

# HOBNOB

JUNE  
Online



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

**While our churches are closed you can watch services from  
home; on weekdays by visiting our Facebook page  
@HOBNOBChurches and on Sundays by following the  
link: [hobnob.org.uk/watch](http://hobnob.org.uk/watch)**

**During the Corona Virus pandemic there will be no printed version of the Hobnob**



# Bulphan Churchwarden's Report

In limbo for a further month as lockdown continues. These are strange and tragic times that will resonate long after the pandemic is over and the cost has been counted.

I feel saddened that people are unable to grieve the loss of family and friends, unable to say goodbye as they would wish; for those whose marriage plans have been thwarted and the uncertainty of when weddings can be rearranged. I worry for our clergy, particularly Reverend Sue as she works ever harder in difficult circumstances. And of course the 'front line workers', so many of whom have succumbed to the virus.

Thankfully everything is not doom and gloom. As a society we seem to be more caring and sensitive to the needs of others and sometimes we need a brake applied to an increasingly egocentric way of life. We can hope that this raised awareness of our lives and the world in which we live continues.

Here in Bulphan we can give thanks that during lockdown our new village shop opened. And what a wonderful shop it is too, always fully stocked and with plenty of choice. Villagers are supporting the shop and I have heard only positive and complimentary comments, one of which was: "I no longer need the supermarket, in future I will be doing all my shopping here". The new shopkeepers are to be thanked for their friendly, helpful and professional way of delivering this service to our community.



We were unable to celebrate VE75 as had been planned, nonetheless many made big efforts to not let the day go unrecognised, holding front garden tea parties amid bunting and flags. Jo Goddard (piper Jo) and Steve Benn (town crier), fulfilled their roles admirably before the appreciative and 'socially distanced' onlookers and at 7.00pm Iris Aedy rang the church bell



Meanwhile, volunteers continue to maintain the churchyard, which will look wonderful when we finally reopen the Church doors

*Ron Porter*

# A FAMOUS PERSON IN JUNE - FRANK WHITTLE

Frank Whittle was born on June 1, 1907, in Earlsdon, Coventry, England. He was the oldest son of his parents. When Frank was nine years old, the family moved to Royal Leamington Spa. His father was an engineer and a mechanic, and he purchased the Leamington Valve and Piston Ring Company. Frank soon learned all about single-cylinder gas engines and developed an interest in aviation.

Whittle studied at the Milverton School for two years and afterwards attended the Leamington College for Boys. He helped his father at the company and quickly developed skills in practical engineering. In his spare time, Whittle read about astronomy, engineering, turbines, and flight theory. His interest in aviation prompted Whittle to join the Royal Air Force.

## Beginning of career

At the Air Force, Frank Whittle began serving as an aircraft apprentice, but soon after, started training as an aircraft mechanic. He enrolled at the RAF Cranwell Officer Training Program, where he gained his first flying experience. Adventurous in nature, Whittle soon gained a daredevil reputation for his low flights and aerobatics. While still a cadet, Whittle worked on a paper concerning potential aircraft design developments. He submitted the paper, which argued that a new motor engine should be required for flights at high altitudes at greater speeds and longer ranges.

In 1928, Whittle graduated from Royal Air Force College and was commissioned as a Pilot Officer. He was posted to the 111 Squadron and the following year he went to the Central Flying School to take a flying instructors course. There his engine concept gained attention and it was taken to the commanding officers. In 1929, Whittle sent his design to the Air Ministry, who turned it down on the grounds of being impractical.

Frank Whittle did not give up on his idea but patented it himself. In 1930, he was posted at the Marine Aircraft Experimental Establishment at Felixstowe as a test pilot of seaplanes. While Whittle was at this post, he was able to fly 20 different types of aircraft, including amphibians and flying boats.

## Career success

In 1932, Frank Whittle began attending the Officer's Engineering Course in Bedfordshire. The course turned out to be an inspiration for him to take a two-year engineering course at the Cambridge University, which he started in 1934. The same year, he was also promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant. In 1935, he had to renew the patent for his jet engine. However, Whittle had no money to pay for it, and the patent lapsed. At the time, he was friends with Rolf Dudley Williams and James Tinling, who promised him to help gain financial support.

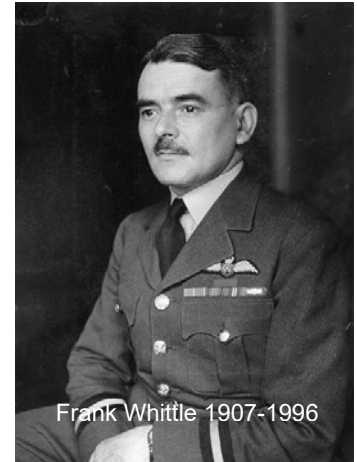
After gathering finances and gaining approval from the Air Ministry, Frank Whittle founded the Power Jets Ltd. At the time, he was a full-time RAF officer and Cambridge student. Therefore he took the title of Honorary Chief Engineer and Technical Consultant at his company. After working on the jet turbine, in 1937, Whittle was able to carry out the first test runs. The world's first turbojet unit was named W.U.- Whittles Unit. After the success of the first trials, the Air Ministry realized the potential of the company and financially backed Whittle. The ministry also placed an order for a flyable version of the engine.

When the World War II broke out, the government became increasingly interested in Whittle's Unit. In 1941, the first new engine was ready for a test flight, which took place on May 15, 1941. The aircraft first flew 17 minutes at 340mph. After the success of the maiden flight, Americans became interested in the new jet engine. By 1942, Americans had developed the Bell XP-59A Airacomet.

## Later years

In 1942, the Air Ministry contracted Rover Company to produce 3000 W2 engines. Since Rover could not meet the demand, in 1943 the contract went to Rolls Royce. That year, Frank Whittle became Wing Commander and proposed the nationalization of jet developments. By 1944, Power Jets began to develop the W2/700 engine.

In 1946, Whittle became the Air Commodore and resigned from Power Jets after its nationalization and merging with Gas Turbine section of RAE. Whittle retired from RAF in 1948. He continued to be active in engineering in his later years. He was the technical advisor to BOAC, Shell Oil's mechanical engineer, and research professor at the United States Naval Academy.





## BULPHAN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Members were Zooming again this month with a virtual quiz night, each of the Committee had compiled questions on the topics of sport, music, history, arts and literature, film and TV, food and drink and as always in every quiz, general knowledge.

Committee members read out their set of questions and answers, between rounds members were updated with news from the National Federation of WIs and Essex Federation. For those members not zooming the quiz sheets were emailed or posted out so they could still take part, from the feedback received the quiz was enjoyed by all.

Next month will be a Show and Tell meeting, where members have been invited to showcase to everyone what they have been doing to keep occupied, including crafting, sewing scrubs, knitting headbands and pairs of hearts for local hospitals, doing jigsaw puzzles, painting, gardening, reading, baking etc. those not zooming will be sending in pictures of their projects. We have a very talented bunch of members so it's sure to be an interesting meeting.

Updates about future meetings along with this year's programme, information, photographs, and much more can be found on Facebook at Bulphan Women's Institute and on Twitter @bulphanwi or contact Secretary Janet McCheyne on 07752 836 902

Jan Curtis. President





# MOTHERS' UNION

While the measures being taken by many governments to protect us (such as quarantine and self-isolation) are proving to be effective in halting the spread of the Coronavirus, they come at a cost. The cost is of loneliness for some, financial hardship for families and increased pressures on relationships for others. This further increases the risk of domestic abuse and prolonged hunger and isolation for many. These areas where, inspired by faith, Mothers' Union members have always been active, leading the way in supporting those in need.

We have heard from our friends in Myanmar that the Mothers' Union are again at the forefront of the support – providing help as well as educating about the ways of prevention. With innovation and creativity, some have been making masks and including the Mothers' Union logo (see photo). Others, like Persis in HPA-an diocese, have been transporting first aid kits to remote villages (see photos). Some of you may remember that Persis is one of the daughters of Catherine, who we supported for many years when she was a Mothers' Union worker.

At the recent special online Mothers' Union service for 'Thy Kingdom Come' [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xiw\\_bl5je0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xiw_bl5je0), the Archbishop of Canterbury gave the opening words:

*"You are amazing people. You are wonderful servants of Jesus Christ and, in my role in the Anglican Communion, I rejoice in the work of the Mothers' Union! I've seen so much of it over the last 7.5 years, and before, but particularly as I've travelled around the Communion, and I see it doing so much work in the UK and elsewhere – and the worse the crisis, the brighter the light of the Mothers' Union shines. That is the work of God through you. You may not always see it but others see it. You are the oldest and the biggest women's group in the world – praise God for that, Alleluia!"*

Like many charities, the financial position of the Mothers' Union has been affected by the pandemic. An urgent appeal has launched and already members have raised over £500,000 – can you help too?

<https://support.mothersunion.org/>

**Di Bubb, Mothers' Union contact**





# PRAYER DIARY:

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

June 1st	For Orsett in Bloom and Bulphan in Bloom
June 2nd	For the Friends of Orsett Church
June 3rd	For those who live on Stanley Road, Bulphan
June 4th	For our Local Ward Councillors serving the Benefice
June 5th	For those who live on Blackshots Lane
June 6th	For the Orsett Fire Station and all fire-fighters
June 7th	For our village halls and those who run them
June 8th	For Archdeacon Mike Lodge
June 9th	For our Bishop John Perumbalath
June 10th	For neighbours and friends who have moved away
June 11th	For those who live on China Lane, Bulphan
June 12th	For those who live on Stephens Crescent, Horndon
June 13th	For those who live on Francis Close, Horndon
June 14th	For those who live on High Road, Orsett
June 15th	For those in St Luke's Hospice
June 16th	For those who live on Mill Lane, Orsett
June 17th	For those who live on Malting Lane, Orsett
June 18th	For those who live on Holmes Close, Horndon
June 19th	For those who live on Bristowe Drive, Orsett
June 20th	For those who live on Hillcrest Close, Horndon
June 21st	For those who live on Peartree Lane, Bulphan
June 22nd	For the shops in Orsett and Horndon
June 23rd	For those who live on Ellis Close, Orsett
June 24th	For our police and community support officers
June 25th	For those who live on Alderton Road, Orsett
June 26th	For those who live on Grosvenor Road, Orsett
June 27th	For the work of the Thurrock Food Bank
June 28th	For those who live on School Lane, Orsett
June 29th	For Reverend Sue Mann and Reverend Max Blake
June 30th	For those who live on Paddock Close, Orsett

**Please pray each day for those who risk their lives in fight against Covid-19**

“...by the grace of God I am what I am,  
and his grace toward me has not been in vain”  
*1 Corinthians 15:10*

# ORSETT EDWARD BEAR TODDLER GROUP

At the beginning of lockdown, Edward Bear went to stay with Di so that she had some company; he's glad that he did because they've been very creative – drawing rainbows for the window, making cards for family and friends – as well as joining all the online services that Revd Sue and Revd Max have been leading. Edward Bear is really missing seeing his friends face-to-face but he's so grateful for his Facebook page! It means that he can share stories and photos with his friends and receive messages from them.

Check it out if you haven't already: <https://www.facebook.com/Orsett-Edward-Bear-Toddler-Group-1824091051224579/>

On Ascension Day (21 May, it was such a beautiful sunny morning that Edward Bear decided to sit in the garden to read the story of the first Ascension Day. Jesus was saying goodbye to his friends so they were rather sad but they remembered that he had told them he wasn't really leaving them alone. They were to wait in Jerusalem and a BIG surprise was coming. Edward Bear couldn't wait to hear the next bit of the story that came ten days later at Pentecost! In the photos below, you may notice that Edward Bear is looking at 2 different Bibles to see if he could get a clue!



Did you know that June is National Month of Prayer for Toddler Groups? Each year has a theme and the theme for 2020 is 'Streams in the Desert'. It is based on the scripture Isaiah 43 v18-21.

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. The wild animals honour me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise."

Edward Bear would love it if everybody in Orsett prayed for his Orsett Edward Bear Toddler Group; for the small group of helpers; for the babies, toddlers and their carers that come along each fortnight; and to those who have yet to find out about all the fun that we have.

Edward Bear, Di, Gill, and Sandra





## **Bulphan's Celebration VE Day**

Our village did its best to celebrate this special time,  
To honour and respect those who died to save yours and mine.

They sacrificed to give us freedom, so we would be here today,  
To live in peace and happiness - for them, try and keep it that way.

All round the village, flags and bunting are in view,  
Families and neighbours in front gardens partying too.

Once again we thank you, remember who you are,  
And never forget the forces that died for freedom in the Far East Burma War

Doreen Walker