



*Merry
Christmas*

SHOP LOCAL

Your resource for everything local

December 2022
Issue 412

Quartet

The Parish Magazine



For Higham, Stratford St Mary, Raydon and Holton St Mary

FREE to anyone who can collect:

Single bed in good condition

Please email

g.j.kitson@btinternet.com



Missing from lower Raydon, he's not been home since October the 22nd. He's grey and white quite large Maine coon. Called Loki. He is microchipped. He has/ had a collar on with Hadleigh vets on it. If anyone has seen him or knows his whereabouts please contact me we are totally devastated. Kate on 07891135561



Local Job Vacancy

Area Mobile Cook and Cook Manager at Stratford St Mary Primary School 27.5 hours per week term time only. If you have catering experience and industry recognised qualifications and would like a career that fits around family life then this position would be ideal. **The salary for these roles is £20,219.16 pro rata which equates to £9.97 per hour.**

Please use link to apply <https://norsegroup.kallidusrecruit.com/> or contact joanne.cogger@norsegroup.co.uk for further info.



Help us with our campaign!

If you know any merchant or service provider living in one of our four villages, please let us know by emailing quarteteditor@hotmail.co.uk. We will contact them and see if they would like a **free listing** in the Quartet

Small Ads Pin Board

No charge for non-commercial ads placed for one month only, space permitting. Email quarteteditor@hotmail.co.uk

Quartet Diary



Details of events can be found within the magazine. It would be advisable to check with organisers if regular events in December are going ahead or not - **WE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS!**

December

- 2 Quiz Night, SSM
Christmas First Friday Lunch HSM
- 3 Christmas Coffee & Shopping Morning, HSM
Wreath Making Course, HSM
- 7 Raydon Club
Little Sparks - SSM
- 9 Social Club, Holton
- 10 Christmas Concert, Raydon
Wreath Making Course & Diamond Painting Tree Decorations, HSM
- 14 Raydon Lunch Club
Raydon Club
Little Sparks - SSM
- 16 Social Club - Holton
- 17 Fresh Table Centre Decoration, & Christmas Cockatil & Tasting HSM
Higham Children's Crib and Carol Service
- 20 Community Carol Singing, SSM
- 31 HSM New Year's Eve Party

January 2023

- 4 Little Sparks - SSM
Raydon Club
- 6 First Friday /luch Club Holton
- 10 Raydon Parish Council Meeting
- 11 HSM Parish Council Meeting
Raydon Club
Little Sparks SSM
- 18 Raydon Club
Little Sparks SSM
- 19 Slow Stitch Holton
- 21 SSM Pylon Meeting
- 24 Fair Trade Coffee Morning Raydon
- 25 Raydon Club
Little Sparks SSM

February

- 1 Raydon Club
Little Sparks SSM
- 3 First Frday Lunch Club Holton
- 4 HSM Green Gym
- 7 Raydon Parish Council Meeting
- 8 Raydon Club
Little Sparks SSM
- 15 Raydon Club
Little Sparks SSM
- 23 RGDC Meeting

Editors Corner



Well, it's the Christmas edition already! 2022 I think for most people has been a bit of a mixed bag with plenty of things we'd rather forget! For us, the best thing is the restart and initiation of so many events after Covid - it's been great to have so many different people with so many new and good ideas sharing what they want to do through the pages of the Quartet.

We hope you have found the magazine useful over this past year and particularly for finding locally sourced tradesmen and produce. With the cost of fuel and food, it's becoming more and more important not just to support each other around us, but to support local trade as well. Don't forget to send us details of businesses big or small that operate from our four villages, we would be delighted to offer everyone at least a mention!

Please remember to be kind to us next month - the deadline for submitting articles for the January edition is the 19th December, but we really don't have a lot of time to devote to finishing up so close to Christmas, so the earlier you can give us contributions, the better!

In the meantime, may we once again be among the first to wish you all a very Happy Christmas!

Happy reading

Anne and Jane.

Articles for the Quartet are included if we have room, and if, in the opinion of the editors, they are of general interest to our readers. Please remember all articles will be subject to editing. We prefer you to contact us via email where possible.



Copy deadline for next edition:
19th December 2022

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Rev'd Manette Writes



Dear friends,

As I write this, we are fast approaching the season of Advent. Advent is the beginning of the Church year in the Western Christian Churches and this year the first Sunday of Advent falls on 27th November. In Anglican churches, the Sunday before Advent is also referred to as *Stir-up Sunday* after the opening line of the Book of Common Prayer Collect for that day. As most wives and, in days gone by, the cooks and servants went to church, they would hear the words 'Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people...' and be reminded that it was time to start stirring up the Christmas puddings, since most recipes call for the mixture to stand for several weeks before cooking.

The word Advent is an anglicized version of the Latin word *adventus* which means 'coming' and as Advent begins, we embark on a time of expectant waiting for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas – Immanuel, God with us. The theme of readings and reflections over the next few weeks help us prepare for Christmas, and from the days of the early church this season was kept as a period of fasting and penitence. More recently, many people, adults and children alike, tend to have an Advent calendar or Advent candle, with a section of a candle being burned each day. Having an advent wreath with four or five candles has also become popular. Sadly, for many of us, the days and weeks leading up to Christmas are among the busiest of the year. Instead of

setting aside time for reflection, we are rushing around buying presents, ordering the turkey, booking that last minute home delivery slot, writing cards, and wrapping presents to send them on their way before the postal deadline, hoping that the postal strikes don't throw a spanner in the works. And while for the past two years Christmas was overshadowed by Covid, this year we face the cost-of-living crisis, the prospect of economic downturn and the war in Ukraine. So, all the more reason to remind ourselves what Christmas is all about and to reach out to others in Christian love. Let's remember those who will be alone this Christmas, give to charities who tackle poverty and homelessness if we can, and pray for the situations we can't immediately change.

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (*John 8:12*). It is our calling to help share the light in the darkness as we wait, patiently, for the Christ child to be born on Christmas night. Join us for some of our Advent and Christmas services and events and join in the fellowship we share. May you walk in the light of Christ and may the joy of Christmas stay with you for the New Year and beyond.

I wish you and your families a reflective Advent, a very Happy Christmas and every blessing and good health for 2022.

Yours in Christ, Rev'd Manette

Stratford St Mary



In Stratford

Hall Farm Shop Cafe and Restaurant
www.hallfarmshop.com

The mobile pizza co - 07982 427483

ABC Preschool - 01206 322466

Kate Baines, Virtual Assistant - 07799 391343

Orwell Electrical - 01206 322969

Andy Smith Roofing - 01206 322882

Jackson Plumbing and Heating -
01206 322063

Nigel Bruce Electrician - 01206 322751

Penrose and Partners - Vets. 01206 323414

Finest Gardens - 07756 364560

John Burrell Bespoke Bedrooms -
07734700507

Nexus Creative Print Production -
gill@nexuscpp.co.uk

tim germain - furniture designer-
maker. www.germain.co.uk

Gary Moye, plasterer - 07807 314911



Coffee Morning

We have recommened the monthly coffee mornings which take place on the fourth Wednesday of every month.

10.30 am in the Parish Room Do come along and socialise - £2.00pp. Money raised to date has contributed to the purchase of chairs and garden furniture for the Parish Room



STRATFORD ST MARY INSTITUTE HALL

Please note that requests should be made through the bookings email address: ssminstitute.bookings@gmail.com Information supplied to book should include a name with contact details and the nature of the event.

This results in a natural queuing system which ensures that first come is first served. I check this address every day and will respond accordingly.

Steve Kite
42 Strickmere
Stratford St Mary, CO7 6YG



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Donations have been made to Stratford St Mary Church in lieu of Christmas Cards

Stratford St Mary Hand-bells

Interested in learning (or re-learning) a new skill?

We are hoping to start up the Stratford St. Mary hand-bell ringers group once again.

Our village has a notable history of bell-ringing and we are hoping to re-establish our once thriving hand-bell group.

Novices and new players welcome (*tuition provided*) and we would love any previous / experienced players to join us too.

Please contact Heather Wager for more information at:

heather.wager@btinternet.com

Pylons

Underground/Overground

Under the sea

Love them or hate them, which will it be??

Make yourself aware!!

There will be a village open day on

Saturday 21st January
at the
Institute Hall

Full details to follow

But **Save the date**



Stratford St Mary Quiz Night!

Back by popular request ... do join us for our next Village Quiz Night to be held at The Institute Hall on Friday 2nd December at 7.30pm.

To book your place /or a table please contact Dave Pooley on:

davepooley53@gmail.com

Tables of 6 (*or come along and we will allocate you to a team*)

£5 per head. Bring your own drinks / glasses / nibbles.



RBL POPPY APPEAL 2022 – STRATFORD ST MARY

Stratford St Mary raised **£1818.69** this year in support of the poppy appeal.

Thank you, donors and supporters, for your efforts. Injured military personnel and their families are incredibly appreciative of your generosity.

David Isaac



Stratford St Mary Parish Council meeting held on the 14th of November

Bullet points from the meeting:

· Queens Green Canopy - Babergh have confirmed that an ornamental cherry tree will be planted in the winter at the grassed area behind The Anchor pub.

· ANPR camera – This was installed in the village for the first time last week for one week only by Suffolk County Council Highways. Future dates to be advised.

· The River Garden – unfortunately the Willow Tree has been surveyed and confirmed as dead, felling will take place shortly.

· East Anglia Green – The Parish Council has been advised that a meeting by the EA Green action group will take place in January, details to be confirmed.

· All the streetlights that are owned by the Parish Council have now been changed to LEDs.

· The Parish Council have purchased several 30MPH wheelie bin stickers – if anyone would like some then please contact the Parish Clerk / Councillors.

· Donations were agreed for the Stratford St Mary Fireworks Committee and the Community First Responders

· Terms have been agreed with Stour Kayaks allowing the use of the River Garden.

The full Minutes from the meeting can be found on the Parish councils website – Stratfordstmary.onesuffolk.net



Stratford St Mary Parish Room

Our comfortable, well-equipped hall in the centre of the village is open and available for hire.

Please contact our new bookings clerk for more information or to make your booking by emailing

ssmparishroom.booking@gmail.com

or contact Paul Ranson on 01206 322156
or
07870 388184



LITTLE SPARKS

(Mums and Tots)
at
Stratford St Mary Chapel

9am - 11am every Wednesday
(Term Time)

Donation Request: £1 per family

Contact Beckie for more information at
sparksandignition@gmail.com



Village Life
 Presents

Stratford St. Mary May Ball
 Friday 26th May 2023
Save the date 😊
 Le Talbooth
 Black Tie/Posh Frocks/Formal Attire



HELP !

Your help is urgently required in assisting in the running of the Parish Room.

If you can help in any way then, please phone Don Umfreville on 01206 322 626.



Stratford St Mary Community Trust

The Trust's function is to manage certain properties bequeathed to the Parish, with the objective that any surplus income be used to provide short term financial help to Parish residents who may find themselves in temporary financial difficulty for whatever reason. This remit includes a particular focus on situations where individuals might require assistance to get into paid employment or transition to new skills.

If you are resident in the Parish of Stratford St Mary and find yourself in such difficulty, or you become aware of someone else who is, remember the Trust and contact us on:

Telephone: 07850668064

E-mail: trust@stratford-st-mary.org

We may be able to help.

All such contact will be in strictest confidence.

Board of Trustees
 Stratford St Mary Community Trust (SsMCT)



STRATFORD ST MARY RAMBLING CLUB

Invite you to join them on their walks. Distances vary from 4 to 5 miles with shorter evening walks in the summer. Do join us on our walks

For more information, please phone Don Umfreville 01206 322626



Winners of SSM 100 Club

The winners of the 100 club draw are

- £50 Lorry Shead (No 9)
- £10 Carol Halsall (No 75)

For just £1 per month be in with a chance of winning £50.

All surplus funds go towards the upkeep of the Institute Hall. Each member can hire the hall for free once a year.

Contact either Norman Woodard on Norman.woodard@fatbloaters.com or Phil Brown on philipbrown123@hotmail.co.uk for details

Stratford Chapel

Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary

Leaders: Phil Wyncoll & Bill Richardson

Youth and Children's Pastors: Jamie & Beckie Wyncoll

We are an independent mainstream Evangelical Church of around 60 people encompassing and providing for all age groups. We particularly specialise in the areas of Children's and Youth work, Bible Teaching and Evangelism.

Services and Groups:

Every Sunday:

10.30am Morning Worship and Junior Church

6.30pm Church Prayer Meeting

8.00pm Bible Teaching Group (currently on Zoom)

Monday: 8.00pm House Group (on Zoom)

Tuesday: 7.30pm Discipleship Group (at the Chapel)

8.00pm House Group (on Zoom)

Wednesday 9-11am Mums and Tots

Friday: 5.00pm "Sparks" Children's Club for ages 7 – 11 (at the Chapel)

7.30pm "Ignition" Youth Club for ages 12 – 16 (at the Chapel).

Web-site: stratfordstmarychapel.com

Enquiries: Children's & Youth: Jamie & Beckie (01206 323095) email: Beckie.w@live.com

General enquiries: Maggie Chapman (01473 311436)



Following the amalgamation of Village Life with the Jubilee planning group, we will be moving forward under the Village Life banner and will aim to keep the village community (*and others!*) up to date with plans and ideas for future events.

Dates for your diary!

- **Friday 2nd December 7.30pm - Village Quiz Night** at the Institute Hall £5 per head. Bring your own drinks / glasses / nibbles. [teams of 6 or join a team on the night]
- **Tuesday 20th December 6pm - Community Carol Singing** - on The Millennium Green
Looking ahead to next year...

- **Saturday 29th April 'Joseph' sing-along event** (more details to follow in the new year)
- **Friday 26th May Village Ball** at The Talbooth (Black Tie or formal attire)
- **Saturday 6th / Sunday 7th May - Coronation Celebration** (Sat. BBQ / party on the Institute field, Sun. Village 'street party / picnic' Institute field). * It has been decided to concentrate efforts on this one big celebration and this will replace the proposed Summer Fair / picnic originally planned for July.

Interested in getting involved? - email us at: villagelife@stratford-st-mary.org and/or come along to our next planning meeting on **Tuesday 17th January at 7.30 pm** in the Parish Room.



Higham



Brett Valley installations - Oil boiler servicer - 01206 337316

HC Smith Builders - 07468 456772

Derek Allen Fresh Fish (Thursdays) 07967 755771

Rmk Chisnall - mower repairs 07557 771721



4.30pm Saturday 17th
December

Higham Children's Crib and
Carol Service

followed by Mince Pies and
Mulled Wine

Everyone welcome



Raydon



In Raydon

Blackwell Barn Holiday Let -
www.cottages.com

Phil Avery Electrician 01473 311261

Ashley Short Carpentry 01473 311226

Gordon Short Decorator 01473 313053

SW Stiff Builders - 07811 005241

Earth&Turf Garden Services -
07922078241

DIY Livery - 07710 540926

Infusion Grill - 07584 573474

Swift Garden Services - 07947 322429

Rheal Coatings - 07539 377740

Franklyn Nevard - Architect 07515
351894

Fresh Eggs - Roadside stall Fox Farm

Katie's Little Beauty Box - 07802
847628

Tarbins Bakes and Cakes - 07922
129825



Fair Trade coffee morning

Our November 1st Fair Trade coffee morning took place inside the Church, which was not surprising as it was November and was a little cooler than of late, also with the prospect of rain. We were well supported again with most of our regulars having returned from holidays, or recovered from illness. It was lovely to see Rev. Manette again as well as our "Frinton Friends" who brought their wonderful cheese scones and victoria sandwich. We had a chocolate cake in reserve but that was too tempting so was used as well.

It was disappointing to learn that "Love Refills" would no longer be coming to Raydon. Sadly not enough of us from the village used them to make it economical to come since the sharp rise in fuel prices. Their products were exceptional value and we were playing our part in helping to reduce the manufacture of yet more plastic. They are still at Hadleigh market every Friday though so all is not lost. The Library van will still be with us, so do try it, they have a good selection of books and you can order titles to be brought for you on the next visit. 9.50 - 10.20 is the time. Our next Fair Trade coffee morning will be on November 29th and this will be our "Festive" event. It will be the last one for 2022 as the December date would be 27th which is a bank holiday. So I do hope you are able to join us and thank you so much for your support throughout the year.

Happy Christmas
Wendy Mumford 01473 312123



*Raydon Community Lunch Club *

Come and join us on December 14th
For Turkey and all the trimmings.
And too make a Christmas Wreath.
We have lots of Raffle prizes,
only £1 a Ticket.

Lunch is only £4.00, plenty of tea, coffee
and cold drinks.

If you need Transport The Community
bus will bring you from home and back
again.

Pre booking is required, ring 01473
826242.

Anyone welcome from near or far,
children welcome too.

We need volunteers if you can help, it
will be appreciated.

We are open from 12pm, lunch served at
1.30pm.

Booking is essential, Ring/message Faith
07999018049

Holton St Mary village Hall Hadleigh
Road CO76NW

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year.

January Lunch is on Wednesday 11th.



ST MARY'S CHURCH, RAYDON INVITE YOU TO A NEW COMMUNITY WARM SPACE

Join us at The Pavilion from
12 noon until 2.00pm

Wednesday 7th December 2022
for

SOUP & SOCIAL

Sponsored by Raydon Parish Council and
The Pavilion



NEWS FROM KING GEORGE'S FIELD TRUSTEES

Despite the miserable weather, the annual Bonfire Night event went off with a bang (or two)! We were pleased to see that a sizeable crowd still turned up to enjoy the fireworks, BBQ, and bar. The addition of a barista, for hot drinks and churros, and the authentic German Gluhwein added to the evening's atmosphere and drew many appreciative comments from those that braved the weather. This all took a lot of effort to organise, and the Trustees are extremely grateful to everyone who helped in the build-up, on the evening and with the clear-up afterwards.

As we head into the winter months, the Trustees have been pleased to support the "Warm Space" initiative being run by the Church by offering to host this event at the Pavilion at no cost. The first two lunches took place in November with further sessions planned for December and into the New Year.

Whilst the Bonfire event has been the main focus for the Trustees over the last couple of months, we are now looking ahead to appoint an architect and produce some concept drawings to reflect the new pavilion we would like to develop. Hopefully we will have some news of progress by the New Year.

With the Football World Cup upon us, in conjunction with the Raydon Club, the pavilion bar will be opening to show England games and other selected matches during the competition. Please come along and join us if you are a football fan.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

with music by
PHOENIX BRASS BAND

ST MARY'S CHURCH RAYDON

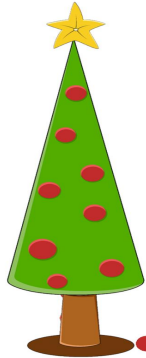
**SATURDAY
10 DECEMBER
AT 7.30PM**

TICKETS £7.50 PER ADULT, £20 PER
FAMILY OF 2 ADULTS AND 2 CHILDREN
LIGHT SUPPER AND WINE OR SOFT DRINK
INCLUDED

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW ON

01473 310320

IN AID OF ST MARY'S CHURCH



New Year's Eve

at Raydon Sports & Social Club



31st December 2022
8pm-Late

Includes:

- Welcome drink
- Cold Buffet
- A glass of Prosecco
at midnight.

Tickets cost £15 – on sale
until 14th December.

Entry by ticket only. Contact: raydonclub@gmail.com

Christmas Programme for Ukrainian Children - an appeal

This year our Annual Christmas project for the children will take a different format. At this point in time it will not be possible for us to visit the families in Ukraine to deliver the programme. But, there is no way we want to let the children down. Not only do they deserve to receive the Christmas Presents but they desperately need a break from the mental stress of what has surrounded them since February.

We have been working for the last few months to come up with a plan that will enable to keep to our commitment for the children. We are going to be bringing approx. 100 children from Ukraine by Coach to join us in Poland close the border with Ukraine. We will accommodate the children for approx. 4 days to allow us to give them a variety of activities to include Christmas Parties together with a visit from Santa, BBQ's in the forest, Cinema, Pizza Making experience and craft workshops. The children will be accompanied by escorting adults/leaders and we have negotiated the hire of a facility which is normally used for weddings and other celebrations as this, whilst more expensive, was the only facility we found that could accommodate our numbers. All other possible venues are occupied by refugee families. In addition, we will then bring a further group of children who are currently refugee'd within Poland and would be from the younger age group who would have been too young to travel without their parents from Ukraine. Their parents will accompany them on "day visits" to our activities. In addition we will be visiting refugee'd families in residential centres to deliver presents for children and household essentials for the family.

We will also be visiting many families who are already refugee'd in Poland and delivering many of the fantastic boots, shoes and other urgently needed items, most of which have been donated

from Mid Suffolk supporters. We also hope to be able to go to local supermarkets and buy food parcels to deliver at the same time. If you would like to sponsor a food parcel please do get in touch with me - details as below. The remaining boots, shoes and all of the fantastic vegetable seeds donated will go back with the children to be distributed to the people in the villages who need them so badly.

We will be posting photos on Facebook and will send by email on my return to show everyone just how valuable this program is for the children and their families.

mail@ccllmidsex.org.uk

07771 550868

FB: @Ccllmidsex

Twitter: @ELorettaP



A donation will be made to St Mary's Church or a charity of choice; lieu of sending Christmas cards

Raydon and District Garden Club



The nights have pulled in, and now it's December the gardens are resting, and hopefully all you members are resting or at least not doing quite so much in your gardens, although there is always something that needs attention whatever the time of year. What a mid autumn we have enjoyed and I am sure nature likewise. Mind you we have flowers (roses, dahlias, salvia to name but three) still looking great that normally are long finished. Our rain fall is starting to make up for the very long dry hot summer but of course we need more. According to Anglian Water in August said we need 7" of winter rains to get our reservoirs back to necessary levels to avoid shortages next year. We measured in our garden rain gauge only 12ml in June, nil in July, 10ml in August & September 39.5 ml. October 1.5" and last week we had just over a 1" so its still many more wet days to go.

Our summer migrant birds have left, winter visitors are coming but later than normal, guess due to the changing climate and because of this change watch out for unusual birds that may just turn up on your garden bird feeders. Also just a thought do we need to start looking at different plants and shrubs ?? for drier conditions which might get more frequent. ?? or do we store more water, dig in more compost, and feed more liquid feeds during summer so we can retain our existing plants for which we are so fond of.

Due to the mild weather so far I have noticed the daffodil bulbs are showing already, and the early Rhubarb is growing so no need to cover up or force unless the forecast is for frost. If it keeps like this then will be eating it by end of January !!! Could be all over by the time of Spring Show in 2023.!!!

We are now having our winter break with no meetings in December or January so enjoy the break, however you will be pleased to know your committee is hard at work trying to get good quality guest speakers for the 2023 season.

The biggest problem we face since Covid in 2020 & 2021 is a lot of speakers retired or not willing to come, and now the rising fuel costs, is getting the right speakers at the right price. Most now cost including travel:- on average £100.00 -- £140.00 per evening x 6 meetings equals £600.00 -- £840.00 per year. That's a lot of money needed to fund so we must keep membership numbers up so we avoid putting up membership fees too much. We do not want to reduce either the number of meetings or speakers as some clubs have done, or resort to charging on the night (on top of membership). More than half the garden clubs have closed down in last 3 years due to costs and lack of members and also lack of members coming forward to take on being involved running their club. We are fortunate in R&DGC that situation has not been an issue since we started the club in 1980. Here we are in our coming up 43rd year so please continue



your fantastic support over the next few years so we can celebrate 45yrs and perhaps 50years.

Your committee wishes you all a restful and healthy winter, enjoy Christmas & New Year when it comes and we look forward to seeing you all again fully refreshed at our first meeting of the New Year on Thursday 23rd February 2023. Let you know speaker and subject in January quartet copy.

Geoff Horrex, 310422 or mobile 07810086143



RAYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk Jane Cryer	01473 824287
raydonpc@gmail.com	
Chairman Sue Newton	07587 243678
Councillor Faith Backhouse	07999 018049
Councillor Keith Lovering	07939 075143
Councillor Jim Lowe	01473 313094
or 07923 546669	
Councillor Amanda Pyall	07925 108373
Councillor Jayne Tann	01473 828283
or 07887 767478	
Councillor Jo Brothers	07875 329901
Councillor Colin Chapman	07731 477971

RAYDON PARISH COUNCIL

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2023
(all at 7.30pm in the KGF Pavilion)

Tuesday 10 January
Tuesday 7 February
Tuesday 7 March

Meeting dates for the remainder of 2023 will be confirmed when the timetable and key dates leading up to the elections in May 2023 are confirmed.

NB: if you would like to see copies of the minutes of any Raydon Parish Council meetings, please visit www.raydonpc.org, or contact Jane Cryer, Parish Clerk.

Once again I would like to say a big **"Thank You"** to all who have given so generously, plants and gardening items for sale to help raise much needed funds for our Church. Unfortunately due to the very hot temperatures we had to close stall for 2 months mid summer as plants just scorched and dried out too quickly. The stall is now closed, and will re-open early March 2023. Thank you once again.

Daphne Horrex.



Raydon St Mary's Church PCC would like to thank the Parish Council and all the volunteers who took the trouble to clean up the parish war memorial in readiness for Remembrance Sunday (13th November). It certainly showed that Raydon cares, as we remember with pride.

Thank you.
Geoff Horrex Churchwarden.



Ideal for your special event

The Raydon Pavilion is for hire

Fully carpeted room for up to 80 people
Kitchen and preparation room
Easy parking

Available morning, afternoon and evening

For details, contact Mark Smout
Tel 07748 842750 or email marksmout@gmail.com

Raydon Christmas Trees

We have around 5,000 Nordmann Fir and Norway Spruce trees available.

Put your wellies on and come along to choose your tree.

Tag-it in Oct/Nov for collection/delivery at a later date.

Find us on Facebook
fb.me/Raydonchristmastrees



From £6 per ft



Opening Times

OCTOBER 2022							NOVEMBER 2022							DECEMBER 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31																			

■ OPEN 10-4

• OPEN 9-4

W : raydonagricultural.co.uk
E : christmas@raydonagricultural.co.uk
M : 07515472742

A : Blackstump Cottage, Woodlands Road,
Raydon, IP7 5QD
Near Raydon Railway Walk

Holton St Mary



SHOP LOCAL In Holton

Ann Mason Care - 01206 233372

Freshen Up Decorating - 07900 242 141



Christmas Coffee and Shopping Morning

Saturday 3rd December 2022
Holton St Mary Village Hall
9.30 am to 12 noon

Stalls will include

- Roger Shipley's Carved Wooden Products
 - Tombola
 - Made in Holton Stall
 - Mouse Craft
 - Christmas Crafts and Gifts
 - Lucky Dip for children
- plus
Coffee, Cakes and Chatter

Proceeds to St Mary's Church, Holton St. Mary

For further information please contact
Frances Torrington 01473 312046 or
familytorrington@btinternet.com

First Friday of the Month Lunch Club

December 2022 and January 2023

The Christmas First Friday Lunch will take place on Friday 2nd December. The cost for this lunch will be £5 per head.

From January 2023 the cost of lunch will increase from £3.50 to £4.00 per head.

All ages including children are welcome at all lunches. Lunch will be served from 12.30 – 2.00 pm.

If you would like to join us please contact
Frances Torrington:
312046/familytorrington@btinternet.com
or
Sally Thurlow:
312080/salthurlow@gmail.com

We are also looking for volunteers to help run the lunches and help on the day.

May we make one request – if you have signed yourself up for lunch and then find yourself unable to attend please can you inform the lunch organisers well in advance. Margins are tight these days and we have run at a loss for the last few lunches!



Holton St Mary
Christmas Greetings 2022



Claire
Ron Hood
Pam & Tudor
Brian & Trena
Chris & Marjorie
Erik, Na and Coco
The Russell Family
Chris, Bid & Archie
Steve & Claire Lyes
Sally, Peter & Archie
Anne and Bill Priestley
Peter & Eileen Starling
Michael & Diana Wilson
John, Paula, Seb and Lexi
David and Sheila Morgans
Liz, Chris and Maddie Sims
Geoff, Sally, Didier & Tiddles
Keith, Karen, Tazmin and Isobel
Paul, Frances, Dom, Martha and Lydia

Prosperous
New Year

Merry Christmas

To all friends
& neighbours

Peace and Joy

Season's
Greetings

Best Wishes

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy & Healthy
New Year

*Donations have been made to Holton St Mary
Church in lieu of Christmas cards*



Green Gym

The next Green Gym session will be on **Saturday, 4 February 2023** at 10.30 in Church Square. There will be a general tidy-up that day as well as any other tasks that may have emerged in December and January and require attention. This autumn we have planted many more daffodil bulbs which will hopefully gladden our eyes, hearts and spirits from February and beyond. We want to thank everyone who has given us bulbs and some lovely comments and encouragement over the past twelve months; it is nice to feel appreciated. There is always space and work for new members to the Group. We hope you have a joyous Christmas and a happy and healthy 2023. Thank you.
Richard Appleton 07976 010754



Slow Stitch

We meet every third Thursday of the month in Holton St Mary, Village Hall from 2-4pm. We are a drop-in group where anyone can just pop in, whether for a chat or to bring their own project to stitch.

A bag of ten knitted breasts was sent to Lactation consultant Annabel Campbell last month. She wrote to the group saying how deeply touched and grateful she was to the Slow Stitch group for making such valuable teaching aids.

For more information contact Jeanette Appleton 07768418942

**Holton St Mary Social Club
(HSMSC) Update**

Thank you to everyone involved in making Bonfire Night such a success. It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying the fireworks along with the burgers, bangers and beer afterwards. A special thank you to Lee Barton for collecting the fireworks from 'up north' and storing them ensuring that we can continue to have such a fantastic display, despite the increasing costs.

To finish off the year in style, we have the New Year's Eve party which will be held in the village hall on 31st December. Our very own Keith Jeffreys 'one man 2 decks' will be entertaining everyone throughout the evening with a mix of music to get everyone's feet tapping and on the dancefloor. A light buffet will be served and doors will open at 8pm until late. Tickets are £20 for an adult and £10 for children, these are available behind the bar at the village hall or by contacting one of the HSMSC committee members.

If you would like to become a member of the HSMSC, it is free to become a member, just contact Bob Holmes on 07966 266293 / bobholmes55@icloud.com to sign up. We try to keep everyone up to date on events through the Quartet and on the village Facebook group, but will also be setting up an email distribution list for 2023, so if you would like to be kept informed via email, please let Louise Dolan know on louise.dolan@me.com.

The HSMSC open the bar in the village hall on a Friday evening from 17:30 to 22:00 and everyone is welcome to come and chat and catch up on village life.

Plans are currently being put in place to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III on 6th May, so please hold the date if

you would like to join us. We will release details as soon as we can.

The HSMSC committee welcome ideas for events that anyone in the village would like to attend, so if you have any ideas for next year, don't be shy let Louise Dolan know on 07446 870025 or louise.dolan@me.com and we will try an accommodate suggestions.

The HSMSC committee would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your continued support and wish you a very merry Christmas, a happy New Year and we look forward to welcoming you to the village hall or one of the 2023 events.

The Holton St Mary Social Committee



Holton St Mary Parish Council -

The next meeting of Holton St Mary Parish Council is to be held - see below - at 8pm in Holton St Mary Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend. There is an opportunity to ask questions in the Public Forum Section of the meeting.

Dates for Meetings

Parish Council Meeting	January 11th
Parish Council Meeting	March 8th
Annual Parish Meeting	April 12th
Parish Council AGM	May 10th



Holton St Mary Village Hall

The Hall is back in use and taking bookings again. Please contact Tanya Kunz on 01473 311570



Holton St Mary Social Club

New Years Eve Party

Disco & Buffet

Saturday 31st December 2022 8.00pm

£20.00 Adults

£10.00 Children

Holton St Mary Christmas Preparation Sessions 2022 - in aid of St. Mary's Church

Sally, Jacqui and Jan would like to extend an invitation to a series of workshop sessions in the run up to Christmas again this year. All are welcome, from complete beginners to experts. All sessions will be in the Village Hall and open to non-residents.

Saturday 3rd December 2pm. Fresh Foliage Wreath Making (1).

Whether hung on the door or a window during the Advent period, the wreath has been traditionally viewed as an invitation to the spirit of Christmas to enter the home and to bring good luck.

1. Materials provided include wreath ring, moss, wires, backing tape and pins (optional- to protect doors) and decorative ribbon for a bow. Bring your own choice of foliage and baubles or other adornments.

2. Little refreshments and a small glass of something lovely will be provided.

3. Jan will be on hand to give tuition and support if you have never done this before or if you have but still want help. Or you may be expert but want to join others in making your wreath. **Cost £15 per person**

Saturday 10th December 10.30am. Diamond Painting Tree Decorations.

Diamond painting is a new craft which combines the principles of cross stitch (no sewing!) with paint by numbers. Resident crafter, Jacqui, will demonstrate and help you apply tiny resin rhinestones to a colour coded background to make 2 shimmering tree decorations. Optional card mounting will be available. All materials will be provided, along with light refreshments and a glass of something nice. **Cost £12 per person**

Saturday 10th December 2pm Fresh Wreath Making (2)

If there is sufficient demand, we will repeat the wreath making workshop.

Saturday 17th December 10.30 am Fresh table centre decoration

This date is near enough to prepare a fresh table centre decoration ready for your table on Christmas day. You will prepare a table centrepiece using the 7 principles of floral design. Jan will be on hand to demonstrate, advise and help. We will provide a floral tray, wet oasis, pot tape, a candle holder and candle (bring your own if you want a colour other than red or green). Just bring your own foliage. They are lovely made with a variety of different textured and coloured foliage. If you want to include fresh flowers on the day, we advise that you wait until three days before Xmas to add them. A glass of festive drink and nibbles will be included.

Cost £15 person

Saturday 17th December, 7pm. Christmas Cocktail Making and Tasting

Learn how to impress your guests with your own cocktail making skills. Our experienced cocktail maker, Sal, will demonstrate the recipes for three popular cocktails. You will have the chance to mix and taste your own! A couple of canapes will be included in the price. All cocktail ingredients are included in the price. **Cost per person £25**

To book your place, please contact Sal Thurlow: salthurlow@gmail.com or 01473 312080 or me -Jan Cheng: jan.cheng53@gmail.com or text to 07906 052380, giving your name and no of places needed. Confirmation will be on receipt of the fee. Details of how to pay will be sent upon request of a place. Please book early.



Holton St Mary Millennium Green Trust

Century Club winners are:

October: £30 No 121 Chris Gentry, £15 No 51 Gil Mann, £10 No 110 Steve Carr, £5 No 73 Brian Keen.

November: £30 No 28 Gerald Godden, £15 No 109 Peter Cheng, £10 No 93 Richard Noel, £5 No 38 Louise Dolan.

December: £30 No 97 David Morgans, £15 No 86 Les Norman, £10 No 75 Tony Howard, £5 No 111 Chris Sims.

Thank you all for your support this year, income from the Century Club pays for the ongoing running costs of the Green. The cost for the draw tickets has remained static at £1 a month for the last 22 years. In view of current price increases the Trustees have reluctantly decided that it is time to revise this to £1.25 a month.

Therefore when payments for 2023 are made in January we will be collecting £15 instead of £12.

Marjorie Haste
Secretary



A Parish council meeting for Holton St Mary was held on the 9th of November 2022, Please find below some points that were discussed at this meeting:

- Road safety signs - An official review of road safety signs has been requested for Holton St Mary. The Parish Council would like to propose getting some new signs such as 'Parent and Child crossing' or 'Elderly crossing' to improve the road safety in the village.
- ANPR camera - Holton St Mary received the ANPR device back again for a week. There has also been a safety camera vehicle twice in the village within the last month and Holton have also had a motorcycle Policeman at Church Square

for an hour.

- Stubbins Lane - The 'Quiet Lane' sign will be installed within the next week onto the existing polls.
- Dog poo - The Parish Council will be putting a supply of dog poo bags on the post around Richard Noels land and would like to continue to remind people to clean up after their dogs.
- Millennium Green - proposals to put play equipment on Millennium Green are still be looked at by the Parish Council

The next parish council meeting will be on Wednesday 11th of January at Holton St Mary village hall and everyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to raise any issues please contact the clerk via email - hsmparishclerk@gmail.com



stour valley U3A
learn, laugh, live

Make most of life once you're no longer in full time work and explore new ideas, skills and interests. Across the UK, u3a members are learning, staying active and having fun in later life. It's local, social, friendly, low-cost and open to all.

Our monthly meetings and lectures on the second Wednesday of the month at 2pm are held in Constable Hall East Bergholt.

We have many interest groups such as dining, walking, garden visits, pickle ball, canoeing and kayaking. Emerging new groups are badminton, Sunday lunch for singles, pubs-r-us, thinking-out-loud and art. Monthly coffee mornings on the first Friday of the month at 10am in the Lambe School East Bergholt.

Please look at our website for more information/contact details u3asites.org.uk/stourvalley

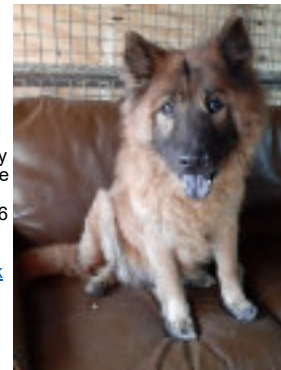
SESAW NEWS

What a cheek! Last month Ollie mocked me 'writing' our news for ten years when I claim to be eight? Well, the laugh is on him because he was older than me when he arrived in 2013! Our resident black cat was found nearly dead, came in after a week at the vet's, broke out of a pet carrier and headed straight for the house. We get on alright really and he gives a different view of SESA W life which is still very busy. Only last week two lovely tabby cats came in when their owner sadly died. They have always been together and they are used to living with two big dogs. We also have Signe, a ten year old Eurasier spitz type of dog that was living in a car with her owner when they lost their home. She is used to having company all the time so needs a loving human companion, maybe with another dog.

At this the time of the year we express our appreciation for those who support the work of SESA W in many different ways. The list is endless but you know who you are and we send you a massive THANK YOU. That includes the shops and vets that host our food collection bins and Anne and Jane for giving us a 'voice' to talk to you. As we all face the future during such a worrying time everyone at SESA W wishes you peace, good health and happiness, including me, Kenny (the Boss) Chihuahua.

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare,

Registered Charity
No.1124029, Stoke
Road,
Leavenheath, CO6
4PP, Tel: 01787
210888
www.sesaw.co.uk



Do you enjoy singing?

Do you like to socialise with like-minded people?

Then come and join the Constable Singers every Thursday from 7pm to 9pm at East Bergholt Congregational Church. First session free then £2.50 per week. No need to read music. All ages welcome and we particularly need men and altos. We sing along to backing tracks covering many different genres of music
AND WE HAVE FUN !!

Contact Terri 07891785969
We look forward to meeting you.



BERGHOLT BRIDGE CLUB

We are a friendly relaxed club and are looking for new members.

No need to bring a playing partner we can provide you with one!

We meet at

THE LAMBE SCHOOL

Gaston Street

EAST BERGHOLT.

Monday evening at 7pm.

Want to know more?
Call Jayne : 07887767478.



Manningtree & District Photographic Society

We are a small and friendly group of photography enthusiasts who meet up on the Essex/Suffolk border. The club aims to provide a pleasant environment for members to enjoy the development of their photographic skills through a variety of activities in the company of like-minded individuals

During November we held our first 'Open Colour' prints competition for over two years, due to lockdown, which attracted a good number of entries. We enjoyed a field trip to Daws Hall Nature Reserve for their 'Autumn Colour Open Day' and we also enjoyed an interesting presentation by local photographer, Chrissie Hart ARPS, DPAGB.

We continue to run our themed Facebook challenge to keep us motivated. The winning entries for our 'Members' Choice' challenge can be viewed on our public 'Manningtree Photographic Club' Facebook page.

This month's featured image is 'Grey Heron' by Ian Parker, which was one of the winners of our recent PDI 'Open Colour' competition.

As the first part of our programme draws to a close we are looking forward to our club's Christmas celebration. All our future events can be viewed on our website.

If you are interested in photography, we invite you to come along to a free club meeting. We meet at Mistley Village Hall, on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Thursdays of the month between September and May at 7.30pm.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

For further information please contact our Secretary Viv Scurrrell on 01206 393751 / Email: madps@post.com

Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/manningtreeanddistrictphotographicsociety/>



Dedham Tennis Club

Dedham Tennis Club is a friendly club in a beautiful setting. We welcome members of all ages and abilities and offer the opportunity to play tournaments, undergo coaching and meet new friends. all with an emphasis on fun and inclusion.

Whether you are looking for the chance to improve your game, get fit or simply want to enjoy the community vibe, Dedham Tennis Club is for you.

Membership options are on the website now, with junior membership starting at £5. Go online at: clubspark.lta.org.uk/dedhamlta for details of memberships, coaching groups & how to book courts.

Why not pick up that racket & join Dedham Tennis Club?

Remembering your Faithful Friend this Christmas

Christmas may be a time to remember family and friends - but Dogs Trust Snetterton is also asking local dog owners to remember their four-legged friends this festive time, with a *Canine Care Card*.

The *Canine Care Card* is a free service, which helps to ensure your dog's future, in the event of you either passing away, receiving a life-changing diagnosis or moving into a care home. This can often be a great concern to some people, who perhaps do not have a family member or friend in a position to look after their dog, should the worst happen. Therefore, by signing up to the service, Dogs Trust can offer peace of mind, reassuring you that your faithful friend will be well cared for by the charity.

It is easy to sign up to the service, which simply asks for some information on your dog, including their likes and dislikes, as well as your dog's medical history and your vet details. It also asks for you to confirm who you would like as your Dog Guardian. This should be someone you trust, like a friend, family member, solicitor, neighbour or vet, who can sign over ownership of your dog to Dogs Trust on your behalf, should you become seriously ill or pass away.

You can register online by going to www.dogstrust.org.uk and searching for '*Canine Care Card*' - or if you do not have access to the internet, you can request a paper version of the application form. Once the form is submitted, Dogs Trust will then write to you, to confirm when your application has been processed.

Once signed up, should your card ever need to be activated, Dogs Trust will then arrange with your Dog Guardian for your dog to come into the rehoming centre or into foster care. With a team of vets, trainers and behaviourists on hand if needed, your dog will then be welcomed,

loved and well cared for by the charity, who will work tirelessly to find a loving new home for your much-loved canine companion.

If you would like further information about the *Canine Care Card*, or to request a paper application form, please contact Dogs Trust Snetterton's Supporter Relations Officer, Paige Pope, at paige.pope@dogstrust.org.uk or phone 01953 497912.



Holy Family Roman Catholic Church

Ipswich Road, Brantham CO11 1TB
 Priest in Charge: Fr Bineesh Elenjikkal
 OCD. Parish Deacon (Retired): Rev Clive
 Brooks 01206 396319. The Priory, 180
 Hawthorn Drive Ipswich IP2 0QQ. Tel:
 01473 684963. www.stmarksparish.org.uk

The weekly Newsletter, with Mass times,
 is always displayed in the cabinet
 alongside the Church's front door and may
 also be read on the regularly updated
 website www.stmarksparish.org.uk
 together with other Parish news. Fr
 Bineesh Elenjikkal is the Ipswich Hospital
 Catholic Chaplain assisted by Deacon
 Rev Clive Brooks (01026 396319)

All are very welcome to attend Holy Family
 services; it is not necessary to be a
 Catholic and enquiries about the Catholic
 Faith are always welcome. Please contact
 The Priory, as above, or a local person
 whom you know is a Catholic.

All are very welcome to attend Holy
 Family services; it is not necessary to be
 a Catholic.

Services for December 2022

Sunday 4 ADVENT 9am	2nd SUNDAY OF Mass
Tuesday 6 9.20am 10am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass
Sunday 11 ADVENT 9am	3rd SUNDAY OF Mass
Tuesday 13 9.20am 10am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass

Sunday 18 ADVENT 9am	4th SUNDAY OF Mass
Tuesday 20 9.20am 10am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass
Saturday 24 LORD 8pm	THE NATIVITY OF THE Mass
Sunday 25 9am	CHRISTMAS DAY Mass
Tuesday 27 9.20am 10am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass



THE GOLDSBROUGH CONSORT

ST MARY'S CHURCH, DEDHAM
 JANUARY 28TH
 7.30PM

AULDE LANG SYNE
 A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT BURNS

An ensemble of Edinburgh University alumni and
 London based professional singers and so on

A Scottish celebration of music
 from traditional folk songs to modern favourites.

Tickets £15 on the door
 All proceeds go towards the St Mary's Organ Fund
 Pre-booked tickets will be available on reserved pews
 Email dedham.eding@gmail.com to pre-book

Bin collections

Week Commencing			
	28 th November	Recycling Week	
	5 th December	Refuse Week	
	12 th December	Recycling Week	
	19 th December	Refuse Week	
	26 th December	Recycling Week	BH Week
Waste Services 0300 1234 000 (option 4) Email: recycling@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk Visit www.recyclenow.com to find your nearest recycling banks			



Do you want a
 recommendation?

Tell us your favourite local service - could
 be a pub or restaurant or takeaway, or
 other service you think would benefit
 getting a recommendation...If we agree,
 we'll print it here

The Layham Queen take out service on
 Fridays & Sunday Roasts - Steve and
 Tannith are very community minded and
 give a very good service

Simply Thai Manningtree - It was simply
 delicious! Freshly cooked, and arrived
 within the quoted time frame. 01206
 396060. Delivers to Holton St Mary

Zaynab and **Mother Indian** at Capel.
 Really good and highly recommend. They
 don't deliver, but it's made quickly for pick-
 up.

Brantham Bull 01473 328248

Lucca Enoteca Manningtree 01206
 390044

Oranges & Lemons East Bergholt 01206
 299000

the florist in East Bergholt does lovely
 flowers:- www.gayedrummond.com

Sam Pritchard sam@samselectrics.co.uk
 07940031776 - Sam can certify safety for
 insurance and landlord work too. Anyway,
 he's great.

There's room for more...let us know...!

Local Services



The Constable Country Medical Practice

Heath Road, East Bergholt, Colchester CO7 6RT

Surgery opening hours

8.00am – 6.30pm Monday to Friday
Telephone 01206 298272

36 The Street, Capel St Mary, Ipswich IP9 2EE

Surgery opening hours

8.00am – 6.30pm Monday to Friday

Dispensary 8.30am – 6.15pm
(closed between 1-2pm)
Telephone 01473 310203
Fax 01473 311722

Crime prevention

<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/safetyadvice/reportacrime/tellthepolice.aspx>

PC 1347 Gilkes Pcco 3041 Cooper
babergheast@suffolk.pnn.police.uk
Telephone...101

Your District and County Councillors

District Councillor: John Ward

Leader, Babergh District Council
Phone: 07802 414981
Email: john.ward@babergh.gov.uk

County Councillor: Georgia Hall

Email: georgia.hall@suffolk.gov.uk
Phone: 07955 434445
Both have correspondence addresses at Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road Ipswich IP1 2BX.

MOBILE LIBRARY

Stratford St Mary - Route 11

The bus stops every 4 weeks on Wednesdays, subject to current restrictions

21 December, 18 January

Black Horse - 11.05am - 11.20am
Tally Ho! Corner - 11.25am - 11.45am
Strickmere (School Lane end) - 11.50am - 12.10pm

Route 14

The bus stops every 4 weeks on Tuesdays

29 November, 24 January

Holton St Mary

Church Square - 9.30-9.45am

Raydon

St Mary's Raydon - 9.50-10.30am

Lower Raydon

Sulleys Hill - 11.30 - 11.45am

Higham

The Green - 11.55am to 12.10pm

The **customer service line 01473 283838** is staffed 9am to 5pm from Monday to Friday and can handle any library customer queries renewals and reservations to any general library queries. An answer phone is available outside of operating hours and people can also email help@suffolklibraries.co.uk

Local Directory



OFFICE and WORKSHOP

PREMISES TO RENT

- Central East Bergholt with excellent road and rail links
- Various sizes with tailored leasing arrangements
- Carpeted offices with own toilets and kitchenette
- Quiet rural location with plenty of parking



THE GATTINETTS

www.gattinetts.co.uk

Or ring 01206 393069 / 07941 781489 to check availability

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LESLEY ON 01473 310630 (Bentley)
MOBILE 07500 488667
Email: lesley.artscene@gmail.com

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Contact Annabel

07539 722496  [sewnimble](https://www.instagram.com/sewnimble)



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claire@tarbinsbakesandcakes.com

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or call

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HALL FARM

CHRISTMAS AT HALL FARM SHOP

HAMPERS

Hall Farm hampers are made individually to order meaning you can add a personal touch to the perfect gift for a loved one, friend or colleague!
We require a minimum of 72 hours notice to fulfil orders, please call or ask in store with any queries.

CHEESE

Our counter boasts over 45 cheeses with a mix of local and European.
We strongly advise you pre order to avoid disappointment.

COOKED HAMS

Our locally sourced, home cooked hams are perfect for Boxing day!
Local smoked and un-smoked hams; half, whole and on or off the bone
(only available when pre ordering).
Order forms will be available in store or on our website.

CHRISTMAS TIPPLE

See our ever expanding range of Gins, Whiskies and Liqueurs in store
as well as a range of small bottles that are perfect for hampers or gifts.

Get your Pre Order forms from the store or on our website!

Shop: 01206 322572

Hall Farm, Church Road, Stratford St Mary, Colchester, Essex, CO7 6LS

 [HallFarmShop](https://www.facebook.com/HallFarmShop) hallfarmshop.com



OWN A SHARE IN A RACEHORSE



Price per share: £67.00

Number of shares: 650

Join in the excitement of owning a share in a new two year old colt for 2022 by CHARMSPIRIT which is in training with Stuart Williams at Newmarket. The colt was acquired at the Tabernacle Yearling Sales and is currently in pre-training, he will be targeted at races in the Spring of 2022.

The share price is inclusive of all charges up to 31st October 2022.

"What this colt was much when I viewed him at the Yearling Sales. He is of good size and shape and looked as if he is a type."

"Yes, sure we shall have some fun with him in the coming season, and wish the syndicate luck with him."

Trainer Stuart Williams at Diomed Stables



- Shareholders receive their full entitlement of prize money won
- Regular email reports regarding progress and racing plans
- Share certificate and agreement with full terms and conditions
- Stable visits (when regulations permit)
- Multiple shares available which can also be bought as gift for family or friends

Pay via PayPal

Reserve your shares by contacting: diomedracing@gmail.com

Or telephone The Secretary on 01638454881



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- * Lighting * Furniture
- * Flooring & Staging
- * Heating

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Anniversaries Corporate

Brochure upon request

www.leisurehiremarquees.co.uk

(01206) 242196

Holiday Let in Cromer Coach House Studio - Sleeps 2

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- Large sitting room with wood burner
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- 5 minute walk from the beach
- Dogs allowed (maximum of 2)

Please visit our website: www.coachhouse.studio

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- Large double/twin bedroom
- Ensuite shower
- Fully fitted kitchen
- Countryside setting
- Cozy, modern and Covid cleaned

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Garden & Arboretum open Mar -Sept
Cafe and gift Shop OPEN DAILY
10am-5pm
East Bergholt Place, CO7 6UP
Tel: (01206) 299 224

Leisure Hire

Marquee and Equipment Hire

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If you would like to receive Home Communion, please contact Rev'd Manette or Rev'd Nicola.



Regular updates about what is going on in our parishes can be found on the Benefice Facebook page:

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Benefice Safeguarding Officer:

We are happy to announce that Steph Middlebrook will be our new Benefice Safeguarding Officer and she will also help with some general parish administration. Until she has completed the necessary training, please contact Rev'd Manette with any questions or concerns.

Church Services for December

Sunday 4th. December 10am: Advent Communion Stratford St. Mary
Advent 2

4pm: Holy Communion Hangout - Christingle

Sunday 11th December 10am: Holy Communion Higham
Advent 3

Saturday 17th December 4.30pm: Carol and Crib Service Higham*

Sunday 18th. December 9.30 for 10am: Family Hour Nativity Stratford St.
Advent 4 Mary in the Parish Room

3pm: Carols around the Crib Raydon*

6.30pm: Carol Service Holton St. Mary*

Christmas Eve 4.00pm: Carols around the Crib Stratford St. Mary*

11.30pm: Midnight Communion Holton St. Mary

Christmas Day 10am: Family Communion Higham

10am: Family Communion Raydon

** Mince pies and festive refreshments will be served after all carol services*

Sunday 1st. January 10.45am: Deanery Holy Communion St. Mary's
Church - Hadleigh

With the arrival of Steph, our benefice admin support our Facebook pages will be regularly updated. Grateful thanks also go to Ivan for helping Rev'd Manette update the website. The three of us will aim to get information about what's going on in the four parishes out to you via the various media. Please do check out the website and social media if you can as these pages will inevitably be more up-to-date than the Quartet if there are last minute changes. If you wish to be added to our email mailing list to receive occasional updates about, please let Rev'd Manette know at: revmcrossman@gmail.com

With the many winter viruses and flu-type illnesses that are doing the rounds, if you feel in any way unwell, or you have a cough, a temperature, a sore throat or a runny nose, even if you don't test positive for Covid, please stay at home until you feel better. Some members in our church congregations are vulnerable and we don't want to share illnesses if we can avoid it.

Family Hour in Stratford St Mary at 10am

Everyone is welcome to come along to Family Hour in the Parish Room. Our next meeting is on **Sunday, 18th December** and will feature our annual Nativity play.

All are welcome to join us and we invite the children to come dressed in a nativity themed costume of their choice. Breakfast (bacon rolls / juice / tea / coffee) served **from 9.30 am**. We look forward to welcoming you.

The Family Hour Team.



Sunday Hangout in Higham on 4th December at 4pm

This month the Higham Hangout will be a Christingle Service.

We will be making Christingles and for those of you who came last year, you will remember how much fun we had. Come and join us for this very special service and bring family and friends along.

A Sunday church group, aimed primarily at children, but open to any age! The Sunday 'Hangout' is a time to reflect on our faith, to ask questions, to discuss and to learn in a fun way. We usually have some craft activities or we may go outside to explore. It's an opportunity to hang out with friends, whilst getting involved in fun activities which the whole family can enjoy. We meet for about an hour at 4pm and snacks and drinks will be provided.

Chat, Prayer & Coffee every 3rd Wednesday of the month

Stratford St Mary Parish Room, on 21st. December at 10am.

This is an informal time to chat, share news and pray together over a cup of coffee. This is the last time we are meeting this year. Why not leave your busyness behind for a short time and join us for coffee and mince pies to reflect on what Christmas is really about? We look forward to seeing you!

Benefice House Group

The House Group will meet this month on **Thursday 1st. December** at the home of Jonathan and Janet Dewey: 5 Veyses End, 2.30 - 4pm

Benefice Churches Open

All the churches in our benefice are open every day for private prayer and visiting. Everyone is welcome to come and visit and enjoy some quiet time for reflection or to enjoy the beautiful church buildings.

A prayer as we prepare for Advent

**O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Post Communion Prayer for the first Sunday of Advent

Prayers for Christmas

**Almighty God,
as we prepare with joy
to celebrate the gift
of the Christ-child,
embrace the earth with your glory
and be for us a living hope
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

A Collect Prayer for Christmas Eve

**Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder
at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise,
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.**

A Collect Prayer for Christmas Day

Prayer pointers

We pray for those who are unwell and who have asked for our prayers, among them:

In Higham: Amanda Berry and Penny Watkins

Outside our parishes: Helen Gregory

We remember all those who have died, among them Laura Kerry. May they rest in peace and rise in glory, and may those who mourn them be comforted in their grief. We pray for everyone who has lost family members or friends who will be missed this Christmas.

We pray for peace in the world and an end to violence, aggression, and unnecessary suffering, in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen.