

# HOBNOB

On-line



HORNDON ✕ ORSETT ✕ BULPHAN

The parish magazine for  
St. Peter and St. Paul. Horndon-on-the-Hill  
St. Giles and All Saints. Orsett  
St. Mary-the-Virgin. Bulphan

## February 2023





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*On the first Monday of each month there is a unique opportunity to learn more about this oriental art form*

*In Bulphan Parish Room. For further information contact Jean Willis: 01268 284164*



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### The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

## Edward Bear Toddler Group

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 please contact:  
**KAREN COLLIER**  
 on:  
**01375 370441**



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**Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community**

# SERVICES – February 2023

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>		Oasis Café 9-11.30am Edward Bear Toddler Group 9.30-11am	
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>			4pm Forest Church
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> February 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent	2 <sup>nd</sup>		10am All Together Holy Communion Service
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>		No Oasis Café or Edward Bear-schools closed	
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent	8.45am BCP Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service		
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		7.30pm Holy Communion Service
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>		No Oasis Café or Edward Bear-schools closed	
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday before Lent	4pm Refresh Service	8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Holy Communion Service	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm Ash Wednesday Service		
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>		Oasis Café 9-11.30am Edward Bear Toddler Group 9.30-11am	
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent			8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
	12noon Holy Communion Service		
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>		Oasis Café 9-11.30am Edward Bear Toddler Group 9.30-11am	
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments	Forest Church 4pm	
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent	10am All Together Holy Communion Service		
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		

Open Church means that the Church is open for private prayer, refreshments are available at all sessions except Thursdays at Bulphan.

# Rector's Reflections

You may be aware that over the past few years the Church of England has been engaging with a project entitled Living in Love and Faith which has explored the subject of sexuality.

I was involved personally by leading, with another clergy colleague, a 5-week course looking at Christian teaching and learning about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. Several people from the Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan attended this course. The sessions included a time of watching videos where people of varying sexual orientations and genders shared something of their life stories and their faith. This was followed by discussion and prayer.

The purpose of this course was both to promote better understanding between people of different sexualities and differing theological viewpoints and to help the General Synod (the Church of England Governing Body) to make a decision regarding same sex marriage within the church. I think it is fair to say that nearly everyone who attended the course found it to be a positive experience.

Recently, many of you will have read in the news that the Church of England is proposing to bless same sex partnerships in the future, a decision conditional upon this proposal receiving a majority vote at General Synod in February.

I will be able to give you further details about this in March after the General Synod has met. But I felt it important, at this time, to reassure you that everyone is welcome at our three parish churches.

*"We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down at heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers.*

*We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're just 'browsing', just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago.*

*We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast.*

*We welcome keep-fit parents, football fanatics, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians and junk food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organised religion'*

*We offer a warm welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, can't spell or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to church.*

*We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as kids or got lost with a dodgy satnav and wound up here by mistake.*

*We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters...and you! "*

*Seen at Coventry Cathedral*

And in the words of a song we often sing: 'All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.'

With love and prayers,

Sue



# THE PARISH REGISTERS

## **Funerals**

24th January

Richard David Robertson (64)

(B)

## **Interment of Ashes**

5th January

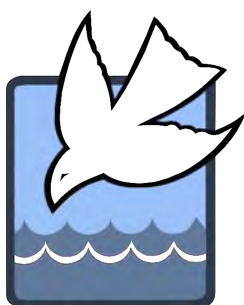
Robert Leonard Tamplin (89)

(B)



## Wedding Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a wedding at:  
Horndon, Orsett or Bulphan churches,  
please contact: Revd Sue Mann: 01375 891254  
[rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk)



## Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a baptism at:

Any of our churches in the parish, please contact:  
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485  
[c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk)



## Baptism Preparation

If you would like to have your child baptised  
in one of the churches in the parish,  
the preparation session in February  
will be Monday 13th at 7.30pm  
in Orsett Church.

No booking is required.



# THE PARISH OF HORNDON, ORSETT AND BULPHAN

[www.hobnob.org.uk](http://www.hobnob.org.uk) Facebook: @HOBNOBchurches

<b>RECTOR</b>	Reverend Sue Mann	email: <a href="mailto:rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk">rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk</a>	01375 891 254
<b>ASSOCIATE PRIEST</b>	Reverend Max Blake	email: <a href="mailto:max@hobnob.org.uk">max@hobnob.org.uk</a>	01375 360 522
<b>CURATE</b>	Reverend Moji Jaiyesimi	email: <a href="mailto:m.jaiyesimi@hobnob.org.uk">m.jaiyesimi@hobnob.org.uk</a>	07856 690 593

## PARISH CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Churchwardens	Alastair Macrae, Beverley Macrae, Christine Mortimer, David Mortimer, Sonia Ward, Frank Woollard.
Treasurer	Lynn Bennett
Secretary	Ron Porter
Parish Administrator	Lynda Robertson.
Deanery Synod Representatives	Karen Collier, Alastair Macrae, Janet Wilkins, Frank Woollard
Lay Representatives	Sandra Billinger, Brian Flavell, Felicity Tarbard

## CHURCH OFFICERS AND CONTACT DETAILS

### St Peter & St Paul Horndon-on-the-Hill

Churchwardens	Sonia Ward	01375 674212
	Beverley Macrae	01375 673 327
Deputy Churchwarden	Felicity Tarbard	01375 677581
Sacristans	Jane Barry. Judy Rood. Beverley Macrae	
Vergers	Peter Belsham.	

### St Giles & All Saints Orsett

Churchwardens	Christine Mortimer	01375 641 485
	David Mortimer	01375 641 485
Vergers	George Wood	01375 891 744
	Jo Metcalf	
	Libby Seggons	
Mothers' Union contact	Di Bubb	07970 728 673
Edward Bear Toddler Group	Karen Collier	01375 370 441
Tower Captain	Judith Church	01375 891 556
Oasis Café	Sandra Billinger	01375 891 040

### St Mary-the-Virgin Bulphan

Churchwardens	Frank Woollard	01375 891 034
	Alastair Macrae	01375 673 327
Deputy Churchwarden	Brian Flavell	01708 225 804
Parish Room Bookings	Traudi Porter	01375 891 697

### Parish Administrator

Lynda Robertson: <a href="mailto:l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk">l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk</a>	07974 803 471
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### Parish Baptism Co-ordinator

Christine Mortimer: <a href="mailto:c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk">c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk</a>	01375 641 485
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### Musicians

Jane Barry	07552 199 697
Janet McCheyne	07752 836 902

To arrange Weddings, please contact Rev. Sue Mann on 01375 891 254 or email: [rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk)





## Bulphan Churchwarden's Report

The Christmas period was a very busy time.

There was all the excitement of the Christingle with little ones holding their Christingles lit for just a verse of 'Away in a Manger' and then quickly snuffed out.

The school service was very well attended and with excellent prayers being read by the children.

The 10pm Christmas Eve service and the 10am Christmas morning service, were both held at St Mary's Church and were very well attended.

I have met with the fire officer at St Mary's Church, Bulphan, there are a few details that need to be looked at, for example the church has emergency lighting packs but as a back up we have added a rechargeable spot light.

There were two interments in the period, with one family coming all the way from Australia.

The porch slab and screed has been left to dry out, there followed a very frosty period but these works will resume shortly with Ron overseeing.

An arrangement to meet our Architect David Ferguson for the Quinquennial Inspection had to be cancelled due to the heavy snow and subsequently David Ferguson has not been well. We are in the process of arranging a further meeting

The new year has started with joy and sadness for some, we wish everybody a peaceful and joyous new year.

Frank Woollard

## WOOLMARKET MUSIC

Unfortunately we were unable to welcome Angelo and Sarah to perform in January – Covid beat us to it!

On **Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> February** at 7.30pm in the St Peter & St Paul's Church, Horndon, BasOp will be performing. This highly acclaimed singing and theatrical group have been staging shows for many years, starting with Gilbert & Sullivan, the last one being Me and My Girl, which was nominated by NODA as the Best Musical in district 10.

Their show for 2023 is "All Shook Up", containing many Elvis songs.

We are promised a highly entertaining evening of songs from the shows, solos and popular melodies  
£7.50 admission (or free if you're a member or under





# PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

February 1st	For Rt Rev John Perumbalath who becomes Bishop of Liverpool
February 2nd	For St Luke's Hospice & all carers
February 3rd	For humanitarian organisations here and abroad
February 4th	For those living in Baker Street in Orsett
February 5th	For those who mourn
February 6th	For those living in The Spinney in Orsett
February 7th	For those living in South Hill Crescent in Horndon
February 8th	For those living in Stanford Road in Orsett
February 9th	For those living in Church Lane in Bulphan
February 10th	For those living in Mill Lane in Horndon
February 11th	For our Parish Council
February 12th	For members of our congregations who live in Grays
February 13th	For those living in Prince Charles Avenue in Orsett
February 14th	For our Orthodox brothers and sisters on the Feast of SS Cyril & Methodius
February 15th	For those living in Albert Road in Bulphan
February 16th	For physicians and all health care professionals
February 17th	For those living in Doesgate Lane in Bulphan
February 18th	For those living in Gordon Road in Horndon
February 19th	For those living in the High Road in Horndon
February 20th	For those living in Farm Road in Orsett Heath
February 21st	For those living in Penn Close in Orsett
February 22nd	For those living in Orsett Road in Horndon
February 23rd	For those living in Church Road in Bulphan
February 24th	For those living in The Green in Orsett
February 25th	For those living in Victoria Road in Horndon
February 26th	For our twin dioceses in Romania, Sweden, Kenya and Trinidad & Tobago
February 27th	For the work of Chelmsford Cathedral
February 28th	For Reverend Sue, Reverend Max and Reverend Moji and their respective families

*"To see a world in a grain of sand  
And a heaven in a wild flower  
Hold infinity in the palm of your hand  
and Eternity in an hour"*

*William Blake*





## Horndon-on-the-Hill BRIDGE CLUB

In Horndon Village Hall

Every Friday from 1.30 - 4.30pm

Admission £2.00 (includes tea/coffee biscuits)

Very friendly atmosphere

Intermediate standard basic ACOL played

For details telephone: Stuart Cameron 01375 673 237

## BULPHAN SHORT MAT BOWLS

Meetings are in Bulphan Village Hall every

Tuesday from 1.45 - 4.15pm and

Fridays from 7.00 - 9.00pm

New members are welcome and no experience is necessary  
as friendly advice and tuition can be given

For further information telephone Lesley on 07766 505 755



## HORNDON-ON-THE-HILL METHODIST CHURCH

4, High Road. Horndon-on-the-Hill

Sunday: 10.30 am Worship.

Minister: Reverend Oluyemisi Jaiyesimi.

Senior Steward: Mr Graham Hodgson.

Website: [www.methodist-sec.co.uk/horndon/index.html](http://www.methodist-sec.co.uk/horndon/index.html)

## HORNDON-ON-THE-HILL

We meet at the Welcome Club  
1, Victoria Road, Stanford-le-Hope  
At 8.00pm on the last Tuesday  
each month except in December.

New members welcome  
Enquiries to the Secretary  
[Sec.hothrbl@hotmail.com](mailto:Sec.hothrbl@hotmail.com)



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Laindon North Trading Estate,  
Basildon, S15 6DN  
7.30pm-8.10pm  
8.20pm-9.00pm

**Tuesday:**

Impulse Leisure Blackshots  
Teaching Pool  
Grays RM16 2JU  
8.00pm – 9.00pm

**Friday:**

Corringham Leisure Centre  
Swimming Pool  
Corringham SS17 7NB  
11.15am-12.10pm  
12.20pm-13.15pm

Please contact a Committee Member before attending your first session  
so you know what to expect.

Sharon: 07792 827638 for Laindon  
Kay-Anne: 07899 745020 for Corringham  
Dawn: 01375 461885 for Blackshots  
Email: [ask-waders@hotmail.com](mailto:ask-waders@hotmail.com)

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**[R.Porter@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:R.Porter@hobnob.org.uk)**

**OR**

**01375 891 697**

# ORSETT CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT



We were pleased to have Bishop John Perumbalath lead our family service on January 8<sup>th</sup>. This was his last parish Sunday service before taking up his post as Bishop of Liverpool in February. After the service Revd Sue presented him and his wife Jessy with locally made wooden crosses and a card from parishioners wishing them well for the future.

The year has started to rattle by and later this month we start Lent commemorating the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert and being tempted by Satan, before beginning his ministry. Lent lasts for forty days, not including Sundays, and is a period for people to reflect and prepare for the celebrations of Easter. Some people fast, eat frugally or give up treats. Some give to charity, set aside time to study the Bible and meet with other Christians to reflect on Jesus' life and prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter.

Lent in the parish starts with our Ash Wednesday on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Horndon at 7.30pm.

As in previous years the Parish will be providing Lent lunches on the following Saturdays between 1200 and 1300 :-

Horndon (St Peter & St Paul) – February 25<sup>th</sup> and March 18<sup>th</sup>

Orsett (Churches Centre) – March 4<sup>th</sup> and March 25<sup>th</sup>

Bulphan (Parish Room) – March 11<sup>th</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>

The lunch will be as previously a simple one for a suggested donation of the amount someone would have paid for a lunch normally. Money raised will go to 'The Great Green Wall'.

If anyone would like a deceased relative's details entered into Orsett's Book of Remembrance, please contact Janet Wilkins [jvw555@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jvw555@yahoo.co.uk) or one of the Churchwardens; Christine Mortimer [c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk) or David Mortimer [d.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:d.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk).

God Bless

Christine and David Mortimer





## A Study of the Gospel of St Mark

2:13-17

O Lord, you have given us your word  
for a light to shine upon our path.  
Grant us so to meditate on that word,  
and to follow its teaching,  
that we may find in it the light  
that shines more and more until the perfect day; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Mark 2:18-22

**18** Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, 'Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?' **19** Jesus said to them, 'The wedding-guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. **20** The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. **21** 'No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. **22** And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.'

Jesus and His disciples have been eating dinner with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus has already been criticized for that. Now people observe the religious types, the Pharisees and John the Baptists disciples are fasting! How can this Rabbi and His followers be continuing to feast? Jesus responds by talking about a wedding, how when the bridegroom is present it will be a celebration, not a fast. But then goes on to say that the bridegroom will eventually have to go away, at that point His friends will fast.

Jesus is teaching through metaphor. The Bridegroom is the presence of God anointed and divine in Jesus Himself. While God is present there is no need to fast, but to rejoice. Jesus knows that His time with the disciples is short, He will be arrested and executed. So He adds that when the Bridegroom has to depart (when crucified) then will His friends go into mourning and fast.

Jesus then goes on to talk about new things, in short parables. the new thing that God is doing means that some of the old ways of relating to God will no longer be relevant and will even get in the way of having a real relationship with God and living in the way we are called to. Jesus Himself is this new way. We need to follow Him not the law of Moses.

**Let us finish with prayer.**

*Gelasian Sacramentary (8th century)*

O Holy Spirit, giver of light and life,  
impart to us thoughts better than our own thoughts,  
and prayers better than our own prayers,  
and powers better than our own powers,  
that we may spend and be spent  
in the ways of love and goodness,  
after the perfect image of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

*Rev'd Max Blake*



## Horndon on the Hill Churchwardens Report

Hello to all

Firstly, I would like to introduce you to our new Churchwarden here in Horndon. It is Mrs Beverley Macrae. Beverley is the wife of Alastair who has taken over the job of Warden at Bulphan. Before we moved to being one Parish Beverley was our Secretary so knows the ins and outs of parish life very well.

If you haven't experienced our Refresh service which takes place once a month in the church do come along on Sunday February 19<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. The service is very informal and we use modern worship songs. It is a service for all ages. We would love to see you. Don't forget if you would like a lift just phone 442329.

Don't forget to use our recycle page. It is a way of keeping green by giving unwanted items to people who can use them. Just phone me and I will put them in the magazine.

Our village Church is a Hub for village life. Don't forget to come along on a Tuesday and Saturday morning 10-12 for quiet reflection, free refreshments, books, puzzles etc. Everyone is always made very welcome.

*God Bless      Sonia Ward and Beverley Macrae*



# **BULPHAN**local store

7am - 9pm SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

## **BULPHAN VILLAGE SHOP**

**Bulphan Village Hall, Church Road, Bulphan RM14 3RU**

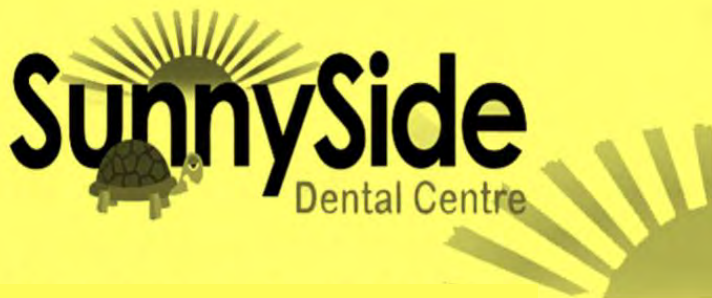
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# February



Colouring  
time



# Ever heard of the Ecosia search engine?

*If you are reading a hard copy of the Hobnob, and don't have access to the Internet, this won't be of much practical use to you, but you might be interested to see that even an online search engine is doing its best to be ethical and have a positive impact on the environment.*

**Why I've written this article:** at the last meeting of our parish Ecology and Social Justice Action Group, we discussed the benefits of using the Ecosia search engine and the group asked for a volunteer to explain what it was all about in an article in the Hobnob.

## **Why I chose Ecosia as my default search engine**

They use all their profits for climate action, with at least 80% financing tree-planting projects around the world: over 165 million trees planted to date. The remaining 20% is invested in renewable energy, regenerative agriculture and protecting trees around the world. Once planted, Ecosia continues to work with local partners and uses satellite tech and field visits to ensure the trees survive. Transparent financial reports are published on their website monthly.

But the not-for-profit business model and transparency is not the only thing that makes Ecosia a somewhat unusual search engine.

Ecosia has become one of the most privacy-friendly search engines out there - which means they don't do creepy things like selling your data to advertisers or creating a personal profile of you. It doesn't use any third-party tracking tools, meaning that any search made on the service won't be seen by any party other than Ecosia. And any search made on Ecosia becomes anonymised after one week. (In contrast, Google and Bing will hold onto bits of search data, even after deleting browser history and cookies)

If you would like to make Ecosia your default search engine, go to [ecosia.helpscoutdocs.com](https://ecosia.helpscoutdocs.com) and click on the "Using Ecosia" button.

Janet McCheyne



# The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Horndon

## ***LENT LUNCHES***

Lent lunches will be provided on the following  
dates and venues

(all Saturdays, with the lunch starting at 12 noon):

- 25th February - Horndon Church
- 4th March - Orsett Churches Centre, Orsett
- 11th March - Parish Room, Bulphan Church
- 18th March - Horndon Church
- 25th March - Orsett Churches Centre, Orsett
- 1st April - Parish Room, Bulphan Church



The menu will be a hearty soup (vegetarian), a chunk of French stick loaf, an apple and a (Fairtrade) hot drink.

Those attending are encouraged to donate what they would have spent on a lunch. At the lunch we will be selling raffle tickets for a hamper of Fairtrade goods.

*All monies will be donated to the Great Green Wall Project. The Great Green Wall is an African-led movement with an epic ambition to grow an 8,000km natural wonder of the world across the entire width of Africa. More details can be found at <https://www.greatgreenwall.org/about-great-green-wall>*

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# FAMOUS PERSON IN FEBRUARY

## Samuel Pepys 23rd February 1633 - 26th May 1703

On the 23rd February 1633 Samuel Pepys was born in Salisbury Court, London. The son of John, a tailor and his wife Margaret, Samuel Pepys would later become famous for the diary he used to record the everyday events that were happening whilst he worked for the Navy. His personal accounts documented an important period in English history from 1660 until 1669; as a historical source his diary continues to hold great value and resonance for anyone interested in learning about this period in history from an eyewitness account.



Although the son of a tailor, his extended family held top positions in government which helped Samuel to propel his career forward after leaving school. As a child Pepys attended Huntingdon Grammar School and later went on to study at St Paul's. Even in his youth Samuel witnessed momentous events that would go down in history and even attended the execution of Charles I in 1649. A year later he attended Cambridge University after winning a scholarship from St Paul's where he undertook his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1654.

Pepys went on to marry Elisabeth de St Michel, a fourteen-year-old with French Huguenot ancestry. They married in a religious ceremony on the 10th October 1655. Samuel and Elisabeth's marriage was a childless one, with some speculation that an operation to remove bladder stones had left him infertile. Their marriage endured despite Samuel having affairs with their maids, and with one in particular called Deb Willet, of whom he was said to have been particularly fond. In his diary much about their tumultuous marriage is recorded, his interest in other women, his jealous moments and the fonder memories of their time together.

On 1st January 1660 Samuel Pepys made his first diary entry, one that would lead to a further decade of recording everyday trivialities mixed with important events and battles. With candour and detail he wrote about his wife, the household, theatre, political events, social catastrophes and military might.

Despite Pepys having no prior maritime experience, he worked for the Navy and rose through the ranks to become Chief Secretary to the Admiralty under both King Charles II and James II. As an administrator for the Navy he acquired first-hand information regarding naval encounters, battles, strategic decisions and the different characters involved.

At the time in which Pepys began to write his diary, England was going through a tumultuous period both politically and socially. Only a few years previously, Oliver Cromwell had died creating a precarious political vacuum. The civil unrest that had been brewing since Cromwell's death meant that Pepys's diary is even more relevant and pertinent to learn about the political climate of the day.

One important eyewitness account given by Pepys describes the impact of the Great Plague in London. The Second Pandemic as it became known was a centuries' long epidemic of plagues which began in the 1300's with the Black Death and continued until the outbreak of the Great Plague. In 1665 the Great Plague took its effect on the population. Pepys however was not in one of the most at risk categories as he did not live in the cramped housing where the disease spread the easiest. The poorest in society were most affected whilst Pepys was in the financially fortunate position to send his wife Elisabeth away to Woolwich in order to protect her. On 16th August 1665 he noted: "But, Lord! how sad a sight it is to see the streets empty of people".

The dire circumstances of the Great Plague were noticeable as London turned into a ghost town and those who stayed behind did so for work or because they had no other option. Pepys began to sense the gravity of the situation and suggested that the Navy Office be evacuated to Greenwich whilst he nobly volunteered to hold the fort in town. He also took all the popular precautions to prevent being infected, such as chewing on tobacco and he also viewed buying wigs with caution in case the hair came from plague victims.

Eventually the Great Plague passed through England, taking its victims and leaving behind desolate areas lacking in life and with the graveyards full. Samuel Pepys had survived one of the worst plagues to ever be experienced in this country.

The following year another great tragedy took place in London. The Great Fire of 1666 claimed much of London's original architecture as its victim. On 2nd September Pepys was awoken by one of his servants when he spotted a fire in the distance. His servant would later return to report that around 300 homes had been destroyed by the raging fire and there

was a chance that London Bridge could be destroyed. This prompted Pepys to go to the Tower in order to witness the unfolding events. He also ended up taking to a boat in order to better observe the devastation; his eyewitness account was subsequently reported in his diary.

“Everybody endeavouring to remove their goods, and flinging into the river or bringing them into lighters that lay off; poor people staying in their houses as long as till the very fire touched them”.

After witnessing the tragedy unfolding, Pepys personally advised the King to pull down homes that would find themselves in the path of the fire in order to stem the voracity of the flames that were engulfing the city. This advice was accepted, although Pepys noted that the sight of his city burning “made me weep”. The following day he would make the decision to pack up his belongings and leave before he found himself in grave danger. He would later return to see the ruins of St Paul’s Cathedral, his former school and his father’s house whilst most remarkably his own house, office and most pertinently his diary all survived the fiery flames which burnt London to a cinder.

His diary once again recorded a momentous event in English history. The 1660’s was a time of major events: the Great Plague, the Fire of London and in the following year, the Second Anglo-Dutch Wars. With his prominent position in the Navy his role in the war was pivotal as he found himself at the forefront of decision-making. Unfortunately the Dutch greatly overpowered the English Navy and dealt one final blow when in June 1667 they carried out a raid on Medway which resulted in the seizure of many of the Navy’s most important ships, including the Royal Charles.

The humiliating defeat was felt keenly by Pepys who would later face a commission which sought to investigate the responsibility of losing the war. Fortunately, due to his personal connections with King Charles II he was exonerated. The war with the Dutch was a personal failure for Pepys in his work for the Navy, but it was also another important historical event recorded through his daily diary entries.

His diary continues to be used as a great source of historical knowledge and ultimately as a reflection of one man who lived his life in a turbulent time in history.



## **The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan Prayer Group**



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- **21st February - Fairtrade Focus**
- **21st March - World day of Prayer, Persecuted Church ,Orsett Churches Centre, Zion**
- **18th April - Our Parish & Deanery, housebound and those on homes**
- **16th May - Nation, Leaders, Coronation, Councillors & MPs, Transition, Celebration**
- **20th June - Feast & Fayre, Organisations, Businesses**
- **18th July - Pilgrimage**
- **15th August - Rest, Refreshment , Wellbeing**
- **19th September - Schools**
- **17th October - World Peace**
- **21st November - Advent , People finding Christ**

**Any enquiries – Please contact Revd Sue at  
email [rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk) or 01375 891254**

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# Bishop John Perambalath's final Sunday service as Bishop of Bradwell in Orsett Church



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## COMMUNITY INFORMATION FOR HORNDON - ORSETT - BULPHAN

### POLICE at Grays

email: [thurrockcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:thurrockcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk)

101 or 999

### DOCTORS

**Horndon-on-the-Hill  
Orsett & Bulphan  
Bulphan**

(Orsett Surgery)  
(Ockendon Surgery)  
(West Horndon Surgery):

01375 642 362  
01375 892 082  
01708 852 318  
01277 811 770

### LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Mr Barry Johnson

07831 609714

Mrs Sue Little

07831 609664

### LOCAL MP

Stephen Metcalfe

Orsett Office  
Westminster

01268 200 430  
020 7219 7009

Write to: House of Commons London SW1A 0AA or  
2 Orsett Business Centre, Stanford Road, Orsett, Essex, RM16 3BX

### SCHOOLS

Horndon C of E Foundation Primary – Headteacher: Mrs. D. Bradley.  
Orsett Academy C of E Aided Primary – Headteacher: Mrs G Smith  
Bulphan C of E Academy – Headteacher: Sally Finch

01375 673 260  
01375 891 383  
01375 891 220

# Stephen Metcalfe

**Member of Parliament for South Basildon & East Thurrock**

*As your local Member of Parliament, I hold regular advice surgeries offering help and support. To make an appointment, please contact me by one of the methods below. Thank you.*

#### Constituency Office:

2 Orsett Business Centre,  
Stanford Road, Orsett RM16 1BX

**P:** 01268 200430

**E:** [stephen.metcalfe.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:stephen.metcalfe.mp@parliament.uk)

**T:** @metcalfe\_S BET

**W:** [www.StephenMetcalfe.org.uk](http://www.StephenMetcalfe.org.uk)

#### Westminster Office:

House of Commons,  
London, SW1A 0AA

**P:** 020 7219 7009



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# The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)

## **"I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOUR FAITH"**

Our sisters in Taiwan are sending us blessings with the service they have prepared for World Day of Prayer 2023. Taiwan is an island rich in natural resources and culturally diverse. The women of Taiwan share the issues faced geographically, politically and socially and also their hopes for the future. Let us join with them as we give thanks for the beautiful island and people of Taiwan and encourage one another in our faith just as Apostle Paul did in his letters.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at a church near you on Friday March 3 2023 people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Taiwan.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world --- through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

**We are having a meeting to plan the service at 2.30pm on Friday 10th February at 1, Lion Cottages, Horndon, SS17 8LQ, please come along if you would like to help.**



***Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community***



# ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

Happenings around the Parish this month in the past

1845 Chelmsford Chronicle  
Fri 7<sup>th</sup>

## **Sparrow Club**

The Farmer's Club at Grays, having failed through want of support, has met with success in the adjoining but more central parish of Orsett, under the quaint name of "The Orsett Sparrow Club", embracing the twofold purpose of destroying animals injurious to farmers, and of conversational meetings. Mr John Wallia has been elected president, and Mr W T Borthwick has accepted the office of secretary. The third monthly meeting took place on Tuesday se'nnight, hitherto the success of the club has been great; after many new members had been balloted for, a proposition was submitted for limiting the members, but after consideration, it was withdrawn. The first two meetings were chiefly occupied in framing a code of laws, and as several of the professional gentlemen of the neighbourhood, and many of the respectable tradesmen have joined the association, the subjects for conversation are not limited to agriculture, although these of course will be most frequent. Dr Corbet having been requested to open the conversation, read a short paper "on the Philosophy of Dreams". Many curious and authentic dreams were related and explained on the principles laid down by Locke, as to the origin of our ideas and the laws of the human mind, which gave rise to a long and interesting chat, which was only terminated by the same gentlemen promising an account of Somnambulism and Apparitions at the meeting at the end of this month, which will be followed by some more practical, although perhaps not more amusing subjects.

1877 Essex Times  
Wed 17<sup>th</sup>

## **Magic Lantern**

Horndon on the Hill - Magic Lantern Exhibition

On Saturday evening, the 10<sup>th</sup> inst, the Rev Pilkington, who is the officiating minister during the absence of the Vicar through illness, entertained the villagers with a magic lantern exhibition in the schoolroom, which was well filled. The pictures were illustrative of Scripture history, numerous cities and objects of interest in the East, together with a suitable introduction of Scottish mountain scenery and remarkable localities in England and Wales. The subjects of the slides were explained in a simple and most appropriate manner, and the evening was happily and profitably spent.

1900 Northfleet & Swanscombe Std  
Sat 3<sup>rd</sup>

## **Phonograph talk**

Orsett Congregational Church - An interesting lecture was given at the Congregational Church on Tuesday week by the Rev H Davis Bull on "Thomas Alva Edison". The excellent selection of bands, speeches, songs, banjo, cornet and Xylophone solos, etc, rendered by the Phonograph met with hearty applause from the large audience present. The proceedings came to a close with a thanks to the lecturer, proposed by Mr Tyrell, and carried unanimously.

1902 Essex Times  
Weds 19<sup>th</sup>

## **Pigeon Shoot**

Bulphan - Pigeon Shooting

The thirty-ninth annual pigeon shooting meeting, arranged by Mr George Hollowbread of the Harrow Inn, took place on Tuesday. There was a good attendance of local sportsmen. The proceedings opened with a match between Mr W Goodchild of Romford and Mr W Bull, of Billericay, the former winning, grounding his three birds in succession. A good number of competitors entered for the prize of a copper kettle, which fell to Mr W E Vassila, of Hornchurch, who killed seven birds, also taking in

several sweepstakes. There was keen competition for a fat pig, and ultimately Messrs Cole, Ellis and Gray divided over this event. A second copper kettle was won by Mr Pettitt of Orsett. The company afterwards sat down to an enjoyable spread, provided by the host, and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony.

1909 Chelmsford chronicle  
Fri 12<sup>th</sup>

## **Smoking Concert**

Orsett

A smoking concert was held in connection with the Orsett Polling District Association at the Institute, on Monday evening. Major F H D C Whitmore presiding. Mr J H M Kirkwood, the prospective Conservative candidate, was the principal speaker. During the evening songs were contributed by Messrs W R Fox and Buckley.

1914 Essex Times  
Weds 28<sup>th</sup>

## **Church Men's Club Visit**

On Monday the members of the Grays Parish Church Men's Club visited Horndon on the Hill Men's Club and engaged them in games of billiards, bridge, whist and cribbage. The visitors were welcomed by the Rev S W Fischel, and were hospitably entertained by the home club. In the games Grays were successful at billiards and bridge and Horndon at whist and cribbage.



# OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

Do you have any old photographs from Orsett, Horndon or Bulphan that you are prepared to loan for copying or can scan for emailing? If so would you please contact me on 01375 891697.

David Mortimer emailed these images of winter 1963 in Orsett.



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*The Benefice Safeguarding Representative is Janet McCheyne who can be contacted on:  
0775 283 6902 or  
[janetmcc101@gmail.com](mailto:janetmcc101@gmail.com)*

*The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on:  
01245 294444 or  
[safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org)*

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# ORSETT WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Having just celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday we are now looking forward to a new centenary.

For any local ladies who are not aware of Orsett WI I'd like to let you know of the range of interests we participate in.

Currently we routinely hold a regular lunch at various local restaurants; a monthly coffee morning at a local garden centre; a book club; our darts group, who have a great time and are always pleased to meet new members and "Crafty Chat" that totally explains how we spend our time at our monthly craft sessions.

This year we will be reaping the seeds of last year's hard work, at our Allotment where we hope to offer advice to new gardeners as well as sharing produce we have grown. We also intend to open up the allotment for casual tea/coffee times.

There is always a wide selection of entertainment at our meetings held at Orsett Village Hall, on the first Wednesday in every month at 7.00 pm (First Visits are free). Visitors and speakers in the past year included belly dancing, the secrets of your handwriting, and fabulous discounted clothes for sale.

One thing we can always guarantee is friendly welcome, and as we always says "It's not what you think".

**Sue Andrews**  
Secretary

## Zion Hall Mission, Bulphan Interdenominational

Church Road, Bulphan

[www.zhm100.wix.com/zionhallmission](http://www.zhm100.wix.com/zionhallmission)

We enjoy meeting every Sunday evening for worship with those who join us both regularly and occasionally for fellowship. We are very pleased to see newcomers and extend a warm welcome to all. The services for February are as follows:

February 5 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm	Rev Pholani Ncube
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm	No Service
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm	Rev Max Blake
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm	Rev Yemi Jaiyesimi

We continue to have sanitising facilities readily available and ask those attending to be sensitive to others in observing social distancing. Handwashing facilities are available in the vestry.

If you live locally and would like to come along to a service but need transport, or for any other information on our Church or our services please contact the Secretary: Ian Blackburn on 01375 891522



## Chelmsford Diocese Mothers' Union (CDMU)



**Raising funds for CDMU through your favourite brands** - Did you know that you can raise funds for Chelmsford Diocesan Mothers' Union when you shop through the easyfundraising website or app and through Amazon Smile? To sign up go to [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://easyfundraising.org.uk) or [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk).

**Members Days** - We have a couple of members events coming up in February and March:

- Rearranged cocktail evening at Kelvedon Hatch – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023, 7:30pm
- Witham – date in March TBC

These events are an opportunity to meet with trustees, worship together and learn about the MU theme Transformation Now! All members are welcome at any of these events and can bring a friend. It would be useful to know how many are coming as we would hate to run out of anything!

([secretary@muchelmsford.org.uk](mailto:secretary@muchelmsford.org.uk) or [president@muchelmsford.org.uk](mailto:president@muchelmsford.org.uk))

**Subscriptions** - The 2023 subscriptions were due by 31 January; if you haven't paid or haven't received a reminder, please let me know and I'll direct you to the right person.

## The Big Give Christmas Challenge



Mothers' Union was able to use all the match funding available through the Big Give, raising over £69,500 for women in South Sudan and have subsequently secured an additional £10k of match funding, enabling even more online donations to be doubled up to 4<sup>th</sup> January.

## Sad news

It is with the deepest sadness that we learnt that Marilyn Wordley, one of our longstanding members of Orsett Mothers' Union before the branch closed down, passed away on 5th January after a short and sudden illness. Marilyn's faith shone through her love in action. We will all have everlasting memories of her love and care and the wonderful times of hospitality at the farm. A dear friend, may she rest in peace and rise in glory.

In lieu of donations at her funeral, Marilyn requested that friends should buy or pick some flowers from the garden and give them to someone they know to spread a little happiness.

## Lent

Christmas, Epiphany and Candlemas all gone and look what's coming .... Ash Wednesday is on 22 February and marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Are you going to make it special in any way? I always liked having a Lent box for money so I could give something back in thanksgiving to Mothers' Union. However, I have found a Swedish proverb that might be a good challenge for our Lenten journey:

*Fear less, hope more  
Eat less, chew more  
Whine less, breathe more  
Talk less, say more  
Love more and all good things will be yours.*

Whatever you do ..... DO something.

**Di Bubb, Mothers' Union contact**





# Bulphan WI

Members started the meeting by taking a moments reflection in memory of Marilyn Wordley who had recently passed away. Four new members were warmly welcomed. Things became quite competitive during the Beetle Drive with prizes given to the member with the most and least points.

Presentations were given of each of the NFWI resolution selections, the results of members votes will go to NFWI and we await the outcome. Our WI has signed up to Easyfundraising, and Treasurer Mandy explained how our WI can earn money each time those that are registered do any shopping online.

February is Show the Love month on the WI calendar, with green hearts highlighting the need to love our planet, we only have the one, so must protect it, with that in mind we will be holding a seed/plant/good item swap, the competition is a green heart in any medium and we are hoping to hear from a speaker from Fairtrade.

Members have been making hats, scarfs, and gloves along with collecting toiletries for the Tilbury Mission to Seafarers, all of which will be passed to their representative, who will speak about the work there and how these donations can make a difference, we are hoping to arrange a visit later in the year.

If you would like to find out more or come along as a visitor you can find updates about future meetings, information, photographs, and much more on Facebook at Bulphan Women's Institute and on Twitter @bulphanwi or contact us via Secretary Janet McCheyne on 07752836902 or email [bulphanwi@gmail.com](mailto:bulphanwi@gmail.com)

Jan Curtis  
President



**Please help raise funds for  
The Parish of  
Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan.**

**Thank you to everyone who has  
already donated coins or notes.**

**Since August 2021 we have  
raised £1,280.33 for church funds.**

**Please ask friends, family and work  
colleagues if they have any unwanted  
coins or notes.**

**Donations can be taken to one of the  
churches or you can email Lynda at  
[l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk](mailto:l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk)  
and she can arrange collection.**

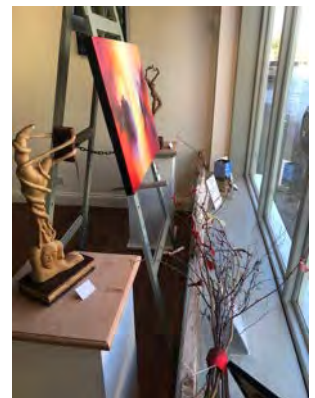
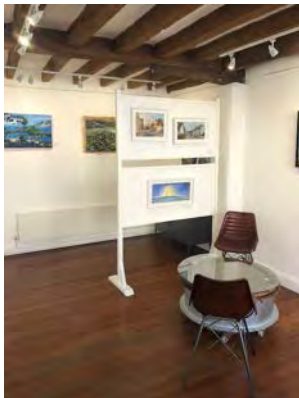


## COMMUNITY RECYCLING

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Or follow us on Instagram

**Find us:**

**High Road, Horndon on the Hill  
Stanford-le-Hope SS17 8LF**



FAIRTRADE

## FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 27<sup>th</sup> February – 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023

We've all become much more aware in recent years of just how much trade matters to our daily lives. We've become very aware of how many jobs, government policies, the goods we buy and services we enjoy are linked to trade – both here in the UK, and in countries right around the world.

We live in a world where injustice is found in every corner of the globe. It may feel at times as if there is no end to the injustice and poverty we see around us. Life for many appears hopeless despite their best efforts at changing their situations. Yet people living in poor community's cling to the hope of a better life ahead and work hard to make it a reality.

Fairtrade offers hope for many. Buying Fairtrade products means that farmers in developing countries are given a fair price for their products as well as an additional premium which they can choose to invest as they see fit. This could be in community projects to provide healthcare or education, or in their business to increase capacity, improve efficiency and create a more sustainable and secure livelihood. Through Fairtrade, farmers and workers can escape the chains of poverty and can begin to see an end to the injustice that traps the lives of so many! Our decisions, and many of our most important choices, are the one which have the greatest effect on those around us. Making the right choice can mean freedom and a way out of poverty for the farmers and producers in developing countries! We can make a difference through every action we make! Through Fairtrade, farmers receive a better price for their goods, and also receive an additional premium which they can choose to spend where they feel they need to. This premium gives them a choice that they otherwise would not have: choosing the best way to invest in their community or business for a brighter future.

Within the Parish we are doing 'our bit' to help by committing to use Fairtrade tea, coffee and sugar in all three churches. Fairtrade Fortnight coincides with the beginning of Lent and we will be promoting Fairtrade throughout.

In the meantime, [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk) contains further information together with how you can get involved in Fairtrade Fortnight as an individual.

***Do not take advantage of a hired worker who is poor and needy, whether that worker is a fellow Israelite or a foreigner residing in one of your towns. Pay them their wages each day before sunset, because they are poor and are counting on it. (Deuteronomy 24:14-15 - NIV)***





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



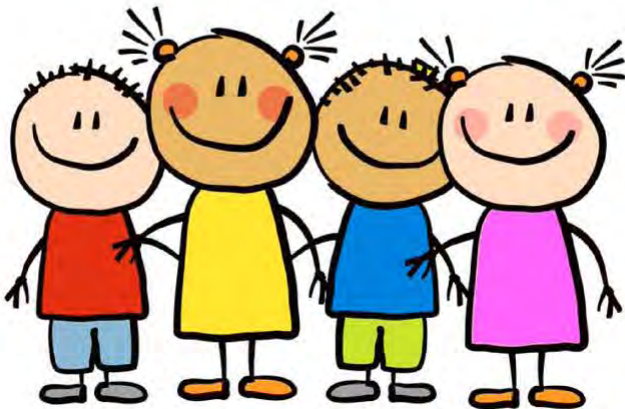
## BULPHAN TODDLER GROUP

Fridays in Term Time  
10.00am - 12.00pm

BULPHAN VILLAGE HALL

£2.50 + £1 each additional child

Contact Corinne: 07722 417 143



## Bulphan Community Café



## and Post Office

A warm welcome to all.  
Comprehensive Post Office services;  
hot and cold drinks;  
licensed bar;  
cakes (including gluten free),  
crisps and biscuits  
free Wi-Fi

Thursdays & Fridays from 1.30 - 4.30pm

Local councillors Sue and Barry,  
and Local Area Co-ordinator Pauline  
are frequent visitors



## 'Forget-Me-Not' Coffee morning

In Horndon Woolmarket  
from 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

*We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for anyone  
who would like a cuppa and a chat. Everyone is welcomed!*

### **Bring & Buy and Raffle**

*All proceeds go to the J's Hospice in Essex,  
providing hospice and respite care for young adults  
with life threatening and life limiting conditions*

**For further details contact Beverley on 01375 671 474**