

# SHEERING NEWS

also at [www.sheering.org.uk](http://www.sheering.org.uk)

December 2021

141

## A Tribute to Michael ('Mike') Morgan

The life of Michael Morgan, of Back Lane, Sheering, who sadly died of Covid-19, aged 81 years, on 7 October, was celebrated last month in a moving funeral service in Great St Mary's Church, Sawbridgeworth.

The Morgan family moved to Sheering in 1981 following 'Mr Morgan's' appointment as a general surgeon with a special interest in breast cancer at Epping and Harlow hospitals. He soon established himself not only as a highly skilled, much loved and respected

surgeon, but also as a colourful local character with many other interests. People have remembered him as larger than life, a force of nature, vibrant, exuberant, kind, warm, generous, fun, a person who was interested and knowledgeable about so many things, who liked to talk to anyone and everyone about anything and everything and treated everyone the same. A local legend.

Mike was born in Swansea, South Wales and remained a passionate Welshman, particularly when it came to rugby. With his two older brothers and younger sister, the family lived in Pontardulais - 'the Bont' - a close knit community just outside Swansea. He was, of course, a war baby, so for the first few years of his

life his father was away in the Army and the family must have been all too aware of the repeated heavy bombardment of Swansea.

At the age of about seven he became seriously ill with meningitis. The miracle of penicillin had just become available

and probably saved his life, albeit given in those days by twice daily lumbar punctures to deliver it to the spine. He always winced at having to perform



this procedure on a patient, but the whole experience must have influenced his future choice of career.


Although they spoke English at home, some of Mike's schooling was in Welsh. He went to Gowerton Grammar School, Swansea, where he excelled at sport - particularly rugby and tennis - and played the cello. When the family moved to Lampeter, he transferred to Lampeter secondary school. He studied medicine in Cardiff, where he played rugby for Cardiff Medicals and took on management of the student bar. He apparently brought it back into profit and undercut the local wine merchants to such an extent they complained about losing their consultant clientele!

Continued page 12



THE EDITORIAL TEAM OF SHEERING NEWS WISH  
ALL OUR READERS, DELIVERERS & ADVERTISERS  
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR



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**DIARY****DECEMBER**

**Sunday 5 December**, 10.30 'Pop-up' Nativity service, St Mary's Sheering

**Monday 6** WI Christmas Lunch - members only

**Saturday 11** PTFA Christmas Fair

**Tuesday 14** WI - no meeting.

**Wednesday 15 December**, 6.00 Carol singing round the village

**Friday 17 December**, 7.00 onwards Carols at The Cock with St Mary's Brass **Sunday 19**

**December**, 4.00 Candlelit Carol Service St Mary's, Sheering

**Christmas Eve - Friday 24 December**, 11.00 pm Midnight Communion

Holy Trinity Church, Hatfield Heath

**Christmas Day**, 10.30 Christmas Morning Communion at St Mary's, Sheering

**Boxing Day, Sunday 26 December**, 10.30 Joint Six Villages service St Mary the Virgin, Hatfield Broad Oak

**DAILY**

**Pre-School:** Every weekday 8.30-2.30 during term time in the Village Hall. Angie Rivoire 01279 734306 .

sheeringvillagepreschool.co.uk

**WEEKLY**

**Bridge Club: Thursdays** 7.15 in the Village Hall. June Whitbread 01279 651234

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

**Sheering Choir: Mondays** in term time 7.00 - 8.00 in the Village Hall. Free of charge. Just turn up for a fun evening

**Yoga:** Village Hall Mondays 6.45 - 8.15 07854 773680

**Zumba:** Village Hall Tuesdays 6.30 -7.30

Claire Britten 07854 107021

**THREE WEEKLY**

**Mobile Library Van** every third Wednesday, Lower Sheering 0845 603 7628  
www.essex.gov.uk/libraries

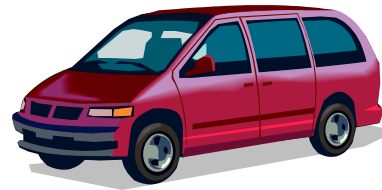
**MONTHLY**

**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. Irene Harriss 01279 734334

**U3A Sawbridgeworth** 3.00 on the third Friday of every month. Sawbridgeworth Memorial Hall.

Membership Secretary, John Dickenson  
01279 722297

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**Robert Halfon MP writes:**

Dear Resident,

I am writing to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and to reflect upon what has happened in 2021.

This has been another very tough year for our community. However, I have every hope that, thanks to the remarkable vaccination and booster programme, next year will be a much brighter one and I want to just explain why I think that may be the case.

As your MP, I work hard every day for Sheering and I want to update you on the work I have done to deliver on my pledges.

#### **Championing Education and Apprenticeships**

My passion in politics has always been championing education and apprenticeships. In the Budget, the Chancellor increased per pupil funding for every pupil in our local schools by record amounts, something I have been campaigning on for many years. He also extended incentives for businesses to employ apprentices and increased the Skills budget by 42% - this will mean many more young people in Sheering being able to get an apprenticeship and climb the educational ladder of opportunity.

#### **Cherishing our village and protecting our environment**

Despite much work this year from our local Councillors, speeding in the village is still all too common. I have met with the police and our County Councillor to fight for more action to be taken and I will continue to work hard to see that action clamp down on this speeding. I also know many residents have concerns about the Local Plan and overdevelopment. I have made representations to the Council on behalf of everyone who has contacted me about this and I would encourage any resident with concerns to contact me directly so that I can raise it with the Council.

#### **Making our streets safer**

I have voted on a number of occasions in Parliament to ensure that the sentences criminals receive truly reflect the crime they committed. For too long, the system has enforced weak sentences that do not allow for justice to be served and I am pleased that will now change.

Furthermore, I've worked hard to ensure that victims have the support they need, and I'm pleased that with the new Domestic Abuse Act and the Government's new Beating Crime Plan, victim support will be placed at the heart of the criminal justice system.

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We also need more police on our streets with more powers to tackle crime. That's why I've lobbied and voted for more funding for the Police, and I'm pleased that we now have over 600 more police officers in Essex - with stronger police powers - and many more to come. I'm working hard to ensure our community gets our fair share of officers to tackle anti-social and dangerous behaviour.

#### **Cutting the cost of living**

The pandemic has presented unprecedented financial worries and I have lobbied the Government to introduce measures to cut the cost of living for Sheering residents. I'm pleased that the Chancellor heard those concerns and acted in the Budget to:

- Cut taxes for lower earners by cutting the taper rate on Universal Credit from 63% to 55%. This will uplift wages, alongside the uplift in Work Allowance to ensure work always pays and benefitting thousands of families in Harlow.
- Increase the National Living Wage to £9.50 an hour. This equates to around £1,000 per year salary increase for full-time workers.
- Freeze fuel duty for the twelfth year saving the average driver £15 every time they fill up. Reform of alcohol duties and freeze business rates to cut the tax and support our brilliant local pubs.

#### **Strengthening our NHS**

The plans for our new hospital are continuing to develop and I'm delighted that since I was re-elected in 2019, we have 191 more nurses and 63 more doctors working at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. This is thanks to the record funding for our NHS with tens of billions of pounds to increase frontline funding, tackle the backlogs, recruit more doctors and nurses, and ensure every resident can see their GP quickly and without issue.

I will continue to work hard to secure more funding and ensure that funding truly reaches the frontline so that every resident receives the care that they need.

2021 has been a very busy year for our community and, for the reasons I have outlined, I have every hope that next year will be an even better one. I will continue to work hard for Sheering and I look forward to seeing you soon.

As ever, if there is anything I can do to help you or your family, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

With every good wish,  
Robert



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# Letters



Dear Editor

What Is happening with our Village Hall ?

Before the first lockdown I attended several council meetings as I had heard that our village hall is in financial difficulties, we also need more committee members.

Some of the Parish council decided to get involved to try and get the problem sorted. They have been struggling to get information and therefore unable to get the situation sorted.

I would like to suggest that a village meeting is called as it is imperative that our village hall has a future. If the situation isn't resolved, will we have a village hall in the future?

The Village Hall Is such an important asset for our village and the community it is important that it has a future. So many organisations have wanted to return to booking the Hall, which is gradually happening.

What will happen now as we understand Linda and Ray Griggs have resigned . Having been caretakers, cleaners and general Maintenance for many years? Whatever the function they have set the hall out for the appropriate event. It has always been clean and welcoming. The Hall needs cleaning before and after each booking, unlocking and locking up. All these are mainly unsociable hours.

We have enjoyed many events in our village hall over the years and we must get behind the important vocal point and meeting place in our village.

Thank you to the committee who have been struggling with the difficulties also to Linda and Ray for the work over the years.

Irene Harriss

Lifelong Sheering Resident

Dear Editor

We regularly go for walks in Hatfield Forest as it's lovely and peaceful there but one needs to book a parking space, to avoid disappointment, as space is limited at this time of year.

For safety reasons Essex County Council, together with Uttlesford, have double red lined a long stretch of the very narrow road on the approach to the forest so there is no road parking possible.

We have, unfortunately, witnessed a lot of verbal abuse given to the volunteers that staff

the car park entrance bringing them to the verge of tears!

Autumn and Winter parking is limited to hardstanding spaces only from October as the ground of the grass car parks needs to recover from the very busy summer season. Pre-booking is essential at weekends, school and bank holidays and can be done through their website To be on the safe side it would be best to book as much in advance as possible. The Forest is now on its full winter times and are only open from Wednesdays to Sundays.

Many thanks,

Michael and Hannah Shine

[nationaltrust-tickets.org.uk/](http://nationaltrust-tickets.org.uk/)

0344 249 1895

*The Patient Participation Group from Sawbridgeworth Central Surgery have invited Sheering News to include extracts from their monthly newsletter. This and other extracts page 21(Editor)*

**Using the right COVID-19 test:** Some local GPs have expressed concern about people with COVID-19 symptoms who are relying on the results of 'rapid' or 'lateral flow' tests to diagnose whether they have COVID-19. If you're experiencing Covid-19 symptoms, such as a temperature, a new cough or a loss of sense of taste or smell, should book a PCR test at your local centre straight away, and isolate until you have the results. If your child demonstrates any of these symptoms, please also do the same. If you do not have any symptoms of COVID-19, then it is appropriate for you to take regular rapid lateral flow tests, and it is recommended that you do so twice a week. There is a chance that you can still catch and pass on COVID-19 even if you're vaccinated, with about one in three people not displaying symptoms even when they are infected - taking regular tests can help you stop spreading the virus unknowingly. Please self-isolate if you receive a positive result and arrange a PCR test immediately to confirm these.

**HM Government** **NHS Test and Trace**

## Covid-19 Testing

**With symptoms**  
"PCR" tests

**When to take the test:**

- If you have Covid-19 symptoms
- To confirm your positive lateral flow test result

**How long it takes:**

- These tests are processed in labs
- Up to 3 days, most results the next day

**Get a test:**

- At home
- At a test site

**Without symptoms**  
"rapid lateral flow" tests

**When to take the test:**

- If you do not have symptoms of Covid-19
- As part of routine testing twice a week

**How long it takes:**

- Result processed by test device
- Around 30 minutes

**Get a test:**

- At home
- At your secondary school
- At a test site
- At your university
- At work
- Collect from a pharmacy
- At your nursery
- Order online

Find out more at [GOV.UK](http://GOV.UK) or call 119

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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.

Please refer to the new Parish Council website for dates of meetings.

[e-voice.org.uk/sheering-parish-council/](http://e-voice.org.uk/sheering-parish-council/)

#### Parish Councillors

Rodney Northwood - Chairman	01279 724514	rodneynorthwood@live.co.uk
Richard Morgan - Vice Chairman	01279 731243	
Bill Bedford	01279 734229	bedfordw@rocketmail.com
Mick Bull	07801137991	mick.k.bull@gmail.com
Judy Christmas	01279 734995	judychristmas62@gmail.com
Mike Hayter	01279 734211	spcplanning@outlook.com
	07973 941987	
John Harrington	01279 722556	john@scootie5.co.uk
	07720 312045	
Neil Marsden	01279 734335	nam136918@gmail.com
Lesley Paine	07969 855316	paine127@btinternet.com
Peter Rust	01279 734881	rust937@outlook.com
Margaret Whitfield	01279 722552	margaret.whitfield@btinternet.com
	07722 327864	

#### Clerk to the Parish Council

Siobhan Perrin [sheeringpc@gmail.com](mailto:sheeringpc@gmail.com) **Office hours only**

#### District Councillors

##### Sheering Village

Richard Morgan 01279 731243 [richardmorgan26@outlook.com](mailto:richardmorgan26@outlook.com)

##### Lower Sheering

Paul Stalker 07969 219006 [cllr.pstalker@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.pstalker@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

#### County Councillor

Christopher Whitbread

[cllr.christopher.whitbread@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.christopher.whitbread@essex.gov.uk)

Essex County Council, County Hall, Duke Street, Chelmsford CM1 1LX

## Parish Council News

### Richard Morgan MBE

It is with great pleasure, I start this report with reference to our District and Parish Councillor, Richard Morgan, who after a delay of some 18 months has been awarded his national honour.

The Press release from Epping Forest District Council reads:

“After a delay of more than 18 months, veteran councillor Richard Morgan MBE has been presented with his national honour at Windsor Castle, by HRH The Princess Royal.

### Services to the community

The Honour of Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire is in recognition of his services to the community

After 38 years as an Epping Forest District Councillor, Richard Morgan is still one of the most active and influential local members. He has played a very active role across various committees culminating in cross-party support in his election to the role of Chairman of Council in 2004.

He was elected to the District Council in 1983 and throughout that time has served, and represented local people in Morton, Hastingwood, Matching and Sheering Villages.

Richard also sat on a number of outside bodies and organisations including Stansted Airport Community Trust Fund; Fawbert & Barnard’s Educational Foundation; Stansted Airport Consultative Committee (Deputy Chairman); National Housing and New Town Planning Council; Sports Centre Management Committee Ongar & District Community Association and Local Councils Liaison Committee.

### A gentleman in every way

One of his nominators said of Richard: He is a gentleman in every way and is always willing to help the local community in whatever way he can.

During his year as Chairman he supported St Claire Hospice (Hastingwood), Chigwell Riding Trust, Cancer Research UK and the Air Ambulance based at North Weald Airfield.”

Two years after my appointment as Chairman of Sheering Parish Council, Richard was appointed Deputy Chairman, and it has been an honour and a privilege to have had him at my side for the last 6 years plus, and for his support, guidance and the benefit of the wealth of experience he brings to Parish Council meetings. It is very gratifying that Richard’s contribution to the community has

been recognised at the highest of levels and is an accolade well deserved.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I extend our sincere congratulations to Richard.

### Parish Clerk

As I reported in the August edition of Sheering News, our Parish Clerk Debbie Tennant took the decision to retire. The advertising and recruitment process started in June when the Parish Council was able to resume face to face meetings. With the first of interviews set up for the 5<sup>th</sup> July, these were subsequently cancelled due to the candidates, all for different reasons withdrawing their applications. The post for Parish Clerk was again advertised, and I am pleased to confirm that following a successful interview, Siobhan Perrin who is a local resident and resides in The Street was appointed and attended her first meeting in September. We wish Siobhan every success in her new appointment. I also record the Parish Councils appreciation to Debbie who continued to carry out most of her duties during the prolonged recruitment process, and finally took up her retirement at the end of August.

### New Councillor

Following the resignation of Councillor Jones, I am pleased to confirm, that having advertised the vacancy, John Harrington was appointed a Councillor in August. This was a return to the Parish Council for John who in the past had served Sheering as District Councillor for Lower Sheering, a Parish Councillor and was Chairman of the Parish Council for eleven years, preceding my appointment in 2013, following John’s decision to step down. John brings to our meetings a wealth of experience gained over a period in excess of some thirty years serving as a Councillor, and in welcoming John back, we look forward to his help and support in the many issues facing us in the coming months.

### Planning

There have been a number of planning applications passing through the Parish Council during the period with a significant number being for Lawful Development. The two most significant applications however have been that for the erection of a 5G telecommunications mast, proposed to be erected at the junction of The Street and Crown Close. The Parish Council opposed



this application, along with a number of residents, and the latest information we have is that this application has been rejected by EFDC

The second most significant planning issue was the response to the Main Modifications outlined in the amended Local Plan which showed the area of Green Belt land which extends the East of Harlow Strategic Master Plan up to the motorway bridge at Sheering. The Parish Council, launched a leaflet drop to residents in Sheering Village to lodge their own objections to this proposal, and in conjunction with residents objections, the Parish Council submitted an extensive detailed objection against the proposal, which if approved would go a long way towards Sheering losing its Village status, a move that was advised against in the original Local Plan document. The current status is that the period for lodging objections has now closed, and these are now being considered by the Planning Inspector. We await the outcome of the Inspectors decision.

### Playing Fields & Equipment

Quotations for maintenance works and the upgrading of the Lower Sheering playing field have now been received and comparisons made, with decisions taken on moving these works forward. It is expected that orders will be placed for these works immanently, but with lead times of anything up to 10 weeks being quoted for new equipment and associated works, the upgrading of Lower Sheering playing field is not likely to start until early in the new year. This hopefully will coincide with some dryer weather so avoiding or limiting damage to the playing field itself.

### Tree Planting Scheme

The tree planting scheme as outlined in the August edition of Sheering News, has moved on and a number of trees under the scheme have been ordered, for planting in both Sheering Village and Lower Sheering. The trees are expected to be available February/ March, so please keep an eye on the notice boards when we will be looking for volunteers to assist with the planting.

### Astro Turf

Many of you will have noticed that a large area of the Astro Turf along the Street adjacent to the Village sign has now been removed. This area has now been seeded with a variety of wild flowers which we hope will be a colourful area late Spring early Summer attracting wild


life and the benefits this exercise will bring to the area. All the necessary work in transforming this area has been carried out by volunteers from both the Village and Lower Sheering under the watchful eye guidance and assistance of Councillor Paine.

### Waste Bins

At long last, the additional dog waste bins have now been delivered and fixed, one along the Street and one in Four Acres. The badly deteriorated waste bin in Lower Sheering playing field has also been replaced. In concluding, thankfully, we are in a better position this year, than we were this time last year, but as we all know, the pandemic is not over and we must continue to be careful. Look after yourselves, look after each other, stay safe and keep well.

May I take the opportunity on behalf of the Parish Council, to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and the very best for the New Year.

**Rodney Northwood**  
Chairman



**Gentle Hatha Yoga Class**  
*for all abilities*

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**Every Monday 6:45 - 8.15pm**  
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---

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# LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

## Sheering School PTFA

Despite the pandemic impacting our children's schooling for the past 18 months we continued to plan COVID safe events and fundraisers last year - some of which we actually managed to do!



The money that we raised last year helped to fund a lovely big colourful rug for Durrington class (year 1 & 2) and some artist easels.

We plan to replace football goals, netball nets and put together 'rainy day boxes' for each classroom over the next few months.

This term we have an Autumn disco for the children planned, a Christmas Fair in the pipeline on 11 December amongst other school based Christmas events.

Keep your eyes peeled for details of a Christmas party - open to all local residents (adults only!) on 27 November.

We organised a party like this in 2019 and it was a fabulous night; bring your own drinks, lots of dancing and a great way raise some funds.

If you are a local businesses who would like to support raffles, offer sponsorship of events or help in other ways, please do let the PTFA know via the school office. We are really grateful for all the support received by the local community.

## Sheering Village Pre-School

Well, where did that time go! Looking back through the



Sheering news editions we noticed that it has been a

whole year since our last report so once again we would like to apologise. The activities of firework night, Remembrance Day, Children in Need, Diwali and Christmas went ahead as planned. We were unable to hold our Christmas concert/coffee morning, however, we still managed to raise £216.00 from our Tea-Towels, £256.00 from our Christmas raffle, £41.00 from the toy and book sales and a £40.00 donation was received from one of the children's grandparents. We would like to thank our parents for all their support. Back in January 2021. The pandemic was at a critical stage with Covid 19 cases increasing at a phenomenal rate, to this end many of our parents decided to keep their children at home. We remained open for all other children but our numbers were significantly reduced, having between 4 and 8 children in per day. Angie and I were able to create a rota that enabled staff to have time at home with their own children to help with home schooling and we even got a day off each as well. Due to our low numbers and a problem with the heating in the village hall, we ran the pre-school from the small hall where it was easier to maintain a constant temperature. This was made more difficult with the incredibly cold winter that we encountered. Pre-school continued to take on the responsibility of cleaning the hall, kitchen and toilets and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their help in this matter and for taking it in turns to remove recycling and rubbish from the hall which they are still doing to this day. We went back to uploading

our activities to the children's online learning journeys which enabled us to stay in contact with our children and parents. Some of the activities we enjoyed were celebrating new year and Chinese new year. After half term we returned to pre-school, still running from the small hall. By the second week we were back to working at full capacity with all staff and children and running from the large hall. At this time we welcomed two new children to pre-school, just in time to celebrate Mothering Sunday. Unfortunately we were unable to hold our Easter concert/coffee morning and so missed out on crucial fundraising. On returning after our Easter break we welcomed another eight children and their families to pre-school and enjoyed celebrating Father's Day and activities linked to our topic which was 'Healthy Minds and Body'. It was not possible to hold our annual sports day with all the children invited into pre-school and all the parents watching, so we held a mini version instead where we were still able to have straight running races and over under and through races. We enjoyed our annual activity of watching caterpillars grow and build a cocoon but unfortunately at the very end of June a member of staff contracted Covid and we were forced to close for two weeks. Within five days myself and Angie had it too. I had the job of keeping the butterfly cocoons until the butterflies emerged, then I released them in my garden, videoing the release and putting it on the children's learning journeys. We were able to return to pre-school for the last week of term,

once again filming our leavers' concert. We said farewell to 19 children, ten of whom moved on to Sheering Primary School and we wish them all happiness in their new schools. We had a donation of £150 from one of our leaving families and a huge thank you goes out to them. Returning after the summer holidays, we welcomed 16 new children and their families to pre-school, we hope they all enjoy their time with us. Our topic this half term was 'All About Me'. This is a great topic to start our Autumn term with as it helps us to get to know our children better. We also incorporated Phonics with a letter of the week. At the end of the term we celebrated Halloween by carving pumpkins. The children have also had their photos taken by S.C. Photographers and as always the photos are amazing. After the October half term we will be welcoming another three children and their families. We will then focus on firework night, Remembrance Day, Children in need, Diwali and Christmas, with hopefully a Christmas concert/coffee morning. By the time this issue of Sheering News is released we should be in receipt of a real Christmas tree. The tree has been donated by Harlow Garden Centre who are part of the Blue Diamond group. The group asked members of their staff to nominate a school or pre-school as a way of a thank you for working through the pandemic. We would like to say thank you for this generous donation, one which the children will absolutely love by decorating it with their hand made decorations. A huge thank you to Chris Haddon for nominating us. As always we would like to wish everybody a very merry

Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful new year. Happy 2022 everyone!  
Caroline and Angie

### Sheering W

We're glad to say that Sheering WI is up and running every second Tuesday of the month in the small village hall starting at 7.30. We had such a fun and interesting talk last month from the Award winning Harlow Community Garden, they provide a safe friendly environment for children/adults to enjoy gardening, growing vegetables and flowers which they get to cook with, any extras are sent to the food bank or charity kitchens. This is an example of the speakers we have. Please come along, we almost had to close with the lack of support and after 103 years in the village we are hoping to keep going. Hope to see you there!  
Sheena Pike, President



### Men's Sheds

Men's Sheds are places where men can go and meet, chat, have a coffee and enjoy common interests. The activities are often similar to those of garden sheds, but for groups of men to enjoy together. They help reduce loneliness and isolation, but most importantly, they're fun. <https://menssheds.org.uk/> There are Men's Sheds in both Bishops Stortford and Harlow. **Bishop's Stortford Men's Shed**, London Road, Bishop's Stortford CM23 3LQ, - We are open on Wednesday's from 10.00 to 4.00 for woodworking projects, and cups of tea! Trevor Bennett - 07443 395756; [trevorbennett@ymail.com](mailto:trevorbennett@ymail.com) **Harlow Men's Shed**; Harlow CM20 2QG, UK - We have a shipping container that has been converted to the Harlow Men's Shed and sited at the walled Gardens within Harlow Town Park. Any man over the age of 18 years is welcome, come and join us and have some fun! Matt Hume - 07935 216808; [matt@essexshednetwork.co.uk](mailto:matt@essexshednetwork.co.uk)



### Harlow Playhouse

Robin Hood 3 Dec 2021 — 2 Jan 2022

Hit the bullseye this Christmas with our family pantomime adventure *'Robin Hood.'* Don't miss the target with this year's extravaganza, featuring everything you have come to expect from a Harlow Playhouse Pantomime; hilarious comedy, dazzling dance routines and spectacular sets and costumes. Starring Harlow favourites; Ben Parsley as Silly Willy Scarlet and Jimmy Burton Iles as Dame Auntie Dolly alongside a professional cast of top musical theatre performers. Robin Hood will be filled to the brim with audience participation, laughs a plenty and merry men in tights. So what are you waiting for? Join us as we make the magic once again and celebrate 50 years of Harlow Playhouse, your Playhouse!  
[Harlowplayhouse.co.uk](http://Harlowplayhouse.co.uk)  
01279 431945



Continued from Front Page

Early on he developed a fascination with anatomy and pathology and decided to pursue a career in surgery. He moved to London for his specialist training, based at St Bartholomew's and The Royal Marsden Hospitals. He spent a year on secondment at the prestigious Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York which provided him with superb further specialist training and experience, although it always bothered him that there were armed guards at the door and patients had to show their credit worthiness before being seen.

When he came to Epping and Harlow in 1980 he quickly established a nationally recognised breast cancer unit. He was an early pioneer of breast cancer screening and less disfiguring surgery for cancer patients. He contributed to research into new treatments for breast cancer and their effective use. And he established a charitable fund which helped patients, allowed the introduction of specialist breast nurse counsellors, and later funded ground-breaking scientific research in Harlow.

To Mike, medicine was a vocation. He was prodigiously hard working, with huge, but efficiently run clinics. When he first arrived here, there were only two surgeons. They were on call every other night and every other weekend. He insisted his junior staff call him for any significant problem or whenever they felt out of their depth. As a result, he frequently went into the hospital in the middle of the night, but still appeared at 9 o'clock the next morning for the routine work of the day. He was so much more than a skilled surgeon however. He was interested in his patients as people and their interests came first. Many were young women, some not much older than his daughters, and he was not afraid to give them a hug after he had broken bad news to them about their diagnosis. Many a patient wept on his shoulder.

He also bonded with his junior staff and took their training very seriously. He expected them to know their patients well, but as long as they did and were diligent

and honest, he would back them to the hilt. For this he received loyalty in abundance back. It is no coincidence that many of his junior staff went on to be surgeons in this country and abroad. His support extended to the nurses he worked with. He teased them, gave them nicknames that perhaps today would be thought inappropriate, but respected them and encouraged them to further their careers.

Mike's influence extended outside Harlow. For many years he represented the UK on the international committee responsible for grading all cancers. On retirement, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the World Health Organisation for this work and was added to the WHO Roll of Honour.

Outside work Mike was firstly a family man. He and wife Jane's home became the hub of an extended family. His four daughters are unanimous that, while he may have often been pre-occupied with work, he was never a boring Dad. He was immensely proud of them all as they grew into independent, articulate, caring and witty young women, and of his seven grandsons with each of whom he



developed a bond special.

Mike still managed to fit in numerous hobbies all of which he pursued with gusto. He was not a man to do things by halves. It was a family joke that he had only two buttons: stop and go, flat out or asleep.

While still a student, he joined the Royal Naval Reserves, rising to Lieutenant Commander. He covered for the leave of permanent medics in some far flung

places. Early on he took on the challenge of an arduous training course with the Marines. He had not anticipated a real life incident in which, with absolutely no experience and in heavy seas, he – a man afraid of heights - had to be winched from a helicopter onto a merchant ship which was rising and falling in the swell, to airlift a seaman with appendicitis.

He enjoyed company. He quickly found there was a local 'Taffia' in the area, some of whom he had known in Wales. From there his social life expanded. He gathered friends of all ages wherever he went. He loved pub banter – not to mention the beer – and entertaining at home.

He continued to support Welsh rugby, regularly attending the 'Six Nations' games. He ski-ed and sailed, and collected fine wines. And he loved music, especially opera and large choral pieces, played of course at full volume.

He was a green-fingered gardener. Not of the mowing lawns, weeding and neatening edges variety: he loved plants and was constantly on the lookout for unusual and exotic ones.

Some of his fads passed, but not his fascination with orchids, which remained his favourite flower. His vegetable plot – and for a time, his High Wych allotment – always included vegetables which he thought no-one else would be growing. He would appear on friends' doorsteps with his surplus produce, if only for a tortoise. And he loved the competition of the Sheering Flower and Produce Show.

He kept bees, regularly being called upon to rescue swarms from inaccessible places in other people's gardens. His honey was much-coveted.

He was a Pisces, so a keen fisherman. At a very young age he would go off on his own for the day, rod in hand and sandwiches in his pocket. He went

salmon fishing in Scotland every year, the last time being just this last August; he was incredibly proud to have caught one of the largest salmon ever caught on his 'beat' on the River Deveron. To this day there is a cardboard cut



-out with his name on hanging in the fishing hut. Fishing holidays were the only ones for which he spent weeks

sorting and packing his gear and set out ahead of time.

His main retirement project, however, was a sadly neglected classic Bentley car which he had bought at an auction. He took it apart and painstakingly restored it over many, many months. Over the following years 'The Duchess' as she was now called became a familiar sight in Sheering and Sawbridgeworth, and



with Jane as navigator, took them to remote areas of Australia, round both islands of New Zealand and up the Rockies to Alaska.

Everyone has stories about Mike which will no doubt be told for many months and years to come. For now, he leaves a massive void, but many, many people have reason to be grateful for all that he packed into those 81 years.

### Community Transport 347 Thursday Bus

Please would the bus users of the 347 Thursday service pop 50p into the collection box. This would help enormously to keep this very valuable service running.




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### Rendezvous Street

Shall we two meet on Rendezvous Street?  
Shall we meet there once again  
though our poor old feet are no longer fleet  
as we battle the wind and rain?

Will we reminisce about our first kiss  
beneath the lamp's mellow light?  
Or speak of the song as we walk along  
that we sang to the world that night.

Will the moon look down on this modern town  
and see two old lovers there  
and give a soft smile and stay for a while  
to light up our greying hair.

Yes, let us both meet on Rendezvous Street  
and talk of those times long gone.  
Then with a sad eye wave a fond goodbye  
in a world that is moving on.

Adrienne Tinn

Adrienne is in the process of producing her fourth anthology of poetry, Moonlight Girl which will be ready by the beginning of December. The title poem Moonlight Girl and the poem 'Somewhere' were read on the BBC recently when she was interviewed. The profits from this and her other three anthologies, With Different Eyes, Somewhere and Rendezvous Street will be donated to Grove Cottage Mencap, a local charity in Bishops Stortford.

Each anthology costs £5.00. They can purchase them from Adrienne at 65, Sheering Lower Rd.

### All I Want for Christmas is a Cuddle

(On Zoom we asked our little three year old great-granddaughter, Lottie, what she'd like for Christmas. Her reply was, "a cuddle.")

All I want for Christmas is a cuddle.  
I really don't want any more than that.  
You can keep your books and tokens  
and your posh plush coats  
and your warm and fluffy cosy knitted hat.

All I want for Christmas is a cuddle.  
I want to hear you knocking at my door.  
I don't need trees or tinsel  
or a chocolate box.  
I just want you coming to my house once more.

All I want for Christmas is a cuddle.  
I want to see your lovely smiling face.  
I wish to be with family,  
to see you gathered round,  
to talk and laugh together at my place.

All I want for Christmas is a cuddle.  
With all that's going on it's made me see  
that in our lives what is important  
never can be bought.  
And a cuddle from your family is free.

Adrienne Tinn





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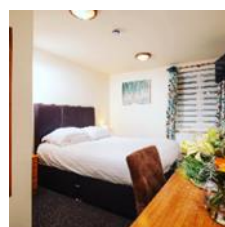
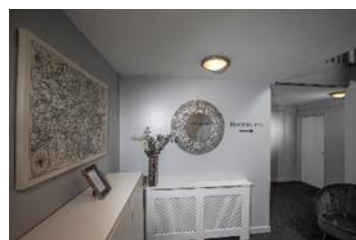
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### The Hundred Parishes Society

As 2021 enters its final month, we anticipate seasonal celebrations to brighten the shortest days of the year. The ancient tradition of decking our houses with garlands of fresh green holly branches reminds us of the continuity of life, bringing us cheer when the days are short.

On reaching the age of 20, female holly trees bear red berries on branches covered with prickly shiny green leaves

which can be cut to make decorative wreaths. Such wreaths featured in midwinter Celtic and Roman celebrations as symbols of good fortune, a tradition that continues thanks to the intervention of a local man, William Winstanley (1628 – 1698).

During the Commonwealth which lasted from 1649 to 1660, the Puritans under Oliver Cromwell proclaimed that it was illegal to celebrate Christmas, banning frivolities and feasting on mince pies. Winstanley, who lived



in Quendon, believed in celebrating Christmas as a time for sharing joy, fun and good fortune with others. After restoration of the monarchy in 1660, using his influence as a writer, he encouraged a return to the seasonal merrymaking which we still enjoy today.

Holly trees were frequently planted near houses to ward off a lightning strike; interestingly scientific research has revealed its spiky leaves can act as miniature lightning conductors! Holly also grows in hedges or as a shrub in woods where its berries provide

nourishment for blackbirds, thrushes and wood mice. Its dense branches provide secure nesting sites. Deer and rabbits will eat its nutritious leaves.

Today, many homeowners plant variegated forms of holly to provide interest in their gardens and they can select a mixture of foliage to make seasonal decorations.

Yew is another evergreen with red coloured fruits (loved by birds and squirrels), but as its leaves are poisonous it is less suitable for indoor decorations.

Tricia Moxey, Trustee  
[www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk)



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To find out more, please call our care team on: 01245 768712 or visit: [www.iphomecare.co.uk](http://www.iphomecare.co.uk)



## Friends of St Mary's Sheering

### Update on the Churchyard Extension

As you will know from previous reports, the PCC has to meet a whole series of requirements before, eventually, they can apply to the Bishop to consecrate the churchyard extension for burials. The final big hurdle is that the area must be fenced, which is scheduled for early in the new year. We are nearly there!



### COVID and the church building

We are delighted to invite everyone to a service in church **at 10.30 every Sunday**. At the time of writing COVID-secure regulations continue (hand-sanitiser on arrival, socially-distanced seating for those who want it, and test and trace details taken). As always, you are more than welcome to all services. But do watch out for when there is a fifth Sunday in the month, which happens about three times a year. On those dates (check the notices pinned up in the porch) the congregations of all six parishes of the "Six Villages" meet in just one of their churches, which are Sheering, Hatfield Heath, Great and Little Hallingbury, Hatfield Broad Oak and Bush End.

For those who can't get to church, members of the Six Villages ministry team (Rev Dawn Jewson, Rev David Herrick, Licensed Lay Minister Caroline Harding, and our new curate Rev Becs Challis – welcome Becs!) provide a service on Zoom at 11.30 am every Sunday. Just email [SixVillagesZoomCodes@gmail.com](mailto:SixVillagesZoomCodes@gmail.com) for the login details.

### Harvest

The church was beautifully decorated for Harvest Thanksgiving which was a very special service. St Mary's Brass accompanied the singing, and we were joined by the Reception Class and their families from the school, plus many of the staff and governors. Afterwards the gifts of produce and other foodstuffs were donated to Streets2 Homes and Harlow Foodbank.



### Our stained glass

Experts tell us that the 14th century stained glass at the top of the big East window is outstanding. Yet another glass specialist visited us in October, and she was also very taken with one of the fragments of ancient glass arranged in one of the chancel windows. It is about three inches square and depicts part of a mermaid.



Apparently depiction of a mermaid is extremely rare and special even though, sadly, her head and one of her arms have been lost.

### Churchyard team

The weather has made the churchyard grass a real challenge this year. Here are just some of the team who were up for that challenge in October. If you would like to help (Saturdays every four or five weeks) contact Natalie Cracknell on 01279 734360.

And huge thanks to those who recently reduced the height of the hedges., making them more manageable.

### Dates for your Diary

We hope to plan some Friends events in the new year, so watch out for posters around the village. Meanwhile look out for the following, and join in if you can:

**Sunday 5 December**, 10.30 'Pop-up' Nativity service, in church

Adults and children are invited to come dressed as characters from the Nativity story.

**Wednesday 15 December**, 6.00 Carol singing round the village

Wrap up warmly and meet outside The Cock Inn, Sheering

**Friday 17 December**, 7.00 onwards Carols at The Cock with St Mary's Brass at The Cock Inn, Sheering

**Sunday 19 December**, 4.00 Candlelit Carol Service

at St Mary's, Sheering

**Christmas Eve - Friday 24 December**, 11.00 pm Midnight Communion

at Holy Trinity Church, Hatfield Heath

**Christmas Day**, 10.30 Christmas Morning Communion

at St Mary's, Sheering

**Boxing Day, Sunday 26 December**, 10.30

Joint Six Villages service at St Mary the Virgin, Hatfield Broad Oak (no service at Sheering)



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### Christmas tree recycling with St Clare is back!

For the fourth year running, you can Recycle Your Christmas Tree with St Clare to help us raise vital funding!

On Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th of January 2022, we will be out and about in the local community, collecting Christmas trees for recycling.

This fantastic recycling programme is an eco-friendly way to dispose of your tree after the yuletide season, whilst also helping your local hospice charity.

Last January, our Christmas tree recycling programme raised over £14,500 for the Hospice, recycled over 960 trees, and reduced individual travel to dispose of trees at the peak of the pandemic. Help us make 2022 even bigger and better!

Register your tree today!

You can register your tree online through **Just Helping**, where you can also make a suggested donation of £12 to St Clare Hospice for the collection service. All donations are gratefully received and help to pay for our hospice services for local people who need us.

Sign up before 12 noon on Wednesday 5th January 2022, to have your tree collected on either Saturday 8th or Sunday 9th January 2022.

Please note that only real spruce, fir and pine trees can be collected and recycled. Please ensure that your tree is easily accessible outside your property for our team to collect.



### Sheering Post Office Opening Hours

Monday	9.00 - 17.30
Tuesday	9.00 - 17.30
Wednesday	9.00 - 13.00
Thursday	9.00 - 17.30
Friday	9.00 - 17.30
Saturday	9.00 - 13.00

### Shop Opening Hours

Monday	6.30 - 19.30
Tuesday	6.30 - 19.30
Wednesday	6.30 - 19.30
Thursday	6.30 - 19.30
Friday	6.30 - 19.30
Saturday	6.30 - 19.30
Sunday	7.30 - 17.00

### News from The District Councillor for Lower Sheering

Thanks to Sheering News for once again allowing me the space to update you on District Council matters.

The alterations to the Civic Offices in Epping are now complete. The addition of a Community Hub to host voluntary and other organisations within the new shared space should bring real benefits to service users. Other offices within the building are now being offered to outside businesses at commercial rent. The income this generates should allow us to continue to keep your council tax amongst the lowest in Essex.

The major planning issue to arise over the last few months has been the Consultation on the Epping Forest Local Plan. The Local Plan is the blueprint for future development in the District for years to come and it is vital that all views are taken into consideration. We can all see the evidence of the extensive and ambitious plans for the expansion of Harlow towards our border and of the progress being made with the construction of the new M11 junction.

Both the motorway junction and the proposed new hospital are within the Lower Sheering ward and I need to make my own position clear. I am in favour of the new hospital because we have the opportunity to gain a world class medical facility on our doorstep whilst freeing up the brownfield site of the decrepit old hospital for

much needed housing and business use. I had no say in the siting of the motorway junction, but I recognise the need to improve infrastructure to support the new highly skilled and well paid jobs that are being attracted into Harlow by global pharmaceutical, research and technology companies.

What I cannot support is the proposal to lose the rest of the green belt area to the North of the new junction for housing. This effectively will connect Sheering to Churchgate Street and goes against one of the most important reasons for the retention of green belt land, which is to separate settlements and villages so that they retain their individual identities. The additional loss of historic and important wildlife habitats makes the proposal even harder to accept. Such increasingly scarce resources should be nurtured, not destroyed.

I know from your phone calls and e mails that many of you feel the same and I have submitted my own response to the planning inspectors along the lines above. Please be assured that I do not want to see Lower Sheering become a suburb of Harlow and I will continue to fight against any plans that will lead to that happening.

Kind regards,  
Paul Stalker  
District Councillor  
Lower Sheering



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## Minor Injuries Unit Herts and Essex Hospital

The Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) at the Herts and Essex Hospital offers an alternative to A&E attendance for patients with minor injuries. The MIU is an 'open access' service that can be used by both adults and children over two years old who have sustained a minor injury. There are no appointments, so patients are seen in order of time of arrival unless their condition is more serious, for example a wound with uncontrolled bleeding or a dislocated joint or an obviously badly broken bone. Our aim is to see you as soon as possible but you will appreciate that sometimes several patients arrive at the same time, so some waiting time is inevitable.

The MIU is open Monday to Friday from 9.00 to 4.30 and can treat the following conditions and issues:

Minor impact injuries; Sports injuries; Dressings and stitches; Fractures; Lacerations; Penetrating foreign bodies; Burns; Whiplash; Abscesses; Bites and stings

We are now offering more consultations by telephone and video conferencing. Please call the MIU before you visit on 01279 827450 so that we can advise you on whether you need to be seen in person or whether we can help you by telephone or video conferencing. In many cases our team may be able to offer you advice without you needing to come to the hospital at all. If you do attend in person, please expect to be asked to

wait in your car or outside the building until one of our team can call you to discuss your care. We will only ask you to come into the MIU if we cannot advise you without seeing you face to face. Patients who have used our video conferencing facility tell us it is very easy and helpful for conditions where advice can be given remotely. To Contact the Service: Tel: 01279 655191 (This number will take you to the Herts and Essex switchboard, who will then put you through to the Minor Injuries Unit.)

### The Anthony Nolan Trust

The Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow register was set up in the 1970s, by Anthony Nolan's mother, Shirley. Her sick son, Anthony, needed a bone marrow transplant but there was not a match available. Shirley set up the Register and spent the rest of her life working tirelessly to encourage people to sign up as donors. You can follow her story here: <https://www.anthonynolan.org/what-we-do/our-organisation/our-history> Since then, 750,000 potential donors have been registered and countless numbers of lives have been saved by stem cell transplants. If you feel that you might want to be a bone marrow donor, please follow this link: <https://www.anthonynolan.org/help-save-a-life/join-stem-cell-register> to find out more.



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### Remembering those loved and lost with St Clare Hospice's 'Light up a Life' memorial service

St Clare Hospice is hosting three special 'Light up a Life' memorial services this December to give families the opportunity to remember and celebrate the lives of lost loved ones. The ceremonies will see local people gather in three COVID-secure outdoor services, alongside others who understand how it feels to miss someone at Christmas-time. "The festive period can be emotional when you are missing a loved one, whether the bereavement is recent or after many years." Sarah Thompson, St Clare Hospice CEO said "This year we would like to share the heartfelt words of Tommy with you. Tommy is one of our young supporters (age 8) whose dad (Wayne Hann) was cared for by our nursing teams when he had cancer and who died aged 38 last October. Tommy, who lives in Harlow, said: "Daddy stayed in St Clare Hospice's Inpatient Unit for two weeks before he died. It was during COVID so I would go to see him after school. I was staying with my Nanny and Grandad, as Mummy stayed by Daddy's side at the Inpatient Unit. Mummy always says that me and Daddy were two peas in a pod – we had the same hobbies and always did everything together. I only got to spend seven years with Daddy, but he was – and still is – my best friend and my hero. We made the best memories together in the time that we had. This year will be my second Christmas without Daddy. I miss him so much. I know there are other families who will also be

missing people who have died too."

Tommy and his Mum, Leah, will attend one of the three services being held at St Clare Hospice, Hastingwood. They will also take part in the new children's art and craft activity, which is being held directly before each service and run by the St Clare Child Bereavement Team.

The three Light up a Life services are being held at St Clare Hospice on the following dates:

Thursday 16 December, 7–8

Saturday 18 December, 3–4

Saturday 18 December, 7–8

All events are ticketed which will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis – tickets can be booked on the St Clare website (insert link). The multifaith services are open to everyone, whether they have a faith or none, and are open to all, not just for families whose loved ones have been cared for by St Clare.

Sarah added "As always, St Clare will be offering local people the opportunity to make a personal dedication in our Book of Remembrance. Just like our specialist care, taking part in Light up a Life is free. However, if you would like to make a donation alongside your loved one's dedication, it would be greatly appreciated by both the Hospice, and local people who benefit from our care. As an independent charity, St Clare has to raise more than £8,000 every single day to run our hospice services. Therefore, each donation is vital in ensuring our care is there, when and where it is needed, both in people's own homes and at our Inpatient Unit."

For information about the Light up a Life services, requesting a dedication Star, or adding a name to the Book of Remembrance, visit [stclarehospice.org.uk/light-up-a-life](http://stclarehospice.org.uk/light-up-a-life) or get in touch with the Hospice team on 01279 773750 or [light@stclarehospice.org.uk](mailto:light@stclarehospice.org.uk)

### Volunteer with St Clare!

Volunteers play an integral role at St Clare Hospice, helping to ensure that nobody in West Essex and East Hertfordshire has to face their journey alone. From supporting our patients on our Inpatient Unit, to helping tackle loneliness and isolation amongst local people; and from tending to the Hospice's beautiful gardens, to lending a hand in the offices; volunteers are a valued asset within the organisation helping in the delivery of 'Outstanding' care to those who need it.

#### Why volunteer?

"Volunteering with St Clare Hospice gives you the opportunity to join a friendly and welcoming community of local people," says Stacey Towler, Volunteer Manager at St Clare Hospice. "Whether you'd like to make new friends; develop your own skills; make a difference in your local community; or connect with your local hospice charity; joining St Clare Hospice's volunteering team will offer you an immense sense of reward and value in your own life."

#### Voluntary roles available:

##### Volunteer Gardener

Put your green fingers to good use in St Clare's beautiful gardens and meet others who enjoy gardening for a great cause.

##### Key skills:

- Some experience of maintaining a garden or allotment
- Basic knowledge of plants
- Good at working under instruction or without supervision

##### Journey starter volunteer

Support people who are visiting St Clare Hospice by assisting them with their journey to and from the Hospice.

##### Key skills:

- Five years' driving experience
- Non-judgemental
- A good listener

For more information, call the Volunteer team on **01279 773700** or email:

**[volunteer@stclarehospice.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@stclarehospice.org.uk)** or visit **St Clare Hospice's website**

## Sheering Copse

In July Countrycare visited the copse at the rear of Sheering Recreation Ground and did some clearance work to open up the pathways. Unfortunately, due to the very hot weather they chose not to use machinery, and therefore used loppers to clear back any bramble, overhanging branches etc. Later in the year they intend to be back with the volunteer group to give the Copse some proper TLC but hopefully the work will have made access a little easier.



Before



After

**Do Something Amazing**

We need you to keep donating blood and platelets during the pandemic. Donor centres are still open despite coronavirus restrictions.

**0300 1232323**  
**www.blood.co.uk.**



**Epping Forest District Police**

**Essex Police - Epping Forest District**  
Published by [redacted] · 1 d · [redacted]

Don't forget that you can report antisocial behaviour (and non-emergency crime) to us through the Live Chat, operated everyday between 7am and 11pm.

This allows you to send and receive real-time direct messages with operators.

It's available on a desktop computer, laptop, tablet and mobile phone. Please utilise where you can, helping to ease demand on the 101 telephone service. ... See more



**Digital 101**  
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**Christmas recycling**



Councillor Nigel Avey appealed to residents to help the Council's recycling collection crews in the run up to Christmas. There has been a noticeable increase in the amount of cardboard recycling associated with home deliveries. Collection crews are struggling to keep up with the extra demand and to help them, have asked residents to place the cardboard in recycling sacks rather than leaving it loose.

**Key Coronavirus Helplines:**

NHS - 111

Harlow Council Community Hub  
01279 927 005

HMRC  
08000 159 559

Business Support  
0300 456 3565

Universal Credit  
0800 328 5644

Schools  
08000 468 687

Domestic Abuse Helpline  
0808 200 0247



**RECYCLING and WASTE**  
**Epping Forest District Council**

Remember your green-lidded, food & garden wheelie bin is emptied weekly throughout the year on your normal collection day.

Don't forget to recycle all your food waste along with your biodegradable garden waste via the green-lidded, food & garden wheelie bin.



**PLEASE NOTE**  
Logs in excess of 300mm diameter or in excess of 1m in length are not accepted.

**Green Bin - Every Week**

**Food Waste:** All cooked and uncooked food waste including: bread, cakes, biscuits and pastries; dairy products; coffee grounds and teabags; fruit and vegetables; meat and fish (including bones);

**Garden Waste:** branches; cuttings; dead flowers; grass and leaves; house plants; twigs; weeds; vegetarian pet hutch waste; shredded paper

**Bin of Last Resort - Black Bin Fortnightly:**

Domestic household rubbish

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

**Clear Sacks - Fortnightly :** Paper, shredded paper; card, tins, cans, plastic bottles, plastic tubs and pots, food trays; plastic bags; aerosols; clean foil and foil containers, food and drink cartons (tetra paks); Please tie your recycling bags, and flatten your boxes.



**Blue Box Glass Bottles & Jars**



**ONLY GLASS BOTTLES and JARS**  
All Colours and Clear

**Textiles**



**RECYCLE YOUR OLD CLOTHES and PAIRED SHOES**

Simply put your old clothes and shoes into a tied up carrier bag and place on top of either of your wheeled bins on either collection day.

**Christmas revised Dates**

**Wednesday 29 December will be Thursday 30 December**  
**Wednesday 5 January will be Thursday 6 January**

**Clear sacks available from:**

- ◆ Sheering Newsagent & Post Office.
- ◆ The Shed Coffee House The Maltings Station Road Lower Sheering CM21 9JX
- ◆ Valerie and Ron Monk (8 Sheering Mill Lane) will still keep a reduced number of sacks in case Lower Sheering villagers run out.

For more information contact 01992 564608  
[www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

**Christmas Tree Recycling**

As usual, this year we will be collecting your real Christmas trees for recycling. Remove the tree from the pot, take off all the decorations and tinsel. Shake off any sprayed on or artificial snow and place by your Food & Garden Bin on collection day. We will only be able to collect Christmas trees in January.  
**Please saw in half trees in excess of 6 feet.**

Please remember your small electrical items (items no larger than a carrier bag) and household batteries (not vehicle) are collected each week on collection day.







**Essex join the UK's largest public library consortium**

Essex and Thurrock Libraries have joined The Library Consortium (TLC), a network of 18 library authorities across London and the South East. Joining the consortium means that Essex and Thurrock Library members will now be able to access an additional 6 million items of stock and use libraries in any of the other areas that are also part of the consortium.

These areas include: Barking & Dagenham, Brent, Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Hackney, Harrow, Havering, Hounslow, Kingston, Lewisham, Luton, Merton, Newham, Redbridge, Sutton, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest.

The Library Management System (LMS) has also been upgraded giving library users easy and accessible ways to use library services. Future developments will include a new library platform, and a 24/7 renewal line.

The new system is also compatible with most mobile devices and via the app, which can be downloaded

via Apple and Android App stores.

**Essex Library of Things**

Some unusual things are appearing in some of our libraries - items of household equipment which you'll be able to borrow. Tools for home repairs and decorating, kitchen appliances, tents, sports equipment, musical instruments and gardening tools will all be available for hire.



The Essex Library of Things is

a pilot scheme set up as part of BLUEPRINT for a Circular Economy. It's affordable, it cuts down on clutter, it's good for the planet and it's safe. You can place a hold on any item in the collection, as you would with a book. There are currently five libraries from which you can collect – Chelmsford, Clacton, Great Parndon, Laindon and Witham - and the mobile libraries as well. We hope to add more libraries as the project develops.

Find out more about the Essex Library of Things  
<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/essex-library-of-things>

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### St Mary's Parish Church Sheering

Sunday services in church, at 10.30 am

1st Sunday of the month                      Morning worship  
 2nd Sunday of the month    Morning worship  
 3rd Sunday of the month    Holy Communion  
 4th Sunday of the month    Morning worship



When there is a 5th Sunday, watch the notice board for the venue and time for a joint service in one of the parish churches of the Six Villages (Sheering, Hatfield Heath, Great and Little Hallingbury, Hatfield Broad Oak and Bush End).

There is a service on Zoom at 11.30 am every Sunday. Email [SixVillagesZoomCodes@gmail.com](mailto:SixVillagesZoomCodes@gmail.com) for the login details.

<https://e-voice.org.uk/ht-sm-churches/>

#### Revd Becs Challis writes:

I was really struck by this quote from Henri Nouwen, especially when we are entering a time of deliberate preparation for the season of Advent, meditating and reflecting with expectation of Jesus' first coming, the coming of the Kingdom and with it, divine judgement and gaining a real experience of prayerful hope of a renewed world to come.

*The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognise him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognising the coming of the Lord.* (Henri Nouwen)

After the Christmas of 2020 where a number of us would have been isolating, or in lockdown or for a number of reasons unable to see family over the Christmas period there is a move or a sense towards (if we are able to) making the most of this year. But what does "making the most of Advent and Christmas" look like for us? It may help to consider Advent as a time where we remember that Jesus was made man and came into our 'neighbourhood', just as it was. Whatever we have or wherever we find

ourselves this Advent and Christmas time we have God with us and the Hope that this brings. I would encourage you to pause and reflect on what Nouwen prompts us to consider - what can or should we bring from our Advent preparations into our daily lives, as I'm not sure that many of us want to bring the pressure and busyness, but may benefit from some stillness and joy in relationships with others.

Every Blessing  
**Revd Becs Challis**

Curate – Six Villages MMU (Sheering, Hatfield Heath, Bush End, Hatfield Broad Oak, Great and Little Hallingbury)

#### Contact Rev Dawn Jewson

Mobile: 07930 902507  
 Vicarage: 01279 730288  
 email: [rev.dawn.jewson@gmail.com](mailto:rev.dawn.jewson@gmail.com)  
 (I usually take a break from emails and phone calls on Saturdays but will answer any messages as soon as I can from Sunday.)  
 Find Hatfield Heath and Sheering churches on Facebook.  
 Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/ht-sm-churches/>

Sunday 5 December, 10.30 **'Pop-up' Nativity service, in church**

Adults and children are invited to come dressed as characters from the Nativity story.

Wednesday 15 December, 6.00 **Carol singing round the village**

Wrap up warmly and meet outside The Cock Inn, Sheering

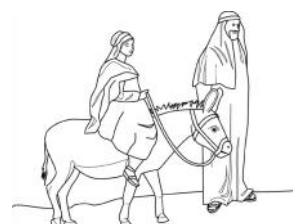
Friday 17 December, 7.00 onwards **Carols at The Cock with St Mary's Brass**  
 at The Cock Inn, Sheering

Sunday 19 December, 4.00 pm **Candlelit Carol Service**  
 at St Mary's, Sheering

Christmas Eve - Friday 24 December, 11.00 pm **Midnight Communion**  
 at Holy Trinity Church, **Hatfield Heath**

Christmas Day, 10.30 **Christmas Morning Communion**  
 at St Mary's, Sheering

Boxing Day, Sunday 26 December, 10.30 **Joint Six Villages service**  
 at St Mary the Virgin, **Hatfield Broad Oak** (no service at Sheering)



## USEFUL NUMBERS, E-MAIL &amp; WEBSITE ADDRESSES

BRIDGE CLUB June Whitbread 01279 651234 or Alan Draper 01279 656255
CAB Harlow 0845 120 3717 <a href="http://www.adviceguide.org.uk">www.adviceguide.org.uk</a>
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR LOWER SHEERING Paul Stalker 07969 219006
ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE TEAM Natalie Cracknell 01279 734380 or 07907 838860
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR SHEERING VILLAGE Richard Morgan 01279 731243 <a href="mailto:richardmorgan26@outlook.com">richardmorgan26@outlook.com</a>
ECC COUNCILLOR Christopher Whitbread <a href="mailto:cllr.christopher.whitbread@essex.gov.uk">cllr.christopher.whitbread@essex.gov.uk</a>
EFDC 01992 564000 <a href="http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk">www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk</a>
ECC County Hall 01245 492211 <a href="http://www.essexcc.gov.uk">www.essexcc.gov.uk</a>
ECC TRADING STANDARDS HOTLINE 0845 6044466
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**SHEERING NEWS**

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*Sheering News* welcomes copy from any local organisation or residents who have information to pass on. All contributions and adverts for the next issue should be sent to:

Linda Ainsworth  
Sheering News  
The Willows The Street Sheering  
Bishop's Stortford CM22 7LX  
[sheeringnews@sheering.org.uk](mailto:sheeringnews@sheering.org.uk)

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 **1st March**   
Publication date  
for next issue  
**April 2022**

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The editorial team of *Sheering News* does not necessarily agree with the views and opinions expressed in articles printed in the magazine and accept no responsibility in respect of goods and services advertised.

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1/4 1 issue	£24	£48
1/4 3 issues	£70	£140
2/12 3 issues	£50	-----
1/12 3 issues	£24	-----

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