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



Here is the winning picture in our village photographic competition

November 2025 50p

The following are our services For November 2025

th

2nd November	**All Saints Day**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	All Age Worship
9th November	**3rd Sunday Before Advent**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	All Age Worship
16th November	**2nd Sunday Before Advent**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
23rd November	**Christ the King**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	Matins
30th November	**Sunday of Advent**

Joint Villages Team Ministry Service

St Andrews Hatfield Peverel 10.15 am

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’ – *‘Looking up’*

I can’t believe this is my penultimate article for the year!

But darker nights, colder mornings, and of course Christmas merchandise in the shops, are some telling signs of winter’s approach and the end of the year drawing nearer.

I am though someone who advocates *living in the moment!* So I’m not going to get ahead of myself….. Although I am going to pinch a line from one of my favourite Christmas films to use as this month’s theme!

The quote is: *‘Look up”* - which is uttered by the character Tom to Kate, in the film ‘Last Christmas’. The first time he says it is while they are leaving an alleyway, and he is pointing out carved mice on the side of a building.

But I wonder how often do we ‘*look up’…..*?

I guess if there’s a plane, especially a low noisy one, that we can hear, we probably will - the fly-past for example. But what about in our usual routine everyday lives…..?

I love sunrises and sunsets, but I will also be looking up at the sky during the day, fascinated and in awe of general cloud formations, and those moments when sunrays break through behind the cloud.

And because of this habit I found myself looking up as I was walking across the field the other day, only to see a beautiful hot air balloon, its bright colours framed by the clear blue sky…….. It brought an instant smile to my face.

Admittedly there are times when looking down is important - when negotiating uneven and tricky paths for example. But looking down all the time means we miss things!

And there is also something metaphorical about *looking up…..*

The psalmist talks of God as being the *“lifter of my head” (Psalm 3:3)* - the One who is able to raise us when we are disappointed and discouraged. And in Psalm 121 *(v 1-2),* we read: *"I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of*

heaven and earth".



As

A Picture taken after the storms in the 3rd week of October

This month we will once again be remembering and commemorating those who lost their lives in war, Charlie Mackesy has just released a new book, called 'Always Remember'. It is a follow-up to his first book 'The Boy, the Mole, The Fox and the Horse'. And like the first book it is a heart-warming and poignant read. And as we think about '*looking up'*, I just want to end with one of the quotes from the book:

"Those are dark clouds" said the boy.

"Yes," said the horse, "but they'll move on….. the blue sky above never leaves"

God's blessings to you all

Reverend Jane x

PRAYER HOUR

You are invited to meet with me on a Monday morning at 9am for an hour of prayer Sitting in peace and waiting on God, either in silence, or in words…… I will be rotating around the churches as follows:

Oct-Dec Silver End

Readings and Collects for November 2025

2nd November All Saints Day

All Age Worship

Readings

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Ephesians 1:11-end

Luke 6:20-31

Collect

God of glory,
touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit,
that we with all creation
may rejoice to sing your praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

9th November Remembrance Sunday

Holy Communion

Readings

Job 19:23-27a
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-end
Luke 20:27-38

Collect

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

16th November 2nd Sunday Before Advent

Holy Communion

Readings

Malachi 4:1-2a
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

Collect

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

23rd November Christ the King

Holy Communion

Readings

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

Collect

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

30th November Advent Sunday

Joint Communion at St Andrews Hatfield Peveral

Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

Collect

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

****

The 50/50 Club October 2025 winners

1st L Pearce 2nd Mrs Wood 3rd P Newell

****

WITHAM AND VILLAGES MOTHERS' UNION

Thursday 27th November at 2pm. St Nicolas Church Hall (in the car park). The Rev Howard Schnaar will talk to us about his "Road to Ministry"

All members and friends - old and new - are welcome to join us. For more information contact Lynette Abbott on 01376 512586

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; 7 pm

Carpet Bowls Thursday evenings.

Saturday afternoons - 7th Day Adventist Church

Coffee mornings have now returned on the following Fridays: ,8th, Aug, 5th Sep, 3rd Oct, 14th Nov, 12th Dec.
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…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 email: rivenhallvillagehall@gmail.com**
Or Call 07738 705585

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

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.

NOTES OF RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER 2025 IN HENRY DIXON HALL

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

Present: Cllrs Turner (Chairman), Cairns, Macrae, Abbott, Wright, & Prime and our clerk Amanda Brown.

Chairman's Report: Bob Turner reported Innova are checking their incinerator Community Grant Fund agreement as one current case states that no member of the Parish Council should be a member of the deciding planning authority.

Refurbishment at the Rivenhall Motel plus a large marquee is being investigated, together with fly-tipping at the back of the hotel into the Essex CC land on Henry Dixon Road.

Braintree District Local Plan Review. The Rivenhall Oaks Golf Course is currently not recommended for development by BDC. Whilst a BDC decision on much of the proposed Kings Dene development site is pending, assurances have been given that this will not include the two sites adjoining Oak Road, but it remains unclear if Kings Dene will include any land in the Parish around Hoo Hall.

Bob Turner has observed fewer tipper lorries breaking the weight limit on Oak Road, but three over-height vehicles have caused disruption, with police attending once.

District Councillors Report: The Local Plan Review - There will be three decision meetings of the Local Plan Committee to consider the 40 or so large sites across the Braintree district. There will be further LPC meetings in October and November to consider policy changes for the Local Plan.

The National Grid Norwich to Tilbury pylons planning application has now been submitted to the Government. There is a 4-week period for consideration of the application, known as a Development Consent Order (DCO), to decide if it is acceptable to go forward to a public Examination which will be run by a number of Planning Inspectors. .

This autumn, residents are due to get letters from BDC stating whether they will be on a "standard" or "non-standard" bin system when the new waste and recycling collection arrangements start in spring 2026. The standard system will have 3 wheelie bins : 2 for recycling (replacing clear sacks) and one for residual waste

plus the green wheelie bin as now for garden waste for those who subscribe. The food waste caddies will also remain as now. It is estimated that about 15% of properties in the district will be non-standard due to space and access constraints.

Planning: ESS/39/23/BTE/17/01 Partial discharge of condition 17 - Plume Abatement. The parish council will be objecting to this further change and will be copying our objection to local parishes.

25/01993/HH - Proposed part single storey, part two storey rear extension & two storey side extension at 11 Foxden: no objections.

25/01924/HH - Proposed single-storey annexe for ancillary accommodation and associated landscaping at Lakeside Cottage. Councillors voted, two in favour of objecting, one against and two abstentions.

Local Plan Review - "large sites" (greater than 500 homes): The Chairman will draft a statement on behalf of our council to be read at the relevant meeting.

S106 Monies for Tree Planting and Fencing on the Village Green: Councillors agreed to buy 5 lengths of hard wood timber for village green posts. New chains and hooks are also needed: our Clerk will enquire of Eastlight and BDC about low level fencing around parts of the green.

Policies to be Reviewed & Adopted: Our Publication Scheme and the Grievance Policy were agreed.

Supporting Community Minutes: Details of the grants available from BDC will be put onto the Rivenhall website and notice boards.

Development Consent Order - National Grid: our Clerk will register for the examination process to get regular updates. Also, register Cllr Cairns.

Future Meeting Dates:

Tue 04 November in Rivenhall Village Hall

Tue 12 December in Henry Dixon Hall (both Council meeting & budget setting)

Tue 06 January in Rivenhall Village Hall

Tue 03 February in Village Hall

News From St. Francis—by Denise

October in St Francis church has been very busy, all donated produce was blessed over harvest and will be distributed between the House of Grace , a local charity helping homeless adults find employment and their forever homes, and the local food bank helping families that need extra support. Thank you so much to the generous congregation members in our Parish and our families from silver steps daycare. The scarecrows were made by the children of silversteps too.

Our annual pet service was held outside this year, after some deliberation as to the state of the weather our Lord opened up the sky to allow the sun to shine through, however briefly. There is a significance in the number of animals attending, three of each kind, three rabbits, Chip, Chester and Coco, three dogs Harris, Rufus and Archie and three ponies, Teddy, Benson and Echo. Accompaniment on the keyboard from Antony for the singing of our hymns with Harris, Rufus and Echo joining in with the chorus !

Rev Jane blessed all attending animals, with prayers said for two animals known to us that are currently unwell. refreshments and cake served after the service inside our lovely church x. What a lovely afternoon xx

Our harvest lunch was held within our church on Saturday lunchtime, Rev Jane led our guests in the Grace thanking God for the food offered and this year the menu was hot jacket potatoes









served with a ham salad followed by an array of desserts such as bread pudding, apple pie, fruit cake, lemon meringue pie and trifle. A raffle was held and a quiz was offered. It was a fun afternoon bringing everyone together. Thank you to everyone that helped make these events so successful.





End to End Nature Care Making Bird Boxes
Stovens Hall Farm 15 of October

On the 15 of October the End to End Nature Care group met at Stovens Hall Farm to make a range of Bird, and Owl boxes.



An amazing number of people turned up making the occasion the most successful box making event ever. The photo below is an example of the many boxes produced. If you want plans to make your own a sample plan is shown below, Also below are some examples built previously



Nancy May Returned to St Mary's Rivenhall



Singer Nancy May performed an enchanting concert in the stunning setting of St Mary's Church, Rivenhall, on Friday evening.

The new voice of classical crossover performed an array of operatic, musical and popular ballads in one of our county's oldest parish churches. Nancy is currently touring with renowned tenor, Russell Watson, and is shortly launching a new album in London.

Further details of Nancy's album launch and tour can be found atwww.nancy-may.co.uk.

120 Years Since the Witham Rail Crash

On 12 September, a short service of remembrance was held by the railway viaduct on Almond Road in Witham to remember the 1905 Witham rail crash 120 years ago in which 11 people lost their lives and over 70 were injured: so severe was the crash that many people could not be identified. The northbound Cromer Express derailed at speed as it approached Witham station. Most of the 14 carriages came off the rails, with shattered carriages and debris strewn across the platforms and both the northbound and southbound tracks.

There was carnage, but things could so easily have become catastrophic. The southbound Cromer Express was due, but it was running one minute late.

Signalman Ben Sainty - along with his colleagues Fred Parrish and Thomas Bannister - leapt into action. Ben quickly changed the signals from Clear to Danger, which the train driver thankfully saw in enough time to stop a few hundred yards away from the station. Its passengers - including the Norwich City football team and their manager - disembarked and helped the survivors.

John and Jane Macrae heard of the remembrance and joined those at the gathering which was led by our Team Rector Rev Jonathan. Also present was Witham's mayor Paul Heath and a great-great grandson of signalman Ben Sainty. Following the service, Rev Jonathan asked for one minute's silence at 10:29 (the exact time of the crash). Immediately overhead on the railway viaduct came the rumble of





a speeding northbound train "Oh no, Jonathan is surely not holding a re-enactment" … of course he wasn't!

An information board was then unveiled on the grass verge.



In 1905, Rivenhall had its own signal box: one can only guess what our signalman was thinking. There were no telephones in signal boxes those days, just a line telegraph.



CARS WANTED
PETROL OR DIESEL



CASH PAID

WITH OR WITHOUT MOT
CARS, ESTATE CARS, 4X4S,
TRUCKS, VANS

ALL MOTORCYCLES WANTED

Darren 01376 326163

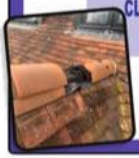
Essex Roofing Services

GENERAL ROOF REPAIRS



LEAD WORK & FLASHING
STORM DAMAGE ROOFING
CHIMNEY REPOINTING
FELT ROOFING
SHEDS RE-FELTED
GUTTERING CLEANED OR RENEWED
CLADDING, FASCIAS, SOFFITS
CONSERVATORY REPAIRS







FREE ESTIMATES

OFFICE 01376 326163
WORK 07775 998628



DANIEL ROBINSON & SONS

Incorporating
W C BROWN & SONS

Independent Family Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons

A professional, caring, 24 hour service

Private Chapel of Rest
Fleet of air conditioned limousines
Horse drawn funerals available
Traditional and contemporary funeral services to suit your wishes
Funeral pre-payment plans
Arrangements may be made in the comfort of your own home, if preferred

Haslers Lane	7 Manor Street	31 High Street
Great Dunmow	Braintree	Halstead
Tel: (01371) 874518	Tel: (01376) 320582	Tel: (01787) 475533

www.drobinson.co.uk

COLEMANS COTTAGE FISHERIES

Lakeview Tearooms

Come and enjoy the view whilst having a bite to eat



Open Thursday to Sunday 9am to 1pm
Breakfast, Lunches
Bar, Snacks
Call 01376 516383 if you want to arrange a Private Event

For more information go to:
http://www.colemansfisheries.co.uk/witham/cafe/
Colemans Cottage Fisheries
Little Braxted Ln, Witham CM8 3EX
FREE PARKING 01376 516383





SpeedyBroadband.co.uk

Sick Computers my Speciality

- Home Networking Problems Sorted Out
- Computer Viruses Removed
- Operating System Upgrades
- Upgrade to Windows 10

FOR YOUR FREE SURVEY AND QUOTATION CONTACT

Peter Hope

Peter.hope@speedybroadband.co.uk

Tel: 01376 502605

Mob: 07904 235101

Website

www.speedybroadband.co.uk

ANGLIA TREE SERVICES

Specialist tree surgery

Residential & Commercial Customers

CROWN REDUCTION • FELLING • TOPPING

HEDGE TRIMMING • ALL GARDEN WORK

STUMP GRINDING

For a quick, tidy and friendly service call:

Tel: 01621 892831

7 DAYS A WEEK •EMERGENCY SERVICE AVAILABLE•FULLY INSURED







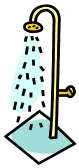
Philip Little

Property Maintenance Magician

Local service at local prices

Knowledgeable and friendly

07973 129808 or 01376 515257









Good Life Care

Contact Information:-
Email
info@goodlifecare.co.uk
Call Us
01376785670 or 07940 373598
Find Us
40, Stilemans Wood
Cressing, Braintree, CM77 8GR



CQC Registration: 1-6614223440

Beautiful Rooms For Rent In Witham & Braintree

We have 4 Lovely houses
2 in Witham—2 in Braintree
With and Without en-suites
£520 per month to 825 per month
(All inclusive of Rates, Light, Heat, and with Broadband)
See our Website:- www.jbwpartners.co.uk
Email :- jbwpartners@gmail.com

Or Call John
07850 161 629

Yoga Moments

Hatha Yoga class

Via Zoom or in person

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

(suitable for all levels including beginners)



One to one yoga therapy classes tailored to your individual health issues

Yoga, mindfulness and meditation can bring many benefits to your life

- Build stength and flexibility
- Relieve pain
- Ease stress and anxiety
- Enables restful sleep
- Helps with many health issues
- One to one classes with Mine

WWW.YOGA-MOMENTS.CO.UK

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF YOGA TEACHER

Call Mine Hilmi on 07811 203 981
or email mineyogamoments@gmail.com
to book your place

Jeremy Larke

Television services



Telephone: 01376 513645
Mobile: 07947 601619
Email: telerepair@aol.com

All Television Systems Catered for Freesat, Freeview, Sky

- Installations & Repairs To all makes and models
- Full Plasma & LCD Fitting Service
- Wall Mount Brackets Supplied and Fitted
- Aerial & Satellite Dishes Fitted
- Freeview, Freesat & European Channels
- View and Control Your Sky in Other Rooms
- Aerial and Telephone Extension Points Installed

Don't Delay Call Today

Remembering Erica!! By Denise Lane

This lovely lady was once a very important person to our villages!



Anyone that remembers Erica will also remember how integral she was to the cleanliness of our village, Erica used to voluntarily walk between Silver end and Rivenhall and likewise Silver end and Cressing temple litter picking keeping our village spick and span, she was an important part of St Francis church taking readings in our weekly services, she also volunteered to work in the gardens at Cressing Temple Barns.

Erica has now moved closer to her sister and being very well cared for, we have heard that she is now very settled and has stopped packing her bags to return home, we have been sent this lovely photo and I think you will agree she is looking really well and very happy.

Still miss you Erica, glad you're happy and looking really radiant xx

A Weekend Get-Away

By John Macrae

In October this year, Jane and I had the opportunity to stay a few days in Caister-on Sea, Norfolk and the weather was fortunately excellent.

On our way up we first went to Burgh Castle (a Fort of the Saxon Shore), a huge military Roman fort that is one of the best preserved in the country: it covered six acres. With its near-neighbour Caister Castle it controlled the entrance to both the River Waveney and the River Yare. Over nearly 1800 years, about half its boundary walls have subsided into the adjacent marsh, but the fort remains a magnificent monument in its very tranquil setting.

The walls were 11 feet wide at their base and 15 feet high with ten towers equally spaced along its walls. After the Romans had

departed, in AD 630 the Venerable Bede records the land inside the fortress was given to St Fursa to found a monastery. Such was the strength and resilience of Roman masonry that whilst there is no trace of the younger monastery, the older Roman walls stand proudly aloft! After 1066, the Normans erected a motte and Bailey castle within the walls. Early Norman masonry was soft and crumbly, so that too has disappeared!



The site commands wonderful views over a wildlife haven and Breydon Water. We then drove off in more glorious sunshine for a spot of lunch in Lowestoft, because we had other plans for the afternoon - the Lowestoft Scores Trail. The famous Old Lowestoft fishing town sat upon high chalky-clay cliffs which descended steeply to the fishing harbour. Steep, narrow alleyways called "Scores" connected the fishermen's homes, smoke houses and net stores to the harbour. There is a two-mile circular walk that winds its way up and down most of these (good calf muscle exercise!)

From our Caister base, the following day we drove to Cromer from where, in the morning, I walked a nine-mile section of the Norfolk Coastal Path south-eastwards to Mundesley where we met-up again for lunch. Looking back at my walking record I see it was back in 1994 that I walked from Hunstanton to Cromer, so this was a long overdue continuation along the East Anglian coastline! Coastal erosion is accelerating along this part of the shore, so parts of the original route are now inaccessible at high tide and necessitate steep ups and downs



to the upper cliff path or local roads. None-the-less, the weather was wonderful, the views were gorgeous, and the countryside and seascape enthralling. Mundesley has one particular war memorial that caught my eye: it is to "The many brave Royal Engineer bomb disposal personnel who were killed while clearing British landmines from the Norfolk coast between 1944 and 1953" ... a bitter legacy of World War Two "Fortress Britain".

On the following day we drove to Great Yarmouth to stroll and view the Great Yarmouth Historic Town Walk (2¼ miles): once again sunny! I never realised Yarmouth had so much of its old walls still standing, together with eleven surviving towers including the truly magnificently restored South West Tower: these are said to form one of the best Medieval town walls in the country. They offered the town protection on three sides, with the River Yare itself providing protection on its western flank.



Whilst it is great to travel far and wide to see and to learn about history, most of us actually know or have seen remarkably little of what East Anglia has to offer on our doorstep.

Heating Modernisation Grant's

Braintree District Council offers grants to support residents with hot water or heating systems.

The Major Housing Grant

BDC makes major housing grants for:-

- Installing hot water or heating systems
- Repairing hot water or heating systems

You can apply for a major housing grant if you are:-

- An owner occupier of a property
- A leaseholder with at least five years lease remaining and have a repairing responsibility for the property
- The property you want to repair, must be your only or main residence and must have been in your ownership for at least three years. For first time buyers, you must have owned the property for at least 12 months.

Major housing grants are means-tested and you must repay the grant in full when you sell or transfer the property.

You can contact **phandh@braintree.gov.uk** to apply for a major housing grant.

Report on St Mary's from the Church Wardens

In late September a concert by the soprano Nancy May was held in the church she is currently touring with Russell Watson, it was very well attended and those who were there were thoroughly entertained by Nancy, we look forward to welcoming her back in the spring of 2027.

This was followed by our first Autumn Fair in our church, which again was well attended, lovely to catch up with friends old and new, this also included the judging of our photographic competition, the theme for this calendar was 'All Creatures Great and Small, which was won by Ann Clarke, the photographs are at this time being prepared for print for the 2026 calendar and will be on sale for £5.

Our service of remembrance will be on the 9th November meeting at the war memorial in the churchyard.

On the 14th of November we will be having a quiz night at Henry Dixon Hall this includes fish and chips £12 bring your own drinks and snacks, includes a raffle , if you would like to enter a team see the flyer included in this magazine for details on who to contact.

We then move towards advent details will be displayed on the notice board of our schedule of services

Turning the pages of History
Research by Tracy Scott

This month we are looking into the life of a lady who lived in the village until after she married in 1955. With the kind permission of her son Derek and the Carolyn Turrall, Professional Funeral Celebrant at Three Counties Crematorium.

Paul and I had got to know this lovely lady of 'smiles, tea & cake' over the last 4 years and it was a pleasure to do so.

Jean Marie Wood (nee Slater)

6th October 1934 – 8th June 2025



Jean was born in Rivenhall at 3 Rickstones Road (This was the number of the house at that time) on the 6th October 1934. She joined 5 other siblings to parents George and Elizabeth Slater. George Slater worked as a Farm Hand on Valence Farm, Chadwell Heath and lived on St. Margaret's Road, Barking. While working he meet Elizabeth Whybrow a servant at the farm which lead to them marring on the 7th October, 1917 at St. Margaret's of Antioch, Abbey Church (The church stands where once Barking Abbey stood. A very large building that was built in 1350, thou worship had been going on at this site since around 666AD.) of course Henry VIII dissolved the Abbey in 1539 which left the church standing alone.

George and Elizabeth soon had a son George H. E. born in 1918 and then followed Jim, Len and Doris (Doll), all born in Barking. By 1932 George moved his family to Rivenhall to work at Well's Farm and they all moved into one of the Farm Workers Cottages along Rickstones Road. Another addition to the family arrived in 1932 Stan (Buddy) and two years later Jean Marie came along…then Roy was born 1938.

Jean often recalled playing with her other siblings and neighbouring children and would have fun playing 'Tin Can Cooper', hopscotch and skipping in the road. On Saturday mornings she would help her Mother clean the house and her brother's football boots, which still had mud on them from the week before games. She also recalled the time she once trod on the wet kitchen floor that her mum had just cleaned only to receive a wet cloth around her legs. It really stung and she didn't do it again!

The family stayed at home during the WW2 and if there was a hint of an air raid, Jean's father would come running in from the field and get Roy and Jean under the dining table, while the rest of the family crammed into the air raid shelter. Jean's brother was in the Army and when he came home on leave, she was tasked with cleaning his belt with dubbin. (Dubbin has been used since Middle Ages and is great for waterproofing leather.)

Jean went to Sunday School in Rickstones Road, Witham and she attended All Saints Primary School in Guithavon Street and then moving onto Bramston School in Spinks Lane. At school she enjoyed needlework with Miss Mellon (I am sure many of you remember her who taught me English in the 1970's and was there when she retired) and Mrs Cooper for cookery. During her teenage years, she spent time with her niece Jean (Jean Bircher), or she helped her dad with his allotment and of course helped out with the cleaning.

After leaving Bramston School Jean worked in the Fish & Chip shop in Mill Lane, Witham, which then was owned by Mr Palmer. Occasionally, she worked on his mobile van round, and was sometimes accompanied by her sister, Doll.

One evening the 19 year old Jean and her parents went to the Fox Pub at Rivenhall End. Jean's dad was playing in a darts match alongside 21 year old Ron Wood. As Jean's parents approved of Ron they got talking. Jean was attracted to Ron's good looks and chat up line, while Ron thought Jean was slim and pretty with a beautiful smile. It seems Jean's dad may not have been the only one to hit

the Bullseye that night. Over the next 2 years, Jean and Ron spent their courtship in and around Little Braxted, Rivenhall and Witham. By now Jean had joined Hoffmann's Factory and was employed to inspect ball bearings for quality control. The 10th December 1955 may have been chilly day, but the warmth of love was all around as Jean and Roan said "I do" at St. Marys and All Saints Church, Rivenhall. Jean was given away by her dad and driven to the church by Ron's father. The best man, was Ron's elder brother Joe, and Jean's bridesmaids, were her niece, Jean and Ron's sister, Eileen. After the wedding 35 guests joined the happy couple for a wedding breakfast of soup, ham salad with new potatoes, followed by trifle. Initially Jean & Ron lived with her parents at Rickstones Road, where they welcomed the birth of their son Derek in 1956.

By 1958, they moved to Pelly Avenue, Witham, a newly built two bedroomed property which they rented. Their daughter, Jan was born in 1959 and by 1967, they moved across the road to a house which had three bedrooms and a big garden.

Jean and Ron were wonderful parents and they worked hard to make sure Derek and Jan had the best childhood they could afford. Jean was a loving, caring and supportive mum who always put her children first. She taught them to be decent, polite and honest. In the school holidays, Derek and Jane helped their mum pick potatoes and runner beans in the fields and apples in the orchards in and around Witham, Wickham Bishops and Faulkborne. Back then, health and safety went out the window as Jean and the children rode on the back of the tractor and trailer that picked the field workers up. While the children were at school, jean took on work as a house cleaner, before joining BP Nutrition Ltd, as a catering assistant in the factory kitchen. She also provided silver service to the directors when they had important visitors. From the onset Jean said the job was only temporary, but she stayed for 20 years until retiring in 1995. When Derek and Jan flew the nest to have families of their own, Jean and Ron became proud grandparents. She adored them all and many treasured memories were made.

As a couple, Jean and Ron were soulmates and very close. Apart from Jean's bingo night, the rarely ventured out on their own and spent all their time together. They were a good team and enjoyed being in their garden, where Ron grew the veg while Jean planted the pots and flower beds.

Jean will be remembered as a lovely lady who was warm, friendly and sentimental. Happiness for Jean was spending time with her family and friends. She also liked being complimented on how well she looked and disclosing her age. Jean was a remarkable lady and her family miss her love and guidance, her smile, laughter, light hearted humour and everything about her. Reunited once more with Ron.







A poem for Remembrance

2023 after attending a family funeral I came across the Parish News in the Square and Compasses in Fuller Street, Chelmsford, and I confess that it was not until I got home that I read 'please do not remove'!! So now I say I am very sorry, but if it was not for this error I would not have found this poem and read it in whole instead of only knowing the four lines within the context that we have all grown to know every 11th November. This poem was published in The Times newspaper on 21st September 1914 by Laurence Binyon.

For the Fallen

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have not lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To innermost hear of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night.

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

Quiz Night



Friday 14th November 2025- 7.30 p.m
Henry Dixon Hall - Rivenhall End

£13 per Ticket including:
Fish and Chip Supper
(Veg / Vegan Catered for)





Teams of up to 8 players
Team captains to get tickets from:-
Ann Kerr:- Tel 01376 515437
Or Ann Riddleston Tel 01376 515400

Bring your own nibbles drinks and glasses
Book early to avoid disappointment
In Aid of St. Mary and St. Francis Churches

BURNS SUPPER and CEILIDH

Saturday 31 January 2026

An Evening of Scottish Fare and Entertainment at

SILVER END VILLAGE HALL

The Broadway, Silver End CM8 3RQ







Live music with The Caledonian Reelers

and Caller Sue Last

Piping interlude

7.00pm for 7.15pm

Last dance 11.30, Carriages 11.45pm

Tickets £36 available from Ann Kerr 01376 515437

Please bring your own drinks and glasses

Braintree, Essex Garden Services

- Stump Grinding
- Roots Removed
- Tree Felling
- Dangerous Trees
- Logs For Sale
- Wood Chipper
- Tree Pruning
- Hedge Trimming
- Grass Cut Monthly
- Turfing/Seeding
- Patios/Paving
- Garden Sheds Cleared
- Artificial Lawns
- Weeding Service
- Decking Service
- Fences/ Gates

FREE ESTIMATES

Darren: 01376 326 163

07775 998628





Book Club

St Mary's Vestry

A new book club will be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month between 1-3pm, beginning 17th September 2025.

Tea/Coffee and chat!
All welcome Jane



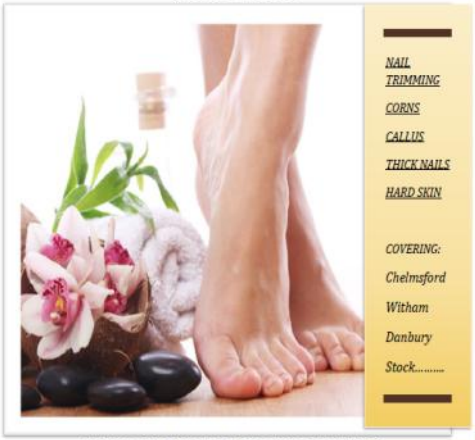




FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER

THE SMAE INSTITUTE

HOME VISITS



JAMES NEWMAN (MCFHP,MAFHP)
TELEPHONE: 01376 519036
MOBILE: 07793971351

HAVING A LITTLE PROBLEM WITH YOUR COMPUTER

- Is your printer no longer printing?
- Is your Wi-Fi not connecting?
- Is your computer running slowly?

Then I'm your IT guy!

Sam Little

Contact me on –

07805 647444



Brookend
VETERINARY PRACTICE LTD
62 Braintree Rd Witham

CARING FOR THE PETS OF WITHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA FOR 30 YEARS

Late night surgery Monday's and Wednesdays till 7.30pm

Surgery Opening hours:-
Monday to Saturday for appointments
Monday and Wed 8.30 am –7.30 pm
Tues, Thurs & Fri 8.30 am—6.30 pm
Sat 8.30 am to 12 Noon

Tel: 01376 500038

www.brookendvets.co.uk

Aerial Photography
Barns
Chimneys
Roof Tops

COST EFFECTIVE, SAFE ACCESS, ROOF TOP INSPECTIONS BY DRONE WITH NO NEED FOR SCAFFOLD, TEMPORARY WORK OR STRUCTURES REQUIRED.

HIGH SIGHT

NON DISRUPTIVE, FAST AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, SAME DAY REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REPAIRS

FULLY CAA AND CIOB REGISTERED, QUALIFIED AND INSURED SERVICE. CARRIED OUT BY EXPERIENCED SURVEYORS.

Call to discuss your requirements;
Chris; 07817219133
Jim; 07966403783
email; highsightse@gmail.com

Historic Buildings Monitoring
Building Inspections
Estate Records

Solilaqui
Reiki Holistic Treatment Services.

Sally uses a combination of Usui Reiki; Colour Therapy and Sound Healing to help guide you towards your authentic self. Reiki can help you feel more focused and balanced: Physically Emotionally, and Spiritually. DM via IG or Facebook, or WhatsApp message for more info and to book your bespoke session. Witham.
Appointments available: Afternoons and evenings, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday.
07790 898749

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063654446897
https://www.instagram.com/solilaqui_reiki_warrior/?e=48a12099-f705-4f8f-b654-89345b93444f&g=5



G. COLLINS & SONS FUNERAL DIRECTORS LTD

Serving the community for over 130 years

4 THE STREET, WHITE NOTLEY, CM8 1RH
30 RAYNE ROAD, BRAINTREE, CM7 2QH

SCAN this QR code for a digital version of our information brochure

01376 583750 / 342266

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
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

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 1pm to 5pm Thurs/Saturday 9am to 1pm

DRH LANDSCAPES LTD

Since 1987

Where Design and Quality comes 1st

Award Winning Garden Design

Telephone: 01376 514 142 / 01245 890 248

www.drhlandscapes.com



Garden Design and Build

Full Complete Hard and Soft Landscaping Service

Driveways and Patios

Wall and Fencing

Artificial Lawn and Turfing

Tree Services

Hedge Cutting and Pruning

Private and Commercial Landscaping and Ground Maintenance

British Association Landscape Industries ACCREDITED

Marshalls REGISTER ACCREDITED LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR

Tobermore REGISTERED PAVING CONTRACTOR

DESIGNER INSTALLER

BALI 2020 National Landscape Awards

77-83 Harcog Centre, Maldon Road, Witham, Essex CM8 1HP.