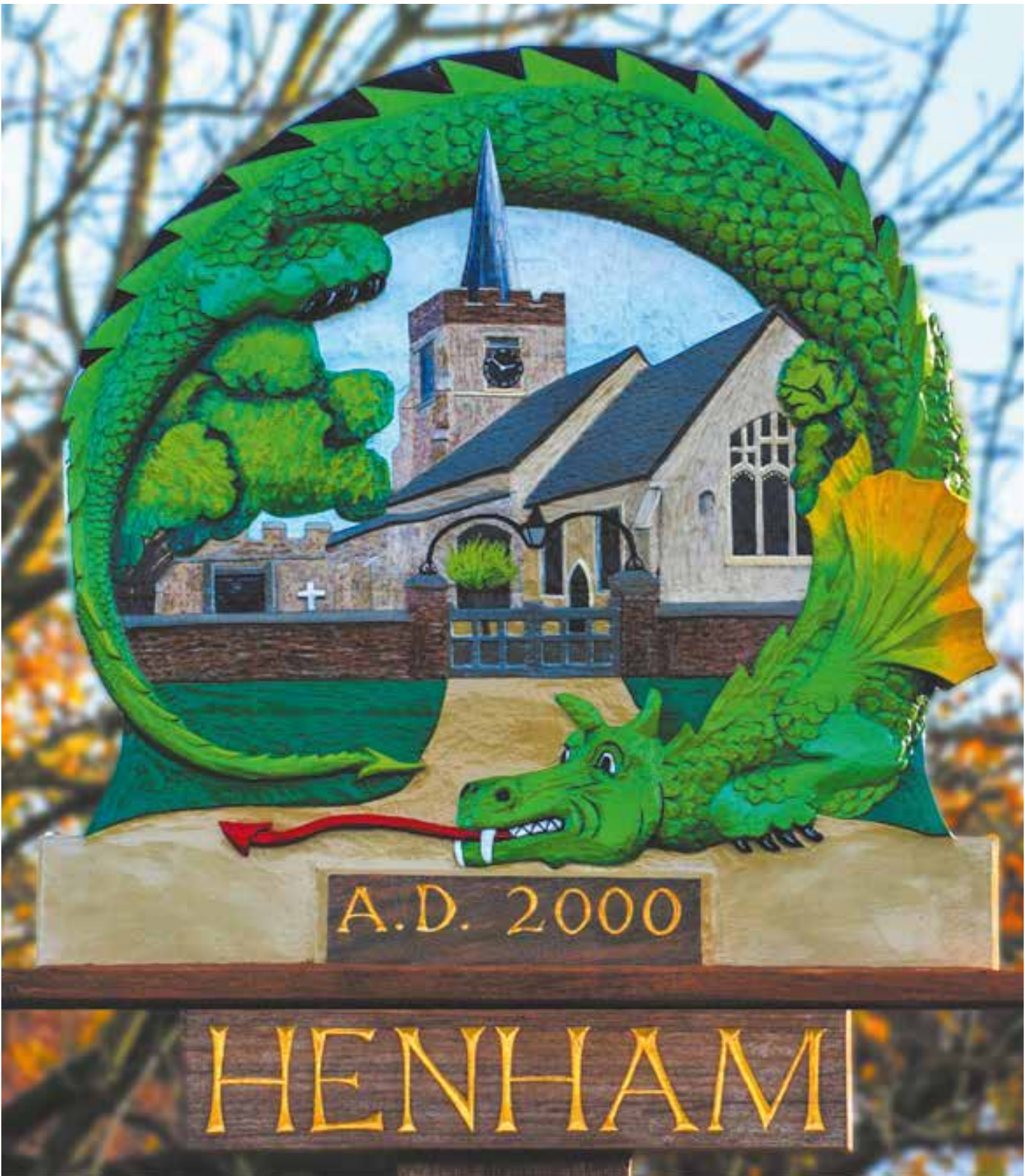


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Henham Dragon June 2023

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<i>Finance</i>	Sian Reynolds	850449



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Editorial

Henham village celebrated their Majesty's coronation in style. The Cock Inn served a bottomless brunch while watching the Ceremony live on tv. The Coronation party at Woodend green was a resounding success. I thought I would share some of your photos. The day was opened by the King and Queen giving a



speech followed by sunshine, blue skies, great music and then the coronation concert on the big screen. Fundraising by the PSA for Henham and Ugley school provided cakes, Pims and a tombola. The hamburger stall provided great burgers and the beer stall was well supplied. I reflected that it was great to see a communal event where young and old could relax and have fun. Many thanks to all who organised and volunteered to make this a memorable event.



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On Bank holiday Monday, our church provided a magnificent Coronation tea, once again the rain held off and the cakes were much enjoyed. The church was decorated beautifully by local volunteers.

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Please may I remind you of more village events coming up, the Jumble sale at Henham village hall on the 3rd of June, the Race night at OSCA on the 30th June, and the Fun run on the weekend of the 1st and 2nd July. Finally, The HPC Annual Parish meeting, followed by the Parish Council meeting on the 1st June at OSCA. All details are on the village calendar. There was no Parish council meeting last month.

Miranda Roberts

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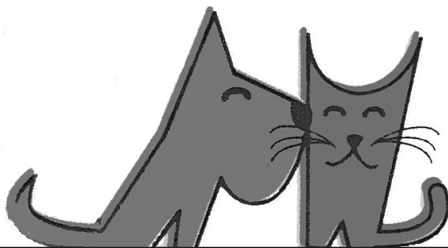
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Dear Editor

Dear Henham residents,

I wanted to take a moment to say how very grateful I am to be living in such a beautiful, kind and generous community. I have long known that Henham is a very special place, but the rubber stamp has recently been sealed.

Most who know me, will know by now that I have been diagnosed with Stage 3 ovarian cancer and am currently undergoing chemotherapy. My cancer journey has been one of intense loneliness and fear, but I now have a treatment plan and I will fight this with all I have.

From the moment of diagnosis, as 'Henham's Jungle Drums' reverberated, I have been overwhelmed by the thoughtfulness and love of friends but, additionally, by the kindness of near strangers.

Generosity of time and spirit is a wondrous thing and I write this purely to say, 'never underestimate the power of your word and thought'. The feelings of love and support that the food parcels, flowers and words have given me, have kept me buoyant through some very dark days. I suppose the main thing I want to say is, I now know that, if this thing beats me, I am loved and cared for and maybe that, in the living of life, 'I did good!'.

Ethymia wrote a piece in last month's Dragon about **fundraising for Cancer Research** and this is not a plea for money. Instead, this is to let you know that Ethymia, on Sunday 2nd July, will be running the Henham 10km 4 times to replicate a (near) marathon. She will be much more likely to get through if there is a familiar (or unfamiliar) face along the way offering a word of support. She intends to start early so that her third/ fourth lap will coincide with 'the masses' so please do give her a shout. For those of you who don't know us, we'll ensure that her clothing allows her to be recognised. I will not know if I can be there until closer to the time as it will depend on my treatment cycle but, if I am absent, it will help me to know that the Henham family 'has her back'.

Once again, thank you and much love, **Natasha Ttofalli**

Dear Editor

I would like to thank Ethymia and Lilly for their truly inspiring contributions in last Month's Dragon. **David Morson**

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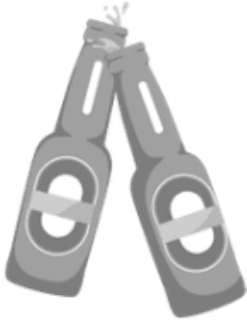
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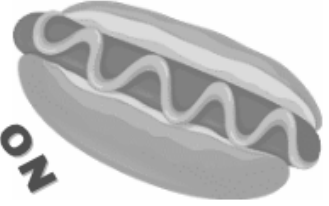
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Lilly Watt is fundraising for a school expedition to Cambodia, detailed in the May Dragon.

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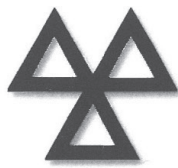
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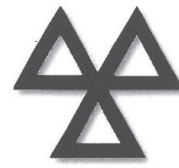
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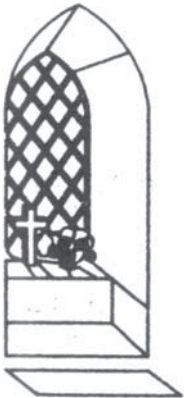
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The Hundred Parishes Society

The Hundred Parishes area has been home to many creative people. The People section of www.hundredparishes.org.uk includes introductions to several artists, composers - and authors.



Eastern Glebe, Little Easton

Probably our best-known author was HG Wells (1866-1946) who lived for 18 years in Little Easton at 18th-century Easton Glebe. He was a prolific writer, best remembered for his science-fiction novel "*War of the Worlds*" which was written before he came to Little Easton. A later novel, "*Mr Britling Sees it Through*" was set in Little Easton.

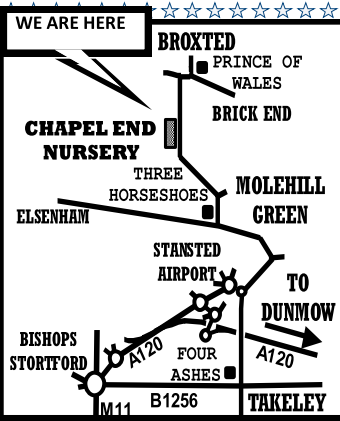
"*The Hundred and One Dalmatians*" was written by Dodie Smith (1896-1990). From 1934, she lived in Finchingfield at The Barretts, a 16th-century thatched house in the tiny hamlet of Howe Street. Her children's novel, written in 1956, was made into a highly successful Disney animated film. An earlier novel "*I captured the Castle*", written in 1948, was adapted into a film in 2003. Smith's former home is marked by a blue plaque.



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Another blue plaque, on 17th-century Rose Cottage in Stebbing, identifies the former home of Henry de Vere Stacpoole (1863 - 1951) who was also a prolific author. He lived there for about 10 years in the early 1900s and during that time completed his best-known novel, "*The Blue Lagoon*". It has been made into a feature film several times.

Rose Cottage, Stebbing

Horham Hall in the parish of Thaxted was the home of novelist Evelyn Anthony (1926 – 2018) from 1968 to 1976 and then from 1982 until her death. Sixteenth century Horham Hall is Grade I-listed, and the cost of upkeep forced Evelyn and her husband to sell it, but they were able to re-purchase it when her royalties increased. Of her many novels, "*The Tamarind Seed*" was the best known. It was published in 1971 and made into a film in 1974, starring Julie Andrews and Omar Sharif.



Horham Hall, Thaxted

Ken McDonald, Secretary.

The Village Calendar 2023

Please let us know of any future events that we can include in the village calendar, email henhandragon@hotmail.com or contact one of the committee members (phone numbers on the contents page)

June			
Thursday	1 st	HPC Annual Parish meeting Then Parish Council meeting	OSCA 7pm 7:30 pm
Saturday	3 rd	Jumble sale	Henham village hall 2-4pm
Saturday	17 th	Afternoon Teas	OSCA 2pm - 4pm
Friday	30 th	Henham Race Night	OSCA from 7pm
July			
Saturday	1 st	Henham 10K or 3K run “freestyle”	Henham and Ugley school from 9am
Sunday	2 nd	Henham 10/3 K Race day (3k at 9:30 10 K at 10:15)	Henham and Ugley school
Saturday	15 th	Afternoon Teas	OSCA 2pm - 4pm
August			
Saturday	19 th	Afternoon Teas	OSCA 2pm - 4pm
September			
Saturday	16 th	Afternoon Teas	OSCA 2pm - 4pm
October			
Saturday	21 st	Afternoon Teas	OSCA 2pm - 4pm
Saturday	14 th	OSCA Quiz	OSCA 7 for 7.30pm
November			
Friday	10 th	Henham Christmas Market	OSCA & village hall
December			
Saturday	2 nd	Afternoon Teas	OSCA 2pm-4pm

District Councillor Report May 2023

Thank you for trusting us to represent you for the next 4 years.

We are humbled and honoured to be your District Councillors.

We will do our utmost to do our best by you and look after your interests. We are who we are because of you, thank you.

We would like to thank our opposition for a professional, policy challenging campaign.



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We are the administration at UDC, it has been pretty frantic this first week, organising our cabinet, allocating committee seats, organising member training.

Our First Full Council Meeting on the 23rd May we will be voting for the allocations of Committees and confirming Leader and Cabinet Roles.

A reminder that we are aware that the cost-of-living crisis is causing hardship to residents who are unable to improve their circumstances in the short term while inflation outstrips income. A quick reminder that a cost-of-living crisis fund has been set up for the 2023/2024 financial year to support Uttlesford residents who may be struggling to pay their Council Tax liability. This is available to **all** Council Tax Bands.

www.uttlesford.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support-fund

We have £2,000 each to spend in our ward to help community projects, so do think about whether we could help.

Due to many member training days in June our time frame is rather limited for our First Surgery – Our First Surgery will be Monday June 19th at 7.00pm - Orwell House, Station Rd, Elsenham.

Thank you again. We love where we live.

Bianca Donald cldrdonald@uttlesford.gov.uk 07941880279

Petrina Lees cldrlees@uttlesford.gov.uk 07713074656

Henham Village Hall is Renovated and Open for Your Events

We are thrilled to announce that Henham Village Hall is officially reopened and better than ever before! Thanks to the hard work of the Village Hall Committee and the financial and organisational support of Henham Parish Council, the Hall has undergone an extensive renovation and is ready to serve the community once again.

If you visited the Hall during the local elections held in May, you may have noticed some of the changes already. The Hall now boasts a brand-new floor and fresh decoration, making it more comfortable and inviting than ever but there's much more to discover!

In addition to the new floor and decoration, the hall now boasts a new efficient AC cooling/heating system, insulation, storage room and a controllable LED lighting system. Thanks to successfully obtaining grant funding there is also new



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To celebrate the reopening of the Hall, the Committee is offering a special 50% off deal for hirers. Until the end of July 2023, any booking of 2 hours or less will receive an extra 2 hours for free. This is the perfect opportunity to try out the newly renovated space and start a new club or class.

Whether you're looking to start a new club or class or hold a special event, the Village Hall Committee welcomes all inquiries. Thanks to the recent renovations, the hall is now even more comfortable and welcoming, making it the perfect venue for any occasion. To make a booking, contact Elaine Randall at henhamvillagehall@btinternet.com or message her at 07484 384790.

If you would like to join the Village Hall Committee and help to continue the important work of improving and maintaining the hall, please email justinrhodes@hotmail.com

Elsenham Community Choir



We have all been very busy at Choir lately, challenging ourselves with a number of new songs, including some from musicals. 'I Will Follow Him' from Sister Act, was so much fun to sing and sounded pretty good too. 'A Million Dreams' from The Greatest Showman is proving somewhat more testing, but we are determined to conquer it!

As you can imagine, we are often singing songs that we might previously not have heard, but that makes the challenge all the more enjoyable.

If this sounds like something you would enjoy, then why not come and join us on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7.00pm until 8.30pm in Elsenham Village Hall (by Elsenham Primary School). We do plenty of singing, but always have a mid-way break for a chat, a drink, and some chocolate!

There are no auditions at our choir, everyone is welcome, just come along and sing!

You can find us on our Elsenham Community Choir Facebook page or call 07962 586825.



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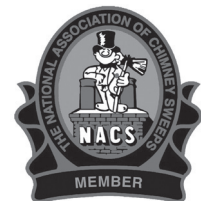


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From the Church, Reverend Louis Wilson writes



In 1859, the Great Blondin became the first man in history to cross the Niagara Falls between America and Canada on a tightrope. 25,000 people paid to watch him walk across this tiny rope 160 feet above the chasm of raging waters. There was no safety net, no harness, nothing but a balancing pole. If he slipped, he died.

Before he set off, he said to the crowd: Do you believe that I can get across this tightrope to the other side completely alone and unaided? *We believe Blondin, we believe*, cried the crowd. And he did it.

Over the following days and months, he crossed the Falls 300 times and in various ways. On one occasion, he walked across with a stove and a chair, and halfway across, sat down and cooked and ate an omelet! Another time, he pushed a wheelbarrow all the way across loaded with 350 pounds of cement.

The crowd were amazed and delighted until one day Blondin unloaded the wheelbarrow and shouted down to them: Do you believe that I could push this wheelbarrow all the way across the rope, and all the way back, with a man sitting in it?

As one, the crowd shouted: *We believe Blondin, we believe!* To which Blondin asked, well, who's going to get in then? At this point, there was deafening silence - not one person was willing.

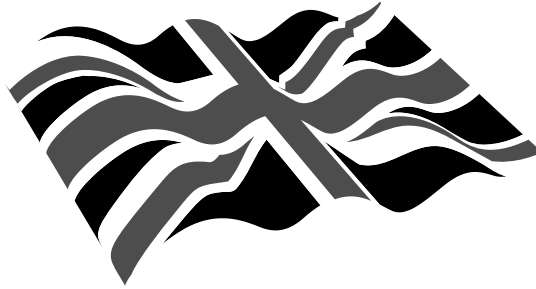
The Bible says there is a Niagara like chasm between us and God. We can't jump over it, we can't ignore it, we can't go round it, and we can't climb down it. It's a chasm that stops us spending eternity with God.

The Bible says it's caused by our sin, by our rebellion against the loving, holy, perfect God who made us. There's just no way for us to get across. What we need is someone to bridge the gap for us.

In John 10:11, Jesus says: *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*

Jesus is claiming that by his sacrificial death on a cross 2000 years ago, he has bridged the gap. All we must do is trust him. All we must do is get into the wheelbarrow.

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But for lots of us, that is quite an issue! The crowds were fascinated by Blondin, and it's possible for us to be very familiar with Jesus and the Gospel, to examine his claims, even admire his teaching, but never actually trust him with our lives. I think it was entirely reasonable not to accept Blondin's invitation! The chasm at Niagara was terrifying – and I have no need to cross it. But Jesus doesn't ask us to get across the eternal chasm in our own strength, or by our own effort. He's offering to take us. He's offering us his wheelbarrow. All we need to do is get in.

With best wishes,

Louis

From The Parish Registers

Funeral:

- Service of Thanksgiving on 11th May 2023 at Ugley Church, followed by a Burial in the churchyard, Alan Stuart Kelvin, aged 80 years, formerly of North Street, Bristol.

Church Contact Telephone Numbers, E-Mail and Web-Site Addresses

Vicar	01279 850480 louis.wilson@heuchurch.co.uk	Rev. Louis Wilson
Church Office	01279 814285	Anna Hicks
Church e-mail	office@heuchurch.co.uk	
Church web-site	www.heuchurch.co.uk	

Enquiries about thanksgivings, baptisms, weddings, and funerals should be made in the first instance to Anna Hicks at the Church Office 01279 814285.



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07957 166436

www.hairlosslaserclinic.co.uk

The Hair Loss Clinic is a company set up to provide information, advice, support and above all solutions for people experiencing hair loss. Not only do we provide realistic and workable solutions to those suffering from hair loss but we are also specialists in after and on-going care for hair loss, giving you the very best support. We can help you through your journey from hair loss through to aftercare if your hair grows back. We provide a personalised service and will recommend the course of treatment or other solutions most appropriate to you.

- We provide information, support and advice about your hair loss and identify the factors you will need to consider when choosing which solution is suitable for you.
- We provide guidance on cutting and styling of your wig or integration piece and advice on what to do when your hair starts growing back.

Monthly Trichologist clinics are held with Eva Proudman, MIT IAT. Eva is widely known both in the UK and Internationally for her work with hair loss, she has appeared on TV many times and supports many major hair companies with her research into hair loss. All consultations are private and last for between 45 minutes and 1 hour, during this time all relevant areas of health, diet, lifestyle, family history, hair care regime will be discussed along with an in depth examination, including the use of a specialist scalp camera to arrive at a diagnosis and treatment plan.

Whatever the cause of your hair loss or the extent of the hair loss, we are here to help you.

Church events in our villages June 2023

Church Services

Sunday 4th June

10:15 All Together All Age Service,
Elsenham Village Hall

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church

Sunday 11th June

08:45 Prayer Book Holy Communion,
Elsenham Church

10:00 Morning Service, Ugley Church

10:15 Holy Communion, Elsenham Village
Hall

11:15 Morning Service, Henham Church

18:00 Sunday@6 with Communion, Henham
Church

Sunday 18th June

08:45 Prayer Book Morning Prayer,
Elsenham Church

10:00 Prayer Book Communion,
Ugley Church

10:15 Morning Service, Elsenham Village
Hall

11:15 Holy Communion, Henham Church

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church

Sunday 25th June

08:45 Prayer Book Morning Prayer,
Elsenham Church

10:00 Morning Service, Ugley Church

10:15 Morning Service, Elsenham Village
Hall

11:15 Morning Service, Henham Church

18:00 Sunday@6, Henham Church



**Join us for our new
monthly Family
Service for all ages,
10:15am at Elsenham
Village Hall on the
1st Sunday of every
month.**

Other Regular Events

St Peter's Junior Church

St Peter's, Ugley 10.00am

Sundays: 11th 18th & 25th

Elsenham Sunday Club/Explorers

(Y1-Y6) Old Franks, Elsenham

10.15am Sundays: 11th 18th & 25th

Henham Sunday Club/Explorers

(Reception-Y5) Church Hall, Henham

11.00am Sundays: 11th 18th & 25th

Pathfinders (Y6-Y9)

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

Sundays: 11th, 18th & 25th

Crammin' (Y10-Y13)

**St Mary's, Henham 6.00pm followed by
7.00pm at The Church Hall, Henham**

Sundays: 11th 18th & 25th

MID-WEEK AND SATURDAY:

Start the Week with Prayer

Church Hall, Henham 9.30am

Mondays: 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

Seekers After School Bible Club

(Y3-Y4) Old Frank's 3.20pm Mondays: 5th,
12th, 19th & 26th

Christian Play (Y1-Y2)

Rowan House, Elsenham 3.15pm Tuesdays:
6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Little Fishes Pre-School Group

Church Hall, Henham 10.15am

Thursdays: 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th

Little Fishes Pre-School Group

Elsenham Memorial Hall 10.00am

Fridays: 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

Church Lunch Club

Elsenham Memorial Hall 12.30pm

Fridays: (2nd & 4th Friday of the month): 9th &
23rd

Afternoon Tea

OSCA, Henham 2.00pm

Saturday: 17th

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UGLEY WI

Our April meeting took the form of a “we entertain ourselves” afternoon - an afternoon which was a lively mix of a humorous sketch set in a coffee shop with an inexhaustible range of coffees and types of milk, the performance of a brilliant Joyce Grenfell monologue entitled the ‘Committee’ a very entertaining reading of a chapter from a very useful ‘Enquire within’ volume dating from the 1950’s advising on how to prepare the perfect guest room and how to be prepared for the day when your husband arrived with one of his work colleagues expecting you to be able to cater for this unforeseen event with a perfect dinner. Then followed a look back at the events of 1953.

A very entertaining afternoon was rounded off with refreshments and an unusual quiz- the answers were out there, we just had to find them in our copy of the Metro newspaper!

Our June meeting to be held in Ugley Village Hall at 2pm on Wednesday 21st June and will be the AGM. Our July meeting to be held on Wednesday 19th July at 2pm in Ugley Village Hall will see the welcome return of Lynn Croot who will be entertaining us with tales of her life as a scuba diver.

Why not come along and join us for the afternoon? You’d be most welcome!

Andrea Fitt 01279 815922

Recital of Church Music at St Peter’s, Ugley,

on Saturday 24 June at 7.30pm

Sarah Rosewell, Soprano

Ian de Massini, Organ



Admission: £10 in aid of St Peter’s Fabric Fund to be paid at the door. Wine, soft drinks and light refreshments during the interval are included in the cost of admission.

Please contact Bob McKean (01279 812263) to let us know you are coming.



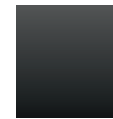
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Plans for New ultrafast broadband in Henham

Henham Parish Council had a meeting with Gigaclear on 10th May. Gigaclear have announced their intention to bring ultra fast broadband into the village in late 2023, early 2024 and make it available to most residents from early 2024. The Gigaclear presentation covered the following main points

- Gigaclear will offer speeds of up to 900 Mps, same speed for upload and download.
- Two methods of delivery to homes, use the Openreach existing infrastructure, poles or ducts. Gigaclear would bring their fibre to the bottom of a pole, run it to the top and bring it to the home similar to the present telephone line. Alternatively new ducting to the house may be required.
- Delivery through the village will be by narrow trenching across greens or verges.
- Residents will be able to transfer their home phone to a Voice over Internet phone for an additional £3 a month. They can use their existing phone and keep their existing number.
- Gigaclear opening offers will offer 300 Mps for £17 a month. The first customers to sign up will be offered 500 Mps for £20 a month.
- Every eligible resident will receive a letter from Gigaclear in the summer. There are a few areas that will be outside the Gigaclear area, these seem, in the main, to be the area around the Church.
- Gigaclear will undertake presentations in the autumn in Village Hall.
- The Parish Council will have a single point of contact during installation to deal with any issues of concern.

Residents who have existing poles on their property, or own land which Gigaclear needs to access, will have already received a communication to seek permission to install their equipment.

The Parish Council welcomes this new initiative to improve internet capabilities in the village. It will present challenges during the installation process, but the PC hopes to manage these to a minimum. The purpose of this article is both to inform residents of the initiative, and to alert those under contract with other Internet Providers that this new service will become available in or about January 2024.

Henham Tennis Club News

Times are changing, or perhaps the changing of the guard would be more appropriate as this is Coronation time. For years the men's game was dominated by Federer, Nadal, Djokovic and Murray; the women's game by Serena Williams but times are changing. Federer and Serena have retired, Nadal (who knows if and when he will return!), Djokovic is still around (when visas etc allow him access to tournaments) and Murray just keeps going, because he still loves playing! The 'young pretenders' though are now stamping their authority and a new era is dawning. Interestingly this is not just happening in the professional game as you only have to look at the entries this year at our own championships where the likelihood is that a new champion will be crowned (the in-word this month!), with all due respects to Ali Lafferty who is dusting off his racket in an attempt to add to his tally of 17 wins, the last of which was in 2007! Two of our talented youngsters, Amrik Braico and Isaac Wilson will undoubtedly have something to say, not forgetting a welcome return to the courts to Josh Steffen and newcomers Shaun Hunt and Louis Wilson. An intriguing contest awaits! Please come and support all our finalists on SATURDAY 8th JULY.... a warm welcome awaits you as well as tea and cakes! Let us hope that by then Summer will have arrived!

Isaac, in fact, has already stamped his mark at the club by teaming up with Sean Munday to win the Pick 'n Mix Competition, the final of which took place at the end of April.



Isaac, Sean, Nigel and Antony prior to the match.

Unfortunately, I was unable to be at the match due to a family commitment, so I am grateful to Monica Sutherland for the following analysis:

This year's Pick 'n Mix Tournament was unfortunately marred by walkovers due to injuries, and even covid! This trend continued right up until the semi-finals with only one of the four matches being played (Main Tournament and Plate). In the end the Plate Tournament was abandoned, and we were left with just the one Final, on the 23rd of April – Isaac Wilson and Sean Munday v Nigel Hogg and Antony Peck. Despite the threat of April showers, the match went ahead. After electing to serve, Isaac won his opening service game before he and Sean then took a 2-0 lead as Antony lost his serve. There followed some long rallies from the baseline as Nigel lobbed Isaac, moving him from side to side but the games youngest player wasn't thwarted as he retrieved impressively. Nigel and Antony continued to struggle to hold serve resulting in Isaac and Sean closing out the first set 6-1. The drizzle set in during the opening games of the 2nd set, with Isaac and Sean racing into a 3-0 lead. Antony's game then suddenly went up a notch and he made some stunning forehand winners from the baseline. After breaking Sean twice and then holding serve, he and Nigel rallied to 3-5. With both players now playing well could the comeback continue as Nigel then had to serve to stay in the game? It was not to be, as Isaac's consistency and Sean's net play proved too much, with them winning an entertaining match 6-1, 6-3. Congratulations to the new winners, Isaac and Sean who were presented with the trophy by Simon Price. Tea and cakes were provided for the players and the appreciative spectators. Sadly, this was Antony's final appearance on court as the family relocates and we wish Antony, Jenny, Asa, Alice and Laura every happiness in their new home.

I was fortunate enough to be in Madrid again recently to witness the rise of 'the new Nadal', namely 20-year-old Carlos Alcaraz, who was presented with an enormous birthday cake as he celebrated winning his semi-final. However, there was a surprise in store in the Final as his opponent was Jan-Lennard Struff, a 33year old German ranked 65 in the world, who appeared in the tournament as a 'lucky loser'. He initially lost in the qualifying rounds only to gain a 'wild card' due to the withdrawal of another player....and he ends up in the Final! In fact, he gave Alcaraz plenty to think about as his tactic was obviously: 'the best form of defence is attack', and attack he certainly did, turning the contest into a riveting spectacle. A summary of the match sums up his attitude and commitment: In spite of losing his opening service game (which included two double faults!) he showed his determination levelling at 2-2. Struff then held serve before Alcaraz reeled off three straight games to win the first set. Incredibly Struff then raced into a 3-0 lead at the start of the second set before saving 5 break points to go 4-1 up. He continued to serve out the set to take the match into a decider. At this point the tennis took on a new ferocity with some stunning rallies. Struff constantly threatened the Alcaraz serve by taking it early but despite his best efforts Alcaraz slowly but surely displayed his undoubted talent (he has the most

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exquisite drop shot imaginable!), and once he broke for a 3-1 lead, he never looked like relinquishing his advantage. He eventually served out in the final game, with clinical efficiency, to love. The moral for all of us has to be: never give up, keep the dream alive and no matter how illustrious your opponent, just go out there and enjoy the occasion because you never know what might happen! Just ask Herr Struff!

With the French Open quickly followed by Wimbledon just round the corner there will no doubt be more misplaced words from the commentators. The pressures of live broadcasting can make the most articulate of commentators make a blunder or two. John Motson, who was essentially a football commentator, also frequently commentated at Wimbledon. As a tribute to him, here is what is commonly known as one of the classic blunders:

“For those of you watching in black and white, Spurs are playing in yellow.” Listen out for some more classics in the coming weeks.

John G Smith

Life as a Volunteer at Audley End

Life is never dull at Audley End House and Gardens. A house that stands in the middle of our countryside that is steeped in history which is now part of the English Heritage portfolio.

English Heritage looks after over 400 sites with over 10 million visitors each year sees Audley as one of its bigger sites which relies on its army of volunteers which forms the backbone of the operation along side its experienced, friendly staff.

The Volunteers provide a warm and friendly welcome for all visitors and help convey the story of Audley by actively engaging with visitors in answering their questions, telling stories about the house or collection, and helping with family trails.

We are very lucky that the Volunteers have a friendly, enthusiastic manner and enjoy dealing with people from all walks of life – they often join Audley, as they are keen to learn more about Audley’s history.

Apart from the day-to-day operation Volunteers also enjoy the variety of Events that are held which include The World War 2 event, Gardeners World and Victorian Horses.

If you would learn more about Volunteering for English Heritage please get in touch.

Ed Welch

Volunteer Manager

Ed.Welch@english-heritage.org.uk

English Heritage – Audley End House and Garden



CAN YOU HELP?

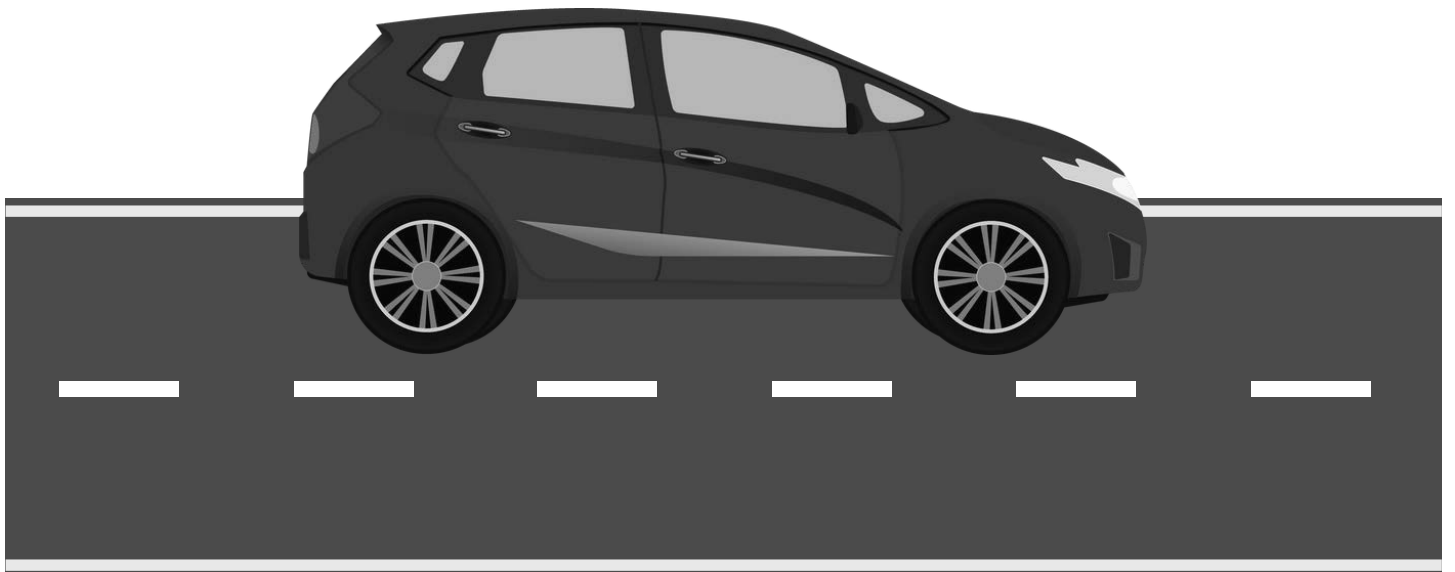
We are searching for new volunteer drivers to deliver food parcels to our clients in and around Stansted.



- Do you have your own car?
- Do you have a couple of hours (or more) free during the day on weekdays, one day per week?
- Would you like to volunteer with the food bank, making a real difference to people in your area?

If so, we would love to hear from you!

We cover all expenses. To find out more, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Lesley, on 07503 530164 or email lesleymurdoch@uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk



www.uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk

Stansted food bank.

You may notice that there is an advert for drivers for the Stansted food bank in the Magazine this month. I thought I would just add some of my experiences as a driver, hopefully to encourage others to give it a go.

I volunteer once a week, the day is flexible, we put in our availability for the following week on a Friday. So not too much forward planning required.

The role involves checking for new referrals on your working day, ringing the clients to arrange a delivery time, check on their needs, likes and dislikes.

I then go to Touch Point in Stansted Mountfitchet, collect the food parcels and deliver them. Foodbank provides enough food to last for a week so depending on the size of the family there can be multiple bags of shopping to collect.

The delivery area is quite small, Stansted, Elsenham, Henham, half of Takeley and the Hallingbury's

Full introduction and training is given, but you do need your own transport. Travel expenses are paid.

It is a great way to discover the villages around us, meet new people and do something worthwhile. Every client I have delivered to has been extremely grateful.

If you would like to know anymore before applying, feel free to contact me.

June Brennan 01279 850114.

Abbreviations used in the Parish Council Minutes.

Readers have queried some of the abbreviations used. We have discovered some of them. Please don't hesitate to highlight to us any more you do not recognise, and we can add them to the table.

OMR	Old Mead road	EH	Essex Highways
OML	Old Mead lane	FB	Facebook
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer	FWAG	A Firm of environmental consultants
VAS	Vehicle activated signs	UDC	Uttlesford District Council
SID	Speed indicator Device	CSW	Community Speed Watch



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News from the Gardens of Eastern Lodge

June is a lovely month at the Gardens, and there is an ever-changing cast list of flowers to look forward to. The roses are in their full first flush, bringing colour to many corners of the Italian and walled kitchen gardens; the waterlilies are in flower; the last wave of blossom is on the trees – the robinia and the Indian horse chestnut; and the shrubs and climbers are also bringing colour, including the periploca, a remnant from the Peto treillage pergola. If you are lucky, you might see the splendid vulgarity of the voodoo lily (or be unlucky and smell the rotting flesh scent it puts out for a day!).

Foxgloves and poppies dot the Gardens and other wildflowers we look out for are the common spotted orchids in the Glade, grass vetchling, which we sometimes have, and bee orchids. The bee orchids never seem to be in same place twice, but we think we have seen some coming. The bees, butterflies and damsel flies will be flitting around, hopefully enjoying warm June sunshine!

So it is a good month to visit the Gardens: for our Nature Day on Sunday 18 June or on an Open Thursday (except June 22 when the Gardens will be closed for our AGM). On our Nature Day we will have bug hunts, a wildflower walk, fairy stories and a trail for children. We will be joined by the Essex Bat Group, Essex Wildlife Trust and the RSPB. There will be a plant stall and craft sellers and Woodwind of Stortford will play some lovely summer music too. Children also love the treehouse and get free entry; dogs are welcome on leads; and refreshments are available.

For more information go to the Trust's website: www.eastonlodge.co.uk

Open Thursdays, 11.00-3.00, last entry 2.00. £5 on the Gate.

18 June Open Day 11.00-5.00, last entry 4.00. £6.50 on the Gate or £5.50 if bought in advance via the Trust's website or through www.Trybooking.com .

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If you don't have internet access, or need a little extra help, call our friendly advisers on 01799 618840 and they will carry out a benefit check for you.

Are you off-grid? Homes not connected to the gas grid may be eligible for a £200 Alternative Fuels Payment. If you have an electricity supplier, check your bank or energy account to see if you received the payment in February. If you're on a prepayment meter, vouchers should have been sent by text, email or post. If you don't have an electricity supplier or have not received the payment, you can apply now.

But don't delay! Applications close 31st May.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-alternative-fuel-bill-support-if-not-automatic>

Low-cost broadband - Ofcom figures show that just 5% of eligible families have signed up for 'Social Tariffs' - discounted packages for households on Universal Credit or other types of financial support. These offer superfast speeds for as little as £12 a month. For more information go to <https://www.uswitch.com/broadband/guides/broadband-deals-for-low-income-families/>

Healthy start vouchers - Half of the eligible families in Uttlesford are missing out on vouchers for milk, vitamins, and healthy food. These may be available to you if you are on a low income and are pregnant or have a child under the age of 4. Speak to your midwife or health visitor or go to <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Discounted Travel - If you've been claiming some income-related benefits for three months, you may be entitled to a **Jobcentre Plus Travel Discount Card**, which can cut the cost of rail and bus fares by up to 50%. Ask at your local Jobcentre Plus.

Help with energy costs or grants to reduce the amount of energy you use are available if you are struggling to pay your bills. Contact our warm homes team for more information 01799 618858 warmhomes@uttlesfordca.org.uk

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citizens
advice

In the Garden

Hello again Dear Reader. *Tempus Fugit* and all that. Halfway through another year and plenty to do in the garden. I have looked back at previous articles and find it interesting to compare the weather patterns year on year (I know, I should get out more). It is quite amazing how the years differ, but the underlying factor remains the signs of global warming.

Late May, early June is probably the best time to prune shrubs which have flowered, such as Forsythia, Ribes and Spirea “Bridal Wreath”. Cut back all the shoots which have flowered, taking care not to cut into old wood. Next year’s flowers will be formed on the new wood which will result from the pruning. If you have Escallonia hedging or specimen shrubs, trimming them now will encourage flowering in summer. If you have a Laburnum tree or trees in your garden, pick off any low growing pods and sweep up any fallen ones, as they are extremely poisonous, and children seem to find them fascinating. A shrub that is often neglected and left to its own devices is Photinia (Red Robin), with its wonderful deep red foliage. Once the foliage has turned green, give it a trim and you should soon get another flush (excuse the pun) of bright red leaves.

It goes without saying that the weeding should be maintained and the grass should be cut. The blades should now be set to your preferred height of cut and if you haven’t yet done so, it is still a good time to apply a general all-purpose lawn treatment. Remember not to cut the grass for three days prior to – and after applying.

Time once again for my “Tip of the Month”. This month’s tip is for those of you who have ponds. We all know how unsightly pond weed is and how difficult it is to remove. You can spend hours trying to scoop it out. Well, here is a quick, cheap and easy way to deal with it. Buy a cheap, round hairbrush and tie it to a long pole or bamboo cane. Push the brush into the weed and twist it round and round. The weed wraps itself neatly around the brush, allowing you to remove it quickly and easily. Even if there isn’t any weed visible on the surface, a weekly rolling of the brush just below the surface of the pond can prevent the start of any pond weed problems. Always be careful not to harm any of the fish or pond plants and it is a good idea to place the weed you remove at the side of the pond and leave it there for a few days, so that any pond creatures you remove can crawl back into the water,

Some houseplants will benefit from a spell outdoors in summer and the end of June is a good time to put them out. Plants in pots dry out very quickly, so be prepared to water daily if necessary. As we are on the subject of houseplants, how do you fancy trying something which may be new to you?

You can easily increase your stock of houseplants by taking leaf cuttings. It is not nearly as difficult as you might think. Let's start with the easiest method. Suitable donor plants include Begonias, Peperomias and gloxinias, but most fleshy leaved plants can be used. Cut a healthy, newly matured leaf, with its stalk attached, from the plant. Bury the stalk in a pot filled with either a mixture of peat and sand or cutting compost with a little grit added. If you are using a plastic pot, place the cutting as close to the side of the pot as you can. For some reason, unknown to me, cuttings seem to be more successful if planted this way. This also means that you can plant several leaves around the rim of the plot. Plants such as Mother-in-Law's Tongue and Cape Primrose have long leaves which can be cut into 2 inch (5 cm) sections and planted vertically in the direction in which they grow, i.e. with the veins pointing upwards. Leaf cuttings are vulnerable to both rotting and drying out, so a delicate balancing act is required. Bottom heat will speed up the rooting process, so if you have an electric propagator, that will provide the perfect environment. Once the young plants appear they can be potted up, using a good quality multi-purpose compost.

Another job for June is pruning Clematis. Many gardeners break out in a cold sweat when pruning Clematis is mentioned, but as long as you follow these very simple rules, it really isn't difficult. There are basically two types of Clematis, early or late flowering and the type is the key as to when to prune. Early flowering Clematis are pruned when the flowers have died, which is about now. Later flowering Clematis are pruned in early spring. Cut out all the old and weak growth and reduce the remainder by about half. This will give the plant the whole summer to form new shoots, which will give masses of flower next year.

Many plants can be made to become bushier by pinching out the top pair of leaves while they are still quite small, helping to fill the space with fewer plants. Continue to support taller plants as they grow to prevent them falling over and spoiling your displays.

If you are growing vegetables, remember to keep weeds down by hoeing between the rows. Do this on dry days, as hoeing when the soil is wet will cause the weeds to spread rather than die off. You can now plant out outdoor tomatoes and cucumbers, remembering to provide support for them.

Well, Dear Reader, I feel it is time for me to go and lie down in a darkened room, so I will bid you farewell until next time and, as usual, wish you "Happy Gardening".

Norman Elson

Village Diary Regular clubs and meetings

Mondays

9.00 - 10.00	am	Pilates	OSCA
10.00 - 12.00	am	Tennis Ladies' Rusty Racquets	Henham Tennis Courts
3.15-4.00	pm	Junior tennis	Henham Tennis Courts
6.45 - 8.00	pm	Springbok Classes	HUSCH
7.00 start	pm	Omega running/Walking club	Meet outside Cock Inn
7.00 - 9.00	pm	Table Tennis Club	OSCA

Tuesdays

9.15 - 11.15	am	Badminton Club	HUSCH
5.30 - 6.15	pm	Street & Com. Dance: Age 8-10	OSCA
6.00 - 7.15	pm	Cubs (term times)	OSCA
6.15 - 7.20	pm	Street & Com. Dance: Age 11+	OSCA
7.20 - 8.20	pm	Adult Dance Class	OSCA

Wednesdays

3.15- 4.00	pm	Junior Tennis	Henham Tennis Courts
5.45 - 6.45	pm	Beavers (term times)	OSCA
7.00 - 9.00	pm	Scouts (term times)	OSCA
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
1.45-2.45	pm	Tots/Preschool tennis	Henham Tennis courts
4:00 - 4:45	pm	Junior Tennis	Henham Tennis Courts
7.45 - 9.00	pm	Bell Ringing Practice	Henham Church

Fridays

9.00 - 10.30	am	Tennis Ladies' 2 nd Team	Henham Tennis Courts
5.45 - 6.45	pm	Beavers (term times)	OSCA

Saturdays

Meet at 9.00	am	Omega Runners	Outside Vision Fitness
9.30- 11.45	am	Junior Tennis	Henham Tennis courts

Sundays

2.00 - 4.00	pm	Tennis Ladder	Henham Tennis Courts
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There are also various classes at the Vision Fitness Gym, please visit their website for further details, visionfitnesshenham.co.uk



1883–2023

140th Anniversary Celebration Concert

Hubert Parry *I was glad*
Ralph Vaughan Williams *Five English Folk Songs*
Roderick Williams *Sing Joyfully (world première)*
William Walton *Coronation Te Deum*
John Rutter *Birthday Madrigals*
Hubert Parry / Liz Dilnot Johnson *Blake Reimagined*
John Rutter *Gloria*
Handel *Hallelujah*

Saffron Walden Choral Society

Quintin Beer *conductor*
Richard Carr *organ/piano*

Saturday 24 June 2023, 7.30pm

**Saffron
Hall**

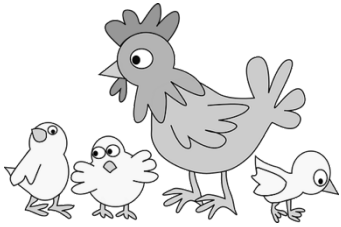
Ticket Prices £15, £20 & £25 (under 25s half-price)

Tickets available from: www.saffronhall.com

Illustration: *Fields* (version gold) by Conni Johnson

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We are a working farm and are run mainly by volunteers as a not for profit organisation. The money we raise by you visiting us makes sure our animals stay well fed and watered. So, in essence, this is a win win situation, you have a lovely time seeing our animals and as a direct result, we can afford to ensure they are all well looked after. So, thank you!

If you have a child's birthday coming up, why not have your party with us at the farm?

Want a different kind of holiday? Then come and camp on the farm and enjoy the great outdoors and our animals at the same time! Either book direct on our website – daisymaysfarm.org – sooner than later!

As ever, thanks so much for your continued support.



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Sunday - 12pm to 7pm

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Sunday - 12pm to 4pm

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For information about special events each month please see

website: www.thecockinnhenham.co.uk

Facebook page: The Cock Inn Public House, Henham

Instagram: cockinnathenham

REFUSE COLLECTION FOR JUNE

Brown, black, and green bin collections are made in most of Henham on Thursdays but there are a few areas where collections are made on Tuesdays. (Henham is North collection)

BROWN BIN (kitchen leftovers)	collected every week
BLACK BIN (non-recyclables)	Thursday 8th, 22nd
GREEN BIN (recyclables)	Thursday 1st, 15th, 29th
GREEN GARDEN WASTE	Thursday 1st, 15th, 22nd

Village Shop & Post Office Opening Hours

Post Office:- Open Mon, Wed & Friday 9am to 12 noon

Shop:- Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 4.30pm

Saturday 9am to 1pm, Sunday 9.30am to 12.30pm

Telephone 850644

Deadline for submitting articles for the June edition is Monday 12th June
Please send your contributions to **Wendy Hogg** by email as an attachment to **henhamdragon@hotmail.com**

Editorial policy is to use Times New Roman font size of 14 points on A4 paper with left and right margins of 2.5cm. Different fonts and sizes are acceptable but may be changed to ensure the final article is easy to read. The committee reserves the right to edit contributions and does not take responsibility for the information given or the views expressed in The Dragon, nor is any culpability accepted for work undertaken by the advertisers.

Advertising Rates

Rates for one-off advertisements in the Dragon are as follows:-

Full page £60.00, Half page £30.00, Quarter page £20.00

Small ads (non-commercial) placed by village residents £5.00.

Village functions and charity fundraising events are advertised free, but we would invite large fundraising events to make a small donation to help with our printing costs.

Contact Sheena Bigland on 01279 850373 or email henhamdragon@hotmail.com for details. Annual advertising must be placed by mid-February

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