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



The Burns Supper at Silver End Village Hall was a great success this year and a big thank you goes to Jackie Allan for organising the event and to all the team who supported her and work tirelessly to make this event such a fun occasion.

March 2026 50p

The following are our services For March 2026

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1st March 2026	**2nd Sunday of Lent**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	Matins
8th March	**3rd Sunday of Lent**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
15th March	**Mothering Sunday**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Mothering Sunday Special Service
22nd March	**5th Sunday of Lent**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
29th March	**Palm Sunday**

11 am St Francis Benefice Service at St Francis Silver End

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' – *'Catching the love' even in the cold!*



The month of March may well mark the beginning of Spring, but as I write, it has already been lovely to see signs of new life popping up from the ground, in the form of snowdrops, crocuses, aconites and daffodils. Something to definitely bring a smile to the face J

However it is not these first signs of spring that I want to focus on this month, but something else that has brought a smile to my face – the winter Olympics.

During the many grey, wet, windy days we have been experiencing here, to see the blue sky and snowy mountain views of Cortina in Italy has been a tonic. Plus of course, it has been so exciting! I challenge anyone who wasn't cheering from their armchair as Matt Weston completed his run in the Skeleton Team event with Tabitha Stoecker, to win another gold medal!

It is more than the scenery and those gold medals though, that has warmed my soul. It has been the approach and attitude of the competitors. I don't think I've ever seen such fellowship between sportsmen and women. Or so many heart-shaped signs being displayed to the camera!

Admittedly, a few of the sports seem more tense and competitive than others, including the ice hockey –

where fights have erupted between the players during many a game! But in the lesser known sports - particularly snowboarding – there seems a joy within these athletes that trumps everything else. Competitors seemingly far more relaxed, with a desire to just enjoy themselves. And, to be there for their fellow athletes, with genuine care - be it congratulatory or commiseratory - knowing how much hard work, sacrifice and determination is needed to become an Olympian, with some suffering awful injuries in that quest.

Listening to the competitors and commentators it seems there is a very special atmosphere within the Olympic village….. Maybe it is because the Olympic games is not driven by money……but just a desire to do the best they can, knowing that everyone else is only trying to do that too.

Whatever it is, may such a community that emanates warmth, joy, unity and

love, be and inspiration to us all!

God bless

Rev Jane x

‘ ‘PRAYER HOUR’ 2026

First Monday of every month (except 2nd March)

March/April	Fairstead
May/June	Faulkbourne
July-Sep	Terling
Oct-Dec	Silver End

Readings and Collects for March 2026

1st March 2026 2nd Sunday of Lent

All Age Worship

Readings

Genesis 12:1-4a
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

8th March 3rd Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

Readings

Exodus 17:1-7
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

Collect

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

15th March Mothering Sunday

Special Mothering Sunday Service

Readings

Exodus 2:1-10
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:33-35

Collect

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

22nd March 5th Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

Readings

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Romans 8: 6-11
John 11: 1-45

Collect

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

29th March Palm Sunday

Holy Communion

Readings

Liturgy of the Palms:
Mathew 21:1-11
Liturgy of the Passion:
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Philippians 2:5-11
Mathew 27:11-54

Collect

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.

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The 50/50 Club February 2026 winners

1st J Hawkins 2nd M Selby 3rd H Carrick

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Dates for your diary!

March - May

St Mary+All Saints Church, Rivenhall and St Francis Church, Silver End

MARCH

15th@ 11am	Mothering Sunday All-age service St Mary+All Saints
18th@ 12.30pm	Lent Lunch St Francis
30th @ 11am	Palm Sunday service St Francis

APRIL

5th @ 11am	Easter Sunday service St Mary+All Saints
15th @ 1pm	Book Club St Mary+All Saints
25th @10.30am	Coffee morning St Francis

MAY

10th @3pm	Pet Service St Francis
14th @ 7.30pm	Ascension Service St Mary+All Saints
20th @1pm	Book Club St Mary+All Saints
23rd @10.30am	Coffee morning St Francis23rd
@ 8pm	Pentecost Bonfire Service St Mary+All Saints

WITHAM AND VILLAGES MOTHERS' UNION

FRIDAY 6th March 2026 l.30

World Day of Prayer

At the Evangelical Church in Guithavon Valley Witham

This is open to all denominations and organised by an inter church group

THURSDAY 26 March 2026

2pm at St Nicolas Church Witham

A talk by Ashley Thompson Organist and Musical Director

All MU MEMBERS AND FRIENDES WELCOME

For more information contact

Lynette Abbott 01376 512586

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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;

Carpet Bowls Thursday evenings.

Saturday afternoons - 7th Day Adventist Church

Coffee mornings have now returned on Fridays:
good fun for all with bingo sessions, raffle and cake etc etc

run by our volunteers Frank and Clare. 9 to 12 noon

Bingo sessions Saturday Night run by Jack Prime…

If **you are interested in hiring the hall or joining any of the above groups, please contact the bookings secretary for further details email: rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com Or Call 07738 705585**

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Payment for the End-to-End Magazine and any other Payments such as the 50 / 50 club

If you would like to pay for your Church magazine via BACS, here are the details:

Rivenhall and Silver End Parochial Church Council

Sort Code 20-97-40 a/c No. 90753866.

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NOTES OF RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3RD FEBRUARY 2026 IN RIVENHALL VILLAGE HALL

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

Present: Cllrs Turner (Chairman), Cairns, Macrae, Abbott & Prime. Also present was our clerk Amanda Brown. Apologies were received from ECC Cllr Ross Playle and Cllrs Wright and Hammond.

Chairman's Report: On 22nd January the Chairman joined PC Drapper and a Police Officer from the traffic section to carry out a speed and lorry check in Oak Road. It was raining very heavily, but two motorists were issued with speeding tickets. On this occasion, no lorries over 7.5 tons passed by. The task was then abandoned because of rain, but a future date will be agreed..

Remembrance Day Road Closure: The Chairman's has offered Rivenhall PCC the use of his sound system for Remembrance services, and they accepted this.

The Chairman attended the recent BALC meeting where many parishes are concerned about the new local plan currently being drafted and the allocation of Kings Dene. Most parishes expressed great concern over potholes, and were astonished that Essex Highways were given top marks for highway maintenance in England.

At the Chairman's request, Bellway's Phase 4 Site Manager, as a gesture of good-will, has agreed to get his contractors to install our new notice board (provided by National Highways) in the Bluebells estate.

BDC Councillor's Report:

The new kerbside waste and recycling system in Braintree District will begin to operate in June this year, with new wheelie bins starting to be delivered this month. In May, a BDC letter and recycling calendar will be sent to residents.

The BDC Draft Local Plan was signed off for a six-week public consultation starting in mid-February. Residents are encouraged to send their comments.

Whilst urging that Kings Dene not be allocated, or that it be reduced in size from 5,600 houses, if it goes ahead, BDC have agreed there will be a generous green buffer between Rivenhall and the development.

The Government is expected to make an announcement in March about what model of unitary authorities in Essex there will be, with elections to those in May 2027.

Essex County Council has allowed more changes at the incinerator site. The plant will now be able to emit a 'visible plume' until at least December 2026.

The draft BDC budget for 2026/7 included an increase in funds available to district councillors to make grants to local groups, now to be £1,500 per councillor.

Planning:

ESS/28/25/BTE and ESS/31/25/BTE - (Indaver site) glasshouses at the airfield. We have great concerns about public Rights-of-Way being lost, which despite being just outside our parish, give Rivenhall residents safe country walking routes to Bradwell, Coggeshall and beyond. We also have concerns about additional vehicle movements which will affect our parish, visual amenity, planning creep, and industrialisation of the airfield (which was, after the original planning applications, to have been returned to countryside and woodland following mineral extraction). Cllr Abbott will draft a letter for circulation before our Clerk sends our objection.

29 St Mary's Road: It has been noticed that this development is not following the usual standards for a development. Planning

permission was given for an extension. But there are now two lots of footings, one for the extension and another for an outbuilding. Councillors are concerned that this will result in overdevelopment of the site. Our District Councillors have been asked to take this issue to planning enforcement.

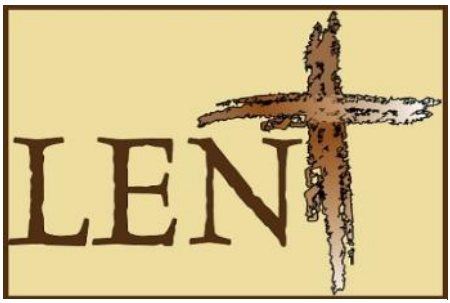
Water Hydrant Marker Damage: Our Clerk will write to Essex & Suffolk Water seeking its urgent replacement.

Damage to Benches in the Village: The Clerk contacted BDC regarding their damaged bench on the village green: they have now been removed this and they will not install a replacement. Our insurance company wanted more information regarding the damaged Albert Moss bench outside the Village Hall, although there seems to be no problem with making a claim.

Dates of next Meetings:

Tue 03 March	7:00 pm Henry Dixon Hall
Tue 07 April	7:00 pm Rivenhall Village Hall

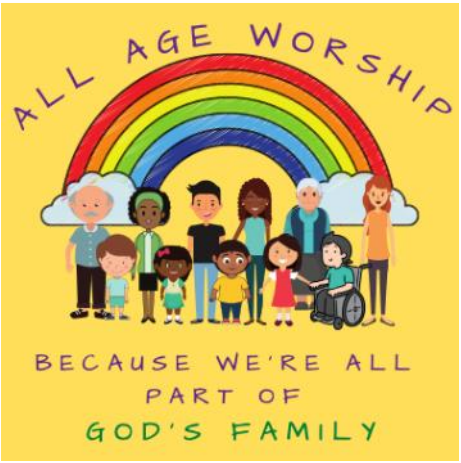
'**WOMEN OF HOLY WEEK'**



This year's Lent course will be looking at and reflecting on some of the different women who feature in Jesus's journey to the cross.

All welcome to join Rev Jane
at The Rectory, New Road, Terling, CM3 2PN
Mondays at 7.30pm,
February 23rd, March 9th, 16th, 23rd

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NEW ALL-AGE SERVICE

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All welcome Jane

3rd Sunday of the month, 11am,

End to End Nature Care.

We have our final indoor meeting of the winter season this month, but it should be well worth the wait. Liz Cutting has been carving out quite a reputation in recent years as a photographer specialising in natural history subjects. Having commenced her serious interest in the hobby by working on landscapes she quickly graduated to wildlife, following the well-trodden pattern of initially being fascinated by birds and then diversifying into other fauna. This was helped by working part-time for the RSPB for several years after retiring from full-time work in 2003. She has won several awards for her photographs and been widely and diversely published, from scientific books to Christmas cards.

Liz's pursuit of natural subject matter has taken her to many places overseas, from Japan to Ethiopia to the Falkland Islands, but she strongly maintains her local interest and that provides the subject matter of her forthcoming talk entitled "Wildlife Along The Stour". She will be showing and discussing many slides of her images of the wide variety of life which can be found on the river which forms much of the boundary between Essex and Suffolk. I have seen her give this presentation before and it is well worth a watch, particularly if you have any interest in wildlife photography

as Liz is very happy to give expert hints and tips as to how she managed to capture the images she will display. The meeting is at 8pm on Wednesday 18th March at the Silver End Congregational Church on the corner of Silver Street and Francis Way, postcode CM8 3QF. All are welcome of course, all we ask is a donation of £2 per person to cover costs, which includes refreshments during the break.

Following that evening we will be commencing our weekly outdoor meetings towards the end of April. Since the turn of the millennium we have started with a cowslip count near Tarecroft Wood and traditionally we began on the last Wednesday in April. In some years, however, this was beginning to feel too late as many of the flower stems would have already gone over so, perhaps as a demonstration of the symptoms of climate change, in recent times we have tended to meet on the penultimate Wednesday in April, particularly if the last Wednesday falls towards the end of the month. This year we are tentatively aiming for the last Wednesday, for no better reason than that I cannot make the penultimate one, but if we have an early spring then this may have to change so if you are planning on coming then do keep an eye on our website www.e2e.silverend.org or our Facebook group 'End to End Nature Care' (please do also feel free to post comments and local photographs there), or feel free to contact me via email ukseashells44@gmail.com or on 07947 388180.

These and further forthcoming activities are listed below. (Next page)

Simon

From the Editor

I would just like to add that a talk attended by around 20 people was held at St Francis Church on the 19th of February by Simon Taylor on Public Right of Way. Simon, Essex Highways' PRoW Enforcement & Liaison Officer, *(I had to look that up Ed*.) in looking up his role I came across the following link which may be of interest to our readers:-

<https://www.essexhighways.org/getting-around/public-rights-of-way/prow-interactive-map > a big thankyou from all those who attended what was a very interesting talk that engendered a very lively and instructive debate.

P Hope Editor

18 March	20:00	**Wildlife Along The Stour:** A talk by Liz Cutting, renowned wildlife photographer, illustrated with a selection of her own excellent photographs.
29 April	19:00	**Cowslip Survey**. Meet in the parking area at the bottom of the track to Tarecroft Wood (TL824171)
06 May	19:00	**Spring visit to Silver End Pits.** Meet at the Western Arms (though it may be necessary to park elsewhere).
13 May	18:30 for 19:00	**Shut Heath Wood, Great Totham.** Meet at Stovern's Hall Farm (CM8 3HQ or TL825172) at 18:30 to car share or at 19:00 at the wood car park off Tiptree Road (CM8 3ED or TL853133).
20 May	18:30 for 19:00	**Birding at Abberton Reservoir, particularly for Nightingales.** Meet at 18:30 at Stovern's Hall Farm to car share or at 19:00 on the Layer de la Haye Causeway (the one by the Wildlife Trust Centre CO2 0EU or TL962175).

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March	
3rd	Jonathan Pritchard
10th	Howard Scnaar
17th	Lorna Bantock
24th	Marina
31st	Jane Quinton

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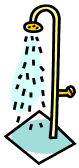
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Don't Delay Call Today

Turning the pages of History
Research by Tracy Scott

This month we are going back 60 years to March 1966 to look at the Rivenhall Review and at this time it had joint Editors: Mr Coleman & Mr Leverett so I am not sure which one composed the Letter from the Editorial, but it would seem thou 60 years have travelled by not much has changed!

Until 1971?

Yet again we are called upon to vote in a General Election and this will be the third time in seven years. In spite of the grumbles one sometimes hears about having to register one's vote, it is still well worth the trouble to do so.

Although some may disagree (generally those who have never been away from our shores) this county is still second to none where freedom of the individual is concerned. This is what most of us prize above all else and it is our votes which ensure the large measure of freedom we enjoy as individuals.

Even so, we have had our share of General Elections in recent years. May we hope that after 31st March we shall not see another one until 1971?

Then the Mud, Now the Dust?

In our last issue we drew attention to the 'mud on the roads' nuisance where building operations are going on in the locality. Now come another menace. With the onset of drier and warmer weather stand by for the next public nuisance – dust!

Have you noticed?

The bus service having been drastically curtailed since the end of last year has meant more and more people turning out their sheds and pressing into service that old bike at the back which has been lying unused for so long. At least, this is our impression now that cycling weather has arrived. We are still hopeful that we shall soon see someone pedal through the village on his penny farthing!

During this time our village was a very different place with many children and young people living within its boundaries. The Youth Club was popular and on 4th March were invited to a social evening at the Alec Hunter Youth Centre, Braintree. There were some 350 youths present and saw the judging of a contest to choose a 'Miss Alec Hunter'. Three Rivenhall members entered and although the winner was not amongst them all three girls were congratulated by

the judges.

Were you one of those girls? Would be great to hear and who won?

Rivenhall Football Club had a month's rest and returned on the 6th March to winning form at Rickstones Road by beating the Internationale 11 by 5 goals to 2. The opposing team were 2 up in the first ten minutes, the goals coming from L. Penn and J. Moods. Then our lads started to fight back and were leading 3 – 2 by half-time.

The second half found both sides playing on the defensive until C. Clarke scored from a penalty. In the last three minutes P. French scored a beauty off an excellent pass from P. Childs who was playing at his best. The other goals were scored by P. Stapleton and V. Succamore. The last goal brought the Club's total goals to date to 100.

In 1966 we had a good Scout group in the village: 1st Rivenhall Scouts, Scoutmaster at that time was Bill Willsher. In the Review he entered a letter:

Throughout the week April 11th to 16th, Scouts all over the country will be offering their services to householders and institutions under the Bob-a-Job scheme.

Scouts do not tout for money – they never rattle collecting boxes or run flag days.

One of the principles of the movement is that boys are trained to earn the money they need for their Scouting. Bob-a-Job is one of the ways of doing it.

The will come to your reader's doors and ask for a job to do. I hope our good friends will again give them jobs, but will they please remember the following:-

- Make sure the boys really are Scouts; outsiders sometimes try to intrude on the scheme.
- Choose a job suited to the age and capacity of the boys who come.
- See that they do it properly and pay them what the job is worth.
- Enter the amount on their job card.

The Scouts will like it if they are treated seriously and given real work for a real reward. It will help their training.

You and your reader's have nobly supported Scouting in the past and this Bob-a-Job week is another opportunity for them to show their appreciation of the value of Scouting, Yours Faithfully, Bill Willsher.

Rummage Sales were often held in the village and in the December of 1965 the Scouts results had just been entered into the Review: The sum of £18.3.0d was made on the 11th December and grateful thanks were extended to all who helped and supported on that day.

Also, the Rivenhall Branch of the W.E.A. had recently held a Rummage Sale and thanked all those who help to organise and support their sale and realised over £6.0.0d towards their funds.

A special word of thanks was extended to Christopher Holliday for preparing posters.

Rivenhall Gardening Club was doing very well with 130 paid up members and had a speaker from Black Notley Hospital, Mr Spurr who was the head gardener there. His subject was 'Shrubs and house-plants.

We also had a well-attended Darby & Joan Club. They often had meetings with speakers and of course Bingo! In the March we were informed that they had new Bingo cards and been used in there March meeting. These were a replacement for the other ones as they had two small duplicate sets which had the unfortunate habit of producing two winners each time!

They had many outings over the years and that month they went to London, with a full coach of members and friends going to see the film "My Fair Lady".

Rivenhall Helps Export Drive: We learn that two well-known Rivenhall Farmers have been sending potatoes to Spain and Portugal. At least, this helps to balance our payments for Spanish onions!

I think I will leave the last words to Angus as I have done before. In March of 1966 his title was Deep Freeze.

I have just been reading the following, and by the time this appears in print the atrocious experiment may have been completed!

"A black Labrador dog has been frozen into suspended animation in Washington, to test whether humans can be preserved in ice!"

Our food has been going 'fridge fashion' for a long time but this is about the limit. If the experiment comes to a successful conclusion, that is, if our four footed friend survives, and the freezing of human beings becomes commonplace, the wife would be provided with the perfect alibi (which in this case it is hoped wives would not want) for she would be able to tell the butcher, baker, milk-man, rent collector and other regular callers for money they would have to call again "After my old man has been defrosted".

Much hybridised and guinea-pigged race that we are, in the 'Eskimo' which is well and truly with us, tempered by prepacked frozen foods and the many substitutes, we are perhaps being waned into the above condition and could well survive it!

Time was when only ice cream merchants, fishmongers and some of the larger establishments possessed a 'fridge' which has now become a 'must' in almost every household and small store throughout the country, not forgetting the ice cube in one's drink!

The time could come when instead of raising the old pound or so on the old man's suit, it might be to the wife's advantage to shove the old man himself into cold storage at 'Uncles', in which case, the familiar brass balls would perhaps be replaced by three 'fridges'!

Returning to frozen foods, my wife used to get peas from the fishmonger, and one evening frozen cake appeared on the tea table. To my question, "Where did you get it?" she replied "From the butcher". A bit confusing to know where to get what these days, and there are two thoughts arising from all this. Washington can keep its frozen dogs – and its ulterior human motives – and I would say to wives, if you love your husbands, even if you fleece them, don't freeze them. Freeze me? Not perishing likely!!

Annual Report by the Church Wardens & Looking Forward to the Coming Year

Following the first Autumn fayre held at St Mary's church last year we will be holding the second Autumn fayre in St Mary's church on Saturday October 3rd which will hopefully be bigger than last year and with some changes after we looked at what worked and what didn't.

If you know any crafters or anyone who would like a table could they please contact any of the church wardens or somebody

associated with the church, a table for the Autumn fayre will cost £10.00

The day of the Autumn fayre also culminates in our photographic competition with a winner in the under 16s and adult, the photographs will be on display and 12 of them will then be picked for our annual calendar which will then be for sale. This years theme is 'All things bright and beautiful'. All seasons please.

For those who may still want a calendar we do have some left.

Our book club which is on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, individually we read books from different authors and discuss, this often opens us to reading a book from an author that we may not have considered. Please come along 1-3pm and enjoy a lively group of readers.

If you have any ideas on any crafts eg knitting sewing crochet etc that we may be able to help with or if you would like to learn any of these skills please get in contact.

On another matter we appear to be getting some fly tipped rubbish dumped on the bonfire sight in the churchyard, the bonfire area is for horticultural waste only from within the church yard.

So far we have had soil and rubble dumped which obviously will not burn and leaves our church yard volunteers to dispose of it, we have also had a small kitchen unit and a bag of general rubbish which included batteries! Which were all found before the bonfire was lit.

It's that time of year when our church yard gang start grass cutting and clearing graves from the winter and all the other tasks which keep our churchyard looking good, luckily there was no rubbish which could explode like spray cans in the recent bonfire as these could have proved hazardous !

A reminder fly tipping is illegal even in a churchyard.

January Defibrillator Training

A very successful, informative 60 minute training session was held in Henry Dixon Hall, Rivenhall End on 11 January. This was given for 26 local residents and hall users by our local Essex Fire Service officer Rob Fossett. Many thanks to Rob for kindly giving up his Sunday afternoon.

With the hall's defibrillator machine open and on a table, Rob explained precisely what to do and how it operates, but first and

foremost, always dial 999 in any appropriate situation (more details below).

He explained how to “prepare” the casualty, how to position the pads, variations for babies and those with pacemakers. The defibrillator machine “talks” the operator through the procedures. It will check for heartbeat, it will tell you when to apply shocks, it will tell you when to give CPR (compressions), it even gives you the required compression beats! Following the demonstration, Rob took a variety of questions from the inquisitive audience.

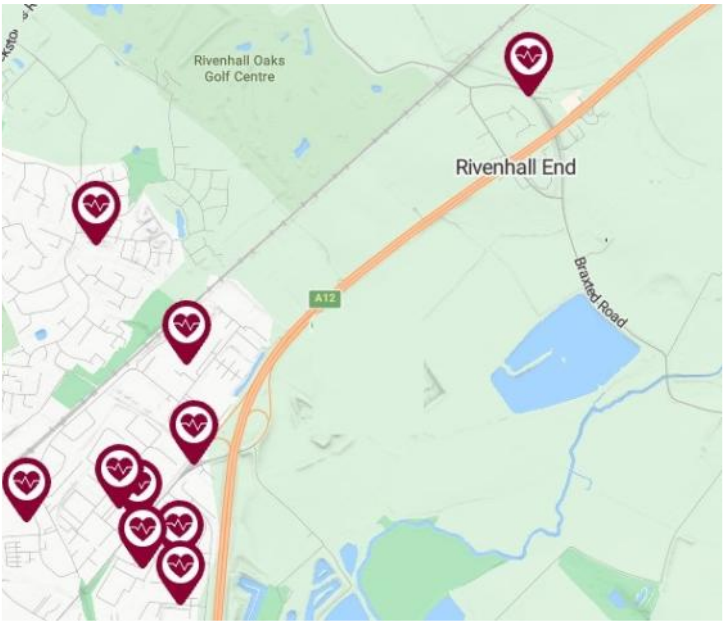
Rob (centre):-



Even if the defibrillator is needed by someone in the hall, ALWAYS call 999 first, as that gets the ambulance on its way immediately. Then bring the hall’s defibrillator.

This defibrillator is registered with “Circuit”; that means upon receipt of an appropriate 999 call, the Emergency Services WILL direct the caller to the NEAREST operational defibrillator machine, maybe the HDH machine (this could be someone nearby on the A12). Furthermore, the Emergency Services will know if this machine has just been used and is therefore out of service, so they will direct a caller to the nearest working machine.

For Rivenhall End, this official map shows the nearest operational defibrillator machines (on 12 January 2026): Henry Dixon Hall’s machine is the one in the top right-hand corner. The actual “live” map is interactive and one can “zoom-in” to locations; their precise addresses are also displayed, together with their availability (the HDH machine is available 24/7).



The 2026 Burns Supper - Saturday 31st January

This year's Burns Supper took place in Silver End village hall to raise monies for Rivenhall and Silver End churches … and a most successful evening it was! How delightful it was to have both Rev Dr Jonathan Pritchard and Rev Jane Quinyon with us this year.

Organised, as ever, by Jackie Allan and her team, this event has been running since 1989. With 110 people in attendance, Master of Ceremonies John Macrae welcomed everyone to the supper, and explained how the evening would run. After Rev Jonathan orated Burn's Selkirk Grace, the ceremonial haggis was paraded by Rivenhall's Jackie Allan and piped in by former Rivenhall resident George Atkinson … to the delight of everyone present.

Charles Grenville enthusiastically addressed the steaming haggis and then our delicious meals were served and joyously consumed.

During the consumption of the cheese and biscuits, John Macrae called on Alex Allan deliver the Immortal Memory - and very well he did that. John then asked Rev Jonathan to offer something to respond on behalf of the ladies: he sang a wonderful rendition of My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose (a love song composed by Robert Burns in his first book of poetry published in 1794) … this is

becoming something of a tradition at our Burns Supper!

After the toast to the lassies, the dishes were cleared, our band The Caledonian Reelers took to the stage, from where, under the direction of our caller Sue Last, vibrant dancing commenced.

At 10:00 the hall conversation fell briefly silent when in marched pipers from the Essex Caledonian Pipe Band, led by Jackie Allan - what stirring sights and sounds! Following the raffle, dancing continued till 11:30 when this glorious evening closed with a rousing chorus of Burn's Old Lang Syne.

A very big Thank You to all who support this fund-raising evening. A wonderful profit of just over £750 was raised for our two churches.



These events neither organise themselves nor run themselves. Like the serene white swan gliding effortlessly over the water, the reality is always considerable hard invisible work "going on below". So, a very big thank you to all the voluntary helpers, the table layers, the servers, the hall decorators, the table and chair movers, and not forgetting all who stay behind to help to remove all the tartans and posters with which we adorn the walls each year.

Please do come along to this family event next year.

RIVENHALL GARDENING CLUB

The first Club meeting for 2026 was held on Tuesday 10th February. Chairman, Maurice Bacon, welcomed members and wished everyone a very happy new year albeit we were already in February (and by the time you read this it will be March!). He gave out Club notices and introduced our Speaker for the evening — the

popular return of Jackie Allen who gave us an illustrated talk on her short but very interesting holiday in Malta. 10 miles south of Sicily and the loth smallest country in the world, Malta is just 17 miles x 9 miles, slightly smaller than the Isle of Wight with a population of round about 574thousand. It has a long and varied history from Neolithic times (3600 BC) through to the Phoenicians and the Roman and Byzantine Empires. In 1530 the Holy Roman Emperor and King of Spain, King Charles V gifted Malta to the Knights of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. Their cathedral displays the wealth of the order with magnificent artefacts. Napoleon invaded the island in 1798 whereupon the British were called upon to rid the island of the French invaders and Malta became part of the British Empire from 1800 until independence in 1963.

Malta played a long and important role in WW2. The island was under constant assault and was known as one of the most heavily bombed areas of the war with severe food and fuel shortages. Acknowledging their hardships the island was awarded the George Cross for Gallantry. Valletta, on a small finger of land with deepwater harbours on either side, is the `new' capital with a wealth of narrow streets and cafes serving traditional food (horse pie and rabbit pasta!). It is exceptionally fortified and boasts an excellent museum. Thanks was given to Jackie and we look forward to hearing about her next holiday!

CLUB COMPETITION RESULTS

Horticultural -

1st Maurice Bacon 2nd — Mike Selby (2 entries only)

Pot Plant of the Month - 1st Clare Ramsden

(1 entry only)

Flower of the Month

1st Maurice Bacon 2nd— Jenny Turner 3rd - Mike Selby

Photo of the Month

1st Jenny Claydon 2nd— Karen Dakin 3rd- Clare Ramsden

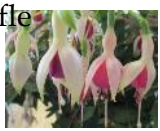
Domestic

1st Clare Ramsden 2ndKaren Dakin 3rd Mike Selby

The next Club Meeting is TUESDAY 10th MARCH starting at .

Rivenhall Gardening Club Evening Meeting
Rivenhall Village Hall – Tuesday 10th March –
7.30pm Entrance £3 (includes refreshment) Raffle





This month we welcome speaker:
Stephanie Callister-Jarrold
'Owls & Birds of Prey Rescue'



March Evening Competitions	
Horticultural	Succulent Pot Plant
Domestic	Lemon Drizzle Cake
Photo of the month	Natural World (no people)
Pot Plant of the month	A pot plant you have owned for more than three months
Flower of the month	



Rivenhall Gardening Club Daffodil Show



HENRY DIXON HALL
RIVENHALL END, CM8 3HR

Saturday 21st March

2.15pm ~ Entrance Free

Teas *Raffle*

Our Gardening Club is over 60 years old and the longest running club in the village. We have speakers covering many subjects throughout the year and three shows: Daffodil, Summer Flower and our Annual Show. We are a small and friendly group believing you don't have to have a garden to enjoy our club. For more information contact our Club Secretary: Mrs McCarthy 01376 512781

Quiz Night



Friday 17th April 2026- 7.30 p.m

Henry Dixon Hall - Rivenhall End

£13 per Ticket including:

Fish and Chip Supper

(Veg / Vegan Catered for)





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07775 998628






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for Mothering Sunday

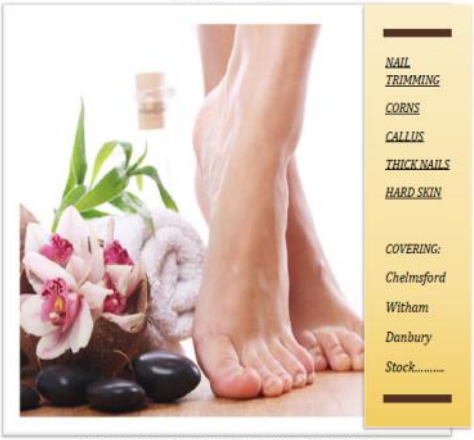
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All welcome J

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Organisations in Rivenhall

Clerk to Parish Council	Amanda Brown	
e mail	clerk@rivenhall.pc.gov.uk	
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	07738 705585	
Meets every Thursday at 7.30pm in Village Hall		
Spread Your Wings Dance Acam	Laura Pearson	01376 741317
Rivenhall Millennium Committee	Bob Turner	01376 513659

Facilities

Hire of Village Hall	email rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com	
Or Phone	**07738 705585**	
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
Scouting Group	secretary@silverend-scouts.org.uk	
St Mary's Church (R.C.)	Vivian Phillips	583598
Tennis Club	Jason Cairns	584581
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

Post Office in Co-op - please note that it closes at Lunchtime 1-2pm
Closes 1 pm Wednesday and 12.30 pm Saturday
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