### LITTLE CORNARD MAGAZINE



Christmas 2024



#### **SERVICES** at ALL SAINTS

Currently services are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 10.30 a.m.

Sunday 8th December Holy Communion at 10.30 am Sunday 22nd December Carol Service at 6.30 pm Wednesday 25th December Family Service at 10.30 am followed by Holy Communion Sunday 29th December Holy Communion at 10.30 am Sunday 12th January Plough Sunday Service at 10.30 am Sunday 26th January Holy Communion at 10.30 am

Updates will be posted on the church notice board and on the website www.littlecornardchurch.org.uk

#### **From All Saints Registers**

**Burial** Stephanie Ann Atkinson

Cover photo taken in All Saints churchyard February 2024

#### Vicar's Letter Christmas 2024

'All is calm, all is bright...' I wonder whether these famous words seem out of touch with our experience of Christmas these days. To me, December can seem everything but calm. We seem to cram in more and more each year. Much of it is fun, of course... parties, present buying, joyful services for schools and churches, and the rest. Add the pressure to create the 'perfect Christmas' and Advent can feel like a runaway train, which runs out of steam and collapses on Boxing Day. 'All is calm' - really?



Do you know the interesting story of the creation of one of our most loved Christmas carols, Silent Night? In Austria, on Christmas Eve 1818, an inexperienced priest named Joseph Mohr made a devastating discovery. The church organ had been ruined by rodents, with the popular evening carol service only hours away. I doubt I would have been calm and held much bright hope in this situation. But Joseph recalled a poem he had written a few years earlier called 'Stille Nacht'. He called upon a musical local friend, Franz Gruber to set his poem to music. Then together, the two friends led the choir in singing the first performance of Silent Night. Congregations have enjoyed the simple carol's ability to create peaceful calm ever

If Jospeh Mohr had instead run around trying to find an organ builder available at a few hours' notice on Christmas Eve, 'all is calm, all is bright' would have remained just words in an Austrian priest's notebook. What gave him the wherewithal to calmly rely on the simplicity of his poem and a friend? Perhaps it was a relationship with the one 'so tender and mild' who is the subject of his poem. Those who have Jesus as their master, know these words of his to be true: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest... for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

May you know heavenly peace this Christmas, and hope for a bright New Year.

منافعة في أنام الم

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright. Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child. Holy infant so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight. Glories stream from heaven afar Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia, Christ the Saviour is born! Christ the Saviour is born

Silent night, holy night! Son of God love's pure light. Radiant beams from Thy holy face With dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus Lord, at Thy birth Jesus Lord, at Thy birth



Daniel

#### **Church Warden's Notes**

With the death of Alan Barrett Little Cornard has lost another of its great characters. Alan was a local lad and had an immense interest in everything to do with local life and history. He and Sally were great supporters of the church, but what he will be remembered for most was his endless sense of fun. There was something of the cheeky schoolboy that had never quite left him, and he will always be remembered with a smile on his face. We all miss him. There will be a tribute to Alan in the next magazine.

In August we had the funeral for Stephanie Atkinson. The service was conducted by the Rev Tricia Box and the church was full.

The good news is that the repairs to the tower are now completed. It was done on time and on budget which reflects very well on our treasurer Paul Baker. A lot of people have been involved in this, especially now that we are progressing well with our engagement projects. Amongst other things this will include the digitising of Church and War Memorial records; the mapping and recording of the churchyard and improving links with schools. We are very thankful to Nia Macintosh, our heritage consultant, for getting all of this moving.

Services continue to be well attended, and a thank you to everyone who chose hymns for the Songs of Praise service.

The First Tuesdays continue to be popular, with over twenty people coming in for coffee and lunch.

The candlelit carol service is on Sunday 22nd of December at 6.30 pm followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

The Christmas Day service is at 10:30 am, followed by a short, spoken Communion for those who wish to stay.

On the 12th of December there is the recitation of A Christmas Carol by Anthony Roberts using the same script that Dickens used when he did his famous stage presentations. Tickets as advertised.

Jeremy Apter

#### First Tuesday Open Church and Cafe

Open Church is a monthly event in the schoolroom with the church open between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm. Refreshments served all day and lunch served at 1.00 pm. Everyone invited.

Dates for Winter and Spring are December 3rd, February 4th, March 4th and April 1st.

Brenda Pentney

#### One hundred years ago...

What is now a largely forgotten event, The British Empire Exhibition, was officially opened by King George V on St George's Day, 23rd April 1924, with the opening ceremony broadcast by BBC Radio, the first such broadcast by a British monarch. The recording of the speech is held by the British Library and is the earliest surviving recording of any radio broadcast. The King also sent a telegram that travelled around the world in one minute and twenty seconds before being given back to him by a messenger boy. Staged at Wembley and in the planning since 1919, it was hoped that the Exhibition would strengthen bonds within the Empire, stimulate trade and demonstrate British greatness both at home and abroad at a time when the public was believed to be increasingly uninterested in Empire.

Of the fifty-eight territories which composed the British Empire at the time, fifty-six took part with displays and pavilions. Only The Gambia and Gibraltar were absent.

Many elaborate exhibition halls, "palaces of industry and of engineering" and "pavilions", were constructed. What later became Wembley Stadium was also built as a part of the project.

Each colony and dominion was assigned its own distinctive pavilion to reflect local culture and architecture.

Exhibition Station, Wembley, was built on a spur to connect it with Marylebone and a bus station, certainly the first in Britain and probably the world, was constructed to handle 100,000 passengers a day.

Although the Exhibition was popular, attracting twenty-five million visitors before it finally closed in October 1925, it was a financial disaster and was not without controversy. In particular, the practice of bringing groups of living people from their home countries to participate in demonstrating crafts, industries and cultural activities was now felt to be out-dated and patronising. West Indian students complained that advances that had been made in their home country were not reflected in the display and anti-colonialism demonstrations were held in London.

Other attractions the Exhibition had to offer included Queen Mary's dolls house, a sixteen foot high ball of wool, a working replica of a coal mine which transported visitors underground, a life size butter sculpture of the Prince of Wales with his horse, a working model of Niagara Falls, demonstrations of sheep shearing, an ostrich farm in the South African pavilion and a fun fair which included a water ride called The Chute, with a fan hidden in the floor that blew air up women's dresses. There were also regular pageants and parades which included horses, donkeys, elephants, llamas, camels, monkeys and bears. A fight between two elderly elephants in a nearby lake was widely reported in the press.

Information obtained from The National Archive and BBC.co.uk



Jan 26th Feb 23rd Mar 29th Apr 26th May 31st Jun 28th Jul 26th Aug 30th Sep 27th Oct 25th Nov 29th Dec 20th (third Friday)



FARMERS MARKET

**PROUDLY SPONSORED BY** 

2024



9.30AM - 2PM

MARKET HILL

SUDBURY

CO10 2EH



#### **Christmas Carol and Song Quiz**

The initials are either the title or opening lines of Christmas Carols or Songs. (For example: OIRDC = Once in Royal David's City)

See how many you can get.

1.	OCAYF	2.	DDMOH	3.	LISLIS	4.	DTHWBOH
5.	SBRAYL	6.	ISMKSC	7.	HTHAS	8.	OCTOCT
9.	DTKIC	10.	ITBM	11.	FTS	12.	TLDB
13.	HYAMLC	14.	DYHWIH	15.	IBTLALLC	16.	JBR
17.	TTDOC	18.	CROAOF	19.	LJSSDNS	20.	AWGMOO

#### **Storehouse Foodbank**

The Storehouse Foodbank is a compassion ministry affiliated to the Stour Valley Vineyard Church. The aim of the teams of volunteers is to help local families and individuals in crisis. There are donation points at Sudbury branches of Waitrose, Sainsbury's and Tesco and at East of England Co-op shops in Great Cornard, Lavenham and Long Melford. Dry stores foods only please as they do not have refrigeration facilities. More information, including if you would like to volunteer your help, and a list of the most needed items can be found at

https://stourvalleyvineyard.org/storehouse



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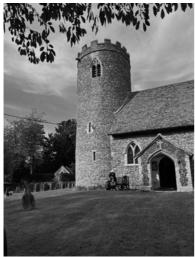
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#### Our 2024 bike ride for Suffolk Historic Churches Trust



St Gregory and St George's church, Pentlow



Grade 1 listed Borley church, noted for its churchyard topiary

We had a glorious day on Saturday 14th September, with blue skies, mild temperatures, no wind and no rain! In other words no excuses!

Oliver and I took a different route this year starting off with Bures and then battled our way south of the River Stour to Sudbury. South of the river is not flat!

Up hill and down dale we pedalled, to Alphamstone, Twinstead and Great Henny which are lovely churches and all so different but mainly at the tops of hills!

A welcome coffee and cake were provided on the way [I think courtesy of Twinstead] where we were delighted to meet up with Robin and Katherine King also on bikes!

We reached Sudbury by about midday, clocking up a good number of churches there and a lot of traffic.

Lunch was had halfway along the old Railway line, which was lovely easy cycling, ending up at Borley.

The muscles were beginning to object by now and so we eased up with a trip to Cavendish via Foxearth and Pentlow and back to Long Melford finishing up at the Waldingfields where we partook of some much needed liquid refreshment at the Swan Pub.

A successful day, twenty-eight churches, a financial total of around £1600, and some very sore muscles!

Grateful thanks to all our sponsors.

Susan Sills

#### **Little Cornard Neighbourhood Watch**

Little Cornard Neighbourhood Watch continues to grow its membership. We now have eighty two members. If you would like to join, please contact Mark Smith. mjsmith500@outlook.com

We finally got permission from Suffolk Highways for our Neighbourhood Watch signs and these have now been put up. We have regular contact with the Community Police Officers in Sudbury under Sergeant Williams. PC Mckenna joined the team on the 18th of November covering Little Cornard.

Little Cornard and the surrounding villages has seen a spate of burglaries committed recently. Here is some useful advice on helping to keep burglars out by giving them no hiding place and, secondly, on how to prevent a distraction burglary.

- Lower fences at the front around one-metre high are preferable to high fences as they allow for a clear view over the top and don't provide cover for anyone wishing to hide.
- At the rear and sides, taller fencing is recommended to prevent easy access.
- Trellis, thorny plants, or a suitable anti-climb topping such as plastic spikes make it difficult for anyone climbing over a fence or gate.
- Planting prickly or barbed shrubbery along boundaries and fence lines acts as an effective natural barrier.
- Gravel driveways and paths will make sure you hear anyone approach.

#### Common methods used by distraction burglars

- pretending to be from a care agency, the council or a utility company investigating a gas or water leak
- seeking help to leave a note for a neighbour or even asking for a drink of water if they claim to be thirsty or unwell
- claiming to be in a hurry or emergency and needing to get into your home quickly
- working in teams, with one person distracting you while the other searches your home

We must remain vigilant and support each other. If you see anything suspicious call 999.

#### Mark Smith

Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinator for W16 Policing Area

#### **Harvest Fair Flower Decorations**

A big thank you to everyone who helped with decorating the church with flowers for Harvest weekend. It looked amazing; such a lovely display and many compliments were expressed, well done to you all. We hope you will be willing to help us decorate the church for Christmas, details as below.

#### Christmas Decorating on Friday 20th for the Carol Service

We will be setting up the flowers for the Carol Service on Friday 20th December from 9.30am. Please join us once more, we will look forward to meeting you all again. Many thanks. *Glyn Donnelly and Marian Turner* 

#### **Wise Words**

Work while you have the light. You are responsible for the talent that has been entrusted to you. Henri-Frederic Amiel 1821-1881

#### **USEFUL CONTACTS & EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Police, Fire, Ambulance - En Police - Non emergency site NHS Direct Police - Minicom users with Sudbury Police Station, Acton La	uation	
Highways – report potholes https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/road Other enquiries, 8.30 a.m6.00 p 9.00 a.m1.00p. Highways – out of hours	ls-and-transport/ .m. Monday to Friday	ects etc. 0845 606 6171 01473 433444
Anglian Water www.anglianwater.co.uk Mains water leaks Water supply + public sewerage Electricity power problems	emergencies	0800 771881 08457 145145 105 / 0800 3163105
<b>Little Cornard Parish Cound</b> https://e-voice.org.uk/littlecorna Little Cornard Village Hall - All Saints Church Wardens -		07545 543729 markirwin777@gmail.com 07813 717659 01787 227615

#### **Cornard Environment and Wildlife Group**

#### **Owl Observations**

Two young tawny owls were spotted in some trees in Great Cornard this summer. Their presence is a good sign – there is food and shelter in our area. One local resident observed them as they grew.



'I first saw the adult tawny owl with its chick, in June and I was able to get a photo of them. Then I realised that there may be 2 chicks, as their calls were quite different in strength and pitch. I watched the adult bringing in prey, perhaps a mouse – it was the loudest chick that got it! How that chick swallowed it I don't know, and it was screaming for more within 30 seconds! I was very lucky to see one of the adults dive down into the long grass nearby and catch something.

Initially the chicks stayed in one tree, but as they grew, and their feathers developed, they flew between trees, becoming stronger. On the 21st of June, the adults were very agitated and calling very loudly. Perhaps they wanted to move the chicks to a different feeding area. I saw them a few times more during July and August.'

We will continue to hear the calls of owls during the winter. Established pairs will be protecting their territory, while the young seek to find one, which often involves conflict - sometimes between adult owls and their own young!

Tawny owls make the classic too-wit too-woo call, while barn owls a loud screeching sound, which has led to them sometimes being called screech owls.

#### Wildlife on your Doorstep

The second Cornard Environment and Wildlife Group Information evening – Wildlife on your Doorstep – was well attended. Many children enjoyed the crafts and took home conker spiders and dragonflies.

It was a great opportunity for chatting with the Sudbury Common Lands Charity rangers, who manage our wonderful Cornard Country Park and Shawlands Wood and hearing about the creation of new wildlife habitats on Shalford Meadows.

There were fungi on display, information on birds and pondlife, and, using a powerful microscope linked to a large tv screen, we were able to see and learn

about the many tiny creatures moving around in a single drop of pond water.

Understanding nature brings in to focus how dependent we all are on the health of our environment.

#### **New Homes for Swifts – Information Evening**

One of our ongoing projects is to encourage more swifts to nest in Cornard.

On Tuesday Nov. 26th at 7.00pm, we are holding a swift information evening in St. Andrews Church. There will be a talk about these amazing birds, an opportunity to order swift boxes, find out where is best to site them, and how to attract swifts to them. All interested residents are welcome.

Sarah Davies

#### Flower and church cleaning rota

Our sincere thanks to everyone for all your help during this year. Glyn and I will be doing the rota for 2025 after Christmas. If there are any special requests for particular dates, please let us know. New volunteers would be warmly welcomed, please get in touch.

Contacts: Glyn Donnelly 01787 312580 or Marian Turner 01787 377889

#### Little Cornard Village Hall

Available for hire: The cost of hiring the hall:

#### Weekdays

Summer rate (1 April - 30 September) £20 per session (3 hours) for local residents, £25 per session (3 hours) for non - residents.

Winter rate (1 October - 31 March) £25 per session (3 hours) for local residents and £30 per session (3 hours) for non residents.

Additional hours £8 per hour.

#### Saturday / Sunday

As above for hours up until 5.00pm

After 5.00pm until 11.30pm £60

#### All lettings are at the discretion of the committee.

Please contact the Bookings Secretary if interested.

Mark Irwin Tel: 07545 543729 or email markirwin777@gmail.com

#### **Karen Goes to Church**

I've helped at church events for a number of years (time flies) working as Robin to Clive Johnson's Batman, serving hot dogs and burgers. It's a great way to meet people in our area – both Great and Little Cornard. Before that, my attendance on church premises was limited to "hatched, matched and dispatched". I like to think I have a moral compass and know some of this was born out of Mr Chatters, Head at Great Waldingfield Primary, banging on a copy of the Good News Bible each Monday and trying to link it to why a lad scratching his name on the toilet wall was contrary to one of the Ten Commandments. I did like belting out songs in assembly – hymns or otherwise – and was even given the role of Mary once in the school play. It went badly as Joseph's off stage real life future wife and I had a spat in the playground. She was not too pleased as she had wanted to be Mary while I would rather have been a shepherd.

Notwithstanding all that I was really touched when Jeremy Apter asked if I would pick a hymn for the Songs of Praise service at the church as, except for funerals, I've only been to a service there once since I have lived here. I knew that All Things Bright and Beautiful, All Creatures Great and Small would have been taken, a couple of other hymns I thought of were not close to my heart – I just remembered them. I was, however, drawn to a song I have had in my life since the '80s, a Candi Staton song – covered by Florence and the Machine – "You've got the Love" which is a Gospel song about Candi's own faith.

Jeremy agreed to my suggestion, and it was played in the church with words provided on a song sheet for anyone who wanted to sing along, some did! I was so pleased that our church has such inclusivity to accommodate someone's own version of "hymn" and do so gracefully. It was a really touching service where people spoke very candidly about their link to the hymn they had chosen – I got to know the real people we share our village church with via some very poignant stories, mostly about those they loved that were no longer there, some about the long partnership they had with a late spouse and how they shared life. A few tears were shed I can tell you! All in all, it was a lovely service participated in from the heart, more about the congregation than anything but a church is the people, isn't it? My thanks to Jeremy for the invitation.

Karen Gilbert

#### In Need of a Cold and Flu Remedy?

Preserved in the records of the Chancery, the formal writing house of the King, researchers discovered a recipe dating from the C15th for a remedy for 'stoppying' (congestion) in the head and the nose. This requires the ill person to heat stale ale, mustard seeds and ground nutmeg in a small glass over boiling water, then place cloths over their head and inhale the vapours.

This recipe gives us an insight into medieval trading routes and the perhaps surprising global links of C15th London. All of the nutmeg in the medieval world was grown in the tiny Banda Islands in what is now Indonesia, more than eight thousand miles away from England. That nutmeg was then traded across the medieval world, often by Venetian merchants. This humble remedy, preserved on a torn piece of paper, shows us how connected the medieval world really was.

From The National Archives, Kew, Richmond TW9 4DU https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

#### Ride & Stride 2024

This year the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride did not coincide with our Harvest Fair as it usually does, as the second Saturday in September (14th) was not the same weekend as the second Sunday, which traditionally sets the date of the Fair. Nevertheless, the nine riders who made it to the church were offered a warm welcome as well as drinks and snacks. The weather was perfect for cycling or walking and Dr Susan Sills and her son Oliver, who have supported the event for a number of years, managed to visit 28 churches, raising the incredible sum of  $\pounds 1,800$  - half of which will be given back to the church. The PCC would like to record their thanks to them all for this generous contribution to All Saints and other historic churches in Suffolk.

Clare Lodge

#### **Rudolph the Blue Eyed Reindeer**

Reindeer use a special form of night vision to detect food sources. The surface of a reindeer's eye changes from golden-orange in summer to a rich blue hue in the winter months. This is due to a dilated pupil that allows reindeer in the Arctic Circle to bring in more light in winter darkness. The reflective layer of the eye bounces light back through the eye, and the reflective quality of the tapetum changes as the collagen fibres pack tightly against each other. Reindeer see well into the shorter ultraviolet (UV) range, which causes snow blindness in humans. They are the only animals known to have this special adaptation.

#### The Repair Works to All Saints Church, Little Cornard in 2024

You may have seen the scaffold and repair works to the church tower in progress over past months. This was work planned a considerable time ago and has been completed with the help of a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Lead that was on the tower spire and cupola was installed in 1805/1806 with the completion of the work dated 28th February 1806. Details imprinted on the lead included I. Newman, the vicars name and N. Sparrow and W. Mumford the church warden's names of the time. The covering had been leaking gently for a few years but only came through into the bell chamber in recent times – hence the required repair.

Work commenced using the church Diocese Architect David Whymark and roofing contractors Bayes Roofing.

A few interesting notes on the survey and opening up work found; -

- a bullet hole in the weathervane thought to have been the result of practise shooting by the Home Guard to make the weathervane spin.
- Graffiti included work by, among others, a young John Wellman of this village dated 1949. He emigrated to Canada and is now in his nineties.
- H. A. Evans in 1883, J. Rogers and S. Bawdry are others, along with the clog imprint of, I suspect, one of the original workers.
- A later vandal had also inscribed his name in the lead one J. Apter!
- The name of possibly the original builders (Jones & Sons or Johnsons?) dated 1803 was found chalked onto the tower under boarding.
- Several small pieces of lead were saved and are on display on a board within the Church.

The under-boarding condition was better than expected as was the main frame but had a few holes from rot and decay plus of course the expected woodboring beetle. That was all treated. No bats were found on the ecology inspection.



Original cupola & weathervane



Stripped of lead - original cupola



Under-boarding decay



Lead removed showing the structure below

The cupola and weathervane were in poor order so off they went to the joinery shop and blacksmith to be refurbished.

A floor mesh was installed for safety over the original medieval frame. That frame, dating from the late 1200's, sits in the tower over the new steel bell frame and bells. All under-boarding repairs were completed using elm as it endures damp better than oak. The new roof was laid, including to the valley gutters and around the access door.

The photographs show as much as we can here, but a digital exhibition will be available shortly in the church. The new cupola has its original roof and base with new columns and spandrels, all in oak. The weathervane is a new, handmade piece of excellent craftsmanship and looks quite magnificent; the gilded parts sparkling in the sunshine at the top of the spire.

We also have the lucky elephant over the door to the tower! A token left by George the roofer. It looks a fine job and, it is to be hoped, will see us through another two hundred years.

To satisfy the Heritage grant terms we must engage the community and demonstrate the value of the church, and the work completed, to the village and surrounds. That has us engaged in the history of the village, church, and all related issues. Thus, we are installing digital equipment in the church to show what history is available and will be having exhibitions in the church next year. A cheese and wine evening was held at the village hall on the 13th of November for villagers to take along any local artefacts and memories to add to that history archive. I have a substantial collection of documents, and artefacts already collected, so thanks to the people who have donated to date.

The bells are a substantial part of the process so ringing and teaching are a part of our commitment. Adding value to the environment is also something we must address so nature trails and teaching will be part of the churchyard too. School visits and a festival for schools is planned in the coming months. Your help in any areas would be great.

Gerald Bird



New modern materials now cover the spire & valley gutter



The lucky elephant over the door



The weathervane & cupola



The refurbished cupola with the weathervane sparkling in the sunshine

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18

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Buses terminating in Great Cornard continue to Shawlands Avenue. .

#### Notes

- N or NSch runs on Saturdays and during school holidays Sch Schooldays Only NS Not Saturdays

- Sats Saturdays only Y leaves here 7 minutes later on non-schooldays Z leaves here 2 minutes later on non-schooldays
- Sh BLF \$
- Schooldays Only runs via Levden Read and Chapel Road calling at the Queens Head at 0755 and omits Treble Tile starts from Bull Lane Farm at 0946 continues to Shawlands Ave, Chelsworth Ave starts from Long Melford, Shaw Lane at 0818

#### **Little Cornard Parish Council**

Wow! Here we are steaming towards another Christmas! The year has been a busy one at little Cornard Parish Council. We lost Mark and Scott as councillors, both now working on other projects, but have gained Graham Deere and Karen Winter, so a warm welcome to both of them.

The Village Whatsapp continues to draw new members and is administered by Mark Smith, who also runs our Neighbourhood Watch.

We had a big attendance at our last Parish Council meeting in September – I think about twenty members of the public turned up, which was lovely. It made for a lively meeting, but we were able to get through the Council business by 8.30. It's great to see such interest – a meeting held in public is not in public if no one is there eh?

We continue to push the speed control issue in the lanes – a petition is being passed about by villagers – if it hasn't yet landed with you, it will. There is also concern over speed on the 40 mph section of the B1508 – but whether a tighter speed limit or simply Speed Enforcement is best remains a debate. Average speed cameras are used elsewhere in Suffolk to great success. The impact of traffic risk when National Grid arrives with the extra traffic and new junctions will mean a risk assessment of some sort will need to be carried out by someone at NG / Highways.

When are they (NG) arriving? Well, they are "surveying" (again) at the moment, and we think next autumn/winter season will be a likely start point at the earliest.

By the time this is printed our Parish Council budget for 25/26 will have been drafted, and our longer-term projects listed - money we wish or need to spend allotted in terms of ear marked reserves. This is where the village are welcome to press for things they think can be done – within our limited budget. This money comes from our (residents) pockets – not a gift from anyone, anything we spend is accounted for in our budget, which is funded by the precept that is granted out of the council tax we all pay.

As we move towards Christmas the council would like to offer our wishes for a peaceful, happy festive period for all the village – remember we live in a very safe and friendly village where we look after each other – proven by recent years for sure. Your neighbour isn't just the person living next door.

Karen Gilbert on behalf of Little Cornard Parish Council

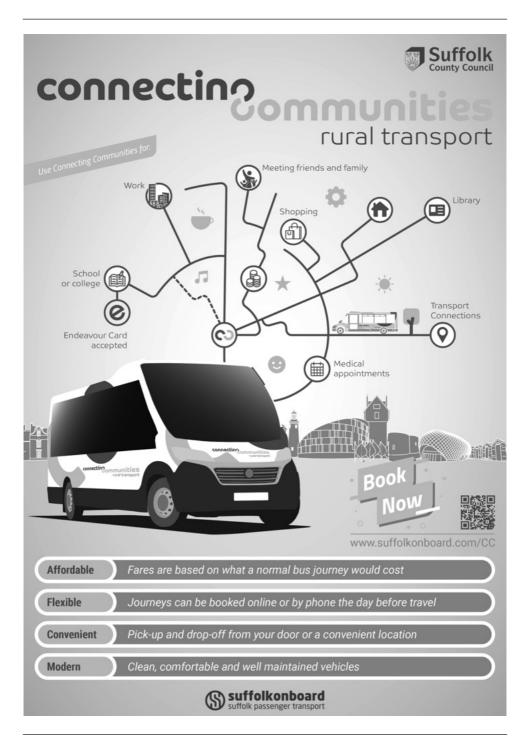




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#### **News from Cornard Mere**



On the 23rd of October volunteers from the Dedham Vale/Stour Valley Project arrived at Cornard Mere to continue their annual task of controlling the willow growth near the road. Two staff members from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust were also on hand to tackle a Poplar tree that had fallen across the Brook. Common Darter Sympetrum striolatum

dragonflies (see picture) were taking advantage of the Autumn sunshine and were soon joined by a Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta* butterfly.

Working along the far side of the screen of willows the volunteers were able to appreciate the marshy vegetation stretching out before them. Lurking at the edge of the reedbed that lay beyond the marsh was a Jack Snipe *Lymnocryptes minimus*, discovered by one of the volunteers who ventured too close and disturbed the bird. The Jack Snipe, about two thirds the size of a Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*, visits these shores, in Autumn, from its breeding grounds in Scandinavia. Notoriously difficult to see unless flushed up, the Jack Snipe is an annual visitor to Cornard Mere where it welcomes the protection of waterlogged ditches and pools.

The waters are already rising across the Mere and, by Christmas, will possibly be lapping against the screen of willows near the road.

Robin Ford - Suffolk Wildlife Trust Voluntary Warden

#### **Little Cornard Parish Councillors Contact Details:**

Karen Gilbert (Chair) cllrgilbert@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Chery Crane (Vice chair) cllrcrane@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Kevin Money (Clerk) clerk@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Jill Thomas cllrthomas@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk Clive Johnson cllrjohnson@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

**Graham Deere** cllrdeere@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Nigel Monk cllrmonk@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Karen Winter cllrwinter@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

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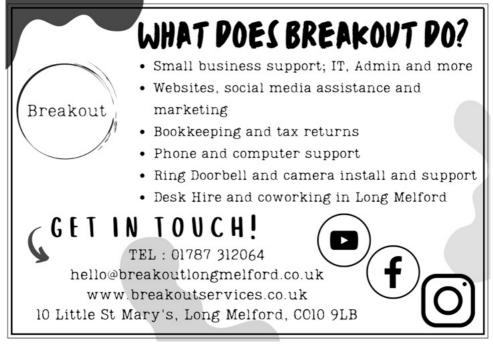
Thursdays 19 December, 16 January, 20 February, 20 March and 17 April at 12 noon

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How it works: Simply come along, 'buy' a bag for £2 and then help yourself to what you want/need from what we have.







#### Sudbury Model Railway Club

Sudbury Model Railway Club meets every Friday in Little Cornard village hall. People will be familiar with some of their layouts which have been exhibited in the parish church several times.

In early October they hosted their annual 'home' exhibition at the Stevenson Centre. It was a great success with a 10% increase in the number attending over the previous year.

SMRC is grateful for the use of the village hall, and certainly recommend the hall for meetings and events.

The group is very friendly and new members are always welcome. Annual membership is  $\pounds 25$  and  $\pounds 3$  on club nights.

Ron Davies

#### **Christmas Carol and Song Answers**

- 19. Little Jesus Sweetly Sleep, Do Not Stir
  - 17. The Twelve Days of Christmas
- 15. It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas
  - Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
    - 11. Frosty the Snowman
    - 9. Do they know it's Christmas?
      - 7. Hark the Herald Angels Sing
    - 5. Sleigh Bells Ring, Are You Listening?
      - 3. Let it Snow
      - 1. O Come All Ye Faithful

- 20. As With Gladness Men of Old
- 18. Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire
  - 16. Jingle Bell Rock
  - 14. Do you Hear What I Hear?
    - 12. The Little Drummer Boy
      - 10. In the Bleak Midwinter
        - 8. Oh Christmas Tree
  - 6. I saw Mummy kissing Santa Claus
- 4. Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly
  - 2. Ding Dong Merrily On High



All meetings start at 7pm and members of the public or press may attend.

Minutes from Parish Council meetings are available on:

#### https://e-voice.org.uk/littlecornardpc

Clerk to the Parish Council - Kevin B. Money Office Hours 9.00am - 12.00noon Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Telephone: 07810 781509 email: little.cornard.pc@gmail.com

#### Parish Council meeting dates

Dates for 2025 21st January 18th March 20th May (APM AGM Full Meeting) 15th July

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#### **Little Cornard Village Hall Update**

**Village Hall Refurbishment** - plans for the upgrade of toilets, provision of additional storage space and for improved hall accessibility for wheelchair users etc are expected to be approved shortly by Babergh planning department. The Village Hall Management Committee would especially like to thank Gerald Bird who has supported this initiative from the outset in drafting proposals and plans and spending a considerable amount of time in discussions with the heritage department of the local planning office to ensure that our proposals meet with their requirements. Some residents of Little Cornard may not realise that our village hall is a grade 2 listed building and as such any proposed changes to the existing building or any new construction within the curtilage of the property is subject to considerable scrutiny and requires approval from the Heritage department. Fundraising to help fund the project will begin after Christmas and it is hoped that the proposed improvements will be completed by Summer 2025.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning** - a coffee morning was hosted at the village hall at the end of September in support of the Macmillan Cancer Support. The morning was well attended and local residents enjoyed a wide range of homemade cakes followed by copious amounts of tea and coffee. The event was a great success and raised £489.

**Table Tennis** - following the generous donation of a table to the village hall, a small club has been established which meets every Tuesday evening from 6.30 pm through to 9.00 pm. Whilst the hall can only accommodate one table everyone who attends has the opportunity to play several games, normally doubles on a rotational basis. If you would like to try out your table tennis skills please come along, everyone is welcome.

**A Christmas Carol** - Colchester Arts Centre Director Anthony Roberts will perform a traditional rendition of the Dickens classic 'A Christmas Carol' with musical accompaniment by Jamie Cunliffe, December 12 at 7.00pm at All Saints Church, Little Cornard. This fund raising event has been organised by the Village Hall Management Committee and is to be hosted by our friends at All Saints Church. All proceeds from ticket sales will be divided equally between the church and the village hall.

Please visit the village hall website littlecornardparishhall.onesuffolk.net for further news and updates.

Mark Irwin

	o's Who in our Parish .littlecornardchurch.org.uk	
Clergy:	Reverend Daniel Whiffin vicar@parishchurch.co.uk	228292
	Reverend Simon White Reverend Tricia Box	07932 033019 07572 418555 07747 124592
Readers:	Murray Emerson	269073
	John Symons Andrew Clifft	211534
	Sylvia Gaspar	227648 204033
	Sylvia Gaspai	201000
<b>Pioneer Reader:</b>	Sara Merritt	07504 412420
	saraljpx@gmail.com	
I on Fildense		000079
Lay Elders:	Sue Emerson Carol Barnham	269073 228417
	Sue Ryman	227715
	Andrea Carter	228081
Organist:	Stuart Mathieson	07896 896559
Church Wardens:	Jeremy Apter	07813 717659
Unurun waruchs.	Brenda Pentney	227615
Parochial Church Council:	Lucy Baker, Paul Baker, Rose Glyn Donnelly, Phyllida Halli Clare Lodge, Marian Turner	
PCC Secretary & Electoral Roll:	Clare Lodge	312494
Treasurer:	Paul Baker	07929 005620
Deanery Synod Reps	Clare Lodge, Jeremy Apter	
Church Flowers &	Marian Turner	377889
Cleaning:	Glyn Donnelly	312580

#### **Suffolk Mobile Library Service**

The library will deliver to anyone who finds it difficult to visit in person, including those living in care homes. To join the mobile library complete the online form or visit any Suffolk Mobile Library with proof of identity.

The service is free to use. For more information go to www.suffolklibraries.co.uk or telephone 01473 351249 or email help@suffolklibraries.co.uk.

Dates for 2025 were not available at the time of going to print but are expected to follow the established pattern.

	Bury N	Aobile Library Route 20 Stop details			very 4 weeks days in 2024
Stop	Village	Location	Time	We call at a	II these Stops on
20A	Nayland	High Street P.O.	10.00 - 11.15	Month	Date
20B	Smallbridge	Flint Cottages	11.30 - 11.50		
20C	Bures	Claypit Corner	12.05 - 12.35	January	27 <sup>th</sup>
20D	Bures	Church Square	12.40 - 1.10	February	24 <sup>th</sup>
20E	Bures	Normandie Way	2.20 - 2.50	March	23 <sup>rd</sup>
20F	Bures	Paddocks	2.55 - 3.25	April	20 <sup>th</sup>
20G	Little Cornard	Workhouse Green	3.40 - 4.05	May	18 <sup>th</sup>
20H	Assington	Vickary Estate (junction)	4.15 - 4.35	June	15 <sup>th</sup>
201	Newton Green	Church Road	4.45 - 5.05	July	13 <sup>th</sup>
				August	10 <sup>th</sup>
	FOLK			September	07 <sup>th</sup>
SUF	FOLK			October	05 <sup>th</sup>
	RARIES			November	02 <sup>nd</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>
				the Martin Carton and the State	THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE

December

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Your regular Mobile Manager is Kevin Lambert. Ring or text Kevin directly on 07884 422762

**MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS** 

If you have any matter of interest or news item you would like included in the next issue of the Little Cornard Magazine, please contact:-

#### **Rosemary Bullen**

#### bullenrosemary@gmail.com • Tel: 01787 379890 All material for the Easter magazine to be received by Tuesday 25th February

This is the Little Cornard Magazine which reports on all areas of interest in the parish. The Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee assist the Church with the finance of this magazine.

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