

End-to-End

The Parish Magazine of

Rivenhall and Silver End



As a Village we should be very proud that children from our Village Primary School were invited to present to the new Bishop of Chelmsford the

Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani

On Saturday 4th September, Rivenhall C of E School were privileged to be invited to Chelmsford Cathedral to take part in the service to celebrate the seating of the new bishop. This was a beautiful service and I would like to thank Toby G, Amelia and Daisy P for representing the school so well.

Nov

2021

50p

The Following are our services For November 2021

7th November

9.30 am St Francis

11 am St Mary's

3rd Sunday Before Advent

Holy Communion (STC)

All Age Worship

14th November

2nd Sunday Before Advent

Remembrance Sunday

Silver End

Village Service in the Village Hall

10.50am St Mary's At the War Memorial for laying of Wreaths

11.00 am Service of Remembrance in the Church

21st November

9.30 am St. Francis

11 am St Mary's

Sunday Next before Advent

Morning Prayer

Matins

28th November

9.30 am St. Francis

11.15 am St Mary's

Sunday of Advent

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion

Church Contacts

All Contact should be Via the Churchwardens

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Rivenhall Website

www.stmarysrivenhall.co.uk

St Francis Silver End Website

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Contact the Editor 07904 235101 or phope02@gmail.com

From The Church Wardens

As we begin our new journey following the departure of Paulie from our parish, we will all need to reflect on where our parish is today and where we would like it to be in the future!

Covid has introduced massive changes in how our society functions and has introduced many new ways of thinking about how we interact with each other and how the church ministers to it's flock. We now reach out to people locally and far and wide through services relayed by Facebook Zoom etc as well as in church. When Covid recedes we shall hopefully be able to resume many of the old ways, some of which will have changed irreversibly.

We are blessed with a beautiful Church building that has survived for well over a 1000 years in various forms, for worship and as a focus of our community. That said we really need to welcome back members of the community and widen the purpose of that building if it is to survive as a place of worship and hospitality for another 1000 years.

As we begin our search for a new leader for our worshipping community, we need to reflect on what kind of leadership we need to take us forward into the future.

Remembrance

This year remembrance Sunday will be on November 14. As usual we will hold a laying of wreaths ceremony at the War Memorial outside St Marys Church Rivenhall beginning at 10.50 am. Our wonderful bugler, Mary Stangroom, will be in attendance. Residents of Silver End will gather for their own service, in the village Hall.

In 2018 we marked 100 years since the end of the great war and this year marks 100 years since the formation of the Royal British Legion and the first sale of Poppies as a mark of remembrance, on what is now called Remembrance Sunday. We should remember our memorials are for all those who have fallen in battle during the two world wars and all conflicts since then.

In the service that will follow Led by the Rev. Val Drury we will sing The Hymn "God is our Strength and Refuge" to the tune of the Dambusters March composed by Edward Coates. This tune was written for the 1955 war film "The Dambusters" but the words of the hymn are based on psalm 46:-

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

² *Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;*

³ *Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.*

⁴ *There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.*

These words (or the Greek / Hebrew versions) were probably written 1000 years before Christ (over 3000 years ago) in the time of King David. They are therefore a reminder to us all of the importance of God in our lives in difficult times, such as the present with the full force of the "Covid Pandemic" still with us.

In researching this piece I was struck by a reported connection between the translation of the Psalm into english and William Shakespeare.

Some scholars have considered the following:-

Shakespeare's Possible involvement in the Translation of Psalm 46

For several decades, some theorists have suggested that William Shakespeare placed his mark on the translated text of Psalm 46 that appears in the King James Bible. Although many scholars view this as unlikely, stating that the translations were probably agreed upon by a committee of scholars.

On the other hand, Shakespeare was in King James' service during the preparation of the King James Bible, and was generally considered to be 46 years old in 1611 when the translation was completed. There are a few extant examples

of Shakespeare's actual signature, and as was customary at the time, with spelling being somewhat lax in those pre-standardized days, on at least one occasion he signed it 'Shakspeare', which divides into four and six letters, thus '46'. The 46th word from the beginning of Psalm 46 is "shake" and the 46th word from the end (omitting the liturgical mark "Selah") is "spear" ("speare" in the original spelling) interesting?

So please come on November the 14th to mark our War Dead at the memorial at 10.50am and in the Church afterwards to sing some lovely Hymns and the National Anthem.

Peter Hope, Church Warden

Readings and Collects for November 2021

7th November 3rd Sunday Before Advent

Readings

Jonah 3:1-5,10

Hebrews 9:24-end

Mark 1:14-20

Collect

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

14th November Remembrance Sunday

Readings

Daniel 12:1-3

Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

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.

21st November Christ the King

Readings

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

Collect

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

28th November Sunday of Advent

Readings

Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

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 September 2021 winners

1st Linda 2nd C Newell 3rd G Cairns

VILLAGE HALL

Some committee members are getting a lot of flack on numbers allowed in the village hall. Certain organisations seem to be upset that only 50 people are allowed in the hall.

What these people don't understand is that Rivenhall Playing Fields Association Committee all 6 of us are trying our hardest to keep the hall a safe environment for its users. We are sorry if this offends anyone **BUT** safety must come first. The hall is available to hire but our rules must be obeyed. Safety comes before money. If anyone would like to try and do a

better job? Some of us are prepared to stand down me for one it is not worth all this aggravation.

Following our recent committee meeting we as a group of 6 are unable to run a coffee morning but the hall is available to hire if anyone in the community would like to setup and run a coffee morning independently for the community, we would be more than happy to advise regarding hire availability.

It is with great sadness that the annual Grotto will NOT be going ahead this year we feel with the current situation the risks are to great (for Santa and all)!

Mick, Committee Chairman

Rivenhall Village Hall Hire Rules

To comply with us being a COVID-19 safe venue

From October 2021 (to be reviewed Springtime 2022)

- The hall will only be able to accommodate 60 people.
- The hall kitchen (including all crockery and utensils) will be closed to hirers unless specifically booked with specified requirements.
- There will be one toilet available for use by hirers, being the disabled toilet unless specifically booked with specified requirements.
- The stage area will NOT be in use unless specifically booked with specified requirements.
- Access will only be allowed during the specific time of hire.
- Each hirer is responsible for implementing their own track and trace system as required
- Sanitiser will be available on entry and exit to the hall.
- Hirer must remove from premises all bags containing rubbish and used paper towels from toilet
- Ventilation – the hall will be well ventilated with windows to remain open for the duration of hire.
- The hall will be cleaned after each hirer by the hall cleaner.
- Any hirer not adhering to these rules will have any future booking cancelled.

RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

NOTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH OCTOBER 2021

These notes are an abridged version of the minutes

Present: Cllrs. Abbott (Chairman), Wright (Vice-Chairman), A'Lee, Cairns, Elliott, Prime and Turner.

Also present: Parish Clerk, ECC Cllr. Playle and one member of the public.

Public Forum

ECC Cllr. Playle referred to the requested new section of public footpath along Church Road, which looks set to be rejected by ECC. Any future LHP scheme requests should be submitted before the beginning of November 2021.

Matters for Discussion

Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

Correspondence is ongoing with the primary school about the potential for commemorative mugs being provided for pupils. Also, BDC may be offering specimen trees for planting, as they did with the previous major Jubilee.

Tree and Bulb Planting

BDC is offering free tree whips and spring bulbs to parish councils with a maximum order of 4 x 100 mixed bulbs plus 2 x 50 mixed tree whips. The closing date for applications is 29th October. It was **agreed** to apply to this scheme for the maximum number of tree whips and bulbs.

Recycling site litter bin

It had been confirmed that it is possible to fund the installation of a new bin via BDC Councillor Community Grants. (Cllrs. Wright and Abbott declared an interest and left the meeting at this point and Cllr. Cairns took the chair for this item). It was **agreed** that Cllrs. Wright and Abbott apply to BDC for the grant funding.

Three Parishes Meeting

The next meeting to be held 26th October at Rivenhall Village Hall.

Meeting with Witham Town Council

A meeting had been attended at Witham Town Hall by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Prime and the Clerk at the invitation

of Witham Town Council to discuss the boundary between Rivenhall and Witham. It was made abundantly clear to WTC that RPC would not agree to any further changes to the Rivenhall parish boundary or to any proposed WTC Neighbourhood Plan including parts of Rivenhall parish. RPC would, if requested by WTC, comment on their consultation proposals and wished to be on good terms with WTC.

Highway Maintenance

The Chairman has again communicated with ECC regarding the advertised road closures that didn't materialise and the flooding issues that remain at the Rickstones Road/Rectory Lane junction and near the railway bridge.

Non-functioning streetlights have been reported to ECC Highways.

The Chairman said he would try to reset the displaced drain cover along Oak Road.

Potholes on Rickstones Road will be reported to ECC Highways.

The problems arising from vehicles being parked on, and obstructing, the pavements along parts of Church Road, Oak Road and Rickstones Road will be reported to Essex Police with a request for enforcement action.

A request will be made to ECC for the trimming back of an overgrown Laurel bush which is partly blocking the footway along Oak Road.

General Maintenance

The maintenance contractor will be requested to trim back the overgrown verge hedge at a location in Rickstones Road so as to provide a sufficient sightline for oncoming vehicles. Also to grub out and remove the grass overgrowing the footway where it comes to an end opposite Stoverns Hall.

Planning Applications

Pre-application exhibition re proposed Solar Farm, Church Road.

A public exhibition for the proposed solar farm off Church Road to be held in Silver End Village Hall on Wednesday 6th October and a second event at Henry Dixon Hall on 21st October.

21/02933/FUL: 3 x 2 bed bungalows, Rectory Lane.

Members made the following comments regarding this application:

The application is based on the presumption of a turning area being provided in connection to the Bellway application which is yet to be determined. Also Rectory Lane is too narrow to safely allow for additional traffic. Members therefore opposed this application and recommended BDC refuse consent on those grounds.

Planning Enforcement

Enforcement remains outstanding regarding the cabins/containers sited on the temporary Bellway car park off Rectory Lane and the metal scaffolding footbridge from that temporary car park onto Rectory Lane.

The Chairman is to ask for an update from BDC.

Ongoing Planning Issues

A12 to A120 widening

A project update meeting, via Microsoft Teams to be held on 20th October.

BDC Local Plan

The Planning Inspectorate appointed Jameson Bridgewater and Anne Jordan to examine the Section 2 Braintree District Local Plan and hearings took place in July this year. BDC is now awaiting feedback from the Inspectors. It is expected that the Inspectors will say that the Plan can be made Sound subject to main modifications. The revised Plan will also need to be subject to a revised Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA).

There would then be a further public consultation period which will be an opportunity for residents, businesses and parish councils to have their say on whether they support the modifications.

Once that process was completed the Inspectors would consider the responses to those modifications and the revised SA and HRA.

If the Inspectors consider that they have all the information that they require they would then submit their final report. If found Sound, BDC would then Adopt the Plan and it would replace all remaining parts of the Local Plan Review 2005 and the Core Strategy 2011.

Rivenhall Airfield Major Waste Site

The next Liaison Meeting to be held on 6th October at Rivenhall Hotel.

Braintree Local Highways Panel

It would appear that ECC is not recommending to progress with the Church Road new footpath scheme. The Chairman reported that he

had attended the September LHP meeting as a speaker and asked that the scheme be retained and that the reasons ECC were giving for not progressing the project were misplaced. It was **agreed** that ECC be informed of their apparent misunderstandings about the scheme which require further investigation.

Finance

Councillors **agreed** to the annual donations to the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance and the Royal British Legion.

Information exchange and items for the November agenda

- * The next BALC meeting is on 7th October at The Lecture Hall, Steeple Bumpstead.
- * An appreciative card will be sent to the departing Vicar.
- * The following matters will be placed on the Agenda for the November meeting: A welcoming letter to be sent to new residents of The Bluebells development; supporting the RPFA and new measures to combat fly tipping at the recycling site.

Dates of future meetings

2nd November at Rivenhall Village Hall and 7th December at Henry Dixon Hall, both meetings starting at 7.30pm.

Toffee Apple Pudding

Bonfire night treat meets classic comfort food in this doubly delicious dessert that your family won't be able to resist

Ingredients:

- 3 red dessert apples
- juice ½ lemon
- 4 tbsp golden caster sugar
- 397g can caramel (we used Carnation)
- 6 brioche finger rolls, sliced into rounds
- 3 eggs

- 400ml full-fat milk
- 200ml double cream
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ice cream, to serve (optional)



Instructions:

1. Core the apples, then slice into rings about as thick as a 50p piece. Toss through the lemon juice and 2 tbsp sugar. Spread about 2 /3 of the caramel over the base of a large baking dish (ours was 20 x 30cm).
2. Layer the brioche and apple rings in the dish in overlapping lines. Dot spoonfuls of the leftover caramel here and there, leaving bits of apple poking out. In a jug, whisk the eggs, milk, cream, vanilla extract and 1 tbsp sugar. Pour the mixture over the brioche and apples, making sure it's all well covered, then wrap in cling film. Set aside for at least 30 mins, or overnight, in the fridge.
3. Heat oven to 170C/150C fan/gas 3. Uncover the pudding and scatter with the remaining 1 tbsp sugar. Bake for 45 -50 mins until the top is golden and the custard has set. The caramel should be bubbling around the edges and

the pudding puffed up. Serve with vanilla ice cream, if you like.

Sky Notes

November 2021

The last month of meteorological autumn brings a return to short days with the Sun setting at 4pm GMT by mid-month. In the early evening twilight after sunset looking low to the South West, Venus will be shining brightly. A good pair of binoculars or a small telescope will show Venus as a crescent. On the 8th November the young Moon will be close to Venus.

Jupiter and Saturn can still be seen in the evening and the Moon will pass below Saturn on the 10th and below Jupiter on the 11th. The Lucy mission to Jupiter's Trojan asteroids successfully launched on October 16th. The Trojans orbit the Sun with Jupiter, with one group ahead of the gas giant and the other behind it. Over a 12-year journey and many complex course changes, Lucy will visit eight different Trojan asteroids. The Trojans are believed to be almost pristine left over 'building blocks' from the early history of our Solar System.

Full Moon is on the 19th with our constant companion in space beaming down from 60 degrees altitude at midnight. There will be an eclipse of the Moon this month but unfortunately it is not visible from the UK. The eclipse will be best seen from the USA.

The Taurid meteor shower peaks in the first half of November. The constellation of Taurus, from where the meteors appear to come, reaches a good height in the Eastern sky by about 9pm so late evening watches under clear skies should be rewarded with seeing at least a few of these slow moving meteors. The Leonid meteors in late November will be affected by moonlight.

The winter constellations can be seen by late evening this month with Orion well up in the South East by 11pm. The central star of the three stars in Orion's belt is called Alnilam and it is one of the most powerful stars in our galaxy. Although it is about 2,000 light years away, it is readily visible to the unaided eye owing to its extreme luminosity which is estimated to be between 300,000 and 800,000 times that of our Sun. Alnilam is a class of star known as a 'blue supergiant'. Unlike smaller, stable stars such as our Sun which live for many billions of years, blue supergiant's live for only a few million years, burning their hydrogen fuel at a very high rate and ending in a supernova explosion. In their final phases, supergiant stars fuse heavier elements together which are then blasted out into space when the star explodes. These heavier elements include iron and so we have unknown stars that exploded billions of years ago to thank for a metal here on Earth which is an essential part of our modern society.

Sky Watcher





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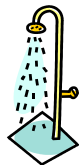
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SUNDAY 14th November 2021

REMEMBERANCE SUNDAY

**Gather at the War Memorial at St Mary's church
at 10.50am for the laying of wreaths**

Our Bugler will Play the Last Post



Christmas in Rivenhall

12th December CAROLS

at St Mary's Church Rivenhall



**Our service of 9 Lessons and Carols will be held at St
Mary's Church Rivenhall on Sunday 12th of December
at 11 am come and get in the mood for Christmas!!**

21st of December Carols on the Green

**We Will be singing Carols on the Village Green
starting at 7.30 pm**

with the Chelmsford Silver Band in attendance

**This will be followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
in the Village Hall (with a maximum of 60 inside)**

**24th of December Lighting of the
Christmas Tree (Crib Service)**

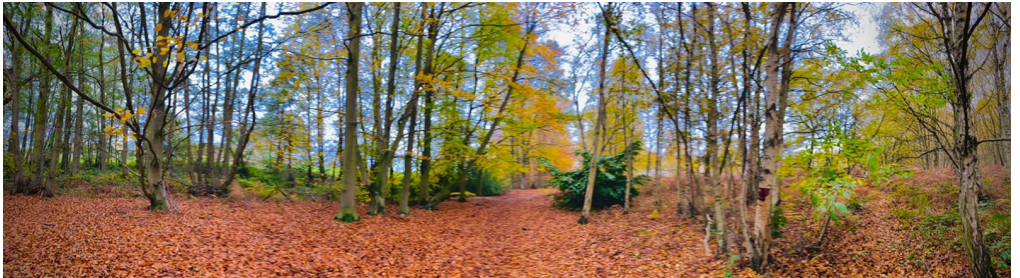
3 pm St Francis Silver End

4.30 pm St Mary's Rivenhall

25th December Christmas Day

9.30 am St Francis Christmas Day Service

**11.15 am St Mary's Communion Service
led by Dr Rev J Pritchard**



The Beauty of Autumn Colour is with us
along with colder temperatures.



London Marathon

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me, With donations and encouragement to complete this year's virtual London Marathon. I completed the 26.2 miles in a time of six hours and 19 minutes. It was tough going at times but I made it round. I have raised a total of just under £800 which Will go to guide dogs for the Blind. Thank you.

Karen Dakin

More Remembrance
Sunday Poppy displays
from 2018 see also over
page.





From St Marys Church in 2018 Poppies made from Plastic Bottle Bottoms (by Clare Hope)

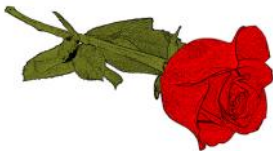


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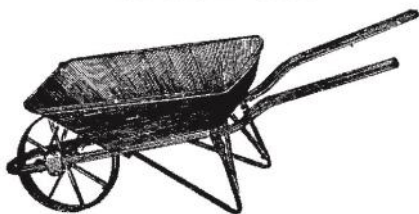
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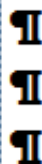
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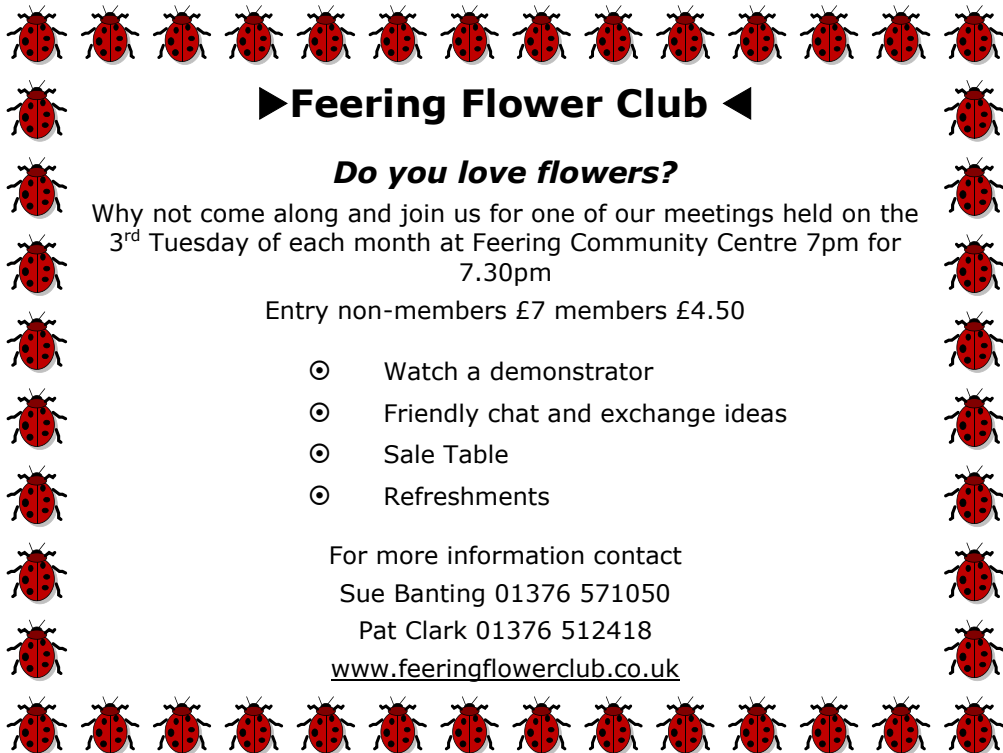
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Turning the pages of History

Research by Tracy Scott

This month we are looking at the local life of the Novembers during the years of the Second World War. We start with The Rev. C. G. A. Swann being appointed Rector of Rivenhall in 1939. Rev. Swann was ordained in 1911 and was curate of St. Pancras until he went aboard as missionary for SPG (Society for the Propagation of the Gospels now over 300 years old and the UMCA's was created after David Livingstone's speeches at Oxford and Cambridge in 1857 from his first journey across Africa). Before his Rivenhall appointment, Swann was Sub Dean of Madagascar Cathedral.

1940 - Mrs Mary Cathcart of Silver End was found guilty after failing to comply with restrictions to Lighting at 6.43pm. Air Raid Warden Cowell said the defendant was shaking mats from her door and a bright electric light was showing during an alert and was warned 8 times. Mrs Cathcart was given a fine.

1941 - Mrs. Mary Ann Shadbolt, licensee of the Western Arms, Silver End funeral took place at Rivenhall, who died at the age of 53.

To obtain your 'Points' ration book if you lived in Rivenhall and Rivenhall End you would go to The Manse, London Road and Silver End, The Village Hall.

1942 - The British Legion Poppy Day collection which combined Witham, Rivenhall and Faulkbourne amounted to £256.10s. Members of the Legion had over doubled to 200 and the Entertainment Committee raise £50 and the dance was over £250 which was a record.

The Police Sport Section whist drive raised £15 for the Red Cross Prisoners of War Fund.

Mrs. Bradhurst of Rivenhall Place welcomed American Soldiers to inspect it treasures and was entertained with tea.

Witham Urban District Council - British Restaurant Service - was asking for 4 General Assistances (Female's) to live on site. Job was food preparation and cooking meals. Pay was £2 with quarters and meals free. The Canteen was at Parkgate, Rivenhall.

1943 - Jeremiah John Carney, pleaded guilty to stealing ID card, suit and overcoat from William Armstrong at Rivenhall with the value of £7. Also a pair of shoes, valued £1 from John French of Rivenhall - the defendant was working with these men (land

workers) and said, he didn't know what he was doing as he was drunk at the time! Mr Carney was given a two month sentence of imprisonment.

1944 – Roy's Transport Café was advertising for Café Assistant with good home; good wages and all meals. Roy's stood on the London Road (A12) Chelmsford bound side where the BP station is now.



1945 – The girls from the A.T.S., Rivenhall Section of the R.A.F. and the W. A. A. F. joined in the parade in Chelmsford for

'Thanks Giving Week'. Major-General W. M. Ozanne, M.C., C.B.E. commanding the East Anglian District, Newmarket, took the salute from outside the Rural District Council in London Road.

And this is from 1946 – Crittall Reserves played a friendly against 'The Poles' from the camp at Rivenhall. This match is described as a very unusual game with 'unorthodox' game play. This was viewed by near 400 spectators with the Polish team being a very fast side and ending in 5-4 against the Crittall team. This was played at Cressing Road.

A Story for Remembrance Sunday

This is the Story of Frank Butcher who died on the Somme near Flers on the 22nd October 1916.

Sgt. Frank Butcher Member of the ANZAC forces

Whenever I think of Frank's story, it fills me with sadness but without him (Peter Hope Editor) I wouldn't be here. Frank had emigrated to Australia in 1912 and his sweet heart my Grandmother Kate followed some 12 months later. They were married in a suburb of Sydney in January 1914 and my mother Mollie was born in June the following Year (1915). By this time Frank had already enlisted in the Australian infantry and by September he was fighting in Gallipoli. Frank wrote home to his

Wife as Follows:-

My Darling Wife

At last I have the chance to write, it is a long time since I wrote last I know, but it couldn't be helped as we received orders about the middle of November that we weren't allowed to send letters home or receive any not even Xmas mail, so I haven't received your parcel yet. I expect you will have heard by now that we have all left Gallipoli. It was a splendid job getting all the troops out without the Turks knowing anything about it. The main body went off on the 18th and they left a few handpicked men to come away the next day so they shouldn't be noticed. I had the honour of being one of those picked and everything went off fine. I don't think the Turks found out until the next day and then the Navy had their go at them.

We were landed at Lemnos a Greek Island in the Aegean Sea the next morning and didn't our lot cheer us as we came in. It was a very trying time in the trenches I went in on the 11th December and was made up to Lance Corporal again. There was only us lot in the trenches left as all the others had gone the last day. so if Johnnie Turk had only known we wouldn't have had much chance, but I am pleased to say there was only one of us hit and not badly. We had a few narrow shaves and I lost my breakfast as a shell knocked my dinney over so we had to go without.

It is a treat to get back to the quiet again, but a man misses the noise of the shells and bullets! We were in Lemnos for three days and have now boarded the boat for Egypt, so might see Bert (*his Brother*) over there. We had a Christmas present from the people of Australia each man had a billy can with all sorts in Salmon—Sardine paste, chocolate 2 Handkerchiefs, nuts, pudding and a lot of little things. It was very acceptable as we are kept very short of food over at the front. I tell you we were like a load of little kids over it. I must write and thank the people who sent mine.

The last letter I got from you was dated 17th October and you were just giving up the place, well I think it was the best thing you could have done, a pity I know to break up the home but you would have been a lot out of pocket by it and a lot of work for nothing. I am sorry dear you get so huffy it's very hard for you I know but cheer up there's a dear and battle on as we've got to do.

I had the first wash yesterday for over a month and we haven't had our boots off for over 3 weeks so you can guess what we look like.

We have some fine times together though whenever we get the chance. There are some nice chaps in the first lot but there are very few of them left poor chaps. We've spent a very poor Christmas just the ordinary ships food not even a bottle of beer to be had and to make matters worse I am on guard but we will make up for it in Egypt I bet. We were all sorry to leave the peninsular after being there for so long and it has cost so many lives.

2nd January 1916: We are in Egypt again I haven't had a chance to post this before, so have a little more to add. I have received quite a big mail 2 from yourself, one from father ,one from mother, not much news though. I see you are up at Marrickville (south of Sydney). I do hope you will be comfortable there. I sent that order in November so I guess by now you have received it. I will close now hoping this finds you in the best of health also dear Mollie (*my mother*) bless her little heart. Wouldn't I love to be with you both now lets hope it's very soon. Love and Kisses to you both from your loving husband Frank.

To Molly from Dad xxxxxxxxxx

Following the adventures and departure from Turkey, Frank returned to Egypt for a short period of rest and recuperation, this didn't last long and Frank was soon on the move to be deployed in June 1916 at the Western (looking from the German side) front in Europe.

Frank was deployed near a town in France called Flers in Picardy. This is the area which saw the first deployment of tanks in the 1st WW. Although this deployment did not achieve the advances hoped for, it did demonstrate that tanks were the way forward.

In 1916 the Australian Army entered the Western Front with an army of 180,000 men, three times the number that had served at Gallipoli in 1915.

The Australian Troops won undying fame in the battlefields of France and Belgium during three years of war. In doing so, 46,000 of the 60,000 Australians killed in the war died on the Western Front. From a population of just 4.5 million 313,000 volunteered to serve during the war and 65% of these became casualties.

The relationships formed by France and Belgium during the war with Australia flourish to this day, with cultural, educational and economic exchanges. The friendships extended by local people to visiting Australians is indicative of the friendships forged in the old battlefields, a fellowship born of the mutual striving and sacrifice of these nations at that formative time.

Flers in Picardy was captured on the 15th September 1916, in the Battle of Flers-Courcellete, when it was entered by the New Zealand 41st Division behind tanks, the innovative new weapons that were used here for the first time. The Village was lost during the German advance of March 1918 and retaken at the end of the following August by the 10th West Yorks and the 6th Dorsets of the 17th division.

Frank was one of the 65% who lost their lives but was not killed in all out battle. Having recently been promoted to Sgt and acting up as Sgt Major Frank was in a trench near Flers on the night of the 22nd of October 2016. The night was reportedly very cold and he and his officer rather foolishly lit a fire to ward off the cold.

Frank was killed and his death is recorded on the Commonwealth Graves Memorial in Flanders.

RIVENHALL GARDENING CLUB

The Club met in Rivenhall village hall on Tuesday 12th October 2021, for the Annual General Meeting. Chairman, Mrs. Tracy Scott reflected on 2020, the year of the covid pandemic. We were unable to hold most of our meetings (including the AGM) and all of our Shows were cancelled. We were fortunate that before the lockdown we were able to hold our February and March Club meetings and a low key members only meeting in September, all with speakers. In order to maintain interest in the Club Mrs.Scott turned to the Rivenhall Community page and organised on-line competitions, photos, items of interest, etc all of which appear to have been appreciated. Forward to this year and we managed to re-start the Club's activities in September 2021 when Nick Dobson gave a talk on International Flowers. Sadly the Club had to report the sudden passing in January of Club member Pauline Marshall. Pauline and her parents and wider family were involved in the Garden Club for many years and Pauline will be much missed. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be celebrated in June 2022 and there will be a celebration on the village green hosted by Rivenhall Millennium Committee at which the Garden Club will hope to organise a plant stall.

Treasurer Mrs. Elizabeth Acharyya presented the Statement of Accounts which had to cover years

2019/20/21. These were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Elected Officers and Committee members for 2021/22 are:

Chairman-Tracy Scott. Deputy Chairman-Don Scott.

Hon. Club Secretary-Carole McCarthy Hon. Club Treasurer-Elizabeth Acharyya Committee Members: Maurice Bacon. Susan Donnell. Tina Jones.

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

COMPETITION RESULTS

Horticultural

1 st Cyril Philpott	2 nd Tina Jones	3 rd Maurice Bacon
Flower of the Month		

1 st Cyril Philpott	2 nd Maurice Bacon	3 rd Jenny Claydon
Photographic		

The heaviest pumpkin for 2021: Maurice Bacon's at 51 lbs. 2nd Cyril Philpott

Members were reminded that there will be the usual Tombola at the December meeting and Mrs.Scott will be pleased to accept donations in the usual way. The next Club meeting will be on Tuesday 9th November, 7.30pm in Rivenhall village hall. The speaker will be Jacky Froggatt and she will talk about her work as the Chairman of the Essex Family Panel. Jacky is a senior magistrate who many of you will know and it should be an interesting evening. Competitions will be: Horticultural-any vegetable. Flower of the Month. Photographic. Entrance £2 to include refreshments. Visitors welcome. Club membership subscriptions for 2022 are now due. £5 (juniors £1). We look forward to seeing you. For further details contact the Club Secretary on 01376- 512781.

FREE TO ROAM ONCE MORE (by John Macrae)

As President of Springfield Cricket Club, I was absolutely delighted to be asked to join some of our club members on a post cricket-season holiday in Poland in late September, and my wife Jane was able to come along too.

We had all been “confined to barracks” for far too long it seemed, and we all wanted to get away, relax and have a great time (and we certainly achieved that).

The seven of us arrived in Gdansk and immediately took a 30 minute bus to Malbork where we stayed overnight. The town has a highly impressive Gothic fortress which is the world’s largest brick castle: this was commenced by the Teutonic Knights. It is open to the public and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Though heavily damaged during the Second World War, the fortress has been sensitively restored and is a real gem.

A two-hour train then took us on to Olsztyn. This university city (as so often, again founded by the Teutonic Knights) is a delight to wander and we did so in glorious sunshine. There is a great variety of architecture to be admired. On the second day “the boys” strolled round the Jez Krzywe (a large lake): we had an ulterior motive as there is a lovely brew-pub on its shores where we sat outside and lost a few hours sipping in the sunshine!

Two days later it was back on a train, and, having changed at Warsaw, we arrived in Lublin whose old city is still surrounded by its very handsome brick walls and gatehouses. Again there was much to see, but the real highlight is the old castle within which are a lofty circular fortified keep and the enchanting Chapel of the Holy Trinity. The chapel wall and ceiling decorations are said to be some of the best examples of Byzantine fresco work in the world. On the second afternoon we all met-up at the Perla Brewery courtyard where we had a late lunch and sampled eight of its very special brews.

After two nights in Lublin it was a 3½ hour train ride to Rzeszow (it took us a day to get our tongues round this one!). Its old town, its main market square, its churches and synagogues are among the best preserved in the country.

Next we moved on to Krakow, the second largest city in Poland. Its Old Town was the very first designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. On our first day there, Jane and I took an electric guided taxi and spent three wonderful hours being shown many of the city’s most notable and emotive spots. We were particularly moved by the Jewish ghetto area with its square containing various sized chairs: when the Jews were forced out of their city homes and into the crowded ghetto in 1941, many took ordinary dining-table chairs so that at least some people would have

something upon which to sit. The modern chairs across the square are a reminder of those horrific times. This electric taxi also took us to see Oskar Schindler's former factory where he supported and saved the lives of up to 1,200 skilled local Jewish people. The following day I was again sight-seeing whilst Jane journeyed to see the sobering Auschwitz concentration camp where 1.1 million people died.

For our final two days we all took a bus to delightful Zakopane which sits high in the south of Poland near the Slovakian border, at the foot of the Tatra Mountains. In the winter this is a skiing centre, in the summer it is full of walkers and sight-seers. Maybe our timing was near-perfect, because though the town was busy, it was quieter than mid-winter or mid-summer. We all stayed in a lovely hotel from which a ten minute walk through a park took us to the pedestrianised heart of the old town. Most of the architecture is very "Austrian" in style with ornately carved light pine timbering. I woke up early second morning and before breakfast I walked for about two hours, taking pictures of the lovely buildings in the early morning sun with a heavy frost still on the ground.

Later that second day we took a funicular up into the mountains. There we basked in glorious sunshine with a beer in hand as we tried to sort our flight confirmations, our travel locator forms and our various required Covid 19 papers (all very time consuming and frustrating, but essential). That evening we all chilled-out in the Café Piano Bar which is one of the coolest, most laid-back bars I have ever visited.

Then came day twelve, and we took a bus back to Krakow, and a local train to the airport. There we all took our compulsory Covid tests and nervously awaited our texted results. One by one they all came to us but in Polish so we didn't know whether we had passed or failed! But we sorted that, and to our huge relief, all were negative: with rather heavy hearts, we all returned safely home from a lovely country.

That was my second trip to Poland, but the first time in these towns and cities. Poland is such a great country; the people were all very kind, and the good old British Pound still goes a very long way!

^^

Organisations in Rivenhall

Clerk to Parish Council	Keith Taylor	516975
Email parishclerk@rivenhallparishcouncil.net	meets every first Tuesday	
End to End Nature Care	Simon Taylor	01621 810141
Gardening Club	Carole McCarthy	512781
Meets on 2nd Tuesday at 7.30pm in Village Hall		
Carpet Bowls	Mick Marshall	512836
Meets every Thursday at 7.30pm in Village Hall		
Playing Fields Association	Mick Marshall	01376 512836
Spread Your Wings Dance Acam	Laura Pearson	01376 741317

Facilities

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

Organisations in Silver End

Clerk to Parish Council	Mrs B. M. Temple	618464
Email parishclerk@silverendparishcouncil.gov.uk		
Bowls Club	Paul Mann	07551 006906
Children's Centre	Faye Savage	587960
Neighbourhood Police	Braintree Policing Dial 101	
Congregational Church	Sharon Gray	583913
Friendship Club	Maureen Green	585275
Silver End Gad Abouts	Denise Sullens Smith	07952 992782
Gardening Club	Liz Woor	585586
Guiding Group	Carol Hutchings	07857 663959
Neighbourhood Watch	Judy Hill	07896 975839
Scouting Group	Denise Sullens Smith	07952 992782
St Mary's Church (R.C.)	Vivian Phillips	583598
Tennis Club	Jason Cairns	584581
Workers Educational Assoc.	Brian Gillion	583706
Luncheon Club	Helen Thomson	583255
Doctors Surgery		583387
Silver End Heritage Society	Jackie Nesbitt	07707 084608
Silver End United Football Club	Mark Edgell	584639 Web
Site www.silverendunitedfc.co.uk		
Women's Institute	Brenda Warnes	07931 548193
Community Warden	Jackie Windard	07785 515526
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 & Thurs - 2pm to 6pm Saturday 9am to 1pm		

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