

FORDHAM TIMES

Thanks to John Kay for the masthead

No: 26 Sept 2021

FORDHAM VILLAGE HALL

TABLE TOP SALE

SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER

10.00 A.M.

stallholders £5.00 per table

Contact Lou Pfander

07532433390

FORDHAM VILLAGE HALL
PRESENTS



1940'S SOCIAL

Dancing to the recorded music of
Glenn Miller

SATURDAY SEPT. 25TH

DOORS OPEN 7.00P.M.

LIMITED TICKETS £5.00 EACH

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

BRING YOUR OWN

BEVERAGES & GLASS

SPOT PRIZES- PRIZE FOR BEST 40'S OUTFIT
RAFFLE

Book your ticket - wendyshepherd9@gmail.com

PLEASE COMPLETE THE PARISH COUNCIL RESIDENTS SURVEY

Pull out the
centre spread
and return to
the John
Owen Barn
survey
collection
point

We want
your
feedback!

Click the



QR Code



Complete online

www.Fordham-pc.gov.uk/online-survey

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Items for inclusion in the FT must be with the editor by the 9th of the month by email to: fordhamtimes2018@gmail.com



Chairman's Blog

On 29 June we held our first face to face meeting since February 2020, in the John Owen Barn and I would like to thank All Saints for allowing the Parish Council to use this facility. We were able to observe all the COVID best advice guidance and to maintain social distancing. It was also very useful to have the added benefit of Wi-Fi thus enabling the Councillors to use their electronic devices and not have to photocopy all the abundance of papers associated with our Meetings.

It was also great, thanks to Cllr Lou Pfander to secure a Parish Council table at the Village Summer Fete which due to such bad weather was held in the village hall. We produced a residents survey questionnaire and thanks to those that filled the same in. The purpose of the survey (ongoing) is for the Parish Council to gain a better understanding of local issues and to gather ideas as to how things might be improved. Some good suggestions have been proffered and the Parish Council will consider the same at our next meeting on 28th September 2021 in the John Owen Barn. It certainly is the desire of the Parish Council to be available and engage with the community at future village events.

Planning is well under way for our village Christmas Tree event which will take place on the Village Green on Sunday 5th December 2021, followed by a social in the Village Hall. Cllrs Dave Chapman and Christine Alexander are organising this evening and I think we will be in for a treat! I have no doubt that Dave and Christine will update us in due course as to the timings and event.

Likewise, Cllrs Dave Chapman and Lou Pfander are organising the village 'Queen's Platinum Celebrations' which will take place on the first weekend of June 2022. This is certainly going to be an exciting village event, enough said as I will leave the updates and pleas for help with Dave and Lou.

We are really pleased to see that the 'book swop' located inside the bus shelter has taken off and is proving to be a success and a good community facility. We would just like to politely remind those using the facility to please return the books to the shelves and not leave them on the two corner seats. Regarding bus shelter seating, monies have been secured from grants to build, supply and fit bench seating within the structure. To facilitate this, we need the services of a 'brickie' so if you know of one then please contact our Parish Clerk, Kathryn Cameron on, clerk@fordham-pc.gov.uk. The village memorial is in dire need of some substantial repairs/restoration due to weathering, and we have received some quotes for this work. However, due to the complexity of the works required the costs are substantial! We are therefore continuing our discussion with the War Memorials Trust both regarding material related to conservation and a conservation grant.

The work required to the foundations of the play park swings is proving very difficult in obtaining both estimates and contractors. Once again if you are a builder or if you know of any builders who might be interested then please get in touch with Kathryn Cameron on, clerk@fordham-pc.gov.uk.

The village Traffic calming group continues to progress, and I would like to thank those who are actively engaged on this important subject. They are David Haynes, Micky Cook, Les Beard, Cllr Nick Durlacher FPC, Cllr Lewis Barber ECC, Cllr Darius Laws CBC and our Parish Clerk Kathryn Cameron. Three applications have now been raised and forwarded to the Local Highways Panel. These applications are in respect of, 20mph advisory limits on six village roads, Quiet Lanes on three village roads and a

pedestrian crossing at/near the school. There is absolutely no guarantee that any of these applications will or will not be supported by the Panel but we have taken the first step in the process. The journey will be long and will require some scientific analysis/data recording but let's remain hopeful. I can assure you that everyone involved with the Traffic Calming Group is totally committed to making our village roads safer.

'If you can't fly run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk crawl – but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward'. Martin Luther King JR

Cllr George Branagh

George.B@fordham-pc.gov.uk

A large two-engine train was crossing America. After they had gone some distance one of the engines broke down. "No problem," the driver thought, and carried on at half power. Farther on down the line, the other engine broke down, and the train came to a standstill.

The driver decided he should inform the passengers about why the train had stopped, and made the following announcement: "Ladies and Gentlemen, I have some good news and some bad news. The bad news is that both engines have failed, and we will be stuck here for some time. The good news is that you decided to take the train and not fly."

Fordham Village Hall



We are slowly building up a list of events & groups at the village hall as restrictions are easing.

7th August - Summer fayre
14th August - Coloured Pencil Group
25th August - Housing Development Consultation
26th August - Coloured Pencil Group
4th September - Art Exhibition
5th September - Art Exhibition
11th September - Coloured Pencil Group
21st September - History Society
23rd September - Coloured Pencil Group
FUTURE EVENTS
1940'S DANCE - 25th September
TABLE TOP SALE- 16th October
CHRISTMAS FAYRE - 27th November
CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON - 5th December

Contact wendyshepherd9@gmail.com 01206 617020
www.fordhamvillagehall.co.uk

A picture a day brightens your stay indoors

Many thanks to my friends and family who supported my art exhibition. We raised £85 for the Downs Association and Essex Care Consortium Birch from donations from the refreshments. Thank you for buying my cards, I am now busy working on designs for Christmas cards which will be on sale at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 27th November in the village hall.

Louise Hawkins.

Post script. On the 4th and 5th September an art exhibition was put on by a young woman with Down's Syndrome. It was a unique colourful event for the village, advertised locally on the surrounding village Facebook pages, Fordham Times and in the local paper; yet only 25 people from the village turned out. Thank you to those 25 who we know as friends and neighbours. Fortunately other friends and family from outside the village made up the majority of our visitors; they had travelled from Weeley, Chelmsford, Black Notley, Cambridgeshire, Sudbury, Ipswich and Kent. Thank you.

Fordham Allotments Association

This time last year it was commented on how, to a lack of rainfall, the self set Sunflowers on the Allotments were just 4 to 6 feet tall rather than the more usual 6 foot average. With the wetter and often overcast conditions this summer the Sunflowers, as you can see in the picture, are considerably taller. Some of those pictured are an impressive 10 feet tall and have provided a colourful display throughout the summer. **Dave Bodle**

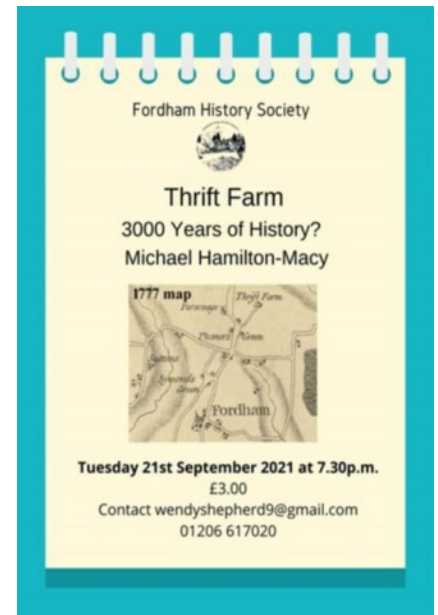




Fordham History Society

The History Society met up for the first time since March 2020 and although a smaller audience than expected; it was very good to see a few familiar faces. The talk of Fordham and Land Army was well received and we can now look forward to the September meeting when Michael Hamilton-Macy will be telling us all about the history behind the disappearance of Thrift Farm which was situated behind the chapel at the top of Plummers Road.

I received an encouraging phone call from one of our speakers John Thurman who missed out during the lockdowns. I met John Thurman when I did a talk at Monks Eleigh on the Suffragette Movement. While I was talking, John was busy making a silhouette portrait of yours truly. I asked him if he could come along and do a presentation and he agreed. So John will be coming to share his knowledge on silhouettes and do a practical demonstration too.



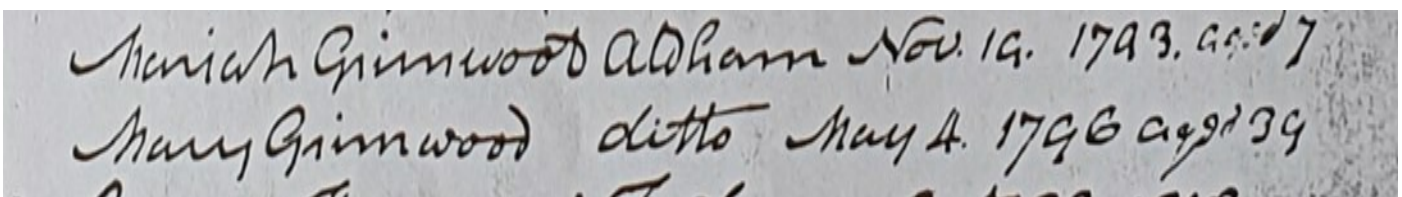
John is also a volunteer at the Dad's Army Museum in Thetford, and go there regularly with my 'Frazer' display. One of the episodes in Dad's Army featured Private Frazer doing a Silhouette stall at their church bazaar, so that is what John does to entertain the visitors. John will be with us on Tuesday 19th October at 7.30 p.m.



Thanks to the Moroney family who live at the Chapel in Plummers Road, I have been able to photograph all the copies of baptisms, marriages and burial records for our archive. The records are a fascinating insight into those rites of passage for worshippers at the chapel.

The earliest baptism record is that of John Birkin son of William and Ann Birkin who was born 24th October 1784 and baptised 25th November 1790.

The earliest burial record appears to be 1793. The records are a bit haphazard with just a list of names, but by 1800 there appears to be a better approach to the recording of burials. Mariah Grimwood of Aldham seems to be the earliest record 19th November 1793 age 7.



Unless I am overlooking them, there seems to be very few marriages, but I did find a marriage for one of our Land Army girls Maisie Wright who married Norman Pettican in 1955.

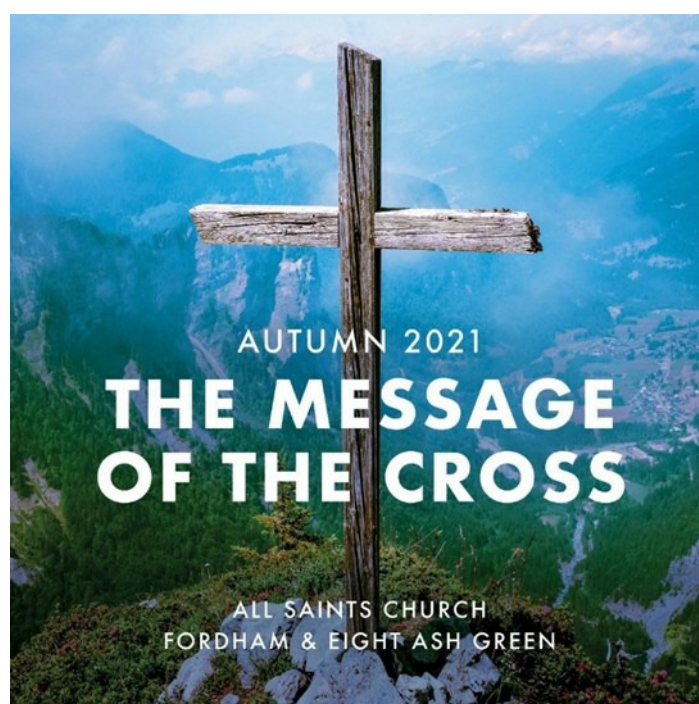
www.fordhamhistorysociety.co.uk If you would like to be included in our mailing list, please email me on **wendyshepherd9@gmail.com**

All Saints Church, serving Fordham & Eight Ash Green

A message from Rev'd Francis Blight

Life at All Saints Church is returning to normal with regular groups and activities restarting this autumn.

The **All Saints Club for 4 - 16 year olds** is now running on Sunday mornings at 10.00am. Children start with their parents in the main worship service and then leave for their groups in the John Owen Barn. The **421 Youth Group** for 11-18 year olds is now in the Barn each Friday from 7.30 - 9.00pm with games, craft tuckshop and teaching from Luke's Gospel. Parents will need to complete an All Saints Club/421 registration form for their children. The **Friendship Group** returns to its monthly Thursday afternoon session and mid-week **Growth Groups** for Bible discussion, prayer and friendship are running. If there is something that you would like to get involved with, please give the church office a call. The **Community Hub** is open at the John Owen Barn each Friday with the **Post Office** from 11.45 – 13.45 and extended hours for the greengrocers and refill den from 11.45 - 16.00. This year's **Harvest Sunday** All Age Service will be on 10th October at 10.00am.



Our main focus this autumn is on **The Message of the Cross**. The cross is the international symbol of the Christian religion, but what is its meaning and why is Jesus' death on the cross so important? Join us on Sundays over the coming weeks to explore this life changing topic. I particularly encourage you to come on Sunday 3rd October when Aella Gage will be speaking on *The Love of God*. You can access our library of Sunday services and sermons through our YouTube channel. Just search in YouTube for All Saints Church Fordham & Eight Ash Green. I hope that you are keeping well and look forward to connecting with you soon.

Rev'd Francis Blight

francis.blight@fordhamchurch.org.uk 01206 243266

The Church office is open for telephone and email enquires

Tuesday to Friday 10.00am – 2.00pm.

office@fordhamchurch.org.uk

01206 243261

www.fordhamchurch.org.uk

All Saints
Fordham & Eight Ash Green
Colchester

Protect your dog from being stolen

Our dogs are members of our families and when a dog is stolen it is very distressing for both owner and pet. To try to reduce the risk of this happening follow the guidance and keep your dog safe.



Protect your dog against theft

Ensure rear garden gates are locked at top and bottom with a shoot bolt and padlock. Consider fitting a bell or gate alarm as well. Do the same to any outside kennels.

Make sure the garden boundary (fence, hedge etc) is secure so that no one can gain entry or pull your dog out or your dog cannot get out on its own, check your garden on a regular basis.

Consider driveway alarms to alert you of visitors or use monitored CCTV/Alarm systems to areas around any outside kennels. These will alert you if anyone is close by.

See the home security pages on the Essex Police website www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/ for further advice.

Avoid leaving dogs in the garden or outside kennels if you are not home, and keep your dog in view whilst in the garden, don't leave him outside unsupervised.

Never leave your dog secured alone, outside a shop. This makes them vulnerable and a tempting target for opportunist thieves.

Avoid leaving dogs in cars alone and NEVER leave a dog in a car on a warm/hot day.

Your dog should be microchipped and registered with current information. Use a collar and dog tag displaying contact details (don't put your dog's name on the tag use your surname).

Take plenty of good, clear photographs of your pet so that it can be easily identified. Take photographs of your dog from various angles and update them regularly (i.e. with groomed coats and when not recently groomed). Make a note of any distinguishing features. Also take lots of photographs of yourself with your dog, to help you to prove ownership if needed.

Train your dog to come back when called and never let them off the lead if you are not sure they will come back to you. If in doubt, use an extending lead, especially if you are in an unfamiliar area where your dog may get easily lost.

Be aware of and report all suspicious vehicles or people to 101 or report online to the police. Ask your neighbours to do the same. There have been a few reports of dogs being called and dog owners being distracted by someone, whilst the thieves try to take the dogs.

Fake RSPCA Inspector? In the press there have been reports of fake RSPCA staff seizing dogs. RSPCA staff have no powers of entry or seizure to do so they must be accompanied by a police officer. See: www.rspca.org.uk/-/news-advice-to-the-public-after-people-impersonate-rspca-staff

Don't buy any dogs from social media sites or any person where appropriate documentation (ownership etc, pedigree papers etc) cannot be provided. This increases the demand for stolen pets. Report all suspicious dog sales to the police on 101 or Trading Standards.

Don't give details of your pets, your location or your walking locations out on your social media platforms.

Take care when choosing someone to care for your dog if you are going away from home or need a dog walker whilst you go to work. Use a reputable company or boarding kennels and check references for people who provide dog or house-sitting services.

If you breed puppies for sale, take details of anyone you are inviting in to view before they arrive, perhaps have a video chat? Try to have two people present from your home whilst viewing takes place and limit the numbers of people you allow in at a time. Show the puppies in one secure area, limit access to other areas of your house or property.

Losing a pet due to theft or other reasons is a traumatic event.

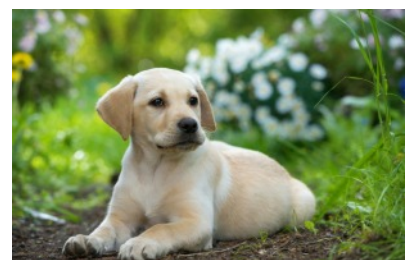
Blue Cross operates the national Pet Bereavement Support Service which can be contacted on 0800 096 6606 (8.30am – 8.30pm)

or by email: pbssmail@bluecross.org.uk

Consider joining Dog Watch run by Essex Police via email stating your home district: - essex.watch.liaison.officers@essex.police.uk

Or see: -

<https://www.essex.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/wsi/watch-schemes-initiatives/>



Gardening Tip

Many of you who have tried growing tomatoes this year will have been disappointed as tomato blight swept through the village early in July due to the warm but damp conditions. Blight is caused by fungal spores that are airborne and so spread quickly. Outdoor tomatoes are at high risk of infection if the weather is suitable. The disease is less of a problem under glass as the spores must find their way into the glasshouse through doors and vents. If, however, blight establishes in a glasshouse the high humidity inside usually



leads to very rapid development of symptoms. This happens every few years but not normally as early as this year. Tomato blight causes brown stains on the stems then fruit going brown and rotting and finally leaves on the plant dying. Once a plant is infected there is little that can be done other than quickly removing and disposing of infected material by deeply burying (below the depth of cultivation) alternatively put into council green waste collection bags or burned. Infected material should not be composted as this simply risks spreading the infection into future crops.

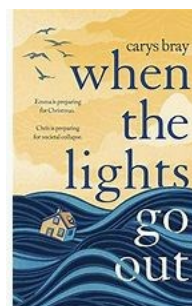
In the past Bordeaux solution, based on copper sulphate was used as a preventative however several years ago due to regulation changes all copper-based blight preventatives were removed from the market. Interestingly there does remain available one product that is now marketed to address mineral deficiencies rather than blight prevention. From internet research of online gardening forums, it seems the product has exactly the same chemical composition as previously. It is applied in the same way as a spray on the leaves. So, if you want to protect your tomatoes against trace element deficiencies and perhaps at the same time prevent tomato blight 'Vitax Copper Mixture' may be the product you need. Incidentally, changing the marketing of products after regulations altered is not that unusual. Perhaps the best-known example is Jeyes Fluid which remains on the market as a disinfectant but is no longer permitted to be used for pesticidal purposes.

If you have any gardening questions, please feel free to email me at bodle242@hotmail.co.uk and I will try to answer your question.

Dave Bodle

Fordham Ladies Book Club

Although I have not written anything for the Fordham Times since the January issue, this does not mean we have not been reading and meeting. While the library remained closed members names were drawn at random to choose a book for other members to read. January's book was chosen by Linda Fisher and was **At the Edge of the Orchard** by Tracey Chevalier. Although the story was a little slow to get going it was liked by members February's book was chosen by Margaret Sones and was **When I was you** by Minka Kent. A bit of a psychological thriller set in America. How an heiress with memory loss is being robbed by her lodger. Good beach read. March's book was chosen by Mel Birch and was **The Giver of Stars** by Jo Jo Moyes. This was an excellent book and for many the first they had read by this author. Highly recommended In April the library re-opened and the **The Bee Keeper of Aleppo** by Christy Lefteri was read and while this did not appeal to everyone most members read it. In May we read **The Lie by Hilary Boyd** a run of the mill story in which how one lie affects the lives of so many people. By June we had still not met as a group and our book was **The Familiars** by Stacey Halls. A member thought it was an interesting read with a few character inconsistencies. While another member thought it was a bit implausible with a lot of charging around on horseback especially when the heroine was ready to give birth!!!. Our July meeting day was sunny and warm and we did meet at the Three Horseshoes in the garden to discuss our book which was **The Family Upstairs** by Lisa Jewell this was an easy reading page turner which was enjoyed by all members. Some are now waiting for the sequel. Last month's book was **Such a Fun Age** by Kiley Reid, a very different book to what we have read in the past. The book is set in America and is set in current time. The story is of a black babysitter who is apprehended at a Supermarket for kidnapping the white child she is actually babysitting. We felt that the book was aimed at a younger audience as a lot of the language was modern and it isn't until at least halfway through the book that the story does start to come together. Perhaps we do not appreciate the differences between black and white people in America but it does start to be brought home by this book **When the lights go out** by Carys Bray is the book chosen for our September read. It was published in 2020. Members have read a lots of books during the Covid crisis as all of us have large "to be read" piles and not going out has given us time to do this.



"FT On Tour"

The pic on the left shows Sharon and Bradley Dines in front of 'The Jacobite' train, otherwise known as 'The Hogwarts Express', at Fort William station. The one on the right has them at Penguin Rock at Edinburgh Zoo, where there have been penguins since 1914.



All Saints Fordham & Eight Ash Green Church

Community Hub News

Our hub continues to be busy with the village folk continuing to support Karen our resident greengrocer, Allie and Charlotte from The Refill Den and the Post Office. It is really great to meet so many of you and just to have a chat. From 10th September the hub opening hours will be 11:45—16:00 and the Post Office 11:45—13:45. This will allow those of you who need to collect children from school to visit the hub and to enable more people to visit later in the day. We look forward to meeting more of you and do keep visiting our church website for upcoming events and any changes.



As part of the community hub there is a walking group which runs once monthly starting at 10am leaving from the John Owen Barn. All future dates are available on the church website. Should you wish to join us for some exercise, a chat and a bit of fun please contact Jacqui Griffiths on 07717472796 or email Jacqui.griffiths@fordhamchurch.org.uk

All information and any updates on the community hub can be found on the church website at www.fordhamchurch.org.uk and also the Fordham village Facebook page.