

St Peter & St Paul

Little Horkesley

Parish Magazine

April/May 2021



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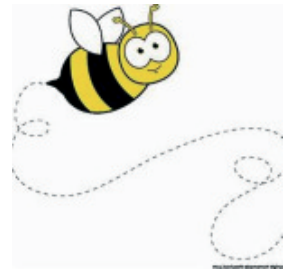
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St Peter & St Paul Little Horkesley



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*From the pen of
Archdeacon
James Ridge*

Dear friends,

As I write to you we are just coming to the end of the third national lockdown. Yet another period of time where so much of normal life has been on hold and our own Church services have had to be suspended.

During this extraordinary time of national and international crisis I find myself reflecting on the disciples in the upper room. Scared, isolated, frightened of what the future may hold, they were probably feeling many of the things which we have experienced during this Covid-19 outbreak.

Over the course of the past year the world has changed, many of the familiar aspects of life which we took for granted have been taken away and their restoration promises to be a long and somewhat tortuous road.

For the disciples, they had assumed that Jesus would always be with them. His reassuring presence, even when the storm raged around them, gave them a sense of identity and purpose – nothing could touch them. And then they watched him being taken away, mocked and beaten and put to a brutal death outside the city. As they fled they must have thought that nothing would ever be the same again.

And then, something amazing happened. Jesus was among them once again, risen from the dead and everything was... not the same as it had been. In fact it was totally transformed, filled with potential, filled with hope, filled with the power of God. And they realised that God had not left them during their time of crisis. They had taken their eyes off him, forgotten what Jesus had told them and imagined that God was not strong enough to overcome the crisis they were experiencing.

Remembering that God has not left us and focusing our eyes once more upon him and upon his promises is vital during this time of isolation. God's promises hold true for us and for those in our Parishes even at a time when life seems so challenging, and we are often frightened.

The resurrection of Jesus is a sign that God is more powerful than death itself and he will overcome the trials and the challenges we face. Resurrection will come and this Easter as we celebrate the risen Jesus and just begin to be together once again, we know that that time will come

when the Church will be... not like it was before. God is using this time to transform us, to make us more like the people he needs to share his love with the world.

As we reflect on the experience of the Church during these troubled times, let us pray for the courage to let God change us so that we may better share his love with those around us and build his Church for the coming generations.

I wish you all a very Happy Easter.

James

An Easter Blessing

The God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus
That great shepherd of the sheep
Through the blood of the eternal covenant make you perfect in every
good work to do his will
Working in you that which is well pleasing his sight
And the blessing of God Almighty
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
Be among you and remain with you always.
Amen



MERIEL'S REPORT

WE WERE LOCKED DOWN AGAIN AFTER CHRISTMAS AND THE CHURCHES CLOSED AND SERVICES HALTED. WE ARE EXPECTING TO RESTART SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK SO THIS MAGAZINE, WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN FOR FEBRUARY/ MARCH, WILL NOW BE FOR APRIL/MAY. I SHALL LEAVE WHAT I HAD ALREADY WRITTEN AND CONTINUE WHERE I LEFT OFF



I am starting to write this on January 1st listening to the New Year's Concert from Vienna to keep my spirits up after what has been a year like no other. I shall write mainly about how it has affected the church although our personal lives have all been so very difficult. So many people in our church community have been very ill and it has been difficult to help because of the effect this terrible virus has had. Not being able to visit has been very hard. Not having a vicar to call upon when pastoral care was needed has made things ever more difficult. I will write a little about our current situation later.

After the November lockdown (when we had missed our much-loved Advent Carol Service) we re-started with a Morning Service on December 6th. This was led by Christopher. It is hard to get officiants to cover all services, but this works well. On December 13th our friend, Archdeacon James Ridge, officiated at our Holy Communion Service and formally admitted David Lewis and me as Churchwardens. This would normally have taken place in May in a very large service for the whole of the Colchester area, but these are not normal times.

I was so glad that I had got the church decorated for this service which was a week sooner than normal. Christopher put up our lovely candle holders in the church stalls. There was no point in putting the ones in the body of the church as we could not light them as it would have meant getting too close to people. I had arranged the Altar flowers instead of Sarah Turner who has been having treatment for a large part of 2020 - and we do wish her well. I noticed that in the last years Magazine at this time I mentioned that our Christmas tree was getting a little shabby. Well, I managed to get a beautiful, new one for half price in the sales at the beginning of the year and our church gardener, Richard, assembled it. Suzanne, our wonderful Magazine Editor, has now agreed to do the church cleaning for which I am so grateful. She decorated the tree, absolutely beautifully, and helped me assemble the Crib. Julia and Fionna completed their decorations and the church looked fantastic, as usual.

On December 20th we had our Carol Service which was greatly different from usual as the congregation were unable to sing. However, I had sorted out the singing so that the little choir only sang a couple of verses of each carol and Brenda sang some solos as the choir could not get together to practice anything. She was great and so were the rest of the choir. I had to get all the readers sorted out so that they did not pass anyone on their way to read or touch the same papers or microphones. This was quite a feat, but we managed to put on a quite enjoyable service.



As I said, I was so pleased that I had decorated earlier than usual because our carol service turned out to be our final service for a while. More Covid restrictions came in and our Christmas Eve officiant, the Revd Hannah Cooper, from St Luke's, felt unable to come. She was very reluctant to let us down but her PCC had decided to have no live services so she felt she must go along with that. I think many people would have felt concerned about coming anyway.

On the subject of Christmas, as you know restrictions were relaxed a little, but John and I decided, for safety's sake, not to go to our daughter, Louise as we would normally do. However, she said, 'Why not have lunch in the garage?' She and her husband managed to get the large garage up to about 18 C and it was decorated with a tree and lights and a very festive table. Mary Langstone joined us, the other side of a large table, as she was unable to travel to her daughter and would have been alone. We had a lovely lunch and one we shall remember.



We had hoped to continue services on the first week in January. Under Government guidelines Corporate worship was allowed. However, as, in Tier 4, we were supposed to stay at home and not mix it did seem that we should not put ourselves at risk, so it was decided to suspend services for the time being.

Jean Brown

Our dear Jean's ashes were interred in our churchyard, next to the church she loved, on December 6th and Revd John Chandler and I were able to be there. If you remember we had both missed Jean's funeral as John Chandler contracted the dreaded virus and I, as I had met up with him, had to isolate. We were both so pleased to be able to attend the little ceremony which John conducted beautifully. It was attended by all Jean's family.

Recipe for Jean's Famous Fruit Cake

500g sultanas
250g dark soft brown sugar
250g butter or margarine#
260g self-raising flour
3 eggs

Put the sultanas into a saucepan, cover with cold water and bring to boil for 1 minute. Strain and tip into a large bowl. Add sugar and margarine and mix well. Crack eggs into a small bowl and mix with a fork. Add eggs to the other ingredients and mix. Add flour and mix thoroughly again. Tip into a lined 8" round tin. Cook at 150C for 50 minutes to 1 hour or until cooked through.

Enjoy with Jean's blessing

Esme Barrett

Another friend who died in 2020 was Esme. Her daughter, Margo, and son, Andy, asked if they could renovate the Notice Board which she gave some years ago in memory of her family. I gladly accepted their kind offer and Keith Hay, who had renovated the board in the past, did the work for us again. At the same time, I asked him if he would move the board slightly as it had become very difficult to reach to put up the notices. This was because as the lime trees had grown a lot and the earth had also fallen away between the board and the fence. It is now positioned so that notices can be affixed from the drive which makes things much easier.



A small plaque was fixed to match the one already on the board acknowledging that it is now also a memorial to Esme.

Faith in action

We had to stop our Coffee Mornings in March 2020. Any money which was raised at these events had always been sent to Faith in Action for their work in Malawi. We sent our final £150 from that source recently and received a very grateful and informative letter back which is reprinted here on pages 7 & 8.



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Mr J. Sparkes, Treasurer,
Parish of Little Horkesley,
13 Keepers Green, Braiswick,
Colchester, Essex CO4 5UT

17th November 2020

Dear John,

Thank you very much indeed for your letter dated 3rd November and for the very generous cheque for £150 which you enclosed with it. I have designated this gift to our unrestricted fund, as required by law, as you did not specify a particular designation but trustees are able to use money from this account for projects in Malawi and this is what is very likely to happen with this very kind gift.

I was sorry to read that you have had to stop your coffee mornings and that they are unlikely to continue in the future, and very grateful that you remembered us when allocating your proceeds since last October. This has been such a difficult time for all of us; for some it has been so much worse than for others. I have found it difficult as I am now living alone since Martin died last year, but in so many other ways I have so much to be grateful for, having a pension which has not been affected and a very nice house and garden.

We have recently sent our fourth fund transfer to Malawi for this year. It includes funds for the following projects. First, we sent £1,000 to set up a second trading centre which will be run by a group of five people who have been living in the rubbish dump on the outskirts of Blantyre, searching for rubbish which they can sell, and often reduced to eating mouldy food which they find among the rubbish. This gift of £1,000 has been given specifically for this project. We also sent a further £1,500 to set up a similar trading centre in Zimbabwe.

We set up the first trading centre at the beginning of this year. The idea is based on the charity shops which are so abundant and popular here. Up until now, I have seen nothing like it during my quite extensive travels in East Africa. We have called them trading centres because this is exactly what they are. Families with unwanted items, such as clothing which is now too small, can bring these items into the centre for sale, a commission of 20% being kept by the centre for each item which is sold.

Each centre helps three groups of people: it enables five more people from the rubbish dump to leave the dump, to find alternative accommodation, and to receive a small income. It helps families who have unwanted items to get much needed funds for them, and it helps families who need to buy items but cannot afford new. Wesley tells me that this centre has been very successful and thus the desire to set up another one.

Faith in Action, 14 Gabriel Road, Maidenbower, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 7LG
Telephone: 01293 886596 Registered Charity No: 293961
Website: www.faithinaction.uk.com Email: sally@faithinaction.uk.com



A Meal for the 350 Inhabitants of the Rubbish Dump — August 2018



Trading Centre

This fund transfer also included funds for Bibles and Bible studies. Over recent months, about 450 new Christians have joined the church and they need this help to develop their newly-found faith. These conversions have happened in the following two ways: first, several area pastors travelled to some very isolated villages to share information about the Covid 19 pandemic, and at the same time presented the gospel to them. Many had never heard the gospel before. I understand that about 350 people have now become Christians in response to their message and are all passionate about growing in their faith. Second, Area Pastor Morishu Makala died about a month ago. Because of the Covid 19 restrictions, only about 500 people attended his funeral, which is less than usual for an area pastor, and 90 responded to the gospel message given during his funeral.

About one month ago, the wife of one of the area pastors was diagnosed with cancer of the uterus. Hospitals in Malawi able to operate on a cancer growth are very few, and only a very small percentage of the population would be able to afford this treatment. A financial gift was given specifically so that she could go to Lilongwe for an operation, and the doctors are confident that they have totally removed this growth, thus saving her life. In response, this lady is so overwhelmed that her life has been saved, that she has started to go into a local hospital with food that she has cooked, to give it to some of the patients. As she gives out the food she has shared with these patients how God has saved her life, and the response from them has been wonderful. This is very unusual as most women in Malawi are very shy. This would also be a very sacrificial ministry as most families have only very meagre resources, and she and her husband have provided the funds for this food. We would therefore like to give her a small monthly gift which will enable her to develop her ministry.

This fund transfer also included the usual funds for our orphan support fund and for mosquito nets. I would like to thank you once again for your very kind and generous gift. I will send a copy of this letter to Rev. John Chandler. We are so grateful for the very faithful support that we continue to receive from so many wonderful and generous people, without which we would not be able to achieve very much.

With love and very grateful thanks,

Sally

Sally Jeffree
Trustee

Cc: Rev. John Chandler, 4 Longdryve, Wavell Avenue, Colchester, Essex CO2 7HH

MAGAZINE DONATIONS

At the time of writing this we really have not had a great many donations towards the cost of production for 2020.

The magazine is currently going out every 2 months. I have left the cost as in previous years and I think I will soon have to make the decision as to whether it is worthwhile. It takes a huge amount of work and is quite a heavy burden on church funds.

So, the suggested payment is £7.50 and £12 if it is sent to you. We are always pleased to receive more than this if you are able. There are several ways to pay - cash is difficult as we are not supposed to handle cash for fear of infection, but we will accept it if there is no other way.

CHEQUE. This can be sent to John Sparkes, 13 Keepers Green, Braiswick, Colchester, CO4 5UT made out to, Little Horkesley PCC.

BANK TRANSFER. The bank details are as follows: HSBC plc, sort code 40-18-51, account no. 71027395. Reference – your name.

THIS IS THE POINT I HAD GOT TO WHEN WE AGAIN WENT INTO COMPLETE LOCKDOWN. ESSEX HAD SUCH HIGH INFECTIONS THAT WE WERE TOLD NOT TO HOLD ANY CONTACT SERVICES AND THE CHURCH WAS, SADLY, KEPT LOCKED.

VACANCY

You will know from articles in the newspapers financially, the Church of England, in general, and the Diocese of Chelmsford, in particular, are in very precarious state. A high number of clergy retirements and a huge drop in income due to Covid 19 mean that a great deal of re-organisation will be taking place. Many stipendiary clergy posts in Chelmsford will be lost. Locally, the Revd Mandy Elmes, vicar of West Bergholt, Great Horkesley, Boxed and Langham, has also retired which means a large part of our Unit is without a vicar.

We have recently had two Zoom meetings with the Bishop, Archdeacon, Area Dean and other clergy. It is now clear that we shall be joined with those four parishes making one large Rural Benefice under one new stipendiary priest who will probably live in West Bergholt.

We are currently trying to put together our Parish Profiles with a view to getting this post advertised and then going through the process of interviewing someone for the role.

RE-OPENING THE CHURCH

I hope that by the time this Magazine comes out the church will be re-opened. It will still have to be used with care and sanitised frequently. It will be lovely just to have it available for quiet moments.

RE-STARTING SERVICES

At the point of writing this we have been told that we can think about re-starting services in Holy Week. Therefore, a Calendar has been prepared with what we hope will be the services for the next 2 months. We shall only be able to have one service on a Sunday as much sanitising has to take place between events.

It is hoped that at our church we shall have a quiet, contemplative service at 2 pm on Good Friday. Please see the Calendar for the services at Wormingford and Mount Bures.

On Easter Day we shall have a Holy Communion Service at 11am. (no Evening Service) Unfortunately we shall not be able to have either the decorating of the Easter tree or an Egg Hunt. Hopefully by 2022 everything will be back to normal. I have been fortunate in securing the services of Revd Henry Heath for this service. I was so pleased about this as getting a priest on Easter Day is difficult.

We shall do nominal decorating for Easter as again people are not supposed to be together too much.

We are extremely fortunate that we have had wonderful help from various people during the 'Vacancy' and they have all said they are happy to continue to help us. They include Revd Henry Heath, Archdeacon James Ridge and Mrs Phyll Wood, who is a lay-reader. We shall also have help in the future, starting with our Good Friday service, from Emma Barr from Mount Bures who is now an Ordinand. Please see the profile which she has given us on Page 13.

FACEBOOK

The church now has a Facebook page which you can find at Little Horkeley Church Facebook page. Sally Bramall is our Administrator, and I am so grateful that she agreed to take on this role.

This has quite a lot of photos, information and videos of services and messages provided for us by Emma Barr (usually weekly) Henry and James. It is worth a look.

EMMA BARR

Emma is a churchwarden at Mount Bures. She is now an ordinand and will hopefully be a great help to our three churches in the years ahead. I asked her if she could let me have a Profile of herself.



Meriel

Emma Barr: Ordinand in the Benefice of Woringford, Mount Bures and Little Horkesley

My name is Emma Barr and I live, work and worship in the Parish of Mount Bures. I am in my first year as an Ordinand on a 3year pathway studying Theology at St Mellitus. My calling is into Rural Ministry which I have been part of all my life. With this as a backdrop 10 years ago I planted a Church here on the farm where I live. 'Church@the farm' meets every month and is open (preCovid times) to anyone. We gather in a relaxed atmosphere around the kitchen table, in the barn, or shepherds hut to pray together.

There is a retreat resource here and also regular quiet days, which are very popular with Christians who live with little access to the countryside.

I am passionate about the countryside and the people who live in it. I very much hope I can serve my curacy in the Benefice. After which I hope to stay, where I can continue to serve the communities of Woringford, Mount Bures and Lt Horkesley. Going forward we will be part of a bigger Benefice but I only see this as a positive. We will have more resources to draw from and flexibility.

Each Church in this current Benefice has its very own personality and my thoughts are that this is huge strength and I am keen to keep them as individual so we can offer a broad range of modern worship for our communities.

Since March 2020 I have written a Sunday Message alongside the Gospel reading. This has continued to gain an increased following from each Parish, and through email and Facebook a much wider audience. So when we open the doors again I look forward to see how the new connections will relate to Church attendance.



a

JANUARY 2021

The latest message from Sena and Jane Ounate- Lare, who we support through Crosslinks

Greetings from Normandy! We are all keeping well and, like most, had a very quiet Christmas. We had planned to spend Christmas in the UK with family but sadly couldn't go because of the restrictions.

The COVID-19 situation in France at the moment is a little bit better than in the UK but we think it is a matter of weeks before we undergo a third lockdown here as well. We pray for God's help and intervention.

The children are still going to school although Josh and Eloise are having half classes which means they have alternate weeks at home and at school. It's a challenge and it is an unsettling situation as they prepare for their Baccalaureate this year. Joshua will be going to university next year in the UK and Eloise will be taking a gap year. Johan will be taking the Brevet exam (similar to GCSEs) this year.

Following Brexit we are in the process of applying for new residency status as well as renewing our health cover under the new agreement between the EU and the UK. **Please pray with us for both of these processes and also for God's strength and energy through this unsettling time.**

Ministry with Eglise le Bon Berger Caen

During this pandemic, like other churches we have learned to adapt and make sure no one is isolated, especially the international students among us and the migrants we are caring for. In France, since the end of November, churches have been allowed to meet in person with certain restrictions in place. We have been very blessed as a church since last September. The church has grown! Mostly through people who have moved to Caen and they have brought with them a new dynamic to the church. We are so grateful to the Lord for many things.

New church venue

We have found a beautiful new church venue big enough to host all of us, even with the social distancing rules, and with a reasonable rent. It is a hotel conference room. We have been meeting there since November.



New church venue

Worship leaders

We are delighted that **Seth** (British) and **Ana** (Colombian) and their three children have joined us recently. They are experienced and gifted worship leaders and passionate about mission. This is a big answer to prayer. We are blessed by their ministry that has brought ‘something deeper’ to our collective worship time. They moved to Caen in the summer and live about 10 minutes away from our house. **Please pray for them as they settle in Normandy.**

Bible course online

With the lockdown, people have been eager to deepen their understanding of the Bible. So towards the end of August last year, Jane and I started an online Bible course on Monday afternoons for a group of people from the church. This will continue through to May or June. **Please pray that the course will help each person to grow in their love for God and his word.**

Alpha course online

This month, working together with four other churches in our network, we started an online Alpha course. It's not the same as doing the course in person but we are counting on God's grace. It has started well with several non-Christians as well as some Christians who are young in their faith. The course will run until 24 March. **Please be with us in prayer.**

Syrian family

We have known and been caring for this Syrian family for about three years now. They are growing slowly in their walk with the Lord. A, the father, planned to join us for the Alpha course but had a sudden serious heart problem a week ago and has been hospitalised ever since. He is still waiting for further test results. With COVID, no one is allowed to visit him, including family. It is very difficult for his wife who has to look after the family including a toddler and a child with special needs. **Please pray for this family – that God heals the father and sustains the mother.**

Thank you for your faithful partnership and support and for praying for us and the ministry here in Normandy.

May the Grace and Peace of the Lord be with you.

With love from,

Sena, Jane, Joshua, Eloise & Johan



Sudoku

Enter a number from 1 to 9 in each square starting from the numbers given in some square. Each row, column, and region must contain only one instance of each numeral.

			9	2		8		6
				1	6	2		
7	2					9		
9		2	1		5		6	
	6	1	2		3	7	9	
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Easy

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		2	9		3	1		
1	8		4			3		
						6		3
		8	7	6			5	
			5				8	

Hard



Solution on page 23

Altar Flowers



Month	Date	Arranger
April	4	Meriel Sparkes
	11	Meriel Sparkes
	18	Fionna Morrison
May	25	Fionna Morrison
	2	Fionna Morrison
	9	Fionna Morrison
	16	Brenda Green
	23	Brenda Green
June	30	Julia Orme
	6	Julia Orme

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February Sunshine!

Today I sat out in the garden,
Absorbed the warmth of sun,
I even had my lunch outside
The first of '21!
I had beavered in the garden,
So lovely to be there
Pruning my Clematis....
Now a bee has come to share
My lunch, but not quite his sort
So flew off to seek a flower, ...
These are emerging in the sunshine
My pink Camellia in her bower!
Her buds have been so tightly curled
Whilst the winter brought the snow,
But now that's gone, she's ready
Her Spring display to show!
The snowdrops' dainty whiteness
Are sprinkled fresh and green
And one Anemone Blanda
In my border can be seen.
The crocus, royal purple,
Pop up beneath the hedge,
The golden ones, like sunbeams,
Brighten any corner wedge.
Daffodils are budding too,
Some almost, nearly out.
Yes! Today I feel the sunshine
Has put the bitter cold to rout!

Brenda Green

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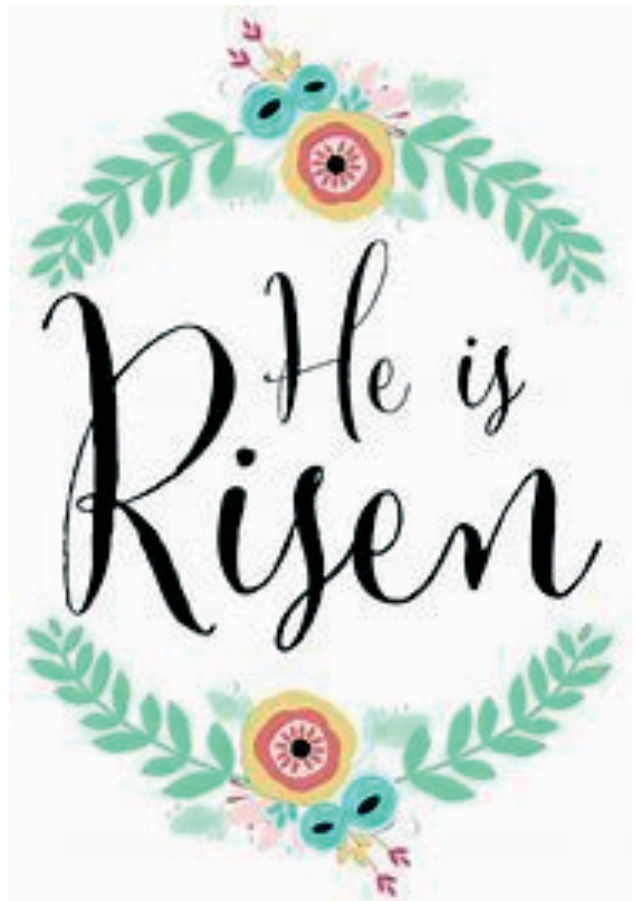
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Affordable Homes for Little Horkesley

By the time you read this every home in the parish should have received the leaflet “Call for Sites”, delivered by the Parish Councillors. If you have not received the leaflet, or would like another copy, please let the PC Clerk know. The leaflet is also available on the parish council website at www.littlehorkesleypc.com/affordable-homes

Most parishioners will be aware that a survey undertaken a few years back made it clear that the limited number of homes in the village - and their cost – meant that not everyone who wanted to stay in the village could afford to. Over the years many homes were enlarged and became unaffordable for many parishioners. Following that survey Hastoe Housing Association undertook to try to develop affordable homes for those who need them; this requires a small site to be bought. The search for a suitable site continues, hence the “Call for Sites”.

So what is a ‘suitable site’? The Planning Authority has advised that affordable homes (as is national policy) can be built on what are called *Exception Sites*. These sites are, preferably, close to the centre of the village – but the Planning Authority will assess all proposed sites on their merits. The size of a site to build two dwellings (or up to four if the site is sufficient) is not large; the Housing Association’s guidance is that just $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre would suffice.

These homes would never be sold and would always remain available to those qualifying to occupy them. Whether currently living in the parish but wanting to set up their own home, or keen to return to Little Horkesley after a few years away, or finding their current home too costly or challenging to maintain, the

occupants of the affordable homes would ideally all need to have a strong Little Horkesley connection. One essential requirement is that those occupying the homes must be on the housing register (in Colchester Borough this is called the *Gateway to Homechoice* register; see <https://cbhomes.org.uk/find-a-home/apply-for-housing/>).

What happens if a site is found? The Housing Association would discuss the site with the Planning Authority to get their support. They would try to agree with the owner a fair price to purchase the land. If successful, then affordable homes can be developed.

Many will wonder why a housing developer wouldn’t be able to buy such land. The answer lies in the description of it as an ‘Exception Site’; it will probably be a site outside the ‘settlement boundary’ - that is the line drawn by the Planning Authority outside which land is (in Planning terms) in ‘open countryside’. Planning Policy is very strongly against housing development in the countryside – unless it is for affordable homes.

How can you help? The key to getting affordable homes built for our parishioners is to find a site. So if you have a site or know someone who does (and they confirm they are interested in the idea), then please make contact and the Parish Council will pass all ideas or offers to the Housing Association.

Lastly; the deadline on the “Call for Sites” was stated as 30th April. Due to the pandemic, the Parish Council has extended this deadline to 31st May 2021.

The Clerk’s email address is;
clerk@littlehorkesleypc.com



Little Horkesley Village Hall

*Is available for hire
£6 per hour*

*Crockery and cutlery for 80 people. Also available: trestle tables,
card tables and chairs at reasonable rates.*

for further information contact:

**Mrs Julia Orme
Tel: 01206 271841**



Sudoku

Solutions - how did you do?

1	3	5	9	2	7	8	4	6
8	4	9	5	1	6	2	7	3
7	2	6	8	3	4	9	5	1
9	8	2	1	7	5	3	6	4
5	6	1	2	4	3	7	9	8
3	7	4	6	8	9	5	1	2
4	9	3	7	6	2	1	8	5
2	1	7	4	5	8	6	3	9
6	5	8	3	9	1	4	2	7

Easy

Hard

8	3	9	2	1	4	5	6	7
5	4	1	6	8	7	2	3	9
2	7	6	3	9	5	8	1	4
4	9	3	8	5	1	7	2	6
6	5	2	9	7	3	1	4	8
1	8	7	4	2	6	3	9	5
9	2	5	1	4	8	6	7	3
3	1	8	7	6	9	4	5	2
7	6	4	5	3	2	9	8	1

Pet Of The Month



For one last time I would like to put Olly in our magazine as our Pet of the Month. A few weeks ago, after a very short illness, I had to say my final goodbye to the sweet darling cat that had become my shadow, my companion and best boy. I miss him every day and feel that my life was richer for having such a noble, affectionate cat in my life.

After years of feeding and housing him in the garden Olly only started to come into our house to live properly after we contacted the ladies of the Tendring Feral Cat Rescue for information on how to trap him and where to take him to get neutered. They gave us advice and even arranged for Olly to be kept over-night at the vets after his operation, because it was so cold out (cats are rarely kept over-night after neutering/spaying).

So, if you ever come across a stray, a kitten or even a litter with their mum outside, please contact Tendring Feral Cat Rescue who will leave no stone unturned to get those kitties safe, warm, fed and eventually re-homed. I don't know what I would have done without their help and expert advice.

Tendring Feral Cat Rescue

07724 077010

Spring Garden Crime Prevention - 1

Hopefully by the time that you read this we will be moving into spring and the weather improving inviting us out into the garden. It is a good time to take a look around; are your fences and gates in good condition do you have good quality locks on gates, will they keep the unwelcome intruder out? To the front of your property where possible keep fencing, planting and hedges to about 1.5m in height so that an intruder is not hidden from view.

Defensive planting: Security does not have to be just about locks, bolts, and spiky fence toppings; nature provides some excellent plants to keep people away. There are a number of attractive, fragrant plants of a spiky nature such as climbing roses, pyracantha and berberis and other planting of a dense nature that can work quite well. Have a chat at your garden centre or with the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) for the right plant for the right location. We have worked with the RHS at Hyde Hall and there are a number of mature examples that can be viewed there, why not book a visit at <https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/hyde-hall> .

New plants: Larger plants etc. can be secured to land or rootball anchors or plant through chicken wire covering the area with soil. Cement or bolt down containers to the ground. The RHS or your local garden centre or DIY store should be able to help.

Working in the garden: It is easy to get engrossed in what you are doing when working in the garden, if the house is empty it is wise to close and lock the door (don't forget the key though!). Remember when you stop for a break put your tools away, and at the end of the day as well as putting tools away put the wheelbarrow and wheelie bin away too. "It will add insult to injury" if your tools are used to break into your house, a neighbour's, nearby building such as a church, or provide a climbing aid or method of carrying things away.

New tools and lawn mowers: Be mindful of how you dispose of the packaging to your new purchases; don't advertise it to the thieves and burglars with your empty boxes on display outside for roadside collection. Fold boxes inside out or break them up and put them in bag for collection. If you are not using your lawn mower, jet washer or other put it away out of sight from prying eyes.

Property marking: It may deter a thief if your property or flower pots is visibly security marked with your house number and post code such as www.creproducts.co.uk or labelled if a forensic (hidden) property marking system is used such as www.smartwater.com or www.selectadna.co.uk. You can also record the serial numbers of any tools at www.toolwatchapp.com or www.immobilise.com/ . If your property does get stolen with property marking and/or recording there is a greater chance of you getting it back.

For suitable security products look for the Secured by Design or Sold Secure logo's and for further garden security advice see the following webpages:

www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/
www.securedbydesign.com
www.soldsecure.com
www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=606



Spring Garden Security Advice Part 2 – Sheds, Garages and Objects

We spoke last month about garden security now we look at the shed, garages and objects within it. As mentioned before controlling access is your first line of defence and you may consider using good old gravel on paths and drives or round statues etc as an audible warning and/or a “Driveway Alert Monitor” (can be found by internet search). Sensitively and effectively placed lighting and CCTV may be considered to help protect outbuildings, ornaments, and statues but these should not be your only thoughts. Don’t forget though motion activated lighting may be triggered by animals and shrubs moving in the wind.

Shed and outbuilding security: If you are installing a new shed try and find a place in view of the house and neighbours. The padlock hasp fittings of a shed should be coach-bolted to the frame and door, strengthen the fitting area with a metal plate inside and out; don’t forget the hinges ensure they cannot be unscrewed. Cheap locks and padlocks are a poor investment; use good quality locks, look for a “Close Shackle” padlock or a key operated mortice lock to at least “Sold Secure” Silver or Gold standard. Protect windows with a wire mesh and fit a curtain or whitewash the windows to prevent prying eyes. NB some of this advice can apply to aviaries, kennels, barns and other buildings of similar nature.

On garage doors consider adding locking bolts to both sides of an “up and over door” or a garage door defender in the ground in front of the door. Don’t forget other doors and windows in the garage secure them as you would in a house. LOCKS ARE A WASTE OF TIME IF YOU DO NOT LOCK THEM.

When storing larger items like motorcycles, cycles, lawn mowers etc consider a fixing set/ground anchor into the concrete floor, a heavy chain and again a good quality padlock to secure it. If the chain or lock is lying across the floor it could provide a surface for it to be smashed against so try and keep it tightly secured. Consider a shed alarm if you do not have one, there are shed alarms available that contact you on the phone when activated such as www.uwatch.co.uk .

Products that are fit for purpose can be found by looking for the "Secured by Design" or "Sold Secure" logos, or on their websites www.securedbydesign.com or www.soldsecure.com .

Tips for Statues, ornaments and pots:

- Drill and secure with quality chain/padlock larger pots and ornaments to a secure surface.
- Offenders will not want to break valuable containers- however they may still opt to lift out the plant --this is where the Plant Anchors can help.
- Make the plant pot heavier with a layer of gravel at the bottom.
- Some planters/pots can be marked/post-coded /etched carefully with a small Hobbyist drill or an indelible pen can work sometimes on the base.

- Hanging baskets can be secured with chains or cable ties BUT there is a danger the offender may simply wrench from the fixing point making even greater damage.
- Where possible position statues, ornaments etc in view of the house and neighbours.
- Photograph more unusual ornaments with a scale rule included, and where possible ensure these ornaments are in view of a house and have good lighting. Consider using a property marking product
- Only buy plants/ornaments from a reputable source and report any suspicions to Police/Trading Standards.

For further garden security advice see the following webpages:

www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/

www.securedbydesign.com

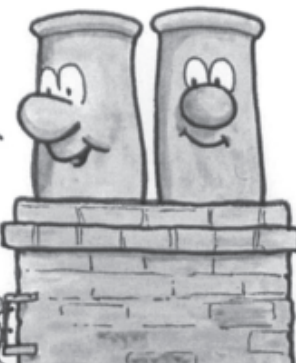
www.soldsecure.com

www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=606



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Sidesmen & Readers : April 2021

Sunday	Sidesmen	Readers	Readings
2nd April 2pm	GOOD FRIDAY LAST HOUR AT THE CROSS John Sparkes David Lewis	TBA	TBA
4th April Morning Evening	EASTER DAY HOLY COMMUNION Will Pavry John Sparkes NO EVENING SERVICE	Sally Bramall John Sparkes	Acts 10: 34-43 John 20: 1-18
11th April Morning Evening	NO MORNING SERVICE Ann Garnett Christopher Orme <i>Intercessor: Emma Barr</i>	Ann Garnett Christopher Orme	Acts 4: 32-35 John 20: 19-end
18th April Morning Evening	NO MORNING SERVICE HOLY COMMUNION Mary Perrins Brian Lord	Mary Perrins Brian Lord	Acts 3: 12-19 Luke 24: 36b-48
25th April Morning Evening	NO MORNING SERVICE John Sparkes Sue Carbutt <i>Intercessor: Brenda Green</i>	John Sparkes Sue Carbutt	Isaiah 52: 7-10 Mark 1: 1-15



Church Calendar: April 2021

April 1st	Maundy Thursday 11.00 am Benefice Service at Mount Bures
April 2nd	Good Friday 2.00 pm Last Hour at the Cross at Little Horkesley (Benefice)
April 3rd	Easter Eve 7.00 pm Easter Vigil at Wormingford (Benefice)
April 4th	Easter Day 11.00 am Easter Communion (Sadly there will be no Decorating of the Easter Tree or Egg Hunt due to Covid restrictions)
April 11th	2nd Sunday of Easter 6.30 pm Evening Service with Bishop Roger, the Bishop of Colchester
April 18th	3rd Sunday of Easter 6.30 pm Holy Communion Service
April 25th	4th Sunday of Easter 6.30 pm Evening Service



Sidesmen & Readers : May 2021

Sunday	Sidesmen	Readers	Readings
2nd May			
Morning	Vicky Minet Christopher Orme	Vicky Minet Julia Orme	Daniel 3: 16-28 Hebrews 11: 32 - 12: 2
Evening	NO EVENING SERVICE		
9th May			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	Brian Lord Ann Garnett <i>Intercessor: Brian Lord</i>	Brian Lord Ann Garnett	Song of Solomon 4:16 - 5:2; 8: 6-7 Revelation 3: 14-end
16th May			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	HOLY COMMUNION Mary Perrins Christopher Orme	Mary Perrins Christopher Orme	Acts 1: 15-17; 21-end John 17: 6-19
23rd May			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	Sue Carbutt John Sparkes <i>Intercessor: Margaret Thomas</i>	Sue Carbutt John Sparkes	Ezekiel 36: 22-28 Acts 2: 22-38
30th May			
Morning	NO MORNING SERVICE		
Evening	Margaret Thomas Harold Thomas	Margaret Thomas Harold Thomas	Ezekiel 1: 4-10; 22-28a Mark 1: 1-13
6th June			
Morning	Will Pavry Christopher Orme	Will Pavry Sally Bramall	2 Corinthians 4: 13 - 5: 1 Mark 3: 20-end
Evening	NO EVENING SERVICE		



Church Calendar: May 2021

- May 2nd** **5th Sunday of Easter**
11.00am Morning Service
- May 9th** **6th Sunday of Easter**
6.30 pm Evening Service
- May 16th** **7th Sunday of Easter**
6.30 pm Holy Communion
- 23rd May** **Pentecost**
6.30 pm Evening Service
- May 30th** **Trinity Sunday**
6.30 pm Benefice Evening Service (for 5th
Sunday in the Month)
- June 6th**
11.00 am Morning Service

