THE LITTLE CORNARD MAGAZINE





Christmas 2026



SERVICES at ALL SAINTS

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

Special services are as follows

Sunday 13th December Morning Worship at 10.30 am
Sunday 20th December Carol Service at 6.30 pm
Friday 25th December Christmas Day Service at 10.30 am followed by Holy Communion
Sunday 10th January Plough Sunday Service at 10.30 am
Sunday 24th January Holy Communion at 10.30 am
Sunday 31st January Holy Communion for the Benefice at 10.30 am

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

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From All Saints Registers

FUNERAL

Jacqueline Tilbrook

MEMORIAL SERVICE in the CHURCHYARD

Jonathan Anthony Drew

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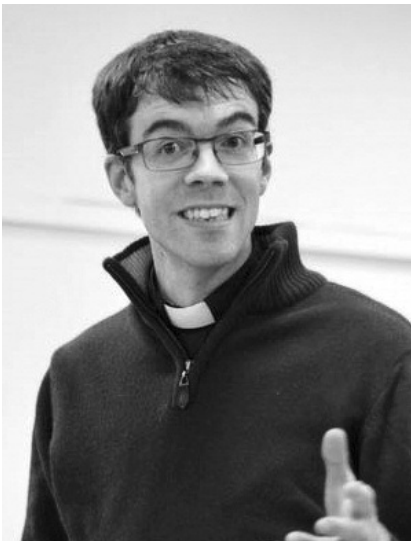
Vicar's Letter Christmas 2026



Dear friends,

These past few weeks, our family has had the joy of joining the Bures Stage Society for Aladdin in Space. I somehow landed the job of sound effects operator. Timing, as it turns out, is everything. A lightsaber sound effect needs to fire the instant the hero swings it, not three seconds later as she wanders offstage!

Have you ever considered God's timing? Scripture reminds us that his cueing is flawless. The time and place of Jesus' birth was no cosmic accident; God sent His Son at the exact moment humanity needed Him most.

He didn't wait until we had our act together, tidily decorated like a perfectly dressed Christmas tree. As the old carol reminds us, Jesus came while we were still "gone astray," arriving just in time to bring us home.

There is still one grand cue left on the divine timetable and the audio-visuals will be unmissable! At the right moment, Christ will return with a shout and the call of a heavenly trumpet, the dead will be raised, and the New Creation will begin. Will we be ready?

May you all have a joyful Christmas

(and a turkey cooked right on cue!).

Daniel

Wise Words

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.

Robert Louis Stevenson 1850 - 1894

Churchwardens Notes Christmas 2026

As a child, going back to school, knowing there were six weeks until half-term, or even worse, twelve weeks until the summer holidays, seemed an unbelievably long time. It felt like a whole lifetime. Now, the weeks and months seem to rush by and, before we know it, Christmas will be upon us, with the summer almost forgotten. But it has been a busy summer!

The Harvest Fair was once again a great success, thanks in no small part to the tremendous support of the whole community, from the initial planning and preparations to the setting up and, of course, the weekend itself. It is wonderful that, as a village, we are able to organise events like this that bring people together. Our thanks go out to so many people for making it possible.

It was also heartening to see such strong support for the village Remembrance Service. Little Cornard lost almost thirty young men in the First World War, from a population of only around three hundred. It is difficult to comprehend the devastating impact this must have had on so many local families and lives. Although society has become much more cosmopolitan, many of the names on the memorial are still familiar family names within the village.

The Christmas services will follow our usual pattern this year, with both the Candlelight Carol Service and the service on Christmas morning. The Carol Service is usually very well attended, so do come along and sing to your heart's content!

Jeremy Apter

Do you have photos of a wedding at All Saints Church?

Our local heritage group is currently gathering an historical collection of photographs capturing weddings that have taken place at All Saints over the years for a special exhibition to take place in 2027. Whether you were married here yourself, or have old photographs of your parents, grandparents, or other relatives or friends celebrating their special day in our church, we would love to see them. By sharing your photos, you will help us preserve these precious moments of village history for future generations.

If you have a photo to share, please get in touch with us. Depending on the format we will figure out the best way to get a digital copy of your photo.

Please contact magazine editor Rosemary Bullen

Email: bullenrosemary@gmail.com
Tel: 01787 379890 or 07908 596044

First Tuesday Open Church and Cafe

On the first Tuesday of each month, other than January, the Schoolroom is open from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm for tea, coffee and biscuits. Everyone is welcome to call in for chat and friendship. A freshly prepared lunch is served at 1.00 pm. In recent months we have welcomed some first timers to the 1.00 pm lunch and these folks have now become regulars.

To help with catering, if you are planning to come for the first time or if you are a regular, it would be helpful if you could phone either Brenda on 01787 227615 or Glyn on 01787 312580 a few days in advance. You do not have to phone but it is helpful.

Dates for Winter and Spring are: December 1st, February 2nd, March 2nd and April 6th. **Please note that we do not meet in January**. The church is open on these days giving a quiet space for thoughts and reflection. For access to the church at other times please speak to Brenda or Jeremy (see Who's Who in our Parish for contact details).

Brenda Pentney

Decorating the Church for Christmas

Many, many thanks to all the ladies who helped to decorate the church for the Harvest Festival this September. It looked amazing, as always: well done everyone.

We are now looking to decorate the church ready for the Christmas Carol Service which is to be held on Sunday 20th December at 6.30 pm.

We will be setting up the flower arrangements on Friday 18th December at 9.30 am.

We will be delighted if you will join us once more to make it another memorable display. We look forward to meeting you all again. Many thanks for your time and donations of flowers which are so much appreciated.

Glyn Donnelly and Marian Turner

Christmas Day Coronation

Following on from what became known as The Norman Invasion, William of Normandy was crowned William I, King of England, on Christmas Day 1066. The coronation took place at Westminster Abbey with Ealdred, Archbishop of York, performing the ceremony. Ealdred asked the English congregation in English if they accepted William as king, while Geoffrey of Coutances asked the Normans in French. When crowds inside shouted their approval Norman guards outside mistook the noise for an attack. They set fire to buildings, causing panic, smoke, and fleeing crowds while William and the clergy finished the service.

MID SUFFOLK

Christmas and New Year Waste Collection Schedule 2026-27

Refuse (general rubbish), paper and card, recycling, and food waste collections

Collections will take place as normal up to, and including, Thursday 24 December 2026.

From Friday 25 December 2026 to Saturday 16 January 2027, refuse, paper and card, recycling, and food waste collections, will be on an amended schedule, as below.

From Monday 18 January 2027, these collections will return to the normal schedule.

	Usual collection date	Amended collection date	Change
Paper and Card / Food Waste	Monday 21 December 2026	No Change	None
	Tuesday 22 December 2026	No Change	None
	Wednesday 23 December 2026	No Change	None
	Thursday 24 December 2026	No Change	None
	Friday 25 December 2026	Tuesday 29 December 2026	4 days later
Recycling / Food Waste	Monday 28 December 2026	Wednesday 30 December 2026	2 days later
	Tuesday 29 December 2026	Thursday 31 December 2026	2 days later
	Wednesday 30 December 2026	Saturday 2 January 2027	3 days later
	Thursday 31 December 2026	Monday 4 January 2027	4 days later
	Friday 1 January 2027	Tuesday 5 January 2027	4 days later
Refuse / Food Waste	Monday 4 January 2027	Wednesday 6 January 2027	2 days later
	Tuesday 5 January 2027	Thursday 7 January 2027	2 days later
	Wednesday 6 January 2027	Friday 8 January 2027	2 days later
	Thursday 7 January 2027	Saturday 9 January 2027	2 days later
	Friday 8 January 2027	Monday 11 January 2027	3 days later
Paper and Card / Food Waste	Monday 11 January 2027	Tuesday 12 January 2027	1 day later
	Tuesday 12 January 2027	Wednesday 13 January 2027	1 day later
	Wednesday 13 January 2027	Thursday 14 January 2027	1 day later
	Thursday 14 January 2027	Friday 15 January 2027	1 day later
	Friday 15 January 2027	Saturday 16 January 2027	1 day later

Garden waste (brown bin) collections

Collections will take place as normal up to, and including, Thursday 24 December 2026.

The collection that would have taken place on Friday 25 December 2026 will take place on Tuesday 29 December 2026 instead.

From Monday 28 December 2026 to Sunday 10 January 2027, there will be no scheduled garden waste collections.

From Monday 11 January 2027, garden waste collections will return to the normal schedule.

Please put your bins out by 6.00am

To check for delays or report a missed collection
Online: www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling
Phone: 0300 1234 000 (option 4)

Scan for more information

Church Bike Ride September 2026



Alphamstone Church Tower

I had another very enjoyable day pedaling along the Suffolk lanes being spurred on by my son, Oliver and his "crowdfunding" friends. They had mainly donated so much per church so there was some pressure to get round as many as we could! As usual the experience was exhausting, demanding, and exasperating because of road closures along the way, but overall, inspiring.

We visited 36 churches in some lovely villages and in the towns of Sudbury and Hadleigh. Although I retraced the same route I have done in past years, it never ceases to amaze me the number of lovely little churches there are tucked away in some quiet corners of Suffolk. Every year I come across new "wonders" such as some beautiful stained-glass windows and murals at Liston, the thatch and the newly restored interior of St James' Chapel, Kersey, the fascinating architecture of a round church at Lamarsh, a great art exhibition at Borley and Chapel Barn at Bures with it's fascinating artefacts.

Hopefully, half the money raised should come back to Little Cornard and help with maintenance.

Susan Sills



Susan Sills at Kersey Church



Liston Church

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Help for Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs are listed as endangered. There are some simple things that we can do to help them.

- Habitat As wild places and natural food become more scarce we can provide both in our gardens. A small wild area - uncut grass, and a pile of fallen leaves and logs will encourage hedgehogs to visit.

- Food The best food is natural food – which they find in the wild or in a log/leaf pile. They love slugs! Kitten biscuits are also very nutritious for hedgehogs and often cheaper than food sold as hedgehog food. Hedgehogs need to rapidly put on weight to enable them to survive the winter. Please DO NOT give them mealworms, they are very damaging to their bones and can cause a painful death.



Watch out for hedgehogs in your garden!

- Water A bowl or tray of water is very important. During the winter hibernating hedgehogs will wake to feed and drink on warmer days. Not all hedgehogs hibernate, so food and water are important year-round. Hedgehogs are lactose intolerant, please DO NOT give them milk or any dairy products.

- Create A hedgehog highway. Hedgehogs travel 1-2 km each night to find food and mates. Leave a hedgehog sized hole in your fence so they can access the good things we offer them. They may even meet a mate and make a nest in the log pile, using the fallen leaves!

- Emergency If a hedgehog is seen out during the daytime, it means it is unwell. Do not feed it. It should be put in a high-sided box and kept warm with an old blanket or cloth, and a hot water bottle - which can be made with a plastic drinks bottle filled with warm water. Then contact hedgehog rescue.

Helen

'Helen's Hedgehogs' can be found on Facebook and is based in Great Cornard.

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Daff Daffers rise again!

Can you help? We will be planting yet more daffodils this winter along our lanes, and appeal for anyone who wants to join us to get in touch. You can drop a note to Karen Gilbert on 07926275754, and she will add you to the Daff Daffers group ready to mobilise the troops in November / December when the bulbs arrive.

We will plant further in Chapel Lane and in other spots such as the top of Wyatts Lane, some of Upper Road between the Green and Yorley Farm and may extend to the main road. We will take advantage of the slower traffic on the main road next winter and see if we can line the B1508 with daffodils. It was certainly a beautiful display last spring. When do we plant? Mostly on Sunday afternoons for an hour or two. What do you need to bring? Tools, if you have any please. We used garden forks and spades last time and wearing gloves is advisable. Warm clothing necessary of course! it's a great opportunity to catch up with neighbours and get out in the winter sun - we are of course fair-weather planters! Hope to see you join us.

Karen Gilbert

USEFUL CONTACTS & EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police, Fire, Ambulance - Emergencies	**Phone 999**
Police - Non emergency situation	**Phone 101**
NHS Direct	**Phone 111**
Police - Minicom users with hearing difficulties	**01473 611160**
Sudbury Police Station, Acton Lane, Sudbury CO10 1QN	**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	**0845 606 6171**
Highways – out of hours	**01473 433444**

Anglian Water

www.anglianwater.co.uk

Mains water leaks	**0800 771881**
Water supply + public sewerage emergencies	**08457 145145**
Electricity power problems	**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**
All Saints Church Wardens -	Jeremy Apter	**07813 717659**
	Brenda Pentney	**01787 227615**

The Bell Tower Report

Our Wednesday practise evenings and Sunday service ringing continue so we hope you hear the call from the bells.

We welcome anyone who would like to learn how to ring the bells or just learn more about it. If you would like to talk about it first feel free to ring me on 01787 227259. We need more ringers to keep this lovely art alive – Wednesday 7.00 pm - we will welcome you.

We tolled the bells half-muffled for Remembrance Sunday on 8th November – a solemn occasion to respect the fallen who fought and gave their lives for the freedom we enjoy.

Never more are the bells enjoyed than over the Christmas period when they ring out to celebrate the birth of Christ and call all to church. Bells also have an association with Santa Claus, famous for the sleigh bells announcing his arrival. In the Middle Ages a small bell, a Sanctus, or altar bell, was rung at the solemn moments of the Eucharist and many people at that time believed that the sound of a church bell could drive away evil spirits from departed souls.

Lots of reasons then to ring bells. Sometimes we ring just to celebrate the fact that we can! We shall call you to the carol service at All Saints, to the Christmas lights switch on in Sudbury and in Bures, to Midnight Mass at St Gregory's and the Christmas morning service here in Little Cornard. Do answer the call on a few of those occasions if you can.

We rang the bells at the Sudbury Arts Centre (St Peters Church on the Market Hill) in October for Halloween, to precede the Morris Dancing displays in St Peters and on Market Hill.

The Little Cornard Harvest Fair went well, and it was good to see the village out and about. Thanks to helpers for putting up tents and taking them down. We offered the opportunity to try ringing at the Harvest Fair and to the several who tried it out and expressed an interest: do please make contact so we can offer you the time to learn.

We had a special ring to celebrate the life of Jaqueline Tilbrook who left us recently at a venerable age.

We will be providing ringers for the Christmas Carol services at St Gregory's in Sudbury, at Bures, Nayland and Acton Churches as well as our own at Little Cornard on 20th December at 6.30 pm. Do come – it's a lovely start to Christmas with the church lit only by candles and with mince pies and mulled wine served afterwards in the schoolroom.

Our band of ringers have had a bit of a medical year: Tim has had a knee

replacement and after a torrid time is now on the mend, Jill too has had a knee replacement, and Sue Howland-Jackson fell in her garden, breaking her collarbone. Thankfully all are now on the mend. None of these injuries, I stress, were related to bell ringing activity but now you see why I need some more recruits! We have welcomed Judith and Deborah to our practise nights and are pleased to have them along.

Ringing is good exercise, gets you out among very friendly people and maintains an ancient traditional art.

Gerald Bird



James now a Suffolk Guild member



Dotty also a Suffolk Guild member



Deborrah the latest GuildMember

Snippets:

1.Bells are always rung down to leave them in a safe position. Occasionally some towers leave the bells in the "up" position (that's with the bell mouth facing upwards) as they are heavy to raise.

A story emerged of a large heavy bell that had been left 'up' in a tower being rung for a special occasion. When the ringer pulled his heavy tenor bell in eighth place, he was given a large cold shower as the tower had leaked in heavy rain and the water that had collected in the bell soaked him.

2.I rang at a local church a few years ago and the bell was really stiff to roll over. I was told by an experienced ringer that I was far too slow. Next session David Lee rang the bell I had used and it stuck solid! When it was examined, because it had been left 'up' for quite a while, the clapper was seized with the excrement of roosting birds!

Lesson – Always leave your bells in the safe 'down' position – and don't look up!

Gerald Bird



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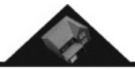

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Please call Sara or visit
https://risinghope6.wordpress.com/
for more details and pictures!



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Winter rate (1st October - 31st March) £30 per session (3 hours) for local residents and £35 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

News from Cornard Mere



Pine Hawk-moth

As I walked along the public footpath on one of many hot sunny afternoons this July my attention was drawn by the frequent appearance of Ruddy Darter dragonflies *Sympetrum sanguineum* flying to and from perches situated at the edge of the adjacent scrub. There must have been up to six insects holding territories along a one hundred yard section of path. They always returned to the same spot on the perch allowing one to set up a camera in readiness. The waisted blood-red abdomen and black legs of the Ruddy Darter distinguish it from the Common Darter *Sympetrum striolatum* that has a straight sided orange-red abdomen. Incidentally, Common Darter dragonflies can still be seen flying across the Mere well into October.

In September a spectacular caterpillar was spotted climbing down a tree trunk in the garden where a Clifden Nonpareil moth *Catocala fraxini* had been spotted the previous year. The larva was quickly identified as that of a Pine Hawk-moth *Hyloicus pinastri (see picture)*. Suffolk's conifer woodlands are the natural habitat for this species, but pioneering individuals do venture further afield. Recent records suggest that the moth is scarce but established in Essex with a report of a specimen seen near Lamarsh.

Robin Ford **Voluntary Suffolk Wildlife Trust Warden**

The Sluggard Waker

In the 16th century churches were cold, unwelcoming and dimly lit places. Services were long with protracted and tedious sermons, a far cry from how the late Des Gardiner, a lay reader who sometimes took services at Little Cornard thought a good sermon should be: it has a short beginning, a short ending and the two should be as close together as possible.

To ensure that the congregations of old did not doze off in the pews churches employed a Sluggard Waker, typically the Parish Clerk, whose job it was to patrol the pews during services armed with a long pole which he used to startle worshippers awake. Usually, the pole had a brass or wooden knob, or a fork on one end to tap any somnolent male on the head, with the other end of the pole having a fox tail attached and this was used to tickle ladies into wakefulness.



By the 19th century as church practices changed and sermons became shorter the role faded out of use.

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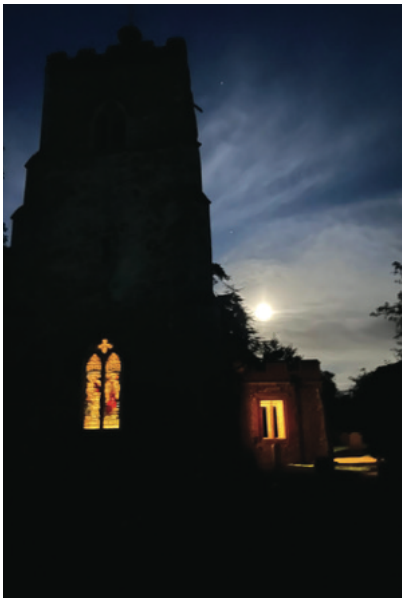
Rainbow over All Saints Church



Super Moon lights up All Saints Church

Parish Council Update

Christmas 2026

We have had a better season of footpath management thanks to help from volunteers including Nigel Monk, Robin Imrie, Trevor Edwards and Pip Bowers. We have fully installed the permissive path at Kedington Hill / Henny footpath ensuring an off the main road route from the upper part of the village to important routes such as to Henny. Cheers!

We have made inroads with our relationship with Highways with help from [Magic] Melanie, our Highways contact, who is helping us to improve safety in the village. An example of this is the signage in Chapel Lane. Planned new signs will warn drivers of the soft verges and ditches. The verges will by now have had a trim to expose the ditches so drivers unfamiliar with the lane can see what they are about to pull over into. We hope this makes it a bit safer when we are subject to road closures, and the masses divert through our village.

Yes, road closures – it's not been all good news this summer. The drought brought repeated pipe bursts and diversions to the village with the usual disruption. Letters with the CEO of Anglian Water have resulted, we hope, in a refocusing of the road closure / diversions signage, but we await the next closure to see if this is the reality.

Karen Winter is working alongside the Village Hall Committee to apply for National Grid funding for our village on a list of projects which we hope to include. More defibrillators, play equipment at the village hall, and bus shelter provision are amongst items suggested.

Sadly, our speed indicator device (SID) has suffered from vandalism. It is now back from hospital and is working but we are not happy deploying it until we have a taller pole to fix it to – if only to make it harder for the offender to reach and vandalise again. Our Highways friends are looking to install a taller pole for us. Of course, Steve and Nancy couldn't resist picking up some brochures on better SIDs when they collected our SID from "SID hospital" for us, so we will add that to our National Grid funded shopping list and see what we can get.

We hope to see many of you at the candlelit carol service at All Saints on the evening of Sunday 20th December, and we hope everyone enjoys a peaceful festive period with their loved ones or thinking of our lost ones. Wishing you all hope, happiness and prosperity for the New Year too.

Karen Gilbert
Little Cornard Parish Council Chair

Memories of times Past

(first published in the Christmas 1992 edition of this magazine)

I was born at Stocks Farm, Little Cornard. My family lived in the farmhouse, demolished some years ago. At an early age I was introduced to the Sunday School at All Saints Church, as had my two sisters and brother before me, and when I was about 10 years of age I became the church organ blower. The organist in those days was Miss Ophelia Isom who lived with her sister Octavia in Broom Street, Great Cornard. Miss Isom, a devout lady for whom I had great respect, also taught in the Sunday School which was held in church, and I recall that if any child was found to be "larking about" or not paying attention she would say to that child "remember where you are". The Rector at the time was the Revd William Henry Symonds, M.A., a much respected member of the cloth whose hair had turned white and who sported a white beard. He and his family also played a leading part in the social life of the parish.

Having assumed the high office of organ blower at a tender age I quickly realized what I had let myself in for. It involved a matins and evensong every Sunday and on the third Sunday in the month choral communion at 8.00 am as well. In the winter months evensong was at 3.15 pm. In addition we had choir practice on Friday evenings. For my services I received the princely sum of six shillings and sixpence per quarter plus twopence per week for choir practice. As in those early years I did not possess a cycle, all the journeys to and from church had to be made on foot. I came to feel for Miss Isom who likewise had to walk to the church from her home in Broom Street and back again

We had a well attended Sunday School, an enthusiastic choir of which my sisters were members and which took part always in the annual Diocesan gathering of choirs, and a strong congregation, and I enjoyed my involvement with the church immensely. During my Sunday School days I particularly enjoyed the annual Sunday School "treat" which was held at the Rectory and we must surely have caused the Rector's gardener many a headache!

All went well until one Sunday at evensong I was pumping away at the organ as usual when the bellows of the organ burst. This proved a disaster as the bellows could not be repaired. However, plans were laid to raise money to provide a new organ and after much effort by many people and with the generosity of an anonymous donor the dream was realised and a new organ was built by Bishop & Son of Ipswich. In the meantime a harmonium was used to provide music for services which continued as usual.

The service of dedication for the new organ was a memorable occasion and the organist for this service was Dr A.H. Stevens, whose title I believe from memory was Diocesan Organising Director of Music.

(countinued on Page 21)

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Not long after the new organ was built I had an unexpected increase in remuneration – it was put up to thirteen shillings per quarter, but alas I no longer received the twopence per week for choir practice. However, the appointment had its 'perks' for I was always invited to join the annual choir outing which took the form of a day at Clacton or Walton or Felixstowe or on one occasion, Windsor, with tea provided before returning home.

Soon a link with those days was broken when the Revd W.H. Symonds retired and was succeeded as incumbent in 1935 by the Revd Charles Chesterfield Pratt. Miss Isom, who had served the church and its members so well, passed away and for a time until the appointment of Mr George Hurst we were fortunate in having a number of guest organists to maintain continuity of services.

When I was about 20 years of age I felt I would give up as organ blower and Mr Pratt promptly invited me to join the choir, which I did. However it was not long before war came and I joined the R.A.F. and so my voice was lost to the choir.

Fred Crick 11th October 1918 – 2nd April 1999

Ride and Stride 2026

As usual Little Cornard welcomed riders taking part in the annual Ride & Stride, in aid of Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, which took place during our Harvest Fair on Saturday 13th September. Some 19 cyclists made it up the hill - more than recent years, but this number included a group of ten from Milden, who enjoyed looking around the church and stalls rather longer than they had intended, as one of them had to make some repairs to his bike!

Half the money raised by riders and striders goes to the work of the Trust, and the other half is returned to the place of worship nominated by the participant. The PCC would like to thank Dr Susan Sills and her son Oliver who have participated for a number of years and elect All Saints to receive half of their sponsorship. You can read about their day elsewhere in the magazine.

Clare Lodge

Four hundred and fifty years ago...

On December 20th 1576 Edmund Grindal, Archbishop of Canterbury, sent a letter to Queen Elizabeth protesting her order that he tell preachers throughout Europe to stop speaking so often. She felt three or four sermons per year were sufficient. Grindal's refusal to enforce her wishes earned him house arrest.



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Macmillan Coffee Morning 2026

This year our Macmillan fundraiser was held on Saturday 26th September in the Village Hall, after requests from last year's event to hold it at a weekend.

The weather could not have been kinder, and it was lovely to see so many regulars, friends and neighbours, with some new faces as well this year.

A wonderful selection of cakes and bakes, courtesy of our lovely bakers, was enjoyed over the four-hour event, with people catching up with one another and some personal stories shared.

This year we raised a fabulous **£408.02** for this very worthwhile cause.

Over the last three years we have held a Macmillan Coffee Morning in our Village Hall, raising a total of **£1191.12**

Our heartfelt thanks go to all who attended, baked and donated. My personal thanks to our team of ladies who made the whole day go so well, including, of course, our brilliant Nigel who kept all the clean cups and mugs flowing.

We must do it again some time.
Liz Smith



Tasty treats at the coffee morning



Visitors mingle at the Macmillan coffee morning

Little Cornard Parish Councillors Contact Details:

Karen Gilbert (Chair)
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Cheryl Crane (Vice chair)
cllrcrane@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Kevin Money (Clerk)
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Nick Lightbown
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The Book Swap Shed

The library has been in place since the Covid 19 pandemic. For those who may not know, it is situated on Upper Road outside the entrance to the small holding between houses Thicket End and Becketts.

It was made for all Little Cornard residents to use and enjoy, and to enable book swaps to take place around our village. The philosophy was simple - donate a book and take a book to read. Replace it once read and start again!

Our little library is checked on to see the ebbs and flows of the changing books that find their way in and out.

We have an annual cull and donate some books to the church fete; any unsold books are returned to our library.

We now have a varied and entertaining collection of DVDs for everyone to enjoy. There is also a great choice for children as the nights draw in and their outside play is cut short by the changing of the clocks.

I am glad that our little library is a positive for Little Cornard residents and trust that it continues to be so!

Scott Savage

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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 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**

Please note that Tesco no longer has a Foodbank collection point.

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Jonathan Anthony Drew

8th December 1967 – 23rd March 2026

My son, Jonathan, passed away on 23rd March 2026. Jonathan was born on 8th December 1967 at The Whittington Hospital, Highgate, London, and during his early years lived in Poole Dorset, Portchester Hampshire, and finally Burtons Green, Halstead, with me and Anthony Drew, his late father.

During his life, Jonathan's first love was his family, followed by football and music. One of his first proper jobs was running our record shop in Halstead - something he remained incredibly proud of in the years to come. He played football for Hedingham, Halstead, Sudbury, Cornard - and most importantly, he played alongside his boys, my grandsons. He also had a passion for cars and his CB radio, being happy to chat to fellow "hams" on the other side of the world.

Although happily married and settled in Greenstead Green, Jonathan had a hankering for "doing up" various houses, even whilst living in them! Latterly, he drew up plans to extend and develop Slough Hall in Slough (Slushy) Lane and finally Hobbiton Place, both in Little Cornard. If something needed fixing or building, he'd find a way. Fixing cars, rewiring, laying patios – there wasn't much he couldn't turn his hand to. Jonathan was straight talking, no nonsense, no fluff. You always knew where you stood! He loved a debate, especially politics or electric cars! He was also proudly, unapologetically English.

RIP my dear son.

Patricia Monk

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:

littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council - Kevin B. Money
Office Hours 9.00am - 12.00noon Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Telephone: 07810 781509 email: clerk@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Meeting Dates

19th January, 16th March, 18th May (AGM, APM and full meeting), 20th July

Little Cornard Village Hall Update

Another great night at Little Cornard Village Hall!

What a fun-filled evening, enjoyed by all, with plenty of laughs, friendly rivalry and some seriously competitive quizzing!

The battle for quiz supremacy went right down to the wire, with two teams, “Clangers 1” and “Clangers 2”, represented by bell ringers from All Saints Church, fighting it out for the top spots. They eventually secured first and second place respectively. But surely one of them must have had a ringer on their team!

Our new Music Bingo round proved a popular addition, although things descended into a little chaos when three teams all shouted “HOUSE!” at the same time. Clearly, a case of musical confusion rather than musical harmony!

A huge thank you to everyone who came along, joined in and helped make it such an enjoyable evening.

Even better, the night raised a fantastic £250 for Little Cornard Village Hall funds. Well done everyone - and we look forward to seeing you at the next quiz night in the Spring!

Bookings for hire of the hall have been relatively low in the last six months, since the refurbishment was completed, with only a few small family celebratory events. The Sudbury Model Railway Club continue to use the hall on Friday evenings and the newly established table tennis club continues to do well on a Tuesday evening from 6.30pm - 9.00pm. All are welcome to come and try out their table skills. The size of the hall with a maximum capacity of around forty people does inhibit larger gatherings within the hall but the outside green area provides an ideal space for a marquee and combined with the services in the hall makes an ideal location for a summer event. Something to consider for the future maybe! That said, we are fortunate enough to now host the education services of ‘Lapwing’ who have booked the hall for two days every week until Christmas. Lapwing is a specialist therapeutic education provider delivering bespoke alternative provision across East Anglia to young people aged 4+ years old with complex additional needs. The organisation's core aim is to develop students' academic, personal, emotional and life skills, which underpin their ability to succeed professionally and socially/personally. Lapwing use many village halls across Suffolk to provide their much-needed services and we are pleased that Little Cornard is able play its part.

Seasonal greetings to all from
Little Cornard Village Hall Management Committee
Mark Irwin

Merry Christmas Neighbours!

As the festive season arrives, I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all our wonderful neighbours, volunteers, coordinators and Area coordinators. I would also like to thank the Community Policing Team in Sudbury under Inspector Matt Paisley and Sergeant Olly Williams. This community is strong because you look out for one another, keep an eye on things, and care about the people living next door.

A Few Gentle Holiday Reminders:

Secure your home: Double-check that doors, windows, and outside sheds and garages are locked before you go out or retire for the night.

Keep parcels out of sight: Try not to leave delivered packages or expensive gifts visible through front windows or on doorsteps.

Look out for vulnerable neighbours: A quick knock, a phone call, or an offer of help can make a huge difference to someone who might be spending the holidays alone.

Check your smoke alarms: Test your alarms so you and your loved ones stay safe over the winter period.

I hope you all get some well-earned time to rest and spend time with family and friends. Happy Holidays

Mark Smith
Coordinator for the NHW West Policing Command and Police Liaison for Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch.

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 2nd 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.

Who's Who in our Parish

www.littlecornardchurch.org.uk

Clergy:	Reverend Daniel Whiffin vicar@parishchurch.co.uk	07309 947039
	Reverend Mary Cantacuzene	07932 033019
	Reverend Simon White	07572 418555
	Reverend Tricia Box	07747 124592
Readers:	Murray Emerson	269073
	Andrew Clifft	227648
	Sylvia Gaspar	204033
Pioneer Reader:	Sara Merritt saraljpx@gmail.com	07504 412420
Lay Elders:	Sue Emerson	269073
	Sue Ryman	227715
	Andrea Carter	228081
Organist:	Stuart Mathieson	07896 896559
Church Wardens:	Jeremy Apter	07813 717659
	Brenda Pentney	227615
Parochial Church Council:	Lucy Baker, Paul Baker, Rosemary Bullen, Glyn Donnelly, 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 & Cleaning:	Marian Turner	377889
	Glyn Donnelly	312580

Ginger Cake Traybake

The quantities shown are for a large cake but can easily be halved to make a smaller version. The recipe works equally well with either SR flour or gluten free SR flour.

10 oz (280g) Golden Syrup

10 oz (280g) Black Treacle

8 oz (225g) Light Brown Sugar

8 oz (225g) Margarine

1 lb (450g) SR Flour or Gluten Free SR Flour

2 Teaspoons Mixed Spice

2 Teaspoons Ground Ginger

4 Eggs

4 Tablespoons Milk

Method:

Place Flour, Ginger and Spice in a large mixing bowl.

In a saucepan melt Syrup, Treacle, Sugar and Margarine together over a low heat.

Remove from heat and add to the Flour and Spices. Sir well.

Add the Eggs and Milk and beat well.

Transfer to a greased and lined baking tray.

Bake at fan 160 C, conventional 180 C, gas 4 for 40 – 50 minutes.

Recipe supplied by Cheryl Bird

Suffolk Mobile Library Service

The mobile library calls at Workhouse Green, Little Cornard every fourth Saturday between 2.30 and 2.50. The last visit of 2026 by the library to Little Cornard is Saturday 28th November. 2027 dates were not available at the time of going to press but are expected to continue the current pattern.

To join the mobile library complete the online joining form or visit any Suffolk Mobile Library with proof of identity. The service is free to use. More information is available at www.suffolklibraries.co.uk or you can contact the library service by telephoning 01473 351249 or email help@suffolklibraries.co.uk

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