

End-to-End

The Parish Magazine of Rivenhall and Silver End



**The Beauty of Spring The pictures are from walks
in Messing Wood Bluebells and Crow Foot on the
pond and some geese arriving in Silver End 24/5**

June

2023

50p

The Following are our services For June 2023

4th June

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

Trinity Sunday

Holy Communion

All Age Worship

11th June

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

1st Sunday after Trinity

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion

18th June

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

2nd Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion

Matins

25th June

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

3rd Sunday after Trinity

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion

Church Contacts

All Contact should be Via the Churchwardens

Parish Priest Jane Quinton 01245 210930

Churchwarden Ann Clarke 01376 514825

Churchwarden Peter Hope 01376 502605

Email phope02@gmail.com

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Rivenhall Website www.stmarysrivenhall.co.uk

St Francis Silver End Website www.st-francis.org.uk/

Contact the Editor 07904 235101 or phope02@gmail.com

'VIEW FROM THE VILLAGES' – Endings and beginnings

So I sit to write this month's magazine piece filled with the wonderful memories of a Coronation weekend. Whatever your thoughts on the monarchy, the coronation has brought people together in different ways. Be that the diversity of those who had roles within the coronation service itself, to what was going on in the different celebrations over the weekend in communities around the country.

I know I am particularly thankful that the sun shone down on the day of the 'Big Lunch/Picnic' in Terling, especially after so much hard work had gone into organising the event. So a massive THANK YOU to everyone involved J

But I am reminded that this time last year we were actually looking forward to similar celebrations marking Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum reign..... and now, less than 12 months later, we have marked a new beginning. There has been a lot of change in that time – in this country, around the world, and in individual people's lives.

Endings are always difficult change always hard..... But new beginnings are necessary to evolve and move forward - including realising and owning up to those things which have been done wrong, and striving to learn from them and do better. But each day brings new hope!

Although still less than 4 months into my new post as team vicar here, I continue to be excited and optimistic at what the future holds for our communities. I have already met so many wonderful people, and been part of so many different events, and with the licencing at the beginning of May of Rev Howard, the newest member of the Witham + Villages Team Ministry, I look

forward to these new beginnings..... as we build on the past and move forward into the future - together!

God bless

Rev Jane x

Readings and Collects for June 2023

4th June

Trinity Sunday

All Age Worship

Readings

Isaiah 40:12-17,27-end

2 Corinthians 13:11-end

Matthew 28:16-20

Collect

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging:
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

11th June

1st Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion

Readings

Exodus 19:2-8a

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:8

Collect

God of truth,
help us to keep your law of love
and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life
in Jesus Christ your Son.

18th June

2nd Sunday after Trinity

Matins

Readings

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Romans 6:1b-11

Mathew 10:24-39

Collect

Faithful Creator,

whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

25th June

3rd Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion

Readings

Jeremiah 38:5-9

Romans 6:12-end

Mathew 10:40-end

Collect

God our saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of peace
won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The 50/50 Club May 2023 winners

1st Mr K Cockrell 2nd Mr A Dunne 3rd Mr O Clarke

Rivenhall Village Hall,

located in Church Road, Rivenhall is available for hire by local clubs, organisations and residents for numerous activities and events including weekly/monthly classes or meetings, social functions, parties, fundraising events, wedding receptions, coffee mornings and much more. The hall has a well-equipped kitchen, toilet facilities including disabled and a level access from the car park. Clubs and organisations currently using the hall are:

Mondays: Under 5s storytelling mornings, Karate late afternoons and

Scottish dancing - 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday evenings.

Gardening Club 2nd Tues; Yoga Wednesday evenings; Carpet Bowls Thursday evenings.

Saturday afternoons - 7th Day Adventist Church

If **you are interested in hiring the hall or joining any of the above groups, please contact the bookings secretary for further details by e-mailing:**
rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com

For more general enquiries, please e-mail:
secretaryrpfa@gmail.com

RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2023 IN HENRY DIXON HALL

This was the "Annual Council Meeting" at which councillors elect their Officers and Representatives.

Present: Cllrs. James Abbott, Bob Wright, Bob Turner, Jack Prime, Jean Cairns, John Macrae and Darrin Hammond.

Also Present: Keith Taylor (our Parish Clerk), Ross Playle (our Essex County Councillor), and six members of the public.

By simple majority votes, Bob Turner was elected Chairman and John Macrae was elected Vice-Chairman.

Items raised in the public forum included:-

- A requirement for a patch of additional grass cutting by 16 St Mary's Road (our Clerk will request this of Eastlight)
- Ownership of, and reason for the new CCTV camera under the A12 in Henry Dixon Road (our Clerk will contact Nation Highways to enquire)
- Rivenhall grass verge cutting: this will be placed on the agenda for discussion at a future meeting
- Cllr Ross Playle reported of Essex County Council's planned works to address potholes in Church Road and at the Henry Dixon Road/Oak Road junction. He has requested roadside gullies be emptied and drains flushed where we have flooding hot-spots. Ross has been informed that, after much petitioning, the County Council plans to restore power to all the currently unlit roadside lights on Henry Dixon Road, and Braxted Road (beyond the underpass) on 12 and 13 June - this will require road closures.

The following council representatives with delegated responsibilities were appointed:-

- Rivenhall Playing Field Association - Bob Wright
- Braintree Association of Local Councils - Bob Turner
- Essex Association of Local Councils - Jack Prime
- Henry Dixon Charity - Bob Turner & John Macrae
- Passenger Transport Liaison - Jack Prime
- Rivenhall Primary School - Darrin Hammond
- Public Rights-of-Way Liaison - Jean Cairns
- IMWF Liaison (Rivenhall Incinerator) - James Abbott
- Colemans Quarry Liaison - John Macrae

Re the planning appeal for The Lodge, Rectory Lane (21/02933/FUL), the council agreed to continue to support BDC's earlier refusal. Rectory Lane is a designated "Quiet Lane" and forms part of the John Ray Walk. The increase in traffic, particularly two-way traffic, will present an additional danger to pedestrians, cyclists and horse-riders: in addition, that increased traffic faces the hazards of the dangerous Rectory Lane / Rickstones Road junction.

The parish Council agreed a £500 donation be given to the Henry Dixon Trust who are installing (and maintaining) a new public defibrillator outside that hall.

Finance matters:-

The internal audit of the council's 2022/2023 accounts was undertaken by Anne Clarke and the Chairman Bob Turner officially signed-off these and closed them. Eight standard payments were agreed this month and cheques issued.

Items for the June meeting: to be included are the condition of the footways outside the Church Road bungalows and along Rickstones Road. It was pointed out that since the re-wilding licence was formally acknowledged at the March parish council meeting so it cannot be reconsidered until the October 2023 meeting: general highway verge cutting will be an item on the June agenda.

Dates of next meetings:-

7:30 pm on Tuesday 6th June in Henry Dixon Hall

7:30 pm on Tuesday 4th July in Rivenhall Village Hall

RIVENHALL VILLAGE FETE SATURDAY 15th JULY

Rivenhall village fete will be on village green on the afternoon of Saturday 15th July between 2:00 pm and 5:30 pm.

The attractions will include, stalls, so if anyone would like to have one, please contact any of the Rivenhall Millennium Committee members.

There will be musical entertainment during the afternoon, including our local singer Charlie Staunton, Jackie Allan with her bagpipes, and the Chelmsford Silver Band.

Once again delicious cream teas will be on sale, and there will also be a BBQ. There will be musical entertainment, cream teas, a BBQ and you will also be able to take part in a lovely raffle.

We also hope that several vehicle enthusiasts will bring their exciting exhibits for everyone to see. Again, if you are able to bring an unusual vehicle ... please contact any of our committee members.

The fete marks the 25th year of the Rivenhall Millennium Committee and its various charitable acts. This date was chosen to coincide with the Rivenhall Gardening Club's annual flower show in the village hall, so you can enjoy two local village events on the same day.

Guide Dogs Award

On behalf of the Guide Dogs Association, Sally Foulsham and Ann Kerr presented Raj with a framed print in recognition of their valued contribution to Guide Dogs. Since Raj and AJ took over Rivenhall Oak Stores five and a half years ago, they have consistently collected more than anybody else for whom we empty tins! With many thanks and appreciation for that, and also for all that they do for the village they go out of their way to help customers. We're lucky to have them.



Rivenhall Churchyard Broken Glass

I know that most users of our churchyard are very respectful of the rules and what flower containers are safe! As Church warden it is my duty to highlight the problems that some flower containers can present and the picture shown here highlights this. Our regular mower has on occasions run over glass containers buried in the grass and these can end up as a health and safety hazard as shown here. Please, Please do not place flowers in the church yard in glass containers or any breakable container (Pottery) when seen these will be removed.



The Rivenhall Coronation House Decorating Competition

The competition was judged by our bubbly, ever-enthusiastic Team Rector Rev. Jonathan

Pritchard, and the Rivenhall Millennium Committee is delighted to announce the winners:

In first place were Ann and John Riddleston with their wonderful and amusing display at Oak Barn. As the village were celebrating the coronation of King Charles III, what better than champagne glasses, an ice bucket and a bottle of bubbly! Bob Turner poses with the winning couple.



In second place were Jenny and Bob Turner. Their display was also amusing with its throne, the crown, but no King Charles! (The postman loved it too and was taking a snap when these photos were



taken!)

In third place were Karen and Neale Dakin with their delightful garden display.



A special prize was awarded to the Rivenstars play group. The youngsters must have been extremely busy colouring all their flags and crowns.

It was lovely to see so many splashes of colour in Rivenhall and Rivenhall End over the Coronation weekend. Well done everyone (and we hope you liked the flagpole and bunting which we erected on the village green).

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SATURDAY 15th JULY

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Sky Notes For June

Dear Readers It is with great sadness that I have to report that James Abbott has decided for the time being to retire from producing his wonderful articles for this magazine.

For the past 15 years James has written both the notes from the parish council meetings and produced articles and pictures from his observatory.

I am hopeful that regular readers might respond to James with their own thoughts on his decision but I for one will miss his contributions.

Rivenhall Gardening Club

A reminder that after our enjoyable visit in May to R.H.S.Hyde Hall, members will be meeting again on **TUESDAY 13TH JUNE 2023**, when our speaker will be Peter Miller from Kings Seeds at Kelvedon. He will be bringing along some artefacts from their collection and will hopefully be talking about their famous sweet peas. Competitions will be Horticultural — any vegetable. Domestic — A date and walnut 21b loaf. Flower of the Month. Photograph of the Month. New members and visitors are always made welcome. Entrance is £3 to include refreshment. For further information please contact the Club Secretary on 01376 512781.

The Coronation Service



On Sunday 7th of May we held a service to mark the coronation of King Charles III every one was asked to wear a crown!

A Holiday in Kefelonia P Hope

The Loggerhead Turtles

I have recently returned from a holiday in Kefelonia and was amazed at the colony of Loggerhead turtles that live there.



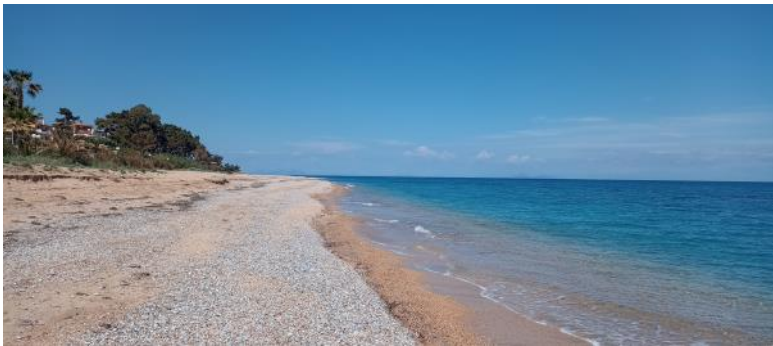
In the Harbour at Argostoli the capital of the Island of Kefelonia live a large colony (over 300) of these beautiful creatures. While there my friend and I met a group of students from the UK who were carrying out surveys around the harbour and from one of

them I learnt much about these amazing and ancient species. The first thing is that they don't naturally rely on fish for food. That said the fishermen of Argostoli empty the non saleable (dead fish) from their daily catch into the harbour and these provide a tasty meal for the resident turtles.

In the wild, their main source of food are Jelly Fish and small crustaceans such as crabs and shell fish.

The loggerhead turtles can be up to 1m in length and weigh up to 100kg. These creatures mate in early spring and lay eggs in the sand of local beaches in June and July.

Where we stayed for our visit was a village called Katelios and this is adjacent to a long and beautiful unspoilt beach called Mounda shown below.



This is one of the main beaches where the Turtles lay their Eggs. Kefalonia is home to two of the seven sea turtle species that exist in the world. Loggerhead sea turtles, also known as Caretta, nest and forage on the island's south coast, while Green Sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) are rarely seen and only forage on the island's sea grass meadows. Both species migrate across the Mediterranean Sea to find food or warmer waters to spend the winter. After the initial "lost years" of their lives, they become reproductively mature when they reach around 17 to 25 years of age. The loggerheads return to Kefalonia, where they once hatched as baby turtles, every two to three years to reproduce. They begin mating from late March until early June, while they are still offshore or as soon as they approach the nesting beaches. A female turtle will mate with several different males, and as a result her nests can contain eggs fertilized by up to five different fathers.

The nesting season begins in early June and continues until mid-August. One female turtle can lay up to five nests within one season, and each nest has around 90 eggs. To lay their nests, female turtles emerge on the nesting beach during the night. They crawl to the back of the beach looking for soft sand with just the right moisture to lay their eggs. They dig a 50 cm deep eggchamber using only their back flippers and begin laying their eggs. The eggs have the size and shape of a ping-pong ball. The shell is soft, so the eggs don't break as they fall into the eggchamber shown here. This procedure can take up to two hours. Sea turtles are easily scared and must not be disturbed while they are trying to nest. P Hope



Top 3 things to see in the night sky in June

From the Royal Museums Greenwich

21 June - catch Venus and the crescent Moon in the evening sky. Throughout the month and admire the Veil Nebula.

Throughout the month – consider the chance of alien life in the Hercules Cluster.

The planets in June:

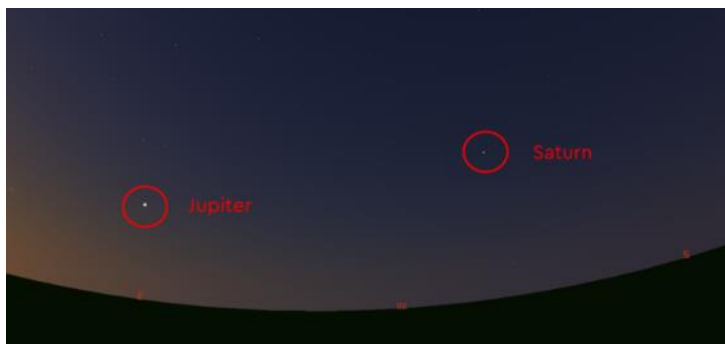
We are fast approaching the longest day of the year for us here in the Northern Hemisphere, the summer solstice, on the 21 June. This means we have much longer days and much shorter nights, so less time for stargazing! There are still objects up there to be seen if you can wait up long enough.



If you want to catch a stellar object early before you go to bed, Venus is visible in the west just after sunset for the whole month. If you have a look on the evening of the 21 June you'll be able to

see the crescent Moon next to it in the sky. Venus itself also has phases from our perspective here on Earth. These aren't visible to the naked eye, but if you look at the planet through a telescope (being careful not to look at the Sun if it hasn't fully set!) you should be

Additionally, if you happen to be up just before dawn, especially later in the month, you can easily catch Jupiter and Saturn in the eastern sky.



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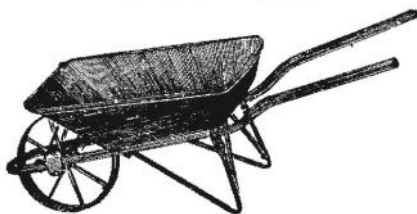
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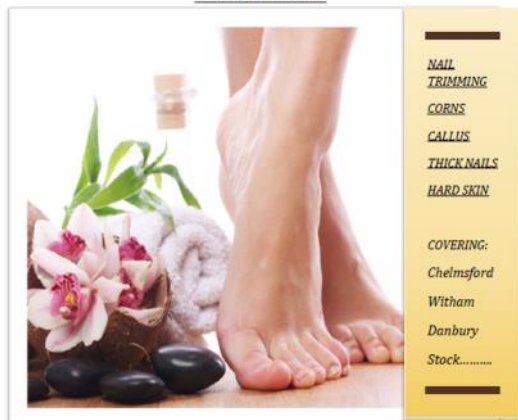
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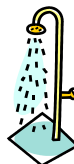
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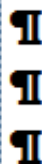
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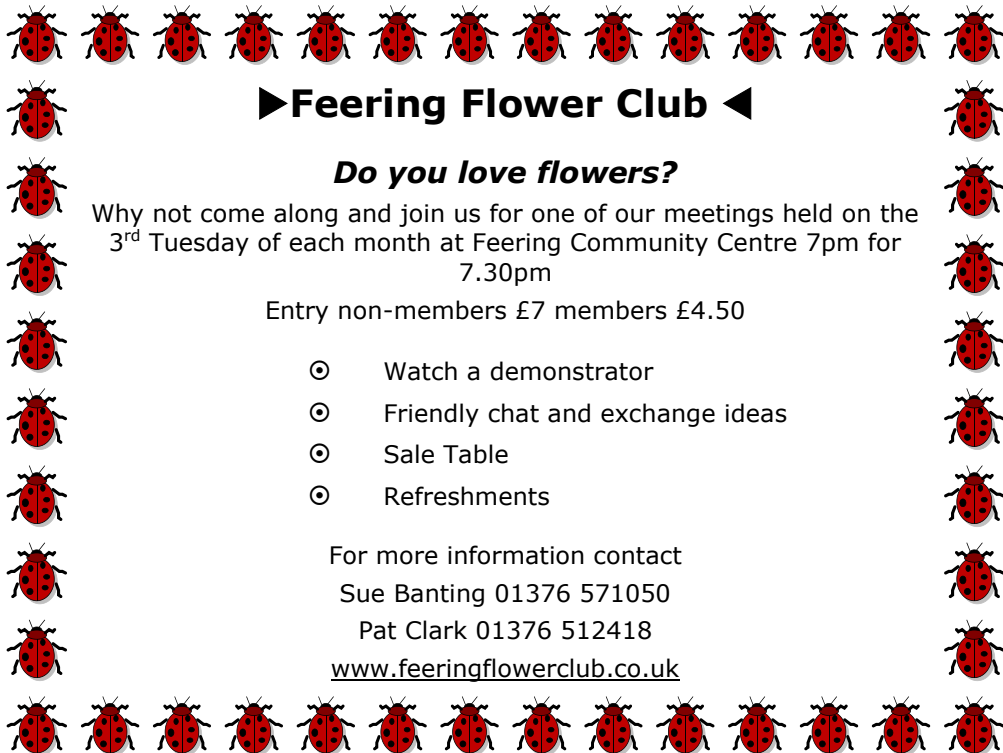
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Turning the pages of History

Research by Tracy Scott

This month we are covering events that are connected with Silver End. I seem to have lost some from 1800's so I will add them in at another time.

We start in January 1891 and the 'Girl's Friendly Society' of Silver End were entertained with tea at the Rivenhall Rectory and three new members joined. (The Friendly Society for Girls is still going today in other parts of the country and is almost 150 years old. They provide a safe area for girls and young women between the ages of 5- 25 and have programmes for training and confidence building etc.,).

In May 1927, engineer Mr. J. D. Haworth presented the plans and specifications for the reconstruction of Temple Way. This would be leading to the Crittall's works at their Silver End base. The total cost being £16,320 (today around £826,978) and plans etc., were sent to the Ministry of Transport for sanction.

On 3rd Dec 1928 Mr. George Lansbury (lab) and Sir Harry Brittan (con) among others asked the Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin (con) what help etc., they were doing for the many mining areas throughout the UK. The result of this was the 'Distressed Areas Relief' act was made. An appeal to the Country was made and many areas and companies like Crittall and Tiptree Jams helped rehome families and give them jobs. In January 1929 both the Silver End and Rivenhall Sunday School children presented many gifts of toys to be given to the distressed miners' children.

March 1930, Mr. D. F. Crittall arranged and took a Silver End party to visit the sergeant's mess of the 7th Hussars at the Colchester garrison for an enjoyable evening of shooting. Unfortunately for the civilians they lost and the Hussars won by 943 to 918.

G. W. Shelley A.R.P.-Capt., and chief office of the Witham Fire Brigade, along with Mr. H. Crook the clerk to the Witham Urban Council visited Silver End in June 1939 to confer with the local auxiliary fire service personnel that served under Mr. F. Edwards and emergency demonstrations by the A.R.P. volunteers were witnessed by a very interested locals. Casualty clearing stations and first-aid points were not yet been arranged but were under consideration, and the for the transport service between the village and Witham. Silver End had already enrolled 22 air raid wardens along with 12 auxiliary fireman with Mr. J. Bickmore being in

charge of wardens. Silver End already possesses a fire brigade on the premises of Crittall Company.

March 1940: The marriage of Mr Chas. Wm. Anderson to Miss Kathleen Joan Fleming took place at Kelvedon Catholic Church. Chas family lived in Silver End where his father Mr C. G. Anderson owned the Pioneer Stores on Western Road. Kathleen family came from Oak Road, Rivenhall.

The bride was reported wearing a charming frock of white georgette over taffeta, with veil and orange blossom, and carried a shower bouquet of pink and white rosebuds. Her bridesmaid was the bridegroom sister Miss Hilda Anderson and was wearing pink georgette over taffeta, with headdress of pink and gold leaves, and gold shoes. Her bouquet was of pink carnations and forge-me-not. Best man was Clifford Anderson and the bride's mother held a reception at Oak Bungalow, Rivenhall End.

July 1943, The Silver End 'Red Cross Penny-a-Week Fund' raised £67 in the last half-year by residents. For the whole of last year £87 was the final total. The organiser was Mrs. Harvey of Bower Hall my Great Aunt.

In the same month and year two of the Silver End Home Guard Platoon were injured when a car they were travelling overturned. Private Charles Scott sustained concussion and shock and Private Barrett with leg injuries.

Silver End Village Hall held a party for 70 evacuee children and their foster-parents on New Year's Eve January 1944 from Silver End, Rivenhall and Cressing. They played games and dances. After tea was served Mr. Eb. Smith, J.P., an ex-railway signalman, gave a thrill to guest when he recited the story of "The 6.59 Express". All were thanked by Mr. Smith from Witham Council and mention that part of the cost of the entertainment was borne by the Lord Mayor of London's Fund and Canadian authorities. On leaving the hall children were given a bag of apples and American troops gave a treat to each child an ice cream.

Next month we are going to look at the Village Fetes that happened in Rivenhall. August we glimpse into the life of Mr Harry Wood who lived on the London Road and September we look at the events at the First Rivenhall Gardening Club show 60 years ago.



A

Wedding Day photo of Mr Chas & Mrs Kathleen Anderson
Outside Oak Bungalow, Oak Road (Post Office/Shop)

Back: Mr Anderson/Chas/Kathleen/Hilda/Clifford

Front: Mrs Anderson and Widow Mrs Fleming

In the background on the left you can see the row of
thatched cottages that are no longer there and the Browns
Row cottages.

Active Service – 45 years ago...By Tom Denton

I've got a campaign medal for my service in Northern Ireland. I should have had a Purple Heart as well but there, not all sacrifices are recognised.

As a British soldier, I was posted to Belfast when I was just nineteen. When I first heard that I would be going, I was quite excited; just think of the stories I would be able to tell when I got back home. However, my first 'active service' experience was not one I would share back home in the pub. This was feeling really ill, travelling from Liverpool to Belfast on a flat-bottomed landing craft called the Sir Galahad. You may have heard of it – it was bombed in the Falklands some time later. The more experienced soldiers called these boats 'flat bottomed spew craft' because that's what they were, and that's what we did – pretty clever play on words eh! I wasn't sick on the ferry though (well, when anybody was

watching), for no other reason than will power. After all, there was no way I was going to put up with the verbal abuse that would follow such a return of army rations! There were no women soldiers at that time to bring a level of reason to the situation, so army life was all about being tough because that's what real men are like isn't it?

Being only nineteen, and a little green to say the least, I was looking forward to my first tour of the province. My section was to be stationed in Flax Street, near the Falls Road and Shanklin Road. This sounded very exciting, because I had heard of these places on the TV news. Was I naïve or what?

The second 'active service' experience, that made an impact on me, was being told to load my gun when we arrived in Belfast. This doesn't seem much and of course, I had done it thousands of time before on the firing range. I was actually very good at blowing holes in wooden targets. However, at that moment and only then, after two years of training, did I realise that my sub-machine gun was designed for one thing, and one thing only – to kill people. This made me think, and it made me scared because the baddies had guns too. It sounds naïve I suppose, but remember I was only n-n-nineteen.

After being in Northern Ireland for a week or two I was still very nervous. I would not have admitted it at the time of course. Because I was a technician as well as a soldier, my work meant I had to travel from my base camp to other camps quite often. I was fixing broken things like windows on armoured vehicles, which seemed a somewhat unimportant job. I thought making the engine work properly was all that mattered. Still, it probably mattered to somebody.

Early on in my tour of duty, I had to change a bulb in a floodlight that illuminated a checkpoint between 'rival' sectarian areas. Because this was a rather dangerous place and I would make an easy target, a section of infantry soldiers was deployed to secure the surrounding area and keep me safe. Did I feel good about that or what! I took my time changing the bulb so I could savour the moment. Well actually, I didn't take my time because I was scared out of my wits – I didn't show it of course. I definitely couldn't do it now, climb a 15 foot ladder, undo three screws, remove a cover, change the bulb (dropped the old bulb), cover put back, three screws replaced and back down the ladder – I was so scared it took

less than two minutes. Nobody knew about the being scared thing, they just thought I was good! Active service was easy.

On one journey, my mates and I were in the back of an armoured car on our way to somewhere important. We called these armoured vehicles 'Humber Pigs' – because they were made by Humber and looked like Pigs – another pretty clever play on words eh! On this particular journey, people in the streets seemed to be looking at us more than usual. This may have been imagination, but even now some forty five years on, I'm not sure. Still, I acted 'hard', as if I wasn't scared. I even lit a cigarette to show how relaxed I was. We talked about the usual subjects, girls, beer and girls. The alcoholic and romantic experiences that we had had in out nineteen or so years were something to behold. Virgin soldiers? Not us. Of course, I still wonder if the others were lying as much as I was at that time!

The Humber Pig was quite a secure sort of vehicle (unless it is blown up with Semtex of course). Therefore, I didn't worry too much when the driver said that we should close the windows before we went down the next street. Getting blown up was one of the things we were most scared of – more than we would ever admit to each other. Being shot by a sniper preyed on the mind a bit too.

As we turned into the 'danger area', the windows were still open. Actually, 'windows' is a bit of an understatement as they were 2-inch thick glass and armoured steel plate. For some reason though, nobody seemed to want to close them. As the newest 'green' guy on board there was no way I was going to do it for fear of looking scared – which of course was even worse than actually being scared.

We drove past a group of kids, aged about eight or nine, and they threw a few small stones and empty coke tins at the Pig. I thought they should have been in school but realise now that perhaps they – were and this was a modern history field trip...

Anyway, I just laughed along with the others as the stones hit because we weren't scared. The driver closed his window. The rest of us did our bit for Anglo Irish relations by calling the kids racist names and telling them to, in as many words, go away. I took a good pull on my cigarette and tried to look cool.

A few hundred yards further down the street, there was a large

group of teenagers. They were stood in the middle of the road telling us 'English Bas... to do the same as we had just told the other kids! I took another pull on my cigarette and nonchalantly moved my hand towards the window handle. The driver slowed down, looking a bit worried. The group moved to the side of the road and two of them bent down by the kerb.

Then the scariest thing in my life happened. The two kids bent down by the edge of the road, picked up a kerbstone and launched it straight at us. The driver 'put the pedal to the metal' to accelerate away. In the few milliseconds it took the noise of the shot (well the Pig backfiring) to reach us, the windows were all slammed shut, the kerbstone hit the side of the vehicle, we all ducked, the pig finally accelerated – and I burnt my leg on the cigarette.

It was all quiet on the Northern front after that – with all the windows closed and nobody talking. With medical treatment (a band-aid), I survived my war wound and was able to continue work.

I took more care making the engines work and fixing the windows from then onwards...

End to End Nature Care.

Despite having been rather cool this year – compared to recent years at least – Spring has, as always, been an amazing season. One of the things I enjoy is how you can see it gradually unfolding around you, as several series of natural events follow familiar patterns, with some minor variations, year on year. It makes it possible to tell the date, almost to the week or even to the day in some cases, just by seeing which flowers are blooming, which insects have emerged, which bird migrants have returned, and so on.

Certainly spring has a characteristic natural cast of plants and animals more than any other season. Almost everyone will recognise the Bluebells of course, plus there are the Primroses, Cowslips, Violets and Wood Anenomes to name just a few, plus the naturalised groups of Snowdrops and Daffodils (there are some native Wild Daffodils locally, but you have to be 'in the know' as to where and when to look for them). Some of the first sentinels of Spring are the catkins on trees, Hazel being one of the first. These are how trees disperse their pollen to the wind so it makes sense that they do so before their new leaf buds have burst open and the

leaves disturb the flow of air.

On the animal front, the Dark-edged Bee-fly (*Bombylius major*) is one of the first flying insects to be seen, hovering around the early flowers in search of nectar. Often mistaken for real bees, their larvae do actually parasitise the larvae of some solitary bees. Certain of the bumblebees are among the early insects too, notably queens of the Buff-tailed Bumblebee (*Bombus terrestris*) which seem to emerge before almost any other. Strangely, in my garden at least, the so-called Early Bumblebee (*Bombus pratorum*) arrives later on the scene, though this may be because it is only attracted when certain plants – particularly raspberry – are in flower. Another very early Spring bee is the wonderfully named Hairy-footed Flower Bee (*Anthophora plumipes*). We are used to seeing the emergence of some overwintered butterflies such as Red Admiral and Peacock, which can often be found in sheds and outbuildings in the depths of winter, but these are quickly superseded by the spring specialists, notably Brimstone and Orange Tip, both very attractive and easily recognised species, and the less showy Small White. Once the first blues are seen, mainly Holly Blue, you know that Spring will soon be giving way to summer.

Then there are the birds of course. It's always amazing to see how early in the year our over-wintering species turn to thoughts of breeding. Blackbirds and Robins, among others, can be seen to be establishing territories even in harsh winter weather when you would think that just surviving was task enough. Then the winter thrushes (Fieldfare and Redwing) are suddenly absent and you begin to hear Chiffchaff (one of the earlier migrant warblers) and even the occasional Cuckoo. One of the most splendid sights is the arrival of the aerobatic hirundines (Swallows and Martins). We saw Swallows at Newmarket back on 15th April but the House Martins which nest on our house arrived a day later than usual, being first noticed on 7th May, rather than 5th or 6th when they usually arrive! It never ceases to amaze how they can make such a long journey and arrive almost on the same day every year. It is a great pleasure, indeed almost an honour, to have them nesting here.

Looking forwards rather than backwards, forthcoming activities – listed below – are much more resonant of Summer than Spring, especially with the commencement of the glowworm survey towards the end of the month; very much a 'high Summer' activity. The full schedule can be found online at www.e2e.silverend.org and in the files section of our Facebook group "End to End Nature Care".

Both also have numerous photographs posted from these activities and others. Recent wildlife sighting or news are always welcome to be posted. If you have any questions about the group and our activities then I can always be contacted on simon@e2e.silverend.org or 07947 388180.

END TO END NATURE CARE SUMMER ACTIVITIES		
DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
07 June	18:30 for 19:00	Wivenhoe park trees (University of Essex) with Maria Fremlin. Meet at 18:30 at Stovern's Hall Farm (TL825172) to car share or at 19:00 at the Constable Building car park (CO4 3FA or TM033241) on the campus.
14 June	19:00	Pantling's Lane. Meet at Rivenhall Airfield on the lane opposite Allshots industrial park (CO5 9DF or TL830200).
21 June	19:00	Whetmead. Meet behind the sewage works on Blackwater Lane (TL827138).
28 June	19:00	Walking in Cressing and Black Notley (Meet at Cressing Railway Station) followed by Glowworm survey.

Bee Fly (Bombyliidae)



Hairy Footed Flower Bee (Female)
Anthophora plumipes

The Robin



I was asked for more Dog pictures but have been sent a few Robin pictures this month so here's the best of both.



When robins appear, loved ones are near', alludes to the belief that the robin is a messenger. When robins are seen, some people take comfort that loved ones are at peace, and many believe that their lost loved ones are visiting them.

To the First Robin by Louisa May Alcott

**Welcome, welcome, little stranger,
Fear no harm, and fear no danger;
We are glad to see you here,
For you sing, "Sweet Spring is near."**

**Now the white snow melts away;
Now the flowers blossom gay:
Come, dear bird, and build your nest,
For we love our robin best.**

The Robin

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A poster for Yoga Moments Hatha Yoga classes. It features a woman in a white and pink striped sports bra and white leggings performing a cobra pose on a pink mat. The background is a light blue sky with a beach. Text on the poster includes the class name, schedule, benefits of yoga, contact information, and a website. A small logo for "BOTTENHAMS OF YOGA TEACHER" is in the bottom right corner.

Yoga Moments
Hatha Yoga class

MONDAY 9.30AM
WITHAM BRITISH LEGION HALL

WEDNESDAY 10.30AM
KELVEDON INSTITUTE (Small hall)

YOGA RETREATS
(Contact Mine for details)

(suitable for all levels including beginners)

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- Build strength and flexibility
- Ease stress
- Enables restful sleep
- Helps with many health issues

MONDAY 7PM
WITHAM METHODIST CHURCH

WEDNESDAY 7PM
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f t

TUESDAY PRAISE
at Witham URC - everyone welcome
June 2023

DATE

6th June

13th June

20th June

27th June

LEADER

Marina Price

Ian Hardie

Jonathan Pritchard

Lorna Bantock

TIME: 12.30 - 1pm

**You are invited to stay for refreshments
afterwards TIME: 12.30 - 1pm**



The image is a promotional graphic for 'Chimney Chick'. It features a pink background with a sunburst pattern of radiating lines. In the center, the word 'Chimney' is written in a bold, sans-serif font, and 'Chick' is written in a large, stylized, cursive font. A black silhouette of a dandelion seed head on a long stem is positioned to the right of the text. Surrounding the central text are several service offerings in white, bold, sans-serif font, each preceded by a white five-pointed star. The services listed are: 'SWEEP', 'SERVICE', 'REPAIR', 'BIRDS NEST REMOVAL', 'CAMERA INSPECTIONS', 'STOVE ROPE', 'GLASS & BRICK REPLACEMENT', and 'YOUR LOCAL LADY CHIMNEY SWEEP'. At the bottom, there is contact information in a smaller, white, sans-serif font: 'Call Hayley - 07399 628 527', 'www.CHIMNEYCHICK.co.uk', and 'chimneychick@icloud.com'.

SWEEP ★ **SERVICE** ★ **REPAIR** ★

BIRDS NEST REMOVAL ★ **CHIMNEY** ★ **CAMERA INSPECTIONS** ★

STOVE ROPE ★ **Chimney Chick** ★ **GLASS & BRICK REPLACEMENT** ★

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Organisations in Rivenhall

Clerk to Parish Council	Keith Taylor	516975
Email parishclerk@rivenhallparishcouncil.net	meets every first Tuesday	
End to End Nature Care	Simon Taylor	01621 810141
Gardening Club	Carole McCarthy	512781
Meets on 2nd Tuesday at 7.30pm in Village Hall		
Carpet Bowls	Mick Marshall	512836
Meets every Thursday at 7.30pm in Village Hall		
Playing Fields Association	Mick Marshall	01376 512836
Spread Your Wings Dance Acam	Laura Pearson	01376 741317

Facilities

Hire of Village Hall	email rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com	
Hire of Henry Dixon Hall	Tracy Scott	571551
Oak Store Rivenhall "Open All Hour" Tel AJ		01376 538838

Organisations in Silver End

Clerk to Parish Council	Mrs B. M. Temple	618464
Email parishclerk@silverendparishcouncil.gov.uk		
Bowls Club	Paul Mann	07551 006906
Children's Centre	Faye Savage	587960
Neighbourhood Police	Braintree Policing Dial	101
Congregational Church	Sharon Gray	583913
Friendship Club	Maureen Green	585275
Silver End Gad Abouts	Denise Sullens Smith	07952 992782
Gardening Club	Liz Woor	585586
Guiding Group	Carol Hutchings	07857 663959
Neighbourhood Watch	Judy Hill	07896 975839
Scouting Group	Elaine Hall on +44	7885 489788
St Mary's Church (R.C.)	Vivian Phillips	583598
Tennis Club	Jason Cairns	584581
Workers Educational Assoc.	Brian Gillion	583706
Luncheon Club	Helen Thomson	583255
Doctors Surgery		583387
Silver End Heritage Society	Jackie Nesbitt	07707 084608
Silver End United Football Club	Mark Edgell	584639 Web
Site www.silverendunitedfc.co.uk		
Women's Institute	Brenda Warnes	07931 548193
Community Warden	Jackie Windard	07785 515526
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