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



Silver End Memorial Gardens

On good Friday (April 18th) the churches of Rivenhall and Silver End came together for a Walk of Witness. This was followed by a service at St Francis Silver End

May 2025 50p

The following are our services For May 2025th

4th May	**3rd Sunday of Easter**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	All Age Worship
11th May	**4th Sunday of Easter**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
18thMay	**5th Sunday of Easter**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
25th May	**6th Sunday of Easter**
9.30 am St Francis	All Age Worship
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
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Rivenhall Website	www.stmarysrivenhall.co.uk	
St Francis Silver End Website	www.st-francis.org.uk/	

Contact the Editor 07904 235101 or phope02@gmail.com

Well, for all ‘Star Wars’ fans out there, this is your month! As 4th May is now celebrated across the world as ‘Star Wars Day’ - *"May the Fourth be with you"* a playful twist on the iconic Star Wars phrase (above).

Graham and I are both keen ‘Star Wars’ fans - having been brought up with the original (and best!) of the trilogies, Episodes 4, 5 and 6. I can still remember queueing outside the Empire Odeon Leicester Square with my mum, dad and sister, and then being in absolute awe as the opening titles and music blasted from the screen.

Its theme of good versus bad is not an unusual one, but this particular film franchise caught peoples imagination to the extent that on the 2001 UK census 390,000 people actually put down Jediism as their religion!

Since becoming a Christian I have re-watched the films with even more interest, seeing the similarities between my faith and the concepts in the films that revolve around the Force, the Jedi Code, and a focus on peace, knowledge, and serenity.

And, having been wondering what I might write about for this month’s article, the connection between ‘Star Wars’ and my faith emerged a few days ago as I was driving on the A12…….. Indeed I am very thankful to be writing this at all, after a car suddenly pulled out in front of me whilst travelling at 70mph. Even now I still wonder how I survived……I immediately thanked God after the incident (which the other driver seemed to be oblivious of) It did indeed seem as if a ‘force’ had taken over – leading me to brake, swerve, and somehow not hit the car or the reservation… It also made me realise

how quickly things could and can change in our lives….. and how we should appreciate every moment…….

So, blessings to you all – 'may the force be with you'!

Rev Jane x

Readings and Collects for May 2025

4th May **3rd Sunday of Easter**

All Age Worship

Readings

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

Collect

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

11th May **4th Sunday of Easter**

Holy Communion

Readings

Acts 9:36-end
Revelation 7:9-end
John 10:22-30

Collect

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

18thMay **5th Sunday of Easter**

Holy Communion

Readings

Acts 11: 1-18
Rev 21: 1-6
John 13: 31-35

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

25th May **6th Sunday of Easter**

Holy Communion
Readings
Acts 16:9-15
Revelations 21:10, 22-22.5
John 5 1-9
Collect
Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.

WITHAM AND VILLAGES MOTHERS' UNION

On Thursday 29th May at 2pm we will meet at St Andrew's Church Hatfield Peveral for a tour of the Church followed by tea.

All members and friends welcome.

For more information 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

Coffee mornings have now returned on the following Fridays:
7th March, 4th April, 2nd May, 30th May, 13th June, 11th July, 8th, Aug, 5th Sep, 3rd Oct, 14th Nov, 12th Dec.
good fun for all with bingo sessions, raffle and cake etc etc run byour volunteers Frank and Clare. 9 to 12 noon

Race Night Once again we will be holding a fabulous race night on Sat 5th April tickets from any committee member are £12.50 including fish and chips or sausage and chips etc.

Quiz night Friday 16th May 7.0 pm up to 6 people per team and £5 per person. Bring your own nibbles and drinks. Fabulous prizes and raffle…

Bingo sessions Saturday Night run byJack Prime…dates as follows:-
15th March 19th April 17th May 21st June 16th Aug 20th Sep 18th Oct 15th Nov 20th Dec

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

rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com

Or Call 07738 705585

****

The 50/50 Club April 2025 winners

1st R Reeve 2nd Christine (625) 3rd Ann Clarke

****

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/C90753866.

NOTES OF RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1ST APRIL 2025 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, Wright, Prime & Hammond. Also present was our acting Clerk Christine Marshall.

Chairman's Report: The Chairman has taken photographic records of the main HGV culprits ignoring the weight restriction in Oak Road. Their employer's Transport Manager was not helpful or concerned, so the Driver & Vehicles Standards Agency (DVSA) has been asked to investigate.

Bellway are digging a trench at the end of Evans Way towards the golf clubhouse. . An access to Bellway's Phase 4 has been made through the trees, and the archaeological dig appears to be complete.

The small village green opposite the thatched cottage in Rickstones Road which is maintained by Eastlight will not be cut until the end of the season: Eastlight has said the parish council was aware of this – the parish council was unaware.

District Councillors Report: At a BDC special meeting on 13th March, District Councillors were told that uncertainty remains over the future shape of the Essex unitary authority/authorities.

Incinerator waste burning will now commence earlier than planned in August this year.

Planning: Councillors await the date of BDC's Local Plan Review meeting that will decide which of the many "call for sites" offers will be taken forward for consultation. Currently most of the land between Witham and Rivenhall and Rivenhall End which lies in the current Local Plan buffer zone has been offered for development by landowners.

Street Cleansing / Litter Picking: Councillors agreed the BDC contract for street cleansing. The Clerk will submit the paperwork to permit our parish 2025/26 grant.

It was stated the Church Bus stop litter bin is not being regularly emptied by BDC.

Annual Parish Assembly: The speakers have been finalised, and parking spaces will be reserved for them. Refreshments will be served at the end of the evening. The Annual Report proof was approved for printing and will be distributed to all homes by parish councillors.

Contract for P G Groundcare

A contract for grass cutting was agreed, with a clause that during dry weather, the number of cuts will be reduced.

Dates of next Meeting:

Tue 06 May 7:00 pm Rivenhall Village Hall

A Rivenhall V E Day Celebration

The Rivenhall Millennium Committee invites all villagers to come to Rivenhall village green on the afternoon of Bank Holiday Monday on 5th May to celebrate VE Day (Victory in Europe) 80 years ago. Starts 2:00 pm; ends 5:30 pm.

There will be live music, including the excellent Dixilanders and our ever-popular Rivenhall singer Charlie: there will be bagpipers too, and also some nostalgic wartime songs.

On the food front, cream teas will be served, along with burgers from the Bar-B-Q.

Eighty years ago, Rivenhall Airfield played its very significant role in Operation Varsity which was the airborne invasion of Germany on 24 March 1945 using Horsa gliders towed by RAF Rivenhall's two squadrons of Stirling aircraft. Just six weeks later the war in Europe was over, such was the impact of operation Varsity which followed Operation Overlord (the Allied forces invasion of German occupied Europe) in 1944. RAF Rivenhall also played a major role in covert SOE wartime activities.

There will be a marquee, but you may wish to bring your own chairs or picnic rugs. Please do put Monday 5th March in your diaries, and do come along - there are no entry charges.

IMPORTANT NOTICE Re ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.

In Rivenhall (St Mary's) Church yard.

(Chelmsford diocese churchyard handbook 6.0, 6.1, 6.2)

6.1 Where a flower vase is included in the base of the headstone fresh flowers or stems cut from shrubs or bushes including holly may be placed in the base. No plastic or artificial flowers of any kind are allowed. This is because they are not in keeping with the changing seasons of nature which apply in the churchyard. They may serve a useful purpose as decoration in other places but the objective in the churchyard, which is a holy place, is to have flowers and plants which grow naturally.

There are three limited exceptions:-

1. Poppies at Remembrance Sunday; they serve a special purpose for a limited period at a time of National Remembrance.
2. Wreaths at Christmas.
3. Wreaths at the anniversary of the death of the deceased, for a limited period of two weeks.

ANY ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS LEFT ON GRAVES OR IN THE CREMATED REMAINS AREA WILL BE REMOVED AFTER A PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS AND PLACED BY THE SHED FOR COLLECTION. Thank you

A Trip to the Indian Ocean by P Hope Editor

Sarah and I recently spent 10 days in the Maldives, here are a few of the wonderful creatures we were fortunate to meet. Since my teenage years I have loved snorkeling and we were both thrilled to have a chance to swim with and film the amazing sea life that can be found in abundance around the strange and beautiful Lagoons of the Maldives. The whole country is at it's highest only 15 meters above sea level although most parts are only a couple of meters high.

This is (I believe) a Green Sea Turtle. These were quite common



This is a Spotted Eagle Ray which we frequently saw from our Villa as it was an "Over Water" Villa.





This a Puffer Fish. **Tetraodontidae** is a family of marine and freshwater fish in the order Tetraodontiformes. The family includes many familiar species variously called **pufferfish**, **puffers**, **balloonfish**, The majority of pufferfish species are toxic, with some among the most poisonous vertebrates in the world.

Pentecost Bonfire

St Mary and All Saints churchyard

Sat. 7th June 2025 8pm

Come along for a celebration of Pentecost. Jacket Spuds and sausages will be served. Please let me know if you are vegetarian. Tea and coffee will be available, please bring any other drinks. There is no charge, but a charity box will be there.



Please let me know if you are coming so I can cook enough!!

Ann Clarke

annxclarke@outlook.com

07713151165



HOUSE of GRACE

WITHAM SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION for homeless people

House of Grace Spring 2025 Update

I do hope you are enjoying the current sunshine & are keeping well. House of Grace is busy & we see God's hand in the work we are doing there.

Our fourth resident joined us in February, bringing the house to full occupancy. He is settling in well & we feel blessed that the other residents have been welcoming & supportive. It is so important when sharing facilities that all are considerate towards one another and where possible seek to create a thoughtful & kind environment.

We were delighted when one of our residents who has been attending the Bethel church completed an Alpha course & went on to be baptised. He regularly helps at the Well café & enjoys their loving support.

Two other residents have undertaken a fair amount of voluntary & paid work. Their clients remark on the way they undertake work with consideration, competence & reliability. Several have invited them back for further work. If at a later date our residents are going to move on to independent living, it is important that they are able to support themselves

financially. Experience & clientele now will all build towards this. There is more capacity to take on other work (gardening/painting/general maintenance) so please get in touch with us if you are aware of people seeking help.

The problem we had with the flat roof extension to the

house, is being fixed by replacing the roof in the next few weeks. This has turned out to be a more expensive job than first thought & we are grateful for some very generous donations which will help pay for the work.

We have been blessed with some brilliant fundraising events which have helped replenish the coffers. We are so grateful for these and for your ongoing financial support & prayers. Our lease payments have gone up, as have the house costs so we need to continue to seek finance, trusting our faithful God to provide for our ongoing needs.

Please continue to keep us in prayer

Many thanks for you love, interest & support

May you have a blessed Easter. From all of us at House of Grace Witham.

Registered Charity no: 1199138 Registered Address: 41 Laburnum Way, Witham, CM8 2NY

Some Views around Rivenhall

Recently I set out on my regular walk from my house out towards Snivellers lane.



As Network rail have now closed the Snivellers lane bridleway I had to take a long diversion first towards the A12 from Snivellers lane then along a track adjacent to the A12 towards Kelvedon and finally along Cranes Lane and past the Crabbs Farm Old Essex Barn (Now a wedding and Dinning Venue). It was at the entrance that I was taken by the beautiful cherry blossom seen above.



Another walk I do starts at Wickham Bishops Church and goes along a path that branches from Mopes Lane and heads towards the Benton Hall golf course. The Bluebells can be found in a wooded area where the path tracks through Grove Wood.

Here is beautiful display of spring flowers in St Mary's church for Easter



St Mary's Rivenhall Quiz 25th of April

Below is the Winning team "Wilsons Warriors"

The event raised £ 272 for Church Funds.



The Quiz Master was Kim Hollocks who was kept in order by his assistant Joan. The Musical rounds were very enjoyable and had everyone singing along. The trick questions about Denis Law and the sea between Italy produced much laughter and consternation. And how is it that Bobby Darin sounds just like Dean Martin?



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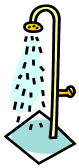
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- **WEDNESDAY 7pm** Rivenhall Village Hall

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George Alfred Hope a Londoner made of the Wars

(My Father)

By Peter Hope Continued

In 1927 I went to Battersea Central School in Surrey Lane Battersea. The very clever children were selected for secondary school. The next best went to central schools and the majority stayed at the elementary schools, the selection was made by sitting an exam like the eleven plus called the junior county.

The headmaster was Mr Wootton and my form master was Mr Cooper who taught English, I had Mr Wood for Geography, Harry Stocker for History and Music, Mr Kingston for Metal work and Mr Twine for Woodwork.

All these except Mr Twine were university graduates; Mr Cooper was a fairly strict and cold man who eventually became a headmaster in South East London. Mr West was a bit eccentric and had been an air force pilot in the First World War he had been shot down and now had a steel plate in his skull. Harry Stocker was a flamboyant character with flowing bow ties that sparked a love of history in me that I still have. I soon joined the choir and sang alto. He used to refer to us as his Battersea Gutter Snipes with voices like angels. We often performed for charity and played humorous sketches. I can remember the following poem which I had to learn by Heart, I have always thought the words very true:-

The poem is by Leigh Hunt (1784 -1859)-Hunt a radical publisher and journalist, had many run-Ins with the authorities and spent two years in prison for insulting the Prince Regent.

A friend of Byron, Keats and Shelley, he published several volumes of poetry.

Abou Ben Adhem is his best known, a popular recital piece. Both my parents knew it by heart.

Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe Increase!)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
And saw, within the moonlight of his room,
Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
An angel writing in a book of gold:

Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,
And to the presence in the room he said,
'What writest thou?'- The vision raised its head,
And with a look made all of sweet accord,
Answered, 'The names of those who love the Lord.'

'And is mine one?' said Abou. 'Nay, not so,'
Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low,
But cheerily; and said, 'I pray thee,. Then,
Write me as one who loves his fellow men.'
The angel wrote, and vanished.

The next-night
It came again with a great wakening light,
And showed the names whom love of God had blest, And lo
Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

My friend Harold Scammell the best looking boy, always got the girls parts in the school plays but there was nothing gay about him and later he broke a lot of girls hearts.

This period of my life so far had seen some remarkable changes. The milkman coming round with a big Churn which was always left open when it rained. He had a metal container and a long handle half a pint or a pint size, which he dipped into the milk and poured into your jug. This style of milkman was now being phased out and milk was coming in Bottles.

More motor vehicles were appearing. Wandsworth road was the artery, which ran through the area although we still saw a

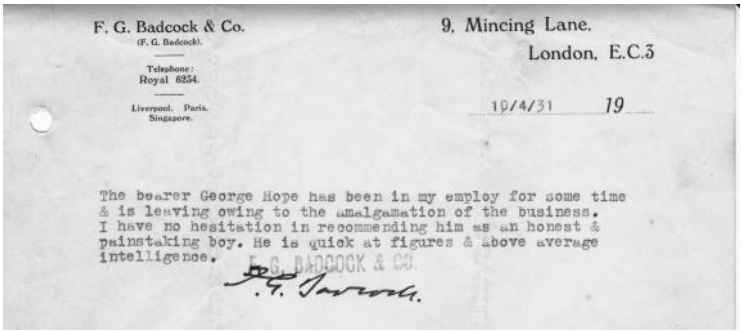
lot of horse drawn vehicles and it was difficult to cross the road without treading in dung at times.

My Grandfather Turrell was a greengrocer / carter and had a horse drawn cart up until the time he died of Pneumonia in 1946. When I was about 12 / 13 the downstairs people (Chambers) moved and we moved into the downstairs accommodation of three rooms. This was still very crowded what with six of us and my parents started applying for council accommodation. The basic need for a family like my parents with three boys and a girl was considered a three bed roomed flat. Which the council considered was beyond our means.

Because of the crowded conditions I spent as much time outside as possible and because my mother would let me play in the street. I went to Battersea Park and Clapham Common often looking after my brother Ron and the twins.

Into the World of Work

By the time I was fourteen the pressure was on for me to leave school and go out to work. Jobs were hard to find but at the age 14 yrs and 9months, I got my first Job as an office boy to a man named F G Badcock merchant buying and selling imported produce mainly spices at number nine Mincing Lane. It was a one man business and he only wanted me to answer the phone when he was down at the exchange. For the rest of the time he said I should do my evening class homework or read a book. I'd only been there a month when there was a big fire at Brewers Wharf, which destroyed a large quantity of raw rubber. Mr Badcock said what a calamity, I suggested it was quite good for him as



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the price of Rubber in the market was 1.5p a lb and he was insured for 2p a lb. A few days later he suggested I look for another job as he couldn't afford to keep me.

I then found a job with Jacobsen's hemp and twine merchants in Fenchurch Street at 12s 6d a week. There one of the partners named Haberman had just died. So everyone in the firm took a step up and I came in at the bottom. Mr Habermann couldn't have done very much before, which left very little for me to do so after three months they gave me a months notice to look for another job.

I did think about joining the army as I was quite a big lad for 15 years old. For a number of years I had been a member of a boys club in Clapham called the Ted Mor club. The organiser / leader was a George Morris, whose main claim to fame was that he played the junior lead (William) in EAST LYNNE based on the sensational novel from 1861 by Ellen Wood. The club was supported by the acting profession and I was often sent to actors and actresses to collect donations, which apparently I was quite successful at.

George Morris said he would get me a job and as a result of his efforts just as my months notice was just up (August 1931) I secured a job with CF Higham Advertising Agents first at Imperial House Kingsway at 19s 6d. and later moving to Africa House in WC2. Here I was lowest in a team of office boy/ messengers delivering printing blocks, proofs and layouts all over London but mainly to Fleet Street. The latest recruit always had to arrive early in the morning and polish the brasses on Sir Charles desk.

Sir Charles was originally an American who introduced American advertising methods to England before the 1st World War.

Sir Charles was knighted for his adverts for army recruitment in World War 1 like the famous one of Kitcheners and your King and Country Needs You. Chas Porteous husband of Ethel Manning was general manager, Hobbs was secretary and Priestly was office manager who controlled the messengers of whom I was one under the leadership of Robbie Robinson. We were kept busy dashing about London to Blockmakers, Magazine and Newspaper printers etc I got to know Fleet Street very well.

Robbie and I became firm friends and roamed the West End seeing lots of shows from the 'Gods', at not more than 6d a seat. He lived in Tennyson Street Waterloo.

The two most popular theatres were the Holborn Empire (just behind Africa House) and the Stoll Kingsway which was very handy. I'd been visiting theatres since I was about five years with my mother, grandfather and father. The first variety show I can remember was at the Colosseum, and one of the acts was Henry Tate in a sketch called motoring. The primitive cars around at the time like the Model T Ford being a constant cause of amusement to the majority because they were constantly breaking down.

As a result of my membership of the Ted More club I'd visited most theatres by the stage door and often stood in the wings and met a lot of actors and actresses including Benita Hume a very famous actress who married Ronald Coleman and made many films in London and in Hollywood. ***To be continued***

RIVENHALL GARDENING CLUB

The Club held their Daffodil Show at Henry Dixon Hall on Saturday 29th March 2025. At the previous meeting Malcolm Bradbury had given us the benefit of his expert knowledge on the correct way to show daffodils and his advice had obviously been noted with a wonderful display of daffodils and spring flowers. It was an enjoyable afternoon with the presentation of cups and awards to members. Tea and cake was served and a raffle was held.

DAFFODIL SHOW RESULTS

Rivenhall Gardening Club Shield	Mike Selby
Daffodil Society's Bronze Medal	Maurice Bacon
Daffodil Society's Diploma	Shirley Bacon
Miniature Daffodil Cup	Jenny Claydon
The Alpine Shield	Maurice Bacon
Daffodil Plate	Shirley Bacon

Our usual monthly CLUB MEETING was held on TUESDAY 8th APRIL 2025.

Chairman, Maurice Bacon, congratulated members on a wonderful Daffodil Show with an exceptional number of entries in all classes. Our speaker for the evening was Michelle Cush who gave a very interesting illustrated talk on her group visit to Madagascar, the fifth largest island in the world and an 18hour flight from Heathrow. They toured the south and south-east of the island where she couldn't help but point out that they experienced the dreadful condition of the roads with the deepest pot holes ever!! On the first morning they were up at 3am for a tour of the busy city of Antananarivo. Another visit was to Reniala Reserve where they have 100 species of trees and where water is stored in hollow tree trunks. Onward to other destinations including a Tortoise Sanctuary and a visit to see the Lemurs which having evolved in this part of the world are not found, naturally, anywhere else. They vary in size down to the tiny Mouse Lemur. Michelle and companions visited National Parks, Research Centres and a very impressive Scientific Institute. In the townships, however, people were very poor and were begging in the streets. Others made items to sell – silk scarves, marquetry items and dark chocolate. Children mostly only attend primary school and the diet for the general population is rice and occasionally vegetables. Michelle took many photographs of her trip which she hopes to repeat at some point. She found the country fascinating and the people very friendly. Her talk was thoroughly enjoyed.

CLUB COMPETITION RESULTS

Horticultural

1st Frank Ramsden 2nd Maurice Bacon (2 entries)

Domestic

1st Frank Ramsden 2nd Clare Ramsden 3rd Karen Dakin

Flower of the Month

1st Sue North 2nd Clare Ramsden 3rd Cyndy Nutley

Photo of the Month

1st Clare Ramsden 2nd Frank Ransden 3rd Karen Dakin

The Club's next meeting will be on TUESDAY 13th MAY 2025 at 7.30pm in RIVENHALL VILLAGE HALL. Entrance £3 to include refreshments. Our speaker will be Mike Fogg who will talk and illustrate `The History of Maldon Moot Hall'. Club competitions will be: Horticultural – any vegetable. Domestic – 3 sausage rolls. Flower of the Month. Photograph of the Month. The annual membership subscription is £10 per person for the calendar year and includes the Club's Schedule. We welcome new members and visitors. For further information contact the Club Secretary on 01376 – 512781. We look forward to welcoming you.

Nancy May will again be performing at St Mary's Rivenhall on the 26th of September.

Following last years sell out concert at St Mary's Rivenhall we are proud to confirm that Nancy will be here in September.

Tickets for this concert will sell out fast so make sure you put the date in the your diary.

Tickets will be on general sale from the 1st of June



Joan Cain : Jan 1928 –February 2025

A very Special Member of St Mary's Church and the Rivenhall Community. As remembered by her Granddaughter Emma



Nanny used to grow beautiful roses in her garden, heavy, sweet smelling ones that she and Grandad would carefully pick and walk up the road to the flower show. When I think of her, I think of her hands; her hands were how she gave and expressed love to all. Creative and crafty in every direction; everything she gave life to from her hands went to someone or something; tea cosies for friends, knitted dolls for a church raffle, hand sewn jewellery bags for the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, landscape paintings for the walls of the home of every family member, handmade birthday cards. More than hands she gave voice and ears too, singing in the choir and always joining in the descant on O Come All Ye Faithful every Christmas church service; ears she always leant to family and friends and to the local primary school so the children could practise reading. There are hundreds of people who have memories of her we will never hear, who tested their words against her ears and made their way through reading trees with her gentle encouragement and cheeky laugh.

That laugh, how it resounded! Always recognisable in a crowd and ready to laugh at herself first. The more you love a memory, the stronger and stranger it becomes, so says Nabokov. I have found memory to be both stranger and stronger these last few weeks, made of the most surprising things.

I bought set honey from the market, golden and crystal in the jar, and was transported back to the honey that she bought local from her friend who kept bees.

My memories are made of the sound of her music. The tremulous tone, la di da, of her voice, humming or singing, or playing the piano. When she started playing, I was far ahead of her, but as I lapsed she went on and on, surpassing me with her Grade seven Mozart and Chopin. Now I look at her sheet music, the small pencil notations, and for the first time in twenty years, my own fingers itch for those black and white notes.

Recently, in Tesco, someone passed me and I stopped, taken over by the smell of her perfume, the L'air du temps, or 'white bird smell' as I used to call it when I was a little child. It is the smell of hellos and goodbye, the smell that carried me into the car whilst we looked back, seeing her standing on the doorstep, watching us drive away, lifting her hand in farewell.

Strange how memory is made of our entire bodies, our touch and taste and smell and hearing and sight. Her absence is like the sky, spread over everything.

'No one ever told me that grief felt so much like fear', said C.S Lewis.

It's not only fear that I will never see her again or hear her voice, but that the memories she held could be lost. My memory was her memory and we shared it together and now, she is gone. I fear the fading of it all, that the memories she gave me might dim with time, and I won't recall them just the way she did anymore and she will not be here to remind me.

'Give sorrow words'; said Shakespeare.

'The grief that does not speak knits up o'er the overwrought heart and bids it break.'

Our grieving will take different guises, as many faces as for the versions of her that she has been and we have known: the daughter, the grand-daughter, the switch girl, the Kodak lady, the wife, the mother, grandmother, stepmother, mother-in-law, sister, aunt, great aunt, great grandmother, friend, companion, beloved confidante, baker and painter, musician and gardener, knitter and singer, a bagpipe-adoring, mystery-watching, scarf loving, rich tea dunking, Bon-marché wearing, quaver hoarding wonder of a person. Loved for so long,

By Emma

End to End Nature Care.

It's all systems go for our weekly Wednesday evening excursions now; details below. All are very welcome to join us.

For more background on the group please look at our website www.e2e.silverend.org or on our Facebook group 'End to End Nature Care' (please do also feel free to post comments and local photographs there), or I can be contacted via email ukseashells44@gmail.com or on 07947 388180.

Simon

END TO END NATURE CARE		
SUMMER ACTIVITIES 2025		
DATE	**TIME**	**ACTIVITY**
23 April	19:00	Cowslip Survey. Meet in the parking area at the bottom of the track to Tarecroft Wood TL824171.
30 April	19:00	Wickham Bishops bluebell woods. Meet at St. Bartholemew's Church, Church Road, Wickham Bishops CM8 3LA or TL837120
07 May	19:00	Field-edge paths and hedgerows, Rivenhall. Meet at Stovern's Hall Farm (CM8 3HQ or TL825172).
14 May	18:30 for 19 00	Danbury Common, primarily for Nightingales. Meet at 18:30 at Stovern's Hall Farm to car share or at 19:00 at the Armoury car park, just past the Cricketers Arms, Penny Royal Road, Danbury (CM3 4ED or TL779046).
21 May	18:30 for19: 00	Phyllis Currie reserve, Great Leighs. Meet at 18:30 at Stovern's Hall Farm to car share or at 19:00 at the reserve car park on Dumney Lane (CM3 1QW or TL723182).
28 May	19:00	Ambling east of Rivenhall. Meet at Rivenhall Church.
04 June	18:30 for 19:00	Chigborough Lakes nature reserve, Heybridge. Meet at Stovern's Hall Farm at 18:30 to car share or at 19:00 at the reserve car park on Chigborough Road (CM9 8JA or TL877086).
11 June	19:00	Ambling/botany in the Sheepcote Lane area, Silver End. Meet outside the Village Hall.
18 June	18:45 for 19:00	Tiptree Heath and the new pond. Meet at 18:45 at Stovern's Hall Farm to car share or at 19:00 at the Heath car park (TL882148).
25 June	18:30 for 19:00	Roman River Valley. Meet at 18:30 at Stovern's Hall Farm (CM8 3HQ or TL825172) to car share or at 19:00 at the north end of


May
TUESDAY PRAISE
Refreshments available afterwards
12:30-1:00
6th Femi Cole-Njie
13th Gretta Bray
20th Lorna Bantock
27th Ian Hardie
Witham United Reformed Church
Newland Street, Witham, CM8 1AH
01376 500958 /
info@withamurc.org.uk
All welcome

Join John Vigar
for visits to four interesting churches in north Essex
(Martin Stuchfield will talk about the brasses at Cressing and Stisted)

10.00	**St. Mary and All Saints, Rivenhall**, Church Road, CM8 3PQ (Light refreshments)
11.30	**All Saints, Cressing**, Church Road, CM77 8PQ
12.30	Lunch, please make your own arrangements
14.00	**Holy Trinity, Bradwell-juxta-Coggeshall**, Church Road, CM77 8EP
15.30	**All Saints, Stisted**, The Street, CM77 8AW (Light refreshments)

Parking is available at or near each church
There are lavatories at Rivenhall and Stisted

To: Martin Stuchfield, Pentlow Hall, Pentlow, Essex CO10 7SP
Email: martinstuchfield@pentlowhall.uk Tel: 01787 281845 Mobile: 07977 296831

I/We wish to attend the Spring Study Day on Wednesday, 7th May 2025

Payment is preferred via BACS using reference "Spring Study Day"
(sort code: 20-19-95, account no.: 60427888)
or enclose a cheque made payable to *Friends of Essex Churches Events Committee*

Members @ £15.00 each ( ) Non-members @ £20 each ( ) Donation £…….. Total £……..

Name/s_____

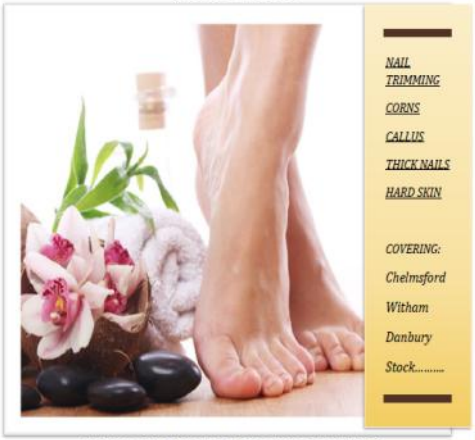




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Organisations in Rivenhall

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	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
Rivenhall Millennium Committee	Bob Turner	01376 513659

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
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
Closes 1 pm Wednesday and 12.30 pm Saturday
Library: Tues 2pm to 6pm Thurs/Saturday 9am to 1pm

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