The Three Colnes Parish Magazine

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November 2023

Contents

3. Welcome from the Editor
4. The Three Colnes Churches Contacts
   Pastoral Care; Christmas Starts Here
5-6. Thoughts for the month
7. Services for November
9. Earls Colne Shopping Event
11-12. 2023 Poppy Appeal
13. Remembrance Sunday
14-16. Gardening
17. Colne Engaine Bingo Event
18. Film Club; St Andrew's Book Club
20. Correspondence - Crime Prevention
21. Courtauld Memorial Hall
23-24. Community Energy Project
25. Christmas Wreath Making
28-29. From The Four Colnes' Magazine
30-32. Correspondence - Cate Gunn
33-34. Local Business Shout Out
34. New Baby Group
36. White Colne Community Garden
37. Warehouse Volunteers Wanted
38. Braintree Area Foodbank
40. Earls Colne Library
41. What's On In White Colne
43-44. Up On The Allotment
49. Recipe Corner; Board Games Club
50. Fundraising for St. Andrew's Church
51. Puzzle Page (answers on pg. 53)
53. Earls Colne Parish Councillors
54. Colne Engaine Parish Councillors
    White Colne Parish Councillors
56-57. Essex and Suffolk DaRT bus service
58. Useful Numbers; Advertisers' Index
59. Three Colnes Village Diary

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Advertising

All advertising should be sent to Terry.

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

We welcome advertising in our magazine, the income from which helps to cover production costs. This does not imply any endorsement or approval of the products and services mentioned in the advertising.

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
www.colne-engaine.org.uk
www.earlscolne-pc.gov.uk

FOR THE DECEMBER/JANUARY ISSUE PLEASE PROVIDE SUBMISSIONS BY 6TH NOVEMBER 2023

Please provide Editorial in Word and Advertising as .jpg file

Welcome



Hello – welcome to all our new readers throughout White Colne and Colne Engaine.

I hope you enjoy the Three Colnes Parish Magazine that will be winging its way to you 10 months of the year. In here you will be able to find a whole host of things that are on throughout the villages: activities for all ages; fundraising by the local schools; activities at St Andrew's Churches; social committees from all three villages; clubs and businesses. We are hoping that there is something for everyone.

I have been the Editor of the Colne Engaine Parish Magazine for well over 5 years now and recently combined with Earls Colne Parish Magazine, which went to about 200 homes in the parishes. We are now aiming to deliver free copies to every home within the three villages within the next few months. For this to work – we need you!! If you could volunteer some time to deliver copies of the magazine down your road and we had a couple of volunteers from each road, that goal will become ever more achievable.

We have a great network of delivery people within Colne Engaine and White Colne but need to dramatically increase the ones for Earls Colne. If you can give us half an hour to an hour a month (and only for 10 months of the year) we would be grateful – please drop me an email threecolnesmagazine@gmail.com if you can help.

Please, if you can, if you use any of the companies that advertise within the magazine, let them know where you found them. The more they know their advertising is working, the happier they are to keep with us; we need the advertising to keep the magazine free for all.

If you do not wish to receive a copy of this publication, please let me know, and I will advise the delivery team so that you are no longer on our distribution list. The magazine is also available online, on the St Andrew's Church web page and the local individual Parish Council websites.

We welcome contributions for the magazine. We are looking for:

a **Sports Editor** to write up about local sport activities, such as Golf, Football and Cricket to name a few; an **Advertising Manager** to take over from our wonderful Terry who currently looks after this; an **Assistant Editor** to work alongside me, managing one or two issues a year. We welcome anyone who wants to contribute, whether that is anecdotal pieces, short stories, articles on local places to visit or eateries to try. Please send your ideas or entries directly to me and I will be in touch about getting them into the magazine. This is a village magazine for the people, by the people, so lets get it out to all!

Until next month (eek it'll be the Christmas edition!) **Sue**

The Three Colnes Churches

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

PCC Secretary: Lauren (Dolly) Smyth - 07766 518191 lauren@dfsmyth.com

EARLS COLNE
Mr. Ray Wood & Mrs. Helen Sherfield - 07908 138853 ecchurchwardens@gmail.com

PCC Secretary: Caroline Smith
standrewearlscolne@gmail.com
Treasurer: Helen Brooks
ecpctreasurer@gmail.com

Church Warden Vacancy:
St. Andrew's Church, Colne Engaine

WHITE COLNE
Mr. Christopher Chamberlain - 01787 222200



Pastoral Care

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.

We are happy to support you over the phone, via Zoom or in person.

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

Rachel Fleetwood on 07902 363533



Thoughts for the month

November is a month of change, a month of transition.

The darker evenings bring a feel of the rapidly approaching winter, although that won't officially start until December.

The church calendar changes at the end of October from the celebration of the Trinity, the three in one, God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to looking forward to Advent, the eager anticipation of the birth of Jesus, God on Earth, although Advent won't start until December.

At the beginning of November we think of loss, All Souls Day followed by Remembrance Sunday, and these rightly take a major focus when we think of loss and sacrifice. The loss of loved ones, family and friends, and those who have enlightened our journey through life, and then the loss of those who fought in conflicts from the first world war to the present day so that we can enjoy our freedom.

The church titles the Sundays in November the 'Sundays before Advent' so challenging us to reflect and be ready for the season of Advent.

The poet Malcolm Guite captured something of the changing November when he wrote in his poem for autumn 'And is it not enough?'

"And ready us for winter with strange calm,
That I should see the inner tree revealed."

Words that may, perhaps, speak to us both for the change of season to winter and the change of the church to Advent. Words written to describe the falling of leaves from a tree showing the strength of the trunk and branches that holds it together. Words that may also describe strength revealed through Advent into Christmastide.

If we can face the changing future with the calm that the poet sees in the changing season, what challenges do each of us face? These challenges will be individual to each of us so I can only suggest what has helped me.

Increasing age and infirmity have caused me to rethink my approach to life. Until now I have simply piled one thing on top of another, often to the detriment of all, but I now have less mobility and less time in the day to do what I should do so I have been decluttering.

Over the last six decades I surrounded myself with a significant amount of clutter, useful at one time but not now (but also too much of the 'this may come in useful' as well!)

Many items I have parted with were sentimental as well as useful but they have had to go, literally 100's of books as well as tools, and as I have gone through this painful process of parting with items I once considered important I now feel something of that

'strange calm' the poet talks about and also something of the second line of the poem I quoted earlier,

"That I should see the inner tree revealed"

My decluttering has been more than material things; it has freed my mind as well and has shown me something of my inner thoughts, my inner tree, and is part of that strange calm. Losing so much of the clutter, useful and enjoyed and sentimental but still clutter, has given me both a calmer view of life and a clearer view of a way forward that has more time to be challenged on what is important.

My prayers are that you may find time to reflect on the changing season and as the leaves fall that you see more than bare branches.

With every blessing for your journey.



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Services for November

Date	Time	Church	Service
Wed 1st	9.30am	Earls Colne	All Saints Day Holy Communion
Thurs 2nd	7.30pm	Earls Colne	All Souls Day Service – A Memorial Service for the Departed
Sun 5th	10am	Earls Colne #	Morning Worship
	10am	Colne Engaine	Morning Worship
	10am	White Colne	Holy Communion
Wed 8th	9.30am	Colne Engaine	Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
	3.30pm	Colne Engaine	3:30 Express
Fri 10th	7.30pm	Earls Colne	Cradle in the Heart – A Memorial Service for all children lost in any stage of pregnancy, at birth or infancy
Sun 12th	10am	Earls Colne #	Remembrance Sunday Services
	10.15am	Colne Engaine	Remembrance Sunday Services
	3pm	White Colne	Remembrance Sunday Services
Wed 15th	9.30am	Earls Colne	Holy Communion
Sun 19th	10am	Earls Colne #	Holy Communion
	10am	Colne Engaine	Mattins
	10am	White Colne	Morning Worship
	6pm for 6.30pm	Earls Colne	Café Church
Wed 22nd	9.30am	Earls Colne	Holy Communion
Sun 26th	10am	Earls Colne #	Morning Worship
	10.30am	Colne Engaine	Family Communion & Baptism
Wed 29th	9.30am	Earls Colne	Holy Communion
Thus 30th	7.00pm	White Colne Village Hall	St Andrews Day Supper & Service

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

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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Poppy Appeal

My apologies for not reporting on the Poppy Appeal sooner but I had originally aimed to put this report in the October edition. Unfortunately, with no October issue being printed this year the Appeal will be well under way by the time you read this article.

The 2022 National Poppy Appeal raised a total of £47.7 million. The whole of Essex raised £1,203,784.27 of which Earls Colne and White Colne collected **£7,602.52**. This was the second highest total that we have ever raised. We seem to be on a rising trend and it would be great if we could beat last year's total. But each year it becomes harder to achieve. Asking if people would like to gift aid their donations boosted last year's total with 25% of such donations being claimed back from HMRC. So, a £10 donation is worth £12.50 to the Poppy Appeal. This year, gift aiding should be easier as the contactless payment device has a facility to add gift aid to a card donation, assuming, of course, that the donor is a tax payer.

Fund raising started on October 26th and will continue until Sunday November 12th. Once again, we have concentrated our efforts in the Co-op but boxes of poppies can also be found in most of the shops and other venues such as the pubs, golf clubs and the recreation club. Fork 'andles has a larger box with the full range of merchandise.



Poppy Appeal (Continued)

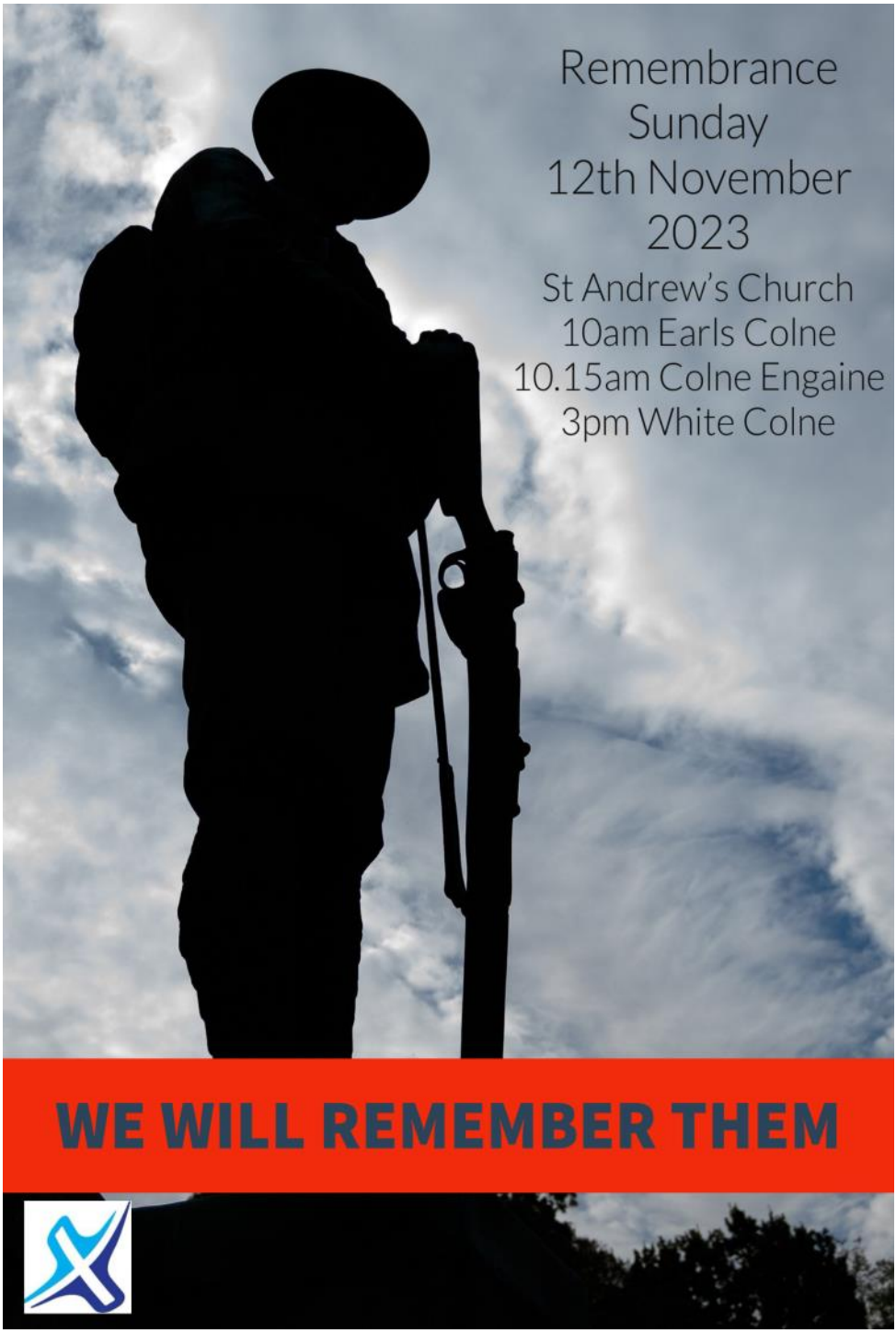
For the second year running I have to report that during the year two of my regular volunteers have passed away and others have had to step down due to failing health. This is likely to continue as the rest of us get older and many are finding it harder to do as much as they would like to support the Poppy Appeal. Sadly, there seems to be no younger people willing to come forward to fill the ever-increasing gap in volunteer numbers. So, if you or anyone you know, might be able to help in the future then please put them in touch with me. The job is not demanding. You are able to sit and the collection point is inside the Co-op so it is warm and dry. It is mainly a case of being willing to give up a few hours to support this worthy cause.

We will also be running our regular coffee morning fund raiser on Saturday 11th November 9.30am – 11.30am in Earls Colne Village Hall. Again, this is going to have a different feel from previous years as two of the regular volunteers at this event are no longer available to help.



Ian Allman, Poppy Appeal Organiser Earls Colne and White Colne.
Tel. 01787 222291




Remembrance
Sunday
12th November
2023
St Andrew's Church
10am Earls Colne
10.15am Colne Engaine
3pm White Colne
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



DON'T RELAX YET

There is still plenty to do before you can start curling up in front of the fire and slipping into hibernation mode; the grass could still be growing if it stays mild, and, on a dry day, it can still be cut. Once the mower is finished with for the season it is a good idea to empty out all of the petrol, because it becomes 'sludgy' over winter and next year it will probably cause the mower to become a non-starter. Fit a new spark plug and air filter and change the oil. The old oil can be tipped into a bucket of sand and small hand tools can be plunged in for storage; this helps to keep the tools clean and rust free and they can be easily found when needed. If there is room, pop in your shears and fork 'n spade as well. Got any broken glass in the greenhouse? Time to get that sorted too while there is less going on in there; clean guttering out to make sure the water flows freely; fit new, or make sure existing water butts are connected and working properly; wrap up the outside tap, sooner rather than later; as my old nan used to say "a stitch in time is worth two in the bush".

Protect less hardy plants like Bananas (*Musa basjoo*) and Tree ferns (*Dicksonia antarctica*) by wrapping with horticultural fleece; the tree fern needs a ball of fleece crumpled up and placed into the crown before lifting the fronds together to the middle and tying up to hold them in place. Fleece wrapped up the trunk will help as well but

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Gardening (Cont'd)



isn't entirely necessary. After cutting the leaves back to the point where they meet the stalk, wrap the bananas from the base upwards using the fleece like a bandage. I always leave the top loose so that in the Spring any early growth can push its way out; if not the leaves tend to curl back on themselves and this causes the plant to rot down inside the stalk. Any growth that pokes through the fleece early will be damaged by frost but this will not hurt the plant itself. With no protection at all I have had Bananas survive the winter, but they die back to the base and shoot from the bottom; with protection they get taller every year as they continue to shoot from the top of the stem, growing up to ten feet tall.

Roses can be pruned back by a third to reduce the risk of damage from 'wind rock'; ideally prune to an outward facing bud, but it's not crucial if, like me, you like to prune hard again in Feb/March. Clearing leaves off the lawn is a mega important job; don't let them build up, collect them and bag them up in black bin bags, tuck them out of the way for a year and you will get a supply of lovely leaf mould for mulching next year. It works better if you use the mower as a hoover, lifting the cut enough so that it collects and chops the leaves without cutting the grass.

I thought I would share with you a funny incident that happened to me recently. I have a lady client that works from home; her job is very involved so she doesn't always have

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time to see me while I am there working in the garden. She leaves me to get on with whatever needs doing and tells me to let myself in to make a cup of coffee whenever I want. I can go anytime I want to, but I need to let her know so that she can leave things unlocked for me. We use WhatsApp to communicate as there is never a problem with connection and it is instant. This has been working really well; I then discovered that I could send a voice message by holding down the microphone icon, so that is what I did, the only snag is that the second the microphone icon is released, it sends the message without giving you the opportunity to edit it. This is the message I sent, (obviously I have not used her real name): "Morning Enid, I can fit you in for two hours on your back if that's good for you". At this point I hadn't realised how that sounded, and, hopefully Enid knew what I meant and didn't take it out of context. The panic set in when I got a reply that read, "That would be lovely, I am in the shower, back doors open, help yourself"

I think maybe I watched too many 'Carry on' films as a kid.

'Laters Taters' Keep calm and carry on weeding.

Gary




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This month's film choice harks back to the roaring 20's with a mix of music, fashion, gangster rivalry, romance and, of course, pedal-cars and custard pies!

The Film - Bugsy Malone (starring Jodie Foster, Scott Baio, Bonnie Langford and Dexter Fletcher)

The Discussion - Wednesday 8th November 2023 gather at 6.45pm for a 7.00pm start

The Where - The Drapers, Earls Colne

For more information or to book your place, contact Sharon (revdsdq@gmail.com), Kirsten (kpt1607@icloud.com) or Ray (rawood@me.com)

If you have watched a film that you feel would lead to a really good deep meaningful and engaging discussion, please let us know.

St. Andrew's Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month - **2.00 pm** at **8 Coggeshall Road, Earls Colne.**

● **Tuesday 14th November 2023**
Our November book is *Two Storm Wood* by Philip Gray. *1919. On the battlefields of France, the guns of the Great War are silent. Special battalions now face the task of gathering up the dead for mass burial. Amy Vanneck heads to France, determined to discover what became of the man she loves. Meanwhile, Captain Mackenzie cannot bring himself to go home until his fallen comrades are laid to rest . . .*

● **Tuesday 12th December 2023**
A surprise book – watch this space!

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



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Crime Prevention

Twelve tips for Christmas…and after

With Christmas rapidly approaching here are a few seasonal tips to help keep you safe at home, shopping, visiting, and after Christmas too:

1. If you need to store Christmas food and drink, presents and other goodies within garages and outbuildings, ensure what you are storing is out of sight and that the building is securely locked with good quality well fitted locks. Treat your shed to a shed alarm.
2. Avoid tempting window shopping burglars; don't leave presents and valuables on full view in front of a window. Having parcels delivered, and may be out, make sure that you make suitable secure delivery arrangements to reduce the risk of theft.
3. Whenever leaving the house always ensure that your windows and doors are closed and locked. Don't attract burglars to your home by leaving it in darkness; leave lights on timers, perhaps treat yourself to a TV simulator too.
4. Lock gates to keep unwanted visitors from getting to the rear of your home.
5. When you go to leave the house and find that your car is all iced up, don't leave it unattended with the engine running to de-ice it. It only takes a second to steal your car and it would invalidate any insurance claim.
6. Park safely; look for a 'Park Mark' accredited car park www.parkmark.co.uk/car-park-finder Check that your car is locked before you leave it and don't leave valuables and gifts on display in your car.
7. Whether an evening out or Christmas shopping keep your bags, handbags, wallets and mobile safe. Busy places make it easier for the sneak thief, so be alert at all times.
8. A Christmas get together – make sure that you have considered how you are getting home in advance and avoid using unlicensed taxis. Ensure you drink responsible, and are aware of your surroundings, whilst keeping your drink and belongings safe. www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/FAQs/Category/personal-safety
9. Watch what you put on social media; check your settings to ensure that you are not broadcasting when you are not at home and the lovely gifts you may have received.
10. After Christmas don't advertise your nice gifts to the thieves by putting the empty boxes out for collection, disguise them, fold them up inside out or put them inside another non-descript box.
11. Record your new property free on www.immobilise.com , install tracking and security apps on relevant electrical and computer products. Consider a property marking product.
12. **Have a Great Christmas and New Year!!**

For further crime prevention advice see: www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/ or https://www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/crime-prevention-advice

SAS031023rev

Colne Engaine Village Updates

We are so pleased that everyone who has seen the redecoration of the hall and the new curtains and blinds has approved of the 'freshen up'. The Barn nursery school has settled in very well and is attracting many local children. The last production by the Drama group was a great success and enjoyed by all who came to see the play. We are looking forward to welcoming you all to our **Christmas Shopping Event on Sunday 19th November** 11am to 4pm. This would be a great opportunity to support local businesses and to see the newly decorated hall. **Geoff Marcoolyn**

Autumn is now officially here, and what better time to be gathering nature's harvest in preparation for entering the 'Country Flair' held on Sunday 26th May at the Colne Engaine Festival 2024. We're still finalising the exact categories, but we do know we'll have one for jams, another for chutney and we're definitely interested in your sloe gin making skills! So, start planning your entries now! More updates to follow soon.

Colne Engaine Festival Committee

We had a fantastic turnout for the Colne Engaine Fun Run 2023 on Sunday 3rd September. This popular event was, once again, sold out, and the child and adult runners did really well completing either the 1 mile, 5 mile or 10 mile course around the village. A total of **£2,093 was raised**, which will go towards the festival in May next year.

A special thank you to Jane Roach and her team for putting the event together, and to all the volunteers who helped on the day. Without them, we would not have had another great success!

Festival Committee

COURTAULD MEMORIAL HALL

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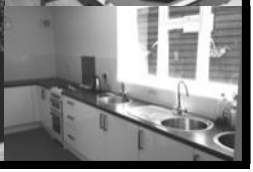
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Community Energy Project

Exciting news! The Project installer darran@simcott.column is now inviting self-funders of the solar panels and batteries who are keen to get started to contact him for a free detailed desk top quote. We are delighted that he has already received the first 60 requests, with several now going ahead with the installation. As a reminder, this first phase of the project is for those who can afford to fund the installation of solar panels and batteries themselves. By buying through the project, due to economies of scale, it will be cheaper than on the open market. Excess generated electricity can be sold to the National Grid or back into the community on a peer-to-peer basis. The Project is backed by Essex County Council and 7 other local councils, so there is no fear of cowboy installers or dodgy practices!

The second phase will allow residents who cannot afford the installation themselves to enter a 'pay as you go' contract. There is no upfront cost, the panels and batteries are installed, the electricity generated is free to use by the resident, with a contract fee for an average installation of 10 panels of approx. £2-£3 per week, plus your usual standing charge. Excess energy is sold by the Project back into the community. If you are interested in a PAYG system you too can now contact Simcotts who will get your surveys carried out for you, and then put them in the holding pot until the New Year,

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Community Energy Project (cont'd)

when that part of the project will start. **Remember** to mention the Colne Valley when contacting Simcotts.

We are holding the geospatial study for every domestic roof top in the Four Colnes, Chappel, Gt Tey and now Halstead. We can then supply the figures showing the potential for each building (free of charge) which could help you decide if it is worth pursuing.

If you have missed our public meetings or would just like more information, please contact us via the email addresses below.

Jane Taylor

Chairman@whitecolneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Jill Bruce - Lead Climate Ambassador for the Federation of Essex Women's Institutes
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COLNE ENGAINE

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Price £35 per person to inc. the oasis, ribbon, cinnamon sticks etc. plus mulled wine & nibbles.

Bring your own greenery, holly, berries etc. There will also be a raffle. All money raised will go to St. Andrew's Church.

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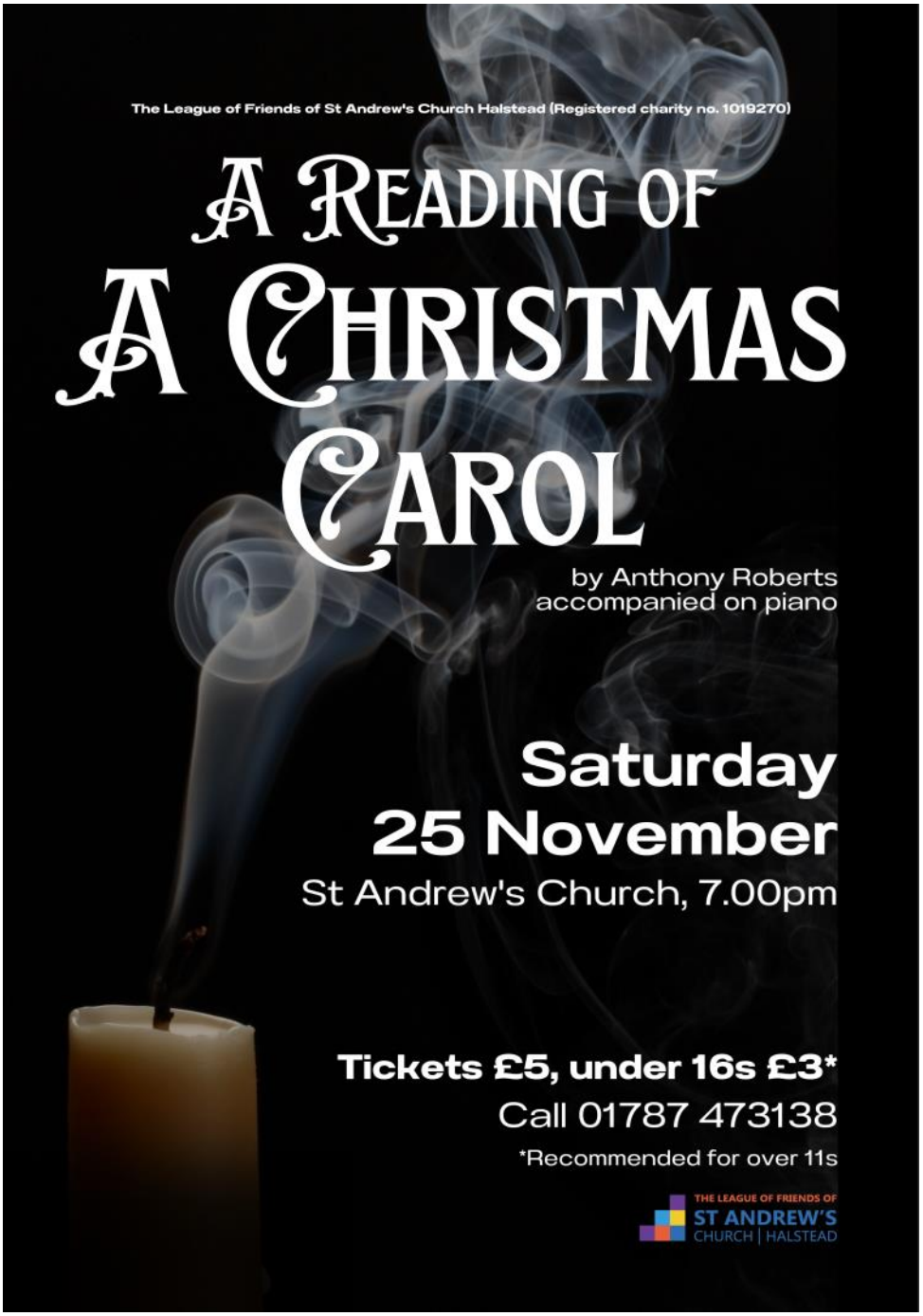
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EARLS COLNE - REMEMBRANCE DAY

November 11th falls this year on a Sunday. The Two Minutes Silence will be observed at the Morning Service which will begin at 10.45 am.

On Saturday, November 10th, a sale of Poppies will be held in the Village in aid of Lord Haigh's Fund for ex-servicemen.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on Sunday, Sept. 30th and attended by large congregations throughout the day. The church being crowded from door to door in the evening. The musical portions were well rendered by a full choir, the anthem being "While the earth remaineth," (Maunder). The Vicar officiated at all the services, assisted by Mr. John Rogers, and preached at evensong on the text 'They rejoice before Thee, according to the joy in Harvest' Isaiah 9, 3.

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From The Four Colnes' Magazine

WAKES COLNE - C.M.S.

Mrs. Godlee has arranged working parties in aid of our C.M.S. Sale of work in December. The Annual Sale on behalf of the Church Missionary Society will be held on Wednesday, December 5th, in the Village Hall.

COLNE ENGAINE

The Parochial Church Council requested the Rector to convey their cordial thanks to Messrs. Percy and John Botterell for their gift of 100 Hymn books and 100 Prayer books to the Church. A suitable dedication is printed in each book.

The debt upon the heating apparatus is £36. Steps are being taken to defray this last charge. A jumble sale is suggested: a working party may be organised for a Sale in the Spring. All will be glad to have a hand in helping the Church.

WHITE COLNE

The Loan Blankets will be given out at the Vicarage on Monday the 5th, 12.10 pm to 12.45pm. "Poppy Day" is on Saturday November 10th, and authorised sellers for White Colne are, Miss Parry, Miss Hill, Miss Nottage and Miss Netty Raven.



Hildegard of Bingen by Cate Gunn

I occasionally 'talk' (I don't claim to preach sermons) at Sunday services in church; the last time was 17th September, the feast day of Hildegard of Bingen. I first studied Hildegard over 30 years ago when I was doing an MA in 'Women Writing' at Essex University. She wasn't well known then and little of her work had been translated (I was very grateful I had been persuaded to study Latin to A level) but recordings of her music were appearing, and the soaring, unaccompanied voices seeking to join with the harmony of the spheres with bell-like clarity captivated people. Her music continues to appeal, not only to devotees of early music but also to those who seek music to accompany mindfulness and meditation, music they can chill out and relax to.

Soon people were discovering the medical treatises Hildegard wrote, the herbal remedies and use of crystals appealing to practitioners of alternative and complementary medicine. She wrote of the emerald, for example: 'let whoever has a pain in the heart or stomach or side have an emerald with them so they can warm the flesh of their body with it, and they will be better'. She was interested in food, writing of spelt, a grain that is so fashionable now, that it is 'the best of grains. It is hot, rich, and full of goodness'. Many of her recommendations continue to be used, for example that fennel is good for the digestion.

And of course, as a writer and a woman whose voice was heard even in the Middle

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Correspondence (Cont'd)

Ages, she became a favourite among medieval feminist academics. Hildegard claimed to be a 'poor little woman' which sounds like a rhetorical device but Hildegard believed that it was only because she, as a woman, had no right to speak for herself, that she could be the mouthpiece of God. As such she could rebuke those in power in both the church and the state who had abused their power. She wrote to Henry II of England advising him not to listen to 'a bird, pitch-black' which 'comes to you from the North' telling him he could do whatever he wanted and that he need have no need for justice. Instead he should listen to the Lord who says 'Yours are the gifts of giving; it is by ruling and defending, protecting and providing, that you may reach Heaven.' She was concerned about the abuses within the church; she claimed that the times had become 'womanish' because the leaders of the church, who should have been the representatives of God's justice on earth had 'grown weak and effeminate from easy living', too keen on luxury and bodily pleasures. Some of her language may not be pleasing to the ear of a present-day feminist, but we have to admire someone who spoke in the language of her time and yet was not afraid to point out its faults.

It was her visions that inspired her and allowed her to speak of what she believed to be the will of God. Many female visionaries of the Middle Ages had intimate visions,

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seeing Jesus and Mary in almost domestic settings; Margery Kempe had 'dalliances' or conversations with Jesus. But Hildegard's visions were on a cosmic scale, as though a vast cinema screen was spread across the heavens. Some claim they were due to migraine attacks – I have had migraines, accompanied by visual disturbance and flashing lights, but I have never felt enabled to explain the workings of heaven, the meaning of the scriptures or the unfolding of human history!

Writing by Hildegard of Bingen available in translation include: *Scivias*, translated by Mother Columba Hart and Jane Bishop (Classics of Western Spirituality series); *Secrets of God*, trans. Sabina Flanagan; *The Letters of Hildegard of Bingen*, trans. Joseph L. Baird & Radd K. Ehrman; *Symponia*, trans. Barbara Newman. There is an excellent chapter on Hildegard in *Women Writers of the Middle Ages* by Peter Dronke.



Local Business Shout Out

Name: *Sue Freear*
Company Name: *Earls Colne Recreation Club (The Rec)*
Address: *Halstead Road, Earls Colne, CO6 2NG*
Phone: *01787 223584*
Email: *info@ecrc.uk*
Website: *www.ecrc.uk*

What is it you do?:
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Tell us about the Earls Colne Rec:

In the mid 1800s the Hunt family established the Atlas Works in Earls Colne making agricultural machinery. For much of the 20th century Atlas Works was a significant employer until it closed in 1988. During 1965 the William Hunt Trust was established with the purpose of using its funds in support of "General Charitable Purposes". From this a further charitable trust "The Earls Colne Recreation Ground Trust" was established in September 1977. The Club continues to abide by the Trust Deed and is a registered Charity No. 274292.

What makes your place a place for people to visit?

We are a unique venue. As we are a charity, we abide to the constitution so everyone who uses the facilities has to be a member of the club. This can be done either by paying an annual fee or a day membership (£2). By becoming a yearly member of the club you receive cheaper court fees, cheaper drinks at the bar and a warm fuzzy feeling knowing you are supporting your local charity.


The Cricket Team


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We have a huge range of sports for the community to take part in, which include:

Tennis, Badminton, Squash, Pickleball, Gym, Seated Yoga, Carpet Bowls, Football, Walking Football, Trampolining, Bounce, Spotlight Dance, Cricket, Roller skating and Table Tennis.

We have a licensed bar and a café which provide a wonderful area to socialise. The venue is also available to hire for parties and celebrations.

Local Business Shout Out Cont'd

Shout about what you do:

As we are a charity we often have different fundraisers; these include the Four Colnes Show, Food & Drink festival, Christmas fetes, psychic nights and much more.

Do you have any events/special offers planned?

We have a Christmas Craft and Clear Out sale 11th November £5 a stall – contact us to book your space.

Do you have any USPs?

Given to the village to be used by all.

Anything else you would like to tell us?

We are always on the look out for Trustees so if anyone would like to be more involved with this fabulous facility please reach out. Or maybe you have a skill set that could help us with the maintenance of the club?



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Community Garden

WHITE COLNE

New Community Garden in White Colne



The front of the village hall in White Colne now looks quite different thanks to a grant of £4,500 from the Essex Community Foundation. We have built four large, raised beds, erected a potting shed, and covered the area with outdoor rubber matting to make it easier for wheelchair users.

The Scouts have been helping the project by painting all the woodwork including the picket fence surrounding it. They have done a wonderful job! The scouts, beavers and cubs are now busy designing a banner and thinking of a name for our garden. We are excited to see the winning entry.

Now it is over to you – we have built it – will you come? We hope to attract a group of volunteers to maintain and enjoy the garden by growing fruit and vegetables for themselves and the wider community. We have enough funds for equipment, plants, and seeds. The garden is for all in the Colne Valley, not just White Colne. Please do get in touch if you would like to be involved – even just half an hour here and there helps.

And remember if you are volunteering on a Friday, make it a café day and you can enjoy a coffee and snack too!



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What's On In White Colne?

Dates for the Diary:

- Parish Council meeting 3rd Tuesday of alternate months. Next meeting: 21st November 7.30pm village hall.
- Stationmasters Community Café 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Next dates: 10th and 24th November; 8th and 22nd December - 9am to 12.30pm
- Village market THIRD Saturday every month 9am to midday. Next dates: 18th November; and 16th December in the hall.
- White Colne Sewing Bees: every Thursday 7.30pm in the hall, all welcome

Save the Dates:

TBC Christmas party in the hall Saturday 2nd December, a free event.

Christmas Carols around the tree Saturday 16th December.

Winter Hub starts Monday 8th January 2024, 8.30am – 4.30pm.

Quiz Night Saturday 20th January 2024.

Theatre Night Saturday 17th February 2024.

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‘Cradle in the Heart’
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Have you lost a child during any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, whether the loss be recent or many years ago?
You’re invited to a service of prayer and stillness as we remember and honour your baby.

Up On The Allotment



On the plot with Spud there has been a lot of harvesting and clearing going on. All the brassicas are being staked and/or earthed up to help prevent the roots becoming dislodged in high winds. I have emptied out a couple of my compost bins and used the broken down stuff as a mulch on any bare soil and around my broccoli and cauliflowers. Anything else has gone into the next empty bin to make a start on the next lot. I have cut back some of the overhanging branches from the boundary hedge and trimmed it down to seven feet high; this gives the plot some shelter but doesn't block any winter sunshine we may get. The rule of thumb for hedgecutting nowadays is to cut between the 23rd of August and the 23rd of March, after that the hedges should be left for the nesting birds. I am continuing to mulch the pathways with bark chippings. I haven't used them on the beds or in the compost bins as there is a lot of conifer in amongst it and I thought that it would make the ground acidic. Apparently this is not the case: I was reading that there has been a study done on it and the conifer leaves don't produce enough acid to change the PH of the soil but they do take a long time to break down and don't produce much in the way of nutrients, although it does help with moisture retention. In a nutshell, conifer chippings are not harmful to the soil, but not really that beneficial either. I think I will mix some in the compost and keep using it on the paths for now.

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On the other hand, my son has got access to a large pile of well-rotted horse manure which he has been able to drop off for me at the plot, so I have made a heap, and as the beds become empty, I will be putting at least four inches of that all over. Now man that is some good “Horse Poo!”.

Time now to plant onion sets, shallots and garlic. Onion sets should be pushed into prepared ground in rows about 4”-6” (100-150mm) apart with 12” (30cm) between rows; leave the tips showing, keep weed free and water in very dry spells. They are ready to harvest in about three months when they are big enough or the leaves start to turn brown. Shallots are grown the same way although the spacing between sets should be increased to 8” (200mm). Garlic is planted the same spacing as onion sets; divide the garlic bulbs into individual cloves and plant these as you would onion sets. Again keep weed free and they should be ready to harvest in June/July. There are two types of garlic: hardneck and softneck; hardneck varieties have an edible flower stalk called a scape, but they don’t store well; softneck varieties however have no scapes but store much longer.

‘Laters Taters’ Keep calm and carry on weeding. **Gary**

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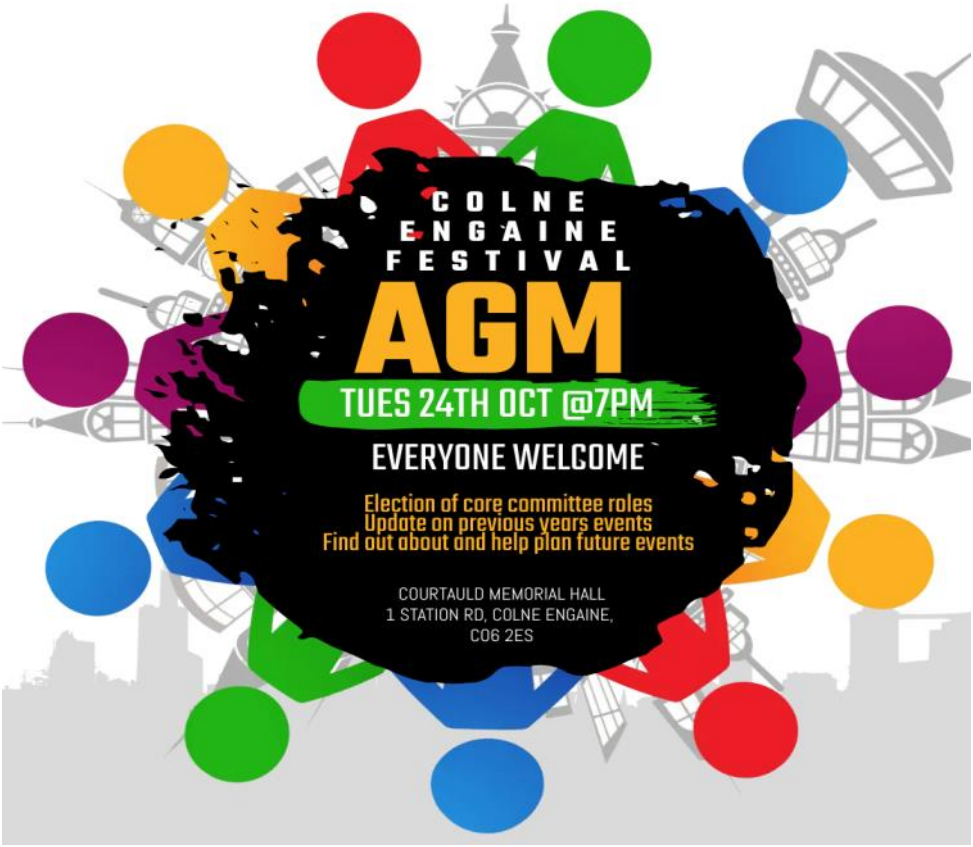
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Recipe Corner



Boston Beans

Boston Beans are genuine baked beans. And this recipe is so easy to make that it's almost as convenient as opening a tin – and tastes much better. Serve with jacket potato, on toast or with egg.



You will need a large pan (the sort you'd made soup in, or a preserving pan).

Method

If you are using dried beans, soak them for 8 hours or so, or better still overnight, then cook for about an hour until they are soft but not too soft. They should still retain their shape. Strain the beans in a colander and let them 'dry out' for a few minutes.

If you are using tinned beans, just drain the water from them. Heat the oil in the pan, add the cumin and lightly roast. Add the beans and sizzle for few seconds. Add the tomatoes and stir. Add the mustard. A good way to add mustard is to spoon it out of the jar with a metal tablespoon, place the spoon fully into the tomato and beans, and stir until the mustard blends into the mixture. Using a different tablespoon, add the treacle in the same way.

If you have used cooked dried beans, add water or vegetable stock as needed. The beans should be runny, like a soup. Add lemon juice, chilli powder (if using), salt and pepper and heat through. These beans keep in the fridge for 2-3 days without losing their flavour and can be frozen.

Ingredients

6ozs of dried haricot beans or 1 (400g) tin of haricot beans or any small white beans.

1 (400g) tin of chopped tomatoes (or 1lb of fresh tomatoes, peeled and chopped)

1 tablespoonful of whole grain mustard. (Use a mild type of mustard).

1 tablespoonful of black treacle

1 teaspoonful of cumin seed

(1/8 teaspoonful of chilli powder – optional)

Juice of 1 lemon

Salt and pepper (to taste).

A little vegetable oil.





FUNDRAISING FOR ST. ANDREW'S, EARLS COLNE

Hello everyone – goodness me, it's been busy this year! So many events held, and we're not done yet!

As you know by now, we're working 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.

If you thought our church was just for services, think again! Quizzes, bingo nights, recitals, cream teas, concerts … so much going on – and we've had music nights in the village hall too (well, you need room to have a dance, don't you?).

Come and enjoy some time with us, there's still more to come this year:

Saturday 18th November: Quiz night in church, 7pm for 7.30pm, £5 per person, up to 6 per team, bring your own drinks and snacks (tickets from Helen Sherfield) I'm your host for this one – are you up for the challenge?

Saturday 25th November: Bingo night in church, 7pm for 7.30pm. £8 per person, there'll be cash prizes and refreshments available. Come along, you can pay on the door.

Friday 1st December: 'Christmas Starts Here' in church (3pm-5pm) – it's free entry! It will be great fun as always – mulled wine will flow and many mince pies will be munched. The church will be beautifully decorated by our talented flower team, the star on the church tower will be lit and there'll be Christmas music and stars everywhere

Obviously we do have regular church services too – we're a friendly bunch of people, come along, and stay for coffee afterwards.

For the moment, hold the above dates and we'll keep you updated. 2024 is being planned…

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

or post a message via the link on our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/3Colnes.HalsteadAreaTeam

Join us, we're still having lots of fun!

Doug McKenzie

Puzzles

l o t	i f t	e f	p o w	b e r	h o	f N	r,
e r,	r e a	a n	d p	m b e	, T	r e	e m b
m e m	t h	R e m	G u n	s o n	d e r	o v e	

Letter Tiles

Unscramble the tiles to reveal the message.

Tiles can be used once only.

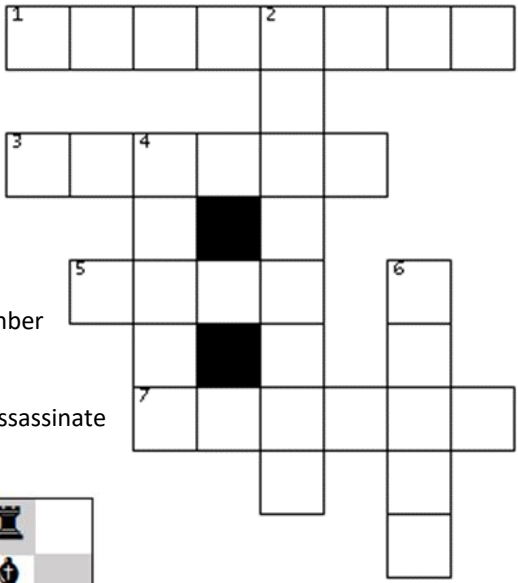
November Crossword

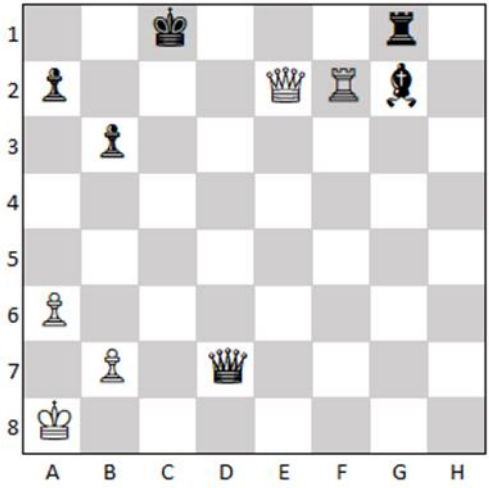
Across

1. Name of alphabet in which this month represents the letter N
3. Type of potato traditionally cooked on bonfires
5. What does Novem mean in Latin
7. In which season are we

Down

2. On which day and hour do we remember the sacrifices of those lost
4. Country which invented fireworks
6. Which King did Guy Fawkes plan to assassinate





Checkmate in One

White turn to go.

Move:

To:

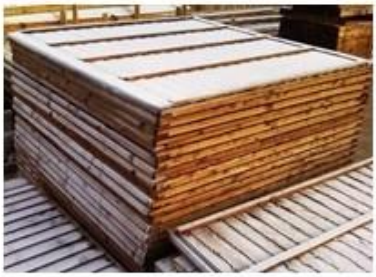
All answers on page 53

By George Rust

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Puzzle Answers

Remember, remember the fifth of November, Gunpowder, Treason and plot



Checkmate in One

Move: E2 to: C2



Parish Council
COLNE ENGAINE

MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, *THEIR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES* :

Members of the Parish Council work hard to make sure that Colne Engaine remains a beautiful and tranquil place to live. So if you have any comments or suggestions please feel free to contact them.

CLLR ALAN BARNARD—01787 224709
(Chairman) alan@colne-engaine.org.uk
EALC REPRESTENTATIVE; *TOWNLANDS TRUST; BURCHES MEADOW LIAISON; SEXTON'S FIELD TRUSTEE; FUNDING FOR VILLAGE PROJECTS DEFRIBRILLATOR WARDEN*

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CLLR NIGEL WARWICK
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CLLR PAT TAYLOR—01787 224876
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EALC REPRESENTATIVE; TREE WARDEN

DOWNLOAD THE LATEST PARISH COUNCIL NOTES FROM:
WWW.COLNE-ENGAINE.ORG.UK/MEETINGS

White Colne Parish Councillors

Chairman - Jane Taylor jane.taylor5@icloud.com

Vice Chair - Jim Bond MBE

Carol Wada
Lynne Brown
Paul Batchford

Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer - Petra Palfreyman
email: whitecolneparishcouncil@outlook.com

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About this bus service

Demand Responsive Transport (DaRT) is an alternative way of providing access to key services in rural areas.

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

This service is funded by Essex County Council and operated by Arrow Taxis.

Essex and Suffolk DaRT
01621 874411

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.

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)

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?

	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

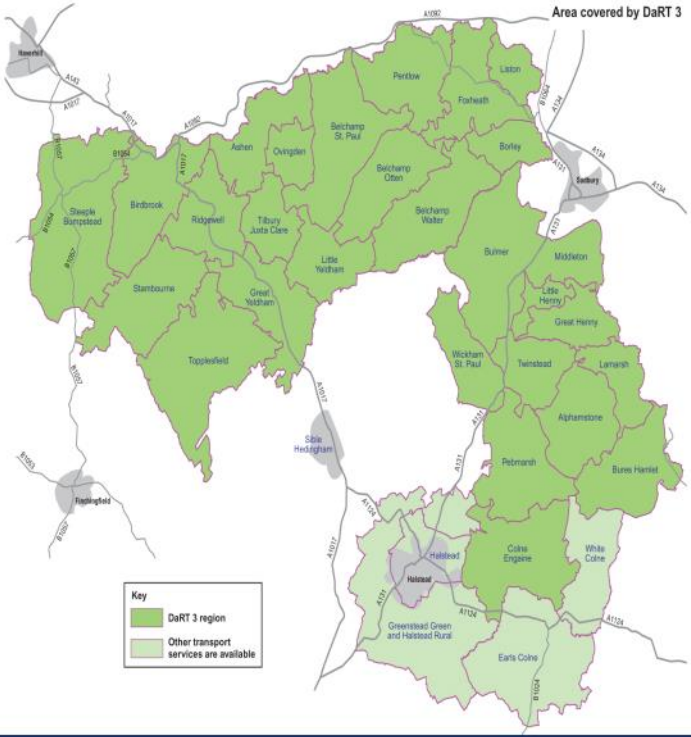
Concessionary pass holders – valid after 0900 Monday to Friday and all day Saturday

How 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		



Where can I travel?

DaRT 3 – passengers can travel to and from anywhere within the parishes shown on the map, between these parishes, and also direct to Sudbury, Halstead and Haverhill town centres, Sudbury train station and health facilities in Clare and Sible Hedingham and Community Hospitals in Sudbury and Halstead.

Useful Numbers

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
Colne Engaine Village Shop 01787 220163
Earls Colne Post Office 01787 222258

Village Groups
Colne Engaine Village Archive 01787 222080

Youth Groups
Colne Engaine Youth Club
belindaruffle@gmail.com
1st Earls Colne Brownies 01787 224175
1st Earls Colne Girl Guides 01787 220065
1st Earls Colne Rainbows 01787 224913
Scouts 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).

If you would like to advertise your business in the magazine please see the inside front cover for contact details.

Advertisers Index

Baby Group	34
Bed & Breakfast	40
Building Company	15
Carpet Cleaning	28
Chimney Sweep	32
Computer Services	35
Courtauld Hall	21
Double Glazing	24, 43
Drainage	30
Eco Refill Store	60
Electrician	45, 48
Estate / Letting Agent	46
Fencing & Gates	52
Fireplaces & Woodstoves	16
Florist & Country Store	27
Foot Health Practitioner	37
Funeral Directors	8, 14
Garden Services	47
House Clearance	25
Interior Design	31, 40
Lawn Care Specialist	11
Library	40
Mobile Phone Repairs	35
Oven Cleaning	10
Painting and Decorating	23
Physiotherapy	25
Pianist & Teacher	37
Plasterer	34
Plumbing / Heating	36, 40, 44
Printing Company	19
Quaker Meeting House Hire	40
Roofing	6
Self Catering Accommodation	18
Solicitors	29
Sports Massage Therapist	12
Tablet Repairs	35
Transport Company	41
Tree Surgeon	55
Wealth Management	22

The Three Colnes Diary

25

1	Wed		9.30am
2	Thu	White Colne Sewing Bees (p.41)	7.30pm
3	Fri	Board Games Club (p.49);	
4	Sat		
5	Sun		10am
6	Mon	COPY DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY ISSUE	
7	Tue	Baby Group Meeting St. Andrew's Church, EC (p.34)	
8	Wed	Film Club (p.18)	9.30am; 3.30pm
9	Thu	White Colne Sewing Bees (p.41);	
10	Fri	Stationmasters Community Café (p.41); 'Cradle in the Heart' Service at St. Andrew's Church, Earle Colne (p.42)	7.30pm
11	Sat	Earls Colne Recreation Club Christmas Clear Out (p.37)	
12	Sun	Remembrance Sunday	10am; 10.15am; 3pm
13	Mon		
14	Tue	St. Andrew's Book Club Meeting: 2pm at 8 Coggeshall Road, Earls Colne (p.18) Baby Group Meeting St. Andrew's Church, EC (p.34)	
15	Wed		9.30am
16	Thu	White Colne Sewing Bees (p.41)	
17	Fri		
18	Sat	Family Bingo Night in Colne Engaine (p.17); White Colne Village Market (p.41) Fundraising for St. Andrew's - Quiz Night (p.50)	
19	Sun	Colne Engaine Christmas Shopping Event (p. 21)	10am; 6pm
20	Mon		
21	Tue	Baby Group Meeting St. Andrew's Church, EC (p.34); White Colne Parish Council Meeting (p.41)	
22	Wed		9.30am
23	Thu	White Colne Sewing Bees (p.41)	
24	Fri	Stationmasters Community Café (p.41)	
25	Sat	A Reading of 'A Christmas Carol', St. Andrew's Church, Halstead (p.26); Christmas Wine Tasting - in aid of 'Save Our Hut' (p.47) Fundraising for St. Andrew's - Bingo Night (p.50);	
26	Sun		10am; 10.30am
27	Mon		
28	Tue	Baby Group Meeting St. Andrew's Church, EC (p.34)	
29	Wed	White Colne Sewing Bees (p.41);	9.30am
30	Thu		7pm

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