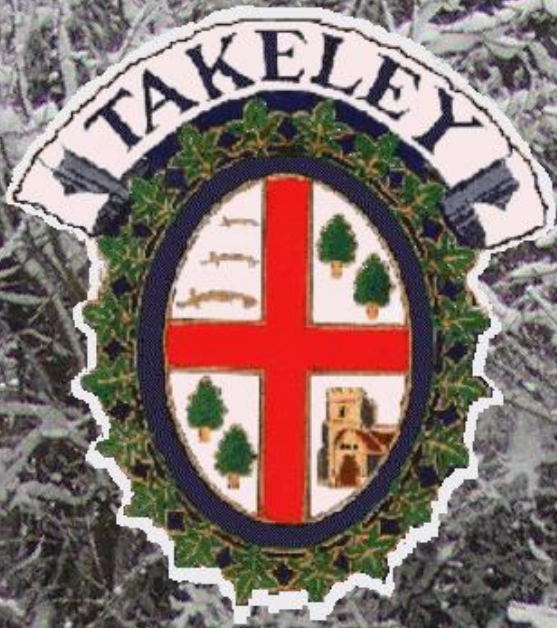


NEWSLETTER



Winter 2012 Issue No.57

TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

2012/13 TPC RESPONSIBILITIES:

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	REMIT		COUNCILLOR
CHAIRMAN			Carol Pratt
VICE CHAIRMAN			Richard Cheetham
FINANCE COMMITTEE	Report & recommendations to full Council re TPC finance matters	4	Richard Cheetham, Carol Pratt, Geoff Bagnall, Susan Sprules
PLANNING COMMITTEE	Planning Applications, Stansted, Housing Policy SSE PC Liaison Group.	4	Carol Pratt, Trevor Allen, Tricia Barber, John Green (temp), John Gregory (temp)
HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT			John Gregory
SPORTS FIELD			John Green
RECREATION GROUND			John Green
RIGHTS OF WAY/ FOOTPATHS/LAND	Rights of Way/Footpaths/Land Tree Warden Flich Way		Trevor Allen (temporarily)
MOLEHILL GREEN *	Green, Hall & Community		Carol Pratt
POLICE LIASON/PUBLIC SAFETY/ NAP rep.			John Gregory & Trevor Allen
PUBLICITY	Notice Boards, Website, Newsletter, Grapevine, Press		David Daykin
NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION			John Green
REGIONAL/NATIONAL POLICY	including Localism Act		Geoff Bagnall
PARISH PLAN			David Daykin & Susan Sprules

* NOTE: Cllrs. Carol Pratt & Trevor Allen are trustees of Molehill Green Village Hall

TPC REPRESENTATIVES:

REPRESENTATIVE	COUNCILLOR/RESIDENTS
Essex Assoc. of Local Councils	Clrs Richard Cheetham, Carol Pratt
Area Forums (incl. PCT)	Clr Tricia Barber, Clr Richard Cheetham
Parish Passenger /Transport Gps	Phyllis Altham (resident)
Priors Green Working Party	Clrs Carol Pratt, Geoff Bagnall, John Gregory
Localism Working Group (Coordinator)	Clr Geoff Bagnall
Takeley History Society & School	Clr Trevor Allen
Silver Jubilee Hall	Clr Trevor Allen
SSE Parish Liaison Group	Planning Committee Rep.
Health Provision	Susan Sprules

All roles confirmed & agreed TPC Meeting May 2012

This and back issues can be viewed on our website www.takeleypc.co.uk

Editorial



In which the editor is haunted by peacocks, gets political and is struck by lightning.

As I sit here penning this latest editorial ramble, a howling gale is blowing outside, whistling round the dormer window and making the aerial on the chimney produce loud bonging noises.

A wheelie bin is making a bid for freedom down the road, rolling and spinning like a drunken sailor. And if that sounds repetitive, well, it *is*. I know that I am probably starting to sound like a weather obsessive, but this must be one of the most dreary (if that's the word) years that I have ever experienced.

I suspect that I am thrown out of kilter like the trees that do not know when to bud anymore or stranded migratory birds. My less charitable friends would probably chime in at this point and say that confusion is my normal state. I would propose the excuse that I am like a semi-hibernating bear, which is getting grumpier by the day at waking to meteorological disappointment. (Thought: do bears know what meteorology is?) Maybe I should be like Winnie the Pooh and drown my sorrows in a pot of honey. Or just drown in a pot of honey ... That's what you call coming to a sticky end! And a pot of honey would take up less space in the kitchen than a butt of Malmsey.

Ah well:

*Blow, blow, thou winter wynd,
Thou art not so unkind
As man's ingratitude;
Thy tooth is not so keen,
Because thou art not seen,
Although thy breath be rude.*

Yesterday morning, Beloved came across a peacock in the middle of the road. This peacock has been haunting our estate for the last few months. I think it must be a quantum peacock as it comes and goes without rhyme or reason.

Said peacock refused to move and squatted in front of her car with a beady look in its eye. Beloved had to get out of her car and shoo it out of the way. It finally moved, giving her the peacock equivalent of two fingers raised as it went. It was probably expecting to be fed. Now I mention this incident as, a few months ago, I came across a couple of peacocks leaning nonchalantly against my car in North Weald. They gave me a cursory look and then, in their own time, wandered off.

Am I being *haunted* by peacocks or are they the reincarnations of long lost relatives trying to attract my attention? My godfather was Professor Peacock. He was the curator of Ornithology at the Natural History museum.



The next time that I meet our fine feathered friend, I shall engage it in serious conversation. I am sure that it will be an eggsellent and invigorating dialogue.

Meantime, I am in the process of recovering from last week's production of Old King Cole. I've finally got my kitchen free of glue, wood and cardboard and am tackling drifts of dust around the house that have nearly got to the point of creating dunes that would not be out of place on the set for Lawrence of Arabia. And after two years of residence, I have finally procured a window cleaner.



"They were very bad," he said, in an accusing tone. I was too addled by the dazzling light coming into the house from my now-transparent windows to think of a suitable reply. Which is how I suddenly became aware of all the dust.

Maybe ignorance is bliss. Ah well.

Meanwhile, the same old topics of conversation keep raising their heads, especially the never-ending airport saga. Every time that I open a newspaper or turn on the television, another scheme for a new airport seems to be unveiled. If one were to build all the schemes that have been proposed, most of the southern part of the country would be under concrete. First hand observation tells me that Stansted Airport is hardly over-subscribed at the moment.

At the beginning of November, Tallen and I spent an afternoon in the terminal, collecting for the British Legion. We were both struck by the emptiness of the place. We were hardly bowled over by throngs of eager travellers. Mind you, the level of interest and generosity shown by those who did visit our stand was overwhelming.

Still, I suppose that we have to wait until after the next election before any politician attempts to make a meaningful decision over the future airports policy. And I wonder if there ever *will* be a decision, or am I just an old cynic? Personally, I am very fond of fudge. But fudge is all that politicians seem to like. And we all know that unhealthy diets catch up with us over the years ...

And so the spectre of Christmas is nearly upon us, like a rampant polar bear wearing fairy lights on his ears and holly round his neck. And about as friendly. Shops seem to be gearing up for the festive season earlier and earlier. There's something peculiarly inevitable about the whole razzmatazz – like watching the huge animal migrations that one sees on natural history programmes. Each year I feel a bit more like the stray wildebeest that gets stranded in the river and left behind to be eaten by crocodiles. Actually, I think that they've been chewing off bits of me for years and I've only just noticed. Never mind, I shall be a *festive* wildebeest. Honest!

Mind you, I wasn't very festive the Christmas I was struck by lightning. There I was, a twelve year old, in my uncle's farmhouse on the top of a Welsh mountain. There was a violent thunderstorm rumbling around us as the mountaintop was virtually in the cloud base. I was leaning against a wrought iron standard lamp when there was a huge crack and a bang. There was a vivid blue glow and the lamp and I lit up like the proverbial Christmas tree!

Naturally I had hysterics on the spot and was only consoled when my uncle made me an honorary member of the lightning club! Maybe that's why my hair always seems to stand on end at the slightest opportunity.

Of course, Christmas in school is always a special time. I remember constructing an enormous Bethlehem scene with three-dimensional buildings all lit up from inside. It really looked the part. Then I showed my class how to make paper sculpture figures and asked them to choose a character to make to populate our scene. Oh foolish me. Choice should never have entered into the equation.

Bethlehem appeared to have been invaded by thirty-three kings bearing thirty-three gifts!

And of course, I usually ended up building the scenery for plays and pantomimes.



One year, I was dismantling the stage after the infant nativity play. The stage was constructed from tubular steel bases with plywood tops that slotted into place with a hole at each corner where the tubular legs located. Finally, a plastic cap went on top of each tube so dirt and foreign objects couldn't be trapped. Over the years, these caps got lost or people simply forgot to put them on.

Now, on this occasion an awful lot of the caps were missing.

As I lifted out the frames and tipped them over to carry them, cold liquid ran out over my hands. I called out to one of the infant teachers who was helping me: "Look at all the condensation in these frames!" She promptly collapsed laughing and, when she had recovered her composure, told me that it wasn't condensation. Apparently, some of the infants, overcome with being in the play, had accidentally relieved themselves on the stage.

Which brings me to a conclusion of sorts.

Therefore, this grumpy old codger will wander downstairs to a coffee and some single malt medicine.

*When shall we all meet again,
In thunder, lightning or in rain?*

Well, probably after Christmas.
Nighty night.

Paul Regeli, Contributing Editor.

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TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The following are extracts from the September, October and November Parish Council minutes, which can be viewed on the TPC website: www.takeleypc.co.uk

2011/12 Annual Return, Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998, The Accounts & Audit (England) Regulations 2011

The audit for the accounting statements for the year ended 31st March 2012 has been concluded. Audit opinion 'the information provided is in accordance with proper practices & no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation & regulatory requirements have not been met'.

The accounting statements are available for inspection by any local elector for the area of Takeley Parish Council on application to the Clerk on payment of £1 for each copy of the Annual Return.

Revisions to 2012/13 Budgets & 2013/14 Budgets & Precept

TPC approved the following recommendations:

2012/13 Review Actuals v Budgets:

	Original £	Revised £	Difference +/-
Station House Income	5000	1000	- 4000
Employee costs - Asst Clerk	nil	£700	+ 700
Election Expenses	1000	Nil	-1000
S137 Free Resource	6000	8000	+ 2000
VAT	1000	2000	+ 1000
Total Income	84050	80050	-4000
Total Expenditure	93020	95971	+ 2951
Allocated Reserves	57425	57425	
Unallocated Reserve		21022	

Recreation Ground Project

- New Homes Bonus allocation = £35k
- TPC will appoint Broadmead Leisure (lead time = 4weeks). Site visit & contract tbc.

2013/14 Budgets & Precept

- In real terms we are not increasing the precept. A bigger precept is generated by an increasing population. **Recommend £80k precept** subject to change following UDC Tax Base calculation & Govt ruling on increase precept v referendum.

Takeley 10k Run - 23rd September 2012

Raising funds for Silver Jubilee Hall development. TPC approved a request for £100 towards costs.

Uttlesford Homestart

TPC approved a donation of £500

Molehill Green Cricket Club

Request for funding. £1020 spent on a cover for half the cricket square plus a large piece of carpet. This allowed play to continue after rainfall. TPC approved a donation of £500 towards this cost.

Takeley Cricket Club

The Club has requested financial assistance to provide a new mower (£2100 + vat) and to make repairs to boundary fencing at Chestnut Way (£800-1k). TPC agreed to contribute £1500.

Takeley Community Group

Takeley Community Group provides parties for children of Takeley. They intend to run 3 parties 2012/13. There is a shortfall of £200 per party and they have requested support from TPC. TPC members agreed to provide £750.

Holy Trinity Churchyard Maintenance

Request for annual grant of £1k towards churchyard maintenance (grass cutting & hedging).

TPC approved a grant of £1k for maintenance plus an additional £200 to replace Felix Cobson's memorial tree - a silver birch that has failed.

Uttlesford Community Travel

Request for donation towards the cost of a new vehicle (£50k). TPC agreed to contribute £500.

ACM Group requested a new/improved skate park (Takeley Sports Field). The existing park is damaged and unrideable. There are many potential users (including children who attend football matches at the Sports field).

TPC requested that the group bring forward a proposal including pictures and words. What do you want? Who would use it? Access issues?

Clr Linda Steer agreed to work closely with the group and to feed in other comments from the Youth questionnaire.

A local resident reported: the **ditch at South Road** is repeatedly being blocked by leaves from overhanging trees, and rubbish/junk deposited in the ditch. On Sunday 4th Nov. the ditch was a few inches from flooding - residents had to unblock the ditch. It was suggested that the ditch be fenced off at the rear of the Community Centre where there is a 4 foot gap along the footpath.

Community Cafe

Clr Pat Burnett reported on the success of the community cafe particularly during half term. Pat has purchased a small freezer (as agreed Oct 2012) and stock for November. Local walking groups have expressed an interest in using the cafe as a stopping point. It was agreed that a mud scraper will be purchased for use in the winter months.

TPC thanked Clr Burnett for all her efforts.

Dog Fouling & Littering

A detailed schedule of recommended locations and additional dog waste & litter bins was reviewed and agreed by TPC. The Clerk is arranging a site survey with TBS Hygiene to request advice and quotes re proposed collection round, siting of bins, cost of additional bins.

TPC agreed that approximately £6k will be required to purchase new bins as per agreed schedule. TPC agreed that this money should form part of S106 allocation of funds from UDC.

Emptying/collection from bins will initially be fortnightly with the exception of bins at bus stops around the Four Ashes, Recreation Ground & Sports Field, which will be emptied weekly.

Transfer of Priors Green Community Hall

TPC will be 'custodian trustees' of the hall. The hall will be managed by a committee of local residents.

Meeting with TPC, UDC & PG Mgmt Committee reps meeting 13th Sept. Legal agreement ready for signing.

Clerk confirming S106 monies to be transferred with Andrew Taylor (UDC) - £115k

TPC agreed that the transfer should continue pending the outcome of the meeting on 13th, & confirmation from UDC of the transfer of S106 monies.

Takeley Park

Mr. Bishop of Takeley Park raised the concerns of Takeley Park residents and requested help from TPC.

Whilst TPC has no jurisdiction in this matter, members agreed that TPC had a moral duty to support the residents of Takeley Park, and to assist them in seeking some remedy for their concerns.

The Clerk has spoken to UDC. They appear to have limited powers to intervene.

Members agreed to host a meeting of the residents (within the next 4 weeks) and to invite Sir Alan to attend.

Members received a report from the meeting for residents of Takeley Park with Sir Alan Haselhurst 25/10/12.

Sir Alan Haselhurst has written to John Mitchell, Chief Executive of UDC.

TPC agreed to follow up this meeting by writing to UDC & Regency Park Homes to alert them to the issues raised.

Village Maintenance & Planting budget

Clr Daykin has request further funds to prepare the village planters for Autumn 2012/Spring 2013 (winter pansies & spring bulbs), & to provide weed spraying for some footpaths including further maintenance to Station House platform & access to the Flich Way.

TPC agreed to increase the planting budget from £300 to £500 (£219 spent to date). Members agreed that plants/bulbs should be sourced locally.

Weed spraying will be requested via Coleman's who are licensed to provide the correct solutions and will advise re appropriate locations.

Morrells Green Play Space

Andrew Taylor (UDC) has requested TPC re-open discussions to take over 3 areas with a commuted sum of around £30k. TPC reps. have completed a site visit with Ben Smeeden (UDC) 22/8/12 to review the condition of areas.

The Clerk has provided feedback to UDC as agreed at the last meeting.

Andrew Taylor (UDC) has instructed the repairs as requested.

TPC has taken advice re maintenance of these areas. Cost = £700 - £1k per annum. Access gate to play area at the back of the site needs

to be 2m wide to accommodate cutting machinery. TPC also agreed that the 3 dead/failing trees on the front green should be replaced. TPC agreed that once the work was completed as per the agreed specification the transfer could progress.

Green Waste Weekend Collection Service 2013

UDC request confirmation that TPC wishes to continue weekend collections (as per 2012) Cost = £1785.

Clr Geoff Bagnall has been in contact with Nick Bone of Edviron at Crumps Farm. He has offered a drop off service for 34wks/year between April & November on a Saturday morning between 10.30am - 12.30pm. TPC will be charged per tonne of waste (£35/tonne) rather than the current arrangement where TPC pay UDC £52.50 per collection regardless of the amount collected.

TPC agreed that the Crumps Farm solution provides a number of benefits:

- We only pay for the waste produced
- It is anticipated that this option will provide significant cost savings
- It supports a local business which in turn is providing a service beneficial to the community.

Takeley School House

TPC received a report from the first working group meeting 18/10/12. The group discussed potential future use for the building.

The group will obtain a costed schedule of work required to make the building habitable, and an independent valuation of the site (Community use).

The group agreed to reconvene after the above information is available to consider the cost of buying the site and repairing/improving the building v the future needs of the community/potential uses.

Youth facilities in Takeley

Clr Linda Steer requested that the Council consider the issues concerning youths in Takeley (age 8-18yrs):

- vandalism problems
- nothing to do in the village
- suggested a survey of young people in Takeley

Clr Linda Steer volunteered to approach local organisations and to gather some feedback for the next meeting.

Clr Linda Steer presented a proposal that included considering a Youth Council, workshops for young people in Takeley, co-opting support

from existing groups & organisations in Takeley, and issuing a questionnaire to all Takeley children (9-17yrs).
 Takeley Primary School is undertaking a project & will report on findings Mon. 3rd Dec. 2012 -TPC reps to attend.
 TPC approved a draft questionnaire and agreed to publish this in the next TPC Newsletter, and on TPC's website. Deadline for responses will be 14th December. Clr Linda Steer will collate the responses.
 TPC will review the summary of responses & agree further action in the New Year.

Employment of an Assistant Clerk

TPC approved the recommendations of the working group who met on 25th Oct. 2012:

1. Appoint an assistant to the Clerk (ideally a local person)
2. 15 hours/week paid at NALC recommended rate Scale LC1 & LC2 SCP 18-22
3. Job description approved.
4. Budget 2013/14 £8.5k (incl employer NI)
5. Advertise in TPC Newsletter & Grapevine Nov/Dec 2012
6. EALC courses/CILCA tbc

For further information about Takeley Parish Council please contact the Clerk or visit the website: www.takeleypc.co.uk
 Jane Heskey, Takeley Parish Council, Station House,
 Sycamore Close, Takeley, Essex, CM22 6QA
 Phone: 020 8270 1149 Email:Takeley.pc@ntlworld.com

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CONCERNED ABOUT AIRCRAFT NOISE?

A certain amount of aircraft noise is unavoidable if you live close to an airport but that does not mean you have to put up with any amount of aircraft noise at any time. This can happen when an aircraft is flying low, is off-track, or is simply generating unusually loud engine noise. It is vital that, if you are annoyed by aircraft noise, you register this as soon as possible after the event.

Registering a 'noisy aircraft' event ensures that the airport has the information and can take appropriate action. It also enables patterns to be identified so that longer term solutions can be considered. Finally, it also serves as a useful reminder to the airport, the airlines and the Department for Transport that those of us who live around airports are not immune to the effects of noisy aircraft – including helicopters as well as planes.

The best way to register a noisy aircraft event to the Stansted Airport noise complaints unit is via the SSE website at http://www.stopstanstedexpansion.com/noise_complaint_form.asp.

This ensures that SSE can keep track of complaints and follow up with the airport management as appropriate. If you don't have internet access you can register a noisy aircraft event with the airport by phone on 0800 243788.

For further information see

<http://www.stopstanstedexpansion.com/noise.html>.



Takeley 10K and Fun Run – A Big Thank You

The third annual Takeley 10k and Children's Fun Run took place on September 23rd and finished at the Sports and Social Club. Despite the worst storms for 30 years, the event was well supported both by serious runners from local clubs as well as enthusiastic and patriotic local runners.

The organising committee would like to say a huge thank you to all those who supported the event, either by sponsoring or advertising, or running the race, as well as those who volunteered on the day with activities such as marshalling, car parking and running stalls. We would also like to thank the residents of The Pastures as the runners came through there on the last part of the race.

This year the event raised just over £4,000 which will contribute to the Village Hall and Sports and Social Club redevelopment project.

Uttlesford Community Travel

It has come to our attention that some recent developments of elderly housing across the district have been built without there being any easy access to public transport.

We would like to remind you of the door to door service we offer on our **Book-A-Ride** minibuses, all of which have easy wheelchair access. We also run the **Volunteer Hospital Car Service** for those attending medical appointments. These trips are carried out by volunteer drivers in their own cars.

If you are aware of any elderly housing complex in your parish or indeed elderly people still living in their own homes who have problems getting out and about please tell them about us.

Our staff are always happy to take the time to explain our various services to those who may be interested in what we can offer. We can be contacted **Monday to Friday between 9am and 1pm on 01371 875787.**

Ian Shaw, Chairman
Uttlesford Community Travel
Unit One, Fitch Industrial Estate,
Chelmsford Road, Dunmow. CM6 2SF



VOLUNTEER CENTRE UTTLESFORD

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If you think this is the post for you, please contact us for further details on 01799 513626, or by email: Uttlesford_vb@yahoo.co.uk

The Station House Community Café



The café is run as a community café by volunteers supported by the Parish Council. Like all the best cafes we aim to provide a service to the community that goes beyond tea and cakes. We welcome visits from groups, whether of cyclists, parents and toddlers or business people having a meeting. Our prices are very reasonable and now the colder days are here we are supplying soup + roll for the cost of only 75p so if you have not had the chance to pop in, it's not too late.

Our opening hours are:

Thursday 12noon – 4 pm Friday 9.00am – 1.00pm

Station House, Sycamore Close, Takeley

Off Station Road at the Four Ashes Junction

Be a volunteer - spend as little or as much time helping out.



Workers Education Association Adult learning course Music from the Movies

From the early silent films through to contemporary blockbusters, music has played a major role in the development of the cinema. The course traces that role with major composers.

Tutor	Chris Green		
Venue	Takeley Community Centre		
Day of the Week	Monday	Time	20.00 – 21.30
Start Date	07/01/13	No. of weeks	10.
Fee	£55.		

Contact Pat Burnett for more details 01279 870578
paul@pburnett1.orangehome.co.uk

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Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association is a local charity, community-based, non-profit making organisation established in 1994. Buffy Bus is a playbus designed to bring to the under fives an opportunity to paint, play and socialise in a play-group environment. Buffy Bus relies on grant aid, charitable donations and our own fund-raising efforts.

Suggested donation £2 for a child and £3 per family, per visit. If you would like to contact us, ring Rosie on 01799 522130, email: info@buffybus.co.uk; or visit our website: www.buffybus.co.uk



buffy playbus timetable from Sept '12

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Saffron Walden Cromwell Road 9.15am-10.30am	Hatfield Heath The Heath 9.30am-11.00am	Rickling Village Green 9.15am-10.30am	Little Dunmow Baynard Avenue 9.15am-10.45am	Saffron Walden Sheds Lane 9.00am-10.30am
Great Chesterford Jacksons Lane 11.00am-12.15pm	Takeley Station House 11.30am-12.30pm	Stansted- NEW TIME Walson Way Forest Hall 11.am-12.30pm	Barnston Village hall car park 11.15am-12.30pm	Ashdon Church Field 11.00am-12.30pm
Carver Barracks 1.30pm-3.00pm	Thaxted Bardfield Road 1.45pm-3.00pm	Manuden- NEW TIME The Street 1.30pm-3.00pm	Takeley Warwick Road Great Canfield	Sewards End Village Hall Car Park 1.30pm-3.00pm

Registered charity number 1051491—Whilst every effort will be made to keep to this timetable, Buffy Playbus reserves the right to delay a visit due to operational reasons

IMPORTANT! NEW CONTACT NUMBER

TAKECARE

*Volunteers from Takeley providing transport for the elderly,
disabled and infirm in the parish.*

**Please phone between 9am - 5.30pm
giving a minimum of 24 hrs notice**

CONTACT:07949 932237

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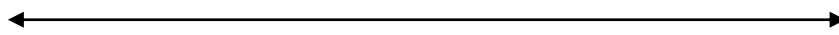
SPARKLERS

The “Sparklers” group is for pre-school children, their parents and carers. It is an informal meeting in Takeley Community Centre, South Road, with a short time of Christian worship, craft activities, toys, and refreshments.

There will always be a warm welcome for other children if they would like to come and join us.

Sparklers meet on a Monday, but not the first Monday in the month and not bank holidays.

Each meeting starts at 10am and finishes at 11.30am.



“Singing from the Heart”

For those people who have not yet visited our singing workshops, why not come along and join us for our final session of the year? The only requirement is that you have an urge to sing with likeminded people who like singing for fun. We are led by our natural voice coach Angela Dennis and sing unaccompanied by musical instruments.

Our next session of Singing from the Heart will be on 12th December. “But that is only two weeks after the last meeting.” Yep, you are right again, but for good reason. The third Wednesday happens to be the 19th December and as this is such a busy time of year for all of us we agreed that it would be best to end a week early, and to finish the session with mince pies and mulled wine (or tea if preferred).

All our sessions start at 7.30pm, we sing for a couple of hours and then finish with light refreshments. Each session is a fresh start so there is no catching up to do and costs just £5.00.

May I take this opportunity to wish the S/F/T/H singers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Dates for Your Diary

Dec 12th 2012, 7.30pm

Feb 20th 2013, 7.30pm for the first session in the New Year

For more information please contact me Paul Burnett on 01279870578
paul@pburnett1.orangehome.co.uk

TAKELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

“Learning and Achieving Together”



We are settling well into our new building and beginning to make it our own! Outside our grounds are beginning to take shape, the grass seed is growing and the trees have been planted. Next spring we should see the courtyards, playground and grounds beginning to take shape and looking fantastic. We are really pleased to see so many of our children and parents walking and cycling to school, making healthy choices and causing less traffic congestion in the village. The children are making good use of the newly widened pavement along the main road where space has been created for cyclists, which is really good, though to ensure enhanced safety for pedestrians and cyclists I will ask if the pavement could be clearly demarcated with a cycle path and pedestrian walkway, so that both can share the area safely.

Inside the school we have added additional pinboards to display the children's work and canvas prints of the children taking part in the activities that form a large part of our provision, these being outdoor learning, cooking, Forest School, growing, reading, sport and our excellent play leaders. All our Year 6 children act as play leaders, supporting, playing with and helping our staff to care for our younger children, so that there is always a friendly face close at hand to help with any worry, however little. Every year we are pleased with how caring our children are towards each other, however this year the Year 6 children are exceptional.

We were pleased to have excellent results in the summer, significantly above the national averages in all areas for our

Year 6 leavers. However, we continue to set ourselves high standards and have listed three areas for further improvement. These priorities are reading, applying skills across the curriculum and developing our provision to embrace our new building. As part of our first priority we have introduced a new reading scheme across the whole school called 'Read. Write Inc'. Despite only having delivered the scheme for a short amount of time we are already seeing some good results and improvements with our children. The scheme is based on rigorous daily instruction in synthetic phonics, which is helping the children to read, spell and write independently and proficiently. It is a modern, lively and pacy scheme that the children are all enjoying. They are especially fond of Fred the frog who helps out in all groups!



We were also delighted that Chloe Rogers, local girl and member of the Team GB hockey team that won bronze at the summer Olympics, was able to officially open our new school in November. Thank you to everybody who came along to share this special event with us.

We are fortunate to have such a wonderful and inspirational new building to have moved into. However, as Josh (Year 6) pointed out, schools are more than just the premises!

"The school shone with happiness because of the bright children that filled it!"

Mandy Line
Headteacher



Obstruction Of Footpaths

A number of complaints have been reported to police and local council about vehicles obstructing the footpaths and driveways in this area.

It is an offence to park a vehicle on a footpath and cause an obstruction.

There should be enough space for a pushchair to pass.

This may attract a Fixed Penalty Notice or Prosecution. Thank you for your co-operation.

Right up
your street

Hatfield Heath NPT
Tel: 101 or 07989174801



www.essex.police.uk

Contact your local officers:

PC Brad Healey

e-mail: 1712@essex.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Joanna Trevail-Phillips

e-mail: 73377@essex.pnn.police.uk

Telephone:

Non-emergency- 101

NPT mobile- 07989174801



TAKELEY YOUTH MATTERS



Takeley Parish Council is very keen to hear the views of young people (aged 9 - 17 years) in the village, what they think of the current facilities and activities, and what they would like to see in the village.

WHY?

- Young people are the best ones to say what young people want
- Funds available and the Parish Council wants to make sure that these are spent well

HOW?

- by filling out this form you can help decide what can be done

Takeley Primary School and other community groups are involved with this project.

Are you a: boy girl

Are you age: 9 – 11 12 – 14 15 – 17

Write down any clubs/groups in Takeley that you currently take part in

What recreational facilities in Takeley you currently use e.g. play areas, Skate Park, sports hall, etc?

How do you think any of the existing indoor & outdoor facilities can be improved, e.g. play areas, Skate Park, courts/pitches, halls including sports halls & Silver Jubilee Hall & Social Club?

Tick any of those below that you would take part in if they were available in Takeley

Badminton		Netball	
Basketball		Rounders	
Cookery		Rugby	
Cycling		Snooker/pool	
Dance		Tennis	
Drama		Table tennis	
Film		Volley ball	
Martial arts		Youth centre	
Music		None	

Write down any other facilities & activities that you would like to see in Takeley

What would make Takeley a better place for young people?

A Youth Council is a group of young people who want to change things in their local area, such as finding somewhere for young people to hang out, looking for things to do such as sports, music, dance or coming up with ideas for better facilities such as larger skate parks or sports equipment.

More information on youth councils can be found at <http://www.byc.org.uk>

Do you think a Youth Council in Takeley is a good idea? **YES / NO**

Would you be interested in being on a Youth Council? **YES / NO**

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Now please return it by 14th December either: -

- through the letter box of Takeley Station House, Sycamore Close
- in box located in Takeley News (newsagent by bus stop)

More forms are available online at <http://www.takeleypc.co.uk>

TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING SCHEDULE 2013

Meetings start at 7.30pm & are held in the Station House, Sycamore Close, unless notified otherwise.

JANUARY 9th	FEBRUARY 6th	MARCH 6th
APRIL 3rd	AGM MAY 1st	JUNE 5th
JULY 3rd	AUGUST 7th	SEPTEMBER 4th
OCTOBER 2nd	NOVEMBER 6th	DECEMBER 4th



Recycle for Uttlesford



Christmas/New Year Waste & Recycling Arrangements 2012/13

The Christmas Bank Holidays this year fall on a Tuesday and Wednesday with New Year's Day falling on the following Tuesday. To keep adjustments to collections as simple as possible for residents it has been decided that the service will close for the week of Christmas and restart on Wednesday 2 January 2013. Collection days will be as follows:

Service Closed:

- ❄️ Tuesday 25 December 2012
- ❄️ Thursday 27 December 2012
- ❄️ Wednesday 26 December 2012
- ❄️ Friday 28 December 2012

Usual Collection Day		New Collection Day	
Tues 1 Jan 2013	Changes to	Wed 2 Jan 2013	Green-lidded recycling bin and food waste caddy
Wed 2 Jan 2013	Changes to	Thur 3 Jan 2013	
Thur 3 Jan 2013	Changes to	Fri 4 Jan 2013	
Fri 4 Jan 2013	Changes to	Sat 5 Jan 2013	

Collections will return to normal from Tuesday 8 January 2013 which will be a black-lidded bin and food waste collection.



Visit our bin collection day finder and register for updates: www.uttlesford.gov.uk/bins

CHRISTMAS TREE & GREEN WASTE RECYCLING

Skips and refuse vehicles will be made available on the following days for residents who wish to recycle their real Christmas trees and green waste:

Saturday, 12 January 2013

❖ Dunmow	Chequers Lane Car Park	9am ~ 3pm
❖ Stansted	Lower Street Car Park	9am ~ 3pm
❖ Thaxted	Margaret Street Car Park	9am ~ 3pm



Sunday, 13 January 2013

❖ Ashdon	Junction of Walden Road & Fallowden Lane	10.45am ~ 11.45am
❖ Chrishall	Near The Red Cow Public House	10.20am ~ 11.20am
❖ Clavering	Between the village and Clavering Mills	11.30am ~ 1pm
❖ Felsted	Bannister Green	9am ~ 10.30am
❖ Gt. Chesterford	Meadow Road	2.30pm ~ 4pm
❖ Great Easton	Village Hall Car Park	1.30pm ~ 2.30pm
❖ Hadstock	Village Green	12pm ~ 1pm
❖ Hatfield Heath	Broomfields	3pm ~ 4pm
❖ High Easter	Jubilee Field, The Street	9am ~ 10am
❖ Leaden Roding	Holloway Crescent	10.15am ~ 11am
❖ Littlebury	Recreation Ground Car Park	9am ~ 10am
❖ Lt. Hallingbury	Village Car Park	1.30pm ~ 2.30pm
❖ Manuden	Carters Hill	1.45pm ~ 2.45pm
❖ Newport	Station Car Park	3pm ~ 4pm
❖ Radwinter	Recreation Ground Car Park	9am ~ 10.30am
❖ Stebbing	The Downs, High Street	11am ~ 12pm
❖ Takeley	Sports Field	3pm ~ 4pm
❖ White Roding	Sport & Social Club Car Park	11.15am ~ 12pm

Recycling Centre for Household Waste, Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden

9am - 4pm every day except

Christmas Eve: Open 9am ~ 1pm

New Year's Eve: Open 9am ~ 1pm

Christmas Day: Closed

New Years Day: Closed

Boxing Day: Closed

www.uttlesford.gov.uk/recycling

JOB VACANCY

TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Assistant Parish Clerk/ Responsible Financial Officer

JOB PURPOSE

The Assistant Clerk to the Council will support the Clerk to the Council who is the Proper Officer and employee of the Council and as such is under a statutory duty to carry out all the functions of a local authority's Proper Officer and in particular to serve or issue all the notices required by law of the Proper Officer of the Council.

The Clerk advises the Council on, and assists in the formation of, overall policies to be followed in respect of the Authority's activities and in particular to produce all the information required for making effective decisions and to implement constructively all decisions.

LOCATION

The Assistant Clerk will be based at Takeley Station House. Some home working is expected.

DUTIES WILL INCLUDE:

- Preparation of agendas, detailed reports and associated documents in preparation for meetings
- Coordination of responses arising from meetings and forwarding to relevant recipients/bodies
- Attendance of Council and Committee meetings, production of minutes and implementation/actioning of recommendations and resolutions
- Dealing with enquiries and issues arising from the public by phone, email, letter and face to face
- Deputising for the Clerk including the day-to-day running of the office
- Accurate record keeping and administration
- Maintaining the Council's finances on a day to day basis
- Ad hoc administrative and project based duties
- Maintain public information (notice boards, newsletter, website etc)
- To attend training courses or seminars on the work and role of the Clerk as required by the Council.

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE SHOULD HAVE EXPERIENCE IN THE FOLLOWING:

- Administration/secretarial skills
- IT skills, particularly Word & Excel
- Customer-facing skills

- Understanding of finance and accounting processes
- A flexible approach to hours of work and day to day duties and responsibilities

CONTRACT

The normal working hours of the Asst Clerk/ RFO are 15 hours per week
 The working week will also include some ad hoc evening meetings
 Permanent contract, subject to NALC Guidelines.

SALARY SCALE

Scale LC1 & LC2 SCP 18-22 £8.919 - 10.198 per hour

The following would be an advantage although not essential:

- Previous experience of working in Local Government of Public Sector environment
- CILCA qualification

This is an interesting and varied role and a great opportunity to be involved in the local community.

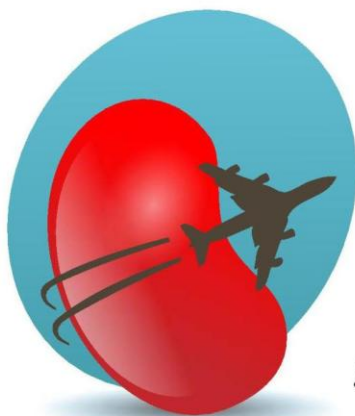
Closing date for applications: 28th December 2012

Interview date: January/February 2013.

Further details available from: takeley.pc@ntlworld.com

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Tallen's Country Notes

It seems only yesterday that I was sitting writing autumn TCN. I am told that those symptoms are a sign of old age, however, I disagree with that comment, for the number of the younger generation that appear to suffer from the same predicament is quite refreshing!

That is enough of self congratulations as it doesn't help me to write this winter's TCN. But then who knows these days when winter starts and, more important, when it ends. Looking back at 2012 I am not sure if winter ever finished.

I am not alone in this thought as many of our resident birds started to nest as usual in February, March and April. Snow was either thick on the ground or it was wet, very cold and windy. When one considers whether or not we had a spring, the sort of spring that inspired many poets to write about it, I can only deduce it was a non event. We didn't experience those warm evenings and not an April shower. I'm moaning about it but the blackbirds, blue tits and the other residents and our other summer visiting birds have to put up with it. For them these changes to the weather systems means the difference between survival and extinction.

Many nestlings failed to mature as the food that usual appears at this time failed to materialise. This was due to the cold spring weather we experienced. All creatures, and that includes us humans, need sunshine. It encourages spring flowers to bloom providing nectar for those early insects that have hibernated through the winter, for they are the breeding stock of the future. They also provide food for those residential birds that have survived the winter. The truth is, no insects, no food, no survival! I do not want to appear negative but I am very worried about all our wildlife especially the bird world.



Fortunately I do have a upside to these Notes. I refer to my visiting house martins, who though they arrived later than usual, soon settled in with each pair raising at least two broods.



One family group left at the end of August and the other two pair didn't leave until the first week in October.

The goldfinches have sustained their numbers as have the house sparrows.

On another positive note a family of green finches visited the 'feeders' and feasted on the sun-flower hearts, which is the only seed I provide.

Another pleasant surprise was the female bull finch that paid a day's stopover during August. I haven't seen a bull finch for years so this visit was greatly appreciated.



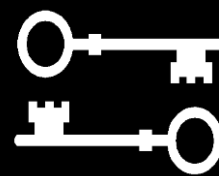
I am hoping that the start of 2013 is not as severe as the last few years, for not only would it be helpful for the bird population, but being selfish, I would not miss those freezing conditions which have gripped the countryside of late.

Tallen

TAKELEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY UNLOCKING THE PAST

<http://tlhs.org.uk>

chairman@tlhs.org.uk



There is always more to discover when you are interested in the history of a place, and Takeley history is certainly no exception.



I was recently trawling the web and found an interesting article from May this year about the conservation at the Essex Records Office of 42 early medieval deeds relating to the manor of Colchester Hall in Takeley. For those of you new to the village, Colchester Hall was one of Takeley's large manor

houses roughly where Stansted Airport Terminal now stands, just south west of Molehill Green.

What is particularly interesting about these documents, apart from the fact that they all date from before 1250, is that they are an early example of the use of the Arabic numbering system in England and it was more typical at this time for Roman numerals to be used.

The deeds are also unusual in that many still have their seals intact.

You can read the article for yourself at:

<http://www.essexrecordofficeblog.co.uk/conservation-project-conserving-the-takeley-deeds/>

Our next meeting will be held on at Takeley Primary School on Tuesday 5th Feb, 7.30pm, where Robert Lodge will talk about the history of Lodges Coaches.

**Steve Hazon,
Chairman, Takeley Local History Society**



Articles from the past, by Pat Salmon

Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Sat 17th Dec 1881.

COAL-STEALING.

At a special petty session, held at Dunmow, on Monday, before the Rev George Maryon Wilson, in the chair, and W Fordham Brown, Esq, *Frederick Francis* and *Henry Franklin*, labourers, both of Great Canfield, were charged with stealing four cwt of coals on the 3rd inst, and one cwt on the 5th inst, from the coal yard at Takeley Railway Station, belonging to Messrs J. Miller and Sons of Bishop's Stortford. Francis was, until a few weeks ago, in the employment of the prosecutors, and he was in the habit of receiving orders for coal, and delivering coal. He appears to have received three orders after leaving his employment, and on Saturday night, the 3rd inst, after prosecutors man had put his horse up for the night and left the premises, Francis took the horse out and delivered coals to two persons, on the following Monday night Francis again took out coals, Franklin being with him, -- The prisoners elected to be tried at once, and pleaded guilty, -- The Chairman said it was a most barefaced robbery, and sentenced the prisoners to one month's hard labour.

Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Satu 1st June 1901.

STEALING FROM A CHILD.

John Stone, aged 15, from Stortford, has been committed for trial on a charge of stealing a parcel of linen from a child at Takeley, on the 24th May.

Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Sat 22nd June 1878.

TRESPASS IN SEARCH OF GAME.

George Salmon of Takeley, labourer, was summoned but did not appear, for trespass in search of game upon land occupied by Mr James Baynes, farmer of Takeley, on 11th May. Mr Snell prosecuted, defendant was seen apparently looking for partridges nests, but there was some doubt as to his object -- case dismissed.

Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Sat 27th August 1878.

DRUNK AT WORK.

James Bolden, William Bolden, and Thomas Brambrook, labourers of Takeley, were summoned by John Frankham, farmer of Little Canfield, for doing damage to beans to the amount of 50s, on the 30th July - Mr Snell prosecuted. John Frankham said; I let defendants twelve acres of beans to hoe on the 5th July for £8. On the 30th ult, in consequence of something I heard, I went to the field where the defendants were hoeing, and saw they were the worse for drink. James Bolden fell amongst the beans, I went after they had left off work, and saw that they had chopped up a quantity of beans as well as weeds, and some were broken down by the handle of the hoes. I estimate the damage at 50s. - James Ruse, bailiff, corroborated. The Magistrates reduced the damage to 30s, the defendants were ordered to pay damage to 10s, and fined 8s 4d costs each, or in default 14 days hard labour.

From the Village Recorder

Many of us enjoy a mystery play or documentary on the television or radio. A mystery in local history can be equally interesting. If it can be solved it can be very exciting after a long search. We have reported on solving the mystery of the burial place of Robert Fowler, Archbishop of Dublin, and the site of the Guildhouse of the Guild of St Mary in Takeley. Although these quests took a long time to solve there is great satisfaction when a result is achieved.

The other side of this coin is that it becomes very frustrating when there are no signs at all of a satisfactory result. It is sad to say that we know more in many ways about the history of Takeley church and its operations in the 13th Century than we do for the years following 1700 .

The church registers do not start for nearly a hundred years after they were set up by law. There is a gap even then in the 17th century. We know from national sources that the church rood screen should have been removed in the reign of Edward VI, but there are records showing that candles were still being placed before it 30 to 40 years later. Had it been taken down, hidden, and then replaced under Mary and Philip? We cannot argue that the church was too isolated to have come under scrutiny as there are records of its treasures being confiscated. Moving on to the Commonwealth period, the list of clergy is very confusing. Why do we have references to West Takeley? Was there an East Takeley? Why do we have to wait until the 1880s for there to be

any churchwarden's accounts? Why are there no visitation records for Takeley apart from two brief accounts in the mid 18th Century?

What has happened to the rest of the Reverend Hart's diaries? Admittedly they do not give a great insight into the administration of the parish, but there is always the hope that if we had them, there would be a small gem of information hidden amongst the tea parties and accounts of bad weather. Indeed why did the organist and choir all resign en masse during his incumbency?

Possibly more serious, why is there no Faculty to be found for filling in the vault that we now know for certain existed under the chancel? Faculties were in operation at the time of the infill. A more frivolous thought—did they remove the silver fittings from the coffin of Francis Bernard, or had they tarnished beyond recognition?

There are other minor queries but I have probably already over used the question mark symbol. If this all sounds rather negative it is the result of hours spent trawling through records and finding absolutely nothing at all. My suspicion is that an over zealous clergy wife decided that all these old records were not needed and destroyed them. This is not so far-fetched a theory as might appear at first. When I worked as Senior Archivist at the East Sussex Record Office I was sent out to chase up those parishes that had not deposited their records. On two well remembered occasions I came back to report that Vicar's wife had thrown all these "dirty old books in the pond" I assume she meant their physical not their moral status. Another lady had burnt them for the same reason.

The problem has not been helped by the several changes of Diocese, but other parishes do seem to have survived this.

My final thought is that Essex has an excellent Record Office. Any old records, be they personal or the records of a family business can be deposited with them for posterity. I am happy to collect and deliver those records that could be filling up your cupboards or filling cabinets. They can be deposited on loan so you still keep ownership of them. In this way you are doing yourself and future local historians a great favour.

Nia Watkiss

" John and Nia Watkiss would like to thank all the people from Takeley who have sent us messages of sympathy following the tragic deaths of John's two grandsons in a house fire in Hong Kong. They have been very much appreciated."

RECREATION GROUND REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

Please note that work will soon get underway to refurbish the Recreation Ground, off Chestnut Way. The aim is to complete the project by Spring 2013.

We will need to close off parts off the Recreation Ground as the work progresses. Notices will be posted on the gates to alert users to the areas that are out of bounds as necessary.

**Thank you for your co-operation &
patience.**

For further information please contact the Clerk or visit the
website: www.takeleypc.co.uk

Takeley Parish Council, Station House, Sycamore Close, Takeley,
Essex, CM22 6QA

Phone: 020 8270 1149

Email: Takeley.pc@ntlworld.com

FOUR ASHES BUS SHELTER *(east bound)*

The bus shelter at the Four Ashes outside the shops has been repeatedly vandalised throughout this year. To date the Parish Council has spent over £700 on repairs.

The Parish Council is now considering removing the shelter, and replacing it with a modern and less vulnerable structure.

If you would like to comment on whether you think the shelter should be retained, removed or replaced, please contact us.

Takeley Parish Council, Station House, Sycamore Close,
Takeley, Essex, CM22 6QA
Email: Takeley.pc@ntlworld.com



Welcome to Takeley Farmers Market
Silver Jubilee Hall
9-11.30

There is no market in January
Our next market will be on
2nd February 2013

The kitchen will be run by the Christian School.

REAL FOOD REAL FARMERS REAL COMMUNITY

Interested in knowing where your food comes from?
Want to support British producers small and local
Looking for quality at a fair price?
Then T.F.M. is for you.

Our market has a relaxed and friendly atmosphere where
you can find a great range of fresh produce.

Our stalls include eggs, pickles, pork, beef, lamb, bread,
cakes, vegetables and craft, and not forgetting the
dedicated team of fundraisers who cook our delicious
breakfast. This month yet again Mandy, Sarah and Lisa will
be in the kitchen still raising much needed funds for the
M.E.D.I.C.S.

If you are interested in running your own stall please get in
touch.

Pat Burnett 01279 870578
paul@pburnett1.orangehome.co.uk

T.F.M. would like to wish you all
A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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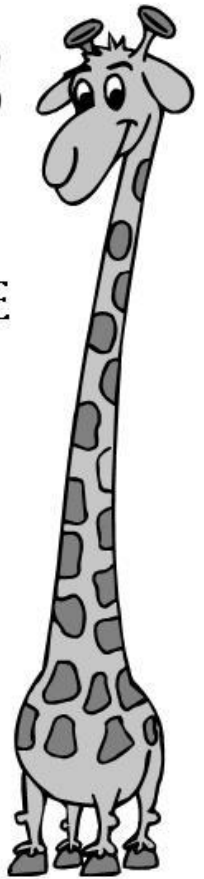
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Book Review by Elaine Wyld

Pure By Andrew Miller

Who are you? I am Jean-Baptiste Baratte Where are you from? From Bellême in Normandy. What are you? An Engineer trained at Ecole Royale des Ponts et Chaussées. What do you believe in? In the power of reason...

In 1785 a young engineer, Jean-Baptiste Baratte, finds himself in the Palace of Versailles. He has been summoned there on behalf of the King by his new employer, Monsieur Lafosse, who is a serious and unyielding man. Jean-Baptiste is given an important commission to remove the thousands of human remains from the vast graveyard of Les Innocents in Paris in the grounds of the old Cathedral. The cemetery is poisoning the city.

Following his previous laborious and depressing two year employment at the mines in Valenciennes, this task is an important career move. However, unbeknown to Jean-Baptiste the contract is not without its challenges and dangers. Using a workforce of hardened miners from Valentine and his old colleague Monsieur Lecoœur, Jean-Baptiste carefully plans the operation.

The author describes graphically the unfolding discoveries encountered in the cemetery once the excavation begins. The process of clearing the graveyard and the techniques used, including the liberal use of ethanol, all contribute to this quirky story. Jean-Baptiste's own life is changed by the new relationships he forms but the enormity of the task almost drives him into madness.

There are a variety of eccentric and interesting characters in the book such as his landlords the Monnards and their intriguing daughter Ziguette; a mad priest; an eccentric organ player and the prostitute, Héloïse.

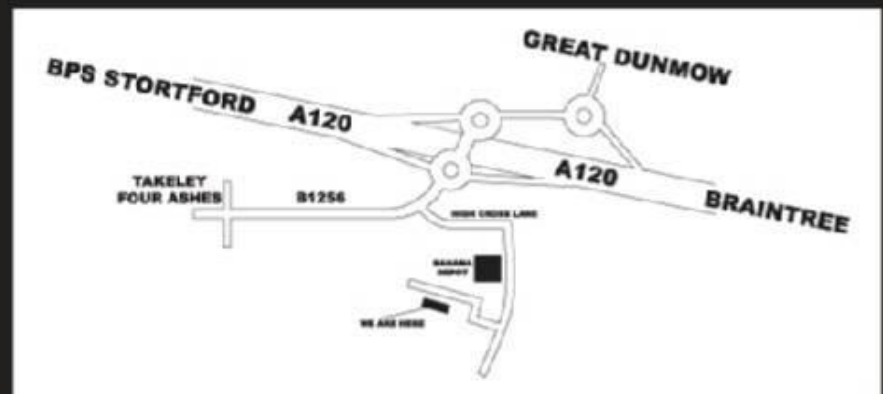
The author writes with beautiful prose as in this extract from the book describing the church of Les Innocents – “Pillars black or nearly so, rise like the remnants of a petrified forest their tops lost in canopies of shadow”. Enjoy!

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About the Takeley Parish Council Newsletter

The Newsletter was started up again in the autumn of 1998 (after an interval of some 10-15 years) as a result of opinion expressed in the Village Appraisal. It is designed to provide a free community magazine for Takeley Parish. It is intended that the Newsletter should reflect all aspects of Parish life and should provide an opportunity for community matters to be raised and discussed.

The Newsletter team currently comprises a Contributing Editor (Paul Regeli), a compositor (Steve Hazon) and a distribution and advertising coordinator (Jane Heskey) but no official reporters. An interest magazine, therefore, depends on articles, news and advertisements coming from people in the village and nearby which can be sent to:

**Jane Heskey, Clerk of the Council, Takeley Parish Council,
Station House, Sycamore Close, Takeley, CM22 6QA
Tel. 0208 270 1149**

or email to newsletter@takeleypc.co.uk

The closing date for submission of material is the 15th of November, February, May and August for the respective quarterly issues.

It is not always possible to publish everything submitted and sometimes changes have to be made to the length of a contribution. Non-controversial articles cannot always be published immediately but they will appear later unless the contributor is told otherwise. Contributions of up to, say, 400 words, have a greater chance of being published in full than longer ones.

The name of the person (and in what capacity if appropriate) submitting the material must accompany the contribution. If you do not want your name published you must make that clear. However, articles without the author's name are only likely to be published if they are non-controversial. Ultimately the responsibility for publication rests with the Parish Council, which has veto powers as to content.

Advertising rates per issue (quarterly) are listed below. Payment and details must be supplied to the Newsletter by the closing dates listed above although we do prefer annual payment in advance to reduce administration.

1. Full Page (i.e. one half A4 sheet size), £25.00 Photo or disc ready
 2. Half Page, £15.00 Photo or disc ready
 3. Quarter Page, £10.00
 4. One Eighth Page or less, £7.00
- (10% discount for pre-booking all four issues in a year)

All cheques should be made out to Takeley Parish Council and sent to Jane Heskey.

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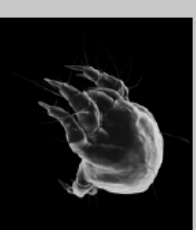
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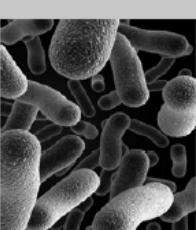
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