HOBNOB



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

April 2021



THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ORSETT, BULPHAN AND HORNDON - ON - THE - HILL

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ASSOCIATE PRIEST Reverend Max Blake e.mail max@hobnob.org.uk 01375 360 522

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St Giles & All Saints
Orsett

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Jackie Wood 01375 891 744

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Covenant Secretary Mark Willett 01375 892 113

PCC Secretary Vacancy

Sacristans Di Bubb, Judi Mowatt, Tony Mowatt

Vergers Ed Stoddart

George Wood 01375 891 744
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> Churchwardens Ron Porter 01375 891 697 Frank Woollard 01375 891 034 **Deputy Churchwarden Brian Flavell** 01708 225 804 Treasurer Lynda Robertson 01375 892 428 **Covenant Secretary** Frank Woollard 01375 891 034 Ron Porter 01375 891 697 **PCC Secretary** Parish Room Bookings Traudi Porter 01375 891 697

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

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Treasurer Robin Clark

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Sacristans Jane Barry. Jane Lothian. Judy Rood.

Beverley Macrae

Vergers Bill Rayner. Peter Belsham.

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Musicians

 Jane Barry
 07552 199 697

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 07752 836 902

Rector's Reflections

Recently, after some prayer and thought, I phoned two people up to ask them if they would consider doing something. Each of them responded by saying that they had been praying, asking God to open a door, that the timing was just right and so they said 'yes.'

It is important that we spend time drawing close to God in prayer and that we not only speak but listen so that what we do is of God rather than out of a sense of guilt or obligation. It is said that it is no coincidence that God gave each of us one mouth and two ears!

Before lockdown, many of us were so busy! We live in a world where we often glorify the act of busyness but sometimes when we are rushing around, we push out that still small voice of God and, actually, what we need to say to God, in the words of Samuel in the Old Testament, is 'Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.'

Julian of Norwich said,

'...for that is what obedience is, listening, discerning and acting upon what one hears, through the motive power of love. St Benedict makes clear that obedience is a mutual exercise. We listen to God, we listen to each other, and to what the Spirit is saying to this little monastic church, from the least one in the community to the abbot.'

We are so glad to be back in church for Easter Day. And, although we have been worshipping online for the past year, the last Easter Day Service in church was two years ago and so it will be a joyous occasion, on April 4th, when we gather together. But we, as a church, need to be mindful about rushing back into everything just because that is how we did it before. We need to listen to God, to what the Holy Spirit is saying.

During lockdown, I have had the opportunity to listen to many different views about church services. We also sent out a service questionnaire and with my colleague Max and with the support of the PCCs, we have adopted a new service pattern in the hope of engaging with as many people as possible in a manageable way. The new service plan can be found in this magazine. I believe it is an exciting time with new opportunities to embrace. Had we been asked 18 months ago to adopt the technology and different ways of worshipping many of us have now grown used to, most of us would have balked at the idea. But we have done it and I really believe that the Holy Spirit is calling us now into a new season which will incorporate some of the old and combine it with some new. Of course, as with any change, we will meet some challenges, but we will continue listening to God as we go along and will make tweaks where necessary. I invite you to come with us on this journey; a journey of listening, of hope and of discovering God afresh; a journey following God into the unknown, confident that when he calls us into pastures new, he will never let us go. After all, he is a God who loves each one of us so much that he was prepared to die on the cross for us, so that all of our sins and wrongdoing can be washed away for ever and so that each one of us can have a relationship with him.

And, to finish, just to let you know, If you would like to find out more about Christianity or do a refresher course, we are hoping to hold an Alpha Course online in the near future. If this is something that you would be interested in please do let me know.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

With love and prayers for you all.

God bless,

Sue



BENEFICE SERVICES APRIL 2021

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Sunday 4 th Easter Sunday		10am All Together Holy Communion Service	
Tues 6 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Sat 10 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Sunday 11 th 2 nd Sunday of Easter		8.45am Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service	
Mon 12 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Tues 13 th	Open Church 10am-noon		7.30pm Holy Communion Service
Weds 14 th			
Thurs 15 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Sat 17th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Sunday 18 th 3 rd Sunday of Easter	8.45am BCP Holy Communion 10am Holy Communion with Sunday School in a Tin		
Mon 19 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Tues 20 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Weds 21st			
Thurs 22 nd			Open Church 10am-noon
Sat 24 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Sunday 25 th 4 th Sunday of Easter			8.45am Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service
Mon 26 th		_	Open Church 10am-noon
Tues 27 th	9.30am Holy Communion Service Open Church 10am-noon		
Weds 28 th			
Thurs 29 th			Open Church 10am-noon

Open Church means that the Church is open for private prayer. In the future we hope sometimes to offer refreshments when allowed. Please watch this space for further details.



BENEFICE SERVICES May 2021

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Saturday 1 st			Forest Church
Sunday 2 nd 5 th Sunday of Easter			10am All Together Holy Communion Service
Mon 3 rd			Open Church 10am-noon
Tues 4 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Thurs 6 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Sat 8 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Sunday 9 th 6 th Sunday of Easter		8.45am Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service	
	(Christian Aid week 10 th – 16 th M	ay
Mon 10 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Tues 11 th	Open Church 10am-noon		7.30pm Holy Communion Service
Thurs 13 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Sat 15 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Sunday 16 th 7 th Sunday of Easter Ascension Day	8.45am BCP Holy Communion 10am Holy Communion & Sunday School in a Tin		
Mon 17 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Tues 18 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Thurs 20 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Sat 22 nd	Open Church 10am-noon		
Sunday 23 rd Pentecost			8.45am Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service
Mon 24 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Tues 25 th	9.30am Holy Communion Service		
	Open Church 10am-noon		
Thurs 28th			Open Church 10am-noon
Sat 29 th	Open Church 10am-noon		
Sunday 30 th Trinity Sunday	10am All Together Holy Communion Service		
Mon 31 st			Open Church 10am-noon

Open Church means that the Church is open for private prayer. In the future we hope sometimes to offer refreshments when allowed. Please watch this space for further details.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION ORSETT, BULPHAN AND HORNDON - ON - THE - HILL

POLICE at Grays email: thurrockcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk 101 or 999 **DOCTORS** Horndon-on-the-Hill 01375 642 362 Orsett & Bulphan (Orsett Surgery) 01375 892 082 Bulphan (Ockendon Surgery) 01708 852 318 (West Horndon Surgery): 01277 811 770 **LOCAL COUNCILLORS** 07831 609714 Mr Barry Johnson Mrs Sue Little 07831 609664 **LOCAL MP** Stephen Metcalfe **Orsett Office** 01268 200 430 Westminster 020 7219 7009 Write to: House of Commons London SW1A OAA or 2 Orsett Business Centre, Stanford Road, Orsett, Essex, RM16 3BX **SCHOOLS** Horndon C of E Foundation Primary – Headteacher: Mrs. D. Bradley. 01375 673 260 01375 891 383 Orsett Academy C of E Aided Primary – Headteacher: Mrs G Smith Bulphan C of E Academy – Headteacher: Sally Finch 01375 891 220





FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.woodwardwines.co.uk



BENEFICE REGISTERS

Funerals

9th March Elaine Payne (73) (H)
22nd March Eileen Leach (82) (O)



Wedding Enquiries

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



Baptism Enquiries

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

Orsett church, please contact:
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk
Bulphan church, please contact:
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk
Horndon church, please contact:
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk

Orsett Churchwarden's Report

On today's dog walk, there were Snowdrops and Daffodils growing in the park. This time last year the same flowers were growing, but between now and then so much has changed and no one is untouched by the events. Nature and the gifts that God gave us remain a constant. Therefore, however hard the winter the bulbs will still flower and spring will come.

We now have a road map for when lockdown may ease if we play by the rules. Like the bulbs we too have been locked away for a year and what have we learned from this? Have we tried new things? Got new hobbies or gained new skills? One thing we all have in common is we miss our family, friends and hugs with them. Mothering Sunday was a lovely day and the highlight was a dog walk with my daughter. I was lucky, as many of you may not have had such an opportunity. For some, this year has been incredibly tough and this may have been the first year for some without their mother. The person who cares is not always the mother and Rev Max, was lovely in the way he described Jesus' attributes to those of a mother.

Church in whatever form has also been a steadfast part of our lives. We are thankful to Rev Sue for the wonderful job she has done in accomplishing a service every Sunday. She has also organised courses, prayer groups and pastoral care over the last year. This week, there will be a Zoom service at 10.00 and the plan is to have an Easter service in St Giles at 10.00 on Easter Sunday. After a very isolated Lent it will be glorious to celebrate Easter Sunday in church. There will be a different service plan for services that may follow and many things will change after this difficult time, but in a safe way. It would be great to see your faces back in church.

It was Red Nose Day on Friday 19th March some of the funds raised will be going to mental health charities. I feel that many people, young and old, will find transition to a post Covid England very difficult. Mental health is a problem that needs support, as it is so underfunded. Comic Relief will need all the funds they can get to support the nation in the next task ahead. There is a great deal to be achieved locally and countrywide. The local plan needs to be slow and steady to get to a better place. We hope for a bright spring and a great summer.

So, let me take this time to wish you all a very happy and safe Easter.

Many blessings,

Janet Wilkins



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HORNDON ON THE HILL CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT

Whilst I know that a year always lasts for twelve months (365 days, 366 in a leap year) It seems a far longer length of time has passed since March 2020 until now.

The three benefice PCC's, having taken the difficult decision to keep our churches closed during lock down, will be delighted to welcome everybody back to services as soon as we feel that it is safe to do so.

During the periods of restrictions from stage four and then on to the lock downs Sue and Max have lead services on line using teams and zoom and It has been a really vital and successful way of keeping the church family in the best spirit possible in these trying circumstances.

Although worshiping in this way seemed strange at first I think that we have become used to using this technology and can only thank Sue, Max and their team of "technical advisors" for their hard work in ensuring the success of this method of reaching out to everybody.

You may have seen that we have new signage on both the wall at the lych gate on Orsett Road and the gate of the cemetery on Mill Lane.

These signs are part of a Commonwealth War Graves Commission project which was started in 2017 to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War and to remind the public that they need not travel abroad to find Commonwealth commemorations.

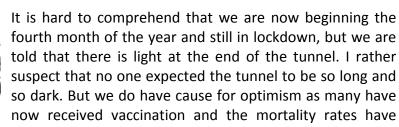
There are three war graves in Horndon on the Hill, one in the churchyard and two at the cemetery.

As I have mentioned already, we look forward to seeing as many as possible at Church as soon as all restrictions are lifted and it is felt safe to do so. This really can't happen soon enough.

God bless

Alastair

Bulphan Churchwarden's Report



dropped substantially. I just hope that things don't relax too quickly as they seem to have done in continental Europe with some countries now experiencing another spike in infection.

Our church life continues, albeit in a very different style, and I for on will be very pleased when it is deemed fully safe to hold services in church without the need for social distancing and facemasks. Meanwhile our poor churches stand empty and forbidden zones except to those of us who regularly make security checks.

In Bulphan, even prior to the pandemic there were structural problems with the church porch; its construction is a strange mismarriage between the medieval main wall and a Tudor timber framed structure set on a latter-day stone and flint plinth. The plinth is sinking, large cracks are appearing and the tiled floor is heaving. The consequence is increasing difficulty opening and closing the outer doors, which in itself is a clear indication of the degree of movement that is occurring. The assumption has to be that if there were ever foundations they have failed. At some point this month we will meet with our Diocesan Architect to agree a specification of works and then tender this to specialist contractors. Clearly this will be expensive and beyond our finances, so we will be applying for grant aid from various organisations.

St Mary's is a grade I listed building, so we do have a heightened duty of care for the fabric of our church and there is no easy option. Opposite is an example of the moving stonework.

By the time this is read, Easter will probably have passed, so I can only hope that you were able in some small way to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Until next month!



PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

April 1st	For those living in Hew Watt Close, Orsett
April 2nd	For those continuing to develop vaccines for the treatment of Corona Virus
April 3d	For those living in Lodysons Close, Orsett
April 4th	For Christians around the world on this Easter Day
April 5th	For our Bellringers
April 6th	For those who will die this month
April 7th	For the Christian community in Palestine
April 8th	For those living in Daltons Shaw, Orsett
April 9th	For those living in Bloomfield Walk, Orsett
April 10th	For those in mourning
April 11th	For Whitecroft, those who live and work there
April 12th	For neighbours we do not yet know
April 13th	For Clergy serving the Benefice
April 14th	For those living in Victoria Road, Bulphan
April 15th	For those living in Kirkham Road, Horndon
April 16th	For the Christian Church in its many denominations
April 17th	For the work of all retired clergy
April 18th	For Pleshey and all retreat houses throughout the land
April 19th	For Rt. Rev. Dr Gulnar Francis-Dehqani BA. MA. PhD
	as she takes office as Bishop of Chelmsford
April 20th	For those living in York Road, Horndon
April 21st	For the Orsett Churches' Centre
April 22d	For those living in Cassell Close, Orsett
April 23d	For those who are seeking employment
April 24th	For those struggling with great transitions
April 25th	For Her Majesty's Forces serving overseas
April 26th	For those living in Church Close, Horndon
April 27th	For those living in Brentwood Road, Orsett
April 28th	For St George, the patron of England
April 29 th	For the work of the Diocese in Europe
April 30 th	For the homeless and hungry

Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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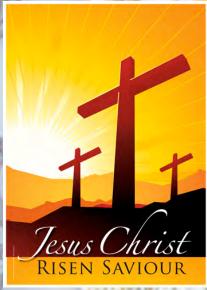
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Having restarted services twice before during the Covid-19 pandemic we are very pleased to announce that we will reopen again for services on Easter Day, and Sunday evenings thereafter unless stated otherwise.

At this greatest time in the Christian calendar we pray that despite all the sadness and difficulties experienced over the past year, readers of Hobnob may find Peace, Joy and Love in the knowledge and experience of our risen Saviour. Planned services for April are as shown

April 4 th Easter Day	6:30 pm	Re <mark>v Ma</mark> x Blake
April 11 th	6:30 pm. Communion	Adrian Tinning
April 18 th	6:30 pm	Paul Mason
April 25 th	No Service	- 330

We have a small building and Covid-19 distancing measures means that capacity is limited to a congregation of 9-13 depending on whether attendees are in bubbles. To help us arrange seating please let the Secretary know if you are planning on coming to our services.

Although the Government's roadmap out of lockdown means that restrictions are starting to lift, for the present please be reminded that:

- Face coverings are to be worn at all times
- Observe social distancing at all times
- Please sanitise your hands upon entering and leaving the building
- For 'track and trace' purposes please sign in on the sheet provided
- 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



Horndon on the Hill Church of England Primary School

Executive Headteacher Mrs. L. Coates / Head of School Mrs. D. Bradley

Address Hillcrest Road, Horndon on the Hill, Essex. SS17 8LR Telephone 01375 673260 Email admin.hps@osborne.coop Website www.horndononthehill.org.uk

We are all part of God's family. Through trying our best in all that we do, we find a sense of belonging.

1 Corinthians 12:27 'All of you together are Christ's body and each of you is a part of it'.

How wonderful it has been to hear the sound of children's chatter and laughter resounding around the school building once again. Having said that, whilst the school has remained open to keyworker and vulnerable children for the last year, the remote learning that has taken place over the last three months has been a huge learning curve for all involved. We continued to provide a balanced education for those children in school and those learning at home. The support of the parents was incredible and had such a positive impact on the delivery of lessons planned by teachers who worked so hard to address the learning needs of all of our pupils.

As I sit here writing the sun is shining and the weather has taken an unexpected turn for the better, although the forecast for Easter weekend is indicating that there may even be snow for some. Our weather remains as unpredictable as ever! I just hope the flowers that were just coming into bloom in our beautiful school grounds are not killed off by the frosts.

We are trying desperately to make some simple plans for our summer term, but there is always that nagging feeling in the background that we are not out of the woods yet. Our annual May Fayre has been postponed until September and will be called the 'Autumn Fayre' this year. Many or our school activities have had to be cancelled, including the year 6 residential trip and our summer end of year production. Not allowing these events to happen was an extremely difficult decision to make, but we have been so lucky with very few positive COVID cases in our school that we wanted to ensure that this does not change. God willing, our next academic year will be full of celebrations that can include not only our whole school community, but also our extended local community.

The children have worked so hard since returning and are producing quality work that continues to impress their teachers. Attendance has remained high and just confirms how ready pupils were to get back to school. We continue to teach within bubbles and the children remain in their class bubble at all times. Play times and lunchtimes are split giving each bubble a 'safe' place to run around and let off some steam. Lunches are still taken in classrooms as opposed to the school hall, although as the weather improves there will be opportunities for the children to eat outside. None of these situations are ideal, pupils are desperate to interact with *all* of their friends, but we are determined to keep the staff and the children as safe as we possibly can. As I said at the beginning, the sound of laughter is apparent throughout the school and this is the tonic that keeps us all going.

I am sure that there will continue to be some challenges ahead for us all, but with God's blessing, I know that we will come out the other side stronger and wiser than we would have ever been. Take care and stay safe.

Kindest regards

Mrs D Bradley Head of School



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WHAT MOTHERS TAUGHT US IN THE OLD DAYS!

My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE. "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."

My mother taught me RELIGION. "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."

My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL. "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"

My mother taught me LOGIC. "Because I said so, that's why."

My mother taught me MORE LOGIC. "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the shops with me."

My mother taught me FORESIGHT. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."

My mother taught me IRONY. "Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."

My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS. "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."

My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM . "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"

My mother taught me about PATIENCE. "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."

My mother taught me about WEATHER. "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."

My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY. "If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"

My mother taught me the CIRCLE OF LIFE. "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."

My mother taught me about BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION . "Stop acting like your father!"

My mother taught me about ENVY. "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."

My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION. "Just wait until we get home."

My mother taught me about RECEIVING. "You are going to get it when you get home!"

My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE. "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way." $\,$

My mother taught me ESP. "Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"

My mother taught me HUMOUR. "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT. "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."

My mother taught me GENETICS. "You're just like your father."

My mother taught me about my ROOTS. "Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"

My mother taught me WISDOM. "When you get to be my age, you'll understand."

My mother taught me about JUSTICE. "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"



Make a Mother's Day 2021



Thank you to all of you who bought an ethical gift or made a donation through the Mothers' Union Make a Mother's Day website for Mothering Sunday. An amazing £71,302 was raised for the fantastic work supporting women and strengthening communities in the UK and abroad.

At the same time, many will have wanted to support but have not been able to do so due to the particularly difficult financial circumstances that recent events have brought about. We hope and pray that the situation is resolved swiftly.

United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW)



Mothers' Union plays an important role on the world stage, helping shape the agenda of the United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW).

In our recent statement which we submitted in October, 2020, we called for all member states to finance and fully implement existing international agreements affecting the rights of women and girls, including the Sustainable Development Goals (especially Goal 5: Gender Equality) and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Chelmsford Diocesan Mothers' Union - Facebook



Chelmsford Diocesan Mothers' Union now have their own Facebook page, so do have a look — there are photos of some of the recent Zoom meetings with our Diocesan President, Judith Meaden. Its early days yet but hopefully there will be more posts coming up. Most recently we have been able to hold a mini retreat. You can find the page by clicking on this link: Chelmsford Diocesan Mothers Union | Facebook.

More recently the Very Rev Jon Reid and Judith Meaden led a quiet Lenten hour of reflection and mediation – It really was a good idea to meetup with them.

Virtual Walks – In Member's Footsteps

The current restrictions on our daily life are difficult for us all. Repeated lockdowns provide challenges that we can be



unsure how to deal with. Many of us have found these circumstances have led to feelings of separation from our friends, our communities and our churches. This is why the Mothers' Union is starting an initiative to bring you a series of virtual walks. As well as providing an insight into the different regions of the UK, it is hoped that watching each video will give you a five-minute break from your day. A space to relax and reflect but also a way to feel connected to the wider membership. The aim is to put up new

walks every two weeks on YouTube: https://youtu.be/h9lXqQmXOIE

Staying connected through Midday Prayers



Our UK members who don't have access to the internet at home will still be able to hear our midday prayers thanks to the Church of England's Daily Hope line. Just call 0800 804 8044 from a UK mobile or landline and press option 4, then option 8.

Midday Prayers continue from Monday - Saturday on the public Mothers' Union Facebook page. Thousands have viewed these already, but for those interested and not aware, feel free to watch and comment.

Update from Orsett C of E Primary School



On the 8th March we welcomed back the children to Orsett. It was wonderful to see so many excited and happy faces returning to school – children as well as parents!

The school feels alive again! Whilst all our children engaged well using our new virtual world, nothing beats having them in their classrooms again, the school buzzing with noise and activity. Let's hope it stays this way! Despite there only being a short time until the Easter break we have managed to cram lots into 3 weeks!

In the first week back a 'mysterious intruder' wrecked havoc in the classrooms – upturning tables, book shelves and creating lots of mess. The children had to turn into detectives, analysing clues to find the culprit which turned out to be 'one of the teachers!' Of course it turned into a brilliant writing activity for the whole school.

The children have taken part in lots of well-being activities as well as going over lots of the learning from the Spring term. We've introduced a new parent communication App called Marvellous Me and a new reading scheme too! We've hit the ground running!







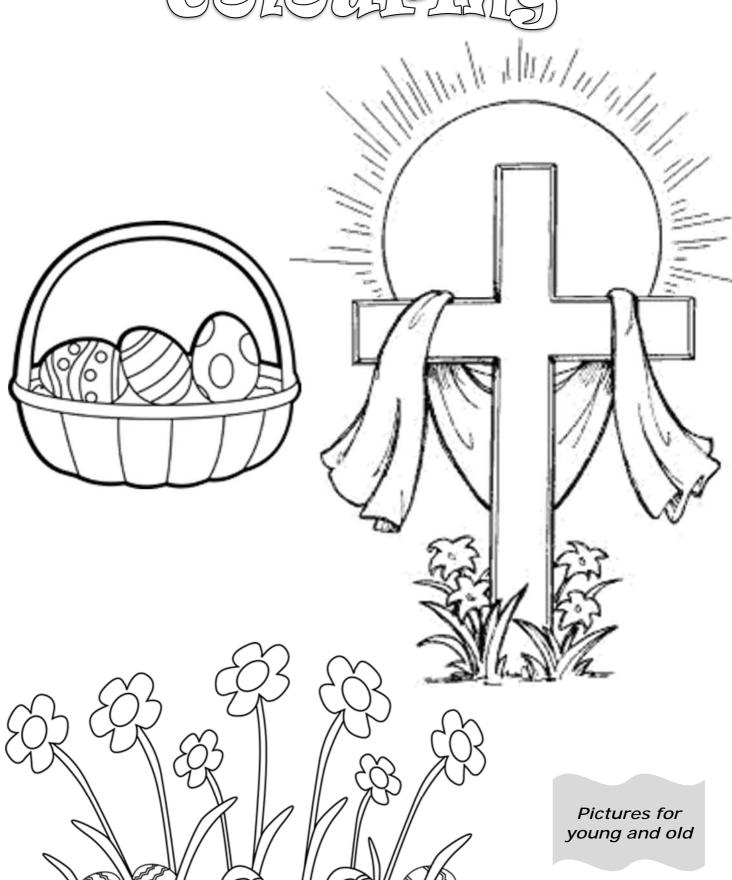


On the 23rd March we took part in the national day of reflection by respecting the one minute silence at midday for those who have lost their lives in the last year due to Covid. . We made a video of our special Lockdown memories which can be viewed on our <u>YouTube</u> page. The school also gave all children a candle to remember those who have sadly been affected by Covid-19 but also to light as a symbol of hope. It was a poignant day for many of us across the community and country. I don't think any of us could have imagined such a turbulent year and in education we have most certainly felt this like many others. We felt it was important for us to take stock with the children, reflect on what has happened but more importantly to remember that there is hope. Brighter days are coming!

We also had a wonderful donation given to us in the last few weeks from Orsett hospital to give to staff of pamper products. Thank you to the hospital for thinking of us! We had so much that we made up packs for Bulphan School too!

Please do stay safe and continue to remember us at Orsett C of E Primary in your thoughts and prayers. Have a wonderful Easter break. Until next time!

IFASTIFIA Colotteins



ORSETT EDWARD BEAR TODDLER GROUP

"Good gracious" exclaimed Edward Bear, "can it really be Easter time already! Where did all the Lenten days go, especially when I've not been going out very much?!". It is suprising how quickly the days pass and Edward Bear was impressed by how many prayer links and services are available each day ... "Well done Revd Sue and Max and the Mothers' Union to name just a few", Edward Bear was heard to comment.



Easter is one of Edward Bear's favourite times of the year as he gets to wear his best white waistcoat because this is a special celebration as we think of Jesus alive and with us always. The countryside around us also springs into life after winters dark days, flowers and blossom appear once more with all their rainbow colours. Edward Bear particularly likes to see the baby lambs — especially as they are of the furry variety like him! He hopes all his friends will enjoy the fun of Easter treats — chocolate eggs and egg hunting (a bit like the photo here with Edward Bear and one of his Easter eggs!) — and will listen again to the story of the first Easter day when Jesus' friends sadness turned to joy. The week before Easter Sunday is called Holy Week, starting on Palm Sunday, and each day the Church recalls the events leading up to the dawn of Easter Sunday. Many churches have a Dawn Service on Easter

Sunday, "that must be wonderful", thought Edward Bear, but equally wonderful this year is that Orsett Church will be open for a service of Holy Communion at 10am. Edward Bear will be there and looks forward to seeing his friends.





Last month, Edward Bear enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day - did you? He dressed up as different characters from the Bible, and here's two of the characters: the Good Shepherd and Joseph (in his amazing technicolour dreamcoat).





It was also Mothering Sunday last month — a time when we think about all those who have nurtured and mothered us that doesn't just mean mothers as anyone can nurture and mother us. Edward Bear put a special message in the church newsletter to say thank you to all the helpers at Orsett Edward Bear Toddler Group for all their nurturing.



The Thursday evening Lent groups have been looking at God's wonderful world and trying to find ways to care for the environment. Edward Bear has found a prayer he would like to share with his friends:

God's world is full of litter and what we plan to do is go and pick it up to make the whole world good as new. Amen



Remember to keep an eye out for news from Edward Bear on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Orsett-Edward-Bear-Toddler-Group

Easter blessings everyone, stay safe and God bless, Edward Bear, Di, Gill, and Sandra



Lent Quiz Questions with Answers

- . Which is the first day of Lent? a) ASH WEDNESDAY
- 2. Jazz great Leon Beiderbecke, who was born on March 10th 1903, was known by what nickname? BIX
- 3. What is the original meaning of Lent? b) SPRING
- 4. 16th March 1995 Mississippi finally ratified the 13th Amendment, what did this do? **ABOLISH SLAVERY**
- What did the royal Navy abolish on March 1st 1990?
 RUM RATION
- 6. Which is the last Sunday of Lent? c) PALM SUNDAY
- 7. Sir Steve Redgrave celebrates his birthday on 23rd March. In which Olympic Games did he win the first of his five gold medals? LOS ANGELES 1984
- 8. On 5th March 1850 the Britannia Bridge opened, linking which island with mainland Britain? **ANGELSEY**
- 9. Lent is said to be of 40 days even though from Ash Wednesday to last Saturday of the season it is 46 days. Why? a) SUNDAYS ARE NOT INCLUDED
- 10. Inter Milan was founded on 9^{th} March 1908, what colour shirts do they wear? BLACK AND BLUE
- 11. Which society did John Wedgwood, the son of Josiah Wedgwood, found on March 7th 1804? **ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**
- 12. How ash for Ash Wednesday is made? a) BY BURNING PALMS USED DURING PREVIOUS PALM SUNDAY
- 13. On 29th March 1886 what product was launched with the slogan "Esteemed Brain tonic and Intellectual Beverage"? **COCA COLA**
- 14. Which devotion has special place during Lent?c) STATIONS OF THE CROSS
- 15. In the March of which year did riots in St. Petersburg lead to the Russian Revolution? **1917**

BRTTISH CITY ANAGRAMS

1. Behind Rug Edinburgh 2. Mount Potash Southampton 3. Cement Rash Manchester 4. Dry Londoner Londonderry 5. Nuns Ladder Sunderland 6. Retaught Mayor **Great Yarmouth** 7. Hold Yeah Holyhead 8. Actors End Doncaster 9. Flout Ham Falmouth 10.Beer Comma Morecambe 11.Bare Need Aberdeen 12.Cry On Vet Coventry 13. Ruby Nectar Canterbury 14. Mined Ahead Maidenhead 15. Giant Month Nottingham

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Bulphan WI

Members who came to our March meeting along with visitors from around the country, via the accessibility of a virtual platform, heard speaker Steve Lester tell us of his time as an auctioneer, a job he ended up with after becoming a jewellery consultant with an auction house. By the time the gavel came down at the end of his talk

everyone was keen to see if their treasures might be hidden gems and to visit an auction house, maybe even have a bid or two.

April is our wonderful WIs 92nd birthday and we will celebrate in true Bulphan WI form with a Magical themed virtual party with a magician, we may learn a couple of tricks, attendees wearing or bringing something magical and a surprise that we'll tell you about next month!

Updates about future meetings, information, photographs, and much more can be found 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

Jan Curtis. President

ENGLISH AT ITS PUZZLING BEST

We'll begin with box; the plural is boxes
But the plural of ox is oxen, not oxes.
One fowl is a goose and two are called geese
Yet the plural of moose is never called meese.

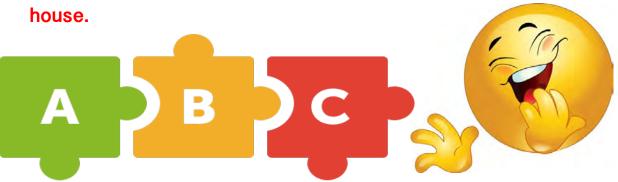
You may find a lone mouse or a house full of mice; But the plural of house is houses not hice.* The plural of man is always men, But the plural of pan never is pen.

If I speak of a foot and you show me two feet, And if I give you a book would a pair be a beek? If one is a tooth and a full set are teeth, Why shouldn't two booths be referred to as beeth?

If the singular is this and the plural is these, Should the plural of kiss be ever called keese?

We speak of a brother also of brethren,
Though while we say mother, we never say methren.
The masculine pronouns are he, his and him;
Imagine if the feminine were she, shis and shim!

*Unless you are a member of the British aristocracy, in which case hice is how you pronounce the singular for house



EASTER QUIZ

- 1. At the Last Supper, what food did Jesus liken to his body?
- 2. In the Easter song, Lord of the Dance, on which day did the "world turn black"?
- 3. Pascua is the name for Easter in which language?
- 4. Easter day fell on April 6th many times in the 20th century, but what else begins on that date in the UK each year?
- 5. The Dutch were the first Europeans to discover what in Easter Sunday 1722?
- 6. Which famous bunny has regularly tormented Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd and Yosemite Sam?
- 7. Easter Day in the year 2000 fell on 23rd April the same day which European country celebrates its Nation Beer Day?
- 8. Faberge designed its first elaborate jewel-encrusted eggs in which decade?
- 9. How many people receive Maundy Money from the British Monarch?
- 10. What colours are associated with Easter?
- 11. If you do not want bad luck, what chore should you not do on Good Friday?
- 12. In the 13th Century, the church prohibited eating what during Holy Week?
- 13. How many marzipan balls are traditionally on a simnel cake?
- 14. When were Cadbury Creme Eggs introduced in their current form?
- 15. Who wrote "Easter Parade"?



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The churches in this Benefice are committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within the church community and especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The Benefice Safeguarding Representative is Janet McCheyne who can be contacted on: 0775 283 6902 or janetmcc101@gmail.com

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on: 01245 294444 or safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org



FAMOUS PERSON IN APRIL

ISAMBARD KINGDOM BRUNEL (1806 - 1859)

Brunel was one of the most versatile and audacious engineers of the 19th century, responsible for the design of tunnels, bridges, railway lines and ships.

Isambard Kingdom Brunel was born on 9 April 1806 in Portsmouth. His father Mark was a French engineer who had fled France during the revolution. Brunel was educated both in England and in France.

When he returned to England he went to work for his father. Brunel's first notable achievement was the part he played with his father in planning the Thames Tunnel from Rotherhithe to Wapping, completed in 1843. In 1831, Brunel's designs won the competition for



the Clifton Suspension Bridge across the River Avon. Construction began the same year but it was not completed until 1864.

The work for which Brunel is probably best remembered is his construction of a network of tunnels, bridges and viaducts for the Great Western Railway. In 1833, he was appointed their chief engineer and work began on the line that linked London to Bristol. Impressive achievements during its construction included the viaducts at Hanwell and Chippenham, the Maidenhead Bridge, the Box Tunnel and Bristol Temple Meads Station. Brunel is noted for introducing the broad gauge in place of the standard gauge on this line. While working on the line from Swindon to Gloucester and South Wales he devised the combination of tubular, suspension and truss bridge to cross the Wye at Chepstow. This design was further improved in his famous bridge over the Tamar at Saltash near Plymouth.

As well as bridges, tunnels and railways, Brunel was responsible for the design of several famous ships. The 'Great Western', launched in 1837, was the first steamship to engage in transatlantic service. The 'Great Britain', launched in 1843, was the world's first iron-hulled, screw propeller-driven, steam-powered passenger liner. The 'Great Eastern', launched in 1859, was designed in cooperation with John Scott Russell, and was by far the biggest ship ever built up to that time, but was not commercially successful.

Brunel was also responsible for the redesign and construction of many of Britain's major docks, including Bristol, Monkwearmouth, Cardiff and Milford Haven.

Brunel died of a stroke on 15 September 1859.



Following St Mary's Church, Bulphan achieving a bronze Eco Church award we thought it would be helpful to share what Eco Church is and the criteria for achieving awards.

What is Eco Church?

Churches complete the unique online Eco Survey about how they are caring for God's earth in different areas of their life and work. The answers a church provides will collect points towards an Eco Church Award – the more our church does, the more points we get!

The survey takes us through five key areas of church life:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community and global engagement
- Lifestyle

There are three levels of Eco Church Award – Bronze, Silver and Gold. To qualify for an Award, we must attain the required standard in each of the areas covered by the Eco Survey that apply to our church.

Here is a sample of some of the survey questions to be answered, there are 91 questions in total!

Worship and teaching

- Are Special Sundays relating to caring for God celebrated in our church?
- Do our church's communications include items relating to the theme of caring for God's earth?

Management of church buildings

- Is our church responsible for the premises in which it meets?
- Outline how our church premises are insulated.
- What disposables (e.g. paper cups and plates etc.) are used on our church premises?
- Are rainwater collection facilities installed and used on our church premises?
- In terms of energy efficiency how is the main boiler in our church premises rated?

Management of church land

- Is the land at our church managed for the encouragement of native wildlife (birds, animals and plants)?
- Has our church researched and established a mowing regime appropriate to the conservation of the grassland and wildlife present?
- Do you grow fruit and vegetables on your land?

Community and global engagement

- Does our church (either alone or as part of a local network) engage with our local MP, AM, local council or Public Service Board on environmental matters?
- Have at least some of our church members (either alone or as part of a local network) organised and/or participated in a community clean-up project (e.g. local litter-pick):
- Is our church registered with the Fairtrade Foundation as a Fairtrade Church?

Lifestyle

- Does our church encourage members to limit their waste by adhering to the principles of reduce, re-use, recycle?
- Does our church operate a communal Christmas and/or Easter card scheme among the congregation?
- Are Practical lifestyle tips and advice on caring for God's earth included in our church newsletters/on our church website?

Eco Church is a great scheme, and it is helping us to focus our efforts to be good stewards of God's creation by providing a clear structure to do this.

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF BULPHAN





BULPHAN'S HERO

Sgt Fred Barker (264 Squadron), DFM + Bar, with his pilot Ted Thorn.

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at Upper Brook Field

Each month we will publish a few photographs from this extensive collection

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

Happenings from the Benefice as reported in April in the past

1827 Morning Advertiser Mon 16th

Bare knuckle boxing match on Bulphan Fen



miles from London. About 1000 spectators attended, and the battle took place on a regular 24-feet roped ring. The men entered the ring at five minutes past one o'clock. The gay little Sailor Boy was seconded by Peter Crawley and Jack Fogo; Simmonds was attended to by Davey Hudson and Gybletts. At starting the yokel seemed all fire and fury - he was in a great hurry to go to work; but Harry waited with caution to find out what sort of cove he had before Simmonds soon gave an him. opening, when Harry put in a left hander, which floored the clergyman, and produced first blood. After this the latter never showed anything like pluck; he was either hit down, or fell without a blow, in every round, with the exception of the sixth, when Jones gave him a complete cross-buttock (a grappling method to throw a boxing opponent onto the canvas, much used in bare-knuckle boxing) that shook the wind out of him. After fighting seventeen rounds, thirty-five minutes, Simmonds gave in, declaring to his seconds, that it was no use for him to contend against such a man as Jones - for he could not get at him! Thus has the gay little Sailor Boy met with another batch of good luck, in cutting up a commoner - and the bounce of the Essex flue-fackers ended in smoke!

According to another reference the magistrates intervened and the second bout took place on Hungerford Downs. Jack Fogo and Gybletts were figures in bare knuckle boxing in the period

1874 Illustrated London News Sat 25th

Increase church size

near Romford, Essex

1876 Essex Standard Weds 28th

Spelling bee

SPELLING BEE - A Spelling Bee was held in the Institute on Thursday se'nnight. The Rev T James presided, the Rev J.B. Dobree, Messrs G Biddell and Charles Seabrook were referees and the interrogator was the Rev B. McLeod. The number of competitors was 24, including seven females. The successful competitors were - Miss Under age boy employed Bourchier, of Grays, and daughter EMPLOYING A BOY UNDER AGE Grays and Miss Wood. anoforte.

1877 Essex Newsman Sat 14th

Painful incident

THE HILL CHURCH

For the last four months the Rev J. Pilkington, of London, has been church, owing to the continued indisposition of the Rev J. Windle scene occurred during the celebration of the service. Just as the reverend gentleman had completed deadly pale, staggered backwards gentleman went to his assistance and after the application of water the reverend gentleman appeared

to revive, and endeavoured to continue with his sacred ministrations, but while reading the first The Incorporated Society for Pro-lesson he was attacked by a sud-Harry Jones [pictured] and Bob moting the Enlargement, Building den weakness and fell. He was as-Simmonds, The and Repairing of Churches and sisted into the vestry and restora-Sweep. The fight Chapels held its monthly meeting tives supplied; but he was most these on Monday last at 7 Whitehall, anxious to pronounce the benedicmen, for £25 a SW. Grants of money were made tion before the congregation deside, took place in aid of several projects including parted. He made a third attempt, on Saturday, on Enlarging or otherwise increasing but was unable to pronounce the Bulphan Fen, Essex, about 22 the accommodation at Bulvan, words, and was again assisted back to the vestry, from whence he was conveyed in a carriage to Grays station, and thence, per rail, to his residence in town. During the rev. gentleman's ministrations in this parish he has endeared himself, by his zeal, courtesy and sympathy, to all classes and the above painful incident called forth an expression of sorrow and regret from all present.

> 1880 Chelmsford Chronicle Sat 23rd

of the Captain of the late Goliath Jesse Goughs of Bulphan, was training ship; Mr W.E. Wallis, of summoned for employing a child The under the age of ten years, on the spelling was interspersed by some 5th of April - James Watts, the atexcellent songs given by Mrs Cor- tendance officer, deposed to callbet and Mr Thos. Ridgwell. Miss ing at the Bulphan school, looking Fanny Sackett presided at the pi- over the register, from which he was informed that a boy Henry Cubby was absent and was informed he was at work the defendant at Bulphan Fen; he went to de-PAINFUL INCIDENT IN HORNDON On fendant's home and asked him whether the boy was employed by him; he admitted that he was and witness then told him that he conducting services in the parish ought not to employ him and that he (witness) would have to report to the School Attendance Commitand on Sunday last a painful tee, which he did on the 1st of April, and was informed by the committee that if he found the boy at work again defendant was to be sumthe Litany he was observed to turn moned; he subsequently saw the boy at work for defendant, and a and fall. Mr Squier and another summons was accordingly taken out. Fined 7s 6d with 10s 6d costs

1881 Essex Newsman Sat 30th

1881 Census

Orsett District - Appended are the returns for this district :-

Parish	Inhab houses	1881	1871	
Bulphan	54	284	334	
Horndon				
on the Hill	123	592	611	
Orsett	264	1496	1644	
Only parishes of the benefice cited				

1883 Chelmsford Chronicle Fri 20th

Night school supper

Bulvan - THE NIGHT SCHOOL The annual supper was given on Monday evening, the 16th inst, at the Rectory, to the men and boys who had attended the night school during the winter months. Five and twenty sat down to partake of the good things provided for them. When ample justice had been done to the meat and pudding, the company adjourned to the schoolroom, where a capital entertainment was given by Mr T Newton, a highly gifted ventriloquist, from London, entitled "Merry moments", introducing many most characters, rapidly amusing changing his voice, making various sounds, both animal and musical and singing songs, one of which, in impersonating Mr Sunshine (the talking hand) fairly brought down the house. whole was concluded by rendering the first verse of "Home Sweet Home" in ten distinct voices. Altogether it was most clever and original performance.

1905 Grays & Tilbury Gazette Sat 22nd

New infant school

THE NEW INFANTS SCHOOL AT ORSETT

The School Buildings and Supply Committee reported that letters had been received from the Secretary of the Orsett Charities and the Board of Education with reference to the proposal od the trustees of Anson's Educational Charity, that part of the funds of the Charity should be applied in providing an infants' school, to be carried on as part of the foundation. It was resolved that the proposals should be generally approved subject to the approval of the Advisory Committee and to reconsider when fur-

firmed.

1906 Chelmsford Chronicle Fri 6th

Fatal accident

SHOCKING FATAL ACCIDENT

At an inquest on George Gladwell, 62, a labourer, it was stated that the deceased was subject to fits and was found leaning on the fire- Jesse Collins place fearfully burned - The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

1907 Grays & Tilbury Gazette Sat 13th

Bulphan on the veldt

BULPHAN ON THE VELDT Captain Henderson, of Lord Kitchener's Fighting Scouts, who was visiting in the district a few days ago, journeyed in his direction of Bulphan and as he approached On Wednesday se'nnight, the lady the long stretch of narrow roadway leading across the Feb and viewed sex, of a son the village inn in the distance with the pond at the side he smiled and remarked "it will only require a Kaffir to be standing in the water and this would be a typical South African scene on the veldt. So much so that in future I proposed it be named Bulfontain."

1935 Essex Newsman Sat 27th

Hot cross bun The Bell

The thirty-first hot cross bun was hung on an oak beam which spans the bar at The Bell Inn, Horndon on the Hill, on Friday. The custom was started by the late licensee Mr A Turnell, when he took possession in 1904, and a bun has been added regularly ever since on the succeeding Good Fridays. Somebody says there will soon be an abun-dance in celebration.

> 1949 Chelmsford Chronicle Fri 22nd

Plowright diamond anniversary

Mrs and Mrs W.H. Plowright of Rectory Road, Orsett, received place Royal congratulations on their diamond wedding anniversary

FOR SALE

1809 Morning Advertiser Sat 25th

Oak Trees with Tops, Lops and Bark By Mr PRICKETT at the sign of the Bell, at Horndon on the Hill, in the county of Essex, on THURS-

ther details were supplied - Con- DAY the 4th day of May at Three in the Afternoon in Twelve Lots THREE Hundred and Ninety-three OAK TREES with their Tops, Lops and Bark, standing on two estates in the parishes of Laindon Hills and Horndon, in the said county, in the occupation or Mr Oliver Brand and the Executors of Mr

> 1901 Barking, E Ham & Ilford Advertiser Sat 20th

CART MARE and CART HORSE FOR SALE: good workers; 5 years old; suitable for London work -Mee, Bulvan, Romford

BIRTHS, DEATHS & MARRIAGE Births

1811 The Suffolk Chronicle Sat 13th

the village and cast his eye over of the Rev George Marriott at Orsett House in the county of Es-

> 1858 Essex Standard Weds 30th

April 25th at Horndon on the Hill the wife of the Rev John Windle, of a son

Marriage

1817 Public Ledger & Daily Advertiser Fri 25th

April 22nd the Rev T Wilkinson, Rector of Bulvan, Essex, to Mrs Mason or Doughty street

Death

1816 The Suffolk Chronicle Sat 13th

Sunday last, suddenly whilst at table, after an apparent recovery of some days, the lady of Rev T. Wilkinson, Rector of Bulvan, in the county

> 1832 Essex Standard Weds 7th

Lately, at Orsett aged 70, Mrs Wright relict of the late Mr John schoolmaster, of that Wright,

> 1849 Essex Standard Weds 6th

April 2nd at Horndon on the Hill, after a protracted illness, Sybella, the beloved wife of George Spitty, Esq, aged 50

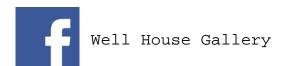


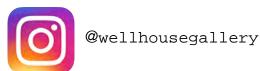
Well House Gallery

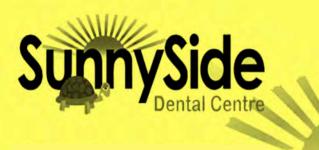
est. 2014

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PRONUNCIATION POEM

I take it you already know of tough and bough and cough and dough? Others may stumble, but not you, on hiccough, thorough, laugh and through. Well done! And now you wish perhaps to learn of less familiar traps?

Beware of heard, a dreadful word, that looks like beard and sounds like bird. And dead....it's said like bed not bead... and for goodness' sake don't call it deed! Watch out for meat and great and threat (they rhyme with suite and straight and debt).

A moth is not the moth in mother, nor both in bother, broth in brother. And here is not a match for there nor dear and fear for bear and pear. And then there's dose and rose and lose... just look them up...and goose and choose, and cork and work and card and ward, and font and front and word and sword, and do and go and thwart and cart... come come, I've hardly made a start.

A dreadful language? Man alive! I'd mastered it when I was five.



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