

End-to-End

The Parish Magazine of Rivenhall and Silver End



**This Lebanese Cedar Tree which was over 200 years old
blew down during recent heavy wind and rain.in the
grounds of Hoo Hall**

Cedar (Cedar of Lebanon) is a majestic, evergreen conifer which can grow to 35m. The bark is blackish-brown with closely spaced ridges and cracks, and twigs are brown and slightly hairy. It has a distinct shape, with several trunks and clear horizontal layers in its structure.

April

2024

50p

The following are our services For April 2024

7th April

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

14th April

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

21st April

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

28^h April

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

2nd Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

All Age Worship

3rd Sunday of Easter

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion

4th Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

Matins

5th Sunday of Easter

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion

Church Contacts

All Contact should be Via the Churchwardens

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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' – 'To be or not to be....'

"To be or not to be, that is the question" – is the famous line from William Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' that came to mind as I was listening to an address from the Bishop of Chelmsford, Bishop Guli. In her talk she spoke about how, particularly through the traumatic events of the last few years (that includes Covid, war and the ongoing effect of climate change), as normal life has been so disrupted, many of us may well be wondering: 'what are we for, if we can't do the things that we have always done?'

But I am reminded that we are not 'human doings', but 'human beings'..... and that actually God delights in us as we are. All He wants us to do is 'be still, and know that He is God'. For it is in such 'being' - allowing ourselves to draw close and rest in Him, being affirmed and held in His love, and being able to share that love with others – that we will find our true purpose.

I recently read that at the height of the black plague, and whilst living in one of the worst effected towns in England, Julian of Norwich wrote this: "And in this God showed me a little thing, the quantity of a hazel nut, lying in the palm of my hand, as it seemed. And it was as round as any ball. I looked upon it with the eye of my understanding, and thought, 'What may this be?' And it was answered generally thus, 'It is all that is made.' I marvelled how it might last, for I thought it might suddenly have fallen to nothing for littleness. And I was answered in my understanding: It lasts and ever shall, for God loves it..... In this little thing I saw three properties. The first is that God made it. The second that God loves it. And the third, that God keeps it."

We are all precious to God..... and in His economy nothing is wasted or too small. So, if 'to be, or not to be' is the question, then 'to be' is the answer! To be the precious child of God that He loves..... Because however small or insignificant we may think we are,

however small a contribution we feel we make, in God's eyes we are precious, and in Hands He can do marvellous things.

Love and blessings

Rev Jane x

PRAYER HOUR

You are invited to meet with me on a Monday morning at 9am for an hour of prayer

Sitting in peace and waiting on God, either in silence, or in words.....

I will be rotating around the churches as follows:

Every Monday from the 4th March until the End of May 2024–
Fairstead Parish Church

It will be lovely to see anyone that can come!

Readings and Collects for April 2024

7th April

2nd Sunday of Easter

All Age Worship

Readings

Exodus 14:10 –end and 15:20-21

Acts 4:32-35

John 20:19 –end

Collect

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.

14th April

3rd Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

Readings

Acts 3:12-19

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

Collect

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:

strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father

21st April

4th Sunday of Easter

Matins

Readings

Acts 4:5-12

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

Collect

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father

28th April

5th Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

Readings

Acts 8:26-40

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

WITHAM AND VILLAGES MOTHERS' UNION

Thursday 25th April at 2pm in St Nicolas Church Hall. This will be our Annual General Branch Meeting when we express our thanks and appreciation to our branch officers and committee members who have served us during the year. It will also be an opportunity to review the past year and share ideas for the coming year. As usual all members and friends are welcome to join us for any of our meetings. We are a very friendly, welcoming group.

All members and friends' welcome.

For more information contact Lynette Abbott (01376512586)
or Joan Barrett (01376514617)

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

Or Call 07738 705585

The 50/50 Club March 2024 winners

1st M Noy

2nd K Spalding

3rd J Osborne

St Francis Church in Silver End during March

St Francis Church has been very busy this month, firstly the food and easter eggs that were donated by the congregation were delivered to the Braintree Food Bank in time for Easter.

The parcel consisted of three shopping bags of ambient store cupboard food produce including personal hygiene items and 63 chocolate easter eggs 5 chocolate easter rabbits, 18 pouches of Terrys mini eggs, 5 cadbury creme eggs, alongside a monetary donation, Well done and a big thank you to all who donated, we are sure to make some families happy that their children will receive an egg this year

A Lent Lunch was held at St Francis church on Saturday 9 March where 28 people enjoyed some fellowship and a lunch of homemade Vegetable soup and Tomato Soup with freshly baked bread rolls followed by platters of fresh fruit. A raffle was held, our very own resident Band

Break Fill Four provided musical entertainment and brain cells were tested with Easter themed anagrams to solve. An amazing sum of £228 was raised for which we thank all that attended. Reverend Jane suggested that we should support the Bishop's Lent Appeal for this year which is to raise funds for the Diocese of Jerusalem's Healthcare Ministry and we are pleased to announce that the sum raised has increased to £250 which has now been sent to that appeal.

NOTES OF RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH MARCH 2024 IN HENRY DIXON HALL

(Formal Minutes can be viewed on village noticeboards and the council's web-site)

Present: Cllrs Turner (Chairman), Macrae, Wright, Prime, Cairns and Hammond

Also Present: Mrs A Brown (Locum Clerk), ECC Cllr Ross Playle and 27 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Abbott

Resignation of our Clerk: Our Clerk Kevin Money resigned as of 29 February 2024. Our Chairman Bob Turner has obtained a Locum Clerk Mrs A brown who has agreed to support us whilst we seek to recruit a new clerk.

ECC Councillor report: At Rivenhall End, CCTV flood investigations are on-going to discover the source of the pipe blockage and the pipe's exact route. In February Essex CC approved a further £12M for repairs to potholes in roads and paths, and for cleansing of gullies.

Each County Councillor is now responsible for a £5k Locality Grant for community groups and good causes within their area. At Essex refuse centres, the trial appointment system is now permanent.

Public Forum: (This meeting started 30 minutes earlier than normal to additionally allow public concerns on the Essex Minerals Local Plan Review to be heard).

Many concerns were raised by angry residents. These included:- Rivenhall End would become near-surrounded by gravel pits; the vision of the countryside towards Tiptree will be lost, the railway sidings will make a lot of noise; dust and airborne silica will further pollute the air; the previous sidings submission was withdrawn due to major local concerns so why is it back; Network Rail has not been consulted; a conveyor belt over Braxted Road will be dusty, noisy and unsightly, sidings would mostly need to operate over-night and at weekends due to lack of rail capacity - noise, illumination; local HGV traffic would increase dramatically; detrimental effects on the wildlife along the Blackwater valley, the trans-shipment sidings will turn that land into a brownfield site, encouraging Witham expansion right up to Rivenhall End; the current railway and proposed sidings will be on the highest side of the field where they cannot be shielded/bunded. All members of the public were urged to get their individual objection responses to Essex County Council before the consultation closing date.

Chairman's Report: If agreed by Essex CC, these proposed minerals sites in our parish will leave no quality of life for residents. There is still flooding in Rickstones Road and other village areas and no response has been received from Highways. At a recent BALC meeting, BDC Councillors admitted that the on-going Rivenhall End flood issues are now quite severe. BDC seemed unaware that the former Rivenhall Hotel is now being used by the Police for dog training and firearms training. At the Oak triangle, the fingerpost sign and a no entry sign are currently down (our clerk will report these to Essex Highways).

The Essex Minerals Local Plan Review Consultation: having earlier heard the strong local objections to the proposed sites in Rivenhall parish, the Chairman suggested that Cllr Macrae should draft a parish council objection to all the sites and circulate it to all councillors before our formal response is sent. This was unanimously agreed.

BDC Councillor Report: BDC will be agreeing its response to

Essex CC on the Minerals Local Plan Review at its meeting on 7 March. Cllr Abbott and Wright have raised the issue of Colemans Farm Quarry sand and gravel deposits on local roads. The Quarry is responsible and has recently employed a road sweeper as a goodwill gesture: for the A12 roads and footways to be cleared of sand and gravel, traffic management is required (road closures). Cllrs Abbott and Wright are exploring whether Silver End parish might join the possible Rivenhall and Cressing Speedwatch initiative.

Highway Maintenance: A drain cover is again sticking up immediately to the west of the railway bridge - this is a pedestrian liability. Potholes on the Rivenhall zebra crossing are a dangerous trip hazard. On the Oak triangle, the highway fingerpost remains down as does a no entry sign. On Park Road several chevron signs have been knocked down.

BDC Planning Matters: A planning application for Chatten Free School to hire out its playing fields was sent to Witham Town Council, not to Rivenhall Parish Council. This could increase traffic movements in Rickstones Road so our Locum Clerk will seek a consultation on this.

Date of Next Meetings: 02 April in Rivenhall Village Hall 7pm
07 May in Rivenhall Village Hall (7 or 7:30 to be confirmed)

Winter and Early Spring in Rivenhall and Silver End

As We head into spring here in Rivenhall End we have suffered 4 months and counting of flooded roads mostly under the railway bridge. Finally as we enter the first day of Spring on the Vernal Equinox 21 March (As opposed to meteorological spring which begins on the 1st of March) some work to remedy the drainage problems in Oak Road and the junction with Henry Dixon Road have finally been carried out (18th to 20th March). From discussions I have had, it would appear that one of the drainage pipes that carries water from the road into Rivenhall Brook was damaged by work carried out by a contractor digging

trenches for new telecoms cabling infrastructure.

The problem has been exacerbated by a lack of drawings showing where the storm water drains run and how the system functions. We will see if their efforts make any difference over the coming months.

As you will see from the picture on the front of the magazine the storms have also resulted in some of our local landscape being changed forever. However although we have had a shortage of sunny days the above average temperatures have led to significant displays of colour across the village. Here follows some pictures from around the village.



The above picture shows the Mill Race along Hoo Hall drive where once stood a Watermill . You will be lucky to get this picture in the summer months as the area will be covered with stinging Nettles.

The next Picture was taken in Cranes lane near the old Essex barn. This walk along a bridleway will eventually take you to Silver End! if you want a good 8 mile walk, this is a great one to consider! The field is opposite Clarks Farm where you will find the duck pond shown in the next picture.

Although we have had a very wet Winter and Early Spring



with rainfall averaging 30 to 40% above normal, average temperatures have been close to normal and sunshine hours have by and large been below average. One thing is for certain it has been significantly windier than average.

The pictures on the next page show the colour of early spring this year.



Camelia's from Hoo Hall to Henry Dixon Road are Bloomin lovely this year.

End to End Nature Care.

March saw our final indoor meeting of the winter season, when we greeted Renee Hockley-Byan and a colleague from the NE Essex Badger Group for a talk on their work monitoring and conserving local badger populations. Renee explained the legislative protection received by badgers (referred to in these pages last month) and the reasons behind it, also noting that while there may be authorised (though controversial) culls in some parts of the country, bovine TB is not a significant issue in East Anglia hence no such arrangements exist here. Indeed, other than the ever-present threat from road traffic, with persecution by humans largely (though not completely) absent the Essex badger population is doing rather well.

One thing many folk do not realise is that badgers are part of the mustelid group of mammals, and hence are related to stoats, weasels, martens and otters. They are slightly unusual within that group though, in several ways. They live in groups, for instance, with very well-developed social structure based around annual mating. Also, while their principal food source is earthworms they have adapted to a cosmopolitan diet which includes small vertebrates as well as insects, as well as diverse plant material, particularly fruit in the autumn. Returning to mating, the females are able to delay pregnancy in order to ensure they always give birth at around the same time, in late winter. It is also likely that within a litter (of up to four) the cubs may have different fathers.

Also in March our group entered, for the first time, an Inter-Society Quiz evening which saw a small End to End team taking on three other local Natural history groups in a Science & Nature themed quiz held in Wickford. This event has been held for many years in the south of Essex but sadly the regular quizmaster died recently so our own Andrew Moss offered to fill in for him and we entered a team as a show of support. Perhaps because we were more used to Andrew's style of quiz than the other teams, we actually won and so are now the privileged holders of the Phil Giddings Trophy (which, coincidentally, has an image of a badger engraved on it). We have to return it before next year's event and it remains to be seen whether we will be invited to defend it, with the 2025 quiz being held in Great Wakering!

This month sees us commence our summer activities as by the end of the month there is enough evening light for us to do something useful. As usual, that means we start with an evening counting

cowslips near Tarecroft Wood. Details below, and for the activities planned in early May.

Further information is always available on our website www.e2e.silverend.org and on our Facebook group 'End to End Nature Care' (please do feel free to post comments and local photographs there), or for any other enquiries I can be contacted via email simon@e2e.silverend.org or on 07947 388180.

Simon Taylor

24 April	19:00	Cowslip Survey. Meet in the parking area at the bottom of the track to Tarecroft Wood (TL824171).
01 May	18:30 for 19:00	Spring flowers at Oxley Meadow, Tolleshunt Knights. Meet at Stovern's Hall Farm (CM8 3HQ or TL825172) at 18:30 to car share or at the reserve (TL918149 - parking very limited) at 19:00.
08 May	19:00	Field-edge paths and hedgerows, Rivenhall. Meet at Stovern's Hall Farm (CM8 3HQ or TL825172).

The Passion of Christ by Arthur Somervell

On Saturday 16th of March the Witham Choral Society presented the aforementioned Passion of Christ with a choir of nearly 40 singers.

The organist for the evening was Matthew Jorysz who is the assistant Organist at Westminster Abbey and played for the Coronation service at Westminster Abbey in June 2023.

This was a great privilege for us and to think our organ at Rivenhall has Royal connection as parts of it were reclaimed from an organ which was used in the Royal Chapel at Windsor in the 1920's.

The program of music included a number of Hymns where the audience were invited to sing along with the choir. The highlight for me was the finale rendition of Sir Henry Newman's hymn "Praise to the Holiest in the Heights" with choral adaption by Arthur Somervell. This hymn, a real favourite of mine, was played during the last verse with all the Organ stops pulled out and with enough volume from the Organ and Choir to metaphorically take the roof off the church.



Matthew Jorysz playing at the Coronation of King Charles III

If you would like to listen to a recording of the music go to www.stmarysrivenhall.co.uk and click on the Witham Chorale logo on the front page.

St Mary's Rivenhall "Inclusive Church"

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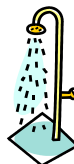
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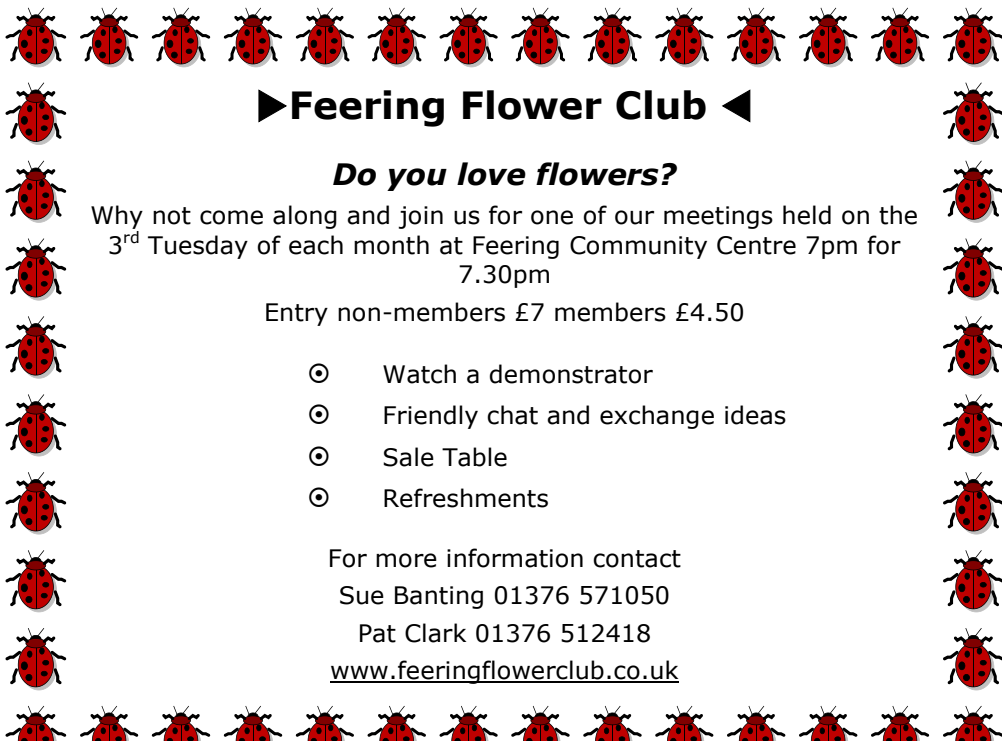
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- ⊙ Refreshments

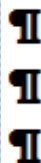
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TUESDAY PRAISE For April at Witham URC EVERYBODY WELCOME

DATE

2nd April

9th April

16th April

23rd April

30th April

LEADER

Gretta Bray

Keith Ives

Noah Cockett

Lorna Bantock

Stephen Northfield

TIME: 12.30 - 1pm

Spring Garden Crime Prevention (Part 1)

Now is a good time to look around your garden; are your fences and gates in good condition do you have good quality locks on gates, will they keep the unwelcome intruder out? To the front of your property where possible keep fencing, planting, and hedges to about 1.2m in height so that an intruder is not hidden from view. Protect your rear garden with 1.8m strong fencing, close boarded wooden fencing, and gates are a good choice and this can be topped with trellis or a plastic spiky topping such as www.defendastrup.com/ (warning signs needed). Panels should not be able to be lifted out of the posts and avoid your fencing becoming a ladder by ensuring that the horizontal cross battens are facing into your garden.

Defensive planting: Security does not have to be just about locks, bolts, and spiky fence toppings; nature provides some excellent plants to keep people away. There are a number of attractive, fragrant plants of a spiky nature such as climbing roses, pyracantha, berberis and others and planting of a dense nature that can work quite well. Have a chat at your garden centre or with the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) for the right plant for the right location. We actively work with the RHS at Hyde Hall and there are a number of mature examples of defensive planting that can be viewed there, and some very knowledgeable people that can advise you. **Date for your diary** – 31/7/24 – 4/8/24 RHS Hyde Hall Summer Flower Show, we hope to be there within our show garden demonstrating how plants and good garden design can help protect your home.

New plants: larger plants etc. can be secured to land or rootball anchors or plant through chicken wire covering the area with soil. Cement or bolt down containers to the ground. The RHS or your local garden centre or DIY store should be able to help.

Working in the garden: It is easy to get engrossed in what you are doing when working in the garden, if the house is empty, it is wise to close and lock the door (don't forget the key though!). Remember when you stop for a break put your tools away, and at the end of the day as well as putting tools away put the wheelbarrow and wheelie bin away too. "It will add insult to injury" if your tools are used to break into your house, a neighbour's, nearby building such as a church, or provide a climbing aid or method of carrying things away. If you are not using your lawn mower, jet washer or other

put it away out of sight from prying eyes.

Property marking: It may deter a thief if your property or flower pots are visibly security marked with your house number and post code or labelled if a forensic (hidden) property marking system is used such as www.smartwater.com, www.selectadna.co.uk or www.datatag.co.uk. You can also record the serial numbers of any tools at www.immobilise.com/. If your property does get stolen with property marking and/or recording, there is a greater chance of you getting it back.

For suitable security products look for the Secured by Design or Sold Secure logo's and for further garden security advice see the following webpages:

www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/

www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/crime-prevention-advice

www.soldsecure.com

www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=606

RIVENHALL GARDENING CLUB

On a very wet evening members of the Club met in Rivenhall village hall on Tuesday 12th March 2024 Chairman Maurice Bacon gave out various notices and introduced our speaker for the evening, Peter Hickling, who was to talk about the history of Markshall Estate (as it is now called) near Coggeshall. Mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086 it was listed as 'Mercheshala' at that time and was once part of a bigger Manor. The Earl of Essex. Hugh de Monfort: had been granted the land prior to this date and he installed the de Merc family as tenants in 1163. They and their descendants stayed for over 400yrs, selling up in 1562 to tenants who remained until 1581.

In 1605 Robert Honywoods purchased the property, building a large Jacobean style house (now called Marks Hall). He stayed until 1897 when the land and Mansion House was purchased by the last private owner, Thomas Phillips Price, a wealthy M.P. from Wales. He had a close connection with Kew Gardens which was to be a great influence on his thoughts for Marks Hall Estate. He died in 1932 (his wife not until 1966). He decreed that after his death the Estate would be held in Trust for the nation with the purpose to use the estate for the advancement of agriculture, ar-

boriculture and forestry. Unfortunately the war years intervened and the Mansion House, the deer park and some extra land was requisitioned for the construction of Earls Colne Airfield to serve as a base for fighter and bomber squadrons from the R.A.F. and U.S.A.. Numerous military buildings were erected to house and care for personnel. Sadly the Mansion House was demolished in 1949 also the small Church the foundations of which can still be seen today.

Marks Hall Estate is now a registered Charity covering the Arboretum and 2,000 acres of ancient woodland and tenanted farmland, a beautiful walled garden (reopened in 2003) and the Coach House flower garden. The Estate is divided into various geographical areas of the world boasting over 5,000 trees and one of Europe's largest collection of Wollemi Pines and several species of Eucalyptus. It was a most interesting talk.

CLUB COMPETITION RESULTS

Horticultural	1 st Mike Selby	2 nd Maurice Bacon	3 rd Sue North
Domestic	1 st Jenny Turner	2 nd Karen Dakin	3 rd Mike Selby
Flower of the Month	1 st Maurice Bacon	2 nd Bob Turner	3 rd Sue North
Photo of the Month	1 st Jenny Claydon	2 nd Karen Dakin	3 rd Bob Turner

We shall be holding our **DAFFODIL SHOW** on **SATURDAY 6th APRIL** at **THE HENRY DIXON HALL — RIVENHALL END.**

There will be other Flower Classes but entries in this Show are for members only. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 2.15pm. FREE ENTRY. There will be refreshments and a Raffle and all are welcome to visit. We look forward to seeing you. For further details contact the Club Secretary on 01376 512781. Please note there will NOT be the usual evening Club meeting in April.

Turning the pages of History

Research by Tracy Scott

Last month I mentioned at the end of the report that this issue we were going to look at Tom Davy: The Rivenhall Man who fought at Trafalgar. I had some information about naval person and a portrait done in 1836, but like I try always to do is check and get some more background to the story of any person or event when I can. The story he past to the Rev. Hawkins is that he was on the HMS Victory when Lord Nelson died. Our late Rev. David Nash also must have expected to be correct as he covered this story in 2001. I looked into not only Nelson's vessel of men on board but the other 26 ships and 4 frigates via two books and the main web site for the battle. We have two Davy names of David and William on the HMS Thunderer. I have been in touch with the 1805 club and are awaiting to hear back. So this and the Old School of Rivenhall will be covered at another time this year...so keeping to our social history of Rivenhall Village we are going to look at weddings with connections of Oak Road, from Oak Corner to the entrance of the London Road (A12).

Sept 1935

Mr and Mrs Butler celebrated their Golden Wedding and were very well known couple in Oak Road. George Thomas Butler married Annie Clift 26th Sept 1885 at Rivenhall Church. George 23 was a shoemaker by trade and his father Charles a labourer. Annie aged 22 and her father Thomas Clift was a shoemaker on the marriage register. In an article telling us about the Golden wedding it mentions that Thomas kept the Ye Old Friars Temperance Hotel which was closed around 1924. If you were in Chelmsford today it would have been opposite Marks and Spencer's in the High Street. George, I would have thought of meet Annie in Chelmsford as he worked both in London and Chelmsford for a while.

Mr. Butler was one of the earliest members of Rivenhall Parish Council, of which he also served as vice-chairman for some years. Both of them said they were "comfortably off and have no cause to grumble." They also were enjoying fairly good health.

George and Annie had four sons and a daughter. All four sons served in WW1, but Arthur William Butler aged 22, never returned. His name is on our War Memorial and at the Thiepval Memorial,

Somme in France.

They lived in Oak Place, not far from Oak Corner and next to the Post Office which was also once there. (Many other families lived in this building which we will look at another time.)

The photo of George and Annie is a family one as we are related by a marriage. I believe this one was taken around the time of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.



May 1937

Mr. Arthur James Goodrich who lived in Oak Road married in Braintree to Mrs Hester Everett, widow, who formerly of Chatham. We are told that the best man was Mr. S. A. Goodrich the grooms

son and Hester was given away by her sister. Mr Goodrich at that time was an employee at Witham railway station and a service of about 25 years with L.N.E.R.

Jan 1938

The marriage of Miss Elizabeth Burlong to Mr. Herbert Franklin took place at Rivenhall Church 1st January 1938. Elizabeth the second daughter of Mrs. Burlong and the late Mr. John Burlong lived in what was then called 'Council Houses' of Oak Road. This is the row of houses between Hoo Hall and the Railway Bridge. Herbert the son of Mrs. Franklin and the late Mr. Franklin, of Middleton, Banbury. Mr. George Atmeare the Uncle of the bride gave Elizabeth away. She was dressed in silk crepe of pale blue and hat and shoes to tone which went well with the lemon coloured chrysanthemums that she carried. Miss Mary Burlong, the bride sister, was bridesmaid and dressed in a silk crepe of pink floral, with a head wreath of leaves. She also carried an ivory Prayer Book. Charles's best man was Mr. Cyril Church. The service was officiated by the Rev. R. W. Croft. The organist was Mr. D. J. Fairbrass and a large choir which Charles was a member was of at the time.

The mother of the bride held a reception at the Institute Hut, Oak Road, Rivenhall End. (This would have been where the bungalow on your left-hand side of going into Foxmead). Among the gifts were a coffee table from the choir and choirmaster of St. Marys Church. Mr & Mrs Franking went to reside in Kelvedon.

April 1939

One of Rivenhall Parish Church Choristers, Miss Thirza Beatrice Hume married Mr. Ernest Gordon Ellis. Thirza the youngest daughter of Mrs. Hume of Oak Road and the late Mr. George Hume of Threadgolds Farm, Great Braxted. Ernest was the eldest son of Mr and Mrs E. Ellis, of Cressing Road, Witham.

The bride was in silk crepe of white with long veil and a daisy wreath. She carried an ivory bound prayer book. The sister of the bridegroom Miss Agnes Ellis was in attendant to the bride and was dressed in a flowered blue silk with both headdress and veil to match, and carrying tulips of pink. Alongside was little Jean Rolling, the niece of the bride wearing a long pink satin dress, headdress of pink flowers and a handkerchief bag of the same as the dress. The page, three year old Barrie Rolling (nephew) wore blue satin trousers and white silk shirt, and carrying a walking stick.

The service was very choral in nature, with Mrs. Butler of Witham at

the organ.

Among the gifts were a set of glassware from the Rector and Mrs. Hunt, and an electric kettle from the staff of the International Stores, Witham, where Thirza was employed. Ernest was gifted a clock from the staff of Rowley's Garages (Witham) Ltd., where he worked.

Nov 1945

When Miss May Elliott married Gunner Gordon Thomas William Musk of the Royal Artillery, his five sisters were attendants to his bride. Gordon was the second son of Mr and Mrs W. G. Musk of Oak Road. His bride May was the only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. Elliott, of Stacey Ave, Wolverton. They married at Wolverton Congregational Church. May wore a satin dress of white with an orange blossom head-dress with train. She carried a bouquet of red carnations. The bride's attendants were her friend Miss K. Read wearing a dress of pale pink taffeta, silver Juliet cap with coronet. Gordon's five sisters were Miss B. Musk, gold taffeta, white veil and gold coronet; Miss Joyce Musk, blue taffeta with coronet of pink and blue flowers; Misses Irene and Primrose Musk, in pink figured taffeta with floral coronets and pink veils; and Miss Eileen Musk, in pale green taffeta with green and gold Juliet cap. They carried bouquets and posies of pink/white and bronze/white flowers.

Gordon wore his Service Uniform and at that time had served for five years with the M.E.F. (This was formed in 1915 and was used to refer to the forces at Gallipoli. M.E.F. was originally commanded by General Sir Ian Hamilton until he was dismissed due to the failure for the 29th Division at Gallipoli. Known as the Middle East Command and later Middle East Land Forces.) His best man was Mr. Kenneth Burkitt, Wolverton, a friend of the groom.

May's father gave her away and the service was officiated by The Rev. Dr. A. J. Lewis and Mrs C. Elliott was at the organ. The hymns were "Thine for ever, God of Love" and "Love Divine".

The reception was held at the Co-operative Hall and attended by 80 guests. The bride placed her bouquet on her brother's grave in the Wolverton Cemetery.

Rivenhall Gardening Club



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Saturday

6th April

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Organisations in Rivenhall

Clerk to Parish Council	Kevin Money	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
Guiding Group	Carol Hutchings	07857 663959
Neighbourhood Watch	Judy Hill	07896 975839
Scouting Group	secretary@silverend-scouts.org.uk	
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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