

ST THOMAS, BRADWELL JUXTA MARE

WITH

ST LAWRENCE

DECEMBER 2021

Village View

PAROCHIAL INFORMATION:

BRADWELL-ON-SEA

Rector	Revd Steven Poss	779620
Churchwardens:	Theresa Reed	776247
	David Thorpe	776846
School Head Teacher	Mrs L Wood	776219

Parish Magazine Manager
Roger Scurrell 776341

Church Flowers:
David Thorpe 776846

Flowers at St Peter's Chapel
David Thorpe 776846

Bell Ringing - Tower Captain:
Brian Claydon 776257
St Thomas Bradwell Fridays 7.45,
Sunday ringing 09.30 am

Thursday Club
St Thomas' Chapman Room - 1st
Thursday of month 2.30 - 4.00

Rainbows 5 - 7 yrs
Brownies - 7 - 10 yrs
Guides - : 10 - 14 yrs
for information phone 07757636446
or email
enquiries@girlguidingsomerset.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding
Representative
Gemma Eyre 776981/07985 520634

Bradwell Quay Yacht Club
Secretary: Mr R. Price
01621 890173

Cubs .6.00 - 7.30pm Thursdays
Village Hall 7-10 yrs
Marie 776554

Bradwell Women's Institute
Secretary:
Mrs Christine Gould 776610
Village Hall 2nd Wednesday
7.45pm

Age Concern 01245) 264499
Two Rivers Association for Age
Concern

St. Cedd's School Parent-Teacher
Association
Secretary: Contact School
776219

Maldon & Burnham Standard
Correspondent
Mrs Joan Allen 776547

Clerk to the Parish Council
Emma Smith 07585 445307
4 Bunsrup Way, Southminster,
CM0 7RZ
Parish Council meetings Village
Hall, 3rd Monday 8.00pm

P.C.C. Secretary
Mrs Jayne Hill 776317

Othons Community
Warden Tim Fox 776564

St Peter's Chapel Chaplain
Rev S Poss 779620

District Councillor
Richard Dewick 776581

Bradwell Flower Show
Committee Secretary:
Teresa Fowler 776588

Village Hall Trustee's
Booking Secretary:
Mr R. Scurrell 776341

St Cedd's School
Head Teacher Mrs L Wood
776219

Youth Club
Fridays
5-11 years, 6.00 to 7.30pm
11 years—up, 7.30 to 9.00pm
For information tel:
Lynn Roughley 776555
Cherie Archer 776443

Badminton/Table Tennis
Village Hall
Wednesdays 8pm John Noble
jbn_bradwell@hotmail.com
Fridays 10am Ann Barrett
theannbarrett@gmail.com

Mobile Library
Every three weeks Thursdays
East End Rd. Bradwell
10.55—11.25am.

The Medical Centre
Tillingham 778383
Out of hours: 111

The Trinity Medical Centre
Mayland 745400
Out of hours: 111

Neighbourhood Watch
Co-ordinator
Cherie Archer 776443

Local Police Team
Phone Non Emergency 101
Emergency 999

Crime Stoppers:
Anonymous Crime Reporting
0800555111

Bradwell Bay Football Club
Youth Football Team Contact
Krysta Collins Practice Village
Hall Field Saturday 10am

Dengie Singing Group
Tuesdays 10.00—11.30 Village
Hall Committee Room. Ella at
dengiewomenssinging@gmail.com

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to publicise your organisation then please contact Roger Scurrell on 01621 776341

From the Vicarage

At the heart of Christmas



**But Mary treasured all these words
and pondered them in her heart.**

Luke 2.19

In 2020 we experienced a Christmas when many of the ways we traditionally mark the season were suddenly denied to us.

This year, of course, we hope and pray that the familiar experiences that help Christmas come alive return to our homes, our churches and communities. But whatever else December brings, it will offer us an opportunity to enter more deeply into the joyful mystery that lies at its heart: God becoming human in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Inspired by readings from the Gospels of Luke and John heard at so many Christmas services, *At the heart of Christmas* is an invitation to everyone to discover – or rediscover – the good news of God’s saving love as revealed in the birth of Jesus. It is also a challenge to each of us to ponder in our hearts – as Mary did – what the extraordinary events of the first Christmas might mean for us now and in the years ahead.

Have a happy Christmas and a happy new year!

God bless,

Reverend Steven

St Lawrence Bay WI

At the November meeting of the WI, members met at their new venue at the Church Centre. There was some business to be discussed.

Firstly it was agreed that instead of exchanging gifts and cards, members would donate to the St Peter's Hospital cafe, and the Essex Air Ambulance. In the New Year, the WI are having a tree planting day near Chelmsford, and it was decided our WI would take part.

For the craft, we had been asked to bring an empty wine bottle, with labels removed, to make a Christmas table decoration, but didn't quite know what to expect. We were given a string of fairy lights to put in the bottles, with some other decorative oddments. When the lights were switched on these made a surprisingly effective decoration. One member had also painted decorations on her bottle - an original idea that worked well. The Pennies for Friendship competition was 'a photograph of a family member from the 1940s'.

This was well-supported, and how interesting to see the styles and clothes of that time - so different from today's!

Finally the Christmas Party was discussed. There will be a tea, with Prosecco and also tea and coffee; it was suggested members dress up - no, not fancy dress - posh frock!

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

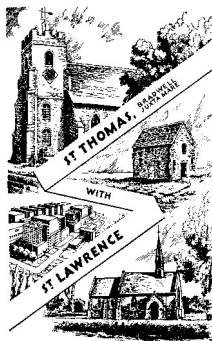
Village View

All copy for the January Village View should be sent to Roger Scurrall by phone (776341), posted through the letterbox of 6 St Thomas' Row, Bradwell, or by email to the address below, all by December 12th.

Those living in St Lawrence may give copy to Shirley Lea at 51 Main Road (779403) or email to bronwen.cook@btinternet.com by this date. Copy may also be submitted as a text or Microsoft Word or Publisher file, either on CD or, better still, by email to stthomaspc@btinternet.com. We ask you to limit your article to 300-350 words and please include a picture.

We apologise but **no articles will be accepted after December 12th**.

If you belong to an organisation that does not yet submit articles for the magazine we would like to hear from you even in longhand if you do not have access to a computer. Any news you have is always very welcome.



Safety in Numbers

We're now at that time of year when some birds just find it irresistible to get together. But it's not because it's coming up to the festive season, so parties are the order of the day. It's because associating with other birds of the same, or at least similar, species brings advantages.

A recent walk along a hedge towards the seawall revealed a mixed gathering of some 2½ dozen tits – Blue Tits, Great Tits and Long-tailed Tits. Suddenly the flock bounced upwards from the top of the hedge, flew along and settled again. A food source had been discovered, so all were able to benefit, rather than each individual having to look after itself. A little further on, about ten Linnets were busy in the top of a willow – so busy feeding that my walking below was hardly noticed.

In the creek some 30 Brent Geese were announcing their presence with that unmistakable gentle honking. They must have arrived recently, crossing the North Sea as a flock. What consensus was there as to the direction of flight? About half the birds were first-year individuals, lacking that white patch on the neck. They must have followed the adults, benefitting from their experience.

Looking across Pewit Island stretched that vast area of mudflats. Busily feeding were countless numbers of that small wader, the Knot. Suddenly a cloud took off, containing some thousands of birds. A Peregrine Falcon had spooked them – but which bird to take? The Peregrine flew on, and the Knot returned to their tea.

The bird *par excellence* when it comes to huge flocks is the Starling. A murmuration of Starlings is an unforgettable experience. These photographs I must confess are not my own but those of a friend, taken in Suffolk, near Aldeburgh. The murmurations must have consisted of tens of thousands of birds, the clouds of birds seemingly blowing in the wind, exhibiting incredible aviation skills – never a collision. These birds will have fed during the day far away in much smaller groups, coming together at dusk, not for food but for collective safety in the reed beds.



The right-hand photo, taken with a telephoto lens, shows a



Marsh Harrier crashing through. Maybe one bird is lost – but the rest live on. This is the other advantage of a communal existence.

There have been large flocks of Starlings – maybe 500 birds – in Bradwell. Are these heading for the safety of the Aldeburgh murmuration? Aldeburgh is only 40 miles away as a Starling flies. Who knows.

Finding Fault with Bradwell B

The most destructive earthquake known in Britain happened at 9.18 am, on April 22nd 1884. The epicentre was at Peldon, just 8.3 km from the now decommissioned Bradwell A nuclear power station.

The earthquake only lasted five to ten seconds or so. But in that brief period, whole villages were wrecked and Colchester was reduced to chaos. And in some places, gaping fissures opened up in the ground, some over 100 yards long, according to The Colchester Archaeological Trust.

The epicentre was about four miles south of Colchester's town centre, around the villages of Abberton, Peldon and Wivenhoe. The worst structural damage occurred within 20 miles or so of this area, although the earthquake was felt as far afield as Exeter, Yorkshire, and even Boulogne and Ostend on the Continental coast. It would be fascinating to know of any local records of the impact on Bradwell and the Dengie Peninsular, being so close to the epicentre.

One might also reasonably ask the question, are we on or very close to a fault line? And if so, what are the implications for any new nuclear development plans?

The answer to these questions may point out why the Bradwell B developers are so keen to undertake further ground investigation works before they proceed with detailed plans. In a recent article on the *Ground Engineering* website relating to work Jacobs had carried out on Bradwell B, reference was made to ground investigation works previously carried out in 1987. This earlier survey, according to the article, identified the presence of a fault within the proposed development area. Yes you read that right, a known seismic fault on a site earmarked for new nuclear power. I'm no geologist, but is it not beyond the realms of possibility that this was the same fault line responsible for the devastating Colchester earthquake of 1884 mentioned above, possibly the most destructive the UK has experienced?

Could this fault be the reason why NIREX abandoned its plans for a shallow nuclear disposal site here at Bradwell On Sea? And what does this mean for Bradwell B's would-be developers and the suitability of this site?

Unfortunately Maldon District Council (MDC) has lost the appeal hearing for the Bradwell B ground investigation works which will presumably now go ahead. The planning inspectorate stated that MDC had not behaved unreasonably in refusing permission on ecological grounds. The inspector has now allowed the works to go ahead only after the developer submitted further data and control measures, and



due to their temporary nature. We should take heart that this process (the refusal and appeal) has shown that the developers will have an uphill struggle meeting environmental protections as this project develops. The Blackwater Estuary and our shoreline is a critical and sensitive area for its flora and fauna and we will continue to do what we can to protect it from the threat of the Bradwell B development. Meanwhile we will be keeping a close eye on those ground investigation works and continue to press the developers for answers to all our questions, including those related to fault lines!

On behalf of the BAN team, I would like to end by wishing you and your loved ones a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Linda Gemmill, Team Coordinator, Bradwell B Action Network (BAN)



BRADWELL B
ACTION
NETWORK

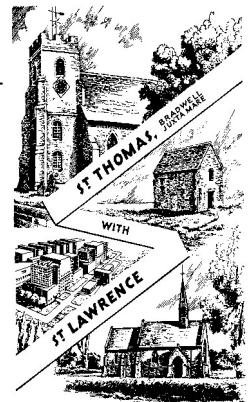
Actively protecting our communities, our heritage, and our unique ecology from the Bradwell B development

Can you help distribute Village View

Can you spare 30 minutes each month to distribute Village View to our readers in the following areas of the village:-

Maldon Rd, Bradwell Hall to St Peter's Court (not including St Peter's Court)

If you are able or would like further information please contact Roger 01621 776341



Beach Litter Pick



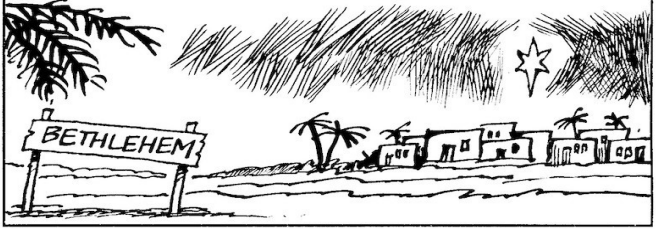
The Parish Council would like to thank the 23 'Fordies' (Ford workers) who spent a day in September clearing our beach of rubbish. They came from as far as Kent, Surrey and London. They moved a fridge and plenty of litter, which MDC promised to take away for them. Matthew who organised it for us and lives in Mill End clocked up 17km during the day just clearing rubbish. Well done all of you.

Later this month the Parish Councillors will be doing their bit with a street and verge clearance. Any help gratefully received.

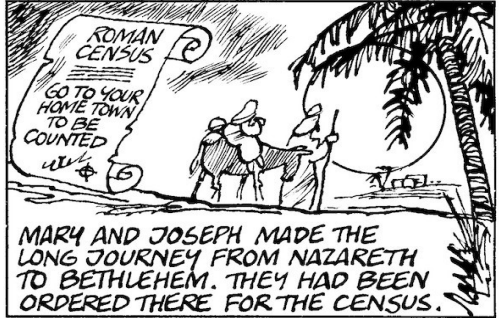
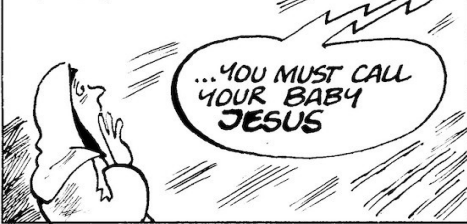


A Very Special Baby

JESUS WAS BORN ABOUT 2,000 YEARS AGO IN THE SMALL TOWN OF BETHLEHEM, NEAR JERUSALEM.



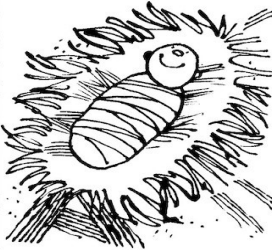
AN ANGEL HAD TOLD MARY SHE WOULD HAVE A VERY SPECIAL BABY.



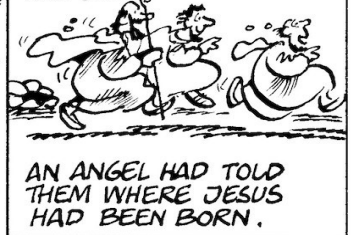
BUT THE TOWN WAS FULL



...WHICH IS WHERE JESUS WAS BORN.



SHEPHERDS IN FIELDS NEARBY RACED TO SEE THE BABY



WISE MEN CAME FROM THE EAST. THEY TOO WANTED TO SEE JESUS. THEY HAD BEEN GUIDED BY A STAR.



BUT MARY, JOSEPH AND BABY JESUS SOON HAD TO ESCAPE TO EGYPT...



DECEMBER SERVICES

Time	Service	Place	Readings
5th Dec	Advent 2		
10.00	Centre and Church All Age Worship	St Lawrence Centre	Baruch 5 Philippians 1; 3-11 Luke 1: 1-4
10.00	All Age Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10.00	Parish Communion	St Thomas Church	
15.00	Evening Service	St James Dengie	
15.00	Christingle Service	St Lawrence Centre	TBA
18.00	Carols & lightening of the tree	St Nicholas Tillingham	TBA
12th	Advent 3		
10.00	Parish Communion	St Nicholas Tillingham	Zephariah 3; 14-end Phillipians 4; 4-7 Luke 1; 7-18
10.00	All Age Worship	St Thomas Church	
10.00	All Age Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
18.00	Carol Service	St Lawrence Church	
19th	Advent 4		
10.00	Communion	St Lawrence Centre	Micah 5; 2-5a Hebrews 10; 5-10 Luke 1; 39-45
10.00	Parish Communion	St Lawrence Church	
10.00	All Age Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10.00	Café Church	Dengie Village Hall	
16.30	Carol Service	St Peters Chapel	TBA
24th	Christmas Eve		
16.30	Crib Service	St Thomas Church	Isaiah 52; 7-10
18.00	Crib Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	Hebrews 1; 1-4
18.00	Christmas Communion	St Lawrence Church	John 1;1-14

23.30	Midnight Mass	St Thomas Church	
23.30	Midnight Mass	St Nicholas Tillingham	
25th	Christmas Day		
9.00	Christmas Communion	St James Dengie	Isaiah 62; 6-end
10.00	Christmas Morning Praise	St Thomas Church	Titus 3; 4-7 Luke 2; 8-20
26th	Sunday after Christmas		
No Services			
2nd Jan	Christmas 2		
10.00	Parish Communion	St Thomas Church	Jeremiah 31; 7-14 Totus 3; 4-7 John 1; 10-18

Christingle Service and Children's Society Boxes

St Lawrence Church Centre invite you to their CHRISTINGLE SERVICE on Sunday 5th December at 3pm.

Anyone who has a Children's Society collection box are invited to bring it along for emptying. Call Eunice if you have a box and would like to make arrangements for collection - 778904



POPPY APPEAL 2021

Many thanks to everybody who contributed to the Poppy Appeal this year. Also very many thanks to those 7 volunteers who undertook the house to house collections.

Amazingly, we were able to raise £774.51 so thanks again to all.

Sue Perrott

The Othona Community in December - reflecting on the past year

Summary of achievements in 2021 Here is a taste of the Othona Bradwell Report to trustees, which was shared at the Othona Trustees Weekend in November.



Successful re-opening: Othona, Bradwell, was in a state of readiness and responsiveness to reopen as permitted by Covid regulations and, with full risk assessments, opening for day visitors for picnics, restricted residential opening, education and Church groups and delivery of the summer residential programme. We optimised use of facilities for Airbnb and use of the new Education Building, and camping in the 11 Acres. This was successful in terms of fulfilling Othona's mission in delivering safely and responsibly with no cases of Covid here. We successfully addressed the concerns of the Trustee body in terms of safe reopening and realistic budgeting. We established better communications through social media and virtual events.

At Othona Bradwell we had a very good summer, with new groups, new families, and many young people; a strong sense of volunteering to enable us to open with the Community working as a whole to deliver our programme, and a real sense of community. People expressed appreciation that this is a safe place to meet and develop social interaction again after Covid isolation.

Positive budget; we set a realistic budget, and appear to be on target to exceed expectations. We had a very good response from members and the local Essex Community Foundation in making donations. We claimed all possible government grants and initiatives and took every opportunity to bring in additional income through events. With the improved facilities offered after completion of the Energy and Education Building Projects, we continue to be open this winter with programmed events and ongoing group bookings.

Emerging business plan. With increased financial liabilities we recognise the need to match these liabilities with comparable income. Future budgets will need to take into account the costs of maintenance of a more complex plant, including the Maintenance Contract; as well as the indicative additional running costs due to inflation, and the expectation to repay Othona Central for the investments made in Bradwell in 2020. Bradwell will keep under review our charging policy for the Programmed events and Group/Educational bookings, and will seek more events such as family bookings, weddings and celebrations, as well as new groups drawn in by our improved facilities; and potential partnerships for capital projects. Our Mission is central to all that we do: sharing a loving and welcoming Community with all who visit, or stay, to join in some time together, through our daily pattern of Work,

Worship, Study and Play together, as envisaged by our Founder Norman Motley more than 75 years ago- and with an eye to the future challenges of a changing world.

Strategic direction from the BCC Strategy Day. We have reviewed the Strategic Plans approved by Trustees, and are pleased to report that these have formed the foundation for the work at Bradwell over the past 5 years. You are encouraged to view the video of these original plans, through the link: [2017 2020 Othona strategic plan](#) - ask Othona Bradwell for the Link.

In brief we report progress in all areas: Reconciliation; Christian Spirituality; Education; Othona Bradwell as a Local Resource; Communication, and sufficient and sustainable Resources to deliver the strategic plan. We agreed that Othona's Mission and Core Values were overarching, and that Sustainability ran through all of our work.

We have not set specific new Strategic Goals or Targets, as Othona Bradwell is open to new direction from the incoming Manager and Bradwell Trustees, working within the Local Committee, but we have identified potential areas for development. The minutes from the BCC Strategy Meeting of Oct 2021 are on the Othona Bradwell Web page, available for you to view.

This Winter started with a bang, a crackle and a sky full of colourful stars, with the return of the Othona Firework celebrations. It was very special to be able to share this time with so many of you, our friends in our local villages - with a particular welcome to so many excited children.

Now is an opportunity for the resident team to take some time out with their families, after a year when they kept the Centre open for us whenever we were not on lockdown. As Advent fell in November this year, we have just joined with our local Christian communities in sharing the joy of the Advent of our Saviour. This year Othona will not be open for our usual Christmas and New Year Celebrations, so our thoughts and prayers are with you all, **wishing you a Joyful Christmas and a Hopeful New Year.**

Look on the Website for news of any events, and for the 2022 Programme which is now nearing completion.

To learn more about Othona or to make booking or a donation, do take a look at our website. Tim Fox is Warden/Manager, with Debbie and Richard Sanders. Email bradwell@othona.org. Website: www.othonaessex.org.uk. Telephone 01621 776564. Keep in contact for details of opening times – hoping to meet and greet you in 2022.



Mouse Makes

Colour the tree then colour in one star each day until Christmas. Leave the large star at the top of the tree to colour in on Christmas day!

What's on the Christmas Tree?



A STAR
shows the way
to Jesus

Read
Matthew 2:1-12

ANGELS
bring messages from God

Read about
Gabriel's message in
Luke 1:26-38

Read the
shepherd's story in
Luke 1:26-38

**LIGHTS
AND CANDLES**
remind us that Jesus
lights our way to God

Read *Luke 2:29-32*

PRESENTS
remind us of God's
special gift to us ... **JESUS!**

"For God loved the world so much that He gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life." *John 3:16*

Presents at Christmas
under the tree,
A red Christmas stocking
waiting for me,
But what really is Christmas,
What is it about?
Just look and the Bible
and you will find out!
It's about **JESUS**
- the best present of all,
JESUS our **Saviour**,
God's gift to us all!

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 2: 1-10

Around the time of Jesus' birth, in a land far to the east of Israel, there were men who studied the stars...

When they saw a new star they believed it showed a special King had been born. ✨ ✨



They set off to see that King.



They reached Jerusalem, the home of King Herod.



The Romans had made Herod king of the Jews about 30 years earlier. He was ruthless.



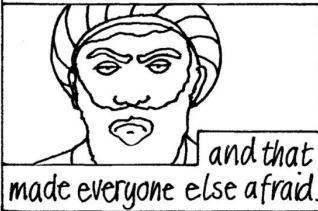
The Jews hated him and he was always worried that people were plotting against him.



He had them killed even if they were his wife or children...



So what the wise men said about a new King upset Herod



Herod got the teachers and priests together and asked about the king's birthplace.



That would be Little Bethlehem* ✨



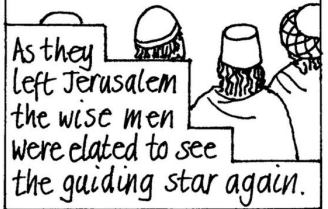
Herod secretly met the wise men and asked when they had first seen the star.



Go to Bethlehem and look for the child. When you find him let me know so I can come and worship him.



As they left Jerusalem the wise men were elated to see the guiding star again. ✨ ✨ ✨ ✨



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Maldon – 01621 854 293
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PAROCHIAL INFORMATION:**ST. LAWRENCE**

Rector	Revd Steven Poss	779620
Churchwardens:	Jane Pudney	772345

Parish Magazine
Shirley Lea 779403

St Lawrence PCC Secretary
Victoria Eley v.eley@icloud.com

Parish Council Chairman;
Gerry Lewsey:
cllr@lewisey.slpc@gmail.com
Clerk to the Parish Council:
Kevin Mosey
slparishclerk@gmail.com

District Councillor
Penny Channer 740607
Michael Helm

Stone Sailing Club
(Weekends) 779344

Church Flowers
Margaret Cowell 779219
Janet Cowell 779310

St Lawrence Singers
Friday at 5.45 - 7.00pm
Margaret Garlick 779328.

Children's Society
Eunice Siggins 778904

Pebbles 10.00 - 12.00noon
Mothers and toddlers get together
(Dads welcome) for tea, coffee and
a chat
Rev S Poss 7796208

Bridge Club 1.30pm

1st Wednesday of the month
St Lawrence Social Club
Secretary Gwan Adams 778386

Rainbow, brownies, Guides
5-7 years for information phone
07757636446 or email
snopic-jen@stlawrencemissionssoc.org.uk

Coffee Morning
Tuesday 11.00am Maureen
Storay

Women's Institute
2nd Friday 2-4 pm
President: Cathie Bonich
Secretary: Eunice Siggins 778904

Thursday
St. Lawrence Art Group
10 - 12noon Stone Sailing Club
Bob Dorks 778392

The Friends of St Lawrence
Newland Church
Carole Taylor 778523
John Barnes 779267

Church Centre Activities
All Church Centre bookings:
Eunice Siggins 778904

St Lawrence Village Hall
Fund
Contact: K. Terkelsen 778742
Tara Pringle 779063

Mobile Library
Fridays 11.45am to 12.30pm
South Woodham Library (01245)
29555

The Medical Centre
Tillingham 778383

William Fisher Medical
Centre 772360

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to publicise your organisation then please contact Shirley Lea on 779403

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