

# THE LITTLE CORNARD MAGAZINE



Christmas 2023



## **SERVICES at ALL SAINTS**

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

**Sunday 17th December Carol Service at 6.30 pm**

**Monday 25th December Christmas Celebration**

**at 10.30 am followed by Holy Communion**

**Sunday 31st December Benefice Communion at 10.30 am**

**Sunday 14th January Plough Sunday Service at 10.30 am**

**Updates will be posted on the church notice  
board and on the website**

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

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## **From All Saints Registers**

### **Blessing of Marriage**

Susie Clarke and Toby Simmonds

# Vicar's Letter Christmas 2023

Dear Friends



As we head towards Christmas, do you know your rights?

We have some rights because we live in a democracy. Our society now has a well-rehearsed system of Human Rights. These are shared ideas of what we all deserve simply because we exist. We don't earn these rights and we can't lose them we simply have them.

There are other rights you must earn or pay for. Think about buying a ticket to a football match that gives you the right to enter the stadium and watch the match. Or, if you want a particular job, you need to earn the right with a good application and interview. When I talk with

people, I find they sometimes think having a good relationship with God is a right we must earn like this.

There is still another category of rights: rights we can be given as free gifts. This type can seem rather alien because it is so rare. When John was introducing his biography of Jesus, he wrote that Jesus 'gives the right to become children of God to everyone who receives him by believing in his name.' So, do we want the right to have the closest relationship with God possible to be able to call God 'dad'. If so, Jesus gives that right for free to all who trust him to give it. That's, of course, why we celebrate Christmas by giving presents freely to one another.

If you want to know more, why not join us in church this Christmas?

Wishing you great joy and peace as we head into 2024.

Your servant

*Daniel*

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## Wise Words

O thou great, unknown Power! Thou almighty God, who hast lighted up reason in my breast and blessed me with immortality! I have frequently wandered from that order and regularity necessary for the perfection of thy works yet thou hast never left me nor forsaken me.

*Robert Burns 1759-1796*

## **Church Warden's Notes**

As we prepare these notes for the magazine, we are expecting storm Ciaran to approach us. We reflect on the glorious weather that we so enjoyed at the Harvest Fair.

The Harvest Fair was a great success, where many friends and families came together at All Saints. We thank everyone who helped to make this event so enjoyable, our helpers who gave their time and energy, our sponsor Percival & Company Estate Agents, The Tudor Archers, The Sudbury Model Railway Club and Mimi and Hugh Wheldon.

We keep Mimi and Hugh Wheldon in our prayers as they mourn the sad loss of their son, William.

Our best wishes are for Susie Clarke and Toby Simmonds as they recently filled the church with family and friends to witness the blessing on their marriage.

As the hours of daylight shorten, we are approaching the season of Advent when we prepare for Christmas Day and the birth of baby Jesus. We will be celebrating this with the usual Carol service on the 17th of December at 6.30pm and a 'Celebration of Christmas' service on Christmas day at 10.30am. Please note there will not be a normal 4th Sunday service on the 24th as this is Christmas eve. On Sunday 31st December there will be a service of Holy Communion when we are joined by friends from Assington and Bures churches.

Our warm welcome is open to everyone at all our services, so do come along,

With our best wishes

*Brenda and Jeremy*

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### **First Tuesday Open Church and Café**

During the winter months the schoolroom will be open on Tuesdays December 5th, February 6th and March 5th from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm with a continuous supply of teas and coffees with lunch at 1.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to call in for chat and friendship. Please note we do not meet in January.

If you are wanting a quiet space for thoughts and reflection, the church is open for you on these days. For access to the church at any other time, please speak to Brenda or Jeremy (see Who's Who in our Parish for contact details).

*Brenda Pentney*





# POTTY ABOUT PLANTS?

Visit our garden centre  
and coffee shop  
in Sudbury

  
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2023

On the  
**LAST FRIDAY**  
of each  
month

# SUDBURY

## FARMERS MARKET

9.30AM – 2PM

MARKET HILL  
SUDBURY  
CO10 2EH



Jan 27th  
Feb 24th  
Mar 31st  
Apr 28th  
May 26th  
Jun 30th  
Jul 28th  
Aug 25th  
Sep 29th  
Oct 27th  
Nov 17th  
(third Friday)  
Dec 15th  
(third Friday)

[WWW.SUFFOLKMARKETEVENTS.CO.UK](http://WWW.SUFFOLKMARKETEVENTS.CO.UK)

E: [HELLO@SUFFOLKMARKETEVENTS.CO.UK](mailto:HELLO@SUFFOLKMARKETEVENTS.CO.UK)

T: 07704 627973

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## **Suffolk Historic Churches Trust**

### **Ride & Stride 2023**

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust 50th Ride and Stride took place on 9th September, on what must have been one of the hottest days of the year. Nevertheless, intrepid riders Stuart and Catherine Mathieson, and Dr Susan Sills and her son, set forth and their adventures are told on pages 12 and 13. Between them they raised a fantastic £1,630, half of which will be given back to the church. The PCC would like to record their thanks to them all for this amazing contribution to All Saints and other historic churches in Suffolk.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the SHCT, a service was held in St Edmundsbury Cathedral on 17th September, which was attended by some 700 people, among them 450 representatives from 300 churches, including those in our benefice.

*Clare Lodge*

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## **Flower and Cleaning Rota**

Our sincere thanks to everyone for all your help during this year. Glyn and I will be doing the rota for 2024 after Christmas. If there are any 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

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## **Harvest Fair Flower Decorations**

A big thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the church with flowers for Harvest weekend. It looked absolutely amazing; quite by accident a sunflower theme emerged giving such a lovely display and many compliments were expressed, well done to you all.

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## **Christmas Decorating for the Carol Service**

**on 17th December**

We will be setting up the flowers for the Carol Service on Friday 15th December from 9.30am. We hope everyone will be happy to join us once more. We will look forward to meeting you all again. Many thanks...

*Glyn Donnelly and Marian Turner*

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## Little Cornard Community Speed Watch

The Little Cornard Community Speed Watch team continue to carry out surveys in the early mornings and late afternoons and occasionally on a Saturday.

Looking back to when the team was formed in 2019, we regularly recorded an average of speeding drivers of just over one every two minutes. This has been very slightly reduced to an average of speeding drivers at just over one every three minutes.

The Automatic Number Plate Recognition camera was at Henny View for the first week of October and the Speed Indicator Device was at Willowmere at the same time. We are still awaiting the evaluation report regarding the effectiveness of the ANPR scheme and will share this when it is available. The ANPR camera is shared between a large number of villages and should be back with us in February 2024.

There is also the good news that Great Cornard are establishing a Community Speed Watch team and as you may already be aware there are two teams operating at Bures - one team at this side of the river and an Essex team on the other side of the river.

If anyone would like to join the Little Cornard team, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact me on 07990 927155.

*Janice Sampson*

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## Churches Together in Sudbury and District

Churches Together in Sudbury and District is an active group of more than 25 churches, including Little Cornard and Bures, who meet regularly for prayer, worship and discussion. CTiSD runs or supports many local community initiatives including Kettle & Fish, where you will find refreshments, spiritual support and information about our activities, most Thursdays from 10am to 1.30pm, currently in Suffolk Road Church. More information can be found on the website <https://churchestogetherinsudbury.org.uk> or the undersigned.

At the recent AGM, Richard Stanford gave a brief history of **TWAM (Tools with a Mission)** a Christian charity which collects unwanted usable tools, refurbishes them, sorts them into trade tool kits and sends them to the developing world, giving people the opportunity to create their own livelihoods and escape the cycle of poverty. When in India he had discovered how much Singer sewing machines were valued and he gave us a song to illustrate this point. If anyone has any tools – including sewing machines etc - that could be re-used in this way Richard can be contacted at [richardstanford919@gmail.com](mailto:richardstanford919@gmail.com).

*Clare Lodge, CTiSD representative*

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## The Bell Tower Report

Our Wednesday practise evenings and Sunday service ringing continue with some additional Friday evening practise sessions for beginners and early learners. On practise nights we are at the church from 7.00 pm and welcome anyone who would like to learn how to ring the bells or just learn more about it.

We were very pleased to be asked to ring for Susie Clarke and Toby Simmonds' service of Marriage Blessing in September. A joyful occasion. We also rang at the Harvest Fair and were able to give a few people a chance to have a go at ringing.

Our three learners are still progressing well. Sheila Baker has progressed to joining us for Sunday service ringing and on 28th October at Hitcham church completed her competency test and so was elected to Suffolk Guild membership. That brings our tower membership to fifteen.

Jill Apter and I reached a new milestone when we rang our first quarter peal. That's 1,260 place changes when ringing the Bob Doubles method. A feat of concentration if nothing else. It took forty-five minutes to ring and was led by David Lee, the remaining ringers being Lynda Lee, Pauline Brown and Peter Upson.

We rang at the official opening of The Sudbury Arts Centre (better known as St Peters Church) on 28th October.

On Remembrance Sunday the bells were rung muffled and the tenor bell was tolled. It's a poignant sound with the half muffles on the bells. The open side of the clapper rings out for the living and the muffled "hum" for the dead. We shall provide some ringers for the Sudbury Civic Remembrance Sunday service at St Gregory's Church on the afternoon of 12th.

All Saints Christmas Carol Service is on December 17th at 6.30 pm. It's a lovely candlelit service with the bells ringing out before and after the carols. Gets Christmas off to a seasonal start – hope to see you there.

I should say a big thank you to our immediate neighbours and church goers for their tolerance and encouragement of our ringing. We very much appreciate your support.



The Little Cornard bell band now have our own specially designed logo. Watch out for us in our smart new navy fleeces, polo shirts and gilets complete with embroidered badges. See photo.

We have six husband and wife duos who ring at All Saints and now a first for Little Cornard is a pair of sisters who rang together for the first time at a recent practice night.

Ringing is good exercise, gets you out among very friendly groups of people and maintains an ancient traditional art. We will welcome anyone on a Wednesday evening from 7.00 pm who is interested in learning this traditional skill. We

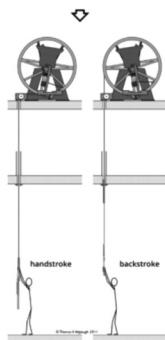
serve tea and cakes after ringing practise so do come along or call me on 01787 227259 for any further information.

Gerald Bird

## How Bells are Rung

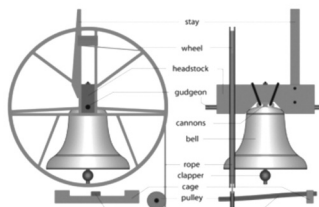
Bells are rung **full-circle** from the 'UP' position (upside-down) with a rope round a wheel. This allows ringers to vary ringing speed to change the order in which the bells ring

*There are about 40,000 ringers in over 6,000 towers!*

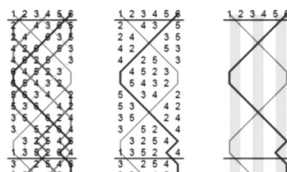


Learn at your own pace in stages:

- 1. Bell handling**  
◇ (pulling the rope)
- 2. Rounds** (ringing in time with others)
- 3. Change ringing**  
(methods) ◇



A BELL IN THE "DOWN" POSITION



## USEFUL CONTACTS & EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**Police, Fire, Ambulance - Emergencies**

**Police - Non emergency situation**

**NHS Direct**

**Police - Minicom users with hearing difficulties**

Sudbury Police Station, Acton Lane, Sudbury CO10 1QN

**Phone 999**

**Phone 101**

**Phone 111**

**01473 611160**

**Tel 01473 613500**

**Highways – report potholes, dangerous road defects etc.**

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/>

Other enquiries, 8.30 a.m.-6.00 p.m. Monday to Friday

9.00 a.m.-1.00p.m. Saturdays

Highways – out of hours

**0845 606 6171**

**01473 433444**

**Anglian Water**

[www.anglianwater.co.uk](http://www.anglianwater.co.uk)

Mains water leaks

Water supply + public sewerage emergencies

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**0800 771881**

**08457 145145**

**105 / 0800 3163105**

**Little Cornard Parish Council website**

<https://e-voice.org.uk/littlecornardpc>

Little Cornard Village Hall -

Mark Irwin

**07545 543729**

**markirwin777@gmail.com**

**07813 717659**

**01787 227615**

All Saints Church Wardens -

Jeremy Apter

Brenda Pentney

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## Churches Bike Ride

**September 9th 2023**



*Susan approaching St Andrew's Church, Lower Layham*

It's hard to believe, as I write this, with wild winds and pouring rain outside, that I pedalled my way around the churches in temperatures of thirty degrees or so, just a bit too hot for comfort! But it was a great day really, seeing those lovely old buildings basking in the sun and blue skies above.

Propped up and encouraged by my son Oliver I took my usual route starting from Assington. We reached Hadleigh in time for elevenses having seen the

lovely churches of Stoke by Nayland and Polstead and a few others in between. This year, while still in Hadleigh, we saw the inside of the charming little Row Chapel "up the hill", a little like a quaint old cottage with wooden beams and leaded glass windows tucked away behind a hedge. Aldham and Elmsett were next on the journey, on the way to Kersey. Aldham has a very impressive round tower. One further gem (also tucked away behind a hedge!) was the 12th century St James' Chapel at Lindsey, complete with thatched roof but not open that day, because of renovations. Let's hope some of our monies will help there!

We finished at Boxford after a welcome stop at Edwardstone and Groton. Overall, sixty four kilometres cycled, twenty two churches visited and two pairs of sore legs!

All the churches were so welcoming and friendly with vital liquid refreshments and often lovely cake! We had a great day and managed to raise £1,200 with huge thanks to our many generous donors.

*Susan and Oliver Sills*

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## Our Tour of Suffolk Churches for SHCT

On Saturday 9th September, Catherine and I took part in the 50th Annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust's Ride & Stride, raising money for the SHCT and All Saints Church, Little Cornard, where I am organist. This was my third Ride & Stride (my first in over ten years), but it was Catherine's first event.

It was a hot and sunny day with temperatures peaking in the low thirties. Taking the weather into account, we decided to cover as many miles as possible early in the day, leaving just a few churches in Sudbury on our way home.

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We left our home in Ballingdon about 9.00 am and headed to Long Melford, where we stopped at St Catherine's and Holy Trinity churches. We then continued riding through the morning, taking regular refreshment breaks at Acton (where I am also an organist), Little and Great Waldingfield, and Newton.

Our lunch break was at Little Cornard's Harvest Fair, where we took a well-earned rest from the cycling, enjoyed the barbecue, and took part in some of the games on offer. After lunch, we went down to Great Cornard, before heading up to Chilton and finally back down to visit six venues in Sudbury Town centre.

We completed the route having visited a total of fifteen places of worship. We got home around 4:30 pm, tired from biking twenty-five miles in the heat, but knowing that we had raised more than £400.00 for the SHCT and Little Cornard Church, we were very satisfied with our efforts.

*Stuart and Catherine Mathieson*



*Stuart and Catherine part way through their tour of the churches*

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## **LITTLE CORNARD VILLAGE HALL**

### *Available for Hire*

The cost of hiring the Hall per session (morning, afternoon or evening) is:

**Summer (1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> September) - £20 for Villagers, £25 for All Others**

**Winter (1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> March) - £25 for Villagers, £30 for All Others**

**Tables and chairs are available for hire**

Enquiries to Mark Irwin, Bookings Secretary on 07545 543729  
email [markirwin777@gmail.com](mailto:markirwin777@gmail.com)

# BABERGH

## Christmas and New Year Waste Collection Schedule 2023-24

### Refuse (general rubbish) and recycling collections

Collections will take place as normal up to, and including, Friday 22 December 2023.

Refuse and recycling collections will be on an amended schedule from Monday 25 December 2023 to Saturday 13 January 2024.

	Usual collection date	Amended collection date	Change
Recycling	Monday 25 December 2023	Wednesday 27 December 2023	2 days later
	Tuesday 26 December 2023	Thursday 28 December 2023	2 days later
	Wednesday 27 December 2023	Friday 29 December 2023	2 days later
	Thursday 28 December 2023	Saturday 30 December 2023	2 days later
	Friday 29 December 2023	Tuesday 2 January 2024	4 days later
Refuse	Monday 1 January 2024	Wednesday 3 January 2024	2 days later
	Tuesday 2 January 2024	Thursday 4 January 2024	2 days later
	Wednesday 3 January 2024	Friday 5 January 2024	2 days later
	Thursday 4 January 2024	Saturday 6 January 2024	2 days later
	Friday 5 January 2024	Monday 8 January 2024	3 days later
Recycling	Monday 8 January 2024	Tuesday 9 January 2024	1 day later
	Tuesday 9 January 2024	Wednesday 10 January 2024	1 day later
	Wednesday 10 January 2024	Thursday 11 January 2024	1 day later
	Thursday 11 January 2024	Friday 12 January 2024	1 day later
	Friday 12 January 2024	Saturday 13 January 2024	1 day later

From Monday 15 January 2024, collections return to the normal refuse and recycling collection schedule.

### Garden waste (brown bin) collections

Collections will take place as normal up to, and including, Friday 22 December 2023.

There will be no garden waste collections during the weeks commencing 25 December 2023 and 1 January 2024.

From Monday 8 January 2024, collections return to the normal garden waste collection schedule.



**Please put your bin out by 6.30am**

To check for delays and report a missed collection, please visit [www.babergh.gov.uk](http://www.babergh.gov.uk)

Alternatively, phone 0300 1234 000 (option 4)



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## **Little Cornard Neighbourhood Watch**

- Neighbourhood Watch is the largest and most successful volunteer crime prevention movement across England & Wales. It consists of groups of like-minded neighbours getting together to be connected and create safer, stronger and more active communities.
- Membership is free. It is all about looking out for each other with neighbours uniting and acting together.
- Everyone in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme plays an important and worthwhile part in making their community safer. Befriending your neighbours, someone watching out for you when you are not there or if you need a hand, caring about the welfare of vulnerable residents.
- Free Public Liability Insurance for any event organised by your Watch.
- Communication and alerts from Neighbourhood Watch Network

The Scheme was successfully reinstated in July 2023 and now has 39 members. We are looking to fund 25 Neighbourhood Watch signs and window stickers. There is also a Little Cornard NHW WhatsApp page where members can make comments. If you live in Little Cornard and would like to join, please contact me. Mark Smith - mjsmith500@outlook.com

*Little Cornard Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator*

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## **Eight hundred years ago...**

In December 1223 St Francis of Assisi staged history's first known living nativity scene, complete with live animals, in a cave near Greccio, Italy. St Bonaventure, a follower and contemporary of St Francis described the scene thus:

"It happened in the third year before his death, that in order to excite the inhabitants of Greccio to commemorate the nativity of the Infant Jesus with great devotion, St Francis determined to keep it with all possible solemnity; and lest he should be accused of lightness or novelty, he asked and obtained the permission of the sovereign Pontiff. Then he prepared a manger, and brought hay, and an ox and an ass to the place appointed. The brethren were summoned, the people ran together, the forest resounded with their voices, and that venerable night was made glorious by many and brilliant lights and sonorous psalms of praise."

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## **The Village Email List**

We have a village email list where we post items relevant to the residents of Little Cornard. Are you on the list? If not, and you would like to be, please drop an email to [patricia.monk@outlook.com](mailto:patricia.monk@outlook.com)

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## **Feedback from James Finch**

### **County Councillor for the Stour Valley**

Tel: 01206 263649 Mobile 07545 423796 Email: [james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk)

#### **• New highways services arrive in Suffolk as multi-million-pound partnership goes live**

Suffolk Highways' new partnership has been launched as Milestone Infrastructure and Suffolk County Council join forces to deliver highways services fit for the future as from 1 October. The new contract, which is worth in the region of £800 million - £1 billion, will deliver highway projects and improvements across Suffolk for up to 20 years, including maintaining roads, pavements and rights of way, improving drainage, hedge trimming, construction of new road schemes, snow-clearing and gritting and much more.

Milestone Infrastructure, part of M Group Services, was awarded Suffolk's new highways services contract back in February and since then has been working with Suffolk County Council to mobilise the new contract.

#### **• New and independent fire control centre gives the best deal for Suffolk.**

A new fire control centre fitted with state-of-the-art communications for mobilising and managing Suffolk's firefighters would be in the best interests of the county, a report to councillors says. Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) announced in June it would be withdrawing from the shared control room arrangement in place since 2011 with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire and Rescue Service, based in Huntingdon.

The report was approved at Suffolk County Council's Cabinet, on 12th September, stating that fire control would now be brought back into the county by the end of 2024.

However, the current system continues to mobilise the emergency response effectively, keeping Suffolk safe. But the new control room will forecast and coordinate SFRS resources based on risk modelling and new technology. This will ensure resources are deployed efficiently and effectively across the county, maximising fire engine availability, and improving response times. The new control room will coordinate resources out of hours to provide a swifter service to our most vulnerable residents.

An initial capital investment of £1.588m would be required for project delivery over three years. Additional revenue service of £1.615m annually will need to be provided to support the operating cost of the control room.

#### **• Inflation, SEND school transport and care costs contribute to council's predicted overspend**

Inflation, school transport for children with Special Educational Needs (SEND), and looking after children in care are the main factors for SCC forecasting to spend £22.3m over its £688.1m budget for this year.

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This is a similar story for many councils across the country, due to higher demand for their services, inflation remaining higher than expected for longer, and interest rates rising to levels not forecast by financial markets.

Despite being able to publish a balanced budget in February, we are already having to spend more than we anticipated this year.

The County Council (SCC) is experiencing unexpectedly high demands on certain services, meaning some are spending disproportionately more than others. For example, costs for school transport and children in care make up two-thirds of the total overspend."

Details of the main areas of overspend are:

- School transport - forecast to overspend by £11.4m (39% of the overspend), with £8.3m of this being travel costs for children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND).
- Children in care - forecast to overspend by £8.2m (28% of the overspend). The council has a statutory responsibility to provide care for children and young people under the age of 18. Some of these have incredibly complex needs requiring 24-hour care from multiple carers. There is currently an unexpectedly higher number of children requiring this support, with this costing an average of £22,700 per week, per child.
- Adult care services - forecast to overspend by £3.5m (12% of the overspend) for purchasing care, due to increases in demand, and staffing costs in the sector. The fees paid for residential and nursing placements remain high with 64% of new residential and nursing packages being above the published rate of £806 per week, with some specialist packages being over £1,500 per week.
- Inflation - inflation and interest rates have been higher than experienced in a generation,

Despite these challenges, council departments continue to make savings. This year's budget identified £25.1m of savings to be made, and the latest figures show that £20m of this is projected to be achieved.

### **• Councils unite against National Grid pylon proposals for Norwich to Tilbury**

In a joint letter to National Grid, the leaders of the three councils address the extensive impact on landscapes and local communities that the scheme would bring. They also highlight that an offshore solution has not been sufficiently investigated, and the opportunities that this could bring to co-ordinate with other large-scale energy projects off the region's coast.

The Norwich to Tilbury project would see 114 miles of electricity pylons weave their way through the three counties. Only a small percentage of this cabling would go underground, an issue which the councils also raise, stating that more would be needed particularly in the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and near



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Diss and the Waveney Valley.

In summary the Councils we would expect National Grid to invest a lot more time and effort in working with our local communities. These large schemes can be guilty of doing the minimum necessary when they should be working with local people and businesses as much as possible, who know the area and can help find the best solutions, should the project go ahead.

National Grid held a second, non-statutory consultation, which closed on 21 August 2023. It is expected that a statutory consultation will take place in 2024.

### • **Powerful fostering film 'Any Of Us' launched in September 2023**

Suffolk County Council announced the launch of "Any of Us", a compelling fostering film that sends a universal message that anyone with the capacity to care can become a foster carer. Fostering with your council or Children's Trust means supporting your community by offering safe, nurturing homes to children in need.

This is the sixth film produced by a growing partnership of councils and children's trusts to promote local authority fostering. The national launch took place at Birmingham's Everyman cinema on 26 September 2023. This is the link to the film

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/powerful-fostering-film-anyof-us-launched>

If you are interested in becoming a foster carer request your free foster carer pack and find out about the training, support and allowances you can receive.

### • **Virtual Fostering and Adoption Sessions for the Stour Valley**

A Foster Carer Recruitment Event is held the 1st Wednesday of every month, and an Adoption Event is on the 1st Thursday all 7:00pm in your home. To book a place please email [Claire.Gwatkin@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.Gwatkin@suffolk.gov.uk).

**My Priorities** - Education - Supporting Vulnerable People - Jobs and Growth - Localism and the Stour Valley - Building on Suffolk's Strength all underpinned by strong financial management and fair council tax.

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## 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 store 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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## Parish Council Update Winter 2023

During 2023 we had a few changes in the parish council. Three councillors left our team in May. Nick Hammond, Ruth Adams and Mark Irwin were thanked at our Annual Parish Meeting for their contribution to the village which we know won't stop there. We gained three more: Jill Thomas, Mark Smith and Scott Savage, welcome to them! Three out and three in meant an uncontested election. Karen Gilbert was asked to be Chair, and Cheryl Crane has agreed to be Vice Chair. Clive Johnson was given special thanks for his long-served chairmanship which also ended last term, but thankfully he hasn't hung up his parish councillor trousers just yet. We welcomed a new clerk, Kevin Money to the team. Kevin has set up a new web site (<https://e-voice.org.uk/littlecornardpc>) and our councillors contact details are in the magazine with our meeting dates for 2024.

In the last year we have managed, as a village, to buy two defibrillators which you may have seen, one at Workhouse Green and one at Willowmere Caravan Park. Village residents were very generous, and it did not stop there: James Finch and Lee Parker our County and District councillors both contributed generously with locality grants as did local businesses including Angelo Smith Jewellers, Yorley Farm, DW Surfacing Eastern and Willowmere Caravan Park, thank you to everyone who helped. It was a massive achievement for such a small village. We covered the cost of the defibrillator cabinets and have a bit spare to cover a set or two of pads should they be used. Jerv Jordan made a bracket for the Workhouse Green defib (thanks Jerv!) and Sharon and Barry Smith at Willowmere ensured the one at Willowmere was safely installed. A community wide contribution: well done to you all. They are checked at least monthly to ensure the self-testing is all in order and this is logged on The Circuit, so anyone calling 999 can be sure to access a working defib. If they should be used, we are informed so we can replenish the pads.

Public training sessions were held earlier in the year at Kingfisher and other locations. These were well advertised on social media and on posters around the town and supermarkets etc. and they were very well attended. When another tranche is organised, we will try to circulate the dates on the email round robin.

What do we plan to try to achieve as a council in the next year / term? We are settling the new councillors in and getting them up to speed. Feedback that traffic and speeding in the village is still a problem has meant we will lobby for a traffic regulation order to get some speed limits in the lanes. This will be a long project and is not guaranteed success but will be attempted. There is a definite appetite for it so watch this space.

We are supporting Cllr Mark Smith with the Neighbourhood Watch group. Any interested residents please contact Cllr Mark Smith.

We continue to be aware of National Grid's plan for assets to be upgraded through

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our village and valley and we will continue to work with local stakeholders and National Grid to ensure the village is listened to, thanks to Nick Hammond who has resolved to continue his special interest in the matter. A busy year ahead no doubt!

If you need to contact us, please email the clerk [little.cornard.pc@gmail.com](mailto:little.cornard.pc@gmail.com) or talk to one of your local councillors – don't wait until a meeting as we can often advise or raise matters in the agenda if needs be. We wish you all a very merry festive season and a happy new year.

*Karen Gilbert*

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## Suffolk Mobile Library Service

The mobile library calls at Workhouse Green, Little Cornard every fourth Saturday between 15.40 and 16.05. The remaining dates for 2023 are 2nd December and 30th December. Dates for 2024 were not available at the time of going to print. 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](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk) or telephone 01473 351249 or email [help@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:help@suffolklibraries.co.uk)

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## Memories of Suffolk

For several years from 1947, when I was about nine years old, until the early 1950s Mum would take my younger sister June and me in the first week of August from our home in Kent to Victoria Bus Station in London, each of us carrying a very small case with spare clothes and a sponge bag. From Victoria we travelled by Underground to Kings Cross bus station, at that time hardly more than a bare earth yard, where Mum saw us on to the Corona coach for the road trip to Sudbury. The coach always stopped at a roadside inn, just prior to going through Chelmsford, for snacks and toilets. Just imagine that happening today: the outrage generated by putting young children on a bus for a long trip, let alone stopping at a pub on the way would be front page news! We were always met mid-afternoon in Sudbury by Auntie Thelma, Mum's younger sister. We then had the luxury of a taxi ride to Pot Kiln Road.

The village forge, opposite St Andrews church at the junction of Church Road and Bures Road, was still a busy place so we often walked down Pot Kiln Road to watch the blacksmith making all manner of pieces like farm gate latches, huge hinges, repairs to ploughs and shoes, the biggest I have ever seen, for enormous shire horses. The horses almost intimidated you with their immense size, so it was stand back and watch. Sometimes we were sent on an errand to buy a nice crusty loaf from the little shop, owned by Mr Wordley, the other side of the Rec. We had strict instructions to walk carefully around the edge of the field at the back of the house then through the Rec to get to the shop. It saved quite a long walk around the roads.

Uncle Fred's mother lived at Little Cornard and we would sometimes visit her. Across the field opposite her home, on the far side, was a bridge over the railway. That field was surrounded by big hedges and home to lots of bunnies, some of which found their way into Grannie's crock pot. Her rabbit stew was the best tasting I ever had. The last time I remember going there one of the local boys was enlisted to take me "rabbiting" in that field as the farmer's brand-new combine harvester was going to be used for the first time. Rabbits would be suddenly making a run for the safety of the hedges. There were quite a lot of people around the field edge and our job was to wait for the rush and then whack the bunnies on the head with a long stick cut from the hedge. I was not successful at this, but the other boy had the experience, and we had a stew before we walked home with stars twinkling as we turned into Pot Kiln Road. I am so glad that I was able to experience the tail end of a lifestyle that we will never see again. Although things were tough after WW2, as children we had some good times. For instance, watching a huge cart loaded with an overflowing mass of straw bales pulled by two huge horses pass by the front gate in Pot Kiln Road has no equal. Life was perhaps harder than today, but we felt safe enough to go almost anywhere without challenge. Now, as much as I can, I relish those moments in time. Horses clopping along pulling carts full to overflowing with hay or straw, steam powered thrashing machines in the fields working till dusk and

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steam powered lorries delivering beer are memories that I will not forget. Just as a final note: living as we did in Kent during WW2, we were close to the German bomber route to London. Spitfires and Hurricanes were often overhead. I have only to sit in a quiet place and I can "hear" the roar of the Rolls Royce Merlin engines...

*Michael Harling, Gabriola Island, Canada*

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## One hundred years ago...

On 31st December 1923 the BBC broadcast the chimes of Big Ben to the nation for the first time, heralding the New Year. The engineers were not allowed inside the building so had to access the Clock Tower which houses Big Ben and the four other bells, from the roof of the Palace of Westminster. As a result their microphone picked up a lot of traffic noise besides the chimes.

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## For thus his neglect

In October 1663 Virginia colonist John Harlow was fined fifty pounds of tobacco for missing church. He was just one of many who were similarly prosecuted for breach of "the moral and civil code".

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## Sudbury Model Railway Club

The Club was delighted to be invited to take part in the Harvest Festival celebrations at All Saints. We enjoyed a wonderful weekend and had the pleasure of engaging with so many from the village. We look forward enormously to future opportunities to take part in village events.

*Kevin Northcott on behalf of Sudbury Model Railway Club*

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## Little Cornard Parish Councillors Contact Details:

### **Karen Gilbert (Chair)**

07926 275754 [clrgilbert.lcpc@gmail.com](mailto:clrgilbert.lcpc@gmail.com)

### **Scott Savage**

[cllrsavage.lcpc@gmail.com](mailto:cllrsavage.lcpc@gmail.com)

### **Cheryl Crane (Vice-Chair)**

[cllrcrane.lcpc@gmail.com](mailto:cllrcrane.lcpc@gmail.com)

### **Mark Smith**

[cllrsmith.lcpc@gmail.com](mailto:cllrsmith.lcpc@gmail.com)

### **Clive Johnson**

[cllrjohnson.lcpc@gmail.com](mailto:cllrjohnson.lcpc@gmail.com)

### **Jill Thomas**

[cllrthomas.lcpc@gmail.com](mailto:cllrthomas.lcpc@gmail.com)


### **Nigel Monk**

[cllrmonk.lcpc@gmail.com](mailto:cllrmonk.lcpc@gmail.com)

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## News items you may have missed...

**A Bible cover** dating back to the reign of Queen Elizabeth I has sold for a staggering £120,000 at auction. The embroidered cover features Tudor Roses, daisies and fruit and was sold by the Cotswold Auction Company. Elizabeth Poole told the BBC: This was a truly exceptional example of Elizabethan embroidery. Fabrics usually fade over time, but the colours on this bible cover were as vibrant as when they were first stitched.

**Earlier this year** academics from the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Kent took to the roof of Canterbury Cathedral in the hope of finding micrometeorites - dust sized particles that make it through the earth's atmosphere. The cathedral was chosen because it was hoped that its inaccessibility means the micrometeorites have been allowed to gather over time and could provide information about the origins of the solar system.

**A ninety nine year old organist**, who has been playing for eighty years, has been awarded a certificate in honour of his longstanding service to the Church of Scotland. Mr Glan Jones, the principal organist at Lochend and New Abbey Church, said he has no plans to retire. Born into a Baptist family in Wales he changed to Anglican during his wartime service. In 1966 he moved to Kippford, near Dalbeattie, where he still lives and has been playing for the Church of Scotland ever since. "Every denomination has something good about it" he was quoted as saying. "The Anglicans, the Catholics and the Church of Scotland all have good music".

**A hole in a door** at Exeter Cathedral is thought to be the world's oldest cat flap. Cathedral records show that a payment of eight pence was made to the carpenters to have the hole cut in the door for Bishop Cotton who was at the cathedral from 1598. Rodents, attracted by the animal fat used to grease the clock mechanism, had become a problem. The hole in the door conveniently leads to a cavity behind the clock.

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### LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

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](mailto:little.cornard.pc@gmail.com)**

**Parish Council meeting dates for 2024**

**16th January 19th March 21st May (Annual Parish Meeting)**

**Meetings start at 7.00 pm**



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### WINDOWS

- ☐ Are your windows closed and locked?
- ☐ Are your window sensors activated?
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### INTERIOR

- ☐ Are your inside lights on a switch timer or smart bulb with timer?
- ☐ Is your home alarm on?
- ☐ Are your valuable items such as jewellery, car keys, laptops, iPads, cash and phones out of sight?
- ☐ Are your chargers and cables for laptops/iPads out of view?
- ☐ Have you created a written and photographic record of any items of value (financial or sentimental)?

### NEIGHBOURS

- ☐ If you are going away for a while, have you let your neighbours know?
- ☐ Have you joined your local Neighbourhood Watch group? [Find your local group here.](#)

### THINK WIDE(N)

-  **WINDOWS LOCKED**
-  **INTERIOR LIGHTS ON A TIMER**
-  **DOORS DOUBLE OR DEADLOCKED**
-  **EXTERIOR LIGHTS ON A SENSOR**
-  **(NEIGHBOURS) KEEP AN EYE OUT**

### DOORS

- ☐ Is your front door double or deadlocked?
- ☐ Are all the doors to your home locked?
- ☐ Are your door keys kept out of sight (but to hand in case of emergency)?

### EXTERIOR

- ☐ Are your outside lights on a sensor?
- ☐ Have you cut down tall hedges around the outside of your home?
- ☐ Is all packaging from expensive items i.e. laptops, tablets, phones, games consoles out of sight?
- ☐ Are your vehicles locked and valuables removed?
- ☐ Are your sheds, side gates, garages and outbuildings locked?
- ☐ Are items that can be used to break in, i.e. bricks, rubble, ladders, garden equipment put away?

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[ourwatch.org.uk/burglary](http://ourwatch.org.uk/burglary)

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## Who's Who in our Parish

[www.littlecornardchurch.org.uk](http://www.littlecornardchurch.org.uk)

<b>Clergy:</b>	Reverend Daniel Whiffin vicar@parishchurch.co.uk Reverend Mary Cantacuzene Reverend Simon White Reverend Tricia Box	228292  07932 033019 07572 418555 07747 124592
<b>Readers:</b>	Murray Emerson John Symons Andrew Clift Sylvia Gaspar	269073 211534 227648 204033
<b>Pioneer Reader:</b>	Sara Merritt saraljpx@gmail.com	07504 412420
<b>Lay Elders:</b>	Sue Emerson Carol Barnham Sue Ryman Andrea Carter	269073 228417 227715 228081
<b>Organist:</b>	Stuart Mathieson	07896 896559
<b>Church Wardens:</b>	Jeremy Apter Brenda Pentney	07813 717659 227615
<b>Parochial Church Council:</b>	Lucy Baker, Paul Baker, Rosemary Bullen, Phyllida Hallidie, Clare Lodge, Marian Turner	
<b>PCC Secretary &amp; Electoral Roll:</b>	Clare Lodge	312494
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Paul Baker	07929 005620
<b>Deanery Synod Reps:</b>	Clare Lodge, Jeremy Apter	
<b>Church Flowers &amp; Cleaning:</b>	Marian Turner Glyn Donnelly	377889 312580

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## News from Cornard Mere



The Stour Valley appears well provided with native Black Poplars *Populus nigra*. In the past, cuttings of this species were easily taken and then planted along riverbanks but the resultant clones had the effect of reducing the genetic diversity of the stock. The Dedham Vale/Stour Valley Project has now created a "Bank" of all known Black Poplar clones to be found close to the Essex/Suffolk border, including the example planted on Cornard Mere during the nineteen seventies. This tree, grown from seed collected in Lancashire, differs genetically from all other specimens to be found in the Black Poplar nursery and, therefore, could help secure the tree's future in our area.

The Cornard Mere Black Poplar (see accompanying image taken in 2011) eventually succumbed to injuries sustained by a lightning strike. However Black Poplars have the amazing ability to rise from the dead and a new shoot can now be seen rising above the remains of the collapsed trunk.

Black Poplar saplings can now be obtained from Emma Black of the Dedham Vale/Stour Valley Team, a resource that will help maintain a healthy local population of one of this country's rarest native trees. Emma can be contacted at [emma.black@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:emma.black@suffolk.gov.uk).

It was with much sadness that I recently learnt of the death of Joe Bell-Tye, warden at Lackford Lakes, who was responsible for maintaining and using power tools, including the new clearing saw, at Cornard Mere. He will be greatly missed.

*Robin Ford - Suffolk Wildlife Trust Voluntary Warden*

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### 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](mailto:bullenrosemary@gmail.com) • Tel: 01787 379890**

**All material for the Easter magazine to be received by  
Wednesday 7th 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.

# Tree Surgeon



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