

HATFIELD PEVEREL

VILLAGE VOICE



CONTENTS

Parish Council News	3
St Andrew's and All Saints	4
Free Tennis Activators	5
Hatfield Peverel Flower Club.....	6
Hatfield Peverel Allotment Association.....	7
Helen Rollason Cancer Charity	9
Hatfield Peverel Methodist Church.....	11
Community Recycling.....	12
Western Front Association	13
Terling WI	14
Maldon Film Club	15
Stefan Tabacu, My Personal Trainer.....	16
Hatfield Peverel & Ulting Horticultural Society	17
Peverel Wine Club	18
What's on at Hatfield Peverel Village Hall ...	19

USEFUL INFORMATION

Click below for Parish Council and village information and contacts

[Hatfield Peverel Parish Council](https://www.hatfieldpeverelpc.com/parish-council/) *

[Parish Council Meetings](https://www.hatfieldpeverelpc.com/parish-council-meetings/) *

[Clubs and Societies](https://www.hatfieldpeverelpc.com/welcome-to-our-village/village-culture/clubs-and-societies/) *

[Local Information and Contacts](https://www.hatfieldpeverelpc.com/welcome-to-our-village/community-matters/local-information-and-contacts/) *

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communications@hatfieldpeverelpc.com

If you wish to advertise your business in Village Voice, please get in touch for a media pack and rate card.

This publication is printed on FSC-sourced paper and is fully recyclable.

* [Hatfield Peverel Parish Council](https://www.hatfieldpeverelpc.com/parish-council/) – <https://www.hatfieldpeverelpc.com/parish-council/>

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CHAIR EXERCISE

**St Andrew's Church Hall
Hatfield Peverel**

Tues 10 am-10.45 am

Jan 6, 13, 20 | Feb 3, 10, 24

Mar 10, 17, 24

Apr 14, 21 (Return May 5)

Would you like to improve your...

Balance, strength, flexibility, confidence and general fitness levels?

Why not **come and join us** and have some fun too!

You will be very welcome whatever your level is.

Fully qualified instructor.

Not sure about coming? Feeling anxious? Have you had a fall or are afraid of falling?

Do you have replacement joints? Are you spending more time at home?

Has your mobility decreased since Covid? Your exercises will be adapted to your needs!

Medical conditions must be controlled if you would like to attend.

Fully qualified Chair Based Instructor and Personal Trainer

Mental Health & Exercise Level 4

Please come in comfortable, stretchy clothing, leisure footwear and bring water!

Bookings taken now or turn up on the day!

For details and cost mandadurran@gmail.com

Telephone 01376 408046 - Please leave a message.

Hatfield Peverel Tennis Coaching

Tuesday Group Sessions

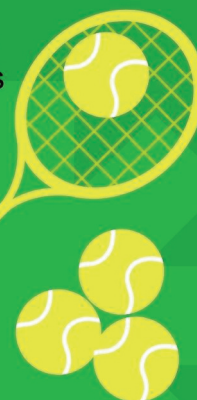
3.45 - 4.30pm	5-8yr olds
4.30 - 5.15pm.	9-12 yr olds
5.15 - 6.00pm.	13-18 yr olds
6.00 - 7.30pm	Adults

First session is free

For more information / prices

Contact:
Appointed Tennis Coach
Mark Cain
markacain@live.com
07741 083192

**1-1 Private lessons
also available**





Hatfield Peverel Parish Council Update

Back in January, the opening hours of the Parish Council office were revised to be as follows:

HATFIELD PEVEREL PARISH COUNCIL

Office Hours Update

Please note a change to the Parish Council office opening hours, effective immediately:

- Monday: 8:30am – 4:30pm
- Tuesday: 9:00am – 1:00pm
- Wednesday: Closed
- Thursday: 8:30am – 4:30pm
- Friday: 8:30am – 12:30pm

You can, of course, email us with any queries or call the office on 01245 382865 and leave a message if out of office hours. Our website, hatfieldpeverelpc.com has details of councillors and their email addresses

should you wish to contact any one councillor in particular.

We endeavour to keep residents informed of upcoming events, initiatives, schemes council procedures and news and local information via our website. We also post relevant information on our social media channels.



Tennis sessions

Our group tennis coaching sessions continue this winter at the Strutt Memorial Tennis Courts. Our appointed coach, Mark Cain, offers weekly sessions for all ages as well as 1:1 coaching. See details on page 2.

The tennis courts are also available to book privately via our online booking system. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/book-tennis>

Party in the Park

We are already looking for stallholders for this year's Party in the Park to be held on Saturday 4th July. Interested? Email Carly Truman on assistantclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.com

Get involved

We welcome you to come along to our full Parish Council meetings held on the first Monday of each month. February's meeting will be held on Monday 2nd February. All meetings are held in the Vic Olley Room at the Village Hall. To view the [agenda](#) visit our website or see the noticeboard outside the Parish Council office. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor yourself, we'd be delighted to speak with you.

Contact Sarah Gaeta, Parish Clerk; or Carly Truman, Assistant Clerk at the Parish Council Office, Village Hall, Maldon Road, Hatfield Peverel, CM3 2HP Tel 01245 382865. Email: parishclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.com

Hatfield Peverel Parish Council

JOB VACANCY WEEKEND CLEANER

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Helping to make our village hall a clean and welcoming place to visitors
- 4 hours per week (flexibility considered for completion of work before 9am Sat & Sun)
- 18+ No experience necessary

APPLY NOW

01245 382865
assistantclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.com
 Hatfield Peverel Village Hall, Maldon Road, CM3 2HP

Christopher THE LOCKSMITH

ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?

We Value Old Fashioned Customer Service
 A Local Trusted Family Business Since 1989

- Specialist in UPVC & Wooden Doors
- No Call Out Charge
- No Fix No Fee
- All Work Fully Guaranteed
- 10% Senior Citizen Discount

For More Advice & Help Call Christopher:
07772 111 222
www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk

NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S & ALL SAINTS, ULTING

Is Spring here or about to burst upon us? At the time of writing, we are in the gloom of mid-January. Nevertheless, snow drops are starting to show, and their emergence always lifts the spirits particularly if there is some winter sunshine to highlight the slender white flowers.

Before we move on, we need to report that we had a marvellous turn out at the Light of the World service on Christmas Eve with 159 adults and 60 children filling the church, preparing for Christmas and bringing presents both in kind and monetary for Home-Start Essex. The charity, which does so much for families struggling with young children, was delighted with the response, so a huge thank you to all.



The other post-Christmas report is about the Epiphany bonfire and sparkler party we had in the Vicarage garden on the first Saturday in January, after our first Coffee Morning of the year. It was a cold but clear evening with a most splendid moon hanging in the air. Charles led a short celebration of the arrival of the wise men as we sang carols round the bonfire, and much enjoyment was had by all adults and children boosted by mulled wine, hotdogs and mince pies.

We look forward now to Lent which starts so early this year on Ash Wednesday, 18th February, when we shall have a **special Ash Wednesday service at 7.30pm at St Andrew's**. We hope to see contingents from the churches in the Witham and Villages team, and we would also be delighted to welcome all villagers to experience the imposition of ashes traditional to that service.



As our own precursor to Lent we will be showing the film of **Les Miserables** in the church hall at **6.30pm on Friday the 13th February**. It is an amazingly good film and the reason for choosing it is that it will form the basis of our Lent discussion groups (using the format last year when we chose the film *Chocolat*). So do come along for what should be a most enjoyable evening! Plus, it's free!

The Lent groups themselves will start at 7.30pm on Monday 23rd February and will continue at the same time on succeeding Mondays, initially at least, at Crouchmans.

Our January Soup and Roll hosted 36 guests and raised £222 for **CHES** which does such good work supporting homeless people in Chelmsford. Following the theme of supporting the homeless, but even more locally, our February event on **Tuesday 10th February 12.30 am-200pm** will be supporting **Witham's House of Grace**.

Details of our services, to which you are all most welcome, are on the next page.

Contact details for Parish Team



Rev Howard Schnaar 07761234165

Rev Derek Clark 07860380627 | Charles Cope 01245 382134 |

John Tomlins 07712699722 | Mark Keenan 07791141974

Website: www.hatfieldpeverelultingchurches.org.uk

Parish of St Andrew Hatfield Peverel with All Saints Ulting

SERVICES etc. for FEBRUARY 2026

	St Andrews	All Saints
Sunday 1st	10.15 Matins [Candlemas]	9am Holy Communion
Saturday 7th	10 -12 noon COFFEE MORNING in St Andrew's Church Hall	
Sunday 8th	8am Holy Communion 10.15am All Age Service	9am Morning Prayer (Common Worship)
Tuesday 10 th	12.30pm – 2pm SOUP AND ROLL in aid of House of Grace [Witham] St Andrew's Church Hall	
Friday 13th	6.30 Film Night – Les Miserables – in church hall	
Sunday 15th	10.15 am Parish Eucharist	9am Holy Communion with hymns
Wednesday 18th	7.30 pm Ash Wednesday Service	
Sunday 22nd	10.15 Parish Eucharist	9am Parish Eucharist with hymns (BCP)

Edward Bear: Every Thursday 10am to 11.30 – Coffee and Company – in hall - with short worship on alternating weeks.

All Saints open for prayer every Wednesday at 9am [with Morning Office]

St Andrews open for prayer every Thursday at 9am.

CONTACTS: **St Andrew's and All Saints:** Rev'd Howard Schnaar 07761234165
revhoward@withamvillages.team, John Tomlins 01245 380359 07712699722
johnandanna.tomlins@btopenworld.com, Mark Keenan 07791141974
kramnaneek@live.co.uk

All Saints, Ulting: Rev'd Derek Clark 01245 380627 07860235778

Help Bring Free Tennis to Hatfield Peverel

Back in January we shared plans to bring **Barclays Free Park Tennis** to Hatfield Peverel - a national scheme offering free, friendly tennis sessions for anyone who wants to take part. To make this happen locally, we're still looking for a small group of volunteers to step forward as **Tennis Activators**.



The idea is simple. From **April to October 2026**, we hope to run a **one-hour session on Sunday mornings** at the tennis courts on **Strutt Memorial Recreation Ground**. Sessions are open to all ages and abilities, with equipment provided. There's no coaching involved — just an opportunity for people to turn up, play, and enjoy being active outdoors.

To run each session safely and smoothly, **two activators** are needed. Activators welcome players, set up equipment and help the session flow. You don't need to be a tennis expert — or even a regular player — just someone who enjoys being involved and supporting others.

What's involved?

- Around **2 hours of online training**, including safeguarding
- An **LTA DBS check**
- A friendly, reliable approach



We're keen to build a **small team of 4–6 activators**, so the commitment is shared and no one is tied down every week. Even helping occasionally makes a real difference.

If you enjoy tennis, value community activities, or simply like the idea of helping something positive take root in the village, this could be a great way to get involved. Free Park Tennis works well in villages where a few people are willing to give a little time — and we'd love Hatfield Peverel to be one of them.

To find out more about the scheme, visit www.lta.org.uk/play/free-park-tennis/

If you're interested in becoming an activator, please contact **Sarah Gaeta** at parishclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.com



Hatfield Peverel Flower Club

Programme for Spring/Summer 2026

N.B. No meeting in January

4th February	Janet and Jane - "A Day In The Life Of "
4th March	David Wright - "Kaleidoscope 25"
1st April	Naomi Wells - "Stories"
6th May	Rachel Borenkova - "If Flowers Could Talk"
3rd June	Vicky Hease - "Here Comes Summer"
1st July	TBC

N.B. No meeting in August

**Hatfield Peverel Village Hall,
Maldon Road,
CM3 2HP**

7.30 for 8pm

Refreshments and Raffle

Guests welcome Non-members £7

For further details telephone:

Jane Eastall on 01245 466364

or to join the email group to receive updates

contact: Helen Peter on helenopeter@yahoo.co.uk

February in the allotment – a month of preparation

By Drew Price

February often tempts us outdoors with brighter mornings and longer days, but don't be fooled – winter still has a firm grip on the soil. Cold winds, low temperatures and waterlogged ground mean that February is less about planting and more about preparing. Think of it as setting the stage for a successful growing season ahead.

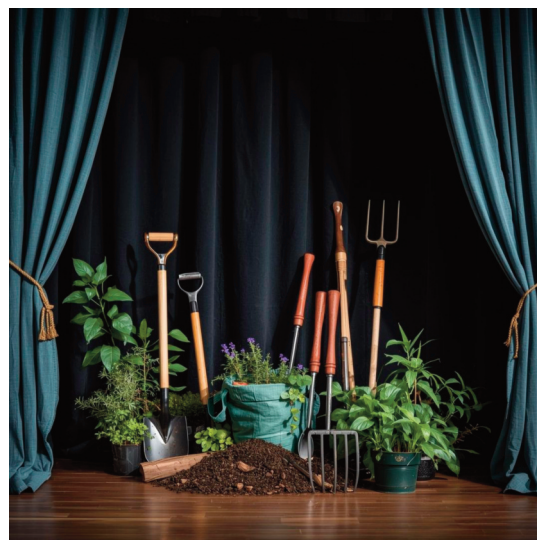
Before doing anything, step outside and check conditions. If the ground is frozen, saturated or muddy, it's best to stay off it. Working wet soil can cause long-term damage to its structure. Mother Nature can't be rushed, and patience now will pay off later.

That said, there is still plenty to do. One of the classic February jobs is **chitting potatoes**. Pop your seed potatoes into egg boxes with the eyes facing upwards and place them somewhere light, cool and frost-free. This head start helps them grow strongly once planted in the spring.

February is also a good time to **finish pruning fruit trees and bushes**, such as apples, pears and autumn-fruiting raspberries. Bare-root fruit trees and bushes can still be planted if the soil isn't frozen or waterlogged. Adding a layer of compost or well-rotted manure around them now gives them a welcome boost before growth begins.

Indoors or under cover, the growing season truly begins. Tomatoes, peppers, chillies, brassicas, and lettuce can all be sown on a sunny windowsill, in a greenhouse, or in a propagator. Early peas and broad beans can also be started under cover for planting out later. Just remember to keep seedlings warm and well-lit.

On the flower front, **snowdrops and crocuses** are already brightening plots, with daffodils not far behind. Sweet peas can be sown this month, and bare-root roses can still be planted. These early flowers are not just cheerful – they also help attract pollinating insects back to the garden.



Compost: A Small Commitment That Makes a Big Difference

February is an excellent time to start thinking about improving your soil. Healthy soil is the foundation of a successful garden, and compost plays a vital role in building it. Rather than focusing solely on the cheapest option available, many experienced allotment gardeners choose reliable, high-quality compost because it delivers better, more consistent results.

Good compost improves soil structure, helping it hold moisture while still draining well. It also supports stronger root growth and healthier plants overall. You don't need large amounts—just a few bags per plot or garden can make a noticeable difference. Adding quality compost now gives you a head start for spring. It's ideal for seed sowing and for filling trays, pots, and root trainers, creating the right environment for young plants to thrive. Compost isn't just something you add to the soil—it's an investment in the long-term health and productivity of your garden.

As February unfolds, enjoy the signs of life returning. Birdsong in the mornings, swelling buds, and the promise of warmer days ahead. Spring is closer than it feels – and the preparation you do now will help ensure a productive and rewarding year in the garden or on the allotment.

Haaaappy Gardening!



HELP KEEP OUR EMC CLUB RUNNING

VOLUNTEER NEEDED



Mainly for senior members of the community, the EMC (Every Members Club) was started to help combat loneliness and create a warm and friendly space for connection and support.

We meet every Wednesday 1-3pm at the Village Hall. It's a warm, relaxed get-together with lunch, quizzes, bingo and great conversation.

Our Chairman, Councillor Mark Weale runs the club but needs help to keep it going. If you're outgoing and friendly, enjoy a chat (and putting together a quiz!), can you spare the time to help?

We'd love to keep this facility going for those who attend. Please call Mark on

☎ 07801 443733

✉ cllrweale@hatfieldpeverelpc.com



HATFIELD PEVEREL PARISH COUNCIL

JOIN THE NEXT COHORT!

We're running a new Bronze DofE scheme in Hatfield Peverel

If you're a 13-19 yr old student with links to Hatfield Peverel (family, club, previous school) then it is fully funded by the Parish Council*


- Develop skills & resilience
- Make a difference in your community
- Improve mental health & wellbeing

Each young person builds their own DofE programme – picking their own activities and choosing which cause to volunteer for – in order to achieve their Bronze award. We meet fortnightly on a Wednesday evening from 6-7pm at Hatfield Peverel Village Hall.

JOIN NOW

Email cllrparker@hatfieldpeverelpc.com or cllrshort@hatfieldpeverelpc.com

*excluding additional expenses for expedition equipment & food



the COFFEE LOUNGE
at Hatfield Peverel Village Hall



Mon - Sat 9 - 5 pm
Sunday 10 - 4 pm

— ❖ —

BREAKFAST
LUNCH
CAKES & SNACKS
HOT & COLD FOOD

— ❖ —

Coffee Club every Thursday
9 - 11am. Everyone welcome



QR Code

Braintree Frontline

FIND PLACES TO KEEP YOU WARM THIS WINTER

SEARCH 'WARM' & YOUR POSTCODE

Please visit us online
braintree.essexfrontline.org.uk

NHS
Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board

Braintree District Council

CELEBRATING HELEN!

Donation Day

Are you having a new year clear out? Or do you have any unwanted Christmas presents? We are holding a donation day on Saturday 21st February 2026 from 9am to 12pm at our centre in The Street, Hatfield Peverel. We accept clothing and accessories, toys, books, kitchen and homeware, ornaments, collectables, and any other valuable items. If your items are new or in good condition and preferably eBay saleable, we'd love to have them. Unfortunately, we cannot take electrical items.

By donating good quality items, you will be reducing waste, helping the environment and raising vital funds to support local people living with cancer. Parking is available at the rear of the building to drop off your items.

Tea For Helen



Helen Rollason was one of the UK's most popular sports TV presenters before her fight against cancer inspired millions of people.

Her broadcasting career began when she joined Essex Radio in 1980. She quickly became deputy sports editor and then went on to produce sports programmes for Channel 4 and ITV where her coverage included the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul. Joining BBC Sport in 1990, she became the first woman to anchor the BBC's flagship sport programme *Grandstand*. Her services to broadcasting and work for charity – which led to the formation of Helen Rollason Cancer Charity – was recognised with an MBE before she died in 1999, aged just 43.

Helen would have been 70 this year and in recognition of that, we're inviting you to host or attend a Tea for Helen. Invite friends and family - or if you have a café or coffee shop, you can join in too - making a small donation to Helen Rollason Cancer Charity for every cup of tea, coffee, scone or piece of cake that you sell. To download a fundraising pack, visit helenrollason.org.uk/support-us/tea-for-helen/

Or for more ideas and help contact the Fundraising Team on 01245 380719 or email fundraising@helenrollason.org.uk

Ride For Helen

This popular cycle event is returning to the Crix Estate, Hatfield Peverel on Sunday 10th May and bookings are open already at helenrollason.org.uk/event/ride-for-helen-2026/.

Whether you're a seasoned cyclist, just getting started or cycling with children, there's a route for everyone – with our 6, 15, 30, 50, 65 and 100 mile routes - all set against the beautiful backdrop of the Essex countryside in spring.

Here's what to expect:

- A lively event hub
- Marshals cheering you on and guiding your route
- Refreshments to keep you fuelled
- A medal to celebrate your achievement

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21 Feb	Donation Day. 9am – 12pm
21 Mar	Donation Day. 9am – 12pm
10 May	Ride For Helen cycle event starting at The Crix in Hatfield Peverel
12 Jul	A vintage day out at Hedingham Castle
30 Aug	Marvellous vintage day out at Layer Marney Tower

Details of all our events and challenges are on our website at www.helenrollason.org.uk/events

Helen Rollason
Cancer Charity



Omars of Hatfield Peverel

Purveyors of Fine Indian Cuisine

The Street, Hatfield Peverel,

CM3 2EA

01245 380099

omartandoori.co.uk



FOOD HYGIENE RATING

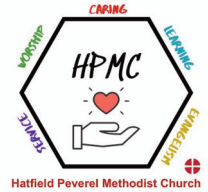


VERY GOOD

2025

**ENGLANDS
BUSINESS
AWARDS**

**WINNER
BEST INDIAN
TAKEAWAY
ESSEX**



METHODIST NEWS

Meet our new Outreach Worker



We are delighted to introduce Olawale Thompson, generally known as "OT" as the new Community Outreach Worker for Hatfield Peverel Methodist Church. OT is an accomplished Project Manager and a dedicated youth worker with extensive experience in community development, social care, church-based programmes, and leadership development.

Having grown up in a challenging community in Nigeria, OT made a conscious decision to live a purposeful life; one committed not only to personal excellence, but also to uplifting others. His

life and work reflect a deep belief in collective progress, servant leadership, and the power of faith to transform lives. He has worked closely with young people from diverse backgrounds, equipping them with the skills, confidence, and values needed to thrive and make meaningful contributions to society.

OT is committed to helping us continue our church connections with our community and finding new ways of getting to know and serve the people of Hatfield Peverel. This is an exciting initiative for us, and we look forward to helping him meet and engage with our neighbours. We will provide his contact details once we have these in place – you can find up to date information on our Facebook page and website. In the meantime, do say hi to OT when you see him and make him feel welcome!

Sunday worship at the Village Hall

Do join us on Sunday mornings at 9.15am in Room 3 (the Vic Olley Room) of the Village Hall (access through the Coffee Lounge). Or you can find us in the café on Sundays from 10.15am.

You're also invited along to our Stitch to Enrich group, on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 1-3pm where we share the joy of stitching and friendship.

You can contact us as follows:

Minister: Rev. Dr. Jennifer Walters 07824 440820

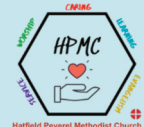
Mission Lead: Jane Cook 07827 594535

For information and prayer requests:

hpmethodistchurch@gmail.com

[@HPRealityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/HPRealityChurch)

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





COMMUNITY RECYCLING THAT SAVES LIVES

Our community's recent can collection has raised an impressive £500 for Essex & Herts Air Ambulance (EHAAT), helping to keep their helicopters flying, Rapid Response Cars on the road, and specialist crews responding to the most life-threatening emergencies.

Since 2021, local recycling efforts have generated over £3,000 for EHAAT. This vital support helps the charity reach people when every second counts. Last year alone, EHAAT attended more than 1,900 patients across Essex and Hertfordshire and is a service that relies heavily on community fundraising.

Thanks to supporters like you, EHAAT has been able to celebrate over 25 years of life-saving service, invest in two state-of-the-art AW169 aircraft, and launch a Centre for Excellence programme focused on cardiac arrest, brain injury, and improving patient experience and outcomes.

The future is exciting for EHAAT – and with continued local support, the sky really is the limit. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the can collection and continues to back this life-saving charity.

THANK YOU

for supporting your local life-saving charity



This certificate has been awarded to:

the residents of Hatfield Peverel

In recognition of:

Raising over £3,000 since 2021 through the can collection recycling scheme
for Essex & Herts Air Ambulance


Lyndsay Wood
Corporate Partnerships Manager


Essex & Herts Air Ambulance
Your local life-saving charity

Charity Number: 110088

LIVE TRADITIONAL JAZZ AT ITS BEST!
Wickham Bishops Village Hall, Snows Corner, CM8 3JZ



**WICKHAM BISHOPS
JAZZ
SATURDAYS**

MUSICIANS


17 Jan	Pete Ruderforth's Jazz Band
21 Feb	Sarah Spencer's Transatlantic Jazz Band
21 Mar	Alan Gresty & Friends

3rd Saturday of the month
6.30pm for 7.30pm-10.30pm

RING PETE ON 07548 775777 or EMAIL wickhambishopsjazzclub@gmail.com

Proceeds to charitable causes

**HATFIELD
PEVEREL**


Adult Learning Within Reach

Spanish History and Its Regions

Derek Robinson

Although you may know Spain, do you know about the country away from the Costas? In this course we look at the history of Spain from prehistoric times, through the many periods of occupation. Then on to the civil war of the 20th century and the current situation. The topography of the peninsular affects the unity of the country that boasts no less than six official languages.

A 6 week course starting on
Tuesday 3rd February 2026, 10am
at the Scout & Guide HQ
Church Road, Hatfield Peverel.
Fee: £96.00

**To book online go to wea.org.uk/courses
Use Course Code Q00025249
Or ring: 0300 303 3464**



WESTERN FRONT ASSOC, ESSEX BRANCH

ON THE FRONT, FEBRUARY 1916

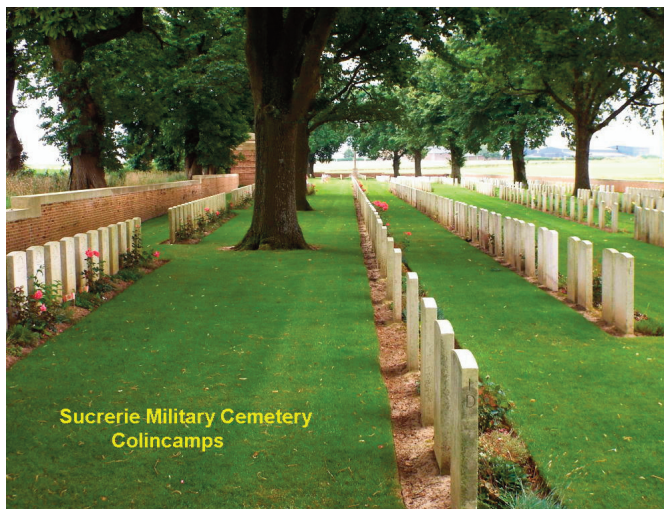
As is our custom in the Village Voice, we look back 110 years to events of the First World War which takes us back to February 1916.

While there was no major activity on the Western Front during this period, British troops were involved in a limited offensive at The Bluff, a strategic position just outside Ypres.

1916 was planned as a year of significant combined offensive action against German forces, with a major French British attack in the Somme region, a Russian offensive to the east, and an Italian one towards Austria. This was designed to put as much pressure on Germany as possible all at once. However, this plan was seriously disrupted when on February 23rd the Germans launched a massive attack against a historic French town on the River Meuse. This was Verdun and became the longest land battle on the Western Front, not ending until December the 18th with combined French and German casualties numbering nearly 800,000.

Although there were no major actions, life in the trenches was always difficult. Snipers were active and shelling was a regular feature. During February, thirty-eight men of the Essex Regiment died from across five Battalions. As an example of the random nature of manning trenches the following is an extract from the Diary of the 2nd Battalion Essex Regiment for the 10th of February.

"About 100 5.9" shells were fired into John Copse, Nairn Street and Monk Trench [Trench names]. In retaliation our artillery shelled Puiseux and Serre. Relieved by 2/Duke of Wellingtons to billets at Bertrancourt. Casualties 1 killed & 1 wounded".



Sucrie Military Cemetery
Colincamps



The man killed that day was Private Arthur Fieldgate, aged 36. He was living in Manningtree when he enlisted but was born in Colchester, where his parents Walter and Ellen lived. He is buried in Sucrie Military Cemetery, Colincamps, behind what would become the Somme battlefield in the July of 1916

Branch meetings

The Essex branch of the WFA alternate monthly meetings between Hatfield Peverel and Hornchurch. We meet at Hatfield Peverel Village Hall on the second Wednesday of every other month - January, March etc. - from 7:30pm for an 8pm start. Meetings are held in the Vic Olley room and teas and coffee are available.

February is, therefore, one of the months when the Branch holds its talk at the Royal British Legion at Hornchurch. The next talk there will be by Peter Hart, a very popular speaker within the Western Front Association. His talk is called "Once They Were Young: British Generals at the Battle of Omdurman, 1898". This will cover the early career of some of the senior officers of the First World War, when they were significantly less senior and learning their trade. This is based on Peter's excellent book "Chain of Fire: Campaigning in Egypt and the Sudan 1882-1898".

For each meeting we request an entrance donation of £4. Members and non-members of The Western Front Association are equally welcome. Any new visitors are guaranteed a friendly atmosphere and a warm welcome from a group of like-minded enthusiasts. The Branch also has a monthly newsletter which carries information concerning Branch talks and events, remembering casualties from Essex, historical articles and forthcoming events or publications that may be of use to anyone with an interest of the First World War. If you would like to receive a copy by email, with attachments, please ask via essexwfa@googlemail.com

Jim Kevany
Essex Branch Chairman, Western Front Association

Winter with your local WI

Our December meeting was a very relaxed evening, playing all sorts of games along with our mulled wine and mince pies. The Christmas tunes played in the background whilst members enjoyed getting to know one another around the different stations. We also had the big Christmas raffle draw, adding an extra £493 to our fundraising efforts. A huge thank you to all those that purchased tickets, and a big well done to the winners!

At this month's meeting on 26th February, we will be making Dorset Buttons with our very own Deb. These are traditional, handcrafted buttons from Dorset, England, made by stitching colourful threads around a ring to create intricate, decorative designs. We're looking forward to learning all about this technique and learning about a craft that from the 1600s to the 1800s was an important cottage industry.

For our March meeting we will be welcoming back our favourite writer, Ruth Leigh. Author of The Diary of Isabella M Smugge series, Ruth will be giving us the low-down on her new Jane Austen series.

We'd love to have you join us at Terling WI. Contact us on terlingwi@outlook.com, or call Lucy on 07926 649669.



KEY DATES FOR TERLING WI

Thursday 26th February

monthly meeting, all welcome; guest fee applies

Thursday 26th March

monthly meeting, all welcome; guest fee applies



@terlingwi

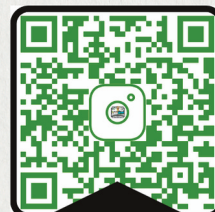


@terlingwi



Hatfield Peverel Parish Council

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FEBRUARY'S FILMS

By John Salisbury

Our 21st season continues to pull in the crowds. We've been showing great films and have received an excellent turnout for each screening. Currently topping the leader board is *Conclave* with an approval rating of 87.4%.

Our films this month are the five-times Oscar winner, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Weds 11th Feb) and the highly acclaimed *Radical* (Wed 25th Feb).

McMurphy, Jack Nicholson, has a criminal past and has once again got himself into trouble and is sentenced by the court. To escape labour duties in prison, McMurphy pleads insanity and is sent to a ward for the mentally unstable. Once here, McMurphy both endures and stands witness to the abuse and degradation of the oppressive Nurse Ratched, who gains superiority and power through the flaws of the other inmates. McMurphy and the other inmates band together to make a rebellious stance against the tyrannical Head Nurse.

Our second film in February, *Radical*, is set in the Mexican city of Matamoros and the question being asked is "what will the sixth-grade students at Jose Urbina Lopez Elementary become?" They are among the worst performing students in Mexico. The world they know is one of violence and hardship and their classrooms are dominated by an atmosphere of overbearing discipline, not possibility. It might seem like a dead end... but it is also the perfect place for new teacher Sergio Juarez to try a radical new method to unlock the students' curiosity, potential - and maybe even their genius. There's just one problem - Sergio (played by an amazing Eugenio Derbez) has no idea what he's doing!

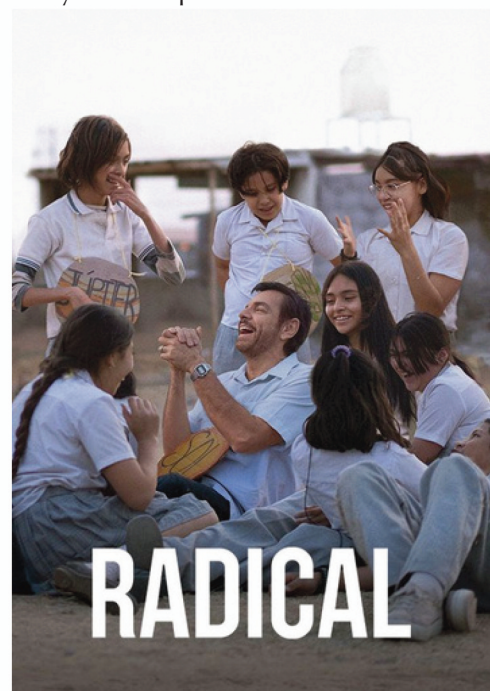
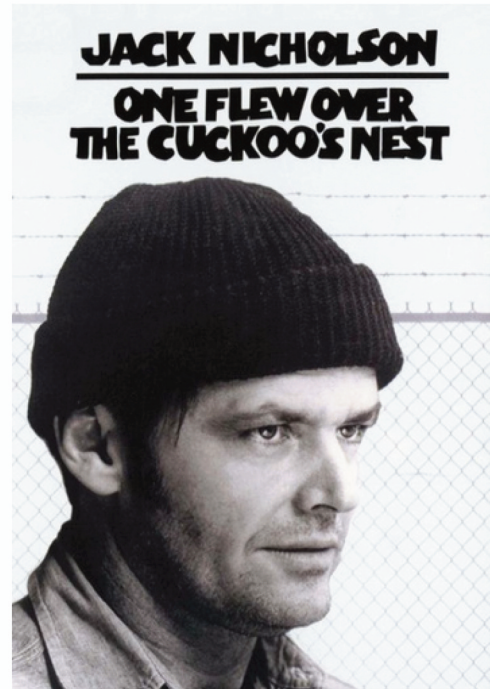
Films this Spring

Our films for March 2026 are the Oscar winning *A Real Pain* and the highly acclaimed *If Only I could Hibernate*, which tells the story of a poor teenage boy who is determined to win a Physics competition.

Our 21st season continues until 3rd June 2026. Films are shown fortnightly on a Wednesday at Maldon Town Hall. Doors open at 7.15pm, wine and soft drinks are available at a charge from 7.30pm and, unless notified to the contrary, all films will commence at 8pm.

Membership subscription for the rest of the season remains at £25 so join now and watch the remaining 9 films for free. We also offer a limited number of places at the reduced cost of £18 for junior members aged 16-18 in full time education and training. Members are asked to give their reaction to the films and help the committee compile the programme for the following season. Membership is open to all, and new members will be made very welcome. Members' guests pay just £4 per film!

For further details and an application form please visit our website www.maldonfilmclub.uk, pop into the Maldon Visitor Information Centre (Tue-Sat, 11am-4pm) or phone 01621 869133 for membership enquiries. Alternatively, you are welcome to come along as my guest, meet members of the committee and pay your subscription on the night.



Balance and Fall Prevention: Staying Steady at Any Age

Hello again, everyone! It's Stefan here—your local mobile personal trainer. This month, I'd like to talk about something that often gets overlooked until it becomes a problem: balance. Good balance isn't just important for sport or exercise—it plays a huge role in our safety, confidence, and independence in everyday life.



As we get older, or if we spend long hours sitting and being inactive, balance can gradually decline. The good news is that balance can be trained and improved at any age.

Why Balance Is So Important

Good balance helps your body react quickly and stay stable during daily movements. It reduces the risk of falls and makes everyday activities feel safer and easier.

Here are some key benefits of working on balance:

- **Reduces the risk of falls** – Especially important as we age.
- **Improves coordination** – Helping your body move smoothly and efficiently.
- **Builds confidence** – Feeling steady improves independence and peace of mind.
- **Supports joint health** – Strong stabilising muscles protect knees, hips, and ankles.
- **Enhances overall fitness** – Balance is the foundation for strength, mobility, and movement.

Balance training doesn't need to be complicated—small, regular exercises can make a big difference over time.

EXERCISE TIP OF THE MONTH: SINGLE LEG STAND

This simple exercise strengthens your legs and core while improving balance and stability. It can be done anywhere and adapted to all fitness levels.

How to Do It:

- **Start Position:** Stand tall with feet hip-width apart. Hold a chair or wall for support if needed.
- **Lift One Foot:** Slowly lift one foot off the floor, keeping your body upright.
- **Hold:** Try to balance for 10–30 seconds.
- **Switch Sides:** Lower your foot and repeat on the other leg.
- **Repetitions:** Perform 2–3 rounds on each leg.



To make it harder, reduce hand support or gently move your arms while balancing. Improving balance is one of the best investments you can make in your long-term health. Just a few minutes a day can help you move with more confidence and reduce the risk of injury.



HATFIELD PEVEREL & ULTING HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Society has a busy year planned and we always welcome new members. Our thanks to Upsons farm shop who again will be making available our membership cards and year books in the Spring. Annual membership is just £3 (£2 for seniors).

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 2025

- 26 March - Birds of Prey Rescue by Stephanie Callender-Jarrold
- 11 April - The Society Spring Show at The Village Hall 2pm
- 9 May - Annual Plant Sale at Nounsley Road 10am
- 2 July - Life in the Undergrowth by Roger Hance
- 24 September - The Fascination of Fungi by Tony Brown
- 3 October - The Society Autumn Show at the Village Hall 2pm
- 25 November - A funny thing happened on the way to The Potting Shed by Nick Dobson (note: This evening will also include the AGM)

We welcome both members and non-members at our events and would love to see you there. All events are held in the Village Hall at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. We look forward to seeing you there



TIPS FOR YOUR GARDEN IN FEBRUARY



Continue to tidy your garden throughout the winter, clearing leaves, mulching and clearing greenhouses ready for spring planting.

Remember to check your greenhouse temperatures for the cold nights to come and keep the greenhouse clean and tidy to avoid pest that may like to harbour there this winter.

Keep bird feeders topped up to help the bird population during the winter months.

Prune:

Continue to prune dormant shrubs such as roses, wisteria, winter jasmine, honeysuckle and buddleia. Cut back overgrown shrubs and ornamental grasses to give them a good start for the spring.

Plant:

February is a good time to plant bare root roses, shrubs and hedging. Summer flowering bulbs such as lilies and alliums can be planted in pots. Those gardeners with a greenhouse may also consider planting some summer bedding to give them a good start for the flowering season. Seeds such as tomatoes, peppers and sweet peas can also be planted.

Propagate:

Divide large clumps of snowdrops and aconites to enable new healthy plants for next year. Large herbaceous perennials and grasses can also be divided to give new free plants for the new season.

For general information about the society, contact Clive Emberson at cliveemberson9@gmail.com or visit <https://e-voice.org.uk/hatpevgardens>

by Karen Bayley

WINTER SUNSHINE WITH AWESOME ANTIPODES AND SPLENDID SOUTH AFRICA!

January's meeting of the Wine Club was a remarkably well-attended affair, considering the weather. It was also reassuring to note that relatively few members had opted for a dry January! Building on the success of last year's quiz using the Village Hall's excellent projector and screen, Vee had produced another Powerpoint quiz, this year on the topic of the Awesome Antipodes – promising to leave no cliché unused in 10 short rounds of questions about New Zealand and Australia plus a picture round of famous Antipodean faces. Being a wine club, there were of course several wine-related questions, and members gave their support by bringing along their favourite bottles from both countries.



Competition was fierce, the team comprising Jill Shakespear, her son Geoff, Pat Hercules and Rod and Ali Pudney emerging as eventual winners, with, as is traditional, Bob Hill's team The Magnificent Seven, being awarded the wooden spoon! Prizes were suitably Antipodean in nature, as were the raffle prizes, featuring jammy Shiraz and superb Sauvignon – not to mention a jar of Manuka honey and a packet of Macadamia nuts!

We are all now eagerly anticipating what promises to be one of the highlights of the 2026 calendar: our next meeting night falls on 11th February, which is the 36th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release after 27 years in prison, and we shall be marking the occasion with an amazing 3-course South African supper, complete with some notable South African wines to accompany it.

If you'd like to join us in February - or indeed for any other meeting - for a light-hearted and inexpensive evening out, you would always be very welcome. Please give Vee a ring beforehand on 01245 355723 however, to ensure there is

enough food and drink for all. (We normally meet on the second Wednesday of each month in the village hall, but with some exceptions). Our website www.peverelwineclub.co.uk has now been relaunched in a new and very clear, easy-to-use format – why not take a look? The exciting new 2026 programme will shortly be available to view on the website, or email Vee at peverelwineclub@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

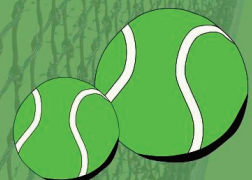


Words by Vee Green

ANYONE FOR (SOCIAL) TENNIS?

Would anyone be interested in playing morning adult social tennis on the brand new courts at the Village Hall, starting in April?

If so, please contact Chris on 07821 263931 for more information





HATFIELD PEVEREL VILLAGE HALL

This month see's the Joy Division tribute band Shadowplay performing on Saturday 28th February. That's followed on 28th March with Andy H and The Memphis Band and their tribute to the King of Rock 'n' Roll, Elvis. Check out the back page for more performances coming soon.

Tickets are available from <http://tinyurl.com/HPVH-Tickets>. Follow us on Facebook to keep up -to-date on all the events taking place or visit the events page on our website at www.hatpevvhall.org

Also this month, the Healthwatch Essex Slipper Exchange project, funded by Braintree District Council Cost of Living Fund, is coming to the Hatfield Peverel Village Hall on Tuesday 17th February 2026.

The Slipper Exchange is aimed at the most vulnerable in our communities, particularly those most at risk of slips, trips and falls. There's no need to bring your old slippers! Just bring yourself - or accompany your elderly relative or friend - to get fitted with a new pair of slippers and while you're here, enjoy a cuppa in the Coffee Lounge too!

In addition to all the great shows, we have an excellent selection of regular clubs and groups that meet at the hall plus we run bingo on the first and third Friday of the month. All are welcome, just pay for your Bingo book(s) on the door - £10/book.

We have some new clubs coming to the hall this year so if you'd like to be kept informed of what's on, you can sign up to our mailing list by scanning the QR code below.

Visit our website at www.HatPevVHall.org or follow us on Facebook at [@hatfieldpeverelvillagehall](https://www.facebook.com/hatfieldpeverelvillagehall) or call the Box office & room bookings number on 0300 102 0473. Or scan the QR codes below.



HPVH Website



HPVH Website

Badminton Mondays 7pm 	HotSteps Tuesdays from 3:30pm 	EMC Lunch club Wednesdays 1-3pm 	Little Oliver Twists Dog Training Thursdays 6pm 	Table Tennis Tuesdays 7:30pm
Tuesday Toddler Time Tuesdays 9:30am 	Tappy Toes Dance Wednesdays 10am 	Shining Stars Childcare Mon-Fri 7am-6pm 	Moo Music Thursdays 9:45am starts April 24th 	Little City 3rd Wednesday of the month 9:30am
Essex Hearing Help 2nd Weds, bi-monthly 10-12 	Shea-Lowe Education Wednesdays 3:30-6:15 	Methodist Church Sundays 9:15am 	Stitch to Enrich 1st & 3rd Thursday 2-4pm 	Bereavement Help point 1st Monday 1:30pm
Kazen Kai Karate Thursdays 3:45 	Nickelstick last Saturday, 9:30am 	Western Front 2nd Wed 8-10pm May, Jul, Sep, Nov 	Bread Making 1 Saturday a month 11am-3pm 	Dancematic Latin Dance Fridays 2pm
Flower Club 1st Weds of the month 7:30pm 	Essex Yeomanry Band Sundays 9:30-13:00 	Bingo 1st & 3rd Friday of the month: 7-10pm 	Essex Tai Chi Academy Saturdays 9:30-12:30 	Wine Club 2nd Weds of the month 7:30pm

Free Slippers Event

Hatfield Peverel Village Hall, Maldon Road, Hatfield Peverel, CM3 2HP

Tuesday 17th February 2026

10am - midday

Dial 0300 500 1895

No need to bring your old slippers - we will provide you with new ones for free.



Mailing List

Coming soon to HPVH



WWW.HATPEVVHALL.ORG



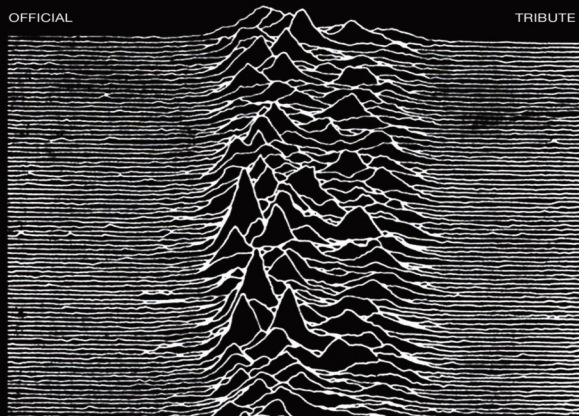
Scan to Buy Tickets

shadowplay

THE DEFINITIVE JOY DIVISION TRIBUTE

OFFICIAL

TRIBUTE



Endorsed by
Peter Hook

facebook.com/JDshadowplay

Hatfield Peverel Village Hall

Saturday, Feb 28th

Doors : 7pm Show : 8:00pm

Tickets in advance from :-

www.ticketsource.co.uk/hatfield-peverel-village-hall

ANDY H AND THE MEMPHIS BAND

ELVIS



Let us take you back to the 50s 60s and 70s with all your favourite Elvis song from the start of his career right through to the last song he released before his tragic death.

Hatfield Peverel Village Hall

Saturday, March 28th

Doors: 7pm Band: 8pm

Tickets online at...

www.ticketsource.co.uk/hatfield-peverel-village-hall



HPVH & THE REAL SWING present: SWING IN THE SPRING



This 13-piece Swing band based in Essex perform Rat Pack classics and popular swing pieces in a modern style and with all the energy of Michael Bublé. Relive classics from crooners Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Junior, Dean Martin as well as Michael Bublé and Robbie Williams.

Hatfield Peverel Village Hall

Saturday, April 25th

Doors : 7pm Show : 8:00pm

Tickets in advance from :-

www.ticketsource.co.uk/hatfield-peverel-village-hall



The Book of GENESIS

The Foxtrot Tour



Hatfield Peverel Village Hall

Saturday, May 23rd

Doors: 7pm Band: 8pm

Tickets online at...

www.ticketsource.co.uk/hatfield-peverel-village-hall

Tickets from:- <http://tinyurl.com/HPVH-Tickets>