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November 2022

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Editorial

November is a month for Remembrance and, with war continuing in Ukraine, and the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, this year's annual service at the memorial on Sunday 13th November, provides an opportunity to take a moment to pause, reflect and count our blessings.

Certainly as Editor this month I want to thank all our contributors. In this fast paced world, with instant news at our finger tips every minute of the day, (not all of it uplifting), the monthly updates about different aspects of life in and around Henham provides a restoring balance. Also, please note the various seasonal adverts this month inviting you to attend a Xmas wreath making workshop, reminding you to order your turkey, get your Christmas tree, stock up chocolates and of course to visit the Village Shop where you will find a wide range of Christmas treats.

Less seasonal but nonetheless interesting there is also an invitation to attend a talk on keeping chickens.

Happy Reading
Sheena Bigland, Editor



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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I have continued to correspond with Cllr. Lee Scott of Essex Highways and Cllr. Ray Gooding of Essex CC who have told me that the works are complete.

Here are some sections of the ongoing emails. I sent a lengthy one including three photographs and locations of 18 potholes, but pointed out that this is not a definitive list.

4th October. Response from Cllr. Scott. "I will ask officers today as like Ray I was told works were done but will check"

5th October. Response from Cllr. Gooding "Can I ask you to look back at the notes I sent you on 22nd September please and you will see that I said that the final resurfacing would not be completed until after North Hall Road is reopened because that work requires the closure of Ugley Road and it is not practical to have both roads closed consecutively. My understanding is that the interim works have been completed as suggested in my previous email and I am pleased that Lee is checking the actual status with the officers who will update us on that. "

5th October. My response to Cllr. Gooding: "Thank you for your email and I look forward to hearing what the officer has to say to Cllr. Scott. I have never disputed the timing of the resurfacing. However, as you will also know from my many emails that it is the filling of the potholes in the meantime which has been my main concern as they are dangerous to all forms of traffic. As you can see from the photographs attached within the last email, many potholes have not been filled. Perhaps, you could detour down that road, as it is less than 4 miles from Stansted, so that you can see for yourself the condition of the sides of the road. Do come along at any time, preferably within half an hour of school arrival or departure times so you can get the full experience of being pushed into the potholes to pass other road users, including lorries. Afterwards, you are very welcome to have a reviving cup of tea at 9, Mill Road. "

7th October. No responses received.

Maybe next week?

I keep hoping that the potholes will be filled by the time the magazine is printed, Third time lucky perhaps.

Sue Leech, 9 Mill Road

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THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR IS BACK!

The Christmas Choir is being formed again for three services of Carols by Candlelight, one in each church. Join us to sing the traditional carols telling the story of the birth of the Christ Child:



DATES OF SERVICES:

Sunday 18th December, 4 pm at St Peter's, Ugley

Sunday 18th December, 7 pm at St Mary's, Elsenham

Saturday 24th December, 7 pm at St Mary's, Henham

DATES OF REHEARSALS:

Friday 18th November, 7.30 pm at St Mary's, Henham

Friday 25th November, 7.30 pm at St Mary's, Elsenham

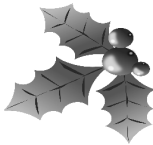
Friday 2nd December, 7.30 pm at St Peter's, Ugley

Friday 9th December, 7.30 pm at St Mary's, Elsenham

Friday 16th December, 7.30 pm at St Mary's, Henham

Choir members old and new from any of our three parishes are most welcome.

If you have any questions, contact Maxine Mott (01279 812516 or motts@grahammott.plus.com)



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Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2022



My merry band of volunteer collectors will be circulating the village from Saturday 29th October to Saturday 12th November.

Please have a handful of change and/or notes ready for them.

Plus if you would like to help on our stand at the Airport Terminal, please give me a call. Only a three hour shift (parking arranged).

Thank you for your support.

Remembrance Sunday 13th November

We will be holding our regular two minutes silence at Henham Memorial at 11.00am.

Please join us if you can.

Simon Bambridge

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Our Xmas wreath workshop is back !



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Henham and Ugley School

As we head swiftly to the end of the first half term, I am now delighted to let you know we have appointed our new Year 6 School Captains along with our Eco Council and Pupil Voice Representatives.

Congratulations to the following children:

Class	Eco Council	Eco Council	Pupil Voice	Pupil Voice
Reception	Matilda B	Jasper W	Hudson D	Martha W
Year 1	George F	Isla D	Oliver P	Poppy W
Year 2	Iris W	Ronnie G	Finn L	Ava E-A
Year 3	Henry M	Thea H	Thomas C	Alba S
Year 4	Joshua P	Lola K	Jack G	Remi B
Year 5	Holly C	Seth L	Olivia H	Bertie R
Year 6	Lyra L	Louis C	Alexis C	Thomas A

Captains: Red House	Callum J	Lacey-Mae F
Captains: Purple House	Charlie H	Molly B
Captains: Blue House	George M	Isla M
Captains: Green House	Rupert A-K	Willow D

We have been having lots of fun in school this half term. Year 1 opened their classroom door for parents, grandparents and siblings to visit their toy museum one afternoon in October.



Equipped with their own maps, the children were able to hold guided tours of the classroom, showcasing the range of learning they have undertaken so far. The children have conducted toy surveys, drawn old and modern toys, created their own lists, captions and labels to accompany the exhibits, and made teddies using a paint program. Many thanks to all who could attend and celebrate the children's learning.

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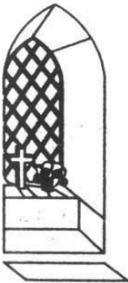
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Vacancies

Are you local and looking for a part time position at our school?

We are still looking for a **part-time caretaker** to undertake odd jobs around school as well as lock up and be on hand during the winter months for salt spreading etc. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, you can either pop to the school office for more information or contact myself or Mrs Hipperson for more information, by telephone on 01279 850213 or via email: admin@henhamugley.essex.sch.uk or head@henhamugley.essex.sch.uk I look forward to hearing from you.

We also have a vacancy for a **Mid-Day Assistant** – please contact the school for further details.

Making your Primary School Choice

If your child was born during the period 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2019, I am sure you are busy thinking about your primary school choices for the academic year 2023/24.

I am now able to invite parents in during the school day, as well as after school to come and see our wonderful school; as always, I am offering individual tours of the school.

If you would like a visit, I would love to show you around - please contact Mrs Hipperson or Mrs Nicholls (01279 850213) in the school office who will be happy to book a convenient time in for you.

Until next time, take care.

Kim Hall, Headteacher

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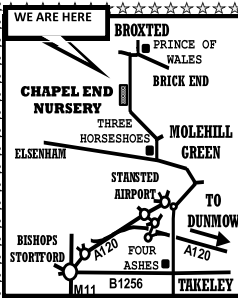
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Ugley WI

September Meeting

We were treated to a ‘trip down memory lane’ at our September meeting thanks to Messrs Franklin and Rea of Elsenham Local History Society.

In their beautifully illustrated talk we saw images of Elsenham Hall; home to Sir Walter Gilbey, a great benefactor to the village. The jam factory was established by him and the village pump was donated by him. The canopy to it was a memorial to his wife who died in 1896.

Other scenes included the old village school and its pupils and staff and Barratt’s shop with the manager and assistants posing for posterity. We saw views of the High Street, the Crown Inn, the Church dating from the 12th century and Golds nurseries. A trip to Elsenham wouldn’t be complete without looking at the station and we were treated to early views of this landmark and in fact Ray Franklin was the last passenger on the old Elsenham-Thaxted line!

As an encore to their fascinating talk we saw an episode from the BBC documentary A-Z of English villages when Elsenham was the ‘star’.

November Meeting

Our November meeting, to be held in **Ugley Village Hall on Wednesday 16th November at 2.15pm**, will see the welcome return of our Gordon Bailey who will be speaking about his fascinating finds whilst metal detecting.

Why not come along to see what he has unearthed? You would be most welcome

Andrea Fitt 01279 815922

—000—

Contacts for Hall Bookings

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Well what a fantastic year this has been for us and the best bit has been having all our lovely visitors come and see us on the farm!

We are starting to get very excited about Christmas and really hope you will be joining us for the festivities this year – there will be so much to do. Last year as Father Christmas was so busy, Mrs Claus came to stay with us and read traditional yuletide stories to the children whilst they enjoyed yummy hot chocolates and she also had gifts for them too! They were also able to enjoy Christmas crafts, a snowy walk through the Winter Woodland and of course, the animals had to have a fuss made of them too!!

Make sure you keep an eye on our Facebook page so you can book and don't miss out on all the fun!

All our animals are always so happy to see you and we still have some small piglets that are so cute, but very cheeky! At the moment there are sheep, goats, ponies, all sorts of chickens, ducks, turkeys, pheasants and even some owls and don't forget the rheas (similar to ostriches), rabbits and guinea pigs and they **all** love to see our visitors!

These events are a vital lifeline for us to raise enough funds to feed and look after our animals and we can only do this with your help and support.

Many thanks.



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In the Garden

Well Dear Reader, another year nearly gone. It's already November and still no offers of pantomime! Oh well, I guess I'll just have to stick to gardening.

We have had an extraordinary summer this year, but although we have had loads of sunshine and high temperatures, it has been a challenging year for gardeners. Thankfully, September and October brought us a little more rain, which helped enormously. I have planted out quite few herbaceous perennials. Planting them now will give them a lot more time to establish a good root system over the winter months. This is pretty much the last opportunity to plant tulip bulbs. You can plant them later, but the flowers will be a lot smaller. If you have bulbs of any type left over, you can keep these for a long time in a refrigerator. Put them in net bags and they should last until next spring.

Climbing roses should be cut back now, leaving two or three buds on the side shoots and summer flowering shrubs like Lavatera, Cotinus and Buddleia should have their foliage reduced by about a third. When pruning, try to make your cut about half a centimetre above a leaf joint. Tie in the main stems to keep the plant stable.

Apple and pear trees can be pruned any time from now until next February. Cut out any inward growing branches and reduce leaders by at least one third, once again, making your pruning cut about half a centimetre above an outward facing bud. Cut out any dead branches and try to open out the centre of the tree. A good tip, given to me many years ago, is that a bird should be able to fly straight through the centre of the tree without hesitating.

This is the month for cleaning and tidying and battening down the hatches for winter. Keep raking up the fallen leaves to prevent moss forming on your lawn. If you have a pond, it is important to try and keep leaves out of it, as they can release harmful agents as they decay. A good way of doing this is to cover the pond with garden netting. This can regularly be removed, cleared and then repositioned. This will also provide protection against the ever-voracious herons.

Any soft fruit planted this month should be cut back hard. The aim is to prevent an immature plant fruiting before it is ready, thus suffering permanent damage. If you have given your tree fruit a summer pruning, pruning now should not be too onerous. Cordon and espalier trained trees should have their side shoots cut back to three dormant buds from the main stem and sub-laterals (shoots growing from the side shoots) should be cut back to one dormant bud.

Continue cutting down herbaceous perennials which have finished, with the exception of Chrysanthemums, Euphorbia and Sedums. These are best left

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alone until spring, as the dead foliage provides some protection against winter frosts. Try to leave some foliage as shelter for wildlife if you can. If you have any digging to do, such as renovating flower beds or lawns, now is the time to do it. At this time of year, rough digging is all that is needed, as the frosts will break down any large lumps. This year the ground is probably a bit harder than normal, so you may find it easier to dig with a fork rather than a spade.

Now is the time to be planting up tubs and baskets for winter colour. Most nurseries will have a selection of small perennials and even small shrubs which can be used alongside the usual favourites like Pansies, Violas and Wallflowers. I use Skimmia, Hellebore, Heuchera, Trailing Ivy, Geum and quite a few others. One advantage of using this type of plant is that they can be planted into the garden later on. Under-plant these with bulbs of short stemmed spring flowers like Tête a Tête Daffodils, Greigii Tulips and Dwarf Irises.

If you have bird feeders in your garden, make sure you keep them topped up now, so that the birds become confident of their positions. In severe weather, birds use most of their energy looking for food. If they know there is a regular supply close to hand, it improves their chances of surviving harsh winters.

In the vegetable garden or allotment, you can plant early Broad Beans, such as “Aquadulce” or the more compact “Sutton” and also peas Sow broad beans in the normal way, but peas should be sown more thickly, to allow for winter losses. If you grow onions or shallots, you will be all too aware of the annoying habit that birds have, of pulling them out of the ground pretty much as soon as they are planted. A simple way to avoid this is to cut off the tips of the onion sets when you plant them. They are then much less obvious to the birds.

Well Dear Reader, just time for one of my nuggets of little-known information before I leave you. Don't throw away those used tea bags, they can be used to make an iron-rich feed for your acid-loving plants such as rhododendrons etc. The extra iron will help to keep the leaves of these lime-hating plants a beautiful dark green. Keep a jug of water handy and drop the used tea bags into it. At the end of the week you should have a jug full of dark brown liquid. Simply water this directly around your plants. This iron-rich liquid also provides a great feed for houseplants.

That's enough pearls of wisdom for now, so until next time, Happy Gardening.

Norman Elson





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Henham Village Shop News

Wow, suddenly its November again and the shops are filling their windows with Christmas goodies. What with the trend to online shopping and the price of petrol we must wonder how well the average high street will do this year.

**The Village Shop will be open over Christmas as always
and is here to help with your seasonal requirements.**

Christmas opening hours will be in the December issue of the Dragon.

When planning your Christmas needs why not consider what the Village Shop can offer and save some petrol. The Post Office has an extensive banking service and will be open most Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings over the Christmas period. You can get your postage stamps from here; it's so convenient. You can order a 9 pint mini-cask of Bishop Nick real ale or real ale gift sets in festive boxes. We are accepting orders from mid-November right up to a week before Christmas. We have a good stock of wine ranging from £6.00 to £10.00 per bottle. You can also buy a range of spirits, lager or bitter in cans and soft drinks. We have a good stock of Henham tea towels and Mugs that are small but thoughtful gifts for those who have been to and would like a memento of Henham. We are also selling the 2023 edition of the 100 Parishes Society calendar and packs of assorted Christmas cards. Priors Hall Farm offer beautifully prepared meats for your Christmas table that you can order from us. The list will be in the shop from late November and will include turkey breast rolls, honey roast ham, beef joints and stuffing. Greens of Thaxted will be baking their wonderful mince pies, chocolate logs and Christmas Cakes again this year and we will be taking orders from the middle of November.

Please join our raffle and have the chance to win our special Christmas Hamper plus other great prizes. Tickets are available in the shop from the beginning of December.

Roll on Christmas.

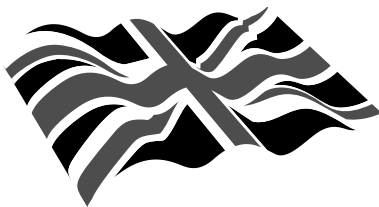
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References, Registration Docs and License Numbers Available upon request.



Omega Runners



The end of another season for the village Omega runners.

The yellow fish have migrated to our shed and are tucked up for the winter.

The nights are closing in and Monday evening running is now on pause.

We have run along most of the public paths, tracks and byways in the Henham area, through mud, rain, snow, sunshine and the most stunning scenery. At the end of the season the sunsets have been amazing. We have shivered through March, been caught in thunder storms in May, baked in the hot dusty month of June, seen beautiful rainbows in September and smiled through it all.

The routes are always marked with fish and change almost every week.

Our thanks go to Will Coleby for help with course marking and fish collection.

Also, thanks to all the runners who regularly join us on a Monday evening.

Saturday morning running continues at 9.00am starting and finishing outside **Vision Fitness**. This is the village boundary run. A 5k route – signposted with white fish.

If you are new to running and want to start gradually there are several short cuts, still starting and finishing at **Vision Fitness**.

If you would like to join a small friendly running group, ring one of the numbers below and we will pair you up with someone for your first run.

When the clocks change and the evenings are longer, we will re-start the Monday evening runs. These start from The Cock at 7.00pm and vary in length from 3.5k to about 12k by the end of the season.

All abilities are welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult (who can keep up). There is no charge to join the group; it is just a group of friends running together at their own risk, having fun, attempting to keep fit, while enjoying fresh air and exploring the countryside

June 07749858353

Glenn 01279850114





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Chicken Keeping

Having your own chickens is very rewarding; there's nothing better than collecting your own fresh eggs from the garden and having them for breakfast!

Chickens are now the UK's sixth favourite pet and with plenty more people flocking to get their own hens it's important to know how to look after them.

If you have your own flock, do you know everything you need to to ensure they thrive? Are you wondering what care they require throughout the winter or how to manage them throughout the current Avian Flu outbreak? Well, wonder no more - **join me for a chicken keeping talk this December in Bury Green** after which you'll feel confident in ensuring you have happy, healthy hens. - it'll be an excellent day! (See below for more information about the event.)

If you're unable to attend the event, I have an eggstraordinary amount of information readily available to guide you through the chicken keeping process whether you're a beginner or an eggspert.

Visit my website to find out more: www.burygreenpoultry.co.uk/community

Claudia Audley



Join Claudia and Dogtor Adem to chat chickens and pick up some chicken keeping tips this winter!

- Thursday 1st December 10:30am - 12:30pm at Bury Green Poultry
- Tea and cake on arrival
- Talk by Claudia focusing on winter care for your hens followed by a Q&A
- Talk by dog behaviourist, Dogtor Adem about managing dogs with chickens
- An eggciting raffle!


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Village Diary: Regular Weekly Events

To ensure the information we publish is correct and complete we would be grateful if organisers of regular weekly activities in Henham would email information regarding any changes and/or new information to *The Dragon* at henhamdragon@hotmail.com *Thank you*

Mondays

9.00 - 11.00	am	Pilates	OSCA
10.00 - 12.00	am	Tennis Ladies' Rusty Racquets	Henham Tennis Courts
6:45 - 8.00	pm	Springbok Classes	Village Hall

Tuesdays

9.15 - 11.15	am	Badminton Club	HUSCH
3.30 - 4.30	pm	Junior Tennis	Elsenham Courts
5:30 - 6:15	pm	Street & Com Dance (8-10yrs)	OSCA
6:00 - 7:15	pm	Cubs (Term Time)	Village Hall
6:15 - 7:20	pm	Street & Com Dance (11+yrs)	OSCA
7:20 - 8:20	pm	Adult Dance Club	OSCA
7:30 - 9:30	pm	Table Tennis Club	Church Hall

Wednesdays

3.30 - 4:30	pm	Junior Tennis	Henham Tennis Courts
5:45-6:45pm	pm	Beavers (Term Time)	Village Hall
7.00 - 9.00	pm	Scouts (Term Time)	Village Hall
7.00 - 9.00	pm	Badminton Club	HUSCH

Thursdays

9:00 - 10:00	am	Pilates	OSCA
10:00 - 11:00	am	Pilates	OSCA
10.30 - 11.30	am	Little Fishes (in term time)	Church Hall
3:30 - 4:30	pm	Junior Tennis	Henham Tennis Courts
7.45 - 9.00	pm	Bell Ringing Practice	Henham Church

Fridays

9.00 - 10.30	am	Ladies' 2 nd Team Practice	Henham Tennis Courts
5:45 - 6:45	pm	Beavers (Term Time)	Village Hall

Saturdays

Meet at 9.00	am	Omega Runners	Outside Vision Fitness Gym
10:15 - 12:45		Junior Tennis	Henham Tennis Courts

Sundays

2.00 - 4.00		Tennis Ladder (<i>matches permitting</i>)	Henham Tennis Courts
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There are also classes at the Vision Fitness Gym.

For further information see their website: visionfitnesshenham.co.uk

Church Events in November

Sunday Services

St Mary's, Elsenham 08:45

Sun 6 Book of Common Prayer
Morning Prayer

Sun 13 BCP Morning Prayer

Sun 27 BCP Holy Communion

St Peter's, Ugley 10:00

Sun 6 Book of Common Prayer
Morning Prayer

Sun 13 Morning Service

Sun 27 Morning Service

Elsenham Village Hall 10:15

Sun 6 Morning Service

Sun 13 Morning Service

Sun 27 Holy Communion

St Mary's, Henham 10:30

Sun 20 Joint Benefice Service

St Mary's, Henham 11:15

Sun 6 Holy Communion

Sun 13 Morning Service

Sun 27 Morning Service

St Mary's, Henham 18:00

6, 13, 20 and 27 Sunday@Six

Events

Act of Remembrance

Saturday 12th November, 10.45am
Elsenham Memorial Gardens,
followed by refreshments
at Elsenham Memorial Hall

Ladies' Pudding Evening

Wednesday 30th November, 7.30 for
8.00pm, OSCA, Henham.
Countdown to Christmas.
Wine, cheese, delicious desserts and
Christmas craft making. ...'

Book your place via
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Other regular events

SUNDAYS: 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

St Peter's Junior Church

St Peter's, Ugley 10.00am

Elsenham Sunday Club/Explorers

*(Y1-Y6) Starting in service at Elsenham
Village Hall at 10.15am*

Henham Sunday Club/Explorers

*(Reception-Y5) Church Hall, Henham
11.00am*

Pathfinders (Y6-Y9)

*St Mary's, Henham 6.00pm - leave from
service to meet in OSCA*

Crammin' (Y10-Y13)

*St Mary's, Henham 6.00pm - leave from
service to meet in the Church Hall,
Henham*

MID-WEEK

Mondays 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th

Start the Week with Prayer 9.30am
Church Hall, Henham

Seekers After School Bible Club
3.20pm, (Y3-Y4) Old Frank's

Tuesdays: 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th
Christian Play (Y1-Y2) 3.15pm
Rowan House, Elsenham

Thursdays: 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th
Little Fishes Pre-School Group
10.15am
Church Hall, Henham

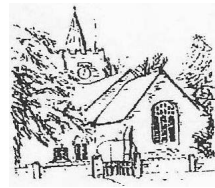
Fridays: 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th
Little Fishes Pre-School Group
10.00am
Elsenham Memorial Hall

Fridays: 11th & 25th
Church Lunch Club 12.30pm
Elsenham Memorial Hall

For information on all these events, please
contact office@heuchurch.co.uk

From the Church

Thought for the month from Reverend Louis Wilson ...



Autumn is unmistakably in the air and with it the season of remembrance made more poignant than ever by the absence of Queen Elizabeth II.

A few years ago, I visited the Tyne Cot Cemetery at Passchendaele in Belgium, as well as some of the D-Day landing beaches in Normandy. Tyne Cot contains a staggering 12,000 graves, as well as recording the names of 35,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers missing in action as a result of the Battle of Passchendaele in 1917. It is the largest Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in the world. When Tyne Cot was opened in 1922, King George V marked the occasion with these words:

"We can truly say that the whole circuit of the Earth is girdled with the graves of our dead. In the course of my pilgrimage, I have many times asked myself whether there can be more potent advocates of peace upon Earth through the years to come, than this massed multitude of silent witnesses to the desolation of war."

A better reflection of the appalling tragedy of war you could not find, but just a generation later, there was sadly more to come. At the Canadian Juno Beach Museum in Normandy, I came across some other very striking words. At the outbreak of WWII, the Canadian Prime Minister was William Mackenzie King. This is what he broadcast to the nation to explain Canada's entry into the war:

"The Nazi doctrine of force is the very antithesis of what one finds in the Christian gospel. If it prevails there will be, as I see it, an end to our Christian civilization. It will prevail, unless men are prepared to sacrifice their lives in opposing it. The time has come when to save our Christian civilization, we must be prepared to lay down our lives for its preservation. The young men who are enlisting in our forces today, to serve on land, on the sea and in the air, are first and foremost defenders of the faith. Like others who have gone forth to battle in the past, they are placing their lives at the service of King and country."

It is an astonishing speech. As someone else has written, by today's standards, the words would be considered politically incorrect. But if you have read any accounts at all of what the Nazis and their sympathisers inflicted upon the Jews and other minorities of Central Europe, I'm afraid it is hard to disagree with the Canadian Prime Minister.



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The difference is clear

George V was right. War is desolation and we are to be passionate advocates of peace. But occasionally the other King (Mackenzie) is right: to do nothing is worse. Fortunately for us, the Lord Jesus Christ did not do what was politically correct, nor did he do nothing.

As Hebrews 13: 12-13 puts it:

And so, Jesus also suffered outside the city gate (that is, the place of rejection) to make the people holy through his own blood. Let us then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore.

**We will be marking
Remembrance on Sunday 13 November.**

Do join us.

—oOo—

From The Parish Registers

Funerals:

- Service of Thanksgiving at Elsenham Church, followed by a burial in Elsenham Churchyard on 30th September 2022, Gordon William Barker, aged 88 years, formerly of Fullers End, Elsenham
- Service of Thanksgiving at Elsenham Church, followed by a burial in Elsenham Churchyard on 6th October 2022, Jenny (known as Jean) Rollinson, aged 96 years, formerly of Henham Road, Elsenham

Enquiries:

***about thanksgivings, baptisms, weddings and funerals
should be made in the first instance to Anna Hicks
at the Church Office***

Church Contact Information		
Vicar Rev'd Louis Wilson	01279 850480	louis.wilson@heuchurch.co.uk
Church Office Anna Hicks	01279 814285	office@heuchurch.co.uk
Church web-site		www.heuchurch.co.uk

Henham Elsenham and Ugley Churches invite you to

Ladies' Pudding Evening

Countdown to Christmas

WEDNESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

IN OSCA 7.30PM FOR 8.00PM START

Join us as we get ready for Christmas

*Puds, Cheese, Wine and Tea, Christmas Crafts, Chat
and a chance to remember why we celebrate Christmas at all.*

ALL WELCOME

**RSVP : events@heuchurch.co.uk or
sandrajturner@hotmail.com**

The Village Calendar 2022/23

Please email: henhamdragon@hotmail.com to let us know about any future events which we might include or phone any of the Dragon Editorial Committee, see the Contents page for telephone numbers.



November

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|--|
| Thursday | 3 rd | Henham Parish Council Meeting at 7:30pm in OSCA |
| Friday | 11 th | Henham Christmas Market 1 to 8pm OSCA & Village Hall |
| Sunday | 13 th | Remembrance Sunday Service at The Monument |
| Wednesday | 16 th | Ugley WI Meeting at 2.15pm in Ugley Village Hall |
| Saturday | 19 th | Xmas Wreathmaking Workshop 10-1 and 2-5 in OSCA |
| Wednesday | 30 th | Ladies Pudding Club Evening 7.30 for 8.00pm, OSCA |

December

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Saturday | 3 rd | Tennis Club Christmas Social The Cock |
| Wednesday | 29 th | Tennis Club Tinsel Tournament |

2023

February

- | | | |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Saturday | 4 th | Book Sale in OSCA 10.00am to 4.00pm |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|

April

- | | | |
|--------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday | 23 rd | Tennis Club Pick and Mix Finals Day |
|--------|------------------|-------------------------------------|

Henham Parish Council

Minutes of the 9th October Meeting: Edited Summary

Please see the Henham website www.henham.org for the full (unapproved) Minutes, prepared by Mareike Dacey, Parish Clerk

Present: Cllrs N. Baker, S. Lee, J. Leech, Z. Rutterford, P. Franklin, G. LeCount, Clerk: M.Dacey

Apologies: District Cllr P. Lees, County Cllr R. Gooding, Cllrs M. Fisher, M. Francis.

Reports and Recommendations

(1) **Greens and Village Estate – Cllr. Baker:**

(a) *Greens damage –*

- (1) **Erosion** - General greens erosion in the village causing other potholes. Cllr Leech previously presented a comprehensive document with supportive photographs and examples of honeycomb matting. It was agreed that the Chair and Cllr Leech would identify where this sort of protection would be useful. Chair and Cllr Leech to arrange a date to identify areas for repair.
- (2) **Flooding on Greens at Crow Street** – Now repaired by Affinity Water.
- (3) **Water leak by Prompt Corner** – residents have reported a leak and it is currently being investigated by Affinity Water.

(b) Gravelling over and parking on Greens at Bell Cottage, High Street The Chair of HPC has written to the owner of Bell Cottage on 20/08/22, asking them to reinstate the greens and refrain from parking on greens, as a section of greens owned by HPC outside Bell and Rose Cottages was gravelled over on 19/8/22 and the owner of Bell Cottage is now using this area to park a vehicle. There has been no response by the resident to our letter nor have the greens been reinstated to date. The PCSO has been asked to speak to the resident regarding parking on the greens. Legal advice has also been obtained by the Chair and HPC has reluctantly instructed their solicitors to commence legal proceedings against the resident.

(c) Signage by Bell House for new properties – The owners of the new properties would like to install signage similar in style to Highfields to indicate the location of the new properties behind Bell House. Following a discussion this was agreed nem con.

(d) General Maintenance – The annual Village sign, Bus Shelter and noticeboards maintenance has now been carried out.

(e) Queen – The Parish Council would like to thank Cllr Rutterford for producing a wonderful floral tribute on behalf of HPC in honour of our Queen and all residents for their beautiful flowers and those involved in looking after the floral displays. The Parish Council also thanks Cllr Lee for following the protocol with the flag lowering and raising.

(f) Village ponds – Our Ecologist Will O'Connor previously gave a short presentation about the Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group which has written to the Parish Council about a funded pond conservation project they are delivering on behalf of Natural England. The clerk will confirm to Will O'Connor which ponds the Parish Council would include in the project with a potential new pond in the Hill Top Wood so that he can report back to the Group.

(g) Salt bins – it was previously agreed to replace the School Salt bin and reposition the Pledgdon Green bin and remove the Chickney Road bin. School salt bin has been purchased and will be installed shortly.

(h) Village Hall – Clerk has paid the second instalment of the HPC grant (£2500) to the village hall.

(i) PCSO – planned review meeting has been postponed. New date to be confirmed.

(j) Defibrillator training – Defibrillator Training in OSCA took place on 10th September .

(k) Pledgdon Green cutting – Update from Cllr Rutterford confirming the green has been mown without charge and thanks the farmer for undertaking this. Cllr Rutterford will liaise with the farmer to find out if this can be baled.

(l) Management of Pledgdon Green – There is a bough overhanging a resident property which needs cutting back. Resident is obtaining quotes. Cllr Rutterford has been liaising with County Cllr Gooding and the Essex Records Office to establish who has responsibilities and ownership of the common land. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the clerk would look at the legal documentation with a view to the Chair instructing our solicitors to confirm the position.

(m) budget consultation – The clerk has previously circulated an email from UDC regarding a consultation on what its spending priorities should be for 23/24. Cllrs to report back to the Chair who will submit HPC’s views.

(2) Finance

Q4 Accounts for 21/22 and Q1 Accounts for 22/23 have been prepared by the clerk and given to Cllr Fisher for approval.

Receipts		
From Whom	Description	Amount
Resident	Ashes fee	200.00
UDC	precept	20,570.00

Payments				
To Whom	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
(Invoice no.)				
Treecology (01551)	Felling of Willow Tree in pond	£520.00	£104.00	£624.00
M Dacey	Clerk’s salary (August)	£419.89	£0.0	£419.89
Police & Crime Commissioner for Essex 1800012420)	New Speedgun	£1,416.67	£283.33	£1,700.00
AC & MS Ltd (I007841)	Asbestos removal vil-lage hall	£650.00	£130.00	£780.00
Ricki Shelsher (1028)	Village signs and windows cleaning	£50.00	£0.0	£50.00
Henham Village Shop Association Ltd (H00060)	Post Office fees Aug-Nov 22	£2,394.25	£0.0	£2,394.25

Payments (cont'd)				
<u>To Whom</u> (Invoice no.)	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
N Baker	Refund for Jubilee plaque shortfall	£5.00	£0.0	£5.00
Henham Village Hall	2 nd tranche HPC grant	£2,500.00	£0.0	£2,500.00
JRB Enterprise Ltd (24465)	Dog poo bags	£65.71	£13.14	£78.85
BM & DV Rutterford Ltd (HPC001)	Floral display for the Queen's death	£33.34	£6.66	£40.00
PA Knott (61829)	Grass cut 7/9 & 21/9	£910.00	£0.0	£910.00
S. Bambridge	Refund for speed camera batteries	£11.62	£2.33	£13.95
N Baker	Refund for salt bin	£105.94	£21.19	£127.13
UDC (0000095280)	Jubilee rental and emptying of 11001 bin	£35.00	£0.0	£35.00

(3) Planning and Developments

- **UTT/22/1228/FUL** – proposed Installation of concrete base and pony shelter in paddock area. Relocation of existing oil tank, Pledgdon Green Farm Brick End Road – The Parish Council has submitted comments regarding proposed vehicular access over the common land and the property boundary.
- **UTT/22/2518/CLE** – proposed Certificate of lawfulness for existing installation of solar panels on the south facing roof, Hornbeam Cottage Starr Road
- **UTT/22/2678/HHF** – proposed Garage conversion to annexe including front extension, Pear Tree Cottage Wood End Green

Breaches: Continuing breaches at Cedar Cottage- This is now under an enforcement notice which becomes operational and effective on 31/1/22. Parish Council continues to monitor the situation.

Appeals:

APP/C1570/W/20/3250328 - UTT/19/1777/FUL - Land South of Brick End – appeal allowed, costs refused.

APP/C1570/W/22/3300023 - UTT/21/0247/OP - Outline application with all matters reserved except access, layout and scale for the demolition of two existing buildings and erection of three new buildings, together with creation of a Craft Hub and re-formation of existing parking areas with associated landscaping, The Rise Brick End, appeal hearing all representations by 25/8/22. Update by Cllr Rutterford who has been liaising with County Cllr Gooding, Broxted Parish Clerk and UDC. Hearing to take place on 11 October 2022.

Developments:

Mill Road Development : The Chair wrote to UDC planning on 11/1/22 requesting information regarding the S106 Agreement and will continue to ensure that the Parish Council is kept informed on matters relating to the development. The Chair has now received a response from the UDC development manager. The Chair has asked UDC to provide any updates as soon as they hear from the developer.

Bloor Homes Development: The Chair has written to UDC planning regarding our opposition to an application by Carter Jonas on behalf of Bloor Homes that an Environment Statement is not required for the planning application for an additional 200 homes on the Bloor Site in Henham Parish. This is on the basis that it is unreasonable for Bloor Homes to believe the Environment reports for the 350 homes can be carried forward without serious re-examination of the cumulative effects of an additional 200 homes and potentially 200/400 more cars onto Henham Road and straight into Elsenham High Street and onto the disaster that is Grove Hill, Lower Street, and Chapel Hill in Stansted.

Planning application ref S62A/22/0007, 130 homes on land south of Henham Road, Elsenham - The application is in fact for 130 houses in Elsenham Parish opposite the Crown Public House. HPC opposes this development which will drive many more vehicles through Stansted Mountfitchet and will support Elsenham Parish Council in their objections. The Chair sent the Planning Inspectorate HPC's objection to this proposed development on 15/9/22.

Decisions:

North Hall Road: Road Closure: Notice received of intended closure of North Hall Road, due to commence on 12th February 2022 for a further 266 days. The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes retaining wall. The link to the webpage is on the village website. Works to re-build the retaining wall commenced on 25 July 2022 and expected to take three months to complete. County Cllr Gooding has met with the Officers in September 2022 who are working on the North Hall Road project and provided Cllrs with the following update: The finalisation for the works to North Hall road will require that resurfacing equipment will be on the site to carry out the resurfacing of that stretch of the road and the opportunity will be taken to use this equipment, whilst it is in the vicinity, to carry out more extensive resurfacing of the Ugley road through to Patmore End. Much of the degradation is at the edges of the carriageway and inspections are currently being carried out to ensure that the necessary remedial work is in place to ensure the structural integrity of the road prior to the resurfacing.

Update from Essex Highways 28/9/22: Works to re-build the retaining wall along North Hall Road commenced as planned and good progress is being made on site. The installation of the sheet piles has recently been completed and we are now moving on to the next phase of works which involves the construction of the reinforced concrete capping beam. We have also carried out temporary make safe repairs to critical areas on the carriageway on Ugley Road. Our programme continues to be on schedule for completion at the end of October 2022. Photos showing the sheet piles being installed can be found on the scheme website. (see link to this on our village website).

An enforcement file has been opened ENF/21/0204/C regarding the application for a residential site application on North Hall Road. A new enforcement officer has been appointed by UDC.

Residents are encouraged to also report any matters to Essex Highways direct via the Essex Highways web site www.essex.gov.uk/highways (details also on the Henham Website), as the more people who complain regarding Highways matters the more likely something will get done. Residents are encouraged to report unsafe or dangerous parking in our village to: swilliams@uttlesford.gov.uk. Stansted Airport Limited operates a Freephone number for reporting suspected on-street airport related car parking. The Freephone number is: 0800 7312385

Waste and Minerals Development Issues

Update from ECC: Following an assessment of responses received to the public consultations held in 2021 and 2022, and a review of best practice, the decision has been taken to revise the end date of the Minerals Local Plan from 2029 to 2040. A new Call for Sites notification of an additional call for sites - which is taking place from 28th September to 9th November 2022 - is therefore required to reflect the revised end date of the Plan.

Governance

UDC are in the process of investigating both code of conduct complaints and these have been referred to independent external adjudicator for review.

Local Plan

Documents related to the local plan can be found at: www.uttlesford.gov.uk/new-local-plan. UDC announced on 13 September 2022 that the timetable previously published is being cancelled and they will issue a new timetable in due course.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish meeting will be held on Thursday 3 November 2022 at 7:30pm at OSCA. Everyone Welcome.

Mareike Dacey, Clerk

*Saffron Walden Choral Society
and The Chameleon Arts Orchestra*

Joseph Haydens': The Creation

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Uttlesford District Councillors' Report

The Local Plan

We have some disappointing and unexpected news to report this month, although we think that you will already have some awareness of it. The Local Plan process is now regrettably paused while the evidence already assembled is now being cross checked and verified. This means that there is some delay in progressing to the next consultation phase, namely publication of the Regulation 18 Draft Plan, which we have previously reported on at length, and which was expected to commence on 2 November 2022.

This has come about as a result of a fresh appraisal of the work undertaken to date by a very recently appointed senior Planning Policy officer with substantial experience, during his career, of successfully guiding draft local plans through examination and approval, including, in particular, in rural areas.

He considered and advised that some work needed to be better coordinated and checked before going out to public consultation. He believes that the manner in which officers have been working post COVID, i.e., remotely from their homes, has led to a somewhat disconnected approach adopted to the presentations and evaluations which need to be made. So, coordinated team working has not been as effective as it should have been. The reasons for the delay and the steps to be taken, including a revised timetable, are being brought to a joint meeting of the Local Plan Leadership Group and Scrutiny Committee (Local Plan) on 10 October 2022. The causes and reasons identified, in the paper which will be presented to that meeting, are:

“(i) a lack of integration between different workstreams, much exacerbated by remote working

(ii) a high turnover of staff (both within the team and the management above it) and, at short notice, leading to loss of continuity and of consistency in completing tasks, and significant losses of local knowledge and understanding of the evolution of proposals.

(iii) a lack of clarity of thinking, and shared team understanding, of the nature of the consultation document and the status of ‘options’ within it

(iv) misguided responses to pressure - e.g., rushing to complete tasks when the groundwork has not been completed; pace of programme meaning team members’ concerns and suggestions being treated as a distraction from completing tasks; lack of detailed reporting on emerging (and inherent) problems.

(v) engagement between officers and members not undertaken efficiently, resulting in additional time-consuming tasks being undertaken”

The full paper dealing with the entire topic is to be found in this link: www.uttlesford.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s29583/Reg18%20LPLG%20and%20Scrutiny%20Report.pdf

A revised timetable is being worked up, but due to the local government elections in May 2023, there will be a pause in the work undertaken by the Local Plan Leadership Group/Councillors in the period between March and May 2023 (because of perceived political party issues): but, of course, work by officers will continue as usual in this period. It is thought that the period between Regulation 18 and 19 will, because of the more detailed and in-depth way in which the Regulation 18 Draft Plan will have been prepared, can be shortened a little and so there might be as little as some three months’ net slippage before the draft plan is in a condition to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for examination.

We shall be able to advise you further as to an updated timetable next month. We shall of course be pleased to answer any questions residents might have as to this topic.

UDC Planning Performance

Planning Appeals

Uttlesford was put into designation so far as major planning applications were concerned, because we exceeded the 10% threshold set by the Government relating to the percentage of planning decisions refused by its Planning Committee which were subsequently overturned on appeal to the Planning Inspectorate. The philosophy behind this threshold is to encourage permission being given to greater numbers of dwellings; but the threshold bears no relation to any other considerations such as the locally driven considerations which are likely to have informed the original refusal decision. Designation means that applicants for prospective developments in excess of 10 dwellings (so called “majors”) may in their option, apply for permission directly to the Planning Inspectorate instead of to UDC.

Planning Enforcement

This is progressing well and almost 800 cases, with extant enforcement notices, have been reviewed to ensure they are compliant with all relevant regulations. They will be placed on the register which will be open to public inspection. Due to GDPR the only enforcement cases that the public can access on the website are those where there are extant enforcement notices.

The enforcement officers remain active as well on new matters and so far, this year have opened 141 new cases while closing 134.

A performance report on planning enforcement is due to be published for Planning Committee in October and we will report further as to this next month.

Uttlesford Budget 2023/24

In these times of considerable economic hardship, Uttlesford DC is particularly keen to obtain the views of residents and the community businesses as to economic matters of concern to them, including as to the priorities for expenditure by the Council. The budget lays out how much UDC plans to spend on each of its main services and for every £100 received to fund services, the following is spent: £31 on Finance and General Administration: £26 on Environmental Services: £10 on Housing and Economic Development: £9 on capital financing: £5 on Communities and Partnerships and £19 on other costs, including reserves set aside for future years. These costs are funded in part through Council Tax, but other sources of income include business rates, New Homes Bonus (NHB), other government grants and commercial investments. A large proportion of expenditure is met by the commercial property investments made by UDC in recent years: Commercial investments - 26%, Business Rates - 20%, and Government funding, New Homes Bonus - 6%.

As we stated last month, we are looking at how as a small authority we can help each other with the Cost-of-Living Crisis. We want to support all local initiatives.

Local Initiatives

We have supported the table tennis club in Henham with the purchase of a table and wish the club good fortune in upcoming matches in the Harlow League.

We welcome applications to support local initiatives in the Ward.

Next Surgery: Wednesday 16th November

Orwell House Station Rd Elsenham CM22 6LA

As always we are available to converse

with any of our residents via telephone, email and zoom.

Petrina Lees	012279 816675	cllrlees@uttlesford.gov.uk
Garry LeCount	07836 346717	cllrlecount@uttlesford.gov.uk

1st Henham & Elsenham Scout Troop



We have been lucky to welcome yet more new Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to our Group for the start of the Autumn term, with new members completing their Membership Badge requirements and being invested into our Group by making their Scout Promises and being given their famous Scout scarf and woggle.

Our Scouters have been taking part in yet more exciting activities planned by our volunteer leaders, with Beavers making (very messy) biscuits, planting flowers, taking part in a magic night, working on their Communicator Activity Badge and attending the “Beavers in Tents” activity day. Our Cubs have hiked around the villages, baked mystery cakes, taken part



in a treasure hunt around Henham and held a games night to help build teamwork and teambuilding skills, while our Scouts have been working on advanced navigation skills, preparing route cards, practiced compass skills, and taken part in a night hike. Some of our wonderful Young Leaders also took part in the County Marathon navigation expedition in the Peak District

Our Sections also took time to reflect on the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, following her passing. Her Majesty became Patron of The Scout Association on ascending to the throne in 1952 and gave her name to our highest award - The Queen's Scout Award. Her Majesty embodied the spirit of Scouting and was a role model for the values of voluntary service, kindness, and courage. Her passion and devotion to the Scout Movement was evident through public appearances at Scouting events, describing Scouting as “a global force for good. In the UK and around the world, Scouts are helping others and making the most of their lives.” It is in this spirit that our volunteers continue to actively engage and support young people in our community, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

And on a final note, another appeal to you to consider volunteering your time to your local Scout Group to help us continue providing these fantastic opportunities for young people in our communities. It's not just uniformed leaders we need, we also have vacancies in administration and support roles. Please do let us know if you, or someone you know may be interested.

Matt Morland



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The Hundred Parishes Society



What's in a name ?

I live in Stansted Mountfitchet. The name is an



interesting one: Stansted derives from Saxon language meaning stony place; Mountfitchet is a corruption of Montfiquet, a village in Normandy. A man from there fought with William the Conqueror and was rewarded with land in Stansted.

Several of the Hundred Parishes have names ending in the Saxon STED, STEAD or TED. THAXted refers to the thatch that could be obtained there; BROXted seems to come from BROCK, the old name for badger.

Many of our towns and villages were recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. Duxford appears as Duchesuorde, or Duc's Enclosure. Duxford has a number of locations where ancient travellers could FORD the River Cam. There are several more FORDs.

Domesday includes the manor of Pelham, possibly the home or farm of a man called Peola. The Norman family De Furneux added its name to establish Furneux Pelham, while part of the manor was destroyed by fire in the twelfth century and became 'burnt' or Brent Pelham. Stocking Pelham, seems to have adopted an Old English word meaning 'made of logs', perhaps referring to the parish church. HAM appears at the end of more parish names, suggesting that they also arose from someone's home or farm.

The parish of Quendon and Rickling was created in the 1940s, bringing together two settlements whose names related to an ancient queen. Quendon is recorded as Kuenadana in Domesday and may come from Old English words meaning a valley owned by the queen. Rickling was recorded as Richelinga and may be derived from Ricula who was the wife of Sledd, a 6th-century ruler of Essex.

Ten parish names end in ING, a Norse word for meadow or enclosure.

More origins are discussed in the parish introductions on our website: www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Ken McDonald, Secretary

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News from the Gardens of Easton Lodge

In November we will be continuing with our Autumn jobs and the few remaining visitors on **Open Thursdays** will enjoy, with us, what warmth is left in the sun, with both the Italian Garden and the walled kitchen garden being good heat traps, away from any wind. We won't be providing catering in November, but there will be a warm welcome to any visitors wishing to enjoy the final autumn colour and the swishing of the fallen leaves in the Lime Wood.

In October we made a good start to our autumn jobs. In November, volunteers will be finishing the tidying and bulb planting. Snowdrops are of course our signature plant for the new year and the wild daffodils now naturalised in the Lime Walk and Glade. And we have already added tulips to provide a hit of early colour in the Italian Garden and Ixia waft at the front of the kitchen cut flower border. This autumn we are planting more tulips, as well as narcissi, erythronium (dog's tooth violets) and aconites. In October we also planted shrubs very kindly donated to us by our plantsman and tree surgeons have undertaken major tree surgery on diseased and unstable trees so we have lots of wood chippings. Throughout the gardens the shrubs, young trees and vegetable beds welcome as much mulching and manuring as we can give them. So in November we will have plenty of heavy work to keep us warm!

We are always ready to take on new volunteers, so if this takes your fancy, please do look up our volunteering pages on the website and contact us!

Jill Goldsmith



The advertisement is divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant features a logo of three stylized evergreen trees above the text 'ALSA WOOD FARM CHRISTMAS TREES' and the website 'alsawoodfarm.co.uk'. The top-right quadrant contains the text 'OPEN FROM THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER', 'Every day except Wednesday', and 'OPEN 9AM - 4PM' flanked by two stars. The bottom-left quadrant shows a circular map with labels for 'UGLEY', 'UGLEY GREEN', 'B1383', 'WALPOLE MEADOWS', 'HIGH LANE', 'STANSTED', and 'WE ARE HERE ALSA STREET'. The bottom-right quadrant has the text 'FRESH, LOCALLY GROWN TREES', 'Choose and Cut, Ready Cut, Wreaths', and the address 'Alsa Wood, off Alsa Street, Stansted CM24 8SX' with the email 'alsawoodfarm@gmail.com'.



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Stansted Mountfitchet U3A

Lots of celebrations have been taking place this year for the 40th Anniversary of the u3a. In Stansted the u3a Singers held a concert in St. John's Church to celebrate the great gift of love. Members were also treated to a tea party, with lots of home baked cakes served by members of the committee who made splendid waiters. We had a superb Quiz on 'How much do you know about Stansted'. Great questions ...just wish we had known the answers.

Our Open Day in St John's Church showcased many of the interest groups and activities that we offer including musical items by the Stansted u3a Singers and Strummers. There was also the 'Cutting of the Cake' iced in the colours of the u3a. We hope that we inspired you to come to one of our future meetings.

The Gardening Club, one of our most successful groups has been finding out about Langhorn's Plantery where they had a complete tour of the nursery. Ed Cannon, owner and Head Plantsman was generous with his time and knowledge as he gave them a conducted tour of his 12 acre site. The nursery propagates from many rare plants each year, many acquired from modern day plant hunters.

It was particularly fortuitous that our visit followed an Open Week-End when tea and cakes had been sold in support of 'British Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine'.

We were particularly grateful to Ed because he was usually closed on a Monday but gave up his day off to host us, even giving us tea and cake in his own garden, when he must have been exhausted.

Our next meeting will be held in St. John's Hall at 2.00p.m. on 17th November. Peter Jones will be giving a talk on 'How I met Kylie Minoghe'. His talks are always highly entertaining. Do come.

Eileen Quinn

Village Defibrillator

The Village defibrillator is located by the side, main entrance to OSCA.

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Citizens Advice

Please help us at this difficult time

It is not surprising that Uttlesford Citizens Advice is even busier than usual as many households are becoming increasingly concerned about their financial situation.



citizens
advice

Our local charity is often the first point of call when people are worried about benefit entitlements, housing issues or money problems, or need advice about their rights at work, information about carers support or a referral to other community organisations such as Uttlesford Foodbank.

At times like these, people often ask us what they can do to help others who are struggling. Here are some suggestions, depending on your circumstances:

If you have some time to spare, please think about joining our amazing team of volunteers –you’ll make a real difference to people’s lives and have a positive impact on your community by giving information and advice that empowers people to tackle the root cause of their issues and find a way forward. We have lots of volunteer opportunities available - please contact us to find out more.

Like many charities, we are finding funding challenging at the moment and we are having to make difficult choices about how we deliver our service. If you would like to make a donation to support our work, you will be helping to provide a lifeline for someone, by making sure a trained adviser is able to offer them the support they need. You can send donations to our office in Barnards Yard, Saffron Walden or donate via our website www.uttlesfordca.org.uk

If you are fortunate enough to be able to manage without your winter fuel allowance or would like to help another local person who can’t afford to heat their home this winter - you can make a donation to the ‘Uttlesford Share the Warmth Fund’ on Crowdfunder. The appeal will be live until 6th December - donations will be ring-fenced to assist local people in this cost of living crisis. <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/uttlesford-share-the-warmth>

However you are able to help - your support is greatly appreciated.

If you need help or advice

Our office is open: Monday to Friday from 9.30 to 3.30. Or contact us by email at: help@uttlesfordca.org.uk or call 01799 618840.

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Henham Tennis Club News

In short this could be called catch up month, as the final two chapters of this season's Club Championships have now been completed, as well as looking forward into the New Year.

The Mixed Doubles Final was a totally compelling encounter between Simon and Fiona Price against Ali Lafferty and Monica Sutherland. In effect it became the 'battle of the sliced backhands' as Fiona and Ali produced some breath taking cross court rallies. On a cool autumnal evening with the sun occasionally filtering through the wispy clouds it was such a shame that the only spectator to witness this epic match was...me! There were numerous elongated rallies from the baseline, with interceptions not always timed as the players would wish but sometimes coming good; for example one shot from Ali left everyone spellbound when the ball ricocheted off the frame for an outright winner! Volleys certainly played their part with some crisp and at times solid volleying gaining the upper hand. Holding serve however was always a problem resulting in many lengthy deuce games. Inevitably Ali (memories from a couple of decades ago!) did manage to almost replicate his 'coup de grace' by serving an ace as the ball swung around the LEFT ear of his partner (he is a leftie by the way) and into court. I'm not sure even Mansour Bahrami can do that! On this occasion, however, Monica was fortunate not to endure a sore ear! Fiona and Simon were slightly steadier in the first set winning it 6-2. In the second set, after trailing 0-2 Ali and Monica raced into a 5-2 lead. Unfortunately that was as good as it got, as Fiona and Simon gradually clawed their way back and ran out victorious 6-2, 7-5.

The last final to be completed was the Men's Doubles in which Phil Holder and Amrik Braico defeated past champions Matthew Robinson and Simon Price 6-1, 5-7, 10-6. I am indebted to Simon for his insider's account of the match. "The match lasted two hours, with the third set being replaced by a champion's tie-break as dusk settled and torches came out. The first set, after a competitive opening, became one way traffic with the chairman noting there seemed to be something wrong with his racket as Phil and Amrik's serving and hard hitting dominated. The crowd (Sally Robinson....at least someone turned up for every final!) expressed displeasure at the older pairing's movement and performance leading to a second set renaissance. They went 4-1 up before being pulled back to five all in a set of games involving long rallies, aggressive net play and some lovely volleying angles from all players, with one game going to 11 deuces as both sides dug in. Ultimately the set turned on a carefully judged but outrageous net cord at set point and the game moved into the champion's tie break. Phil and Amrik took an early lead and were never threatened again coming out deserved victors of a highly enjoyable match."

The Mixed and Ladies teams in the Small Clubs League have achieved notable success in recent weeks. The Mixed team, comprising Phil Holder/Monica Sutherland and Scott Reynolds/Fiona Price, overwhelmed Clavering 16-0, while the Ladies 1st team, Monica/Fiona and Gill Foster/Sally Robinson beat Pleshey 10-6. More updates on their progress as the season draws to a close will follow next month.

The draw for the Pick 'n Mix Competition, which runs throughout the winter months culminating in the Finals on Sunday 23rd April, has now taken place and all entrants will have been informed.

Club sessions have also now resumed and take place on Sunday afternoons from 2pm. Members should take note that occasionally a club match may need to take preference; but members will be informed if that is so, well in advance.

On the social front the Christmas Social will take place on Saturday 3rd December at The Cock. We do hope that as many members as possible will be able to attend. Looking further ahead our annual Quiz Night is scheduled for early spring; details to follow.

In conclusion this month how can we let the moment pass without paying tribute to arguably the greatest tennis player I have ever had the pleasure of watching. I refer of course to Roger Federer who has recently announced his retirement. Was there ever a player whose grace, balance, co-ordination and balletic brilliance enthralled in such a magnetic and enthralling manner. Federer gave the impression that he was a warm and emotional character yet possessed "an iron forehand with a velvet touch and the footwork of Muhammad Ali." There are many memorable tales that can be told about him but I think the following one adds a human touch: Federer used to cry after every match he lost until the age of 15, so it came as quite a surprise when he eventually started crying after winning!

Here are a couple of commentator 'faux pas' in which he featured:

"Yes, the wind is coming from Federer's end...." BBC commentator.

"He's been the best player for many years to come." John Lloyd.

Perhaps the final word should come from Federer himself though:

"Never give up. Everyone has bad days. Pick yourself up and keep going."

It might be a bit early for New Year's Resolutions but maybe we should keep this one up our sleeve!

John G Smith



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Refuse & Garden Waste Collections: November 2022

In most of Henham, Brown, Green and Black bins are emptied on Thursdays. However, in a few areas, these bins are emptied on Tuesdays. At present, all Garden waste bins are emptied on the same day as the Black Bin collection.

BROWN BIN: (kitchen leftovers)	emptied every week
GREEN BIN: (paper, plastic, cans, card and glass including bottles)	Thursdays: 10 th , 24 th
BLACK BIN: (non-recyclables)	Thursdays 3 rd , 17 th
GREEN GARDEN WASTE BIN	Thursdays 3 rd , 17 th

Village Post Office & Shop Opening Hours (01279 850644)

Post Office:	Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays	9.00am to 12.00noon
Shop:	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Monday to Friday	9.00am to 1.00pm	2.00pm to 4.30pm
Saturday	9.00am to 1.00pm	Closed
Sunday	9.30am to 12.30pm	Closed

There is currently no Mobile Library Service but you can borrow books from the Telephone Box outside OSCA

Wendy Hogg is the Editor for *The Dragon* December 2022 Edition

The DEADLINE for submitting copy is SATURDAY 12th November

Please send your contributions by email to henhamdragon@hotmail.com.

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