

# NEWSLETTER



**Autumn 2014 Issue No.64**



## TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL, 2014/15 TPC RESPONSIBILITIES

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	REMIT		COUNCILLOR
<b>CHAIRMAN</b>			Carol Pratt
<b>VICE CHAIRMAN</b>			Geoff Bagnall
<b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	Report & recommendations to full Council	4	Carol Pratt, Geoff Bagnall, Richard Cheetham, Susan Sprules
<b>PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>	Report & recommendations to full Council re Planning Applications, Stansted Airport, Housing Policy, SSE PC Liaison	4	Carol Pratt, Trevor Allen, Tricia Barber, Geoff Bagnall, John Mitchell
<b>HIGHWAYS &amp; TRANSPORT</b>			Brian Baldwin
<b>SPORTS FIELD</b>			John Green
<b>RECREATION GROUND</b>			John Green
<b>RIGHTS OF WAY/ FOOTPATHS/LAND</b>	Rights of Way/Footpaths/Land Tree Warden, Flich Way	2	Tina Domigan, Trevor Allen, John Green, John Mitchell
<b>MOLEHILL GREEN *</b>	Green, Hall & Community		Carol Pratt
<b>POLICE LIASON/PUBLIC SAFETY</b>			Trevor Allen
<b>PUBLICITY</b>	Notice Boards, Website, Newsletter, Grapevine, Press		David Daykin
<b>NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION</b>			John Green
<b>REGIONAL/NATIONAL POLICY</b>	Including Localism Act		Geoff Bagnall
<b>PARISH PLAN</b>			David Daykin & Susan Sprules
<b>PUBLIC AMENITY WORKING GP</b>	Maintenance & improvement of public spaces	3	David Daykin, John Green, Trevor Allen, Sue Sprules, Pat Burnett
<b>EMERGENCY PLANNING</b>	Coordinating key contacts & resources		Pat Burnett & Clerk/Asst Clerk
<b>SCHOOL HOUSE WORKING GP</b>	Consider the future (Use & Ownership)		Carol Pratt, Richard Cheetham, Tricia Barber, Pat Burnett, Tina Domigan, Trevor Allen
<b>YOUTH GROUP</b>	Liaison & secretary		Linda Steer

\*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
Localism Working Group(Coordinator)	Clr Geoff Bagnall
Takeley History Society & School	Clr Trevor Allen
Silver Jubilee Hall	Clr Trevor Allen
SSE Parish Liaison Group	Clrs Richard Cheetham & Tricia Barber
Health Provision	Susan Sprules

All roles confirmed & agreed TPC Meeting May 2014

This and back issues can be viewed on our website [www.takeleypc.co.uk](http://www.takeleypc.co.uk)

# Editorial

**In which the editor is enmeshed in the politics of idiocy, considers the fate of the dinosaurs and fails to speak Finnish.**

*I have never been able to conceive how any rational being could propose happiness to himself from the exercise of power over others.*

*Thomas Jefferson*

**Y**ou all know the story and how it ends; the little child in the crowd calls out: "The emperor has no clothes!" One might think that, since this is the template for most political disasters, the "political classes" might, by now, have learnt something. If it were left to evolution, our leaders would be long extinct. However, since humans have a peculiar ability for optimistic self-delusion, the species hangs about like an unwelcome guest hiding under the buffet table, helping himself to the feast and any wallets in range.

*Get thee glass eyes  
And, like a scurvy politician, seem  
To see the things thou dost not.*

Now I don't often get roused to make comment on the incompetence of our leaders, but the ongoing saga of school places in Takeley must be an exception to my rule. Several years ago, it was pointed out to Essex education authority that the school that was planned for Prior's Green was going to be too small. No notice was taken and we now have a situation whereby there are insufficient school places for children in Takeley. Finally, after much pressure, the old school in Roseacres is to be re-opened, but not until September 2015.

"Hooray", you might cry. Common sense at last! Except that, a couple of weeks ago, a planning application came through my letterbox for me to comment on. The proposal is for a 211 house development behind the Flich Way, roughly opposite Smith's Green and exiting via the Hope End turning. Now, even basic arithmetic shows that, with Takeley Primary School now full and the Roseacres School projected to supply 211 places, our planners have triumphed again. Undoubtedly the development will be opposed but, under new planning legislation which has a presumption in favour of development, logic may not prevail. The submission from the developers takes an



unrealistic view of the facilities available in the village and certainly ignores the parlous state of school provision.

One member of the district planning committee is reported to have commented that, if children have to be bussed to school in surrounding villages, then so be it. It won't hurt them, since many of our generation often had to travel to school. That's a pretty breathtaking response to a perfectly legitimate concern!

And what about siblings who are forced to go to different schools?

Of course, the proposed development does not include the various in-fills that are going on or the extra hundred or so houses down Cook's Hill.

The great Portuguese writer and commentator, José Maria de Eça de Queiroz, once wrote:

*Politicians and diapers should be changed frequently and all for the same reason.*

Politicians are the servants and representatives of the people who elect them. There are times when local needs transcend the policies of political parties. Indeed, local officers are also servants, not masters, and should listen to and respond effectively to the concerns of the residents to whom they are ultimately answerable. It is a dangerous game to mix party politics with the reality of everyday life. And a little transparency, joined up thinking and common sense might not go amiss.

Beware the law of unintended consequences!

I think I shall give the last word to my favourite philosopher:

*"Rabbit's clever," said Pooh thoughtfully.*

*"Yes," said Piglet, "Rabbit's clever."*

*"And he has Brain."*

*"Yes," said Piglet, "Rabbit has Brain."*

*There was a long silence.*

*"I suppose," said Pooh, "that that's why he never understands anything."*

Meanwhile, there is more than a hint of Autumn in the air. There is a subtle shift in the quality of the light and the palette of the countryside has started to take on a pallid hue as though in anticipation of the season's change. I am now in my tenth year of retirement from teaching and yet I still feel a slight knotting in my stomach as the beginning of the new school year draws near. And, dammit, the flippin' shops start advertising "Back to School" on the first day of the summer holidays.

Being at boarding schools for most of my schooldays, I had summer holidays that lasted well into September. I remember eking out the last few weeks of freedom as the days slipped away like sand diminishing in an hourglass, until the fateful morning of departure arrived.



When we lived in Cyprus, this meant a sweltering drive across the centre of the island during which I usually felt ill. Of course, that could have been due to the industrial smog that my mother generated inside the car, smoking Sobranie Black Russian cigarettes in a long gold-tipped holder clenched manically between her teeth. When we had to stop because I

was feeling ill, the toxic fumes rolled out of the car like fog in a horror movie. Well, eventually, we would make it to the airport, RAF Nicosia as it was then, patrolled by soldiers with sten guns. Then, through to the departure lounge which wasn't much more than a sort of glorified Nissen hut and across the blistering tarmac to the aircraft. A final glimpse of my parents as we taxied out and then the long haul back home which involved a couple of refuelling stops in those days.

At Heathrow, I would be picked up by the headmaster in his silver Austin Princess and driven back through the night to Buckinghamshire.

And then I would be ushered into the freezing dormitory aheave with snores and dreaming shadowy forms in the rows of beds. And then slip between freezing sheets and to try to sleep as my memory of sunny freedom started to slip into a hazily-remembered dream.

My father had given me a green Parker fountain pen as a keepsake to keep my spirits up. It was stolen the next morning while I was at breakfast. But you never complained.

We left Cyprus in 1960 and I didn't fly on a commercial flight again until about ten years ago, when I visited a teacher friend in Finland. We had been corresponding for some time and I was to visit her school to find out about the Finnish education system. By the time I landed at Oulunsalo, which is on the edge of Lapland, I had a ferocious headache and earache due to a mild infection. Now Finland is two hours ahead of us in the summer and school starts at eight in the morning. It is fairly well known that I spend most mornings in a state of semi-consciousness so you can probably imagine my condition as I staggered into Marianne's classroom, at what my body clock told me was six in the morning, an emissary from the English education system. The kids probably came to the conclusion that students in England are taught by the undead!



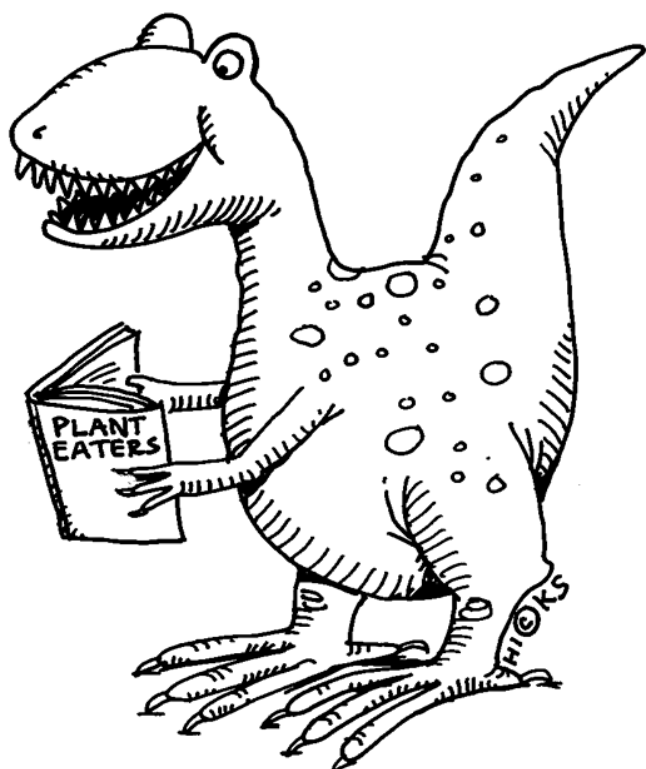
I sat politely through the lesson in a catatonic state with a fixed grin on my face that made me look as though I had just been electrocuted. Suddenly, Marianne gave me a meaningful look. "The children would like to practice their English with you before they go to their break. So I'll leave you with them," she said. And departed, leaving me in front of a room full of Finnish pupils whose English was, as far as I knew, rudimentary. Panic, followed by resignation. The only Finnish that I knew was Silli. That means herring, which wasn't much use for the situation. So we sat and stared at each other, the undead contemplating the uncomprehending. Finally, I broke the impasse with an invitation. "Would anyone like to say anything to me in English?" I squeaked.

A deathly silence followed. Then a boy stood up and came towards me, stopping a couple of feet away. "Yes?" I said. He bowed solemnly. "Good-bye," he said and headed for the door. One by one, the entire class followed his example until I was left, staring at a row of empty desks. I headed to the staffroom (real coffee and cream cakes).

"How did it go?" asked Marianne. "Well, you know," I said. "I think they were shy." More like crafty, I thought to myself.

It's interesting to note that the Finnish education system, which is the best performing in the world, has no inspectors and the entire curriculum is contained in a small booklet which isn't much longer than the instruction leaflet for a new television.

I suppose that the over-complicated curriculum and regulation suffered by our schools goes back to an obsession with detail that infects government



departments and makes nonsense of rational decision-making, leading to all forms of idiocy. It is impossible to navigate life with an instruction book in one hand and hope to succeed. That was the problem with the dinosaurs. Instruction books. First, the dyslexic ones became extinct because they couldn't read the warning notices on the tops of cliffs. Then the others died when a comet hit the earth. Because none of them could find the right page that would have told them to run. Since paper is perishable, all dinosaur instruction books have long since vanished without a trace.

Still, my life in eddicashun has left me with many memories, some more remarkable than others, so I'll conclude with just one.

One day, during playtime, I was at the photocopier in the entrance hall, preparing sheets for the next lesson. There was a minor commotion and a rather dishevelled infant was dragged into the entrance hall by a furious teaching assistant.

"Mr Regeli'll deal with you," she growled menacingly. I looked at the boy who radiated pure innocence and asked his captor what exactly he had been doing to deserve such opprobrium. Well, the answer was that he had been rushing round the playground waving his exposed unmentionables in front of his bemused classmates!

By this time, I was desperately trying to maintain some sort of composure. Then the Head arrived.

"What on earth do you think you were doing?" he asked the young criminal. "Well, I was being a firework and it was my fuse," he answered adroitly. There was a moment's silence as the Head drew breath.

"Then it's a good thing no-one lit it," he said.

By this time, I had tears rolling down my face and the secretary in the next room had a handkerchief stuffed in her mouth.

Which seems a good point to conclude my rambling and head towards a glass of stimulating medicine. Of the alcoholic variety, you understand.

After all, I'm exhausted by all this creativity and my fragile artistic persona needs refreshment.

Or not.

Fare thee well until my next epistle and remember that it's cruel to laugh at the afflicted..

**Paul Regeli, contributing editor, fellow of the society of amateur safecrackers, RA (reject) and official Village Idiot.**

## **ST JOHN'S CHURCH, BUSH END**

**\*QUIZ NIGHT\***

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

**7.30p.m. at the Silver Jubilee Hall, Takeley**

**Telephone to book table**

**01279 871533**

**8 persons per table**

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# TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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The following are extracts from the June, July and August Parish Council minutes, which can be viewed on the TPC website: [www.takeleypc.co.uk](http://www.takeleypc.co.uk)

**District Cllr Jackie Cheetham** (written report)

1. NATS consultation - meeting of STAAC late August
2. Stansted Airport developing a new Master Plan - 'Sustainable Development Plan'. Series of roadshows around the district to explain & gauge response.UDC will provide copies of their response.
3. Gladman properties has submitted a planning application for 211 dwellings on the border of Gt. Canfield/Takeley.
4. Press release re prosecution for fly-tipping of rubbish at Cooks Hill

**Takeley Cubs & Scouts:** TPC has received a request for sponsorship for a bouncy castle (£150) for the summer fete being held on 6/7/14. TPC agreed to donate £150.

**Takeley Ladies Circle - 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration:** This local group has been in existence for 50 years.

The 50th celebration will bring together approx. 40 past & present. Estimated cost of the event is £270.

TPC agreed a contribution of £250 to help towards celebrations.

**Buffy Bus:** Request for a donation towards the running costs of the bus. Cllr Trevor Allen proposed £600, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Tina Domigan. All agreed.

**Takeley 10k Run:** Mr. Rob Newman is coordinating the event which aims to raise funds for the Silver Jubilee Hall refurbishment. TPC has been asked to pay for the T shirts provided to runners. At April's meeting 350 t shirts are required & from 6 quotes. 'Printworld' is the preferred supplier. Quote is £1746.TPC agreed a proposal to fund the T shirts.

**Commemorating WW1 Event (25/7/14):** Cllr Richard Cheetham offered a vote of thanks for a fantastic production; with special thanks to Cllrs Trevor Allen & Pat Burnett for driving the project.

Cllr Pat Burnett confirmed that feedback had been excellent. A report of income and expenditure will be finalised for the September meeting.

Original Budget - £500. Ticket sales generated approx. £600. All monies used to provide production, costumes & food for the event.

A DVD of the performance will be available shortly.

**Silver Jubilee Hall Refurbishment:** Phase 1 completed work = £103k. TPC has provided £40k

SJH has funds of approx £50k. With a working reserve of approx. £15k. SJH has approx £35k to contribute towards further works. SJH has provided an approximated schedule of further works:

New entrance - £40k, refurb toilet block - £80k, further itemised works including ventilation plant & rainwater harvesting total £142.6k

**Grand total reqd = £262.6k plus vat (£315k)**

Asst Clerk has researched grant funding. 2 suitable funders have been identified although it is noted that generally grants are being limited to areas of deprivation. Whilst it is clear that neither TPC or SJH has the resources to finance the completion of this project immediately, TPC agreed that the project should to be completed.

TPC approved the recommendations of the Finance Committee (22/5/14):

- TPC to meet with SJH to confirm/refine specification & costs
- SJH to arrange for the components to be properly costed .
- SJH to make appropriate grant applications
- TPC principally agreed to finance the balance via a PWLB loan (term tbc)
- SJH would then be expected to underwrite a level of repayments (based on income after expenses of the hall), and TPC to would meet a proportion of repayments as contribution to project.

### **Planning:**

**Brewers End Development:** TPC to make a complaint to Countryside and UDC regarding the development at Brewers End and the removal of existing trees and hedges. After numerous conversations between TPC, Countryside and local residents (who would be directly affected by the removal of the trees) we were assured that trees would not be removed. All trees and hedges have since been removed. The Clerk will investigate if this is an enforcement issue and if anything can be done.

**UDC Local Plan - Pre Submission Consultation:** TPC ratified the final version of TPC's response.

**Roseacres School:** The consultation period for the opening of the Roseacres site in September 2015 will be for 3 weeks. ECC will be contacting TPC & surrounding villages regarding their proposal. After the consultation period has finished ECC will then begin the legal process of finding someone to run it i.e. academy or a community school. Details of the consultation will be sent to residents via Takeley School, local press and directly to the families involved. A community meeting on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June at SJH was attended by Cllrs Trevor Allen, Sue Sprules and Tina Domigan as representatives for TPC. The Clerk will draft a response to the consultation and circulate to Council members as it will need to be submitted by 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

**Priors Green Community Hall:** Clr David Daykin reported:  
- PGCH meeting held 9th July 2014.

- Cllr Daykin was co-opted to the committee & has provided a number of policy statements for the committee
  - Charitable status registration is still outstanding
  - Mr. John Monk is providing an assessment and report on the 'Operating & Maintenance Manual' v building systems including H&S inspections and testing required.
  - Committee vacancies need to be advertised again
  - TPC agreed to review progress at the September meeting.
- Cllrs John Mitchell & Tina Domigan agreed to join the PGCH Committee to bolster numbers and contribute to the management of the hall.

**Priors Green - open spaces & play areas:** Clerk updated TPC re site meeting with Andrew Fisher (Countryside Properties) 18/6/14. From this meeting an action plan has been agreed to address some of the issues raised with regard to the open spaces and play areas. TPC agree the Clerk should monitor progress and report to TPC in due course.

### **Priors Green Consultation re traffic & parking:**

- TPC reviewed results from the survey
- It had become apparent that not all residents received the survey despite making it available in a number of ways (Grapevine, TPC Newsletter, TPC website, hand delivered survey).

A number of residents from Priors Green raised concerns about the results of the recent survey/consultation including:

- the survey has not accurately captured the concerns of residents living in Roding Drive/Bennett Canfield who will be directly affected by the proposal for yellow lines.
- object to double yellow lines
- problems are largely attributable to school related traffic during term time
- Airport related parking problems have improved following implementation of parking restrictions at the local centre.
- propose part-time restrictions
- install give-way signage at Roding Drive (improve sight lines - cutting back hedge)
- look at stopping buses entering the development (review usage of bus stop)
- requested TPC postpone any decision until further evidence can be gathered.

As per 'Open Forum', TPC agreed to postpone any decisions until further evidence & feedback has been received from residents. TPC assured residents that it will not agree to any proposal/change that is not supported by the majority of Priors Green residents (particularly, those that will be most affected by any change).

**Jacks Lane:** District Cllr Jackie Cheetham will be meeting with Andrew Taylor (UDC) on site to discuss the process of restricting vehicle rights on the byway. The condition of the byway will also be discussed and plans to make improvements for the short term will be assessed; a small budget has been set aside.



**Byway 25 (Jacks Lane) - application restrict vehicle rights:** Cllr Geoff Bagnall would like to clarify that the application that has been submitted is to cease use of motor vehicles on the byway and not to downgrade as this will have to be done at a later date. Cllr Richard Cheetham would like the response to also include the unofficial entry points which the public use to gain access. TPC ratified the response submitted to UDC.

**Takeley Street Traffic Calming Scheme:**

- ECC Highways presented a revised scheme (with drawings) - 30th July 2014. At the meeting it was agreed to remove a proposed parking bay adjacent to 'Tapp Hall' & install 2 additional build outs to compensate. TPC agreed that these proposals were very similar to the original requirements and should be progressed without delay. The Clerk will feed back to ECC Highways (Paul Norris).

**NO2 Monitoring:**

Having collected 4 months' data, UDC has decided to remove the monitor in Takeley Street. Data has shown that levels of NO2 are on average 21.33 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, and is at least 25% below the mean objective level of 40 ug/m<sup>3</sup> which would trigger concern.

At the Four Ashes (eastbound B1256) mean levels are 29.19 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. UDC intend to maintain this monitor.

TPC agreed to publish these results in the next TPC Newsletter.

**Station House Lease:** ECC has offered TPC a 6 year lease from 2011-2017 to recover the rent for the past 3 years. TPC sought assurance that this will reach a conclusion. Cllr Geoff Bagnall proposed that TPC sign a 3 year lease from now until 2017 and in addition pay for the previous 3 years rent (as offered by TPC previously). If this offer is refused by ECC, TPC will request a disclaimer and sign for the whole 6 years. Cllr Richard Cheetham requested confirmation that retrospective utility charges are included. The Clerk will clarify. All agreed that Cllrs Carol Pratt and Geoff Bagnall will sign the lease on behalf of TPC.

**Youth Club:** Cllr Linda Steer reported that the Youth Club will start at Silver Jubilee Hall on 6<sup>th</sup> June, this has been booked until Dec 2014. This venue has received positive feedback from the youths attending. The club committee will now apply for community grants for equipment.

**Local Policing & Public Safety Issues:** In April & May 22 incidents reported in a 2 month period including a break in to Roseacres School site.

**UDC Flood Management meeting:** Cllr John Mitchell attended.

**ECC Winter Salt Bag Partnership Scheme:** TPC agreed to participate in the scheme for 2014/2015.

The Clerk will clarify requirements for salt & storage.

**Farmers Market:** Cllr Pat Burnett informed the Council that with great regret she has decided to close down the Farmers Market after this Saturday as it is no longer financially viable.

**Uttlesford Community Achievement Award Scheme 2014/2015:** TPC may agree to submit 2 nominees before 25th July 2014. TPC agreed 2 nominees to put forward for this award. Cllr Linda Steer suggested that TPC could consider their own award scheme in the future.

For further information about Takeley Parish Council please contact the Clerk or visit the website: [www.takeleypc.co.uk](http://www.takeleypc.co.uk)

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

Phone: 020 8270 1149

Email: [takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com](mailto:takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com)

## **FAO: RESIDENTS OF TAKELEY PARK RE BUS STOPS & SHELTERS**

The Manager from **Takeley Park** has contacted Takeley Parish Council regarding a proposal for 2 new bus shelters on B183 Hatfield Broad Oak Rd/Station Road. The management at the park will not allow the bus to enter the Park; and have also refused to contribute to the shelters. TPC will support residents in an application to ECC Highways for bus shelters on the main road (B183 Station Rd/Hatfield Broad Oak Rd) if that is what residents want.

**If you are a resident of Takeley Park please let us know if you feel strongly that bus shelters should be installed at the north bound and south bound bus stops outside Takeley Park on Hatfield Broad Oak Rd/Station Road B183.**

### **PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR VIEWS**

Email: [takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com](mailto:takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com)

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

Please include your name, address and contact details.

# TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MEETING SCHEDULE 2014

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

<b>OCTOBER</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>DECEMBER</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>
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## **Review of An Evening of Music and Words to commemorate The Great War.**

The Great War of 1914-1918 was the defining moment when the modern world as we know it was born. A hundred years on, we still live with the reverberations of that cataclysmic conflict which unleashed such dreadful carnage and suffering on a scale that is difficult to comprehend.

It is fitting, then, that we should remember the bravery and sacrifice of our nation in those years. This July, the Silver Jubilee Hall was the setting for an evening of words and music to commemorate the Great War, devised and written by Trevor Allen and funded by the Parish Council.

The audience was taken through a series of cameos in acting, words and song that illustrated the events leading up to the outbreak of war and the lives of the soldiers in the trenches. The setting, devised and built by Paul Burnett was simple but evocative, giving the feel and look of a front line trench with the use of well chosen detail. It was no mean feat to get so much onto such a tiny stage!

The costumes (Pat Burnett) were excellent and added a sense of period to the production.

The mixture of poetry, song and documentary was well-balanced and there can have been few members of the audience who were not deeply moved. The soldiers (Terry Dean, Peter Morris, John Mitchell and John Lepley), drilled by their sergeant (Elliot Treend), acted with enthusiasm and energy, adding a touch of humour where appropriate

Soloists Eileen Stevenson and Sue Jeffreys brought musical sparkle to the evening, along with the excellent choir. The audience were invited to join in the songs.

Poems, read movingly by Hugh Mascetti and Kim Lepley, gave an intense emotional focus and moments of contemplation.

The powerful ending was shocking and yet, at the same time, pointed to a future, sadly not yet with us, that might make some sense of the terrible sacrifice.

It is to the huge credit of all involved that such a memorable evening could be arranged. Every member of the audience was impressed and deeply moved. It was a considerable achievement to mount a production like this and all concerned deserve our gratitude and congratulation.

On the front of the programme was written: "We will remember them."  
And we will.

Paul Regeli

# Parish Council Office:

Takeley Parish Council has an office within the Station House from where it hopes to foster a more personal and supportive role in the community. Services will be built to facilitate the needs of the people in Takeley and includes direct liaison with council members through the clerk.

**The Parish Council Office is open to the public Wednesday morning  
10.00am - 1.00pm.**

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Clerk to the Council:** Jane Heskey

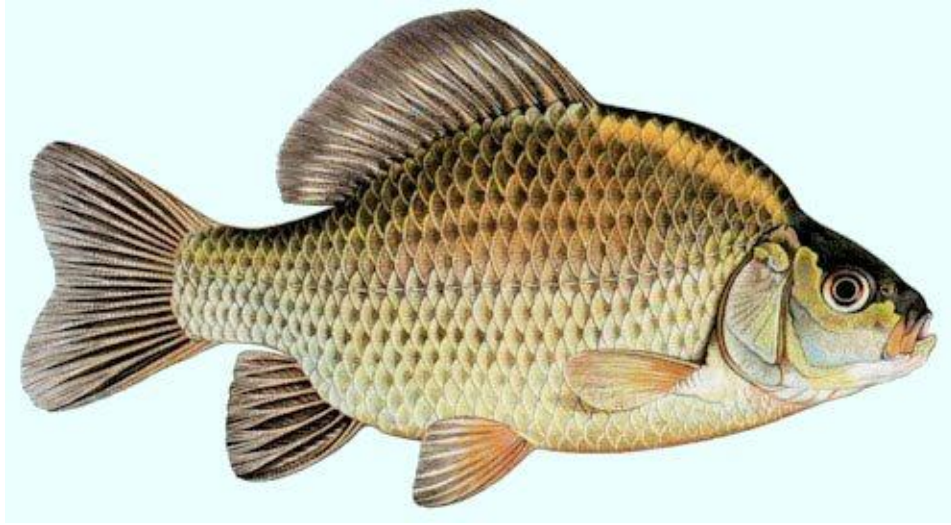
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## EARLY WARNING

**(A date to remember)**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

**TAKELEY Christmas Fayre**

**Venue Takeley Silver Jubilee Hall and Scout Headquarters**

**Time 11 am – 3 pm**

**Take this opportunity to start your Christmas shopping, catch up with friends and sample one of H.E.A.L's all day breakfasts. Father Christmas will be taking time out from his busy schedule to join us in the Scout H.Q. and would love to say hello to the children. There will be a wide selection of stalls for you to choose from as well as tombolas and raffles to try your luck at.**

**We look forward to seeing you at this popular village event.**

**ENTRANCE is FREE**



# TAKELEY GARDEN WASTE DISPOSAL

For 2014 Takeley Parish Council has arranged to continue with a garden waste disposal facility at Crumps Farm, Dunmow Road (B1256).

The Parish Council estimates that this will continue to provide considerable financial savings whilst still providing a local service for those residents who prefer not to subscribe to the UDC fortnightly kerbside collections (or those subscribers who have additional garden waste).

## GARDEN WASTE DISPOSAL AT CRUMPS FARM, DUNMOW ROAD B1256

Saturday, 5th April until Sat 29th Nov. 2014

Between the hours: 10am - 12.30pm

A manned skip will be situated near the entrance to Crumps farm.

**RESIDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF ADDRESS.**



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(as heard on BBC Essex Radio)

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## Working out who to call



It's easy to get confused about which emergency number to use as there are so many different options available. If you have an urgent need for the Police, Fire, Ambulance or Coastguard call 999. Calls to 999 are free on payphone or mobile without money or credit, but be sure you're making the call for the right reason!

If you need to contact the local police to report crime or other concerns not requiring an emergency response call 101. This number is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and will be answered by the local police force.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, register your mobile phone for the emergency SMS service which will allow you to call for help by sending an SMS message to 999. For more information see <http://www.emergencysms.org.uk/index.php>

It is also worth being aware of the following numbers:

**111** — urgent but non-emergency health issues when your GP surgery is closed (available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year). Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

**112** — European emergency phone number available everywhere in the EU free of charge.

**0800 111 999** — free Gas emergency services line. Call if you smell gas, think you have a gas leak or are worried that fumes containing carbon monoxide are escaping from a gas appliance.

**0800 783 8838** — contact number for UK Power Networks, if you have an electrical emergency.

The Uttlesford Citizens Advice Bureau offers a free, impartial and independent service, with a wide range of support available from general advice to specialist help dealing with serious debt problems, employment disputes, housing and family issues. You can call or email to make an appointment to speak to an experienced and friendly adviser in Saffron Walden, Great Dunmow, Thaxted, Stansted Mountfitchet, or Wimbish (soldiers and families only).

**Barnards Yard, CB11 4EB**

**T: 01799 618840**

W: [uttlesfordcab.org.uk](http://uttlesfordcab.org.uk)

E: [bureau@uttlesfordcab.cabnet.org.uk](mailto:bureau@uttlesfordcab.cabnet.org.uk)

Saffron Walden 9.30 to 3.30 M.T.Th.F. (phone until 5pm Mon, appointments now available Weds)

Great Dunmow 9.30 to 3.30 T. W. Th.

Thaxted 9.30 to 12.30 Monday (fortnightly – appointments only)

Stansted Mountfitchet 9.30 to 12.30 Thursday (weekly – appointments only)

Wimbish (soldiers and families only) 12.00 to 3.00 Monday (fortnightly – appointments only)

# SEPTEMBER

## TIDY TAKELEY MONTH

During the month of September PLEASE join Takeley Parish Council in our campaign to tidy the village and our parish. Your help is appreciated by collecting litter and pulling a few weeds to make our parish one to be proud of. Why not get a working party together in your street?

### COMPETITION

Takeley Parish Council will be awarding **four prizes** in Takeley (including Priors Green), for the best kept residential frontage/garden, the best kept commercial frontage, and the best kept street. There will also be an additional mystery prize!

So.... please get weeding, litter picking, planting, cleaning and sweeping and then complete our competition form for a chance to win.

---

### SEPTEMBER COMPETITION 'TIDY TAKELEY'

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Contact telephone number:

Directions to your property for our judges to find you:

Category: (Please delete as appropriate)

Residential	YES	NO
Commercial	YES	NO
Street	YES	NO

Competition entries should be posted/delivered to:

The Clerk, Takeley Parish Council, Station House, Sycamore Close,  
Takeley, CM22 6QA

or email form to: [takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com](mailto:takeleyparishcouncil@virginmedia.com)

**To reach us by 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014**

**NEW**

# **MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE**

Effective 1st September 2014

<b>Tuesday visits fortnightly (week 2)</b>			
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Arrives</b>	<b>Departs</b>
Sep: 9, 23 Oct: 7, 21 Nov: 4, 18 Dec: 2, 16 Jan: 13, 27 Feb: 10, 24 Mar: 10, 24 Apr: 7, 21 May: 5, 19 June: 2,16,30 July: 14, 28 Aug: 11, 25			
	Molehill Green Village Store	<b>14.05</b>	<b>14.20</b>

<b>Friday visits fortnightly (week 2)</b>			
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Arrives</b>	<b>Departs</b>
Sep: 12, 26 Oct: 10, 24 Nov: 7, 21 Dec: 5, 19 Jan: 16, 30 Feb: 13,27 Mar: 13, 27 Apr: 10, 24 May: 8, 22 Jun: 5, 19 July: 3, 17, 31 Aug: 14, 28			
	Takeley Caravan Park	<b>13.55</b>	<b>14.15</b>
	Takeley Priors Wood	<b>14.25</b>	<b>14.55</b>
	Priors Green Community Hall	<b>14.55</b>	<b>16.00</b>



# CAMMAS HALL FRUIT FARM

(Located between Hatfield Broad Oak and White Roding)

**PICK-YOUR-OWN & FRESHLY READY-PICKED FRUIT & VEG**

*TEA BARN & FARM SHOP OPEN 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2014 TIL OCTOBER  
PYO OPEN FROM EARLY JUNE TILL OCTOBER*

Strawberries, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Onions, Blackberries, Blackcurrants,  
Sweetcorn, Cherries, & Blueberries when in Season  
& Other Local Produce including Honey & Jam from the Farm

**The Highest Quality Produce at Competitive Prices  
in Beautiful Country Surroundings**



**Seasonal Farm Shop**

**CHILDRENS PLAY AREA & TEA BARN**  
Fresh Coffee, Cakes, & Great Homemade Food Available

*Closed on Mondays except for Bank Holidays*

**10% Discount on quantities over 5 Kg.**

**Cammas Hall Farm is a Quality Assured Farm – Membership No. 6309.**

**Please keep up to date on opening times, availability and prices  
by calling 01279-718777, or visit our website at [www.chff.co.uk](http://www.chff.co.uk)**

**Methods of Payment Accepted: Cash, Cheque, Credit/Debit Cards\***

**\*£10 min spend applies / Postcode for SatNav: CM22 7JT**

## “Singing from the Heart”

Do you like singing in the bath or shower?

Do you like singing when you think no one is listening?

Do you sing in church or chapel?

Do you sing at work or play?

Do you sing in the car?

Do you sing when you are out jogging?

Do you sing anywhere any time?

If the answer to any or all of these questions is .....”YES” then why not join us at **All Saints Church** once a month for a night of singing just for fun. We are led by our Natural Voice Practitioner Angela Dennis.

We sing without any musical accompaniment using just our voices to create a beautiful sound.

We sing all kinds of songs from all around the world and songs just for the natural voice, some with words that mean a lot and some songs that mean nothing at all.

There are no auditions, no sheet music to read and no shows to prepare for. It is just for fun. You don't know what it's like till you try it ...go on, give it a go.

Where are we?

That's easy, we are now in **All Saints Church** in Little Canfield.

The cost is just £5 per session with refreshments afterwards.

Contact me if you need to know more

Paul Burnett 01279870578

[paul@pburnett1.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:paul@pburnett1.orangehome.co.uk)

## Station House Community Café

Sponsored by Takeley Parish Council

We cater for all ages and our aim is to provide affordable food and great service within a relaxing and accessible environment.

We use fresh, quality ingredients which we source locally.

So if it's a light lunch or just a drink and chat the community café is the place to visit.

So please drop in – we'd love to see you!

Your Community Café

Thursday 12 noon – 4 pm

Friday 9 am – 1 pm

Station House, Sycamore Close, Takeley  
off Station Road at the Four Ashes junction

## NON-SURGICAL FAT LOSS AND FACE LIFT CLINIC Now at Cyan Cosmetic Therapy

### **CRYOLIPOLYSIS (COOLSLIM)**

This revolutionary treatment, freezes, stubborn unwanted fat pockets, killing the fat cells **permanently** then allowing the body to eliminate them naturally. It is an effective, non-invasive and fully tested method of fat removal and as with liposuction shows results in fat reduction with lasting effects with 1 treatment. All this, without the risks of surgery.

- Abs, arms, love handles, buttocks, inner & outer thighs and backs

### **PERMASCULPT+**

Using the 3-in-1 combination of Ultrasound, RF and Vacuum Lymphatic Drainage, this procedure is the ultimate fast acting way to treat the face and body showing immediate effects. Radio frequency helps tighten existing collagen and stimulates new collagen leaving rejuvenated younger looking skin. Ultrasound is used to remove fat and cellulite. The VLD is most known for cellulite removal and skin tightening.

- Non-surgical face lift (excellent for jowls and double chins)
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[www.cyanholistic.co.uk](http://www.cyanholistic.co.uk)  
[cyan.holistic@aol.co.uk](mailto:cyan.holistic@aol.co.uk)

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CM22 7RJ

Credit cards accepted  
Gift vouchers available

Other beauty treatments offered

## **How secure is your heating oil?**

It's now that time of year that you are probably thinking about topping up your heating oil for winter. Fuel is now so valuable, that it's worth considering improving your security. Take a look at our top-tips:

**MOVE IT:** If possible move your storage tank to where you can keep an eye on it.

**SCREEN IT:** Can it be easily seen? Then hide it behind fencing or hedging.

**CAGE IT:** Consider building a metal security cage around it.

**HIDE PIPEWORK:** Reduce locations where it can be attacked.

**INSTALL AN OIL TANK ALARM:** From alarmed padlocks to full alarm systems, there is a good selection available on the Internet. Take a look at the "GPRS Fuel-Oil Alarm" from [www.compoundsecurity.co.uk](http://www.compoundsecurity.co.uk) and Tank Commander - [www.commandersecurities.co.uk](http://www.commandersecurities.co.uk) which both have "Secured by Design" accreditation; these detect any dramatic drop in fuel and calls you on the telephone.

**INVEST IN DUSK TO DAWN LIGHTING:** Most thieves don't want to risk being seen.

**CHECK DELIVERIES:** Just because a lorry turns up and a hose is connected, doesn't necessarily mean the fuel has been delivered. Check the gauge before signing the delivery note.

**Peter Caulfield** Ad Cert ED&CP

Crime Prevention Tactical Advisor & Architectural Liaison  
Officer  
(Uttlesford & Braintree Districts)

Essex Police  
Trinity Street  
Halstead  
CO9 1JG

Tel: 101 Ext 407110



# NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

## Takeley Beat Surgery 2014

Your local Officer will be available at **The Station House, Sycamore Close** from **10am-12pm** on Wednesdays on the below dates for you to air any issues or concerns you may have about your area.

**June 25<sup>th</sup>**

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**October 1<sup>st</sup>**

**August 27<sup>th</sup>**

**November 26<sup>th</sup>**

**September 24<sup>th</sup>**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

### Contact your local officers:

PC Brad Healey

PCSO Joanna Macmillan

e-mail: [1712@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:1712@essex.pnn.police.uk)

e-mail: [73377@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:73377@essex.pnn.police.uk)

### Telephone:

**Non-emergency- 101**

**NPT mobile- 07989174801**

**Right up**

**your street**

Neighbourhood Policing Team



[www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

## **PRIORS GREEN COMMUNITY HALL**

Bennet Canfield, Takeley, Little Canfield, Essex CM6 1GB

FOR BOOKINGS

Phone: 07538 049730

email: [Priorsgreenhall@gmail.com](mailto:Priorsgreenhall@gmail.com)

# TAKELEY

# YOUTH GROUP

12 - 18 yrs



## SILVER JUBILEE HALL

### 7 - 9pm

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September

Week off

Week off

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November

Week off

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December

# buffy playbus



Registered Charity Number 1051491

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

## Buffy Playbus

visits:

**Station House, TAKELEY. CM22 6QA**

from 11.30am until 12.30pm,

every **TUESDAY** morning during term time and at half term breaks.

and

**Warwick Rd/ Honey Rd, Little Canfield Takeley. CM6 1FF**

from 1.45pm - 3pm

every **THURSDAY** afternoon during term time and at half term breaks.

We have many exciting toys and activities available for pre-school children to enjoy.

Buffy Playbus gives you and your child an opportunity to meet and make new friends within your own community.

We make a charge of £2.00 for a child to visit Buffy, and £1 for each additional child

Come along and see what fun you and your child can have.

# buffy playbus



Registered Charity Number 1051491

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

## Diesel engine emissions from HGV trucks in Takeley

Concern has been voiced about possible health hazards of emissions from the large number of HGV trucks which use the roads through Takeley. The number of trucks has been steadily increasing over recent years and there are two main types of diesel engine emissions which cause health issues:

- NO<sub>x</sub>- the generic term for mono-nitrogen oxides NO and NO<sub>2</sub>
- PMs - particulate matter or very small soot type particles

NO<sub>2</sub> is a lung irritant and bad for asthmatics. PMs are very unhealthy and aggravate chest and heart conditions.

HGVs are a potent source of NO<sub>2</sub> and PMs unless they have up to date engine control, the extent of which is not known since the relatively new EU limits mostly apply to new models.

**At the request of Takeley Parish Council, UDC has initially been monitoring NO<sub>2</sub> levels since April 2014 in Takeley Street and at the Four Ashes.** The European Union Air Quality standard level concentration for NO<sub>2</sub> is 40 micro grams per cubic metre ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) averaged over one year.

**The first three months results have shown that the mean NO<sub>2</sub> levels are at least 25% below the EU annual mean standard level concentration of 40  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .** The mean level is 29.19 for the tube at the Four Ashes and 21.33 at Takeley Street. It is considered highly unlikely that the annual standard level would be exceeded at these locations, even though a small increase could be expected in winter months.

In light of these results UDC has taken the decision to remove the monitor in Takeley Street . The tube at the Four Ashes has produced the higher result and can remain in place, and the longer term results will be examined to establish whether more detailed monitoring is needed in that area. Further monitoring is highly unlikely to show that levels at Takeley Street will approach the 12 month mean objective level. Whilst heavy vehicles passing by residential properties on a regular basis are likely to cause loss of amenity, there are likely to be sufficient gaps between the vehicles and days when there are very few vehicles, to enable sufficient dispersal of emissions such that effects on health would be minimal.'

It is worth noting that there are two NO<sub>2</sub> monitors in Hatfield Forest set back off the B1256 by about 200 metres and these average about 16.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and a third monitor at the south gate of the forest about 3km from the B1256 averages about 14  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

**Martin Peachey, 13 August 2014**





# Uttlesford Citizens Advice Bureau

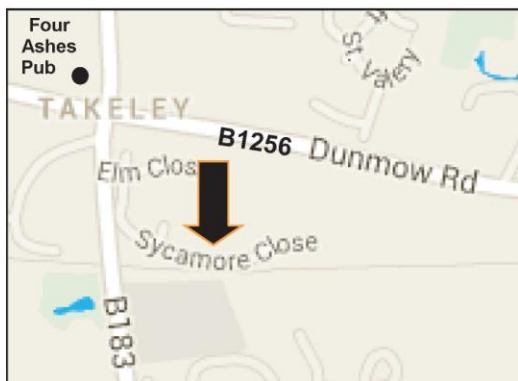
**Service now in Takeley!**

- Free advice sessions with a trained adviser
- Video link from Takeley Station House  
(Parish Council Office)
- No computer skills necessary

To make an appointment

**01799 618840**

Mon—Fri 9.30 to 3.30



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

- Benefits
- Debt and Money
- Relationships
- Housing
- Employment
- Consumer issues





## **RT HON SIR ALAN HASELHURST MP**

### **Surgery Dates**

September 12th 2014 - Broomfield Community Centre – 5:15pm - 6:00pm  
September 12th 2014 - Town Council Offices, Great Dunmow – 6:30pm - 7:15pm

October 17th 2014 - Parish Council Office, Stansted – 5:45pm - 6:30pm  
October 17th 2014 - The Old Armoury, Saffron Walden – 7pm - 7:45pm

November 14th 2014 - Village Hall, Writtle – 5:15pm - 6:00pm  
November 14th 2014 - Town Council Offices, Great Dunmow – 6:30pm - 7:15pm

December 5th 2014 - The Guildhall, Thaxted – 5:45pm - 6:30pm  
December 5th 2014 - The Old Armoury, Saffron Walden – 7pm - 7:45pm

January 9th 2015 - Boreham Village Hall - 5:15 pm - 6:00pm  
January 9th 2015 - Town Council Offices, Great Dunmow – 6:30pm - 7:15pm

February 13th 2015 - Parish Council Office, Stansted – 5:45pm - 6:30pm  
February 13th 2015 - The Old Armoury, Saffron Walden – 7pm - 7:45pm

March 6th 2015 - Broomfield Community Centre – 5:15pm - 6:00pm  
March 6th 2015 - Town Council Offices, Great Dunmow – 6:30pm - 7:15pm

No appointment is necessary, please contact The Constituency Office for further details – 01799 506349

***Takeley  
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- **BALLET** (Royal Academy of Dance)
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Classes for older pupils, along  
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Classes also in Stansted,  
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*We are a happy, successful dance school and our talented pupils regularly win places with national dance companies & schools such as The Royal Ballet School & Tring Park, gain excellent exam results, & take part in dance festivals and professional pantomimes*

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E Mail: **info@grahamschoolofdance.co.uk**

**www.grahamschoolofdance.co.uk**



# TAKELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

“Learning and Achieving Together”



At Takeley Primary School we have started our new year. We are facing challenges at the moment following our recent OFSTED inspection. However, the staff are committed to making the changes which will improve our school quickly and move us forward. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community enormously for the many messages of support that we have received over the past few weeks. We have appreciated the time that you have taken to send them.

We are proud of the range of opportunities that we give the children at our school. Currently, our Year 6 children are looking forward to their residential school journey in Norfolk. This trip will give the children lots of opportunities to study a different environment by exploring the wonderful Norfolk coastline, seal watching and exploring the inland forests.



Nearer to home, last year more of our children were able to benefit from our Forest School than ever. In small groups the children have been able to learn skills such as: using tools; working as part of a team and problem solving. This year we shall be extending our Forest School in and around our school grounds as well as continuing to visit the woodland in Little Canfield kindly made available for our use by Mr Rae and Mr Wooding.



As many of you know we spend a lot of time educating our children about food. Last year we were visited by a team from the Food for Life Partnership (FfLP) who revalidated our Gold award. This means that we are still one of just a handful of primary schools in the country that has reached this level. The team from FfLP) looked at the different ways that we develop cooking and growing in and around the

school. We showed them how we encourage children to try new taste experiences. They looked at how we teach them the skills to cook simple dishes (using seasonal produce where possible) and link cookery to their learning in other areas of the curriculum..

As part of our Gold Award we have developed school meals which are healthy and use organic and locally sourced ingredients. The children have told us which meals they enjoy and our staff have created a three week menu with meat and vegetarian options. Some of the ingredients that we use are very local as they are grown in our school polytunnel- so our food tastes delicious! We are lucky that each week parents join us, eating alongside their children. We shall look forward to welcoming them back again this year.



Our beekeeping has continued and we have trained a growing number of beekeepers. Some of our children have become very experienced and are happy to share their knowledge. Last year our junior beekeepers gave several excellent presentations to audiences in Great Dunmow and London. We shall look forward to seeing how they build on that this year. Our junior beekeepers have been busy extracting honey over the summer and have put it into jars to sell. They will make it available to our families during the autumn and by selling it in small jars we are hoping that lots of our children will be able to sample Takeley Primary School honey, 2014.

We are looking forward to offering our children more experiences throughout this year so that we can give each child a broad and happy education.

*Claire Berry*  
*Head of School*

# Tallen's Country Notes

Several people this year have posed the question, "Where are all the birds, as my garden is so quiet".

Once during the summer you could walk along the Flich Way and hear chiff chaff, willow warblers, blackcaps, garden and grasshopper warblers all



singing their individual songs. There would also be the hum and buzzing of insects and of course you would be brushing aside the gnats and mosquitoes, some of which would penetrate your defences leaving you with an itchy reddish bump on your anatomy. This summer I heard none of

these summer visitors nor was I once bothered by ferocious flying carnivores. That of course cues the question, 'WHY?'. Satisfactory answer I do not have but I will try to answer the question through my own observations.

Farming methods have an effect on bird habitat. No longer does the plough leave a 'headland strip'. That is what the strip of land that was once left between the field and the hedge or ditch was called. Today every inch of land is used to produce crops. Then, of course, to improve crop yield modern herbicides and insecticides are used being sprayed onto the crops. Whilst these modern farming methods helps to protect the crop against hungry insects and invasive weeds they are indiscriminate as to who or what they eradicate.

The 'headland' was a mini habitat of wild flowers (weeds) and grasses, which was then the habitat for insects and small mammals. In turn this was the *larder* for insect-eating birds, especially vital during early spring and more importantly the raising of young birds. In some cases the failure of some soft-bodied insects not available at this important time of the year would result in the loss of a complete generation of some bird species.



So we have a dilemma. To feed the nation we have to produce more food. To be able to do this the crops need protection, which leads to a clash of interests between the wild habitat and the controlled habitat. The later directly interferes with the natural way of things but produces more food at the expense of the



former. An example is the bee population. There is growing concern as to what effect the use of modern insecticides are having on bees. Many hives are now dormant as the bees have no defence against the use of 'man-made' insect deterrents, which is unfortunate because the bottom line is **No Bees, No Plants, No Food**. With all the technology to help to produce enough food for us all it is the humble bee that pollinates the crops.

News on the home front is good. The blackbirds have had several broods as have the goldfinches, but they are very hungry. I am pleased that I decided to continue feeding them throughout the year. In doing so I have observed behaviour that I have never seen before especially among the blue tits, I have said avoid putting nuts and bird seed out during the spring as such food being fed to young fledglings could result in the fledglings choking on the food, as their normal food is soft-bodied insects, caterpillars etc. My observations have shown me that this is not the case. Four young blue tits accompanied by their parents arrived on the feeder and, after several attempts at perching on the perches and pecking at the sunflower seed through the perspex, gave up and flew onto nearby holly tree, where they begged to be fed. A parent took a seed to the first youngster, held the seed in its claws, pecked small pieces off of it, rolled it in its beak then fed it into



the gaping mouth of the begging juvenile.

Tallen

## MOOT HOUSE PLAYERS' NEW SEASON.

Moot House Players are the oldest theatre group in Harlow. Operating from our theatre in Moot Hall, we have been pioneers of theatre in the round and have had many members who have gone on to find fame as professional playwrights, actors, musicians and designers.

Moot Hall offers a uniquely adaptable space that enables many different arrangements of audience and acting area to be used. The Players also have a raked auditorium which means that visibility to the stage is always good. The immediate area is well served with car parks which are free in the evening. There are several restaurants within a few minute's walk of the theatre for pre and after show dining. In addition, there is a licensed bar on the premises which is available to audience members. Ticket prices for all shows are very reasonable at £8 with a concessionary rate of £6.

This season, we have a very varied selection of entertainments:

On November 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be presenting "**Woyzeck**" by George Buchner. This powerful nineteenth century German play will be given in a new translation by Michael Branwell which updates the text to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is dark tale of a man's descent into madness and promises a gripping evening of powerful theatre. The play will be directed by Harry Tennison, our newest young director.

On January 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, we will be presenting our "**Full of Joys**" **old-time music hall**. This was a huge success last season and is returning by popular demand. Early booking recommended!

On March 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, we shall present "**Metamorphosis**", adapted from Franz Kafka by Steven Berkoff. A man wakes to find that he has turned into an insect .... The play will be directed by Kerry Rowland and promises to be a thought-provoking and fascinating theatrical experience.

On May 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, we present "**Inside Job**" by Brian Clemens. This stylish thriller with a twisting plot will be directed by Dan Powell, who has a well-established record of producing edge of the seat crime capers.

On July 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, we round off our season with a production of "**Pygmalion**" by Bernard Shaw, a classic that needs no introduction. This will be directed by Henrietta Branwell who was responsible for the hugely successful "The Importance of being Earnest" last season.

Miss it? Not bloody likely!

So there you have it, a season of exceptional theatre.

All performances begin at 8pm at Moot Hall, The Stow, Harlow CM20 3AG  
Tickets £8 (Concessions £6) from the Box Office on 01279 639170.

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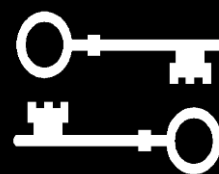




# TAKELEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY UNLOCKING THE PAST

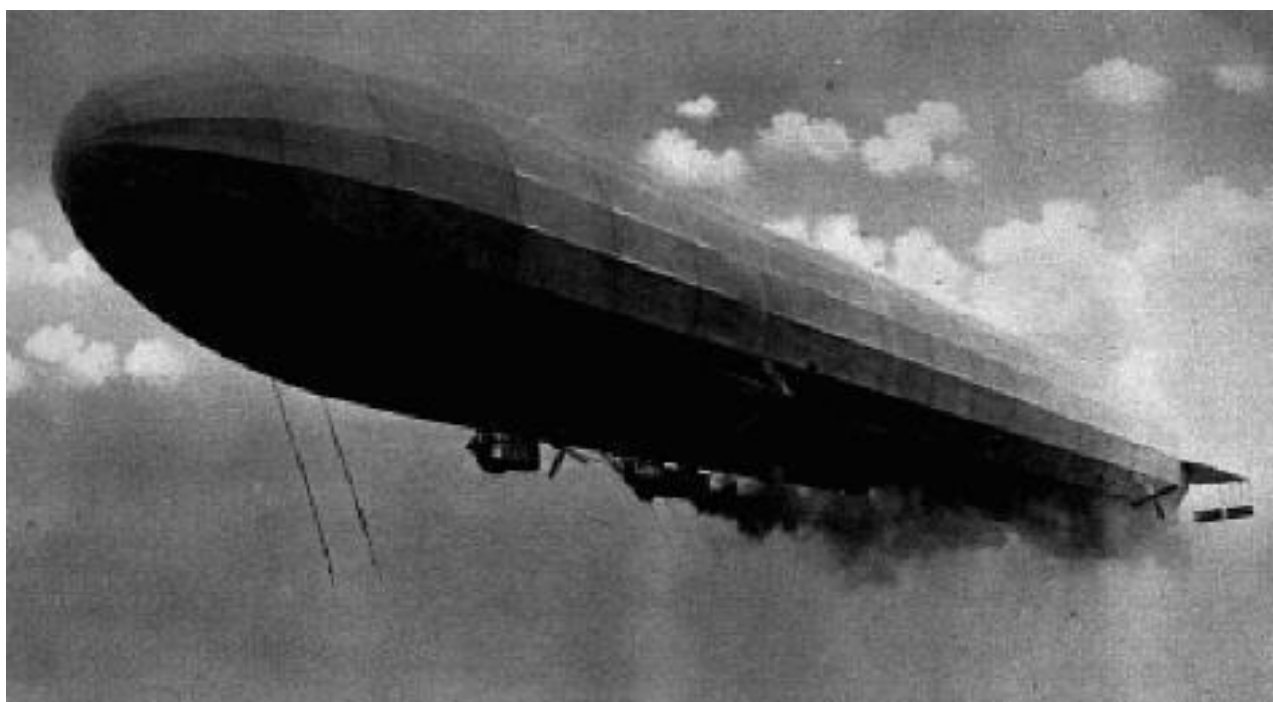
<http://tlhs.org.uk>

[chairman@tlhs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@tlhs.org.uk)



On 4<sup>th</sup> September we had an outing to the Essex Police Museum, Chelmsford, where we were entertained to “A Night at the Museum” with members of Old Court Theatre, Chelmsford, playing the parts of police officers and criminals. This brought the Museum exhibits to life and was very much enjoyed by all. The Museum is normally open every Saturday if you would like to visit.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> September we have Richard Thomas speaking about Guy Fawkes, although this issue may arrive through your door just after that date.



At our meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November (which will be our AGM) we have Martyn Lockwood coming to speak to us about Zeppelin raids over Essex during WW1.

We all know about the fighting during WW1 on the Continent but many people today may not realise that the fight was brought so close to home and that our closest casualties due to Zeppelin action may be the four people killed in Braintree in April 1916. The raids on London and the Home Counties in 1915 and 1916 resulted in two Zeppelins being brought down in Essex, pieces of which were broken up and sold locally as souvenirs.

So, if you find this at all interesting please come and join us on 18<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm at Takeley Primary School. As always all will be welcome.



Whilst on the subject of WW1, I was very please to receive, through our website, details of a WW1 Great Eastern Railway, Roll of Honour for Takeley. I did not know before that these existed but apparently railways (and presumably other businesses as well) produced Rolls of Honour for employees who signed up in WW1.

From Takeley Station it honours Private W. Rolf of The King's Royal Rifles who was a platelayer on the railway. Details are now on our website.

I have also recently received, from Australia, information relating to William Welch, a close associate of the notorious Elsenham Gang who was deported to Sydney, Australia in 1818. This is also now on the website with our other Elsenham Gang information.

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

  
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# From the Village Recorder

## **Bassingbourne Hall and Colchester Hall**

I think that I may have now found out who gave the land in Takeley to the Abbey at Tilty. Both William de Hauville, junior, and Robert Cobbe gave land to Tilty. It was Robert Cobbe, sometimes referred to as “Lord” Robert Cobbe who gave his name to Cobbs Lane. Excavations in Easton found a medieval complex the other side of the River Roding that is said to have belonged to him. Either Cobbe or de Hauville could have established the small Park that was situated in that corner of Takeley.

Bassingbourne was part of the Manor of Stansted Mountfichet granted to Robert Gernon at the time of the Norman Conquest. It may originate from the section sublet to a man named Peter. To date, Bassingbourn is the only Takeley Manor that we think had a gallows. The Manors belonging to religious institutions did not have the right to hang people.

The records of Bassingbourne are not full. We know that before 1200 it was given by William de Takeley to the Priory of Ankerwicke in Bedfordshire. It is possible that a female member of the family had joined the order, or may even have been the Prioress. By 1200 it was in the occupation of John de Bassingbourne in the right of his wife Albreda. Her family name is unknown to us, but it would seem logical that the Manor was part of her dowry from the original owners. They may themselves have held it as sub tenants of the main lords, the Mountfichets.

John de Bassingbourne was a household knight at the Court of King John and held important posts as well as frequently going with him on foreign trips. It may be on one of these expeditions that he acquired the rare Limoges buckle of the period that was found at Round Wood during the Stansted Airport excavations. De Bassingbourne eventually joined the rebellious East Anglian barons who forced the King into signing the Magna Carta, and his family never recovered their influence at Court. They continued to live at the manor, and may very well have financed building the South aisle of the church. Significantly the Lady Chapel was called the Bassingbourne chapel. Two owners in the 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries were originally buried there, but their ledger stones were moved in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century to a place before the chancel steps. One ledger stone says that the chapel belonged to the Manor of Bassingbourne.

In the mid 14<sup>th</sup> Century the Bassingbourne family left Takeley and the names of the people who actually occupied the manor become obscure. Not until William Towse bought the estate in the 1580s do we get a complete sequence of owners.

The first tenant we know of is a Thomas Benet in the 1490s. In 1484 an Eleanor Marham, wife of William Marham, was the Executrix of the will of Roger Bassyngborn of Weymouth in Dorset. It is possible that she was a Bassingbourne by birth. Her husband is called both a “gentilman” and a “wever”. He is described as “poor” and owed money to various people including the 6L [£6] to the Prioress of Ankerwicke. The Marhams were tenants for a time and seem to start the tradition of Bassingbourne tenants and owners having severe financial problems that was to last into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. A Rental, dated 1514/5, gives Roger Achilley, Alderman of London as the Lord. By 1523 it was held by William and Blytha Byng.

Robert Trappes, a London goldsmith, held the Manor in 1547, when we have the first Court Roll. His tenant was a William Holden and he was involved in a bitter dispute with Trappes about the lease. Halden claimed that he was “a very pore man not able to sue for his remedy in the premises against the said Robert Trappes being A man of greate welth and substance” Eight witnesses were called and a barn is mentioned at the Manor where one witness was said to be threshing.

Trappes’ two grand-daughters inherited the estate and the husband of one, Sir Giles Paulett, is given as the owner until 1579. The next people mentioned are Edward and Alice Byrde when the Manor comprised 10 messuage, 10 cottage, 200 acres of arable 100 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 40 acres of wood and £8 in rents. By 1598, lawyer William Towse had been renting, and then bought Bassingbourne, and from then we have a verifiable list of owners. It was almost certainly Towse who built the first Tudor house that was still in existence in an extended form when it was demolished in 1813.

Colchester Hall came into existence in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century as a result of gifts of land to the Abbey of St. John at Colchester mainly by members of the de Hauville family. They were even-handed in their gifts as they also gave land to the Abbey of Holy Cross at Waltham Abbey and so created the Manor of Waltham Hall. I will detail this in a later article. We are lucky that there are very early documents relating to these gifts still in existence. Apart from the Domesday Survey they are among the oldest documents for Takeley. What is not easy is to identify the fields and places from the names mentioned. We do have names of some of the inhabitants with their occupations such as Clemence le Potter, Hugonis le Tornour, Waltere le Tanner. [Did his house later become “Tanners” perhaps?] The surname of Radulphus Ballard [c.1234] has been attached to a field in the north of Takeley. We get an example of the status of serfs when Ellis, the son of Gilbert, is “given” to Colchester Abbey with his croft.

A field in one early document is called La Leye, and I wonder if this is the field that gave Takeley – Taeccas Ley - its name. Even if this is true, it is still uncertain where the original la Leye was exactly, and unfortunately there are several fields recorded with this name.

Although the manors and houses belonged to an Abbey, we must not imagine monks following their daily rituals with the attached monastic church, chapel, and other buildings. Colchester Hall, like Waltham Hall, and post 1400, Warish Hall, was a grange, or Abbey farm, and was rented out to create an income and produce. The house belonging to Tilty Abbey was actually called The Grange. The monastic heads of Warish Hall, while it belonged to France, were only accompanied by one or two monks. They would have followed the monastic rule every day but probably with very little ceremony.

We know the names of two early tenants of Colchester Hall; the first was Godfrey, Rector of Walkern in Hertfordshire. In 1314 he was granted the manor with the tithes and the rents from other estates, in return for an annual payment of 20 quarters of wheat, 40 quarters of oats and 8s. 10d, all to be paid at Colchester at Godfrey's expence.

The second tenant is even more interesting. In 1325 John de Bolebeke of Foweleswode leased the manor for 6 years. There is a detailed account of all the items to which he was entitled, both inside the house and on the farm. It suggests that the manor house had its own small chapel, or room set aside for use as a chapel. This contained a portable altar, a painted crucifix [this was probably easier to move than a wooden or metal cross] and the altar vessels for saying the Mass.

We know that Geoffrey de Hauville and his family and retainers were allowed to celebrate the daily services in his own chapel rather than having to travel to the church because the route to the church was so foul. In return they had to attend the major services at the parish church. I like to fantasise that the females of the family objected to getting their best clothes mired by the Essex mud.

The other household items mentioned are two chairs, stools, table boards, twelve plates, saucers and dishes, four cups – one with a cover, a pewter salt cellar, cloth and one towel of 3 1/2 ells. The kitchen and dairy had salt tubs, large brass bowls, food, salt and meal troughs, an 18 gallon cistern. There are several references to items associated with salt that show how important it was in the preservation of food. It would have been bought from travelling salesmen, probably coming from Maldon.

The farm inventory is even fuller. It has forks, shovels, spades, a hoe, a mattock, four carts, hurdles [for containing sheep, of which four hurdles were made of wattle], four ploughs, timber, seven boards for the barn door, two ladders, and rather mysteriously eleven doors with bolts. The granary had a half bushel and a peck, and a basket for sowing.

There is the very interesting note that there was a chest with a double lock in the lord's chamber, which contained the court rolls in a bag. It seems that Bolebecke was getting his accommodation almost "fully furnished" to use a modern idiom.



Until the Monasteries were dissolved the Abbey was getting two sheaves of corn as tithe with one sheaf to Rector of the church. [The Rector was still the Bishop of London.] After the Dissolution the manor got the two sheaves and the incumbent of the parish one sheaf. The Abbey also held the view of Frankpledge and the Assize of bread and ale; this "view" allowed them to control all the bread and ale produced on the manor. Colchester at this time was the fourth richest monastic house in England, and as Waltham was the richest, it suggests that the Takeley manors were very productive.

I think the emphasis on the farming equipment shows how vital the production of food was to the rural economy. The household furnishings are sparse in contrast, but the average lord travelling from Manor to Manor would take the more valuable items of daily comfort with him in carts. There are few records that any of the Takeley Manors were affected by the Black Death of 1348/9 and its later occurrences. Warish and Waltham Halls lost many tenants in the period after 1348, and had considerable trouble in finding anyone to take over the holdings. It is difficult to see that the other Manors could have escaped the contagion.

Together with the Peasants' Revolt [which started in Essex] these events, within some thirty years of each other, must have had a major impact on the life and outlook of the Takeley peasant. Were the Black Death victims buried in Takeley churchyard? Again we do not know, but evidence from the London burial grounds show that on the whole the dead were treated with respect and buried in the approved manner. This would definitely suggest a churchyard burial.

Next time I will look at Waltham and Warish Halls for the same period.

**Nia Watkiss**

### **Excavation at Cooks Hill, Takeley. Visit made by Village Recorder , 7<sup>th</sup> August 2014.**

This site would have originally been in the parish of Hatfield Broad Oak. The earliest remains dating from the late Iron Age to early Roman would not have been in any parish as they did not then exist. The site has been excavated by UCL prior to the building of a new housing estate called rather improbably "Friars Place". [Takeley has never had Friars!]

The eastern end of the site has medieval fields running in strips from East to West and occupying the flat area.

Where the land starts to slope away there is a large Iron Age ditch running North to South with a corresponding ditch at the end of the site. The lower part of this large site will be landscaped when the houses are completed. Between the two Iron Age ditches are Roman field strips. Mostly Roman metal finds have been brooches, tweezers and buckles. Two tiny beads appear to be made of jade as they are a green colour. There is a massive

amount of broken pottery, but nothing of any high status. It is possible this came from the Roman pottery kilns at Bambers Green.

Also on the site are oyster shells, some dating from the very earliest prehistoric period, with some fossilised remains from when the area was under water.

The site manager Mark Germany who had also taken part in the Stansted Airport excavations agreed that this site is part of the site surrounding the church on the other side of the road, formerly Stane Street. He also said the Takeley was a very interesting parish from the early archaeological viewpoint, so perhaps we can look forward to more discoveries when the rest of the brown field sites in the village are excavated.

If you see any excavation taking place, please contact the Chair of the History Society, Steve Hazon, or the Village Recorder to make sure that they are aware of the work before it is built over.

## ***Articles from the past, by Pat Salmon***

### **Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 1898**

#### **ALLEGED FOWL STEALING BY TRAMPS.**

John Wallis, 58, and William Wallis, 17, tramps, were charged with stealing a fowl belonging to William Hodson, farmer of Takeley on 1<sup>st</sup> April. A girl named Clara Camp stated that on the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup> of April she saw the prisoners going through Takeley towards Bishop's Stortford. The younger prisoner went towards the hedge, came back with a fowl, and killed it. He put it under his coat and both men then went on. Witness was some distance away from the men. John Maitland, labouring boy of Takeley, gave corroborative evidence.

John Hodson, son of the prosecutor, said he drove on to Bishop's Stortford and informed the police there. Inspector Foster and P.c. Wackett went back with him and on meeting the prisoners near Start Hill, the police searched them, but found nothing upon them. The hedgerows were also searched without result. P.c. Filmer said the distance from where the first two witnesses were standing to the spot in the hedge where the fowl was alleged to have been taken was just under two hundred yards. There were a few rushes growing there. The prisoners stated that they went after these rushes, The constable said he had searched the neighbourhood, but without result.

Prisoners pleaded not guilty. The elder one said he was merely shaking rushes and the children evidently made a mistake, and thought he had a fowl. The Magistrates thought there was "just a possibility" that the children might have been mistaken, on account of the distance and discharged the prisoners.

## **Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Saturday 18th June 1898.**

### **A QUICK RETURN.**

Frederick Carr, a labourer, of Takeley, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Dunmow on 23rd May, he admitted the offence. P.C.Crisp stated the offence.

Superintendent Megran said the defendant was fined for the same offence at Dunmow that day, and he should have locked him up had it not been for his wife - Fined 5s costs 6s 6d.

## **Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Saturday 12th February 1898.**

### **QUARRELSOME.**

William Wright, 29, labourer, of Broxted, was charged with being quarrelsome and refusing to quit licensed premises at Takeley, on January 22nd. He admitted the offence.

Arthur Thomas Simons, landlord of the Three Horse Shoes, Mole Hill Green, said defendant made use of some filthy expressions towards his wife and witness told him he ought to be ashamed of himself, and at the same time ordered him out of the house. He said he did not care about witness, and should not go before he liked; he continued his bad language and took of his coat to fight. Witness sent for P.C. Jordan, but defendant left before he arrived.

Defendant said he knew he had had "a tidy drop of beer" and he did not know what he was saying. There were nine convictions against him, all for game cases, and he went to prison for a month in default of paying 10s and 11s costs.

## **Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Saturday 6th March 1886.**

### **TEMPERANCE**

The members of the Takeley Temperance Society held their fortnightly meeting on Wednesday last. Mr Sadler, in a few well chosen words, advocated the claims of the Temperance cause. Friends from Dunmow kindly contributed to make the meeting enjoyable and pleasant by giving musical selections, recitations, dialogues, etc. A very good selection was given by Mr Warren entitled "Buy your own cherries", "The social glass", by Messrs Cowell, Sadler and Saunders. Not the least amusing was a dialogue by Mrs Ruffle and Mr Warren "Mary's treat to her husband", shewing the benefit of leading a temperate life. A few appropriate illustrations on the results of temperance were given by Mr Newman Ruffle, and after the singing of a hymn, the benediction closed the proceedings. Mr Smith (the secretary) urged the young people to make up their minds and sign the pledge.

## Report in the Herts & Essex Observer - Saturday 2nd June 1917.

### THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK ON SPARROW CLUBS.

The Countess of Warwick contributes her views in Wednesdays Daily Chronicle upon the subject of 'Sparrow Clubs' under the heading of "Misguided Zeal" her Ladyship says "Sparrow Clubs are now established throughout England, and there has been a great effort to stimulate there activity. I cannot help thinking that these institutions may do more harm than good. It has been suggested that children should take the nests and young of sparrows. Now the house sparrow, the only bird against which the agriculturist brings serious charges, builds as a rule out of the reach of children. Round my home it seems to choose the thatch of barn and cottage, to which children cannot get unaided. But the delightful hedge-sparrow which, of course, is not a true sparrow at all builds in the lanes and bye-ways, and I believe the comparatively rare tree-sparrow may be found to, and just now, when nests are most plentiful, the misguided zeal of the club organisers will sacrifice countless eggs and young of the insect eating birds that are our best friends. In this way the interests of the country suffer. Quite apart from this aspect of the question there is another very wide importance. There is in many children an instinct towards cruelty that can be eradicated quite successfully by careful treatment, and can be developed to a hideous extent by the neglect of parents and guardians to enforce John Ruskin's famous maxim that he who is not actively kind is cruel. What can we hope for from children who are taught that it is their duty to catch sparrows or take the fledglings from their nests and destroy them in any ugly fashion they like ? I defy any human being who has been fairly trained and had normal tendencies to regard a bird that has done him no harm with any save the kindest feeling, and whatever the depredations of the sparrow may be, they have never done the smallest harm to the children asked, encouraged or permitted to destroy them. Cruelty is a fearful disease to plant in a child, and I would most earnestly beg every mother of little ones who reads this to see to it that none of those whom she controls is guilty of the destruction of bird life. If it is perfectly clear and beyond the possibility of doubt that sparrows are harmful to man and must be kept in check, let the necessary steps be taken by people old enough to know what they are doing and humane enough to do it in the quickest and most effective fashion. In any case let nothing be done in the sight of children. Who can doubt that if we would deal as we should with the life around us and regard ourselves as trustees, the measure of cruelty in the world would be reduced ! I would even go further and declare that for all the evil we inculcate or condone, humanity must in the long run pay the fullest penalty. There will be many who feel with me that the beauty of this beautiful month is clouded by thought of the cruelty, that every day must witness. Even in the few places upon which the shadow of world war does not fall".



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## **Book Review by Elaine Wyld**

### **The Husband's Secret by Liane Moriarty**

Cecilia seems to have everything she wants – a happy family, a reliable and successful husband, children and good friends. She enjoys a busy life, keeping home and arranging successful Tupperware parties. Her life changes completely when one day, whilst going into the attic to retrieve a piece of the Berlin Wall she had gathered years ago, Cecilia discovers a letter addressed to her by her husband with the inscription “For my wife Cecilia Fitzpatrick - to be opened in the event of my death”. Perturbed and full of curiosity, she takes the letter downstairs unopened. Her husband, John-Paul, is often absent working away from home. Without his presence Cecilia is undecided and unsure whether to open the letter.

Rachel has never recovered from the unexpected death of her teenage daughter who was murdered years ago. The case was not resolved and now her remaining child, a son, is moving to New York with his wife and child. Rachel becomes obsessed with the man she thinks killed her daughter. He is a teacher at the school where she is employed.

Tess, Will and Felicity all work together in their advertising business, “TWF”. Tess and Felicity are cousins and Will is married to Tess. When Will confesses that he and Felicity are in love, Tess leaves home, taking their young son Liam with her. As Tess looks back over the years, she realises that Felicity has always emulated Tess and now it seems she wants Tess’s husband.

The story revolves around these central characters and the author intertwines all their lives into a sinister plot.

At the conclusion of the story, the author explores different outcomes to events, suggesting what would have happened if the characters had made different choices, giving an interesting twist to the tale.

ISBN – 978-1-404-91166-5  
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£7.99

## 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](mailto: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)

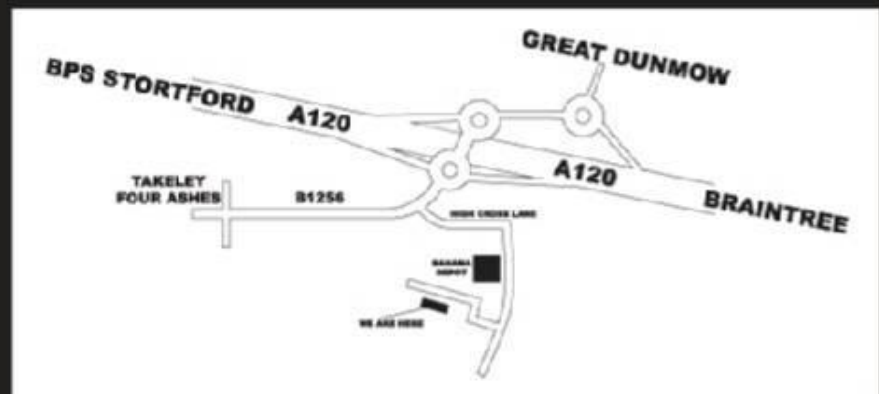
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