

Wethersfield Parish Magazine

APRIL 2024



Parish Church of
St. Mary Magdalene

in the benefice of

~Pant Valley Churches~

WETHERSFIELD PARISH CHURCH

St Mary Magdalene

Pant Valley Churches Benefice of
Finchingfield with Cornish Hall End, Wethersfield, Shalford, Gt. and Little Bardfield

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Parish Priest

The Reverend Alex Shannon
The Vicarage, Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Braintree CM7 4JR
Tel: 01371 810309 / 07483 878659 rev.alex.shannon@gmail.com

Associate Minister

The Reverend Canon Janet Nicholls
Park House, Braintree Road, Shalford, Braintree CM7 5HQ
Tel: 01371 851317 jnicholls@chelmsford.anglican.org

Reader

Mrs Sarah Pilgrim, Fieldside, Lombard Street, Finchingfield
Tel: 01371 850781 pilgrim511@btinternet.com

Churchwardens

Mr David Seacombe, Ivanhoe House, Wethersfield

Tel: 07801 868278

Mr Ben Walmsley, Wethersfield Hall, Wethersfield

Tel: 07939 030833

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Hon. Sec.

Mr Brian Muir, The Manse, Wethersfield

Tel: 07775 675701 hon.secretary@wethersfieldchurch.org.uk

Hon Treasurer

Mr Bob Harris, Top Shop, Wethersfield.

Tel: 07817 379099 hon.treasurer@wethersfieldchurch.org.uk

Ringling Master

Mr Roy Threadgold, Plumley, Braintree Road, Wethersfield

Tel: 01371 850481 roy@boydellsdairy.co.uk

Please contact the Parish Priest for Baptisms, Marriages and when you are in need of help.

He is very happy to bring Communion to the homes of the sick and housebound.

Would newcomers please make us aware of their presence.

From the Vicarage

As the calendar page changes to April, the sun will have just set on Easter Day, heralding a season in church for thinking about resurrection and new life. It remains to be seen whether this will be reflected in greater amounts of sunshine or warmth, but whatever the weather does, farmers and gardeners alike across our parishes will be watching eagerly for green shoots.

Green is a colour we associate strongly with spring, being the colour that we see return to plants and trees alike. This shared colour comes from the means by which plants use energy from the Sun to provide themselves with the nourishment which they need to grow. The interesting thing is that the green light which gives them their colour is the colour which the plants don't use – it's the reflected part of the sunlight, rather than what is absorbed. We don't see what the plants keep for themselves, the part which gives them that energy for life – we see what is left.

It is so often the case that what's really important in our lives are the things which we don't see. I think we consider that particularly when life has come to an end, and we sense that the part of someone which we might call their soul now has its own existence, separate from the body. The 'invisible' part of life is often what we talk about when we address matters of faiths.

It might be tempting to think that, because this side of existence isn't visible in itself, it is somehow less 'real' than other things which we can see and touch. But it is often the case that we can see the visible imprint of that which we cannot see. Just as the green light reflecting off the spring leaves and shoots reminds us that other parts of the sunlight are going about their work of fuelling that growth, so what happens under the surface in our souls can be perceived by seeing what visible reflections scatter into the wider world. For Christians, Easter is the visible imprint of the promise of resurrection, and it gives us real hope in the promise which this great feast celebrates.

Rev'd/Fr Alex

Services for April 2024

Sunday 7 April – Second Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Finchingfield

9.30am Parish Communion Service – Shalford

10.30am Sung Communion Service – Great Bardfield

I I am Celtic Morning Prayer ('Prayer & Pilgrimage') – Wethersfield

Sunday 14 April – Third Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Shalford

9.30am Sung Communion Service – Little Bardfield

10.45am Communion Service – Finchingfield

I I am Family Service – Wethersfield

4pm Sung Evensong – Shalford

Sunday 21 April – Fourth Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Wethersfield

9.30am Morning Prayer – Shalford

10.30am Sung Communion Service – Great Bardfield

10.45am Family Service – Finchingfield

4pm Evensong – Cornish Hall End

Sunday 28 April – Fifth Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) – Great Bardfield

9.30am Morning Prayer – Shalford

10am Morning Prayer with Sunday Café – Cornish Hall End

I I am Family Communion Service – Wethersfield

Regular Services and Events during the week

Monday 8.45am Morning Prayer – Finchingfield

Tuesday 9.15am Eucharist – Great Bardfield
(preceded by Morning Prayer at 8.45am)

***New from 9 April... 10am Baby & Toddler Group in
Great Bardfield 'St Mary's Munchkins'***

Story & song time with refreshments

Thursday 8.45am Morning Prayer – Wethersfield

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

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

Coffee Morning (3rd week) – Cornish Hall End

10.30am Eucharist – Little Bardfield

Friday 8.45am Morning Prayer – Shalford

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

Church Warden's Report

By the time you read this, we will just have completed Holy Week. We look forward to welcoming you to our Easter Sunday service at 11am on 31 March.

Our popular Plant Share is on Saturday 13 April, from 10:30am, in Church. Do come along and save yourself the trip to a garden centre, whilst raising money for the Church.

The first of the Wethersfield Chamber Concerts Season is on Sunday 14 April at 4pm in the Church. The Hathor Duo are harpist Lucy Nolan and flautist Meera Maharaj. This will be followed on Sunday 28 April when we host the 8-piece Kammerphilharmonie Europa (Chamber Philharmonic Europe), which was founded 2006 in Cologne Germany. The orchestra engages talented young musicians from 18 European nations.

DS

WETHERSFIELD CHAMBER CONCERTS

www.wethersfieldchamberconcerts.org.uk



Sunday 14 April 2024, 4 pm.

HATHOR DUO – flute and harp

Bach, Gluck, Sibelius, Saint Saens, Ravel and others

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Sunday 28 April 2024, 4 pm.

KAMMERPHILHARMONIE EUROPA

A chamber group of 8 musicians

Vivaldi, Albinoni, Bach, Holst, Delius, Mozart

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Sunday 12 May 2024, 4 pm.

CHARLOTTE SPRUIT - violin

Bach, Pisenadel, Berio

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Ticket price: £20 (concessions £18)

Season ticket: £54 (concessions £48)

Children under 16: free

All seats unreserved

Complimentary refreshments during interval
and after concert

VENUE: WETHERSFIELD CHURCH

Further information:

www.wethersfieldchamberconcerts.org.uk



Open Gardens Wethersfield

Sat 22 June
12noon - 5pm

**Start at Wethersfield
Parish Church**

Map provided. Refreshments nearby at end

If you wish to talk about including your garden then please contact
Philippa Jerram, Charlotte Holliday or David Seacombe – or email us at
open.gardens@wethersfieldchurch.org.uk

Plant Share

& Coffee Morning

Sat 13 April 10:30_{am} - 12:30_{pm}

Wethersfield Parish Church



Want to share your love of gardening, and can spare some surplus plants, seedlings etc with our community?

Want to pick up some new plants? Optional donation

Like a cuppa and a slice of cake?

Don't really want to drive to an overpriced garden centre?

Want to help our Grade 1 listed Church?

Then this event is for YOU!

**Please bring any of the following:
yourself, plants, cakes**

Benefice Ringers' Outing

On March 16th, bellringers from our Pant Valley Churches spent a happy day ringing at villages along the Stour Valley. First stop was at Nayland where we rang the six bells, the tenor bell weighing some 15cwt.

Then on to a somewhat lighter ring of six at Higham (9 cwt), where the steep and narrow spiral staircase proved a challenge to some of us. At home, of course, we are spoilt with our ground-floor rings, with just Shalford having a very short ladder.

Lunch was in The Anchor, Stratford St Mary where we received efficient, punctual service and really enjoyable food.

The church at Stratford St Mary was our third ring of the day, once again with a spiral staircase leading to the ringing room and the 16cwt six.

The final visit was to East Bergholt, not to ring, but to watch the ringing, because the five bells here are unique in that they are rung directly by hand, rather than with a rope and wheel. They are the heaviest ring of five in the world, with the tenor of 25cwt, and housed in a cage in the churchyard. We were thrilled that the Bergholt ringers turned out to give us a demonstration of their frightening-looking, and very noisy, skill.



Gt Bardfield, Wethersfield, Finchingfield and Shalford ringers at East Bergholt bell "cage".

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The next meeting of the **History Group** will be on Thursday 11th April at 8.00pm in the Pavilion.



David Webb, star of Hi-De-Hi, will give an illustrated talk on his experience of making this popular TV series, which was filmed at Warners Holiday Camp at Dovercourt in Essex. £2 at the door and all are welcome.



**WETHERSFIELD
FLORAL ART
NAFAS AFFILIATED**



WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2024

**JANE ELLIS
NAFAS AREA DEMONSTRATOR
AND JUDGE**

BRINGS US

'A BOX OF DELIGHTS!'

WETHERSFIELD VILLAGE HALL, THE GREEN,

WETHERSFIELD, BRAINTREE CM7 4BS

7.30 PM, GUESTS WELCOME, £6.00 ON THE DOOR

Julia Broad, 01371 851422/07712 674929

Or by e-mail : broad.julia@yahoo.co.uk



WETHERSFIELD PARISH CHURCH



**RUMMAGE SALE
THANK YOU**

Our thanks go to everyone who helped make our sale
on 9th March such a success.

Thank you to all who donated items, all who worked so hard sorting and selling
items on the day and of course, to all those who came and purchased items
We are pleased to announce that a profit of £425 was made for the church



THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!



WETHERSFIELD CLUB

**(CAMRA North West Essex
Club of the Year 2024)**

Centenary Weekend Celebrations

**Friday 12th April -
Sunday 14th April**

During this weekend there will be a Billiards Tournament running and a small exhibition showing the history of the Club from 1924 to the present day

Friday 12 April

Open 5pm Live Music with the Old Skool Band, 8.30 pm
Come and party the night away as we celebrate 100 years of the Club's history

Saturday 13 April

Open 7.00 pm 8.00 pm, 1920/1930's themed night with live music from Dan Shute, the Singing DJ taking us from back then to right now!
Dressing for the occasion encouraged!
To include Adrian's legendary cocktails!

Sunday 14 April

2.30 pm Family race afternoon, horses at the ready and no TV in sight!
Children and adults' races – it has to be seen to be believed!

St. Mary Magdalene Church, Wethersfield

COFFEE AND CHAT

in Church

10.30am – 12 noon

Saturday 20th April 2024



Meet up with old friends, make some new.

ALL WELCOME



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

for 3–11-year-olds

Next meeting

Sunday 5th May 3pm – 4pm.

in Wethersfield Parish Church



No charge – bring a coin for the collection



Enquiries to Sarah Pilgrim. Tel: 07788411360
Email: pilgrim511@btinternet.com



STAMPS

for

Farleigh Hospice

Thank you to all those who have been saving their used postage stamps and popping them in the tub on the table in Wethersfield church.



Old and new styles welcome as are those from all countries.

PLEASE KEEP COLLECTING!

Thank you

Wethersfield Puzzle Page 17

Wordsearch Capitals 2

Y	F	B	U	R	U	N	D	I	S	L	W	Z
L	P	A	N	A	M	A	F	G	U	A	M	A
G	H	M	F	I	H	E	E	D	D	T	C	M
H	P	A	G	C	C	U	B	A	A	V	H	B
A	E	R	N	I	G	E	R	E	N	I	I	I
N	R	T	E	G	B	A	L	M	N	A	L	A
A	U	I	K	T	O	N	G	A	M	I	E	A
S	E	N	E	G	A	L	R	L	N	A	N	C
E	C	I	N	V	L	I	A	T	E	D	L	H
R	O	Q	Y	N	O	R	W	A	Y	O	O	I
B	N	U	A	L	I	B	Y	A	G	Y	U	N
I	G	E	R	M	A	N	Y	O	N	G	S	A
A	O	M	A	N	Q	A	T	A	R	V	A	D

- | | | | |
|---------|---------|------------|--------|
| Angola | Ghana | Martinique | Sudan |
| Benin | Guam | Niger | Taiwan |
| Burundi | Iceland | Norway | Togo |
| Chad | Iran | Oman | Tonga |
| Chile | Kenya | Panama | USA |
| China | Latvia | Peru | Zambia |
| Congo | Libya | Qatar | |
| Cuba | Mali | Senegal | |
| Germany | Malta | Serbia | |

Solution Wordsearch Trademarks 2

X	E	R	O	X	N	M	A	A	L	O	X	B
I	N	C	O	N	E	L	H	O	O	V	E	R
K	S	I	L	E	X	B	R	S	P	A	M	O
L	L	B	M	Y	L	A	N	T	A	R	W	M
E	U	H	E	H	V	N	Q	U	K	O	O	O
E	G	C	V	N	C	D	O	M	Q	L	R	S
N	E	L	I	O	N	A	J	S	I	A	L	E
E	R	O	Y	T	H	I	R	L	C	I	O	L
X	P	R	E	R	E	D	E	B	F	D	N	T
S	Y	O	L	V	E	L	C	R	O	S	J	Z
M	R	X	L	T	E	F	L	O	N	L	E	E
U	E	J	A	C	U	Z	Z	I	L	J	O	R
D	X	Y	P	E	R	S	P	E	X	T	B	Y

Wordsquare 5-5

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

The answers across and down match

Clues across

- Rupture
- Join
- Become ripe
- Stalks
- Taut

Clues down

- Rupture
- Join
- Become ripe
- Stalks
- Taut

Solution Wordsquare 4-5

1	2	3	4
H	I	S	S
5	I	L	I
6	S	I	N
7	S	A	S



Report for the End of Three Years

SUMMARY

Stambourne Chapel Care (SCC) formed in February of 2021, in response to the doorstep findings during the pandemic, has provided support to those who find themselves going through life changing situations, due to health, bereavement, divorce, family circumstances, or age related mobility and loneliness.

The organisation has one employee who co-ordinates the work, and relies on vetted volunteers to provide services such as befriending, shopping, transport, organising outings and events, or walking beside people through the legal, service providers and health professional meetings that they may need.

During the three years we have seen referrals increase to an almost weekly rate. These come mainly from health professionals and family members. We have grown from four volunteers to around eight and we support forty to fifty individuals of ages between school age to 99 years old. We have helped over 50 through the three years of the project. We serve the rural area between Braintree, Halstead and Haverhill, and our volunteers are based in that area.

Although we are based at Stambourne Chapel, neither the volunteers nor the users of our services are expected to share our faith. We accept and serve all people, all backgrounds and all faiths.

We couldn't have done this work without the generous donations we have received from individuals and from the charitable organisations to whom we give our heartfelt thanks.



Our thanks to those who have supported our work – individuals and corporate grant makers including:





STAMBOURNE CHAPEL CARE

Supporting individuals and families
through life changing situations

Supported by



1 Background

Stambourne Chapel Care came out of the work Stambourne Chapel did during the pandemic lockdowns when we visited people on their own doorsteps and discovered there were unmet needs. So at the start of 2021 we formalised the visiting and decided that we would require volunteers to fulfil all the different needs that we were finding. So our aim was to be that organisation that recognized the changing circumstances that people find themselves in due to illness, infirmity, age, bereavement, divorce or any other ways in which people need support and assistance that is not provided by the professional organisations.

So our aim is not to duplicate services that are already available, but to offer a local friend who will walk beside people as they access appropriate services when needed and provide lifts, fetching and carrying and opportunities for getting out and about as well as form filling and support during visits with medical and legal professionals.

This has led to SCC providing befriending services, shopping and prescription pick ups, transport to social events and medical appointments and we have one volunteer who provides a dog walking service to one service user. We also have an outings group that provides opportunities for people to get out and about with like minded people, and a Wednesday club that provides respite for families and carers of people with learning difficulties.

Often we will encounter more complex situations which requires liaison with professional organisations such as Doctors, probate service, Social Services, and the legal professions. The Project Lead and the Minister provide this more complex support.

The Project Lead is a retired Learning Disability Nurse and has experience in liaising with other professionals such as Social Care, Health Care and the private and voluntary sector. She also has experience in supporting people with mental health issues.

2 Our Service Users

Throughout the 3 years we have received 48 referrals. The majority of the referrals have self referred, but others have come through Social Prescribers (5), Police (2) and a Community Agent (1). We in turn have 3 people who have been signposted to another agency for appropriate advice/support and others who have been signposted to other services but continue to receive a service from SCC.

3 Our Volunteers

We now have 9 volunteers who provide support to our services users. 2 of our volunteers have received support from us and have felt that they wish to support others by volunteering themselves. All our volunteers are interviewed, DBS checked and we are provided with references for them. We provide ongoing support to our volunteers through regular meetings (bi-monthly) and training sessions which are either provided by the Project Lead or sourced from outside agencies. The training includes First Aid, Safeguarding (from Essex Local Safeguarding Board), Dementia awareness, Communicating with people, Mental Health Awareness training, Confidentiality, Equality and Diversity.

4 The Outings group

The Outings Group was set up at the end of 2022 as a request from 2 of our services users. We have had several successful trips to the cinema at Halstead, a local dairy farm, Silver Band concerts, Pantomimes, places to eat lunch, and a boat trip. The boat trip was so popular that we plan to book this again for 2024, along with other trips. We usually plan one trip every month, but we are sensitive to other groups and organisations that some of our users are involved with.

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

There are only 2 Mobile library buses serving Essex and we, in Wethersfield, are privileged to be served by one of them!



Mobile Library 2 visits Wethersfield **every 3 weeks**

(Excluding Good Friday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day or Bank Holidays.) on **Saturday mornings. 11.20am to 11.50am**

And can be found parked in the High Street – usually somewhere between the playing field and the church.

(NB. it stops in Blackmore End first – 10.35am to 11.05am)

Do pay a visit and choose yourself some books – all genres available including children's books, nonfiction, large print...

AND if there is anything you particularly want just ask the friendly librarian on board and he/she will endeavour to get it in for your next visit

OR even pre-order online to collect from Mobile Library 2

Next visit date: - 6th April 2024

27th April 2024

ALL WELCOME and FREE to ALL!

