

SHEERING NEWS

(also in full colour at www.sheering.org.uk/news)

December 2012

114

Ron Ainsworth

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Ron Ainsworth, editor of this magazine since August 1991.

Ron died in July from motor neurone disease, at the age of 72, following a two-year illness during which he conducted himself with dignity, courage and good humour throughout.

He is survived by his wife, Linda, and his four children.

Ron moved to Sheering in 1980, and quickly became an integral part of the community. He cared deeply for the village, and spent many hours using his considerable knowledge to make sure it ran properly. As well as editing this magazine, he was at different times chairman of the parish council, and secretary of the village hall committee.

Ron was buried in Sheering churchyard, following a short ceremony which celebrated his life, at which both his sons spoke of their father's life.

Ron was a naturally self-contained man who rarely felt the need to seek the limelight or go out of his way to make new friends, so it is perhaps a testimony to his character that so many people from every part of his life attended his funeral, including old friends who had known him since childhood, and colleagues who had worked with him more than two decades ago.

Ron spent 40 years working for Barclays Bank, and retired as assistant company secretary at the age of 56. He would later use the legal and financial knowledge he acquired during his career to help many

people in Sheering. Following retirement, he also worked as an advisor at the Citizens' Advice Bureau in Harlow, where the same skills, together with his carefulness and understanding, allowed him to help many more people.



Ron on his 70th birthday

Despite leaving school with just two O levels, Ron loved learning. He read extensively, and had a deep knowledge covering areas as varied as ancient religion, the UK tax system, and the collected works of Charles Dickens. In his later life he became a collector of Open University degrees; he ended with six, including a law degree, as well as several banking and taxation qualifications. It was also at the OU that he met his wife – when the Herts and Essex Observer ran a story about Linda's OU degree, it was under the headline "Hubby was a Bonus".

Among the many things he knew much about was the solving of the Times crossword, which, following his retirement, he vowed to finish every day. For 15 years, visitors to the house would frequently find him and Linda sitting at the kitchen table, contemplating the answer to eight down. It rarely defeated them.

It was in those latter years of his life, in his retirement, that Ron enjoyed living in Sheering most. As a private man, he rarely spoke of his feelings; however it was clear to those who knew him how happy and content he was to have spent the latter half of his life in the village. There are many in the village who will miss him.

For the full tributes or to donate to the Ron Ainsworth tribute fund in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association visit www.lindaainsworth.co.uk

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DIARY - also see www.sheering.org.uk/diary

DECEMBER

Thursday 6 *NEW* Mother & Toddler group. Village Hall contact Beryl Gurteen 734316

Monday 10 – Carol singing around the village. 6.30 outside The Cock Pub. Wrap up warm; bring a torch or lantern if possible. Carol sheets provided.

Tuesday 11 WI 6.45. Christmas Meal members only

Friday 14 Carols & mulled wine with Epping Forest band in the Village Hall. 7.30 for 8.00 tickets 600718

Sunday 16 – 11.00 – Christingle Service St Mary's Sheering

Tuesday 18 Bingo Village Hall 7.30 for 8.00

Friday 21 Sheering School last day of term

Sunday 23 – 4.00 – Carol Service St Mary's Sheering

Christmas Eve – 5.30 – Starlight Service St Mary's Sheering

Christmas Day – 8.00 – Holy Communion; 11.00 Family Communion St Mary's Sheering

Thursday 27 Village Walk meet 10.30 at the Village Hall car park. Everyone welcome with or without dogs

JANUARY

Tuesday 8 Sheering School term starts

Tuesday 8 WI 7.30. All welcome. Barbara Barker 734354

Tuesday 15 Bingo Village Hall 7.30 for 8.00

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 12 WI 7.30. All welcome. Barbara Barker 734354

Tuesday 19 Bingo Village Hall 7.30 for 8.00

Saturday 23 Friends of St Mary's Quiz Night Village Hall 7.30 for 8.00 Irene Harriss 734334

MARCH

Friday 1 Sheering News: copy date for advertisements and articles please

Tuesday 12 WI 7.30. All welcome. Barbara Barker 734354

Tuesday 19 Bingo Village Hall 7.30 for 8.00

Saturday 23 Farmers' Market Village Hall 10.00 - 2.00

WEEKLY

In-shape Boot Camp 6.45 - 7.30 Beginner & Intermediate, 7.30 - 8.00 Advanced.

07775 663742 rachel_ibbotson@hotmail.com

Bridge Club: Thursdays 7.15 in the Village Hall Mary Harris 734202.

Brownies: Wednesdays 5.30 - 7.00 Church Room . Anne Croft 734391.

Guides: Wednesdays 7.00 - 8.30 Church Room . Jo Stewart 835689.

Pre-School: Every day during term time in the Village Hall. Beryl Gurteen 734316.

Short Mat Bowling Club: Mondays and Thursdays 7.00 - 10.00, **Thursdays** 1.10 - 4.00 Village Hall.

Tuesday Teas: 2.30 in the Church Room. All welcome for a cup of tea and a chat.

FORTNIGHTLY

Mother & Toddler Group *NEW* contact Beryl Gurteen 734316

Mobile Library Van Wednesdays Crown car park 10.15-10.35; Sheering Village Hall 10.35 - 11.05 & Lower Sheering Bus Shelter 2.20 - 2.50. See page 18 for dates or www.sheering.org.uk/diary

Rural Police Bus Wednesdays Four Acres in Lower Sheering between 1.00 and 2.00 & The Street Sheering near to the Cock Pub between 2.10 and 3.00.

MONTHLY

WI meet on the second Tuesday of the month (except July & August) in the Village Hall at 7.30 for 7.45. You will be made very welcome whether you come along as a visitor or become a member. Barbara Barker 734354

Bingo Usually the third Tuesday in the month (but check notices). In the Village Hall in aid of Village Hall funds. All welcome. 7.30 for 8.00



Epping Forest District Council Local Plan Consultation

Ray Lowe, Howard Lees & Parish Councillor David Le Grys

There's nothing like an impending disaster to bring a sleepy community together.

In the last 3 months residents of Sheering and Lower Sheering have met twice in Sheering Village Hall to listen to our MP Robert Halfon and various members of Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) as well as our local Parish Council.

The cause of this rallying is the proposal to build 1000 new homes on the farm land behind Sheering Lower Road. EFDC have identified numerous sites around a vast area from North Weald to Harlow and from Epping Forest to Bishop's Stortford for new homes to fill the Government's targets for each county over the next ten years.

Unfortunately EFDC did not circulate the required leaflet correctly in the Sheering area notifying the residents of a consultancy meeting in the area. This led to a huge outcry from residents and the meetings ensued.

It has to be said that when needed the right people rise up and create the voice and our community is no different. John Pennington at both meetings was extremely forthright in putting forward the residents' points of view as to why the Sheering proposal would be completely unacceptable. It also was not a 'not in my back yard' viewpoint but twelve sound reasons why this area would not be able to cope, apart from the lack of road infrastructure, the railway crossing, over crowded trains, lack of schools, health centre etc.

Along with several helpers Howard Lees did many door to door visits in the area explaining to residents who were in the dark over the proposals and their ramifications and why it was so important for as many people as possible to object on the official documents that were supplied before October 15.

Now we have to wait for the decision makers at EFDC to draw up their recommendations for which areas go forward to the next round, this result is due around July 2013, let's hope the Sheering area is dropped for the



completely inappropriate proposal that it was.
Ray Lowe

On 10 October I attended a meeting at Sheering Village Hall where Epping Forest District Council were present to answer questions about the Local Plan consultation that they were running – the

Local Plan that could result in several thousand houses being built around Sheering and Lower Sheering.

Lower Sheering seemed to be very well organised and vocal, with me being the only resident of Sheering who voiced his opinion. It was apparent to me that Epping Forest District Council had done the minimum legally necessary to publicise the consultation and very few people (if any) had received the leaflets that had been supposedly distributed.

The weekend before the consultation closed I decided to raise the awareness of the consultation on The Street and delivered 170 leaflets of my own. Thanks to my wife, next door neighbour, their son and my three and a half year old daughter for helping to do the letter drop. Apologies if you found the title, "1000 New Homes To Be Built in Sheering", alarmist, but I felt it important that I grabbed people's attention and that residents were given the opportunity to make their opinions known. From the emails I received and the people I spoke to, it was clear that the level of awareness was very low indeed – all but one of these people expressed their shock and lack of knowledge of the consultation.

My perspective is that I am not against all development, but I believe that it has to be sustainable and in proportion to the existing village. The proposed number of houses is disproportionate and the rural infrastructure can simply not support it, whether it be the roads, the public transport or the other amenities. I am totally against building on green belt agricultural land. I am also sceptical that the local community would benefit significantly, the proportion of affordable housing in new developments is generally low and not reserved for local

residents and/or their off-spring.

Whilst the consultation has now officially closed, Councillor Bassett (who has the dubious honour of being responsible for Planning) committed at the meeting that responses received after the closing date would be accepted given the apparently low level of awareness. I would suggest that if you haven't already made your opinions known, that you email or write to the Council at the address below.

Howard Lees

Swallows Barn, The Old Farm Yard, The Street.

At the last Parish Council meeting I attended, I was amazed to hear a fellow councillor comment that he was surprised at the lack of interest regarding the proposed local development, from Sheering Village at the October 10 public meeting. Lower Sheering were very well organised and forcibly put across many points of view that were equally valid for the village. People from the village, such as myself, did not feel the need to speak up as the points had already been made. However, I don't think enough has been done to make local people aware of the enormous implications of the Local Plan.

It has taken almost a thousand years for a village of 26 people, recorded in The Domesday Records, to evolve into the Village we are today. The Local Plan has the potential to double, yes double the size of the village in the next fifteen years. With this massive expansion our village will be obliterated, because as much as the planners say it will be 'sympathetic' to the local environment, the village will be swamped and encircled with high density housing.

Have we got the infrastructure to support it? NO! Are the schools big enough? NO! Is our road adequate? Certainly not! The authorities tell us it's a B road. Well it doesn't feel like it

on my 90cm (3ft) pavement when the Lorries come through. It's not safe and it's surprising there are not more fatalities.

If you want to see the results of this type of planning, take a drive around London. It's not at all unusual to see sites of 300 - 400 dwellings, mostly built on what were factories, numbers which were unthinkable a few years ago. The government now says manufacturing will get us out of our present economic problems and they want to get people back into work — well where are they going to work? Want to go shopping? Try Bishop's Stortford 1 o'clock on a Saturday. If you're in you can't get out and if you're out you can't get in!

I don't think we can blame the local planners for this situation, they have an impossible brief, but we have always had a housing problem.

What has this got to do with Sheering? Well planners and government don't always get it right, It's our village, our School, our Green Belt and our children's heritage that's paying the price. I'm not against development, that's how we evolve, but not on this scale. Make your voice be heard, write to Councillor Bassett at the address below. If you don't, you may be sleepwalking into this situation.

Councillor David Le Grys,

Berwick House, The Old Farmyard, The Street

Councillor Bassett, Forward Planning, Epping Forest District Council, FREEPOST CL3360, Epping CM16 4YA.

The documents can still be found on the Council website

<http://www.eppingforestdc.co.uk>

See also District Councillor Gary Waller's and MP Robert Halfon's reports pages 7 and 8.

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Robert Halfon MP

Over the last few months, I have spent many afternoons and evenings at public meetings, in Sheering and Lower Sheering, along with District Councillor Gary Waller.

Many residents are concerned – and rightly so – about the number of houses being talked about in the new options and issue for the "Epping Plan", and also the suggested building on green belt land. My own preference is for much more concentrated building on brown-field sites. There are other big worries about infrastructure too – in that the Plan does not set out much detail regarding new roads, transport, schools, or other development if the new houses/business areas are to be built. My view is that you cannot have one without the other.

The crucial fact is that the current Epping Plan is a set of proposals: it is not a fait accompli. I have spoken personally and several times with the Cabinet Member for Planning at Epping Forest Council, Cllr Richard Bassett, about this. He has assured me that Epping Forest District Council will use the responses from people to determine what happens next – and that there is no set plan.

During the Conservative Party conference I also discussed this issue with Local Government Secretary Eric Pickles. I was glad to hear that he voiced his support for the Green Belt, saying that it plays a vital role in stopping urban sprawl and that a Conservative-led Government will protect it.

Also, given the problems that Sheering and the other nearby villages have had with illegal travellers, I welcome the Government's announcements to give residents much more power to deal with this.


In Parliament, I am continuing my push for cheaper petrol. Through the website PetrolPromise.com, I am urging the Government to scrap the 3p rise in fuel duty, which is planned for January 2013, and also to take action against big oil firms if they are rigging prices.

You can read more about my work for Sheering on my website

www.roberthalfon.com. To contact me, please email


halfon4harlow@roberthalfon.com


or call 01279 311451





Robert Halfon MP


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-  Getting our powers back from the EU
-  Campaigning for a New M11 Junction 7a



WORKING HARD FOR YOU ALL YEAR ROUND

Gary Waller, Epping Forest District Council Member for Lower Sheering

Local Plan consultation ends

Following the end of Epping Forest's consultation period on the first stage of the Local Plan, Council officers are now bringing together and collating the thousands of responses received from local residents. Around the turn of the year there will be a series of workshops at which councillors and parish council representatives will have an opportunity to input their views, before a further document setting out the Council's preferred options for development over the next 20 years goes out for more consultation.

I'm glad that residents of Lower Sheering have had a full opportunity to express their opposition to the proposals set out in the initial 'Issues and Options' document. Practically all those who spoke at the public meeting in early October, attended by Robert Halfon MP and several councillors and Council officers, were strongly critical of the proposals for Lower Sheering which would involve a totally unrealistic increase of more than 50% in the size of the community.

Lower Sheering does not have the infrastructure to handle population growth on this scale, the road system is completely inadequate to cope with the massive increase in the number of vehicles, and providing access from the winding Sheering Lower Road to the proposed site would be impossible without massive demolition of existing properties. There would also be a major loss of green areas that are highly valued by those who have come to live in the village, and serious threats to important wildlife habitats.

Promoting Safer Communities

One of the first things to happen after I joined the Council's Cabinet in May was that I was elected Chairman of Epping Forest Community Safety Partnership. The CSP is a statutory body which plays an important role in co-ordinating the work of all the organisations which play a role in protecting the people of our district from threats to their safety and security. Thus, it brings together not only the police but also the fire service, NHS agencies, probation, those who work to reduce alcohol and drug addiction



and those taking action to combat domestic violence and abuse. Epping Forest is one of the few districts to have its own Safer

Communities team who work closely with the police and, for instance, run the CCTV service which monitors hotspots in certain parts of the district. In anticipation of the election of the new Police and Crime Commissioner, the Safer Communities team has contributed to the

information pack which will greet the new appointee around the end of November.

Opposition to new Stansted charge

I objected strongly to Stansted Airport's intention to bring in a £2 minimum charge for cars dropping off passengers within walking distance of the terminal. Speaking at a meeting of STACC (Stansted Airport Consultative Committee), I pooh-poohed Stansted's claim that the measure was intended to have environmental benefits, arguing that it was clearly a blatant means of increasing revenue ahead of the imminent sale of the Airport.

I was particularly critical of the 75% local discount on the charge, available only to residents of Uttlesford and East Hertfordshire districts. Speaking at a full meeting of Epping Forest District Council, where I proposed a motion critical of Stansted's proposal, I pointed out that those who live in Lower Sheering are obviously much closer to the Airport than the residents of towns such as Hertford and Saffron Walden who will be beneficiaries of the scheme. The Council has agreed to send its objections to BAA, the current owners of Stansted, who have agreed to review the charge in the light of experience.

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see www.sheering.org.uk/villagehall

Parish Council Matters

It was a sad day when we heard of the death of our friend and colleague Councillor Ron Ainsworth on the 26 July 2012.

The Parish Council will remember Ron for all the years he gave as a Parish Councillor, and at one stage as chairman.

Ron was an asset to the Parish Council with his vast knowledge of banking and finance, also of leasing agreements and contracts.

He will be sadly missed by the Parish Council as a councillor and as a friend to us all.

The Council will be looking to have a plaque made to remember Ron which will be positioned at a place in the Village Hall.

John Harrington

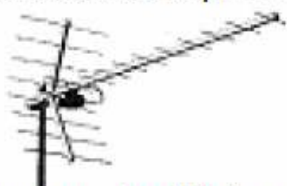
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Sheering Parish Council

Parish Council meetings are open to any Sheering resident. Time is set aside for public participation to discuss any parish problem at the regular monthly meetings.

Meetings are held in the Village Hall starting at 7.30. The next meetings are:

Wednesday (Precept)	9	January
Wednesday	23	January
Wednesday	20	February
Wednesday	27	March
Wednesday	10	April

Parish Councillors

John Harrington - Chairman	722556
Bill Bedford	734229
Graham Bishop	830234
Kath Brewster	734318
Sheila Caves	725578
Peter Hellmers	734219
Lisa Horsfall	734888
David Le Gry's	734160
Richard Morgan	731243
Rodney Northwood	724514
Clare Steward	734058

Clerk to the Parish Council

Mrs Donna Harris
17 Ash Tree Field, Harlow, CM20 1QD
01279 899355
07729 436508
dmh39@btinternet.com

District Councillors

Lower Sheering Gary Waller 01279 739345
gary.waller@which.net
Sheering Village Richard Morgan 731243
richard@littlefaggoters.wanadoo.co.uk

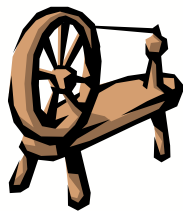
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LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

The West Essex and East Herts Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers

The West Essex and East Herts Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers was formed in 1980 to further our knowledge of these crafts and to share our skills with others. It is one of many such Guilds throughout the UK which form a National Association www.wsd.org.uk



The Guild meets once a month at Harlow Museum (unless otherwise stated) with guest speakers and workshops, which include a variety of allied crafts such as felt making, braid making, knitting and basketry. Members also display and demonstrate at various craft events and fairs. We look forward to welcoming new members whether a beginner or with many years experience. There are various items of spinning and weaving equipment which may be hired by members. Annual membership is £20.

Thursday 13 December 7.00– 9.30 Christmas Social

Saturday 12 January 11.00 – 4.00 Spinning workshop

Saturday 9 February 11.00 – 4.00 Knitting workshop

Saturday 9 March 10.00 – 4.00 Spinning workshop

If you would like to find out more please contact Hazel Mead 01279 724503

hazelmead404@btinternet.com

Short Mat Bowling

We lost a very dear member of our club in April, John Newton.

John was a very good club member and helper, always willing in putting out the mats and always available for games. He is sorely missed.

Also in August we lost a founder member of our club Barbara Wright, she was a very keen bowler until her health deteriorated, but although she did not play for the last couple of years, she still used to come up to the club for a cuppa and chat.

We still have vacancies for members so on a dismal dark evening come and have a go, whether you play or are a beginner, all are welcome. Its only £2 per evening including your cup of



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tea or coffee. Bowls is held at Sheering Village Hall on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7.00 - 10.00 and Thursday afternoons 1.10 - 4.00 All welcome.

Maureen Wright
Secretary Bowls Club

Village Walks

In August sixteen or so people and a couple of dogs walked through Quickbury Farm into Sawbridgeworth. We then followed the Stort to Kecky's Footbridge, up to the main road and back down to the river again. Along Sheering Mill Lane and across the fields to return to the village.



The Christmas walk will take place on Thursday 27 December starting from the Village Hall car park at 10.30. Everyone welcome.

Lee Tennant

Village Hall

Sadly since the last Sheering News Ron Ainsworth has died. Ron was diagnosed with motor



neurone disease in 2010 and continued to carry out his duties on the committee for as long as he felt able. As already reported sadly he died in July and all funeral donations were given to the Motor Neurone Disease Association. Ron had been Treasurer and Secretary for a number of years, only giving up the position of Treasurer in 2010. Earlier this year he had to relinquish his role as Secretary although he still remained on the committee. Ron had been of tremendous value with his advice and commitment to the Village Hall Management Committee. He will be missed by us all.

By the time this publication is delivered we would have held our AGM in the Village Hall a fuller report on that will be in the next issue. During August the new ceiling was erected in the large hall. I am sure that if you have seen it you are impressed. It provides a lighter and more comfortable surrounding. Fortunately it was finished before the two recent wedding receptions took place.

The Flower and Produce Show took place in September, despite the bad weather this year we had a good 'show'. Thanks to everyone involved in organising this traditional village event.

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Bingo is still taking place on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except for August) and as always everyone is very welcome.

The Farmer's Market is being renamed and will continue to provide good quality local produce and hand crafted stalls. The next Market will take place on **March 23** and the new time is **10.00 to 2.00**. There is a new website

www.sheeringcraftandproducemarket.co.uk.

Our annual Quiz Night took place on Saturday 13 October and was well attended. A very enjoyable evening was had by all and just over £300 was raised. Well done and thank you to all who helped but especially to John Smith and his 'team' for continuing to support us.

The Village Hall Management Committee would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and peaceful, healthy new year.

Beryl Gurteen

Chair Village Hall Management Committee

Sheering Village Pre-school C.I.C.

Our Summer coffee morning was very successful and the children performed wonderfully as always. We said goodbye to 24 children but I am pleased to report that when we opened again in September the number of children taking up places along with those who will receive three year funding will mean that by Christmas we will be full again.



Just some of the cakes donated for our Summer Coffee morning

Our final accounts showed that we had raised over £5000 in fundraising over the past year. This may sound extremely good (and is) but take into account that the new outside play area cost over £5000! Thanks to everyone who has helped in whatever way. As a 'not for profit' company we were in the position to be able to employ another member of staff from September this means that we now have 8 or 9 members of staff each day. Our new staff member is Jane Bond who lives in Sheering.

The new in-take of children have all settled very well and appear to be enjoying themselves. The children have been looking at farming and healthy eating. After the half term holiday we will be looking at some 'safe' fireworks, Diwali and, of course, Christmas and New Year.

We would like to wish everyone a happy and enjoyable Christmas and happy New Year.
Beryl Gurteen Pre-School Leader

Scout Community Christmas Post 2012

1st Sawbridgeworth Scout Group
Community Christmas Post for the town will commence on Wednesday



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Full of Beans, Church Street

Tuck Shop, Bell Street

Bullfields Stores, Bullfields

Thanks for your support to the Scout Group

Merry Christmas

1st Sawbridgeworth Scout Group

WI

From the Old to the New!

In September we at Sheering were treated to a very interesting peek at the world of antiques.

Steve Lester from a local dealership came



along and regaled us with hints, tips and tales of all manner of interesting finds made by himself and his colleagues.

For example he found a piece of Fabergé glass at the home of an elderly lady, which sold for £10,500 and a piece of Chippendale that he discovered was later sold for £120,000. So go have a look in your loft or better still your parents' loft!

Then last month we stepped into the world of the midwife and her busy life within the Rosie unit at Addenbrookes hospital Cambridge. Young Kirsty, who happens to be our treasurer's niece, explained some of the varied parts to her role, which had us laughing and then reduced to tears at the more heartbreaking aspects of her job.

It also endorsed our feelings that the WI resolution to push for more midwives is such a good cause.

We're now looking forward to our Christmas dinner meeting.


Sheena Pike

WI Correspondent

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In fact, most patients can expect to start treatment much sooner.

Your rights around waiting times and everything else about your NHS care are set out in the NHS Constitution, which brings together in one place what we can all expect from the NHS and what is expected from us in return.

To read the NHS Constitution or to find out how many ways you can access the NHS, please:

visit www.nhs.uk/nhsconstitution
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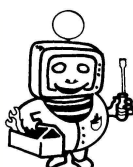
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Sheering Bridge



This photo was taken at the end of October but no more work appears to have taken place since then.

The bridge over Pincey Brook, known locally as White Bridge has been impassable for motor traffic for many months now. In response to an enquiry from MP Robert Halfon Cllr Derrick Louis, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation gave this response

"Weather permitting we will be on site to start work on the bridge on Monday 24th September 2012 with a four week construction programme so that the road can be reopened to traffic on the 22nd October 2012.

Please note that we are installing a 'temporary' bridge deck. This is expected to be in place for a number of years rather than weeks or months as feared by some local residents/businesses. "

01245 430524 extension 20524
derrick.louis@essex.gov.uk

STOP PRESS

In response to an email from *Sheering News* this reply was received on 19.11.12.

Thank you for your email dated 11 November 2012 in respect of the bridge works at Pincey Bridge.

The proposed works to install the temporary bridge over Pincey Brook at Sheering is now likely to be undertaken early in the New Year.

A meeting was held with the Local Farmers, Parish Councillors and the National Farmers Union and it was agreed to increase the width of

the proposed bridge to 4.5 metres between the parapets. However due to the change this increase in width represented from the original proposal, the Environment Agency advised that a new consent under the Water Resources Act 1991 would be required. It is envisaged this consent will take two months to obtain and with this in mind works have been postponed to January 2013.

As you are aware the temporary footbridge erected at the site to maintain access for pedestrians and cyclists has been left in place. Following discussions with the scaffolding company it was found to be more cost effective to leave the bridge erected than dismantling and re-erecting in the future.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and I hope the above information reassures you of our actions.

Regards,

Cllr Derrick Louis TD MBA MCILT MAPM

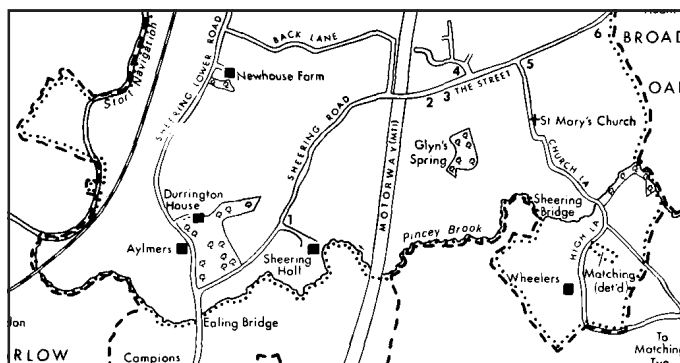
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation

Has Nothing Changed?

In January 1600 the Session Rolls for the Hundreds of Ongar and Harlow record that the 'landholder of Howsome Hall in Matching' was presented 'for not making a sufficient foot-bridge over the river leading from Sheering to Matching against the meadow called Long Mead.'

Presumably, after being taken to court, the landholder made the necessary repairs but by 1649 problems had arisen again and the records from the Chelmsford Assizes record that 'The bridge in Sheering between Matching and Sheering Street was broken' and this time 'the inhabitants of Sheering should mend it.'

The bridge was maintained by the Parish in the 16th century but became a county bridge in the late 19th century which is why we are now waiting for Essex County Council to repair it.



Friends of St Mary's Newsletter

Bats in the ... Church Room!

We all know that bats roost around the church – but in the Church Room? Well, no – these ones were only visiting and they arrived in little hutches! We had chosen 1 September for our Bats and Ice Cream evening in the hope that, after an introductory talk, dusk would be gathering and we would be able to watch wild bats flying around outside.



**Cute and cuddly?
What do YOU think?**

And so it proved. Bat expert Roger Havard gave us a fascinating insight into the ways of these interesting creatures. For example common pipistrelles (the commonest British bat, and one of the species living in and around the church) weigh around 5 grams (less than a £1 coin) and a single pipistrelle can eat three thousand tiny insects in just one night! Roger was accompanied by Graham Ragg from the Harlow bat rescue group who care for injured bats reported by the public. There was a definite frisson (fear? excitement? dread?) when the tiny visitors were removed from their hutches to be shown to the audience. Some of us – to our great surprise – changed our opinion. These creatures are (wait for it) cute and cuddly! Not that we were allowed to handle them – it's illegal unless you have a licence.

After a break from all this excitement to enjoy some ice cream, and having been reassured that it is *extremely* unlikely that bats will get tangled in anyone's hair, we set out into the dusk with bat-detectors (small handheld devices that make bat sounds audible to humans). Picture twos and threes scattered round the darkening churchyard, peering up into the sky and listening attentively for the tell-tale click-click-click of the bat-detector. Fortunately it was a dry calm evening, not



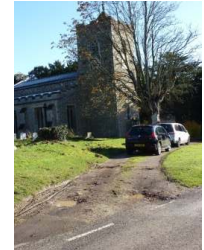
**Lots of yummy ice
cream and jelly**

too cold, so we saw lots and heard even more.

It was great fun and we raised £317 for Friends funds.

News of the buildings and grounds

Sheering residents are only too aware that the road past the church towards Newmans End has been closed for some months, awaiting repair of the bridge over Pincey Brook. Quite a lot of the diverted traffic seems to be doing its three-point turns in front of the church, and the run-round is becoming increasingly churned up. As it does not belong to the church but to the Council, we have contacted the Highways Division to ask for it to be repaired at the same time as the bridge. No reply has been received to date.



**Trashed
run-round**

Further to our report last time of nuisance wheelies in the car park, the PCC are looking into obtaining an infra-red sensor to trigger lights for the car park.

The old notice board in the tower has been taken down. We were not sure what would be behind it, but what was revealed below was more of the beautiful old panelling. Make sure you have a look when you are next in church.

We are grateful to Dr David Wright for donating a piano trolley to the church. As well as saving some hurt backs when the piano has to be moved, we can now do double-



Piano trolley

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quick re-arrangements of the front of the nave for different types of service.

After the fire it was decided to replace the old wardrobe in the vestry with a purpose-built storage cupboard. Built by local carpenter Keith Girling, it is now finished and in use.



New vestry cupboard

Dates for your Diary

Friends events

We are planning a quiz in the Village Hall on Saturday 23 February 2013 7.30 for 8.00. Tickets from Irene Harriss 734334. Put it in your diary now, and look out for more details nearer the time.

Church matters

You are always welcome in church every Sunday at 11.00 (and fortnightly at 8.00 am for traditional Holy Communion).

See page 30 for Christmas services

ELECTRA-FIX

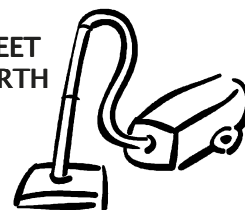
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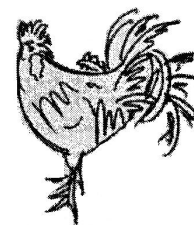
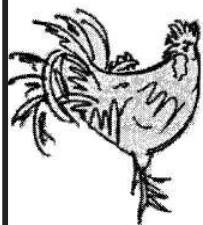
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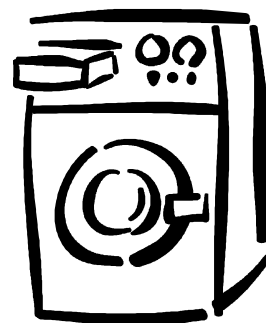
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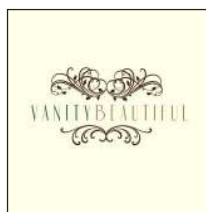
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Diamond Champion Sheila Caves

Sheila Caves of Lower Sheering who joined the WRVS in 1980, was chosen from over 4,500 nominees to become a Diamond Champion in recognition of her outstanding work as a volunteer in her community.

Mrs Caves attended an award ceremony at the Sloane Club in London on October 19 2012 where she was presented with a Diamond Champions pin specially commissioned by Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall, patrons of the campaign.

She has also received a Diamond Champions certificate signed by Their Highnesses.

You will recognise Sheila's name as a member of the Sheering News Committee. She is also a stalwart deliverer of Sheering News.



Remember a loved one at Christmas

The lives of loved ones will again be remembered this festive season as St Clare Hospice holds its traditional series of Light Up A Life events across the area.

Lights on various Christmas trees will each represent the life of a loved one.

Laura Herring, Donor Care Officer at St Clare Hospice, said: "This is a wonderful way to remember someone special.

"We are offering eight services this year to enable local people to celebrate the lives of those no longer with us.

"The events are open to everyone, you do not have to have experienced hospice care."

Laura added: "Light Up A Life last year raised nearly £30,000, a truly amazing sum, almost enough to cover the cost of running our In-Patient Unit

during the Christmas period."

Anyone who would like to dedicate a light in memory of someone special, can ring the Hospice on 01279 773750 or fund@stclarehospice.org.uk

The Light up a Life events this year are:

Saturday December 1
St Clare Hospice,
Hastingwood Road,
Hastingwood 4.00

Saturday, December 1
Meeting at Loughton
Methodist Church, High
Road, Loughton 4.30

Sunday, December 2
St Andrew's Church, Harlow
5.00



Wednesday, December 5
St Clare Hospice, Hastingwood
Road, Hastingwood 7.00

Thursday, December 6
St Martin's Church, High Street,
Ongar 4.15

Thursday, December 6
Waltham Abbey
Church, Highbridge
Street, Waltham
Abbey 7.00

Saturday, December
8 St John's Church,
St John 's Road,
Epping 5.30

Sunday, December
9 United Reformed
Church, Dunmow 3.30

Mobile Library

Fortnightly on Wednesdays

Sheering The Crown 10.15 -10.35

Sheering Village Hall 10.35 - 11.05

Lower Sheering Lay-by 2.20-2.50



December 12

January 9, 23

February 6, 20

March 6, 20

www.essex.gov.uk/libraries

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Clay Pigeon Shooting A Sport for All Ages and Gender

Did you enjoy the Olympics this summer? Did the games inspire you to take up a new sport? To get out more? What sport could you take up that the whole family could take part in or just yourself?

Answer: Clay Pigeon Shooting

This is a dynamic sport for all ages and gender, one of the few sports where age and strength are not an issue, one where male, female, young and older can all compete on a level playing field. Although some ladies and children will use smaller calibre guns they will do the same job as the larger calibre guns used by the men.

Clay shooting is one of the safest sports out there with a safety record second to none.

What could be more exciting than pitting your skill against a flying object (the clay pigeon)?

It is a sport where you can choose to shoot at many different levels from pure enjoyment on a Sunday morning with friends and family to club shoots, county level shoots to national and international events and, if you have the skill to get there, even the Olympics (Peter Wilson Gold for double trap) Also even at the highest level of competition there is no age barrier Charlotte Kerwood won a Commonwealth Gold medal at the age of 15 after only shooting for about 3 years.

So if you or a member of your family are not into the run of the mill sports available or are not good at the more physical demanding sports or just want to try something different why not come along and have a go at clay

pigeon shooting.

Have a go sessions start at £20 for 25 shots including all equipment. We are based in Spellbrook, on alternate Sundays.

So to try something different please call or email Roger on 07836 504726 or Roger@ProCoachShootingSchool.com

Roger Hill



Roger Hill and his grandson age three and half after taking his first shots.



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Pete's Ramblings

Whilst writing this edition's ramble, we are approaching Remembrance Sunday and no doubt when you read this article this most symbolic and important event will have come and gone. It is most memorable for me, as my father and three uncles served during the last great war. Uncle Tommy fought in the defence and evacuation of Dunkirk and Uncle Fred died in the defence of Singapore during the Japanese invasion.

What makes civilised rational people go to war? Most wars are futile. They devastate families for generations and can physically and mentally damage young men for the rest of their lives. My eldest grandson Ben is now serving in the army in Afghanistan and I pray that he and all our brave soldiers come home safely.

At the outbreak of this last 'Great War' I was a young six year old just starting primary school, spending most of these early schooldays under Miss Lynn, playing with toys, drinking free milk, cod liver oil and malt, and napping on canvas beds in the afternoon. School was lovely at the time but this was not to last long however, for as the year ended it became obvious that Hitler was going to bomb London, and all school children would need to be sent away from this impending danger.

They called this 'evacuation' and I became an 'evacuee' separated from our tearful parents, the whole school were put on buses complete with our gas masks, lunch boxes, little suitcases, and name labels pinned to our coats and taken to a railway station. I had never been on a bus or even adventured more than two streets away from where I then lived in Poplar, just outside the East End Docks, now Canary Wharf. We boarded a real steam train, and rattled off to Oxford, where we were again bussed to surrounding villages.

My sister Pat and I were taken to a village called South Hinksey the other half of North Hinksey - a split village just like Sheering and Lower Sheering.

On arriving we were paraded in front of

potential foster parents who walked up and down and made their choice depending on whether they liked the look of us scruffy east end urchins. I was one of the last chosen I think, or maybe I am being just a bit sensitive.

My new parents Mr and Mrs Chandler lived in a one and a half up and one and a half down semi detached house. The upstairs was a main bedroom plus an area at the top of the stairs that served as a bedroom for me and their son Roy and also as the access to the main bedroom. Downstairs was a living room with a fireplace and then a scullery-cum-kitchen, no hot water, no heating, stone floors and no toilet. The 'dunney' an outside shed down the garden without any plumbing had a wooden seat with two holes, one bigger than the other, a bucket of ash from

the living room grate to use as a flush, and torn up newspapers to finalise things. It took me a while to work out the connection between Mr Chandler going down the garden at dawn every day and the abundance of tomatoes we seemed to grow.

A school bus took us every morning to Botley junior school, where we had to sit on the floor as there were insufficient desks

or chairs and then back home again in the afternoon to a new world of wonder, a real garden with fruit, vegetables, flowers and even grass, all things I had only previously seen in our local shop or in pictures on the wall in Wade Street School, my first primary. There were real cows in the field at the bottom of the garden, pigs and horses in the

village and rabbits everywhere, a village squire, a shop that seemed to sell everything, and people speaking with an odd accent.

School holidays came and these special days were spent exploring the surrounding countryside and

woods. Roy was my mentor being two years older and he one day persuaded me that to



be accepted by the local youth I would have to go through initiation tests, the first was jumping from the top rail of a five bar field gate, the next was to run round in a circle whilst he fired arrows tipped with real darts at me. With an arrow hanging from my nose and blood pouring down I was immediately accepted into their gang. There was of course a condition attached to the acceptance, that was of course 'I must not tell Roy's mum'.

Being forced to drink Andrews Liver Salts every day, washing in cold water, having to use Roy's bath water every Friday, eating Brussels sprouts and lardy cake seemingly most days, made me long for home quite a bit. Fortunately as the months passed the London air raids stopped, I think they called this period the phoney war, and my Mum eventually came and collected me.

I will pen more war time thoughts and experiences for the next issue, including my first encounter with a school bully, playing truant, another new school, hand knitted football socks and doodlebugs.

Peter Hellmers.

Burglar Alarm Scam

Police have urged elderly residents in Essex to be on their guard against burglar alarm salesmen making false claims to secure orders.

Officers have been contacted by people who have found that they were misled into accepting offers of a 'free' alarm system.

Salesmen from a number of companies are currently believed to be telephone 'cold calling' residents across Essex claiming that elderly people can have free systems under a scheme endorsed by the Home Office, police or the local council.

In some instances, having signed for the free alarm customers then find they must pay monitoring or maintenance contracts which run into thousands of pounds.

Tony Ellis, Essex Police's crime reduction officer for the Epping Forest district said: "They mainly target the elderly making false claims such as they are working with the police or council, that the alarms are free and that there have been a large number of burglaries in their area. They are trying anything that will frighten the resident into agreeing to a survey. They get residents to sign up to contracts which, in some cases, cost up to £3,000 to £4,000. "Anyone seeking advice on buying a burglar alarm should contact their local crime reduction officer by calling 101."

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News from Sheering School

At Sheering School we value our place in the community. Every year we plan events that enable our children to support the local community and to welcome members of the community into the school.



At this time of year, with Christmas around the corner, we have been particularly busy welcoming people into the school as well as being out and about in the village.

Following our Harvest celebrations and with the help of our generous parents, our year 6 children were able to deliver around twenty five food parcels to members of the community in Sheering and Lower Sheering. This is a much anticipated treat for the children and we are always very proud that they are polite and courteous when delivering their parcels. It is lovely to receive so many thank you messages and we know that this is a tradition much valued by the community.

A more recent tradition has been our Grandparents' Harvest Tea. Grandparents are welcomed into school to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and cakes, again provided by our parents. They are entertained by the children with songs and poems from our Harvest celebrations. This year the hall was packed with around 35 grandparents. Following on from this we invited grandparents to join us for lunch. Everyone was treated to roast turkey with all the trimmings, rice pudding and apple crumble. The hall was packed and the children enjoyed sitting with their grandparents while they enjoyed their lunch. Some early birds had the opportunity to look around the school before lunch began and the thank you letters we have received show how much the day was appreciated.

Our successful lunch has encouraged us to consider how we can use our wonderful catering team to support other members of the community. We hope to plan some community lunches in the near future, where we can invite local organisations in for lunch with the opportunity to see the school at work.

We will finish this year by

inviting grandparents to join us for our traditional mince pie and sherry Christmas sing along. This event has been running now for four years and is always a very happy time when we have a packed hall. At Sheering we do believe that Everyone Matters and I know that our Grandparents and members of the community appreciate the opportunity to join with us on these occasions.



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Stop Stansted Expansion 2013 Community Calendar

The 2013 edition of Stop Stansted Expansion's (SSE's) much-loved Community Calendar is now on sale across the region, featuring beautiful views of homes and heritage in the shadow of Stansted Airport.

All proceeds from sales of the calendar, the eleventh to be produced, will be used in the continuing campaign by SSE to fight off the threat of an extra runway or runways at Stansted Airport.

In May 2010 the Coalition Government ruled out any extra runways in the south east, but it now seems to have been persuaded that it needs more hub capacity around London. New Government policy is therefore being formulated and Ministers have stated that all possibilities will be open for consideration. If Stansted does in fact come back into the frame SSE will be fighting this with as much commitment and determination as in the past.



As in previous years, the A3 format calendars are priced at just £6 and will be on sale at some 30 shops across the area, as well as from a sales team drawn from SSE's members. The SSE campaign office can also arrange gift mailing at a small extra charge.

Further details together with a list of stockists can be found on the SSE website at <http://www.stopstanstedexpansion.com/calendar.html>

or obtained from SSE's Campaign Office 01279 870558, email info@stopstanstedexpansion.com.

Local Stockists

Bishop's Stortford: Tourist Information Centre

Hatfield Broad Oak: Broad Oak Stores

Hatfield Heath: Barbara & Bruno, Manor Lodge (01279 730498)

Little Hallingbury: Post Office (Monday to Thursday, 8:30-noon)

Sawbridgeworth: The Tuck Shop

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Sunday, 2nd December at 10.00 Manuden Church, Leader Dave 01279 832632.

Sunday, 16 December at 10.00 Stansted Mountfitchet Train Station, Leader Brian 01279 812574.



Wednesday, 26 December at 10.00 Sawbridgeworth Bell Street Car Park, Leader Sarah 01279 723829.

Sunday, 13 January 2013, Wareside White Horse Pub at 10.00, Leader Peter 01279 835036.

Sunday, 10 February, at 10.00 Hatfield Broad Oak Village Car Park, Leader Brian 01279 812574.

Sunday 24 February at 10.00 Great Canfield, parking in road by Village Hall. Leader Alan 01371 876792.

Sunday, 10 March at 10.00 Standon Church, Leader Dave 01279 832632.

Sunday, 24 March at 10.00 The Fox Pub Matching Tye, Leader Peter 01278 835036.

Weekend Walks are generally 5-6 miles long and normally last between 2 and 2 1/2 hours long. ENJOY !!



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 Tickets 600718

Deliverers Required in Sheering

Volunteers are required
to deliver *Sheering
News* in The Plashets
and The Street three
times a year.

Please contact Linda
Ainsworth on 01279
734333 if you are
able to help.



**New non-emergency Police Number 101
extension 319128**

CAROL SINGING Monday December 10

Please join the singers and
musicians meeting at 6.30
outside The Cock Pub
Wrap up warm; bring a torch or
lantern if possible. Carol sheets
provided.



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**Please let us have
letters, articles
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the next edition of
Sheering News by
1 March 2013**





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Should be

Thursday 27 December

Thursday 3 January

Thursday 10 January

Will be

Saturday 29 December

Saturday 5 January

Friday 11 January

♦Green Bin

Food Waste: All cooked and uncooked food waste including: bread, cakes, biscuits and pastries; dairy products such as cheese; coffee grounds and teabags; fruit and vegetables; leftover food from your dinner plate and dishes; meat and fish (including bones)



Garden Waste: Branches; cuttings; dead flowers; grass and leaves; house plants; twigs; weeds; animal waste and bedding from herbivores



♦**Black Bin** Domestic household rubbish including tetra-paks. No side waste

♦**Blue Box** Glass bottles and jars



♦**Clear Sacks** Recyclable paper, card, tins, cans, plastic bottles, plastic tubs and pots, food trays; plastic bags; aerosols; clean foil and foil containers



♦**Polystyrene** Leave by the black wheelie bin

Clear sacks available from Sheering Post Office.

Clear sacks also available from Valerie & Ron Monk 8 Sheering Mill Lane. Please contact between 9.30 and 7.00 Monday to Saturday. Not available Sundays.

For more information contact 01992 564608 or www.eppingforestcd.gov.uk

Afternoon tea raises over £700 for hospice

Tea and scones helped raise £700 for St Clare Hospice.

The so-called 'posh tea party' was held by the Harlow Friends of St Clare Hospice on Sunday, October 28.



Some 56 guests turned up in their finest clothes to enjoy plenty of homemade cakes and sandwiches with tea served in vintage china cups and saucers.

St Clare Hospice Community Fundraiser Camilla Wood said: "There were cake stands and very old tea pots and the Bishop's Stortford Ukulele band



played. Everyone loved it."

It is expected that the tea party will now become an annual event.

Along with the raffle, which was organised by Harlow Friends member Ellen Long and raised about £130, the tea party raised over £700.

Audrey Marlow, a member of the Harlow Friends group, said: "It was a lovely afternoon and we've had some very good feedback. Everyone enjoyed it and loved the food."



Hospice book shop in Bishop's Stortford to open on Sundays

St Clare Hospice is appealing for volunteers to help at its book shop in Bishop's Stortford which will be opening on Sundays (10am-4pm) from October 21.

Alan Cox has joined the bookshop team as Sunday Assistant Manager and will need volunteers to help him each week.

The hospice's Retail Sales Manager, Louise Hamilton, said: "Shoppers are invited to pop in for a leisurely Sunday morning browse through the wide range of fiction, non fiction and music on sale.

Anyone interested in volunteering can call into the bookshop at 10 Devoils Lane, Bishop's Stortford (from the Saffron Walden Building Society in Market Square, the book shop is at the bottom of the steps in Devoils Lane) and speak to shop manager Jeff Hepting, or ring him on 01279 755990.

Hospice receives excellent review from Care Quality Commission

St Clare Hospice is celebrating after receiving an excellent review from the Care Quality Commission this summer.

The Commission, which regulates and inspects all health

and social care services in England, gave an unannounced visit to the Hospice.

During the course of the day-long visit every aspect of care and reporting procedures were inspected.

Also taken into account were the views of patients using the services.

Among the comments received from patients were: "St Clare's is one of the finest places in the world...second to none.

"We found the staff helpful, friendly and caring."

Another person told the Commission that they found the hospice "excellent, really, really good" and added: "The treatment was first rate and the rooms were excellent with plenty of space. I felt I had perfect dignity."

St Clare Hospice chief executive Tanya Curry said: "We are delighted that the high quality service we provide to the community has been recognised by the Care Quality Commission.

"I would like to thank every member of staff for the commitment they show to patients which results in such glowing feedback from those we care for."

Details of the Care Quality Commission report are available on the St Clare website www.stclarehospice.org.uk

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St Mary's Parish Church Sheering Sunday Services

1st Sunday	11.00	Family Service
	6.30	Evensong at Holy Trinity
2nd Sunday	8.00	Holy Communion (1662)
	11.00	Matins or Morning Prayer
3rd Sunday	11.00	Holy Communion
4th Sunday	8.00	Holy Communion (1662)
	11.00	Morning Worship
5th Sunday	11.00	Morning Worship

Sheering Sunday School and Club: for young people (ages 3 years and upwards)

Sunday School meets every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday (sometimes on a 5th Sunday), beginning in Church. Sunday Club meets every 3rd Sunday for fun activities including craft, games and bible study. Occasional walks and outside activities when weather permits.

Tuesday Teas in the Church Room Tuesdays 2:30 - 4.30

www.essexinfo.net/st_marys_sheering

**The Rector Writes:**

Dear Sheering Residents,

As we begin to get to the end of another year it is good to reflect on past events (especially before the Christmas rush over takes us all!) This year has seen so much happen in the life of our nation. On the positive side, there were the events of the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics and Paralympics. On a more negative note, we were still facing economic problems and their knock on social effects. In relation to this, I recently heard that the Harlow Foodbank, which St Mary's church supports with its Harvest gifts, has had its busiest month to date.

Many of us will look back on very pleasant memories of our village, holidays, weddings and (perhaps!) new babies. Some of us will have sadness mixed in with the good times – the loss of loved ones and other painful



experiences.

The Christian tradition reminds us that the ups and downs of life have always been there. The Bible is full of very real stories about very real people. People like Moses, King David and St Peter went through joys and trials. What they shared was a faith that God exists and that God is good. Nothing can ultimately separate us from God's love. The Christian festival of All Saints (on the first of November) reminded us of all those who have gone before us in life and faith. We are just part of the long line of history. At the end of November we will have the festival of Christ the King. This can remind us that Jesus cares for all of our lives (if he is King of the Universe then this is both an amazing and comforting truth).

Do enjoy the rest of the year and all the festivities to come.

Best wishes,

Stewart

Sunday 16 December – 11.00 – Christingle Service

Monday 10 December – Carol singing around the village meet outside The Cock at 6.30. Wrap up warm; bring a torch or lantern if possible. Carol sheets provided.

Sunday 23 December – 4.00 – Carol Service

Christmas Eve – 5.30 – Starlight Service - a re-telling of the Nativity Story. Children are encouraged to come dressed as angels or shepherds

Christmas Day – 8.00 – Holy Communion;
11.00 Family Communion



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- Mondays 7.30-8.00- Advanced class @ Sheering Village Hall
- Tuesdays 9.15 - 10am - High Wych Memorial Hall
- Wednesdays 9.15 - 10am - Beginners running club (call for info)
- Thursdays 7 - 7.45pm @ Hatfield Heath Village Hall
- Fridays 9.15 - 10am @ Hatfield Heath Village Hall

£5 per session

Call for more details



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Perfect as a Christmas gift!



To book your place or for more info please call Rachel
07775 663742 rachel_ibbotson@hotmail.com

IN-SHAPE FITNESS also offers Bootcamp participants discount rates for 1 to 1 Personal Training and small group (2-3 people) Personal Training in a private gym in Hatfield Heath.

Ongar Music Club

Founded in 1975 and based in the small market town of Ongar in Essex, Ongar Music Club promotes recitals of chamber and solo instrumental music.

The concerts, which take place in Ongar's Budworth Hall mostly on Friday evenings, run from September to May each year. In 1984, it founded the prestigious competition to find the Essex Young Musician of the Year under the generous patronage of John Lill.



The High Street, Ongar with the Budworth Hall to the right

Many famous artists have performed for the Club. These include Dame Eva Turner, Dame Janet Baker, Sir Peter Pears, Stephen Kovacevich, Denis Matthews, Steven Isserlis, Richard Baker, Fritz Spiegl and The Fairer Sax, to name but a few. The Club was also instrumental in the formation of Ongar Jazz Club. This diversity of activity has ensured the ongoing success of the Club.

If you are not a member already, why not join us? For next season, 2012-2013, the subscription will be £10.00 per annum by which you can save up to £1.50 per concert ticket, and even more if you take out a season ticket.

This season includes a special celebrity piano recital on the 1st February 2013 and details will be publicised later.

For further details on any of the Club's activities, please contact the Chairman Peter Jackson. Tel: 01763 248342.

Sunday 2nd December at 3.00

Young Music Makers 1

Each season the Club offers a platform to schoolchildren of all ages and abilities in afternoon concerts. The experience of playing in public to a friendly audience is an important element in building confidence.

Adults £3, Children £1 (free for performers)

Sunday 23rd December at 4.00

More Christmas Spirit

Cantate Alumni Choir Michael Kibblewhite, music director

A feast of Christmas music, with traditional carols for all to sing. A welcome return visit from Cantate Alumni – past members of Cantate, the internationally-acclaimed youth choir formed by Michael Kibblewhite.

Seasonal refreshments will be served during the interval.

£8, £10

Friday 1st February at 8pm

Celebrity Piano Recital

This recital is being given in memory of John Harrop for many years Chairman of Ongar Music Club

Details of this very special recital will be announced publicly in early October. This unmissable recital will include music by Bach, Beethoven, Scriabin and Chopin.

£8, £15

Friday 15th March at 8pm

The Conservatoire Series

Students from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama

Lauren Reeve-Rawlings (French horn)

A finalist in BBC Radio 2's Brass Young Musician of the Year, Lauren has already created a considerable reputation with performances including Mozart's fourth horn concerto at the Barbican conducted by Sir Colin Davis, in her first year of study. Her recital will include music for horn and piano by Mozart and Strauss.

£8, £10

The Frederick Gibberd Collection of British Watercolours and Drawings

The Frederick Gibberd Collection of British Watercolours and drawings was started in 1977 with Sir Frederick Gibberd's gift to Harlow Council of ten pictures from his personal collection.

Sir Frederick began his collection in 1935, shaping it by these characteristic features: each picture had to be the work of a British artist, the artist had to be living and each picture had to be either a watercolour or a drawing or a print.

The provisos were designed to initiate and foster the careers of young artists, some of whom were his friends. Moreover, works by young artists were easily affordable, making it possible to acquire works by artists of the quality of Graham Sutherland and John Piper before their reputations were established. Then, the collection welcomed watercolours particularly, for this was the medium in which British artists had excelled. Importantly, painters of the Romantic School like Alexander Cousins, Girtin, Turner and Cotman had found watercolour the ideal medium for depicting the landscapes of Britain, with their delicate, hazy forms, ever changing skies and atmospheric effects.

As with all private collections, Sir Frederick's was shaped by personal taste and to its great credit contained pieces by many of Britain's most influential artists of the period. Furthermore, Sir Frederick continued to contribute artistic works beyond his initial donation of ten, donating another thirty-three works to Harlow Council before his death in 1984. In addition, he not only advised on subsequent purchases but also it was primarily his enthusiasm and commitment that led to the location of the gallery in the old Town Hall.

Because Harlow Council allocated money for more purchases in accord with the original objectives, additions to the gallery in later

years included works by renowned women artists, such as Elizabeth Blackadder and Prunella Clough.

The collection was moved to the purpose-built Gibberd Gallery in January 2002

<http://www.harlow.gov.uk>



Alphabet by Michael Craig-Martin The Gibberd Gallery

One of our most influential British artists has produced 26 screenprints - letters and images presented in his signature style.

Exhibition dates: 25 October 2012 - 4 January

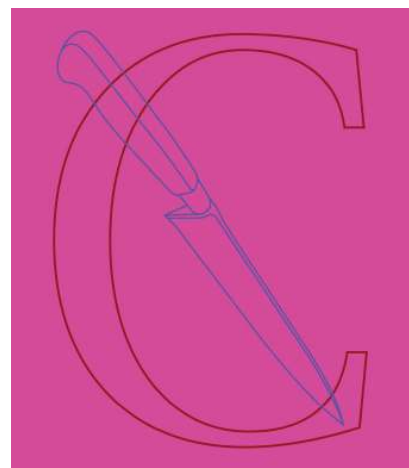
Gibberd Gallery,

Civic Centre,

The Water Gardens,

Harlow, CM20 1WG

Monday - Friday 9.00 - 4.45



Down Memory Lane

Public Houses

There were two inns in 1755, the Crown and the Cock. At that time the Crown may have been the building now called Crown House in The Street, which dates from the 18th century, but by 1809 the sign had been transferred to a house on the present site at the corner of Crown Close and the Street. The present building may be of 18th-century origin, but was much altered and enlarged in the 19th century.

Crown Close was formerly where Back Lane met The Street before the M11 was built in 1980.

The Cock, also in the Street, is a timber-framed building of 18th century origin. The original part of the Cock Inn was built in 1655 and for many years it was called The Old Cock.

The Queen's Head, on the corner of The Street and Queen's Head Yard, existed as a beerhouse by 1871 and continued as a public house until about 1990. It is now a private house.

The Northern and Eastern railway from London reached Harlow in 1841 and was extended to Sawbridgeworth and Bishop's Stortford in 1842. The Railway Inn, near Sawbridgeworth station, had been built by 1861.

Known as Railway Arms in the 1881 census but by 1902 with its present day name of The Railway Inn.

By 1741 Lower Road and Sheering Road were both used by coaches running north and east from Harlow. In the later 18th century the improvement of the turnpike road from Harlow via Sawbridgeworth and Hockerill probably diverted north-south traffic from Sheering. In the 1820s and 1830s only the daily coach from London to Dunmow and carriers between Hatfield Broad Oak and London passed through Sheering.

Old photos, postcards, stories and memories for future articles please by email or post to address on p 36.

Read more about our history in The Victoria County History
<http://www.british-history.ac.uk>



The Crown Inn



The Cock Inn



**View down The Street past The Cock Inn
before there were pavements along The Street**

Photos and postcards kindly lent by Dennis Parker

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