

End-to-End

The Parish Magazine of Rivenhall and Silver End



**The Hot Summer has led to an early autumn scene in
Messing woods**

September

2022

50p

The Following are our services For September 2022

St Nicholas Witham Joint Service Holy Communion 10 am

4th September

12th Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am St Francis

Holy Communion

11 am St Mary's

All Age Worship

11th September

13th Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am St Francis

Morning Prayer

11 am St Mary's

Holy Communion

18th September

14th Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am St Francis

HC

11 am St Mary's

Matins

28th September

15th Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am St Francis

Morning Prayer

11 am St Mary's

Holy Communion

Church Contacts

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St Francis Silver End Website

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Contact the Editor 07904 235101 or phope02@gmail.com

The Autumn Beckons Peter Hope Editor

One of the sad things for me about compiling the Village Magazine and creating the calendar of services for the next few months is that while I sit here in this very warm summer weather, I am looking ahead to the time when the weather will be cooler and I will have to put on warmer clothes!

I like nothing better than sloping around in shorts a shirt and sandals. So looking forward to the time of Mellow Fruitfulness is tinged with sadness. For many though the autumn is their favourite time of year with cooler days and beautiful colours.

For the Church we move from ordinary time into the time of Advent and looking forward to Christmas.

In the coming months we will be holding a number of events including Harvest Festival on 9th Of October, a quiz night at Henry Dixon on Friday the 14th of October and the Rivenhall Races on the 29th of October.

This year because of the very dry summer Autumn is going to look very different. As you will see from my picture of Messing wood on the front cover, the leaves are already falling so what will Autumn look like?

We also consider the third age (60-80?) is the Autumn of life. This is where the organisation U3A gets its name. (University of the Third Age)

The autumn of life is a strange mixture of nostalgia, blessings, and potential. It yields the harvest of seeds we've sown throughout life and braces us for colder days to come.

When life's autumn arrives, we look back and better understand the way God led us; but we still have work to do—the best and fullest. It's a good transition time.

"Autumn" only occurs once in the [Bible](#). In [Jude 1:12](#), false teachers are compared to "autumn trees without fruit," implying that autumn should be a fruitful season, the most abundant of the year. How can we take advantage of the "autumn of life"?

Some of the positive things about the autumn of life is that for many of us we can have a more relaxing time.

A Poem that reflects this is the following:

As I've aged, it seems I have come to the autumn of my life;
Where I'm left with remnants of dreams & things that lag behind,

Yet what remains is a mellow feeling of contentedness,
It's liken to autumn -that brings a pause in time;
When life comes to rest
And one is given a chance to reflect upon the journey,
Just as the shedding of the fall trees,
We too shed ashes of things dead & left undone,
Yet there continues a vibrance to our walk,
Maybe just a little slower than before,
For now it is a joy to partake of God's many gifts;
And maybe it's enough to be thankful that I'm alive.

Jean Damnet

So let us all reflect on the Autumn in whatever way reflects our
current state of being.

Peter Hope Magazine Editor

Readings and Collects for September 2022

4th September 12th Sunday After Trinity

All Age Worship

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14.25-33

Collect

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

11th September 13th Sunday After Trinity

Holy Communion

Readings

Exodus 32:7-14

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

Collect

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,

now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

18th September 14th Sunday After Trinity

Matins

Readings

Amos 8:4-7
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

Collect

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord
25th September 15th Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion

Readings

Amos 6.1a:4-7
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-End

Collect

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false teaching
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,
that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The 50/50 Club July 2022 winners

1st Mrs Foreman 2nd Ms Richardson 3rd Ms Fuller

NOTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2ND AUGUST 2022 AT RIVENHALL VILLAGE HALL

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. Ross Playle and 2 members of the public.

Chairman's Report

Essex is approaching what could be an official drought situation and following a very hot and dry July, fields and vegetation are at greater risk from accidental fires.

There have been some fires, fortunately put out quite quickly, in local villages and although temperatures are not quite as extreme now as they were a few weeks ago, the fire risk is still very high.

The Essex Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner has stated that "The extreme heat may have passed but everything is still tinder dry. Please put out the message about being particularly careful around barbecues, around careless use of fire, smoking materials and really do everything we possibly can to stop there being any further increase because until it rains properly it's going to remain a high risk environment."

Thank you to the volunteers who are watering young trees in the village and also to everyone helping wildlife through these acute conditions.

More hot conditions are forecast later in August and so keeping an eye on vulnerable residents will be important.

Public Forum

- There was a discussion regarding the rewilding areas on the edge of the Albert Moss Playing Field. The site on the Village Green has been removed from the current proposal following a petition being submitted against it.
- ECC Cllr. Playle mentioned the following matters:
- The BDLHP meeting is scheduled for 3rd August 2022;
- A12 widening – National Highways is yet to submit the formal planning application;
- The A120 re-routing proposals are currently on hold;
- It is anticipated that the Chipping Hill Bridge works in Witham will commence during September 2022;
- The Essex police annual crime survey is due shortly.
- Cllr. Playle was reminded of the streetlights within the parish that are still not working.
- **Matters for Discussion**

Glass bus shelter

The Clerk has reiterated to ECC the request for a wooden seat to replace the plastic one and registered RPC's ongoing dissatisfaction with the replacement shelter which is inferior to the parish council owned shelter removed without notice earlier this year.

BDC & ECC verges policy

The Parish Council had become aware of incorrect information being circulated regarding the verges policy and the Parish Council's recommendations for rewilding of certain areas within the parish.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk write to the originator of these comments setting out the following: The rewilding recommendation from the Parish Council relates only to 2 areas on the edges of the Albert Moss Playing Field; the verges policy is separate and is run by BDC/ECC; the Parish Council, working with BDC, makes considerable efforts on litter picking and acting against fly-tipping in the northern part of the parish and all other parts of the parish and comments that the northern part of the parish are badly littered and not looked after are unfounded.

Planting plaques

It was agreed in principle, with one abstention, that a commemorative plaque be placed at the area of newly planted trees on the Albert Moss Playing Field celebrating both the 125th anniversary of the inauguration of Parish Councils and the Platinum Jubilee of H. M. Queen Elizabeth II.

Recycling site CCTV location

Given the lengthy requirements from ECC, the bins have been moved and other adjustments made by BDC such that there is a much better view via the CCTV camera at the current location. BDC also confirm that the current camera position is yielding good results re catching people who abuse the area by fly-tipping. As a result it is felt by BDC that the need for a new CCTV pole on the site is unnecessary.

Three Parishes Meeting

Cressing PC has opted out from this venture, leaving Silver End and Rivenhall to continue if it is felt necessary to do so. The Clerk will contact Silver End PC seeking confirmation of their continued interest in going forward with this venture and with a possible approach to the two Braxted Parish Councils who may wish to join as they share many interests regarding the future of the A12.

Highway Maintenance

(a) A12/Oak Road junction – there has been yet another incident of damage to the boundary wall of a property in Oak Road. National Highways is to be asked again what action can be carried out in order to safeguard properties in Oak Road from vehicles leaving the A12 out of control and causing this repeated damage.

(b) A12 footway at Rivenhall End. The Chairman is in communication with National Highways regarding the overgrowth on the cycleway/footways.

(c) There are still streetlights not working at all and others that have been on during the daytime for years along the A12 which the Chairman has often reported to National Highways. He is in the process of arranging to meet with National Highways to progress works.

(d) The 30mph advance warning sign on Church Road has still not been replaced.

(e) The 30mph sign on Rickstones Road, upon entering Rivenhall, is obscured by bushes.

(f) It was reported that the local police believe that the prevention of pavement parking is now no longer their responsibility. It was agreed to check with BDC as to whether this is the case. *(Post meeting note - The Chairman contacted BDC and they stated it remains a police issue if pavements are blocked by parked vehicles, although legislation is due which will in due course pass the responsibility over to the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP)).*

(g) Essex Police have conducted speed checks within the parish and more are planned.

(h) The wooden bus shelter, southbound carriageway on the A12 has been badly damaged by vandalism and fire. The Clerk will seek advice from National Highways regarding repair and the long-term future of the A12 bus shelters given the A12 rerouting, for which a planning application is due soon.

General Maintenance

Church Road planters - One planter was damaged and has been removed, two remain satisfactory, planted with lavender; the third will be inspected again with a view to repair and replanting later in the year.

Painting Village Green posts - an estimate to repaint all the posts surrounding both Village Greens has been received. There are now 5 posts that require replacement/repair plus chains that need to be secured. As the maintenance contractor has not yet been able to undertake the repair already requested it was **agreed** to approach another contractor for a schedule for all repairs and painting as one job. It was confirmed that the parish council still holds a stock of posts in the council shed.

Planning Applications

There are new documents relating to application **21/03735/FUL**: Solar Farm off Park Road. Members are to check these and make comments via email for referral to BDC via the Clerk.

Planning Results

21/02933/FUL: 3 x 2 bed bungalows and garages – Rectory Lane.

Application refused by BDC.

Planning Appeals

Bellway Phase 4 – BDC has been notified of the Appeal, which is expected to be a full Public Planning Appeal Inquiry to be held towards the end of 2022. The venue has not yet been announced.

Ongoing Planning Issues

A12 to A120 widening

The formal planning application is still awaited (The DCO).

BDC Local Plan

The Local Plan was adopted by BDC on 25th July 2022. It is now subject to a 6-week period for potential legal challenge, but the process allows for the new plan policies to be applied immediately, so any new applications will be decided in relation to the new Local Plan.

Rivenhall Airfield Major Waste Site

ESS/34/15/BTE/NMA3: Essex County Council has received an application from site developers Indaver to use Woodhouse Lane for abnormal loads (piling rigs). Vehicles up to 115 feet long are proposed to come through Cressing and Silver End and then along Parkgate Road.

It was **agreed** to object to this application on the basis that all previous planning discussions/agreements for the waste site and Bradwell Quarry were that HGVs accessing the site must be via the

dedicated private haul road off the A120. If the Bailey Bridges are not considered strong enough over the River Blackwater then it must be the responsibility of the site operators building the waste site to ensure the bridges can take all loads and that no HGVs should come through local villages. It was also agreed to request that this application be decided by ECC Committee rather than by Officers.

Colemans Quarry

There is a possibility that a new planning application will be submitted to ECC to move the quarry processing operation over to Appleford Farm with access via Braxted Road and for the Little Braxted Lane access to be used in the main for the importation of waste in-fill materials. No information had been received from ECC regarding this future proposal and the Parish Council only found out about it by being made aware of a Scoping Request having been submitted by the quarry operators. It was agreed that the Clerk write to ECC asking why the Parish Council was not consulted about the Scoping Request.

Information exchange and items for the September agenda

- The Chairman reported that on inspection of Tarecroft Wood in late July it was found that all the cut timber and brushwood was still lying on the ground which was supressing wildflowers and also that the storm damage from February had still not been attended to, which itself was likely made worse by such aggressive opening up of the woodland canopy. The Chairman will once again report this to ECC.

Dates of future meetings

6th September at Henry Dixon Hall, and 4th October at Rivenhall Village Hall, both Starting at 7.30 pm.

Cycle Security

Cycle security is always an issue with thefts from a variety of locations including the town centre, residential areas, and educational establishments. Commonly bicycles are either not secured or not secured properly, and this makes it easy for thieves.

Where do they go? Number of places: - in a container abroad, to another part of the country, stored in premises or sold as either a cycle or cycle parts via the internet, or third parties.

By taking some appropriate precautions and using good quality security products, and using them well, should help you to keep your property safe. Use the best security you can afford. Don't secure a

£2,000 bicycle with a £20 lock! As a guide look to spend 10-15% of the value of the item on its security. Look for a "Sold Secure" certified chain **and** padlock or "D – Lock" preferably gold rated but certainly not below silver. Consider what you chain it to whether at home or whilst out, is that secure? Is it well overlooked to provide good natural surveillance?

Make a note of the frame number, security mark the cycle, there are a number of different methods available such as www.bikeregister.com, or see Secured by Design accredited products. Take a photograph of the cycle and any areas of damage or marks of identification, and some insurance companies may require one with the owner in the picture with it.



At home remove that first attraction to the thief or burglar: 1) don't leave garage doors open for long periods showing your expensive cycle and other property, 2) consider a "Ground anchor" or "Shed shackle" within your shed or garage to secure your cycle to, 3) look at your shed or garages security and ensure you have good locks and that the hinges are protected, 4) consider a shed alarm, 5) if your home is limited for space outside consider a cycle storage unit, they are smaller than a shed.

If you can its worth getting your children or grandchildren into good habits, keeping their bikes secure and not leaving them discarded on the front lawn or other, may save problems in the future.

Check with your insurance company to see what security standards they require for your insurance cover to be valid.

For suitable security products see www.securedbydesign.com or www.soldsecure.com .

For further advice consult the Essex Police Website

End to End Nature Care.

Every year, in late April, when we begin our weekly evening outdoor meetings it feels almost as if an endless list of activities and events is scheduled. Now, those 20 consecutive weekly meetings have all passed in what seems like next to no time at all. The evening dusk has crept up earlier and earlier and now we swap over to monthly indoor get-togethers, starting this month with a bird-box building evening at Stoverns Hall Farm on Wednesday 21st September at 7:30pm. Please bring any spare materials (wood, nails, screws, etc.) and some tools. If you would like a bird-box - and they are free to anybody local who wants one - then please get in touch (details below). Bat roosting boxes can be available too.

The weather in the latter part of summer needs little description. The lack of rain and high temperatures have caused much consternation for farmers and gardeners, while many wild plants, and the animals which live on and amongst them, have suffered. One plant which seems to have ridden the storm with relative ease is the bramble or blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), though many who enjoy collecting and using the fruit will have noticed it ripening earlier than usual this year. Phenological studies (those which focus on the timing of various natural “events”) suggest that first blackberry ripening is one of those events gradually creeping earlier in the year, but annual climatic variations produce significant background noise to these results. For example, ten years ago brambles were in the news for fruiting very late in the year due to unusual weather earlier that summer.

A further complication when studying brambles is their huge variety. As well as the degree of ripeness, anybody who has casually grazed from the hedgerow in late summer will tell you some blackberries are sweeter than others. In fact, very close study of *Rubus* over the last 250 years or so has revealed them to be a vast array of micro-species, at least 300 of them in Britain alone. Indeed, so specialist is the study of brambles that it has its own name: batology. Entire books are devoted to the subject; interestingly, one of them - “Brambles of the British Isles” by E.S. Eedes and A. Newton, published by The Ray Society (founded in honour of the great local naturalist John Ray) - specifically refers to the Colchester area (undefined unfortunately) as being home to a wide array of bramble microspecies, thus presenting “a formidable complexity requiring much reconnaissance and

consideration” and “a severe challenge to the aspiring and sometimes also perspiring batologist”. Something to ponder, then, when next cooking or tucking into a blackberry and apple pie...

Left to their own devices in favourable conditions, brambles will form large thickets of arching stems, often referred to as briar patches, which gradually increase in size as the plants throw out creeping or arching stems which will root on contact with soil. Those roots, as most gardeners will tell you, grow deep and tough, hence the plants’ ready survival of drought conditions. These thickets, and hedgerows dense in bramble, provide hugely important habitat for a vast array of insects and other invertebrates, as well as many bird and other vertebrate species. Their flowers, fruit and the young, leafy growth are a staple food of very many species of animal who, in turn will help pollinate the flowers and disperse the seeds.

Many of you will have cursed a bramble, as I have, when caught up in its prickly tangle, snagging clothes, tearing skin and often leaving the hooked tips of its thorns embedded as a memento. However, with its flowers, fruits and huge value to wildlife and, indeed, the very fabric of the countryside, it does more than enough to balance the books in its favour.

Full details of our forthcoming events and activities can be found on our website: www.e2e.silverend.org. We also have a Facebook group (End to End Nature Care) where anybody is welcome to post images or details of local observations of fauna and flora. Why not post an image of a local bramble bush, or even recipes for blackberries? I can always be contacted on simon@e2e.silverend.org or 07947 388180 if anybody has any interesting local reports or questions about natural history of any kind.

Simon Taylor

Rustic Fruit slices

Last week I bought some large, dark plums, but left them for a day or two. They were just perfect, soft squidgy , and when I sliced them the juice dripped. I lightly cooked them, put them in a dish, covered them with Crumble mix (ready bought) , topped with demerara sugar, cooked for 30 minutes on 180 and they were delicious!

There is so much soft delicious fruit about now, and eating it raw

is a joy, but it is easy to overbuy and then find you can't eat it all before it spoils. I bought too many strawberries, and ended up freezing them on a tray individually. They are now in a tub and will be used in a summer pudding during the winter months.

There are many recipes for fruit dishes, but here is one I use a lot, and it is easy.

Ingredients

Packet of bought puff or shortcrust pastry. These are easy to cut into 4 or even 6 before you use them. Freeze what you do not want, ideal for single meals.

Fruit in season: plums, apricots, peaches, nectarines, apples, even pears. Or even a mixture.

Granulated sugar

Jam to match the fruit, not too chunky. (I use shred less orange marmalade it seems to go with everything!)

Method

Roll out the pastry and put on a tray. Pop in the oven for 10 minutes on 180, gas 4 remove to cool.

Slice the fruit and arrange in rows on the pastry, sprinkle with the sugar, not too much.

Pop in the oven for 30-40 mins, still on 180, gas 4 until they look golden.

Remove from oven.

Put the jam in a small saucepan with some water 1 teaspoon for every level tablespoon of jam. Gently heat breaking down the jam with the back of a wooden spoon. If the jam is over thick with fruit, push it through a sieve. Then using a pastry brush spread the jam over the fruit.



Wait, if you can, and enjoy with cream, custard, ice cream--- etc etc.

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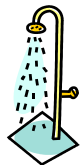
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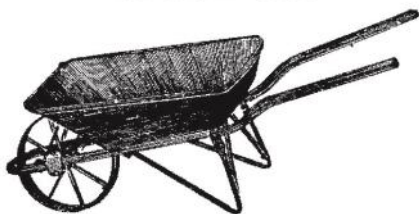
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Sky Notes September 2022

Jupiter is at its best for the year this month, reaching opposition (ie opposite the Sun in the sky) on September 26th.

At 10pm Jupiter will be in the South East, about 30 degrees above the horizon and shining brighter than any star.

Although Jupiter will this month be about 370 million miles from Earth (about as close as it ever gets to us), its vast size means it reflects a lot of sunlight back towards us, making it always a bright object in our skies.

A good pair of binoculars or a small telescope will reveal the disk of Jupiter and its 4 largest moons. In January 1610, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei discovered these four moons, Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto, and as he watched them night by night orbiting Jupiter he realised that the "Earth-centric" model of the Universe that was still believed then, could not be correct.

The James Webb Space Telescope has just recently updated our understanding of Jupiter, capturing in one superb image the complexity of its clouds, its thin rings, Jovian aurora at its poles and some of its moons. From the original discovery of 4 moons, we now know 4 centuries later that there are at least 79.

Saturn can still be seen, in the South at around 10pm. The Moon will be just below and to the left of Saturn on the 8th and the same with Jupiter on the 11th.

Mars gets steadily brighter during September and is in Taurus, reaching a reasonable height above the horizon in the East by midnight by the end of the month. Just to the right of Mars will be the brightest star in Taurus, which is called Aldebaran. The star and the planet are a similar orange colour, though for completely different reasons !

The Moon is Full on the 10th and is now climbing as we move into Autumn, reaching above 30 degrees when due South after midnight.

The Autumn Equinox, the time of broadly equal day and

night hours all over the world, is on September 23rd.

By late month and around midnight, one of the most recognisable star patterns in the sky is high in the South - The Square of Pegasus. As a helpful finder this month, Jupiter sits just below the Square (marked on the map in green). Confusingly, the top left star in the square is actually in the neighbouring constellation of Andromeda. This star is called Alpheratz and is about 100 light years away from our Solar System. Alpheratz is actually 2 stars, both larger than our Sun and orbiting each other very closely in just 97 days. The larger of the 2 stars is known as a "peculiar" star as it contains unusual levels of certain chemicals in its atmosphere – in this case high levels of mercury.

Sky Watcher

Picture Accompanying the End-to-End Nature Care article



A Great habitat at All Saints churchyard, Cressing



**edited Malacocoris chlorizans a small
mirid bug from Bellerophon Wood.**



**Misumena vatia Crab Spider Bellerphon
Wood**

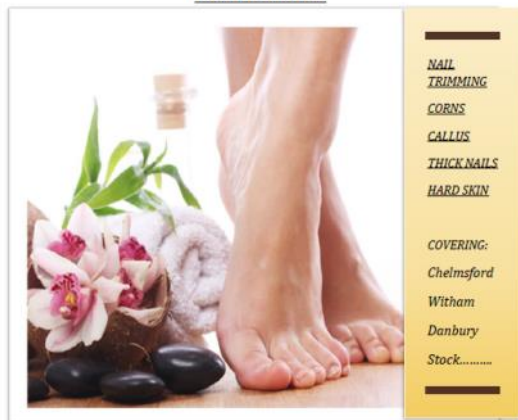


**cropped White-legged Damselfly on
bramble, Wickham Bishops**

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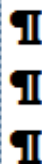
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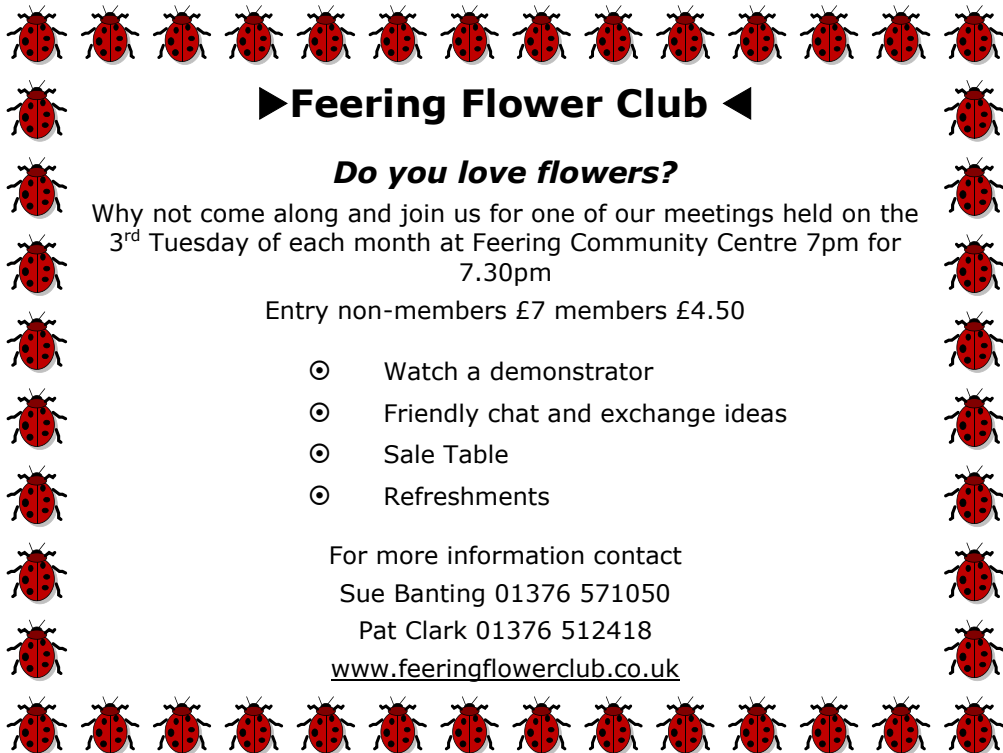
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Turning the pages of History

Research by Tracy Scott

This month we carry on with the Rectors of Rivenhall from the articles written by Rev. David Nash in 1975/6.

Rectors of Rivenhall Part 8

By Rev. David Nash

The Sixteenth Century 1: Robert Underwood, Vicar of South Fambridge, came to Rivenhall as Rector in the late 15th century. With the deserted village site and a down-at-heel parsonage situated in a lonely corner of the churchyard it must have been a welcome sight for folk to see the building of a tower for the parish church; not as tall as the present one it incorporated a little room described by the historian Morant as a house. Perhaps the sexton or even Underwood himself lived in it! Unbeknown to them the shallow foundations were laid over a back-filled trench of the 14th century which had been excavated in preparation for a tower which was never built. This was to come to light in later days. It is likely that the tower had only one bell.

Underwood died in late 1495 and was doubtless buried in our churchyard. The patrons of the living, Thomas Butler 7th Earl of Ormond and his lady Laura presented John Osplete, M.A. as Rector and he was duly installed on 9th March 1496. The War of the Roses were now over and Henry VII was King. The Ormon Butlers had been Lancastrian sympathisers and Thomas Butler was involved in the Irish turmoil which existed even in those days. He was involved as many were in trying to gain the confidence of King Henry VII.

It was about this period that it seemed sensible to build a Rectory a mile nearer Witham. John Osplete disappears from history and from this point, which probably dates from the earliest (Tudor) portion of the old Rectory, that we have an unbroken line of Rectors down to the present day.

In 1509, Henry VIII became King. The Rector of Faulkbourne was a certain Clement Rochester, M.A., probably descended from the de Rossa's, early Rectors of Rivenhall. To take on a sparsely populated Rivenhall plus a second possibly of a new Rectory in which to spend one's declining years. So he took on the two livings and he moved to Rivenhall at least before resigning to Faulkbourne living in April 1534. He lived at Rivenhall as Rector until his death early in 1539. It would have been Clement who baptised the infant Thomas Tusser

in 1524, at Rivenhall Church.

In the same year that Rochester resigned from the living of Faulkbourne, Henry VIII had proclaimed himself Head of the Church in England; the following year Sir Thomas More was executed and a year after that it was the turn of Queen Anne Boleyn.

William Love was put forward by John Croke on behalf of Sir John Gate, patron of the living, and he was instituted as Rector on the 4th July 1539. What made this man relish the thought of the Rivenhall living? He had already taken on the job of Vicar of Witham in March 1538. So here we have another priest who runs two parishes in harness. Perhaps there was an Archdeacon in those days who believed that grouping parishes would prevent parsons becoming too political! It would give them enough work to keep them busy. Perhaps the comparative quiet of the new Tudor Rectory appealed to this parson as a safer refuge than the busier Witham. At any rate he held them both until his resignation in 1559 when Queen Elizabeth had ascended the throne. Mary Tudor had died in 1558 and William Love had seen the pendulum swing from Protestantism to Catholicism and back again.

Part 9

Sixteenth Century 2: When William Love had been nominated rector, 1539 Henry VIII was king; John Gates, the patron, had allowed John Croke to choose the nominee. Under Edward VI, Sir John Gates became Chancellor of England – but only because he was a 'stooge' of the Regent, Northumberland; Gates was an unreliable man and few shed tears for him when early in Mary's reign he was one of but 3 men of state to be executed for his part in the Lady Jane Grey affair; it was, in fact, some months before Jane herself was beheaded – Mary having been considered over-lenient in the first days of her reign. However, to return to Sir John Gates; on his way to the scaffold, he turned & blamed Northumberland for his compelling authority as the source of all their trouble! Although Mary gave the advowson (

patronage) of Rivenhall to the widowed Susanna Long, it was Clement Tusser, gentleman, - who nominated William Dawes, Bachelor of Law and vicar of All Hallows, Barking, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; This Clement was probably uncle, or

perhaps even the father, of Thomas Tusser, our Rivenhall-born, Tudor poet. Clement may have been acting on behalf of Susanna Long as John Croke had acted for Sir John Gates.

William Dawes was rector here for 5 years; from his institution on 7th Jan 1560 until his death in 1565. John Faunt, who succeeded him, 17th Sept. 1565 lasted 14 years and also died in office, in 1579. William Aylett whose family were connected with Durwards Hall, had the task of selecting this John Faunt.

With the institution of Henry Crane, M.A. on 28th Nov 1579, we enter the era of Wiseman patrons, with Ralph (sometimes spelled Raphe!) Wiseman having share in nominating. This Raphe whose fine tomb stands in Rivenhall chancel, had as yet 10 years to go before buying Rivenhall Place as his home. He was, however, familiar with our neighbourhood and probably settled here; he chose Henry Crane because he knew him; Henry, a young middle-aged priest had been rector of Little Braxted for 10 years: he was to serve a total of 32 years ministry in Rivenhall until his death in 1612. Although Raphe Wiseman was part of the Protestant branch of the famous Essex Catholic Wisemans, he was nevertheless suspect as a Catholic sympathizer and we may be right in suggesting that Henry Crane was a high churchman.

All these rectors we have mentioned would have had the right to live in the parsonage house which stood on site of the present 'Old Rectory'; only a part of this Tudor building remains – a wing of the later Georgian structure.

The continuation of the Rectors of Rivenhall will be in the January 2023 magazine.

RIVENHALL GARDENING CLUB

The Club's next monthly meeting will be in Rivenhall village hall on **Tuesday 13th September at 7.30pm**. The speaker will be Andy Moore from Colchester Zoo with an illustrated talk about the care of the animals in their charge. Competitions will be: Horticultural — any vegetable. Domestic 3 pcs shortbread. Flower of the Month. Photograph of the Month. Entrance is £2 to include refreshment. There will be the usual raffle and a Bring and Buy sale table, the proceeds of which go to Club funds.

We do not officially meet during August but this year we made an exception for a members' afternoon tea which was enjoyed by all

those who were able to attend.

We should be delighted to see some new members and visitors to our monthly meetings. We are a small club but you would be assured of a friendly welcome. We have a number of speakers throughout the year talking on a variety of subjects and experiences as well as those that are garden related. We hold a couple of Shows annually and aim to have a summer outing in July and a Christmas get together in December. For further information about the Club please contact the Club Secretary on 01376 512781. We do look forward to seeing you.

Queen Music Evening in St. Francis Church

The Queen tribute concert in St. Francis Church, August 19th, was a huge success. Tom and his group (Alan, Ian, Dave, Lucy, Rebecka, Claire and John) gave up their time for many rehearsals as well as the performance itself. All profits were donated to charity, and even after having to cancel one event because of C19, they raised £200 for charity, with £100 going to the church and £100 to Cancer Research.



Queen's back catalogue is huge and the band, known as 'Queen in Silver End', made good use of this and selected a wide range of songs from My Melancholy Blues, through Barcelona to, of course, finish with Bohemian Rhapsody. The audience were amazing and sung and clapped along to everything.

St. Francis worshippers will know Tom as our regular keyboard player for our hymns. By using his own keyboard he provides a wonderful mixture of moods that are solemn when appropriate, or light and delightful and occasionally even 'rock and roll' to round off a happy service.

Venta Icenorum (Norfolk's Abandoned Roman Town)

When the Romans invaded England they found that the countryside within the Iceni tribal land (modern day Norfolk) was both populated and thriving. Upon seeing this, the Romans saw the potential for further development in the area.

Some progress was made and several major roads were constructed, but the revolt of Boudicca delayed their plans for almost sixty years. The Romans wanted to pacify the Iceni people so they built the market town of Venta Icenorum (near the current village of Caistor St. Edmund). This is about three miles south of where Norwich is today. (Norwich itself was not Roman, but was established a few hundred years after the Romans left Britain).

A series of enormous circular embankments and ditches were dug and a Roman town with a grid of streets "Venta Icenorum" began to be developed. But within a couple of hundred years these circular fortifications were cleared and later replaced with a smaller, though still massive defensive ditch and rectangular earth embankments that can be seen today, surmounted by thick flint and mortar walls. Businesses operated both within the new rectangular town and outside the walls too.

When the Romans left Britain about 410 AD, activity continued for about another hundred years then the old town was abandoned. It was never to be redeveloped. The town of Norwich had been established and presumably most business and trade moved there. The buildings and walls were robbed for their materials, leaving just fields and the rectangular earthworks surmounted by the remains of the town walls.

There was a drought summer in 1928 (so not new after all) and some astonishing crop marks were filmed from a light aircraft. These photographs showed stunning details of the road grid and the Roman buildings lying just below the pasture and arable fields.

Subsequent excavations have revealed, and continue to reveal an amphitheatre, a theatre, various temples, bath houses, a town hall (basilica), houses and a forum. To preserve the findings, all have been carefully back-filled and the entire site is now grazed by sheep.

About 25 years ago I used to look at this "odd" rectangular site from the train whenever I was travelling to Norwich. I thought at the time "That must be Roman". But it took me 25 years before I



Artists impression of the Town

went to explore it! Jane and I viewed it this year on a balmy evening at the end of July. Entry is free 24/7, it has a car park, you can walk your dog (strictly on a leash), you can cross the site from its East-West gateways and its north-south gateways, and best of all you can walk around its rectangular walls. There are numerous excellent interpretation boards all-round the site. If you have a smart phone or a tablet you can upload the wonderful Caistor Roman Town AR App which offers you panoramic reconstructed views of the Roman town as you walk round its walls.

Norwich is a lovely city but this abandoned Roman town of Venta Icenorum, though little known, is well worth a visit.

A CURIOUS INSCRIPTION

What is the story behind this curious inscription on a gravestone in Rivenhall churchyard?

The lower half reads:

*Here lies Gerald Bass
Of Honest Fame
Of Stature Low
And a leg thats lame
Content he was with portion small
Kept a dog and that was all
6 May 1924 - 23 June 2002*

Following a Nature Care Ramble in Rivenhall Churchyard Jackie Alan spotted this grave stone. With a n unusual inscription. (See above). If any one can tell the editor the story behind this please let me know.



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THE 2022 FAMOUS RIVENHALL RACES



It is twenty glorious years ago that the Famous Rivenhall Races were first run in Rivenhall Village Hall. On **Saturday 29th 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, 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 **£12.00** and can be purchased from Bob Turner, Jack Prime, Lilian Pearce and John Macrae (Rivenhall Millennium Committee).

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

Doors open at **7:00 pm** and the races start at **8:00 pm** prompt.

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	Elaine Hall on +44	7885 489788
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
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