



The Mundens with Sacombe Church and Parish Newsletter **JANUARY 2024**



The International Tribute

To be undertaken at 9.15pm

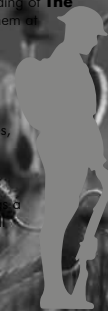
alongside the lighting the Beacons and the Lamp Lights of Peace

6th June 2024



We would like to encourage all those lighting Beacons and Lamp Lights of Peace to undertake the reading of **The International Tribute** when lighting them at **9.15pm** on 6th June 2024.

This could be undertaken by your Lord Mayor, Mayor, High Steward, High Sheriff, Town or Parish Clerk, Chairman or Leader of the Council, a family member of all ages, or others you feel appropriate, providing them with this unique opportunity to pay 'tribute' to all those that paid the ultimate sacrifice on D-Day and throughout WW2 as a whole, whilst lighting for the freedom we all enjoy today.



The Tribute

Let us remember those who gave their lives at home and abroad during the D-Day landings, whose sacrifice enables us all to enjoy the peace and freedom we have today.

Let us remember those who came home wounded, physically and mentally, and the friends and family who cared for them.

Let us remember those who returned to restore their relationships and rebuild their working lives after years of conflict and turmoil.

Let us remember the families that lost husbands, wives, sons, daughters and sweethearts.

Let us remember the servicemen and women and merchant seafarers of all nationalities - from all countries - who fought, suffered and died during the D-Day landings and six years of war.

Let us all remember those in the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Air Force, Merchant Navy, and our Allies - the brave people who kept us safe on the home front and abroad and those in reserved occupations during the difficult time of war.

Let us remember the brave doctors and nurses who cared for the wounded, the men and women who toiled in the fields, the coal mines, the factories and the air raid wardens, police officers, firemen, ambulance drivers and the young people of the Scouts and Guides who all played such a vital role in the war.



The Life and Times of Little Munden School A local history.....of sorts!

**In two mini volumes @ £18
or £15 for Old Boys or Girls whatever age!!**

Ring: 01920 438457

Or email: savesacombebridge@gmail.com



Every Tuesday

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) Sacombe

Every Wednesday

9.30am Worship & Bible Study Standon

Sunday 14th January

10.30am Holy Communion Standon

6.00pm All Saints@6 Lt Munden

Sunday 21st January

8.00am Holy Communion Standon

10.30am Holy Communion Lt Munden

6.00pm All Saints@6 Lt Munden

Sunday 28th January

10.30am All age Worship Standon

6.00pm Choral Evensong Standon

Sunday 4th February

8.00am Holy Communion Standon

10.30am Morning Worship Lt Munden

6.00pm All Saints@6 Lt Munden

Rector: Revd John Chitham 01920 739483

The Vicarage, Standon

Sacombe Churchwarden

Derek Wheeler 438875

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-240BFwww.facebook.com/unitedbenefice3

X (formerly Twitter): @unitedbenefice3

FROM THE RECTOR**Prospects for the New Year**

What are you looking forward to this year? Perhaps an improvement in your job. Perhaps a wedding. Perhaps, even, the general election!

But what are you not looking forward to in the New Year? Perhaps examinations. Or fear over a health scare or a long-term problem. Perhaps relationship difficulties that look precarious. Perhaps threats over your employment.

However, the simple fact is that not one of us knows what will happen this New Year. Somethings may look extremely likely, but even then, there may be other events that will eclipse them or put them into a new perspective. The future is never certain, and our worst fears may never come to pass, and our greatest hopes may be dashed.

Within all of that, there is one hope (and perhaps fear) which I believe is certain. That is the hope I have in Christ. It is, to be sure, an act of faith, but it is based in solid evidence. That Christ lived and died, no serious historian denies. That he spoke wonderful words are

self-evident (and well worth re-reading if you have not done so recently). But his greatest claim (and our greatest hope) requires true faith: that there is resurrection life after death. To be sure, his followers testified to it and gave their lives because of it. If the claim were not so astonishing it would not be contentious, based on the evidence. But this is the great hope I have for the New Year. Whatever happens in my life, I have the prospect of eternal life and, for the present, the living Spirit of Jesus with me. He is with me in my greatest joys and deepest fears. He is the one I can rely upon.

This may seem pie in the sky together with pious spirituality for some. But I recommend it! There is something (someone) greater than my troubles and joys. He can put all in perspective and, what is more, give my life direction and purpose.

I wish you a very happy New Year!
John Chitham

**COUNTRY MATTERS** (December 11th)

Well, global warming isn't just hot summers, is it? We've certainly had enough rain to go on with so far this winter, to say nothing of some very cold days. Most of our ground is absolutely saturated. The conditions in the autumn were good for growing grass, so the ewes have had a good time and mostly look good, only a few weeks to lambing time.

We don't expect to see many gulls during the summer period when they've all gone to the coast to breed, but throughout the rest of the year I would usually see several large flocks heading north to Bedfordshire and Cambridge in search of fields being ploughed or cultivated, where they have easy pickings of worms etc. Even on wet days they will still go, just for feeding on land-fill sites or rubbish tips, taking advantage of the food we all waste. In the late afternoon the same flocks return southwards, back to the large reservoirs of the Lee Valley where they can roost for the night in safety from predators. However, lately we are not seeing them in either direction, and I can only assume that they might have succumbed to Avian Flu, as most species of sea birds live in colonies and are therefore far more vulnerable.

BIRD OF THE MONTH SNIPE



During the winter months we would expect to see Snipe occasionally, usually in one of their favourite wet spots, or in a ditch, but not for several years now. This population has gone down like many other species. However, while walking across one of our fields recently one flew over, having been flushed by the Collie dogs a field away. You can always recognise one when it gets up by its zig-zag flight, from which it gets its name but also its warning call of "scaap".

Snipe are not as big as their relation the Woodcock, about the size of a Starling, with a very long bill and short tail. Their wings are long and strong, hence their speed. Unfortunately, this has made them a challenging target for sportsmen.

No Snipe breed round here now, although a few years ago a pair always bred at Latchford down by the Rib, but trees were planted on the same site, which made it unsuitable for them.

Tony Spackman

**Something to look forward to
in the cold and grey days after Christmas.**

On Thursday 1st February

**Come and join the Dame Enders for
Afternoon Tea**

in the Village Hall

at 2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

**We would welcome your company
for a cake, a cuppa and a chat
(and we will even allow well-behaved husbands
and children in!)**



**The Boot will be
serving food with a
new menu from the
15th January
including wood
fired pizzas and
Roast Dinners on
Sundays.**

GREAT MUNDEN RECREATIONAL GARDEN



Thank you to everyone who attended our Carols with organ music event at St Nicholas Church on Wednesday 6th December. It was so nice to see everyone enjoying themselves, chatting with old friends and making new ones with a warm drink, mince pies and home baked Christmas cookies.

We only have a handful of calendars left! These are absolutely beautiful with photos from our year-long photo competition, all taken

within 5 miles of Great Munden Recreational Garden and they only cost £8.50. To reserve a copy, please email gisele.russell@hotmail.com

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes for the New Year **The Trustees**

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

The next Parish Council Meeting

Will be held on

Thursday 18th January 2024

At 8 pm

IN LITTLE MUNDEN MEMORIAL HALL

MUNDEN ROAD

DANE END

CLERK@LITTLEMUNDENPC.ORG.UK

DANE END DEFIBRILLATOR & VETS NUMBER

Please be aware there is a Public Access Defibrillator situated in the telephone box in a locked cabinet next to Dane End Stores. **The code for the cabinet can be obtained by ringing 999.** However there is also Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) that enables up to 10 "good neighbours" to assist pending the arrival of the emergency services. VETS uses a simple memorable number unique to the village (**01920 282999**). This system can also be used for any emergency where additional help is required from neighbours, whether Cardiac Arrest or not. VETS volunteers are also aware of the code to access the cabinet if it is required. VETS does not replace 999 calls.

Always ring 999 first in an emergency.

Dane End Memorial Hall Are Taking Bookings

Landline: 01920 512535

Email: hallbookings1924@yahoo.com

Mobile: 07551775231

**Available for hire by the hour or mornings,
afternoons and evenings**

**If you want to arrange a birthday party, start a
bridge or table tennis club.....**

Give us a call

LOCAL CONSTABULARY Buntingford Rural West includes: Dane End, Green End, Haultwick, Little Munden, Great Munden, Levens Green, Nasty and are covered by: The local PC is PC 1853 Paul Chapman and the local PCSO is 6672 Karen Broad and PCSO 6633 Neil Major

Contact: 01992 533329 - non emergency or 101

Emergency always call 999

DEAF, HARD OF HEARING? Please text 07786 207 091 including who is needed: Police, Fire or Ambulance, where they are needed and what the problem is.

Our village school is 203 years old.

Founded, with the help of the church and some notable people whose names ring in our memory even today.

This short article, will serve to introduce monthly stories of both the contest between farmers' interests and their dependence on child labour, for the good of all of them then, and the educational needs towards today and thereafter. From ringworm to the Blitz, haymaking to spud bashing, from humour to sadness, it is something to tell your grandchildren, before the memory fades forever.

From an extract from my book:

Our school was founded by the Rev J P Reynolds, rector of our parish church from 1819 to 1831, who recognised the urgent need for educating village children. He wrote to the Society for Promoting Religious Education, who granted him £10 towards a Sunday School in the parish. With friends in the parish and elsewhere, he managed to raise enough money to build part of the old building that exists today.

I have a 'handwritten' account of those friendly contributors, which you'll recognise.

The brothers Chauncey, notable today, their name being given to a school in Ware, plus, Abel Smith of Woodhall Park.

Robert Hicks

**Would you be interested in
joining a Bridge Club or
learning to play the game?**

Ring

John Grisbrooke

01920 438378

ATTENTION!

For those of you who are members of **Facebook** there is a new page for parishioners past or present or anyone who is interested in the history of our lovely parish. Members are invited to post their memories and photos, they stir up comments from near and far...even as far as Australia!

The page is for all the community to share positive stories about our wonderful village, activities, events and to promote our communities in neighbouring villages. Businesses are welcome to advertise.

The link is: **LOVE DANE END**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/874448604284212/>

Another informative website is the 'Mundens Website', run by the Parish Council, this can be found on this link:

<https://littlemundenpc.org.uk/>

And there is of course our wonderful school, as you will see in Bob Hicks article, do buy his books, they are so interesting and informative.

Little Munden C of E Primary school link is:

<https://www.littlemunden.herts.sch.uk/>

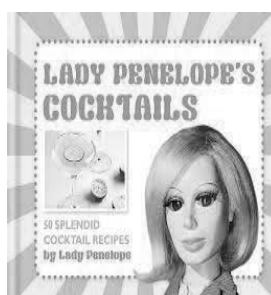
And Friends of Little Munden School Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofLittleMunden>

AND FINALLY A WORD FROM THE EDITOR!

A new year and a new start!

For us its one we have started with on more than one occasion....spending Christmas with Emily, Aidan and Henry, then travelling to Gower (Wales) and spending the New Year ill with the dread lurgy having been coughed and sneezed over by our loved ones! However, with rain of Biblical proportions we were not inspired to venture out had we have felt up to it!



Another 'new start' for me is a new nickname, for many years I have been 'Duracell' to my friends...

With a copper top that goes on...and on...and on!

I have recently been given a new name: Dame Pinky Cosmo although I prefer to be referred to as Lady Pinky Cosmo as 'Dame' makes me sound aged! For those who think even mentioning this is all very silly, well it is....but it was also a dare!

If you know you know!



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL!

Little Munden C of E (VC) Primary School

Church Lane, Dane End, SG12 0NR www.littlemunden.herts.sch.uk

Tel: 01920 438271 option 3

Email: admin@littlemunden.herts.sch.uk



Starting School?

If you're looking for a primary school place for your child to start in September 2024, there's still time to apply.

Admissions information is on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions.

All applications must be made using this link and the deadline is 15th January 2024.

We welcome prospective parents to arrange an individual visit to meet our headteacher and see the school as it is on a normal school day. Please contact us on 01920 438271 option 3, or email admin@littlemunden.herts.sch.uk

If your child is not old enough to start their reception year and you are interested in a Nursery place, please contact the school office directly or check the Nursery admissions information on our website www.littlemunden.herts.sch.uk

Last Half Term

Last half term was definitely jam packed for the children at Little Munden. We went to see the pantomime Sleeping Beauty at the Gordon Craig Theatre in Stevenage. The younger children performed brilliantly in their nativity plays and most of Hazel Class (yrs 3 & 4) took part in Performing Arts Club. They put on a fantastic production of Snow White as part of our end of term celebrations - the singing and acting was fantastic and the children (and their parents!) thoroughly enjoyed the performance!



Meanwhile, in Beech class (yrs 1 & 2) the children have been learning about the Great Fire of London. An expert from the Epping museum came to school to deliver a fascinating Great Fire of London workshop for us. We then had our own Great Fire, burning our Tudor houses in the safety of the school grounds, with help from our caretaker, David Brown.



FoLM

And last, but by no means least, our new Friends of Little Munden (FoLM) committee put on an amazing Christmas Fayre at the end of November. We were so pleased to see many ex-pupils and parents, along with others from far and wide coming to join in the fun and games. The Santa's parade through the village was a lovely way to start the proceedings, trailing through the village from the shop up to the school, to be met by a few members of the Ware Brass Band, who braved the cold to play some festive tunes welcoming everyone to the Christmas Fayre. Thank you so much to all involved who made this day so special and helped to raise a grand total of £2,433.38. Every penny raised will go to the school to help with much needed resources and fun activities for all our pupils.

Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Editor.

Please take your news to Barbara Springate at: Horseshoe Villa, Munden Road
or email jacqueline.ann.morris.1956@gmail.com

