



The Mundens with Sacombe
Church and Parish
Newsletter
DECEMBER 2025



Every Tuesday (Except Dec 23rd & 30th)

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
and Bible Study Sacombe

Every Wednesday

(Except Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve)

9.30am Worship & Bible Study Standon

Sunday 30th November (Advent Sunday)

10.30am Morning Worship Sacombe

6.00pm Advent Carol Service Standon

Sunday 7th December (Advent 2)

8.00am Holy Communion Standon

10.30am Morning Worship Lt Mundens

Sunday 14th December (Advent 3)

10.30am Holy Communion Standon

6.00pm Carol Service Lt Mundens

Sunday 21st December (Advent 4)

8.00am Holy Communion Standon

10.30am Morning Worship Lt Mundens

6.00pm Nine Lessons & Carols Standon

Christmas Eve

3.00pm Christingle Service Lt Mundens

5.00pm Christingle Service Standon

7.30pm Carols by Candlelight Sacombe

11.30pm Midnight Communion Standon

Christmas Day

10.30am Christmas Morning Worship Lt Mundens
followed by Holy Communion

10.30am Christmas Morning Worship Standon

Sunday 28th December (Christmas 1)

10.30am Morning Worship Sacombe

Sunday 4th January (Christmas 2)

8.00am Holy Communion Standon

10.30am Morning Worship Lt Mundens

Sacombe Churchwardens:

Janet Armstrong 07376 249047

Derek Wheeler 01920 438875

A Christmas Message

"How can it be Christmas again?" I ask myself this question every year and I'm pretty sure I'm not the only one. Yet we all know how many weeks and months in a year and, I suppose, those weeks and months seem to speed up as the years go past.

The shops have had decorations up since the beginning of November and many of us are busy buying gifts for family and friends. The stress of gift buying and what to get for whom is in full swing. Some families really struggle to buy gifts for their children and make extraordinary sacrifices in order to do that.

The biggest sacrifice though was from God when he sent his son Jesus as a free gift to us. Because of that present to us, when we die, instead of it being the end, we can have eternal life with him in a perfect world. A world where love reigns, where there is no disease, no pain and where God wipes away all our tears.

It doesn't matter where we've come from or what we've done, God will forgive us if we believe in Jesus, say sorry and try to follow his way of doing things.

That's a gift worth having - and it won't wear out or need replacing, and it lasts forever.

When we're opening presents this year and enjoying our celebrations, let's just spend a few minutes thanking God for this mind-blowing gift that is ours for the taking - and let's remember that God didn't send Jesus to judge us, but to save us from death.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." John 3:16-17

The United Benefice of Standon and The Mundens with Sacombe wishes you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Marion Smith - Churchwarden, St Mary's Standon



COUNTRY MATTERS (*9th November*)

Once the drought had ended two months ago the grass made a slow recovery. All the cattle are still out as the ground hasn't received the soaking that that it's usually had by now. The cattle are still finding plenty of acorns and fallen leaves, especially Ash.

A group of store cattle that we sent to market recently sold very well. It shows that, despite high shop prices for the finished animal, customers are willing to pay for good quality meat.

The arable farmers have had an excellent autumn for drilling their winter crops.

The bird world is very quiet at the moment; there hasn't yet been the hard weather to drive our winter visitors over from Scandinavia.

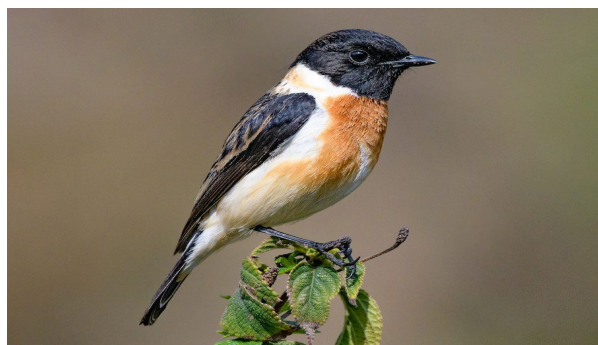
Although the weather has been kind to the birds they are clearing up plenty of peanuts and fat balls, mainly because of the shortage of many species of insects.

BIRD OF THE MONTH: STONECHAT

The Stonechat is a member of the thrush family and is a resident of moors and open places, especially with gorse bushes and scrub with few or no trees. The song isn't very loud but the alarm note is, like a stone being tapped, hence its name. The male is smart looking with a black head and white collar, pink breast, brown back and tail, and white wing bar. The female is less bright with no black.

The odd young bird may wander from their usual habitat; we have had one on the farm several times.

Tony Spackman



FROM THE ARCHIVES

(Extracts from the December 1936 Parish Magazine)

“The Sung Eucharist, preceded by the Litany, will in future be at 10 o'clock. That hour makes things easier for me, and is more suitable for many of you than eleven. I know that 9.30 has been too early for some, and I was told before that eleven was too late for others, who therefore had to go out of Church half-way through the service to cook their Sunday dinners. So I feel confident that we shall all agree that ten o'clock is an excellent time.....

.... At the time of going to press the children of our schools are busy rehearsing an Operetta for performance on December 18th. Good luck to them!”

.... I shall be very grateful for donations, large or small, towards the cost of repairing the roof and gutters of the Church. We have accepted the estimate of Mr Marshall, of Braughing, and it will cost us £14/15/6. This will include also a “Draught Preventer” under the door, and a repair to the East Window.”

S H H Johnson, Rector of Gt Munden

Little Munden C of E (VC) Primary School

Building Good Foundations.

Matthew 7, verse 24

Church Lane, Dane End, SG12 0NR.

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November 2025

At Little Munden we are gearing up for the Christmas period. Our younger classes are busy rehearsing for their nativities and everyone is looking forward to our visit to BEAM in Hertford to see this year's Panto. We also have our school Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day to look forward to.

Christmas Fayre – 29th November

FoLM (Friends of Little Munden) our small, but amazing fundraising committee, will once again be putting on a Christmas Fayre. This year it's on Saturday 29th November, 2-5pm. We hope you will come along and enjoy all the Christmassy activities and support their fundraising efforts.



As usual we'll have the Raffle with amazing prizes such as luxury hampers, weekends away, meal vouchers, and many more prizes. Raffle tickets can be purchased from the school office or on the day @ £1 each.

Put the date in your diaries and come along for some Christmassy fun.

All monies raised go to support the school and help in purchasing curriculum items and online subscriptions for the childrens' learning, contribute towards trips for the classes linked to their topic of the term and even support the purchase of IT equipment such as smart boards and laptops – a resource that is constantly used and frequently outdated, requiring regular replacement. We are very grateful to everyone who can support our school fundraising, by helping, attending and/or financing events to boost the funds to benefit the children.

We look forward to seeing you there.

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Well another year is nearly ending and what a year it has been, celebrating VE Day, Late Summer Fete and now Seniors Christmas Lunch and Panto. All the members of the Parish Council would like to say a big thank you to the parishioners who have come out to support us. I would also like to say a huge thank you to the individuals who support us with our events throughout they with financial donations, without them we would not be able to put the events on.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers who helped with the Community Allotment, it has been a real success culminating in selling their produce at the summer fete. I can see it growing into a very successful scheme as it grows over the years.

The role of a Parish Councillor is a voluntary role and quite often an unseen role, when we are clearing areas, painting and making signs, walking down the tributary to look at trees.

Dealing with the copious amounts of correspondences to Hertfordshire District & County Council and the police. A huge thank you to each and every member of the team. Lastly, this may seem a small win but it has taken over 5 years, we finally have some give way markings on the junction of Kingsfield and Fouceley Avenue. I sadly jumped for joy when I see them, anyone would have thought I had won the lottery.

So to 2026 we are planning to put new fencing and fix the fencing at Horses Meadow, have a tidy up of stock around the porta-cabin, carry out the final tree works along the jubilee walk and start to look at funding schemes to move the War Memorial over to the meadow and introduce a garden of remembrance which will be better suited for anyone wishing to come and sit and remember loved ones and friends. Plans will be forwarded to the community to view once we have secured funding. I am sure there will be more events during 2026 for us all to look forward to and we look forward to seeing you there.

Lastly we have nearly sold out of Pantomime tickets for Friday but do have some tickets still left for Saturday matinee and evening performances, why not come along and support this great group of volunteers who have given hours of their time to rehearsing and painting scenery, this is set to be a fun event so please come along and support this. Adults £8.50 under 16 years of age are free. There will be a bar and treats to buy in the interval.

One last thing to say to each and everyone of you is to Wish you all Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Tracey - Chair LMPC

**LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL
A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Will be held on

**TUESDAY 20th JANUARY 2026
in LITTLE MUNDEN VILLAGE HALL
AT 7 PM**

Clerk@littlemundenplc.org.uk

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Great Munden Community Litter Picking Weekend 8th & 9th November

A huge thank you to everyone who joined in the community litter pick. Volunteers collected over 16 bags of rubbish to be collected by EHDC.

Generally there wasn't too much litter dropped along the banks, but there was a large amount of builders rubbish dumped in one location and smaller amounts of the same debris dropped along the bank, as well as firework boxes that has been discarded.

Well done to everyone who have helped to preserve our beautiful countryside.

Our last GMPC parish council meeting was held on 11th November, minutes are available on the GMPC website and the next meeting will be 13th January 2026 at 7.30pm in St Nicholas Church, Great Munden.



GREAT MUNDEN RECREATIONAL GARDEN

Yoga with Josie

Josie will be returning to Little Munden Hall on 29th November. Classes take place on Saturdays at 10am at a cost of £10.

Le French Club – Sundays 12pm

If you want to brush up on your French before your next holiday, join the French club and meet other Francophones locally, learn new vocabulary and improve on your grammar. £1.50 per person, or £1 for concessions. Currently meeting at the White Hart, Puckeridge.

Panto - Friday 12th December and Saturday 13th December

Great fun and lots of laughter is to be had this year with the performance of 'Snow White, not as you know it' This year we will be reintroducing the matinee performance on Saturday 13th December at 3pm, evening shows will start at 7pm. Madame Whoopsie and Madame Cushion are looking forward to meeting you all and causing havoc. Will Snow White be saved, come along and see how the tale unfolds. There will be a bar, snacks and ice cream available in the interval.

Tickets can be purchased through Ticket Source this year at a cost of £8.50 per adult. Children under 16 years of age are free. This cost is to help us cover the costs of the hall hire and purchase of props etc for the performance.

If you prefer to pay directly, we can take cash payment please knock on either mine or Gerry's door anytime at the weekends. We look forward to seeing you all there. 'Oh no we don't, oh yes we do!!'

Dane End Memorial Hall Is Taking Bookings

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Give us a call!

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.

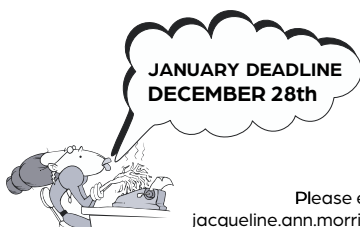
VETS uses a simple memorable number unique to the village (01920 282999). This system can also be used for any emergency where additional help is required from neighbours, whether Cardiac Arrest or not. VETS volunteers are also aware of the code to access the cabinet if it is required. VETS does not replace 999 calls. **Always ring 999 first in an emergency.**

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 926 Ryan Willis and the local PCSO 6161 is Sally Brooks.

Contact: 01992 533329 - non emergency or 101
Emergency always call 999

DEAF, HARD OF HEARING?

Please text [07786 207 091](tel:07786207091) including who is needed: Police, Fire or Ambulance, where they are needed and what the problem is.



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