count-back process the winners were declared with Alan Price and Malcolm Chambers in first place,

Paul Fieldhouse and Chris Howarth in 2nd and Sue Knight and Ray Hart in the unlucky third place but well done all six, it couldn't have been closer.

Bishop's Stortford golf club very kindly donated a two ball voucher, which was raffled in aid of the churches. Alan Price was the lucky winner who will be returning to the club to enjoy his complimentary round.

Thanks go to the club and the catering staff for making us made very welcome. Our group thank Susie and Richard for organising such a great day for us all again, and we look forward to returning to Bishop's Stortford next November.

Quendon Churchyard

Readers will remember the recent invitation to help tidy up the popular churchyard at Quendon. Though a meeting date of the 23rd of October was suggested, anyone willing to help to maintain this important feature of our village is most welcome to do so whenever suits them.

The event on the 23rd of October was attended by 5 volunteers, three of them members of the Parochial Church Council (a different body from the Parish Council), one enthusiastic neighbour who has taken on responsibility this year for taming the climbing roses and one member of the mowing team. The two most overgrown graves and part of the wall were cleared, rose maintenance continued and the borders of the main path were tackled. Part of the yew hedge had been tidied earlier and work has since started on removing non-holly growth from the holly hedge.



Trimmed Yew hedge



Attention needed!

The character of many of the valuable trees dictates expert attention, but much else remains to be done and any help would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Sandra Arnold e-mail sandra@arnold-q.uk or telephone **01799 543075** to let her know of your interest and abilities. She will be delighted to suggest suitable tasks, which can include path clearance, weed removal, mole-hill levelling, bushy overgrowth removal, hedge maintenance and removal of fallen, broken branches!

The churchyard is a space to be shared by all, and it is well-used.

Please help us to care for it.



Saffron Walden Museum

The museum for north-west Essex



Visiting the Museum!

From November, our opening hours will be Wednesday-Saturday 10-4.30pm, Sunday 2-4.30pm

Closed on Mondays.

Tuesdays will be reserved for pre-booked group visits by schools and other parties

We no longer require online advance booking.

Please pay by cash or card at our welcome desk on arrival at the museum.

In the interests of safety, we encourage

- Wearing of face coverings
- Maintaining social distance
- Using hand sanitiser

These measures are no longer compulsory.

CV Walden...goes online

We are continuing to collect people's experiences of the Covid-19 outbreak and how it has affected day-to-day life in the district, for future generations to understand.

If you are interested in compiling a diary now that we could archive at a later date that would be really beneficial.

We're also interested in audio and video clips, as well as artistic responses to the current situation, such as artwork, poetry and music, etc. If you are part of a community group or organisation - consider asking your members and contacts to take part in this project.

Saffron Walden Museum (cont.)

Contact Jenny Oxley, Collections Officer (Human History) about this project at museum@uttlesford.gov.uk and title your email "CV Walden"

A selection of the material collected for the archive to date, is now available to view online on our website

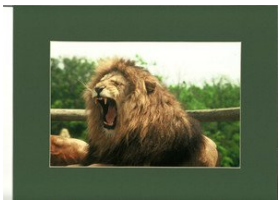
<https://saffronwaldenmuseum.swmuseumsoc.org.uk/cv-walden-archive-covid-19-epidemic/>

Lost Language of Nature Project

The project is progressing with conservation work on the little bittern, which is found across Europe, western Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa including Madagascar. It is the smallest member of the heron family in Europe, only about 30cm/12" long, though our specimen is smaller than that. It's currently on a temporary foam base, waiting for work to conserve and rebuild some of the skin that has been lost from its feet. A blackbird has also had its head reattached and a wing strengthened. Work feels slow but we've started on some challenging pieces, so slow and steady is the order of the day! We want to make lasting changes and improvements to the information the museum holds on these items, including folk names, stories and histories of the birds. Please see the website <https://www.swmuseumlearning.com/the-lost-language-project> or email llon@uttlesford.gov.uk to share your forgotten names and stories.



Natural Sciences - the photographic collection of Barry Kaufmann-Wright



There's good progress with the volunteer project working with this photographic collection. With around 70,000 photographic slides, transcribing Barry's original hand-written reference

lists is no mean feat.

About a third of the boxes have original lists and the

transcription of these is nearly complete, creating a list on the computer of nearly 15,500 images, which is very easy to search through. Other volunteer-led tasks in this project will include creating lists from scratch for boxes without original lists, and eventually checking through the slides to cross reference with the computer records created.

Snapping the Stiletto Project - Campaigning for Equality

Artist in Residence

Heidi Sharp joined us during the school summer holidays as our artist in residence. She explored women's histories and untold stories, inspired by the Museum's collections. She demonstrated her art practice in our Ceramics and Glass gallery during that time and ran a couple of printing/collage workshops in the Museum.



Her work and a selection of work by the workshop participants (as pictured) will go on display in the Museum shortly in the Your Stories community showcase.

Check out our learning hub and our website for more information:

<https://www.swmuseumlearning.com/snappingthestiletto>

Our Museum

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

07874-385541

stanstedu3a@gmail.com

u3a

www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted

On October 7th thirty-four members visited Knole Park in Kent, the home of the Sackville family. They were impressed by the beautiful landscapes, an unusual but interesting house and an amazing art collection. They agreed that they had had a really good day.

The newly formed Gardening Group enjoyed a wonderful afternoon on October 11th when they visited Ulting Wick, the eleven acre garden created by Philippa Burroughs. The garden was awash with



Ulting Wick

autumn colour and inspirational planting schemes. The group toured the garden, enjoyed an introductory talk and, at the end of the tour, tea and cake on the terrace.

We welcomed Tony Diamond to the monthly meeting on Thursday 21st October. His very amusing and informative talk was entitled "The History of Chocolate". It was followed by the AGM which had been held over from May 2020 because of Covid. At the AGM Susan Sedgbeer

was welcomed as the new Chairman, Eric Fidell as the new Treasurer and three more members joined the committee. The committee is indebted to the outgoing Chairman, Ray Smith, Treasurer, Nigel Johnson and Speaker Secretary Gill Dean, and wish them all well with many thanks for their time and efforts over the last few years.

Our first meeting in December is on the 9th when banjo player Steve Geller will present “The Songs we Sang – a

Career in Music“. He will be playing some of the songs from the last fifty years. The speaker at our January meeting will be Brian Carline. His talk, “Our Street” is a pictorial representation of life in an industrial city in the 40s and 50s.

Our Christmas Lunch is at Bury Lodge on December 16th. Members who wish to join us should email their intention to stanstedu3a@gmail.com. See the November U3A Newsletter for further details.

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



Cycle Security – New bike for Christmas?

Cycle security is always an issue with many being stolen from locations including the town centre, residential areas, and educational establishments. Commonly cycles are not secured properly; don't make it easy for thieves: -

1. Double lock it - using two locks slows thieves down and makes your bike less of a target. Use two quality locks, at least one of which is a D-lock. Thieves are less likely to carry multiple tools, so use two different types of lock if possible.
2. Lock the lot - lock the frame and both wheels to a secure cycle stand.
3. Secure it - secure your bike as close to the stand as possible to give any thieves little or no room to manoeuvre.
4. Take removable parts with you - take parts that are easy to remove with you, such as wheels, lights, baskets, or the saddle. Or use locking skewers or nuts which can increase security by securing the bike's components to the frame permanently.
5. Park securely - lock your bike at recognised secure cycle parking. It should be well lit, overlooked and covered by CCTV.

Where do they go? Number of places: - locally, in a container abroad, to another part of the country, stored in premises for later sale or sold as either a cycle or cycle parts via the internet, or third parties.

By taking some appropriate precautions and using good quality security products, and using them well, should help you to keep your property safe. Use the best security you can afford. Don't secure a £2,000 bicycle with a £10-£20 lock! As a guide look to spend 10-15% of

the value of the item on its security. Look for a “Sold Secure” certified chain and padlock or “D – Lock” preferably gold rated but certainly not below silver.

Make a note of the frame number, security mark the cycle, there are a number of different methods available such as www.datatag.co.uk, www.bikeregister.com, (others are available and can be found on the Secured by Design website below) and you can register property including cycles free of charge at www.immobilise.com. Take a photograph of the cycle and any areas of damage or marks of identification - some insurance companies may require one with the owner in the picture with it.

Don't forget at home:

- 1) don't leave garage doors open for long periods showing your expensive cycle and other property,
- 2) consider a “Ground anchor” or “Shed shackle” within your shed or garage to secure your cycle to,
- 3) look at your shed or garages security and ensure you have good locks and that the hinges are protected,
- 4) consider a shed alarm.

Check with your insurance company to see what security standards they require for your insurance cover to be valid.

For suitable security products see www.securedbydesign.com or www.soldsecure.com.

For further advice see: <https://www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/how-safe-is-your-bike/>, <https://www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/crime-prevention-advice/bike-security> and <https://securityforbikes.com/bicycle-security-advice.php>

CRIME PREVENTION from Neighbourhood Watch

PICKPOCKETS AND DISTRACTION THEFT.

Look out for observers - these include people loitering in public places checking out passers-by, paying particular interest to their handbags, shopping bags and where they might place their wallet or purse. This may be used near

cashpoints, or your car when loading your shopping, where one person will stand close and distract you while another is watching you input your PIN or placing your handbag or wallet into your car.

Pickpockets also operate in shops and department stores,

where people may be distracted and so paying less attention to their belongings. Be more aware of your surroundings in busy shops and shopping centres because they're ideal places for pickpockets; it's easier for them to brush past people, take items and blend into the crowd.

Pickpockets may work in teams to distract the target while someone unseen removes the items and blends back into the crowd. Another member might step in as an enforcer in the event of an altercation.

Thieves vary their tactics based on the location and the density of the crowd. A group of them may push up against a victim in a crowded shop or street then quickly reach into the victim's pocket and steal their wallet, phone or purse.

Pickpockets are very skilled, know all the tricks and are

extremely light-fingered; most of their thefts only take a second or two. A thief may appear to be over-friendly for no particular reason and hug you while pickpocketing you. The thief may stumble into you and place their hands on you to steady themselves, whilst removing your wallet or phone!

Pickpocket teams are adept at creating distractions. This could be anything from a game to a loud shout, all designed to avert your attention while an unseen accomplice steals your valuables. So do try not to be easily distracted. Waving a sheet of paper in your face while asking directions means they can use the other hand to steal your stuff.

Thieves have been known to walk behind victims while slowly unzipping bags. Yes, they can be that bold. Never underestimate a pickpocket.

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-		Q&R Village Hall	
Dog Training	Mondays	08.00-09.30	Q&R Village Hall	Pauline Everton
Pilates	Mondays	09.00-10.00	Q&R Village Hall	Jan Crawley 077421 82272
Rainbows	Mondays	16.00-17.00	Q&R Village Hall	(Pre-Brownies)
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
Armadillos	Tuesdays (term-time)	09.00	Rickling School	
Community Café	4th Weds in month	10.00-12.00	Q&R Village Hall	Angela 01799 218061/Carol 543807
U3A Choir	Wednesdays	11.15-13.15	Q&R Village Hall	
Carpet Bowls	Wednesdays	19.00	Quendon Bowls Club	David Edwards 07804 954095
Line Dancing	Thursdays	-	Q&R Village Hall	Dawn Bond 01787 460274
Buffy Playbus	Fridays	09.15-10.30	Rickling Green	Term-time
Litter-picking	4th December	10.00	Meet by Cricketers Arms, Rickling Green	
Tree Lighting	11th December	17.30	Pavilion, Rickling Green	Treats and carols too!
9 Lessons & Carols	12th December	18.00	Quendon Church	
Coffee Morning	22nd December	10.00-12.00	Q&R Village Hall	
Holy Communion	25th December	11.15	Quendon Church	

December 2021 at...

Last Night In Soho (18)	Fri 3 Dec 7.30pm, Sat 4 Dec 8pm
Cbeebies Christmas Show: The Night Before Christmas (U tbc)	Sat 4 & Sun 5 Dec 2pm
Christmas With André <i>From Maastricht</i>	Sat 4 Dec 4pm, Sun 19 Dec 2.30pm
The Colour Room (12a tbc)	Sun 5 Dec 5pm
The Power Of The Dog (12a)	Sun 5 Dec 8pm, Mon 6 & Fri 10 Dec 7.30pm
The Nutcracker <i>Royal Opera House</i>	Thurs 9 Dec 7.15pm, Sun 12 Dec 2pm
Eternals (12a)	Sat 11 Dec 2.30pm
Spencer (12a)	Sat 11 & Sun 12 Dec 7.30pm
Drive My Car (Doraibu Mai Kâ) (15)	Mon 13 Dec 7pm
Tosca <i>Royal Opera House</i>	Wed 15 Dec 7.15pm
Ghostbusters: Afterlife (12a)	Fri 17 Dec 7.30pm, Sat 18 & Wed 22 Dec 2.30pm
Mothering Sunday (15)	Sat 18 & Sun 19 Dec 7.30pm
The Danish Collector: Delacroix To Gaugin	Mon 20 Dec 2.30pm
Petite Maman (U)	Mon 20 Dec 7.30pm, Sat 8 Jan 5pm
A Boy Called Christmas (PG tbc)	Tues 21 & Thurs 23 Dec 2.30pm
King Richard (12a tbc)	Tues 21 & Wed 22 Dec 7.30pm, Thurs 30 Dec 2.30pm
It's A Wonderful Life (U)	Thurs 23 Dec 7.30pm



December 2021 at Saffron Screen (cont.)

Encanto (PG tbc)	Mon 27 & Tues 28 Dec 2.30pm, Sun 2 Jan 2pm
Becoming Cousteau (12a)	Mon 27 Dec 7.30pm
House Of Gucci (15 tbc)	Tues 28 & Wed 29 Dec 7.30pm
No Time To Die (12a)	Wed 29* & Fri 31 Dec 2.30pm
Pirates (15 tbc)	Thurs 30 Dec 7.30pm
C'mon C'mon (15)	Sat 1 Jan 7.30pm, Sun 2 Jan 8pm
Arsène Wenger: Invincible (12a)	Sun 2 Jan 5pm
The Hand Of God (È Stata La Mano Di Dio) (15 tbc)	Mon 3 Jan 7.30pm
West Side Story (12a tbc)	Fri 7 & Sun 9 Jan 7.30pm, Sat 8 Jan 8pm
Clifford The Big Red Dog (PG tbc)	Sat 8 Jan 2pm, Sun 9 Jan 2.30pm
Quant (12a)	Mon 10 Jan 7.30pm

*"Socially Distanced" conditions - see web-site

Tickets available from the Saffron Walden Tourist Information Centre, at www.saffronscreen.com or at the cinema Box Office

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. 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
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.

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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

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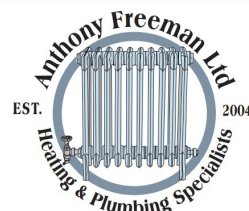
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