

# The Three Colnes Parish Magazine

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Jill Wellington- Pixabay

## April 2024

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**Readers, please remember to mention this magazine if you answer any of the advertisements.**

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*This magazine is produced for the villagers of the Three Colnes, consisting of White Colne, Colne Engaine and Earls Colne, by St. Andrew's Parish Churches.*

## Website Addresses

[www.colnechurches.com](http://www.colnechurches.com)

[www.colne-engaine.org.uk](http://www.colne-engaine.org.uk)

[www.earlscolne-pc.gov.uk](http://www.earlscolne-pc.gov.uk)

[www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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# Welcome

---



I'm writing this on Mothering Sunday – I have the morning to myself, so I have had a lazy breakfast, the boys are out at football, so I can do as I please. They will be home soon, and I am looking forward to having my lunch made for me, and then we are off to see the second instalment of Dune at the cinema – an epic science fiction world of deserts, giant sandworms, spice, and rival noble houses! If you can manage it, the film is easier to process than the book (by Frank Herbert), but both are equally absorbing. If you are not up for the epic story telling of Dune, I've recently watched the Night Agent series on Netflix which has been fabulous, and I thoroughly recommend it.

We still have a few teething problems with the magazine deliveries in Earls Colne, but we are getting there, so please bear with us. We have a couple of volunteers currently looking after the distribution, for any enquires please can you email Margaret and Ray on [distributethreecolnesmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:distributethreecolnesmagazine@gmail.com)

This month we have loads in the magazine: Pg 11 CEDS – new plays are announced, so get your tickets to support our local am-dram group -I have never been disappointed when attending their shows. Pg 32 The Colne Engaine Festival is back this Spring, make sure you put the dates in your diary – and see what they have on offer this year. Pg 14 Top gardening tips from our Gardener Gary (and Pg 45 for his alter ego 'Spud' up the Allotment). Pg 38 for updates on the Brick Meadows in Earls Colne, we also have an article from Cate Gunn on page 41, and What's on in White Colne on Pg 57.

Please feel free to send me articles for inclusion, we are always on the look out for anecdotes, reminiscing, poetry, regular contributors and so on.

On a side note - There are lots of things happening in our local public houses that need our support. Currently the Five Bells have lost their kitchen, so are very dependent on people visiting for drinks (they are happy for you to order a takeout if you want to!) At present none of them advertise with us – however, I want to promote the activities that are going on, as if you don't use them, they won't be able to stay with us. So, to start – Thursday nights is a Quiz night at The Bells, and every other Saturday night there is live music: 6th April is A Right Charlie with music from the 60's onward, then on the 20th Freddie Mercury lovers are in for a treat with Mario Margaro 'Forever Freddie'. Grab your girlfriends, boyfriends, partners and friends and get down the pub for a pint or a gin or two, a takeaway from other local businesses and a fine night will be had by all.

Until next month,

**Sue.**

# The Three Colnes Churches

**For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:** please contact The Reverend Mark Payne on 01787 220347 or [colnesvicar@gmail.com](mailto:colnesvicar@gmail.com) 20 Swallowfield, Earls Colne, CO6 2SW.  
Reverend Sharon Quilter (Associate Priest) [revdsdq@gmail.com](mailto:revdsdq@gmail.com)

**For all other matters:** please contact the Church Wardens of the Church in question:

## COLNE ENGAINE

George Courtauld - 07968 496235  
[georgecourtauld@aol.com](mailto:georgecourtauld@aol.com)

**PCC Secretary:** Candy Robson

Church Warden Vacancy:

St. Andrew's Church, Colne Engaine

## WHITE COLNE

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01787 222200 [wccw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wccw@hotmail.co.uk)

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# Thoughts for the month



As I'm writing this letter I'm sat looking out of the window at a sunny morning after much, much rain these last few weeks, and it seems finally that we're enjoying the signs of spring. There is a little warmth in the sun, the birds are singing, the leaves on the trees are beginning to unfold into their glory and the snow drops are giving way to daffodils.

As you start to get into this magazine Spring will be well under way; I imagine trees to be in full leaf, more flowers beginning to bloom and maybe you're already planning a BBQ. (In saying that realise I could have put the kibosh on the warm sunshine - many apologies if that's the case!). I love this time of year with signs of new life in the beauty of creation, God's natural cathedral, around us.

Easter of course was early this year on the last day of March and many of us will be enjoying an Easter Egg or two or enjoying a little of what we gave up over Lent. The celebration of new life is common across all religions and none, perhaps because of the intrinsic hope it inspires, and within the Christian faith we celebrate the defeat of death by Jesus who was raised from death itself on the third day, thereby opening the gates of eternity for us all.

I love the sonnet by Malcolm Guite called Easter Dawn, which describes the first encounter with the Risen Lord, and it was to Mary Magdalene that He appeared:

He blesses every love which weeps and grieves  
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept  
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's  
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept  
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs  
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.  
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears  
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.  
She hardly hears his gentle question, 'Why?  
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light  
That brightens as she chokes out a reply,  
'They took my love away my day is night'.  
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say  
The Word that turns at night, and ours, to Day.

Spring is a time when we literally see night turn into day, and we have just turned the clocks forward brightening our evenings. My own story of faith is how even in the darkest nights I have been able to see the light and love of Christ, place my hand into his and walk forward together.

I hope that you continue to enjoy this season of Spring, and I pray that the beauty of emerging new life and our lighter evenings will remind you of the Easter story which we continue to celebrate, and of the new Life, Day and Love that is offered to you.

*Mark*



Our Pastoral Care Team continues to serve our three villages.

You may wish to contact the team if you are bereaved, poorly, feeling low or lonely, or simply just need someone to talk to.

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If you would like to contact the team please call our Co-Ordinator:

**Rachel Fleetwood** on 07902 363533



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# Services for April



Date	Time	Church	Service
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am	Earls Colne	Holy Communion
	3.30pm	Colne Engaine	3:30 Express
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Gestingthorpe	HALSTEAD AREA TEAM SERVICE
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Colne Engaine	Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Earls Colne #	All Ages and Baptism and Worship Band
	10am	Colne Engaine	Morning Worship
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Earls Colne	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10am	Earls Colne #	Holy Communion
	10am	Colne Engaine	Mattins
	10am	White Colne	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Earls Colne	Café Church
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Earls Colne	Holy Communion
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Earls Colne #	Morning Worship
	10am	Colne Engaine	Family Holy Communion and Baptism
	5pm	Earls Colne #	Evensong

# These services will be live-streamed on Zoom and, together with our Online Services, on Facebook Live. Details of our Zoom link and our Facebook Page can be found at [www.colnechurches.com/pew-news](http://www.colnechurches.com/pew-news)

In addition to the above services, at 9am on each Saturday morning you are invited to Morning Prayer on Facebook Live.





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# Lunchtime Recital

**EARLS COLNE**



April sees the start of the ninth season of Lunchtime Recitals at St. Andrew's Church, Earls Colne. The Recitals take place on the second Thursday of each month from April to September starting at 1pm and finishing around 1.30pm to 1.40pm. We hope you will enjoy the programme we have put together this year.

## PROGRAMME

Free Entry. Refreshments are served from 12.15 onwards.

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Edward Preston – Piano

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Camarata – Choir

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – TBA

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August – Angels Delight – Flute & Harp

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Althena Ensemble –  
Flute, Oboe, Piano & Violin

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September – Kate Harris –  
Voice

There is Retiring Collection which helps to cover our performers' fees and for the upkeep of the Broadwood Piano.

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# Dramatic Society



**COLNE ENGAINE**

It's that time again, when we are busy rehearsing , and getting ready for our next production, and my goodness, you are in for a real treat!

We have decided it's time for another Supper Evening, which will include three plays for you to enjoy.

It's always one of the audience favourites, allowing you to watch a broad spectrum of plays, each one different from the last. Your supper will be supplied by the brilliant Darraline, what a treat!

And this time we have a director making his debut. We promise, as usual, to give you a fabulous night out. With this in mind, please save the following dates:

13th / 14th / 15th June.

Hopefully it will be a lovely sunny evening, and you can enjoy a glass of wine, a wonderful meal, and an evening of great entertainment.

We hope to see you there!!

From us all at **CEDS**

# St. Andrew's



**COLNE ENGAINE**

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May during the Colne Engaine Festival Weekend St. Andrew's Church will be having stalls at the festival.

There will be a bottle tombola, plant stall, splat the rat, and the stocks (sure to bring much hilarity).



If you have any bottles, jars of pickles, preserves etc to donate then please leave at 1 Church View (off Brook Street) Colne Engaine before 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

We are also looking for volunteers to assist for a couple of hours on the stalls, a rota system will be set up, so if you can spare a couple of hours on either of the days then please contact: Rita Prior on: [ritaprior31@gmail.com](mailto:ritaprior31@gmail.com) or 01787 736385

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# Gardening



Let's go native.

So there was this clump of primroses growing alongside and amongst a patch of dandelions, nearby was some garden mint, all was well in the garden, the dandelions started to get big ideas and tried to encourage the primroses to back them up in an attempt to gain some ground from the mint, the primroses flatly refused, saying "we're not going near him, he's menthol". Okay, back in the room now, I have been asked to design a wildlife friendly garden containing some species native to the UK and incorporating a small wildflower meadow. I thought I would take the opportunity to share some of my research in case anyone out there wants to try it for themselves.

The first thing to consider is the soil and light, some wildflowers are suited to particular soils, generally they tend to thrive on poor soil with good drainage, although there are some that like boggy ground. The area I am dealing with has light free draining soil and is in partial shade at some parts of the day, otherwise the area has good light. The garden is surrounded by a high brick wall which restricts the light to a degree and often the base of a wall is generally quite dry, all things to consider when planting.

The garden is divided into four areas which will all link together with the planting



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# Gardening (Cont'd)



following a wildlife theme throughout, not all the plants will be native as this is quite restrictive in choice but there are a host of cultivated plants that are great for attracting wildlife and fit into the theme.

I have opted for four small to medium sized trees that will bear fruit for the birds (and the client), a Victoria plum (*prunus domestica* 'Victoria') a crab apple (*malus sylvestris* 'golden hornet') a bird cherry (*prunus avium* 'Sweetheart') (these are self-fertile so they will always produce fruit) and a rowan (*sorbus aucuparia*), this one will be in the wildflower meadow. There will be hedging to perimeter of the garden which will be a mixture of native trees, such as hawthorn (*crataegus monogyna*) blackthorn or sloe (*prunus spinosa*) field maple (*acer campestre*) holly (*Ilex*) and hazel (*corylus avellana*). There will also be areas incorporating shrubs, for this I have chosen a number of different types that should give some benefits at different times of year, these include (*cotoneaster horizontalis*) which, contrary to its name will clothe a brick wall as it grows vertically supporting itself, an evergreen that in the late Summer/early Autumn will have a mass of red berries that the birds love, it can also be included in a hedge. Flowering currant (*ribes sanguineum*); forsythia; barberry (*berberis thunbergia*) is also good for hedging, along with; sweet box (*sarcococca humilis*); *skimmia japonica*; and the cape fuschia (*phygelius*).

.....Cont'd /



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# Gardening (Cont'd)



To pad out the borders and add yet more diversity and interest I will include some perennials, Hellebores are a must, as are perennial Geraniums, try to remember to go for single open flowers, these are more easily accessible for bees and other insects to get into and pollinate, *aquilegias*, *penstemmons*, *asrantia major*, *erigeron karvenskianus*, asters, foxgloves (*digitalis*) *dierama pulcherrimum*, primroses (*primula vulgaris*) cone flower (*echinacea*) teasel (*dipsacus*) and a favourite of mine, *iris setosa*. At some point I will include a selection of bulbs, corms, and tubers as they come into season.

The list is endless but with a little research and talking to the staff at the garden centre, getting the right plants for your garden is relatively simple. I want to just cover the wildflower meadow before I run out of space. Creating a meadow can be done using a seed mixture from the garden centre or online, look for the mix that works well in the area that you live. Prepare the ground by digging it over and clearing as many weeds as possible and raking to fine tilth, there is no need for compost or feed as wildflowers prefer poor soil. Sow in April by scattering the seed across the area and water it in, then wait for the magic. Weed out things like nettles and bindweed as you see them to reduce the competition for the flowers. I have opted for wildflower turf as I need to create an instant garden, it is much more expensive but guarantees successful establishment, the ground is prepared the same but I will be incorporating purpose made wild flower compost before laying the turf, I will also scatter a variety of bulbs under the turf, these will naturalise and the dying leaves will be hidden by the wildflowers and grasses. In September after the flowers have dropped their seeds the

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# Gardening (Cont'd)



area needs to be strimmed (or scythed) down to a height of 6" (150mm) collect up the cuttings and compost them, a light mowing without collecting the cuttings again in March will keep it tidy ready for the next season.

'Happy Wilding' Gary

# St. Andrew's Book Club



St. Andrew's Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month - 2.00 pm at 8 Coggeshall Road, Earls Colne. This Month's Meeting: **Tuesday 9th April 2024**

Our April book is: Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr.

Fifteenth century Constantinople. Present day Idaho. The future, and humanity's last hope. Across time and space, five young dreamers are bound by a single text. Together, they tell the story of a world in peril: of the power of words, of resilience and of hope against all odds . . .

New members are always welcome. For further details, please contact me on 01787 223843. **Margaret Hill.**

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# Going Walk About



In the wise old words of Rabbie Burns, 'The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft a-gley' and yes, my brave attempts to start planning walks a few months in advance went awry, when in mid-February I had a fall and broke four ribs. With several weeks of recovery ahead, and the up-coming February walk only partly checked out, I was close to cancelling a walk for the very first time. But many thanks must go to Kirsten Thomas, who stepped into the breach, checked, and modified the route and led the walk in my absence. And I'm told, it was a great walk too, a circuit from the Henny Swan to Middleton and back, with some great views across the Stour valley, and a gateway dedicated to the birth of Queen Victoria's son, along the route. The group of fifteen walkers included regular attendees and some new faces too – welcome to you all.

The timing of deadlines means I am writing this before our March walk (Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>), but you will be reading it at the beginning of April, after the walk is completed! This is a bi-linear walk (posh talk for a 'straight there and back walk' i.e. not circular, P shaped, or figure of eight etc.) going from Coggeshall to Marks Hall and back, using the path that goes under the A120. We will stop at Marks Hall for a break and the option to have tea and cake in their Orchard Kitchen. While on our return to Coggeshall there is the



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# Going Walk About (Cont'd)



option of lunch at The White Hart, but just come for the walk if that's all you want.

This walk is also in aid of the Greenway Project; a walking and cycle way from Halstead to Earls Colne, then on to Coggeshall and Kelvedon; and sponsorship forms are available, or donations can be made directly to Metro Bank, Account Name: Greenway North Essex, Account number: 50287564, Sort Code: 23-05-80. Sheila Cook from the project team will be joining us on the walk to meet the group and discuss the plans and current progress. If you run a business in those areas (or know someone who does) and wish to improve your sustainability and local environment credentials, then business partners are also being sought. If you have any questions on the Greenway Project, wish to volunteer for work parties, sponsor or partner with the project, then contact Sheila on 07972265188 or email her at [greenwaynorthessex@gmail.com](mailto:greenwaynorthessex@gmail.com) .....Cont'd /



Pictured above: The stone arched gateway near Middleton, dedicated to the birth of Queen Victoria's son Albert Edward, Prince of Wales (later Edward VII). A strange earlier link between Middleton and the Prince of Wales!

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# Going Walk About (Cont'd)



with your questions.

This corner of Essex is blessed with some of the most spectacular displays of Bluebells in the country (if not in the world!). Locally we are familiar with those at Chalkney Wood and Bullocks Wood, but a little further down the Colne, at Fordham, those in Hill House Wood are also very good. We had a great walk in that area in the heat of the summer of 2022, so revisiting a little earlier and on a slightly different route we hope to catch the bluebells before they are past their best. The new route will start from The Cricketers pub, will cross Fordham Heath, pass Hill House Farm and the woods, then follow the river to the new woodland of the Fordham Hall, Woodland Trust. Reserve the date now; Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10 o'clock, for what could be one of the best walks of the year!

For more information on this and any other walks, contact me on 07734 450221 or at [rawood@me.com](mailto:rawood@me.com). You can also sign-up for regular Emails with details of each of our walks and can also join our WhatsApp walking group for updates on our walks, to explore ideas for new walks, share photos and for general chat.

Enjoy your walkabouts, wherever they may take you.



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The Three Colnes Cafe Church, for the first quarter of 2024, covered the theme of how to care for our planet. So, following on from last month's film on environmental issues, we are rounding off the Cafe Church theme with a Film Club first - a documentary-style offering. But in true Film Club tradition, this month's choice is another true story!

**The Film** - The Biggest Little Farm

**The Discussion** – Wednesday 10th April 2024 gather at 6.45pm for a 7.00pm start

**The Where** - The Drapers, Earls Colne

For more information, contact:

Sharon ([revdsdq@gmail.com](mailto:revdsdq@gmail.com)); or

Kirsten ([kpt1607@icloud.com](mailto:kpt1607@icloud.com)); or

Ray ([rawood@me.com](mailto:rawood@me.com))

Saturday 4th May  
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# FOUR COLNES HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Four Colnes Horticultural Society (FCHS) has existed in the Colne Valley in one form or another since about 1880. The Society in association with the Recreation Club and local businesses organises the Annual Four Colnes Show, this year to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> August 11am-10pm, at the Recreation Club in Earls Colne.

The Society has about 200 members and organises events for them which have a 'horticultural' theme throughout the year. In 2024 visits are planned to 2 local NGS gardens, RHS Wisley and Christmas at Kew. The Society also aims to support other organisations and initiatives in the Four Colnes.

Find out more on our website [www.fourcolneshorticulturalsociety.com](http://www.fourcolneshorticulturalsociety.com), contact the Secretary, [secretary.fchs@outlook.com](mailto:secretary.fchs@outlook.com) or follow our Facebook page.

Contact [membership.fchs@outlook.com](mailto:membership.fchs@outlook.com) for membership enquires. Membership is currently £5 for the year from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024-31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

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**Parish of St Andrew's Colne Engaine  
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in  
The Five Bells on Wednesday 24th April 2024 at 7.30pm**



For the election of Parochial representatives of the laity as follows: The Parochial Church Council representatives. For the appointment of Sidesmen and the Independent Examiner or Auditor. For the consideration of:

- (a) A Report on changes in the roll since the last annual parochial church meeting;
  - (b) An Annual Report of the proceedings of the parochial church council and the activities of the parish generally;
  - (c) The Financial Statements of the Council for the year ending on the 31st December immediately preceding the meeting audited or independently examined;
  - (d) A Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church or churches of the parish;
  - (e) A Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod;
- and other matters of parochial or general Church interest.

**If you are interested in joining the PCC, are a member of the Church Electoral Roll or live in Colne Engaine and are interested in the church community then you are most welcome.**



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## Village Hall

COLNE ENGAINE

We have an exciting new look to the village hall having replaced the old wooden gates that blew down in a recent storm!



Many thanks to the engineering skills of Ian Pike.

**Geoff Marcoolyn**

[marcoolyngeoff@gmail.com](mailto:marcoolyngeoff@gmail.com)

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We would like to thank you for your continued support. With the cost of living crisis and rising food prices any donations made are gratefully received. We also know and see how much your donations mean to those who find themselves in food crisis.

We have distributed over 2,600 parcels to those in need so far this year and we find ourselves in the unfortunate position that as fast as the donations are coming in we are giving them out. Your support is vital.

Our Community Outreach Officer is working hard to build links with local communities so that we can help those who are unable to reach a centre for example those with mobility issues. This outreach work is for anyone who finds that they need support in both towns and rural areas. If you would like more information about this service please email [outreach@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:outreach@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk) or call 01376 330694 and ask to speak to Sarah.

**Food items:** Tinned cold meat i.e. spam; Tinned hot meat i.e. stews; Jam; Long life sponge puddings; Rice; Tinned rice pudding. Gluten Free alternatives.

**Non food items:** Cat/dog food; Shampoo; Deodorant; Conditioner

We follow the standards set by the Food Standards Agency. We can only accept donations of unopened and undamaged goods well within their "Use By" date (no less than six months if possible). Items that do not meet these requirements cannot be used and your donation may be wasted. **Contact us:** Telephone 01376 330694 Email: [info@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk)

The advertisement is enclosed in a thick, grey, pipe-like border. At the top center, the word "CRALIN" is written in a large, bold, serif font, with "Property Services" in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. To the right of the text is a circular logo containing a stylized bar chart. Below the company name, the text "Domestic &amp; Commercial Maintenance/Refurbishment" is written in a smaller font. The word "DRAINAGE" is prominently displayed in a large, bold, serif font. Underneath, there are two columns of bullet points: "Blocked Drains/Toilets", "Pipe Relining", and "New Installations" on the left; "High Pressure Water Jetting", "CCTV Camera Surveys", and "24hr callout" on the right. At the bottom, the contact information "Call Craig on 07980 297068" and "email: cralinpropertyservices@yahoo.com" is provided.

## Quiz Night Fundraiser

COLNE ENGAINE

Quiz Night in aid of St. Andrew's Church  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024

7.00pm for 7.30pm at **Courtauld  
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Tickets £8 per person, teams of 6 or we  
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Black tea. Yorkshire decaffeinated. Green tea  
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French style medium filter, decaffeinated available.

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Bacon Bap £1.75 Porridge 75p

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# COLNE ENGAINE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

**Colne Engaine Festival 23rd-26th May 2024**

## Volunteers Needed

Our festival gratefully relies on the support of our local community. We now need volunteers for this year's festival running from Thursday 23rd May to Sunday 26th May. There is a wide variety of things to do including setting up, helping to run stalls, selling raffle tickets and of course, clearing up at the end! If you are able and willing to offer us one or two hours of your time during the festival please contact:

email: [carolynwhite2610@talktalk.net](mailto:carolynwhite2610@talktalk.net)  
phone: 07762 768243



## Country Flair

Our committee has made the decision to cancel Country Flair this year to make way for other activities at the festival. We will keep an open mind to bring it back in the future, if our community misses it.

## Evening Ticketed Events

Thursday 23rd May - Quiz Night  
Friday 24th May - Barn Dance  
Saturday 25th May - Band Night with Jupiter Ray

All tickets will go on sale in April. More details to follow.



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# Correspondence



"For our Spring concert the Kelvedon Singers are delighted to be celebrating four of the greatest composers. The lives of Purcell, Bach, Mozart and Haydn spanned from 1659 to 1809 and their music ranged from the Baroque to the Classical ages. We have chosen three of Purcell's best loved Anthems including 'I was Glad when they Said unto me', and arguably Bach's most famous cantata 'Jesu, meine Freude'.

Haydn's Missa Brevis St Joannis de Deo is often known as his Little Organ Mass. He speeds through the familiar words of the mass by often giving the choir voices four different sets of words to sing at the same time! This gives rise to a joyous celebration of glorious music, and does indeed drastically shorten the work!

Mozart's second setting of the Vespers was written in 1780 for Salzburg Cathedral and from it we have chosen his beautiful setting of 'Laudate Dominum' (O Praise the Lord), featuring a lilting soprano solo, echoed by the choir. It will truly be an uplifting welcome to Spring!"

I hope you're happy with all this. We are much looking forward to singing in St Andrew's again - it's been a long time! Best wishes, **Celia**

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# Heritage Museum

**EARLS COLNE**

## Forthcoming events:

Due to increased footfall and interest in the Heritage Museum, we will now be opening on Wednesday afternoons 2-4pm commencing Wednesday 3rd April, as well as weekends 2-4pm.

## D-Day 80.

The Museum will be recognising the national Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of D-Day (6th June 1944) "The largest naval air and land operation in history" with 2 talks.

**Saturday 1st June Earls Colne in WW2 7.00pm Village Hall**

**Thursday 6th June Earls Colne in WW2 1.30pm Village Hall**

Last year the same subject was a sell-out with over 200 people attending. This year, the talks, with new research material and a focus on the operations conducted by the USAAF 323rd Bomber Group based at Earls Colne leading up to D-Day, are expected to be equally as popular.

£5 entrance - Tickets will be available from the Museum from Wednesday 3rd April and early purchase is highly recommended.



## Atlas Works & Village Walks

Dates for the ever-popular walks conducted by John Stedman, local historian, will shortly be published - visit the Museum Website to register for the monthly newsletter and updates. [www.echm.org.uk](http://www.echm.org.uk)

## Volunteers

Would you like to volunteer at the Museum? We have roles suitable for every person - from manning the museum during opening hours, to off-site research of the Village's history from Neolithic times to the present. Please do make contact and happy to discuss.

Telephone: 07979 531695 | E-mail: [info@echm.org.uk](mailto:info@echm.org.uk)



**Earls Colne**  
Heritage Museum

# *Kelvedon Singers*

**Welcome Spring with Uplifting Music**

**Conducted by Chris Phelps**

**Accompanied by  
David Mitchell**

**Mozart**

**Laudate Dominum**

**Purcell**

**Joyful anthems**

**Haydn**

**Te Deum and Missa Brevis**

**JS Bach**

**Jesu Meine Freude - Jesu, my Joy**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

**6.30 pm**

**St Andrew's Church,**

**Earls Colne CO6 2RG**

**£15 incl. wine in interval**

Tickets from Sarah Phillips 01376 561719

[Sarahphillips365@outlook.com](mailto:Sarahphillips365@outlook.com)

**Donation to St Andrew's church**

36 / [www.colnechurches.com](http://www.colnechurches.com)



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# St. Andrew's



## EARLS COLNE

Brew & Chat: a very welcome break. On a Wednesday afternoon about 1.45pm, doors around the village open and residents emerge. They will be wrapped up against the cold and can be seen moving as swiftly as possible in the direction of St Andrew's Church for what many think of as the 'highlight of their week'.

For the past sixteen years, almost every Wednesday from 2.00 until 4.00pm the church family have offered a cup of hot tea or filter coffee, a biscuit, and a chat to anyone who wanted to join in. The church isn't very warm, but the welcome is. Then left to collect other children from school. People popped in for a few minutes and then went on with their day. Some still do this.

Increasingly, Brew & Chat has a slightly older clientele. Many stay for the full two hours; catching up with old friends, chatting, laughing, exchanging memories and experiences. There's a good mix of men and women, some retired, some of working age and a few children still at preschool.

We've welcomed some who have been isolated in their homes for many years, but who have plucked up the courage to get out of the house and walk in. Others just pop in to look at the beautiful church and might share a cuppa before going on with their day. Some come in with their four-legged friends whilst out for a w.a.l.k. and stay for a chat but no drink. There isn't a charge, just a pot for donations.

We have at least two helpers, to meet safeguarding rules and to ensure that no one is forgotten. Our village is full of friendly and interesting people. Why not give Brew & Chat a try.

Rachel Fleetwood



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# Brick Meadows

## EARLS COLNE

We would like to thank the many people who supported us in our aim to get the two meadows, which run parallel to Coggeshall road, included in the Neighbourhood Plan. We are pleased to say that we have had confirmation from the Parish Council that the area will now be appear in the “green spaces” section instead of just being assigned to an appendix within the document. This is a very welcome step forward.

Having studied a map of the area from 1590 we have noted that these two fields were known as “Ryefields”, and they will be known as such from now on. We are still continuing with our quest to extend Nature Reserve status to include “Ryefields”, but it seems to be a very low priority by Braintree District Council, so our next step is to apply to Essex County Council for help. Nature reserve status will hopefully give an upper level of protection from development.

In partnership with the Four Colnes Horticultural Society we hope to create an area of wildflower meadow in the lower part of Ryefields, using the remaining money collected in memory of Andrew Crane to fund this project. The first step will be to cut the field in the Spring when we have some dry weather, then another cut in June/July, followed by spreading the area with wildflower hay from a nearby source to encourage seeding the ground. We are also very grateful to Oliver Wass for his assistance in this project.



### BABY GROUP

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# Brick Meadows

## EARLS COLNE

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The working party that meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month continues to play a big part in maintaining the area. Last month's task was to replace a rotting wooden gate at the bottom of The Park Lane Chase with a metal one taken from another part of the site. We also aim to replace the wooden kissing gate nearby with a metal one. We are thankful to Councillor Chris Siddall for allocating some grant money towards the purchase of a Brush Cutter. This will be used to keep the paths cut in the summer and will be vital in cutting the Anthills field where a tractor and mower cannot be used.

A wet and soggy winter has led to the paths within the meadows becoming difficult to walk on but we can only hope that by the time this article is published, warm Spring weather will dry them out. Walkers may also have noticed that at the bottom of The Chase, we have had our own version of Niagara Falls, as water has run along the edge of the field instead of through the culvert at the bottom of Park Lane gardens which has become blocked. Plans are being made by owners of the gardens to address this problem so eventually the waterfall should disappear, and the footpath will dry out.

**Frances Barton and Jayne Meleschko**

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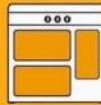
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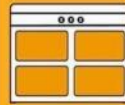
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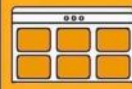
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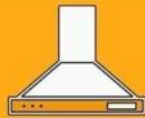
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# Correspondence



**Alan Bennett** — not the famous writer but the last Rector of Colne Engaine — died on 14th February at the age of 92. There are many in Colne Engaine, and no doubt in Earls Colne and White Colne, who remember him. He was a parish priest who put pastoral care and parish ministry at the heart of everything he did. Terry Hawthorn remembers Alan visiting just three days after Terry and his young family moved into Colne Engaine; I remember him calling in the day after I returned home from hospital with my new-born son.

Alan was the Rector of Colne Engaine from 1981-88. He didn't live in the 'Old Rectory', the large house off Boose's Green which had been sold in 1953, but in a Victorian house on the village green that became the Rectory. Soon after he moved in, Alan married his second wife, Ann, in the church here. Doreen, his first wife, had died of cancer; Ann was a close friend of the family who had helped to care for them and it had been Doreen's wish that Alan would marry Ann after her death. We extend condolences to Ann, Alan's three children, Lindsey, Kate and Nick, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

After Alan left Colne Engaine to take care of a multiple parish, living in Norfolk the Rectory was sold and when Stuart Holden retired as Vicar of Earls Colne the two parishes were joined together with a single Vicar. (If you're wondering about the difference between vicars and rectors it's mostly to do with how they were paid historically and .....**Cont'd /**

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# Correspondence (Cont'd)



makes no difference to their jobs now.) This brought to an end a history of Rectors of Colne Engaine that stretched back to 1219 when Peter de Feria was installed as the first Rector under the patronage of Vitalis Engaine. The advowson, or right to appoint the Rector, passed eventually to Lady Mary Ramsey, a well-known name in Halstead. She donated the manor and the advowson to Christ's Hospital, a charitable institution founded to provide education for children of the poor and now an independent school; it retains its charitable status (and distinctive uniforms!) and provides means-tested bursaries.

Alan was appointed by Christ's Hospital but came from a rather different background than its Headmasters who had traditionally been appointed as Rectors: he had been an Army chaplain, serving in Northern Ireland and Germany. He then was at the New Town parishes in Colchester, before coming to Colne Engaine. He worked alongside Stuart Holden, the Vicar of Earls Colne, helping out with holidays, and the two also worked with the Quakers and Baptists in Earls Colne, improving ecumenical relationships. He also took Methodist services in retirement.

I communicated briefly with Alan while I was writing my short history of eight hundred years of Rectors of Colne Engaine (*Colne Engaine 1219*) and he mentioned concern at the

direction the church is taking as it moves away the thousand-year-old idea of the parish with its priest at the heart of the parish towards a more managerial approach, with many diocesan officers and fewer parish priests. Alan belonged to a generation of parish priests who had more autonomy than they do now and who were able to focus on pastoral care: 'Holding the hand of the dying', as Alan expressed it. Alan saw being a vicar as his vocation and he continued to take services and celebrate communion until shortly before Christmas. Vicars now have more demands made upon them (from above and below!) and we are fortunate to be in the care and under the guidance of Mark, with Sharon and Hugh, so the work of the church in the parish can continue.

Cherish our Church!

Cate Gunn



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# Up On The Allotment



**Busy time for veggies.** It's all happening on the plot now, garlic and onions are growing well, rhubarb has produced a good crop, and the raspberries are putting on good growth already, you could say everything is coming up roses, which is strange coz I never planted any. I will be sowing seed potatoes now after 'chitting' them in the greenhouse, (which is actually not green, its transparent) anyway, I will be growing them in tubs again this season, a layer of compost on the bottom (I really should of sat on a cushion) and then space the seed taters about 6" (150mm) apart with the shoots facing upwards, before covering with a good 6" (150mm) of home grown compost. Some of the taters had shoots growing all round so I rubbed off the smallest ones, so they were all on one side. As they grow, I will put in extra layers of compost to force them to grow taller until the tubs are full, this is because the potatoes grow on the underground stems so this should encourage a larger crop. Spud grew sweet potatoes last year, and they were very successful so I will have a go this year, to be accurate they are not actually true potatoes as they are more closely related to the morning glory flower (*Ipomea*) Sweet potatoes (*Ipomea batatas*) produce edible tubers which develop underground. The leaves and shoots can also be eaten, treated the same way as you would spinach. They do like it hot and want plenty of water, they produce vines that can grow up to 5' (1500mm) tall so I will be growing them in tubs with canes supporting the vines. If the leaves look attractive, I might put the tubs on the patio, it's nice and hot there and they stand a better chance of being watered regularly. ....Cont'd /

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# Up On The Allotment



Sweet potatoes are grown from cuttings, which can be ordered online from April, they need to be grown on in the warm, indoors or in the greenhouse if you have one, if not grow them under plastic cloches until they are ready to plant out in late May/early June. They should be ready to harvest from September onwards, the longer the growing season the better.

Better make a list of jobs for the rest of April before I run out of page.

Onion sets can still go in 6" (150mm) apart and pushed into the soil with the tips showing, cover them with fleece or sticks to stop the birds pulling them out. If the ground is good, things to sow now include beetroot, parsnips, carrots, peas, lettuce, and spinach, leeks and summer cabbage can be sown as well. If you want to get things growing indoors/in the greenhouse, get going on runner beans, sweetcorn, courgettes, pumpkins, squashes, and cucumbers. Oh yeah, nearly forgot tomatoes, if you want to grow toms in a cold greenhouse they can be planted now. Prepare the ground for things like runner beans by laying a thick mulch of compost (home grown if you have it) and set up your supports in wigwams or rows - whatever floats your boat.

Well, looks like that's it, I have run out of space.

'Laters taters' - Keep calm and carry on weeding. **Gary** and 'Spud'



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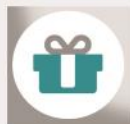
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# Recipe Corner



## Beetroot and Celeriac Bake (Serves 2)

You can do a lot with a few vegetables and a bit of white sauce. You can ring the changes, depending on the vegetables you have, and add grated cheese – or not.

We tend to buy beetroot already boiled or – ugh!– bottled with vinegar, and eat it with salad, but fresh beetroot, boiled by you and eaten within a few days, always tastes better. And it's delicious eaten hot, as a side vegetable.

Method:

Beetroot Boil the beetroot in plenty of water in a lidded pan, making sure the water covers them.

Expect to boil larger beets for about 45 minutes, smaller ones for about 30 minutes. The only way to judge whether beets are cooked is remove them out the pan, allow them to cool for about a minute, then feel how soft they are. If they're still hard, put them back into the pan and cook longer.

When they are cooked, allow the beets to cool, then push the skin off with your fingers. (Yes, your fingers will become stained but it will be worth it.)

Roughly chop the beetroot.

Celeriac Cut a slice off the celeriac bulb and weigh it. (Assume the skin will weigh about 1oz, so weigh out 5ozs.) Peel the celeriac and chop it roughly. (You may do better with a sharp knife than with a potato peeler.) Boil (or microwave) the celeriac slices until just soft.

Make the Sauce: Melt butter in the pan. Stir in the flour and allow to cook. Stir in the milk, little by little, until you have a thin sauce. Add salt, pepper and mustard. Add about half the grated cheese (if you're using cheese).

Layer the beetroot and celeriac in an oven-proof dish. Pour sauce over the vegetables. Sprinkle the nuts (and cheese, if using) over the top. Bake in the oven for 20 minutes.

**Rosemary Johnson**

---

### Ingredients

*2 largish fresh beetroots (or several smaller ones)*

*About 4ozs sliced celeriac*

*Half an ounce of mixed nuts (the sort that come ready-chopped in a packet).*

### For the Sauce:

*1 oz butter*

*1oz plain flour*

*Half a pint of milk*

*1 tablespoonful of mustard (your preferred type)*

*Salt and pepper*

*2ozs grated cheese (optional)*

---



# Puzzles

**Letter Tiles** Unscramble the tiles to reveal the message. Tiles can be used once only.

o	u	r	G	o	o	d	m	r	e	s	e	h	a	n	d	c	p	i	n	
r	i	e	s	a	h	a	p	e	s	s	e	m	o	a	t	c	o	n	c	e

## April Crossword

### ACROSS

4. April is named after which Greek God or Goddess
7. What sport has been played by Eve Muirhead and David Murdoch?
8. What time can you no longer be the fool on April 1st?

### DOWN

1. From which US city do the band The Killers originate?
2. The three states of matter are Solid, Gas and ??
3. The British name for Cilantro
5. Which planet is closest to the sun?
6. Vermicious ..... are the main antagonists of Roald Dahl's Charlie & the Great Glass Elevator

The crossword grid consists of white squares for letters and grey squares for empty space. The starting points for the clues are as follows:

- 1: Down, starting at row 1, column 10.
- 2: Down, starting at row 4, column 14.
- 3: Down, starting at row 5, column 11.
- 4: Across, starting at row 5, column 10.
- 5: Down, starting at row 6, column 11.
- 6: Down, starting at row 7, column 14.
- 7: Across, starting at row 7, column 11.
- 8: Across, starting at row 8, column 10.

The chessboard is an 8x8 grid with columns labeled A through H and rows labeled 1 through 8. The pieces are placed on the following squares:

- White King on A1
- White Queen on B1
- White Rook on C1
- Black King on E5
- Black Rook on D7
- Black Knight on G7

## Checkmate in One

Black turn to go.

Move:

To:

**All answers on page 58**



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## COLNE ENGAINE

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(Chairman) [alan@colne-engaine.org.uk](mailto:alan@colne-engaine.org.uk)

EALC REPRESENTATIVE; TOWNLANDS TRUST;  
BURCHES MEADOW LIAISON; SEXTON'S FIELD  
TRUSTEE; FUNDING FOR VILLAGE PROJECTS  
DEFRIBRILLATOR WARDEN

**CLLR TERRY FLOYD**

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TREE WARDEN; FOOTPATHS; TOWNLANDS  
TRUST; SEXTON'S FIELD TRUSTEE

**HELEN BISCOE-DAVIS**

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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PARISH CLERK & FINANCIAL OFFICER

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**CLLR SARAH DIGNASSE**—01787 222792

(Vice Chair) [sarah@colne-engaine.org.uk](mailto:sarah@colne-engaine.org.uk)

RECREATION GROUND; VILLAGE SCHOOL;  
VILLAGE HALL LIAISON

**CLLR NIGEL WARWICK**

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FINANCE COMMITTEE; BURCHES MEADOW  
LIAISON; FESTIVAL LIAISON

**CLLR IAN MESSENGER**—07799 212266

[ian@colne-engaine.org.uk](mailto:ian@colne-engaine.org.uk)

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**CLLR PAT TAYLOR**—01787 224876

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EALC REPRESENTATIVE; TREE WARDEN

**DOWNLOAD THE LATEST PARISH COUNCIL NOTES FROM:**

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## ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLORS

County Councillor Chris Siddall

[cllr.chris.siddall@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.chris.siddall@essex.gov.uk)

District Councillor Gabrielle Spray

[cllr.gspray@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gspray@braintree.gov.uk)

District Councillor George Courtauld

[cllr.gcourtauld@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gcourtauld@braintree.gov.uk)

MP for Braintree James Cleverly

[james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk)

---

To contact your councillors in Earls Colne, visit their website: <https://www.earlscolne-pc.gov.uk/> and click on the Parish Council tab and select councillors. Currently two vacancies exist, could one of them be filled by you? Please contact the Parish Clerk.



## EARLS COLNE

All Members are jointly responsible for Village Environment and Planning

**NIKKI SPELLING** is the Chair

[nicola.spelling@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.spelling@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk)

**TONY CALTON** is Vice Chair and responsible for Neighbourhood Plan and Planning Applications

[tony.calton@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:tony.calton@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk)

**JACKIE PARISH** is responsible for the Village Hall [jackie.parish@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.parish@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk)

**NIK MCKEAN** is responsible for the Village Hall

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**KATY KERSLAKE** is responsible for Communications

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**RAY RANNS** is responsible for the Working Group Activity-Communication and Asset

Management/Finance

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**JONATHAN HAPPS** – More details of responsibilities to follow

[jonathan.happs@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.happs@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk)

**JUNE JEMMETT** – More details of responsibilities to follow

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**LORRAINE BAUCKHAM-LEYS** – More details of responsibilities to follow

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**DEE ELLISON** – is the Parish Clerk

[clerk@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk)

**ELEANOR FITCH** – is the Asst. Parish Clerk

[village.hall@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk](mailto:village.hall@earlscolne-pc.gov.uk)

## WHITE COLNE

[www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Cllr. Jane Taylor**— 07521 312778

[chair@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:chair@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

(Chairman) BALC executive; climate action, community energy ,community liaison, grant funding, village hall – managing and estate

**Cllr. James Bond** is Vice chair .

[Cllr.jbond@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.jbond@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Highways, village green, village hall estate.

**Cllr. Paul Batchford**

[Cllr.pbatchford@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.pbatchford@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Environment ( includes footpaths) meadows, river (includes flooding)

**Cllr. Denise Drizen**

[Cllr.ddrizen@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.ddrizen@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Allotments,defibrillator, village hall estate.

**Cllr. Kris Bell**

[Cllr.kbell@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.kbell@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Defibrillator, web site and I.T, village hall estate.

**Cllr.John Brace**

[Cllr.jbrace@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.jbrace@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Highways, planning, policies, community garden

**Cllr.John Wilson**

[Cllr.jwilson@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.jwilson@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Allotments, environment, planning, policies, river.

**Petra Palfreyman** is Parish Clerk and

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### St Andrews Church Colne Engaine - Dates for your diary 2024

The PCC are looking to put together events this year to raise funds for a new boiler and other work required on the church, this to include:

On 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> May over the festival weekend we will have a bottle tombola, plant stall, splat the rat and stocks (Volunteers would be welcome if you are available to help, please let us know).

A concert with 'THEATRE III' classical crossover and songs from the musicals on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 6.30pm for 7.00pm in the marquee on the recreation ground. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. Ticket price £10 per person.

Quiz Night on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, tickets £8 pp bring your own drinks & nibbles.

Harvest Lunch on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October in the village hall, more details to follow.

**Further information on events or to volunteer for helping on stalls please contact Rita Prior on 01787 736385 or email [ritaprior31@gmail.com](mailto:ritaprior31@gmail.com)**

## What's On In White Colne?

**White Colne Sewing Bees** Every Thursday evening in the hall 7.30pm to 9.30pm  
**April 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>**. Everyone welcome.

**Stationmasters Community Café** in the hall. Second and fourth Fridays of the month 9am to 12.30pm **April 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**. A not-for-profit café.

**Annual Parish Electors' Meeting April 16<sup>th</sup>** 7.30pm village hall.

This is not a parish council meeting. It is an open meeting and a chance for village residents to hear about the work of the council over the previous year and to raise and discuss any matters of interest or concern. A glass of wine or a soft drink with nibbles will be served at the end. Everyone welcome.

**Village Quiz.** In the hall 7.30pm start **April 27<sup>th</sup>**. Tickets £5 each player. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Teams on tables of 6. No team? No problem! This is a very sociable fun quiz, so we will make up teams if required. No one needs to be a 'Brain of Britain' – our Quizmaster loves quirky questions, so everyone has a chance of knowing something.

**Parish Council Meeting** Our next meeting is scheduled for **May 21<sup>st</sup>** and will also be the AGM of the Council. We may have to delay the evening until Thursday **May 23<sup>rd</sup>** Please check our website nearer to the time.

**Village market is now quarterly and will include a special event.**

The next market will be a Midsummer Market - **June 15<sup>th</sup>**

Jane Taylor. [chairman@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:chairman@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)

07521 312778. [www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk)



### FUNDRAISING FOR ST. ANDREW'S, EARLS COLNE

Hello everyone – here's your monthly reminder about what we're doing in our role to promote and raise funds for the life and work of St Andrew's, Earls Colne, for the benefit of the community. The church is important to all whether we attend services or not and we're really keen on having fun while we support the church.

By the time you read this, our first event of 2024 will have already happened (a bingo night in March) and we're already heading into recital season. There's so much to look forward to!

#### This month:

Thursday 11th April - Lunchtime recital in church, 1pm-1.30pm.

Free entry, refreshments served from 12.15pm or you can bring your own lunch. There will be a retiring collection.

Saturday 20th April - Kelvedon Singers concert in church

#### Upcoming:

Saturday 4th May - Bingo night in church

Thursday 9th May - Lunchtime recital in church

Thursday 13th June - Lunchtime recital in church

Sat/Sun 22nd-23rd June - Flower Festival with Tower Tours

Our quiz night needs to be arranged as there's a clash with another event. We're also planning a Vintage Fashion Show and a Music Night – watch out for those dates in future magazines. The Rock Choir are coming too, in October – that will be an amazing night!

If you would like more information about anything we're up to, or you have suggestions for events, or if you want to join our fundraising group, you can drop an email to:

[ecstandrewsfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:ecstandrewsfundraising@gmail.com)

or post a message via the link on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/3Colnes.HalsteadAreaTeam>

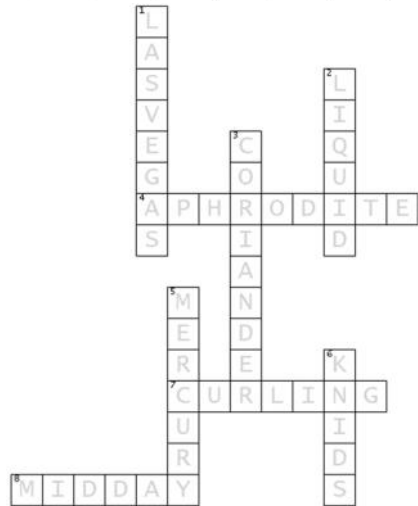
[www.facebook.com/3Colnes.HalsteadAreaTeam](https://www.facebook.com/3Colnes.HalsteadAreaTeam)

Join us, it's already another year of fun!

**Doug McKenzie**

### Puzzle Answers

G	o	o	d	m	e	m	o	r	i	e	s	a	r	e	o	u	r	s	e
c	o	n	d	c	h	a	n	c	e	a	t	h	a	p	p	i	n	e	s



#### Checkmate in One

Move: E5 to: B2

# What's On at The Village Hall

## EARLS COLNE

### Monday's

Over 60's Pilates 12.30 - 1.30pm. Contact Natasha 07971 107835

Karate 6.00-7.00pm. Contact 01787 371131

Tai-Chi 6.30-7.30pm. Contact 07540 049625

Zumba 7.30-8.30pm. Contact Emma

### Tuesday's

Pilates 10.00-11.00am. Contact Sally 07530 075586

Dance & Cheer 5.30-6.30pm. Contact Amy 07809 287937

Lunch Club every other Tuesday 10.00am-12.00pm.

### Wednesday's

Pilates 6.30-7.30pm. Contact Sally 07530 075586

Move Me Exercise 9.30-10.30am. Contact Jenny 07359 520438

Seated Exercise 11.30am-12.30pm. Contact Jane 07944 919328

Dance 5.00-7.00pm. Contact Colchester School of Dance 07855 380739

Yoga 7.00-8.00pm. Contact Caroline [www.thepeacefulco.com](http://www.thepeacefulco.com)

Parish Council Meeting every third Wednesday of the month 7.00pm. Contact Parish Clerk on 01787 224087. Members of the public welcome to attend (limited spaces).

### Thursday's

Pilates 10.00-11.00am. Contact Sally 07530 075586

Warm Hub 11.15am-2.00pm. Contact Eleanor Fitch 01787 224370. All welcome.

Dance 4.45-6.00pm. Contact Colchester School of Dance 07855 380739

Dance 5.00-7.00pm. Contact Colchester School of Dance 07855 380739

Stane Street Players 7.30-9.30pm. Contact [gill.mccubbine@hotmail.com](mailto:gill.mccubbine@hotmail.com)

### Friday's

Yoga 9.30-10.30am. Contact Natasha 07971 107835

Tai-Chi 1.00-2.00pm. Contact 07540 049625

Youth Club every other Friday.

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Instead of using fixed routes with fixed stops and times, DaRT customers book journeys with the operator in advance and are picked up from an agreed point – often their own home, a bus stop or local place of interest. You can use it:

- to go shopping
- attend a health appointment
- get to/from work, school or college
- visit friends

Arrow Taxis Essex Ltd will also need to know:

- Your name
- Your telephone number
- Any specific requirements, such as if you are a wheelchair user or if you have difficulty walking

### Return journey

It is advisable to book your return journey at the same time of your initial booking otherwise you will need to give 2 hours' notice for your return journey.

**Remember to be ready when you are due to be collected.**

### £ How much will it cost?

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DaRT**  
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### 🕒 When does it operate?

DaRT 3 operates between 0600 and 2000, Monday to Saturday. Unlike a bus service there is no set route and timetable.

	Adult (age 16 or over)		Child (age 5 to age 15 inclusive)	
Distance	Single	Return	Single	Return
Less than 2 miles	£2.50	£3.50	£1.50	£2.00
Between 2 and 5 miles	£4.50	£6.50	£2.50	£3.50
More than 5 miles	£5.50	£8.00	£3.00	£4.50

**Concessionary pass holders – valid after 0900 Monday to Friday and all day Saturday**

### 📞 How do I book a journey?

Telephone Essex and Suffolk DaRT on 01621 874411 and explain:

- Where you would like to go
- Where you would like to be collected from
- What time you need to go (please give at least 2 hours notice before travelling)

### £ How can I pay?

You can pay on the bus or by debit/credit card over the telephone.

### DaRT 3 covers the parishes of:

Alphamstone	Ashen	Belchamp Otten	Belchamp St. Paul	Belchamp Walter
Birdbrook	Borley	Bulmer	Bures Hamlet	Colne Engaine
Earls Colne	Foxearth	Great Henny	Great Yeldham	Greenstead Green
Halstead Town	Lamarsh	Liston	Little Henny	Little Yeldham
Middleton	Ovington	Pebmarsh	Pentlow	Ridgewell
Stambourne	Steeple Bumpstead		Tilbury Juxta Clare	Toppesfield
Twinstead	Wickham St. Paul	White Colne		

# The Three Colnes Diary

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25

1	Mon	Zumba Class, Colne Engaine
2	Tue	Yoga Class Colne Engaine;
3	Wed	Brew n' Chat, Earls Colne 2pm (p.37); 3.30 Express 3.30pm (p.37)
4	Thu	Brew n' Chat, Colne Engaine 2pm (p.37); Keep Fit Class Colne Engaine; White Colne Sewing Bees 7.30pm (p.57); Community Choir, Colne Engaine 6pm (p.29)
5	Fri	Games Night 6pm (p.17)
6	Sat	COPY DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE;
7	Sun	Earls Colne Community Litter Pick 10am (p.30)
8	Mon	Zumba Class, Colne Engaine
9	Tue	Yoga Class Colne Engaine; St. Andrew's Book Club Meeting: 2pm at 8 Coggeshall Road, Earls Colne (p.17)
10	Wed	Brew n' Chat, Earls Colne 2pm (p.37); Film Club 6.45pm (p.22)
11	Thu	Lunchtime Recital 12.15pm (p.10); Brew n' Chat, Colne Engaine 2pm (p.37); Keep Fit Class Colne Engaine; White Colne Sewing Bees 7.30pm (p.57); Community Choir, Colne Engaine 6pm (p.29)
12	Fri	Stour Valley Singers Barn Dance 7pm (p.28); White Colne Stationmasters Community Café 9am (p.29);
13	Sat	
14	Sun	
15	Mon	Zumba Class, Colne Engaine
16	Tue	Yoga Class Colne Engaine; White Colne Annual Parish Electors Meeting 7.30pm (p.57)
17	Wed	Brew n' Chat, Earls Colne 2pm (p.37)
18	Thu	Brew n' Chat, Colne Engaine 2pm (p.37); Keep Fit Class Colne Engaine; White Colne Sewing Bees 7.30pm (p.57); Community Choir, Colne Engaine 6pm (p.29)
19	Fri	
20	Sat	Kelvedon Singers 'Welcome Spring with Uplifting Music' 6.30pm (p.36)
21	Sun	Café Church 6pm (p.41)
22	Mon	Zumba Class, Colne Engaine
23	Tue	Yoga Class Colne Engaine
24	Wed	Brew n' Chat, Earls Colne 2pm (p.37); Annual Parochial Church Meeting 7.30pm (p.25)
25	Thu	Brew n' Chat, Colne Engaine 2pm (p.37); Keep Fit Class Colne Engaine; White Colne Sewing Bees 7.30pm (p.57); Community Choir, Colne Engaine 6pm (p.29)
26	Fri	White Colne Stationmasters Community Café 9am (p.29);
27	Sat	Going Walk About 10am (p.18); White Colne Quiz Night 7.30pm (p.44)
28	Sun	Choral Evensong 5pm (p.41)
29	Mon	Zumba Class, Colne Engaine
30	Tue	Yoga Class Colne Engaine;

## Useful Numbers

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### Councils

Braintree District Council 01376 552525  
Colchester Borough Council 01206 282222

### Doctors

The Elizabeth Courtauld Surgery, Halstead  
01787 475944  
The Pump House Surgery, Earls Colne  
01787 222022

### Schools

Colne Engaine C of E (Aided) Primary School  
01787 222717  
Earls Colne Primary School & Nursery  
01787 222205  
Honywood Community Science School,  
Coggeshall 01376 561231  
The Ramsey Academy 01787 472481

### Essex Police

Braintree Police Station 0300 333 4444

### Village Amenities

Colne Engaine Village Hall 01787 223668  
Earls Colne Village Hall 01787 224370  
White Colne Village Hall 07585 558047  
Colne Engaine Village Shop and Post Office:  
01787 220163  
White Colne Village Market 07870 652321

### Village Groups

Colne Engaine Village Archive 01787 222080

### Youth Groups

1st Earls Colne Brownies 01787 224175  
1st Earls Colne Girl Guides 01787 220065  
1st Earls Colne Rainbows 01787 224913  
Scouts [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)

If you are an officer of a club or group in one of the Three Colne Villages and would like to place information about the group's activities and events in the magazine for free, please contact the Editor (pg. 2).

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