



HARTFORD HUNDRED WEST
Bayford, Brickendon, Essendon,
Little Berkhamsted & Ponsbourne.



THE PARISH MAGAZINE

February
2023

**New Subscription Rates
for 2023. (p. 4).**

Price
80p

**This month several articles
and photographs look back on
the icy weather, including
'Nature Notes' (p. 25) and
'Gardening' (p. 24)**



photo DK

'The little gentleman in velvet ' (p. 25)

DIOCESE OF ST. ALBANS



The Bishop of St Albans: The Rt. Revd. Dr. Alan Smith
The Bishop of Hertford: The Rt Revd Dr Michael Beasley
Archdeacon: The Venerable Janet Mackenzie .
Rural Dean: The Revd. Mark Dunstan
Assistant Rural Dean:

THE PARISHES OF BAYFORD & BRICKENDON, LITTLE BERKHAMSTED, ESSENDON & WOODHILL, PONSBOURNE:

RECTOR: Rev'd Theresa Musiwacho,

Hartford Hundred Rectory,
1 Little Berkhamsted Lane, Little Berkhamsted, SG13 8LU.
Telephone: 01707 875940 email - hartfordhundred@outlook.com

*Communion to the sick, Notice of Banns and of Marriage by arrangement with the Minister.
Please advise us of any cases of sickness so that prayers may be offered
or where they may be of any assistance.*

ST ANDREW'S - LITTLE BERKHAMSTED

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Sandie Ash, Hall Cottage, 7 Church Road,
Little Berkhamsted, SG13 8LY **01707 875221**

PCC SECRETARY

Ian Bailey, Tower House, Stockings Lane,
Little Berkhamsted. SG13 8LW **01707 875791**

TREASURER

Mr C Nunn, Trewinnard House, Little
Berkhamsted, SG13 8LS **01707 874299**

ORGANIST

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CHURCHWARDEN

Mr C Taylor, Baybury House, 41 Ashdene
Road, Bayford, Hertford, SG13 8PX
01992 511041

PCC SECRETARY

TREASURER

Mrs. L. Fitzjohn, Home Farm, Bayford
Lane, Bayford

ORGANIST

Mrs V Haryott, Wellpond Cottage, Brickendon,
SG13 8NU **01992 511575**

ST MARY THE VIRGIN - ESSENDON & WOODHILL, AL9 6AS

CHURCHWARDENS

Paul Wombwell, 27 Rectory Close, Essendon,
AL9 6HG **01707 273729**

Colin Rees, 2, Letty Green, Hertford,
SG14 2NZ. **07540 351 530.**
colin4444@yahoo.com.

PCC SECRETARY

Ms C Blackman, 42 High Road, Essendon,
AL9 6HW 07831 341886
casblackman@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Mr Nick Pickard, Cucumber Hall, Essendon,
AL9 6JB 07779 325847

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TREASURER

ORGANIST

Mr P Minchinton, 14 Byfield, Welwyn Garden
City, AL8 7AL **01707 323742**

PARISH MAGAZINE EDITOR

Dr M E Wainwright. 12 Church Road, Little
Berkhamsted, SG13 8LY. **01707 875970**
parishmag@begesford.co.uk

The Parish Magazine is also available online, free of charge.
Google 'HHW Parish Magazine'.
For the HHW web site Google 'Hartford Hundred West'.

Rector's Article.

Dear All

Mary and Joseph made their usual annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Our Lord was only twelve years old when they went to Jerusalem for the Passover. After the festival they returned to Galilee. For three days Jesus' parents did not realise that he was not with them. It seems strange that his parents did not notice his absence from amongst them, maybe during those days many people travelled in big groups. They might have thought Jesus was with others of his age. It reminds us how easy it is even for us today to travel our journeys supposing Jesus to be in our company, when actually we have lost contact with Him.

When Mary and Joseph realised that Jesus was not with them, they started seeking for him and they quickly went back to Jerusalem to search for him. They could not continue without him. No parent could go on after realising that their child is missing. In our walk with Jesus it is important to continually check if he is still with us. We are given the Holy Spirit to live in us. We cannot continue or do Church without him. For three days they were on their own. So, is it possible to carry on without him? It is possible, but he will not be part of whatever is being done.

As Moses was leading the Israelites out of Egypt to the promised land, he got to a stage when he prayed and pleaded for God's presence to go with them. *"If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found*

favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us?" Genesis 33:15-16. Moses meant that God Himself needed to lead the journey, Moses was just a vessel. The presence of Jesus in our lives makes a difference in the same way.

In order to re-establish contact with him, Mary and Joseph went back to the temple, the place of fellowship. The distraught parents found Jesus sitting in the temple among the teachers of law listening and asking questions. Luke 2:45-47. His actions were not of a precocious child. Even His parents were astonished to find Jesus intelligently participating in discussions with older people. His understanding and answers amazed them. Jesus was only 12 years, a Jewish boy well versed with the Jewish law. Though Jesus was young, he fully knew who he was and his identity. He was doing his divine mission - what he was sent for.

We may be on different journeys in our lives, but if we are believers, it is worth checking that the Holy Spirit is still with us or leading. May Jesus be amongst us in whatever we do. May we also know that when we lose connection - we can knock, seek for him to reconnect.

Revd Theresa Musiwacho

Group Announcements

Prayer Share

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end. May your presence never leave us in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Weddings, Baptisms and other matters.

Saturday Registration is held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month 10.00 am to 11.30 am at Little Berkhamsted Church.

No appointment necessary

2023 Subscription Rates

Increases in the cost of living now never seem to be out of the news, adversely affecting all of us whichever way we turn. The Parish Magazine has not been exempted from such price increases, which has seen the costs of printing significantly increase since the start of the year.

Against this backdrop and to allow for further year-on-year price increases, this year's subscription rates will be as follows:

Annual subscription: £8.00

Monthly rate: 80p

Postal rate (2nd class): £21.00

We believe that despite these increases, the magazine still offers excellent value for money and will allow us to continue to financially support both local and national initiatives that are compatible with our objectives.

With the magazine being such an integral part of the support network within our parishes, we trust we will be able to count upon your continued support,

The magazine, including back copies, continues to be available free of charge online. Just Google 'HHW Parish Magazine'.

PC



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday 5th February Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30am, Parish Communion, Essendon
9:30am, Family Service, Ponsbourne
11:00am, Parish Communion, Brickendon

Sunday 12th February Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30am, Parish Communion, Bayford
11:00am, Family Service, Little Berkhamsted

Sunday 19th February Last Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30am, Family Service, Essendon
9:30am Parish Communion, Ponsbourne
11:00am, Family Service, Brickendon

Sunday 26th February First Sunday of Lent

9:30am, Parish Communion, Little Berkhamsted
11:00am Family Service Bayford

Wednesdays

9:30 am, Parish Communion, Essendon
10:00 am, Telephone Service Free

For joining instructions see
hartfordhundred@outlook.com

The **Venerable Jane Mainwaring** is to be the next Bishop of Hertford in the Diocese of St Albans. She is currently the Archdeacon of St Albans, a post she has held since March 2020.

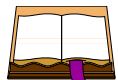
The Welcome Service for the new Bishop of Hertford will take place on Saturday 4th February at 4pm, at All Saints, Hertford.



PARISH REGISTER

Memorial Service

4th January 2023 Brian Edward PLUCKWELL Essendon
(84 years)



Please mention HHW Parish Magazine when responding to an advert.

PILATES

Essendon Village Hall
As well as live on Zoom
Monday 7pm - All levels
Thursday 9.30am - All levels



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www.fittawithpilates.com

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keti.snee@googlemail.com

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Supporting your Local Businesses

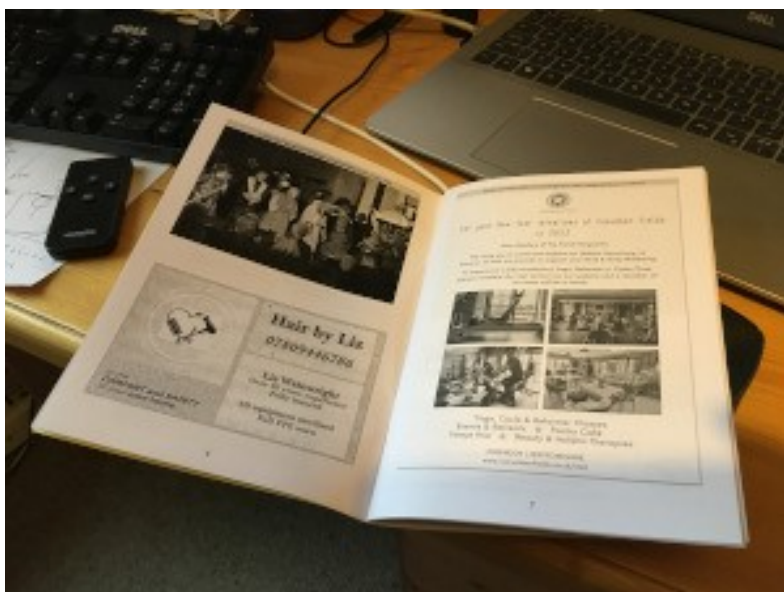
Not only does your monthly Parish Magazine feature reports on previous gatherings and notices of forthcoming events, but it also provides a platform for a broad range of local businesses and start-ups to advertise their services and wares. Currently, we have over fifty organisations taking space in our magazine, bringing to your attention a diverse spectrum of offerings that all of us could have need for at any given time. Whether it be planned or emergency services around our homes, assistance in the garden, keeping fit and healthy or meeting the needs of our pets, checking out our advertisers in the magazine in the first instance could provide you with just the answer.

Whilst personal recommendations and positive reviews will always play an important part in the selection process for any given service, we would hope that you would also consider supporting local enterprises, especially during these challenging economic times, in reaching a decision. In return, should you decide to make use of the services being advertised in the magazine, let the provider know that this is where you obtained their details from, so that they are aware that their placement is leading to positive new leads.

Whilst many of our local established businesses have been advertising through the magazine for a considerable number of years, we do not take their support for granted, especially when times are tough for so many of us. Likewise, it is equally as satisfying to support new local start-ups in the hope that we can play a part in the development of their businesses – to this end, we offer concessionary advertising rates to help them on their journey.

So next time the boiler cuts out, the hedge needs trimming or looking for some ‘me time’, why not reach for the latest edition of the parish magazine as your first option? You may be pleasantly surprised by the range of services on offer.

PC



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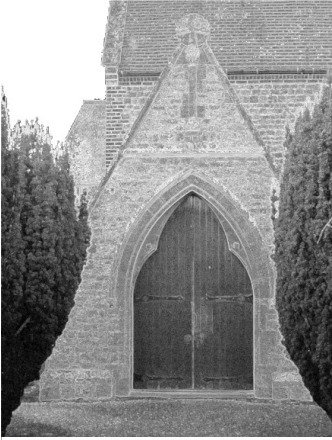
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www.ib-electrical.co.uk





Bayford

St. Mary's Church

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CHURCH CLEANING

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FLOWERS

12TH FEBRUARY. JACKIE FULCHER.

NO FLOWERS DURING LENT

BAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL.

To read the minutes and agendas just Google 'Bayford Parish Council' and follow the link to 'Minutes'.

The Rose Triangle

This is more complex. It seems clear now that we must involve Herts Highways in any work. Jane is arranging a meeting with Highways to find out how we stand, and what they recommend. A project undertaken by Highways is likely to be very expensive.

Telephone Box

The door of the telephone box is somewhat rotten and the box is leaning backwards. It will have to wait until the weather is drier.

Community

The community of Bayford Village has experienced a renewed coming together since the lockdown was lifted. Events such as the Queen's Jubilee picnic, the Knitting group, the Community Choir, the impromptu

sing-along in the Baker Arms, the Bayford Village What'sApp Group and other acts of kindness, such as helping members of the community who are finding it difficult living alone, are most heartening and joyous.

Meetings.

27th March 8pm

Please check the web site.

Michael Wainwright (Dr),
Chairman.

pc@begesford.co.uk

01707 875970.

www.begesford.co.uk

If you would like to receive emails of PC news, please drop me an email.

Scan the QR
code to go
to the web
site.



Bayford

The Baker Arms.

Happy New Year everyone
and for those who supported us during 2022,
a HUGE thank you.

Dates to watch out for:

Monthly Quiz Night

next one 16th Feb 2023 at 7;30pm.

Darts' Night 31st January & 28th February

Valentine's Day 14th February 2023 Booking essential

Mothering Sunday 19th March 2023 Booking Essential

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2023

Martin & Beverley,
01992 511235



Knitting and Crocheting Group

Our Christmas projects were a huge success, with two post box toppers, a "heavenly host" of angels for the bus shelter and an "Elfy Christmas" entry to the Ponsbourne Christmas tree competition . We also had a delicious Christmas dinner at the Baker Arms. If you would like to join us, we meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month in



the Baker Arms from 8pm. All welcome. First meeting of the new year will be 4 January. Call Caroline Fletcher on 07919 317212 for more information Please contact **Caroline Fletcher on 07919 317212** for more details.



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The cold days of snow and ice seem a long way away now, (hopefully!) but they did give the opportunity for some excellent photographs. (photo Mandy Nevel)

Local Shops, Services and Pubs



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Brickendon

Chapel of the Holy Cross & St. Alban



Sunday 5th February - 11.00am Parish
 Communion
 Sunday 19th February – 11.00am Family Service
 Sunday 5th March - 11.00am Parish
 Communion

For enquiries concerning the Chapel, please contact Richard Haryott **01992 511575** or email richard.haryott@gm

Unfortunately, due to the snowy and icy conditions and illnesses in December we had to cancel our Carol Service on 18th December. Nevertheless, we all enjoyed a Christmas Day service taken by Heather Ross and Roy Boulton played the organ. Thanks to both for making it a joyous occasion and thanks also to Janet Burger and Virginia for decorating the chapel so beautifully.

Flowers

Diana Abbott

No flowers during Lent

February

3rd & 10th
17th & 24th

Cleaning

Virginia Haryott
Tessa Whitlow

Brickendon Clubs:

We have some excellent clubs in Brickendon which are always happy to welcome new members.

Book Club - meets every first Tuesday of the month at 8pm, contact **Andrea Trendler for venue - 01992 511588**

Pilates - Every Tuesday morning in Fanshaws Room (the village hall) at 9.15am, to register contact **Harriet Barton, 07944 500504 or pilateswithharriet@hotmail.com**

Fanshaws Room (the Village Hall)

The Village Hall in Brickendon is a lovely space for meetings, children's parties and other gatherings. More details and photos can be found on the village website www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk

Hire charge for non-residents is £15 per hour (£10 per hour for residents of Brickendon Liberty parish)

Phone **01992 511551** for further information or to make a booking.

Tennis Courts.

The fee for hire is still £5 per court per hour for everyone. Last summer the courts and pavilion were renovated and are in excellent condition.

For further information and to book see Brickendon website (www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk)
Brenda Lambie



Brickendon Petanque Boules Club

Play at The Farmer's Boy

Winter Play Times

Sunday 10am -12 noon

Tuesday 5.30pm -7pm

Thursday 10am - 12 noon

Further information and enquiries
Contact Janet 01992 511515



Parish Council

Meetings

Meetings are normally held in the Fanshaws Room at 7.30pm and all parishioners are welcome to attend and to raise any issues of concern. Agendas are posted on noticeboards at least 3 days before the meeting.

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne
Brickendon Liberty Parish Council
PO BOX 81, Knebworth, SG3 6YZ

Email clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk
Mobile 07803 906291

Minutes: Brickendon website
www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk for .

Meetings:

23rd March

25th May

27th July

28th September

23rd November



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As I walked Out One Midsummer Morning. Laurie Lee.

One moment I was part of the hurrying crowds, the next I stood nakedly apart, my back to the wall, my hat on the pavement before me, the violin under my chin.

The first notes I played were loud and raw, like a hoarse declaration of protest, then they settled down and began to run more smoothly and to stay more or less in tune. To my surprise, I was neither arrested nor told to shut up. Indeed, nobody took any notice at all. Then an old man, without stopping, surreptitiously tossed a penny into my hat as though getting rid of some guilty evidence.



Other pennies followed, slowly but steadily, dropped by shadows who appeared not to see or hear me. It was as though the note of the fiddle touched some subconscious nerve that had to be answered - like a baby's cry. When I'd finished the first tune there was over a shilling in my hat: it seemed too easy, like a confidence trick. But I was elated now; I felt that wherever I went from here this was a trick I could always live by

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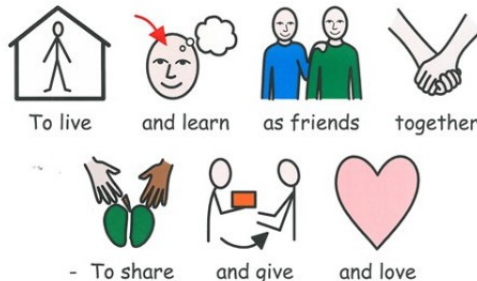


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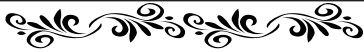
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Interior

-J C-

Exterior

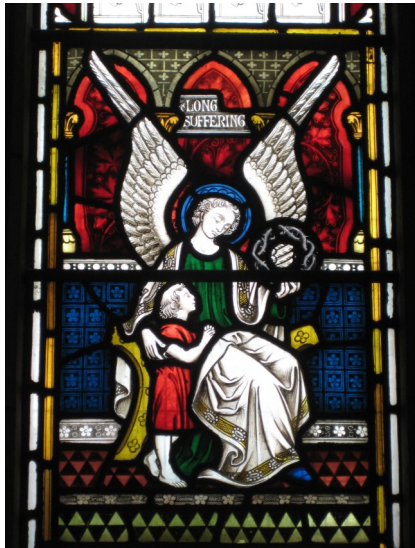
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Bible Study

All are welcome.

More information and dates from
mckellartrish@gmail.com

Tennis Courts

New members always welcome.

To join the club or any questions
please contact,

Nicki Whitelaw 07946300512

nicki.whitelaw@sky.com

Essendon Tennis Club Committee



Essendon Christmas Party 2022

ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL

REVISED MEETING DATES

Tue. 14TH Feb 2023

Tue. 14TH Mar 2023

Tue. 18TH Apr 2023

ALL MEETINGS AT

ESSENDON VILLAGE HALL, @ 7PM

Agendas will be available on the PC website,

(<https://www.essendonpc.org.uk/>)

and on noticeboards in the village. Minutes of all meetings are also available on the website.

Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings.

ESSENDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Scouts THE 1st NORTHAW Scouts SCOUT GROUP

Both our **Beaver Colony** (6-8 years) and **Cub Pack** (8-11 years) have resumed "normal" activities including hiking, camping and learning new skills and having great fun.

The numbers in both Sections are growing and we would love to welcome new members. We would also be really happy to have more adult helpers and leaders to support this. Beavers meet on Thursday and Cubs on Monday.

Meetings are based at our Headquarters in Northaw Village.

To find out more contact Gordon Marshall at

gordon.marshall@pbscouts.org.uk

The Village Hall.

Tel: 07442 499601

email:

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All Sorts Dementia Group.

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Website: www.allsortsdg.co.uk

Gardening

I started to write this when we were in the middle of that bitter freezing spell of weather before Christmas which seemed to have gone on for much too long but two things then came to mind – Gardeners are cautious optimists and love planning ahead!

Prune deciduous hedges now whilst they are still dormant and before birds start nesting. Prune shrubby Cornus Alba low to promote bright new stems. It is a marvellous time to split up and move clumps of snowdrops. Prune your late-summer clematis, cutting them down to the lowest pair of buds and this will help to keep their shape. If you have herbaceous plants and grasses kept for wildlife and winter interest, these too can be cut back right down to the

base just above good new shoots. Trim winter heathers, cutting back to just below the flowering stems but remember that they don't regenerate on old wood. Check your hellebores and remove diseased leaves so you can see the lovely flowers. Should you see flowering the tiny Iris Reticulata in pots and have somewhere with free-draining soil and plenty of sun, they are a cheerful picture at the front of the border. You can start chitting your first early potatoes in a tray. Keep them in a frost-free and a light place and keep an eye on them. Leaves stayed on the trees very late last year so keep collecting them so you don't slip on them and also so new growth can start.

Germander Speedwell

Essendon Candlelit Supper

The annual Candlelit supper was held on 10th December at St. Mary's Essendon. Guests arrived to a warming cup of mulled wine which was perfect on such a chilly night. The Essendon Hand bells played to welcome us all in and they sounded very festive. The Church looked stunning. Tables and windowsills beautifully decorated and the multitude of candles made a great atmosphere. Supper was a Mediterranean chicken dish, or a vegetarian wellington, all served with bread & butter and salad. The delicious mincemeat tart and lemon meringue pots went down a treat for pudding. We were delighted that Awesome – Liz (on flute) and Henny (on violin) were able to return to Essendon to provide entertainment after a couple of years of rest. This time, they were joined by Mrs. Pratt on the piano. Beautiful music and some old favourites to sing along to. However, the performance by Vanessa, Ian, Solomon, Jude and Cas was a real highlight – five Oscar contenders I'm sure. Cinderella will never be the same!

Many thanks to the team of helpers – pew movers, Church decorators, table setters, Christmas table decoration makers, helpers on the bar, chefs (including the delicious salad dressing), entertainers and cleaning team. The committee are truly fantastic – thanks Judy, Hilary, Sue and Nicki!

Essendon Nature Notes

During the cold snap before Christmas I was surprised to come down and see a couple of fresh molehills punched through the virgin snow. As I crunched my way over to have a look, a trail of fox prints showed the locals had beaten me to it and already checked out the newcomer. Now the snows are long gone. Following that shockingly quick overnight thaw the two mounds turned into three, then four and now stand proud as a round half-dozen moraines.

We haven't had moles here for a few years now and for those of us with lawns, they are not typically a welcome sight. Whilst our first instinct is to work out how to banish them, usually unsuccessfully, from the garden, perhaps we should take an alternative view. After all this is a native mammal and one that is highly adapted. Increasingly we are seeing specialists pushed to the margins and generalists dominating this changing world but the mole has exploited its own niche,

making a subterranean living as a basement burrower. Its tunnel networks are simply worm traps, allowing the mole to Hoover them up as they fall through. If there are large numbers of hills it usually means the worm population is low, driving the mole to extend its feeding opportunities more widely.

It really is an incredible beast with its massive claws and beautiful velvet pelt, in the past of course much prized. So perhaps we should leave it alone and sing its praises. Certainly on our heavy clay the mole will help the condition of the soil, aerating and improving the drainage, even more important now with our wet winters. The soil the mole throws up will make excellent top dressing and maybe just maybe we will be rewarded by spotting its pink snout poke through the top of one of its earthworks to say thank you.

DC

Essendon Food and Warm Bank

Thanks to the generosity of many villagers and the splendid school Harvest festival contributions, the Food Bank in the Church Porch has a much more secure future than it had a few weeks ago. Please continue to remember it, both for donations or if you need to use it. There is a free food bank – Jedidiah - at 138 Fore Street in Hertford (near M&S food) which also has fresh food.

We are starting a weekly Warm Bank on 26th October, on Wednesdays from 10.00-13.00. This will run initially in

the cosy Church Room through November, and then move to the Village Hall for December. We will serve coffee, tea and biscuits, with bread and homemade soup for lunch from 12.00. This is in addition to the Essendon Connect coffee mornings which continue in The Village Hall on Friday mornings.

Any offers of help would be very much appreciated.

Belinda Kent-Lemon 07976-447263

We hope to see you there.

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9th February Margery Bailey

23rd February Jeff and Louise Robinson

Sunday 12th February 11am

Family Service

Sunday 26th February 9.30

Parish Communion

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everyone.

WATCH THIS SPACE

We are planning a wonderful year for our community in our church and in our village.

Concerts Afternoon teas with music and a special celebration weekend for the King's Coronation in May. If you would like to be involved in anyway please contact me. Sandie Ash
Thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped during the Christmas period it was most appreciated.

We would also like to thank Nicky & Peter Clark who donated the most wonderful Christmas tree this year and Ross who on his stag weekend came along with his friends and put the tree up.!

Sandie Ash



News from Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on **Wednesday 15th March 2023** at 7.30pm in the village hall. The agenda is published on the website and village noticeboard the week before the meeting and residents are welcome to send questions and comments to the clerk beforehand, clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk or attend the meeting and ask in person.



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The Community Café

This is held every Friday morning in the Cricket and Community Pavilion from 10.00am to 12.00. For just £1 come and enjoy a tea or coffee, often with delicious homemade cake and good conversation with your friends and neighbours.

Everyone welcome!

Home Farm Dog Training

Classes are held every Tuesday and Friday morning on the recreation field. For further information and to book please contact Chris at: admin@dogtrainingherts.co.uk or drop into the café at the pavilion on a Friday morning.

East Herts Lottery

Join in and get 2023 off to a healthy start!

Little Berkhamsted Community Facilities for Hire



The Village Hall has disabled access and toilet, a fully equipped kitchen for any refreshment needs, internet access and projector equipment.



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For further details contact: Sandie Ash 01707 875221
or clerk@littleberkhamsted.org.uk



Little Berkhamsted.

Baby Group

Every Tuesday 10 - 11.30am
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Master Art Workshops are back in Little Berkhamsted

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Contact Sue on 07973 977192 or Judith on 01992
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Glendurgan's Maze.

Glendurgan's Garden lies in a steep wooded valley which meanders from the house to a beach on the Helford River.

Next door is Trebah Gardens. The beach, at the bottom of the garden, was one of the many places in Cornwall from which American troops embarked for the D-Day landings. It is still covered with concrete.

One notable resident was Donald Healey, who designed and built sports cars in the 1950s and 60s, mainly using BMC engines.



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Village Coffee Morning

Monday 6th February
10—12 noon in The Crown

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www.newgatestreet.org/

Follow the link to Hall Rental and Book the Hall .

Book Exchange.

A BIG THANK YOU for the donation from the BOOK EXCHANGE which continues to run at the **Post Office** in Newgate Street Village Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings .



What's On in Newgate Street

Table Tennis: Tuesday evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm in the Village Hall. £1 pay and play

Tennis - Tuesday mornings 9.30-10.30am Village Courts. Term time only. Contact 07710 507 215

Book Swap - Pre read books to buy £1 or swap 50p, in the Village Hall Post Office Tuesday & Thursday mornings.

Village Chat - WhatsApp group for people living in the village. To join the group contact 07710 507 215

Village Pub Social - 8pm the second Friday of every month in either The Crown or The Coach & Horses Pubs, come along to meet friends and make new ones. See Village Chat WhatsApp group or Village website for details.

Post Office.

A small Post Office is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings in the village hall.



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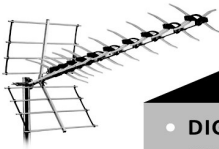


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