



GREAT

CANFIELD

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2011 JANUARY 2012 FEBRUARY 2012

Date 2011	Day		Aythorpe Roding	Good Easter	Great Canfield	High Easter	High Roding	Margaret Roding
Dec 4	Advent 2	P	CWHC 9.30			WFA 11.00		
Dec 11	Advent 3	P				6 CWHC 10.00		
Dec 18	Advent 4	P		Carol Service 6.00pm	Toy & Carol Service 9.30	All at Bethlehem 11.00	Carol Service 10.30	Carol Service 3.30pm
Dec 20		P				Carol service 7.30pm		
Dec 24	Christmas Eve	W/G			BCP HC 11.30pm	Christingle 3.30pm	Crib service 3.30pm	
Dec 25	Christmas Day	W/G		CWHC 11.15 ArchDeacon		CWHC 10.00 ArchDeacon		
Jan 1 2012	Christmas 1	W/G	6 CWHC 10.00					
Jan 8	Epiphany 1	W/G				6 CWHC 10.00		
Jan 15	Epiphany 2	W/G				6.30 EP BCP	11.00	9.30 BCP
Jan 22	Epiphany 3	W/G		11.00 FHC	9.30 BCP HC	11.00 MP BCP		
Jan 29	Epiphany 4	W/G			10.00 6 CWHC			
Feb 5	Candlemas	G	9.30 CWHC			WFA 11.00		
Feb 12	2 before Lent	G				6 CWHC 10.00		
Feb 19	1 before Lent	G				6.30 EP BCP	11.00	9.30 BCP
Feb 22	Ash Wednesday	P				8 pm HC		
Feb 26	Lent 1	P		11.00 FHC	9.30 BCP HC	11.00 MP BCP		

CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

So how are you looking forward to Christmas or are you not looking forward to it at all? Are you tempted by a new style of Christmas tree, black say or an upside down one? The shops seem to say to us 'try something new and then Christmas will feel different'. I am not so sure!

For some people it is a joyful time, celebrating with family and friends, eating and drinking yummy things and watching people open carefully chosen presents. This is a time when we watch wonder in the eyes of little children seeing if their stocking is filled or being fascinated by candles alight in the house.

For others it can be a painful time if being with the family does not bring joy and has to be endured, or if this is a reminder of a loved one now not here because they have died or if there are no little ones with wonder in their eyes.

For many, Christmas does bring worry as we get the credit card out again and again and wonder how we will manage in January when it needs to be paid off. It is a wonderful time to show appreciation to those we care for but oh dear does it have to cost so much?

As a new style of Christmas I propose a simple one, but you do need to manage expectations beforehand and remind people to lower their expectations, not necessarily because of the money, but because simplicity is good. I have a friend who used to do a pic-nic for Christmas dinner because his children were too small to enjoy the turkey and trimmings. As regards presents, really and truly a small gift to show love is all that is needed. My father gave my mother gardening gloves or a book over many years and the inscriptions in the books always spoke of love and appreciation. I realise that this is difficult to handle with teenagers longing for the latest electronic gadget or fashion item but they too can be included in the discussions! They have generous hearts and often are aware that they have much when others have little. Many of the older people will remember the orange in the toe of the stocking and perhaps a small toy being what they received at Christmas.

Why a simple Christmas? Because Christmas itself is simple. Jesus was born just as we continue to be born and the birth of a baby is joyful in itself but this baby grew up to bring light and health, forgiveness and happiness to many then and now across the world. His work continues as Christians and other good people bring change for good to the hungry, the poor, the fearful and the alone. As Jesus did, they take light into dark places.

This Christmas go for the simple Christmas. If you are looking forward to it come and bring the family to one of the services which are filled with joy and light before Christmas or on Christmas day. If you are not looking forward to it, just come and soak up the atmosphere and feel included and loved and if you have worries put them aside for a bit and sing you heart out. Christmas is about celebrating the extraordinary power which arrived in the world through the simple birth of a baby.

If you do nothing else to change Christmas, do this. Light one candle in a special place and as you do ask each person in the house to say what they give thanks for at Christmas. If each house has a candle lit in these ten parishes, would it show up on Google? It would be great if it did!

With best wishes for Christmas,

Cilla Hawkes(Rural Dean of Dunmow and Stansted)



Over the last three meetings we have tackled a crime novel, a classic modern poem, and some social commentary.

“And Then You Die” is the eighth Inspector Zen mystery from Michael Dibdin. In a complex plot with many twists, Zen survives multiple assassination attempts as he waits to be called as a witness to a Mafia trial in the USA. As usual, things look bleak for Zen but after a frenzied catalogue of rather improbable events some form of resolution is achieved. This is a nice light read which most of us enjoyed.

In September we took on “The Waste Land”, by T S Eliot. First published in 1922, it has been described as "one of the most important poems of the 20th century". It begins with its most famous line: “April is the cruellest month”. It continues for another 433 lines of mixed styles, literary allusions, and mythological references. It uses seven or eight languages. All this would have been a bit much were it not for the meeting’s very pleasant garden setting, glorious weather, nice wine and lovely biscuits, and two members with young relatives who had studied the poem for A Level. A good time was had by all, though the meaning and purpose of the poem remained as baffling as before.

At the following meeting, the journalist Quentin Letts provided our ration of social commentary in his book “50 People Who Bugged Up Britain”. A proportion of the fifty names could have been predicted, but there were surprises including some that most of us had never heard of. None felt that Mr Letts had got his list completely right. A number of additions were proposed. There were those who felt that Mr Letts was painting too dismal a picture, and we concluded the meeting with the names of some of those we thought have made a positive contribution to today’s Britain.

Our next two books are “The Secret Life of Bletchley Park”, followed by “Arthur & George” by Julian Barnes.

Simon Mainwaring



MOBILE LIBRARY

Visits fortnightly to Church End, Great Canfield

from 13:45 – 14:00

on

Wednesday 1st, 14th & 28th December

Wednesday 11th & 25th January 2012

Wednesday 8th & 22nd February 2012





TOY & CAROL SERVICE – 18 DECEMBER

We will be having our usual Toy & Carol service in St. Mary's at 9.30am on Sunday the 18 December, and this will be taken by Cilla Hawkes our Rural Dean. Please come along, everyone is very welcome, and we will be having coffee and mince pies afterwards. We will again be collecting toys for a charity helping children in need; please leave these unwrapped so that we all can see who they should be given to. We have had some marvellous collections of toys in the past, which were greatly appreciated, and we hope that we will be able to do the same again.

OTHER CHURCH SERVICES

The services for the next three months are shown on the inside of the cover page. As we are now without a priest, the type of service may have to change at short notice. Those of you who have given me your contact details, will be told about any change to services at St. Mary's; otherwise please ring me if you want to know about a service in any of our churches.

James Purves

SIX PARISHES NEWS

You will know that Clare has retired and we are now without a priest, and we do not expect any further appointment to be made for some time.

We met with the Bishop and Archdeacon at the end of September, who gave us little idea of how they saw our future, but encouraged us to look at all possibilities and to talk to the parishes of Leaden, Abbess, White, and Beauchamp Roding about some kind of link with them. They now operate as one parish under the name of the South Rodings, and are also without a priest. The Bishop asked us to let him have the combined views of our six parishes and the South Rodings which we are now doing. Representatives of all ten parishes will be having a further meeting with the Bishop and Archdeacon on the 30 November when hopefully they will let us know what they plan.

We undoubtedly face some reorganisation of our six parishes in the near future. I hope that I will be able to tell you more in the Spring edition.



TAKELEY FARMERS MARKET



Since August my husband and I (Paul & Pat Burnett) have taken over the running of the farmers market from Sue Sadler and at this point we would like to say a Big THANK YOU to Sue for all the hard work she has put into the market.

For those people who have not yet visited our market we can tell you we have a veritable treasure trove of fresh tasty and attractive local produce with a wide variety of handcrafted goods. Our selection of freshly baked bread comes straight from Mayfield Farm around 8am and is on the stall by 9am the aroma is just mouth-watering when you walk through the door.

We will continue with the kitchen still available for different charity`s/clubs so if you would be interested in running the kitchen for your charity please get in touch.

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

For all information you can contact us at

paul@pburnett1.orangehome.co.uk

Tel No: 01279 870578



“SINGING FROM THE HEART”



Singing from the heart will be held on Wednesday the 14th of December so adjust your diaries please, there will be NO meeting in January and we shall continue again on the 15th of February and every third Wednesday thereafter.

The singing has been a huge success here in Takeley and a huge thank you must go to our voice coach Angela Dennis, it would never had happened but for her dedication to her profession and her desire to have the world singing in harmony.

So keep your instruments fine-tuned over the Christmas and New Year and practise whenever and wherever you can.

For anyone who wishes to join in our musical fun evenings then please contact me Paul Burnett
Tel No : 01279 870578 paul@pburnett1.orangehome.co.uk

Please find enclosed within the Winter 2011
Newsletter

“A DONATIONS ENVELOPE”



The newsletter is organised by a team of volunteers. There is no cover charge for each newsletter we produce. We can achieve this by the donations you have made. These donations cover the production and printing costs involved in the generation of each edition.

To keep the newsletter running for another year
your donations are greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU

LUXURY CHRISTMAS CAKES IN HATFIELD HEATH

Luxury Christmas cakes are being lovingly homebaked in Hatfield Heath: made with up to 1kg luxury fruit, almonds, pecans & hazelnuts, soaked in ½ pint good Jamaican rum and Ameretto, and lavishly hand decorated, they certainly emanate Christmas spirit! Priced at £25, for a luxury cake covered with marzipan & royal icing; £45 for a larger version, additionally topped with handmade fondant ivy leaves; or £50-£60 for the deluxe marzipan-free cake generously adorned with luxury fruit & nuts. Orders are being taken now, to allow Hannah to feed your cake with alcohol on the run up to Christmas.

If *you* would like feeding on the run up to Christmas: try our Christmas pudding cupcakes: spiced fruity cakes topped with festive brandy buttercream at £1.50 each; guaranteed to get you in the spirit of the season!

From Fruity oat cookies, to Mojito cupcake canapés, traditional Tiramisu's to the more than full size Giant Doughnut Cakes, everything is baked in a tiny 2 oven Aga, using ingredients sourced as locally as possible and of the very best quality. Only butter, and never marg, British sugars, and Essex milled flour; and with prices for fresh cream Mini Victoria Plum Cakes at just £1, her cakes may prove hard to resist.

For mouth-watering winter treats, have a look at Hannah's website:

www.hannahshomemades.co.uk



Make your Christmas with friends a little more tasty!

Call Hannah on 730375 or 07956 563710 to order



TREE REPORT

It is hoped that by the end of November this year, the dead “Peace Oak” at Hellman’s Cross, will be replaced with a new young oak tree. The Parish Council was hoping that a stump of the oak could be left as a base for a memorial plaque to those residents of Great Canfield who gave their lives on active service in the two world wars. This will not now be possible as the tree will have to be cut down to its base and the roots grubbed out. The reason for this is because of the decaying fungal growth found at the base of the tree by the tree surgeon during a subsequent inspection of the tree. The fungal growth, *Armillaria Mellea* (Honey Fungus) emerges in late summer and autumn and is probably the reason for the decline and death of the tree. As the spores of the fungus can remain in the soil it is intended to remove some of the present top soil and replace it with fresh soil in which to plant the new tree.

Situated in Green Street on common land, outside Maple Cottage, is a very large Ash Tree describe as a “Veteran Ash”. A large section of the tree is hollow and has been colonized by a fungus, *Inonotus Hispidus* which results in the brittle fracture of Ash. Advice has been received from an Essex County Council Tree Officer and also a tree surgeon. Their advice gave us two options, either to take the tree down completely or to reduce it in size by removing the majority of the Crown so that it will no longer be danger to Maple Cottage or the Highway. The Parish Council was unanimous in voting for the second option. There is no preservation order on this tree. When work begins on the tree it may be necessary to turn off the power supply for a short period.

**Henry Green
Tree Warden**



**to everyone who has helped with the
Great Canfield Newsletter throughout 2011**



COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

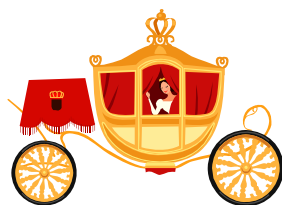
A group of villagers met last week forming a committee to build on the success of last year's open weekend. It was decided that there would be two events next year, an evening at the village hall and celebrations over the Queens Diamond Jubilee weekend.



THE GRIFFIN INN RIDES AGAIN!

Saturday 28th April Village Hall

We are pleased to announce the return of the popular Griffin Inn Pub with a beer festival theme. We intend to have several different types of ale, including one specially brewed for the event, some local and not so local wines, cider, soft drinks and snacks. The night will be free entry with a pay bar and a raffle to raise money towards the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.



THE QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

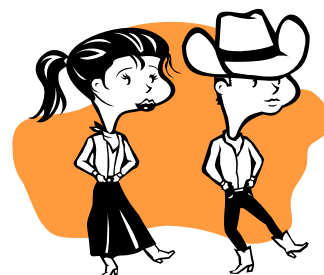
The Big Lunch Sunday 3rd June at the Cricket Pitch



On Sunday afternoon the whole village is invited to the Cricket pitch for a picnic and games, including a Tug of War, throw a welly, bowl for a ham and best Crown competition for children and adults.

The Beacon Bash Monday 4th June at Black Barn field

On Monday evening we will be holding the 'Beacon Bash', a really good night out. This will be a BBQ and Barn Dance in a marquee on Black Barn field. We will be lighting a beacon, kindly being made by Chris Easter, at a time advised by the palace. This is a family event and ticket prices will be kept to a minimum.



More Details in the spring – SAVE THE DATES

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met in September, October and November. Full minutes and other information received by the Parish Council can be found at www.greatcanfield.org.uk.



Uttlesford District Council has a small pot of money to donate to local community groups or events. The Parish Council agreed to request support for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations and for the replacement of the Peace Oak.

If you are aware of any village group which has a need for funding that will benefit the community, please contact the Clerk by the end of December.

Plans continue on the removal of the Peace Oak. A contractor has been appointed to remove the tree and the Parish Council are in the process of purchasing a new Oak. Recent evidence of Honey Fungus has emerged which is likely to have been the cause for the decay and death of the tree. Plans include ensuring any risk to the new planting is minimised. The Parish Council have agreed to prepare a new time capsule during 2012 which will be buried close to the new tree. More news on this and how you can get involved in the New Year.



It has been 11 years since the village sign was erected and the Parish Council agreed to spend £120 on maintenance. The oak post has been treated, the metal frame has been painted and the sign has been cleaned and varnished. The Parish Council are looking into the possibility of adding small plaques to the sign in celebration of events, e.g. the Diamond Jubilee.

The Parish Council are making enquiries on whether allotments could be set up in the village. As the Parish Council does not own any suitable land, requests have been made to both Uttlesford District Council and Essex County Council. No land is currently available, however further enquiries on future availability and other options are being pursued.

Essex County Council has delivered one tonne of free rock salt to Parish Councils. This has been further distributed to Great Canfield Cllrs in 20kg bags and will be used on the village roads during severe weather.



The Parish Council agreed to respond and object to the consultation issued by the Environment Agency on the proposed changes to the management of the River Roding; it is suggested there would be an increased risk of flooding in the Parish. The response is published on the website, (parish council\public info).

The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is consulting on its initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England to implement Parliament's decision to reduce the number of English constituencies from 533 to 502. The proposals would see the current

Saffron Walden constituency disbanded and split three ways. Takeley and The Canfields would become part of Billericay and Great Dunmow constituency and The Rodings would become part of Harlow constituency. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to object to the proposals, the response can be found on the website.

<http://consultation.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/>

The Parish Council attended a meeting hosted by Quendon & Rickling Parish Council on the Future Airspace Strategy (FAS). This aimed to give Parish Councils a better understanding of the effect that changes in the use of airspace will have on local communities and the area in general. The Civil Aviation Authority and National Air Traffic Services presented at the meeting. The FAS has been published and can be viewed at www.caa.co.uk. The next step is to wait for the implementation team to form a strategy before becoming further involved in any consultation or open meetings.

The Crumps sub-committee continue to put pressure on Essex County Council and the Environment Agency in relation to the state of the current site. In the last few months Environ Ltd has purchased the freehold and assets of the site. A formal meeting between the new owners, the local Parish Councils and Essex County Council is due to take place in January 2012.

The Great Canfield Community Trust reported at the October meeting. It continues in its efforts to secure a lease on the Church Hall. After completing a survey of local village hall fees and conditions, the committee are in consultation with the Diocese to further understand their requirements.

At their November meeting, the Parish Council agreed the budget for 2012/13. For the sixth year in succession there will be no increase to the parish precept.



Theft of heating and diesel oil is on the increase both from domestic properties and fuel tanks at farms. Please be extra vigilant during the winter months and report any activity you are concerned about.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

An unexpected vacancy will arise on the Parish Council from January 2012.

If you are interested in joining the Parish Council please contact the Clerk for further details.

Next quarter Parish Council meetings will be held in Great Canfield Church Hall at 8pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Monday 12th December 2011

Monday 16th January 2012

Monday 13th February 2012

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE JANUARY 2012 MEETING

GREAT CANFIELD COMMUNITY TRUST

Currently the Village Hall is owned by the Church. With the potential amalgamation of Parochial Church Councils, it became apparent that it was desirable for the village to take action to secure the Hall for the local community. From the survey undertaken in connection with the Village Design Statement, this was clearly the wish of many villagers.

Accordingly, the Great Canfield Community Trust was formed in July 2009 as a charitable trust with the objective of:

“The provision and maintenance for the use of the inhabitants of the Parish of Great Canfield of:

- (i) a village hall including use without distinction of political, religious or other opinions for
 - (a) meetings, lectures and classes, and
 - (b) other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation,
- (ii) other recreational or leisure-time facilities

with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants”.

You will see that although primarily aimed at securing the future of the Hall, the Trust also has wider recreational aims.

Since 2009 discussions on the details of a lease of the Hall from the Church have been in progress and there is currently an impasse – we consider that the rent proposed is unsustainable - but it is to be hoped that terms acceptable to both sides can be agreed between the PCC and the Trust.

If we cannot reach agreement on the terms of a lease, a village meeting will be convened to decide what to do next.

The Trust has funded various expenses in connection with village events and underwrote some of the costs of the Open Weekend earlier this year so that the organizers could proceed to e.g. book the band for the “Griffin Inn” evening.

The Trust has already received several generous donations and a share of the proceeds from the Open Weekend and now has over £7,000 in the bank. We would welcome further gifts: if you wish to make a gift to the Trust, please contact one of the Trustees.

The Trust gives regular reports of its activities to the Parish Council.

The Trustees are currently Sue Ball, Cllr Robert Mackley, Cllr Jon Sams and Philip Seers. Trustees serve for a term of three years (which may be renewed). If you would like to be a Trustee, please contact one of the Trustees.



CRICKET CLUB

As I am sure you know we celebrated 150 years of Canfield Cricket this year with a match against the MCC and a fun time was had by all.

Last month I was contacted by the Fixture Secretary of Stock Cricket Club who had been researching their history and found a match between themselves and Hanningfield in the Chelmsford Chronicle from 27th June 1845 and below is the article.

STOCK v. EAST HANNINGFIELD

On the 19th inst. a well contested game was played on Stock Common, between the Stock and East Hanningfield with three wickets to go down; the fielding of the Hanningfield was much admired, as was also the bowling on the part of the Stock.

An interesting single match was played between two of the West Enders and two of the Church Enders of Little Bardfield, on the 20th inst. in that parish. A large concourse of persons assembled to witness the game, and the Church Enders having won the toss, put in the West Enders, when there appeared at the wicket Mr W Giblin, who after some beautiful play, succeeded in scoring five runs, and was finely caught by Mr. Tunwell. Mr E Salmon then took the bat, and added one to the score, when Mr T again displayed his excellent fielding, by catching him from one of his slow balls. Mr Tunwell went to the wicket on the part of the Church Enders, and in spite of the superior bowling of Mr E Salmon, ran up a score of eight, but was at last cleverly caught by the bowler. Mr Nicholson then went in, but was unfortunately compelled to make his exit without a run. At the expiration of the second innings, the score stood at under:

WEST ENDERS			CHURCH ENDERS		
	1st Innings.	2nd ditto		1st Innings.	2nd ditto
W Giblin	5	0	H Tunwell	8	1
E Salmon	$\frac{1}{7}$	$\frac{3}{3}$	W Nicholson	$\frac{0}{8}$	$\frac{0}{1}$

CANFIELD v. BRENTWOOD

On Monday last a match was played between the above clubs, at Brentwood, and from the known celebrity of the Canfield Club, they not having been beaten for the last 20 years, much good play was anticipated. The result proved no disappointment in this respect, for a finer match, or one more equally contested, has not been played for many years. The fielding of the Canfield gentlemen was much admired, as was also the bowling of Capt Mayo. The second innings was Nearly completed, 8 men of the Brentwood having been in, leaving 10 runs to get, with 2 wickets to go down, when the shades of evening coming on, the umpires drew the wickets, declaring the victory to be decided by the first innings in favour of the Brentwood club. After the first innings the players and their friends adjourned to the White Hart Inn, where they partook of an excellent dinner, with which they were pleased to express their great gratification. The fineness of the day attracted a large number of spectators. The return match, we are informed, will be played at canfield on the 4th July.

So as you can see that talks about cricket at Canfield in 1825 as we had been unbeaten for 20 years obviously we have gone downhill since then!!

With my basic maths that makes our club over 185 years old. Better start organising our 200th anniversary now!!

If we find out anymore I will let you know.

Jonathan Clarke

GREAT CANFIELD HAPPY CIRCLE

Perhaps the name of our club suggests a limited number of members. Maybe that was the case when it first started in 1962. So as we look forward to celebrating the 50th Anniversary we would like to invite anybody to join in 2012 and enjoy our various outings during the summer months and our friendly and entertaining monthly meetings on duller winter afternoons. We would like to revitalise our club with new members with fresh ideas whilst retaining our traditional values.

We welcome new and old members alike for an annual fee of £5. This will be collected at the first meeting on 18th January at Great Canfield Village Hall at 2pm when the 2012 programme of events will be given out. If you are unable to come that day please get in touch Carole, Brenda or Liz.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Contact Telephone No's:	Carole Potter	01371 873416
	Brenda Mitchell	01279 718349
	Liz Pickford	01279 870582

HAPPY CIRCLE OUTING TO GREENWICH 17th AUGUST 2011

This outing consisted of two parts, the first being a Thames river trip from Westminster pier to Greenwich and second the visit to the Old Naval College.



Our coach arrived at Westminster in plenty of time to stroll along the embankment before having to queue and take our seats on the boat. So casting off from the jetty and expecting to start going downriver it was quite a surprise to realize that the boat did a strange zig-zag manoeuvre to get to the opposite side of the river in order to pick up more passengers. Once on our way the captain introduced himself and said he hoped we would accept his commentary given in "a London form of English." It didn't take long to realize he meant a humorous cockney presentation.

Leaving the London Eye behind we soon passed underneath Charing Cross Bridge and then to the left was Cleopatra's Needle on the Victoria Embankment. Before going under Waterloo Bridge the riverside entrance to The Savoy Hotel could be seen.

Moored at the South bank since 1948 is HMS Wellington. She is classed as a sloop and during world war two sailed the trade routes protecting Britain and vital supplies along convoy routes. She is now used for education acting as a floating classroom for visiting local primary schools.

At this point in the river known as Temple Gate the borough changes from Westminster to the City of London. The very imposing building St.Pauls Cathedral comes into view with its iconic dome. We then sail under two bridges close together. These are Blackfriars Bridge road and Blackfriars rail bridge. Shortly afterwards we pass under the Millennium Bridge which is for pedestrians only. Within two days of opening on 10th.June 2002 the bridge was called the 'wobbly' bridge. It started to sway and vibrate excessively because of the number of people using it (2000 at any one time), and had to be closed for two years while engineers sorted out the synchronus lateral excitation!!!

At the southern end of the Millennium bridge and looking over to the right-hand side of the boat stands the Globe theatre. This is a replica of the original theatre of William Shakespeare. We then see another replica, that of Sir Francis Drake's galleon The Golden Hind. The original ship had made history in 1580 when it returned to England after sailing round the world taking three years to do so. We then cruise towards London Bridge spanning the river. The history of this bridge goes back 2000 years to the roman invasion. It has been rebuilt three or four times and survived fire, floods and a tornado. From an ancient construction to a very modern one, the Shard then comes into view. On completion the Shard will contain office space, a hotel, luxury residences, retail space, restaurants & cafes, a public viewing gallery and a spa. Another British decommissioned ship is HMS Belfast which has become a familiar sight at the Port of London. It is maintained these days as an educational museum although she played important roles during both the Second World War (notably the D-Day landings) and the Korean War. Cruising further down the Thames we come to Tower Bridge and a good view of "Traitors Gate" where prisoners in less judicial times would be brought to the Tower of London with little hope of release. At this point in our river trip some people left the boat at Tower Pier and others got on.

Travelling towards the east of the city, we passed many different wharfs which have now become luxury apartments. Behind these are Canary Wharf Business Centre and the familiar skyline of tall office towers. Serving this area is also City Airport. After passing through the interesting dockland area the twin-domed landmark of Greenwich College can be seen in the distance. Originally Greenwich Palace it was the birthplace of Henry V111 and Elizabeth 1 more than 500 years ago. In the 1700's it became the Royal Hospital for Seamen and since the early 19th.century it has trained thousands of naval officers. The two main visitor's attractions inside the grounds are the Chapel and the Painted Hall. The Chapel is used for concerts and recitals for which it offers spaciousness and great acoustics. The Painted Hall is one of Europe's finest banqueting rooms. The ceiling and walls took 19years to complete but the result is a hall of grandeur.



At the visitor centre there is all sorts of information, artifacts to look at and souvenirs to buy. It had been a long day but once again the weather had been kind and so we journeyed home having enjoyed another Happy Circle outing.

LIZ PICKFORD

ST MARY'S BELL RINGERS

We shall be ringing the Church Bells over the Christmas Holidays. If you fancy having a go, please do not hesitate to contact Jonathan Clarke on telephone number 01371 873403. All newcomers very welcome



RED POLL

No new calves over the Autumn to report, the cattle have been grazing happily at Bury Farm.

It is now come to the time where we have to replace "Boris the Bull" as his daughters have grown to maturity and it is not the best idea to have him breeding with them! Don't worry he doesn't have to go to the "Great Beef Pie in the Sky". It is possible to swap him with another farmer in the same situation. So after contacting the Redpoll Society they put us in touch with a man in Sussex who has an organic herd that all appeared to be going swimmingly until we discovered that most of his cows were Boris's Sisters!

The next Bull comes from near Milton Keynes (not one of the famous concrete cows!) who Sarah and I went to inspect, he is only two years old, he will be a "toy boy" to my cows and has the proud title of "Nobodys Orange Diablo" we will shorten that somehow! He is a bit smaller than Boris but am assured will grow!

By the next issue of the Great Canfield Newsletter fingers crossed he will be with us. So see what you think.

Jonathan Clarke

ADVERTISING

If you wish to advertise in the Great Canfield Newsletter the charge is £5.00 per article. Please either contact Alison Clark on 0794 764 3057 or e-mail [Alison M Clarke@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Alison_M_Clarke@yahoo.co.uk)

NEXT EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER

The deadline date for submitting articles for the Spring Newsletter is Monday 20th Feb 2012. Please e-mail to [Alison M Clarke@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Alison_M_Clarke@yahoo.co.uk)



GREAT CANFIELD VILLAGE HALL

NOTICE TO ALL USERS

The Village Hall is available for anyone to use, and we hope that you will take advantage of the facilities and competitive rates.

Please make all enquiries to Mrs Nanette Sargent on 01279 871022

NORMAL HIRE CHARGES

(to include Lighting and normal Heating.

Use of power for Cooking will incur a surcharge – to be arranged)

Morning and Afternoon – up to 3 hours £20.00

Evening – from 7.00pm to 10.00pm £27.00

Late evening Events – until Midnight £65.00

(For Hall charges for other times outside these, please contact Mrs Sargent)

Tables can be hired for the day at £4.00 (with a £2.00 returnable deposit) and Chairs at



50p each. Old wooden folding chairs by arrangement.

Hire charges should be paid to Mrs Sargent AT THE TIME OF BOOKING, by cash, or cheque made payable to Great Canfield Village Hall Account.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The persons making the booking are asked to ensure that, after use, the hall is left in accordance with the standard layout. Please also ensure that no furniture or equipment obstructs the external access door to the store. The Hall, Store and Kitchen should be left clean and tidy, all lights and heating turned off and the door closed. Please let Mrs Sargent know *immediately* if a booking has to be cancelled for any reason, as it may be possible to re-let the hall.

After use the following items are to be left in the main hall:

5 Formica Tables, at the sides of the Hall

27 Chairs, in neat stacks at the ends of the Hall

Your co-operation is much appreciated

Great Canfield Parochial Church Council (November 2011)





PUMPKIN COMPETITION 2011

The Pumpkin Competition is over for another year with Peter Smith winning for the second year running. There must be something special in the air or soil at Ashfields as Mrs Joan Knight came second, with only 5lb difference between 1st and 2nd place. The Pumpkins turned up to be weighed in various ways, Peters in a blanket and taking two people to carry it. Alison's in a card board box gift wrapped and Charlie's in a Candle Holder which was a memorial to his Pumpkin which sadly rotted and died. Better luck next year.

Weights	Tony Smith 31lb 9oz	Rob Clarke 12lb 4oz
Peter Smith 94lb 3oz	Adam Knight 21lb 3oz	Anita Smith 6lb 4oz
Joan Knight 89lb 2oz	Jonathan Clarke 20lb 3oz	Gwen Salmon 5lb 4oz
David Hutchings 63lb 9oz	David Salmon 17lb 0oz	Alison Clark 2lb 9oz
Henry Green 45lb 8oz	Keir Donald 15lb 9oz	Charlie Barker 1oz

A challenge will be issued for next year 2012 in the Spring Edition of the Great Canfield Newsletter.

Thank you to Jonathan and Sarah for providing us with the ideal venue for the weigh in. Much to the amusement of your holiday residents who seem to enjoy the weigh in as much as we do.

David Salmon



THE RODINGS AND SURROUNDING AREA U3A

A very well attended Annual General Meeting was held on the 8th November, at Aythorpe Roding Village Hall, during which the Executive Committee was elected. The afternoon concluded with a fascinating talk by David Render, who served in the Second World War, and is an expert on tanks. The next day a coach outing to Woolwich Arsenal and the Olympic Park, with information provided by a blue badge guide, was a great success. There are several more outings in the pipeline, including theatre visits.

A successful new group, Sharing Sunday, is arranging visits to places of interest, and other diversions, once a month, for those at a loose end on Sundays. We are about to welcome a substantial number of new members, now enabled to join after the restriction on numbers caused by the capacity of the village hall for the AGM.

Our next monthly meeting, on the 6th December will be a Christmas gathering, to include a quiz, seasonal readings, and, of course, food and drink. No monthly meetings are held in January or February, but all the groups continue to operate.

For further information please contact Louise Searl 01277 362043 louisesearl@hotmail.com



WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH

Organisation	Name	Address	Telephone No.
Church Warden	Mr James Purves	Adam Hutts House, Bacon End	01371 872128
Church Warden (Deputy)	Mrs Mary Clarke	Haslow, Church End	01371 872213
Church Treasurer	Mr Tony Hughes	Fanns Cottage, Canfield Road	01279 871513
PCC Secretary	Mrs Jane Coxeter	Meadowlands, High Roding	01371 872592
Organist	Mrs Margaret Stevenson	High Roding Bury Farm	01371 872206
Church Flowers	Mrs Catherine Holt	The Old Forge, Green Street	01279 871827
Church Bells	Mr Jonathan Clarke	Great Canfield Bury Farm	01371 873403
Church Hall Bookings		01279 871022	
Church Hall Committee	Mr Tony Hughes	Fanns Cottage, Canfield Road	01279 871513
Book Club	Mr Simon Mainwaring	Water Hall	01371 872480
Carpet Bowls	Mr David Salmon	The Chestnuts, Green Street	01279 870463
Cricket Club	Mr Stuart Hepburn	Fitzjohns	01279 871664
Friends of St. Mary's	Mr James Purves	Adam Hutts House, Bacon End	01371 872128
Footpath Rep	Mr Gordon Sives	Clovelly, Green Street	01279 870776
Neighbourhood Watch		01279 870387	
1 st Roding Scout Group	Mrs Claire Matthews	Meet on Tuesday Evenings, Aythorpe Roding Village Hall	01245 231478
Parish Council Secretary	Mrs Allison Ward	Peartree Cottage, Slough Road, Good Easter	01245 231798
WI High Roding & Gt Canfield	Mrs Margaret Stevenson	High Roding Bury Farm	01371 872206
Newsletter Editor	Mrs Alison Clark	Taigh Iain, 1 Warwick Road, Little Canfield	01279 871835
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