

THE
LITTLE CORNARD
MAGAZINE



Easter 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

22nd February Holy Communion

15th March Mothering Sunday Service at 10.30 am

29th March Palm Sunday Service at 10.30 am

5th April Easter Day Holy Communion at 8.00 am

followed by breakfast in the Schoolroom

26th April Holy Communion

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

www.littlecornardchurch.org.uk

From All Saints Registers

BURIAL

Susan Elizabeth Rampling

Cover photo taken by Lucy Baker at All Saints Flower Festival 2025

Vicar's Letter Easter 2026

Dear friends,

How is it that time seems to speed up the moment you're running late? Clocks rule our lives especially when you're trying to sneak into church after the first hymn! Since the Industrial Revolution, our beloved four-faced tower clock of St Mary's Bures has kept us all punctual, ticking away as a gentle reminder that time waits for no one (except, perhaps, the Vicar when the sermon overruns).



But here's the good news: while we're busy chasing minutes and hours, God isn't bound by our schedules. The Bible tells us that God exists outside of time, knowing the past, present, and future all at once. That's why only God can declare, "I make known the end from the beginning" (Isaiah 46:10). It's a comforting thought especially if you've ever forgotten an anniversary!

Instead of letting the clock dictate our lives, we're invited to follow a far more reliable standard: Jesus Christ, "the same yesterday and today and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8). He promises us 'life to the full' no stopwatch required.

May you enjoy a timeless Easter!

Daniel

Easter Church Flower Decorations

Dear Ladies

Once again, many thanks to you all for the beautiful Christmas arrangements, the church looked amazing: you are a great team.

We will be setting up the flowers for Easter Sunday Service on Good Friday morning 3rd April from 9.30 am onwards and we hope you will all be able to join us once again.

As in previous years we will be buying lilies to decorate the church. If anyone would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please get in touch with the PCC Treasurer, Mr Paul Baker 07929 005620.

Many thanks

Glyn Donnelly 01787 312580 or Marian Turner 01787 377889

Churchwarden's Notes Easter 2026

It was wonderful to see that, yet again, the church was full to bursting over the Christmas period. Officially there were a hundred and thirty of you at the carol service, but to be honest the church was so full we lost count.

I hope that by the time you read this spring has at last arrived, at the time of writing 'February fill dyke' is still in full swing. Even so, planning for the Flower Festival on the 9th & 10th of May is well under way. A thank you to Rev'd Tricia for blessing the plough at the Plough Sunday service and when the weather improves, we will put it to work.

One thing the wet weather has shown is how well the new drainage system is working in the car park. Not a single car has got stuck this season.

This year there is a change to the pattern of service times in the run up to Easter. The only services in March will be on Sunday 15th which is Mothering Sunday and the 29th which is Palm Sunday. Easter, with the Easter breakfast, is on the 5th of April but there will be no service on the 12th of April.

John Symons has always been very popular leading services at Little Cornard. Not only do his sermons have a message but they are full of information on the history and geography of the time. They leave you not only inspired but also informed. John took a well-attended service in December and, as is his modest nature, never told us that he had retired and it was his last service at Little Cornard. Well John I think I can speak for everyone at All Saints in saying thank you for all that you have done for us over the years, and we wish you and Louisa all the best for the future.

Jeremy Apter

Churches Together in Sudbury & District

All Saints Little Cornard is a member of Churches Together in Sudbury & District (CTiSD) an active group of more than 25 churches, who meet regularly for prayer, worship and discussion. CTiSD run or support many local community initiatives including Kettle & Fish, at Suffolk Road Church most Thursdays. Each Saturday a Prayer Breakfast is held in a different church where people come together for a light breakfast, a time of fellowship and a time for prayer. Little Cornard will be hosting the Prayer Breakfast in the schoolroom on 23rd May, and all are welcome to join us from 8am to 9.30am.

For more information and the latest news about CTiSD, visit www.churchestogetherinsudbury.org.uk or sign up to the weekly newsletter by emailing ctis.news@gmail.com

ListenIN

Bite-size bits of inspiration from the Bible. Each time, read a tiny bit of the Bible, *reflect*, and respond with prayer idea.

Read

'Very truly I tell you,' Jesus answered,
'before Abraham was born, I am!

John 8:58

Reflect

Perhaps all parents have experienced the equally amusing and frustrating episode of a child acting like they are all-knowing. The child's life's experience is a mere hair's-breadth of their parent's. Yet they can't entertain the idea that their parent's wisdom is worth heeding. The people Jesus was speaking to in our verse said Abraham was their spiritual parent. Abraham lived approximately 2000 years before Christ and another 2000 before us. They would have listened to Abraham's wisdom on the most important things of life. Would they listen to the Son of God, who has no beginning or end?

Respond

*Eternal God, you are so beyond our comprehension, and your understanding is infinitely greater than ours. Enable us to listen and seek your wisdom in Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

Read

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

Hebrews 13:8

Reflect

When I arrived here to take up the role of Vicar, I quickly learnt to rely on people who had been in this village (seemingly) for ever. The understanding they had gained from their constant presence in this community meant they knew what had already been proven not to work and how people might respond to initiatives. Also, their track record of commitment to people here was proof they could be relied on. The Bible is clear that God never changes. He has always been here and always acts and responds consistently. You can rely on Jesus, more than the most reliable clock. He will always love you the same, always forgive, always help, always heal, always bless, always protect, always delight in you, and never ever stop.

Respond

*Lord Jesus, I praise you for your constancy and faithfulness,
and put my trust in you for every day.
Amen.*

Little Cornard

All Saints Church

Flower Festival Weekend

9th & 10th May 2026

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SET-UP: FRI 8TH 10:30 AM

SET-DOWN: MON 11TH

HELP ON STALLS & GAMES

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Little Cornard

All Saints Church

Flower Festival Weekend

9th & 10th May 2026
11am ~ 4pm

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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 Spring and Summer are March 3rd, April 7th, May 5th, June 2nd, July 7th and August 4th.

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

The Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union is an international movement with around 4,000,000 members in 84 countries around the world. This year marks 150 years since it was founded by Mary Sumner. There has been a branch in Bures since 1911, currently the members meet monthly on Thursday afternoons.

At the last meeting in Bures a short film was shown, followed by a talk outlining the work of Re-Cycle - Bikes to Africa, a registered charity based in Wormingford. This charity does amazing work collecting, fixing and sending bicycles to rural communities across Africa.

For more details about the Mothers' Union telephone Sue, the local Branch Leader on 01787 228594 or go to the website www.mothersunion.org. For more details on Bikes for Africa go to info@re-cycle.org 01206 617865

Brenda Pentney

One hundred years ago...

John Logie Baird demonstrated the first mechanical television system in London on January 26th. On May 12th the Italian-built airship *Norge* became the first vessel to fly over the North Pole and on 6th August Gertrude Ederle became the first woman to swim the English Channel.



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One hundred and ninety years ago...

On April 11th 1836 George Mueller, leader of the Plymouth Brethren movement, opened his famous orphanage on Wilson Street in Bristol. By 1875, Mueller's orphanage provided care for over two thousand children, a work sustained "not by regular fundraising but by thousands of answers to prayer".

He cared for 10,024 orphans during his lifetime, and provided educational opportunities for them to the point where he was accused by some of raising the poor above their natural station in life. He established 117 schools which offered Christian education to more than 120,000 people. After his death, his work was continued by The George Mueller Foundation, renamed in 2009 as the George Mueller Charitable Trust. The charity works together with local churches in the Bristol area to care for their communities, especially vulnerable children and young people and their families.

A small museum maintained by the Trust at its headquarters in Cotham Park, Bristol is open by appointment only. Records of all children who passed through the orphanage are held and may be inspected by relatives for a small fee.

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/>

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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

Brenda Pentney

07813 717659

01787 227615

Great Cornard Country Park

A County Wildlife Site

In Autumn 2025 Great Cornard Country Park was formally designated a 'County Wildlife Site' (CWS), following a process which involved collecting evidence to satisfy the criteria, and a site visit to the park by members of the CWS panel, as well as representatives from the Parish Council, Sudbury Common Lands Charity (who manage the country park), and naturalists recording the wildlife on the site.



View of Danes Hole

What is a County Wildlife Site?

County Wildlife Sites are recognised for their high value for wildlife and are designated according to selection criteria. The CWS panel meets to assess sites according to whether they meet these criteria with regard to the habitats and biodiversity of the site. The Suffolk CWS panel is made up of representatives from Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service, Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Natural England - so, as you can imagine, it's a rigorous process.

County Wildlife Sites are recognised by national planning policy as having a fundamental role to play in meeting overall biodiversity targets, and their importance is recognised by local authorities when considering nearby planning applications - there is a presumption against granting permission for development that would have an adverse impact on a CWS.

Why did the Country Park satisfy the CWS criteria?

The panel commented that the park is "a habitat mosaic which includes wildflower meadows, ancient woodland, hedgerow fragments and there is an area of land being left for natural regeneration. The land forms a very attractive feature on the gentle slopes of the Stour valley. The park provides valuable access to nature for the local community with intrinsic recreational and educational value due to its proximity to an urban area and another SWT reserve, Cornard Mere SSSI, which is closely positioned west of the park. There is additional connectivity to the wider landscape via a network of hedgerows and private land." In fact, the Country Park

sits in the centre of the Black Brook valley, stretching from Cornard Mere in the west along the Black Brook towards Abbas Hall in the East, which after recent consultation in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, has been recognised as an area of particular importance to biodiversity, with further potential for nature recovery.

The park is regularly surveyed by volunteer naturalists and there are extensive species lists routinely submitted to county recorders, providing valuable evidence to show the improvements to its biodiversity over time through sensitive habitat management. Many protected and Red-listed species are present in the Country Park such as Common lizard, Badgers, and a variety of woodland and farmland birds such as Kestrels, three species of Owl, Linnets, Green Woodpecker, Lesser Whitethroat, and recently Nightingales, to name a few. Numerous butterfly and moth species include marbled White, Small Heath, and Brown Argus. Notable plant species of interest include Goldilocks Buttercup, Sulphur Clover, Wild marjoram and Lesser calamint. Bee orchid and Pyramidal orchid have established as well as Nettle-leaved bellflower, Bluebell and Moschatel.

Debbie Ping

Cornard Environment and Wildlife Group



Common lizard



Bee orchid



Pyramidal orchid

Sixty years ago...

In March 1966 Dr Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury, made the first formal visit to the Vatican in 400 years. His meeting with Pope Paul VI was an historic moment in Anglican-Roman Catholic relations, leading to a joint declaration fostering Christian fellowship.



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Rising Hope Rooms

Rising Hope is a small community working on permaculture and Christian spirituality on a little wild farm in Little Cornard. We love to welcome visitors and have a comfortable double room available for overnight stays or retreats.

Please call Sara or visit <https://lightwave.community/hubs/rising-hope> for more details and pictures!



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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.

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Sudbury Model Railway Club

The Sudbury Model Railway Club meets every Friday evening in the Little Cornard Village Hall, from 7.00 pm. It is a welcoming and friendly club of around 20 members, and Friday evenings usually see plenty of work being done on one, or two, of the club's layouts.

Initial thoughts are being drawn together for the creation of a new layout based on Sudbury station and yard as it was in the early 1950s. It is hoped that, should such a layout be started, it will be ready for exhibiting in time for the club's 50th anniversary in 2030.

New members and visitors are always welcome, just pop in on a Friday evening.

Ron Davies

St Nicholas Hospice Sunset Walk

St Nicholas Hospice Care's Sunset Walk returns to Bury St Edmunds on Saturday, 20 June, bringing together families, friends and colleagues for an evening of remembrance, reflection and community. Walkers can choose between 10km and 15km routes or take part virtually from anywhere.

Before heading out, participants gather in the Abbey Gardens for entertainment, warmups and refreshments creating a lively festival atmosphere. Along the route, live music, supportive volunteers and thoughtful moments of reflection make the evening one of laughter and remembrance.

Many walkers honour loved ones by decorating remembrance hearts, which are displayed at the Hospice, a reminder of why the event matters. Sponsored by Greene King, the walk supports the Hospice's mission to ensure no one faces dying, death or grief alone.

Sign up at: stnicholashospice.org.uk/news-community/events-listing/sunset-walk/

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www.stnicholashospice.org.uk/sunset-walk

District Council Report

January 2026

Welcome to my January newsletter. I predict a very busy next couple of years as plans to move our current governance model from two tier to a single unitary authority take shape. For those that might be confused as to the intention and timeline of the changes, I will be posting regularly via Parish newsletters as well as the Ward Parish Facebook and Whatsapp groups. You can also follow me on my Facebook group, Lee Parker – District Councillor

Whilst there are some 'big ticket' items for Babergh to contend with, the day-to-day work of the Council continues. Our Planning, Housing & Licensing teams continue to function to deliver those services and ensure continuity.

Local Government Reorganisation

Work continues on the Government's plans to replace Suffolk's current two-tier system, (County and District Councils), with new single or unitary councils. Babergh, along with neighbouring districts, has supported the "Three Councils for Suffolk" option, a proposal that aims to create councils that are both efficient and genuinely local.

The joint business case has now been submitted to Government.

If approved, we could see:

- Shadow authority elections in May 2027, and
- Full implementation from April 2028.

Throughout the process, Babergh has emphasised transparency and community involvement. I will continue to share updates as the timetable becomes clearer.

Better Recycling

Changes coming in 2026: This year will see significant changes to household waste collections under the new "Better Recycling" scheme.

Key changes include:

- Weekly food waste collection for all households.
- Expanded recycling: paper, card, plastics, metals, glass, and cartons.
- Three-weekly collections for general refuse and recycling (food waste remains weekly).
- More materials will be accepted overall, helping reduce waste and cut carbon emissions.

Residents will receive an information leaflet between January and March explaining how the changes affect each household.

Babergh District Council – News in January

Car Parking Charges – What's Changed and Why

Babergh District Council has confirmed that car parking charges in council-run car parks now apply where they were previously subsidised (free) and that increases to tariffs are

part of the latest review. These changes follow a review of parking that started in 2024, and the revised charges have been in place since earlier this year in places such as Sudbury, Hadleigh and Lavenham. The changes were made because Babergh Cabinet contend that Council can no longer afford to subsidise free parking and needs to generate additional income to help protect essential local services. Blue Badge holders continue to park for free for up to three hours. Sundays and bank holidays remain free to park.

Support for Ipswich's City of Culture 2029 Bid

Babergh District Council has unanimously backed Ipswich's bid to become UK City of Culture in 2029, recognising the significant cultural and economic benefits this could bring to the wider area.

Local Government Reorganisation Consultation

Earlier this month, residents were reminded to take part in the Government's statutory consultation on future council structures. Thank you to everyone who shared their views.

Looking Ahead

I will continue to keep parish councils and residents informed on:

- Progress with Local Government Reorganisation,
- The rollout of the Better Recycling scheme, and
- Further district-wide initiatives throughout 2026.

As ever, if any parish or community group would like a more detailed briefing or has questions about any of the above, please feel free to contact me.

01787374857 • Lee.parker@babergh.gov.uk • Facebook: Lee Parker - District Councillor

Parish Council Update

Current Projects

The parish council and fellow planters are hoping that when you are reading this, you'll have already noticed the display of daffodils along Chapel Lane. We are grateful to the planting group that came along last autumn and worked together over a period of five weekends to plant 5,000 bulbs, weighing in at a whopping 200 kilos.

Many villagers reported and commented on the lack of maintenance of the footpaths throughout the village in 2024 and last year. It has been frustrating for the parish councillors who repeatedly addressed the lack of service we received from Suffolk County Council's (SCC) maintenance department, responsible for the work. As liaising with SCC exacerbated delays in getting work done, the parish council took charge of the situation and with local help, we cut the footpaths ourselves. As of 2026, we have elected to opt out of SCC maintenance services and intend to maintain all footpaths in the village according to the growing conditions. We believe that at a local level we can be more agile and responsive to our village's needs, providing our community and visitors with access to the

village's footpaths and enjoyment of our beautiful countryside.

The National Grid Bramford to Twinstead project, which includes the construction of a new electricity line, a new substation and underground cables, is now underway. Pre-construction surveys, archaeological surveys and protected species surveys have started. Additionally, a main construction compound is being established off the A134 near Leavenheath. One of the contractors, Balfour Beatty, is constructing about 18km of new 400 kV overhead line – work for this started in late 2025. The 11km of new 400 kV underground cable works are scheduled to start this spring. Once the new line is operational, the existing 132 kV overhead line will be removed.

The parish council is in communication with National Grid traffic liaison to address safety concerns and the National Grid community benefit programme to understand how we can benefit from community funding.

Speeding and safety in the village are concerns for many residents. Making a change to the speed limit is a lengthy legal process. There have been many conversations, meetings, emails, evidence-gathering exercises and collaboration with neighbouring parish councils. As such, we have been working with Suffolk County Council for more than a year and continue to inch this project along with their guidance and support.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk are progressing with a Joint Local Plan Review to set out a framework to guide planning development decisions to the mid-2040s. To prepare for the future housing requirements set by the Government, Babergh invited site submissions, known as a 'Call for Sites', which closed on January 9th. Babergh councillor, Lee Parker, has reassured residents that our Neighbourhood Plan is a positive advantage in protecting the village from unwelcome development – we will keep track of any proposed changes in this regard.

Finally, work to repair the bus shelter at the bottom of Spout Lane has been scheduled for spring/summer this year.

For updates on these and other projects we continue to work on, come along to the parish council meetings or look out for the meeting minutes. Meeting dates for 2026 are: March 17th, May 19th, July 21st, September 15th and November 17th at 7pm.

If you have any feedback or questions, please get in touch. We will help where we can.

Karen Winter on behalf of Little Cornard Parish Council

Wise Words

I think sometimes we need to take a step back and just remember we have no greater right to be here than any other animal.

Sir David Attenborough (b. 8/5/1926)



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The Bell Tower Report

It was another busy Christmas season for the All Saints bell ringing band. We rang for our own lovely Carols by Candlelight on 21st December and for the joyful Christmas Day service. We supplied ringers for St Gregorys, Acton and Bures Carol Services as well as helping with ringing at other Christmas services where local churches were short of ringers. We entered a Christmas tree in the



L to R Richard Knight South-West District Ringing Master, Christine Knight South-West District Secretary, Dottie Coghill, James Royce, Jennifer Stevens, Pauline Brown South-West Chairman and Peter Upson

Sudbury Christmas Tree Festival held in St Peters (The Arts Centre) in early December and, by popular request, rang the bells there at the opening and closing of the festival. We also rang for the Sudbury Christmas Farmers Market on 19th December. We took a short rest after the round of Christmas services before resuming practice nights and service ringing, with our first service ring of the year on 11th January for Plough Sunday.

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 or just come along on any Wednesday evening at 7.00 pm. (Please note: no ringing during Holy Week)

I am doing an hour and a half on some Friday evenings for early learners to help get them up to speed. We now have Ben, another new starter, so plenty of opportunity to join him and learn!

We hosted a District Open Tower practice here at Little Cornard on 24th January. During the afternoon, All Saints ringers Dotty and James along with Jennifer, a ringer from Bures were elected to membership of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers having demonstrated their competence at bell handling and ringing rounds and call changes. Congratulations to all three. Our Little Cornard tower membership now stands at sixteen, all Suffolk Guild members, with five of us also being members of the Essex Association of Change Ringers. Membership of either Guild gives insurance cover for members during ringing.

Some people who learn do not attend church but even so still come along on a Sunday morning to ring prior to the service. It is helpful if you are able, even occasionally, to offer to do this but it is not obligatory. Ringing is good exercise, gets you out among very friendly groups of people all over the district and maintains an ancient traditional art. There must be more Little Cornard, Bures and Assington area folk who would like to learn!

There are lots of events planned for the coming year at which we will be taking part.

The Spring Flower Festival at All Saints will be on 9th and 10th May. We will be there to ring the bells and of course running our famous plant stall. Do come and see us and remember to save some space in your gardens for the plants we hope you will buy!

Gerald Bird

Did you know: The oldest bell in our tower was cast in 1398 in Kings Lynn and installed in the Tower in 1399 ...and no! I was not there to see it installed!

The oldest bell in the world hung for full circle ringing dates back to 1260 and is in St Peters Church, West Tytherley in Hampshire.

Okikicho Bell (Myoshin-ji) in Kyoto Japan: cast in 698 AD. At 1,300+ years old, it's the world's oldest bonshō (Buddhist bell) and is still rung today to summon Monks to prayer.



Okikicho Bell (Myoshin-ji) in Kyoto Japan

Suffolk Mobile Library Service

The mobile library calls at Workhouse Green, Little Cornard every fourth Saturday between 2.30 and 2.50. Dates for 2026 are 21st February, 21st March, 18th April, 16th May, 13th June, 11th July, 8th August, 5th September, 3rd October, 31st October and 28th November.

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

Little Cornard Parish Councillors Contact Details:

Karen Gilbert (Chair)

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Cheryl Crane (Vice chair)

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Kevin Money (Clerk)

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Jill Thomas

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Clive Johnson

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Nigel Monk

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Karen Winter

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East Anglian Railway Museum

The next visit to the museum of Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends takes place from Good Friday (April 3rd) through to Easter Monday (April 6th). 10am to 4pm each day.

Thomas will be pulling a train for visitors to ride in, and Percy will be pulling the Troublesome Trucks, people can have a ride in them as well. Toby and Henrietta will be there, and Daisy the DMU will be giving rides.

Sir Topham Hatt (the Fat Controller) will be on hand to keep an eye on things and to tell stories of Thomas and Friends.

These are always very popular family days out, and it is important to buy tickets in advance. Adult tickets are £19, 16 and under £15 and under twos go free. Family tickets (2 adults, 2 children) £64, family of five (2 adults 3 children) £78.

Tickets are not sold by the museum, but are available at

<https://www.quaytickets.com/dayoutwiththomas/>

For more information visit

<https://www.earm.co.uk>



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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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News from Cornard Mere

The lengthy dry spells of last Spring and Summer had left the peaty soil of the central pool exposed and plants soon began to appear over the surface. By October, a flowering of Lesser Spearwort *Ranunculus flammula* (see picture), hidden from the view of walkers travelling along the public footpath by the densely packed reeds, was a pleasant surprise for those who ventured through the vegetation. Lesser Spearwort is a member of the Buttercup family and, although the yellow flowers resemble those of a typical member of the Ranunculaceae, the leaves are lanceolate as opposed to palmate. Even the reeds themselves were providing a home for elegant white toadstools on their long stalks that had emerged through the reed stems.



Lesser Spearwort

Also in October volunteers from The Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Project were able to continue coppicing willows along the edge of the Caravan Park and beyond the Blackhouse Brook that crosses the reserve at this point. On one afternoon in late January a flock of nearly a hundred Mallards, accompanied by Gadwalls and Teal, was still corralled within the confines of the central pool. I could not help noticing the resident Buzzard gazing down at them from the top of a nearby Poplar tree. However, rain during the last few weeks of February has brought water almost back up to the public footpath.

Robin Ford

Volunteer Suffolk Wildlife Trust Warden

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: clerk@littlecornard-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Meeting Dates

**17th March, 19th May, 21st July, 15th September
and 17th November**

Neighbourhood Watch Report



Courier fraud occurs when people are contacted by people pretending to be police officers or bank officials and duped into handing over money, valuables or bank cards, which are collected from their home address, often by couriers. The criminals use a variety of different tactics, often claiming that there is a problem with your account and they need your help to catch the real criminals. The victim may also be encouraged into handing over bank details and PINs, as well as handing over or buying high value items such as jewellery, watches and gold.

Older people are sadly the most likely to be targeted by criminals carrying out courier fraud.

Examples of courier fraud include:

A scammer calling you, claiming to be from your bank or a police officer. They tell you either that, a fraudulent payment has been spotted on your card that needs sorting out or someone has been arrested using your details and cards.

You may be asked to call your bank using the phone number on the back of your card. This convinces you that the call is genuine. But the scammer has kept the line open at their end, so when you make the call, you're unknowingly connected straight back to them or their friends.

They'll either ask you for your PIN or ask you to key it into your phone. No bank or other legitimate service will ever ask you for your PIN.

The scammer then sends a courier or taxi to pick up the card from your home. Even the driver may not know they're being used as part of the scam. Once the scammer has both your card and PIN they can spend your money.

A different version of this scam is where you are contacted and told there's a corrupt member of staff at your bank, post office or bureau de change and the police need your help to identify them. They ask you to withdraw a large sum of your money, which the police or bank will mark, then put back into the banking system. They say this will help them identify the corrupt person. Once you hand the cash over, the scammers simply take it.

Victims are sometimes asked to meet the 'couriers' in public places such as supermarkets or retail parks.

The latest variation is where the scammer contacts you and says your bank account has been taken over and you need to transfer all the funds into a 'safe account'. Of course, the

new account is operated by the scammers, who then steal the funds.

Police officers will never:

- Ask for bank details or PINs
- Request cash or bank card handovers to couriers
- Demand money transfers to other accounts
- Ask for payment of fines or fees over the phone
- Request access to your computer or passwords

Mark Smith

Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch

Welcome to Suffolk Connected

Get connected with what is happening in your local area, stay up to date and get involved in shaping what goes on where you live or work.

Suffolk Connected is an easy, free messaging service from Suffolk Police, providing news and updates on policing matters that are relevant to you.

Sign up to receive email updates about crime and suspicious activity where you live or work, crime prevention advice and updates from your local neighbourhood policing team. You'll also have the opportunity to reply directly to your neighbourhood officers and have your say on local policing priorities.

<https://suffolkconnected.org.uk/#SignUp>



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 Harvest Magazine to be received by
Tuesday 28th July**

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, Phyllida Hallidie, 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

Little Cornard Village Hall Update

As planned, the village hall refurbishment works commenced in late December and whilst good progress has been made the internal works are unlikely to be completed until mid-February. Improvements to the parking area and new pathways to the rear of the hall have been delayed due to the poor weather conditions in January. It is hoped that the external works can be completed as soon as we have an improved weather outlook. As such, the village hall will remain closed for general use and hire until all the internal works have been completed.

The Village Hall Management Committee are due to hold their first meeting this year on Monday 23 February at which time dates for holding the 2026 social events will be agreed. It is anticipated that we will once again hold a Spring and Autumn quiz and there will be a summer party on the green. After the success of the casino night last November, we will also consider holding another similar event this year.

For any future booking enquiries please contact me at markirwin777@gmail.com

Mark Irwin

Date Cake

- 8 oz (200g) Chopped Dates
- 8 oz (200g) Sugar
- 1 Egg, beaten
- 10 oz (250g) Plain Flour
- 2 tsp Salt
- 1 tsp Bicarbonate of Soda
- 3 oz (75g) Fat (Butter or Margarine)
- 1 tsp Vanilla Essence
- 1 tsp Baking Powder

Place chopped dates in a bowl and pour over 8 fl oz (235ml) boiling water. Leave to soak while mixing together the remaining ingredients. Add mixture to soaked dates and stir well.

Place in a lined 9" x 12" (23cm x 30cm) tin. Bake for 35 minutes in a moderate oven 180C, Fan 160, Gas Mark 4

Allow to cool in tin.

Topping:

- 5 Tablespoons Soft Brown Sugar
- 2 Tablespoons Butter
- 2 Tablespoons Single Cream

Combine the ingredients in a small saucepan and boil for 3 minutes before spreading over the surface of the cake.

Recipe supplied by Sue Howland-Jackson

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