



The Mundens with Sacombe Church and Parish Newsletter APRIL 2025



Every Tuesday

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
and Bible Study Sacombe

Every Wednesday

9.30am Worship & Bible Study Standon

Sunday 6th April (Lent 5)

8.00am Holy Communion Standon
10.30am Morning Worship Lt Munden

Sunday 13th April (Palm Sunday)

10.30am Holy Communion Standon

Thursday 17th April (Maundy Thursday)

7.30pm Maundy Thursday Service Sacombe

Friday 18th April (Good Friday)

10.30am Service round the Cross Lt Munden
2.00pm Reflective Hour Standon

Sunday 20th April (Easter Sunday)

10.30am Holy Communion Standon

Sunday 27th April (Easter 2)

10.30am Morning Worship Standon

Sunday 4th May (Easter 3)

8.00am Holy Communion Standon
10.0am Morning Worship Lt Munden

Rector: Revd John Chitham 01920 739483
The Vicarage, Standon

Sacombe Churchwardens:
Janet Armstrong 07376 249047
Derek Wheeler 01920 438875

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-240BF
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and Sacombe.

The road from Levens Green often feels like you are negotiating tank traps, the pot holes on the side of the road are so big. Locals often know the problem and slow down; some people however effectively force you onto the side, risking wheels and axles (and, if you are on a motorbike as I sometimes am, literally your life). The road from High Cross to Sacombe Green along Marshall's Lane has another problem, in that it has suffered from use by heavier traffic than it was built for.

It has to be said that there have been repairs, both to the potholes and (I recently noticed) to a part of Marshall's Lane. It is gratefully received, but we all know that the situation will only deteriorate again. I heard one chief executive of a council put it like this: it is only so often that you can patch a pair of trousers. After a while, you need a new pair altogether. (By which she meant, of course, that there needs to be a complete resurfacing.)

I think that this also applies to our spiritual lives. We all know that we get things wrong and, if we are of good conscience, we do all we can to put it right and change our ways. But there comes a time when we realise that there is actually something more fundamental wrong. However much I try, I still cannot get it right. In effect, we need a complete resurfacing, not just a patching up. In the Bible Jesus calls this being born again; a time when we ask God to completely renew us so that we have the power to change our lives consistently. That is to say, not to be perfect, but rather for that whole process of resurfacing to start from top to bottom.

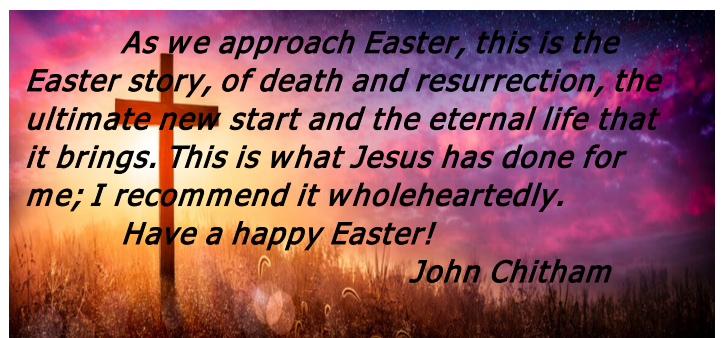
LETTER FROM THE RECTOR On pot holes

Potholes have been on the news recently, with the government insisting that Councils account for the money given to them for repairs. And I guess, like everyone else who drives along our local roads, I have been affected by the terrible road conditions in and around Dane End

As we approach Easter, this is the Easter story, of death and resurrection, the ultimate new start and the eternal life that it brings. This is what Jesus has done for me; I recommend it wholeheartedly.

Have a happy Easter!

John Chitham



COUNTRY MATTERS (10th March)

After an early start the ewes finished lambing by the end of February, although there are four or five that haven't yet lambed. There have been enough twins to give a percentage of 175%, which is just about average.

A long time ago, in fact just after we moved in, Joyce planted some crocus bulbs at the farm entrance. They did well and spread over the years; in fact, over a hundred flowers this year. However a few days ago they were nearly all gone, eaten by deer. During wet spells such as we have had in recent weeks, Fallow deer are only too pleased to graze from the road at night. Not only do they have access to a variety of plant life and are convenient to gardens, but they appreciate the road surface instead of constant mud and soft ground.

BIRD OF THE MONTH CURLEW

One cannot expect to see Curlews in our part of the country, as they usually frequent the coast, especially in the east. Their long, curved bills



are for probing in soft ground for worms etc. The call of the Curlew is a beautiful sound, from which it gets its name. They lay four eggs which blend in with the grass around them and defend eggs or chicks by attacking Crows and other winged predators.

On Saturday 22nd March at 2.30pm I am arranging a meeting in Little Munden church for anyone who has lost a partner! It may be recently or 20 years ago! It will be time for memories or just a chat with others who understand over a cup of tea and cake. If you would like to contact me before the day or just turn up that will be fine. If you need a lift I can arrange for that too.

I also have a group which is held in Standon village hall on the third Thursday of each month from 2 till 4pm and this group has been going for 8 years and it is called New Seasons. We are a group of ladies and gentlemen who are supporting each other through a difficult time but we also enjoy a chat and a laugh over a cup of tea and cake.

Heather Jackson 07909065550

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

HEREBY GIVE NOTICE OF

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Tuesday 15th April at 7.30 pm

AT

LITTLE MUNDEN MEMORIAL HALL

DANE END

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence
2. To approve the Minutes of the APM of 18th April 2024
3. To deal with any matters arising from those Minutes.
4. To receive and if felt fit to approve the Chairman's Report for the year 2024/25
5. To receive and if felt fit to approve the Financial Statement for the year 2024/25
6. To receive Reports from Organisations within the Parish, District and County Councillors
7. To receive and note comments from Parishioners.
8. To deal with items of Any Other Business.

Clerk@littlemundenpc.org.uk

**THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
WILL BE HELD**

AT 7pm PM

ON 15th April

**IN LITTLE MUNDEN MEMORIAL HALL
DANE END**

**THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL
FOLLOW**

AT 7.30pm

**ALL RESIDENTS/MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC**

**ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND
COME AND HAVE YOUR SAY!**

For more info Email:

Clerk@littlemundenpc.org.uk

Margaret Wallace and family from Great Munden would like to thank everyone who gave to the collection at John's funeral service on Monday 10th March, a cheque for £408.50 has been given to the Standon and Puckeridge Health Centre. Thank you all once again.

Positive Changes are happening!

Allotments

Great progress has been made on the Community Allotment with the area being cleared, fences removed, hedges cut, and rubbish piled up by a team of volunteers. I just wanted to say a huge thank you for the support shown so far.

There is still a great deal of work to be done, and our next working day is Saturday, 5th April from 10:30am until we have no energy left, this is normally around 4pm. If you have not come along yet but would like to get involved, please come and join us, we normally stop for lunch around 1pm and have a small BBQ you are most welcome we are a friendly bunch.

The trees are due to be reduced in height and some removed in April this will open the whole site up and let in much needed light. Our next thing to do is hire a digger or if someone knows a community minded digger driver and digger, we need one to scrape and level the ground and remove a few stubborn Blackberry routes.

The remaining allotment plots will have the paths widened to enable easy use of wheelbarrows around the site. We are looking to build some compost bins and place them at the front of the site near the bank to the road at a later stage. There are lots more exciting plans, and these will be shared next month.

Village Signs

We are please to say the new village signs for Green End and Haultwick are ready and will be put in place very soon a vast improvement on the old metal ones with missing letters.

Our team has also been busy reinstating fallen footpath and other signs.

Fencing Repairs

We have been chasing various departments; to try and get a firm commitment to repair the wooden rail fence along Munden Road hopefully all of our emails will see positive results soon.

The fence around the car park at Horses Meadow is also due to be replaced soon.

Future Events

80 years since VE Day - Thursday, 8th May we are once again lighting a pyre and bringing the community together to remember those who gave their lives and the end of WWII in Europe.

We will start by celebrating with the lighting of the Pyre at 6pm and hopefully have a Fish n Chip or Pizza

van for anyone wishing to bring families down to enjoy some alfresco dining.

Families are more than welcome to come down early to enjoy the fire and have something to eat, then at 9.30pm where we will have a 2-minute silence followed by a reading where a complimentary glass of Prosecco will be served to toast those who have come before us. There will also be some low-level music of the era.

Open Gardens – 28th June



For the second year running Open Gardens is returning to the villages of Dane End, and the surrounding villages. We are

looking for budding gardeners out there not only to open their Gardens once again for us all to enjoy but if anyone is growing seedlings or taking cuttings donations would be greatly appreciated for the plant stall. They can be dropped off nearer the time, drop off details to follow next month.

Litter Pick – Adopt a street

As we explained previously the Council have cut our budget for litter collection. We are looking for volunteers to adopt their street and collect any rubbish. We can supply a litter picker and high vis jacket to any volunteers. If you are interested in keeping your street tidy, please email our clerk at clerk@littlemundenpc.org.uk and we will be in touch. If we all do a little, we can keep our village looking lovely.

Village Litter Pick - Sunday 27th April 10am we are going to litter pick Horses Meadow and along Munden Road towards Sacombe. Depending on the number of volunteers who sign up, we could also cover the roads to Green End and Haultwick. Hopefully it will be a lovely day, and we will finish at Horses Meadow with free Tea, Coffee and Cake. Please email Gerry at clerk@littlemundenpc.org.uk if you are interested in attending.

Future Dates

During July we will be hosting some outdoor cinema events at Horses Meadow we may run them fortnightly depending on weather and uptake, please send in some ideas for films you would like to see to clerk@littlemundenpc.org.uk

Visit our village Facebook page LOVE DANE END Its for all the community to share positive stories about our wonderful parish, activities, events and to promote our communities in neighbouring villages.

The link is: LOVE DANE END

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

The Summer Games are coming to the Parish Saturday 6th September

This year our summer fete is running slightly later than normal. But it is going to be better than ever! We are working with FOLM to raise much needed funds for the school as well as support activities in our parish. The theme this year is 'The Summer Games' we are inviting each village to enter their tribe with a mascot to take part in various games for all abilities and the winners will receive a prize. Villages can enter more than one team, teams will consist of 6 people more details to follow over the next couple of months but please register your interest in having a team with Gerry at clerk@littlemunden.herts.sch.uk during the evening we will have a line dance caller and other music, so get practising those steps and there will be an evening BBQ and Bar to finish the night off. We hope to see as many of you there as possible for what will be a fantastic community event.

Bonfire Night

More details will follow soon regarding the fireworks and Halloween Party to be held at Dane End Christmas Tree Farm.

The Parish Council look forward to seeing you at our events over the coming months.

Watton Ramblers Walk Programme:

Every Tuesday there is a short slow walk (max 1 hour) starting from the Nigel Poulton Community Hall at 10 o'clock am. We are lucky in Watton to have an abundance of routes taking us just into the wonderful countryside that surrounds the village. The choice of route is dependent on the weather and ground conditions and any preference from those attending.

We don't walk in the rain !!

Newcomers are welcome particularly those recovering or who need a little gentle exercise in good friendly company.

No payment required and no need to book.

Further details from Maurice 01920 426344

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 926 Ryan Willis ryan.willis@herts.police.uk and PCSO 6161 Sally Brooks sally.brooks@herts.police.uk
Non emergency call 101
Emergency always call 999
Or online at Hertfordshire Police Report a Crime

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: 07785663225

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!

DAME ENDERS

Our dates for the coming year are:

Thursday 6th May in the Memorial Hall 8pm

Thursday 5th June

Thursday July 10th BBQ

Thursday September 4th Our planning meeting

Thursday October 2nd

Thursday November 6th

Thursday December 4th Christmas meal in the hall, subject to change depending on the Parish Council Panto.

6th JULY

**THE OLD BOOT BIKERS SUMMER BASH
HORSES' MEADOW**

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MONTHLY POEM

A Local Bard of 30 years ago wrote a selection of poems about people in the community, places and events locally. The collection has been kindly given by John Grisbrooke.

Last months poem 'Impasse' was about the Great Flood of 1957 with all roads to and from Dane End blocked by the flood waters.

CONFUSION

*Victoria reigned when Milly was born
(Ah, me, so long, long ago)
We bled for the boys in the Trenches
At Ypres.....or was it St. Lo?*

*She taught with her headmaster tutor.
(Gone are those days long ago).
College was far too expensive
....or the Board preferred not to know?*

*She'd have married the boy from the big house.
(Ah, me, he had loved her so).
He was killed on the beaches at Arnham
....or was it the capture of Vaux?*

*In the thirties she'd voted for changes.
(Ah, me, what a vain to and fro).
Keir Hardie or dear Clement Atlee?
Cant't recall, it was so long ago.*

*But the church has remained ever present
(The service from too long ago)
King James in an Anglian parish
No matter how high or how low.*

In Memorium

Bridget Wentworth-Stanley aged 98
died peacefully on 7th March.
There will be a service of thanksgiving
On 15th April 12 noon at St. Marys,
Standon, SG11 1LA

AND FINALLY

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

As I sit typing I am reflecting on how blessed we are to have such a lovely church in our village. All Saints Little Munden looked glorious yesterday in the sunshine, the churchyard full of spring flowers and blossom on the trees with the new leaves bursting getting ready to unfurl. It has sat proudly at the top of the valley for 900 years....quite staggering when you think of that time period!

Over the years it has undergone additions, extensions and many repairs, it has a fascinating history, do look into it if you haven't already. I then remembered a photo I found many years ago in Munden Parva which at the time, held a lot of history.

The photo is dated circa 1850 and just look how much it has changed over the time!

I wonder who the little boys were.....

Our beautiful church is in need of repairs again.

You can help by supporting the fundraising activities or just by popping a coin in the box when you visit.

We are the custodians of this ancient and listed beauty, lets help pass it on to the next generation.



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Please email your news to:
jacqueline.ann.morris.1956@gmail.com

MAY DEADLINE
APRIL 25th



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LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL



80th VE DAY COMMEMORATION

8th MAY 2025

AT HORSES' MEADOW

DANE END

WARE

FROM 6pm

BAR

FOOD TRUCK

MUSIC

AT 9.30pm

LIGHTING OF THE BEACON

COMMEMORATION

Followed by a glass of prosecco

For further information please contact clerk@littlemundenpcs.org.uk