End-to-End
The Parish Magazine of Rivenhall and Silver End



If we were holding a photographic competition this picture would be the winner this month thanks to Simon Taylor more of his pic-ture s are inside and read about them in the End to End Nature Care Report.

August 2020 50p

Our Services August 2020

I

St Mary's Church Rivenhall

11.00 am - Morning Prayer service every Sunday.

Unfortunately, at this stage we will not be able to sing hymns, but we do plan to play some music at intervals throughout the service where hymns would normally be.

St Francis Church, Silver End.

St Francis Church will be open for visitors on Sundays from 10am to 11am for private prayer;
with services to resume at a future date to be confirmed.
For the latest updates,
please refer to the Church Website:
www.stmarysrivenhall.co.uk
or our parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/parishRHSE

Church Contacts

Team Vicar Rev.	Paul Watkin	01376 583930 psgw100@aol.com
Churchwarden	Ann Clarke	01376 514825
Churchwarden	Peter Hope	01376 502605
Rivenhall Contact	Carole McCarthy	01376 512781
Silver End Contact	Ruth Aitken	01376 583846
Rivenhall Website		www.stmarysrivenhall.co.uk
St Francis Silver End Website		www.st-francis.org.uk/
Rivenhall Website		www.stmarysrivenhall.co.uk
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Contact the Editor 07904 235101 or phope02@gmail.com

Thoughts for August from the Ministry Team

One of the things which lots of people would probably consider to be quintessentially British, is being outside in the garden or other similar outside spaces during the Summer months. Whether you're a keen green-fingered gardener, an eager barbecue griller, or simply someone who when the opportunity arises, enjoys relaxing outside – perhaps with a book and a glass of something cold, there's probably something or another which you enjoy doing outside during this time of year. For the most part, we've been blessed with pretty good weather this year too. With just a few exceptions, I'd suspect that nearly all people would feel that most days have been neither too hot or too cool, and that we've had just enough rain to keep everything well-watered as well.

As part of this, gardens and other spaces see lots of non-human visitors of one kind or another as well. Birds, rodents and other mammals, perhaps (if you're lucky) the occasional grass snake, owls and bats in the evening, and one of my own favourites (originally from China) the muntjac deer. You may well have your own favourite animals which you enjoy seeing in your garden! This is aside from the thousands of insects around as well, and as much as a few of these can be a little annoying at times, it's important for us to remember that insect life is one of the most essential aspects of the natural world on which the pollination of not only flowers, but also of food crops depend. Plus in themselves, they provide an essential food source for many other animals too.

One of the most well-loved insects for many people is the butterfly, and we have quite different species of these here. Out of season, it's not uncommon to sometimes see butterflies in churches – especially during the cooler months of the year when they might take refuge from the outside. But during the summer they can be numerous, and as I write for August I've already seen quite a few myself today. The obvious reason for this is that it's over the summer that many of the British butterflies emerge from their chrysalis, having spent anything from just under a week to three weeks inside. But what about you? As we venture further into the summer

and then into August, it might be that you have either emerged from your home having recently spent much more time than usual inside, or you may be planning to do so at some point over the weeks ahead. As things stand, government advice around shielding will be relaxing from August 1st, but it's important that everyone assesses the risks to both themselves and their friends and family when changes to how they have been recently living take place. It's also important that we all do our best to help prevent the risk further spread of covid by wearing masks when we need to (including when at all possible inside our church buildings), and continue to maintain other personal safety practices too. The new 'normal' will not be the same as normal was before lock-down began for some time ahead – perhaps some things will always feel slightly different now.

For various reasons our two church buildings offering different things at present. At the time of writing, St Francis opens every Sunday for private prayer between 10am and 11am, though I'm hoping that a Morning Prayer service may resume there again in the not-too-distant future. St Mary's is open between 11am and 12 noon, and this includes a Morning Prayer service, as well as some played music. It will likely be a while longer before the more familiar service pattern is resumed across the whole parish, and indeed across the whole benefice. But please do also bear with us, as we look to bring relative normal service back to you once more over the weeks and months ahead.

But as mentioned last month, for the time being, and at least until a more recognisable 'in church' service pattern resumes once again, we'll continue to offer you the opportunity to take part in a streamed Live Broadcast worship every Sunday at 2pm on the Rivenhall and Silver End parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/parishRHSE I still maintain a regular online congregation whom I'm delighted to welcome each week, but as ever would love to have even more people to join us. So why not join in this coming week? And experience being church, though separated by distance, gathered together in spirit.

As you'll probably know, August is actually the last month of the meteorological summer, and so as people emerge into a somewhat different world we're also aware that it won't be long before we're thinking about the autumn once more. But the changing of the seasons is also a reminder for us that life for all of us has always been one of change in so many different ways. Indeed, being a Christian invites and leads us towards change in our own lives. After all, being a follower of Jesus should make a difference to our lives, and this in itself is nothing new: The disciples lives changed when they made the decision to respond to Jesus' call and follow him. They also changed and grew in spirit over the course of his public ministry. They then experienced change of both despair, but then celebration over the course of Holy Week, including Jesus' death, laying in the tomb, and then resurrection. And then even more unexpected change occurred for them at the Ascension of our Lord, and finally Pentecost as they received the new life of the breath of the Holy Spirit.

But in many ways this was just the beginning. It was the start of a new chapter for the lives and ministry of the faithful named-disciples, as well as so many others and in essence, the birth of the church which we know and love, and which Christ remains the head of to this day. God has an amazing habit of enabling us to do amazing things with and for us, often at moments which we'd least expect. So let us join in the hope and prayer that this will be the case once again as both the world and our nation changes and evolves into a new way of living.

I wish each and every one of you a delightful last month of summer, and pray for you to know God more clearly, love Jesus more dearly, and follow him more nearly day by day.

Paul Watkin.

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Rivenhall Gardening Club

Please note that the SUMMER FLOWER SHOW on SATURDAY 18th AUG. 2020 has been CANCELLED regardless of any alterations to government guidelines

Collects and Readings Aug. 2020

2nd Aug. 8th Sunday after Trinity

Morning Prayer St. Marys 11.00 am

Readings

Isaiah 55:1-5
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

Collect

Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

9th Aug. 9th Sunday after Trinity

Morning Prayer St Mary's 11.00 am

Readings

1 Kings 19:9-18
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

Collect.

Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

16th Aug. 10th Sunday after Trinity

Morning Prayer St Mary's 11.00 am

Readings

Isaiah 56:1,6-8
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

Collect

Lord of heaven and earth,
as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer,
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,
but always to bring our prayers before you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

23rd Aug. 11th Sunday after Trinity

Morning Prayer St. Marys 11.00 am

Readings

Isaiah 51:1-6

Psalm 138
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

Collect

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

30th Aug 12th Sunday after Trinity

Morning Prayer St. Marys 11.00 am

Readings

Jeremiah 15:15-21
Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

Collect

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Rivenhall Playing Field Association.

After careful consideration and due to the current pandemic it has been decided by the committee that due to social distancing etc to keep the hall closed until September at the earliest.

We will revue late August when hopefully we can arrange to reopen our doors again....We are also hoping to expand our committee so if any one feels they can help out this-great local club we would be delighted to hear from you... if interested please can you notify our Chairman Mick Marshall on 01376512836

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The 50/50 Club Aug. 2020 winners

1st Mr & Mrs Wood 2nd Maurice Bacon3rd Linda Jarvis

OUR CHURCHES ARE OPEN!

Some of you will be pleased to know that we are now holding socially distanced services **Every Sunday at St Mary's** Starting at 11.00 am (listen for the Bell) with private prayer at St Francis every Sunday at 10 am.

The Service at Rivenhall is the standard (BCP) Morning Prayer and there is a plan at the entrance to the Church which demonstrates how up to 30 individuals can maintain a distance of 2m while seated at diagonals from one pew to the next. Of course if you are in a family bubble then all members of that bubble can sit together. We propose to maintain a limit of 30 people for the time being as we feel this is manageable. Some guidelines which should be considered:

1. For your comfort and safety adhere to the seating plan
2. **If you feel more at ease in this setting, then please feel free to wear a mask.** It may be that when you arrive you will feel more comfortable wearing a mask however when the service begins you can asses your surroundings and may decide to remove your mask. **However bear in mind the Church of England is encouraging the wearing of masks at all times.**
3. Use the hand sanitizer provided there are also disposable gloves that may be used if you need them
4. You must sign in on the sheet at the entrance providing name and contact information.
5. Please us the pencils provided and after use place them in the used pencil pot.
6. The Vestry is out of bounds you may use the toilets but please speak to one of the church officers first so that cleaning can be carried out as necessary.

Unfortunately singing is not yet permitted however Antony is providing music at intervals through out the service and the leader of the service may sing a Hymn or chant at points during the service.

I look forward to seeing you in Church on Sunday!

Ann Clarke & Peter Hope Church Wardens and Service Leaders

RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

NOTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH JULY 2020

HELD ELECTRONICALLY DUE TO THE COVID-19 HEALTH RESTRICTIONS.

All councillors took part via email

Matters for Discussion

To consider an earlier start of monthly RPC meetings

It was the **majority agreement** that future council meetings would be convened for 7.30 PM.

Gate for Tarecroft Car Park

It was **agreed** that this should be progressed and the Chairman, in his role as the local ECC Member has requested a site meeting with ECC officers to progress this together with the previous RPC requests for maintenance work at the car park.

Possible addition of 2 extra CCTV cameras

It was **agreed** to request that BDC orders 2 additional CCTV cameras and necessary equipment on behalf of the parish council. RPC will pay when invoiced by BDC and RPC will advise BDC on where they are to be used.

Highway Maintenance

ECC has stated that no further work will be done in response to the Chairman's concerns (in his role as ECC Member) re minimal work completed by ECC on the 7 Member-led footway schemes. The Chairman will however continue to press for more work to be done on the Rickstones Road footways and is also chasing ECC re potholes – ECC has now agreed that potholes at the junction of Rickstones Road and Church Road will be repaired and ECC is re-inspecting the cluster of defects near the zebra crossing in Church Road.

The Chairman also reported that he and residents had asked ECC to urgently repair the serious defects in the footway near 20 St Mary's Road which appeared once again to have been caused by a heavy vehicle driving over the footway.

Maintenance

The maintenance contractor has been asked to replace/repair the damaged wooden posts around the Village Green and to sweep and clean around the metal/glass bus shelter and the steps leading to the bungalows in Rickstones Road. He will also be asked to trim back the

trees and hedges on the raised section of the footway along Rickstones Road between number 301 and the entrance to the John Ray Walk, and to trim back the overhanging vegetation along the Oak Road footway in the area opposite Hoo Hall Cottages.

Planning Applications

20/00948/HH & 20/00947/HH: 459 & 457 Rickstones Road – Vehicle crossovers with dropped kerbs and tarmac drives.

Members raised no objections to these applications.

No comments/objections were raised re the renewal of the adult establishment licence for Pulse & Cocktails, Rivenhall End.

Planning Results

19/01947/OUT: Three dwellings – Land adjacent Glebe Farm, Rectory Lane. Application granted by BDC.

20/00499/HH: Extension to 451 Rickstones Road. Application granted by BDC.

Planning Appeals

19/01462/OUT: 8 dwellings – Land east of Church Road.

The majority view of councillors was to maintain their original decision to oppose this application and support BDC in its refusal and so there was no need to add further comment to the appeal process.

Ongoing Planning Issues

<u>BDC Local Plan</u>

BDC has now received the list of Modifications from the Local Plan Inspector that he considers are needed to make the Local Plan Section 1 (Garden Communities) Sound. The Modifications will be discussed at BDC in meetings in July and if agreed will go out to public consultation.

<u>Colemans Quarry</u>

The next liaison meeting was scheduled for 11.30 am on Monday 13th July. (Post meeting note – At the meeting there was renewed discussion about the rebuilding of the A12 which is due to start in 2023. The Preferred Route provides for a 6 lane bypass of Rivenhall End which passes through the quarry area and there will be a new all -ways major junction built to replace the current Colemans Bridge junction. Local parish representatives present expressed concern as to how the quarry and A12 rebuild can co-exist, the nature of further applications to extend activity at the quarry and what implications

there could be for local access, with HGVs going through Rivenhall End and other local villages being a very sensitive issue. As a result, a meeting of local parishes with Highways England has been requested.)

Braintree Local Highways Panel

The Chairman's report from the June BLHP meeting is as detailed in the Clerk's General Report dated 20th June. (Post meeting note – The 2 interactive over-height vehicle warning signs already approved by the Highways Panel are due to be installed in September. These will direct large vehicles away from the weight limit and railway bridge height restriction along Oak Road.)

Information exchange and items for the August agenda

To decide at the August meeting on the purchase of plants and bulbs for autumn planting. Residents suggestions plus member's views are to purchase 2 shrubs/small trees to replace the tubs at St Mary's Road and to plant snowdrops around them; to purchase daffodils to go along the section of Rickstones Road where the new drainage was put in a few years ago and to organise a planting afternoon in October and invite residents to take part.

Dates of future meetings

4th August and 1st September 2020, but both may be convened electronically if Covid-19 restrictions continue.

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Roast chicken with vegetables

One of my favourite things to do in the summer is chop vegetables up so they are all roughly the same size, put them in a roasting pan, drizzle with olive oil and roast on a normal roasting temperature for 40 minutes and serve! With fish, with chicken with rice!!

Here is a recipe for a lovely dish. Use it as an idea. The quantities are easily changed and add your favourite veg. Swap the chorizo with bacon. Make it yours. Easy and nutritious! Have a go.

1. 2 onions, quartered
2. 2 red peppers, seeds removed, quartered
3. 1 yellow pepper, seeds removed, quartered
4. 8 large tomatoes, preferably on the vine
5. 80g/3oz chorizo, sliced
6. 400g tin cannellini beans, drained and rinsed



7. 4 garlic cloves, bashed
8. 2 sprigs fresh rosemary
9. 8 chicken thighs, skin-on, bone-in
10. 2 tbsp. olive oil
11. 1 tsp sea salt flakes
12. freshly ground black pepper

Method

Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.

Put the onions, peppers, tomatoes, chorizo, beans, garlic and rosemary in a very large roasting tin (you may choose to use two tins). Top with the chicken, then drizzle with the oil.

Scatter with the salt and a big pinch of pepper. Roast for 1 hour, or until the chicken is cooked through and the skin is golden brown. To check if the chicken is cooked, pierce the thickest part with a skewer; the juices should run clear. If there is any sign of pink, return the bake to the oven until the chicken is cooked.

Leave the chicken to rest for 10 minutes, then serve with the vegetables.

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End to End Nature Care.

Last month we covered the variety of insect life cycles, related to National Insect week (22nd – 28th June). Now we find ourselves in the throes of another celebration of insect life, the Big Butterfly Count being organised by the organisation Butterfly Conservation, which runs until the 9th August so there is still plenty of time to participate (https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/).

Naturally enough, the survey focuses on butterflies although it also invites sightings of day-flying moths such as the pretty magenta and black Burnet moths; the Silver Y (*Autographa gamma*, which can be very common); the Hummingbird Hawk-moth (*Macroglossum stellatarum*) which some may be familiar with as it is often attracted to garden plants such as Lavender and Buddleia; and the sometimes very colourful and pretty Yellow Shell (*Camptogramma bilineata*). Moth and butterflies together form the insect Order Lepidoptera but are separated by several anatomical features, particularly the antenae which are club-like in butterflies and feathery in moths. Butterflies are thought to have evolved from moths some 50 million years ago in the Eocene epoch, with the "proto-Lepidopteran" itself appearing possibly as far back as the Carboniferous period, well before the appearance of dinosaurs.

Gardens, especially if containing a variety of flowers, can be good places to look for butterflies but for real hot-spots you really need to look for a wild spot, ideally with nectar sources, sunny but also sheltered. Woodland rides and boundaries can be productive, as can hedgerows and meadows. Britain and Ireland have a total of 59 resident breeding species, though some have very restricted distributions, but can also be visited by migrants, even the occasional Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) from across the Atlantic if the winds are favourable. Some of the species also have limited periods when they will be seen flying as an adult, for example the Orange Tip (*Anthocaris cardamines*) is very much a spring butterfly seen between April and June; others may have 2 or even 3 generations in a year.

The bulk of British butterfly species fall within 5 taxonomic families: Pieridea (the "whites"); Lycaenidae (the "blues", plus the hairstreaks and coppers); Satyridae (the "browns", although nature being what it is this group also includes the Marbled White, *Melanargia galathea)*; Nymphalidae (the admirals, tortoishells, fritillaries and relatives); and Hesperiidae (the skippers). The

Nymphalidae contains many of the common species which most will have heard of and recognise, such as the Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*), Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*) and the big, dark Peacock (*Inachis io*) - all three species lay their eggs on Stinging Nettles (*Urtica dioica*) – while, of course, the Large White (or Cabbage White, *Pieris brassicae*) is a member of the Pieridae.

Amongst the local species worth looking out for are the Ringlet (*Aphantopus hyperantus*), a dark member of the "brown" family with several leopard-type spots on its wings, which can be quite common on scrubby land and hedgerows. Also noteworthy is the the Essex Skipper (*Thymelicus lineola*), a small, orange butterfly with the family's characteristic wedge shape when perched, almost identical to the Small Skipper (*Thymelicus sylvestris*) but separated from it by the ends of the antennae which have a deep black underside in the Essex Skipper. A local rarity, the White-letter Hairstreak (*Satyrium w-album*) tends to frequent high tree-tops, particularly if there is any Elm nearby (Elm still exists as shrubby hedgerow plants) but does occasionaly venture down and can be seen if you are in the right place in high summer and lucky. If you are extremely lucky there is even an outside chance of spotting a fritillary, probably the Silver-Washed (*Argynnis paphia*) which is a large, orange, strong-flying butterfly mainly of woodland habitats, not to be confused with the much commoner Comma (*Polygonia c-album*), another Nymphalid which while also orange and a strong flier is not as large as a Silver-washed Fritillary and has a very angular outline to its wings (the underside of each hind wing being marked with a small but bright "C" resembling a comma).

If you go butterfly spotting then good luck and do let me know whatever wildlife you see. Being unable to carry out our usual activities because of the pandemic, End to End Nature Care continue to compile a list of local wildlife sightings and would welcome yours, and are also very happy to assist with identifications if we can. To get in touch please contact me, Simon Taylor, via email simon@e2e.silverend.org or by telephone on 01621 810141 or 07947 388180.

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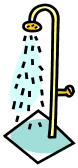
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The wonders of Digital Photography

Feeling in a nostalgic mood I got to thinking of how long I (Editor Peter Hope) have been taking digital photos. So I though I might start a series of Pictures taken in the early days of digital photography. This picture is of the Choir in early October 2000. We were probably celebrating somebodies Birthday possibly Clare. Half of those pictured are sadly no longer with us.



Also a picture taken in 2003 Clare and I were on Holiday at Falmouth in 2003 and were on a mission to present the Rev. David Nash a previous incumbent of this parish with an award although what the award was is hidden in the mysteries of time.

Comet NEOWISE has a huge orbit around the Sun which will not see it return to the inner Solar System for about another 7000 years.

Jupiter and Saturn remain together and prominent in the South, best seen around 11pm. The waxing gibbous Moon will be close to Jupiter on the 28th and Saturn on the 29th.

Mars continues to brighten through August as it gets steadily closer to the Earth. By the end of the month it is well up in the East by midnight and brighter than any star. This year sees Mars well placed when at its brightest in mid-October, not as close as it was in 2018, but higher in the sky. Unlike all the other planets with orbits further out than the Earth from the Sun, Mars only comes to Opposition (opposite the Sun in the sky) every 2 years. Its orbit is also distinctly elliptical and so the distance between the Earth and Mars varies greatly at opposition – ranging from 35 million miles to 63 million miles. This year at its closest the Red Planet is 39 million miles away – so in astronomical terms, one of the closer approaches.

Venus will be shining brightly low in the East before dawn breaks and is joined by the waning crescent Moon on the 15th.

Full Moon is on the 3rd which means that moonlight will drown out the start of the Perseid meteor shower. However by the maximum of the shower, expected on the night of the 12th/13th, the Moon rises at midnight and so if its clear it will be worth watching in the hour or so from 11pm when the sky will be dark enough to see the meteors, which will appear to come from the East just below the "W" shape of the constellation of Cassiopeia

Continuing with the Sky Notes theme of starting out in astronomy, in mid-August at about 11pm the bright star Altair is in the South, almost exactly half way up the sky from horizon to zenith. Altair is one of the closest bright stars to our Solar System, at a distance of 17 light years. It is the lead star of the constellation of Aquila (the Eagle), one of the 48 constellations described by the second-century astronomer Ptolemy, but was known for centuries before that.

Sky Watcher



Sky Notes August 2020

Comet NEOWISE (Above) has become the first comet for several years to be visible without optical aid and showing a classic long tail. The image attached shows the comet as it was seen from Rivenhall just before dawn on 11th July, with a long curving dust tail. The comet has now moved into the evening sky and is displaying a second, straighter gas tail. As the comet recedes from both the Sun and the Earth, it is fading and by August may need binoculars to see it.





Some more of Simon Taylors Nature Care photographs see article for details



Last Year in the Spring DRH Landscapes made a small garden which was designed by Clare (Hope) this beautiful and tranquil area has since been called the "Clare Memorial Garden" we even scattered some of her ashes there in a ceremony last Christmas. The flowers ands shrubs certainly like it!

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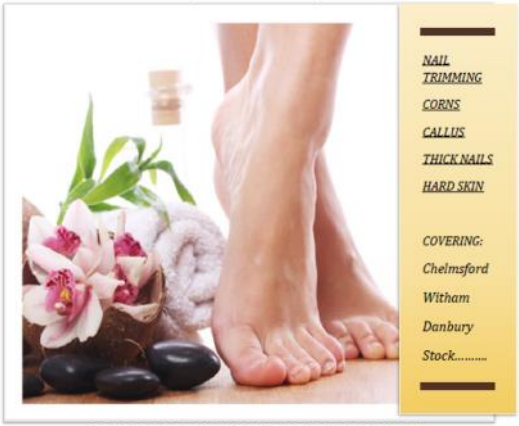
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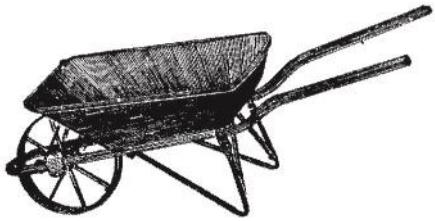
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Turning the pages of History
Research by Tracy Scott

Turning the pages of History
Research by Tracy Scott



So let's start this month off with an article I covered a little on Facebook on the 1st June and in the June parish magazine. From my family collection of postcards and most of them from my Great Aunt Martha's that she received over the years. These would seem most mundane to most people today as it just tell the recipient that they got home safely after their visit to them or just day to day events. Some of these would have been received within a few hours of posting or next day. The postcard showing here is of the Rectory of Rivenhall and was posted to my aunt on 18th May, 1907 from another family member. My aunt then was a live-in maid at Castle Hedingham and was addressed % her employer and telling Martha 'I shall be over if do not lose the train. Hope you are well.'

So to connect this with an article from the Rectory of Rivenhall in August 1976 our then Rector David Nash, where over a period of parish magazines of that time was covering the history of Rivenhall Church through the ages: we come to 'The Rectory – 17th Century'

This was the Tudor rectory, only part of which now stands on the

Old Rectory site. In records of 1610 it was stated that beside the parsonage house there were about 100 acres of glebe-land, upon on field of which, called the Grove, there was 'tenement'. This was hardly likely to have been 'The Grove' in Witham.

In the Parochial Inquisition of 1650, the Parsonage House, barns, stables and glebe with tenement were said to be with £62 (p.a.) which added to tithes of £150 per annum gave a total income of £212…worth a lot more in those days. We now have no glebe and no tithes; some of the closes of Forest Rd stands upon this old Rivenhall glebe.

The infamous Hearth Tax returns of 1662 show Rectory George Lisle with 7 hearths and Rector Richard Strutt in 1671 had 8…he had obviously unblocked or added one!

In August 1935 Silver End held there 8th Flower, Fruit and Vegetable show in the village hall, rear grounds and sports area. With a fun fair and merry-go-rounds to entertain.

The exhibits were displayed in the hall with up to 400 entries and a bit down from years before due to the very dry weather over the months. But the quality was at its best.

An outstanding entry was from Mr. A. W. Pegram with his 6 onions. They were artificially raise and was sown in the autumn of 1934. These weighed in at 9½lbs and one of his parsnips measured a yard from crown to tap root. Mrs. Bradhurst floral display measured 6ft x 2ft 6inches was very striking.

Many cups and awards were given out for different classes and the Best garden in Silver End competition was given to Mr. T. R. Mott by Lady Crittall for the second year running.

They were entertain in the hall during the afternoon by the Braintree Musical Club Orchestra conducted by Mr. Gilbert.

In the evening a Flannel Dance was held in the hall with Mr. R. C. Gordon as M.C. This dance was very popular in the 1930's

Car Park Restoration

Over the past 50 years the majority of the gravel car park at Henry Dixon Hall in Rivenhall End had slowly become covered in a layer of silt and grass. Normally this was not a problem but during periods of prolonged rain, some of the turf turned to mud which was not so pleasant.

Taking advantage of the Covid19 lockdown, the Trustees sought to have the car park renovated: the successful quotation came from local builder Phil Little. Over 18 /19 / 20 August the surface turf and accumulated soil was totally stripped down to its firm hard-core / hoggin base. A new layer of clean 20mm shingle (50 tonnes to be precise) was then spread across the whole area: what a difference this has made!

Did the three lorry loads of scrapings go to a tip? No! They were taken to a Coggeshall yard where the soil was screened, the old gravel was screened and those materials are re-used. The turf is composted. We have green credentials at Henry Dixon Hall.



Venturing out from "Lock Down"

As the Covid19 restrictions are eased and we cautiously emerge from the security of our homes whilst not wishing to alarm we do need to remember to secure our property once again. Whether we are just going to the shops, going out for the day or perhaps taking that well deserved break make sure your home is secure and it looks like you are still there.

Just a few tips to remind you:

- *Ensure that windows, doors, outbuildings and gates are closed and locked correctly, make sure all tools are put away too. Remember with PVCu and similar doors – when locking Lift the*

handle, turn and remove the key. If you have a night latch and a mortice lock ensure that you lock both not just the night latch.

- *No keys outside in hidey holes please, the thief will find them no matter how well you think they are hidden.*
- *Create the illusion of occupancy: A radio on, a chair that looks like you have just got up, book or magazine open with a pair of spectacles and a mug next to it, a vacuum cleaner with the lead trailing out of sight (not plugged in), the usual signs of habitation and don't leave it too tidy.*
- *Consider a doorbell that you can answer remotely on your smartphone. A lot of these you can add further CCTV cameras that you listen and speak through too.*
- Use automatic timer-switches to turn your lights on when it gets dark, *also consider a "Fake TV" unit discretely hidden from view.*
- *If you have an intruder alarm make sure that you set it before leaving and ensure that your neighbours know who the keyholders are.*
- *Keys to other cars; put them away and in a "faraday bag" if you have a keyless car.*

<u>If you are away for a longer period:</u>

- *Curtains open or curtains closed? – The worse thing is half open half closed, day or night the thief will know you are out. I go by the principle that some people do not close all curtains at night but most are open during the day especially in those "lived in" rooms. So as long as you have evidence visible that looks like you are in the house somewhere then it makes sense to leave them open.*
- *Cancel any newspaper or milk deliveries, delay ordering online purchases before you go away or have them delivered to friends or family that are at home to hold until you return.*
- *Use the Royal Mail's 'Keepsafe' service - they keep your mail for up to 2 months while you're away. Mail sitting on your doorstep is a sign that you are away.*
- *Trusted neighbours may be able to help you by collecting your post, opening and closing curtains and they could park their*

car on your driveway.

- *Avoid discussing holiday plans on public social networking sites, watch what you are posting including photographs (they may be date stamped) while you are away too or you may find you are giving useful information that the burglar or fraudster may use.*

Don't forget the car when you leave it unattended:

- Close the windows and lock it, verify it is looked by the sound, the flash of the lights or try the handle.
- Leave nothing on show, remember to the thief even the empty bag or jacket is inviting, they don't know what they may contain until your car has been damaged in the course of them breaking into your car.
- Choose a safe place to park, with lots of visibility over it, if you can look for a "Parkmark" accredited car park http:// www.parkmark.co.uk/car-park-finder .

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Radio Caroline

In the July magazine, Peter Hope posted a photograph of the Blackwater estuary with a large red moored vessel: I recognised this immediately. The boat is the Ross Revenge, the last of Radio Caroline's famous broadcasting ships.

Radio Caroline's first regular broadcasts began off the Essex coast near Frinton on Easter Saturday 28 March 1964. This was from the MV Fredericia which was re-names MV Caroline by station owner Ronan O' Rahilly (after US President Kennedy's daughter Caroline Kennedy). At my school, word of this station spread like wildfire and within days we were all tuning-in on our transistor radios. Until this time there was virtually no playing of pop music by the government-controlled BBC: only the wavering night-time signal of distant Radio Luxembourg gave a very limited, poor quality broadcast. The youth of Britain took immediate notice, and quickly some twenty other pirate radio stations joined them. There were some great names amongst these - Radio London, Radio City, and the classical music station Radio 390. The 60s Swinging London and the many Merseybeat influences would not have happened without these exciting, vibrant radio stations.

In November 1964, Radio Caroline and Radio Atlanta merged their operations: it was Radio Atlanta that broadcast from the better

known ship MV *Mi Amigo*. The old (and bigger) Caroline ship motored to Ramsey Bay, off the Isle of Man where it became Caroline North, broadcasting to Liverpool, Manchester, the north of England, much of Scotland, Wales and the Midlands: this Caroline ship broadcast as she sailed off to the Isle of Man. When back from school I used to listen to her daily: every hour or so, the DJs used to say what place they were passing as the ship's signal progressively weakened as she became more distant (a musical education on geography!) From then on it was the MV *Mi Amigo*, broadcasting from the Essex coast as Caroline South that was my musical inspiration. By 1966 Radio Caroline achieved an astonishing British audience of 24 million listeners as its two ships served most of the UK (and also all the near-continent).

In 1967 the British government introduced the Marine Broadcasting (Offences Act). This did not make pirate radio illegal but it severely hampered their ability to operate. All except Radio Caroline North & South closed down. By 1972 Radio Caroline only had one ship, MV *Mi* Amigo, still broadcasting off the Essex Coast but in a severe storm in 1980, that ship sank (all crew saved). There was a three-year gap before Radio Caroline re-appeared on the airways, now from a large converted deep sea trawler MV *Ross Revenge.* But "life on the ocean wave" is dangerous and unpredictable and in November 1991 the ship lost its anchor and drifted onto the Goodwin Sands, and the crew were valiantly rescued. The boat was first taken into Dover harbour and then later moved to Tilbury Port (where incidentally, I regularly saw it when going to the Tilbury Flood Barrier (which is inside the port). The crimson-coloured *Ross Revenge* was a curious sight with its incredibly high broadcasting mast, squeezed on all sides by large ocean going cargo vessels. Then one day when I visited the port, the *Ross* Revenge was no longer there! "Oh no" I thought, but great things were happening. The ship had sailed (with a new, shorter mast) to a mooring in the Blackwater estuary where it can now be seen AND HEARD!!

In 2017, fifty-three years after Radio Caroline had sought the right to broadcast freely to Britain and Europe, it was granted a British Government licence to do so. But times have moved on and we are in a new era of communication. Radio Caroline (now an album station) broadcasts on 648 KHz Medium Wave (AM), in many parts of the country (including Norwich and London) it can be heard on Digital Radio (DAB), and it is also available on your computer and

you can stream it to your smart-phone. So you can listen to the station's live broadcasts anywhere in the world!

Whilst most broadcasts are recorded on land and then Medium Wave/AM transmitted from masts at Orford Ness, the MV *Ross Revenge* still has studios and transmitters, and regular live broadcasts are often sent from there. One can take trips from West Mersea and visit the ship, see its studios, transmitters, and also its on-board museum about its time as a deep sea trawler (the last of its class still afloat).

The ship is a little piece of local floating history, well actually a huge piece, and it is still here for all of us. It inspired me in the early 1960s and it still has the power to inspire us all.

****

EATING IN THE UK IN THE FIFTIES

Pasta had not been invented

Curry was a surname

A takeaway was a mathematical problem

A Pizza was something to do with a leaning tower

All crisps were plain, salt in little blue bags.

A Chinese chippy was a foreign carpenter.

Rice was a milk pudding.

A Big Mac was something we wore when it rained.

Coffee was camp and came in a bottle.

Cooking outside was camping

Muesli was available, it was cattle feed.

Water came in a tap, if someone has suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it they would have been a laughing stock!

The one thing we never had on our tables was elbows.

I Wonder how these will Change after Covid? From Ann Clarke

Organisations in Rivenhall

Clerk to Parish Council	Keith Taylor	516975
Email parishclerk@rivenhallparishcouncil.net meets every first Tuesday		
Age Concern (Witham area)	Margaret Prime	514255
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	Pauline Marshall	01376 512836
Or email rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com		
Hire of Henry Dixon Hall	Tracy Scott	571551
Mobile Library 13 April 4 May	Beech Road 9.20 to 9.50. a.m.	
Oak Store Rivenhall "Open All Hour" Tel AJ 01376 619395		

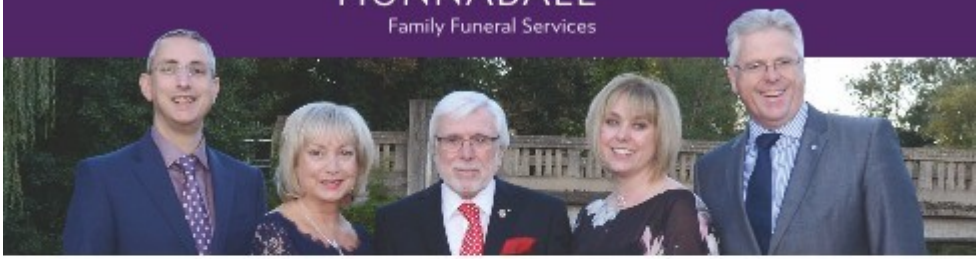
Organisations in Silver End

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	Denise Sullens Smith	07952 992782
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

Post Office in Co-op - please note that it closes at Lunchtime 1-2pm
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