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



100th Anniversary of Silver End Celebrations

See inside for details

May 2026 50p

The following are our services For May 2026

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3rd May 2026	**5th Sunday of Easter**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	Matins
10th May	**6th Sunday of Easter**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
17th May	**7th Sunday of Easter**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11.15 am St Mary's	All Age Service
24th May	**Whit Sunday (Pentecost)**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
31st May	**Trinity Sunday**

11.00 am 5th Sunday Benefice Holy Communion at St Germanus Church Faulkbourne

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 Contact Carole McCarthy	01376 512781	
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Rivenhall Website	www.stmarysrivenhall.co.uk	
St Francis Silver End Website	www.st-francis.org.uk/	

Contact the Editor 07904 235101 or phope02@gmail.com

‘VIEW FROM THE VILLAGES’ ‘Catching the love’ with JOY (Part 2)...

In last month’s Easter magazine I wrote about finding joy amidst the troubles of our lives. In my post-Easter reflection for this month I continue that reflection with something I have just read by *Richard Rohr*, that appropriately speaks into that same theme:

*“*Easter is the season of joy. Christ has conquered death, and we will someday be with God forever. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Joy brings us incredible, brief, soul-filling moments when we feel the overwhelming love of God and our place in this world. Our soul cries: *Yes. I am grateful. It is so good to be alive*.

Joy is a gift from God and a feeling that bubbles up from wherever the soul lives. But that is not the only way joy shows up.

There is an aspect of joy we often miss around Easter, and it appears precisely when Easter comes and goes and life remains … unfinished. We wake up the next morning and discover that we are still carrying the same griefs, the same unanswered prayers, the same ache..

It can feel confusing. Shouldn’t we feel better? Was Easter not enough?

But Easter joy is not the feeling that everything has been fixed. It is not happiness, resolution, or emotional closure. It is the ability to live in anticipation and trust - patiently and imperfectly - even while we remain here in the long middle.

Joy is one of the most powerful experiences we can have because it is an emotion that can co-exist with our actual lives.

Unlike happiness, joy can live alongside sadness, boredom, fear, or despair. It expands our capacity to hold contradictory truths at the same time - and because we know joy, we recover a strange, steady confidence that life is still worth loving, even when it hurts.

Scripture is honest about this:

Jesus weeps at Lazarus's tomb, even knowing resurrection is coming. Paul speaks of being *'sorrowful, yet always rejoicing'.*

In the book of Revelation we are promised a future where God will wipe away every tear…… but that promise is not the same thing as pretending we are not crying now.

This is where Easter joy lives.

It is not joy instead of grief. It is joy with grief.

Not joy that rushes us forward, but joy that allows us to remain human in the meantime….

This joy is more totalizing than optimism. It is truer than plain happiness.

It is the deep assurance that the story is not finished, even when our lives feel painfully incomplete.

Easter is the feast of hope that says God will have the last word and that God's final judgment is resurrection. God will turn all that we maim and destroy and hurt and punish into life and beauty.

Easter joy is the grace of being able to say: *'This is hard. I am still waiting. And God is still good. Not because everything has changed - but because, God promises, that one day, everything will.'*

As April disappears, *May* we continue to live in the joy and hope of the Easter promise.

Love and God bless

Rev Jane x

' 'PRAYER HOUR' 2026

First Monday of every month (except 2nd March)

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



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Rev Jane will be running a 6-week confirmation class for all those interested in getting confirmed, or just interested to know more about the Christian faith.

It will be held at The Rectory, New Road, Terling, CM3 2PN on Wednesday evenings at 7pm, beginning May 6th

Please contact Rev Jane if you are interested on:

revjane@withamvillages.team

Readings and Collects for May 2026

3rd May 2026 5th Sunday of Easter

Matins

Readings

Acts 7:55-60
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

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.

10th May — 6th Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

Readings

Acts 17:22-31
1 Peter 3:13-end
John 14:15-21

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.

17th May — 7th Sunday of Easter
Sunday after Ascension

Al Age Worship (11.00 st Mary's)

Readings

Acts 1: 6-14
1 Peter 4:12-14: 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

Collect

Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,
that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

24th May — Whit Sunday (Pentecost)

Holy Communion

Readings

Acts 2:1-21
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

Collect

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

31st May Trinity Sunday

Benefice Service at St Germanus Faulkbourne

Holy Communion

Readings

Isaiah 40.12-17,27-end
2 Corinthians 13:11-end
Matthew 28:16-end

Collect

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging:
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

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The 50/50 Club April 2026 winners

1st E Acharrya 2nd J Richardson 3rd H Smith

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WITHAM AND VILLAGES MOTHERS' UNION

WITHAM AND VILLAGES MOTHERS' UNION
Thursday 28th May 2026 at 2pm in St Nicolas Church Hall Witham
Subject: Home Fire Prevention Speaker Roy Evans
All members and friends welcome. For more information contact Lynette Abbot 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;

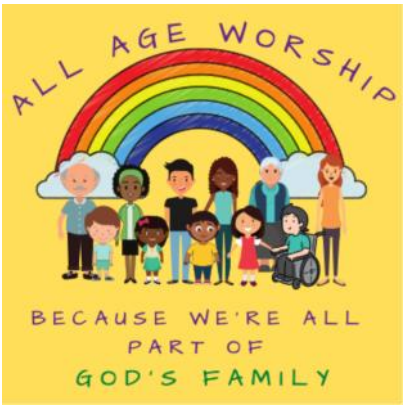
Carpet Bowls Thursday evenings.

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 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**



ALL-AGE SERVICE

St Mary+All Saints Church, Rivenhall

SUNDAY MAY 17th, 11am

Short service with music and crafts!

All welcome J

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 7TH APRIL 2026

IN RIVENHALL VILLAGE HALL

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

The draft Minutes were not available in time to produce these notes: the key points were:-

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

Chairman's Report:

Complaints have been received from local residents about un-necessary glare from the Rickstones Road school's all-weather pitch floodlights: the clerk will write to BDC. The official parish noticeboard on the village shop has fallen apart (as an interim, parish notices will be posted on the board outside the village hall). BDC Enforcement visited 29 St Marys Road: the additional works being constructed are deemed "permitted development".

BDC Councillor's Report: (not available, but will be in the formal April minutes)

Planning:

We had no objections to an application to carry out work to protected trees in Rivenhall Place, as they present a danger to users of local Rights-of-Way.

We objected to an application for low carbon greenhouses on Rivenhall Airfield.

We objected to the inclusion in the Draft Local Plan of the Kings Dene & Monks Farm development between Kelvedon and Rivenhall.

Road Drainage - Oak Road / A12 (northbound) Junction:

We wrote to both Essex Highways and National Highways requesting urgent action to clear four blocked road gulleys and their linking pipework.

Rights of Way:

We objected to a Bellway application concerning existing and proposed temporary Rights-of Way as the applicant's map was incorrect.

Annual Parish Assembly (Tue 28 April):

Speakers will be Rivenhall School (Mrs Moore) + children, National Highways (Nigel Allsopp), Essex Highways (Alan Lindsay), BDC Corporate Director Dominic Collins, and Rivenhall Playing Field Association (Ruth Hassey). We hope to deliver our Annual Report to all Rivenhall homes before this meeting (otherwise they should be available at the meeting).

Fly-Tipping by the Rivenhall Hotel:

BDC have not responded to our earlier complaint, so we have written again, as the promised clearance has not taken place.

Dates of next Meetings:

Tue 28 April	7:00 pm Rivenhall Village Hall - Annual Parish Assembly
Tue May 26	7:00 pm Rivenhall Village Hall
No June meeting	

WOW WOW WOW!!! SILVER END!!! You really know how to celebrate!!!

What an amazing weekend celebration for our village's 100th anniversary. From the dedication at the foundation stone in Temple Lane on Friday evening, to the amazing 'Celebration in Song' at the Congregational Church on Sunday evening, the whole weekend has surpassed all expectations.

The young people of our village turned out in great number to help commemorate this historical event, children from our local school Silver End Academy supported by parents and teachers alike, together with our young peoples organisations, Scouts, cubs, squirrels, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides all carried lanterns from their own headquarters to

congregate at the crossroads in Temple Lane to witness this event. Rev Jane, our Parish Priest, read a prayer of dedication to open proceedings and dignitaries from around our area joined the village. (See picture on the vover

A new Torri arch was opened in our Memorial gardens by a relative of Mr 'Pink' the designer of the gardens and then everyone was invited back to the Congregational Church for refreshments. With the church and hall bursting at the seams at the amount of people choosing to join in the fun, the time capsule was opened by The Chairman of Braintree District Council. A new capsule will be filled and then opened again sometime in the future. A very large celebration cake baked by local baker took centre stage



The evening culminated in a musical interlude by Tom and his Break fill Four band together with our community singing group Silver Singers that all rehearse in our St Francis Church bringing

'songs through the decades' which invited everyone to join in the singing.

On Sunday evening, the Congregational Church invited members of the Silver End Academy old and new to join in for a 'Celebration in Song' singing all the well known songs from the school assemblies, Mrs Jeanette Duncan played the piano, just as she used to in the school and Mr John Jemison the former Head Teacher of the school was present together with past and current teachers. Lots and lots of former pupils and also some present joined in with the singing of the songs chosen, including 'This little light of mine, Autumn days, and Shine Jesus Shine' all very rousing and great fun. Mrs Debbie Baldry read a poem that she had written about the Memorial Gardens which was lovely and well received.

There is a memory tree in the Congregational church where village residents are invited to share a memory of their time in the village, this tree will be in situ for the foreseeable future and has already seen a good number of 'memories' added but there is still time to



add more, if you would like to write one of these please visit the church at either one of their coffee mornings held on a Tuesday morning or at their weekly service time of 6.30pm each Sunday. You will be warmly welcomed and you can then add your memory, both young and more mature memories are welcome.

Our thanks go to Sharon Gray and the Congregational Church for hosting both events and to everyone that spent long hours in the planning of this very special weekend, months and months of meetings have taken place to bring us all this amazing time and there is more to come in June. Watch this space.

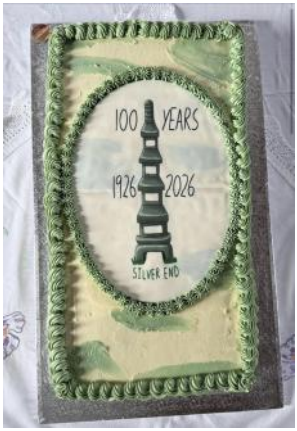
I will finish with the prayer that Rev Jane read at the ceremony

Lord God, from living stones you prepare an everlasting dwelling place.

As we stand here today marking the 100 anniversary of the Garden Village of Silver End, we give you thanks for Francis Henry Crittal.

As you have made us in your image to love and care for each other, so we thank you for Francis's vision and passion to create a village and community in which people were valued and provided with all that was needed to give them a good life.

We thank you for all those who have helped build this village, and contributed to it since; and we pray for your blessing upon this community now and henceforth. May it continue to cherish the standards for human dignity, togetherness and flourishing that Francis Crittal originally planted and established.



And so the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

AMEN

Seeing the Past through Glass windows by Dr Maureen Scollan, MA, PhD A story of Silver End

I have always been interested in windows, particularly those which have coloured glass; after all I did grow up in Silver End which was the dream of the man who created the village. Francis Crittall started his business career with an ironmonger's shop in Braintree and that became a limited company in 1899. Then came factories at Braintree and Witham for making metal windows rather than the more usual wooden ones. Crittall then dreamed about building a garden village for his workers in the rural parish of Rivenhall roughly half way between his two factories.

There were already garden villages in different parts of the country which provided homes for their workers, for example Port Sunlight in Cheshire where soap was made and various communities in the Birmingham area where Cadbury chocolate was made. Crittall

Type to enter text

wanted his planned garden village to include good facilities for his workers when they were off duty. Some years later, there was also a formal Japanese garden with grass and gardens, together with slides for children and a football pitch. There was a pond at the centre of the garden which in winter was often frozen. Although children were warned against walking on the ice, I once made an attempt for a dare, but the ice cracked and I fell in. The only part of me which wasn't soaked was my woolly hat!

In that more religious world a barn in one of the local farms was equipped as a Church of England and dedicated in April 1930, with an East facing window dedicated to St. Francis feeding the birds and animals. When my mum and I first attended St. Francis I apparently asked her if it was dedicated to Francis Crittall.

Buildings for other denominations were longer coming into Silver End In the early days. Roman Catholics hired a room in the Village Hall with a priest from Kelvedon so when my mum's family visited us that was where they worshipped. The Congregational church was dedicated in 1930 and still stands in the junction between Francis Way and Silver Street. I went to Sunday school there for a while as it was next door to where we lived; my brother refused to attend and much later in life he embraced eastern languages and culture when he worked in Saudi Arabia and Oman.

The Crittall factory in Silver End was just opposite St. Francis' church. Those workers and their families would encounter Colonel Crossley, one of the senior managers who visited each house at intervals to check that workers were not making unauthorised additions to their houses or had a problem with the house building. I can remember him visiting our house when a tap in the deep sink in the shed was leaking and my parents had bought a spin drier to make life easier

The Crittall company did not just produce windows for Essex properties, and one of the earlier projects was Coventry Cathedral in Warwickshire which had, in the second world been completely destroyed. Coventry was a major centre for producing war equipment and

500 German bombers knocked out the city for 11 hours and flattened the cathedral. It was rebuilt with the massive spire which became one of the tallest In England after Norwich and Salisbury. The Coventry cathedral windows were designed by a famous designer called Basil Spence and they included 198 brass colour panes. When Crittalls completed their part of the project a bus was provided for any workers who wished to take their families to see the final result. Little did I know that many years later I would work as a police trainer in a building where one could just see the tip of the spire in the distance.

Although I went to Silver End junior school, and then the secondary school in Witham for two years it was going to school in Chelmsford which led to two important events which have been important to my whole life.I was chosen by the headmistress to read one of the lessons in the school's Christmas service in Chelmsford Cathedral and I was impressed by the coloured windows glass there. That led me ultimately to find my way to the Essex Record Office which was then in the basement of County Hall. That led to me ultimately getting a job on the staff of the ERO for around 9 years long before I became a police officer. I loved my various jobs in the ERO and still have contacts and do some occasional research.

Around that time archeological work was being carried out on St. Mary's in Rivenhall and my brother and I volunteered to help as it was easily reached by bike from Silver End. My brother loved helping to dig up the ground beside the church and finding interesting items in the earth. Having passed my driving test I acquired a very ancient Lanchester car which was known by the

neighbours as the hedgehog because it spent so much time broken down and left in the hedge. That sort of car was known as a poor men's Rolls Royce but it made it easier to take my mum and me to St.Mary's two or three times a month. Having first been attracted to the wonderful East window in our Church made me interested in finding more about church buildings. Lord Western, the sort of Lord of the Manor in Rivenhall described the building as "a rude and unseemly structure" and he commissioned a specialist to remodel it. In 1839 the Rector Bradford Hawkins, purchased coloured glass from the Church at Chenue near Tour in France for the sum of 480 francs. It cost £5 10s and 3p to transfer the glass to London and then it was assembled in 1840 in St. Mary's church. The window included two large frontals of archbishops and four of Christ in Majesty, the entombment, knights in armour and Robert Lemaire. Nowadays that stained glass is considered to be the best in Essex.

Some months ago I attended a meeting in Broomfield near Chelmsford and found that lovely stained glass windows were still being made in this county as well as churches on the continent.The local artist was Rosemary Rutherford, daughter of the then vicar of Broomfield. Rosemary was born in 1912, died in 1972, and studied at the Slade School of Art in London which encouraged its students to draw illustrations of a wide variety of ordinary people of all sorts. At the beginning of the Second World War hundreds of children from London were evacuated to Essex parishes including Broomfield and Silver End. Later on Rivenhall had a number of Polish children who were bussed every day from the airfield to Silver End School.

Some of Rosemary's paintings of that time are of such children as well as members of her own household. Her successful glass making career was influenced by the number of churches that had been damaged in the war, and on my visit I saw some of her colourful coloured glass windows displayed. I was interested enough to explore a bit more about the history of brass making in the Middle Ages when it was regarded as the most mysterious of all the crafts.

A recently published book about Rosemary's life includes a list of some of the churches in Essex and Suffolk which contains stained glass created by her. They include St. Peter's at Nevendon, St. Paul's at Clacton, St. Francis' RC church at Halstead, St. Mary's Broomfield. Did Rosemary Rutherford ever visit St. Mary's Rivenhall ? We don't know, but if she did then she would

undoubtedly have appreciated the magical light of our East window which is enjoyed by everyone who sees it - including me.

Dates for your diary! May

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

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

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12th Lorna Bantock
19th Marina Price
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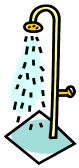
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Don't Delay Call Today

Turning the pages of History
Research by Tracy Scott

This month we will carry on with Rev. David Nash studies into Silver End history written during 2003.

Boars Tye Farm in the 18th Century: We retrace our steps to the 1720's when John & Jane Anderson were living at the farm; we might know more about them if there wasn't a gap of thirteen years in the parish registers. They appear to have moved away and a John Webb took over the farm. He died in 1729 and his widow, Sarah, continued farming Boars Tye for about 20 years. Many farmers' widows took over the reins in this way – sometimes finding a husband if the task proved too hard for them. Sarah Webb was capable and strong enough to run the farm without recourse to re-marrying; she lived several years in retirement before dying shortly after Christmas, in 1756. She was one of the two parish overseers for the poor in 1734 and 1735; a second year of office confirms her efficiency in carrying out her duties.

Few visitors to Rivenhall Church will fail to notice the brick chest tomb close to the east end of the building near the path. I seldom see it without it seeming to whisper "William Baker, Boars Tye" in my inner ear! You can examine the lettering on the stone table-top and when you find it hard to read, remember that two centuries have passed since William Baker of Boars Tye Farm laid to rest there.

William Baker's father, Thomas, took over Boars Tye from Sarah Webb in the late 1740's and the farm was to stay with the family for the best part of 70 years. Tom Baker expanded his farming quite quickly and was running Groom's Farm as well as New House Farm Cressing, within a few years. Tom and his wife Susan had at least 3 children: - Thomas Jnr. Born 1749; William born 1752 and Elizabeth born 1755. You could always rely on Tom Baker being present at public meetings and when in 1775 he became churchwarden, it was a natural step-up in the community. He had, after all, been overseer for the poor during the previous years and the new rector, Thomas W. Western, thought well of him. By 1779 Tom had either died or moved away; Thomas Jnr. Appears to have begun farming in Cressing, whilst William was left at Boars Tye. This is the William who was buried under the brick chest tomb. If helps to sketch out his life (45 years) which he lived almost entirely at Boars Tye. He and his brother probably got their education as

boarders in Witham or Braintree.

He married Anna in the late 1770's and they had a daughter, Anna, baptized at Rivenhall on Sunday, 30 July 1780. The mother, Anna, died around this time. The daughter, Anna, married James Hughes in 1800. By then, William had died (Nov 1796). It was under their management that the farm carried on into the 19th century. But to return to William:-

He had married again in 1788 (Rivenhall 25th July). Mary Gepp came from Black Notley: eighteen on her wedding day, she was eighteen years younger than William. The couple had two children: (1) Mary Ann, baptized Rivenhall on Sunday 10th May 1789, (she married 10th June 1811, Rivenhall, Samuel Sparrow, a man from Kelvedon) and (2) baby William, who died aged only one month in Sept 1792. William's 2nd wife outlived him by forty-nine years; she was buried in that same red-brick chest tomb as William. After the family left Boars Tye around 1815, Mary move to Kelvedon.

Farming at Boars Tye in the late 18th Century:

William Baker, 1752 - 1796:- in 1792 he became one of the two (annual) overseers for the parish poor. This raised a possible conflict of interest for him. A wet and cold spring was followed by a wet and cold summer and our local farms being largely arable, the rising price of wheat brought poverty and hardship. A farmer could lay off a farm labourer and slave his conscience, since the parish poor rate would support the man! And this system of supplementing wages from the poor-rate had begun some twenty years before William was born. People would despise an overseer of the poor if, as a farmer, he cut his labourer's wage – or dared to sack him. At this time agriculture still regulated the home market and was the key to understanding periodic slumps. With poor crops and exceptionally high food prices, demand for manufactured goods was reduced; when, after feeding themselves, folk and money to spare, this demand increased. In 1756, William's father experienced the wettest year in living memory: 1755 – 1757, the price of wheat doubled and although there was a good harvest in 1757, it was preceded by famine. Ten years later, William himself experienced the intense distress of 1766 when many folk were on starvations rations. The government prohibited the export of wheat. So much hinged upon the weather and William's first years in farming proved this to be the case. 1774 was the last of an eleven-year-long series of very wet years, which had virtually caused food riots in 1773.

So what about the good years? Well, 1775 -1781 produced some good harvests and dry summers; the hot summer of 1781 was followed by the worst drought for over forty years and that was not all: in 1779 the harvest was so good that the prices of all farm produce, including wool, fell to almost unprecedented levels. This, not surprisingly, had a bad impact on farmers like William. Yet there were good years like 1788 when, despite a long drought, Essex enjoyed a very good harvest. The south of England was not without much flooding and freak weather at this time. In 1791, from June 12th – 15th, the temperature went down from 75 to 25 degrees F. (23.8 to -3.8 C.) with accompanying snow and frosts; but that year's hay crop was good, although December frosts damaged the turnip crop. William Baker may have been a sick man in his final years; his working life was certainly full of worries.

The 19th Century History of Boars Tye:

When James Hughes left the farm in about 1816, the Hutley family took over until John Hutley died in 1831 age 68, there was then an eight year period when James Laver ran the farm until John Upson came on the scene. He held the job of Silver End village constable for nearly 30 years. Rector Hawkins' letter of 16th December 1873, written to two of his granddaughters at Great Maplestead Vicarage contains the following:-

"While out today with your cousin Arthur near the school, (Rivenhall) Mr. James Upson came by. (Farmer at Stovens Hall). I stopped him and asked him how far he was going; he said he was going to see John Upson (brother-in-law) at Boar *Stye, as he was not so well. I asked to ride with him and he said on my questioning him, which the Doctor had been sent for; when we reached Boars *Stye we found him dying; he had been taken worse between three and four o'clock and then, another quarter of an hour after we got there, he died. He had been my tenant for just 20 years; we have never had a cross word pass…"

Bradford Hawkins had risen from being curate-in-charge to the position of rector, 20 years earlier in 1853. John Upson had farmed the rector's glebe land as well as Boars Tey. *(Boars *Stye' was probably on of Hawkins' little eccentricities in spelling!) Boars Tey was a farm of 109 acres and the Rivenhall Glebe 32 acres. Young John worked for his farming uncle at Stovens Hall, Rivenhall. John Upson senior, the uncle was a

rather severe man so when young John fell in love with his cousin, Emma, John senior was not best pleased! This was because young John's prospects were not all that good, because they were cousins, and probably because he thought Emma could do a lot better. But the young couple were deeply in love and at 28 felt their lives were slipping away. They were set on marriage but Rivenhall, being local, was out of the question. Young John's father was a carpenter at Framsden in Suffolk by they did not want to get married there since it might set brother against brother. Elopement was the agreed policy and they supplied their details to the church authorities at St. Giles without Cripplegate in London with a view to marring in mid-October 1838. They probably had some advice from Bradford D. Hawkins and since bother were over 21, they were within their rights to shape their own lives.

The elopement of John and Emma Upson deserves a closer look. They probably planned it in this way. Young John looked after his Uncle John's horse at Stovens Hall, Rivenhall. He probably asked for some days off work with the hint of visiting his parents in Suffolk; this half-truth was something from which the couple would never quite clear their consciences. In those days it was Greenwich Time all the year round and mid-October sunrise was about 6.30am; first light somewhat earlier. It was 1838 and the railway had not yet arrived in Witham. The young couple decided on taking the night coach to London. Now if they went to catch it in Witham they risked being recognized, so after Emma had descended the ladder they made their way to the "Kings Head" at Kelvedon. The building stands next to no.25 High Street and has not been an inn for many years. They caught the night coach and later in the morning of 15th were married at St. Giles without Cripplegate.

Emma's father was suspicious of his brother in Suffolk and clearly thought he was involved! Emma's letter of Oct 25th ran as follows:

"Dear Father,

I am sorry you were disappointed at not meeting us at Ipswich yesterday but we did not receive your letter until between 11 & 12 o'clock yesterday and we set off directly. But when we got to Ipswich you had been gone about 10 minutes, but Shorten told John that you had left word that we were to come home directly, but the coaches were all gone except the night coach which did not come until 11 o'clock. So we came by a fish van which did not get

to Kelvedon until nearly 11 o'clock last night. We stopped at the King's Head and there we are now.

Dear Father, I would rather have met you at Ipswich, if it could so have happened, as I should like to see you before we come home if I may call it home which I thought a week ago I must not think of as a home anymore, neither did I expect such a kind letter after what had happened. But I hope, dear Father if you think of taking us home you will treat John the same as you do me, for remember now he is my husband and I know he will do all in his power to serve you and so will I. Perhaps you will take the trouble of coming to Kelvedon in the course of the day as I should not like to come home until the evening. From your affectionate daughter, Emma Upson."

"P.S. I hope my dear Mother is better and you and my brothers are well which I very much long to see."

(Excerpt from "An Essex Country Childhood" by Emma E. Upson, published 1971. See Boars Tye late 19th Century).

As already recorded in the 19th Century History of Boars Tey, the couple moved for a period into the Glebe farmhouse, next to the old rectory. By mid-1841 they were happily settled into Boar's Tey Farm, Silver End and the Census shows us:-

Boar's Tey John Upson 30 Farmer

Emma Upson 30

John Upson 11 months

Hepsibah Cranmer 25+ Female Servant

Mina Cranmer 14 Female Servant

So despite old John Upson's doubts about his new son-in-law's prospects he was now farming Boars Tye and employing two servants.

The History of Silver End: Boars Tye Farm:

Emma Upson died in 1867. Her husband John, with whom she eloped and married in 1838, died six years later aged 63. It was in 1873 when Emma's brother, James Upson, was driving to Boars Tye that he overtook Rector Hawkins who asked to ride with him on learning that John Upson was seriously ill. Only a quarter of an hour after they arrived, poor John died. John had chosen words by St. Paul to be the epitaph on their gravestone. They were surely meant to remind us of the elopement of long ago: "The night is far

spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of lights." Like many farmers who farmed north of the church, John and Emma's grove is on the north side of the churchyard and only a few rows in from the wall. The lettering on the headstone is very faint and the stone was repaired after being broken when a tree fell on it!

For most of his years at Boars Tey, in addition of his farming, John was Silver End's constable. He and Emma had nine children but not all of them survived infancy: Robert Herbert died in Oct 1839 aged only 3 months; Pamela died in late 1843 aged 7 months. John, the eldest surviving son married Mary Ann Beckwith daughter of the landlord of the Western Arms and farmed extensively at Hatfield Peverel. Robert, the next child, continued both at Boars Tey and at the Rectory Glebe farms. His first marriage ended in tragedy when his wife, Frances Eleanor, first child, Ellen, died in childbirth, just after Christmas 1876. She was only 33. After a gap of some ten years he married again. Whenever I read that someone died in the local infirmary I am inclined to think they had fallen on hard times; John and Emma's youngest son, Arthur, died at Braintree Infirmary in 1919 aged 66. Robert Upson's three brothers, Albert, Henry and Arthur are all listed as unmarried and living with widower Robert at Boars Tye in 1881.

The History of Silver End: Boars Tye late 19th Century:

As mentions in the last article above with a mention of Robert Upson whose first wife, Eleanor, died in childbirth after Christmas 1876. He re-married at the end of the 1880's; his second wife was Elizabeth Walton, daughter of a Norfolk farmer. She was a lot younger than Robert and they had five daughters and, finally, one son, Thomas Glencoe Upson; he was baptized at Rivenhall Church in January 1900. The fourth daughter, Emma Elizabeth, was born at Boars Tye on the 10th Feb, 1895. In 1971, Mr. Keith Coleman and I were able to assist Emma in writing "An Essex Country Childhood" which describes life at Boars Tey in the early 1900's. The following details are gleaned from this book.

"Of our family there were five daughters and on son and my mother must have been kept very busy; but she had placid and optimistic nature and managed her household affairs with tack and ability. For many years we had what was called in those days a "mother's help". As the term implies, she gave a helping hand wherever needed, especially with the children. The "boy" did the

knives and boots, cleaned the windows and kept the tank beside the kitchen range filled with hot water. The horseman's wife came to do the washing and other jobs and as we grew old enough we were each allotted our own particular tasks. When "mothers help" left, my third sister, May, (Beatrice May born 22nd Nov. 1892) was allocated the duty of bathing and putting to bed the three youngest children, (Emma, Gladys Martha and Thomas). As she was only two years older than me and regarded as one of the "three big ones", I was rather insubordinate at times, which did not make her task any easier. She gave us good conduct marks which she recorded strictly in a notebook and, naturally, being so troublesome, I had a good many "noughts". I considered she favoured my little brother and overlooked his misdeeds, while my youngest sister won all the prizes for her excellent behaviour."

"In my childish mind most of the Biblical stories I heard took place around or in the close vicinity of my home (Boars Tye Farm). Our garden was the Garden of Eden and the apple tree near the gate was the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, for we were told not to eat those apples and I, as Eve, naturally did so. I tasted one and found it very sour…"

David Nash 2003.

I hope you have enjoyed a glimpse into the past of one part of Silver End before Francis Henry Crittall changed the little hamlet into the start of what Silver End is today. If you are interested in more history of Silver End please contact Silver End Heritage Society which I am sure would like to help you. You can also find them on Facebook.

RIVENHALL GARDENING CLUB

The Club held their DAFFODIL SHOW at Henry Dixon Hall on Saturday 21" March 2026. It was judged by our local expert and distinguished member of the Daffodil Society, Malcolm Bradbury. There was a wonderful display of daffodils and spring flowers, all entered by enthusiastic members. Refreshments were served and a raffle held. Over all classes there were 85 entries. Trophies and Awards were presented by Mr. Bradbury. A very enjoyable afternoon.

DAFFODIL SHOW RESULTS

Rivenhall Gardening Club Shield

Maurice Bacon

Daffodil Society's Bronze Medal	Maurice Bacon
Daffodil Society's Diploma	Mike Selby
The Miniature Daffodil Cup	Maurice Bacon
The Alpine Shield	Maurice Bacon
The Daffodil Plate	Cyndy Hutley

DOMESTIC CLASSES

(Ginger Cake)

1st Mike Selby	2nd Clare Ramsden	3rd Teresa Neve

(Plain Scones)

1st Mike Selby	2nd Clare Ramsden	3rd Teresa Neve

PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Jenny Claydon	2nd Tracy Scott	3rd Clare Ramsden

Thank you to all who visited and to all members who exhibited.

The Club's normal evening meeting in Rivenhall Village hall was held on 14th APRIL 2026. Chairman, Maurice Bacon gave out Club notices including his thanks to all who exhibited at the Daffodil Show. Our speaker for the evening was Mrs. Gillian Owen, who will be our Horticultural Judge at our Autumn Show in September. Appropriately she was going to speak about `Growing and Showing for the Show bench'. For Spring Time and Tulips — an open cup shape (but not too open) and not in bud. For Hyacinths — all flowers on the stem to be fully open. For Roses — flowers must be a perfect circle with a perfect centre. Specimen Bloom category — foliage must be unblemished and no buds are allowed as they count as flowers. Prior to showing, roses can be put in the refrigerator to keep them as perfect as possible. Sweet Peas — arrange in a fan ensuring they look as good as possible. Vase of spring flowers — take time to arrange your display, condition of flowers must be good.

Vegetables — uniformity important. Good condition. Trim any `tops' to 3inches. Potatoes — not bruised, no fork holes. Wash

but do not overdo it and no `polishing' ! Potatoes on a plate — they do not have to be large, just `looking nice'. Tomatoes — keep fresh calyx on (so judge knows they haven't come from a supermarket!). Peppers — leave a section of stalk on. Runner beans — uniformity, straight, fleshy, good appearance. Judge should be able to snap them in two. French beans ditto and leave stalks on. Beetroot — leave 415 inches on — good shape and clean. Parsnips and carrots clean with a nice rounded top. Trim if they are not identical. Everything to look neat and tidy. The last comment Mrs. Owen made was to adhere what the Schedule says and show the correct number required! Apparently people do not always do this. We await in anticipation for a perfect Show!

CLUB COMPETITION RESULTS

Horticultural

1St Maurice Bacon 2nd Sue North 3rd Mike Selby

Pot Plant of the Month

1st Maurice Bacon (one entry only)

Flower of the Month

1st Maurice Bacon 2nd Clare Ramsden 3rd Jenny Turner

Photo of the Month

1st Mike Selby 2nd Sue North 3rd Jenny Turner

Domestic

1st Tina Jones 2nd Teresa Neve 3rd Clare Ramsden

No Club Meeting in MAY as there will be a Members' Club Outing. The next evening Club meeting in Rivenhall Village Hall will be on TUESDAY 9k,' JUNE at 7.30pm All are welcome. For further information contact the Club Secretary on 01376-512781.



It was a lovely sunny day and the Bus Driver decided to take the scenic route around Stovens Hall Farm

Thanks to Ann Kerr For the Picture

ST FRANCIS CHURCH SILVER END

PET SERVICE SUNDAY AFTERNOON





10 May 2026 3pm

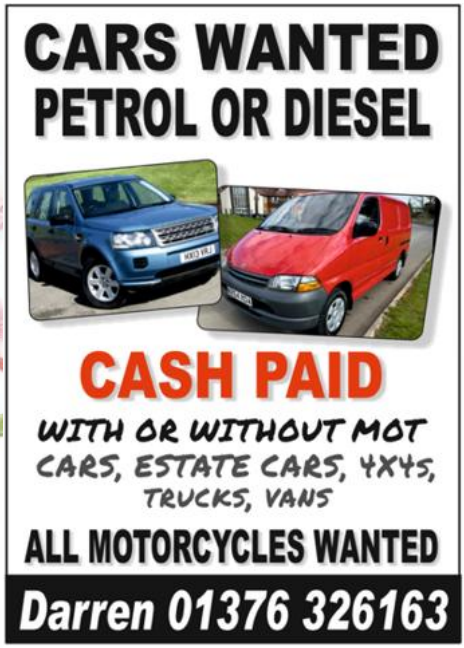
ALL PETS AND

OWNERS WELCOME 4 PLEASE JOIN US

REFRESHMENTS SERVED AFTER SERVICE

END TO END NATURE CARE SUMMER 2026		
DATE	**TIME**	**ACTIVITY**
29 April	19:00	Cowslip Survey. Meet in the parking area at the bottom of the track to Tarecroft Wood (grid ref: TL824171).
06 May	19:00	Spring visit to Silver End Pits. Meet at the Western Arms (CM8 3SD 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, Rickstones Road (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 2	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)
27 May	19:00	Rivenhall fields and Barrowfield Wood. Meet at Rivenhall Church.
03 June	18:30 for 19:00	Lexden Park Nature Reserve, Colchester. Meet at 18:30 at Stovern's Hall Farm to car share or at 19:00 at the reserve car park off Church Lane, Lexden (CO3 4AA or TL971250).
10 June	18:30 for 19:00	Maldon to Beeleigh Falls waterside amble. Meet at 18:30 at Stovern's Hall Farm to car share or at 19:00 in Maldon Tesco car park (CM9 4LE or TL849076).
17 June	18:30 for 19:00	Goldhanger for coastal surveying. Meet at 18:30 at Stovern's Hall Farm to car share or at 19:00 outside the Chequers Inn (CM9 8AS or TL904088).
24 June	18:30 for 19:00	Stisted, to sample the River Blackwater. Meet at Stovern's Hall Farm at 18:30 to car share or at 19:00 at All Saints' Church Stisted (CM77 8AW or TL798246). On street parking.
01 July	19:00	Tarecroft Wood and Rivenhall Thicks. Meet at Stovern's Hall Farm, Rickstones Road. Followed by optional glowworm survey at Bulford Mill Lane (Meet at Cressing Railway Station).
08 July	19:00 for 19:30	Summer Social at Stovern's Hall Farm (CM8 3HQ or TL825172). Bring a bottle and/or nibbles.
15 July	19:00	Ambling around White Notley. Meet at the entrance to the sewage works (CM8 1RS or TL787184). Followed by optional glowworm survey at Bulford Mill Lane (Meet at Cressing Railway Station)
N.B. Some details may change. If you are unsure of specifics for any activity, please call Simon on 07947 388180. Any evenings with a guest guide/expert may involve a small donation, usually £2.00 per person.		
End to End Nature Care's Website: www.e2e.silverend.org or join our Facebook group "End to End Nature Care"		





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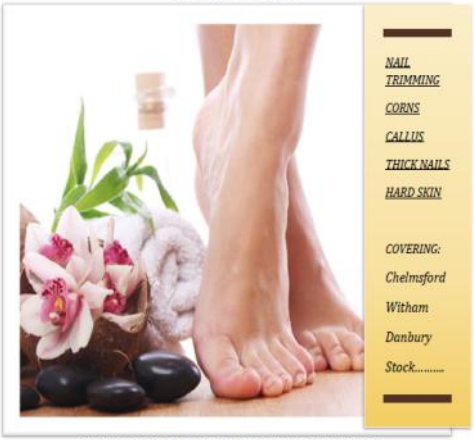
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Organisations in Rivenhall

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

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Closes 1 pm Wednesday and 12.30 pm Saturday
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