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



Something many of us thought we would never see the Aurora Borealis in Rivenhall!. The top picture was taken by Rob Fossett from Foxmead across the field to the Railway line at Rivenhall End. The Second picture taken from the back garden of the Dakins in Rivenhall Village by Karen.



November 2024 50p

The following are our services For November 2024

3rd November	**All Saints Day**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	All Age Worship
4 pm St Mary's	All Souls Service
10th November	**Remembrance Sunday**
10.45 Silver End Village Hall	Remembrance Service
10.50 am St Mary's	10.50 at the War Memorial followed by a service of Remembrance in the church
-	
17th November	**2nd Sunday before Advent**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	Matins
24th November	**Christ the King**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion

Church Contacts

All Contact should be Via the Churchwardens

Parish Priest	Jane Quinton	01245 210930
Churchwarden	Denise Lane	07398 154289
Churchwarden	Marie Galley	07767 888198
	Email mariegalley8@gmail.com	
Rivenhall Contact Carole McCarthy	01376 512781	
Silver End Contact Denise Lane	07398 154289	
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 – *'Remembering'*

Amazingly it was 2 years ago, on November 1st 2022, that I was interviewed and successful for the post of Team Vicar in the Witham Villages – a day that saw me pop a bottle of Prosecco to celebrate! I don't know where the time has gone, but it will remain a lovely memory, that having been captured on Graham's phone we will always be able to look back upon.

Our memories can be a catalogue of both good and bad though.

And November particularly, has become a month for 'remembering'….. with an annual day of remembrance across the Commonwealth every November 11th, that originally marked and celebrated the end of World War 1 (on November 11th 1918). Though dubbed 'the war to end all wars', the people of this world have continued to fight each other ever since, with millions of lives being lost. Even as I write, wars rage in Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, Pakistan, Yemen, Ethiopia…. to name just a few. And so, sadly, we are constantly adding to the 'casualties of war' to be remembered.

'Lest we forget' are the familiar words associated with Remembrance Day. And I saw a tv report last month on 'The Longest Yarn', which is an amazing 80m 3d knitted/crocheted work depicting the Longest Day (D-Day) - each panel representing what happened on 6th June 1944, from men loading up in England to the fierce battles on the landing beaches in Normandy.

Because it *is* important that we don't forget. Or at least, to quote Roald Dahl, that we *'forget the mistake, but remember the lesson'…….*If only we would learn, and instead find ways to live well together.

So, remembering all those who have lost, and continue to lose their lives through war…… praying that we all

may learn to live in grace and humility with each other…… and thanking God that He, at least, is able to *'wipe away and forget our sins' (Isaiah 43:25).*

God bless

Rev Jane x

Prayer Hour - Sept — Nov.
St Francis Church Silver End
Every Monday

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……

Readings and Collects for November 2024

3rd November **All Saints Service**

All Age Worship

Readings

Isaiah 25: 6-9
Revelations 21:1-6a
John 11:32-44

Collect

God of holiness,
your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example
with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

10th November **Remembrance Sunday**

Remembrance Service

Readings

Jonah 3 1-5, 10
Hebrews 9: 24-end
Mark 1:14-20

Collect

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease

and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

17th November **2nd Sunday before Advent**

Matins Psalm 16

Readings

Daniel 12:1-3
Hebrews 10.11-14 (15-18) 19-25
Mark 13:1-8

Collect

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

24th November **Christ the King**

Holy Communion

Readings

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
Revelations 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

Collect

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

WITHAM AND VILLAGES MOTHERS' UNION

Monday 18th November from 10 30am. Annual Thanksgiving Service and Annual General Meeting in Chelmsford Cathedral. Please bring a packed lunch. Drinks willl be available.

Tursday 28 November 2pm in St Nicolas Church Hall there will be a talk by AGE WELL EAST. All members and friends

welcome.

All members and friends welcome - do come and join us. For more information about this and other Mothers' Union activities contact Lynette Abbott on 01376 512586 or Joan Barrett on 01376 514617.

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:**

Rivenhall Playing Fields Association are once again hoping to put on their annual

Santa's Grotto on Fri 6th and Sat 7th December.

We are sorry to share the news that this year sadly Santa won't be stopping at Rivenhall for our Grotto event. The RPFA were touched with so many offers of help but unfortunately being such a small committee and personal commitments and circumstances we just don't have the leaders to run and coordinate the event safely. We hope that at our AGM in January our small committee

may have new members join us and allow us to be back ready for Grotto 2025!
Once again please accept our apologies.
RPFA

rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com

Or Call 07738 705585

****

The 50/50 Club September 2024 winners

1st M Farrow 2nd K Dakin 3rd B Hagan

****

Rivenhall Millennium Committee - Christmas Events

In just a few weeks' time 2024 will suddenly be behind us, and we tumble headlong into 2025 … where did this year go!

The Rivenhall Millennium Committee will, as normal, be offering a little brightness and cheer to all our residents over the coming festive season.

Sat 14 December - We will erect our Rivenhall Christmas tree with its decorations and lights. About this time, Santa's helpers will be delivering a Christmas card to every home in the parish of Rivenhall.

Tue 17 December - At 7:30 pm we plan to hold our annual Christmas carols around the tree, accompanied by the Chelmsford Silver Band (about 40 mins). In the event of bad weather, we will assemble in Rivenhall Village Hall for the carols.

… and later that evening …

Tue 17 December - About 8:10 pm (following the carols) we hold our free village get-together in the Village hall with delicious pastries, fruit juice and mulled wine: on stage the Chelmsford Silver Band will be playing their delightful medleys of seasonal tunes. Of course, there will be our usual fabulous raffle with Carole leaving not a wallet or a purse un-turned!

NOTES OF RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1ST OCTOBER 2024 IN RIVENHALL VILLAGE HALL

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

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

Also Present: Clerk Mrs A Brown
Apologies: Cllr Abbott
Chairman's Report:

- There are two oak posts around the large village green that need replacing.
- There was flooding under the A12 flyover after some heavy rain during the week before this meeting, but Essex Highways or National Highways reacted very quickly to the situation and by 10am there were traffic lights and a gully clearing team working on site. This does not solve the long-term problem as the pumps regularly fail after heavy rain. Either the gullies need regular clearing or a new pumping system is required. Essex Highways appear to have fixed the flooding problem under the rail bridge, but we await the winter rains to further assess this.
- The two signs on the Oak Triangle have still not been reinstated, I do not believe there is any justifiable excuse or reason for this work not being completed as it is a high priority Health & Safety issue.
- The abandoned building materials in the playing field car park have been removed.
- It will be necessary to change the date of the December precept meeting as it clashes with the village carols around the Christmas tree.

District Councillor's Report:

- The Local Plan proposed sites will not be looked at by BDC until early 2025 with a 6 week consultation. The report will not go into government until 2026. Houses will be built 2027/28 into the 2030's.
- The BDC budget setting process begins soon and we will be watching for any changes to parish council support -

with Leader of the Council saying finances are very tight, it is possible there will be reduced spending, but as things stand we do not yet know to which services could be cut (we could lose our important street cleaning grant which funds parish litter picking).

Planning Matters:

- 24/01997/VAR Application for variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of planning permission
- 21/03390/HH approved 06/05/2022 for: Single-storey rear extension. Variation would allow a change from cladding to render. 15 Foxden, Rivenhall End, Witham, Essex CM8 3HN. The councillors had no comments to make regarding the application.

Review of Council Response to the BDC Local Plan review: Under last local plan Rivenhall took 100% more housing than what was already in the village. This

amounted to more than any other parishes.

There are two existing traffic pinch-points within the parish which cause long tail-backs of traffic accessing the A12 and trying to access Witham train station. The local school is expanding but only by one class. At the school parking restrictions have been placed on one side of the road so now cars are parking on other side of the road which block the road for passing traffic. There is no upgrade to the railway being put forward. The Chairman is to expand the draft report to include the local knowledge of Councillors and residents. All agreed.

Rivenhall PC Website: The Clerk is to request the website designer to reconfigure the website. The Councillors agreed one particular style to be taken into consideration when the new site is built.

War Memorial Garden: The size of the garden will be reduced, and six new roses will be planted, two at the rear and two on each side: spring bulbs will be purchased (for both the memorial garden and roadside verge planting). James Abbott has offered to do this, and the offer was accepted.

The Oak Rose Beds: Additional bark will be placed around the roses at these two beds, and spring bulbs will be planted. Darrin Hammond has offered to fund, supply and to do this: the offer was accepted.

Notice Boards: The sliding doors of the public notice board outside the village hall are now difficult to move and it was suggested the perspex be replaced with toughened glass. It was also suggested, due to space constrictions, that a designated official Rivenhall PC board is erected in Rivenhall End. Cllr Macrae will seek a recommendation from local contractor Phil Little on the village hall board. The purchase of future notice boards will be considered at the forthcoming precept meeting.

Dates of next Meetings:

Tue 05 November	7:00 pm Rivenhall Village Hall
Tue 03 December	7:00 pm Henry Dixon Hall

End to End Nature Care.

At our October indoor meeting we enjoyed a very interesting lecture by Julian Andrews, who was raised in Witham and attended Bramston School and has gone on to become a Professor at the University of East Anglia (and is also brother of group member Martin Andrews, who many readers will know of course). Julian spoke on the subject *'Our Changing Coastline – Sea Level Change and its effects on the East of England Coastline'* and it was not, as I'm sure some feared it might be, a diatribe about climate change. The focus was on the evidenced fact that, for whatever reason, average sea level is increasing. Global sea level has been accurately measured since the 1800s, for the most part using tidal gauges and, more recently, satellites. Plotting the data demonstrates quite clearly that average sea level is increasing and, indeed, the rate of increase has accelerated over the past 30 years or so.

Locally, an additional factor for consideration relates to the Ice Age. Referring to the 'Ice Age' in the singular is slightly misleading as it is a series of cold glacial spells, during which ice accumulates and glaciers spread south in the northern hemisphere, separated by 'interglacial' episodes when average temperatures were occasionally higher than they are at present, with the glaciers retreating as a consequence. Some would even suggest that the Earth is still within an overall 'Ice Age'. The relevant point, however, is that the huge weight of ice which accumulated to the north during the glaciations created a flex in the Earth's crust, lowering the northern crust slowly and slightly pushing it up to the south, on the part of the globe where East Anglia sits. As a result, the crust beneath our feet locally is slowly lowering as those glacial effects are corrected by gravity.

Julian went on to explain how, in some cases, a mere increase in local sea level need not be disastrous as the water often contains a large amount of suspended sediment which is deposited so as to actually better stabilise the coast. Overall, though, the pattern is erosion and he presented a detailed case study from North Norfolk where centuries of mapping have facilitated a detailed picture of the loss of marginal land and the ways in which it occurs. This was further illustrated by photographs taken during Julian's career which clearly show the scale of coastal retreat there. Finally he presented a model, admittedly a fairly basic one, illustrating how much of the east of England is likely to disappear under the sea in the coming centuries if sea level rise continues, and also produced further data suggesting the predictions are occurring much earlier than previously anticipated. It was a fascinating evening and Julian's subject prompted some enthusiastic debate, which was great to witness.

This month should be less controversial although the subject, '**Madagascar'**, is an island which, as in so many cases, is seeing its unique biodiversity come under enormous and increasing threat. Group member **Michelle Cush** visited there earlier this year and will be telling us all about it on **Wednesday 20th November at 8pm in Silver End Congregational Church** on Silver Street CM8 3QF. As usual, all we ask is a £2 donation to attend and all are very welcome indeed. The rest of the winter activities are listed below and will be at the Congregational Church unless otherwise stated.

Wednesday 20th Nov 2024	"Madagascar": Michelle Cush recounts her recent visit to the large and very biodiverse island some 250 miles off the eastern coast of Africa.
Wednesday 11th Dec 2024	Winter Social at Fiddlesticks, 44 Strawberry Lane, Tolleshunt Knights CO5 0RX. 7:30pm for 8pm. All very welcome. Bring nibbles and/ or drink if you can.
Wednesday 15th Jan 2025	"Science & Nature" quiz night with quizmaster Andrew Moss.
Wednesday 19th Feb 2025	"Owls & Birds of Prey" a talk by Stephanie Callister-Jarrold, who operates the Essex & Suffolk Owl & Bird of Prey Rescue Centre.
Wednesday 19th Mar 2025	"Shetland and Scilly": An illustrated talk by Julia Todd describing her recent travels to opposite ends of the British Isles.

The Death of Dennis Clarke

Remembered by Jackie Allan from Foxmead.

DENNIS CLARK



One of the original residents of Foxmead died Sat 20 October.. Dennis Clark was 95 and had been suffering from Parkinson's disease. His wife Pat is now in a care home. They had both contributed significantly to our community. Dennis had served on Rivenhall Parish Council, was the village Tree Warden and until a year ago was a Trustee of Henry Dixon Hall.

Dennis and Pat met through their shared interest in cycling and had even cycled to Paris together. Some years overseas in Kenya and Nigeria followed where Dennis worked as an engineer before returning to Marconi in Chelmsford. When they bought the corner bungalow at 7 Foxmead there was no Henry Dixon Road and the stream was at the bottom of their garden. Here they raised their family of three sons and Pat created a beautiful garden.

Pat taught at schools in Africa before their return to Essex. She was a highly respected head teacher and after retirement also helped at Rivenhall village school. Pat was variously chairman and president of Rivenhall gardening club and Feering flower club. For many years her beautiful flower arrangements could be seen in Rivenhall church and she regularly won both the flowers and the baking sections of the monthly gardening club competitions.

We will miss them both.

A Tribute to Dennis from your Editor Peter Hope

It is with great sadness that this month I have to report the death of someone who was a long time member of our Church and Community and who in my early days of editing the Rivenhall Parish Magazine was a regular contributor with the nom de plume "Tree Hugger" Dennis was also my neighbour at 8 Henry Dixon road (although his house was in Foxmead) and a regular recipient

of footballs kicked in error by my son David that landed in his (and Pats) very tidy garden some times near their greenhouse!

I myself knew of Dennis well before I had any involvement with St Mary's Church Rivenhall and Rivenhall End.

When I joined Marconi in 1973 I started working in the Marconi Installation department under Jeff Briggs, who regaled me with tales of our Engineer in Kano Nigeria one Dennis Clarke and although I don't think I ever got to meet him at this time his name lived long in my memory so that when I came to Rivenhall I felt I already knew him.

Below is a small selection of Jokes and gardening tips from "Tree Hugger"

Remember the following were written in 2013

How to tell the sex of a Fly

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" she asked.

"Hunting flies." he replied.

"Oh, killing many?""she asked.

Yes, 3 males and 2 females." he replied.

Intrigued, she asked,

"How can you tell them apart? "

He responded,

3 were on a beer can, and 2 were on the phone.

Stop Press.

To help save the economy, the Government will announce next month that the Immigration Department will start deporting senior citizens, (instead of illegals.) in order to lower Social Security and NHS costs.

Older people are easier to catch and will not remember their way home!

The Value of Olds Age

Remember - old folks are worth a fortune - with silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys and gas in their stomachs.

I have become a little older since I saw you last and changes have come into my life. I am quite a frivolous old girl!!! I am seeing five gentlemen each day.

As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me out of bed, then I go to see John. Next, it's time for Mr Quaker who gives me my oats. They leave and Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day I am ready for bed with Johnnie Walker.

The Rose

The rose is England's national flower. There are fourteen species to be found in the UK, but the one we are most likely to know is the Dog Rose, Rosa canina. The Dog Rose has a single flower with white to pink petals, and the fruit, the hip, is red and flask shaped. The remains of these hips have been found in pre-historic dwelling sites, which suggests that these plants have long been used by man. In fact as recently as the second world war children in country schools were asked to collect rose hips, which were made in to a syrup, rich in vitamin C, which was given to babies and young children as oranges were unavailable during the war. The roots of wild roses are cultivated and used in the commercial production of hybrid roses. The buds of hybrids are grafted onto the wild rose root stock, thus speeding up production.

I have been successful in rooting hardwood cuttings of modern varieties. In October I cut a 12inch hardwood stem, about as thick as (my) index finger, and push 8 ins of it into the soil. The following Spring (with a bit of luck) there will be signs of new growth. I leave it for 2 years and by then it should have a good root system. New varieties of roses are protected by plant breeders rights. They

must not be sold! Gardeners learn to be patient, you cannot hurry nature.

Signing off Treehugger

Funeral of Dennis Clarke

Note Dennis's funeral (and burial) will be at Rivenhall Church starting at 11:00 am on Tuesday 12 November (2024).



Rivenhall Millenium Committee
(Contd)

Sun 22 December - We plan to guide Santa around the village in his sleigh: Santa will leave Rivenhall Hall about 3:30 pm. Santa's helpers will deliver a gift to all homes with a resident of 70 years or over, and sweets to all the children who come out to see Santa. If you are unable to be outside, please do give Santa a wave from your window as he would love to see you (we usually arrive in Rivenhall End about 7:00pm). If the weather is very wet, we will need to either bring this back one day to Saturday 21st, or forward one day to Monday 23 December. [Santa's Route is:- Rivenhall Hall Farm - Church Road - St Mary's Road - Tusser Close - St Mary's Road - Beech Road - Rickstones Road - Bluebells - Rickstones Road - Oak Road - Hoo Hall - Oak Road - Browns Row - Foxmead - Foxden - Henry Dixon Road - Henry Dixon Hall].

The Rivenhall Millennium Committee wishes all residents a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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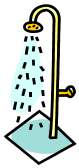






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- ⊙ Sale Table
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TUESDAY PRAISE
For November 2024
at Witham URC

Tuesday	Preacher
5th Nov	Jonathan Pritchard
12th Nov	Femi Cole-Njie
19th Nov	Lorna Bantock
26th Nov	Marina Price

EVERYBODY WELCOME

Refreshments available afterwards

RIVENHALL GARDENING CLUB

Club members met in Rivenhall Village Hall on Tuesday 8th October 2024, for their Annual General Meeting. Chairman Maurice Bacon and Treasurer Tracy Scott gave their reports for 2023/2024. It was quite a difficult year for the Daffodil Show in April but our Summer Flower Show and Autumn Show were well attended and enjoyed by all. Our visit to Blunts Hall Garden in Vv'itham (part of the National Garden Scheme) was a delight and everyone enjoyed a lovely afternoon which finished with a cream tea. Our speakers have talked on a variety of diverse subjects and have been well received. Our Committee remains the same as last year. Chairman — Maurice Bacon. Treasurer — Tracy Scott. Secretary — Carole McCarthy. Other members — Elizabeth Acharyya. Jenny Turner. Vivienne Dee.

After the business of the evening was concluded refreshments were served and the raffle drawn. CLUB

COMPETITION RESULTS:

Horticultural:

1st Maurice Bacon 2nd Darcy Spenner 3rd Frank Ramsden

Domestic:

1st Jenny Claydon 2nd Frank Ramsden 3rd Clare Ramsden

Flower of the Month:

1st Maurice Bacon2nd Darcy Spenner 3rd Clare Ramsden

Photo of the Month:

1st Clare Ramsden 2nd Darcy Spenner 3rd Jenny Turner

Winner of the HEVIEST PUMPKIN @ 21lbs

Maurice Bacon

The Club's next meeting will be on **Tuesday 12th November, 7.30pm** in Rivenhall Village Hall when our speaker will be Roger (lance who will talk about 'Wild Flowers and those that are poisonous!'. Those of you who know Mr. Hance will know that his photographs are

of exceptional quality. Entrance is E3 to include refreshment. We have a raffle, a Bring and Buy sale table and a hook table. Club Competitions are: Horticultural - any vegetable. Domestic - 3 slices of shortbread. Flower of the Month. Photograph of the Month (the natural world). We are a small but friendly Club and welcome new members and visitors to our evening meetings. For further information about the Club contact the Club Secretary on 01376 512781. We look forward to seeing you

Turning the pages of History

Research by Tracy Scott

This month we are going back to look at the Rivenhall Review's as part of my remembrance for this month, not only to our men and women fighting for our freedom, but whose on our own island who lost their lives as well.

In the Rivenhall Review 1967 an article titled Zeppelin over Witham reads: Headlines similar to the above no doubt appeared in the local papers in September 1916 and we wonder whether some of our older readers can remember the occasion and if any of them actually saw the Zeppelin? The story goes that, early in the morning of Sunday 24th September 1916, the Zeppelin L33 (one of the latest of the German Naval airship service) attempted to reach London and was badly damaged by gunfire and attached by the Royal Flying Corps.

With one propeller out of action and her gas-bags leaking she was gradually losing height as she passed over Chelmsford, Witham, Maldon, Tiptree and Tolleshunt Major, and headed out to sea over West Mersea. When the ship was almost down and out of control, the German Commander decided to turn back over land. By this time the ship was getting lower and lower and heading straight for New Hall Farm, Little Wigborough, near West Mersea, where it narrowly missed two cottages and finally crashed landed on the farm land and caught fire.

Commander Böcker and his crew climbed out of the wreck uninjured. They were assembled and marched off towards Pel-

don Road where they were promptly intercepted by Special Constable Edgar Nicholas and shortly after arrested by Sergeant Edwards, and escorted to the Post Office at Peldon, where they were held as prisoners of war and eventually handed over to the Military Police and taken to Colchester.

The incident caused tremendous stir and excitement at the time and a fragment of the Zeppelin can still be seen in the small church of St. Nicholas at the end of the lane quite near the spot where the ship crashed.

They then put in the article: should our older readers see the Zeppelin during that day, they would be pleased to hear from them:

In the next Rivenhall Review the article tittle reads: One story invariably leads to another and our report of the German Zeppelin in our last issue was no exception. Several of our older readers remembered seeing the Zeppelin, some have photographs of the wrecked air-ship and others have fragments as souvenirs. And there were those who recalled having a trip in a horse-drawn wagon to see the wreck. But one of the most interesting stories resulting from our account of the crashed Zeppelin comes from Mr & Mrs Matthams of Rickstones Road.

They had a very good cause to recall the occasion because the uproar caused by the Zeppelin coming over disturbed their Wedding Night! As it was, their wedding and honeymoon arrangements had already been upset as a result of a previous incident and, having finally managed to tie the knot, one can readily appreciate that they were not all pleased with the 'Hun' on the night in question.

A few weeks prior to the Zeppelin coming over, Mr & Mrs Matthams to be, had gone to see the Rev. Picton at Chipping Hill to arrange their wedding and were met by tragedy. It appears that an Army Officer, who was friendly with the Rector's daughter, had called at the Rectory that evening and while talking with the Rector, he produced a live hand-grenade and fingered the safety pin. Finally the grenade

exploded, killing the Rector and seriously injuring his daughter.

Mr. Matthams tells us two Zeppelins came over that night and that the other one crashed near Billericay. He also recalls that soon after sending the Zeppelins over, the Germans attempted an air-raid on London. About fifty planes were involved, many of which were shot down by anti-aircraft guns and by our fighters. The German planes got nowhere near London and the raid was completely unsuccessful.





Zeppelin shot down near Colchester; even with its back broken, towers above a nearby farmhouse.

Extra Notes: The Commanders name is Kapiton Alois Böcker and the Zeppelin was on its first mission and did bomb London and causing many civilian deaths before it was hit by one of our aircraft. When the Zeppelin crashed landed between 1am – 2am it was not alight. Böcker first went to the doors of the cottages knocking to warn them he was going to set light to the airship, but no one would open the doors. He set alight the L33, then he and his men marched down the lane.

This is part of the Essex Police Report: Special Constable Edgar Nichols was surprise to see a body of men marching along the lane that time of the morning. He dismounted and flashlight in hand asked 'Böcker' whether he had seen a Zeppelin

crash: Böcker in perfect English asked him "how many miles it was to Colchester?" Nicolas replied "About six". He was thanked by Böcker (in Nicolas report he stated he had 'at once recognised a foreign accent').

A Visit to Castle Acre (part 2)

The Priory

By Peter Hope

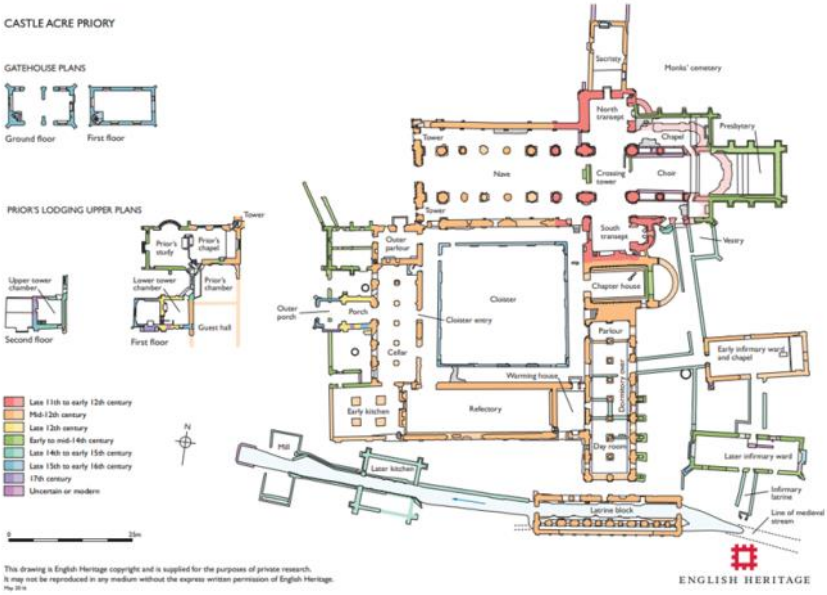
In last month's magazine I told you about my visit to Castle Acre at the end of September. If you want to learn more about the time before and just after the Norman Conquest a book by Ken Follett called "The Evening and the Morning" which although a work of fiction weaves a brilliant story around the history of the end of the Dark Ages.

Castle Acre Priory was a Cluniac priory in the village of Castle Acre, Norfolk, England, dedicated to St Mary, St Peter, and St Paul. It is thought to have been founded in 1089 by William de Warenne, 2nd Earl of Surrey (the son of the 1st Earl of Surrey who had founded England's first Cluniac priory at Lewes in 1077). The order originated from Burgundy. Originally the priory was sited within the walls of Castle Acre Castle, but this proved too small and inconvenient for the monks; hence, the priory was relocated to the present site in the castle grounds about one year later.

The priory was dissolved in 1537, and its ruins are in the care of English Heritage, along with the nearby Castle Acre Bailey Gate and Castle Acre Castle.

The church itself was consecrated sometime between 1146 and 1148. While the Warenne family may have been the main benefactors of the priory, others also gave generously to it, for example Scolland of Bedale, steward of Alan Earl of Richmond, who was in fact buried there. Like other Cluniac houses, Castle Acre Priory was directly subject to the authority of the Abbot of Cluny; for practical reasons, however, the Prior of Lewes was usually instructed to act for the abbot when any problems arose at Castle Acre. However, this obedience owed to a foreign abbot caused difficulties when the kings of England were at odds with France and/or Burgundy. In the mid 14th century the English Cluniacs settled this difficulty by buying a special legal recognition from the king as 'native' religious houses. The priory was home to some 20 to 30 monks.

An interesting feature of the Abbey was a large indoor toilet with running water. (Well a diverted stream running underneath)



Above is a plan of the Abbey as it would have been at its peak in the 1300's AD





The Above picture was taken in the Prior's study on the first floor of the Priors lodgings (see diagram above), this is the roofed building next to the main (South Entrance) to the Nave.

In the later Middle Ages, the priory continued to attract benefactors, including gifts from the second earl's descendants – the last endowment was made by the sixth earl in 1315. Much of the monks' expenditure went on building – particularly in the 12th century – as well as almsgiving, hospitality, and maintaining up to 36 monks and a large number of servants.

From the 13th century we have occasional glimpses of the priory's internal affairs from the 'visitations' of officials, usually the priors of other Cluniac monasteries. In 1265, for example, the 32 monks were rebuked for 'the habit of journeying and riding about the country, eating and drinking indifferently in the houses of laymen and secular persons'. In 1283, trouble erupted when the Earl of Surrey and the prior of Lewes proposed rival candidates as prior of Castle Acre. The earl sent soldiers to intimidate his opponents, and only relented when the abbot of Cluny himself intervened.

Like other 'alien priories' in England – those that depended on Cluny or other French monasteries – Castle Acre suffered from restrictions and punitive taxation during the wars with France in the late 13th and 14th centuries, even though the monks themselves were mostly English. Eventually it secured 'English' status in 1325. Boosted by this, the monks made many improvements to the buildings in the later 14th century. It was at this time that the eastern end of the church was rebuilt and extended. In the early 16th century the prior's lodging was much enlarged and beautified, and the fine gatehouse was built.

Christmas in Rivenhall 2024

CAROLS

at St Mary's Church Rivenhall

Led by Rev. Jane

Our Carol Service will be held at St Mary's Church Rivenhall on
Sunday 8th of December at 4 pm
come and get in the mood for Christmas!!
Sunday 15th December 4 pm St Mary's Quite Service "Time to Remember"

****

Carols on the Green

Tue 17th December ... 7:30 pm - Carols on the green with the Chelmsford Silver Band (NOTE: to be held in the Village Hall if inclement weather), followed by:-

Tue 17th December ... Approx 8:15 pm - Free village get-together in the Village Hall with seasonal tunes from the Chelmsford Silver Band. Free mince pies, sausage rolls, mulled wine and fruit juice, plus a wonderful raffle.

****

24th of December Crib Services

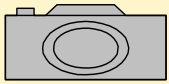
3 pm St Francis Silver End

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25th December Christmas Day

11.00 am St Mary's Communion Service led by Dr. Rev. J Pritchard

Parish of Rivenhall and Silver End



Landscape Photographic Competition Entry Fee Adults £2 Under 16's £1

Theme: All Creature's Great and Small (through the seasons)



Closing Date for entries Sunday 21st September 2025



Venue for exhibtion St Marys Church Rivenhall

Saturday 27th September 2pm-4pm

Entry forms and terms and conditions can be obtained from St Marys Church Rivenhall or St Francis Church Silver End before during or after church services (times on website), Rivenhall School and Silver Steps Daycare Silver End



*A CALENDAR FROM ENTRIES WILL THEN BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE *

Yoga Moments

Hatha Yoga class

Via Zoom or in person

- MONDAY 9.30am Witham Methodist Church
- MONDAY 7pm Witham Methodist Church
- WEDNESDAY 10.30am Kelvedon Institute (small hall)
- WEDNESDAY 7pm Rivenhall Village Hall

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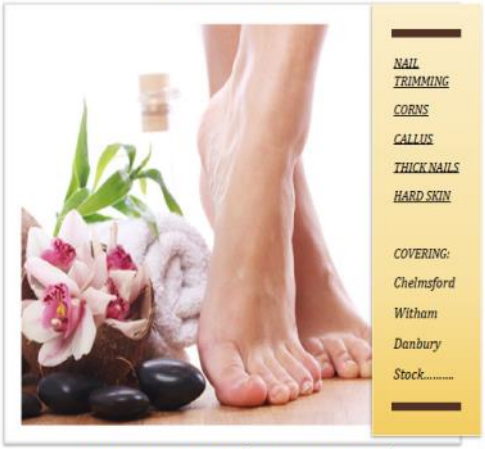
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Or Ann Riddleston Tel 01376 515400

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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

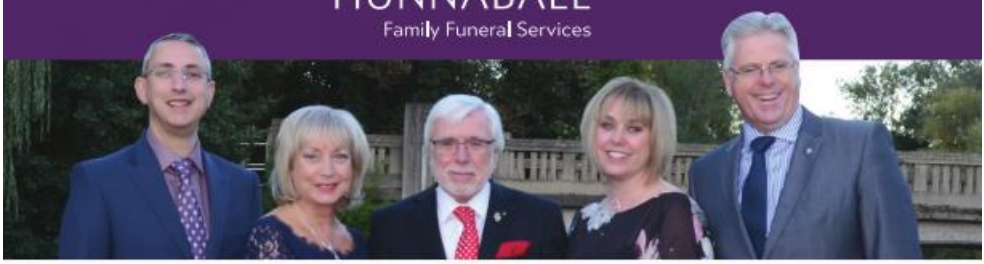
Hire of Village Hall	email rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com	
Hire of Henry Dixon Hall	Tracy Scott	571551
Oak Store Rivenhall "Open All Hour" Tel AJ		01376 538838

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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