



Friday, October 6th
Great Bardfield Town Hall

Doors Open 7.30pm Film Starts 8.00pm
Members free, Non members £7



BARDFIELD CINEMA CLUB - FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER

OCT
2023

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50p
where
sold

News and views from Great Bardfield and Little Bardfield

Bardfield Times



Ten editions of Bardfield Times are published each year by volunteers from Great Bardfield and Little Bardfield parishes. Articles, letters, etc. for inclusion need to be received by the editors by the **14th of the month prior to publication**. The management team reserve the right to refuse, postpone or to edit any material received for publication. Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the management team.

Editor: Janet Dyson drjanetdyson@gmail.com

Layout designer: Joe Jones joe311jones@btinternet.com
07946495148

**Hand written letters
or articles for typing:** Alicia Holmes
Bunbury, Bridge Street, CM7 4SY

Advertising: advertising@bardfieldtimes.com
Kate Fox 01371 810111

Distribution: distribution@bardfieldtimes.com
Ray Coles 07582 640002
& Paul Euesden 01371 810118

Treasurer: treasurer@bardfieldtimes.com
Jackie Newton 01371 810586

Announcements: nicolapascoe.announcements@gmail.com
01371 811640



Front cover and above: Judging the biggest onion! The Bardfield Horticultural Society Summer Show by Doug Joyce

Editorial

Living in our lovely, peaceful village it's easy to forget the dramatic events taking place in the world outside our 'bubble'. Fires, floods, earthquakes, war and economic crises tearing families apart and driving people from their homes. We often have a deep suspicion of 'strangers' but, over many years there are plenty of examples of Bardfield residents offering help and hospitality to those in need. Many people took in evacuees, from predominantly the East End of London during WW2, and a number stayed and made Bardfield their home. The Aldridges at Place House took in refugees and the Bawdens at Brick House gave lodgings to the Spanish barber who worked in Vine Street – his singing could be heard around the village. More recently, hospitality has been offered to people escaping the current war in Ukraine. George Mills made regular journeys to Eastern Europe with aid for children whose lives had been shattered by the Chernobyl disaster and for many years to Ukraine following Russia's annexation of the Crimean Peninsula.

Some families can trace their roots in Bardfield back for many generations. For more recent arrivals, Bardfield is their 'escape to the country'. We've all come here from somewhere. So, it's interesting to have articles in this issue from people who have reached out to those who most need support in a world in turmoil. Doug Alexander and Alex Turnbull have written an account of their recent journey to bring desperately needed ambulances and medical equipment to war-torn Ukraine (p.26). On p.10 Jacqui Braithwaite shares her experience of a visit to the controversial asylum centre in Wethersfield. It's good to have different perspectives and new insights.

Also in this issue Mac Beanland gets controversial about 'No mow May' (p.28) and Headteacher Mrs Crow introduces us to Merlin the new school dog (p.3).

Don't miss the Historical Society Drop-in on October 14th (p.12) and 'Remember, remember' to book your tickets for Firework Night (p.7)

Janet Dyson

Great Bardfield Primary School

The month of September is always a very busy one at Great Bardfield Primary School. It is a time of new beginnings and fresh starts alongside renewed acquaintance with the familiar faces and routines of school life.

As I write this, I can hardly believe we are at the beginning of my second year as Headteacher. Last year was an absolute whirlwind of many delights including the building of our new classrooms, cake sales, film clubs, educational visits, sporting events, fundraising, picnics, concerts and much more. All these events serve to enrich our curriculum and provide the children (and adults) with happy memories for years to come.

One of the aims of our curriculum here at school is to make links with the village and the wonderful community of Great Bardfield. Teachers plan lessons and activities which involve walks around the village, visits to significant buildings and finding out about the history of the people and places associated with the area. This year we have renamed our classes and changed them from mythical creatures to the names of some of the 'Great Bardfield Artists'. The class names are now Garwood, Bawden, Aldridge, Rowntree and Ravilious. This week, the children have been learning all about the artist associated with their class



Working together



Hunting for minibeads

name and produced some artwork based on their style. So far, I have been shown some fantastic landscapes in the style of Kenneth Rowntree and line drawings of the Town Hall in the style of Edward Bawden!

Other big news at school this term is the long awaited arrival of our very own school dog. Merlin is a flat-coated retriever and, once fully trained, he will be part of our whole school commitment to improving wellbeing. There has been much research on the benefits of having dogs in school, although I'm sure this doesn't come as a surprise to the dog lovers amongst you. Dogs can provide comfort, teach responsibility, are great listeners and can help children regulate their emotions. Merlin has been introduced to some of our children already and his first official appearance in our Monday Assembly is fast approaching.



Merlin taking a well earned rest

Our newly appointed School Ambassadors from Year 6, Jasper and Phoebe, are settling into their new roles and next week we will be voting in our new Class Councillors, Eco-monitors and House Captains. These children will have important roles within the school. They will attend regular meetings and be crucial to developing and improving our school as we progress through the year.

This term we are blessed to be joined by twenty new Reception children. They have had great fun checking out their new classroom and outdoor area, trying school lunches and meeting our new wellbeing dog, Merlin. They all appear very keen, although by the afternoons some of them look as though they would benefit from an afternoon nap!

We are already thinking about next year and will be holding our first Open Morning of the term at the end of the month. Please share the information in this issue with any of your friends and family who may have children starting school in September 2024.

Liz Crow
Headteacher



Great Bardfield Primary School



Is your child starting school in September 2024?

If so, we invite you to come and take a tour of our wonderful school. Come and see our lovely new infant classrooms and find out all about us.

No need to book – just come along.

Tours at 10.30, 11.00 and 11.30.

Saturday 30th September 10am-12pm

Saturday 14th October 10am-12pm

Children are more than welcome to come along.

We hope to see you there!

Dear Editor,

Ellen and the family of Charlie Holl would like to thank everyone for the generous donations that have allowed a beautiful bench to be made in his memory which now sits in the grounds of Little Bardfield Cricket Club. Significant donations have also been made to the CREAMER fund and British Heart Foundation.

Thank you

Beverley Farley



It's Cinema Club time again! We will be starting the Autumn term on Friday 6th October with a road movie without a car - 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry', starring Jim Broadbent and Penelope Wilton.

As announced in the *Bardfield Times* (July Ed.) regretfully we have had to increase both our membership and non member fees to meet increased running costs, but hope you will still find the evenings good value and an opportunity to meet friends and enjoy some refreshments.

We do hope to bring you a season of varied and quality films in the coming months, including 'A Man called Otto' starring Tom Hanks (Friday November 3rd) and 'The Electric Life of Louis Wain' (Friday 8th December), starring Benedict Cumberbatch.

We look forward to welcoming all our past members and newcomers who have not ventured to Cinema Club before - do come and join us.

Ray Coles

CHRISTMAS HAMPER

Hello neighbour,

Do you know anyone within Great and Little Bardfield who will (or will you yourself), be alone this Christmas and would appreciate a Christmas Hamper? If so, please could you contact me with their name and telephone number so that we can contact them and offer them one.

As people's circumstances can change, if you have received a hamper in previous years and would like another this year you will also need to contact me to confirm this.

Please call Joanne Magro-Andrews on 07590397178 by Friday 1st December 2023.

Best wishes,

Joanne Magro-Andrews

Bardfield Players

Our next production is called 'Being of Sound Mind', and will be performed in the Town Hall on November the 9th, 10th and 11th. Tickets are £8.50 and available online at-

www.ticketsource.co.uk/bardfield-players

Or you can contact me on 07908960082

This drama opens with the reading of a will, and the consequences which follow! Our last play in March, 'Dirty Dusting' was very well received and was nominated for two awards, 'Being of Sound Mind' is a quite different play but we hope you will enjoy it as much.

We are fortunate to have some new members to our group namely Sally Beanland, Mike Brown, Karan Davies, Louise Howard, Emiley Robshaw and Steve Snow, and I hope their association with us is a long and happy one.

See you in November.

Ian R

BRAINTREE ROAD DEVELOPMENT : HEARING WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2023 AT 10.AM CAUSEWAY HOUSE BRAINTREE

Anyone who wishes to speak at the hearing should give advance notice to VE.RT@planninginspectorate.gov.uk for the attention of Aimee Peckham ref APP/Z1510/W/23/3317112 with the site address as Deer Park View, Braintree Road, Gt Bardfield.

GREAT BARDFIELD

Fireworks Display

IS BACK!

Saturday 4th November 2023

GATES OPEN AT 5:30PM | DISPLAY STARTS AT 7:00PM

BBQ AND HOG ROAST | BAR | LIGHT UP TOYS

ENTRY

ADULTS: £8.50

UNDER 16: £2.00

UNDER 4: FREE

BOOK YOUR TICKETS BEFORE
01.11.23 TO GET DISCOUNTED PRICES!!

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO BOOK



OR VISIT
WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/BARDFIELDFIREWORKS

**GREAT BARDFIELD PLAYING FIELDS, BENDLOWES ROAD,
BRAINTREE, CM7 4PR**

CHARITY EVENT SUPPORTED BY GREAT BARDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

FUND RAISING FOR GREAT BARDFIELD SCHOOL PTA, GREAT BARDFIELD
PRE-SCHOOL, LITTLE BARDFIELD CRICKET CLUB AND THE PAVILLION FUND.

Great Bardfield Parish Council report

Co-operative Stores Refurbishment

We understand that the Co-op Stores will be closed for 6 weeks from 6th October for refurbishment. The Parish Council have supported the Co-op's application for a pop-up shop to be available whilst works are on-going in order to provide some essential retail services to the community.

Wethersfield Airbase/Asylum Centre

We understand that almost 100 people are now in residence at the old Wethersfield Airbase. In August, representatives of the two closest Parish Councils, Wethersfield and Finchingfield, had the opportunity to visit the site and a report by Jacqui Braithwaite of Finchingfield PC is included in this edition of the *BT*. This report is useful and informative, and explains some of the processes for dealing with asylum applications, information on some of the individuals now living at the centre and observations by those who visited.

We expect that the use of the centre will increase over the next few months and understand the Home Office are monitoring all aspects of the programme.

Braintree District Council intend to progress with a Judicial Review of the decision to house asylum seekers at the airbase without consultation or planning permission, the government having used emergency powers to do so. This Review is due to take place on 31st October & 1st November.

Planning Applications

Listed below are the applications considered by the Parish Council in August and September:

- Springfield House, Bluegate Farm: side extensions and outbuilding – no objection
- Greenacre, Brook Street: rear extension and garage conversion, no objection provided the Historic Buildings Officer is satisfied with the materials to be used in the Conservation Area.
- Co-op Stores, Brook Street: installation of canopy, chiller, freezer and refrigeration plant. No objection provided all necessary noise mitigation is in place and neighbours' views considered.

- Great Lodge, Braintree Road: glamping pods and associated facilities: no objection provided concerns on access raised by the fire & rescue service are addressed
- Corner Pin Cottage, Bridge End: side extension. No objection
- Shorthorn Grange, Bushetts Farm: erection of stables. The PC objected to the scale and design of these proposals.
- Little Lodge, Braintree Road: listed building consent for interior works and replacement roof. No objection provided the Historic Buildings Officer is satisfied with the materials to be used.

No objections to proposed tree works and maintenance at Odds N Ends, Bridge Street.

Update - Planning Appeal – 56 Houses on Braintree Road

The date of the appeal hearing has now been postponed to 18th October. The Parish Council will be represented. Anyone else wishing to speak at the hearing should give advance notice via Braintree District Council, appeals@braintree.gov.uk or directly to the Planning Inspector's office at VE.RT@planninginspectorate.gov.uk for the attention of Aimee Peckham.

The Appeal reference is APP/Z1510/W/23/3317112 with the site address as Deer Park View, Braintree Road, Gt Bardfield.

Pavilion Update

See separate item in this *BT*.

Bus Services Consultation Ends 5th October (Save the Number 9 bus)

Essex County Council are currently consulting on bus services and the 9/9A service to Braintree is one of those that may be stopped or see route changes. This service is essential to some members of our community and its loss would mean increased isolation. The Parish Council have objected to this potential loss of one of our only services, pointing out that the poor service levels experienced in recent months (late and cancelled buses) have impacted on user numbers.

For those that have not yet responded to the consultation, you may do so at <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/2023>

Footpaths

We expected our footpaths to receive their annual cut by ECC Highways

over the summer. Unfortunately, this has not happened, and we know that many of our footpaths have been impassable having become completely overgrown. We would like to 'big-up' our village handyman, Ian Ruffle, who has cleared several paths over the last few weeks including those beyond Vine Meadow, the Walk adjacent to the playingfields, the footpath behind Mill Close and the permissive path that runs behind the bungalows on Bendlowes Road. This is not usually part of Ian's job so we thank him for these extra efforts to ensure some of our footpaths can be enjoyed again without nettle stings, bramble cuts or just giving up and going home.

A reminder to landowners that they also have a responsibility for ensuring public rights of way on their land are kept clear.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 7.00pm, in the Committee Room at the Town Hall. Members of the Public are welcome to attend and to raise any issues at the Public Forum which is held at the beginning of the meeting.

Carolynne Ruffle
Chairperson

A visit to the Asylum Centre

Last week I was part of a group shown around the Asylum Centre at the Wethersfield Base. I met some of the people currently being housed there, saw their accommodation, had some lunch with them and generally got a feel for the place and people. I'm not sure what I was expecting but I came away thinking it's actually not the worst use of the space.

Now, we all know the base is not a great location for major development of any kind, there just isn't the infrastructure. And we also all know that there are thousands of homeless people already in this country who need looking after too. But that's not what this is about. Rightly or wrongly, the Asylum Centre is happening, and how we deal with it as a community will have a huge impact on us all for years to come.

We need to remember that the people being moved onto the base are just that, they're people. Their lives are on hold while they're there,

and with the current processing delays they could each be there for a couple of years or more. That's a long time to live in fear, surrounded by hatred. If we don't find a way to help them it'll be almost impossible for them to remain the decent human beings they surely were when they were forced from their homes in the first place. To live a reasonable life, people need to be active and they need to have hope of a future. Surely, as decent human beings ourselves, we can see that, and do what we can to help them.

If we as a community can make this site work well, then quite simply, it's better for everyone. Obviously, the people at the base will benefit if they are able to live the next year or two in a safe environment. And for the many good people around here who can see this for the human tragedy it is, it will also be great to know we're doing what we can to ease the suffering of these poor souls. But even for those in the third group, the people who are afraid to go out at night, afraid to walk their dogs around the fields, the people who've decided to believe the racists and think we're all in mortal danger – it'll even be good for them if we can make the base work. Because quite simply, if the base is good and the people there feel that it's their home, they are less likely to come wandering around our villages. And finally, if they are granted asylum and come out to live amongst us, it'll be much better for everyone if we haven't turned them into traumatised wrecks.

Right now the 'Hate' campaign is bringing out a nastiness in many people. I've seen some comments on social media lately that are truly appalling. But you should know, for all these weeks we've had asylum seekers at the base, the only time I've felt intimidated was when the lowlifes from Britain First showed up in the village. They are the people we should all be campaigning against. If left to peddle their hatred they will continue to separate our community and do far more long-term damage than the people seeking asylum could ever do.

Let's stop the hate and make Wethersfield Base a brilliant example of what good can be achieved if we work together with compassion and tolerance.

Jacqui Braithwaite
Landlady and
Parish Councillor

Great Bardfield Historical Society

Open Afternoon

Saturday 14th October, 3–5pm

Would you like to know more about the history of our village? Why not come along to our open afternoon and see what we do? Refreshments will be available and a quiz for children to enjoy. Here are some of the things we have been doing recently:

We have worked with our lovely primary school to share the story of the village as local history forms part of the curriculum.

This summer we organised guided walks and talks on the Bardfield Artists for local and regional visiting groups. We regularly give talks on the Bardfield Artists to other local history societies. We are looking forward to arranging walks and talks about the history of the village for those new to the village next spring/summer.

Over the years we have arranged talks from interesting speakers on a range of historical subjects and organised visits to local places of interest. We are always on the lookout for interesting speakers and different subjects. Perhaps you have some ideas for topics we have not covered?

We research and publish many booklets on aspects of our village's history and are always interested and keen to hear ideas for future publications.



Our Cottage Museum preserves the village's collection of artefacts assembled since the late 1950s and the Bawden Room (in the Town Hall complex) shows work by the Bardfield Artists owned by the village. Although the Cottage Museum has just closed for the season, both venues can be opened by appointment over the winter break.

The Historical Society comprises a small committee. New members to the committee and the society as a whole are very welcome.

We would really love more volunteers to come forward so that the Museum and Bawden Room can be opened more frequently.

For further information, please get in touch either via these pages or by email to: Jonathan Davies, Acting Chair, jonathan6davies@gmail.com

Town Hall Happenings

Our next event is the annual Boules competition with finals day on Saturday the 30th September. We will be having a BBQ and The Bell will be open so please come along and support the finalists.

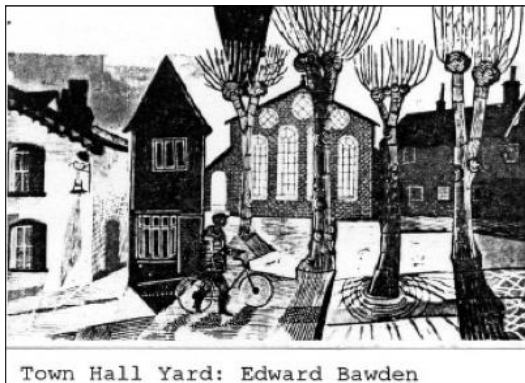
Gigaclear have now installed fibre broadband in the Town Hall. The WiFi is much better than the old system and is free to all users of the building.

We are about to install a new Projector and Electric Screen which will improve the visual quality of films. The system will also be able to display presentations as it can be connected to a computer. The screen will be automatically lowered into place from above the stage which will save everyone a lot of time.

Finally, a date for your diaries. We will hold a Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday 25th November.

John Maidman

Chair, Great Bardfield Town Hall



Town Hall Yard: Edward Bawden

MOBILE LIBRARY BUS

MOBILE LIBRARY BUS VISITS GREAT BARDFIELD
ON THE FOLLOWING DATES

35 October, 26 October

16 November

7 December, 28 December

Between 11.55am and 12.25pm

If there is no room at the Town Hall to park
the bus will be located further along Dunmow Road

BOULES FINALS DAY 2023

Saturday 30th September - 2pm onwards

**Come and see the last 3 games of the season
Semi Finals and Grand Final**



**BBQ, Music, French Vibe,
Undercover Seating (but bring a brolly just in case)**

All Proceeds to Town Hall Funds



Money! Money! Money!

Benefactor *noun*

"A person who gives money or other help to a person or good cause"



First of all I would like to say a very big thank you to all the good folk of Great Bardfield and beyond who have contributed in many ways to turning our vision of a new pavilion into reality, we would not have got as far as we have without you!

We are getting there slowly but as with everybody in today's world we have been caught in the ever rising costs which have blown big holes in our budget! This means that we are having to economise in certain areas.

Working on the well worn premise that "if you don't ask, you don't get", I'm asking!!

We need to consider the internal flooring of the building, and we need to raise between five to six thousand pounds to complete that part of the project to a high standard, suitable for a multipurpose club room with changing facilities. All contributions, big or small would be very welcome, but perhaps, a real long shot I know in these difficult times, but maybe, just maybe there is one person out there, just looking for an opportunity to be a real benefactor of the project and help us out!

Anybody who wishes to donate to this valid cause, we have a specific account dedicated to pavilion funds and you can pay in by bank transfer, or send a cheque to Katie Fox, the parish clerk, no amount is too small or too large!!

Bank details; Account Number: 20459929

Set Code: 60/83/01

Thank you in advance, and upon completion of the project, the people who have contributed will be honoured permanently in a way still to be decided! We will of course also respect people's anonymity if required!

As always, thanks for reading this, and once again, thank you for all your help so far.

Iain Graham on behalf of The Pavilion Committee.

GREENFINGERS

Congratulations all you clever gardeners, those who clipped back the hardy geraniums and 3 weeks after, flowers appear again, and clipped again and had a 3rd flowering. A result of the warm autumn.

Hurrah to all who diligently watered pots of gorgeous summer plants, watered through the drought, watered through the cool of July as pots need watering even if it rains, and kept them well tended through the Indian summer.

Cheers to those who have given thought to the next seasons, scattered seeds of hardy annuals, cornflower, marigold, white of Orlaya (something less common) and the common poppies. Great choice here of easy to grow corn poppy red, Californian poppy orange, maybe pink and white too plus the grey leaved giant of a poppy *Somniferum*. Common name *opium* poppy. Aha, quite safe here as they only become potent in truly hot climates like South America and Afghanistan so no 'trips' to be had just a scattering of seeds available on your bread to be baked.

Now here is a tip for spring. If your garden thrives on temporary summer plants like cosmos and all the big tender plants, in particular the salvias when they disappear with the onset of winter, place pots of tulips and wallflowers on the spot in the border. This way they provide an elevated spring display and are easily moved when ready to plant out the giants for the summer.

An easy planting idea, particularly around your vegetable area, divide chives to make more plants, acquire dwarf pinks, these are very fragrant. Alternate the two along the edge of a border. Result, a pretty display from the end of April to mid summer.

Warning, thieves about so anchor your pots and statues. Chain your olive trees to the house wall and flood light the vulnerable areas so criminal activity is more likely to be spotted.

The Tuesday Club

In August our guest speaker was Sheila Gunson, also known as The Bag Lady, who gave us a very amusing talk on her passion for making bags from materials which might not otherwise be useful, some spare curtain material or an old pair of jeans perhaps. But who would have thought of making a bag (and skirt) with men's silk ties? Or a glamorous sequinned evening bag from an old bra? As to the shopping bag made with a pair of pants, I shall leave that to your imagination! What a clever and funny lady, I shall be looking at bags in a new light.

In September Michael Bardell gave us a "Virtual Tour of Braintree Town Hall". We learned that the Town Hall was a gift to the people of Braintree from William Courtauld, who wanted "no expense spared" in fashioning this grand civic building in the centre of town. And this mantra was fulfilled, with the original estimate of £10,000 rising to over £50,000 by completion in 1928. It was officially opened by the Earl of Crawford with the words "I declare this building open and dedicate it to the good government and prosperity of your ancient town of Braintree".

During WWII the statue on top of the bell tower was covered in sacking, perhaps to distract attention and to help the building avoid strikes from the German bombing raids. There is an alternative (if apocryphal) reason for the building escaping unscathed, which was that Hitler admired it so much that he wanted it preserved to be used as German government offices following an invasion. We shall never know.

On 10th October our speaker will be Rose Griffin Twiddell, who will be talking about The First Essex Witch Trials. Rose is a popular and experienced speaker, and we are looking forward to this one.

We meet in the Town Hall on the second Tuesday of the month. Doors open at 2.00 and talk starts at 2.30. We do hope you might like to come along and join us, non-members pay £5 including refreshments, and if you decide to become a member you will only pay £25.00 for the whole year.

Cherry Whitby

**For more details please contact the Club Secretary,
Marilyn Edwards on 01371 810555**

Great Bardfield Tuesday Club

The First Essex Witch Trials



A talk

by Rose Griffin Twiddell

Great Bardfield Town Hall

Tuesday, October 10 at 2.30pm

Non-members of the Tuesday Club are very welcome

Visitors - £5 per talk

From the Vicarage...

The beginning of this month sees the season of Harvest come to our churches. Of course, harvest has been going on for many weeks by now, and the traditional celebrations in church mark the traditional time of its completion. As such, it's a time for reflecting – looking back on what the past year of growing has produced, and giving thanks for all which is good.

If you look at some of our favourite traditional harvest hymns, you will find this idea extended a bit more widely – the yearly cycle of sowing, growing and harvesting is seen as an illustration of our lives, as we sing lines such as

Grant, O harvest Lord, that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

As such, Harvest time is a good opportunity not just to look back and give thanks for the fruitfulness of the land, but also on our own lives. Indeed, as our understanding of human effects on the environment increases, we realise that our relationship with the fruits of the earth is something which ought to give us much cause for reflection. As we head into the season of autumn, it is another way in which the Church's year is matched to the pattern of nature around us. As the world draws in towards a winter sleep, we are invited to think about what marks our lives will have left – what will have been our fruits for the harvest?

But if that seems rather melancholy, the parable of nature reminds us that this is all part of a cycle; in November we will enter the season of remembrance, and then in December, we celebrate the coming of light into darkness, just as new growth unseen lies beneath the ground. We will, once again, greet the spring time and the coming of Easter, perhaps calling to mind another hymn which connects us to the land: 'Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain.'

In a world which is always in a hurry to move forward, it's good to be reminded of the benefits of looking back – of self-reflection and thankfulness. Hopefully this harvest season will be an opportunity for us all to do just that, and our churches are a perfect place to find the space for that to happen.

Rev'd/Fr Alex

Services for October 2023

Sunday 1 October – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield
9.30am Harvest Festival Service – Shalford
10.30am Harvest Festival Communion Service – Great Bardfield
11am Prayer & Pilgrimage (a Celtic tradition morning worship) – Wethersfield
3pm Children's Church – Wethersfield

Sunday 8 October – Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford
(followed by breakfast in church)
9.30am Sung Communion Service – Little Bardfield
10.30am Harvest Festival Communion Service – Finchingfield
11am Harvest Festival Family Service – Wethersfield
5pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

Sunday 15 October – Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield
9.30am Morning Service – Shalford
10.30am Family Communion Service – Great Bardfield
10.30am Family Service – Finchingfield
5pm Evensong with prayers for healing – Cornish Hall End

Sunday 22 October – Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield
9.30am Morning Service – Shalford
10.30am Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End
11am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield

Sunday 29 October – Last Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Benefice Communion Service – Great Bardfield

Regular Services and Events during the week

Monday 8.45am Morning Prayer – Finchingfield

Tuesday 9am Morning Prayer – Great Bardfield

Thursday 8.45am Morning Prayer – Wethersfield

10am Prayer Group (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)

Coffee Morning (2nd & 4th weeks) – Shalford

Coffee Morning (3rd week) – Cornish Hall End

10.30am Eucharist – Little Bardfield

Friday 8.45am Morning Prayer – Shalford

Saturday 10.30am (3rd weeks) Coffee Morning – Wethersfield

Horticultural Society

The Bardfield Horticultural Society Summer Show was held in the Town Hall on Saturday, August 5th.

As usual we wondered how many exhibits we would receive! On the day we were absolutely delighted to see so many wonderful entries lots of flowers and vegetables, floral art, domestic, handicrafts and a lovely display of pictures coloured by Bardfield School.



Again we had several new exhibitors which was refreshing—thank you all for your entries. The Judges were very complimentary—it was one of the best shows they had been to this year with over 230 entries.

We had a lot visitors in the afternoon who enjoyed benches full of colourful flowers including some amazing dahlias and pot plants, lots of vegetables, floral art displays depicting “Pretty as a Picture”, some extravagant floral arrangements in a kitchen colander, interesting handicrafts and lots of cakes etc in the domestic section plus a number of delightful children’s entries.

There was a well populated plant stall and raffle which were both well supported. Tea and homemade cakes were served at The Bell Inn next door to the hall. Thank you Ciaron and Sharon- very much appreciated and enjoyed. Donations were given to the Horticultural Society.

A huge “thank you” to everyone who entered and visited the show. It was lovely to see everyone

Here is a list of the winners of the Cups, Trophies and Shields for the Summer Show 2023: Congratulations to you all – well done.

Exhibition Perpetual Challenge Cup

Highest points in the Flower Section

Mr A. Ripley

Brunwin Perpetual Challenge Trophy

Best Flower Exhibit in Show

Mr P.G. Morris

The Cecil Monk (Toot) Cup

Best Gladiolus Spike in Show

Mrs P. Hunt

Coronation Perpetual Challenge Cup

Highest points in the Vegetable Section

Mr P.G. Morris

P.G.Morris Perpetual Challenge Cup

Second highest points in Vegetable Section

Mr A. Ripley

Worshipful Company of Gardeners Diploma in Horticulture

Best Vegetable Exhibit

Mr P.G. Morris

Bob Gray Trophy

Best Potato

Mr P.G.Morris

Banksian Medal

Highest points in Horticultural Sections Flowers and Vegetables

Ms. L. Drane

Domestic Perpetual Challenge Cup

Highest points in the Domestic Section

Mrs J.T. Morris

Domestic Shield

Best Exhibit in Domestic Section

Mrs S. Kennedy

Palmer Perpetual Challenge Trophy

Highest points in the Floral Art Section

Ms L. Drane

Worshipful Company of Gardeners Certificate of Merit for Floral Art

Best Floral Arrangement

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Clucas Perpetual Challenge Cup

Highest points in the Handicraft Section

Mrs M. Bell

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Highest points in children ages 9 and over

Edie Brockwell

Evelyn Swift Challenge Shield

Children ages 5 – 8 years

Harry Walmsley

Tony Hayward Challenge Shield

Most points in Spring and Summer Shows-Childrens

Harry Walmsley

Bardfield Horticultural Challenge Trophy

Highest points in Spring (sections 2,3 & 4)

and Summer (sections 3,4 &5) Shows

Reg Dent Perpetual Challenge Cup

Most points in Spring and Summer Shows

President's Award

For Outstanding Services to the Society

Mrs J.T. Morris

Mr P.G. Morris

Ms A. Boon

We regret that for various reasons we will not be holding our popular Harvest Supper in October this year - but it is in our list of events for 2024!

Please don't forget to come to our AGM in the Town Hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday, October 17th. We look forward to seeing you all there. After the formal meeting we will have cheese and wine followed by a talk. There will be a raffle and you will be able to renew your membership.

Our speaker this year will be Alex Stevenson from Jordan's Farm in Wakes Colne. The title of the talk "Rewilding"

Alex is a landscape architect and garden designer who is now developing her own land as a natural habitat for all wildlife, be it flora, insect or animal This should be a very interesting talk so do come along to enjoy.

We are also looking for new members to join our very active Committee!!! If you are interested please contact Linda Prior 01371 811641.

Another date for your diary

Tuesday December 7th

Floral Art morning in Quaker Meeting House 10 until 12.30.

The theme is '**A Candlelit Christmas**'.

All materials supplied.

Refreshments and raffle for £15.00 per person

Numbers are limited so please let us know if you would like to join us at this fun morning

a.s.a.p. by contacting Linda Prior 01371 811641 for a ticket

**For any information about the Society please contact
Linda Prior 01371 811641**

BARDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 7PM

Gt Bardfield Town Hall

We have a wonderful speaker Alex Stevenson from Jordan's Farm in Wakes Colne for our AGM so do come along and learn about,

Rewilding

Enabling the natural processes to take place that create biological diversity both appropriate to and sustainable for that location. Jordan's Farm is also growing foliage and flowers for local markets with the seasons and in soil which is nurtured without pesticides. Come and learn about this local haven.

We hold a quick AGM followed by cheese and wine then our talk.
Contact Linda Prior 01371
811641



David Slow: a country gardener

It's at least 50 years since David Slow began to work in the garden at Baddow Cottage alongside his mother, Kathy. The cottage, like others in the village, was once two, built in the 1840s and converted in 1900.

It has a pleasing symmetry. Behind the cottage a pantiled wash-house, exactly centred, has two kitchens, with the coppers for laundry facing each other and two outside toilets back to back, reflecting rural life in the Victorian period.

The garden surrounds the house on three sides, a red-brick path runs its length through beds full of flowers, herbs and vegetables – beans – runners, broad and French, salad crops and root vegetables. There are fruit trees including a venerable Warners' King weighed down with fruit which David says 'has got to be a hundred years old.' The garden looks out over open fields with a view towards Hawkspur Green.

Although an engineer by trade David has been gardening all his life. At 16 he worked for Edward Bawden in the garden of Brick House and later for John Aldridge at Place House where he took over from Mr Perkin, working alongside John Aldridge apple picking, hedge clipping, managing the orchard and lawns. He recalls the gardens and the characters of these two artist-gardeners both of whom had a fondness



for exotic, sculptural plants such as Canna and the toxic Giant Hog Weed which featured frequently in their art work. He recalls that after a gardening session he would often sit down with John Aldridge and 'put the world to rights over a bottle of Abbot – that's a treasure.'

In contrast Edward Bawden would bring a tray with tea in a china cup and iced biscuits down the garden. 'I always knew when he was coming by his warbling whistle!'

What does he love about gardening? 'I'm from an engineering background so I like creating a bit of order – getting one over on the bindweed. There's pleasure in seeing the seasons change – when the veg start taking off in the spring. Now that I'm not ruled by the clock I can while away hours out there – stay out until the light fades and the midges start biting and then go in for a cup of tea.'

Janet Dyson

Ed. If you would like your garden featured in the BT let us know.



Nature Notes - No Mow May

I cannot think just how many years I have been doing my Nature Notes in the *Bardfield Times*, but I know I started the Shalford Parish magazine some five years ago. It has been my policy to avoid anything controversial and to try to stick to nature but I have become very saddened in recent years at the way we farmers (yes I still consider myself a farmer at heart) are blamed for the decline in wild life. Farmers have always been considered to be custodians of the countryside and wildlife and we still are. Yes, farming practices have changed in some areas as economic situations have demanded but there are large areas of the UK where they



have remained the same for centuries. Those areas are still being affected by a decline in some species of wild life and to add to our problem there are a few people with some very funny ideas who seem to be able to influence the policy makers. One such idea is No Mow May. It might have seemed like a good idea at the time but it wasn't thought through. Local Authorities loved it, it saved them a job cutting the verges but it led to some very dangerous situations on the rural roads and very much reduced

the variety of wildlife habitat. All we finished up with was a lot of dead dry grasses of the most vigorous varieties and they are the ones which have shed a lot of seed which will dominate next year's sward. Wild life thrives when it has a variety of habitat, by mowing a narrow strip along the road side with one cut done early, you encourage young green grass to grow along with wild flowers like daisies, buttercup, clover, vetches and many other wild flowers which are nectar producers and good for our pollinators. It is the principal of life; every plant, creature and organism has the same basic aim in life and that is to reproduce itself and grass is no exception. It reproduces itself by going to seed, then it dies but if we mow it or graze it, it keeps growing weather permitting, and tries again to go to seed. Another (bright idea) is to reduce livestock numbers in the New Forest, Dartmoor, Lake District, Fells, and Peak district when we all know it is the livestock which has created those places and the livestock have always lived in harmony with wild life. I am also a big believer in producing our own food and being less reliant on imports, surely this war in Ukraine must be a wakeup call. We are very fortunate living in this district as we have fresh local food producers and farm shops so let's use them. The 'experts' need look very carefully for other reasons for the decline in wild life and I can list a number of reasons, No Mow May is one of them. It may have saved local councils some money but it has left roadside verges with a mass of dead grass which is useless for wildlife, is hazardous to road users and if we had a dry summer would have been a big fire risk.

Mac Beanland

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Ambulances to Ukraine

Anyone up early in Great Bardfield last Thursday (14/9) may have been surprised to see a convoy of three ambulances driving through the village! This was not due to some incident locally but something else altogether.



Alex Turnbull, Doug Alexander, Charlie Wilcox, David Sawday, Henry Donne and Jamie Stolworthy

We all know how desperate the situation in Ukraine is but sadly it is fading from the news somewhat. We also know that an offensive is ongoing and we can be sure that this will bring many more civilian and military casualties. It is also well known that treatment in the first few minutes/ hours of a casualty incident is critical to their chances of survival.

Ukraine is desperately short of all things military and this is clearly a governmental role. However, they are also short of ambulances and medical supplies. AND THIS IS WHERE WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. With the help of various contacts, not least of which is the Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) and through the generous donations we have received from other charities and work colleagues we arranged the purchase and equipping of three ex-NHS Ambulances, with medical equipment including treatment for wounds and burns.

We set off to drive to Lviv. With six of us driving, two per ambulance, we were able to drive pretty non-stop to Ukraine. The drive took us via the Eurotunnel (to whom thanks must be given for providing free transport for humanitarian freight) through France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Poland. Then after a bit of sucking of teeth and lots of stamping of paperwork we were through the border and into Ukraine. Another 90 mins driving and we reached Lviv about 30 hours after we had left Great Bardfield.

We were warmly welcomed at the Charity's warehouse and briefed on the amazing work that is being done there. We had time to spend the night in Lviv which is a beautiful city. It was very noticeable, however, that there were very few young men around. On Friday morning we were shown around the hospital where so much good work is being done.

So far we have raised just short of £35,000 and would like to see this grow



to £100,000. We have plans for more fundraising events and a return trip to Ukraine in the spring with more medical equipment and more ambulances.

So, please if this is a cause that you would also like to help with, then donations can easily be made via Just Giving at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/ambulances-to-the-ukraine>

Thank you.

Alex Turnbull

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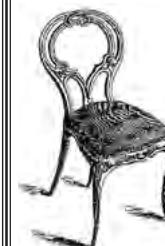
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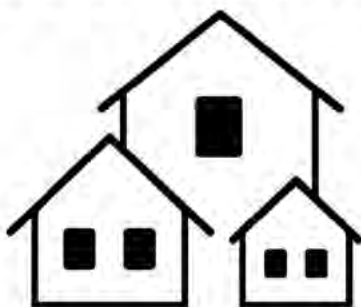
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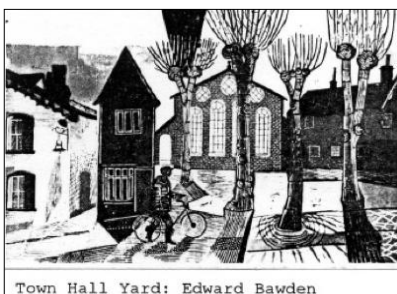
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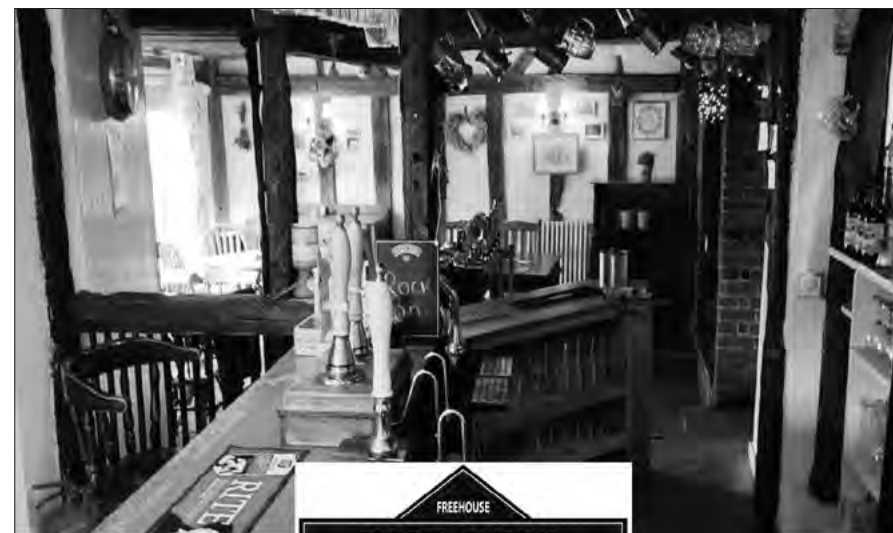
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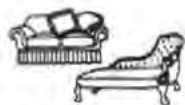
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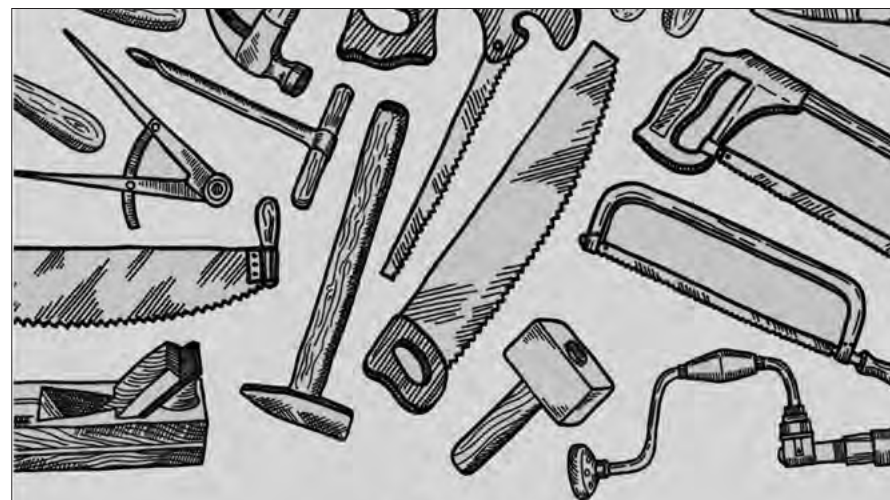


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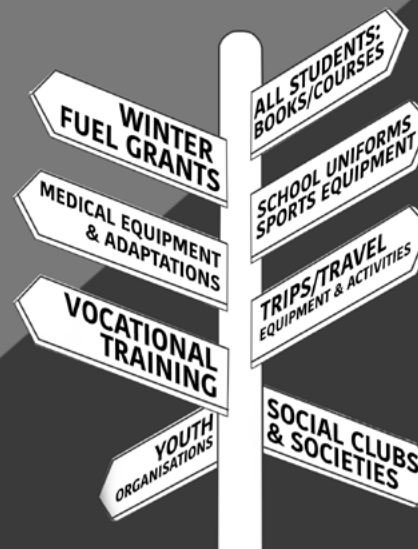
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Mick Gell (01371 810113), Nick Holland (07795 280647)
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Rev Alex Shannon (01371 810309)

Or email GreatBardfieldCharities@gmail.com

TOWN HALL DIARY

October 2023

Sunday 1 st	Bardfield Players	10.00am
Monday 2 nd	Bardfield Players	10.00am
Tuesday 3 rd	Dance Fit Class	9.30am
	Choir	7.30pm
Wednesday 4 th	Badminton	7.00pm
Thursday 7 th	Bardfield Players	7.00pm
Friday 6 th	Cinema Club	8.00pm
Sunday 8 th	Private function	11.00am
Monday 9 th	Bardfield Players	10.00am
Tuesday 10 th	Dance Fit Class	9.30am
	Tuesday Club	2.00pm
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 11 th	Parish Council	7.00pm
	Badminton	7.00pm
Thursday 12 th	Bardfield Players	7.00pm
Tuesday 17 th	Dance Fit Class	9.30am
	Choir	8.00pm
	Horticultural Society AGM	5.00pm
Wednesday 18 th	Badminton	7.00pm
Thursday 19 th	Bardfield Players	7.00pm
Friday 20 th	Big Band Night	7.30pm
Saturday 21 st	Bardfield Players	10.00am
Sunday 22 nd	Bardfield Players	10.00am
Tuesday 24 th	Dance Fit Class	9.30am
	Choir	8.00pm
Wednesday 25 th	Badminton	7.00pm
Thursday 26 th	Bardfield Players	7.00pm
Saturday 28 th	Bardfield Players	10.00am
Sunday 29 th	Bardfield Players	10.00am
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