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



In Early September BBC Radio 2 held a concert in Hylands Park this picture was taken on the night of the Orange Moon next to the Ferris Wheel

October 2025 50p

The following are our services For October 2025th

5th October	**16th Sunday After Trinity**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	All Age Worship
12th October	**17th Sunday After Trinity**
9.30 am St Francis	Morning Prayer
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
19thOctober	**18th Sunday After Trinity**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	Matins
26th October	**19th Sunday after Trinity**
9.30 am St Francis	All Age Worship
11 am St Mary's	Holy Communion
2nd November	**All Saints Day**
9.30 am St Francis	Holy Communion
11 am St Mary's	All Age Worship

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’ – Beauty in everything……..

Well as I write this, I’ve been caught in several outbursts of rain over the past 24 hours! And, whilst we have been in much need of rain – especially for our farmers – I think we can say, especially as those darker nights and mornings have crept up on us, that summer is definitely over.

As autumn begins to settle in, whilst the changing colour of the trees is a beauty to behold, I know that for many it is a reminder of the natural progression of time, both in the physical world and in our own lives, that can elicit negative emotions.

So I was really heartened by an article I saw on the local news recently about an old piano in Harlow! And of a young boy called Leon, who stumbled across the discarded instrument on his way home from basketball. Despite missing half its keys, he began playing the piano, unaware that he was attracting workers from across the road. One of them was Tracey Knight, who filmed the 17-year-old, and with his permission, uploaded the piece of film on to social media, where it then proceeded to get more than 100,000 views!

Ms Knight is quoted: "He didn't know anybody was watching. He was in a world of his own….. but I couldn't believe out of this broken piano with half the keys missing, he could play something so beautiful… and he wasn't doing it for an audience. He was just doing it for the love of music."

For me the story is another reminder of how God is constantly trying to call us, to get our intention, and to remind us, that whoever we are, however old, however broken we may feel, He loves us….. because to Him we are very special, and will always be beautiful……

God bless
Rev Jane x

PS Join our Book Club starting on Wednesday 17th September then every third Wednesday 1-3 pm in the Vestry at St. Mary's.

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 October 2025

5th October 16th Sunday After Trinity

All Age Worship

Readings

Habakkuk 1:1-4 2:1-4
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

Collect

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

12th October 17th Sunday After Trinity

Holy Communion

Readings

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Philippians 4:4-9
John 6:25-35

Collect

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

19th October 18th Sunday After Trinity

Holy Communion

Readings

Genesis 32:22-31
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

Collect

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

26th October Last Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion

Readings

Eccles.35:12-17
2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Collect

Merciful God,
teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word
and obeying your will
we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

****

The 50/50 Club September 2025 winners

1st R Niven 2nd Mrs A Kerr 3rd M & K Eagle

****

WITHAM AND VILLAGES MOTHERS' UNION

THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER AT 2PM IN ST NICOLAS CHURCH HALL

Charles Cope will give a talk entitled "My Father's time in Burma"

All members and friends - old and new - are welcome to join us. For more information contact Lynette Abbott on 01376 512856

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

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

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

Rivenhall and Silver End Parochial Church Council

Sort Code 20-97-40 A/C90753866.

NOTES OF RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2ND SEPTEMBER 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 & Hammond, and our clerk Amanda Brown.

Chairman's Report: Bob Turner reported that he and Cllr Macrae attended an exhibition hosted by Essex Fire Department at their headquarters on the A12. The exhibition was intended to give local residents an insight into a planning application for a training centre that the Fire Brigade will submit to BDC in the autumn. That application will be for a live fire facility with a tower, a training facility for new recruits, a fire investigation facility, and a road traffic collision training facility. This all currently takes place at Wethersfield airfield, but the site has been sold so the fire brigade must find a new training base.

There has recently been yet another accident on the A12 southbound slip road at Rivenhall End requiring multiple emergency services.

Bob Turner has observed fewer tipper lorries breaking the weight limit on Oak Road, three over-height vehicles 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 district, each meeting starting at an earlier time than usual of 6.30pm, on: September 24th, October 1st, and October 6th. There will be further LPC meetings in October and November to consider policy changes for the Local Plan. Residents and parish representatives can book to speak at any of the LPC meetings and can make a statement lasting up to 3 minutes. The LPC meetings will also be webcast.

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. Residents and interested parties can register to take part in the Examination which is expected to last six months during 2026.

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: 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 Rail Fencing on the Village Green: Now our Clerk has the signed minutes from the August meeting a request for S106 monies would be made to BDC for Ascot post & rail fencing around the village green.

Policies to be Reviewed & Adopted The Homeworking policy was accepted and agreed.

Outside Lighting on the new PFE Unit Councillors agreed that action should be taken to reduce the light pollution. This is a breach of the planning conditions: although the building plot is now classified as Witham, the extremely bright lighting is highly visible in Rivenhall End and is very distracting when driving along the A12.

Keep Left Pillar in Henry Dixon Road Councillors agreed that action should be taken to ensure the electrical connection has been shut off and the pillar is repaired as soon as possible.

Street Cleaning Activity Report The BDC form was duly completed and signed, and a comment was added that the Parish would like extra channel sweeps.

Notice Board at Bluebells The Clerk has a form to fill in to receive the monies for the notice board. It was agreed to buy the same board as the one which was purchased for the village hall. Cllr Macrae will continue to liaise with the building contractors to site the board.

Dog Waste Our Clerk will Clerk contact the BDC dog warden regarding dog owners not picking up after their dogs. The councillors would like six signs for the village if they are available.

Dates of next Meetings:

Tue 07 October 7:00 pm Rivenhall Village Hall

Tue 04 November 7:00 pm Rivenhall Village Hall

News From St Francis Silver End

Our coffee morning at St Francis church on Saturday 13 September began with a lovely spread of cakes, Judith donated fresh cream meringue, whilst Liz made Chocolate brownies and scones, Denise presented Victoria sandwich and Red Velvet cakes. Judith had prepared a jar full of sweets and for a small donation our visitors were invited to guess the quantity. The jar was won by Linda who made a winning guess of 130 just one away from the actual total, well done Linda, enjoy the contents.

This month's donations from our coffee morning were donated to The Ride and Stride group, which are cyclists that are sponsored and ride around from church to church in the area. We were lucky enough to have two members of our Parish congregation, Dave Atkinson and Martin Andrews, riding this year, firstly Dave visited St Francis and then cycled to meet Martin, both having been caught in the downpour, cycled on to Kelvedon soaking wet, with Dave having fallen earlier in the year and had damaged his ribs although he was still feeling the effects they managed to complete their route. Well done to you both!!!! Thank you to everyone that attended and donated to this worthy cause.

Our church remained open for the rest of the day to welcome any further riders and we were visited by a gentleman from a church in Rayne and we were his 21st church to be visited, Well done to all the riders we hope that you have managed to raise a good amount of money for your charity, Friends of Essex Churches, this charity offer grants to churches that need funds for repair work. Our coffee morning raised a total of £65.85 which we hope will go a little way towards your target.

Denise and Liz then visited All Saints church in Cressing on Saturday late afternoon for a service of Old School bangers held after their Heritage open day. We were warmly greeted by the members of the church and with a lovely and very enthusiastic Rev Tayrina Ferguson were treated to and encouraged to join in a sing-a-long of school assembly style hymns all with actions, each given a candle to accompany 'this little light of mine, musical instruments and flags to wave . The vicar of the church dressed as a school headmistress in one instance, then changed her outfit to that of a nun to round up the evening with Do Re Mi from the Sound of Music. A very enjoyable afternoon with bottomless

pimms served alongside tea/coffee and snacks. Thank you All Saints Cressing for allowing us to join in with your fun afternoon.

Our harvest service will be held on Sunday 12 October and the donated produce this year will

be given to the House of Grace, a very worthwhile charity helping homeless people with a place to live and future prospects of gaining employment and eventually a place of their own to call home. All donations gratefully received at our respective churches for distribution to the house to give these people a second chance.

A Message From The Playing Fields Committee

We Need You! Join Our Village Hall Committee

After many dedicated years at the helm, our amazing Chairman will soon be stepping down along with our booking secretary . We're incredibly grateful for all that they have done and the outstanding support and dedication they have given to the RPFA— but now we need **new voices and fresh energy** to help carry the torch and support our very small and struggling committee.

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join the **Village Hall Committee** and help raise vital funds to keep our hall open and thriving for all.

The hall is more than just a building – it's the *heart of our community*, a space for events, activities, and bringing people together. But without support, we risk losing this invaluable facility. We have some fabulous clubs that use the facility and we would love to others to join us.

Whether you've got ideas, fundraising experience, or simply the passion to make a difference –**we need you.**

Let's work together to keep our village hall alive and at the centre of village life!

Due to the small committee we are unable to run our grotto this year and hope that with more support we can host the event in 2026.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Our next committee meeting is a Friday 24th October at 6pm if you would like pop by and see who we are. All welcome.

PET SERVICE

St Francis Church, Silver End

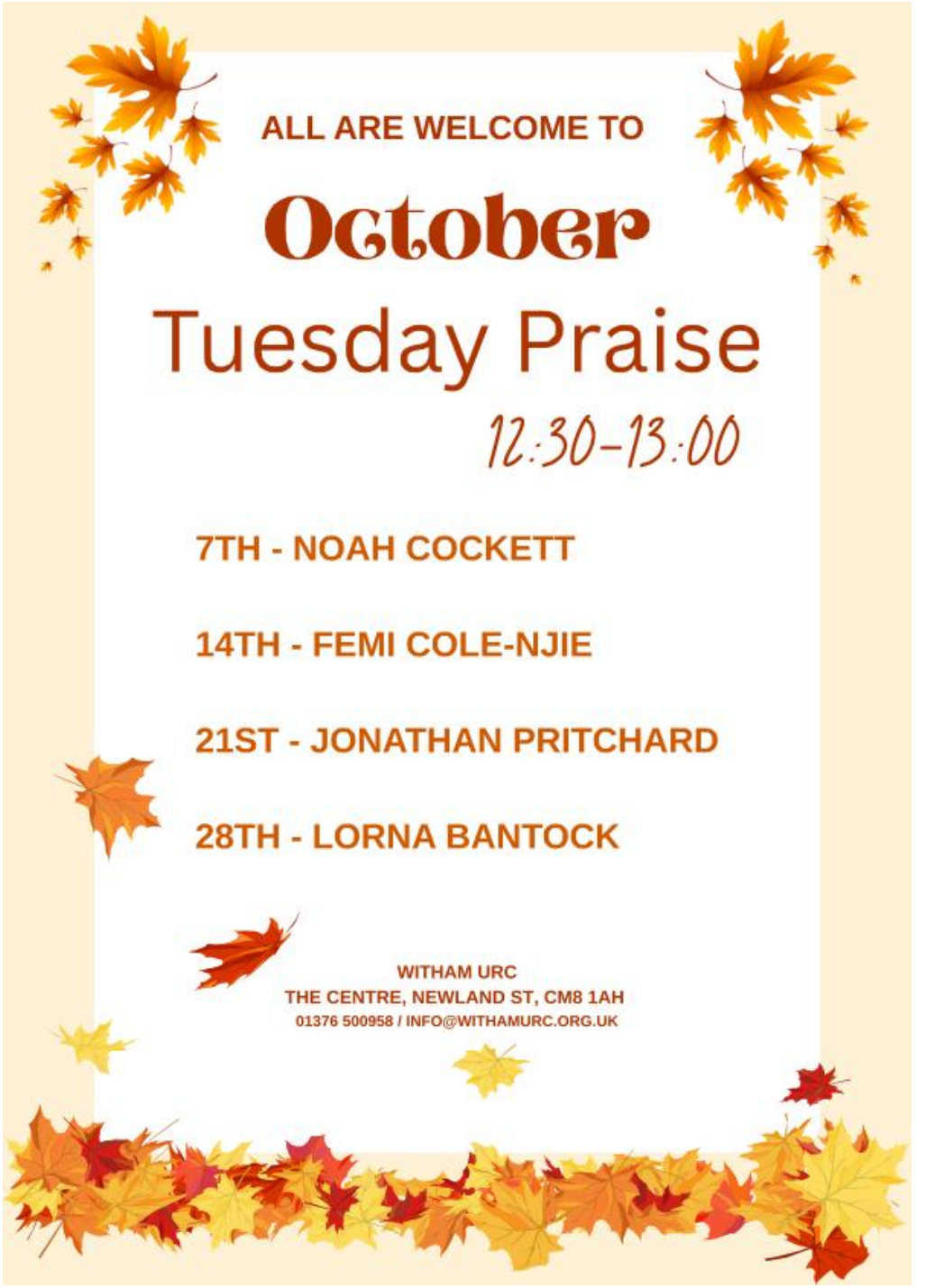


Please come and join us for our special service for animals, on

Sunday, October 5th at 3pm






ALL ARE WELCOME TO
October
Tuesday Praise
12:30-13:00
7TH - NOAH COCKETT
14TH - FEMI COLE-NJIE
21ST - JONATHAN PRITCHARD
28TH - LORNA BANTOCK
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01376 500958 / INFO@WITHAMURC.ORG.UK

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

THE 2025 FAMOUS RIVENHALL RACES



It is now twenty three glorious years since the Famous Rivenhall Races were first run in Rivenhall Village Hall. On **Saturday 25th October** they return once more. Profits from this popular evening help fund various charitable activities throughout the village including the senior citizens gifts, Santa's Musical Sleigh, the Rivenhall village Christmas tree, and carol singing round the tree on the green with the Chelmsford Silver band followed by the **TOTALLY FREE** Christmas get-together in the village hall.

Tickets are again **£12.50** and can be purchased from Bob Turner Jack Prime, Wilson Kerr and John Macrae (Rivenhall Millennium Committee).

Free fish & chip / chicken & chip / sausage & chip supper include Raffle. Bring your own drinks and glasses.

Doors open at **7:00 pm** and the races start at **7:30 pm** prompt.

For £25 you can name and sponsor one of the eight races, or if you kindly wish, the printing of the race cards – please do contac any of the Millennium Committee.

You be warned, you beware, but most of all, **please do be there.**

… and a splendid time is guaranteed for all.



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

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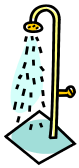
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Hatha Yoga class

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

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Don't Delay Call Today

Summer Round-up from End to End Nature Care.

July and August was largely dominated by the spells of very warm, arid weather. As many gardeners will have noticed, this often affects 'weeds' – generally native wild plants growing uninvited in the garden – less severely than many of our cultivated plants. There can be some subtle impacts however and it seems there may be an influence on some of the wild fruit crops this year, notably the Bramble fruits or blackberries many of which seem to have not developed since they were pollinated and fertilised, presumably simply due to heat stress and/or lack of water from the roots. This may have knock-on effects itself, although many bramble plants produce much more fruit than is ever eaten by our relatively depleted wildlife.

Insects seem to thrive in the hot weather and it puts those which can fly onto the wing far more readily as their flight muscles are quickly warmed. Early in July we saw Marbled White butterflies (*Melanargia galathea*) flying in the vicinity of Rivenhall Thicks. These eye-catching black and white butterflies used to be largely restricted to the south of Essex but in recent years have been spreading north.

On Saturday 5th July we had a 'butterfly safari' in Silver End where we specifically hunted and stalked butterflies to see how many species we could find. Typically, the weather on that day was less than fine - overcast and breezy – but we still managed to find 8 species including a rather lovely Small Copper. It could easily have been more but the breeze kept the Skippers down (in the past we have seen Large, Small and Essex Skippers in that area) and we did not see some relatively common species that one might have expected, such as the Red Admiral. Small Tortoiseshells have been distinctly scarce everywhere this year and we failed to spot any White-letter Hairstreaks, which have been seen in that Pits area of Silver End in the past. With the warm weather meaning many things were ahead of their usual natural schedule we may have been a little late for them; we would have hoped to see them nectaring on Bramble close to suckered Elm. We will keep looking.

Despite the hot, summery weather, the summer solstice is rather a distant memory now and the evening light is fading earlier, hence August was our final month of weekly activities, the last one being

3rd September. They are listed below; there is quite a variety, from freshwater sampling in the Blackwater to just a casual walk in Coggeshall Hamlet. All are welcome to come along and join in.

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



The Common Blue



A Gatekeeper Butterfly



Flag Donations

A huge thank you to all those who donated for new flags.

The PCC are very grateful. We have just had the laddersthat lead to the Tower repaired, so the flags will be kept top notch!

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

A coffee morning was held at the Royal British Legion Hall Witham in aid Of Macmillan Nurses Charity and a total of £51 -94p was raised..Thank you to those who donated to the charity..

However i am not impressed by the person who took down the poster before the event happened , i just hope that you wont need a Macmillan Nurse to help out in your family..These Nurses rely on fundraising to help people living with CANCER .

I did the coffee morning for this charity becauses I have been living with Cancer for the last 16 months.

RIVENHALL GARDENING CLUB

On Saturday 6th September 2025, the Club held their Annual Autumn Show in Rivenhall Village Hall. The weather this year has been less than kind to the garden so we were pleasantly surprised to see a good number of excellent exhibits making for a colourful Show. There were also many more entries in the Domestic Classes (cookery) than in recent years. Visitors toured the exhibits before buying their raffle tickets and then enjoying tea and homemade cakes!

Our Judges for the afternoon were: Gillian Owen (Horticulture) Geraldine Smith (Domestic) and Sogra Newman (Handicraft and Artwork).

RGC Garden News Shield	Best In Show —Vegetables
Heaviest Onion Award	**Frank Ramsden**
Mary Lyons Lloyd Cup	
Annual Flower Trophy	Best In Show — Flowers
Cain Cup	Sidney Gurton Cup
Lilian Pearce Rose Bowl	**RobertTurner**
Maurice Bacon	
	Best In Show — Cookery
	Mike Selby
Brian Trench Cup	
Rivenhall Onion Trophy	Art Work Award
R.H.S. Banksian Medal	**Cyndy Hutley**
David McCarthy Memorial Salver	
Mike Selby	Pear Trophy
	Wilson Kerr

OTHER AWARDS PRESENTED

(for points gained throughout the year)

Floral Cup	**Tracy Scott**
Vera Foster Trophy	**Maurice Bacon**
Homecraft Cup	**Clare Ramsden**
Photography Trophy	**Jenny Clayden**
Horticultural Cup	**Maurice Bacon**
Domestic Evening Vase	**Clare Ramsden**
Pamela Brice Ladies Trophy	**Jenny Claydon**

Thank you to all who contributed to the Show, visited or supported us. The Club appreciates your interest. We welcome new members and visitors to all our monthly meetings when we have a speaker, a raffle, a bring and buy table and refreshments. Once a year we try to have a visit to a place of interest. If you would like more details of the Club please contact the Club Secretary 01376-512781. Our next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday 14th October 2025.** Refreshments will be served and we look forward to seeing you.

Turning the pages of History
Research by Tracy Scott

On Tuesday 7th July 1981 the dedication by Roderic, Bishop of Colchester, of the rebuilt pipe-organ happened at Rivenhall Church. The imposing sight that greets many new comers to our village church can often spur people to ask about this being in a village church…but first let's look at what was before this grand organ that stands above everyone.

We have to go back to Monday 18th Feb 1878 when the Old Organ was place in the Chancel of the church of the north side of the building by Rayson of Ipswich. In the autumn of 1923 it was moved to its later position at the West end of the Nave. On Sunday 12th Nov., 1978 the organ was played for the last time by Mr Keith Coleman and the morning service was a combined Remembrance and N.S.P.C.C. Toy Donation service with Mr J. Nolan, the area supervisor for the society, giving the talk.

When the Grover organ came to Rivenhall it was already 14 years old. Signature in top board of the old reservoir reads: - 'J. Grover, March 17th 1864'. Label read 'Grover, Kingsland Road, London'.

(With extra research I believe the 'J' is for James and this organ would have been made at 112 Kingsland Road, London, at that time. They moved around a bit more in London area after. James was born in 1843 and died in 1878. The trade name altered over the years from Grover, Grover & Grover, Grover & Son and back to Grover & Grover. They manufactured Pianos, Organs (and American Organs) and Harmonium. One of the offspring from this family lines was Douglas Grover, Pianos was his subject and took his business down to Cotswolds to the Woodchester Mills, near Stroud in 1911 and later with his son Richard in 1930 they joined to make the Bentley models that very popular with making 3000 a year).

This information we are looking at this month is from the Souvenir Booklet (15 pence) from the 7th July 1981 and was

compiled by Rev. David Nash. Rector.

The Old Organ Served Rivenhall Church for 100 Years

For nearly 50 years, however, it was'On Its Last Legs'

In 1963, the celebrated Church Music authority and composer, Dr Martin Shaw, was organist, here at Rivenhall. The rector, The Rev.d Andrew A. Hunt wrote in his parish magazine:-

"THE ORGAN. The organ at the parish church is almost falling to pieces, and at the Requiem for His Late Majesty (King George V) it broke down almost entirely. Had it not been for the skill and knowledge of Dr Martin Shaw, we should have been compelled to get along without any organ music at all. Dr Shaw has been most patient about the state of the organ and it is some months since it was inspected by Messrs Walker & Son, the organ builders. They are of the opinion that the organ is worth repairing, though it is in a very bad state. Dr Shaw himself, saw the firm's representative when he came, and with him discussed the matter and after very thorough inspection they came to the conclusion that thorough overhaul, cleaning and repair would give it another 50 years of life and usefulness".

The 50 years would have been 'up' in 1986, but in 1959, Cedric Arnold, Organ Builder of Thaxted, pronounced the organ to be so poor an instrument that beyond incorporating an electric blower, it was not worth spending any further money on it. The blower was duly installed in May 1959. Until then it had to be pumped by hand. Alf. Turner who ran the village shop had pumped it for years. Sid. Gurton remembers having slowed down whilst pumping: Martin Shaw poked his head round the corner and boomed 'Wind! Boy!'

(many had pumped it over the years as recalled by Richard Young and others).

This booklet is dedicated to all those valiant folk who played that old organ over the years – some remembered by name – some not: Pre 1892 Mr E. Chalk; 1892-4 Mr G. Keep, headmaster; 1894-97 Miss Ethel M. Bridges – Rector's daughters; 1897 Mr W. Pratchett, headmaster; early 190's Mr

W. Parker, headmaster; early 1920's Mr Noble; 1920's to 1931 Miss Fagg; till end of 1953 Mr Andrews; 1936 Dr Martin Shaw & Miss W. Hancock; Mr Dudley.

In the early days of the last war, until the autumn of 1941, a Mrs Butler was organist; she had to fit in her playing with her Air Raid Warden duties. For a brief spell Miss Hancock returned and then suggested that Miss Beardwell might consider the post; Miss Ruth M. Beardwell took over from those days and carried on continuously until the departure of the Grover organ. During the final 20 or so years, Mr Keith Coleman, our present organist, and headmaster of Rivenhall School, has regularly played the old organ, alternating with Miss Beardwell. It has been an impressive team.

The Organ Fund, under the management of Mr George Dale, of Rivenhall, was off to a good start in 1973. For eight years now, he has been treasurer and so far has collected about £7,500 (around £80,000 today). The fund began BEFORE we decided what sort of instrument we should have.

Messrs Bishop, Organ Builders of Ipswich suggested we bought the 2 Manual 1904 Walker Organ, rebuilt in 1931 from the parish of Canford Magna, in Dorset. They were about to replace this with a new organ. The Parochial Church Council agreed to buy it and store it, until such time as it could be rebuilt. This was in October, 1973. The Walker Organ arrived in many pieces in 1974; it cost the P.C.C. £350. The parts were stored mainly at the West end of the nave, but also in the tower, - in cupboards in the now vestry – which was opened that year - , and even behind the high altar. There was so much stuff that we were already beginning to wonder where the rebuilt organ could possibly go!?

It was obviously quite a lot larger than the old one! The building of a gallery became an essential part of the plan; the Diocesan Advisory Committee were in favour of a West end galleries; it was better from the point of acoustics and there would be useful spare room beneath it.

Long Melford was to be the destination of all the parts, both the Grover and the Walker; curiously, the Grover had been put into order in 1839 by a Mr Hurst of Long Melford.

The Walker Organ and Windsor Castle

The music of St. George's Chapel, Windsor (The Garter Chapel) was under the capable direction of Sir Walter Parratt from 1882 till his death in 1924. As organist, Walter Parratt was deeply disturbed, when at the turn of the century, the Dean and Captor could not produce the money to carry out urgently-needed repairs on the organ. Eventually, after his death, much of this organ he loved was preserved in the new organ rebuilt in 1930, by J.W, Walker & Rothwells – in consultation with Sir Walford Davies – who succeeded Walter Parratt in 1927. Windsor needed an interim organ during those days and Dr Edmund Fellowes, who directed the choir in between 1924 and 1927 has told how Parratt had described the arrival of a quito 'inadequate organ' upon the scene! Our Walker organ arrive in Windsor Castle in 1904 and left there about 1930! We have drawn our own conclusions. Let it be pointed out, however, that in its present, rebuilt form, it is a better instrument that that of 1904 – and St. George's Windsor is more grand that Rivenhall Parish Church!

The Rebuilding

At a meeting in the new vestry at Rivenhall on Tuesday, 26th October, 1976 – "If was proposed by Mr Barrett and seconded by Mr Scott that Mr McKirdy should be requested to undertake the work".

Eventually a faculty (permit) was obtained on the 25th September '78 from the Chancellor of Chelmsford Diocese for the work to be done. The most serious setback during the rebuilding at Melford was Mr McKirdy's road accident which damaged his hands and threatened to incapacitate his organ-building permanently.

Money

Of the total raised so far, £382 has come in through people, - many of them children, - collectingHalf Pence Pieces: both at St. Mary's and St. Francis'.

I will round this off from the booklet with informing you that the new organ has a total of 986 pipes in the rebuilt organ as compared with 273 of the Grover instrument. Some of this Rector Nash informs us. that extra pipes came from the old organ and some from Alan Mckirdy's own supply. We also have pipework from the old Mission Church at Tolleshunt Knights and the redundant United Reformed Church at Finchley, North London. Chris Grout, Mr McKirdy's assistant was congratulated for the fine woodwork, particularly in the gallery. Chris, once lived in Silver End, and is no stranger to these parts. The Rectory also thanked all those who have, in one way or another, contributed to this project. They are too many to numerate in this little pamphlet and to do so would probably mean that someone would be overlooked. May we simply say Thank You.

Note: I can remember the day that all those organ pieces came to the church. It was a Wednesday in 1974 (I was 10) when the tale was told to me when I got home from Rivenhall School over a cup of tea and milky way by my mother Dot Taylor. I believe she said that the delivery time should have been 11am, but it got to 12 noon when Albert Scott said, he was not going to wait around any longer and needed to get home for lunch. My mother stayed and not long after they arrived in a rather large lorry!

As you have just read the Rector said they had pipes everywhere, well Mum helped unload the easier bits & bobs, but when Albert got back to the church after he had his lunch he was speechless and thinking that we had the wrong organ, and where of course they would put it all! And as you know it went wherever they could find a space for it to go. But, Mum never forgot the look on his face when he walked back into the church that afternoon, and often mentioned it.



You can see from the colourised photo above that this photo was taken when they had lamp lights in the church. The Grover organ is on the left hand side of the Chancel and you can see the organ pipes. The other shows us the Grover organ from the front and the candle holders on each side. We know that these photos were taken before 1923 due to where the organ stands, and I would think around 1890's onwards.



End to End Nature Care.

No sooner had it started than it is all over. It does not seem like long since the group commenced its weekly summer activity schedule in late April but on the 3rd September we held our 21st and final summer evening event when we met up in the Mill Lane car park in Witham and then set off for a stroll along the River Walk to see what plants and animals we could find. The 'orchid meadow' on Mill Lane had been sympathetically managed and was a mass of wild plants including gypsywort and water mint. We didn't see terribly many birds but a highlight was a grey wagtail near the weir.

August's highlights included:

proving the continued good health of the population of the river snail Theodoxus fluviatilis in the River Blackwater at Watery Lane, Bradwell, as well as seeing a Kingfisher.

Exploring the Blackwater valley further along, at Coggeshall, and emulating the old group photograph at Nunn's Bridge, a Victorian iron bridge across the river which has recently been restored.

Discovering a wide array of insects (mostly true bugs) in the churchyard at All Saints', Feering.

One downside was finding out how early the pubs close in Heybridge Basin these days, when we went looking for refreshment after a spot of birdwatching from the sea wall footpath there! Fortunately The Swan in Witham was a little more user-friendly so we were able to toast the end of our summer season there after our River Walk visit in September.

We now turn to monthly evening meetings to keep us ticking over the winter period. The first one this winter will be on Wednesday 15th October at 8pm when we will be at Stovern's Hall Farm, on Rickstones Road, for an evening of amateur carpentry in the guise of constructing bird and bat boxes. If you fancy giving it a go, either making one for your own garden or to be donated to somebody locally, then please feel free to come along. Bring some tools if you can

and, even better, some spare wood or nails/screws you may have knocking around at the back of the shed. Equally, if you have a site which would be good for a bird or bat box then just ask for one and we can supply, free of charge. We may even be able to put it in place for you.

The following month, we have a talk on the Wildlife Spotting on Arran And Lewis by Michelle Cush. This will be at our usual winter home of the Silver End Congregational Church, on the corner of Francis Way and Silver Street, CM8 3QF, again at 8pm. Michelle has made frequent visits to Arran, quite a large island in the Firth of Clyde, Scotland and a place of contrasts with plenty of interest from the geology and landscape, surrounding seas, and the flora and fauna. More recently her attention has turned to Lewis, the biggest of the Outer Hebrides. As is usual for one of our indoor meets with a speaker, we ask a small charge of £2 per head to cover costs. Yes, yet again our fee, unlike so many, has not gone up!

For more background on the group and full details of all our activities please look at our

website www.e2e.silverend.org or on our Facebook group 'End to End Nature Care' (please do also feel free to post comments and local photographs there), or I can be contacted (including any requests for bird or bat boxes) via email ukseashells44@gmail.com or on 07947 388180.

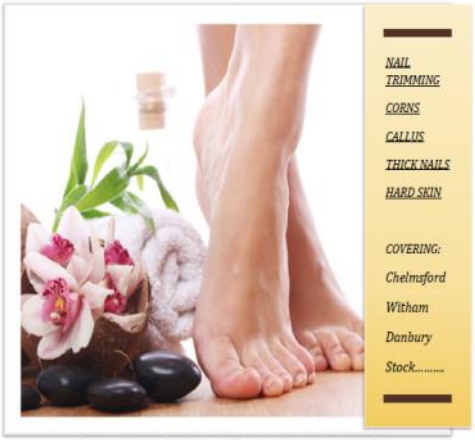
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Organisations in Rivenhall

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
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

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